



THE MISSION BELLS.

I hear the bells ring sweet and low
 Across the glad, blue bay;
 No tone of passion, care or woe
 Swells through the notes they play.
 O, mission bells! O, heart-free bells!
 Ring maidenhood away!

I hear the bells' soft music flow
 Across the restless bay;
 Lost love and passion, care and woe
 Sub through their tone to-day.
 O, mission bells! O, mellow bells!
 Ring womanhood away!

I hear the bells ring sad and low
 Across the moaning bay;
 Ring out the passion, care and woe,
 Ring in life's twilight gray.
 O, mission bells! O, tender bells!
 Ring life and thought away!

ELLA HIGGINSON.

THE MAYOR OF SPOKANE FALLS.

CHARLES F. CLOUGH, who was, on the first of this month, chosen mayor of Spokane Falls, is a typical business man of that vigorous young city. He was born in Rhode Island, December 26, 1843, where he spent the early years of his life on the farm. At the age of seventeen he enlisted in the Fourth Rhode Island infantry with which he served throughout the Civil war. He was in eleven severe battles, among which were South Mountain, Antietam and Fredricksburg. After the war Mr. Clough returned to Rhode Island and for some time was engaged in the fresh meat business. Later he handled sewing machines and pianos. In 1876 he went to California and was a commercial traveler for seven years. He arrived in Spokane Falls March 7, 1884, and was in the stationery business until three years ago when he sold his stationery interests and formed a partnership with Jay P. Graves in the real estate business. In 1886-7 Mr. Clough was a member of the city council of Spokane. He is a man well acquainted with the needs of the city, has good executive ability and is liberal and progressive. The municipal affairs of Spokane Falls had obtained an unenviable notoriety and the election of Mr. Clough is in the line of reform which the people, without regard to party affiliations, demanded. This year is an important epoch in the history of the city

and it is of the greatest concern to every citizen that its affairs be administered with integrity and common sense. Mr. Clough's wide business experience enables him to be of great service to the city at this juncture.

NATURAL GAS IN OREGON.

THE discovery of natural gas in two places in Oregon, many miles distant from each other and separated by a range of mountains, indicates its presence in this state in large quantities. At Warrenton, near Astoria, boring is in progress, with all the indications of success. A few months ago a man from the oil regions of Pennsylvania discovered gas near Drain, in the Umpqua valley, but for some time was unable to induce any one to pay attention to his discovery. This week the discovery, on Elk creek, was visited by a party of Portland gentlemen, who made thorough tests and were so satisfied of the presence of gas in quantity that they have incorporated a company and will drill a well to determine its value. Should developments in either or both these localities be satisfactory another valuable resource will be added to Oregon's already large list. It is only necessary to refer to Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana to get an idea of what it may do for Oregon when developments are made.