Robert Blessing, Elwood P. Bostwick Thomas Middleton Frank Edwards

Ora Lottie Briscoe Giadye Middieton....Olive H. Briscoe

Grandma Gates.....Pauline Duffield Angie VollmerEthei Etisworth Tollgate GiriMarguerite Starr

embers of the cast are two mares name

"Dolly" and "Clara." They are taken

offer of a contract to build an aqueduce in the Indiana village where Jones not his first wife. Blessing goes to Indiana to superintend the building of the aqueduct, and promptly falls in love with Cra, well played by Lottle Briscoe, Gladys Middleton loves Blessing, and hearing of Blessing's Infatuation for Ora, lies about the lovers and they are separated. Ora has numerous village lovers.

rated. Ora has numerous village lovers

among them being Bill Loucks, the toll-gate keeper, and Exra Cookus, the 'bus driver, but she will have nobody but her Blessing. The latter refuses to believe the stories circulated against Ora, and the two are reunited, after a god deal of emotional work. E. P. Bostwick makes a manly lover

El F. Bostwick makes a manly lover

and is the conquering hero all the time. Frank Edwards, who acts Middleton-Jones, finally comes to Indiana and claims Ora and everything ends happily. Harry

McRae Webster was amusing and capa-ble as "Buster" Middleton, and Frank Trenor and Howard Missimer are good, natural character actors. Pauline Duffield

makes a nice-looking, sympathetic Grand

ms Gates. One song is entertainingly given during the action of the play "Come Down, Miss McGinty." rendered by Mar-guerite Star. She has a pleasant, well-

"Lost River" will be played at Cor-

dray's for the next three nights, concluding Wednesday night.

JAPAN READY AND FIT.

But Prudence Will Restrain Her

Statesmen From War.

PORTLAND, Jan. 21 .- (To the Editor.)-

The article which appeared in The Orego-nian a few days ago on Japan's army is

common with nearly every foreigner, I had an erroneous opinion of the Mikado's soldlery. We are prone to judge a nation,

by the representatives we see in our own

by the representatives we see in our own country—a great mistake—for as every traveler has learned—the opinion he has formed of Germany, France, England or other European nations by the represen-tatives of these countries in America, has to be largely revised and often reversed, which applies with great force to Japan. The Japanese are very patriotic and in-

tensely loyal to everything Japanese; above all to their Emperor. The Emperor first, last and all the time. This loyalty is not readily understood by Americans until seen. It seems to be bred in the

bone, so to speak, for it is a common sight to see thousands upon thousands of school children, brought 20 and 30 miles from haland by their teachers, lined up

alongside the railroad track, upon which perchance the Emperor is to pass at a 40-mile rate, and feel amply rewarded for the trouble. I feel safe in saying that there

is not a man or woman in Japan, who would not lay down life cheerfully for the Emperor. Their loyalty borders on adoration and worship, for the Emperor

is still regarded by many as a god.
Military duty is compulsory, and when
the time for service arrives, every young
man cheerfully presents himself to learn
the art of defending their Emperor and

the art of defending their Emperor and to do his will. The Emperor is a progressive and enlightened monarch, who has the good sense to surround himself with equally progressive and enlightened advisors. "Japan for the Japanese" is their motto-which I heartily endorse- and with this view in mind they have gradually educated themselves to take the places of foreigners soon as possible. Today every railroad employs, from brakeman to president, is a Japanese. On every steamship, except which those which come to foreign ports, every man from stoker to

eign ports, every man from stoker to captain is a Japanese—offices and employ-ments filled but a few years ago by Amer-icans, Englishmen and Germans. Even Japanese commercial houses, are taking

has brought the army and navy

manders of the divisions

pointed. I had the pleasure to become ac-quainted with many officers and through Viscount Isay, and Generals Nelva and

stationed at Nagoya and Osaka, I was on several occasions invited to witness the maneuvers of the troops, and was

is still regarded by many as a god.

ere than ordinary interest at this time, especially to me, as it has been my good fortune to see and study the army and navy on various occasions. In

..... Harry McRae Webster

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

MARQUAM GRAND THEATER, street, bet. Eixth and Seventh-Tot 8:15 o'clock, the musical curtoos "Happy Hooligan."

CORDRAY'S THEATER, Washington street— Evening 8:15, "Lost River."
THE BAKER THEATER Third and Tambill streets—Evening 8:15, the Baker company in "A Osisbrated Case." ARCADE THEATER, Seventh and Washing-ton-Continuous vaudeville, 2 to 16:30.

Early Harminous of Spaing.—The fact that Winter is past and Spring has come is announced definitely, on the anthority of Colonel H. E. Doeth, who says that several specimens of song birds, introduced here from Germany some years ago, have returned from their Winter migration south, and have been singing gaily on his place on the hills west of town for the east two or three days. Among these the past two or three days. Among these feathered songsters and harbingers of Spring, he says, are siskins, goldfinches, builfinches and song thrushes. The siskins, for there is a whole flock of them, arrived perfore the slight fell of snow had disap-peared, and the arrival of the whole is about six weeks ahead of time, as they do not usually put in their appearance till about March 1. Colonel Dosch says he has heard nothing so piesannt for some time as the songs of these little birds. The arrival of the birds in the Spring and their sweet singing has been made the theme of many a verse and many a story, but it is to be feared that such birds some-times press the season and get ahead of it. The facts on which the arrival of Spring are based are numerous and vary greatly. One says: "Spring is coming. Spring is coming; on the wind the peach blooms flying," etc., but there is no bloom on the peach at present. Even Colonel nnot say to his favorite siskin

Sweet bird, thy hower is ever green; Thy volce is ever clear; Thou hast no sorrow in thy sons; No Winter in thy year.

Perhaps it may be as well to wait till the gardeners have stopped the Winter blooming of roses by cutting the canes back, and till the flowers of Spring, tra la, are to be seen in bloom everywhere. and then all will know that Spring has

PAPER FLOWERS WITH NATURAL LEAVES. The leaves of the Oregon grape are not the only ones available at this season for decorative purposes. The foliage of the still more common salal is as green and green leaves in profusion and large showy flowers of soveral colors. These are usual-ly taken for chrysanthemums by those who do not know that these flowers do not grow on evergreen shrubs. The peddler disposes of his wares to the Chinese prin-cipally, and a curious observer followed him into a Chinese store Saturday to get a closer view of this strange flowering shrub. He found that the flowers were artfully formed of tissue paper and atsaial bushes, the bright green foliage of which formed a beautiful background for them and caused the deception to be hardly noticeable. The peddler had also bouquets of carnations of several colors, interwoven with and surrounded by the beautiful leaves of a species of fern common on the hills back of the city,

WHAT MADE SOUTHERN BLOOD BOIL-A miscarried shooting affray, which was very laughable to all in sight took place in the poolroom at the Portland Chib very recently. There was a large crowd very recently. There was a large crowd present, as some particularly exciting race was on and betting was being indulged in extensively. Among the visitors was a middle-aged man named Henderson, who has warm Southern blood in his veins and has warm Southern blood in his veins and the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias and Control of Pythias, A. O. U. W., Woodmen of the control of Pythias and Control of Pythias who naturally, is not inclined to associate on equal terms with any one who has African blood in his veins It happened other fraternal organizations. that just as Henderson was particularly anxious to place a bet, a good-looking colored man, much nearer white than black, was in his way, and evinced but little intention of moving despite a rather plain intimation that it was the proper thing to do. Few words passed till the warm Southern blood rose above the boll-ing point and Hemierson reached for his hip pocket and, pulling a formidable-looking revolver aimed it point-blank at the coon, remarking, as he paused to get his elbow clear for a clean shot: "I don't know how you treat such fellows in the Northwest, but this is how we treat them in the South," or words to that effect. In the wild rush for the door made by everybody within range, many were thrown down and a scheral overturning of every-thing movable took place, and all who were able to find any place of refuge hid behind it. When order was restored the colored man had vanished, and not a few others as well. The enjoyment of the affair was principally in getting safely

away out of it. PRONT STREET DIVIDES ITS MUD.-The condition of Front street as regards mud to be on the been slightly improved of late, notwithstanding that the number of wagons and carts hauling earth from excavations across Morrison-street bridge has been increased and practically forms a continuous procession. Contractors sympathizing with the desire of Front-street men to be able to cross that street on foot without running the risk of being bogged, have turned a portion of their teams in another direction to reach the bridge, and have divided the earth or mud scattered by them among several streets. For this favor the Front-street people are grateful and, in common with the yeople on the other streets over which the teams pass, live in hope that before long this earth haujing or mud slinging will come to an end. There is, however, still about two feet to be removed from the excavation for the foundations of the Fenton building at Sixth and Oak streets. Although the earth is so soft as to be difficult to handle, Contractor Friberg is urging the teamsters to push the work.

IMPROVING SOUTH FRONT STREET.-The improvement of South Front street has been completed from Arthur to Lane streets and the contractors are anxious to have the work accepted in order that to have the work accepted in order that they may got some spending money. The improvement will be completed by extend-ing it to Seymour street just as rapidly as the weather will allow. When will the street be improved, which takes the place of Front, on a fevel grade, is what team-sters want to know.

sters want to know. Uncle Sam Wants a Janiron.-The Inited States Civil Service Commission announces that on February 20 an examination will be held for the position of janiter. From this examination certifi-cates will be made to fill a vacancy in position of janitor in the Custom-House here at a salary of \$80 per annum. Persons desiring to compete should apply to Z. A. Leigh, secretary board examiners. Postoffice Department, city.

THE SECOND THEM of the current school year at Portland Academy will begin Monday. February 1, 1904, at 9 o'clock A. M. Catalogue may be obtained on request. Portland Academy. Portland, Or. "MUSIC AND MITH OF THE INDIAN" lecture-recital by Mr. Arthur Parwell, to-night at 8:15. Unitarian Chapel, 50 cents. omen's Exchange, 43 Washington et. Orders solicited.

No better PANCAKES than OLYMPIC. *

COMING BACK TO REMAIN.-A resident of Southern Michigan, who took advantage of the low rate to come out here with hie delegates to the late Livestock Convention has, since it adjourned, been making a tour of the Willamette Valley, making a tour of the Willamette Valley, with a view to localing here. He returned a few days ago and visited an old friend now in business in this city, whom he had not seen in 20 years. This friend asked him what opinion he had formed of the Willamette Valley, saying: "You saw it under rather unfavorable circumstances in the height of the rathy season." "The season makes no difference," said he. "I have no fault to find with the rain, which makes a country look as the Williamette. nave no fault to find with the rain, which makes a country look as the Willametto Valley does, for it is the finest country I have ever seen, and the climate the best I have ever been in at this time of year. I am going back to close out my business and coming to Oregon to stay." This man has been interested in dairying and notes that the Willamette Valley is particularly that the Willamette Valley is particularly adapted to this business. He says, how-ever, that the product will be greatly in-creased and the business prove much more profitable when the present large forms are subdivided into 40-acre tracts, with a family on each, the man doing his own work and keeping a dozen or so good cows which he will milk and attend to himself, and the woman keeping a flock of poultry. When this time comes, Ore-gon will be exporting butter and eggs in train loads, and there will be chicken and turkey for everybody's dinner.

THE INSIDIOUS CHANGE PEEL.—An elder-ly man, who walks with a stout came and limps slightly came down Fifth street and turned down Morrison early yesterday morning. As he turned the corner he stepped on a piece of grange pee and his sound leg went from under him and he received a severe fall, bruising his hip and elbow on the cement walk. Those who assisted him to his feet were, however, assured that his lungs had not been injured, for he poured forth a flood of language more forcible than elegant, "in which he expressed pronounced opinions in regard to the careless or foolish per-sons who scatter orange peel on sidewalks. and also in regard to a City Council and also in regard to a City Council which provide a penalty for any one expectorating on the sidewalk and takes no notice of this much more dangerous practice. Now that the season for oranges is fairly on, all will do well to keep a look out for orange peels, as they throw down the most level-headed men.

PROPERTY-OWNER MUST LAY CROSSINGS -There have been so many worn-out plank crosswalks about town of late and some of them so much worse than none as to be really nuisances, if not really as to be really nuisances, if not really dangerous to pedestrians, that the City Engineer has been replacing some of the worst with new ones. The only excuse for this generosity on the part of the city is the fact that the walks were sorely needed, and it alway requires time and trouble to get property-owners to renew old crossings. Hereafter by order of the fourishing as in the Summer, when the bush is loaded with berries, which are much more grateful to the taste, and make more economical and better ples than the Oregon grape. Almost any day in the week, a rather tough, seedy-looking fellow is to be seen peddling sprays of some strange bush having handsome of the improvement properly divided, and the cost of the improvement properly divided, and the cost of the improvement properly divided, and street they are required on, by "laying new crosswalks." In this way the prop-erty-owners can be reached, and the cost of the improvement properly divided, and the scheme can be extended to take in one istreet after another till crosswalk

AUNE, the photographer, will reopen

CAPTAIN N. S. PIERCE DEAD. Veteran of Civil War and Former Federal Officeholder.

Captain N. S. Pierce, who was for many ears a resident of this city, died of fright's disease yesterday morning at South Bend, Wash. He came to Port-land in 1874 and for a long time served as money-order clerk in the postoffice, and later he was a deputy in the United which made the carnations look as natural states as the real ones. The peddler said he was not an Oregonian, but came here from St. Louis a few mostihs ago, and had not been able to find work, and, having a wife and four children to support, he had suffer and four children to support, he had to making and selling these artificial to making and selling the selling these artificial to making and selling the selli

Gladstonbury, Conn., on November 24, 1842. At the breaking out of the Civil War he enlisted in Company A, First Connecticut Volunteers, and he subse-quently sorred as an officer of the Twen-ty-third United States Infantry. He was

other fraternal organizations.

He leaves a wife and the following children: Mrs. F. W. Bay and Mrs. T. Williams, Portland; Mrs. Charles Wilson, Olympia, and Norman S. Pierce, San Francisco, Mrs. A. C. Going, of Portland, was his sister.

The body will be brought to Portland for burial.

TO SEAT OF COMING WAR. Bright, Young Newspaper Man on the Way to the Orient.

Stanley Washburn, staff correspondent for The Oregonian, who sails for Corea today by the Empress line from Van-couver, B. C., is a young man who has risen rapidly in the newspaper world. Graduating in 1899 from Williams College, where he was active in college politics, he began reporting for the Minneapolis Times two years ago, and has worked for that paper since that time until he re-cently formed the fesire to go to Corea to be on the scene of action in case of On account of his ability he has

a war. On account of his ability he has obtained the privilege of corresponding for haif a dozen papers in this country. Besides the Minneapolis Times and The Oregonian, he has the New York Evening Post on his list.

Mr. Washburn is the son of ex-Senator W. D. Washburn, of Minneapolis. His sister-in-law, Mrs. W. D. Washburn, Jr., is a daughter of Mrs. Henry E. Jones, of this city, and is visiting her mother in Portland at present. She says her brother-in-law is guing to the Orient from a spirit of adventure as much as anything.

KILLED ON THE RAILROAD. Dismembered Body of Unknown Man Found Near Troutdale.

The mangled body of an unknown man, supposed to be a laborer, were found on the O. R. & N. track near Troutdale last night, after the east-bound passenger

train had passed.

There were no means of identification upon the body, whose pieces were placed in a sack and deposited in the freight shed at Troutdale. Apparently, the vic-tim was walking upon the track and had falleh upon the rails in such a way that he could not be seen by the engineer, else had cast himself under the whoels

oise nag cast himself under the whoels of the train as it passed him.

Coroner Finley was notified of the accident at II o'clock by Superintendent J. P. O'Brien, who had been informed by the Troutdale agent. Owing to the lateness of the hour and the difficulty of reaching Troutdale at night, the Coroner will not make an investigation until this will not make an investigation until this

WHERE TO DINE

All the delicacies of the season at the Portland Restaurant; fine private apart-ments for parties, 200 Wash, near 5th Imperial Hotel Restaurant, M floor, six-

Three doses of Hood's Sarsaparilla daily after meals for awhile will build you up.

carte, 6:20 A. M. to 8 P. M.

THE THEATERS

"A Celebrated Case."

In the prologue: Jean Renaud, George Allson; Count d'Aubeterre, Frederick Esmelton; Lazare, William Bernard; Dennis O'Rourks, William Dills; Corporal, Charles Clary; Seneschal, Ben-nett Southard; Captain, Howard Russell; Madeline, Esther Lyon; Adrianne, Bertha Holmes; Martha, Oua Waldrop; Annette, Eftiena Biair; Louise, Paula

Characters in the play: Jean RenaudGeorge Allson Count de Mornay....William Bernard

Viscount de Langey Charles Biwin Innice
Dennis O'Rourice William Dills
Bargeant Charles Clary
Joseph Glenn A. Byers AdrienneEnther Lyon Valentine de Mornay..Gertrude Rivers

Soldiers, convicts, etc.

Without any apparent warning, a new aby star suddenly shone in the cast of baby star suddenly shone in the cast of the Baker Theater Company yesserday, in two performances of "A Celebrated Case," little Bertha Holmes playing the part of Adrienne Renaud, daughter of Jean Henaud, a soldier in the French army. Bertha Holmes is a mere child, and canbe more than 9 years old. Yet by her not be more than y years fine intelligence and magnetism she car-ried herself like a trained actress, and mastered her lines in a mage of questions mastered her lines in a maze of questions and answers through which she sent her father to the French galleys for life, charged with taking the life of her mother. It is a part in which Maude Adams first made her appearance as a child star at the old Newmarket Theater in this city. Baker's Theater was crowded at both performances yesterday, and the number of curtain recalls showed that this grand old play instantly pleased. It is magnificently staged, especially in the first act representing a park where a real fountain of water sends up showers of countain of water sends up showers of

liver spray. Esther Lyon has a fine chance for em ional acting as the wife of Jean Renaud and afterward's Jean's daughter, adopted shild of Duke d'Aubeterre. In the pro logue where she is murdered by Lazare, the campfollower, in an effort to save jewels intrusted to her care, she was jeweis intrusted to her care, she was thrilling. In this she was materially aided by William Bernard, who looked the desperate robber to the life. He had a most original make-up, and his eyes and face spoke unbridled cruelty. The camp scene was most realistic where Bertha Holmes was sharply interrogated by Count d'Aubeterre as to whether she heard her father and mother quarreling on the night of the murder. She gave a on the night of the murder. She gave a convincing picture of a little girl torn between love for father and a determination to tell the truth, although that meant

the galleys for her father. George Alison has a most pathetic part as Jean Renaud, galley slave, and the eloquent picture of his silent suffering drew tears to many eyes. Gertrude Rivers acted splendidly as the daughter of the Count de Mornsy, and in the scene where she leads up to the conclusion that the man masquerading as her lost father really murdered Madeline Renaud, she was particularly convincing. William Dills shone in the comedy line as Dennis O'Rourke, the Irish servant, and his lively humor was refreshing. Frederick Esmelton made a dignified and austere aristocrat, and Charles E. Inslee scored a success as the Viscount de Langey. Mina C. Gleason was eloquent, attired as a Sister of Mercy. The play has a happy ending, where the murderer's guilt is slowly fastened on him, and the galley slave is set free, an innocent man. The characters appear with powdered hair and court costume. "A Celebrated Case" will be played at Baker's all week.

Pollards Next Week at Baker's.

Commencing Sunday afternoon, the Pollard Juvenile Opera Company will ap-pear at Baker's Theater for one week in the great musical success "The Belle of the great musical success "The Belle of New York." Manager Baker made the announcement before the curtain yester-day, and said: "Last season we made arrangements with several outside companies to have them play here about this time, among the attractions being the Pollard Juvenile Opera Company. We then intended to send the Haker Theater Company on the road for a short time, but the immense patronage the company has received at the home theater and the constant demand for their services in this city, prompted us to try to cancel the dates with the outside attractions I have named. Of these, other dates were secured for all but the Pollard people, who, having made the contract to appear who, having made the contract to appear here, wish us to keep the contract with them. So the Baker Theater Company will go on the road for one week commencing January M, and ending February 6. February 7 they will return to the home theater and will be seen in "Jane." Next Sunday afternoon, January M, the Pollards will commence a week's engagement at this theater in "The Belle of New York." Although Manager Baker did not say so officially, the Baker Theater Company will probably be seen in the week's road tour in the delightful in the week's road tour in the delightful comedy "At the White Horse Tavern," playing at Eugene, Salem and

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

"Happy Hooligan" and His Pretty Girls at the Marquam.

Tonight at the Marquam Grand Thes ter, the merry musical cartoon comedy, "Happy Hooligan," will begin an engage-ment of two nights. New scenary, new costumes, new music, new specialties, new dances and the prettiest girls in the world are what he advance man for "Happy Hooligan" says his show has this

New Bill at the Arcade

The new bill at the Arcade begins at 2:30 today with six star acts: Heath and Excella, novelty gun-spinning and sharp shooting; Ver Valin, humorous ventriloquist; the Great Parrott, juggier; Bald-win and Durrant, eccentric musicians; Loraine sisters, dashing soubrettes; the American bloscope with new moving pictures.

Next Week at the Baker.

The favorite Pollard Juvenile Opera. Company will open at the Baker Theater next Sunday afternoon for one week. The opening bill will be a special production of "The Belle of New York." This is in accordance with a booking made last season, and the Baker Company will go on a special tour for the week.

Ibsen's "Ghosts" This Week.

This morning at 16 o'clock the advance sale of seats will open for the celebrated actrees Alberta Gallatin and her excellent company, who come to the Marquam Grand Theater next Wednesday and Thursday nights in Ibsen's great drama "Ghosts."

Growth of Union County Schools. LA GRANDE, Or., Jan. 24-(Special.)-The Union County schools are rapidly inreasing in attendance. It has recently been necessary to add one more room, with about M calidren, in the La Grande public schools, and a new building was opened at North Union for the first time last week, with an attendance of 80 odd if need be go without food a long time. In every respect the Japanese cavalryman, with a pocketful of rice and dried

PIANO

EILERS PIANO HOUSE

Why Not Get Your Plano Now and Save From \$100 to \$200?

Twenty-seven carloads at wholesale prices. \$118 buys a fine plane. Payment down \$5.00 and \$1.35 a week takes choice of over 100 excellent makes. Ellers Plano Characteristic pictures of Indian pastor-House, No. 251 Washington street, corner al life brighten Joseph Arthur's scenic Park. The biggest, the busiest, the best, production of "Lost River" played yesteras well as the most popular and lowest day afternoon and evening at Cordray's price piano concern on the Coast. Stores Theater. The usual large Sunday audialso at San Francisco and Sagramento, ences liked and applauded the play. Two Cal.; Spokene and Seattle, Wash. actors not on the printed bill as being

> fish and his horse will be found to hold their own with the Cossack. Imported horses must be fed on imported oats and hay, too expensive a luxury for military

around by the company and are as doctle and good looking as pet stage horses ordi-narily are. "Doliy" is ridden by Lottie Briscoe, the leading woman, across the length of the stage and helps her to warn the hero of the near approach of the desperate villain of the play. "Clara" is second in the race and last night both I was also present at target pre I was also present at target practice, and was equally surprised at their effectiveness. In the language of Prince Henry,
of Prussia, recently to the departing troops
for South Africa, "Germany expects every
bullet to do its duty," applies equally to
Japan, and every bullet will make a record. Naturally, I marveled very much
whence this proficiency in training and
drilling, and was informed that for some
20 years the army had been under the lastruction of French officers, but for ten animals, when they had made their ride, eagerly looked for Pauline Duffield, who plays the part of Grandma Gates. She was waiting for them with apples, and both mares munched the apples with an air of "I wanted that badly." "Lost River" is a good play, and illus-trates the old picture of right triumphing 20 years the army had been under the in-struction of French officers, but for ten years past had been in charge of German officers, who reorganized and brought the army to its present high standard. This also explained to me why nearly all high officers speak either French or German, making it possible for me to convene with them—very few speaking English. Man for man, these little brown men, brave to over wrong. Thomas Jones is a hand ome young man in a typical village in indians, when he betrays a young woman named Gates, and after he marries her he runs away and is lost sight of for the time being. The girl-wife dies after giv ing birth to a beby named Ora, and a report reaches Jones in his Eastern home that both wife and baby are dead. He takes the name of Middleton, marries the core, are equal to any European sol-dier, with the additional advantage that while they have the skillful training and discipline so marked in the German Army. again and has two children, Claude and Gladys. The action really opens when the three children have reached manhood and womanhood. Middleton's partner in they also possess a pronounced individ-uality and freedom of action so peculiar and characteristic of the American solhis business as a contractor is Robert Blessing, and one day the firm gets the offer of a contract to build an aqueduct While on this point, may I add that the

question, "Will there be war?" had been asked of me many times, since my return from Japan, and notwithstanding the press dispatches have no reason to change my mind aor my reply first given—"There will be nr war," for the simple reason that Japar is not in a financial condition for war. Everything is taxed to the utmost limit. Japan has entered upon ar epoch of prosperity herotofore unknown, which can only be maintained by con-tinued peace. The government at Toklo knows that, ready and prepared as they are, provisioned and ammunitioned for are, provisioned and ammunitioned for war, even if successful, would mean a setback of many years, and they will make every sacrifice commensurate with national honor and dignity to maintain peace. Right here enters another ques-tion, "How will it affect us on the Pacific Coast commercially" I again answer that war would have a disastrous effect. While we may have a boom in furnishing supplies for a time, it will all end as soon as the war is over, for the Orientale would be so poor that they could not buy anything from us. Only continued peace means continued commercial prosperity for us with the Far East, and for many years we will supply them, except wheat and flour, which latter will probably end within a few years. In establishing direct trade connections, several months ago, be-tween the largest Japanese flour-import-ing houses and our mills, I told the mil-ers, though they could not believe it, that they must make hay while the sun shone! that Manchuria would be their early com-petitor, and while I knew flour was manu-factured there in a small way, expressed surprise that some enterprising Yankee had not established up-to-date steel roller mills in Manchuria. This is strengthened by a letter I just received from H. B. Miller, of Oregon, now American Consul at New Chwang, China, in which he not only indorses my assertions, but thinks that Manchuria will enter the European export trade, and further says that Germans had established roller mills of the latest im-proved patterns at various points, enlargng most of them at the present time. The fertile soil of Manchuria produces large crops, which, combined with modern im-plements, cheap labor and nearness to market, will become very dangerous com-petitors for the flour mills of the Pacific HENRY E. DOSCH.

SUIT FOR LOST GOLD CLAIM.

Three Claimants for Returns From the White Star at Nome.

CHICAGO, Jan. 24.—Three suits for a total of \$50,000 have been filed in the Cir-cuit Court against P. N. Anderson, of this city. Nels O. Hultberg, a plaintiff in one of the suits, seeks to recover \$500,000, while Dora Adams and Hanna Hultberg asks for \$15,000 each. Back of the suits, according to the defendant, is a story which had its beginning in the Alaskan gold fields in 1898.

When the rush for Alaska and the Yukon was at its height Anderson was one of the first to arrive in Nome, and after prospecting for some time located and filed the claim known as the White Star property. He incorporated the White Star Mining Company, with a capital stock of \$9,000. In 1900, he is said to have sold his holdings in the company for more than \$1,000,000 and returned to the United

States.

Nelson O. Hultberg, his wife and niece, Miss Dora Adams, claim to have been the original prospectors at the White Star mine, and Hultberg asserts that he struck gold in sufficient quantities to warrant working it and returned to Nome to file papers with the land agent. He was delayed for some time in reaching Nome, and when he did apply at the Government office he learned that Anderson had al-ready filed his claim.

PERSONAL MENTION.

the place of foreign concerns. I was in-formed that at present, there are 25 per cent less foreigners in Japan than there were two years ago. This system of edu-Nelson Bennett, the well-known Tacom capitalist, is registered at the Portland. NEW YORK, Jan. M .- (Special.) -- North to its present high standard and Japan may well feel proud of them. Should the time ever come for a test, I venture the prediction that Japan will not be disap-

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—North-western people registered at New York hotels today as follows: Portland—Imperial. G. McDowell, Z. Snow: Murray Hill, F. F. Burnharts; Hoffman, J. T. Barron; Albert, D. F. Solomon and wife. Salem—Herald-Square, Mrs. T. R.

Livesley.

Tacoma-Hoffman, J. D. Mulvehill.
Seattie-Park-Avenue, J. D. Esary;
Grand Union, R. L. Sparger; Herald.
Square, S. Rosenberg, M. Hemelbach, T.
J. Donohoe; Hoffman, J. R. Gandoifo,
Miss F. Gandoifo, F. L. Rice.

the maneuvers of the troops, and was very much surprised at the precision of their movements and the efficiency of the individual soldier; not only of the infantry, in throwing out skirmish lines and in rapid movements of concentration on this or that exposed point, but of the cavairy and artillery as well. The seeming weakness of the cavairy branch, so often spoken of, is not well understood. It must be remembered Japan is a denseity populated country and every available piece of soil is needed to grow foodstuffs for the people, hence there is no room for forage plants, but they have developed a small horse with the endurance of a Mexican mustang, which can NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—Edyth Tozier Weatherred and Miss Music Geer, of Ore-gon, were callers today at The Oregonian headquarters. Mrs. Weatherred is peadquarters. Mrs. Weatherred is noing good work for the Lewis and Clark Centennial, and besides giving many columns in leading papers to the publicity of the Fair, has been talking before Press Clubs and High Schools. Mrs. Weatherred has interested many manufacturers in the matter of making exhibits at the Exposition in No. Mrs. Weatherred goes from here to in 1906. Mrs. Weatherred goes from here to Washington, D. C., then to St. Louis to attend an executive meeting of the National Editorial Association, January 21. A preliminary organization was perfected for an Oregon Society of New York

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PHILIPPINE COURT APPEAL.

Arthur Plato and wife, former Ore gonians, entertained a number of Oregon people at their home last evening,

U. S. Supreme Court Will Hear Several Constitutional Questions.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. M .- L. R. Wils ley, Attorney-General of the Philippines, has arrived here on the way to Washington, D. C., to argue several cases before the Supreme Court, involving Consilta-tional questions now pending, on appeal from the Supreme Court of the Philippine

The right of trial by jury in the islands will be determined by one of them. The act of Congress giving civil government to the Philippines does not contain the clause of the Constitution which guarantees the right of trial by jury. The position of the government of the Philippines, which is to be represented by Attorney-General Wilsley, is that the jury system can only be extended to the archipelago by an act of Congress. While the principle of the ques-tion has been passed upon in the "insular cases," this point has never been before

Another case involves the Philippine government act providing that no person shall be twice placed in jeopardy of punishment for the same offense. The Spanish law, which was in existence at the time that this act was passed, gives the government the right of appeal from judgments of accountal in criminal cases. ments of acquittal in criminal cases. The Supreme Court of the Philippines has held by unanimous decision that the act of Congress does not repeal the old

Elma Store Damaged by Fire. ELMA, Wash., Jan. M.—(Special.)— The store of C. C. & W. A. Combes was gutted by fire last night. The origin of the fire is unknown. The damage is con-siderable. All the storeroom was burned, and the fire was in the main room when the fire company arrived. The room is small for the size of the stock, and was so full of smoke that the members of the company could not tell where the fire Practically all the goods are dam-to some extent by fire or water aged to some extent by fire or water. Mr. Combew carries about \$13,500 in stock, and he had \$5000 insurance.

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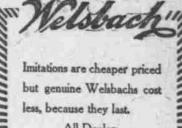
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