

LAND GRANTS.

WAGON MOUND Nov. 12, 1880. To the Editor of the Las Vegas Gazette.

The editor of the Red River Chronicle must be a very stupid and ignorant man, quite unfit to be the conductor of a newspaper.

In answer to my appeal to him for assistance in settling the Mexican Land Grants in this territory, he gets up a long tirade about Carpet Baggers from the East being appointed to perpetuate fraud. This is just what I wish to avoid and call upon every honest man to aid in getting rid of the nuisance.

This editor objects to take the control of the land grant claims out of the hands of the Surveyor General. They have now been in the hands of the Surveyor General's office for upwards of twenty years, and what has been done? Nothing.

This fraud-abhorring editor prints in his paper the report of the Surveyor General, in which he urges the necessity for increased facilities to adjust those claims and have the titles cleared up, and suggests the appointment of a commissioner to adjudicate upon them.

He thinks one Carpet Bagger, as suggested by the Surveyor General, would be more easily managed than three and that the fraudulent claims that are being negotiated every day on legitimate land grants, made by the Mexican Government, will have a better chance of being held by the knaves who make them, so long as the question rests in the Land Office which has no power to settle anything.

A man writes out a description of a piece of land in a land grant (although recommended for confirmation to the original owner by the Surveyor General's office) makes out his own title, in fact, registers it and thinks the land his own. There is not a rogue in the universe who does not persuade himself that he is the owner of another man's property, if he can get possession of it.

This is the class this honest editor desires to protect and thinks his best course is to accuse the opposite party of fraud. An open court, where the evidence could be sifted by opposing lawyers employed by every interested party, is too searching a process to meet his honest approbation.

The idea that Congress, for such a purpose, must send three Carpet Baggers has seized hold of his brain and he can see no further and does not wish to. Suppose they did send three Carpet Baggers, the evidence in each case being produced and completed by the attorneys in court, an appeal to the supreme court would make the Carpet Baggers nonentities like himself.

If Congress appoints three Judges for the purpose of settling these claims, I have no doubt it will send men fit to fill the office with credit to themselves and do justice at the same time to all concerned in land, and if, in addition, they had the power to hang every dishonest newspaper editor they would confer a double benefit on the community.

Yours, WM. PINKERTON. P. S. I am quite willing that all fraudulent land grant claims should be punished as severely as you please, provided all fraudulent claims against legitimate grants shall be punished in an equal ratio.

Odds and Ends. "There is no place like home," repeated Mr. Henpeck, looking at a motto, and he heartily added: "I'm ladg there isn't."

We think we have solved the problem, Where do all the pins go to? They go to waist. Any young gentleman whose arms has encircled a feminine waist has easily found one or more of them.

Swinburne believes that a strong minded woman who usurps man's place and throws mud is not entitled to that consideration from men which is shown toward a "woman womanly," and that she must expect to receive mud in return.

That was a very pointed and possibly a very wholesome bit of sarcasm when a gentleman turned on a coxcomb who had been making himself offensive, and said: "Sir, you ought to be the happiest man in the world; you are in love with yourself and you have no rival."

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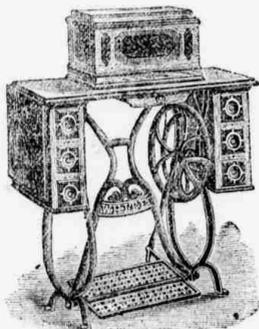
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