The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon TELEPHONES.

Editorial Rooms 166 | Business Office ... 667 REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES. By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance
Daily, with Sunday, per month.
Daily, Bunday excepted, per year
Daily, with Sunday, per year
Sunday, per year
The Weekly, per year
The Weekly, 28 months.

To City Subscribers-Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted 15c Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included 20c

POSTAGE RATES.
United States, Canada and Mexico: to 16-page paper.... Foreign rates double

News or discussion intended for publication in The Oregonian should be addressed invaria-bly "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual. Letters relating to advertisof any individual. Letters resulting to any business matter should be addressed simply "The Oregonian."

The Oregonian does not buy poems or stories from individuals, and cannot undertake to refrom the control of t turn any manuscripts sent to it without so No stamps should be inclosed for this

Purpose. Fuget Sound Bureau—Captain A. Thompson, office at 1111 Pacific avenue, Tacoma. Box 955. Eastern Business Office-47, 48, 49 and 59 hene building, New York City; 469 "The kery," Chicago; the S. C. Beckwith special

agency, Eastern representative. For sale in San Francisco by J. K. Coo 746 Market street, near the Paince Hotel; Gold-smith Bros., 236 Sutter street; P. W. Pitts. 1908 Market street; Foster & Orear, Forry For sale in Los Angeles by B. F. Gardner,

250 So. Spring street, and Oliver & Haines, 106 So. Spring street. Por sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street For sale in Omeha by H. C. Shears, 105 N. ixteenth street, and Barkalow Bros., 1612

For sale in Salt Lake by the Salt Lake News Co., IT W. Second South street. For sale in New Orleans by Ernest & Co.,

115 Royal street.
On file in Washington, D. C., with A. W. Dunn, 500 14th N. W. For sale in Denver, Colo., by Hamilton & Kendrick, 906-912 Seventh street.

TODAY'S WEATHER.-Occasional rain and

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, MARCH 1.

Suppose the United States were at war with Great Britain in the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico-what sort of a figure in affairs would be cut by this Cuban constitutional provision that the island shall not be the basis of military operations "for the United States or any other country"? maica is one of the factors in control of those waters, Cuba is the other. To contemplate that we should use our own ports only while Great Britain had the use of Jamaica is to make a proposal most foolish and unlikely. Not only that, but who is going to enforce such a provision? Cuba cannot do it slone, so her only dependence for repelling foreign attack rests with the United States. It is little short of preposterous, therefore, for the Cubans to war with a European state it has no more privileges there than are equally open to our foe. Yet all these things are probably getting far more attention and air of importance than they deserve. What relations Cuba sustains United States and the United to the States to Cuba are not for the constituless there or swelling Senators here to determine in advance. They will be determined by events. How worse than bootless it is to attempt to control the future by joint resolutions is seen in the Spanish War and the declarations that preceded it, just as the Civil War long before had also abundantly demonstrated. If Congress is governed by common sense, it will annexation so desirable that Cuba shall hurry into the Union of its own accord. It will be the part of childish folly to grant independent Cuba the trade privileges she will be entitled to expect after annexation. This is the way to settle the Cuban problem.

Do not imagine, because the opposition in the Senate is allowed to discuss the Spooner amendment without reply, that there is no reply to make. These panegyrics to liberty and eulogies at the tomb of the Constitution are offered with a very definite object in view, and that object is to deny the Philippines. The hope is to delay and the Republican Senators to have to sit still and repress the tomes of oratory on tap for their side of the question, but it is the necessary price of passage of the amendment. There was a real danger in the Spooner amendment in its original form, because it lacked the ippines; but the danger has been eliminated through adoption of the Hoar amendment supplying that lack. The civil government in the Islands. Without such authorization, he is merely in military occupation there under the entls hesitate to grant such authority? Partly because they cherish a proval upon their scuttle policy; but principally they hesitate because with the enactment of the Spooner measure of Congress. So long as he hasn't authority they can denounce him. Once it is granted, their complaint falls. Here is the meaning of the long battle It is a discreditable move in a lost

of picked men to select a President college a deliberative body it would nat- Scotland for the year 1899 says: a single place. Instead, the Constitu-tion provides that the members shall thus rid of the huge volume of drunkenness meet in their several states. The conmeet in their several states. The con-vention voted down a provision to allow them to assemble in Washington so charged rose to 112,003, another record figure. tably thrown back upon the simple fact factured, but it is not for lack of three provinces with a population of that the device was nothing more or "saloons"; that is, "beer halls" and 50,000,000.

Much baseless legend is doubtless in-

the Constitution's acceptance by the convention Madison favored an election by the people, but he believed the carefully their interests were safeguarded is evident in the fact that today Illinois, with eighty-five times as many people as Nevada, casts only eight times as many electoral votes. This is not to say that the electoral college has not worked well, or that it lofty ideals of the Fathers were refracted through some very cracked and twisted prisms of conflicting interests.

Conger was never anything but a fidgety politician of the wasp type, and when he was transferred from Brazil to China pursuant to some trade in which the Brazilian mission was involved, the Administration was warned that it might expect trouble from him if matters of grave import should arise, The Pekin horror and the stress of criticisms and caused the country to maintain an attitude of dignified forbearance and waiting towards all the actors in the melancholy affair. Nothing is left us now, however, but the conclusion that Conger's offenses have not been all of the nature of bloodthirstiness, and that little in his Pekin twelve in 1000 to nine in 1000. career will become him like the leaving of it. There has been, we cannot doubt, ugly feeling between our diplomats in China and the military. Accubrave, humane and dignified bearing of have stood out in bold relief against Conger's desire for "recognition" and cries for blood. It is remarkable, on the whole, considering the exigencies of our yellow journalism, that the Pekin bickerings have been so well screened by correspondents from the American public, Conger's recall will not only set the seal of official distrust upon his course, but also release the true story of his exploits for publication. The moral, of course, will be the mischief of selecting diplomats for political services rather than for fit-

A correspondent inquires whether The Oregonian, in its recent editorial on Washington, is correct in saying: "Washington was born higher than Patrick Henry, who belonged to the poor white class, but lower than the Randolphs and the Lees." The Oregonian is correct in the sense that Patrick Henry, while he came of intelligent and intellectual stock, did not belong to the well-to-do, landholding gentry of Virginia. Among the very wealthy landholding gentry of Virginia were the Lees and the Randolphs. Washington did not belong to this class, but to the minor gentry, men who had a very conenact that when the United States is at siderable landed estate, but were not in the first rank of colonial wealth. Patrick Henry's father was a Scotch immigrant from Aberdeen, who was scholar enough to keep a grammar school and was a surveyor. Patrick was one of nine children. He kept a country store with his brother for a time, tried farming, was not successful, and at 24 became a lawyer. His father was a poor man in distinction from a rich, landholding Virginian, and Patrick did not socially stand as high as Washington. whose father was a large landholder and a man of sufficient property so that Washington's patrimony would have cation, Patrick Henry probably was better equipped than Washington, if he learned all his father could have taught him. But the evidence is strong that in boyhood he was an Idle scholar, and Jefferson, as recorded in Daniel Webster's autobiography, says that while Henry was a man of astonishing genius as an orator, he had no taste for books, returning to him "Hume's Essays" unread, saying that "he could not understand such books." Henry confessed this with embarrasement, saying that in his boyhood he had been hunting when he should have been at his books.

DRINKING IN EUROPE. The popular notion that the "saloon Administration authority to act in the is peculiarly an American institution is a mistake. The drinking-places in defeat the bill. It is a cruel fate for England and Scotland are called "pub- seat of a valuable trade, there is every lic houses," "boozing kens," "alehouses." etc. In Germany there are "beer halls" and "wine shops," and Paris is full of drinking shops of all increase it. Nevertheless, peace will sorts, as anybody who ever read Zola's not be fully restored in a day, for the novel of "Drink" can testify. And in all these countries the consumption of very proper reservation to Congress of alcohol in various forms is greater than recent outbreak. The chief cause of disposal of the public lands in the Phil- in America. France consumes annually \$25,000,000 gallons of wine, or 24.25 extra-territoriality which is the central gallons per head of the population. Germany comes next with 76,000,000 galobject of the Spooner measure is to lons, or 1.5 gallons per head. In the eign merchant is in a privileged posiauthorize the President to inaugurate United States 21,500,000 gallons of wine are consumed annually, or only threetenths of a gallon to each inhabitant, The annual consumption of wine in the trealy of Paris. But why should the United Kingdom was four-tenths of a standing cause of irritation and hostilgallon per head, or 16,000,000 gallons, Germany consumes 1,382,000,000 gallons vague but vain hope that somehow of beer annually, or 26 gallons to each civilized nation is treated. If the Westevacuation may yet set the seal of ap- inhabitant. The United Kingdom consumes 21,3 gallons per head of population, or 1,250,000,000 gallons. The United States consumes 920,000,000 gallons a there will pass away the last shred of year, or 12.6 gallons per head of poptheir pretense that the President is act-ulation. France consumes 205,000,000 ulation. France consumes 205,000,000 ing in the Philippines without authority galions, or 5.3 gallons per head. The protected, and the development of intotal consumption of ardent spirits in France reaches 74,000,000 gallons, or 1.94 gallons per head of population. Germany consumes 100,000,000 gallons of diction, there will be small material and spirited addresses of Wednesday. spirits per year, or 1.02 gallons per progress in the near future. head, The United States consumes 63,-000,000 gallons of liquor, which is equal to eighty-six one-hundredths of a gai- China in 1860 Prince Kung, the brother ion per inhabitant. These figures show corporated in the popular idea that the that Americans are decidedly the most away your oplum and your missionaries electoral college was created as a body abstemious, whether the alcoholic beverage be wine, beer or spirits. The upon deliberation. This conception has United Kingdom stands next, and yet recently been opposed by Chief Justice | Scotland, celebrated for the industry, Nott, of the United States Court of the thrift and intelligence of her people, Claims, who points out that if it had is a very drunken country. The offibeen intended to make the electoral cial report on the judicial statistics of

that in case of a failure to elect they | The Dundee Advertiser says: "In the might ballot until an election was se- matter of sheer, besotted, overmaster-Justice Nott argues that this ing drunkenness we stand without rivaction showed that the electors were als in shameful isolation." There is litexpected merely to register the will of the or no intemperance in Spain, Italy, the people. If we eliminate this aspect or Southern Europe generally. There of the electoral college from consid- is little intemperance in Southern Ger- rection of eighteen great provinces of eration as unwarranted, we are inevi- many, where beer and wine are manu-

tics, made necessary as a condition of Northern Germany, where the drink is cheap aicohol made from potatoes, smaller states. In the Constitutional there is much drunkenness. There is Sweden and Northern Russia. In a seems to be largely a matter of climate. The countries that produce beer and countries whose climate is too cold for winegrowing consume great quantities which has greatly increased in France can or should be superseded by any since the ravages of the phylloxera other device. It simply shows that the made wine dearer than vile spirits. In the United States drunkenness has desince we became less given to the exclusive use of ardent spirits and have

the consumption of beer. Regulation of the liquor traffic in New York State under the Raines law shows some excellent results. Since the law went into operation in the Spring of 1896, there has been collected under it for the privilege of selling liquor in . the Empire State more than \$61,250,000. subsequent negotiations have silenced Despite the large-increase in the population of New York State within the four years, the number of places where liquor is sold has decreased from the last year of the old excise law to the first year of the new law by over 6000; while in this period the arrests for drunkenness have decreased from Raines law puts the liquor business, like any other business, under the domain of law, which fully protects as well as vigorously punishes; and sations have been bandied back and so far as it is an evil it is not peculiar forth, and throughout the whole the to the poor and the conditions of poverty, for relatively there is as much Chaffee will pretty surely be found to drinking among the well-to-do as among the poor.

CHINA'S OMINOUS OUTLOOK.

The heads of two Chinese dignituries who were conspicuous abettors of the Boxer assault upon the Legations, have fallen by the hand of the public executioner at Pekin; two others are soon to be executed at Sinan Fu. What then? What is the probable outlook for China? It is not probable that Count von Waldersee seriously intends to send an expedition to Sinan Fu. Such an expedition would require long preparation, a strong force and water transportation on a large scale. It could doubtless reach Sinan Fu, but its success would mean the first step toward the dismemberment of China, which is not the purpose of the aliles. If it were necessary to exert military pressure on China, it would be done by a naval force on the Yangtse Klang, which could cut off the southern half of the empire from Sinan Fu, while light-draught gunboats on the Hoang Ho would close another avenue of com-

munication with the new capital. Such important steps involve the united action of the powers, and would not be approved by Russia, the United States or France. In her substantial domination in Manchuria, Russia has obtained all that she cares at present to secure, and the United States, not only as a matter of justice to China. but of fidelity to our commercial interests, desires a return to peaceful conditions at the earliest moment. Our cotton mills at the South are on half time because the Chinese market is cut off. The reduction of \$5,000,000 in our cotton exports to China is a serious loss, while our prospect of supplying China with American rails and rolling stock for her projected railroads has vanished. It is in China that the greatsupported him. Measured by his eduis ultimately to be secured, for when peace comes rallway equipment, manery, tools, electric supplies, bridges, structural iron work of all kinds, will be in large demand there.

It is reported that China is anxious

to negotiate her indemnity loan to the

United States rather than to Europe, because all China already knows that from the taking of the Taku forts to the present date the United States has been conspicuous for the moderation of its demands and the humanity of its action. At a recent banquet at Hankow, at which an American Naval officer was present, the speech of the leading Chinese dignitary referred to the fact that alone of all powers the United States refused to fire on the Taku forts. When peace does come with China, and she is once more the reason to believe that the United States will be able to restore her commerce to its old volume and probably hostility of China to the foreigner has been increased and intensified by the permanent irritation arises from the idea of all the treaties with foreign nations. Under these treaties the fortion and is withdrawn from Chinese jurisdiction. The missionary is similarly beyond the reach of Chinese law. The only efficient remedy for this longity consists, according to Sir Robert Hart, in treating China as any other ern nations would only agree to give up extra-territoriality in all their treaties, there would be friendly relations at once with China; trade would be perforeign capital would be invited and ternal resources energetically encouraged. Without this friendliness obtained by submission to Chinese juris-

The Chinese statesmen are not fools. In the English and French war with of the reigning Emperor, said: "Take and all will be well"; and later a Chinese Prime Minister, Wen Hsiang, said: "Cancel your extra-territoriality clause and merchants and missionaries may everywhere." Russia may restore to China her sovereign rights in these against another? Is not one ring of respects, but there is small hope that the other Western powers would make this concession, And yet without it there can be no real peace or satisfactory traffic with China for any long term of years to come. The partition of China could doubtless be accomplished, but it would not endure any longer than the time necessary for the Chinese to learn all Europe can teach them about the modern art of war and military transport, and then the Chinese would rise up and expel the foreigner, for then it would be the insur-400,000,000 of people Instead of two or

less than a concession of practical poli- wine shops. In the cold climate of The partition of China is, of course,

possible, but its life would be maintained at a cost of men and treasure that Europe could not afford. Such a much intemperance in Norway and scheme Russia, France and the United States would not support. Permanent smaller states would not consent. How broad sense hard drinking in Europe peace and resumption of trade must come through some modification of the old-time methods of the foreigners in wine easily are temperate, while the dealing with China. The reformation of China is only possible through the reformation of the bitterly offensive of cheap spirits, the consumption of foreign methods which kindled resentment and fostered it until it broke into open violence in the Pekin Province. The allies have used the most sacred temples of the Chinese religion creased in proportion to the population in Pekin as the feeding-places for the horses of their cavalry. The British turned the old South Church in Boston enlarged our area of winemaking and into a stable for their cavalry, and yet they did not conquer America,

THE RULE FOR NEUTRALS.

Richard Harding Davis ought to know better than to denounce the purchase of mules and horses by British agents in this country as a violation of the cruisers of either belligerent flag would be held contraband of war if there was evidence they were intended The the obligation of neutrals. Great Britain has the same right to buy horses here as the Boers had to buy munitions of war.

The sale of all war material, except ships equipped for war or built so as to be equipped, is not a violation of our obligation as a neutral power. Our neutrality laws forbid the use of our territory as a base for military organization. Troops cannot be enlisted and organized, but individuals can go as individuals to any war. English officers and German officers and French officers served on both sides during our Civil War, but they joined as individuals. Men went from this country to join the Boers, but they could not go as soldiers. Horses can be bought and sent. but they must not be organized into cavalry companies on our soil. A private firm can sell naval guns, but cannot furnish an armed cruiser. Ammunition may be bought, but it cannot be put in the magazines of a ship of war in our harbors. Agents may buy chandise.

We enforce today against Great Britain and the Boers the same policy we did against France and Great Britain in the Napoleonic wars. In our Civil War the subjects of Great Britain sold contraband of war without restraint to the Confederates, but when the English shipbuilders began to fit out Confederate armed cruisers from their yards the British Government on the peremptory emand of our Government was obliged to interfere, for this was as clear a breach of neutral obligations as it would have been to have raised and organized on British soil a Confederate brigade. Sir John Crampton, British Minister at Washington, was recalled on demand of our Government, which charged him with attempting to enlist oldiers in this country for the Crimean War of 1854-56.

The Pennsylvania Legislature has unanimously passed, and the Governor has signed, resolutions addressed to Congress under article 5 of the Constitution. The scandal of Quay's re-election has drawn the attention of the aware has already given rise to charges of bribery; the deadlock in Nebraska threatens to leave the state wholly unrepresented in the next Congress, and the deadlock in Montana is another significant fact. A State Senator of Massachusetts who has served some years in one of the worst of our boss-ridden states writes the Springfield Republican as follows:

My experiences of the last three years con vince me that unless something is done to prevent the enormous expenditures of money in order to control state Legislatures in favor of certain aspirants for membership in the United States Senate, and the purchase of votes after the Legislatures have assembled, the Senate will soon be degraded into a stock board in which the price is fixed upon each seat; and I am convinced it would be infinitely better for some states if the United States Senatorships were put up at auction and the proceeds of the sais of the seat turned into the public treasury. This would lessen the amount of bribery, and at the same time would be adding a handsome sum every few years to the

A member of the Montana State Senate complimented the "Father of His Country" a few days ago by voting for him upon the daily roll-call for United States Senator. Upon being asked facetiously if he did not know that George Washington was dead, he replied: "Certainly; but some of your fellows have been voting for men who are politically just as dead for thirty-three days, have you not?" Of course, not being an Oregon legislator, this honorable Senator could not have had our Hermann in mind, nor yet our senior United States Senator, who but now sadly turned his face eastward to finish up work that he never began.

The returns of the foreign trade of the United States for January indicate mitted everywhere; the investment of a vast and constant strengthening of our financial relations with the rest of the world. The first month of the twentieth century, as shown by the records, has distanced even the stupendous trade of the corresponding month of the for the month was \$136,317,354; that of the imports, \$69,100,194, or at the rate of \$1,600,000,000 for exports, leaving an annual trade balance of \$899,000,000 in our favor.

Office-holders under the present Portland regime are asking Governor Geer to veto the new charter. But in a pure Democracy like ours, should there be discrimination in favor of one crowd grafters just as worthy as another?

Mrs. Sitton is the first woman candidate for School Director. Voters should take their chivalry with them to the

The St. Louis Exposition is to be closed on Sunday. How would Oregon barbers like that with our exposition?

If it were not for military experts at London, the cause of England in South Africa would be hopeless.

Mrs. Nation has become an editor for rest, and not to make the pen mightier than the hatchet.

ELASTIC CURRENCY THE SAFEST. St. Paul Pioneer Press.

While there is not the slightest prospect that the Senate in the crush of business

now upon it could act upon the Lover-ing currency bill before the close of the session, the passage of that measure by the House would have an immense educa-tional value, and help to prepare the country for a similar measure in the next Congress. It would serve to attract attention to the matter, evoke criticism and furnish a series of texts upon which the principles of sound currency might be preached. The Lovering bill, it may not be superfluous to point out again, provides for a bank currency proportioned to the paid-up capital of the issuing bank, guaranteed by the Treasury and secured by a safety fund. While it leaves the bond-secured issue intact, it initiates a system of elastic currency and provides for the gradual increase the issue. The purpose of the bill is to give a practical illustration of the benefits of an elastic currency, and thus to do away with the groundless prejudice which he thus far prevented the adop-tion of a system that has proved itself in other countries to be invaluable and free from defects and dangers of the the obligation of neutrals. Horses and bond-secured currency, whose distinguish-mules captured on the high seas by automatically responding to the needs of business that during the decade when the business of the country and the need for the service of either belligerent, the volume of bank notes fell off more but the sale of contraband of war to than 50 per cent, or from \$355,100,000 in sither belligerent is not a violation of 1882 to \$168,000,000 in 1881. Not only over long periods, but over short periods, has this absurd currency shown itself utterly irresponsive. The cost of the bonds, the difficulty of securing them and other factors, not only made the issue of factors, not only made the issue of notes comparatively unprofitable to the banks, but made it impossible for them to use this sort of money to send to the West or the South when there was a sud-den local demand. During the depression, when new bond issues and the slowness of the market brought down the price of bonds, there was a partial recovery in the volume of banknotes. But that occurred at the very time when business was inactive and there was the least de mand for money. It is needless to point out that the want

of a practical currency such as all other progressive countries have has imp a handicap upon business in the United States, has aggravated disasters and retarded recovery. But in spite of the pai pable defects of our rigid system of cur-rency and the freedom of other countries from the evils to which it gives rise, there remain many prejudices against the institution of an elastic currency. One of the most widespread objections to the substitution of notes secured by the asmunitions of war, but they must be sets of the banks instead of by United bought and shipped like any other mer- States bonds is that the security would be insufficient, and that the holders of notes of a failing bank might suffer loss. As a matter of fact, the provisions of the Lovering bill, or of any of the numerous bills for the institution of a rational bank currency introduced or suggested, give absolute security. They all have proposed a safety fund made up of the proceeds of a tax not exceeding I per cent of the circulation of the issuing banks. The Lovering bill and other bills that have been introduced provide also that the Government shall have either a first or a ratable lien on the assets of failed banks to indemnify it for the redemption of the notes, and that if the assets are insufficlent, to reimburse it, it shall reimburse itself from the safety fund. In other words, the Government guarantees the immediate redemption of the notes of failed banks, thus giving to the noteholders

absolute assurance against loss, and reimburses itself from the assets of the failed bank and the safety fund. That the safety fund, composed of the pro-ceeds of a 1 per cent tax on circulation, is more than ample to protect the Govern ment against loss as thoroughly as it protects the noteholder is not only assured by the experience of Canada, where the safeguards are much weaker than those of the Lovering bill, but by the statistics of failed banks in the United States since the national banking system country to the defects of the present was established. The Lovering bill pro-system. The Addicks deadlock in Delof only 40 per cent of the paid up capital, but Representative Brosius, of Pennsylvania, recently pointed out that if we suppose that the banks had been allowed to issue circulation to 50 per cent of their paid-up capital, and had been required to pay 1 per cent thereon for the safety fund, the total amount in 36 years that would have been paid out of that fund to reimburse the Government for its redemption of the notes of failed national banks would have been \$69,311, if the Government held the prior lien on the assets. If it had held a ratable lien the to be paid out of the safety fund would have aggregated only \$3,961,168. In the first case the amount remaining in the safety fund last October would have been \$130,953,467, and in the second case, \$134,588,201. In the light of these figures, based on actual failures over a period of 36 years, it is clear that notes secured by such an arrangement as this would be as

> without the Government guarantee, as they are with United States bonds behind Napoleon's Evil Eye. Goldwin Smith in The Atlantic, Lord Russell, when the present writer, questioned him about Napoleon's look, said, and emphatically repeated, that was something very evil in his eye. He added that the eye flashed at an allu sion to the excitement of war as con-trasted with the duliness of Elba. A feature in the character which perhaps has She was ever on the gohardly been enough noticed was a sheer lust of war, and especially of battles, the otions of which Uapoleon seems to have | Honored Araminta Dubbs. owned, were agreeable to him. It appears not improbable that this had a share, together with his insutiable ambition and his political need of glory, in launching him on his mad invasion of Russia, for which it is difficult to assign any political purpose, as he refused to restore the kingdom of Poland. Another feature not much noticed in Naleon's character is his classicism. In

absolutely certain of redemption, even without the Government guarantee, as

his early days he had employed his garrison leisure partly in reading Roman hisory; and instead of being repelled he had een fascinated by the presentation of the Roman Empire in Tacitus. We see the result in his Eagles, his Legion of Honor, his political nomenclature and the general cast of his political institutions. Perhaps preceding year. The value of exports the image of the Roman Empire as a model for reproduction floated vaguely before his mind as it does before those of our imperialists at the present day. A grosser anachronism, it is needless to say there could not be than an attempt to impose on the European family of living nations anything like the yoke imposed by Rome on a set of conquered provinces in which national spirit was extinct.

Twelve Thousand Heroes. Richard Harding Davis, I was told at Washington that the rea-

son the regimental officers did not receive the Medal of Honor, for which they were recommended on account of their bravery at the charge of San Juan Hill. was because the Government argued that if it gave the medal to one man there was no good reason why it should not give it to 12,000. A virtue which is shared by 12,000 men must be a common virtue. As a matter of fact, the members of the Knickerbocker Club in the Rough Riders Regiment and the negro regulars, who, had they not been soldiers, would have been barbers and servants, reached the top of the hill at exactly the same time. This is not said in belittlement of courage, certainly not of this particular exhibition of it, which was to me one of the most moving and magnificent spec-tacles of a lifetime, but rather to suggest that we have cause for congratulation in the fact that the proportion of brave men is so great. One might almost say that all men are brave.

THE TARIFF TO THE PRONT.

Louisville Courier-Journal The suggestion made in the financial columns of the New York Sun that if the great steel combination expects to survive its members ought to go before Congress and announce their willingness to gress and announce their willingness to accept a fair tariff law has much more in it than casual readers may think. The Sun is a partisan Republican organ, which has always been an advocate of protection, and the expression can not be regarded as an editorial opinion. Still, the observation made is one that comes so naturally to students of present economic conditions that it is not surprising to conditions that it is not surprising to

that it in any newspaper.

The process of consolidation in the steel industry is a direct invitation to the reduction of the tariff on iron and steel. The bill offered by Mr. Babcock of what the other day is only a forerunner of what is to come. If any purpose seems to be clearly defined in the formation of this gigantic syndicate apart from the removal of domestic competition in steel, it is the capturing of the world's markets. It is inevitable that China will be opened up to development in the course of a very few years, and South Africa and Russia are inviting fields, to say nothing of what is promised in our new colonies and in Cuba and South America. It will be im possible, however, for the foreign trade to be developed in competition with Brit-ish and German manufacturers and at the same time keep up the prohibitive duties now imposed upon steel products. So far-sighted a manufacturer as Mr. Carnegie in 1872 proposed to have an adjustment of tariff rates justified by the development in steel manufacture, and this develop ment has since been enormous. We are now competing successfully with the British in their own colonies; selling at ma ering of prices to foreign customers, for with the abolition of high protective du-ties there would go the mechanism by which such trusts as the American Steel & Wire Company are enabled to ex-tort exorbitant profits on commodities sold me. It can no longer be pleaded that American manufacturers must be protected against the pauper labor of Eu-rope when they are able to undersell the products of that labor abroad.

St. Louis Exposition Closed on Sun-

days. Chicage Tribune The Senate has passed the House bill appropriation \$5,000,000 for the exposition at St. Louis to commemorate the cents. nary of the Louisiana purchase, but it has tacked an amendment to the bill forbid-ding the opening of the gates on Sunday. The St. Louis managers are said to be angry because of this restriction. It is natural that they should wish to settle questions of this kind themselves, but they should not take the matter serio to heart. Chicago's experience in regard to Sunday attendance at the World's Fair showed that it does not pay to keep the gates open on that day. It is true that the Sunday opening in Chicago was not complete, as the machinery did not run, but it is doubtful whether the attendance would have been any larger in any case. If the popular sentiment against Sunday opening was sufficiently widespread in Chloago to reduce the attendance below the profitable point, it is probable that it would be still more marked in St. Louis, for the tendency to strict Sabbatarianism increases as one goes toward the South. The St. Louis fair officials should accept their \$5,000,000 with good grace, and should be glad the Sunday question has been settled for them in advance. Still more should they be thankful that their bill escaped the amendment which certain temperance organizations wished to attach to it, forbidding the sale of all alcoholic beverages on the grounds. That would have been a blow which would have affected their finances much more seriously.

The Breton Peasant.

Contemporary Review, If there is a country where the tradition of hatred of "the Englishman" as a hereditary enemy still holds, it is in Catholic Brittany. In the eyes of the Broton peasants and fishermen, the Englishman is the enemy with whom they have That is to say, the Englishman stands for the typical sailor of a man-of-war or tor-pedo-boat, whom they will fight when the thinks of him as a man. The enemy is kinds of craft for models. a unit of war, something outside ordinary life, a being in uniform whom it is glorious to kill. He is "the enemy"-something which will do great mischief th France if one does not take care, something which must be much more terrible and dangerous than they can imagine, since all the men of France lose the best years of their youth in learning to kill this eventual adversary. If ever the peasants come clearly to realize that the only use of war is to kill people like themselves; if ever each soldier becomes capable of imagining what the shock of two armies ie, and by what complicated series of lies and intrigues people are brought to the point of killing each other, the work of peace congresses will be wonderfully sim-

Mrs. Dubbs and the Clubs.

Josh Wink in Baltimore American. Mrs. Araminta Dubbs, President of fifteen clubs, Member of as many more, 'Sociate in half a score, Wrote, And read. And said, In her clubs from dawn till bed. "Must not miss my club, you know." Daybreak, Health, and Breakfast clubs Morning club, from 9 to 10. Browning club—then on again-Luncheon club, and Sisterhood,

Had for her their clubby lures. Bmile And chat Of this And that-"Paith," or "How to Trim a Hat,"
"Latest Searches for the Pole,"
"What We Know About the Soul," "Woman's Sphere," and "Help the Men," "How to Treat a Setting Hen."
"Ibeen's Mystic Inner Thought,"
"Whichness of the Why and What," 'Immortality of Plays, "Is the Walking Skirt a Crase" "Wireless Messages to Mars,"
"Chats With Famous Female Stars"-

Eucher club, and Better Food,

Ibsen club, and Amateurs,

And fro. And on The go-Mrs. Dubbs was never slow-Talked and wrote and played and drew, Took course in cooking, too Sorrow came, though, after while, In a very sudden etyle. Mr. Dubbs became quite fil; But, with martyr's fron will, Mrs. Araminta Dubbs Kept her ceaseless round of clubs. Till one afternoon, when she Was, as sweetly as could be, Speaking, with much grace and life, On "The Dutles of a Wife" To the Maids' and Matron's guild,

Which her Mrs. Dubbs repressed a sigh, Said, "'Twas mean of him to die," Just as I'm about to reach Finest part of all my speech!" But, of course, she had to quit, And that was the end of it, For, when she had buried Dubbs, Sad to tell, all of the clubs And she found herself alone

Should heed the fate of Mrg. Dubbs.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Fine July weather, this.

The Legislature has adjourned, but the evil that men do lives after them.

Conger has been recalled from China. He is too vengeful for Christian passiveness and non-resistance.

It is said that Mark Hanna is yet undecided about an extra session of Con-

The prospect of government without regular semi-annual revolution is too duit for the Cuban patriot, The Omaha kidnaping has furnished

ore inspiration to writers of fiction than the War of the Revolution. Once upon a time there was no coal in

Oregon. Now there is so much that everybody is wary of mining it. Henrik Ibsen is suffering from an illness

which his physicians can not understand, One of his plays must have struck in. It is said that cold food prevents peo-

ple from becoming fat. This will supply the Summer girl with another argument, Dave Hill is yet a Democrat in spite of all the reent thicks and thins. In this

fact, at least, is virtue worthy a reward. There seems to be some difference of pinion as to the merits of the Port of Portland bill passed by the Legislature

There was a free fight yesterday on the loor of the Austrian Reichrath Congress is, by comparison, rather a peaceable body.

Now that Democrats from Multnomah ran the Senatorial business, is the rest of the state still impatient of Multnomah It is said that McBride is entitled to re-

ward for his getting out of the way of Mitchell. But did he get out of the way voluntarily, or was he put out of the There is a rebellion against the Sultan

of Wandai. It's an ill wind that blows nobody good. The rebellion gives the Sultan a long looked for opportunity to be heard of.

The Almond Branch has gone, thank ortune. We are always glad to have deep sea vessels in port, but, on the whole, it is just as well not to have them as a permanent exhibit, The cities of Puget Sound are anxiously

oping for another railroad to Portland. Both Seattle and Tacoma are capable of secoming very flourishing suburbs, with better transportation facilities.

Superintendent Howell, of the Scranon, Pa., schools, has proposed a plan for instructing the pupils as to the manner in which a President of the United States is elected. The demonstration is to be a practical one. Each school is to constitute a convention, and each pupil is to write an essay giving the history of a Presidential campaign from the beginning to the inauguration. After these are completed, a platform committee will be appointed in each school to prepare resolutions or declarations of party principles, after which the election will be held, each pupil voting for his candidate for President. The election is expected to take place in March. Many advantages are to be had from practice of this kind, and there is no reason why it should be confined to Presidential elections.

The "poetess' in "Huckleberry Finn" was always right on hand with her tributes to the dear departed, a quality in which she is imitated by the yellow newspaper. So anxious are many of these journals to furnish their readers with lifelike pictures of the ill-fated Rio de Jantime comes for the attack, but no one eiro that they pressen into secvice all papers she is a fine Atlantic liner, with three smokestacks. In others she wears a full three-masted rig, while in still others she is about the size and appearance of the average tug. There is nothing like being prompt in such a time. The slightprobability that the Rio will be raised made it safe to print any old thing as a picture of her, and many a noble "beat" was landed by papers which had stock cuts of steamboats like which the Rio ought in reason to look.

> While disliking, Mr. Weather Clerk, to seem to interfere With other people's business, still it strikes us it is clear That you've sidetracked February and have let the months slip by. Till we wake and find we've landed in the middle of July.

We are slow to tell a fellow how his business should be run, But it's plain you've made a blunder, and that something should be done. Here it is in February, just the month of all the year

When outdoors should be an eager and a nipping atmosphere.
When the stars should shine and twinkle with
with a radiant arctic light,
And the frost should paint the screwalks and the roofs and fences white; And instead of that the butter melts dejectedly

away And the flies come forth in legions at the dawning of the day. We admit by education and experience that

Should be fitted for the duties that are given you to do, But unto a rank outsider it would very much As if you'd let your heat machine get sadly ut of gear You'd better don your overhauls and go to work tonight. And try to see if you can't get the thing to

running right.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Uncle-Well, Johnny, are you at the head of your class? Johnny-No; but I can lick the As to the Prima Donna.—"I think she's los-ing her voice." "Possibly; but I'm afraid it will last through this opera!"—Puck.

Selfishness is the meanest thing in the world inless something can be made by it, says the nedern Solomon.—Boston Transcript. Anxious to Live. "Poof Emma! She has so much to live for." "Yes; they say her hus-band's life is insured for \$50,000."—Harlem

"I wish you to pose for a centaur, one of those creatures half horse and half man, you know." "Yes, sor; which half do I pose for?" -Brooklyn Life.

Over-Anxious.-He-Who knows but when I come back from the Philippines you may be engaged to some other man? She-Nonsensel As if you were coming back without sending me word!-Harper's Bazar.

"The late editor's wife is something of a hu-norist." "Indeed?" "Yes; took a line from his original salutatory and placed it on his tombstone." "What was it?" "We are here tombstone." "What was it?" to stny."—Atlanta Constitution. Mrs. Dove-My husband always kisses me

when he leaves the house in the morning. Miss Spiter-Funny how good-natured some men are when they are getting away from home for a whole day.-Boston Transcript.

"Aren't you afraid of that man who keeps making incendiary speeches?" inquired the close friend. "Not a bit," answered Senator Sorghum. "The only kind of incendiary who stands a show of making an impression in my balliwick is a man who has money to burn," Washington Star.