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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JAN. 26.

Behind all the maneuverings of the Senatorial campaign at Salem the portentous figure of John H. Mitch-With no ostensible part in the fight, with not a vote in the roll call, his candidacy, nevertheless, forms the backbone of the play. From the first it has been recognized that Mr. Mitchell's election was the most probable outcome should Mr. Corbett's plans miscarry, unless Mr. Mitchell's friends were sincere in their asseverations that he had decided his chances would be better in a fight two years hence with Senator Simon, and that he would now seek to strengthen his fences by assisting to put McBride, Fulton or some other of his friends in at this time. Perhaps it is due to Mr. Mitchell to say that his abilities stand out resplendent in comparison with those of certain others in and out office who need not be named. Yet Mr. Mitchell's election may be an impossibility at this session, for he has to reckon with two powerful sources of antagonism-those who object to him as a man and politician, and those who have been for years in or-

ganized array against him. It is highly probable that there are enough such in the Legislature to prevent his election, except with aid from the Demo crats, whose sympathies are divided between him and Mr. Corbett. Unfortunately for a speedy outcome of the struggle, the Mitchell camp seems to contain about the same proportion of implacables as the Corbett following, The one thing certain is that all members seem resolved not to go home without an election. The atmosphere of the capital is happily divested of the bitter spirit that has been wont to cloud the Legislative sessions; and this is doubtless due in part to the high character of the membership. Men like Colvig, Looney, Stelwer and Booth, however they may differ on policies, are likely to

Mr. T. B. Wilcox and Mr. Charles E. Ladd have waited on the proper committees at Salem, the dispatches say, in opposition to the enabling act for a drydock at Portland. There is no avidrydock in itself, but they should greatly regret seeing a project for one "the people." Yet the fact mains that the Columbia River needs a drydock the worst way, and the onestion remains how we are going to get it unless the community bends itself for the purpose. A drydock can be built in three ways-by the Federal Government, by private enterprise, or by bonding the port. It is useless to recount the antagonism in Congress and in the Navy Department which effectively prevents construction of a Government drydock at Portland. As for private enterprise, a desperate effort has been made in that direction by a local shipbuilding firm, but the effort has come to nothing. It is all well enough to say that the Government, or the O. R. & N., or Wolff & Zwicker, or somebody else, will build the drydock and trust to luck to make it pay. The fact is that none of them will do it, and the work has either got to be done at public expense here, through taxation of the property interests concerned, or not at all. This is why the effort has been made to enlist the Legislature's interest in the project, and why the Multnomah delegation inclines to favor it. We have little doubt, however, that the project will be cheerfully abandoned if only Messrs. Ladd and Wilcox will make another trip to Salem and show the delegation that they are about to build a drydock themselves.

It is a positive pleasure to find Mr. Pettigrew visiting his well-stocked vocabulary of abuse upon the Dawes Indian Commission. It would be disc serting if not positively painful to find that Pettigrew had actually come across some institution or organization in his Stripes, planned for and served by American citizens, upon which he could bestow a word of approval. It is not a pleasant task Mr. Pettigrew has set Imself-that of stigmatizing everything American as corrupt and vicious -but it is one he discharges with unremitting zeal and devotion. What sort of a man must be be to whom every movement in which his countrymen participate is infamous, and every motive that can actuate his fellow-mar is base? He does not say that the Dawes Commission is the most extravagant and corrupt body in the United States, for that would imply a less de- in immediate prospect. gree of extravagance and corruption in

those several bodies which he has alis no more extravagant or corrupt body, and this leaves him free to pursue his theory that the extremity of infamy has been reached by all persons and organizations alike that inhabit the United States and have had the luck to fall under the gaze of Pettigrew's baleful eye. The Pettigrewsome incident of Thursday in the Senate is only to be regretted because it compelled Messrs. Jones and Butler, who share the Pettigrew estimate of the Government, from President to private soldier, to part company with him for once, and in rebuking his aspersions upon the commission, discover the ranks of anti-ism for once in a state should see points of merit in anything bearing the name American certainly needs explanation. Meanwhile there is no calling in question the accuracy of Pettigrew's universal lament. He has the best of proof, for has not South Dakota in shameless ignominy elected to fill his place in the Senate with a Republican?

Elsewhere is noticed at some length

the question of cheap labor immigrasuggested by Senator Inman's joint memorial to Congress. A word might also be said concerning the local aspect of the matter. What basis of Japanese competition in Oregon? What American mechanic is kept out of a place by any Chinaman or Jap in the City of Portland? The Chinese are mostly house servants, vegetable peddlers and laundrymen. Now, where is the representative of organized labor that hankers to cook in the kitchen, or wash undershirts, or get up at 4 o'clock to load his wagon with vegetables? The Japs are generally rathroad hands or do menial work about the house It is hard for the railroads to get the section hands they need, and American mechanics are not looking for chances to scrub porches or wash dishes. It is a common remark that these "heathen devlis" are "keeping poor white girls out of work." It is a pitiful faisehood, for the fact is that, with all the Chidomestic help is next to impossible to obtain. Equally baseless is the cry that the Asiatics spend no money. They spend about as much as the thrifty American. As their position rises, they wear good clothes, ride in street-cars and indulge the luxuries Chinatown affords. They do not work for starvation wages, as is sometimes alleged, because the efficient Chinese cook or butler is frequently able to command higher figures than American girls in the same line of work. Perhaps the most despicable of all outcries against the Chinaman is that he saves his money and sends some of it home to his relatives. If he earns his money, what business is it of Mr. Labor Agitator what he does with it? Is it a crime for the poor Irish girl to send her savings home to the folks on the auld sod, or do we grudge the German boy his money who supports an aged mother in the Vaterland? Race prejudice and superstition are at the bottom of Mr. Inman's appeal, as he shows when he proposes to draw the color line on all laborers not white. Race prejudice is a real thing, but the wages menace is a chimera

AN EQUITABLE PLAN.

Senator Booth's plan for fixing the valuation of property in the different Kuykendall, Williamson, Proebstel, is to be apportioned on the basis of the vacancies have been filled by election annual county expenditures, thereby furnishing a fair guide for future asagree in conducting legislation with sessments for support of the state and Thomas L. Kearns, Utah. Nebraska dignity and order, Another deadlock offering to each county an inducement seems out of the question at this sesto practice economy in its own affairs.

We consider this double device a happy one. It will put a stop to the efforts of the several counties to outdo each other in cutting their valuations: it will enable each county to know beforehand just what proportion of the state tax it will be required to pay; it dence that they oppose the idea of a will do away wholly with the need or suggestion of a State Board of Equalization, with its findings, which, in the adopted without having it referred to nature of things, never can be satisfactory; and it will hold up before the county authorities at all times and in every county a motive for the exercise

of care in their future expenditure. In Multnomah and in other counties where there are cities or considerable towns the levy for county purposes, purely, is about as large as in those unties where the towns are small, or where no incorporated towns exist. In Multnomah there are expensive courts to maintain, and costly bridges, and there is much larger annual expenditure for roads than in any other county. All these things and many more come through the county government; that, though the City of Portland has its own expensive functions, the County of Multnomah is not relieved thereby of charges that fall upon any of the purely rural counties

Under Senator Booth's plan the coun tles will cease to have a motive for cutting their valuations. Guided by their expenditure for county purposes, credit to the ingenuity of its author, erful lobby," Continuing, he says: and it promises, in our judgment, a nearer approach to fairness and justice and at the same time to stability of method, than any other at all likely to be suggested.

A POPULAR PROPOSITION. It can hardly fall to be a source of satisfaction to the people of the Oregon Coast region that the Nehalem Ralinative land, protected by the Stars and | road promises in the near future to be an assured fact. The natural resources of the large tract lying between the Coast Mountains and the Pacific Ocean have long invited development. The wind work, so to speak, of a raffroad making available these resources in timber, coal, mineral and dairy products has been many times constructed and given to paper, only to be dissipated by the hard logic of circumstances, the central fact of which was lack of money wherewith to build and equip a mountain railroad. This vital condition seems now likely to be supplied, and a railroad to the sea to be

port of this enterprise, since all that ready declared as extravagant and can be said has many times been said. corrupt as possible. So he says there It is simply astonishing that this region, so richly endowed by nature for the benefit of man, has been so long inaccessible to trade; that its industries, all of the growing type, the products of which are in demand in the world's markets, should have been left to struggle in a condition of arrested development for the better part of a generation-not from lack of recognition, but from lack of modern transportation facilities. The people of County, loyal to their section and anxlous for its development, have shown commendable courage and patience in waiting the slow progress of events that would put them in touch with the outside world. They have argued and of disorder. That Jones and Butler urged and hoped; spoken in season and out of season of the natural advantages of the region, and pointed to their magnificent forests, their vast coal deposits, their streams alive with fish and their ranges rank with wild grasses in proof of their contention. They have engaged in dairying and challenged the world to produce sweeter butter or more toothsome cheese than that bearing the Tillamook brand, and, in a way, relatively small because of a cramped market, they have pushed these various industries until, in the matter of local prosperity, as shown in well-to-do community life, there are no happier homes or better educational and social fact exists for this terror of Chinese and privileges in any rural section of the state than are found in portions of this

isolated Coast region.

With this nucleus of enterprise, in dustry and social order, a wonderful development will follow railroad connection with the outside world. This connection at last seems to be in sight and, when accomplished, will introduce an era of prosperity that will, in a sense at least, atone for the deferred possibilities of years.

THE SENATE AS IT STANDS,

The biennial replacement of United States Senators has proceeded at about its usual pace. Of the thirty whose terms expire March 4, fourteen have been replaced by new members, and the result in the remaining four cases nese and Japanese servants available, is still in doubt. The fourteen Senators re-elected are:

Bacon, Ga. Berry, Ark. Cuilom, Ili. Elains, W. Va. Frye, Mains Hoar, Mass. McMillan, Mich. Morgan, Ala. Nelson, Minn, Sewell, N. J. Tiliman, S. C. Warrest, Wyo. Wetmore, R. I.

The twelve replacements are these: Sitting member—
Saker Kan, Rep. J. R. Burton. Rep.
Battler N. C. Pop. F. M. Simmons. Dem.
Saffery La. Dem. Marphy J. Foster Dem.
Saffery La. Dem. Marphy J. Foster Dem.
Saffery H. E. Burnham. Rep.
Latter Mont. Rep.
J. K. Clark. Dem.
J. C. Burnham. Rep.
Lattion. Tex. Dem. J. W. Bailey. Dem.
Landsay Ky. Dem. J. C. Blackburn Dem.
Pettigrew S. D. Pop. B. J. Gamble Rep.
Salitivan Mbs. Dem. A. J. McLaurin. Dem.
Sullivan Mbs. Dem. A. J. McLaurin. Dem.
Volcott. Colo. Rep. Tr. W. Patterson. Dem.
Wolcott. Colo. Rep. T. W. Patterson. Dem.
The four coarse in double are those of

The four cases in doubt are those of Oregon, Delaware and Nebraska, now in process of settlement, and Iowa, where Dolliver is serving under appointment upon the death of Senator Gear, whose term was to expire in March. Politically, the re-elected Senators may all be expected to act with the parties they have hitherto served. In the cases of new members, Democrats succeed a Populist in North Carolina, and Republicans in Montana, Idaho and Colorado; a Republican succeeds a Populist in South Dakota, In Iowa the new Senator, as the old, will be a Republican; probably the same will prove true in Oregon. Delaware counties for levy of state taxes is not epublicans can elect a Republican if only ingenious but offers as clear a they will, and Nebraska is likely to re-Republicans can elect a Republican if promise of fairness as any plan likely turn a Republican in place of Thurston. to be presented. Each county is to Rep. It appears, therefore, that the take its average assessment for the Democrats have gained four, the Poppast five years, and for the next five ulists have lost one, and the Republiyears is to pay to the state on the cans, if they win in Delaware and hold basis of this assessment. Then for the next period of five years the state tax gain two. In addition to these changes, of M S Oney Moses E. Clapp, Rep., Minnesota, and and Delaware each have to elect two Senators, to fill seats now vacant in Delaware and one occupied by Allen, Pop. Counting Oregon, Nebraska and Delaware as returning Republican Senators, we can construct the following

comparative statement;

The gain in Republican strength is really greater than appears from this numerical comparison, for the Republicans unseated in Montana, Idaho and Colorado were not very reliable on the financial question, while the six new Republicans will be solld on all party Chandler, also, are perfectly sound for the gold standard. The Populist party seems to be passing away. There will file the ballot-box. be six Populist Senators in the next Congress to nine in this one: Turner and Teller are about as sure to land in the Democratic camp as is Dubois, who has already announced such intention The Fifty-fifth Congress had 24 Populists, the Fifty-seventh will have but 14, of whom Stewart and Jones will

A LITTLE MORE DICTATION.

The Washington Legislature is very wisely considering the abolishment of the office of State Grain Inspector, and in his efforts to hold on to his lucrative an equitable guide may be had for the and easy position State Grain Inspector assessments for state purposes for the Wright is making some very ridiculous next term of five years-though the statements. He asserts that Portland property of each county will be the ac- and the foreign exporters are behind tual basis, and the Constitution thus the movement to abolish the office, and may be complied with. The plan does are backing the movement with a "pow-

> The Oregonian, of Purtland, has periodically printed trades against the state inspection system of Washington. This looks suspicious. Why abould our competitor on the Williamette River wish to have the inspection system this state abolished if it is a had thing for this state abolished it is a bad thing for the grain trade here? Would they not rather see it continue in that event? Should the Legislature of this state play into the hands of Portland, as volved by The Oregonian, of Portland? The day has gune when The Cregonian can dictate to the people of this state in the matter of grain inspection or in any other commercial or husbress telegrate.

The Oregonian's remarks on the Washington state grain inspection service have been confined to simple statements showing in the plainest manner possible that the service was the filmsiest kind of a farce, for the simple reason that neither farmer nor exporter pald the slightest attention to the grading of the inspector. As a matter of trial channels with imported millions fact, no one outside of the deputies who participate with Mr. Wright in the graft that is wrung from the farmer ter to exclude a formidable flood of has ever regarded either the inspection service or the inspector himself seriously. It is now in order for Mr. coast it does not lie in the threat of Wright to explain what reason the

any efforts toward the repeal of the of white cheap labor from Southern law. He knows and the farmers know that neither the Pacific Coast exporters nor the European cargo-buyers have the two oceans. These creatures comany regard for the grades established by the state commission. Notwithstanding the fact that the commission has been drawing money from the farmers of Washington for over four years, not one bushel of wheat that has been shipped to the European markets has been bought or sold on the grain inspector's certificate.

The Portland exporters, who always have controlled and always will control the business of handling the wheat of the Pacific Northwest, make the grades | Cabin." The book played its part in so that they are exactly the same at Portland, Scattle and Tacoma. The grading of Mr. Wright does not offer peared at a critical time in National the farmer the slightest protection, even if the exporters were disposed to stirred the heart of humanity. It was porter doing business in the State of tion. Many of its incidents were found-Washington who will buy wheat until ed upon facts, the details of which were it has been graded by an unofficial grader, who is more familiar with opinions of the author, or enlarged in wheat than he is with politics. The the telling, as folk-lore stories are apt farmer receives absolutely nothing for the 75 cents per car which he contrib- ration stirred the heart and quickened utes to the support of Mr. Wright and his fellow-politicians. The exporter the book should have wide vogue and cares nothing whether the law is repealed or whether it still cumbers the statute books, as in either case it has not the slightest effect on his busi- the people of opposing sections on the ness or his profits.

Looking through the same glasses as lobby" at Olympia, Mr. Wright sees of The Oregonian on the measure, The Oregonian opposes all grafts that are created or maintained for the exclupolitical hangers-on who are too indo-lent or ignorant to support themselves by honest labor. It has also shown up service for the purpose of putting the people of this state on their guard graft on this state. There are a numher of patriots of the same caliber as Mr. Wright hanging around the Oregon Statehouse at the present time endeavoring to devise means and measures for becoming the same kind of a "farmers' friend" as that gentleman proves himself to be.

EXCLUSION OF CHEAP LABOR.

Representative Kahn, of California, anticipating the expiration of the Geary law next year, has already introduced bill extending its provisions for twenty years longer. The Geary law prohibited Chinese immigration to the United States for ten years, and the President and Congress which enacted this legislation deliberately violated the treaty between China and the United States. The Supreme Court, however, sustained the Constitutionality of the act, on the ground that as a treaty is nothing more than "a law of the land," a later law passed by Congress serves to repeal and nullify the treaty. The demand today for the exclusion of the Chinese is stronger on the Pacific Coast than it was ten years ago, and it is worth notice that the Senate joint memorial introduced by Mr. Inman urging upon Congress the exclusion of Japanese and all other Mongolian or Asiatic races passed the Oregon Senate unanimously. But there is really no present prospect that our white labor market will be plagued by the importation of Japanese, for the experiment of railroads with Japanese labor has proved unsatisfactory.

A year or more ago the Great Northern Railroad made arrangements with labor contractors for 2000 Japanese workmen. The railroad on trial came to the conclusion that Japanese at \$1 a day are more expensive than white men at \$1 25, so orders were given to discharge the Japanese as fast as their places could be filled. The advocacy of this memorial by Mr. Inman included the absurd statement that the workingman of this country should be paid at least \$1.75 per day, and that he would have the law apply to every man who has not a white skin. To object to labor because it is a very sharp competitor with American labor is reasonable, but to exclude labor because of its color is unreasonable. The most for-midable "cheap labor" that now threatens our American market is the increasing immigration from Southern Europe, The cheap labor in our mines and on our rallways at the East is composed chiefly of Hungarians and Italians. These immigrants are really more formidable than any other, because they can be naturalized and will menace the intelligent ballot-box. Cheap labor is not desirable in the form of Asiatic immigration, and it is still more undepolicies. The successors of Baker and sirable in the shape of cheap labor from Southern Europe, which will not only depress wages, but depreclate and de-

It has been said that human progress shows itself in a fall of prices and a rise of wages. This would seem to be supported by the experience of own country, for in 1790 it took 125 days' labor to buy a ton of flour; in 1835 eighty days' work sufficed; in 1870 fifty days' wages would buy a ten of flour, and probably twenty-five days' wages today would buy a ton of flour. The philanthropic and generous friends of foreign immigration cannot logically deny the right of Government check any forced and unnatural importation of labor. The advocate of a protective tariff cannot successfully meet the question why, if a government may and should protect a nation against cheap goods, the product of pauper labor in other lands, the immigration of pauper labor is not an equally threatening danger. If the influx of cheap goods, the product of pauper labor in other lands, will depress wages in the same line of production in this country, why will not the immigration in a flood of cheap pauper labor from foreign countries depress the wages of labor?

The cheap labor from Hungary that has flooded the mining districts of Pennsylvania is composed of creatures that consider as luxuries many things laws. that American labor considers among the decent necessities of life. The Chinaman or the cheap laborer of Southern Europe works cheaply because he seeks gratification of only the lowest, most inevitable wants. The American demands more because his standard of life has risen above that of a barbar-We cannot afford to fill our induseither from Asia or from Southern Europe. It is a comparatively easy matdanger to American wages on yellow or brown Asiatic immigration. Portland exporters have for making It lies in the steadily increasing stream

Europe that will sooner or later flood all the lines of unskilled labor between pose the murderous mobs in the mining districts of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illines; they not only depress wages, degrade labor, but sooner or later defile the ballot-box.

There is nothing commendable either

to the industry or the judgment of Hopkinson Smith in his recent effort to discredit the motives and veracity of Harriet Beecher Stowe, and to charge the Civil War against "Uncle Tom's awakening the National conscience against the evils of slavery. polities, and with its simple pathos "cinch" him, for there is not an ex- never considered a great literary creano doubt colored by the preconceived to be. The very simplicity of their narthe conscience. It was inevitable that the book should have wide vogue and benefactor or hated as a disseminator of strife, according to the viewpoint of slavery question. It served to crystallize Northern sentiment on that questhose which revealed the "powerful tion, but he who at this late day, when the passions of a troubled era have mething "suspicious" in the attitude been filtered through the blood of a generation and their heat diminished by the cooling processes of time, charges the Civil War to this one book sive purpose of providing soft snaps for is short both in his historical knowledge and intellectual judgment. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" belongs to the past. Its sins of inaccuracy were doubtless more the Washington state grain inspection of omission than of commission. It had its part in the events of a critical era in the Nation's history, and, according against an effort to saddle a similar to the considerate judgment of mankind, this was a noble part. It is still kind, this was a noble part. It is still to uphold the giory of Italian opera, and read by thousands every year, who kindly refuse to criticise its literary of music" has shown any symptom of style, but find a strange fascination rivaling him, with the exception of Bolts. in its pages, in which stalking ghosts of lives and times that are dead pass in review before the imagination.

The advantage of intrusting to men of different walks of life the important task of manufacturing laws has become very apparent since the Legislature has been in session at Salem. Each man understands the needs of his own business, and can frame laws to provide for them. Representative Watson, observing that restaurant-keepers lose much trade to free lunch saloons, arranges to abolish the free lunch. And now comes Representative Schumann, tombstone dealer, in advocacy of a bill providing that a monument once placed on a grave can be removed unless it is paid for in full. It is evidently unfortunate that all lines of trade cannot be represented in every Legislature. If the plumbers had one of their trade there, he could make it a crime to shut off water on cold nights, and thus the plumbers would prosper beyond the dreams of J. Pierpont Morgan. And if an undertaker were entitled to the floor of the Senate or House of Representatives, he might protect his craft by the introduction of a bill empowering undertakers to remove from its sepulture a coffin on which there was yet something due. Thus the proverbial grip of grim death would relax before the majesty of the law, and undertaking would become so profitable that no one could afford to engage in any other business.

The Washington Legislature, at this time in session, has in a body perfeeted its title to good, honest, common sense by indorsing without to stay at home and attend to the duties which the people are paying them to perform, adding that, if the Legislature has any need of any one of them in order to secure desirable data in regard to the work in his charge, such employe will be sent for. If such an order were promulgated and could be enforced against Federal office-holders who swarm the capital of this state just now, the job of Senator-making would be greatly simplified and a choice in the interests of the whole people be much more likely to result. What is called officious or meddlesome surgery is not unknown to the medical profession, but reputable physicians are prompt to condemn it. The Washington Legislature, in the resolution above cited, furnishes the first example of a reproof administered by duly accredited lawgivers to officious officeholders who meddle with the body pol-

When a member of the House, proposing to legislate Judge Cleland out of office, says that Cieland is "an unfair Judge," he is himself unfair. There is nothing whatever to support the allegation that Cleland is an unfair Judge. The question whether one department of the Circuit Court might not be spared is quite another thing. It would be but cheese-paring economy, however; since almost the only item of saving would be the Judge's salary. It would still be necessary to have as many juries as ever. We do not learn that the Taxpayers' League, which has gone over all these matters, deems the abolishment of one of these depart-

The editor who has been ordered away from the Philippines will be a great man when our antis get hold of him. His overt defiance of authority will afford them subject of endless

With popular songs bringing in \$20 -

000 a year aplece, and the salary of a legislator fixed at \$3 per diem, it is no wonder certain people would rather write a nation's songs than make its 1 The news from West Point cannot

have falled to inspire a wholesome fear of the West Point graduate in the mind of the frail-bodied Filipine Some posthumous correspondence

from Adiai E. Stevenson would be a bright feature in the Lincoln Com-Negotiations with China are no fur-

ther advanced than they were at first,

and the powers are much encouraged.

But they wash their hands of the con- 6, 1887, Milan.

FATHER OF IMMORTAL STRAINS

Nor blame I death, because he bure The use of virtue out of earth: I know transplanted human worth Will bloom and profit otherwhere— A life that all the muses decked All-subtilising intellect. -Tennyson.

When a citizen dies whose life has been devoted to the common weal, his city courns his loss with a general grief; when a ruler who has been devoted to all the duties of his office goes to his grave, his countrymen lament over his death; but, when a King in the domain of gentus is withdrawn from the sphere of his labors, thousands upon thousands of hearts which beat with love for what is good and true are filled with sorrow thousands upon thousands of eyes are filled with tears. Such sorrow is that which laments the death of Joseph Verdi for in him departed the last of all that was - sublime in that great realm of melody known as Italian opera.

But as Providence blessed him in life (that is to say, from his nineteenth year onward), giving him no harder battle to fight than that which came from the constantly unsatisfied aspirations struggling within his own breast, even so, in his death, the gain is with him, and not with us. He took his departure after having attained the highest summit of his fame, for who is bold enough to insist that, had he lived longer, he would have produced something greater than he ever did?

He was undoubtedly the most univermally popular composer of the nineteenth
century, and remained so at the dawn of
the twentieth. What posterity will think
of this judgment passed by Verdi's contemporaries we do not know, but certainly he will always rank among the
greatest composers of operatic music of
all ages, and amongst all nations, because
seldom, if ever, is to be found such truth
and power of feeling expressed in a
clearer or simpler way. Though Italian
operatic composers may be reckoned by
scores, yet, after Rossini, Bellini and
Donnizetti, only one man had the power
to fight his way up. After Donnizetti's
death, Verdi remained the only composer
to uphold the glory of Italian opera, and He was undoubtedly the most univerand he, notwithstanding the promise of his "Mefistofele," has as yet brought out to other work.

Music is a universal language, and op-

eratic music is, of all branches of that art, the one which most forcibly imposes itself upon the attention of the public, as the indefinite musical expression is rendered definite by the meaning of the words, and by the dramatic action on the stage. Moreover, music is, of all arts, the one that can be most easily and cheaply brought home to everybody. This is the reason why we think that Verdi is more known to the million than any other man who lived during the last

century. Guiseppe (or Joseph) Verdi was born at Roncole, October 9, 1813. The little set-tlement consisted of a cluster of laborers' houses called Le Roncole, some three miles from Brussels, and before the uni-fication of Italy, in the Duchy of Parma. It was here that young Guiseppe was initiated into a knowledge of music, and chtained some notions of harmony from the organist of the viliage. This kind of teaching did not lead the young artist very far, and he seriously feit the necessity of a more thorough instru e belonged to a poor family, who could afford to maintain him away from ome. Fortunately he became acquainted with a generous man, Signor Barcasi, who offered to assume the expenses of his musical education until his talent should secure for him the means of sup-

Verdi accepted this kind offer with a thankful heart. In the sammer of 1833 he went to Milan, with the intention of entering the conservatory of that city, but the director refused to admit him among his pupils. Whether it was because he looked like a stateman rather than an artist, as some say, we know not; but we do know that the unhappy candidate of 1833 was in a few years arenged by the brilliant success he everywhere met. Instead of being a pupil at the Conservatory, Verdi placed himdivision what is known as the "Rands resolution." This resolution, simply and succinctivy stated, asks employes of the several state institutions are: "Oberto di San Bonifacio," "Na-buchodnosor," "I Lombardi," and "Ernani;" but the first opera which gained for him renown in Europe was "Rigo-

This delightful creation was given for the first time at Venice, March II, 1831.

The description of the storm, the gusts of wind, obtained by means of chromatic thirds vocalized behind the scenes (into Anti-billous? Child (readily)—No, str. uncle used mouths) was entirely new, advantage that Verdi has over masters, who do not spare means to pro-duce effects, is that he never fatigues an audience. Always short and rapid, when he has attained the end sought for he insists no longer, but passes on to he insists no longer, but passes on to something else. The conception of "Rig-oletto" is bold and the effect admirable. The melody wondrously beautiful and each personnge preserves his own characteristics with great distinctness.

We need not dwell upon the beauties of

'Il Trovatore," "La Traviata," "Ernani" or "Un Ballo in Maschera." Suffice it to say that each of these creations is divine and can never be outdone in point of melody.

Fortune came with fame. Verdi was more than a prophet in his own country, He was a wealthy landholder, possessing immense properties in Italy; near his birthplace he built a splendid villa; here the composer was wont to seek rest from the fatigues and annoyances to which he was subjected in large cities; here, with his gun on his shoulder, he would walk from farm to farm, making a conscien-tions study of agriculture. The country people all loved, respected and honored people all loved, respected and honored him. In the evening when he went for a walk the laborers, catching a glimpse of him, would unite in singing the cho-ruses of his operas. The cry, "Viva, Verdi!" has often resounded in Italy. At the time of the war against Austria it was the rallying cry. The word of the popular enigma is well known. The five letters of the time of Verdi or the letters of the name of Verdi are the initials of those of Vittori's Emmanuele Ri d'Italia (Victor Emanuel, King of Italy). The great composer was known to be very liberal withal, so that nothing was more natural than that he should have a seat in Parliament. The following is a complete list of

Verdi's operas, with date of initial performance "Oberto Conte di Benifacio," November 17, 1839; "Ungiorne di Regno," September 6, 1840, Milan: "Nabuchodnoser,"

tember 6, 1849, Xilian; "Nabuchodnoser,"
March 8, 1842, Milan, "I Lombardi," February 11, 1842, Milan, "Ernani," March
9, 1844, Milan; "I due Foscari," November
3, 1844, Rome; "Giovanna d'Arco," February 5, 1845, Milan; "Aizira," August 12,
1845, Naples; "Atila," March 17, 1846,
Venice; "Macheth," March 12, 1847, Fforence; "I Masadieri," July 22, 1847, London; "Jerusalem," November 26, 1847,
Paris; "Il Corsaro," October 25, 1848,
Trieste; "La Battagita di Legnand," Jan-Paris; "Il Corsaro," October 25, 1845, Trieste; "La Battaglia di Legnand," January 27, 1849, Rome; "Louisa Miller," Docember 8, 1849, Naples; "Stifellio," November 16, 1850, Trieste; "Rigoletto," March 11, 1851, Venice; "Il Trovatore," January 19, 1853, Rome; "La Traviata," March 6, 1853, Venice; "Lee Vespres Siciliennes," Jun 18 1855, Paris, "Simon Siciliennes." June 13, 1556, Paris; "Simon Boccaneyra." March 12, 1857; "Aroldo," August 18, 1857, Rimoni; "Un Ballo in Maschera." February 17, 1857, Rome; "La Forza del Destino." November 16, 1862. west Point cadets abolished hazing.

West being wash their hands of the own.

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One of the own.

St. Petersburg: "Macheth" (revised), November 19, 1862,

April 22, 1865, Paris: "Macheth" (revised), November 19, 1862,

St. Petersburg: "Macheth" (revised), November 19, 1862,

April 22, 1865, Paris: "Aida." December 24, 1871,

Calro: "Otello" and "Faistaff." February EUGENIE R. HARRIS.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Chinese situation is almost as quiet as Admiral Dewey.

The usual January mild spell has been postponed on account of the weather.

The secret of the grip's success is the disposition of its victims to "lay down" whenever they are attacked.

There are actually one or two lobbylats at Salem who are not employes of the United States Government.

Every Kansas farmer has a plane in his house, but the true proof of pros-perity will come when they again begin to invest in gold bricks,

Br'er Indian is likely to find out that Uncle Sam is in a good deal better training just now than in the days when a post garrison consisted of a Corporal and three men.

The creeks are rising. This would be nothing unusual at this time of year were it not for the fact that the Creeks which are doing the rising happen to be Indians.

The superintendent of the Carilale Indian Schools says he does not feel confident of the Indian's future. Perhaps, however, he may see the noble red man's finish in a few days, and his confidence will grow apace.

The people of Toronto, Ontario, have recently voted by an overwhelming majority in favor of the public purchase of the local gas company's plant, notwithstanding that the net price of gas supplied by the company has been as low as 90 cents.

Apparently, Thomas A. Edison doesn't realize that his inventive genius has made him one of the foremost men of his generation. The Electrical Review has been interviewing him on the subject of his inventions, and they are so numerous that he is unable to name them. Says he:

What were my principal patents? Good gra-cious, man! Oh, you don't mean patents-in-ventions? Why, first and foremest, the idea of the electric lighting central station; then-lest me see, what have I invented? Well, there was the mimeograph, and the electric pen, and the carbon telephone, and the incandescent lamp and its accessories, and the quadruplex felegraph, and the automatic telegraph, and phonograph, and the kineton don't know-a whole lot of other things

According to a Berlin correspondent, a modest little society in Germany is apparently pinning its faith to the crow, in succession to the almost universally used pigeon, as a carrier of war news. The pigeon fly experiments which Germany carried out on British soil some time ago-sending huge crates of birds to Dover for the purpose-were not wholly constul, bad weather preventing many of the birds from reaching their quarters again, and many were shot by persons in search of dinner. It is claimed with truth that very few people would shoot crows for food, and that when liberated from a beleaguered place the enemy would be more likely to allow them to fly past unmolested and unsuspected than would be the case with pigeons.

The Washington Star suggests that it is a good thing that the river and harber bill comes up during the raing meon, when the water courses for whose improvement appropriations have made can be clearly traced. This recalls the reply of General Grant, when a Southern Congressman came to him and inquired if he would approve a bill for the improvement of a certain river in his state.

"Let me see," said Grant, didn't I cross that stream in the campaign of ---The Congressmen, who had served the Confederacy, remembered very well that he did, and said so.

"Well, then," said the President, "I will approve that bill on one condition." What is it?" saked the Const anxiously.

"It is," answered Grant, "that you will amend the bill so as to provide that the stream be macadamized."

One is .- Punch. A Blow,-"Don't you think the decorati

in this room are very pretty?" "Very, Wy selected them for you" - Detroit Free Press. Blaze, Caller-If your doll is squeezed does she cry "Mamma"? Little Elsie-Oh, no. she got over that; this is her second see you know .- Puck.

A Ritchener Definition.—"You know what an Irish dividend is?" "Yes, an assessment."
"Well, do you know what a Boer repuise is?"
"Yes, an advance."—Cleveland Plain Dealer. The Last Resort. Superintendent There cools won't sell at 11 cents a yard. Dry loods Man-Mark them up to 14 cents and put them on the bargain-counter.-Brooklyn Life Burgiar (sternly)—Where's yer husband? Woman (trembling)—Under the bed. Burgias —Then I won't take nothing. It's had enough to have such a husband, without being too.-Tit-Bits.

The Hessed Child.—"The naughty boy told me to go to the bad place," said little Alger-non. "Yes?" said his fond papa. "But I told him I never went anywhere without my papa." -Philadelphia North American

A Good Trait.-Mrs. Knowsit-So you are en guged to Miss Sweetleigh. I do not wish to discourage you, but I understand that she has said she had absolutely no wish to know how to cook. Mr. Wiss-That's right. I proposed to her as your at I have I have a second to her as your terms.

Refutation.—"I want you to tell me candid-ly whether you want to marry my daughter for her money." "Certainly not," answered the titled young gentleman. "I scorn the sus-picton. As I understand the situation, your daughter hasn't much money anyhow. You are the one we are looking to."-Wash

Derivitaive .- "I'm trying to get some in rmation about a friend of mine named Fox who came out here," said the stranger from the East, "They tell me he died of some threat trouble," "I guess that's about right," replied the cowhoy. "What was it? Invocalitia": "Bronkitis? That's a new one on me, but I reckon I see the connection. He stole a bronco."—Philadelphia Press

The Lucky Bargain. N. S. in the Spectator. I have a friend, without whose face (God keep his face from sorrow freel) The world would be a dreary place For weary me.

To please him is my chief delight; I'd rather die than give him pain, Yet this I've done in my despite, And shall again,

My friend to kind when I am order, Nor ever cross when I am kind; He rules the sullen waves that toes

My toiling mind.

His gracious spirit gives me joy; What can I give him for his grace? A little, useless, battered toy Of time and space. A hoz of prayers with broken wings,

Of shapeless hopes and wasted hours, Of half a hundred worn-out things And faded flowers; Wherein one blossom lives, and makes A light, whereat his lips will part And smils for kindness, as he takes The proferred heart.