

INALIENABLE RIGHT IDENTIFIED.

It is "Free Land," in the opinion of the Next Washington Governor.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 15.—Governor-elect Rogers has issued a copyrighted pamphlet containing about 2,000 words and entitled "Free Land." A copy has been sent to the members of the legislature which meets next month. He takes the position that free land is an "inalienable, imprescriptible, and inextinguishable" right of man, and draws lessons from the freedom and enjoyment of the Puyallup reservation Indians, which he thinks result from their free, inalienable, and untaxable homesteads. His position is supported by quotations from Emerson, Ingersoll and Seneca.

In conclusion he proposes an amendment to the state legislature providing that real estate and all usual improvements to a value of not to exceed \$2,000, occupied as a homestead by any private family, the head of which is a citizen of the United States and this state, shall be forever exempted from all taxation of every kind. The exemption is limited to homesteads. The pamphlet states that the amount excepted by this scheme would not exceed 10 per cent. of the entire valuation. He said such a plan enacted into law "will prevent that fatal clash of the classes otherwise inevitable." The pamphlet concludes: "County government should be abolished or reduced to the merest skeleton of what it now is. Townships and municipal governments can attend to local affairs; let the state be called in where necessary."

Regulating Street Car Fares.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—The city council last night adopted an ordinance to compel street car companies to accept 4 cents for a ride. It is likely that the matter will be taken into the courts.

ABBREVIATED TELEGRAMS.

Obituary: At Dayton, O., Ex-County Recorder James H. Hall. At St. Louis, Martin Kaiser. At Nashville, Ill., Mrs. Sallie H. Adams, 54.

A case of a man's falling in love with and marrying his mother-in-law is reported from Troy township, six miles south of Eagle, Wis. Elder Beatchtel, the divorced husband of Hattie Babcock Beatchtel, by whom he has one living child, and Mrs. Sarah Babcock are the contracting parties.

The vote of California for presidential electors has been tabulated and shows the following totals: Republicans, 146,588; fusion, 144,766; Prohibition, 2,573.

A hog weighing 1,000 pounds was slaughtered near Cambridge, Md.

William E. Seeley, president of the First National bank of Bridgeport, Conn., has been offered the position of United States treasurer under President McKinley.

Auditor General-Elect Dix, of Lansing, Mich., has served notice of dismissal to thirty of the present office force.

The port of London is on the wane, and is losing prestige as the distributing center of Europe, according to the report of Sir Thomas Sutherland.

The Philip & Raichart Manufacturing company, at 810 West Nineteenth street, Chicago, has made an assignment. Assets, \$30,000; liabilities about \$28,000. The company has a planing mill.

A bill will be presented to the Pennsylvania legislature abolishing the scaffold in the execution of condemned criminals and substituting gas. It is proposed to turn the gas into an airtight cell while the condemned man is asleep.

The body of Harry Rundell, of Chicago, was found floating in Lake Elizabeth, near Los Angeles, Cal.

A confession is said to have been made by C. W. Manley, of Jacksonville, Ill., of an attempt to rob the Massachusetts Benefit association of \$10,000 in the Thomas G. Flennikin case by false testimony.

The Weather That Sometimes Comes. Washington, Dec. 15.—Following are the weather indications for twenty-four hours from 8 p. m. yesterday: For Indiana and Illinois—Partly cloudy weather, preceded by light showers in southern portions; northerly winds. For Lower Michigan—Generally cloudy weather; probably local snow at lake stations; fresh to brisk easterly winds. For Upper Michigan—Cloudy weather; probably light snow; fresh to brisk southeasterly winds; slightly warmer. For Wisconsin—Fair weather, except in northern portion; light snow; light variable winds. For Iowa—Generally fair weather; westerly winds.

THE MARKETS.

New York Financial.

New York, Dec. 14. Money on call nominally 1/4 @ 2 per cent.; prime mercantile paper 4 @ 6 per cent.; sterling exchange was firm, with actual business in bankers' bill at 48 1/2 @ 48 3/4 for demand and 48 1/2 @ 48 3/4 for sixty days; posted rates, 48 1/2 and 48 3/4; commercial bills, 48 1/2. United States government bonds firm; 4 1/4 registered, 120 1/4 do. coupon, 120 1/4; 5 1/4 registered, 118 1/2 do. coupon, 118 1/2; 6 1/4 registered, 109 1/2 do. coupon, 109 1/2; 7 1/4 registered, 95 1/2; Pacific 8 1/4 at 97, 99 1/2.

Chicago Grain and Produce.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14. Following were the quotations on the Board of Trade today: Wheat—December, opened 77c, closed 77c; May, opened 80 1/2c, closed 82c; July, opened 79 1/2c, closed 79 1/2c. Corn—December, opened 25 1/2c, closed 25 1/2c; January, opened 26c, closed 26 1/2c; May, opened 26 1/2c, closed 26 1/2c; Oats—December, opened 17 1/2c, closed nominal; January, opened 18c, closed nominal; May, opened 18 1/2c, closed 20c. Pork—December, opened and closed nominal; January, opened \$7.67 1/2, closed \$7.75. Lard—December, opened and closed nominal; January, opened \$3.87 1/2, closed \$3.90. Produce: Butter—Extra creamery, 22c per lb.; extra dairy, 19c; fresh packing stock, 16 @ 18c. Eggs—Fresh stock, 16c per doz. Poultry—Turkeys, 2 @ 11c per lb.; chickens, (Hens), 2 @ 9c; spring chickens, 16 @ 18c; roasters, 4 @ 10c, 10 @ 11c; geese, 7 @ 10c. Potatoes—Burbanks, 30 @ 34c per bu.; Helbron, 20 @ 28c. Sweet potatoes—Illinois, \$1.00 @ 1.25 per bu. Honey—White clover 10 @ 12c per lb.; extracted, 5 @ 6c. Apples—Common, to fancy, 5 @ 10c per bu.

Chicago Live Stock.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14. Live Stock—Prices at the Union Stock yards today ranged as follows: Hogs—Estimated receipts for the day, 34,000; sales ranged at \$3.50 @ 3.75 pigs, \$3.50 @ 3.75 light, \$3.00 @ 3.15 rough packing, \$3.30 @ 3.50 mixed, and \$3.20 @ 3.50 heavy packing and shipping lots. Cattle—Estimated receipts for the day, 15,000; quotations ranged at \$3.50 @ 3.75 Christmas hogs, \$3.75 @ 3.90 choice to extra shipping steers, \$4.20 @ 4.30 good to choice do, \$3.85 @ 4.15 fair to good, \$3.40 @ 3.60 common to medium do, \$3.10 @ 3.30 butchers steers, \$2.80 @ 3.00 stockers, \$2.30 @ 2.40 feeders, \$1.80 @ 2.00, \$2.40 @ 2.55 hogs, \$1.75 @ 1.95 bulls, oxen and stags, \$2.80 @ 3.10 Texas steers, and \$2.75 @ 3.00 veal calves. Sheep and Lambs—Estimated receipts for the day, 18,000; sales ranged at \$3.50 @ 3.75 western, \$1.50 @ 1.75 Texas, \$1.00 @ 1.25 natives and \$2.80 @ 3.00 lambs.

THEY HAVE NO CREED

POLITICS AND RELIGION COMBINED BY A STRANGE SECT.

Novel Church in California—The Mother Organization in Los Angeles Has Branches in Three Towns—Total Membership Is One Thousand.

There is in Los Angeles a church movement so extraordinary in the character of its creed as to be without parallel or anticipation by the creed of any ecclesiastical idea ever before brought into the world.

In point of fact, the only semblance of ecclesiasticism which this movement bears abides in its name of "church" and in the fact that it expresses itself to be a form of the worship of God. Other than this there is nothing about its officers, its meetings or any ceremonies thereof which might suggest it to embody a phase of religious thought, as religious thought comes to us today through articles of faith, psalters and edifies.

This newly originated institution is called New Era church, and it was brought into being through a state charter granted upon the filing of articles of incorporation in 1894. Dr. W. C. Bowman was the originator of the idea of such a church and stood at the helm while it was getting into shape. He calls it a "civic church," and as such it has spread until the Los Angeles body now numbers about 700 members, and there are churches at Compton, Azusa and Clearwater, each of them having as great a membership as any of the "old line" churches which are in those towns. Altogether it might be said that the membership of the church is about 1,000, but from this nucleus the church officers declare the faith will spread, as the present activities show, until it becomes the most conspicuous church movement in the state.

The idea is recognized by some as about the same sort of breaking off from the orthodox faith as Protestantism was from Catholicism. It is based upon the claim that the churches of today assert that their only purpose is to care for the souls of individuals and have no concern for their earthly well being further than obtains to morality and charity, the last of which graces the New Eras declare is "in its church acceptance and practice simply a fraud."

In short, this New Era church mingles politics with religion, and of the two runs mostly to politics. There is no regular preacher, and the sermons bear no flavor of theology. Twice on Sunday the members gather to hear discourses. A brother or sister will rise and deliver a prepared or extemporaneous address. He may take some Bible theme for his base of argument, but if he does he will use it only as a wall from behind which shots will be taken at political questions of the day.

After this is finished some member will arise and comment upon the words just spoken. This will continue until a dozen others have spoken. All sorts of subjects will be talked on. Socialism comes in for a large part of the speech-making, for many of the members are socialists. Then there are protectionists, ardent and excitable free traders, Single Taxers, goldites, silverites, those who want the railroads owned by the government, those who want only the roads owned and the traffic management thrown open to competition, those who wish government ownership of the telegraph and who are otherwise opposed to socialism.

One of the sections of the constitution of this church reads:

"In matters of belief and opinion there will be absolute liberty of mind to accept whatever is proved or seems probable and to reject whatever is disproved or seems improbable, and that its range of investigation and instruction will be unlimited, drawing freely from all sources—scientific, literary, historic, ancient and modern, sacred and profane, Christian, Jewish and pagan—drawing most largely from those sources which seem instructive and helpful, freely handling every question in the problem of human life and aspiration, whether relating to this life or the life to come or whether concerning the body or the soul of man."

The expressions of its founder, Dr. Bowman, as to the beliefs of the church are much in line with the above. He says, "We believe that the surest way to take care of another life is to make the best possible success out of this one; to make earth itself as much like heaven as possible—a place of equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

The absolute lack of theological doctrine in the structure of this church appears, however, in what is specifically declared to be its creed, which reads as follows:

"I believe in the eternal principles of justice and righteousness, embodied in the infinite soul of the universe, revealed in the face of nature and the expert essences of human life. I believe in the betterment of the world by endless progress. I believe in the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil and life over death. I believe that the earth, with its stored resources, its bounties and civilization with its blessings are the rightful heritage of the people, and that all should have fair play and an equal showing for plenty and comfort. I believe it is wrong for the few, whether by inheritance, shrewdness or unjust laws, to have more of life's substance than they can earn or need while the multitude have less than they can earn or need.

The literature of this new church does not seem as yet to have narrowed to any particular sacred book. It has neither Bible, Book of Mormon or Talmud—in fact, the whole range of written works which the past has produced is recognized as being its stock of publications, its reservoir of food for thought. The church has no pastor, but is governed by a president and a board of trustees.—San Francisco Call.

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Proposed Pan-American Exposition.

The pan-American exposition at Niagara Falls in 1899 seems likely to prove a great affair. Although the plans of the projectors have not yet been sufficiently matured to permit of the announcement of details in regard to the proposed exposition, the enterprise has gone far enough to show that it has the best of backing, is destined to succeed and to be a big thing.

The idea is an admirable one, and it will be most fitting that the century should close with such an exposition showing the progress the western half of the world has made during the century, and no more appropriate place could be chosen for such an exhibition than Niagara Falls, where the most marvelous inventions of the century are now in use for the development of motive power from the great cataract. It seems certain that the exposition will be an event of worldwide interest.—Buffalo Enquirer.

For Sufferers in Cuba.

Leon M. Lynch of Buffalo and George Heath of Watertown, N. Y., professional nurses, have left for Harrisburg, where they will be joined by Joseph Cox of Youngstown, also a professional nurse. The party will then proceed to Havana for the purpose of establishing a hospital corps for the relief of the sick and wounded. Mr. Lynch said, "If we find that we cannot reach the insurgent lines, we intend going straight to Havana and will try to secure permission from General Weyler to establish a field hospital and look after the sufferers on both sides."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

A Funny Eagle.

A Russian grand duke, one of the czar's predecessors, was once the guest of a German prince. It was early in the century. In Russia the imperial double headed eagle is to be seen everywhere and on everything throughout the empire, stamped, painted, embroidered or sculptured. At that period the education of grand dukes was somewhat limited. This grand duke went out shooting in Germany and, among other things, shot a large bird. He asked an experienced huntsman who accompanied him what the bird was. "An eagle, your highness," was the answer. The grand duke turned on him in an irritated way. "How can it be an eagle," he asked, "when it has only one head?"—San Francisco Argonaut.

The Heliotrope.

The heliotrope is an emblem of devotion. This idea was probably suggested by the curious habit presented by this flower of turning its face toward the sun. Moore's poetical lines about the sunflower turning on her god where he sets the same look that she turned when he rose is not founded on fact. The sunflower is not a heliotrope and does not turn to face the sun.

Old School Politeness.

"Uncle Simon, what is old fashioned politeness?" "It is a way people used to, have of asking a man about his health and then listening until he got through replying."—Chicago Record.

RUSSIAN WOMEN.

Not Long Ago They Were Treated as the Turkish Women Are.

It is curious to think what a short time it is since the emperors of Russia treated their womanhood in the same way they are still treated in Turkey, says a writer in the Montreal Star. In those days the czar chose his wife from among his subjects, and she was never considered his equal. The matters were arranged in this way—on a certain day the nobles brought their young daughters to be looked at, and she who took the emperor's fancy was forthwith chosen to be his wife.

The princesses were kept with the same strictness as eastern princesses, and marriage only changed their place of residence, but gave them no more freedom. They were allowed occasional visits to be present when guests were received, to whom they would hand a cup of wine and then retire to their apartments, there being a suit of rooms at the north side of the palace reserved especially for them.

If they were ill, the room was darkened before the doctor was admitted, and he was not even allowed to feel their pulse, and when they drove out the windows of their carriages had drawn curtains.

The first czarina who emancipated herself from this state of slavery, and so instituted a new and happier era for Russian women, was the beautiful Nathalie Neryoski, the second wife of Alexis Michaelovitch and the mother of Peter the Great, and her first triumph was when she obtained her husband's

consent to drive with him in an open carriage to the monastery of Troitzky, a proceeding which at the time occasioned a great scandal.

Naturally, when the Russian princes began to intermarry with other European royal families, they were obliged to treat their wives differently, but it was a long time before the court of Russia became as civilized as the rest of Europe.

The Last of the Buffalo.

One of the last members of the buffalo family was killed on Antelope Island, in Great Salt Lake, the other day. The animal was an old bull who had for some years lived on the island undisturbed. Recently on account of his becoming savage it was decided to shoot him. His body was brought to Salt Lake and is now on exhibition. It weighs 2,845 pounds. This was one of the last full blood buffaloes in the country.

Chromatic Aberration.

Findlay, O., has a boy whose eyes are the pink of perfection. He is an albino.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Solved at Last.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star. Now we all know what you are. Up above the world so high—You're an airship in the sky.—San Francisco Chronicle.

A Record Breaking Year.

Trotting records, bicycle records and speechmaking records have all been broken this year. It is almost as easy to break a record as it is to break the moral law.—Twinkles.