

THE POST-INTELLIGENCER.

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SEATTLE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24.

THE COMMISSION'S DEFENSE.

The commission upon whose recommendation President Cleveland based his forest reserve order is defending itself through some of the Eastern newspapers. Upon the general argument that the forests should be preserved from wanton destruction and the headwaters of rivers protected there will be no difference of opinion.

The distinction between the two is that in one the purpose was to keep prices up and in the other to force them down. Having driven out competition, it was no doubt intended to put them up again, but there is no proof of that and the court could deal only with the facts before it.

Yet it would almost seem as if the railroad pool were more honorable than the sugar trust. The methods of the former are certainly more to the advantage of the public, and they constitute the difference between a trust and a monopoly.

The commissioners point to the patriotic example of California in declining to be included in the senate amendment to the sundry civil bill, whose effect would have been to reopen the reserves.

The conditions between the forest domain of California and those existing in this state are entirely different. The reserve in California does not include the most valuable mining region in the state. It is confined to forests whose timber is their sole value, except for the scenic effect they afford.

But we do not need to compare ourselves with California in order to defend the position taken by this state. The commissioners themselves admit that it has never been their desire to restrict the natural development of any resources contained in the reserves.

When the commission carries out its avowed purpose by suitable provisions, preserving the forests without interfering with the development of the state, the people will offer no objection, but on the contrary, approve the measure as heartily as they did when it was first proposed on the lines laid down by the commission.

THE PETTY GRANDSON.

The rumors of the serious illness of the emperor of Germany seem to have very much exaggerated the actual conditions. The only truth in the matter seems to be that he suffers from overweening vanity, and any failure to accord him prominence intensely irritates him.

There is no law such as can be devised by male ingenuity which can reach the motives, ways, purposes or pretensions of the female heart. There are some men more gifted than their fellows who can occasionally catch a glimmer of the true feminine nature; there are some happily endowed men who can tell whether it is safe and when it is opportune to steal a kiss; there are fugitive instances of men who could wander from flower to flower with the unerring instinct of the bee in its quest of honey, but such men are rare, and they do not become members of the legislature. They become fashionable preachers and opulent physicians, or go to the penitentiary in the end.

But to the great bulk of mankind the task of determining whether a woman—especially one experienced enough or guileless enough to be an old maid—has diligently sought a husband, the execution of such a law would be a hopeless task. It would be impossible to get testimony. In the first place, the accused would not tell her age, and it could not always be determined whether or not she came within the legal limitation. Then some girls are old maids at 24, and others are still spunky, captivating and marriageable at 45. The chief difficulty, however, would be in determining whether due diligence in husband-hunting had been used. Any number of women could probably be had as witnesses, but they would without exception testify that if the accused were not married "it certainly was no fault of hers; poor thing, she tried hard enough." It would be difficult to get any woman to

of futile dashes at anything likely to seem to be doing something, with neither present advantage to the German people or the ultimate triumph of German diplomacy in the councils of Europe.

It is little wonder that Bismarck scornfully satirizes the power he created, but which is now made a throne of thistles and glitter. It is less wonder that the German people chafe and grow impatient under the mockery which calls itself an empire, and under the peevish, erratic, spasmodic ebullitions of the mimetic claimant to the divine right of kings. If he were content to strut beneath the crown, robed and sceptered, confining himself to the deeply-rooted customs of a king-ruled people, he might keep his place with little criticism. But he is not content to do this. He affects to be the wisest of counselors, the leader of the army, the commander of the navy, the head of the church, painter, musician, poet, dramatist, architect, a phenomenon of ability. His vanity blinds him to the truth; he mistakes his very mediocre smattering for the versatility of genius, and when his subjects are not angrily denouncing his blunders, they are ridiculing his egotistical pretensions.

TRUSTS AND MONOPOLIES. There is a very clear distinction to be made between the two decisions relating to trade combinations published yesterday. The supreme court of the United States has decided that the traffic agreement pool is illegal, and on the same day the court of common pleas of Ohio decided that the action of the sugar trust in determining to sell sugar at a price so low as to drive out competition was not illegal. In the absence of the text of these decisions, comment must be restricted to the synopsis published, but that seems to state the case very fairly.

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believe that any other woman deliberately and of her own accord let slip any chance to secure a husband. Men could not testify; they would not know. Most men, indeed, are diligently captured and landed without ever being conscious that any influence was exerted except their own irresistible attractions for women. But suppose a man were asked if he had ever been sought by a woman with whom he was acquainted, is there one who could not, at some stage of the acquaintance, remember or recognize, now that it was called to his attention, that she had manifested special interest in him—slight, perhaps, in his demonstration, but unmistakable in its meaning? Old maids should not be taxed, any way. If they are unlovable they bear burden enough. If they are lovable in their old maidenhood they are a blessing; they fill a long felt want not met by any other resource in life. Bachelors are entitled to no consideration, but old maids are above and beyond the reach of the iconoclastic legislator who seeks to destroy one of the most cherished institutions of domestic life.

A CYCLE OF MISFORTUNE. Familiar as descriptions of disasters caused by storms have become during the past few months, none has touched the heart so painfully as that at Arlington, Georgia, on Monday. A cyclone struck a school house, where some fifty children were gathered, and with scarce a woman's warning, most of them were crushed and maimed, and many killed. The cries of those terrified and tortured children might almost seem to have aroused a providential interposition, but the inscrutable purpose of it all hangs like a pall over the stricken dead and adds awe to the scene of suffering. No human foresight could protect them, no human aid rescue them. The sad story is one of utter helplessness in face of the fury of nature.

Almost side by side are narrated many other instances of loss of life, of misery due to the loss of home, and of suffering from hunger and exposure over miles of territory, swept by the waters of the Mississippi and its tributaries, and only the interest attaching to the series of calamities in this country attracts attention from the awful consequences of the plague and the famine in India.

The experience of the past year almost justifies belief in the theory that there are cycles of misfortune through which the world passes periodically as it crosses the track of a meteoric ring. It is not unprecedented, and it is noticeable that it is usually followed by a season of comparative immunity.

Good reasons why this government is interested in having the Cuban troubles brought to an end are to be found in the dissatisfaction arising out of the operation of certain Spanish decrees in matters of business. One decree suspended the right of creditors to collect debts, and was bitterly opposed by those who had loaned money on the island. The decree has now expired, and the revival of the right to sue brings a protest from the planters who have become impoverished because of the war. In both instances a large number of the parties interested are American citizens, and whatever the outcome may be there is something more than sentiment in the desire of the American people to have the struggle brought to a close.

The Dingley bill contains a provision which requires those who visit Europe to pay a duty on all but \$100 worth of the goods they bring home as baggage. This will bring forth a groan from the tourist, but it will afford him an excuse for not bringing home foreign purchases for his friends.

Prof. Wilson is against the Dingley bill. This was to have been expected, but the professor's word will not carry so much weight as it once did. The utter failure of the Wilson law, except as a deficiency producer, has not made its author a very reliable authority on economical matters.

There can be no very serious objection to a license fee of \$1 for people riding bicycles within the city limits. Bicyclers appropriate about all the territory they want on our streets and sidewalks, and ought to be willing to pay a nominal sum for the privilege.

Congress has been appealed to with a view of having the kinetoscope pictures of the prizefight suppressed. It is extremely probable that the average congressman will consider himself unable to pass upon the matter until he has seen the pictures.

Ex-Gov. Boies emerges from seclusion to remark that the election of McKinley did not mean that the people of the United States are opposed to free silver. No; it meant that they would prefer Bryan for president by 700,000,000 majority.

There were a good many original McKinley men in this country one year ago, but from the number of applications for office the president must be convinced that they have increased wonderfully since the St. Louis convention.

The honor shown so young a man as Congressman Bailey will probably bring a shudder to W. J. Bryan when he thinks of 1900.

of the will of the people to the contrary. Should such a man be seated in this senate? I say most emphatically, no!" This was a prophetic speech. Four years later Oregon was the only state to vote against Mr. Corbett, except that he is a rich man and a personal friend of the governor of Oregon. Somehow the legislature refrained from performing its constitutional function and adjourned without electing a senator, and now comes the governor's friend with a certificate of appointment to the senate. Now a man in Washington believes that Corbett's credentials will be recognized.

Suffrage in Wyoming. A little pamphlet, called "Tested by Its Fruits," printed for the Massachusetts Association Opposed to the Extension of Suffrage to Women, contains some facts about Wyoming which seem to explain the inability of the champions of woman suffrage to cite specific instances from the statute books of Wyoming of the advantages of that system.

The divorce laws of Wyoming mention eleven causes of divorce and require only twenty-four months of residence for release from marital obligations. The liquor laws provide a license system with fees ranging from \$100 to \$500, and with restrictions on the traffic which are less rigid than the average.

Moreover, the state legalizes gambling. "Licenses are granted for gambling, just as they are for liquor selling, though at a higher rate, the business presumably being more profitable. There is, to be sure, a law against those who do not 'gamble on the square,' but the management of gambling rooms is a recognized business. Twenty-five cents is the usual stake provided that, on payment of \$150 per quarter to the sheriff, any one may be licensed to carry on any of the following games: 'Paro, monte, roulette, lansquenet, rone, vingt-un, commonly known as twenty-one, keno, props, or any banking game played with cards, dice or any other device.'"

Nor is this all. The legislature of Wyoming, elected in part by the votes of women, and representing a constituency which has enjoyed full woman suffrage for nearly thirty years, took pains that the noble sport of gaming should not be interfered with by any narrow local prejudices. Section 1,465 expressly provides: "Town, city or municipal corporation in this territory shall have power to prohibit, suppress or regulate any gaming house or game, licensed as provided in this chapter."

There is, of course, the possibility that persons engaged in gambling may lose their tempers and break out in sudden violence. Possibly some one may forget the law against those who do not "gamble on the square," and his conduct may awaken the fierce resentment of his associates. The legislature has made wise provision for such contingencies, and in section 873 has defined "excusable homicide" thus: "When committed by accident or misfortune in the heat of passion upon any person engaged in a lawful business, and no undue advantage is taken and no dangerous weapon used, and that the killing is not done in a cruel or unusual manner."

There may be some extent to the quiet apprehensions of those who have supposed that women might be a shade too extreme in enacting morality into law; but at the same time they make good the theory that woman suffrage is a short cut to all reforms.

WOOD LISTEN TO THE MUSIC. Seattle, March 21, 1897. To the Editor: There has been so much discussion of late over the high hat worn by thoughtless and selfish women at the theater that another nuisance even greater because indulged in by both men and women, has not received its due share of attention. I refer to the reprehensible habit indulged in by a certain class of concertgoers during the rendition of the most delightful music at a concert, and thereby ruining the entertainment for those who attend for the sake of the music, and not to discuss the styles, the recent event at Carson, or other current topics. As there are still too many of the delightful Wagner concertos to be given, would it not be an act of benevolence on the part of the management, in behalf of the musical loving portion of the community, to give a few suggestions to the public in regard to the correct mode of conducting one's self at a concert? A MUSIC LOVER.

THE STATE PRESS. Hoquiam Washingtonian: Gov. Rogers says he will call an extra session of the legislature "if the people's indignation demands it." We suggest that it will not be called at once; people know when they have enough.

Sultan Journal: It would be wise for those Pop papers who are "figuring" out that the late legislature was a model of economy in its appropriations to wait until the deficiency bill comes in two years hence. The profits and loss of a business establishment can never be safely reckoned in advance.

Vancouver Independent: The editor and proprietor of Chicago's only free silver daily has been sent to the penitentiary for two years, the supreme court affirming the verdict of a criminal tribunal, in which the editor was found guilty of circulating obscene matter through the mails. We wonder how much more the Populists and free silverites think of the courts of the country now that they did when they so vigorously denounced them at Chicago.

COAST PAPERS. San Francisco Examiner: Lord Salisbury seems not only to be between the devil and the deep sea, but the devil appears to have the retreat covered, and not a boat in sight.

San Francisco Post: One of Fitzsimmons' admirers sent him the left hind foot of a graveyard rabbit the other day, and said: "Scholarship," and when it was "infringement of copyright."

Portland Oregonian: If there is any lesson to be drawn from the fact that it seems to be that temperate habits of living, license and luxury are not profitable for mind or body, for races or for the individual.

NOTABLE PEOPLE. Archbishop John J. Kain, of St. Louis, says that he will enforce in his archdiocese the Catholic law prohibiting marriages between Catholics and Protestants.

Ransom E. Hall, one of the solid citizens of Chicago, who died the other day at the age of 82, had voted for eighteen candidates for the presidency of the United States, the last one being President McKinley.

King Manelik, of Abyssinia, will soon have a reputation as a patron of art. A few weeks ago he was reported to have ordered a painter to execute a battle picture representing the defeat of the Italians. Now he has ordered a painter to paint a grand panorama, to be put up in a building to be erected for the purpose.

Count Erwin Neipperg, the senior general of the Austro-Hungarian army, and who was for some time the man for whose sake alone Sardinia and Nice were modified both the text and the spirit of the treaty of 1860, was represented at Vienna. The Austrian chamberlain who plays so discreditable a part in the story is other than the father of Count Neipperg.

AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Special to the Post-Intelligencer. WASHINGTON, March 23.—A talk which I had the other day with Mr. Gage, the new secretary of the treasury, may furnish consolation to a large number of men throughout the country who are now sitting on the ragged edge in internal revenue offices. Mr. Gage spoke very freely and said, with some emphasis, that civil service rules would be rigidly enforced in this department. To make a long story short, he laid down as an unchangeable rule that efficient and competent men now filling deputy collectors, clerks, inspectors, and other positions in internal revenue offices will not be disturbed.

Mr. McKinley has made it very plain that he is in no hurry to make appointments. "McKinley is doing it all very nicely, but we understand him thoroughly," said one of the older senators. "He is telling us that he will not make any appointments right away; that he must have time to dispose of the crowds and give full consideration to the applications for important positions before he will take action. We all know what that means. It means that we must pass a tariff bill, and do it soon, or we get no pie for our people. Excepting the cabinet positions, he has sent few nominations to the senate. His predecessors in the same length of time have usually sent in from twenty to fifty nominations. McKinley is in no hurry. He does not have to worry. But we poor devils up here on Capitol Hill are being constantly besieged by our constituents, and we must do something. McKinley has the power to push the tariff bill along, and he is going to do it in a most potential way."

Senator Chandler, who is to be chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, says: "I have no doubt that the senators appointed from Florida and Oregon will be successful. The legislature has had an opportunity to vote for a successor to Senator Call. The appointment made by the Governor is all right, and the new senator will be seated. The legislature of Florida will meet and elect a senator by April 15, and in the meantime, the senator by appointment will hold the position. In the Oregon case, the legislature was never organized and, of course, never voted for a senator without precedent. It seems to me that the senate cannot afford to deny the state of Oregon her constitutional representation and, therefore, the gentleman appointed by the governor will be entitled to his seat."

"As to Kentucky, I do not see how the gentleman appointed can be seated. All the senate precedents are against seating a man appointed by the governor after the legislature has had an opportunity to perform its functions."

Nearly all the men who held office under Harris, Arthur or Garfield, and even further back, and twice their number who have never held office under any administration, but would like to mighty had, are in Washington. The crowds remaining at the hotels now that the inauguration rush is over, are largely composed of these old and tried public servants. There is Brackett, who was chief clerk of the treasury department under the late Meredith, who was formerly chief of the bureau of engraving and printing, and there is Palmer, who was public printer, and scores and scores of others like these gentlemen who are anxious to secure their old places and are moving heaven and earth to get back. They really have little claim to the consideration of the administration other than the fact that they have served the federal government once before.

Through the extension of the civil service rules, it is harder than ever to get a federal job and the younger element in the party, men who have no war records, but who have borne the brunt of party victory and defeat uncomplainingly for years, consider that they have some claims. But if there are to be provided with places once more, there will be little left for the younger men.

President McKinley is reported to be displeased at present to follow out the lines laid down by President Cleveland so far as the disposal of federal patronage is concerned. Mr. Cleveland announced very early in his administration that as a rule he would ignore the claims of men who had held office before and would give due consideration to those who had never been in the federal service. He lived up to this rule pretty rigidly although, of course, there were exceptions as there must have been. President McKinley has assured members of his cabinet that he will adhere to the same policy. It is his intention to abide by this very wise determination on the part of his predecessor, and in making his selections for the federal office, and to give consideration principally to fitness and party service within the past four years. Should he stick to this proposition, there will be many disappointed office holders before the administration is three months old.

Regular attendants of one Washington church are greatly disappointed, while those of another are correspondingly jubilant. While in congress Maj. McKinley attended the Foundry Methodist Episcopal church and the people of the congregation confidently expected that he would worship there. In view of this expectation the services of one of the most learned and eloquent preachers in the Baltimore conference were secured, but great to their disappointment, for President McKinley has accepted the tender of "president's pew" in the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal church and will attend that church regularly. For many years, Rev. Dr. John P. Newman, now a bishop in the Methodist church, filled the pulpit there, and President Grant was a member of the church. The pew occupied by Grant was marked the "President's Pew" when Grant left Washington, and has always borne that name. It is alleged that Bishop Newman managed this coup, and in consequence the feeling against him at the Foundry church is very pronounced.

ALLAN B. SLAUSSON. Mr. McKinley, unlike his predecessor, seems to have the knack of saying "no" to a man without sending him away from the White House with a knife up his sleeve.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

MUSLIN UNDERWEAR. Twelve cases now ready. Popular priced. Many new and original effects.

PERCALES, 11c. The newest of colors and designs, also black and white and red and white, at 10c a yard.

TRIMMINGS. All that is strictly up to date, boleros, ornaments, silk embroidery, etc.

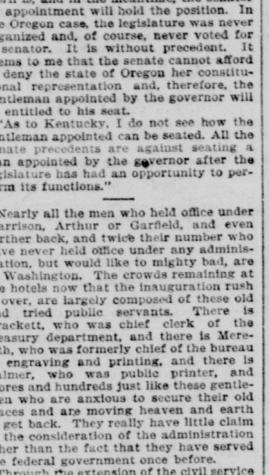
CHALLIES, 12c. Silk striped wool finished Challies.

SILKS, SILKS. Wonderful values. Everything that is now the correct kind.

SILK STRIPED MOUSSELINE, 12c a Yard. Beautiful, medium and light colors, with neat pretty figured designs.

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ONE TABLET GIVES RELIEF. PERMANENT CURE FOLLOWS A FAIR TRIAL. NO UNCERTAINTY ABOUT IT.

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The early Spring Wash Goods are selling very lively. Qualities and prices the secret. Reliable qualities at such wonderfully low figures can be had only at the Bon Marche.

55-inch Percales in sobby small checks, special for..... 7c a Yard. 75c a Yard. 600 yards mill lengths of best quality Tussled-down Flannels, only..... 7c a Yard. 600 yards mill lengths of a slightly inferior grade in dark colors, only..... 4c a Yard. 1,500 yards mill remnants of Victoria Lawns, worth 25c and 20c, selling them out for 15c and..... 10c a Yard. 1,500 yards First White Dimities, in stripes and checks, cheap at 15c a yard, our price is..... 10c a Yard. 12c a Yard.

Just received a new line of 22-inch percales in beautiful waist fittings, all guaranteed fast colors, only..... 10c a Yard. The new wash fabric Cotele Marguerite and Grass Lawns, 34 inches wide, in light and dark grounds, only..... 12c a Yard.

50-cents! Mothers! Mothers!!! Mrs. Washburn's Washable Dye has been used for years and is the best remedy for all dyeing troubles. It is safe, and does not stain. It is sold by druggists in every part of the world. See that you get the genuine. 25 cents a box. Sold by all druggists.

Mr. SELLER & CO. We will close out all our damaged DINNER SETS THIS WEEK. See prices and goods. Sale on these goods begins Tuesday.