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Northern California—Fair Sunday; light northwesterly winds.

THAT FOREST RESERVATION.

The "Record-Union" called attention to the provisions of an Act approved June 4, 1897, entitled "An Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898," from which the following extract is taken:

That in cases in which a tract covered by an unperfected bona fide claim or by a patent is included within the limits of a public forest reservation, the settler or owner thereof may, if he desires to do so, relinquish the tract to the Government, and may select in lieu thereof a tract of vacant land open to settlement not exceeding in area the tract covered by his claim or patent; and no charge shall be made in such cases for making the entry of record or issuing the patent to cover the tract selected.

We called attention to the liability of the relinquishment of such land as had been denuded of timber within a forest reservation and the selection of other land in lieu thereof.

Referring to this, the Oakland "Times" says that the prediction is far-fetched. A little examination will convince our contemporary that the liability actually exists.

It will be observed that the Act in which the peculiar provision above quoted is found was an Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898. What had the cases of unperfected bona fide claims or patents to lands in forest reservations to do with a sundry civil bill? It was not a matter of revenue? It does not provide for income to the Government, nor for the disbursement of funds. But the provisions of the Act itself are very significant. If the owner of private land within a forest reservation desires to do so, he may relinquish the tract owned by him, or to which he has a claim, to the Government, and may select in lieu thereof a tract of vacant land not exceeding in area the tract covered by the claim or patent. As this is purely voluntary the relinquishments would relate only to such lands as are no longer valuable, and to such cases wherein the privilege of the selection of land in lieu of the tract relinquished would be worth more than the land relinquished.

Our contemporary will note that this is perfectly obvious. In all cases where the land owned within a forest reservation was more valuable than the right to select land in lieu of it, without further payment to the Government, the party would hold on to it. Thus the bill does not vacate the forest reservation, except as to the land less valuable than the privilege of its relocation. The Government would get all the bad bargains and the owners of private lands would hold on to all the good bargains.

In the case of the Tahoe reservation, there are at least 50,000 acres of private land in that reservation covering the summits, or the central axis, of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Much of this land is found at an altitude of at least 10,000 feet and more of it at six thousand feet. The privilege of relocating, or selecting land in lieu of it, would be more valuable than the land itself, and hence that proceeding may be depended upon with certainty.

The 37,000 acres of timber land within the proposed forest reservation on the borders of Lake Tahoe have been a source of supply for lumber, wood and mining timbers for the Comstock Lode and other enterprises in Nevada for the past twenty-five years. Except immediately on the margin of the lake, the land when denuded of timber has no value and will be exchanged at once without cost to the present owner for other timber land, because it is unreasonable to expect a man to surrender timber land for any other class of property.

Moreover, it remains to be noted that the plan will not extinguish the private claims within the reservation. All the picturesque spots have been appropriated. Everything in the way of

lakes, waterfalls, lake margins and other places possessing some value as summer resorts are in private ownership and will remain so. The provision of the law would possess higher merit if it was completely effective in the way of clearing out private owners from forest reservations, but it will not do this. In view of these considerations, it is perfectly safe to assume that the owners of land which have heretofore been denuded of their timber will seek other lands and will receive them at the hands of the Government without further cost; and later on will be petitioners for an extension of forest reservations which will enable them to repeat the experiment. Having obtained two acres for every acre they purchased in the first instance, there is no reason why they should not desire to have the original purchase apply to three acres or four acres, and the supposition that this is an underlying force influencing a policy is by no means far-fetched.

THE SENATE RESOLUTION.

It cannot be doubted that the passage of the Teller resolution by the United States Senate on Friday evening, declaring the bonded indebtedness of the United States to be payable in silver coin if the Government so elects, will have an important influence upon American securities of the national bond order, and incidentally upon all other securities held against the American credit, public or private. While the action of the Senate is not, of course, conclusive, and while it is unlikely that it will be followed by the House, still it will tend to depress the public credit.

Happy, the Government is not now in the market for loans, and the effect upon it will be slight, if not inappreciable, at present. The passage of the resolution was most significant as indicating the relaxed tension of party control. On the alignments laid down by the resolution Senators parted company with their political colleagues, and men who are looked upon as strong Administration Senators went squarely against the Administration party on this one issue.

The declaration of the resolution relative to the right to redeem in coin of the Government is clear enough, but we confess to a good deal of confusion in attempting to interpret the further expression announcing that it is not in violation of the public faith to restore to its coinage such silver dollars (the standard) as a legal tender in payment of bonds. Clearly the free coinage men intend to have it construed to be a 16-to-1 free-coinage commitment, but friends of the measure as strenuously insist that it cannot be so read.

The burden of opinion and of reason would sustain, in our judgment, the construction put upon it by those who look to the resolution as a distinct and separate matter should not go upon inside pages of uncut sheets, since uncut sheets become millionaires. The editor who buries himself in an "inside page uncut" does not only society but himself grievous wrong.

In this country when a public scandal develops all hands, from politician to press, from pulpit to clubroom, do their utmost to uncover it and lay bare all its details. In France when a public scandal develops all hands unite to hush it up "for the honor of France," as they put it. Which is the better system? We confess that we do not like the French method. The honor of the nation should demand no concealments and fear no disclosures. There are a great many people in France and many more outside of it who do not believe that Captain Dreyfus was fairly treated; that he was not tried as becomes such a nation as France; that he was not given proper opportunity to make his defense, and that if he was not railroaded to condemnation he was at least considerably hurried. Emile Zola has done the bravest thing of his life, and possibly the best thing, by saying as much and challenging the accusers of Dreyfus to meet him before a tribunal where there can be no concealments and no suppressions, and where fair play will be the order of the day. This challenge has put Zola in the attitude of a defendant; indeed, he is now himself on trial for assailing "the honor of France," and one of his accusers is to appear against him "In Uniform for the Honor of France." If the French Government thinks at this late day that it can apply the screws to the press that will enable the truth to be suppressed "for the honor of France," it makes a sorry mistake. We believe the day has gone by when even in France such trespass upon human rights will be tolerated. Zola may be defeated in his challenge, he may be wrong in his charges, but assuredly the French Government will not dare to lay its hands upon the noted author for having the courage to speak out and demand exposition of the truth.

SEX SELECTION.

Professor Schenck claims to have discovered the secret of the control of the production of sex through the administration of the proper food during the period of gestation. In this way he thinks the question of sex selection may be settled. We can wish that his discovery is groundless. Nature has taken care of the equalization of the sexes thus far pretty well, and we do not believe that art is going to improve upon her. However, that there is something in the claim of Professor Schenck is probable, for here comes Professor McCloskie of the Biological Department of Princeton, a man who is known widely as a scientific writer, and declares that he has been expecting something of the kind Professor Schenck has announced. He declares that modern science has long been confronted with two serious problems, the increase of the population of the earth and the decrease in the supply of food. The latter will be met by the artificial production of food, and that too in the very near future, but the only way to decrease the population is by the generation of a larger number of human males than human females, and that is what Professor Schenck's discovery means.

Professor McCloskie declares that the Schenck proposition has already been demonstrated in plant life and in some forms of animal life. Thus hemp, it is found, grown in rich soil produces the female plant, grown in scant soil it produces the male plant. Working bees fed upon rich food become queens; salmonanders fed on parts of their brothers and sisters will produce almost twice the percentage of females as when fed ordinarily, while the starving of caterpillars makes them of the male sex.

Modern biology has established the fact that there is no fundamental difference between the sexes. The eggs of both sexes will live even if unimpregnated by those of the opposite sex, though this supplementation is necessary for healthy growth. The female egg requires rich food, and moves slowly, while the male egg requires light food and moves with great rapidity.

His Commercial View of It.

Harper—They say that, somewhere in the world, a baby is born every minute. Adams—Just think what money there would be in the infants' food business if they were all the children of people who are in society!

VOICE OF THE PRESS.

EXTRACTS FROM EDITORIAL EXPRESSION.

State and Coast Opinions on Subjects of Living News Interest.

Portland Oregonian: "The pension roll will increase from millions to billions," was a statement made by Senator Gallinger, Chairman of the Committee on Pensions, in a debate in the United States Senate. The immediate subject under discussion was the granting of pensions to the two daughters of General Meade. Senator Gallinger was opposed to the grant, and argued ably for the negative side. He showed that if the pensioning of soldiers' daughters was once started, there would be such a shower of claims that the pension roll would run up to the \$1,000,000,000 mark annually. This is no idle statement for effect, despite the enormity of the amount fixed by the New Hampshire Senator. General Meade has two daughters, and it was proposed to authorize the Government to pay them \$100 a month each. This would be increased, if history was to repeat itself, in the course of time. It would also establish a precedent and set a precedent for the pensioning of millions of daughters of old soldiers, surviving and deceased, to draw liberal pensions. After that, in the natural course of events, would come the daughters of soldiers' daughters.

A RIGHT STEP. The proposed abolishing a contract labor in Hawaii is a big step in the right direction by the annexationists. The present coolie system has been one of the greatest barriers to consolidation to America for it has led to vigorous antagonism of the whole project by the labor organizations of this country. With that obstacle removed, though everything looks more like smooth sailing.

INCONSISTENT. It ought not to require a great deal of logic to enable one to detect the practical inconsistency of such speeches as that of Senator Teller on the bonded indebtedness. First, these gentlemen assert hotly that the silver dollar is as good and as valuable as the gold dollar, and, secondly, they assume that if the Government would only pay its bonds in silver it could save a great deal of money. Now these two things cannot both be true at the same time, because if the silver dollar is as valuable as the gold one there can be no economy in using it.

EXEMPTING CHURCH AND SCHOOL PROPERTY. Tulare Register: All the church and private school property in the State of California amounts to no more than one-half of one per cent. of the whole property in the State. That is not very much, is it? If it were exempt from taxation it would make little difference to the State treasury. With that exemption removed, though everything looks more like smooth sailing.

HOME OWNERS. Santa Barbara News: It is one of the maxims of the student of the condition of municipalities that the city whose people generally own their homes is the most free from labor troubles, panics and other incidents of the changing years. So well is this understood that not a few of the great employers of labor have considered the effect of plans by which their operatives may acquire on the easiest terms the houses in which they live. The argument in favor of this is that men who have a proprietary interest (property) in the city in which they dwell are better citizens, better than in a private school, has not that private school relieved the public of a sufficient burden to justify the exemption from taxation of its school buildings, their contents and the school grounds?

CONDENSED, GOOD PEOPLE. Stockton Independent: If those good people who are engaged in promoting good causes would condense the matter they send to newspapers, accompanied by requests to publish, they would better their own cause. Long preambles and longer resolutions tire readers, and editors, generally knowing the fact, cast about for the volunteer matter aside, because they haven't the time to read or condense it.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES. Fresno Express: The Farmers' Institutes are doing incalculable good all over the State. Their influence is apparent everywhere and would be quadrupled if the ranchers could only be induced to come out more largely, with their families.

SET AT REST. Los Angeles Herald: President Dole, we are pleased to see, puts at rest the absurd rumors set afloat in this country some time ago that a large number of Japanese soldiers had been imported into the Sandwich Islands as ordinary laborers, and that in the event of a rebellion on the part of the natives, the unspeakable Japs will rise en masse and take possession of the Government in the interest of their country. A large proportion of the male immigrants from all foreign countries have at one time or another performed military service, but the President of Hawaii doesn't appear alarmed about the Japanese.

ARBITRARY ACTION. Oakland Enquirer: The arbitrary enforcement of the new sealing regulations on the Canadian border is justly characterized by the Dominion press as "the most arbitrary and tyrannical action of the Washington Government." It was not intended that seal garments purchased and used prior to the adoption of the regulations should be ruthlessly taken from the shoulders of wearers and confiscated, as the subse-

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The founder and head of the Salvation Army. The founder and head of the Salvation Army is General William Booth of London, who is now in America in the interest of the harmony of the forces engaged in the army work and for the furtherance of their plans and betterment of the results. He was born in 1829 of wealthy parents. His father was a worldly man, but his mother was a Christian. At the age of 16 he commenced his work of preaching to the masses.



The Latest Ohio Idea. "Who's the man upon the ladder. An' what's he doing, pray? Why are those who watch him cheering? 'What's the trouble, anyway?' 'It is merely Bushnell's picture. That he's turning to the wall, And the shouting people sanction 'What he's doing, that is all.'—Cleveland Leader.

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And She Was Denied the Pleasure of Scrapping With Him. "I had long suspected that I had lost my way, and when the narrow winding trail that I was following came to an end in a clump of blue gums I was sure of it. There was a shanty among the trees, and in response to my hail an old woman appeared in the doorway and cordially exclaimed: 'Howdy, stranger; climb down an' hev' a seat.' I explained that I had lost my way, and only desired to be directed to the right road. After she had set me right she leaned confidentially against my saddle and said: 'Stranger, I wish they ye would do me a favor. I gallantly replied that it always gave me pleasure to do a lady a favor. 'Wul, do you see that critter over there?' 'I did, although I had previously overlooked him. He was leaning against the trunk of a blue gum, with his hands meekly folded in his lap, and he appeared to be gazing into vacancy. 'Stranger, that is my ole man, an' we've bin married for over forty years, an' ut ter last month we enjoyed all the bliss of married life. We've got four an' four an' fit, an' the outcome of them fouts were always in doubt ut ter last minute. But I'll say right yere that when the smoke of them yere battles cleared away the ole woman wuz always on top. I always reckoned that I would go ter my grave with a perfect state of mind, but hit looks now as though I wuz gone' ter plum disappointed, an' jest because that low-down, onery critter pretended to git religion an' commenced playin' the meek an' lowly dodge. If I swab him with the broom handle he swigs an' he'll hev' a beautiful fout.' 'Hit me with the ax-helve, Liza Jane.' The fact is that he wuz a licked man before he pretended to git religion, an' he knew hit, an' this yere religious racket is only a scheme of his ter git out of takin' his medicine like a man. But what is a poor lone woman goin' to do? If I swab him in the eye he says: 'Now smack me on the snoot, Liza Jane.' Ye can't hit a man when he's down, an' this yere meek and lowly bizness is breaking me all up. 'Now, what I want yere ter do, stranger, is ter lean over an' smack me good an' hard right on my lips, an' maybe hit will rouse that critter ut an' he will rush up an' swab ye in the snoot an' then I will git mad an' rush in, an' then maybe he will ferrit all about this meek an' lowly dodge an' we will hev' a beautiful fout.' I declined as politely as I could and rode on, but as I reached a bend in the road I glanced back. The old woman was emptying the contents of a washboller over the old man, and out of the torrent came a meek voice: 'Now turn the horse on me, Liza Jane.'—New York World.

Lynched by Small Birds.

A successful lynching took place on the farm of Jerome Butler, south of Mariette, Mich., the other day. In the barn a swallow's nest was seen clinging to the side of a beam from which was suspended an English sparrow, hung by the neck with a hair from a horse's tail, as told by the Grand Rapids "Herald." While Franklin Butler and Aris Albert were sitting in the barn they noticed a sparrow go into the swallow's nest, from which he began pitching the young birds. Three swallows, attracted by the outcry, immediately pounced upon the intruder. After confining him to the nest for a few minutes they threw him out. He dropped about half way, there was a jerk, and Mr. Sparrow was hanged as nicely as though an expert hangman had been in charge. The hair was wound around his neck several times, and after a few ineffectual struggles he kicked his last.

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And She Was Denied the Pleasure of Scrapping With Him. "I had long suspected that I had lost my way, and when the narrow winding trail that I was following came to an end in a clump of blue gums I was sure of it. There was a shanty among the trees, and in response to my hail an old woman appeared in the doorway and cordially exclaimed: 'Howdy, stranger; climb down an' hev' a seat.' I explained that I had lost my way, and only desired to be directed to the right road. After she had set me right she leaned confidentially against my saddle and said: 'Stranger, I wish they ye would do me a favor. I gallantly replied that it always gave me pleasure to do a lady a favor. 'Wul, do you see that critter over there?' 'I did, although I had previously overlooked him. He was leaning against the trunk of a blue gum, with his hands meekly folded in his lap, and he appeared to be gazing into vacancy. 'Stranger, that is my ole man, an' we've bin married for over forty years, an' ut ter last month we enjoyed all the bliss of married life. We've got four an' four an' fit, an' the outcome of them fouts were always in doubt ut ter last minute. But I'll say right yere that when the smoke of them yere battles cleared away the ole woman wuz always on top. I always reckoned that I would go ter my grave with a perfect state of mind, but hit looks now as though I wuz gone' ter plum disappointed, an' jest because that low-down, onery critter pretended to git religion an' commenced playin' the meek an' lowly dodge. If I swab him with the broom handle he swigs an' he'll hev' a beautiful fout.' 'Hit me with the ax-helve, Liza Jane.' The fact is that he wuz a licked man before he pretended to git religion, an' he knew hit, an' this yere religious racket is only a scheme of his ter git out of takin' his medicine like a man. But what is a poor lone woman goin' to do? If I swab him in the eye he says: 'Now smack me on the snoot, Liza Jane.' Ye can't hit a man when he's down, an' this yere meek and lowly bizness is breaking me all up. 'Now, what I want yere ter do, stranger, is ter lean over an' smack me good an' hard right on my lips, an' maybe hit will rouse that critter ut an' he will rush up an' swab ye in the snoot an' then I will git mad an' rush in, an' then maybe he will ferrit all about this meek an' lowly dodge an' we will hev' a beautiful fout.' I declined as politely as I could and rode on, but as I reached a bend in the road I glanced back. The old woman was emptying the contents of a washboller over the old man, and out of the torrent came a meek voice: 'Now turn the horse on me, Liza Jane.'—New York World.

Lynched by Small Birds.

A successful lynching took place on the farm of Jerome Butler, south of Mariette, Mich., the other day. In the barn a swallow's nest was seen clinging to the side of a beam from which was suspended an English sparrow, hung by the neck with a hair from a horse's tail, as told by the Grand Rapids "Herald." While Franklin Butler and Aris Albert were sitting in the barn they noticed a sparrow go into the swallow's nest, from which he began pitching the young birds. Three swallows, attracted by the outcry, immediately pounced upon the intruder. After confining him to the nest for a few minutes they threw him out. He dropped about half way, there was a jerk, and Mr. Sparrow was hanged as nicely as though an expert hangman had been in charge. The hair was wound around his neck several times, and after a few ineffectual struggles he kicked his last.

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