CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

Amusements Tonight.

MARQUAM GRAND—"Way Down East," matinee (2:15) and evening.
CORDRAY'S THEATER—"The Star Boarder."
METROPOLITAN—"Kidnaped."

DWELLING BURNED.—Neil Jennings, who resides near Holbrook, some 15 miles below Portland, was in town yesterday to purchase an entire outfit of clothing, shoes and all, for himself and family, as they had lost everything by fire early in the morning. He, with his wife and four children, had occupied John McQuinn's house, near Holbrook, and he arose at 5 o'clock yesterday morning and proceeded to kindle a fire prior to dressing himself. Before he realized it, the whole building was ablaze, as the roof had caught from the kitchen stovepipe. He quickly aroused his family, the members of which fled in their night clothes, with the exception of a 15-year-old daughter, who was just recovering from a severe illness. She was carried out, together with a little bedding. The fire made such progress that nothing could be saved from the house, though Jennings succeeded in rolling 16 barrels of apple brandy out of the basement, the entrance being on a level with the ground. There was no insurance on dwelling or contents, and kind neighbors are caring for the family while the head of the house rustles up new quarters.

RUDELY AWAKENED.—George I. Thompson, chief clerk of the Hotel Perkins, who resides at the corner of East Fifteenth and Tillamook streets, Irvington, was aroused from a nap at his house yesterday afternoon by the galloping of Fire Department horses, which halted in front of his door. A fireman rushed up the steps and hollered, "Where the h—l is the fire?" George said there was no fire, except in the basement furnace, and he didn't want any either, as he has been a sufferer from that element. "Well, someone telephoned in that Thompson's house was afire." A crowd gathered where all was solitude a few moments before, and the smoking roof of a Mr. Peterson's house around the corner was descried. A letter carrier had managed to get hold of a garden hose and put water on the blaze, so the services of the department were not necessary.

UNITARIAN AUXILIARY.—"Echoes From the First Governor's Home" will be heard at the Unitarian Chapel this afternoon, data taken from a journal kept by Mrs. Stevens, whose husband, General Isaac I. Stevens, was the first Governor of Washington Territory. The rearrangement of these notes was done by Mrs. E. W. Bingham, a daughter, who will entertain members of the auxiliary and their friends. Business meeting called for 2 o'clock, and programme at 2:30 sharp. Music and a social hour to follow.

RESCUED FROM FIERY DEATH.—Nora Heath, a nurse girl employed by Mrs. Stubbs, 722 Glisan street, was heroically rescued from being burned to death, in all probability, last Monday. She wore a light cotton dress, and while standing too near a grate in the back parlor, the dress caught fire. The girl's screams were heard by Mr. O. B. Stubbs, who tore the burning dress away. The girl was severely burned, and Mr. Stubbs was badly burned about his hands.

CARS DELAYED BY WIND.—The cold wind which abated preceptibly in the city yesterday, was stronger on the Columbia River in the morning. The ferry boat crossing to Vancouver was delayed considerably by wind and waves, and the cars on the trestle were stopped frequently by the trolley poles being blown off the wire.

THREE SLIGHT FIRES.—There was a $200 blaze yesterday at C. B. James' house, 24 North Tenth street, due to a spark from the chimney setting fire to the roof. The loss is covered by insurance. There were also slight fires at the houses of Grant Patterson, Fifteenth and Tillamook streets, and R. Lucas, 294 Sherman street.

LECTURER DELAYED.—Professor Charles Mills Gayley, who was to have lectured at the High School last night on "Rudyard Kipling, the Representative Poet of to the break on the Southern Pacific Railroad, and will begin his course at the High School tomorrow night.

WIDENED A STREET.—West Park street, between Alder and Morrison, has been widened at least six feet without a city ordinance. The fence in front of ex-Governor Pennoyer's property has been moved back that distance, leaving a row of trees between the sidewalk and the street and making a very pretty effect.

Y. M. C. A. ENTERTAINMENT.—Grand concert by Webber's Troubadours. This is the third entertainment given for the association by this organization. The others were marked successes and greatly enjoyed. A number of musical novelties will be features of the programme tonight. *

GOLF.—The contest for the Mrs. Wesley Ladd cup, scheduled for tomorrow, is postponed for one week. The mixed foursome knockout will commence Saturday, and pairs and handicaps will be found posted at the clubhouse. The tee-off will be between 1 and 2.

BOY BICYCLIST HURT.—While Walter Lean, 13 years old, residing in the Selling-Hirsch building, was riding his bicycle down Park street near Washington yesterday, he collided with a butcher's wagon. The boy was severely bruised.

TO ALL ladies purchasing their fancy work materials at Meier & Frank's, an expert instructor will give free lesson on working all the latest style pieces, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. *

GRAND BALL
GIVEN BY
DEGREE OF POCAHONTAS,
IMP. O. R. M.,
TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 12,
AT ARION HALL. *

SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE.—The concert programme for this evening is a good one, and will be in charge of Miss E. Hoben, who has already given many happy hours to the seamen in this way.

GRAND LIBRARY CARNIVAL opens at Exposition building tonight at 7 o'clock. Varied attractions and enjoyable entertainment. Admission, 10 cents. *

F. J. PETERSON is no longer in the employ of this company; is not authorized to solicit orders or receive money. The Northrop & Sturgis Company. *

SPECIAL attractions of a varied character and excellent orchestra music at Library carnival tonight, Exposition building. *

THE ALBERT WINTER GARDEN. — Reopened under new management as a first-class restaurant and grillroom. *

LIBRARY CARNIVAL patrons can secure refreshments at restaurant, north. *

DIRECTED BY GOD.

A Theory of Evolution Which Includes the Creator.

PORTLAND, Or., Feb. 5.—(To the Editor.)—Until within a few years, theism has been accustomed to conceive of creation as an instantaneous work. Now, it is admitted by Christian scholars that creation was not a single, but a successive work. Instead of the universe being finished once for all within a single week, its vast and mysterious operations are still going on; the Almighty is still toiling at the task, and, maybe, only now in the middle of creation's work. The Christian only now insists that in the beginning and at all subsequent stages one master mind has directed all. For his improved knowledge the theist gracefully acknowleges himself indebted to science.

But what is genuine evolution? Measured by the definition given by its friends in the Ministerial Association of this city last Monday, it is, "The transformation of an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity into a definite, coherent homogeneity, which goes on everywhere until it brings about a reverse transformation consequent upon certain simple laws of force."—Herbert Spencer, "First Principles," page 396. The question is, Does not this bring all things home to the parentage of matter and force? Is it not declared in this definition by Mr. Spencer (and this definition is the standard) that back at the beginning there were no such things as life and mind? Only a greater or less number of lumps of matter, mind being one of the remote products thereof. The earnest desire of many sincere evolutionists to graft God onto the theory is noted, but this definition says simply that all things have come by a rigid mechanical sequence. Not only the several forms and arrangements of matter, but life and mind have been evolved by this same physical causation; and Mr. Spencer is impatient with his baptized brethren in their efforts to recognize God's agency, characterizing it as the "Carpenter theory."

Followed to logical conclusions, this "simple laws of force" declaration is that certain lumps of matter (where they come from, Mr. Spencer frankly says he does not know), have evolved, and evolved, till they have become self-conscious, and think, and hope, and feel, and love, and hate, and aspire, and even worship and pray. Whatever of reason and design, whatever of heroism in the past, is only a combination which was represented by an exact physical equivalent. That is to say, if a brain exactly like that of U. S. Grant could be made, the fortunate possessor of it would have all the characteristics, all the thoughts, and the memory, of the first U. S. Grant. Because, if there is anything in the theory at all, two things physically equivalent must of necessity be also mentally equivalent. It follows, then, that the lucky owner of brain No. 2 would remember all about the struggle for an existence by hauling cordwood from the Dent farm through the mud to St. Louis, the siege of Vicksburg, and the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. For the old military hero's thought, memory and consciousness could be completely recovered by evolving through the "simple laws of force" a duplicate of his brain.

Professor Tyndall seconds the motion by saying, "Strip it naked and you stand face to face with the notion that the forms of the horse, the lion, the human body, yea, the human mind itself, intellect and will, with all their phenomena, were once latent in a fiery cloud."

In the presence of such scientists, such mental giants as these, and a full regiment of a similar kind who have written and still write and proclaim, the Christian minister, who after all lays little claim to scientific knowledge, reverently waits for proof of one single instance of the transmutation of species. And while he waits in a receptive mood he considers the fact and function of reproduction, which runs through all organic nature, and the power which forms the ear and eye while yet in the womb, with an unerring knowledge of optics and acoustics, shown by adjusting one to the other before they are needed at all—these, he thinks, furnish some proof of a beneficent general manager.

This scribbler has the highest appreciation of the many able scientists who have written and cackled on evolution, and Mr. Spencer is given due credit for the claim that his conception of evolution is not atheistic, the ground of his denial being his doctrine of the unknowable. But, unfortunately, he strips this same "unknowable" of sense, of intelligence and will, and what can be left but matter and force. In the meantime, there are those who, without denunciation of others, cling to the notion that the existence of the sun in the center of the system, the small eccentricity of the planet's orbits, whereby any great variations of light and heat are avoided, the exact balance of central and tangential forces, by which the planets are kept in their orbits, the alternation of the seasons on our planet, and of day and night, the relative adjustment of land and water, and a thousand other things, all tell of an adapting intelligence.

RIP VAN WINKLE.

MATINEE TODAY.

"'Way Down East" the Attraction at the Marquam.

"'Way Down East," the delightful New England play which has been so much heralded, will be the attraction at a special matinee at the Marquam at 2:15 this afternoon. The play is one which interests all classes, and the fact that its opening performance in Portland was attended by a number of well-known clergymen, among them being Rev. J. E. Snyder, Rev. J. C. Hughes and Rev. G. B. Van Waters, shows that it is not a drama of a character which anyone, whatever his calling, need avoid.

OSTEOPATHY.

Dr. R. B. Northrup, 416 Dekum building, Third and Washington streets, specialist in nervous and chronic diseases. Examination free. Phone Main 249.

WHERE TO DINE.

Say what you will, there's one restaurant in town that gives universal satisfaction—The Portland, 305 Wash.

WANT TO HOLD ALL PARKS

COMMISSION OPPOSED TO GIVING UP A BLOCK.

Protest to the Legislature Against Use of a Park Block for Native Sons' Building.

The Portland Park Commission is not in favor of parting with any of the city parks, and so are opposed to the use of one of the park blocks for a building, as proposed by the Native Sons of Oregon, the Indian War Veterans and the Society of the Sons and Daughters of the last-named organization. At the meeting held yesterday morning, this resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Portland Park Commission that the bill now pending before the Legislature proposing to authorize the use of one of the public parks of the city for a purpose inconsistent with such use as a park is unwise, impolitic, and the commission hereby respectfully protests against the enactment of such bill into a law.

Commissioner Mallory thought the permitting of one organization to appropriate a block of the city parks would act as an entering wedge for others, and so there would be no telling where it would end. The resolution was referred to the judiciary committee, with power to bring the matter before the Legislature, where a bill to alienate a portion of the park blocks is now pending. The legislators will be shown wherein lies the danger of the act, which the Commissioners desire to defeat.

Park Concerts.

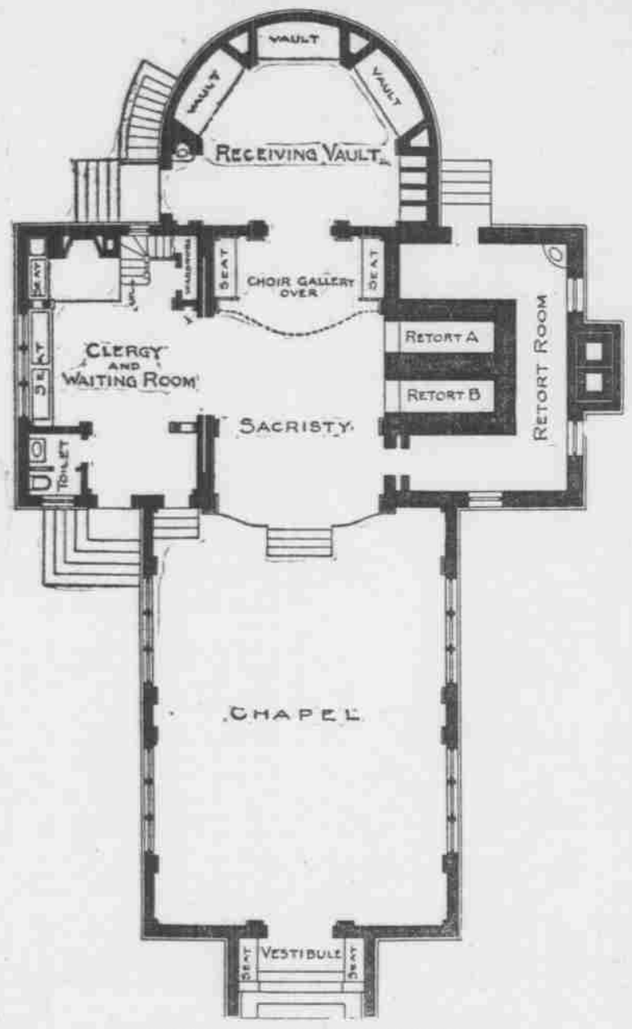
Summer music in the parks was a subject introduced by C. L. Brown, on behalf of the musicians of the city. He desired to obtain the privilege of furnishing a series of concerts for the benefit of the public, and not at the cost of the Park Commission, as the musicians are to be paid by voluntary contributions. The proposed concerts are to take place on evenings once or twice a week. The commission seemed to favor the plan of allowing concerts to be given in the parks.

Other Matters.

A number of books treating on city parks were presented the commission by W. M. Ladd. A. E. Davis also contributed several of the same class for the guidance of the commission.

Mayor Rowe reported the recent acquisition of a porcupine and an ant-eater by the Park Superintendent. The porcupine, being a rodent, the Mayor said, could be easily provided for, but he did not know where ants could be procured for the other animal, which would eat nothing else.

Commissioners Eliot, Hawkins and Chase were appointed a committee to visit the various parks in the near future, to see what improvements would be necessary to make them more presentable by the time the people begin to visit them.



GROUND PLAN OF CREMATORIUM.

SOME MINISTERIAL QUIBBLES

A Letter Which Is Noticed in Another Column.

PORTLAND, Feb. 5.—(To the Editor.)—Bushwhacking is not considered honorable warfare; nor do I think it is strictly in accord with fairness to take isolated and disjointed passages from a paper that has not been before the public, put your own construction upon them, and then base adverse criticism upon that forced construction. The editor has every advantage in that he can everlastingly bushwhack after the public has lost sight of the original contention. Now, I feel that I have a right to protest (and common honesty requires that you give me a hearing), against the treatment accorded my paper, read before the Ministerial Association yesterday. That paper was not prepared for the public, but for the association, and it received the hearty indorsement of the large majority.

Allow me to take up and answer some of your strictures in detail. You say: "Perhaps the most instructive passage in his discourse is the assertion that descent of man from lower forms of life is rejected by all thoughtful men." The Darwinian and Spencerian evolution holds that the Simiadae are the lower forms in the process of development. Darwin plainly states, "From this branch came man, the crowning glory of creation." I fortified every step in my paper by reference to the ripest scholarship of the day. In a personal letter, Dr. Henry Van Dyke, of Princeton, said: "My opinion is that the evolutionary hypothesis, within certain limitations, and with very important modifications, has a very strong hold upon the younger men in all departments of thought at the present time. The absurd caricature which represents man as descended from the monkey is, of course, rejected by all thoughtful persons." In view of this statement, made by one who is recognized as one of the most brilliant and scholarly men of the day, you will hardly maintain that my attitude is "one of shameless misstatement of fact."

As to the "perversity," I might well leave that to the historian and the ethnologist; but I would recommend the careful reading of President Anderson's "Man and His Migrations," Guyot's "Earth and Man," and Marsh's "Man and Nature." Perhaps it may all be summed up in the following excerpt from Johnson's New Universal Cyclopedia: "There is no proven instance of any nation or race having initiated its own advancement out of barbarism, while there are many examples of the deterioration of powerful empires and centers of magnificent culture into the savage or almost savage state. Always a force from without has begun the elevation of the race of community." This is also the universal testimony of impartial students of history.

Again you say: "Dr. McLean cannot believe the testimony of the rocks or of the human frame, because it conflicts with the fall of man in the garden." No such thing appeared in my paper. I was showing how illogical were those who attempted to reconcile the continued progress of man with the doctrine of the fall, or, in other words, trying to ride two horses going in opposite directions.

I am fully satisfied with the reception given my paper by the association. It was presented to men trained to think, men who have been trained in logic, and they have given their opinion to me. When an apostle of evolution, pointedly asked to define what he meant by evolution, was unable to define it, we need not worry about any criticisms passed upon us for refusing to feed upon fog.

One more criticism upon your editorial and I am done. You say: "Dr. McLean should stop his talk about science, or look a little deeper." You challenge my statement that heat is never transmuted into gravity. You further illustrate your point, saying: "The transmutation of heat into gravity is the commonest thing in the universe. It is seen in every waterfall, and in the rainfall that makes the waterfall. For heat is the agency that produces both." Surely, Mr. Editor, you did not mean that! Acting as agent and being "transmuted" are not the same thing. Tyndall was something of a scientist, and he held that transmutation means a change into something else. If the force is not changed there is no "transmutation." If I carry the water to the top of a precipice and then pour it down, I am the agent, but am not transmuted into gravity. The heat, raising the water, is not annihilated; it has not lost its force; hence, it is not transmuted. Professor Tyndall farther says: "Possibly all the heat in the universe is due to gravity. Does any one say that possibly all the gravity of the universe is due to heat?" If I make a machine I am not transmuted into that machine, although I am the agent in its making. I think that much of the fog is due to a lack of clear definition, and that lack is not on the part of those who object to the hasty acceptance of unproven theories.

My contention in my paper was, that neither the transmutation of forces, nor the transmutation of species, without both of which the Spencerian evolutionary hypothesis cannot be proven, had been substantiated.

You claim that your paper is impartial, and that it is for the benefit of your subscribers. In view of your attitude on this question, many of the ministers, at least, are in doubt about the impartiality. Publish this statement, however, and I will forgive you. ROBERT M'LEAN.

PERSONAL MENTION.

K. Zelasko, of Aberdeen, Wash., who is arranging to erect a 100-room hotel in that city, is at the Perkins.

R. S. Bean, State Supreme Judge, is registered at the Imperial, from Salem.

Dr. Frank Strong, president of the State University at Eugene, is registered at the Imperial.

Mrs. Mark L. Cohn and family have gone to San Francisco, where they will remain several weeks.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—Northwestern people registered at New York hotels today as follows:

From Portland—R. F. Prael, at the Holland; R. F. J. Hurd, at the Gilsey; C. A. Butterfield, at the Everett.

From Spokane—D. M. McKey and wife, at the Continental.

From Seattle—T. S. Peterken, at the Grand Union; Mrs. E. H. Cox, at the Albert; H. D. Spalding, at the Everett.

Names of Mountain Peaks.

PORTLAND, Feb. 5.—(To the Editor.)—Please state in your paper the origin of the names of the following mountain peaks of the Cascade Range:

1. Mount Hood.
2. Mount Adams.
3. Mount St. Helens.
4. Mount Rainier.

Please tell to what language the names belong. A READER.

Hood, St. Helens and Rainier were named by Vancouver, the English explorer; the first and third for Admirals of the British Navy; the second for the British Ambassador of that day at Madrid. These men were friends of Vancouver, and he sought thus to honor them and to get credit with them for himself. Mount Adams seems not to have been seen by Vancouver's party. After the Americans came an effort was made to rename the mountain peaks for the Presidents. Hood was to be called Washington, but the name didn't abide. Adams and Jefferson, however, remain. Vancouver had fixed no sign on them.

Fire in a Bank Building.

BOSTON, Feb. 5.—Fire in the upper story of the First National Bank building on State street damaged property to the extent of $50,000 this morning. An adjoining building, owned by the Globe Newspaper Company, was slightly damaged. The wife of the janitor of the bank and her 17-month-old child were removed from their rooms in the building in an unconscious condition and taken to a hospital, where it is said the woman will die.