## The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER-Occasional rains.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum tem perature, 42 deg.; minimum temperature, 38 deg.; precipitation, .12 inch.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, DECEMBER 8.

"The lady doth protest too much." In this pregnant sentence does William Shakespeare, that greatest of human minds, uncover one of the profoundest bits of his unapproachable philosophy of human nature. Nobody had accused the player Queen of crime, actual or contemplated, yet she falls to in a most vehement denunciation of the sin upon which the plot of "Hamlet" hangs. Is It thus, in a mild and comparatively harmless det ree, with certain members of our Oregon delegation in Congress? It was said that the manipulation of Oregon public lands could hardly have gone on without the knowledge of them and of their land office appointees. Nobody charged them with fraud. All that was intimated was negligence. Yet now we behold men tearing hair and cracking heels together because of sus-"fraud" and "corruption." On any other subject and with any other persons concerned the inference would be that some knoweldge other than that imparted in the original criticism must prompt these agitated demands that the guilty be punished and the innocent freed from suspicion. What possible infamy is thus hinted at, which has never before seen the light of day? Can it be an arrangement under which information of contemplated reservations was sent out here, so that by the time reserves were created, whole carloads of people had filed on sections corresponding miraculously to the boundaries of the withdrawals? Can it be that the links in this chain are known of the beneficiaries of its profits? Have the fortunes that have been made in the Oregon State Land Office been duplicated by an arrangement that involved members of Congress, clerks in the Land Office at Washington, Surveyors-General, Registers and Receivers, in active or passive participation? The Oregonian desires here and now to acquit our Congressional delegation, Surveyor-General, Land Office officials, general and local, of any direct malfeasance in these and kindred matters. What we do say is that their agitation over a' mild accusation of indifference prompts a feeling that they may know of improprieties that have been committed by others: and that if they do, they can render the Government and the public itself no greater service than to tell what they The escape of the innocent should be their concern no more than the exposure of the guilty, and for that purpose our columns are open.

The Army transport business has been afflicted with a taint of jobbery since its inception, and to this fact probably more than to any other is due the desire on the part of the Quartermaster's Department to get the active management off its hands. To be sure, reforms have taken place since the work was started. The Barneson pull in San Francisco no longer in direct evidence, and ancient scrap heaps which would not sell for Rocky Mountains. \$25,000 in the open market are no longer palmed off on the Government for transports for \$400,000 and \$500,000 each. But is it not possible to work reform without turning the entire business over to do the work as well as it could be done if it were left in a measure in charge of the Government? Why cannot the Government work be handled on business principles which rule in other transactions? By giving any one port on the Pacific Coast a monopoly of the business of dispatching transports, the Government will frequently be placed at a disadvantage so costly that it will nullify all the possible gains in other directions. It will be poor economy for the Government to save 25 cents per ton on the freight on a cargo of forage from Seattle or San Francisco, when it is the cargo than it would cost in Portland. The Government can always charter ships or space on ships as cheap as it can be secured by private individuals, and there is accordingly no necessity for turning all of its business over to any single firm of shipowners or to any one port on the Coast. The fact that money has been lost and scandals created by the slipshod methods previously employed in handling this business does not prove that it cannot be handled in an economical, business-like manner if proper supervision is given the chartering and operation of ships and the purchasing of stores, etc.

River and earnest advocate of appropriations for its improvement the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, has just thrown another of its periodical fits over the detention of a fleet of vessels below Astoria. The efforts of that vicissitudi- the home state. rious paper in behalf of the thousands of Washingtonians who are dependent erty-owners of Portland consider this bribe, whether of place or power or peif, determined to have the Fair for the robbing the public.

solely on the Columbia River route as a highway to the sea for their products of the Short Line, while plainly in proswill in time become thoroughly understood. Spasmodically in the past it has demanded in no uncertain language that the Columbia River be opened for navigation for the benefit of the wheatgrowers of Eastern Washington and Idaho. Unfortunately for the aforesaid wheatgrower, his disinterested ally on Eillott Bay placed limitations on the area of the river that was to be opened. In one issue it demanded that every obstruction between Portland and the Inland Empire be removed forthwith. In the next it berated Portland for spending her own money in opening a channel to the sea, and by innuendo as well as direct charge sought to create the impression that the channel below Portland could never be placed in good condition. The Post-Intelligencer would like to see a forty-foot channel from Portland to Lewiston, but it will fight to the end any effort that is made to improve the channel at the mouth of the river so that ships may come and go without delays. It will also take advantage of every opportunity like the present to enlarge on the difficulties now confronted by vessels entering the river. The Senatorial prospects of the owner of the Post-Intelligencer will not be improved in Eastern Washington by these persistent attacks on the Columbia River, which drains a greater area of territory in Washington than in Oregon. A river "open" in the middle and not at the mouth will benefit neither Oregon nor Washington.

It is of no use now to call for an in-

vestigation of that Northern Pacific lieu land job, as a correspondent does in another column of today's paper. That belongs to history. The law under which that injustice was perpetrated has been amended so as to prevent further evil. There can be no doubt that the Northern Pacific Railroad Company assisted the bill through Congress in such form as would contribute most to the prosperity of the company, and it is probable that an investigation could bring that fact into light; but what of it? Statesmen who thrive on such practices would tell the the interest of the dear people, and never once supposed that any octopus corporation would be so ill-mannered as to take all the advantages And the virtuous voters would admit: "Sure enough; the Honorable Greathead and the Honorable Slimpocket were sitting up nights making opportuunities for us, and we never seen it!" Thus would confidence in the unerring wisdom and impeccable uprightness of the public servants be re-established stronger than ever. That Northern Pacific deal, crying shame though it was, has been consummated and the object tionable privilege to take unsurveyed moral conviction that it was achieved by crooked methods could not be strengthened by any investigation. There is nothing to be recovered. More is to be gained to the public by scrutiny of present practices and elucidation of the methods by which so large a part of the money involved in handling public land falls into private purses, and so small a part into the public treasury. Here is a field that is hardly touched as yet, and its exploration may result in practical benefit

## EASTERN OREGON.

Let the business community and the at Washington, and something, at least, a line of railroad from Nyssa, on the capable of enormous industry when established in Asia as we ought to be maps and note the facts of geography and topography; and then let them consider the significance of this movement. Nyssa is the point in Oregon first touched by the Oregon Short Line; Vale lies in the valley of the Malheur, on the line of the most direct route connecting the Short Line with the Malheur, Harney, Goose Lake and Klamath regions. and Harney County; from Burns it is another easy stage to Paisley or Lakeview, in Lake County; and one more stage reaches the heart of Klamath. The route is an easy and natural one; and it passes everywhere through prorailroad operating through it would command absolutely the whole traffic and resource of that fourth of Oregon which lies to the southeast. And it would command it, not for Oregon and the East. Thus hooked up to the Union Pacific Railway system, and with no direct connection with home markets at Portland, our southeastern district would, for all commercial purposes, be lost to us-and lost for keeps. Its cattle, its wool, its wealth of timber, would in the nature of things go East-and its commercial patronage as well-for with its outlet opening to the East it would and the Waterhouse pull in Seattle are be as effectively shut off from Portland as if it lay on the other side of the

From the standpoint of the Union Paclfic Railroad people, the movement is a very natural one. The country lies within the belt contiguous to their through line, and its traffic, already large, is bound very soon to be greater. By the time a railroad line of 300 or 400 two or three years-the country will easlly afford a highly profitable business. every way to be desired and encournection-to Portland, to San Francisco, empire as the prize of the first comer, They will welcome the Eastern connection just as they would welcome any

fetters of their isolation. And yet there will be on the part of region a distinct regret if their future natural connections. They appreciate forces, and they have the natural senthings being equal, they would rather you'll never be either." have a home than a foreign connection; they would rather trade with Portland | not agreeable, but Mr. Reed had a very than with Salt Lake or Omaha. But at noble elde in this-that while he was the same time they have the sound bust- sometimes guilty of domineering rudeness instinct to do the best they can ness in debate, there was no taint of for themselves, and if their fortunes lie the dirty, trading, treacherous, sycoin the foreign connection they will make | phantic politician in his imperious and

Let the buelness community and prop-

situation well. The southeastern branch pect, is not yet built. The projected line from Nyesa to Vale is but a first steb. The succeeding steps are inevitable if, when time and convenience serve, the opportunity shall be what it is today. But they are not likely to be taken if the country shall be entered by a railroad from another route. There is still the chance for Portland to forestall all foreign movemente, to make the southeastern territory her own. A prompt movement from Shaniko through the Upper Deschutes country, and with branches to Klamath Falls and Burns, in like manner with the movement now making in the Klickitat Valley by a Portland company, would hold southeast for Portland. It would give her a territory far better in its trade possibilities than Alaska, upon which the recent fortunes of Seattle have been built-this in addition to a great paying investment.

There are, we know, difficulties in the way of extending the Columbia Southern line on to the south. But these difficulties are not of a sort to stand very long before a resolute and wellbacked purpose. Let it be made plain that if a way cannot be found for extension of the Columbia Southern, its line will be paralleled by the route of the Deschutes with its northern terminus below-mark, below-The Dalles-Cellio obstructions, and the difficulties which now appear so serious will quickly fade into thin air. To put it in rather permit the extension of the Columbia Southern from Shaniko southward than have another line built on the east side of the Cascade Mountains. with its terminus at a point on the Columbia River below the obstructions to navigation, and therefore in a situation -thanks to the open river at the Cascades to reach Portland independently of the O. R. & N. Co.'s rails.

## THOMAS B. REED.

The death of Thomas B. Reed is a National calamity. Not since the unexpected death of Roscoe Conkling in 1888 has the country lost so large, so intelvirtuous voters that they were acting in | lectually impressive, so patriotic and so stainless a statesman. Mr. Reed was born of poor parents, was of pure Maine Yankee stock for six generations, Through his humble early life and asciations he escaped some of the superficial mannerisms which made Mr. Conkling at times repellant. He had touched the life of the common people more closely than had Mr. Conkling, and was less fastidious, more intensely human. He did not love his friends more ardently nor stand by them more loyally than did Conkling, but he was more of a humorist than Conkling, who had a brilliant, sarcastic wit, but not much broad humor. Mr. Reed liked lieu land has been withdrawn. The a good many different kinds of men, and therefore had many friends, while Conkling was of the sort described by Shakespeare as-Lofty and sour to those who love them not,

But to those who seek them sweet as Sun Nevertheless, while Mr. Conkling and Mr. Reed were in many, ways very different men, they had more great public virtues in common than any other two tion. They were alike at least in this important respect—they never enjoied, never flattered, never begged; they simply tried to beat down all opposition by the weight of a battle-ax which none RAILROAD POSSIBILITIES IN SOUTH- but they could wield. Mr. Reed was particularly strong appeal will be made property-owners of Portland take notice Webster, was constitutionally indolent that surveyors are in the field locating | and fond of social relaxation. He was Oregon Short Line, to Vale in the Mal- spurred to it, as was Webster, but other established, and when Asia begins buythe least time in social relaxation wasted some of his time, while Conkling was generally with his books. Mr. Reed had the rare gift of making the play along the iron links of argument." He was frank, truthful, a steadfast friend, a relentiess but honorable foe. From Vale it is an easy stage to Burns In the union of great legal ability to great gifts of forensic leadership Mr. Reed was for more than twenty years the most striking and commanding figure in American political life. Above all his peers he won all his honors by the sheer force of his remarkable abiltductive or potential country; and a ties and the tenacity of his intellectual pawns. If we play rooks, then rooks it grip, for he had serious defects of temper that would have ruined, with a lesser man, all chance of success

Disdaining all concealment of his purcoses or his opinions, and all comprofor Portland, but for Salt Lake City and mises with his foes, Mr. Reed always entered the fray trusting solely to the keenness of his sword and the strength of his arm. In law or political debate he was at once a bold and skillful boxer. Aggressive in his temperament, his hostile speech was saturated with sarcasm that stung like hot sand, finding its way through every crevice of his enemy's armor, and his beaten antagonist was sure to cherish a long and bitter memory of the method of his defeat. This uncompromising spirit, this pugnacity right and left like a flight of arrows, inevitably sows the seed of many resentments, sighing to be satisfied in a crop of revenges and retaliations. It was wonderful that Reed escaped political destruction from the hostile elements. which he defied as Napoleon defied Winmiles in length could be built-say in ter in war. The ex-Speaker not only treated blatherskite Democratic leaders like Springer and Dick Townshend with Harrison so bitterly that he consented since the ploneers wended their twenty years past for a railroad con- | McKinley with unjustifiable contempt, to the East. They have tendered an by the exercise of social magnetism or worldly tact to compel love and melt and have grown weary and sick with hate. He was as reckless in his abounddisappointment because nobody has ing wit as was Robert G. Ingersoll. He thought it worth while to heed them. stigmatized the United States Senate in conversation as a close communion of old grannies and tabby cats; he said mont, favored intervention and war with Spain, because war would increase the old-time settlers of the southeastern | the demand for the number of marble | \$1 21, but about 621/2 cents. headstones for soldiers' graves, which commercial life is to be apart from their | Proctor would furnish from his marble plant; he said that while "Bill" Springer the advantages resulting from the co- was the "broader minded jackage of the ordination of political and business two, Dick Townshend was altogether the more intense." When Springer said timent of a patriotic people to live in that, "like Henry Clay, he had rather close relationship with the general life be right than be President," Reed an- ily paid in, at a cost, represented by and interests of their own state. Other swered with a snarl: "Don't worry;

These methods and characteristics are the most of it and turn their back upon arrogant composition. Nobody ever had the home state. ing that he was open to any sort of

or ever stooped to any kind or degree of political jobbery or trickery. His as-cendency was won by hard knocks in the open field; he was never found in ambush; he never tried to corrupt the garrison or betray the camp; he was an ambitious soldier in the Republican ranks, but he was a ways a bold, daring, relentless soldier, who scorned to play brigand, pirate, pickpocket or pawnbroker in politics. He had a propriation of them means. prompt, aggressive, energetic, fearless and altogether honest intellect; he was a born partiean, but would never stoop in order to conquer; he would not accept a crown if he had to kneel and grope in the dust for it. To all his friends-and they were legion in both parties-he was open, kind, cordial, hospitable, generous and true; but he was not affable to the crowd of hostiles in public or private. He never concealed his strong likes and dislikes; he was pugnacious and a hard hitter, but he never fired from ambush or used the weapons of uncivilized warfare; and in spite of his superficial infirmities of temper and merciless speech he deserves to be long remembered as a brave, able, patriotic and accomplished party leader and statesman, who leaves behind a great record in all the great things that make up a public man-a stainless name. Mr. Reed etood for intellectual imperi-

ousness in politics. Men naturally

called him the Czar, and he was termed a Napoleon in debate. Such men are of vast service to their day and generation, but in ordinary times they never win plain words, the O. R. & N. Co. would the Presidency, even when they desire it. McKinley stood for the able opportunist in politics; he won his way as Thomas Jefferson did-by his charming temper, his tire intelligence and his affability to all kinds of men who sought to be his friends. He was placable, accessible; neither resentful nor revengeful, discreet in his speech and circumspect with his pen. When a great war throws a strong man to the surface, men like Washington, Jackson and Grant win the Presidency. But otherwise your political opportunist is apt to distance your intellectual despot, who always insists that the mountain shall come to Mahomet instead of Mahomet going to the mountain. If Mr. Reed really ever cared to be his party's candidate for the Presidency, he adopted just the methods to defeat his ambition. He was an absolutist in his political manners; he was as reckless with his wit in debate as John Randolph; he expected the apple would fall into his lap, no matter who shook the tree; he did not miss the prize, if he really wanted it, because he was too big a man for the place, but because he despised men of great ability as political opportunists, men rarely gifted, but of far different gifts from his own. He underrated, if he did not despise, the ability of his rivals, and because of this he suffered a severe defeat.

HALF A MILLION FROM THE STATE. With the adoption of the plan for National and state co-operation recommended by Hon. William D. Fenton, the most important feature of the work of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition Company has passed to the charge of the committee on legislation. The men of their political day and genera- first step naturally was the financing of the great Fair by our local people. This done, we are now preparing to ask the State of Oregon for \$500,000 and Congrees for \$2,000,000. All the states in the Union will be invited to participate. A an eminent lawyer, but not so great a to the states west of the Mississippi lawyer as Conkling; for Mr. Reed, like River, for they are the ones chiefly concerned in the commercial expansion across the Pacific Ocean. When we are goods she takes from the world, the makes the greatest lawyer. Mr. Reed region between the Mississippi and the Pacific will be drained of its surplus products to meet the new demand. The states east of the Mississippi will sup-"scorehing lightning of sarcastic wit ply the machinery and some other articles in the manufacture of which the

West does not compete. The 1905 Fair must be builded upon its foundation this Winter, or not at all The business in hand may be likened to move, and the kind of play we make will set the pace. pawns, Congress and the states that we shall invite to participate will play will be. If we pause at \$500,000 becaus It is a "whole lot of money," Congress will pause at \$2,000,00, because it, too, is a whole lot of money. Five hundred thousand dollars is indeed a heap of money. So is \$2,000,000. So too was the \$2500 which Jefferson wheedled out of Congress nearly a century ago to send Lewis and Clark on the scientific expe dition that added Oregon to the sovereignty of the United States. Many a front foot of city property on the Pacific Coast is worth more today than the total cost of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

It is the duty of the Legislature of Oregon to appropriate \$500,000, and to do it quickly. This does not admit of of temper which shoots scorching words argument from any point of view. It tion in 1904 and attempt to defeat the right and left like a flight of arrows, is the veriest sophistry for any one to nomination of President Roosevelt bethrow up his hands in horror at the amount asked and say it means \$1 21 disfranchisement of colored voters. per capita on the basis of the population of the state in 1900. The per capits cost would have been all right for two and a half years ago, but the increase of population has put it out of The entire South did not poll half as the calculation. Oregon has 500,000 people today. Next year will witness the And from the standpoint of the south- undisguised contempt, but he quarreled largest immigration, numerically, in our eastern counties this connection is in with Blaine; quarreled with President history, and the most consequential aged. They have been appealing for to make up with Blaine, and spoke of across the plains in 1843 to reinforce the little American government that He never conciliated; he never sought had been set up at Champoeg. Unless the sighs fail we shall add 100,000 to our numbers in 1903. Before the end of 1905 we shall have 800,000 people in Oregon, 200,000 of whom will be living in the City of Portland. As the first half of the appropriation will not be collected until 1904, nor the second half until other connection promising to break the that, of course, Senator Proctor, of Ver- 1905, the newcomers will pay a large 'it out' proportion of the cost, possibly half, and the per capita charge will not be

Sentiment in Portland is una for holding the Fair and for making it something that the Pacific West may well be proud of. What the stockholders of the Exposition company think is shown in the fact that 93 per cent of the first assessment has been voluntarpostage and stationery, or about % of 1 per cent. Nothing that has been undertaken here has so united our people and caused them to get a "move on" as this Fair project. One never hears any one running down the town now or eaying how much better town it would be if it only had the get up of some other place.

good that it will do the Pacific Coast for the good that it will do Oregon, and for the good that it will do Portland. It will put \$500,000 into the Exposition company without expecting to receive a direct return of a single cent, and it will pay \$156,150 of the state appropriation of \$500,000. It asks the remainder of the state for \$843,850, and Congres for \$2,000,000, and it is entitled to receive these amounts and the help that the ap-

After all the light that has been beating so fiercely upon Carey irrigation in the Deschutes Valley, the State Land Board goes ahead and enters into contract for another reclamation project in that part of the state. This covers 27,724 acres, which will be watered from the Tumello branch of the Deschutes. A lien a trifle under \$10 an acre is allowed for this contract, with annual maintenance charge of \$1 an acre. This district lies between the Deschutes and the Caecade Range, where it is comparatively difficult to introduce irrigation because of the steepness of the slope down from the mountain crest. It is not probable that this contract would have been obtained at this time if there had been no merit in it, for public attention has been sharply called to reclamation projects recently with the result that a much better understanding of the subject has been gained by Oregonians. It is to be observed, however, that this Tumello reclamation contract cannot interfere with any plan for irrigation of the main valley of the Deschutes, for it is off at one side and will not take water from the main river. It shows a gratifying tendency to occupy that section of the state for productive enterprise,

Mr. Reed had his limitations. As late as 1896 he advocated in the North American Review the scheme of international bimetalism, and proposed that Congress, with threat of hostile tariff enactments, coerce England into consent to this currency scheme. Mr. Reed had never studied the money question from the bottom at that time. He was not as well grounded as was the Democratic statesman Bayard of Delaware, who in the first great debate over the silver question in February, 1878, took the position for the gold standard we occupy today, and gave his reasons for Mr. Reed knew as much for that day as Lodge, Morrill, Hoar and John Sherman, but he did not know as much as Bayard knew in 1878. Finance was not his forte.

It is a pleasure to observe with what uniform favor each and every part of the Presidential message meets from our Republican exchanges, and with what equally uniform disapproval its every part is greeted by our Democratic exchanges. It is pleasant, because any dislocation of the traditional partisan slavery would be disconcerting, if not positively alarming.

Another wretched gamblers' quarrel, this time at Marshfield, Coos County, comes to disturb the peace of the community and burden the taxpayers. The presence of both those characters may well be spared from among decent men. The only regret is that their departure is in such manner as to draw undue attention.

In view of the appearance of Venezuela's yellow book, it may be remarked that her prospect of owning the Island of Patos is rather blue. Had she treated Britain white by recognizing the rights of British subjects in the republic, affairs in that quarter of the world would be more roay.

Persons doing business in Portland Lewis and Clark subscription list Where elsewhere has a city of this size done so much for such an enterprise?

### THE COLORED REPUBLICANS. The Policy of the President Toward Then Is Right. Indianapolis Journal.

Republicans who give consideration to the declared purpose of the President not a game of chees. It is Oregon's first to ignore colored Republicans in the South must come to the conclusion that his position is the only defensible one.

The movement to disfranchise negroes in the South is a Democratic movement. For the President to indorse a few mer who have declared themselves Lilywhite Republicans because they have accepted the policy of disfranchisement would be equivalent to a tacit indorsement of the of voters have been robbed of the right of suffrage. The President and Republiis not right, and also because it would b consenting to the annulment of Constitu tional amendments adopted by the influ-

It is said that the Lilywhites have de clared war on the President and will make an effort to send to the next National convention delegations opposed to him. That is, alleged white Republicans. who poll no votes, maintain no organization of any value to a party, propose to go to the National Republican Convencause he will not indorse the wholesale impertinence revives the sentiment in favor of curtailing the representation Republican conventions States which maintain an organization to get the offices without polling any votes. many votes in the late election as did the Republicans of Indiana, yet they have 120 votes in Republican National conventions while Indiana will have but 30.

Now that the evils of this injustice are master General Payne several years ago base representation in conventions on the vote polled rather than upon the number of Senators and Representatives by which states are represented in Congress should be ar .. ated so as to be adopted by

# New York World. In pursuit of his determination to

it out" with his old partner and present enemy, Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick proposes to give Pittsburg a university with a princely endowment. In the words of a friend of Frick, the coming institution will make Mr. Carnegie's much-In the lumber, for the saws to numerous talked-of Polytechnic School "look like 30 are making lumber as fast as they can se-cents."

of great public beneficence should be founded in good will. At least, if a selfish idea enters into the foundation it should be nothing worse than a man's desire to perpetuate his own name in a worthy fashion. Spite work in philanthropy on the stupendous scale said to be contemplated by Mr. Frick is certainly a new and amas-

ing conception.

Yet there is a suggestion behind the Pittsburg departure which might well be fruitful. It would not be well for all quarreling rich men to go to building schools and colleges. But there are inonly had the get up of some other place.
There are now no "knockers" in Portiand, for their calling is gone. The hammer brought into play today would recoil upon its user's head. Portland is works than in wrecking a railroad or in

# SPIRIT OF THE NORTHWEST PRESS

Yes, but Both Are Now Washington Counties.

Disappointing on the Tariff.

Cottage Grove Leader.

Partisan Prejudgment.

Oregon Democrat.

Neither the tariff will be revised nor

anything done to injure the trusts. What-

ever trust bill is passed, if any is, it will

be of such a soft nature that it will fall far short of the mark, as will be in-

But Where Does the Trust Get Off?

Eugene Guard.

can buy of the foreigner, with tariff add-ed, cheaper than at home. This vast bal-

ance of trade against us is not a pleasant

incident in the commercial exploitation of the "captains of industry."

May Help the Democrats.

Spokane Chronicle.
As to the tariff, the President yields to

the clamor against revision—and time may tell whether such yielding is or is not a

serious blunder. His suggestion that "One

way in which the readjustment sought can be reached is by reciprocity treaties"

is likely to prove an extremely unsatis-factory solution of the problem. So long as he can continue to declare that "no country has ever occupied a higher plane

of material well being than ours at the present moment" the opposition may not trouble the Administration greatly; but

should the tide turn two years from now the Republican party's refusal to give

any attention to tariff revision may give

the Democracy some excellent fighting

Isn't This Treason?

Salem Statesman.

ting entirely too meddlesome as regards the private affairs of Government em-

ployes, and the first thing some of them know they will get their hair pulled out

and their faces frescoed with feminine

finger nails. Recently the Postmaster-General issued an order dismissing all fe-

male clerks in the postoffice who marry

on or after December 1. Now the General Superintendent of the rural free de-

livery system has issued an order requir-ing each woman clerk to send him a writ-

ten statement setting forth the name of

her husband, if she has one, and his oc-cupation, if not in the Government serv-

ice. It is interpreted as a move prelimi-

nary to the dismissal of either husband or wife where it is found that both are in

In Defense of Football.

Albany Democrat.

A review of current thought would hardly be in place these days without a

reference to the game of football, which

entire country, not only drawing im-

mense crowds, more than any other game,

but filling the newspapers with long arti-

much of this is justifiable, no game be-

fore the American people exciting such general comment. All there is about it

has its morits and its demerits. It is the

greatest game of generalship ever invent-

the manner in which the game is run counts. The right play at the right time,

just when it is needed, takes a good head

and a prompt judgment. There are some good lessons in it from several stand-

A Sign of Better Citizenship.

Newberg Graphic.

lic sentiment has grown until the issue has been forced all over the state. A few years ago such a thing would not

have been possible. People are waking up to the fact that there are other things

as important to their towns as saloons,

and which they cannot have while the

saloon stays. The sign boards of the re-

Delay Works Its Hardships.

There seems to be a disposition on the part of Portland Councilmen and officials

to hold up our electric railway. After

dilly-dallying along for neary a year the

pressure of public opinion was so strong

that they were forced to pass an ordi-nance granting a franchise, but they now

think, after the railway people have gone ahead and got things in shape for actual

work, that they have discovered a defect

in the ordinance granting the charter that

will nullify it, and they talk, or at least some of them do, as if they were going to perpetrate another hold-up. It may be

well for them to consider the situation a little. Washington County is greatly in-

terested in this matter. The people want the electric railway, and they will not submit tamely to have it held up by

grafters in the Portland City Council. Portland wants a new charter from the

Legislature. It also wants a big appro-priation for the Fair. Washington County has four members in the Legislature. If

Portland teaches them the hold-up game

they will have a good opportunity to try it on the teacher. Their treatment of our

electric railway should be decent, if they want like treatment for their favorite

St. Halens Mist.

Day after day and night after night

great rafts of logs pass St. Helens on their way to the big sawmills in Port-

gon has there been such a demand on the

fir forests of the Lower Columbia. And the big mills at Portland are not cutting all

ty and across the river in Washington

the supply. Logging railways are being steadily extended into the interior, and

more are projected. It will not be long

until the great timber forests of the Ne-halem will be drawn upon to supply the

demand, and the logging railways will be carrying the lumber products of that sec-

tion to the water front to be loaded on

the ships. At the present rate of supply and demand it will not be many years until the good timber along the Lower Columbia will be a scarcity. Almost every

during the day and night. This is a strik-

land. Never before in the history

mills in Columbia County, Clatsop

bills. Let them take warning.

Forest Grove Times.

cent elections point unmistakably toward

enough to cause comment.

the Government service.

The authorities at Washington are get-

Woodburn Independent.
We do not think there is a county or costoffice in the State of Oregon named Good-morning! Are you ready for another week's weather? for Lewis or Clark.

The man that lives on his reputation will eventually starve to death. The man who monkeys with the land

KOTE AND COMMENT.

Experience teaches wisdom, and wisdom

President Roosevelt's message to Con-gress is generally characteristic of the man, though the expected strenuousness of the document, especially on the trust question and tariff reform, is disappointlaws is likely to come away with a solled reputation. The boy of 16 cherishes a hair ribbon,

the boy of 18 a glove, the boy of 21 his liberty, and the man of 41 his memories. Ex-Minister Cambon says the Americans are generous. Does he refer to the gra-

clous Count Castellane as a shining example of our generosity? Another poor devil of an author has killed himself in New York because of

the nonsuccess of his novel. It was the only atonement he could make. The trusts have put prices to the point that exports decreased during the past The willy book agent is again in evidence, and people are kicking because his fiscal year over \$100,000,000, while there was an increase of \$30,000,000 in imports. We contracts are not binding. This looks like

the complaint of a rank outsider. Men say things to their wives that they never, no, never, would dare say to a man. When the woman takes exception then it is what is called an unhappy mar-

riage. A little girl in this city who was calling on some grown-up friends who live in flat explained to her mother that a flat was a house with the down-stairs just

back of the sitting-room. Now that a telephone has been invented where the message is plainly audible to a person standing 10 yards away from the receiver, we may expect a tremendous falling off in "line busy" owing to gentle conversations between two.

Mark Twain has a story in this month's Harper's, in which he makes the telling of a lie the keynote to some lovable characters. According to Mark Twain's view, even George Washington must have told lies, and it is with a sigh of satisfaction that we read the vindication of some of

"The last edition of love," said the newspaper poet, dreamily, is-" and he sighed reminiscently.

"What, dear?" she whispered, and came

our modern statesmen.

closer. "Going to press," he answered, and, through force of habit, stretched out his arms.

Here is an item from the Big Bend Chief: Sam Fader wishes the good people to know that he is not a Missourian, and that the necktie he has been sporting lately is not a bandana, but the very latest in neckwear that can be obtained on the West Coast. It seems an injustice has been done Mr. Fader, and the Chief giadly hastens to put the matter right. This courtesy is almost Senatorial,

The following things are now due: Programme liable to change without notice. First-One big fire. Second-One hairraising suicide. Third-One scandal in cles anticipatory and of the fact. There is a striking difference of opinion as to how high life. Fourth-Repair of one street (this will be a tableau). Fifth-Double murder with accessories; special scenic effects. Sixth-A day of sunshine. (Owing to the delicacy and fragile character of the materials used, patience is requested.) Seventh-A snapshot of an ordinance on ed. Not merely strength, endurance and speed count, but in an emphatic manner the generalship of the contest. That is Its way through the Common Council. (A most difficult piece of work. This picture represents over a thousand failures.)

The good die young, says the ancient adage. It is to be hoped that the young who die are good, but the statement that points, while against it stands almost alone its very rough character, certainly the virtuous cannot remain long in this sphere of mundane activity seems quesnable. Else how are we to a the noble men who have given their lives, their wealth and their health for the cause One fact stands out prominently in the town elections which are being held all of tarfff? What to say about the aged reformers who struggle manfully, if feeover Oregon and Washington, and that bly, against the inroads of a foreign polis that the main question at issue is the temperance, or prohibition, question. In ley? The proverb is an excuse of those whom life has proved inefficient, whose the majority of cases this has been more or less an issue, and in a great many it slender abilities have been exhausted in has been recognized as the only issue. the effort for daily bread and butter with-This is greatly encouraging to advocates ul. Let us posit the contrary. The good of good government and decent towns. do not die young. Hum-mm-m. Well, it's Not that the temperance people have gained the greatest number of victories, a kittle question, and needs further thought. for in many places they have been badly defeated. The significant fact is that pub-

Ever so often somebody arises and tells the blind people of this generation that they should live as though Fate had decreed death for the morrow. And this doctrine has its followers. Witness the ways of those who pull a long face and throw a fit when it is suggested that a certain movement will result in Portland's prosperity 20 years hence. If a man is alive (on good authority, of course,) why in the world doesn't he act and work as if he expected to live a little longer? Away with these croakers who desire to die in their beds decently and with flowers. There's plenty of life ahead, and even if death does intervene in the midst of aspiration there's at least a start made. If men thought less of forg.veness for past omissions and more of future achievement there would 1 fewer unregretted funerals.

Church Quarterly Review.

The bump suppers and boating wines at Oxford are much less beastly than they were. The men have in many colleges got leave to dance after them; or in some other way invented something better to do than to get drunk. Teetotalism has diminished in the university, and so has drunkenness. But for all that there is enough drunkenness to be seen in Oxford absolutely to prevent the conversion of any Mohammedan who comes.

## PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Half the world doesn't care how their better halves live.-Life. "Beilingham's religion is like his property said Triveet to Dicer. "How's that?" "It all in his wife's name."—Judge.

"Is he rich beyond the dreams of avarice?" "Gad, yes! Why say! That chap's rich beyond the dreams of an infant industry!"-Puck. "What do you think of Charlie's proposing to me when he hasn't known me a week?" "I think that's the reason."—Baltimore American. Kind Lady-I suppose you have seen better days? Tramp-Yes'm. One day lasts week I got three dinners and 10 beers.—Detroit Free

"Is she ashamed to look a person squarely in he face?" "Oh, no; it's pride." "Pride?" Tes, she's proud of her profile."—Philadelphia

"Colonel, would you mind telling me how you made your first \$1000?" "Not at all. I made it by attending strictly to business my own business, you know."—Chicago Tribune. Kitt-80 you really think Esther and Charley are to make a match of it? Bertha-I'm cer-tain of it. Didn't you hear Esther last night peak of Charley as a "horrid old thing" ?-

Boston Transcript. Magistrate-Drunk again, Uncle Rastus? Aren't you ashamed to be seen here so often? Uncle Rastus-Deed Ah ain't, yo' Honah. Dis am respecterble 'long side o' some o' de places what Ah is seen.—Chicago Daily News.

towboat that carries a raft of logs stops at the St. Helens yard to wood, and the shrill whistles of the continual string of Jack (to lady, come out to lunch)-Are you landing steamers are heard every hour coming with the guns this afternoon, Miss Maud? Miss Maud—I would, but I don't think I should like to see a lot of poor birds shot! Jack—Oh, if you go with Fred, your feelings will be entirely spared!—Funch, ing ocular demonstration of the immen-