

The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Cloudy and threatening with probably light rain or snow; wind easterly southerly.

TUESDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 41; minimum temperature, 34; precipitation, 0.05 inch.

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 1903.

PASSING OF "LEGAL" GAMBLING.

While the State of Washington makes it a felony to keep a gambling-house, the State of Arkansas, it is said, is permitting the development at Arkansas Hot Springs of a gambling resort.

The State of Washington, in a pitch of moral enthusiasm, has gone to an extreme of severity that is perhaps unexampled. The trouble will be found in enforcement of the law.

In Europe there has been growth of sentiment during many years against the public games, that once were much more common than now.

The so-called Rhine gaming resorts were a product of the long games, as in the little principality of Monaco.

To close the games at Ostend the Belgian government has been compelled to use force; for though as a matter of fact the Belgian law was enacted several years ago, its extension to Ostend was delayed.

The value of products shipped from Porto Rico to the United States has advanced from less than \$2,000,000 in 1897 to \$9,634,176 in 1902.

Spain has also been suppressed—Monte Carlo is flourishing mightily. The great Riviera establishment was started in 1856. In 1862 the Prince of Monaco, then a poor man, was paid \$12,000 a year for the concession.

A great speculator has made an effort to get a concession for a gambling establishment at San Remo, a lively, untravelled resort not far from Monaco.

MERITS OF AMERICAN AUTHORSHIP.

It is now eleven years ago since a Philadelphia publishing house (Messrs. A. J. Holman & Co.) asked Professor Hilprecht of the University of Pennsylvania, to prepare a historical sketch on the explorations in Bible lands.

A VICIOUS PROPOSAL.

Among the various card games which have sharpened the wits, beguiled the sedium and promoted the gayety of nations, none holds a more honorable position than the ancient American institution of seven-up or solitaire.

THE THRESHOLD OF SPRING.

Some of our New England exchanges more than two weeks ago reported that "premonitors and precursors of Spring are much in evidence."

THE QUESTION OF FRANCHISES.

George C. Sikes, secretary of the Municipal Voters League of Chicago, contributes to the current number of the Atlantic Monthly a very interesting and instructive article on the question of franchises.

STORY SIMPLE—MORAL PLAIN.

Within the past week a man, clever and indeed skilled in the great National game of "humbug," has cut a wide swath through a select circle of socialites.

book in the world, and the remodeler for all time of the fabrics from which have been woven the vital forces in a civilization of 6000 years.

caught by an astute angler of this type—who are, indeed, waiting to be caught. It is surprising, however, and humiliating as well, when a large number of decorous matrons and modest maids in any community flock to hear a pretender of this class who hesitates not to advertise himself and his purpose boldly.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

The amazing thing about it is that anybody should have been fooled by Collings. The manner and matter of his announcements were enough to fix his character.

We wonder if there are any connection between the appointment of a new Land Office Register at Oregon City and the violation of a certain written pledge under which an Oregon City man got into the Legislature in 1901.

It will be rather hard on the ambitious "newspapers" striking for the forest region of South Central Oregon if the timber land is all scrippled. It is to be feared people of that isolated country will appeal in vain for these papers if there are no land notices to print.

The receipts from the sale of Missouri's surplus poultry and eggs last year were \$17,000 greater than the receipts from the state's surplus crops of corn, wheat, oats, flax, timothy seed, clover seed, millet seed, cane seed, cotton seed, castor beans, tobacco, broom corn, hay and straw.

It is painful to read in an esteemed New York contemporary that the additional trains officially declared to be running on the Manhattan Elevated "start punctually at 14 o'clock, and run at 7 per cent intervals up to the hour of declaring extra cash dividends. They are now in full operation on the Blasted Hopes division of the road."

Uncle Sam is worse off than we thought. Why couldn't that million acres of desert in Southern California have been saved on the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad? We suppose, however, that there will be the usual rush to enter this land, even if the settlers have to use camels. There is nothing so attractive to the mass of citizens as a large tract of Government land just "opened" somewhere.

The excavations which have been going on in Rome under the direction of Professor Airoli seem to prove beyond peradventure that an ancient Etruscan city occupied a part of the site of the present city long before the famous founding of Rome by Romulus. One of the interesting things which the excavations have revealed is the certainty that there was an artificial lake in the Forum in front of the Rostra. The lake still holds water, now that the place has been cleared.

The demand for American peanuts in France is practically unlimited if the American exporters can meet the prices paid for the African nuts in the shell, ranging from \$2.95 to \$4.75 per 250 pounds. During the past year about 10,000 bags of American peanuts were received at Marseilles, and the Consul-General says that the oil into which they were manufactured was of good quality, although the quantity was rather less than that derived from the same amount of African nuts.

It is said that the pope is almost a vegetarian. His early breakfast consists of a cup of chocolate or coffee, the latter but rarely. Two o'clock is the dinner hour, when he partakes of a bouillon and a couple of eggs cooked in Bordone wine. The pope rarely takes meat, but is very fond of salad—a dish which does not agree with him, but in which he indulges now and then notwithstanding medical orders. Supper is served at 10, after which his holiness retires to his study, where he often works until the early hours in the morning.

In 1902 the Government decided away 12,000 acres of land. In 1901 these disposals reached 16,000,000 acres, and in 1902 nearly 20,000,000 acres, while at the rate at which the present year has opened, its record will be at least 25,000,000 acres, or as much as was disposed of at any time during the great emigration rush to the West. Yet the population does not correspondingly increase in the states where the lands are taken. This indicates greater activity on the part of the speculators and timber-grabbers than on the part of the settlers and homeseekers.

The Boston Transcript publishes free of charge on its editorial page this luminous advertisement: Persons with knowledge of good positions involving large compensation, easy hours, opportunities to make on the side, experience unnecessary, intelligence a superiority, etc., are requested to communicate with President Theodore Roosevelt at the Executive Mansion, Washington, as Mr. Roosevelt has on his list a large number of ex-Congressmen for whom he would gladly provide jobs outside the public service. This is an excellent opportunity for firms that advertise copying at home or Etruscan art work at home to secure the services of several persons of high social standing and unquestionable ability. The same positions will be considered as ex-Congressmen will be found to be sour on the canvassing proposition.

Barring the dreadful stampede which good judgment could avoid, and the occasional charge of an enraged bull to escape his tormentors, or some fatted cow to protect her calf, the killing of buffaloes was a sport without peril, and a business void of hazardous incident, carried on with such ruthlessness, wasteful and unnecessary destruction that the memory of it excites the pity, indignation and disgust of the present generation. In Kansas alone, between 1888 and 1891, 250,000,000 was paid out for bones gathered on the prairie and sold to be utilized in various carbon works. It took 100 carcasses to make one ton of bones, the price of which was \$5. So this vast sum represents 31,000,000 buffaloes, or more than one-half of the total number of all the cattle in the whole United States in 1902. On the Santa Fe trail, and miles away too, from the usual course of travel, as Major Inman relates, in some places one could walk all day long on the dead bodies of buffalo without touching foot to the ground.

The Indianapolis Sentinel is in a dreadful state of mind because the State Legislature voted to place a statue of George Rogers Clark in Memorial Hall at Washington. "The sole purpose of this idiotic performance is to insult the memory of Thomas A. Hendricks," shrieks our Democratic contemporary. And then it scolds "the Democratic turcocks" who sat by and heard Hendricks "accused of treason and never resented it." Both Republicans and Democrats of Indiana, except the Sentinel, seem to think the Hendricks statue would be a great improvement on the present statue of George Rogers Clark in Memorial Hall at Washington. The sole purpose of this idiotic performance is to insult the memory of Thomas A. Hendricks, shrieks our Democratic contemporary. And then it scolds "the Democratic turcocks" who sat by and heard Hendricks "accused of treason and never resented it." Both Republicans and Democrats of Indiana, except the Sentinel, seem to think the Hendricks statue would be a great improvement on the present statue of George Rogers Clark in Memorial Hall at Washington.

The value of products shipped from Porto Rico to the United States has advanced from less than \$2,000,000 in 1897 to \$9,634,176 in 1902; while shipments from here to the island have increased from a little over \$2,000,000 to above \$12,000,000. This great expansion in commerce is due to the establishment of free trade between the two countries. Freer commerce with Cuba, with the Philippines, with Canada, with South America, etc., etc., with other nations would undoubtedly show equally startling results.

M. Legouve, the dramatist and member of the French Academy, who died yesterday, was in the 94th year of his age, the oldest of all the world's famous men.