THE OREGONIAN'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE: DIRECTED BY PROF. SEYMOUR EATON

Contributors to this course: Dr. John C. Van Dkys, Dr. Russell Sturgis, Dr. A. L. Prothing-ham, Jr., Arthur Hoeber, Frank Powler and

I. JOHN CONSTABLE. BY ARTHUR HOEBER.

So little has the Frenchman in commo with Great Britain in the matter of art it seems strange that an Englishman was more or less responsible for the great change that came over the French landscape work early in this century and made change that came over the French land-scape work early in this century and made possible the "Barbizon painters," as is called the great school of landscape men, who started into life about the year 1530 and which completely revolutionized the manner of work and of looking at nature then prevalent in France; but it is safe to say that had it not been for John Con-stable we should have waited some time for such men as Rousseau, Gorot, Daubigny. Dupre and the coterie of brilliant Frenchmen who today are so popular and who are referred to as the "men of

John Constable, who was born June 11. 1776, in East Bergholt, Suffolk county, England, was the son of a well-to-do mil-ier, a man with plenty of intelligence and common sense, but with little notion of the fine arts. He had hoped to have he desired him to succeed him in the management of the mill, and so consci-entious was his child that for a year ne tried to content himself at the trade of the father. It was not to be, however, for the boy spent more time watching the heavens and studying cloud forms than he did in looking after the business, though his knowledge of wind and storm. of weather possibilities and the like served him in a way, it was all rather with a view of putting his observations down on canvas than of utilizing them for the turning of the great salls to produce power for the grinding of grain. After awhile he received a half-hearted permission to follow his artistic inclinations, and he filled many sketch books. Through the assistance of some friends who were interested in him, he secured some paint-ings to copy, for in those days most of the students spent considerable time in making careful transcripts of the work of other men. Drawing also the figure, he made a number of portraits, but his work in this direction was not destined to make him famous, and that which remains is only of the most mediocre character, nor for a moment comparable with his lanc-scapes. It was, however, the only sore of work that paid him anything, and his people urged him to continue. Overcoming all home obstacles, how-

ever, he finally went to London just at the close of the last century, when he was 22 years of age, and he began a serious course of study in the life chases at the Royal academy, of which the American, Benjamin West, was president. Constible continued meanwhile at his landscape work, and from the first saw nature in a larger, grander way than the men about him. He had no patience with the pre-vailing manner of painting, for most of the men were working in a niggly, highlyfinished manner, giving little impression of nature and securing almost none of her great truths. Theirs was the manner of Claude and Poussin, securing all of the faults of these masters with few of their virtues, and the pictures were composed on conventional lines, worked out, as it were, by recipe, according to certain laws. were, by recipe, according to certain laws. The public liked this, or at least had been so accustomed to it that it resented any departures, but it is needless to say that great art is not so evolved.

Early in his career Constable had had his pictures rejected by the hanging com-mittee of the Royal academy. He felt the injustice bitterly, and on one occaalon he took a despised canvas to the president of the institution asking him frankly if he could to tell the reason of the refusal and to give him advice as to what to do. West received him cordially and examined the work carefully; at length he said: "Don't be discouraged, young man; we shall hear of you again; you must have loved nature very much before you could have painted thin." Constable was much encouraged by this, naturally, but for many years, although he had better luck with the hanging committees, his pictures came regularly back to him unsold, and had it not been for a few private patrons, particularly one stanch -his famous picture, "Waterloo Bridge," supporter, Archbishop Fisher, he would some 13 years under consideration before have had a sorry time.

As it was, to make both ends meet he made copies of portraits for rich people who desired duplicates, and occasionally he received a commission for an original portrait. Constable was tall, of fine figure and possessed of great strength.
About the country he was known as "the
handsome miller," a name that has clung to him even now, these many years after his death. He excelled in feats of strength and was generally of the fine, physical, manly type of Englishman. There came, however, into his life an affair that was to cause him great anxiety and for a time to impair this splendid health and power It was the old story, and the woman in the case was a Mlss Bicknell; she eventually became his wife, but the course of true love in this case was unusually rough. Her father, and in particular a rich uncle, visiently opposed the union, for, and with justice, they thought such a match at that time quite imprudent. It was the occasion of many a heartburn, and Constable's mother was most inter-ested in her son's love affairs. Many letters passed between the sweethearts, for-mal, dignified epistles, written in stately language, as was the manner then. They seem, it must be confessed, as we look at things today, hopelessly stiff and like examples from the ready letter-writer. These continued, however, many years, and fi-nally love triumphed, for the pair eloped. All was soon forgiven, even the rich uncle

Constable presently lost his father and mother, and receiving from the estate an ample sum of money, which put him bebled henceforth to paint that which inter-ested him. In 1819 he was elected an as-sociate of the Royal academy, though up to that time it is doubtful if he had sold a dozen pictures from the exhibitions. To the exhibition of 1822 at the British galleries he sent what is now considered his masterpiece, and known as "The Hay-wain." It was called then "Landscape Noon," and it came back to his studio at the close of the show unsold. Later a Prenchman bought this and two other works for the modest sum of £270, and the owner cent it to the exhibition at Paris, then being held in the Louvre. It at once created a sensation, being hung in the su-loon of honor, receiving a gold medal from the king. The French government offered to buy it, but the owner refused to sell it without the other two, and the negotiations fell through. Years afterward it came into the possession of an Englishman named Henry Vaughan. Then there was no lack of admirers for the work, and he was offered for it the sum of the conditions. of £10,000. To his credit, be it said, that the offer was refused, and in 1886 he pre-

relenting and leaving them at his death s

sented it to the nation. It now hangs in the National gallery in London.

The Frenchmen went wild over his work, however—that is, a certain portion of the public, for there were many dis-cussions regarding the remarkable de-marture in the landscapes of the dering parture in the landscapes of this daring Englishman. The contentions had little effect on him, however, and he continued on his way, undisturbed either by praise or blame. He was prolific and was constantly at work, making studies out of doors, for he had discovered how much of the beauty of the landscape depended on light. While the other men of his time were working in their studios almost entirely and getting pictures in low keys, far away from the real thing in the open

WORLD'S GREAT ARTISTS phere, the light and shade of nature, with the result that his pictures fairly shone. His greens were not the dirty, opaque tones that were then the fashion they had the sparkle of summer, the light of dew and the reflection of the sky. All this seems obvious and easy now: then it was a different matter, and it took the public a long while to accept it. Constable paid little attention to the lesser, unimportant details of nature. He believed in giving the big aspects of the picture. Sometimes a triffe brutal, there was nevertheless always a rugged force about his work that was impressive. He

and Tacitus, they are entirely immaterial, for even if genuine, they in no way reconcile the conflicting statements in the gospels, nor attempt to prove any supernat-My critic devotes much space in at ting to answer what he is pleased to "Mr. Sargent's alleged contradictions." But they were not "my contra-dictions." Every one of them, and many more, are pointed out and conclusively established in the works of Bible scholars of world-wide reputation; men who have compared the old Greek and Hebrew and other texts, and in a reverent but honest spirit have discovered and published truths which have done Christianity inestimable service in sweeping away the useless rubbish with which it

As to the spurious mentions in Josephus

prophetic visions may be known when it "Gospel Criticism and Historical Chris-is seen how the picture-collecting public tianity." This Christian scholar, quoting

THE VALLEY FARM, BY CONSTABLE, (In the National Gallery.)

struggles to get his work in these days, approvingly from Dr. Wescott, tells us for his canvases bring enormous sums.

During his lifetime Constable was never in any sense a popular painter. His themes were possibly too simple to suit the English public, accustomed to arti-ficially composed pictures; or they were too artistically conceived to appeal to an all-around clientele. He was fond of de-picting great masses of sky forms over simple stretches of quiet country, and he loved to paint the river Stour, which flowed past his old home. Windmills he introduced frequently into the landscape, and one peculiarity of his work was that he invariably made his preliminary study out of doors much larger than the com-pleted picture, which he finished in his studio, thus reversing the usual custom of the artist. Two such large studies may be seen in the Metropolitan museum of art, in New York city. They are called respectively, "A Lock on the Stour" and "Valley Farm," and though they have lost some of their color in the years, they are fine, sturdy works. He used a palette knife quite freely in painting. and sometimes he kept a canvas a long while in his studio before he let it go out into the world. It is said that he had he finally pronounced it complete. Two of his works, "The Raisbow" and "Wey-mouth Bridge," were presented to the

Arthur Hocher

MR. SARGENT AGAIN.

Returns to the Charge Upon Imperfections in the Scriptures.

PORTLAND, Jan. 1 .- (To the Editor.)-I have carefully read Mr. Arthur L. Vea-zie's letter in last Saturday's issue in which my letter, "Anent the Supernatu-ral," is criticised. After reading the recent controversies carried on in your pasundry divines, the ous tone of Mr. Venzie's letter is refresh-

was an attempt to give some of the ob-jections advanced by those who doubt the "supernatural in Christianity"; and; in the first place, not to show that "the gospel story is not true," but to show that there is no other record than the gospels, I pointed out that not one of the numerous writers of the Augustan age, the age in which, according to tradition, Jesus lived, has left us a scrap of contemporary history which records any of the wonderful things given in the gospels. Hence, we must look to the gospels alone; but these we find full of contradictions and inconsistencies, and, therefore, not

competent to prove supernatural events.

Mr. Vearle says: "The first argument is that the gospel story is not true, because Christ is not mentioned in Cleero, Sallust, Virgil and Horace, every one of whom died before Christ was born." Waiving objection to what may be a mis-understanding of my position, I freely admit that these men died before our era; but I do not know that they died before Christ was born. No living man can say with certainty when Christ was born. This is one of the greatest mysteries surrounding the whole subject. The Rev. Dr. Giles, in his very learned work, "Hebrew and Christian Records," after showing that we cannot know for cer-tain the place of his birth, says: "Concerning the time of Christ's birth there are even greater doubts than about the place; for, though the four evangelists have noticed several contemporary facts, which would seem to settle this point, yet on comparing these dates with the general history of the period, we meet with serious discrepancies, which involve the subject in the greatest uncertainty (Vol. II. p. 189.) And again; "We have

no clue to either the day or the time of the year, or even the year itself, in which Christ was born." (P. 194.) Bunsen, on the authority of Irenaeus (A. D. 190), attempts to show that Jesus was born some 20 years before our era; and, according to Basnage, the Jews place his birth near 100 years earlier, and others have placed the event as early as the third century B. C., founding their bellef on a passage in the "Book of Wisdom" which they say refers to "Christ air he secured the scintillation of atmos- | Jesus, and none other," and was written

that the New Testament shows too many marks of human frailty to admit of the plous sentiment which accepts the early texts as the immediate work of Provi-dence, "The text itself," he continues, "contains palpable and admitted errors. . The conclusion is obvious, and it superstition rather than reverence which refuses to apply to the service of Scripture the laws which have restored so much of their native beauty to other

ancient writings." (P. 22.) Another reverent and honest work is "The New Bible and Its New Uses," by the Rev. Joseph Henry Crooker. An emi-nent authority, speaking of this writer, says he possesses "good sense and critical judgment combined with genuine reverence and piety." Referring to the so-called "resurrection," Mr. Crooker says:

"The only element common to all the gospels is the statement that the sepulcher tended to California this year. pels is the statement that the sepulcher was found empty. In all other respects there are either differences or positive contradictions." And again: "In midst of so much indefiniteness, confusion and contradiction, it is impossible to tell what really occurred." (See appendix.)

My critic would attempt, with one fell swoop, to destroy all the results of mod-ern historic and literary criticism. But of his works, "The Raisbow" and "Weymouth Bridge," were presented to the
Louvre, in Paris, in 1873, by a Mr. Wilson, and there are many of his pictures
in the South Kensington museum and
the National gallery of London. He died
March 20, 1887, in London. pernatural is dead and gone forever. One of America's greatest historians and educators, Andrew D. White, now our am-bassador at Berlin, in his late history, says that "all Bible scholars of any standing" have come to admit that the gospels were a legendary growth, inherit-ing "ideas and even narratives from older religions," and that "to this growthprocess are due certain contradictions which cannot otherwise be explained."

Hundreds of other Christian scholars might be cited to the same effect. How can any man of common sense and honest mind look these facts in the face, and say there are no contradictions in the gospels? I submit that to do so requires the blind and unstaggering faith of the late Rev. Mr. Moody, who declared that "if the Bible had said that Jonah swallowed the whale, he would believe every word of it!" But as there are many without this blind and unstaggering faith, who clearly see the irreconcilable contradictions, to them the question pre-sents itself with irresistible force, What is their value as evidence when they re-cord the supernatural? Since they cannot all be true, the answer is obvious, "A witness false in one part of his testi-mony is to be distrusted in others." (See Greenleaf on "Evidence.")

Mr. Veazie concludes his very interesting letter as follows: -"Finally, if any one is troubled by the argument that the biblical account of creation is a rehash of the old Babylonian account, the best thing for him to do is to read the latter, given in Professor Sayce's book, 'The Higher Criticism and the Monuments'-which can be found in the Portland library-compare it with the

Bible account, and then dismiss fears. I am indeed delighted that my friend recognizes in the Rev. Professor Sayce an authority on this question-and surely there is none higher-but has he not made that most disastrous mistake of calling to the stand his opponent's best witness? I have the work before me. Here is a long chapter entitled "The Babylonian Element in Genesis," and at page 24 this renowned archaeologist says:

"We are just beginning to realize that the fragments of Hebrew literature contained in the Old Testament are the wrecks of a vast literature which extended over the ancient Oriental world."

Since, then, on the authority selected by Mr. Veazie, the Bible account of creation is a part of the "wrecks" of the literature of the ancient Oriental world -and there can be no doubt of it-therefore, if Mr. Veazie is attempting to "dish up" the Bible account in any other respect than as an ancient myth, it irre-sistibly follows that it is a "rehash" in not of the old Babylonian account, as least of the old account of the ancient Oriental world. What, then, is it worth as a matter of "revelation"?

"Good nature pays." You can be in good humor and good health if you take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

about 250 B. C. It would be interesting to know Mr. Veazie's authority for his PROSPEROUS CURRY

> NEW ENTERPRISES STARTED IN THE COUNTY LAST YEAR.

> Trade of Southwestern Oregon Goes to San Francisco-Chance for Portland Enterprise.

> Curry county shared last year the general revival of business manifest in all channels of trade. New enterprises were inaugurated. Large numbers of families have come to make their homes in the county. Many large tracts of wild land have been cleared and seeded to tame grasses for grazing or made ready for the plow. Stock and dairy ranches have been greatly enhanced in value by the growing demand for livestock and dairy produce. Products of every kind find a ready market at remunerative prices. Business has advanced in every line.

> Dairying increased remarkably last year throughout the entire length and breadth of the county. The sections where dairying is carried on most extensively are Chetco, in the extreme southern part of the county, and that portion of the county lying near the coast north of Port Orford. Four creameries are in operation in Northern Curry. In the dairying season teams are kept on the road almost constantly, conveying the product of creameries and dairies to the shipping points from which places steamers make regular trips to Ban Francisco. The increase in the output last year was about 25 per cent. Two new creamer es will be built in 1900, one near Port Orford and the other near Langlois, the center of the dairying district. Three cooper shops supply the local demand for butter barrels and boxes. Dairymen who have come here from Hum-boldt county, Cal., say that the future of this county for dairying is bright. They say that the quality of the Curry county product is as good as that of California and that it can be shipped from Port Or-ford to San Francisco 25 cents less per box than from Eureka, Cal.

> Large Sales of Livestock. The livestock industry in 1899 was better than for many years past. Cattle and sheep have been bought up by outside dealers, and driven out of the country. In consequence the number of cattle and sheep has greatly decreased. These im-mense droves of stock have been purchased principally for Eastern markets by speculators who paid fair prices. Several shipments of swine have also been made, buyers taking almost the entire surplus droves, which they disposed of in San Francisco. The investment was found a paying one, and this year will show a marked increase in the industry. The ex-ports of livestock from the county for the year are estimated at 4000 head of cattle, 6000 sheep and 1500 head of swine. The salmon pack of R. D. Hume's can-nery at Rozue river this year was less than for many years past. The spring and fall runs of salmon were very small.
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> Mr. Hume attributes this to the fact that
> salmon hatcheries have not been kept in operation on the river in recent years. He has made arrangements to overcome this scarcity of fish, and has constructed a hatchery which will run out from 6,000,-000 to 8,000,000 young salmon per year. This new hatchery is said to be the only one owned and operated by private capi-tal. Mr. Hume recently shipped 1,000,000 salmon eggs from Upper Rogue river to his propagating station in this county, by way of San Francisco. With two hatch-eries on the river, one at Wedderburn, in this county, and the other on the upper river, Mr. Hume is of the opinion that in a few years the salmon will be as num-crous as in the days previous to the ad-vent of the salmon industry on this South-

> ern Oregon stream.
>
> The Bell Telephone Company recently constructed a line into this county, connecting Wedderburn, Port Orford and other points with Bandon, in Coos county,

Opportunities for Portland Enter-Our commercial relations, like those of Coos county, are almost entirely with California. Our produce is shipped to San Francisco, and we receive our groceries and dry goods from that source. About three-fourths of the flour consumed in Curry county comes from the mills of California, and the remainder from Portcalifornia, and the remainder from Port-land and Benton mills, coming to us by way of Coos bay. The Copper Queen, a gasoline boat of several tons burden, own-ed by E. B. Burns, of Rogue river, has been put on the local coasting trade. She made her first voyage last fall. She will make regular trips from Coos bay Rogue river, calling at Coquille and Port Orford. Some enterprising Portland firm would undoubtedly find it a paying investmont to put on a coasting steamer, which would extend its trips as far south as Port Orford, competing with California merchants and shipping companies for the growing trade of these coast counties. The production of butter, cheese, livestock, wool, fruit and many other necessaries of life is growing a importance year after year, and is worthy of the attention of Oregon merchants. They might turn this vast trade to Portland, where it really belongs, instead of its being controlled en-tirely by the merchants of San Francisco. Perhaps one of the greatest resources of Curry county is the vast quantity of mer-chantable timber. It is estimated that there are no less than 400 square miles of the best quality of timber in the county. The largest body is on Sixes river, be ginning about 12 miles from Port Orford and extending in an almost unbroken forest to the boundary line between this county and Coos. It consists principally of Oregon pine, with extensive groves of Port Orford cedar, which are about the only large bodies of this kind of timber now available, the mills of Coos having almost exhausted the once magnificent groves of cedar in the Coguille and Coos bay districts. As this valuable timber ex-ists only in Coos and Curry counties, and the demand for it is rapidly increasing, the virgin forests of the Sixes country

Reach Mining. Black-sand deposits, bearing fine beach gold, are found along almost the entire seacoast of the county, and many are found inland, a distance of 10 or 12 miles from the beach. These inland mines are evidently deposits left by the receding ocean in ages long past. Some of them are found at an elevation of over 1000 feet above the sea level. In early days beach mining was carried on extensively, but of late years only a few mines remain that can be worked to advantage, although there are many places where a man could make wages in winter, when the heavy seas strip the driftwood and white sand from the beach, leaving little As the medals will be absolutely free to but black sand and gold. Placer mining on river bars is carried on quite extensively on Sixes. Rogue river and their tributaries, and every winter large numbers of men who have no other employ-ment during the rainy season make their living with pick, shovel and pan, working over the old bars along these streams, although they have been worked and reworked for over 40 years. A rough esti-mate of the annual output of gold from Curry county would place it at no less

must soon succumb to the sharp ax of the

Large Area of Timber. One of the leading undeveloped re-sources of Curry county is a gigantic vein of coal, 107 feet thick, situated on Sixes river, about 25 miles from Port Or-ford. Coal was known to exist in that vicinity 30 years ago, but it was supposed

cuts have been run during the past year n order to ascertain the extent of the vein, and the results are, to say the east, flattering. A government geologist

who visited that section last year pro-nounced the coal of superior-quality. The natural and only outlet for this coal to a shipping-point is by rallroad, which could be constructed on an easy grade to Port Orford harbor, a distance of 26 miles, at which place it could be loaded from bunkers into the ships.

Port Orford, Or. W. H. WILSON.

A PLEASED READER.

Whose Reflections May Set Others to Thinking.

The Oregonian prints so many letters of unfriendly criticism that it is inclined to make room for one of another sort. It is from a reader at Seattle, who writes spe-cifically "not for publication"; but his remarks on the subject treated are such that they may do some good with thoughtful readers. Our Seattle reader says: "I want to state distinctly that this com-

munication is not for publication, but is called forth by four lending editoriais in The Oregonian of December 30, viz.: "For the Higher Morality," "Necessity Knowa No Law," "English vz. American Law" and a "Sound Conclusion," each and every one of which merit the undivided support of all thinking intelligent men.

"I believe that an intelligent, untrammeled press, free from bigotry, is the greatest blessing of the 19th century, and it is refreshing to see an editorial that states facts and draws conclusions there— West Australia will do likewise. In any from unbiased by prejudice and dictated by reason and justice. We are, unfor-tunately, forced to listen at times to socalled orators and leading (7) men, whose made in the commonwealth act for their talk would disgrace the intelligence of an subsequent inclusion. Should Queensians orang-outing, and who apparently have take part in the original federation, the a following, for instance, those who say we should withdraw and leave the Philip-pines to their fate, and those who wish for the downfall of Great Britain. "It seems incredible in this day of public

education, free libraries and the general continent will be included under the new intelligence of the masses, that such doctrines would even be countenanced let. It is scarcely an exaggeration to say alone be followed. England has been the that the close of the century will wit-leader in civilization the world over, and ness no more important political event while she has made some mistakes (what than that of the establishment of the government has not?) wherever her flag flies it has been a blessing, and to her we owe a large measure of our prosperity and intelligence. It is well to remember that the English-speaking people are lovers of liberty (not license) and in a large measure our independence was secured measure our independence was secured by Englishmen who were openly in symby Englishmen who were openly in sym-pathy with the colonies, and that since that date her policy toward colonies has the policy toward colonies has the policy toward and the policy toward colonies has the policy toward colonies have been policy to the policy toward colonies have been policy to the policy toward colonies has the policy toward colonies have been policy to the policy to the policy toward colonies have been policy to the policy toward colonies have been policy to the policy to the policy toward the policy to the policy toward to the policy to th radically changed, and today they are bound to her only by ties of affection and are as free in every material respect

as ourselves.
"So will it be in course of time with the Philippines, when they have reached the point when they will be capable of self-gov-ernment. Until then, the voice of con-science, justice and reason demands that our authority be unquestioned, and that it be maintained at any cost, and as long as the rich red blood of America's manhood courses in the veins of her young men just so long will that authority be upheld and the party who opposes go down in defeat.

"Keep the good work up, and may all the blessings of the new year be with you in the good work your views bravely expressed and in line with the best thought of our country give encouragement to those of us who believe in the Greater

WILL BUILD MANY BOATS.

Great Activity Shown in East Side Boat Yards.

Within a few days there will be great activity at the boat yards of Joseph Sup-ple and J. S. Johnston, on the East Side. At the Supple yard two crafts will be set up at once. One will be a tug for Friez Bros. It will be 60 feet long. For this craft the knees have already been cut out, and are of oak. The frame will land's last administration and on down be set up in the south side of the yard, to the present time exposed to public be set up in the south side of the yard, so that there will be room for the new propeller Mr. Supple will build for The Dalles, Portland & Astoria Navigation Company, for which he has just secured the contract. The new propeller will be a beauty, and will combine both speed and the contract. The new propeller will be a beauty, and will combine both speed and the contract. a beauty, and will combine both speed and convenience. It will be 140 feet long, 10 ver? Oh, not of course not. Did Mr. feet breadth, 6 feet 6 inches deep, and will be fully 20 feet longer and one foot wider platform and resolutions in the republicate than the Fiver. Mr. Supple has a miniature model of the boat in his office, and the difference from that of the Fiver. the difference from that of the Flyer is apparent, in that the stern will extend over the water, while the screw will be well under. A Case wheel will be used. The engines of the Flyer will be used, but larger boilers will be put in. cabin and deck appointments are elegant and attractive. Mr. Supple says that he will soon have a large force of men at work on both these craft, and for several months the yards will be full of ac-

At the Johnston yard the fine tug for the Columbia mills, at Knappton, is finshed and ready for the machinery, which has been slow in coming. Part has arrived and will be put in the tug, when she will be launched. Mr. Johnston has two large stern-wheel steamers to build at once. One will take the place of the Gov-ernor Newell and the other one is for the Hosford Bres. For the first one, which will be 130 feet long, the frames have been cut out and are ready to be set up at once in the yard. For the Hosford boat the frames for the hull, which will be 130 feet long, are nearly all ready. Machanical will also the dock the doc Johnston will cut away most of the dock o make room for these new steamers. also has another steamer in prespect, but does not count on it until he has the contract. Mr. Johnston, who is an old-time Portland boat builder, says that the out-look for activity in that line is very enouraging. He has enough work now in sight to keep his yard full and busy for several months to come.

Metal for the Medals.

PORTLAND, Dec. 31.—(To the Editor.)— The "Volunteer" from Oregon City, who is somewhat critical as to the source from which the material for the proposed med-als is to be obtained, is not well informed as to the facts. Suppose, for instance, one member of the regiment should not only offer, but insist, on furnishing from his own numerous trophies from the Philippines sufficient material for the medals would this be "like a man's wife asking him for \$10 with which to buy him a pres-

ent"?

The members of the Second Oregon will not be asked to "contribute their trinkets to the melting-pot," Only those who have cheerfully offered to do so will be thus favored.

thus favored.

Several members have, I understand, generously offered three times as much material as will be required, and medals made from the bronze actually captured and brought home by the regiment itself should be regarded as of more value by

the volunteers, it should not worry the Oregon City volunteer to any great extent, since he will not be asked to "con tribute his trinkets to the melting-pot." In other words, his wife will buy his Christmas present and pay for it out of her own funds, without calling on him for

PORTLAND VOLUNTEER.

Practical Charity. Philadelphia Record.

A home for destitute children has been opened by the W. C. T. U. at Port Elizaeth. Efforts are being made to make the lives of the little ones as natural and home-like as possible. The home has been built chiefly out of the profits from the sale of temperance drinks at sports and agricultural shows, where the W. C. T. U. booth is very popular,

A NEW COMMONWEALTH

ANOTHER ANGLO-SAXON NATION TO BE BORN IN THE PACIFIC.

Two-Thirds of the Colonies of Aus. tralia and Tasmania Have Already Agreed on Union.

passed the people of Queensland will have

-though at present less probable-that West Australia will do likewise. In any

case it can hardly be more than a ques-tion of a few years until both these colonies take advantage of the provision

commonwealth will start with nineteen-twent eths of the inhabitants of Australia;

should both West Australia and Queens

land for the present stand aloof, nearly six-sevenths of the people of the Pucific

tractions to offer. It has not even the distinction of being the formal languaration of a new sovereign state-of adding

one more to the recognized governments of the world. There will be no severance of the ties that bind Australia to Great Brit-

ain; no formal change in the relations of the governments; and yet, in reality, the

wealth will mean vastly more both to England and to the rest of the world than any

political event that has occurred for sev-

Glass Houses, Etc.

INDEPENDENCE, Or., Dec. 29.—(To the Editor.)—The remarks made by Congress-

gold standard, was he egregiously ignorant

on the money question, or was he advocat-

had them? You know some-

a scar. Give such a child

ing a vicious policy knowingly

establishment of the Pacific cor

eral decades.

It is now reasonably certain that the last year of the century will see the political birth of another new Angla-Saxon nation in the Pacific, says Hugh H. Lusk in the Forum. After an agitation which has gone on for the last eight years with various fortunes, but on the whole with steadily increasing intensity, the party of union has finally triumphed in four ou union has many triumphed in four out of the six colonies occupying the island continent of Australia, and its adjacent island of Tasmania. As yet, it is true, the two large colonies of Queensland and West Australia, which occupy the extreme ends of the great island, have not given in the'r adhesion to the new arrange-ment; but this will-not delay the completion of the federation, to which will be given legal recognition as soon as the imperial parliament meets in its next sen-sion at Westminster. It is rather more than probable that before the act can be

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political history of the world; and to be Manager 415-413 DAY, J. G. & I. N. 318 larations of independence; and there is an old idea which connects with the rear of cannon and the clash of arms all political events of far-reaching importance. The federal union of the Anglo-Saxon colonies of Australia has none of these at-

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