

Lincoln County Leader.

Saturday, October 23, 1892.

Ancient Benanza Kings.

Thousands of men have envied Astor, Stewart, Vanderbilt, Mackey, Keene, Gould and the other fellows who can buy strawberries at \$1 per box; but the richest of them are mere vagabonds when compared to some of the ancients. There was Nimus, for instance. He was the son of Nimrod, the old hunter, who made long search for holes and tigers take to ditches. Old Nim left his boy about \$450,000,000 in cash, besides 125,000 cattle, a piece of land about as big as Arkansas, and 14,000 likely slaves. There were no lawyers in those days who made a specialty of breaking wills, and young Nimus quietly took possession and cast about for some plan to keep himself out of the poor house.

He was considered a poor young man, and had he been seen lugging his girl to an ice cream saloon or riding out in a livery rig his friends would have said he would bring up in a garret. By a lucky capture of territory from the Assyrians, together with 20,000 slaves, 125,000 cattle, ten wagon loads of silver and jewels and a few other trifles, Nimus walked up the social ladder until big bugs asked after his wife and babies, and he could lose three games of billiards without wondering if the owner of the saloon would take a "stand off." He was worth \$1,750,000,000 when he died, and yet for the last five years of his life he went without mutton because the price had raised to three cents per pound.

The heiress with a \$50,000 bank account considers herself some pumpkins, but what a three-cent piece she would have been alongside of queen Semiramis. She not only had the lucre left by Nimus, but in ten years she had increased it fourfold. Just multiply \$1,750,000,000 by two and you have the amount of her bank balance, to say nothing of jewels and clothing and furniture and palaces and slaves and cattle. Had she sold out and cleaned up she could have drawn her little check for about \$900,000,000. She didn't worry about where her spring bonnet was to come from, and when a new style of dress goods came out she didn't sit up nights for fear some neighbor would secure a pattern first. While she made it lively for her enemies she was soft on her friends. She gave her waiting maid \$2,500,000 in a lump for dressing her hair in a new style, and she tossed the same amount to her dress-maker as a reward for the excellent fit of one particular dress. One day when she saw a poor old man traveling the highway on foot she presented him with 500 asses to ride on, and insisted on his accepting \$250,000 to pay his toll and tavern bills.

Cyrus, King of Persia, from the year 538 to 580, had some little chance to begin with, and in ten years he could draw his check for \$3,100,000,000. He didn't haggle over the price of a slave when a man came to buy, but presented him with one thousand. He at one time owned 30,000 horses, 49,000 cattle, 200,000 sheep, 15,000 asses and 25,000 slaves, and when he got tired of a palace costing \$5,000,000, he gave it away to some poor washerwoman with seven children to support. He one day sat down to a dinner which had cost \$150,000, and in the afternoon he went on a \$150,000 drunk. The police didn't run him in, or he would doubtless have insisted on paying a fine of \$150,000 and presenting his honor with a corner house and lot in the toniest part of Babylon.

King Menes was another well-heeled man. It was too much trouble to count his cash, and so he weighed it. One day when an old friend asked him for the loan of a few dollars until Saturday night, he sent him a procession of sixty asses, each animal loaded with 100 pounds of gold coin. He paid \$500,000 for a bird that could whistle, the same for a trick dog, and he had such a fondness for white oxen that he shelled out \$75,000 apiece for them, and at one time had a drove of 2,000. When he got out with the boys he made things lively. During one spree in his city of Memphis he gave away 2,500,000 dollars and didn't get drunk at that. At one time he had 600,000 gold chains, 1,000,000 finger rings, 100,000 costly swords, 300,000 daggers, and had only knows how many h-lines, jack-knives, cork-screws tobacco boxes. His wife had \$900,000 a year in pin money, and when his eldest son went up to Thebes to see the elephant, he was followed by 500 friends, 1,000 slaves, 2,000 horses and \$500,000 for fire, checks and beer money.

The Situation Over the River.

The following from the *Lone Star* gives a pretty fair idea of the condition in the Lake Valley country as confirmed by our own citizens who have returned from that greatest of mineral monstrosities.

Mr. J. Gist returned to the city this morning from a trip to Lake Valley and the Percha country. He says the testimony of people in the Percha district is very conflicting regarding the permanency of the mines there. Thus far, no rich mineral has been developed other than the rich sulphide float of which so much has been written. No shafts have been sunk on the locations yet and it is not positively known that there are any genuine lodes. Those interested in the mines of course say there are, while the bulk of the testimony of other people is to the contrary. Several wagon loads of the float have been shipped. Mr. Gist met six or eight on the road. Some new strikes are reported, running from \$50 to \$500 to the ton.

Regarding the towns and the general outlook from a business point of view, Mr. Gist thinks Nutt has the best chance thus far, as it is the shipping point from the railroad to all that section of country. If the railroad should be extended to Lake Valley, that, of course, would kill Nutt. Lake Valley is quiet, the excitement at present centering at Kingston, the new town on the Percha. The Lake Valley mill has started up again, after being thoroughly repaired. The fact that one company controls all the mines there militates against this as a very large mining camp. It is said by some that the town is not as lively as it was three months ago, owing, probably to the floating population going in a body to the Percha. About 40 or 50 people are coming daily, passing on to Kingston.

The latter town has a population of from 350 to 500. It is laid out in a narrow canon and can never have more than one street. Consequently, it it should become a big town, it will necessarily be a very long one. There has been a scarcity of lumber throughout that whole country, but considerable is now coming in. Kingston town site was located as a mill site and there is trouble about titles to town lots, as the parties who located the site can not, under their location, acquire title for that purpose. Lots, however, are selling at from \$350 to \$500. One woman has taken a lot and built on it and refuses to pay for it. She is not being molested.

It is probable there will be a lull in the boom this winter; for, as soon as people find out there are no mills and no way to reduce the ores and put money in circulation and that there is great doubt about the permanency of the mines, it is probable that immigration will cease. At present, people are living off the immigrants arriving daily, every one of whom brings a few dollars with him. If immigration should stop the country would be dead.

Hillsboro is now quiet, the Percha concentrating the attention of every one. The road from Nutt passes through Lake Valley and Hillsboro and reaches Kingston the same day. The fare is \$2 from Nutt to Lake Valley and from Lake Valley to Kingston \$4.50.

Ohio Independence.

The glory of Ohio is that her vote has never been the exclusive property of any political party. As in the present year there has been in the past a deal of independent voting, and the man or party must keep a sound record who aspires to the suffrages of Ohio voters. Going back to 1861, at the time when the great union republican party was in its prime, we find that Governor Tod was elected by a majority of 55,304 over Mr. Jewett, while in 1862 Colonel Armstrong of the Cleveland *Plaindealer*, was elected Secretary of State of the democratic ticket by 5,560, a change of 60,763. In the following year Brough was elected Governor by a majority of 100,862, a change of 116,442. In 1872 General Wilcox, republican, was elected Secretary of State by 14,151 majority, and in 1873 Governor Allen was elected by a majority of 817, a change 14,867, and in 1874 Wilcox was defeated by a majority of 17,217, a change of 22,746. In 1876 Colonel Barnes, Republican, was elected Secretary of State by a majority of 6,626, and in 1877 Governor Bishop was elected by a majority of 23,521, a change of 31,136. In the following year Barnes was re-elected by a majority of 3,154, a change of 26,674. These are some of the past changes that afford a parallel for the vote of 1882 over the vote of 1881. — *Telegraph Journal*.

The Drought of 1849.

"Stranger, I take it?" observed an elderly resident the other day, as I stopped him and asked if there were any blackberry trees around his way. "I should judge so. I was a stranger myself when I first kim here. That was the summer of '49. Hottest summer ever known in these parts."

"Any warmer than this?" I asked him.

"Sunnat, sunnat. The summer of '49 the cedar trees melted and ran along the ground; you notice how red that ere dust is?"

"Pretty warm," I ventured.

"Why, sir, darin' the summer of '49 we kept meat right on the ice to keep it from cookin' too fast, and we had to put the chickens in the refrigerators to get raw eggs."

"Where did you get the ice?"

"We had it left over, and kept it in b'illin' water! Yes, sir. The temperature of Willin' water was so much lower than the temperature of the atmosphere that it kept the ice so cold you couldn't touch it with your finger!"

"Anything else startling that season?"

"That summer of 1849! Well, guess! The Hackensack river began to b'ile airy in June, and we didn't see the sky until October, for the steam in the air! And fish! fish! They were droppin' all over town, cooked just as you wanted 'em! There wasn't anything but fish until the river died up!"

"What did you have then?"

"The finest oysters and clams you ever heard of. They walked right ashore for water, and they'd drink applejack right out of the demijohn! Yes, sir. You call this hot! I feel like an overcoat!"

"What's your business?" I asked him.

"I'm a preacher," he replied. "By the way, you wanted blackberry trees. Just keep up the thumb-hand side of this road until you come to the pig pasture and there you will find the trees. Climb up on my goose roost, and you can knock down all the berries you want, if you can find a pole long enough." — *Brooklyn Eagle*.

Postal Service.

On June 30th last there were in operation 769 railway post offices, conducted in 342 whole cars and 1463 apartments in cars, and ran over 87,865 miles of railroad, making 76,741,438 miles of annual service, with a total of 3,570 postal clerks in the service, with salaries aggregating \$3,486,779, or an average annual salary of \$876. During the year the railway postal clerks handled and distributed 2,155,213,580 letters and postal cards and 1,278,476,600 pieces of other mail matter, or a total of all classes of ordinary mail matter of 3,433,390,480, besides 14,334,310 registered packages and 570,483 through registered pouches.

A Nevada Bridal Tour.

The other day old Uncle Bailey's niece was married at the plank house. The next day the "ole man" took the new couple on a "bridal tour" in his old wood wagon, drawn by two of his angular steeds. Night overtook them at Saint's Rest, on the Glenbrook road. They asked whether they could have accommodations, and the proprietor of the tavern said they could have all they wanted to eat. "But how about the lodgings?" inquired "de ole man." The tavern keeper, who took in the situation, pointing to a barn on the other side of the road, remarked: "There's the bridal chamber over yonder." The new couple examined it, and finding it to their satisfaction, turned in, and the "ole man" slept that night on the soft side of a plank in the bar room. They left for home the next morning in the best of spirits, and enjoyed the "tour" as much as if they had been to "Paree." — *Carson Appeal*.

If you live in human society, you must submit in its necessities. If you wish to live free, you must consent to live responsible. And, while the facts of sex stand unchanged, the only basis of free, happy, innocent, and perfectly natural relations between the sexes is that of married life.

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