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TODAY'S WEATHER -Occasional rain, with south to west winds.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

#### THE ABUSES OF A SYSTEM.

Rev. Alexander Blackburn of Portland, who professes to have been a soldier in the civil war, in a letter on pensions, published in The Oregonian of yesterday, began thus: "As one who draws a pension and is not ashamed of it, though not dependent on the pension for my brend, will you permit me a word ?" Here is a man who uncovers his moral nakedness before the public, and is not ashamed.

He admits that the pension is not necessary to his support; yet by a course of casuistry, reasoning from faise premises, argument loaded with economic error, and manifest compromises with conscience, he justifies himself for seeking and taking it.

The purpose of the pension is totally misrepresented by Dr. Blackburn. The government is not completing the payment of the soldiers who have rendered service in its wars. Else it would pay all allke-sick and well, strong and infirm. The very preamble of the "dependent pension bill" of 1890 refutes this assumption. It is a bill "granting pensions to ex-soldiers and sailors who are incapacitated for the performance of manual labor, and providing pensions to dependent relatives of deceased soldiers and sailors." The spirit of the law is right, but the loose wording is taken advantage of by unscrupulous persons like Dr. Blackburn, who, though not needing pensions, and abundantly able to support themselves, claim pensions on the ground that they are not able to perform manual labor, such labor, say, as chopping cordwoodthough in fact many have fine incomes from professions and from property, and not a few are rich. Yet they go and swear they can't perform manual labor, and draw the pension. Some of them, however, be it said to their credit, are yet too honest to pretend that the "government is simply paying a debt" it owes them. They find themselves able to get the money, by per-

version of the law, and they get it. The general tone of Dr. Blackburn's letter is that everything that can be got out of the treasury by the man who served in the federal army during the civil war is that man's due.

As one justification is the false assumption that it is a "debt," another ment that the men who sup is no are

sponding reductions. The circumstance is the more striking in view of the hunample, armament and armor were not dreds and thousands of poor people in every large city, who swell the popula-reached sait water, the understanding reached salt water, the understanding tion but contribute nothing to the being that only the hull and machinlocal share of the state burden. It ery were to be built on the Lakes. is doubtful if more than one person in the whole negotiation, however, fell through on account of the failure to under the law. In country districts, of agree on the Alaska boundary, and course, the majority of men own their Lake shipbuilders still find themselves unable to bid on government contracts. homes, at least.

PRESENT ANTICS, FUTURE SHAME.

brought to a halt, this particular point-Not all that Senator Pettigrew says might be pressed to a satisfactory concan be set aside with contempt. At the clusion, and that, indeed, in the interbasis of his criminal demagogy is a est of justice, it should be so pressed. desirable resource for the ups and foundation of truth. McKinley has un- It is a question that can readily be downs of trade, through busy crop seadoubtedly managed things with a view separated from the others that came to his personal fortunes, and how much before the joint high commission, all he has suppressed or garbled reports of which are in abeyance on account of from the Philippines, er disguised or the Alaska boundary dispute, and read-ders sent thither, is a mete matter of liv dealt with upon its aver mentioned by anybody in stock: ders sent thither, is a mere matter of ily dealt with upon its own merits. Its the standard of value, whose worth deders sent tutter, is a nere machine fre-detail. That the McKinley machine fre-quently regards itself erroneously as a that the agreement is obsolete so far as The standard of value wants to be fixed quently regards itself erroneously as a synonym for the government of the sound reasons for its continuance ave United States has been ascertained and concerned, and it only remains for it wants to be adjustable to actual needs commented upon long before Pettigrew to be remanded by official action to the thought fit to lift up his voice in trea- realm of things that have been outdated by events. sonable defamation.

A THANKLESS TASK.

Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener are

Now Pettigrew, having made out a case against McKinley, commits the sante offense named in his indictment. He confuses a part with the whole. He regards it monstrous that our "puny in Cape Town, with an army of 120,000 president" be regarded as identical with Englishmen in South Africa. But the country's course, and then he pro- through the fault of the war office ceeds to denounce the course things at London the British campaign has have taken because of McKinley's do-ings. The mistakes of McKinley do not been so mismanaged from the start that it will be a difficult task for Lord Roberts to correct it and repair the suggest to Pettigrew that McKinley is imperfect, but only that expansion is consequences of the great strategic altogether wrong and dishonorable.

blunder committed by the British in Our presence in the Philippines is unthe outset in trying to hold Ladysmith. holy aggression, says Pettigrew, and The true line of advance toward Prethe Tagals are to be commended for toris was through the comparatively every shot they send home to our forces open country from Colesburg and Burghersdorp to Springfontein, in the -why? Because McKinley is a puny president. Because Otis made some southwest of the Orange Free State, changes in the words of a proclamathence along the line of the railroad to Bloemfontein, the capital of that state tion. Because a censor refused to send and thence to Kroonstad, and finally a story about silver in the islands. Because the full truth about the Sulu to Pretoria. Ladysmith, after the fights agreement was held back till after the at Glencoe and Elands' langte, was of no strategic value, and badly situated for defense. General White, as was

Ohio election. This is very short-sighted statesmanpointed out at the time by the English ship, but it is prevalent. It is, to be sure, sidiculous that republicans should military experts, should have fallen back behind the Tugela at Colenso and adore McKinley because of the correcttaken up a strictly defensive attifude. ness of our course in the Philippines. But it is just as ridiculous for popu-In this way he could have saved the lists and anarchists like Pettigrew to valuable railroad bridge at Colenso and spared a strong force for the true line oppose expansion because they hate of advance on Bloemfontein. But the McKinley. Partisanship is no answer to partisanship. Men who act as if Mc-Kinley could do no wrong will doubtblockade of General White with 10,000 men and a vast quantity of valuable less be ashamed of themselves when stores in Ladysmith compelled General his two administrations are over and campaign via Colesburg and Burghershis weaknesses stand out in the full dorp to Springfontein, and to weaken light of impartial scrutiny, uncloud-General Methuen's column moving on ed by the needs of republican office-Kimberley. Sound strategy would have holders and office-seekers. But their held the Hopetown bridge, on the Ormistake is nothing compared to the pitange river, to concentrate all the rest iful blunder made by those who are of Buller's available troops at Naauwstanding in the way of their country's honor and advancement, seeking by poort for union with French and Gatacre in the advance on the Orange Free every partisan device to dishonor it and State capital. discredit its purposes.

There is a middle course, that the ople see, and that history will ratify. have relieved Kimberley, just as Sher-McKinley has his faults, though hero-worshipers and candidates are blind to man's northward movement from Sathem. But these faults need not ob-Charlesten. The garrison of Kimberscure from the open mind the patriot's duty and the grandeur of his country's Hopetown, would have swelled the coldestiny.

CHURCH QUESTION IN PHILIPPINES.

Of the church question in the Phillppine islands and of the relation Aguinaldo's rebellion to it, General Joseph Wheeler writes:

The more I talk to people the more I am con-vinced that the insurgents are actuated in a cral White in allowing himself to be measure by a spirit of communism, and in their talks, their most serious objection to the church seems to be the fact that the ecclesization gaminations own so much of the property, and

one of Aguinaldo's most earnest demands is ance of the orders of General Joseph E. instan, withdrew after defeat into In this General Wheeler agrees with Vicksburg, instead of saving his arms by retreat to Johnston's lines. The all the observers who have preceded him. It was the ambition of the junta British plan of divided columns has wasted their strength, but for this sitwith which Aguinaldo was connectedthough he was not its head, but only uation it is quite possible if not probathe intermediary between them and the ble that General Buller is not responsi-Tagal masses-to use their position ble. Probably he was ordered by the London authorities to proceed to the and power in reconstruction of the state, so that they might have in their relief of Ladysmith, but whether the own hands the management of confispresent military situation is due to lack cation of property under pretense of of military brains in the field in South "nationalizing" it. All our people in Africa or lack of brains in the war office at London, it is clear that Lords the islands who have acquainted them-Roberts and Kitchener have been called selves with the purposes and desires of to correct a fundamental error of tacthe members of the junta have borne witness from the first that their scheme tics and strategy that has thus far spolled the British campaign. The of national independence was based on British army has lest in killed, woundambitious projects for their own aged and prisoners about 9000 men since grandizement and enrichment. Under the middle of October. the rule of the United States there These losses are not a serious matter must be complete separation of church and state; and if the estates of the but the faise military position that has been created for Lord Roberts to corchurch are to be dealt with, as probarect is not easily or quickly remedied bly they must be, it will be done in an by mere numerical superiority. In all open manner, under the eye of the world, with responsibility to the people probability, Lord Roberts did not conof the United States and to the opinsent to assume his present thankless task of plucking the flower of victory ions of mankind. In other words, indiout of the nettle of defeat without the viduals will not be permitted to enrich stipulation that his military plans themselves through confiscation of the estates of the church. When General should not be revised and corrected in London. His first natural effort will be Funston said that confiscation of the to concentrate and make available his property of the church would end the numerical superiority by concentrating rebellion at once, he simply meant that, his army for the execution of the original the main motive of the rebellion reinal plan of campaign against Bloemmoved, the rebellion itself would colfontein via Colesburg and the line o lapse. the Orange river. This concentration

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1900.

small area devoted to cabbages or roots ought to bring a good income. There seems to be no danger that farmers will engage in cabbage-raising or rootgrow-ing to the extent of overproduction: so a few farmers may find it highly prof. considered unobjectionable. For exing to the extent of overproduction; so a few farmers may find it highly prof- Dutch gambit will cost England half her itable to shift a part of their effort from the wheat field to the garden plot,

Stewart's address on the money question is valueless, for the simple reason It is suggested that, though the genthat he fails to discriminate between eral agreement with Canada has been the two functions of gold. One is a standard of value; the other is a medium of exchange. Increase and contraction of a circulating medium is a 1. desirable resource for the ups and sons and resting spells, days of commercial venturesomeness and hours of sound reasons for its continuance are and firm. The circulating medium of credit transactions, which are the bulk of all transactions. To repeat, Mr. Stewart's remarks are valueless, because they confound the function of money as a standard of value, and its function as a medium of exchange.

> Continental critics of England, who have been hoping for a declaration that foodstuffs will be treated as contra-band, may now retire to digest their mortification with what grace they can. Great Britain will release ships not carrying contraband, and pay damages upon appraisement. Meanwhile it is as true as ever that if she can reduce the Boers in no other way, she will starve them by embargoes at Lorenzo Marques, and also as true as ever that no Continental power will respect this precedent the moment it has a chance to starve England into humiliation.

The things that Mr. Kasson didn't find out about the basis of his reciprocity treaties would make a very voluminous report. It is probable that the senators who parade this oversight so joyously are more concerned for their own future successes than for our diplomatic decency and order, but this does not mitigate Mr. Kasson's grave case of inadvertence. Or is it possible this defect is an afterthought, trumped up to beat the treaty over his complaisant shoulders?

Chicago drainage canal are now disclosed, and must prove not the least Buller to abandon his original plan of of its epoch-making achievements, The time is not far distant when electric currents derived from falling water will be the determining factor in manufacturing competition. Chicago, Minneapolis, Buffalo, Portland and Spokane Falls will gain at the expense of citles that must burn coal at whatever cost

The advance in force on Bloemfontein A lawyer in Oklahoma advised his via Colesburg and Springfontein would client mortgagor to resist the foreclosing mortgagee with force, and the advice was followed with fatal effect. vannah compelled the evacuation of The other day a contest between inley, the division holding the bridge at force-this also upon the advice of the umn moving on Bloemfontein to at least 50,000 men, after providing for profession seems to apprehend "the holding bases and lines of supply, but strenuous life" all right. with General White and 10,000 men

cosped up in Ladysmith, General Bul-ler was compelled to abandon his plan The Oregonian seems to have done an unintentional injustice to Mr. D. L. Lawton, of Medford, in the dispatch of campaign until General White could from Medford, printed January 9, which characterized Mr. Lawton as "a Mitchell-republican leader." The assertion did not come through The Oregonian's regular correspondent at Medford, and for that reason, perhaps, should not

## THE OREGONIAN'S ANNUAL. Thoughtful Tribute to a Worthy

People. Milwaukee Evening Wisconsir

Westward the star of empire takes its way. It would be difficult to imagine a nore exquisitely artistic and wholly satisfactory example of newspaper half-tone Hlustration than the album which ac-Now 2638,000,000, Against 2900,000,companies the annual number of The Portland Oregonian. The plates were made in the office of The Oregonian, and The national debt of Great Britain on March 31, 1898, the latest date for which the printing, executed in Portland, is exact statistics are available, amounted equal to anything that could have been expected had the publication come from the vicinity of the continent's eastern in-£ 585, 787, 634 stend of its western shore. Glorious 40,505,080 8,133,000 3,830,718 Mount Hood and other scenic accessories

The permanent funded debt on the date of Oregon's metropolis and pictured postillustration that acts upon the imagina-1522 658,360 4,647,222 flon like a view of Wongeriand. al,855,171 11,035,100 mining camps, the calle and sheep 12,000,000 ranches, and the cosy homes of the Ore-The increase of the national debt by the new issue of consols, said to be in con-templation, will check the process of pay-stimulate the imagination of an artist as

\$1,327,600. In 1879 her population was 90,-Since 1816 the reduction of the debt has 000: it is now 625,000. The products of been going on steadily, but not rapidly, until recent years. At the accession of Queen Victoria in 1837 the gross amount of the debt was £761.422.570, and in the was decreased by £122.156.088. manufactures were worth \$56,000,000, in-cluded in which was the lumber cut, representing \$8,000,000; the product of the fisheries was \$2,400,000, and Portland's foreign ommerce was \$9,130,000. Statistics like these speak louder than rhetorical gener-

alizations. The first copy of The Portland Oregon ian bore date of December 4, 1850. It is an instructive fact that the people who, under God, have wrought Oregon's marvelous progress are a people who aven

in their pioneer stage read newspapers. The newspaper is one of the causes as well as one of the accompaniments of American progress.

## Correct on the Century's End.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) Herald. The Morning Oregonian, of Portland, Or., which is one of the strongest and most influential papers of the Northwest, begins the new year with an annual number for 1900, a splendid production, containing 36 pages, which is a credit both in mechanical and literary work to the paper and to the state. Besides the usual amount of news, the number contains a The Record, of Philadelphia, says that review of the wonderful progress which the number of new railway cars built in this country last year, exclusive of cars Oregon has made and the great activity constructed by the railroad companies in every line of industry which has made

## NOTE AND COMMENT.

Senator Clark has doubtless discovered that he was elected to a very high office.

The author of "Beautiful Snow" has escaped with very little exectation this year.

Anyway, the prisoners at Ladysmith ion't have to read any of Alfred Austin's poetry.

-0-There may be a pleasure in the pathless oods, but the fellow who is lost in them

lever finds It. 

It is singular that so many of the women the have sensational adventures in various parts of the world hall from San Francisco.

If a committee of congressmen is to be sent to the Philippines, it should consist entirely of antia. The others are needed to make laws.

Great Britain would probably be more grateful to the United States if the openoor polley had been inaugurated in Ladymith instead of in China.

Young men who've failed to get ahead Have no real cause for fear; They'll get a head quite rapidly By drinking wine and beer.

-5-While the antis are passing resolutions of sympathy with Aguinaldo, they ought o pass a few for that downtrodden and ppressed patriot, Matthew S. Quay,

A French count says that France will e a monarchy again. If this man's affairs are looked into, it will probably ha fiscovered that he has been mentioned as prominent candidate for king.

"You don't need to get so hot," said he cook.

"I guess you'd get hot," replied the fire, 'if you were not allowed to go out all winter."

#### 

The following original poem was writen by Aguinaldo and found among effects of his which were recently captured: I want to be an angel,

And with the angels stand, For then I'd have two big strong wings

And fly to beat the band. 

The fact that Portland is without an artificial limb factory is the cause of a large amount of money of the Northwest seeking San Francisco and the Eastern cities. Persons from the interior are frequently seen in Portland hotels on their way to some distant city to purchase adjustable artificial limbs, which they would be glad to buy here. These people express surprise that a large city, with all the Northwest to draw from, should have been without one of these industries so long. Accidents are continually happening in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Monana, British Columbia and Alaska which ecessitate the use of wooden artificial imbs, costing from \$100 to \$200 each, and scople who have thus been crippled for life are obliged to go to Chicago, and even to New York, to purchase what they

would gladly have bought at home. -----

Too many Portland men are accumulating a bad habit of converting the rear ends of street-cars into smoking saloons and stand-up conversation parlors. Most of them do not realize that they have made a very gradual growth toward each other and considerably increased the length of their waistbands, and they forget that when they face each other on the car platform the space a few feet below their faces is narrowed down in the danger point for other passenger: who may want to enter or depart. And the conductor taking fares at the front interior cannot see the steps or tell whether he is letting on one passenger or three, or ringing to start up when women half off the

steps, and are thus being placed in daily

danger. Men who ride on the rear plat-

form should be careful about accumulat-

in this line. She introduced the admir-

able metric system, which by sheer force

of merit is slowly fighting down preju-

dice and introducing itself all over the

world. Just why she makes a deviation

from this rule of measures in favor of

time, and replaces a cumbrous and un-

wieldy system by one still more cumbrous

and unwieldy, is not clear, but it is "dead"

French, and the rest of the world will

Soldiers who served in Luzon say that

the following general order from General

eged cases of bribe-taking, of the accept-

ance of gifts from inferiors, and of like

misconduct, by persons holding positions

in the military or civil service, have of

late been brought to the attention of these

headquarters. It is reported that passes

are obtained and transforred for a money

consideration; that compensation is made

for the transportation of persons and

things on public conveyances or convey-

ances controlled by the public, to officials

unauthorized to receive it, and for their

own benefit; and that contributions are

solicited, if not exacted, any at any rate

received, from subordinates for the pur-

chase of presents to superiors. The com-

manding general is constrained to the be-

lief that these reports, which are in the

nature of general complaints, and do not

relate to specific offenses, have a more

or less substantial foundation. The evil,

corrupting and far-reaching in its effects,

Otis has been issued none too soon:

have to let it go at that.

ing too much flesh.

# (Real of the local division of the local div The water power possibilities of the

of transportation.

coming and outgoing officials in San Francisco was settled through appeal to incoming official's lawyer. The legal

 
 2% per cent connols
 £532,688,350

 2% per cent, 1905
 4,647,222

 2% per cent
 31,685,111

 Bank of England debt
 11,015,160

 Bank of Ireland debt
 2,530,769

 Bond debt, 2% per cent
 12,000,000
ing off the government obligations, which has been going on for many years so steadily and successfully as to justify the following statement in Whitaker's Alma-nack for 1859:

GREAT BRITAIN'S DEBT.

000 in 1816.

to £638,266,482, divided as follows:

(a) Permanent ......£ (b) Annuilles 2 The unfunded debt...... 3. Other capital liabilities.....

The funded debt-

empire.

nack for 1899: "The mational debt took many years to reach the gigantic proportions which it assumed under the regency of George IV, and any serious reduction was regarded as almost hopeless, but it has been so vigorously and so successfully attacked during the past 25 years that it bids fair would inspire a sculptor by its massive during the past 25 years that it bids fair to be all but extinguished within a rea-sonable limit of time. Even so late as 1883 the funded debt stood at £113,000,000 It is now less than £356,000,000, and within the next 20 years, at the present rate of shrinkags, will be nearly £200,000,000 less." The debt reached its highest proportions in 1816, when it exceeded £266,000,000, near-ily all of which had been expended in for-figm wars within a comparatively brief period. At the accession of George III, the debt was under £140,000,000, and in the first 12 years of his reign it was re-duced £10,000,000. The costly and unsuc-cessful resistance of the American Ravo-lution added £120,000,000 to the debt, and after this came the series of Continental

lution added £121,000,000 to the dobt, and own dashings." The region of the Ore-wars, from the outbreak of the French Revolution, in 1755, until the exile of Na-poleon, at St. Helena, in 1815. During these 23 years of war, money was bor-rowed in the most extravagant manner, rowad in the most extravagant manner. and the government securities greatly de-preclated. From 1793 to 1801 the average price of £100 3 per cent stock was £57 public education were £184,009; in 1890. 17s 6d.

Condition in the Boer States.

Consul-General Stowe, at Cape Town, says that Johannesburg in the Transvaal, and Bloemfontein, in the Free State, are to all intents and purposes deserted

cities Johanneaburg, the largest commercial center in South Africa, has, so far as trade is con-cerned, ceased to exist. This once busy, bustling city, producing monthly over 15 tons of gold and yearly \$90,000,000 worth, is ellent. Up to this time goods have reached the Trans-vaal via Delagoa bay, but it is not supposed that they will long be permitted to enter. The two republics must then live on their own re-sources. Their crops are ready for the sickle, but cannot be cut, as the men are off to the

war. The excdus of outlanders from the South African Republic and Orange Free State has, I believe, been unprecedented in history. Many of these people-the mining population, the bone and sinew of the country-bave scattered over the world. Numbers of them, too poor to get out of the country, are subjects of charity in the cities of Cape Colony and Natal and have to be fed.

Enormous Business Expansion.

plied the government with money for prosecution of the war was a robber. The government, however, was very glad to get this money, and so was the soldier; and the low rate to which the eredit of the country had fallen when the lenders parted with their money showed how slight was deemed the chance of ever getting it back. The country got its money as cheap as it could and bought its supplies as cheap as it could, and hired its soldiers as chenp as it could. To the patriotism of its soldiers it owes great things, but it is a debt which it does not undertake to discharge with money, nor does it grant pensions on that basis.

Still another audacity of this letter is the cool assumption that the money paid for pensions "scatters plenty" over a smilling land, and "nobody feels it except as a benefit." Of course, it is no concern to Dr. Blackburn how the money is obtained. He views it from the standpoint of the man who has no financial or business responsibilities. To such as he, money "comes by na ture." Nobody has to tofi for it, and the greater the public expenditures the greater the "benefits."

There is not a question that the pen sions paid by the United States ought to be liberal and large. There are soldiars who ought to have pensions, yet have none. But there are many more persons not in need, men who have large or considerable incomes from professions or from property, men, and wamen, too, who are wealthy or well to-do-who draw pensions, some of them large. The "widow" abuse is also very gneat. Se also of the "minor children" abuse, in the case of those who have estates. There are, moreover, on the pension rolls the names of thousands whose terms of enlistment were very short, and who never saw servicepecially so towards the close of the

These are the bases of criticism upor the pension system of the United States. They are just. It is the business, as certainly it is the right, of the oltizen to discriminate between a system that the whole country cheerfully supports, and the abuses of it, that only men like Dr. Blackburn have the hardibood to defend.

It remains a pity that a man of Dr. Blackburn's pretensions cannot see the immorality of his presentation of the subject. It is not the money; it is the debauchment of the moral sense of the country to which such statements contribute, that gives most concern. How far it has gone, such a letter from such a source gives proof sad enough.

It is interesting that the reduction in Multnomah county's assessed valuation fails even yet to bring the county's such, prudence in former years de-state taxes down to the average ratio manded that they should be so kept. as compared with population. While the county has, according to the cen- by naval authorities, that there is no sus of 1895, only 25.6 per cent of the population, it is to pay this year 26.3 that were based upon mutual distruct per cent of the taxes. The figures are between the two nations. In this view \$199,456, out of \$757,782. As Multhomsh the joint high commission consented is above the general average, other

BUILDING WARSHIPS ON THE LAKES not likely that the readjustment of the

military chessboard will be complete The statement made by Secretary Long in his annual report that an effort had recently been made by the arrived. In the meantime, if any fur-United States looking to the abolishther "accidents" should befall Buller, or ment of the agreement between this Gatacre, or French, or Methuen, the recountry and Great Britain which prohibits the building of warships on the Great Lakes, seems to have escaped powerless to cure at once a lamentable general attention. At least, very little military situation that he did not crepublic comment has been made on the ate. Lord Roberts must feel today like matter. The agreement to which refa doctor of ability called to the bederence is made was entered into at a side of a patient, or rather victim, of time when there was mutual distrust between this country and England, and wanted rather than a physician. when there were practically no shipyards on any of the Great Lakes. It is held that it has worked consider Market quotations in papers of East

ern Oregon afford food not only for able hardship in recent years to a num ber of firms that have since developed thought, but for action by farmers. and that by its terms have been shut Wheat at points on or near the railout from bidding on government conroads is worth three-fifths to threetracts-they being outside of the pale quarters of a cent per pound; but other of the law so far as the construction products command prices that would seem to be highly remunerative. Potaof warships is concerned. According to this agreement we can

toes are quoted at four-fifths of a cent only maintain revenue cutters of a cerper pound in large lots, and higher in tain size on the Lakes, and no vessel small quantities; apples and pears range from 2 to 3 cents per pound; of war can be built upon or brought to these waters. In other words, the cabbage brings 2 cents or more per pound by the hundred-weight, and in Great Lakes are neutral waters, and as some instances reaches the 3-cent

mark: rutabagas and carrots are more It is belleved, however, and so asserted variable, but often are listed at a rate above potatoes. It certainly is not a wise diversification of agriculture that longer any necessity for precautions permits farmers to raise wheat at three-fifths of a cent per pound in competition with the cheap lands and cheap county's propertion of taxes to people to terminate the agreement and permit labor of the world, when cabbage war vessels to be built on the Lakes, brings four times as much; and while counties must make it up in corre- with certain restrictions, that were the market is somewhat limited, a

have been credited

The return Stewart is to make for his acceptance in the republican caucus is certainly not explained by his speech against the reform bill. Perhaps the reward is in his readiness to speak, while other obstructionists coolly profess they have no desire for delay and vet refuse to speak. Beside such shameless effrontery honest old Bill's promptness becomes a conspicuous virtue.

Federal interference in Kentucky is weapon the administration will do well to touch very gingerly, and McKinley is just about cute enough to know it It is hardly worth while, even to please Bradley, to throw out of the window every electoral vote south of the Ohio river and the Pennsylvania line.

English newspapers believe that the garrison of Ladysmith, if reduced to extremity, will be able to cut its way out. But they are less confident about the garrisons of Kimberley and Mafeking.

France will make no demonstration against England this year. Even her diplomacy will be smooth. France has the interests of her great exposition to conserve.

## The Datch Gambit, Rutland (VI.) Herald.

There are, however, some points that appear as plain now as they will 20 years hence. The Boers, in the first place, do will take considerable time, and it is not fight as the dervishes of the deser-or the Zulus or the Arghans do. Their manuevers show up-to-date knowledge of before the first of February, when at warfare. They have, moreover, developed least 30,000 reinforcements will have a mobility rarely seen even in Europe, and they manage a line of battle radically different from what we have been accus-tomed to see. And it is probable that their plan of battle has in the main been loped as a return play to the British ck. In other words, they mobilize sponsibility for them cannot rest on Lord Roberts, who for the present is attack. their brains as readily as their regiments and battalions. Now, the British in nearly every battle have been strikingly weak in their scouting. They seem bent on dealing hot blows on the enemy's center. They secure their flank as best they may, a quack, at a time when a priest is open fire with their artillary on the Boer center, and when the enemy's guns are silenced the British charge, under the

rotection of their artillery, which ring when there is danger of hitting the British advance line.

Given such a plan of attack, the Boers, if their forces are numerically equal to it, have a complete answer. They in bave a complete answer. They in a first place have two and sometimes three lines, one back of the other. The moment that the British artillery opens on their center, the Boers undoubtedly prepare to fall back on the center of the second line and perform a double fiank movement. The center, as the Dutch look upon it, becomes practically useless except to draw the British into it. A strong second line center and strong first line flanks explain the terrible cross fires to which the British have so often been sub jected in battles of this war. This shows how the Boers have been able to take so many British prisoners. They open their line of battle like the mouth of a huge monster and close in on the British. A thess player would call it a Dutch gan bit, and it can be successfully played only so long as the British are stupid enough to rush into a center that is all but surrounded by an arsenal handled by fighting men.

The maneuver of the Dutch in retiring

were freight cars, and yet there was hard ly a line of road which had sufficient cars to move the freight offered. The increase in business was something unprecedented. and still the impression thrown off was that the year's work was but the beginning of vastly more future work. Our country eems only just beginning its real business expansion.

## Monstrous Fraud Somewhere.

Pension statistics "make so glaring an exhibit of monstrous fraud somewhere in the pension system that it seems astonish ing any public man should dare to stand for its defense," says the Buffalo Express (rep.). "Instead of bills further to increase expenditures, congress should page an ac ordering the director of the census to make another count of the surviving veterans this year, and to make it complete and accurate as possible."

It's Sole Defect.

Brooklyn Life. Scholar-Professor, your mnemonic sys-tem is wonderful, and I am sure that any one, after mastering the rules, can learn to remember anything. But I am handlcapped by one difficulty Professor-What is that? Scholar-I can't remember the rules.

## Always Ready.

New York Weekly. Caller-We are trying to raise a little Average man-All right. Just get hal Just get half a foren theatrical companies to give a ten-follar combination benefit performance for one dollar and a half, and I'll go.

One Woman's Wisdom.

Chicago News. Mrs. Diggs-How is it you are so suc Mrs. Biggs-Oh, I simply feed him well and trust to luck.

## Chicago's New Spell.

Chicago News. Fonetic speling will hereafter rule in the fishul publicashuns ov Chicago university

#### Had a Varlety.

New York Weekly. Friend-Hello, Jinks, how is your cold? Jinks (hoarsely)-Which one?

Wanted-A Mumle,

You may talk of your Caesars and Nebuchad of your Plinys and Plutos and men of re-

nown. But your Homers and Platos are all small po-tatoes

Compared with a man whom we have in our lishers are to congratulated on the extown. cellance of this special edition of their

He is smarter than blazes, and his check doth paper. aminger us.

- And the strength of his lungs no power can exceed;
- For he roars like a lion when ha's abouting for
- Bryan, And his tongue is continually going to seed.
- And when the truth he has told till its rusty and old.
- This man is a pest; for he gives us no rest;
- He bores us with politics, science and law; A reward will be offered for the first thing
- That will stop this curmudgeon's nelsy old

Hubbard, Or., January 12.

themselves, was 123,895. Of these 117,982 the past year one of the most prosperous in the history of the state. But especially interesting is the progress which has been made in The Oregonian itself since the first number was issued 50 years ago, and which is very apparent from the description of the paper as it was then and the appearance of the present number.

France has adopted the 24-hour clock as her official timelseeper. Her depots The annual number is accompanied by will now bristle with cards announcing an excellent supplement, made up of fine engravings of the state's industries, promthe leaving time of the 23:01 Paris express, and the arriving of the 21:08 Rennes nent men and places of interest, the whole forming a valuable memento. This mail. Her people, however, will never annual of The Oregonian, the last to be be able to eatch any of those trains, for published in the 19th century, is one of the reason that, while they are counting the best of its kind, and is indicative of the strokes of the clock to learn the hour, a high standard of newspaper work to be the trains will have come and gone maintained throughout the year. France once did a great and wise thing

> Cause and Effect. Chicago Freis Presse.

Die neujahrsnummer bes Morning Dregonian" in Portland, Dre., ift eine journaliftifche Glang= leiftung. Die illuftrirte Beilage ents hält über 500 vorzüglich ausgeführte Bilber, Szenen aus ben Bergs undRits ftengegenden Dregon's fomie ber bes beutenbften Induffrieanlagen ber Pa+ cificfufte. Der "Dregonian" ift bie einflugreichfte Beitung ber nörblichen Pacificftaaten und bat in Dregon, Dafhington, 3baho, bem wefllichen Montona und Britifc Columbia anble reiche Lefer. Das Blatt ficht unter energifcher und fabiger Leitung, movon bie impofante neujahranummer wieber einen Beweis ablent.

Exhaustive Record of Progress. Indianapolis Sentinel

The New Year's issue of The Portland Oregonian is a mammoth affair. The illustrated supplement appeals to the special interest of those who are interested in the progress of the country. It contains over 500 flustrations, all printed on the finest quality of enameled paper. The views embrace all the noted scenic attractions of Oregon, and they cover every important industry of the Pacific Northwest.

Subject for Congratulation. Buffalo Express.

appears to have reached a stage which The Express is in receipt of a special renders its suppresaion with a strong annual number of The Portland Oregonhand imperative."

ian, which has, among other interesting features, a supplement containing 500 il-The Lay of the Kaffirgram. lustrations of noted scenic attractions of me not about Marconi, and his wireles Oregon and all of the important industelegraph; He's a mud-stalled, one-horse chalase comtries of the Pacific Northwest. The pub-

pared to me! pared to me! The way 1 trek from Ladysmith, from Bose and British staff,

Tommy Atkins stops his fighting just to see.

The cables may be rusted The land wires down and busted. that ne'er cuts the current on my lins; I kill Piet Joubert daily, Or spin you off quite garly

sorry, gory story, extra fine!

Would you like to have a mortle out of Minn-

berley, by horse Or infantry, with bay'nits dripping gore? I can bring you in all details, names, and num-

ber of the force,

With haroles such as never were before.

'm the Correspondent's safety-valve, without

me he'd explode! He marks his message "Rush," and off I go Skedaddling over kopje, over rand and veidt

and road. And give the merry ha-ha to our fool --Edgar W. Townsend in Harper's Weekly.

Northwest, has just issued an annual trade edition that makes a wonderful showing for the city of Portland and the state of Oregon. A specimen number is on our table, and it reflects great credit upon The Oregonian's enterprise. Don't.

Partisan, Say You? Oh. Ho! Ha!

Corning Journal. Do not let a quick-tempered person stand between you and a powder magazine; you might get singed.

Burlington (Ia.) Democrat-Journal. The Portland Oregonian, a newspaper that is noted chiefly for being the most partisan republican organ in the Pacific He is versed in toxicology, he is good in phraseology: His learning's encompassed alone by the skies. He rings in a change with abominable lines. that's proffered

jaw. -George Williams.