

duce the reclamation and settlement of the arid lands is necessary cannot be denied, and the entire acreage to be reserved under the bill, if all the states to which it is applicable should avail themselves of its provisions, would not be as great as each of the several states acquired under the swamp acts. Congress may well try the experiment here proposed. The work is too vast to be undertaken by the general government. The local interest under state control will stimulate results with far greater zeal and success. The principal proposition involving the reclamation and settlement by individuals in small holdings meets my strong approval, and this bill seems to me to present a full opportunity of a practical experiment and under proper safeguards. The United States retain title until the reclamation is accomplished and the land occupied by actual settlers."

The states and territories to which the bill will apply, if it should become law, are: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

CHICAGO, March 23.—Thomas, alias "Buff" Higgins was hanged in jail here at noon for the murder of Peter McCooey, an old city employe, last September. Higgins and two pals planned to burglarize McCooey's house. Higgins entered while the others kept watch outside. McCooey was awakened by the noise, sat up in bed and was shot by Higgins without a word.

Shortly before the hanging Higgins expressed special gratification that he would not have to suffer death on the same scaffold with the assassin Prendergast, for whom he manifested the utmost aversion and contempt. He exhibited a most wonderful nerve throughout the trial and afterwards, and it did not desert him at the supreme moment. He made no remarks on the scaffold. He claimed to the last that he was the victim of police persecution and being sent to death on perjured testimony.

As the trap fell with a clatter, the prisoners in the adjoining corridors set up a shout, "Hang Prendergast; hang Prendergast!" and the little assassin cowered further back into the cell, trembling and muttering imprecations.

ENTERPRISE, Kan., March 23.—A mass meeting of women has nominated a ticket composed entirely of women, and headed by the wife of ex-State Senator Kohler for mayor. They propose to purify the town politics.

NEW YORK, March 23.—In the police dragnet tonight was gathered a large crowd, who have been doing a thriving business in the city. The arrests were made on warrants obtained by the Society for the Enforcement of the Criminal Laws. In nearly every instance the police captured instruments, drugs and all the necessary appliances for carrying on the illegal business, which was conducted chiefly through advertisement. The arrests were made so promptly the prisoners had no chance to get "tipped off" through the usual channels. The charges made by these practitioners vary from \$25 to \$100, according to circumstances, social position, etc. At the house of one of the practitioners a horrible condition of affairs was revealed. Under the sink was the body of an infant, and in another place

was the body of a still-born child. In one of the rooms was a young woman in charge of a servant. She was in a distressed condition, and the police procured for her a trained nurse and a police surgeon.

CHICAGO, March 23.—The decision which granted a new lease on life to Prendergast was made under the statutes in the criminal code, allowing a stay of execution in cases of capital punishment wherein it might be shown that the defendant has become insane after the date of his conviction. This statute, which had long since been forgotten, and which has never been enforced but once before in the history of the state, allowed the impaneling of a jury for the trial of such insane. Having admitted the right of trial, Judge Chetlain then decided that common justice demanded that the time of execution be postponed that a dignified and proper trial might ensue.

ROME, March 23.—The pope's encyclical letter addressed to the bishops of Poland, Russia, Austria and Prussia, was published here today. His holiness says, in brief, that the mission of papacy is not to teach anything against the power of princes or the utility of nations, but to provide for the prosperity of all.

The pope then recalls the agreement with Russia, by which the position of the clergy was immensely improved. This agreement was obtained through requests directly addressed to the czar. The encyclical proceeds to exhort the bishops to avoid any spirit of hostility to the civil authority.

Addressing the Catholics of Austria, the pope enjoins them to feel gratitude for the religious zeal of the emperor, and concludes with urging the Poles in Prussia to trust to the emperor and to observe the laws.

LONDON, March 23.—A dispatch from Rome says France and Russia made every endeavor to prevent the publication of the encyclical.

DENVER, March 24.—The supreme court has sent the fire and police board case back to the district court.

The decision is in effect against the governor, as he had referred to it a question as to which board, that now in office or that appointed by him was the legal one. The court unanimously decided that the district court must decide, so the matter is left where it was a week ago when the governor called out the militia to seat his appointees.

The principal point in the decision is to the effect that the governor is greatly in error in supposing he was called on to enforce his removal of the old commissioners. As municipal officers in fact, he was no more called on to seat his appointees than in the seating of a councilman or city clerk. The governor declined to speak of the decision.

CANTON, O., March 25.—A heavy snowstorm met in before the details of the camp had been completed, and the trampers were huddled around roaring camp fires. About two-thirds of the men enlisted made the trip to this city.

The Massillon camp presented an odd sight early this morning. No fire was permitted in the big tent, but there was a heap of blazing logs outside. Every few moments the flaps of the tent were parted by a soldier of the commonwealth, who visited the fire to drive away the

chills. Soon he would hurry back to burrow in the straw for another nap, and another would take his place. The hoboes in the party became known just before breakfast. They had no soap. They washed at the river brink, and the others carried water in pans and heated it over the fire. They burned straw and frolicked about like a troop of boys.

A bugle call to breakfast brought them together at the tent with a rush. The bill of fare comprised bread, coffee and raw meat. The latter was affixed to the end of sticks and roasted.

One troop of men ran away in a body after breakfast and boarded a passing freight train. Thirty of the commonwealers spent the night as lodgers at the Massillon police station. They comprised two entire groups, who could not be found when they were needed for picket duty, although they were on hand for breakfast.

At 8 o'clock Marshal Browne, otherwise "the unknown," summoned the men in camp together, and they were found to number eleven groups. They were organized into a commune. Smith drilled them for half an hour. He has added several formalities of military discipline to the rules of the commonwealth.

Two hours before the time for departure the tents were pulled down and preparations made for the trip. A diversion was caused by a bulletin from Coxiana, announcing a steamer had just passed that point laden with recruits from Canton. The steamer made the trip of nine miles in two and a half hours, but only a few men from Canton were enrolled.

The removal from Massillon resembled the removal of an old time county circus more than anything else. There was no goddess of peace in the procession, as Coxey intended, his divorced wife refusing to permit her daughter to go with the army in that capacity. Coxey's son, Joseph, a boy of 16, was mounted on a blooded stallion from the stock farm, and he wore a military uniform. Browne and the other officials were similarly mounted, while the "general" rode in a phaeton behind one of his favorite horses. Mrs. Coxey and her 3-year-old son rode in a buggy. The rank and file of the army brought up the rear on foot, following the band wagon, which very much resembled a gypsy traveling conveyance.

NEW YORK, March 25.—The five men and ten women whom the police arrested last night for criminal malpractice were arraigned in the Yorkville police court today. The charge against Mrs. Eliza Schroeder, in whose house the corpses of two infants were found, was changed from malpractice to manslaughter, and her bond fixed at \$10,000. Three of the doctors were held in \$2,500 each, this being a second offense in each case, and the others put under bonds of \$1,500.

NEW YORK, March 25.—Professor Richard L. Garner, whose efforts to learn the language which he avows belongs to the gorilla and chimpanzee, have earned for him the pseudonym of the "monkey man," returned from his investigations in Africa on the Etruria today. The professor said tonight that his journey had been an absolute success.

After having selected a suitable spot for observation he erected a cage con-