

The Pine County Pioneer.

Ed. C. GOTTRY, Proprietor.

DEVOTED TO THE GENERAL INTERESTS OF PINE COUNTY, AND THE WELFARE OF ITS READERS.

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VOL. XII.

THRIFTY SONS OF ITALY.

On the Gulf Coast They Rapidly Acquire Wealth.

The Climate suits Them and the Social Conditions Are More in Their Favor Than in the Northern States.

Special by Green's Letters.
That environment may be wholly responsible for the difference between a good measure of success and a pitiful failure is illustrated in the condition of the Italians in New Orleans and the Mexican gulf coast country.

Those who have given any attention to sociable work have been engaged in any kind of philanthropic work in our great cities, know how powerfully stricken a large proportion of the Ital-



OLD PHILIP MELINI.

ians in the cities of the north are. How they crowd together in dark, maledictions places. How unable they are to grapple with the problem of subsistence. In short, how hopelessly helpless they are made to feel every day.

The problem of living as it is presented where a long season of extreme cold makes it a very different question from that in milder climates, where less and different activity is required to sustain life than in the south.

Of course this applies only to the poor and uneducated classes who come here with no equipment to undertake anything in particular.

With these facts we must accept that these same classes, many of whom can neither read nor write any language, are all well-to-do and prosperous in the southern coast country, it is true that there is no extreme poverty among them, and still more comfortable circumstances. Excepting those newly come to the country there are few of them who are day laborers. Not only do they come here utterly poor, but most of them are rich by one of their countrymen who has become sufficiently well to do to return to Italy and bring over a little colony who are his bound slaves, for a certain time, for doing so.

When they are free to serve themselves they usually begin as day laborers, but they are not slow in recognizing the opportunity for independent enterprise of the kind to which they are accustomed, and while they are by far the first, and a large proportion of them soon undertake some business on their own account.

To the least observant it is apparent that the Italians who conduct the different enterprises in New Orleans and there are a great many of them and they all belong, together with the fruit stores, to Italians—*are* not the supine, ill-conditioned humans that their fellow-countrymen are in the same degree located in the north. The stout vendor here states his terms, stands on his dignity and gives his customer to understand that whether he takes or leaves his wares is not a mat-



ter of special moment to him. The difference between the attitude of his race at the north is the difference between the attitude of prosperity and adversity, due entirely in each case, to external conditions. In this country that lies along the gulf coast, where the air is warm, the warm gulf air the Italian is ennobled quite as he is on the shores of the Mediterranean or Adriatic seas in the land of his birth. He, with his wife and numerous progeny, may cut one another's throats, but he will not die; it is only his dormitory. The sky is his roof tree, and nothing more confining than the stuporous constitutes the walls of his dwelling. He and his can and do not mind doors. The little that he has to eat and drink, they grow sturdy, independent and self-reliant. They are an in-

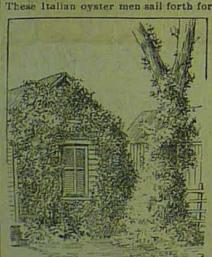
and not out of water, as far as the most part they are at the north.

As in California, the Italians of the southern coast country are not only vendors of fruit, vegetables and small manufactures of various kinds, but they engage in coast traffic, fishing and navigation. One man who owns a line of trading vessels which ply between New Orleans and Italy, and also the islands westward, has a large fleet, and has laid the foundation of his large and lucrative business with a single-sail craft manned by himself and a friend. One morning down at the wharf at New Orleans I saw him and his crew loading a boat a little port among the fruit vessels, and was told that he was picking up bananas that fell overboard in the boats being unloaded. These bananas he took up, rounded them off from a stalk. It seems that this is very common, and that many successful Italian dealers have begun in this way.

These activities among the Italians are by no means confined to New Orleans, though that city is the chief point of assembly. They have pretty little homes with not figuratively but literally, their own vine and fig tree. Many of them have small sailing vessels known as luggers, engaged in oyster fishing and similar occupations and was purchased as the years go by.

A typical instance of what Italians can and are doing in this part of the country is that of an old boat owner and seller, one Philip Melini, who lives near Pass Christian, Mississippi, and has been there 20 years ago, as he himself puts it, as a slave, that is, by binding himself to work his passage after his arrival at a price so high as to be an extraordinary sum. The expenses of his passage were completely paid, and he was free to serve himself, he worked as a day laborer until he had saved money enough to enable him to build a small boat. As he was, however, a day laborer, he was compelled to work for his passage again, and his only expense was the cost of the mate.

When his boat was launched he proceeded to live on it and devote himself to oyster fishing, and is a favorite among the citizens of the Italian colony as so east their lot on the kindly shores of the Mexican gulf. These Italian oyster men sail forth for



TYPICAL ITALIAN COLONY HOME
The oyster beds with a little house built around, as this good saint is supposed to control the winds. When a cargo is secured it is of the utmost importance that there is a favorable wind, as otherwise the gulls would spoil the catch. Hence it is, therefore, the custom of these men to make not only many prayers, but also numerous promises to this patron saint, favoring breezes when they are about ready to start on their return. They are so fond of singing, they are quite likely to indulge in imprecations against saint Anthony and declarations that if their work of days comes to naught for lack of favoring breezes they will give nothing for many moons for bread money for the poor.

Philip Melini, it would seem, as a rule, favored.

Philip Melini with the right assortment of winds, and he was prosperous.

In addition to oyster and other fish, he undertook the building of disabled craft occasionally, a building of new ones ordered. He then bought a small tract of land when Bayou Portage empties into Bay St. Louis, which in turn opens into Mississippi, so that the Gulf of Mexico is at his door.

He built a house and at the same time opened a shipyard.

To make the wilderness as bower, when nature is so generous, is a matter of some effort and no expense. Cultivation of various kinds, common gardens, and to put them in the earth and give them a little attention is to see them flourish.

Soon the Lady Banks rose, and other Bovine species were making a power of beauty in the garden, however, the trees were but meagre figs, two crops every season, and peaches, pears, apricots and cherries were growing in the garden.

With fine wood in plenty for the gathering from the trees, and the skill of his hands, he gave them a finish, fitting the last part through these same woodlands, fruit and vegetables in copious abundance, the expense of living is not much, and Philip Melini, who can neither read nor write, has become a man of considerable means.

Mr. Crimonebeak—That dog next door is mad, I understand.

Mr. Crimonebeak—Perhaps he came home to his kennel, but it wouldn't ready him on time.—Yonkers Statesman.

Cheap Rent Estate.

Mr. Crimonebeak—Food grows here on trees—coconuts and such.

Lacy Lawrence—Don't you have to climb de trees?

Lacy Lawrence—Naw—De monkeys them down at ya yet.

Lacy Lawrence—Well, don't you have to crawl de nuts?

Lacy Lawrence—Food; go on. De monkeys them down at ya yet.

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LEFT TO THE POWERS.

Greece Will Refuse to Negotiate Directly with Turkey.

Much Doubt Exists in Athens Regarding the Intentions of the Sultan—Amount of Indemnity May Be Reduced.

Athens, May 25.—The Greek government, as a reply to the ultimatum sent by Ethem Pasha, commander of the Turkish army in Thessaly, that he is empowered to negotiate the terms of peace with Greece direct, has informed the ministers of the powers here that, as Greece has already concluded her interests to the powers, there is no reason why she should negotiate directly with Turkey.

Reduction of Indemnity Desired.
London, May 25.—The Standard of Constantinople says: "The peace negotiations continue. It is asserted that the amount of indemnity will be reduced to \$2,000,000 now offered, and to be paid in cash to Turkey and \$600,000 to be accepted by Russia as part payment of indemnity owed her by Turkey."

Distrust in Athens.
Athens, May 25.—The intentions of the sultan, who has said he is ready to negotiate for peace directly with the powers because he wants Ethem Pasha to march to Athens.

Reddi May Be Himself Again.
London, May 25.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Rome says that the king of Greece is beginning to reassess himself, and will soon be able to dismiss M. Ralli and to appoint M. Katsanos as premier.

Cretan Union with Greece.
Athens, May 25.—The Greeks have sent a document to the Greek government declaring that they are unanimously in favor of political union with Greece, but asking the advice of the government as to the best course to pursue consistently and with due regard to national interests.

DENVER DELUGED.

Storm of Rain, Hail and Wind Causes Extinction.

Denver, Colo., May 25.—Justice was delayed Monday afternoon. About two o'clock strokes of lightning were seen in the north, while great sheets flashed in the west. As the two storms approached each other, the heavens opened and let fall such a deluge of rain that the city was inundated. It was accompanied by wind and hail. At three o'clock the storm was so severe that it was almost impossible to see ten feet ahead, while traffic was absolutely suspended. Everyone sought shelter from the tempests of the elements. The lightning struck the East Denver high school and almost created a panic. The electricity shocked a number of students in the reception rooms. Several girls fainted. The damage to the building was slight.

Retires the Dismissal Sentence.
Washington, May 25.—The present has been removed from the command of the 1st Battalion, 10th Cavalry, by court-martial. The sentence of death pronounced by court-martial on Lieut. O'Brien, of the same regiment, at Fort McPherson, Ga., in view of the fact that Captain O'Brien had been reprimanded by his superior officer, the president, the sentence will be quashed by his severest reprimand.

Killed His Mother.
Cincinnati, May 25.—A special to the Enquirer from Pomeroy, O., says: "Mrs. Diana Vanier, who had a son by her son St. John, was demanded of him a leg chain he had borrowed of her, died 24 hours later. The murderer, in jail, when told of his mother's death, remarked stolidly: 'Well, she ought to have kept away from my house.'

Aged Murderer Handcuffed.
Folsom, Cal., May 25.—Benito Lopez, 70 years old, was hanged in the state prison here Friday for the murder of George Washburn, a wealthy ranch owner. Lopez and Washburn were neighbors, quarreled over their water supply and after an altercation Lopez shot Washburn.

Selected Commissioners' Meeting.
New York, May 25.—The board of directors of the national board of trade of cycle manufacturers has decided that no national or local cycle exhibitions shall be held or sanctioned between June 1, 1897, and June 1, 1898, and designated February 28 as a general opening day throughout the country.

Smugglers' Meeting.
Bloomington, Ill., May 25.—The Paragraph says: "The first assistant postmaster-general writes that all the employees of the Bloomington post office who were removed in May, 1896, and designated February 28 as a general opening day throughout the country, formerly held it if they desired."

Gold Stock to be Increased.
St. Louis, May 25.—The capital stock of the Bell Telephone company, of Missouri, is to be increased from \$100,000 to \$2,000,000, five times the present figure. A large majority of the stockholders of the company has called for this purpose. The meeting will be held in this city July 1.

Five Boys Drowned.
Chicago, May 24.—Frank Quinn, aged ten; Charles Conates, aged 11; James Conates, his brother, aged 13; and Charles and Albert S. twin brothers, aged nine, were drowned in Mud lake, near Chicago, with smugglers.

New York, May 24.—Richard M. Scruggs, a St. Louis millionaire, was arrested upon his arrival here from Europe on the charge of smuggling jewelry valued at \$80,000.

Boys Drowned.
Smithfield, Ky., May 25.—While returning home from fishing up the Cumberland river, James Edward and Park Ghenc were drowned.

ON THE BALL FIELD.

Standing of the Leading Clubs for the Week Ended May 25.

The following tables show the number of games won and lost and the percentage of the wins of the leading baseball organizations.

National League:

Won.	Lost.	Tied.
Baltimore	12	7
Boston	12	7
Cincinnati	12	7
Cleveland	12	7
Chicago	12	7
Leavenworth	12	7
New York	12	7
Philadelphia	12	7
St. Louis	12	7
Western League:		
St. Paul	21	8
Milwaukee	19	10
Minneapolis	19	10
Rockford	17	11
Burlington	7	14

W. W. L. League:

Won.	Lost.	Tied.
St. Paul	21	8
Minneapolis	19	10
Columbus	19	10
Minneapolis	17	11
Rockford	17	11
Burlington	7	14

REMEMBER THE QUEEN.

Appropriate Observances of Victoria's Seventy-Eighth Birthday.

London, May 25.—The birthday of Queen Victoria, who was born May 24, 1819, was observed with the usual military salutes, the ringing of church bells, the firing of gun salutes from naval and military stations. The London celebration will take place today.

Washington, May 25.—The president sent a cable message to Queen Victoria congratulating her on the celebration of her seventy-eighth birthday.

Ottawa, Ont., May 25.—The anniversary of Queen Victoria's birth was observed generally throughout Canada Monday. In Ottawa a state dinner and reception was given by Lord and Lady Abercorn in honor of the day. The announcement of the birthday honours by the queen has been postponed until jubilee week.

LIGHT OF ASIA STOLEN.

Great Diamond Purloined from the Nizam of Hyderabad.

London, May 24.—The greatest diamond in the world has been stolen. A cablegram from New York City came Saturday stating that the historical Victoria or imperial diamond, valued at \$300,000 (\$1,000,000), had been taken from the government treasury at Hyderabad, and that no trace exists of its whereabouts.

The theft was skillfully planned and executed so that no information can be gained as to the time the gem was stolen. The first knowledge of a daring robbery had been received in connection with some secret service discovery that a taste imitation had been substituted for the original.

Charge Was Abandoned.
London, May 25.—Charles Still, the ex-detective of York, Pa., who was arrested at Glasgow on April 24, upon a warrant issued by the grand jury of the United States to uncover the conspiracy of receiving stolen money, was discharged at the Bow street police court Monday. A representative of the United States embassy announced to the court that the governor of Pennsylvania had called off the charges against the man.

Thereupon the court ordered the prisoner to be released from custody.

Failure of an Indiana College.
Terre Haute, Ind., May 25.—The trustees of the Coats College for Women, founded by Mrs. Coats, widow of George Castle, has made an assignment. The liabilities amount to \$14,000, while the assets consist chiefly of unpaid subscriptions to the college, which will have to remain on. The college will close at the end of June, unless the present sum in June, when an effort will be made to maintain it under different management. Gov. Mount has one of the trustees of the college.

Long Strike Ended.
Pittsburgh, Pa., May 24.—The strike of the American glass workers which had been in progress for four years ago, has been declared off. The men cost the union over \$1,000,000, and during four years 409 strikers died.

Will Not Accept.
Madrid, May 22.—An official statement was made in the chamber of deputies yesterday by Premier Canovas that Spain would not accept intervention by the United States in Cuban affairs.

The MARKETS.
New York, May 25.
LIVE STOCK—Native Steers \$12 60 to 15 10
Sheep & Lambs 4 00 to 6 25
FLAX—Minnesota Patents 45 00
WILSON, Red, Mid. 45 00
September 42 00
OAK—No. 1 25 00
POKE—Medium 9 00 to 12 50
BUTTER—Creamery 12 00 to 18 00
EGGS—
CHICAGO
CATTLE—Shipping Steers 8 00 to 9 50
Stockers and Fatteners 6 00 to 7 50
Cows 6 00 to 7 50
Horses 6 00 to 7 50
HOGS—Light 6 00 to 7 50
Dairy 6 00 to 7 50
POTATOES (per bushel) 25 00 to 30 00
FORK—Meat 15 00 to 20 00
FLOUR—Patents 4 25 to 6 75
GRAIN—Wheat, July 12 00 to 17 00
Oats, No. 2 12 00 to 17 00
Rye 12 00 to 17 00
Bread, Good to Fancy 12 00 to 17 00
GRAIN—Wheat, No. 2 Spring 12 00 to 17 00
Corn, No. 2 24 00 to 27 00
Oats 24 00 to 27 00
Barley, No. 2 24 00 to 27 00
PORK—Mutton 12 00 to 17 00
LARD—
DETROIT
CATTLE—Shipping Steers 12 00 to 17 00
Stockers and Fatteners 10 00 to 15 00
Cows 10 00 to 15 00
HOGS—OMAHA
CATTLE—Steers 10 00 to 15 00
Stockers and Feeders 8 00 to 12 00
Hogs 8 00 to 12 00
BEEF—
ST. LOUIS
CATTLE—Shipping Steers 12 00 to 17 00
Stockers and Feeders 10 00 to 15 00
Cows 10 00 to 15 00
HOGS—
NEW YORK
CATTLE—Steers 10 00 to 15 00
Stockers and Feeders 8 00 to 12 00
Hogs 8 00 to 12 00

On the Ball Field.

Standing of the Leading Clubs for the Week Ended May 25.

MINNESOTA STATE NEWS

Grood Sales.

The second sales day of the Minneapolis Dairy Board of Trade was even more successful than the first. The day with three hundred live buyers and with three hundred live tubs did not reach the limit fixed by the creamery offering it. Secretary Fred O. Tilley stated that he had accepted the rate would be accepted by the creamery.

The rate of sale was 13 cents, the buyers being the Minneapolis Cold Storage company and E. P. Stacy & Sons.

Dairy and Food Laws.

The state dairy and food department is getting out a pamphlet containing all of the laws relating to the food department.

The new laws of the late session are given, together with amendments to old laws. The dairy and food people now have four new classes of laws.

Southwestern Minnesota.

For the encampment of the southwestern Minnesota division of the A. R. A., to be held at Redwood Falls on June 10, 11 and 12, the recruits are to march to the camp ground in the Blue Ridge and Alleghany and the seashore; via ocean route to New York and Boston via ocean port, and from Boston via Albany, Seneca Falls, for tourist rates and descriptive pamphlets.

Allen L. Trent, N. W. P. A. C. O.—Big Four Route, 234 Clark Street, Chicago, Ill.

There is a thing that is always an alteration of our wrong doings, and that is to hold others responsible for them.—N. Y. Weekly.

Open and Half-Mountain and Seashore.

Take the "Big Four Route" and picture Ocean Route and Old Ironsides.

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