#### CHURCH TAX AGAIN

CONTRIBUTOR ELABORATELY STATES HIS OPINIONS

And Makes General Reply From His Standpoint to The Oregonian.

PORTLAND, Jan. L-(To the Editor.) Kindly allow me a few words in reply to your criticism of my communication in The Oregonian of the 4th inst., upon the question of exempting church prop-

erty from taxation.

My opposition to this exemption does not, as your remarks would seem to imply, spring from a spirit of opposition to religion. Quite the contrary. No one holds in more profound respect or in deeper reverence the subject of religion than does the writer of this article. He believes religion to be that true relation which the finite sustains to the infinite, and which we, as fellow-creatures, sustain to each other, and that the clearer and truer our conceptions are of this re-lation, the more faithfully we live up to these conceptions, the more religion we have, and the more of religious inspir-ation we receive. But this requires no church organizations, such as exist to-day. The writer of this articles believes, further, that religion is the sublimest and grandest subject which can possibly en-gross the mind and thought of man; also, that no human being should live in any other than a religious sense, or any other than a religious life; that in the living such a life, man's truest happiness consists-a life wherein man's physical nature is subordinated to his spiritual, and his whole being brought into unison or harmony with the great creator, and the works of his creation. While there is happiness to be derived from the grati-dication of the senses, he conceives man's highest and noblest to be in the devel-opment of his spiritual nature. To be in harmony with the creator and with the vast works of his creation, he conceives to be the summum bonum of existence, and the highest source of enjoyment a human being can experience, in this or any other world or worlds. This he considers the end and object of existence. Entertaining views of this nature, his opposition to the exemption of church taxation can not well be ascribed to irreligious motives, To his mind, true religious views are one thing, and church organizations quite an-other. His views may be narrow, as you say, but they are none the less sincere and honest. To many of your readers, it may be difficult to reconcile this, which toi them may seem a paradoxical posirion, of being friendly to religion and at rame time inimical to church estab-iments. But this is mainly owing to concation. To such, if any there be, The Oregonian favoring me with the space, I would be glad to endeavor to show how this can be, and in doing so turnish my reasons for thinking our churches of so little help in developing human progress. that they retard rather than help.

My opposition to the exemption of church property is not because I do not consider our churches representative of the true religious element. I should be equally opposed to exemption if I though the reverse. I am opposed to the proposition, first, because I consider it unfair and unjust; and, second, because I consider it contrary to the spirit of our lustitutions. It is making one portion of the communi-ty, which is in no way interested, conibute to the maintenance and support the privileges enjoyed alone by the remaining portion. This, to me, seems unjust. Were I a member of a church exempted from taxation, I should not feel as though I was doing as I would like to selfish. To me it savers too much, as I said in my former article, of forcing the entire community to support an established church, whether it will or no. I know The Gregorian says "no one's taxes are increased by exemption of church buildings, for church buildings would not exist if taxed as private property." But how The Oregonian figures this out is past my comprehension. Let us suppose one-half of the property in this city to be owned by the churches and exempt from taxation. Would not the other half have to be assessed double what it would otherwise be were the entire city property assessed? Would not the tax upon one-half have to be greater, by 100 per cent, than it would be if the whole bore its proportion of the tax. Mr. McCamant said in his article that 5 per cent of the property of the city is exempt from taxation for n purposes. But it does not matter whether the per cent be 5 or 50, or 1-10th the smaller fruits, more dairymen, and of 1 per cent—what we are alming to get more men in every department of counts is the principle involved and not the amount. Possibly I may misconstrue The ful promise of a fertile soil and a pro-Oregonian's meaning. Again, The Oregonian says that only upon the ground of the churches doing police duty—the rendering a public service for good—can exemption from taxation, in their behalf, be justified But if this be sound doctrine, why not exempt the property of every other individual or society rendering a public service for good? Where is the line to be drawn? Is The Oregonian quite right in saying our church buildings would not exist if taxed as private property? Is exemption from taxation the inspiring thought and will which governs in the erection of our church edifices? fushion, or rivalry nothing to do with it? Take the new Congregational church in this city, for instance. Are we to understand that that would not have been built but for this exemption? Or take deciding influence which entered into the erection of that structure? I can hardly think a congregation rich enough to build a \$100,000 structure would leterred or prevented from carrying

out its plans by the item of taxes.
You say, further, "these edifices produce an effect on his (man's)) intelligence and moral nature that makes a constant in-fluence for the puritication of society and the elevation of humanity." I quite agree with you that fine architecture tends to this effect, but anyou not count upon the fingers of one of your hands all the church edifices in this city which in any way minister to man's higher nature? ay minister to man's higher nature? and, if yes, how about the balance of the church buildings in this city, and in the state at large" For this is a state question and is not confined to Portland

Do you consider that the great bulk of church property in both city and state tends to the making of a purifying clevating influence? And, if this be an argument in favor of exempting church edifices, why should it not apply roundly well to all other line architectural ef-forts in the city and state? If churches are to be exempted on this

ground, why should not other specimens of fine architecture be also exempted. Take the Oragonian building, for instance. Why should not that be exempted. There is no purer or more perfect specimen of architecture in Portland than The Openian building, and if churches are to be exempted upon this score, why not exemn this building size. score, why not exempt this building also? Again, you say, "every branch of art in all ages of the world owes its develop-ment to his (man's) religious nature. The controlling influence over the wh nature of man, of this imagination that has produced the great art of the world. is summed up in the history of civiliza-tion." Grunted, but where does our high-est civilization come from? Does it come from the present, or does it come from the past-hundreds and thousands of years age? Where and when did art

all other sciences and has made their de- the poet; but means to the farmer hard velopment possible. We boast of our advancement under what we call this "giorious light of Christianity," but what have we to show for it? We are nothing out copyists. Take architecture, for instance, of which we have just been speaking. We have to go back over two thou-sand years for our models of today. There is scarcely a thing which we do today unless it be the making of a mowing ma-chine, or something of this character, which was not executed as well, if not better, then than now. We puff ourselves up in our conceited imaginations over our wonderful advancement in the arts and sciences; but again I ask, what have we to show for it?

For our originals, in most instances, we

go back to a period antedating the birth of the Christian era. Your quotation from Milton is a very Your quotation from Milton is a very heautifully expressed sentiment, but it is nothing but sentiment after all. There is no argument about it—no logic. It is simply an expression of Milton's feeling. I have never seen anything in any church windows very awe-inspiring. If you had said from Portland Heights, the grandly majestic spectacle of Mounts Hood and St. Helen's rearing their snow-cupped peaks above the skies is one of the sublimest rights on earth—a feast worthy of the gods—you would, I think, have given your readers something vastily most subdising than any lines from Milton, beautiful as they might be. To nie there is a sense of grandeur and subdimity imparted by the view of these gigantic manifestations of the creator's gantic manifestations of the creator's power, which no church windows, how-ever beautiful, can ever impart. In the conclusion of your criticism you say "Every person of truesensibility must regret that the argument for taxation of

regret that the argument for taxtoon in houses of worship always tuns into an assertion that churches are needless." But is this fair criticism? Would you have me say I thought them an advantage or a benefit if I thought them otherwise? The

Oregonian is too fair to its correspond-cents to have me say this. This question is a church subject and if I think I ought not to be taxed for their support, because I consider them a drawbark to the world's progress. I ought to say so in words not to be misunderstood, and to be able to give my reasons for thinking as I do. The best way always is to call a spade a spade. My risws have not been lightly taken. They are not screeds against churches because they are churches. I do not underestimate the good which the churches do, and in my opposition to exemption I am not influenced by feeling. I consider that the harm they do more than offsets the good, and in this opinion I am as honest and sincere as The Oregonian is in taking a different view. My views are not based upon prejudice, and they are the result of study and thought and founded, I beapport, because I consider them a drawlieve, upon principle as solid as the lasting hills. of study and thought and founded, I be

A toothsome lunch for the fishing ex ion can be best prepared with Dr. Price's Baking Powder.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF OREGON

Natural Attractions Should Be Supported by Industrial Development.

PORTLAND, Jan. 7 .- (To the Editor.)-The number of communications favoring immigration which you have published within the last few months, no less than your editorials upon the subject, warrant he assumption that the average opinion of the people of Oregon favors an increaof population through immigration, We may also assume that the average opin ion, notwithstanding its component parts spring from various roots, represents the best intelligence of the people. Ergo, immigration is desirable. It is due to the in-telligence of those favoring immigration to suppose that they are more or less conscious of the truth that highly develbe done by, were I to force, by law, a oped social conditions are impossible in son-churchman to bear with me the expense of what is fo me alone a privilege it is their desire for better social condior an enjoyment. This, to me, would be tions, and their recognition that to be selfish. To me it savors too much, as I in touch with, and in interdependence said in my former article, of forcing the with the many, brings greater possibilities of enjoyment than independence in louch only with a few. It is this truth realized, but undefinable by the masses of mankind, which impels the trend of population from the country to towns and cities. Manifestly, Portland need have no concern for its quota of the population of Oregon. The same causes that lend to the increased population of cities at the expense of the rural districts in other states are at work here. It is likewise true that Portland's prosperity must depend upon the productiveness of the coun try. Civilization began with the plow, and will doubtless end with the plow, as its greatest factor. It might, therefore, go without saying, that, most of all, Oregon needs more men to make farms and till them, more men to plant orchards of the apple, the pear, the peach, the prune, and pitious climate. It is our boast that we possess such a soil and such a climate, yet possess such a soli and such a contact, yet too many, we are inclined to think, are disinclined to a country life, and day wages in town, with two or three rented rooms, is preferred by the average family to a farm and farmhouse, all their own, in the country. In the face of these facts the problem of securing desirable immigrants for Oregon warrants more than a

> The attractions of the country are, for The attractions of the country are, for the greater part, what nature has given. Added to these there is a prospect of attaining to the measure of the indepen-dence of the farmer, which is so much talked about and seems to be so little appreciated. On the other hand, the city possesses the attractions of civilization, among which are its social conditions, made possible by the wase and facility which people can come together. Other advantages could be mentioned on both sides, but for the purposes of this article, which must not be prolix, those mentioned will suffice. In the light of these facts, it seems to me that if we could add, or make possible, some of the attractions of town life to the country, an alundant immigration would come to us and our own people would find country life more attractive. To do this we should be guided by the same practical rules observed in successful busin dertakings. A real estate man, for in-stance, who was about to put an addition on the market, would lay out and build streets and make other improve-ments upon his addition. Might it not be good economics for the state to build good public roads and bridges throughout Oregon? There are few good roads in any of the new states of the Union, and Oregon is not blessed with more than its share of them. The endurance of bad public roads is a part of the price, seldon taken into account, which we pay for ruil roads. In fact, it may be doubted if one native American in 50 born west of the Mississippi river ever saw a really first-class wagon road, such as may be found in some of the Eastern states and are common in Europe, Good roads shorten distance; proximity to neighbors makes distance; proximity to neighbors makes much frequent; frequent meetings make social intercourse; social intercourse; social intercourse leads to the betterment of social conditions.
>
> In the condition of the con

passing consideration

I may be permitted to say, in paren sis, that this is in no sense akin to the Coxey plan. It would be bad eco-nomics for the state to build roads sim-ply to sive its citizens employment. Their milding should be justified apart from

It is thought to be wise in real estate men to offer special indocements for mak-ing valuable improvements. Might it not be well for the state to exempt all or certain valuable country improvements from taxation for a tarm of 29 years or more! Nature is the foundation of all culture; most flourish? Where do we look for its but she is stern even in her best moods, the carbon of Aude, department of an environment of natural conditions is only temperarily attractive. The rugcal acience—that, really, which includes

tion, numbers of small hamlets have been overwhelmed with snow and avalanches and many houses have been swept away in the mountain districts of the southwest The migrations of man, like all other movements, must continue to be on the lines of least resistance. Let us remove all resisting conditions which a sound, practical judgment will warrant, and then and east of France. The inhabitants wer and east of France. The innantants were generally warned and escaped, but there have been several fatalities in addition to those airmuly recorded. In the isle of Cor-sica there has been great loss to live stock, owing to the heavy snow, and com-munication between Ajaccio and Sartia has been cut off. advertise Oregon's resources and advant-ages in a practical manner, as a business man would advertise. To be more spe-cific, the advantages of our soil and climate for dairy farming should be adver-tised in the leading dairymens' papers of the Eastern, Middle, and Western states has been cut off.

Fruitgrowers should be reached throug

the columns of their papers; aplarist through theirs; farmers and breeder through theirs; and the general public

through immense special editions of the

best papers of Oregon.

To the reader who is sufficiently interested to ask. "How shall we do all this,

I will answer, let us return to our real estate man and we will find that the cost of improvements is by him assessed

against the property improved pro rata

as to benefits given. Corner lots an others most benefited are held at highe prices than back lots or lots less bene

fited. In the end the purchaser pays th cost of the improvements which induc him to invest his money. So, also, owne

of land lying in immediate and near prox-

imity to a proposed spad should pay a tax in proportion to the proposed benefit to accime to them. Inasmuch as a good public wagon road in any part of the state

is a benefit to every part of the state, a general tax would be justified to meet a small part of the cost of building roads

and bridges, but the major part of the expense should be borne by landholders along the line of such roads. It might be more appropriately said that they should

advance the cost of such roads and bridges, for they would be amply repaid by the use of such improvements, or in case of sale, would recoup themselves by

putting a higher price upon the land sold

"But how," asks the interested reader, "can you justify an exemption of im-provements from taxation?" To which I

reply, by the same reasoning, the same justice, equity and self-interest while leads individuals to pay for benefits con-

ferred. Oregon, we believe, is unsur-passed by any state or country in its natural advantages for dairy-furming. Yet

the state does not produce sufficient of

nt laws, the better stock a man bring

into the state, or breeds here, the higher he is taxed, or, in other words, the heav-ler be is fined for doing the very thing

the state desires him to do. The frui

grower who plants an orchard has to pa an annually increasing the for sever-

rears before he can expect any return fo

his investiment and labor. Yet he has ione a good thing for his neighborhood and for the state. In a line, let us invite

minigrants by our nots as well as by our words; and above all let us no longer repel them with statutory threats of lines or doing good to the state and to the

eighborhood in which they may cust their

I am unable to say whether, under or

awfully done, but constitutions do not ong stand in the way of an intelligent

ond free people. Constitutions are made o be changed. C. A. ROHRABACHER.

Work.

unemployed men proceeded today to the British cruiser Tourmaline, now in port here, and a deputation representing them interviewed the warship's captain, de-manding bread or work, and asking

whether he would prevent their obtainin food by force. In reply, the captain pron-ised them that he would write to Gover

por O'Brien and other executive author

for O'Brien and other executive author ties about their representations. He the advised them to disperse, telling them to return tomorrow, when he would be pre-pared to give them an agniver. On learn-ing what the captain had said, the mo-dispersed. It, however, work or food-not forthcoming tomorrow, the consequences, it is apprehended, will be sortion (Boverner O'Brien this offerness).

Governor O'Brien this afternoon gave

his assent to all the bills dealing wi financial questions which the colonial is islature has just passed. The bill remo

ing the disabilities of politicians convicts of bribery has been reserved for the Bri ish imperial government's assent. On the

arrival here of the steamer Silvia, fr

house here Wednesday.

Halifax, the Bank of Montreal official

now here received \$50,000 in specie, beside paper sufficient to establish a circulation of \$1,000,000. Their bank opens a branch

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

The Religious Issue Rassed in Some

Canadian Cities. TORONTO, Jan. 7.-The municipal elections today passed off quietly throughout Ontario. In some constituencies the Protestant Protective Association conducted a

campaign on strict religious lines, but in the great bulk this issue was not raised publicly, at least. So far the results re-ceived indicate that the religious issue cut

no great figure. Some towns, villages an

rural communities report successes of the Protestant Protective Association, but in nine-tenths of the dispatches no mention

is made of the organization as a factor. In

this city the campaign was brief, but active and very exciting. Mayor Kennedy,

candidate for a second term, was oppo-

him for his failure to keep the promi

made prior to last year's election. So close is the vote that at midnight the complete returns give Mayor Kennedy a majority

of but II votes, and it may require an of

Americans Released.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. - The depart

used of lynching a native at Matagatpa

of others, were released November 18 last and that the two remaining Americans

Dr. Gilman and Fred Hoppe, would have

"Westward the star of empire takes its

way." All over the country Dr. Price's Baking Powder leads.

He Knows the Murderer.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 7.-There was sen-ational testimony brought out in the

oroner's investigation of the myster

murder of General Passenger and Freigh Agent Caven, of the Valley road, while occurred some time ago. Walter I Shupe a well-known attorney, testified that h

the society of a married woman, who

husband applied for a divorce on accor-

of the intimacy. A man was employed to watch the pair and obtain conclusive evi-dence, and wound Caven slightly, if pes-

sible. The shot went to Caven's vitals, and

he died almost instantly. Attorney Shupe probably will be placed in jail for con-tempt, unless he divulges the name de-

Fatalities From Snowslides.

PARIS, Jan. I.—In addition to the avalanche at Oriu, in the canton of Aix les Thermes, Pyreness, Saturday, there has been a similar accident at Bazerques, in the capton of Aude, department of Arlege. This avalanche killed three persons and seriously injured three capes.

their trial about the middle of Decembe

ment of state is advised by the Ar minister to Nicaragua, Lewis Baker, that three of the five Americans who were ac-

and declared innocent by the cor

their candidates.

by ex-Mayor Fleming, the latter be freated last year by a majority of 450. He made a vigorous raid this year on the in-activity of Mayor Kennedy, condemning

estitution, all I have suggested may be

dairy products for home consumption lence, more dairymen and the best brest f dairy cattle are wanted. Under pre-

COURT AT OREGON CITY Motion for a New Trial in the Hesse

Liebe Damage Case Tomorrow.

OREGON CITY, Jan. 7.-Circuit cour econvened here today for a session of two weeks. Not Garthorne and George Powers were on hand to be tried for swindling Chinamen on a bogus opinm deal, but their trial was put over till the April term on account of the absence of material witnesses. Arguments on the motion for a new trial in the Hesse-Liebe damage case will be heard Wednesday. A decree of foreclosure for \$1978 was taken by default in the case of Ida F against Charles Stewart and W. H. H. Samson, and J. T. Apperson took judgment against Thomas M. Miller, Mary E. Barlow and Margaret Plishury for 11475, by default, in a foreclosure suit. The case against William Wallens, for practicing dentistry without a license, will be up for trial tomorrow.

At the adjourned meeting of the city council this evening there was a pro-test against the payment of the bill for printing the ballots for the recent city election and the council finally rejected the extra amount caused by the double printing in compliance with the man-damus issued by Judge Hurley. The sum is only 5, but it gave opportunity for very pointed expressions of opinion on the part of those who were upposed to the recorder's interpretation of his duty.

Councilmen Cooke and Meldrum were appointed to act with the city attorney in revising the ctiy charter. Among the amendments suggested was one changing the limit for the tax levy from 5 miles to 7, and one to make assessments street improvements payable in install-ments. The council will consider these matters next Monday night.

A man who was trying to purchase A man who was trying to purchase a revolver to defend himself against two other men, who he declared were trying to destroy him, was arrested this even-ing and locked in the city jail. He said he was worth a million dollars a short time ago in Spekane, but that he had been robbed of all his property and his persecutors were now trying to take his life. He would not give his name. He was a well-dressed man, about 35 years of age. He walked into town and was shivering with the cold and fright when picked up by the police.

Negro Troubles in the South. MOBILE, Ala., Jan. 7.—Thomas Webb killed a negro near Coffeyville a few days ago. In the difficulty another row followed and an unknown person was killed. Another negro trouble occurred in Meach-amville, the home of the Meachamites, and ne of the late uprising in which

#### NEWFOUNDLAND'S POOR The Rugged Child Demand Made by Them for Bread or ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Jan. 8. - A mob of

is largely an "outdoor" product. Fresh air and exercise usually proappetite and -. sound sleep. MA Sickly children obtain

great benefit from Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil with Hypophosphites, a fat-food rapid of assimilation and almost

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red by Scott & Busine, N. V. All druggists,

as palatable as milk.

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### AYER'S SARSAPARIL the Superior

Blood-Purifier and Spring Medicine. "Cures others,

## will cure you

ficial recount before a decision is reached. At Hamilton, last year, the protective as-sociation's candidate swept the city with Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills a majority of 1500. Today he was re-elected by 256. At Ningara Falls the Protestrant Protective Association was very much in evidence, and returned most of Are acknowledged by thousands of persons who have need them for over forty years to cure fill the Labachte, GIDDINESS, CONSTIPATION, Turpid Liver. West Stomach, Pinspies, and sorty the house.

the illness atirth, or who suffer from the ef-fects of disorders, derangements and displacements of the wo manly organs, will find relief

and a permanent cure in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Taken during the Prescription

MAKES CHILDBIRTH EASY by preparing the system for parturition thus assisting Nature and shortening thus assisting Nature and shortening "labor." The painful ordeal of child-birth is robbed of its terrors, and the dangers thereof greatly lessened, to both mother and child. The period of confinement is also greatly shortened, the mother strengthened and built up, and an abundant secretion of nouris the child promoted. If

THE MARRIED WOMAN be delicate, run-down, or overworked, it worries her husband as well as herself. This is the proper time to build up her strength and cure those weaknesses, or ailments, which are the cause of her trouble Dr. Pierce's Favorite Pretion dispels aches and pains, melanch and nervousness, brings refreshing alcep and makes a new woman of her.

Mrs. Annan I. vos. of Lorentes, Jefferson Co., N.
Y. writes: "I had been suffering from afceration and failing of the wearth. At last, almost discou aged, I began taking Dr Pierce's Favorite Pre

any return of the trouble.

I feel very grateful, and Mns. Lyon, in fact, owe you my life.

for I do not think I should have been alive now if I had not taken your medicine."



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C.C.—Distemper, Nasai Discharges.

D.D.—Bees or Grubs, Worms.

E.E.—Conges, Houves, Pacamenia.

F.F.—Colic or Grines, Bellyache.

G.G.—Miscarriage, Hemestriages.

H.H.—Urinary and Kidney Disenses.

J.L.—Emptive Disenses, Mange.

J.R.—Disenses of Digentian, Paralysis.

Single Bettle (over 50 dues).

60 Single Bottle (over 50 dozes), Stable Casas, with Specifics, Manuel, Veterinary Cure Oil and Medicator, Jar Veterinary Cure Oil; Said by Brugalsies or seed prepaid anywhere and in any quantity on receipt of price. BUMPHREES Made. Co., 111 & 115 William St., New York.

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When cold or disease make the body shiver when reports of the dreaded disease appear, when burt or mangled by heavy blows, this reliable family remedy acts quickly, relieves and cures. Over 80 years it has soothed and localed the inside and outside aches, prins and discuses of generation after generation. Its extraordinary worth, merit and excellence have won the public favor in a way that is wonderful. It allays all inward or outward inflammations like magic. It cures face ague esthma, abscesses, bites, burns, bruises, bren chitis. Nothing on earth will cure colds, coughs, cotarrh, as quickly. It is without an equal for colle, croup, cromps, cholera morbus, summer complaints, chronic diarrhess, ail throat, lung or kidney troubles. It numetr and telleves neuralgia, scinics, rhounail or and spinal discuses. It stops headache, noth-

#### ache, soreness, stiffness, insucoess in all parts. Johnson's ORIGINATED ANODYNE LINIMENT

Invented in 1810 by the Inte Dr. A. Johnson, Family Physician. It has more than satisfied. For nearly a century the demand for it has steadily increased. It is marvellous how many different complaints and diseases it will cur-It is used and recommended by physic everywhere. It is unlike any other. superior to any other. It is the great vital and muscle pervise. Trust what time has en-orsed. Every Mother should have it in the house, dropped on super suffering children leve it. Its electric energy even attuny erad-icates indiamantiem without irritation. Not a single medicine today possesses the confidence of the public to so great an extent.

Athletes, swimmers especially, are more or less liable to the cramp and chills, which your Liniment will most certainly releve by its rapid action in restoring a healthy and lively threulation. Parish S. McNally, Life Saver, Charlestown, Mass,

ctor's signature and directions on every be Hirst'd Pampi hat from Fold swarps here. Prior Taring No. 1001.



a welcome in the average American home, the most home-like home in the world. The coal stove, the gas, the vater, the sewing machine and the clothes wringer have found an entrance everywhere. Another candidate now appears. It is

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