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EXPRESS
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Prompt attention to hauling to any part of Oregon City.

Moving attended to promptly and carefully.

Special rates given on hauling to and from Gladstone and Park-place.

This Girl...

Has dozens of beaux, the reason whereof we will tell: It is not because of her beautiful clothes—but she has learned how to cook on our stoves. Never buy a stove before you inspect our line—we sell warranted 6 hole steel ranges for \$30.
Bellomy & Busch,
The Housefurnishers.
Opposite Court House.



There's a String to it

We have a string to each shoe, of course. You have a string to your money, for, if the shoe doesn't suit you can return it and have your money back. We put a string to this for we guarantee our shoes to be the best and they are the best. Our line is sure to please you.

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The Greatest Value ever offered

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Here is a Suit Special

That we open the season with that may prove very interesting:

Smooth surface Cassimere cloth, medium weight, self-lined with same goods clear over the shoulder, cut in the latest style; comes in checks, hair line stripes and plaids. We place them on sale at

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Send for our new spring book, "Art in Dress."

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SOMETHING

NEW A SPRING-TOOTH HARROW ON WHEELS...
The driver rides instead of walking.

New Stock of
Canton Clipper Plows
Genuine Chilled Plows
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Agents for the celebrated Simonds Cross cut Saws.
Also a full line of **HARDWARE,**
Stoves, Granite ware, Tin and Copper ware, Wagon woods, Etc.
Plumbing and general jobbing a specialty.

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Corner 4th and Main Streets, - Oregon City.

MASON WILL FIGHT

Backed by George Powell and the Army Pistol.

Ex-President Cleveland and William L. Wilson Talk—Mrs. C. H. Dye's Address—Saloons Closed.

WINONA, Minn., March 21.—In response to the challenge of Baron el Cordo, marquis of Altavilla, Madrid, Spain, to fight a duel with Senator Mason, of Illinois, for the latter's utterances in the United States senate, George Powell, of Lacrosse, has accepted the following acceptance of the challenge in Mason's stead:

"Baron el Cordo, Madrid: Through the press dispatches I am informed that you have challenged Senator Mason to mortal combat for words spoken in defense of his position as the champion of the patriotism and principles of his country and its people in the United States, with usual Spanish generosity naming your own weapon. Now as Senator Mason has spent a lifetime in the pursuit of a more humane calling, and in the walks of a civilization which has but poorly fitted him to meet a bully at arms as one who has admired and now indorses the objectionable words and patriotism of Senator Mason, I, a plainman, a Westerner, one of a class known as typical American; typical because it holds principle and patriotism above price, because it believes that murder in the first degree cannot be paid for with gold, hereby accept your challenge, and name the army pistol, the old 44, the organ of civilization, the instrument with which the American pioneer measured justice to assassins, and while I earnestly assure you and all your kind, that thousands of men of my type stand ready to step in my track and pick up my pistol, if I should fall, I sincerely thank the representative of a thousand years of barbarism, for the opportunity to fire a shot in revenge for the Yankee sailors who fed the sharks in the bottom of Havana bay."
"GEORGE POWELL."
"Lacrosse, Wis., March 21."

Dr. George E. Powell is a noted Western plainsman and Indian fighter, who, followed the fortunes of the army for 30 years in the capacity of scout and guide in the numerous Indian wars, serving with distinction under every general of the army west of the Mississippi river during his term of service. Dr. Powell is about 50 years of age, and a well-known physician of Lacrosse, Wis. Dr. Powell is a boon companion of such noted frontiersmen as Buffalo Bill, Texas Jack and others of equal note.

William L. Wilson.

LEXINGTON, Va.—President Wilson March 9th in his address to the students made reference to the recent appropriation of \$50,000,000 made by congress in view of war with Spain. He said it was a very unusual occurrence that congress ever makes an appropriation of money the expenditure of which is left to the discretion of any one man. He went back to the administration of Mr. Jefferson and explained the nature of an appropriation and how it was changed at that time. Instead of making an appropriation in a lump to any one department it was changed by giving a certain sum to each specific purpose. He said it was contrary to a free government to put so much power in the hands of any one person, no matter how much confidence we put in him. No such step has been taken since 1835, when congress appropriated \$10,000,000 leaving the expenditure of which to the discretion of President Jackson, in case of war with France. It was at this time that Daniel Webster ended his speech against the appropriation by saying that he would not vote for it if the guns of the enemy were trained on the capitol at Washington. In the old democracy of Greece each individual who was entrusted with public funds was held to a most strict accountability. Mr. Wilson said that he did not wish to criticize the action of congress, and in case of war he felt sure that the United States could take care of herself. He further said that it would be very little glory for a powerful and wealthy nation like our own to get into a war with a little nation like Spain, which was weak and exhausted, by trying to put down her rebellious subjects in the Philippine Islands and Cuba. It reminded him of an honorary member of a college football team jumping on a little subfreshman.

Fire on Broadway.

BUTTE, Mont., March 21.—The Hale house, a large three-story brick building on East Broadway, used as a lodging and boarding house by miners in the employ of the Anaconda Company, was entirely destroyed by fire, which broke out shortly after 3 o'clock this morning. So far as known, two men are dead from injury in jumping from windows, another is dying and 20 are missing, while a search of the ruins may disclose the fact that many transient lodgers lost their lives also.

Portland Historical Society.

A large and appreciative audience assembled in the lecture-room of the First Congregational church last evening, to hear the closing lecture of the fifth year's course by Mrs. C. H. Dye, of Oregon City, whose subject was the "Development of American Fiction." Her treatment of the theme was brilliant, judicious and suggestive. The closing paragraph, subjoined, had a local coloring, which is commended to the younger generation of Oregon, from whose ranks the future literary workers of this state must be recruited.

"One step further I would suggest creative work. Why not a school of literature in Portland as well as in Boston or New York or Concord? Is the Hudson more picturesque than our Columbia? Are the

Tennessee mountains more inspiring than Hood or all the heights about us? New England and the Middle West long have been exploited, we are apt to tire of the reiterated glories of 'the South before the war,' dialect which has been done to death, but Oregon lies untouched with nuggets sparkling all around us. We have a romantic era in the Hudson's Bay days, our Indians have Bre'r Bar and Bre'r Coon stories equal to any Uncle Remus tells. I saw an item in the Oregonian not long ago about a family that had moved to a barren hilly spot to live on a view of Mount Hood. They came from the swamp lands of Arkansas, where they had lived on fever, chills and quinine, and never had a well day in their lives until they came to Oregon. There is hint enough in that for a story as good as any of Craddock's. California owes more to her writers than to her land boomers. Joaquin Miller, Helen Hunt Jackson and Bret Harte have covered her hills with halo.

"No; I would not start a magazine, it will not pay; it does not pay even in California. Try to reach the magazines of the East. If you write well enough you will get a hearing. Sometimes it is not necessary even to write very well, judging by some things they publish. Writers work best with mutual inspiration. There are people in Portland who have never come into your historical work who would gladly enter such a club; people all over Oregon, of which this society might be the head and center. We can have our own 'Forty Immortals' and some to spare. If we are not heard, 'the fault lies in ourselves, and not in our stars.' Oregon has toiled her past away leveling forests, building homes, preparing the way for the cultivated tastes and intellectual pleasures of today. Leisure now invites us to study our own environment and take our place in the world of letters. For this the original investigation of this historical society has led the way. She has now but to expand into the larger field to become herself historic.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Colonel James Jackson, president; Hon. M. C. George, first vice president; Miss Ruth E. Rounds, second vice-president; Professor A. M. James and Miss M. S. Barlow, members of the executive committee for three years.

Powder for the O'Higgins.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The naval bureau of ordnance has contracted for 4,500,000 pounds of brown powder, which is probably the largest single order ever given. This was divided between the California Powder Company and the Dupont Powder Company. These concerns together are furnishing the bureau about 20,000 pounds daily and within a week or so, it is expected the order of these two works will be brought up to 40,000 pounds of powder daily. The order is sufficient in the aggregate to give 200 rounds for every gun afloat in the America navy and with this large supply on hand, the navy, for the first time in years, will be more than amply supplied with powder.

The O'Higgins is a vessel of 8500 tons, built at Eikswich. Her dimensions are: Length, 400 feet; beam, 62 feet; draught, 22 feet. Her contract speed is 21 1/2 knots. Her armament is four 8-inch, 10 8-inch, four 4.7-inch Armstrong guns; eight 12-pounders, 10 6-pounders, and four submerged torpedo tubes. Her protection is a belt of harveized steel, seven inches thick. Her gunhouses for the 9-inch guns and the casements of the 6-inch guns are protected by six inches of nickle steel.

Grover Cleveland.

At a recent meeting of Gold Democrats in Philadelphia a letter was read from ex-President Cleveland, in which he says: "I cannot account for the arrogant confidence of the free silver forces, except upon the theory that they are led to believe that there is very little aggressive force to be feared from their opponents. If any one believing with us supposes that free silver can be prevented from controlling the two houses of the next congress without effective organization and hard work the quicker he abandons that idea the more useful he will be as a sound money man."

"I am so earnest in my desire to see our country blessed with safe money and a suitable financial system that I am of the opinion we ought to give patriotic and consistent support to any plan which insures this result, and which has the elements that promise its successful advocacy."

What Happened Tomorrow.

COLFAX, Wash., 17.—At an early hour this morning Henry Clark was thrown from his horse over a 40-foot bluff near this city. He was picked up unconscious, with the back of his skull crushed in and the brain matter protruding. He died four hours later. Clark was a recent arrival here, having come from Nebraska. He had purchased several horses and expected to go to Klondike overland. He was breaking a horse for riding when killed.

Dr. Keefer Goes to Alaska.

Dr. F. R. Keefer, who was ordered to take station at Fort Stevens, has been ordered to report to the commanding officer at Skagway, Alaska, and relieve Dr. F. M. Kemp, who will accompany the exploring expedition to Pyramid harbor. Dr. G. A. Skinner, now at Fort Sherman, will take the place of Dr. Keefer at Fort Stevens.

Prominent Man Dead.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Allyn Cox, one of the best-known railroad men in the United States, long identified with the Vanderbilt interests, died today at his office of hemorrhage, from a violent fit of coughing. He was 64 years old.

Ex-Senator Bruce Dead.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Hon. Blanche K. Bruce (colored) died today. After Fred Douglass, Bruce had been regarded as the most conspicuous man of his race.

SENATOR PROCTOR

Tells About the Cubans, How They Die of Starvation.

In the Midst of the Markets, How the Little Children Are Diseased—Capable of Self-Government.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Senator Proctor, of Vermont, who returned last Sunday from an extended trip through the island of Cuba, this afternoon made a statement to the senate of his observations on the island. From many points of view the statement was remarkable. It had evidently been most carefully prepared. Every element of sensationalism had been studiously eliminated from it, and except so far as the facts recited were sensational, it bore not the slightest evidence of an effort to arouse the public mind, already keenly alive to the condition of affairs on the island.

Calm and dispassionate to a notable degree, the utterances of the senator aroused a breathless interest. Every person within the sound of his voice was convinced that he was putting his observations into careful terms, lest he might subject himself to the criticism of being emotional.

One of the best characterizations of the statement was made by Frye, of Maine, a few minutes after its delivery.

"It is," said he, "just as if Proctor had held up his right hand and sworn to it."

Following are a few extracts from the address:

"There are, or were before the war, about 1,000,000 Cubans on the island, 200,000 Spaniards (which means those born in Spain), and less than 500,000 negroes and mixed bloods. The Cuban whites are pure Spanish blood, and like the Spaniards, usually of dark complexion, but often lighter, so far as I noticed, than the Spaniards. The percentage of colored to white has been steadily diminished for more than 50 years, and is not now over 25 per cent of the total. In fact, the number of colored people has been actually diminishing for nearly that time. The Cuban farmer and laborer is by nature peaceable, kindly, gay, hospitable, light-hearted and improvident.

"One thing that was new to me was to learn the superiority of the well-to-do Cuban over the Spaniard in the matter of education. Among those in good circumstances there can be no doubt that the Cuban is far superior in this respect. And the reason is easy to see. They have been educated in England, France or this country, while the Spaniard has had such education as his own country furnishes. The colored people seem to me by nature quite the equal, mentally and physically, of the race in this country. Certainly physically they are by far the larger and stronger on the island. There is little or no race prejudice, and this has doubtless been greatly to their advantage.

"The fear that, if free, the people of Cuba would be revolutionary, is not so well founded as has been supposed, and the conditions for good self-government are far more favorable. The large number of educated and patriotic men, the great sacrifices they have endured, the peaceable temperament of the people, white or black, the wonderful prosperity that would come surely with peace and good home rule, the large influx of American immigration and money, would all be strong factors for stable institutions.

"Torn from their homes, with foul earth, foul air, foul water and foul food, or none, what wonder that one-half have died, and one quarter of the living are so diseased that they cannot be saved. A form of dropsy is a result of this condition. Little children are still walking about with arms and chests terribly emaciated, eyes swollen and abnormally bloated to three times the natural size. The physicians say these cases are hopeless.

"Deaths in the streets have not been uncommon. I was told by one of our consuls that they have found dead people about the markets in the morning where they had crawled, hoping to get some stray bits of food from the early hucksters, and that there had been cases where they had dropped dead inside the market surrounded by food. These people were independent and self-supporting before Weyler's order. They are not beggars even now. There are plenty of professional beggars in every town, but these country people, the reconcentrados, have not learned the art. Rarely is a hand held out to you for alms when going among their huts, but the sight of them makes an appeal stronger than words."

Will Be Succeeded By a Negro.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—It is said to be probable that the president will appoint Judson C. Lyons, colored, national committeeman from Georgia, register at the treasury to succeed the late B. K. Bruce. A daughter of Blanche Kelso Bruce, the colored statesman, who died March 17, is a resident of Portland. She is the wife of A. D. Griffin, editor and publisher of the New Age, a paper published in the interests of the colored race.

Captain of the Wrecking Tug.

Captain Wiley believes that the Maine was destroyed through the agency of an internal explosion. In an interview aboard the Unitedwriter this afternoon, Captain Wiley said:

"Without having had opportunity to examine the wreck below the water line, I would say that the Maine was blown up by an internal explosion. It is the most confused mass of distorted metal imaginable. There is one deck above water which is

(Continued on Page Six.)