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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Rain; probably cooler by Friday night or Saturday; high equally south to west winds.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21.

An article on the codification of Oregon statutes, printed yesterday, from the Bancroft-Whitney Company, while obviously in aid of private designs, is interesting as showing the Oregon practice relative to codes, as distinguished from the methods of those few states which have undertaken compilations under state auspices.

Montana and California have been maintaining for years very costly commissions with very little practical results. The California idea seems to be that the state should do this work itself from fear that a publishing-house might make something at it. Experience has shown, however, that when such undertakings are honestly pursued under contract, the public rights being safeguarded and a living profit assured, the publishers, the results are more satisfactory in every way.

The work is well done, the state saves money, and the publishers and printers, who are not such enemies of the state as populism is apt to regard them, receive the due reward of industry and enterprise. The printing of the Bancroft-Whitney code will be done in Portland. The compilation is by Judge Bellinger, who will sustain the public rights by the Deady and Hill codes. This is the business-like way to do this work, and if the San Francisco publishers and the Portland printers make a profit on the undertaking, so much the better. It is a strange hallucination some men cherish, that one end of popular government is to prevent business from being profitable. The idea has an inordinate share in much criticism of school-book publishers.

Reporters of The Oregonian have obtained expressions of opinion which appear elsewhere, on the subject of our vice and crime conditions in Portland. There is no reason why this matter should not have earnest and thorough public investigation, so long as it is conducted honestly and not in aid of political shysters, and to that end The Oregonian is willing to co-operate. It is universally true that parties to the contrary desire not so much the exact facts as justification for their own theories; but the contending efforts tend to offset and correct each other, so that the truth is pretty sure to come to light. In amplification or delimitation of what was said on this subject yesterday, it should be further pointed out that while liquor-selling without a license and gambling are crimes in the statutory sense of the word, they are not crimes in the full sense of the word as it is used of crimes like those of the highway. That is, they are not felonies, but misdemeanors. They are punishable by fine, but not by imprisonment in the Penitentiary. As to the extent of both vice and crime in Portland, and the merits of administration measures now in vogue, as compared with others, past or ideal, an investigation conducted by mass meeting or committee is highly proper, and The Oregonian will co-operate in it within the proper newspaper function. On the whole, considering the charges made by Dr. Hill, perhaps such an investigation should be conducted by the various officials interested. The call for the meeting, if one is made, or the programme of the committee, if one is appointed, should include testimony from the interested officials, from representatives of the gambling fraternity, and from heavy taxpayers. An investigation that doesn't bring out all the facts would be a fraud and an injustice.

That ancient pitfall of logic—confusion of terms—is evidently at the bottom of much of our trouble over the dependencies and the Constitution. By the United States we may mean either one of two separate things—the states alone or the whole American empire, from Porto Rico to Manila, and from Alaska to the Guano Islands. We have no specific name for the original thirteen states, such as Great Britain has for England or Germany for Prussia. In one sense, Hawaii and Alaska and the District of Columbia are part of the United States, and in another sense they are not. Our sovereignty extends over them, but they are very far from enjoying the rights belonging to citizens of the states of the Union, such as participation in choice of President or votes in Congress. It would be unreasonable to expect that in all our written authorities, including the Constitution, this distinction should always be kept in mind. Sometimes, as in the inhibition of slavery "within the United States or any place subject to its jurisdiction," it is observed, sometimes, as in Martin's decision, quoted by Justice Harlan on Wednesday, it is ignored.

When the Constitution says "all duties, imposts and excises shall be" uniform throughout the United States, we are in doubt whether the rule is for the Union proper or for all outlying unorganized territory that may fall under our sovereignty; but when it says Congress shall have power to dispose of and make rules for "the territory or other property belonging to the United States," we can readily understand that the "territory" is alluded to in differentiated from the Union proper. When it says "all persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside," we may with assurance infer that no dictum is pronounced as to the status of persons in acquired territory, neither born nor naturalized in any state, and not residing in any state; and that Congress may lawfully make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting free exercise thereof; we feel that the mandate is for the territories as well as the (United States).

As to the decision of the Supreme Court in the present cases, a division of opinion is to be expected, not only from the questions Justice has asked, but from the fact that the conflicting appellations in the case will inevitably appeal to different minds with varying degrees of force. Otherwise, we should need only one man on the Supreme Bench. It would be very easy for Justice Harlan, for example, to dismiss the extensions of the Constitution to the territories by saying that the case of Oklahoma disproves their uniformity and conclusiveness, or for Justice Brewer to deny the function of Congress to extend such laws because we cannot suppose the right of their withdrawal. The income-tax decisions show us the possibility of variant conclusions from identical facts. In general, the consideration of the Government's necessity and the dependencies' welfare, which will weigh heavily with practical statesmanship, will count for little with that type of mind that loves to trample on public policy for the sake of technical precision. It takes a great mind, usually, to rise above the letter to the spirit of the law; and if the Supreme Court rises to the level it will rule that while the Constitution is framed for the states, and while its mandate is inconclusive when sought to be applied to issues never contemplated by its framers, what is needed in this perplexity is a resort to common sense and to the sustentation of the Government in its necessary course of doing what is right and best for these new possessions of the Nation. We think the Supreme Court will render a majority opinion against the Porto Rico and Philippine plaintiffs; that it will hold against the state that it will hold against the state, and will have the power to make rules and regulations for the fiscal administration of the dependencies other than those in force in the states of the Union. This is the preponderance of the argument, and this is common sense. Then it is for Congress to do its duty by the dependencies, and treat them justly and fairly. Congress itself, and not the Supreme Court, is the proper source of justice to the Philippines and of atonement for the Porto Rico inquiry.

Football is one of the healthiest of sports when guided by moderation. It develops the best in youth, energy, strength, quickness, self-control and self-confidence. Young men who have played it are better equipped for the world, both mentally and physically. It exercises the faculties of cool-headedness in emergency, and of knowing what to do on the instant. Contrast the man who plays with those who are not, and the former will appear to advantage as self-reliant, resolute, aggressive and even-temper. As a character-builder, the sport has no superior in athletics. The model football athlete does not shrink and cringe, but forges a place for himself and makes others feel his presence. He is never timid or painfully diffident, and in his unlike many a young man, otherwise worthy, who does not have the reliance that belongs to an athlete. Some content the game because of apparent waste of energy, others because it is rough. But modern conditions require a substitute for the luxuries of the ax and the buck-saw. Health calls for exercise, and none of us would prefer that the youth be so spiritless as to be satisfied with dumb-bells and Indian clubs. If young men gain physically, their energy is not lost. The game may be rough, but if it were gentle it would not be athletics, nor would the youth be satisfied with it. Football that is a means and not an end in itself is admirable. An object is itself is demerit. Our colleges recognize this and make mental development the object and athletics the means. With this purpose they hedge the sport within certain hours and seasons. They allow the play of football for a month or two in the year in order to establish health for study. They have found that by this method students attain better results. The University of Oregon has tried the experiment and demonstrated the efficiency of the system. But recently, when the students wanted to prolong the season of football into December, the faculty very properly withheld sanction. The action was wise, and advocates of higher education approve it.

WITH COMMENDABLE PROMPTNESS.

The people of Clatsop County, Washington, are to be congratulated on the prompt action of the civil authorities in the trial and conviction, at Kalama, of Martin Stickle, the cowardly murderer of William B. Shanklin and Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Knapp. The first murder was committed more than a year ago, but the murderer was not apprehended until after the killing of Knapp and Mrs. Knapp, on the 28th of November—less than a month ago. His trial and conviction of the first crime represents justice in its sternest and at the same time its most merciful character. What the community desires is to get rid of a villain of this type as promptly as is consistent with a fair hearing before the courts. Justice is very likely to be balked, and mercy is severely strained by unseemly delay in dealing with such a criminal. The Clatsop County One can but sympathize, in a way, with the wretched mother in this case, who, obeying a maternal instinct, at once strong and unreasoning, endeavored to save the life of her son from the operation of just penalty, by trying to imitate herself in the crime through having given birth to a child whom she had, wittingly or otherwise, endowed with criminal propensities. If (which is probable) Stickle was a defecator, or, as the poor mother puts it, "born sick and always an un-natural child," there is not the less reason from this showing that his life should be prolonged, but rather the more that it should be brought to a close by due legal process. A statement like that of this mother, if it proves anything, proves altogether too much. A man without moral sense, wholly without humanity; governed in the commission of murder by the most cowardly of motives, and using the most cowardly of methods, is an enemy to life and to society of too subtle, implacable and dangerous a type to be allowed to live, even in prison, after he has once been taken, red-handed, and confronted by indubitable evidence of his power for evil.

It will be in line with the good work already done by the court in this case if the date of this murderer's execution is not deferred beyond the minimum time prescribed by law—thirty days from the passing of sentence. To prolong his life to the maximum limit of ninety days would be to inflict unnecessary torture upon his mother and shadow the final event with prolonged terror for himself, both of which are to be deprecated as contrary to the purpose of the law and the simple dictates of justice. Nothing can be gained by a continuation of the life of a criminal in prison under such conditions, and the quicker, within reasonable limits, that the drop falls and the final scene is ended, the better for all concerned, including the immediate public whose attention has been called to the case.

REFORMS UP-HILL ROAD.

The changes made by the Senate committee on military affairs in the Army reorganization bill are very important, because none of them effect anything in respect of Army reform. The Senate bill leaves the door open to political pull in the matter of appointments. Under the House bill, staff vacancies can be filled up with volunteers and sons of politicians, and we do not see that the Senate bill makes this any less easy than the House bill. The President is authorized to appoint volunteers to each and every one of the staff departments. The House military committee erased Secretary Root's provision that volunteers should be appointed only to Second Lieutenancies in the regulars, and substituted authority for the President to appoint them to any grade he may choose. This change, if finally enacted, would do the regular officers very great injustice who have given the best of their years to the service and naturally look forward to the promotion which is their due. If the Army bill passes in its present shape, without the provisions authorizing the Secretary of War to prescribe regulations as to the fitness of volunteers and civilians appointed to the service, Secretary Root will be unable to prevent the appointment of utterly unfit officers whom the President may select at the prompting of any Senator or Representative.

So far as the Army bill stands today, it seems to be contrived by both the House and the Senate that the Army shall be a carcass henceforth around which the turkey vultures of the nation shall gather. If the Army bill should pass in its present shape, the son of the chairman of the House military committee, an assistant Judge-Advocate-General since 1888, could be transferred to the regular Army staff with the same rank, taking place after two regular officers who served thirty-one years and eighteen years, respectively, before attaining this rank and position. In one respect, and one only, does the Senate work seem to have touched genuine reform, and that is in the amendment relative to promotions. This seems to embody Secretary Root's plan for protection of the line. Promotions are to be made by seniority in the several grades of staff departments, and vacancies are to be filled in that way whenever possible. Staff vacancies, except for Chief of Corps department, must be filled from the line of the Army, and no more permanent appointments are to be made in that department of the corps.

The effect of this regulation would be beneficial, not only in the staff itself, but in its discouragement of spoilsmen generally. It is doubtful, however, whether the amendment will be accepted by the Senate, for the Senate is a far more despotic and exclusive absorber and dispenser of political spoil than the House. The superior length of service of a Senator adds to his consequence and political pull at the departments, and with the Executive, it has been the habit of the Administration to make the Senators the authoritative dispensers of patronage. At a recent dinner party in New York City, when General Francis V. Greene said that he presumed he owed his appointment to Senator Hanna, ex-Secretary Alger, who was present, told General Greene that he owed his appointment to the indorsement of Senators Platt and Dewey; that no appointments were made without their indorsement.

We shall, it is to be feared, get no reform of our Army staff until we become involved in a severe war with a fairly equal foe, and then, when we have suffered costly reverses in the field, due to the lack of a staff trained to its work in both line and staff, as in the German Army, we shall be forced by popular wrath and humiliation to consent to enact Army reform. In England a privileged class protects the staff, under which the British Army broke down in field efficiency in South Africa. At Washington the system of permanent staff appointments has created an "Army staff ring" of long residence and wide Congressional acquaintance. These staff officers are accomplished politicians; are men in the social swim; they pull together. They have been appointed by political influence, and this "Army staff ring," of course, "stand in" with Congressmen who dictate appointments today and desire to dictate them tomorrow. The truth is that the bill which the Army bill has been from the beginning to the end, between Secretary Root, who desires to reform the Army, and the "Army staff ring," at the head of which stands that very able uniformed politician, General Corbin. Secretary Root might beat General Corbin and the "Army staff ring," but he cannot beat the "Army staff ring" and the Congressional spoilsman, too. Congress will give its President the 100,000 men needed. Its superficial organization and efficiency may be something improved, but of the needed reform in the matter of the present senate permanent staff system nothing will be enacted, because spoilsmen in Congress will refuse to part with their spoil under the name and sign of reform.

The Senate military committee have in their substitute for the House Army bill amended the House canteen provisions

son so as to permit the sale of beer. A Congress that insists that not even beer and light wines shall be sold to a soldier on United States territory, but is fairly struck dumb at the proposition that no liquor be sold in the Federal Capitol, is not a Congress whose temperance convictions are very deeply rooted.

Dr. McLean questions that the fact of evolution is established. It probably is established as much as any hypothesis can be. The theory of gravitation may not be true, but it is established. We hypothesize that the sun will rise tomorrow, but we are absolutely sure of it? We hypothesize that the earth is round, but many dispute it. We hypothesize that the sun is greater than the moon, but we may be mistaken. We hypothesize that the earth and man are results of the cosmic process, yet we may err. Dr. McLean quotes Max Müller.

If I think all this rests on well-ascertained facts, I have nothing to say except to express my surprise that some men of great learning and undoubted honesty are not so positive as to state as you are.

The quotation is not pertinent. By "facts" are meant the proofs and evidences of evolution. Men are divided on facts as evidences, but the majority are agreed on the fact of evolution. Logical minds try to separate the end from the means, but the end is a demonstration of the means. So let us distinguish facts of evolution from the fact of evolution. If we want to know how a hypothesis or a theory can be a fact, that is a quibble which would be more entertaining in a more appropriate place.

Speaking of and properly depicting the fact that George Wright Post, G. A. R., has recently been called upon to bury three old soldiers who had died from dissipation in or near a saloon, immediately after receiving the quarterly pension from the Government, Chaplain C. E. Cline, of the Oregon department of the G. A. R., says: "Surely the men who marched under the flag and saved the Union in 1861-65 are deserving of more honorable obituary. That they should have had a more honorable ending is beyond question; that they might have had a more honorable one but for the possibilities of dissipation that lie in a quarterly pension is probable. That they deserved better is not so clear, since any man who will abuse the generosity of the Government by debauching himself upon it can scarcely be said to deserve anything but that which follows as a natural result of his conduct. Such an ending, without the provisions authorizing the Secretary of War to prescribe regulations as to the fitness of volunteers and civilians appointed to the service, Secretary Root will be unable to prevent the appointment of utterly unfit officers whom the President may select at the prompting of any Senator or Representative.

A gratifying growth of the poultry industry in the Willamette Valley is shown in the Corvallis poultry exhibit now being held. The advance of this industry has been, it seems, "beyond the expectation of the fanciers," and nothing shall gather. If the Army bill should pass in its present shape, the son of the chairman of the House military committee, an assistant Judge-Advocate-General since 1888, could be transferred to the regular Army staff with the same rank, taking place after two regular officers who served thirty-one years and eighteen years, respectively, before attaining this rank and position. In one respect, and one only, does the Senate work seem to have touched genuine reform, and that is in the amendment relative to promotions. This seems to embody Secretary Root's plan for protection of the line. Promotions are to be made by seniority in the several grades of staff departments, and vacancies are to be filled in that way whenever possible. Staff vacancies, except for Chief of Corps department, must be filled from the line of the Army, and no more permanent appointments are to be made in that department of the corps.

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Science and evolution do not hazard Christianity, only some men's conceits. If these men cannot understand how the world will get past their crotchets, let them return to earth after 100 years.

The Manufacturers' Association has done good work in bringing a shoe factory to Portland. The field is wide, and the new enterprise is entitled to hope for a full measure of success.

Lane and Washington Counties are the latest to commit the heinous crime of assessment reduction. Surely Multnomah is not so wicked as alleged.

Chairman Jones will resign. The second step in reorganization. Defeat of Bryan was the first.

New York's \$25,000,000 Underground Road.

Widespread interest is manifested in the construction, just begun, of the great underground transportation artery in New York City, which is expected to be completed in the course of three or four years, and which will furnish a method for reaching suburban homes to the millions in the congested parts of the great metropolis. The serious engineering obstacles which have retarded the progress of the enterprise are clearly revealed by the first flash-light photographs taken since the work of construction has begun, and which appear in connection with a very lucid explanatory article by H. Irving Hancock in the current issue of Leslie's Weekly. Another illustrated article of unusual interest describes the breaking of the ice in the Hudson river by the German Army in China by cowboys in California. It is said that Germany will expend over \$50,000,000 in the United States in the purchase of mules and horses for its Army. The Rev. Dr. J. W. Phelps, who has just returned from South Africa, contributes the leading editorial, and portrays "the destiny of South Africa" in an

entertaining and instructive fashion. The country pages of illustrated personals, a page of Paris Exposition pictures in the amateur photographic contest, the opening of Cuba's constitutional convention at Havana, and eight pages of stories, news and light reading, and a host of money makers, reviews of foreign topics and other subjects of interest make up an issue of 24 pages, embracing as much news as is usually found in any of our best magazines. All newspapers sell Leslie's Weekly and it should be found on the library table of every family.

DECLINE OF THE SYNAGOGUE.

Conditions of Attendance Are Peculiarly Hard. Kansas City Star.

The complaint that formal religion, at least, is losing its hold on the community is not confined to Christian ministers of the gospel. The same tendency is spoken of by the exponents of Judaism. Zangwill recognizes it in the characters of David and Ben-Haim in his "Children of the Ghetto." Neither of them believes in the need of observing the Mosaic law. Hannah does so to please her mother, the rabbi, and is willing to follow it for the sake until it comes between him and his heart's desire. Dr. Hirsch, of Chicago, discusses the question from the standpoint of the rabbi, and says that Judaism has largely shrunk into a memory and stands for nothing vital. The synagogue, he finds, has everywhere lost influence among its own members. This is not outwardly manifested in the fact that buildings have been erected without stint. Indeed, Dr. Hirsch believes his people have been almost too ambitious to give up a synagogue building, and that among the church edifices of the land, the synagogue may be well attested and his contributions may be large, but the tenacity of the people in their refusal to give their support by proxy.

A woman contributor to the Reform Advocate takes the same view. "Whether our rabbis like it or not," she says, "the outlook for any Jew in the pew is not promising." Saturday is no longer generally observed. The day when the provisions of the law of the Jews were carried out, the sabbath was given, by even some of the orthodox Jews. The rule prohibiting the kindling of fire from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday—the Sabbath—has become almost a dead letter. The Reform Advocate writes in the Reform Advocate, "and the boys who are faithful believers in the Jewish religion, and who on Friday night—that expresses the Judaism of the family."

Dr. Hirsch accents in part for this decline of ancient faith by the necessity which has prevailed in a large proportion of his people from observing Saturday as the Sabbath. "On Saturday," he says, "the majority cannot attend the synagogue on Sunday than the majority of people who attend on Sunday services. In his opinion, would have been much more successful had it been started 'while the yearning for religious and constructive activities was fresh. It was delayed, however, until the religious spirit had suffered the decline 'endangered by years of disregard.'"

It is a significant commentary on the secularizing influences of the time that they should be having a marked effect on a race which has resisted them for thousands of years. No other people has been so long subjected to such bitter persecution and has come through almost unscathed. Under the oppression of heathen Rome and later of the Christian church, the Jews were steadfast to the faith of their fathers. The more subtle tendencies of the present age seem to be accomplishing changes which fire and sword were powerless to effect.

MELODRAMATIC MUSIC.

Gillette's Apology and Some Things He Left Out of It. Chicago Times-Herald.

In a recent number of the Washington Post an editorial dealing with William Gillette in the warms terms of his skill as actor and dramatist. Spectacular reference was made to the simple methods which he makes use of in creating dramatic effects of a striking character, and the writer contrasted this new fashion in melodrama with the noisy and insipid practices so long in vogue, great by the dramatist. The latter, however, but there was one fly in the ointment for this editorial critic, and that the incidental music which is employed at the end of the act and the latter.

But there was one fly in the ointment for this editorial critic, and that the incidental music which is employed at the end of the act and the latter. After expressing a vigorous dissent from this practice of combining musical and dramatic effects in melodrama, the writer concludes with a few lines such a combination of the two continues in this emphatic strain: "Incidental music" has its uses. When the "tragic father" in "Hazel Kirke" screams "Twenty years ago I helped to check Reverent mirth. When Nat Goodwin, playing the part of a society man, endeavors to make himself at home in the role, it serves a very useful purpose in distracting the attention from Mr. Goodwin. And so on. But Mr. Gillette has no place in this gallery. Either he is the prophet of the real, the familiar, the natural, or else he is a "Secret Service" man, with its subterranean refuge, its dark-bordered ruffians, its baffled villain, and its general suggestion of improbability, which is a matter of comparison with "Secret Service," which is backed by the still remembered realities of 1861-6, and which fits into the details of the stupendous tragedy without a hitch. Nevertheless, as characterized by Mr. Gillette, "Secret Service" is far too excellent a picture to be marred by the idle caterwauling of an orchestra.

"Why do you not," he asks, "concentrate on this wanton and undeserved affront?" It is not often, I believe, that Mr. Gillette emerges from the isolation of the stage to argue with those who dissent from his views as actor or dramatist. A broad and tolerant man, he is quite willing to concede the right of opinion to all, but in the present instance he is evidently not so well pleased with the criticism from his view as actor or dramatist. A letter to the Washington editor, a copy of which I am permitted to publish for the benefit of such readers of the Times-Herald as object to incidental music: "Editor Washington Post, Washington, D. C.—My Dear Sir: I am well aware that what is known as incidental music, that is to say, love music during certain portions or scenes of a dramatic performance, needs some excuse, and I beg leave to offer one, which, while it does not excuse, but judgment excuse, will possibly palliate the offense. "That it is an offense I quite agree with you. But I find myself in the world, surrounded and to some extent harassed by conditions. As a matter of fact, how deeply interested or absorbed it may become, is unable to maintain absolute quiet. The individuals composing it must breathe; they must occasionally move or cough, or gasp, or shuffle feet, or rustle programmes, or make other involuntary disturbances. In the performance of my own play I am in the habit of resorting largely to the effects of natural pauses, intervals of silence, or moments when few words are spoken and much mental struggle is supposed to take place. These methods I find especially effective at the most critical junctures. It is precisely at such moments that an intensely absorbed audience will be utterly demoralized by the least individual disturbance in its midst. Now, a low, steady, unobtrusive strain of music seems to prevent such a catastrophe. While it by no means drowns other sounds, it tends, in harmony with the situation on the stage, to keep the attention from being diverted. I therefore resort to it.

"To speak in somewhat plain terms, it is

there is to be a noise during some of especially critical scenes I propose to make it myself and have it somewhat if not entirely harmonize with the matter in hand. "Some people would call this a choice of two evils. I know an idea, and I will step further and intimate that it is choosing the greater. That is not my opinion, however. Yours truly, "WILLIAM GILLETTE."

I think perhaps Mr. Gillette might have taken even broader ground than he has in this interesting letter. If incidental music is a crime or an unfortunate and parasitic growth only to be tolerated as the least evils, why not abolish it, and the sound of stage illusions are reprehensible and should be abolished. The sound of wheels back of the scene, the clamor of music strings, the thud and lightning, the simulation of galloping horses, the drum other absolutely artificial details are no more respectable and certainly not more useful than the creaky music which connotes a whole column of the reporter. One of these things violates good taste and artistic purity all of them, and it is only logical to sweep them away at one and the same time, leaving the householder a free man to utterance without any other aid to his own utterance than a little scenery.

When producing a classic or poetic play Mr. Irving, Mr. Daily and Mr. Macintosh among others have found that suitable music, keyed to the thought of the drama, was a powerful adjunct to the expression, and that which was made and is true of him—made comedy and tragedy cannot be denied with reference to the melodrama or sensational plays of any kind which depend for their effect upon swift illustration. Music, however, the poetry of Wagner are the highest example and proof of the theory that when married to expressive music the words and action become vastly more impressive.

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DIVISION TALK PREMATURE.

Some Good Suggestions for Each Part of the State. Salem Statesman.

The scheme suggested by Hon. John Minto, a few days ago, for the division of Oregon into two states, is receiving considerable attention. The Hon. Minto's production receive, because there is always ability in them, even though their conclusions may not appeal convincingly to our readers. The Hon. Minto's suggestion that will receive most universal assent comes from the Antelope Herald, which concludes an article on the subject in this way:

It is probably a little early for the serious discussion of such a plan, but sooner or later the question will come before the people of the state, and on this side of the mountain the light will be made for division. Yes, it is a little too early; much too early. Let us first unite together—all parts of the state—in securing 300,000 acres of public lands and another 300,000 more wealth into the state; let us unite in securing such action by our own state Legislature as will secure that 1,000,000 acres of arid lands and make of a new irrigative paradise; let us labor for the establishment and perfection of a dairying system throughout the state that will vastly increase its wealth-producing capacity; let us endeavor to encourage the influx of capital to develop our mines, to open our quarries of building stone, to manufacture our fine timber, not simply cut and ship it, but lumber, carry, planes, etc.—to establish factories of every character, and to make realities of what are now but latent possibilities.

Let us unite for an open Upper Columbia River as far as navigation can be made possible; for an open Willamette River for a like distance, and for a canal of 40 feet deep from Portland to the sea; for railroads across Oregon from east to west at three available points in the Cascade Mountains; and for the same things secured the railroads will be easily obtained.

Let every county, and town, and hamlet, and inhabitant thereof, in Oregon, unite along these lines, and we will find the fact that no one part of Oregon can greatly prosper without all the other parts feeling the effect. Eastern Oregon will be benefited by the fact that the Willamette Valley partaking of similar fortune, and the reverse is also true. Eastern Oregon can suggest no means for enhancing its progress, without the fact that the Willamette Valley will not heartily assist in procuring, and when we have succeeded in accomplishing the results enumerated—which the Hon. Minto suggests—let us unite for a few years—two will be the time to talk of making two states out of Oregon; then there will be something worth making a division of; but then with these things accomplished, and with the interests interlocked by chains of extensive trade and commerce, why then—you could not separate the peoples of Oregon by any means, and the result would be the same. Yes, indeed; it is too early to talk of it, and with good sense it will be always too early.

Our Wonderful Fall Weather. Leslie's Weekly.

About a year ago it appears, the leading astronomer of France published an article from which translated extracts appeared in some of the papers of this country. He stated that a greater recurrence of the sun, as it is termed, it was in progress—that is to say, that the combustion of the gases in the sun had become much more active than has been supposed, and that the result was that the sun's heat was being increased. This produced, during the months of January and February last, in the Southern hemisphere, which is the period of their summer, an extraordinary heat, the thermometer actually reaching a maximum of 120 degrees in the shade at Buenos Ayres, and 113 at Sydney. The sun, it is said, was under the same conditions prevailing over the entire zone represented by those points. At Sydney the thermometer registered 108 degrees in the shade for 4 days together.

This year we have had a similar heat in the shade at Buenos Ayres, and 113 at Sydney. The sun, it is said, was under the same conditions prevailing over the entire zone represented by those points. At Sydney the thermometer registered 108 degrees in the shade for 4 days together. This year we have had a similar heat in the shade at Buenos Ayres, and 113 at Sydney. The sun, it is said, was under the same conditions prevailing over the entire zone represented by those points. At Sydney the thermometer registered 108 degrees in the shade for 4 days together.

See in Connecticut. Hartford Times.

The Morning Oregonian, of Portland, Or., the leading newspaper of that state, was 70 years old on December 4, and gave an interesting account of itself on that day. The Oregonian is a Republican paper, but more independent than the average partisan journal. Its editor, Harvey W. Scott, has been with The Oregonian since 1868, and has given it a well-written, readable editorial page. The nine-story building of The Oregonian is one of the most conspicuous buildings of Portland, which is a solid and prosperous city, possessed of the best health and fine commercial prospects.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The raisin growers seem now to be in need of raisin money. People who are particular can skip this.

Professor Frye, the Cuban Superintendent of Schools, is using language which indicates that his name ought to be stew.

If the Boers keep on accumulating British prisoners, they will soon be able to give value received in exchange for Kruger.

"I may be getting along in years," said Santa Claus, "but I am no older than that alleged joke about my Christmas presence."

Count von Waldsee is going to leave China, and he is not likely to be detained by as many farewell receptions as delayed his arrival there.

Sarah Bernhard has confessed to her age. She is playing a male part now, and her divine genius enables her to conceal every feminine trait in her character.

Governor Brady, of Alaska, says that the Eskimos have not been treated fairly. It must be admitted that they have been on the cold outside for a number of years.

If John G. Woolley succeeds in getting the anti-cannibal bill through the Senate, and the liquor dealers do not send him a handsome check, it is because the liquor dealers do not appreciate a good turn.

A bookkeeper who resides in the eastern suburbs has a dog which he depends on to keep burglars away from his house. Having perfect confidence in the watchfulness of his canine, he retires early and sleeps the sleep of the just. The other night his wife, like many other women at this time, was sitting up late working on Christmas presents, when she was greatly alarmed by hearing some one trying the fastenings on the doors and windows. She called to her husband and awakened him, and he came rushing down stairs and out at the front door just in time to see two men escaping over the fence. He was telling a friend about the matter, and the latter inquired what his dog was doing when the burglars were trying to get into the house. "Oh, the dashed dog was asleep," was the reply. "He is deaf and is only good to watch in the day time." His friend remarked that these were times when people who had deaf dogs would get rid of them. A deaf dog is not much better than a cast-from-one would be. Dumb dogs would come in good play some times, as, for example, when their owners leave them shut in their offices over night. One was left in an office in the