

The Oregonian

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TODAY'S WEATHER: Cloudy and threatening, with occasional showers; southerly wind.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, FEB. 26.

The conviction is widespread that the real object of an extra session of Congress is not Cuba or the Philippines at all, but the subsidy bill. This view is strongly corroborated by the intense anxiety Republican leaders have shown for the subsidy's enactment.

Elsewhere appears a letter from Mr. J. A. Clemenson, with an offer of \$25 towards establishment of a woolen mill in Portland. Mr. Clemenson has a habit of this sort. His proposals are large, and perhaps it savors somewhat of an advertisement for his business, but it may be wished his spirit and promptness might be emulated by many others.

choosing whether he will stay in jail or go free.

Every session leaves its heartburns, which are more or less disseminated in the capacity of the sufferer. Dr. Smith refers playfully to the Benedict Arnold of the Citizens delegation, and that is what every delegation has, though perhaps Judas Iscariot would be a happier term.

Mr. Corbett avers he has no regrets to express or complaints to make, and apparently he is the most chipper of all the members of his camp. Mr. Mitchell, one would think, has no cloud upon his sky, but there is one. He grieves him because he was chosen instead of McBride.

In all this medley of misfortune, perhaps the deepest note is sounded by President Fulton of the State Senate, whose political career is little short of a series of funeral orations at the graves of his own booms.

Frederick Harrison is the most distinguished Englishman who has visited this country of recent years. He will remain but two months, not time enough to enable him to come to just conclusion concerning the practical workings of our institutions.

It is interesting to recall the names of the Englishmen of distinction who from the foundation of our Government have visited the United States. During the Presidency of Washington no eminent Englishman visited this country, but the French Revolution forced Talleyrand, the famous French diplomatist, to seek an asylum in America.

State pride approached fanaticism in South Carolina and Kentucky before the Civil War. A more self-satisfied, conceited lot of people with little cause for self-congratulation it would be hard to find in history than the Celt Irishmen and the Gascon Frenchman.

There is another part of the country that does not lack narrow, provincial, sectional state pride, and that is New England. When Wendell Phillips was shown at Chicago people's house, thirty feet square and twenty feet high, in which the first officer of the United States, the first white man, lived, where were then 250,000 people, he said: "Why not cover it with plate-glass and let it stand there forever, the cradle of the great city of the lakes?"

Phillips and Webster for Phillips, never lost a chance to touch this provincial New England pride, and United States Senator Hoar still continues successfully to play on the state-pride string of his constant fiddle. In his Lincoln day address, Senator Hoar says that while the people of Massachusetts are wrong on the Philippine question, nevertheless they are so great a people, so superior to the people of any other state, and have always been so, that they are sure ultimately to face right on this question, and when Massachusetts has once headed right, the rest of the country is sure soon to follow the lead of the Old Bay State.

This is the strain in Webster's eloquence that always gave him the heart of Massachusetts. This is the note in Phillips' most radical speech that always extorted the admiration of his audience, and this is the taffy that "Daddy" Hoar feeds out to his admiring audience. No matter whether he agrees with it in opinion on the burning issues of the hour, all Hoar has to do is to halt periodically during his speech and say, "We will now join in singing 'Hurrah for Old New England.'" That settles it; Hoar is forgiven and sure to be re-elected.

ceived as fervent a welcome as Dickens, and we lived to be ashamed of our ardor in his case. Since the day of Dickens' first visit, in 1842, we have had many famous Englishmen included among American tourists; among others, Cobden, Thackeray, Herbert Spencer, Fremont, Huxley, Wilkie Collins, Anthony Trollope, whose mother so bitterly abused us in 1825-27; Thomas Hughes, Matthew Arnold, Dean Stanley, Lord Rosebery, James Bryce, Joseph Chamberlain, Chief Justice Coleridge, Chief Justice Russell and Lord Dufferin.

There are indications of a series of strikes in the industrial section of which Pittsburg is the center that, if fulfilled, will inevitably prove disastrous to all concerned. This, it is said, can only be prevented by compliance of the master builders and all those allied with the building trades, including structural iron and steel manufacturers, with the demands of the various labor organizations auxiliary to and in effect controlling these trades.

The acceptance by R. K. Warren of the nomination to succeed himself on the School Board of District No. 1 at the election to be held on Monday, March 11, opens a school campaign that promises to be hotly contested by voting expayers at large.

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One of the most pathetic and at the same time the most horrible tragedies

that has been chronicled in the Northwest is that which took place in Uniontown, Eastern Washington, a few days ago, in the drowning by an insane mother of her six young children in a well. Piled in like rats into a well 30 feet deep, the six, ranging in age from 4 to 12 years, were drowned in a few feet of water, the mother standing on top of the gruesome heap.

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GREATER CONTINENTAL SURVEY

New York Sun. The Coast and Geodetic Survey has just issued a large volume giving the results of the geodetic triangulation across the continent by which the arc of the parallel of north latitude has been measured.

This survey, begun in 1872 and ended in 1888, extended over a period of 17 years. The terminal points of triangulation are near Cape May, New Jersey, and at Point Arena, California, north of San Francisco. The length of the arc is 2625 statute miles. It is the most extensive piece of geodetic work ever attempted by any nation.

The most important geographical result of the survey is the facilities it provides for the accurate survey and mapping of a large part of the country. The absolute geographical position of many points in 16 states has been ascertained, and subsequent surveys in all these states may be based upon these fundamental and permanent points.

It has been found, as a result of this measurement, that the form and length of the parallel of latitude conform either with the Clarke or Bessel spheroid within the United States but lie between the two. It is upon the spheroid deduced by A. B. Clarke and published in 1856, that all the dimensions of the earth, now commonly in use, depended.

When the results of these two triangulations are combined there will be sufficient data to define the form of the United States with all the precision permitted by the present state of exact measurements; and a long step will have been taken toward the determination of the form of the whole earth.

Spooken Like a Man and Sailor.

Moved by the revival in the Senate of the Sampson-Schley controversy, the editor of the Naval Service Gazette has decided to make public the details of a conversation which he had with Admiral Schley on board the Brooklyn the day after Cervera's fleet was destroyed, while the thunders of the conflict were still ringing in the ears of the world.

There is something radically wrong with the Republican party in Oregon, and if we make no note, there will continue to be something radically wrong with the party as long as the Portland ring will persist in dictating and wanting to control. When the Republicans, with a majority in the legislature, elected Simon for United States Senator, it looked as though the end of the factional fight was in sight.

New York Our Representative City.

J. K. Paulding in the Atlantic. New York still is the center of the States and with due regard for the tender susceptibilities of sister cities—the center, the intellectual and social, no less than the commercial center of the States. Chicago may be destined to take her place, but the change will not occur, as so many of the inhabitants of the Western city seem to think, upon the day when the population of New York exceeds that of Chicago. It may be admitted, it is in some respects even more representative of the American spirit of progress than New York, but it requires time in which to grow a tradition capable of attracting to her the finest flower of the National life; as yet she is too much the creature of the day, the product of forces gigantic but blind.

A Great Economic Change.

Almost every day brings some new announcement with regard to the absorption of one railroad or another by some other railroad. It is noteworthy that the same group of capitalists always has these transactions in charge. Nor do these rich men confine their activity to the purchase of railroads, but they are suddenly the leading influence in the country, while people have been thinking that they saw the National drift in imperialistic and corrupt materialistic, in mechanical inventions, in broadening of religious beliefs or in extravagant living; the concentration of power in a few hands to an extent which dwarfs to modern times the concentration of power in modern transactions, has become the central and basic fact.

PROTECTORATE OVER CUBA.

New York Tribune. Webster's famous speech in reply to Hayes with an appeal to the Senate to "take its bearings" and to observe the actual facts of the case before it. The principle is a sound one, and may well be applied, for example, to the case of Cuba, now about to come under consideration.

Cuba has become an object of transcendent importance to the national and political interests of our Union. An importance little inferior to that which binds the convention members of the United States together. It is scarcely possible to resist the conviction that the annexation of Cuba to our Federal Republic will be indispensable to the continuance of the Union.

Continuing, Mr. Adams referred, in plain terms, to rumors of British acquisition of Cuba, declaring that such transfer of the island would be "an event unpropitious to the interests of the United States." He raised the question "both of our right and of our power to prevent it, if necessary, by force." A few weeks later (June 11, 1823), Mr. Monroe expressed similar sentiments, and declared that the possession of Cuba by Great Britain "would be a great calamity to us."

When "Old Hickory" was President the United States Government, through Martin Van Buren, Secretary of State, expressed a strong desire that the acquisition of Cuba "should not be transferred from the Spanish crown to any other power" (October 2, 1829). In the Van Buren Administration the Secretary of State, Mr. Forsyth, declared that the "United States will resist at every hazard an attempt of any foreign power to wrest Cuba from Spain" (July 15, 1849), and under the administration of John Tyler, the Secretary of State, Daniel Webster, made this noteworthy utterance (January 14, 1845):

The Spanish Government has long been in practice, that the United States Government in regard to Cuba, which have never changed, and has repeatedly been told that the United States never would permit the acquisition of Cuba by any other power, and that in case of any attempt to wrest it from her she might severely upon the whole naval and military resources of the country to aid in preserving or recovering it.

A Tillamook View.

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Significant Cereal Figures.

It is not gratifying to observe that the New York export of wheat from this country in the past seven months has increased over 3,000,000 bushels, the amount that went out of this port went out of 4,500,000 bushels. But the figures for corn are reversed. The total exports fell off 10,000,000 bushels and New York gained 5,000,000. The value of the export of breadstuffs decreased a little over \$4,000,000, and the decrease at this port was nearly \$4,000,000. Boston gained nearly \$3,000,000, Philadelphia nearly a million and a half, New York two and a half, Norfolk half a million, Galveston \$3,000,000, and New Orleans a million.

Victoria's Favorite Bit of Verse.

The following quatrain verse appeared unannounced in an obscure Scotch paper, and it is said that all the paragonies and tributes in prose or verse ever written of her pleased her more.

SHE NODDIT TO ME. I'm but an addy body, Larkie, in a wee body, In a two-roomed bit hoose Wi' a toofa' beside; Wi' my doo an' my pampy that I've got in my eye, But I'm far prouder 'noo! Since she noddit to me! I'm nae sae far past w'it—I'm gey trig an' hale, Chieftan plant wi' three twatties, An' look after my kaise; An' when oor Queen passes, I rin out to see! Gin ye lack she noddit notice, An' noo to me! But I've been unlucky, An' the blinde were aye doon, Till last week the time! O'er your vane can't you say; I waded my bit awn, As brack's I could see, An' the Queen lauched for kindly, An' noddit to me! My son sleeps in Egypt—It's nae sae to fraught, An' yet when I think o' it, I'm sae like to greet; She may feel for my awn, But she's a mither, an' she's nae the kent o' it, When she noddit to me!

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Mrs. Nation will never miss the bars in Kansas. She is too dead a shot.

What Spain seems to be most in need of is a public funeral with Weyler as the principal.

Of course Governor Roosevelt will expect to be mountain-tumbled on his return to Washington.

If Miss Clara Barton is looking for employment, she can find plenty of work in her line in Kansas.

Few critics of the holder of a fat office can be accused of not being willing to put themselves in his place.

The dark horses for the United States Senatorship are now bobbing up as candidates for Chief of Police.

The commotion created by the Lincoln Commemorative is not so great as to interfere with public business in Nebraska.

New York owes \$300,000,000. That is a sum which might even worry J. Pierpont Morgan a little on the day it fell due.

The former leader of the Alabama Populists has become a Republican. He has probably fallen heir to a little property.

Richard Croker sends word from Wantage that he is a new man, but his opponents still have him listed as an old fox.

The Belgian Parliament has passed a law prohibiting all games of chance. Is the Belgian hare included in this prohibition?

He put a stick of dynamite inside a stove to heat. He didn't dream at all that night, Or his sleep was calm and sweet. Some of him slipped upon the hill, Some of him in the vale, And some beside the twinkling rill That bubbles through the date.

King Edward will watch the Solent yacht races from the shore next Summer, while the Emperor of Germany avows the same. The Emperor is a society booby, that a King in the hand is worth two on the deck.

Julian Ralph explains the philosophy of the latest gorgeous pageant in London by remarking that the English people are so suffocated and chilled by fogs and depressing climatic conditions that they hunger for relief in color and merriment.

That is why they have the most gorgeous army in Europe; that is why they drink more than any two nations on earth; that is why they wear more red on the streets and keep up their medieval pageants longer than their neighbors, and are the greatest patrons of the theater, and the most ardent lovers of pantomime and ballet on earth.

The highlifter's eloquence that stirred the halls of state. The dignified an' noble band that come to legislate. The smooth an' slippery lobbyist, who whispers in your ear. "Good mornin'" 's if he felt afraid some candidate was near.

The gang that gathered every day to pull for this or that. Until the members scarcely knew the place where they was at. The fellow with the little bill that had to pass, The fellow with the little bill that had to pass, It didn't matter if it took a barrel full of dough.

The folks that was bleedin' and the others that was bleedin'. They all bow flew the coop at last, an' politics is dead. The janitor is sweepin' in the halls where yesterday. The mighty makers of the laws was havin' their say. His work was mostly done for him, for every thing worth while. Was talked by the members, lest, remainin', it would spile.

There ain't no sign o' leaders nor no track of them they led. The place is quiet as the grave, for politics is dead.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHS

"So the poet is financially embarrassed?" "I should say so. Why, he actually has to eat bread and butter for dinner."—Philadelphia Record.

"How delightfully your dear daughter plays Wagner?" "I'm afraid you've made a mistake; that's the servant girl down stairs who plays Wagner."—Chicago Times-Herald.

"There's a lesson in that would-be Western epigram who died after eating six pigs' feet?" "What is it?" "That four feet are enough for an pig."—Chicago Times-Herald.

Small Customer (to general storekeeper)—Mother says as would you mind wrapping up the kipper in a hillystrated paper, as her walls are getting very bare. Letter Larkie from Never—"You may recall me, sir, as the man who wopped with your daughter about a year ago." "Well, sir, what to do for her, or for you see I've never—" "Tardy, but I have come to offer you my congratulations."—Harper's Bazar.

Facts in the Case—"And, the sociologist asked, 'do I understand you to say that you hanged this cousin of yours on circumstantial evidence?' "Oh, no, boss, no; dey hanged him on a big cottonwood down in Awkenson."—Chicago Times-Herald.

He-Claire, I've heard it said that a kiss without a mistake is like an egg without salt. Is that so? She-Well, really, I don't know—I can't say for you see I've never— He-Ah! Now! She-Never eat an egg without salt.—Glasgow Evening Times.

He Wanted to Know—"Uncle Geshaw from May Bay got into grand trouble. What's that he is score. Uncle Geshaw (brightening up)—The 'score?' Well, by gum! I wish you'd ask him who's whoed."—Puck.

Minne-Towne-Towne.

Illusion-Star. Then arose the gifted Charley, Charley Towne of Minne-Towne, Towne, the accidental statesman, Statesman from the Zenith City, Minnesota's Boanerges, Champion of Aguinaldo, Full of zeal to earn his mileage, Towne, tall-ender, tall and talky. Opened all his vocal flood-gates, "burred times-Hato a fever, Shook his little bag of brimstone, Pointed with a scornful finger. At the country's "fused slaughter." At the man within the White House, At the whole sun-dated business From the battle of Manila. To the Philippine Commission, And be thundered and be snorted, And be snorted and be thundered, Sang fortissimo his swan song. Believed his mighty words, Split the ear drums of the groundlings, Ramped and roared and whooped regardless. Till the pale, affrighted hearse Shook and shivered to their marrow, And in agitated whispers Asked the question, "Why in thunder Can't he stop? He's earned his mileage!" Then the ferry, untamed statesman, Minnesota's Boanerges, Champion of Aguinaldo, Roster for the Filipino, Howling derisive of the antics, Wearing Cushman Davis' toga Like a beanpole in a clothes-bag, Vocalist of non-expansion, Shook his little bag of brimstone, From Duluth, the Zenith City, City of the seas unholed, Feeling his last hour approaching, In a fit of rage and indignation, Lifted up his voice and shouted, Sounded forth his solemn warning, Gave the world his farewell message, And said the most important thing, Wiped his chin, pulled down his waistcoat, And made way for his successor.