

The Oregonian

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DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT. PORTLAND, Jan. 4, 8 P. M. Maximum temperature, 45; minimum temperature, 29.

WEATHER FORECASTS. Forecasts made at Portland for the 24 hours ending at midnight January 5.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5. SPECIAL FEATURES TOMORROW. Continuation of Best Hart's new story of the old war, "Glenn," illustrated.

THE INTENT OF THE PEOPLE. Oregon's definite purpose last June was to suppress Penroyism. This was accomplished by the election of a democratic legislature.

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before the president can get rid of this congress and call the 54th in extra session. That is, the public debt probably must be increased \$50,000,000 more before government comes into hands of legislators with sense enough to stop the drain.

GOVERNMENT AND BANK PAPER. A correspondent, criticizing Senator Fairwell's suggestion that the government retire the treasury notes by funding them in fifty-year bonds, and relax some of the restrictions of the national banking law, so that an adequate volume of credit currency can be provided under it, addresses the following to The Oregonian: "Will you please tell me how the government is to get out of the currency business if its bonds are to be the basis for the issue of currency, even by the national banks?"

AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE. The fire department of Portland has been brought to an economical basis without impairment of its efficiency. The committee on fire, in its report, says that the department for the year 1894 was \$150,000, and the estimate of the former commissioners for the year 1894 was \$158,900.

THE DEBATE ON THE TAXATION OF CHURCH PROPERTY HAS DEVELOPED AN EXTRAORDINARY AMOUNT OF PHILISTINISM IN PORTLAND. The debate on the taxation of church property has developed an extraordinary amount of philistinism in Portland.

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throughout the stern belt generally are still to be heard from. Most of the damaged trees are of the class that makes rapid growth, so that by proper pruning they will recover what is lost in a year or two at the farthest. The loss to next year's crop will probably be considerable, but a partial recovery, possibly for lack in quantity is more than likely to be made up in the quality of the fruit produced, and in any event there is very little danger of a serious shortage. The discomfort of such a storm is not great, but it caused much inconvenience, and the true Oregonian welcomed, as an old and tried friend, the coming of the rain, which promised a speedy relief from its annoyances.

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chased these lands from the Northern Pacific had a right to expect of the government. Nor can any one complain who may have initiated an adverse claim as a settler. They had notice of the rights and equities of these people, their possession and improvements warned them of these facts.

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Mr. Reed is correct, and I cannot see how the Oregonian can safely assume from the history of the past that taxation would exterminate them. There are many people, who, like Mr. Reed, think the progress of civilization has not been advanced by the churches, but rather that it has been retarded by them. This view would seem to be supported by the fact that in those countries where the Protestant religion prevails progress has been most marked. In other words, the further a country gets from dogmatic beliefs, and the less it is enthralled by superstition, the greater strides it makes in civilization; and may not the remnants of those crude superstitions which the protestant churches still contain be retarding powers even in those more progressive countries. It seems to me, that the fact that this exemption of church edifices is abused by including other church property to large amounts, and, as the Oregonian recently admitted, there seems no way to prevent this abuse, that this alone should settle the question. That the "hard shell" Baptists should be the ones of all others to advance the liberal and just idea of church taxation is to its credit, but just how far it is actuated by the hope of crippling the Catholic church, I do not pretend to say.

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NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST. Oregon. George and James Curry, of Enchore creek, Curry county, have killed seven bears and have saved 23 gallons of fine oil, which they are selling at a bit a pound.

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