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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Showers; variable winds, mostly southerly.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, APRIL 20.

FOR MEMORY'S STOREHOUSE.

Among the books submitted by various publishers for examination, with a view to their introduction in our schools, are many of the "Masterpieces of Literature." The range of modern school work is well shown by production of these books to meet a demand. All boys and girls cannot comprehend "Lycidas," "The Eve of St. Agnes," or "Snow Bound"; but some can and do. Such study is intellectual exercise of high order. On some minds the effort doubtless is wasted, but the same thing is to be said of most school work above the lowest rudiments. The question what is or what is not useful depends mostly on the capacity of the learner. Some are dull of comprehension, yet have retentive memories, and what their minds are stored with "comes to them" later. Others perhaps never see the meaning.

Yet no hard and fast rule can be laid down. There must be a school system, and it must do the best it can. It makes the same offer to all, but only a minority can take full advantage of it. This is due partly to want of capacity in many, and partly to want of opportunity. There are many children and youth whose attendance at school circumstances do not permit. "Chill penury" has not yet been banished from the world.

But there is protest against trying to force on those who do go to school things which they do not comprehend, or for which they can have no use. No exact or rigorous rule can, however, be laid down as to what is useful and what is not. That depends on the individual learner; and the public school can follow only general lines. Its course is or should be selected with a view to the best general objects. Much is said against the effort to educate by "cramming the memory"; but, though this cramming may doubtless be converted into an abuse, nobody finds or suggests anything that may supersede it. In the practical acquisition and application of knowledge the memory—"mere memory"—must always be the greatest of instruments. There is helpfulness even in "learning by rote." It is better than intellectual vacancy.

It is quite right, therefore, to force difficult literary masterpieces upon children while they are still so young as to make effort on their part necessary for understanding them. Pieces "learnt by heart," though not well understood when committed to memory, may yet do the learner good through all his maturer life. Not long since we saw an article in which the writer protested against the introduction of young children to masterpieces of English poetry like Gray's "Elegy." He recalled the fact that the line which impressed him most was: "The dark, unfathomed caves of ocean bear." He was unable to decide whether this dread animal was a polar bear, or some other kind, and he was too timid to ask. It was some years later when he bethought him what the verse actually meant. But we cannot see that he was any the worse for having learned it. The exercise was better than idleness, and when he "came to himself" he found he had unwittingly acquired something he actually wanted. Mere verbal memory is not the whole thing or the main thing in education, yet the storing of the memory in early years is productive of results which we cannot afford to forego. Besides, study ought not to be made too easy. The struggle to understand contributes to the intellectual equipment. There are ways in which it helps the child to find out, or even to puzzle out, things for himself.

NO PARDON FOR HIM.

In view of the heinous nature of the crime for complicity in which he was convicted and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary, Convict Hugh Patterson, of Albany, and his friends display a colossal impudence in asking the Governor to pardon him after one year of his sentence has expired. In his plea for pardon this criminal says that he has been "sufficiently punished for the part he took in the commission of the crime" for which he is incarcerated. "Sufficiently punished," indeed! A term of twenty years in the penitentiary for this young man and his copartner in the unspeakable outrage perpetrated upon Minnie Thorne, a helpless young girl, scarcely more than a child, who was betrayed by her own imprudence and by her lack of knowledge of brutal natures into their power, would ill atone to society for their crime. As to the girl and her family, no restitution is possible, but in the name of common decency, in the name of true manliness, a leading tenet of which bids men protect from harm the inexperienced and helpless of the opposite sex, in the name of loyal fatherhood, honored motherhood, modest maidenhood, tender girlhood and sturdy manhood, let this man serve his sentence to the full. Let decency cry "shame, shame" upon the women and men who are interesting themselves in turning aside the penalty which at best was wholly inadequate to this young man's part in one of the most revolting crimes, the rehearsal of which has sullied the court records of the state.

That Patterson's partner in this nefarious crime was, as implied in the former's petition for executive clemency, more to blame than himself, and that this partner escaped without punishment and is now at large, an element of danger in any community cursed by his presence, is a distinct discredit, to use a term much more mild than the case warrants, to the jury that allowed him to go unwhipt of justice. His escape from merited punishment is not the slightest reason for the mitigation of his confederate's penalty. It is a shame to ask pardon in such a case, but the most revolting feature of the whole business, after the outrage itself, is that a large number of women have joined in the petition. Nothing can lower the dignity of true womanhood or the nobility of true manhood, but the false in both has seldom stood forth in a moral nakedness so hideous as in this instance, as when joined together in asking commutation of a penalty unjust only because too lenient to satisfy the simplest demand of justice in the premises. A pardon in this case would go far to provoke lynching in another of similar nature—a consideration which no doubt would give pause to the pardoning power, were the Governor inclined to use it upon an object so unworthy of executive clemency.

ENGINEERS OF INFLATION.

Mr. J. J. Hill has been forging derails at a rapid rate the past few days, but there is one assertion he has not denied. It was sent out from St. Paul April 16, and consisted of an explanation of Mr. Hill's operations with Erie and Baltimore & Ohio. Mr. Hill, the story ran, has always scouted the talk of transcontinental connections, avowing that his purchases were purely a matter of investment. In the case of the Erie and Baltimore & Ohio he had no purpose of amalgamation, but only bought the stock for a rise, and the rise was incidentally promoted by the reports that transcontinental alliances were in contemplation, so that by virtue of the transaction Mr. Hill is some $4,000,000 better off than before he bought the stocks.

We shall not question the high morality as well as profitable character of this Napoleonic transaction, but it suggests a few trains of thought. At Seattle, Thursday, April 18, Mr. Hill addressed himself to a denial of several things previously printed concerning himself and his plans, and then said:

> It is true that several large railway corporations are endeavoring to make closer traffic arrangements, and that such arrangements involve the Burlington, but up to the present time there has been nothing consummated upon which to base correct statements.

Of course, if Mr. Hill should buy Burlington for a rise, and this talk of close traffic arrangements should help to promote such a rise, and he should clear a few millions on the deal, we must not be surprised to read some day in a dispatch from St. Paul that Mr. Hill had bought Burlington purely as an investment, and that he had always discouraged talk of close traffic arrangements.

Another thing. Is there no significance in the fact that the great organizers of present-day industrial deals, like Carnegie, Gates and Hill, manifest a disposition to get out of them in good shape with a large pile of profits? Mr. Henry Clews says that $2,000,000,000 of corporate capital has been made over into a few combinations with approximately $5,000,000,000 of nominal capital, of which $3,000,000,000 is common stock, based mainly upon good-will. Well, what would you call such an arrangement? Mr. Clews calls it "a stupendous inflation, which has deranged the whole basis of investment values." He says that this whole fabric of inflated securities will fall some day with a crash, and that when liquidation comes the adjustment from high to low prices will surpass many former such adjustments. He advises his friends that "the safe policy is to get out quietly whenever prices reach extreme figures."

The question is, Who will be holding this $3,000,000,000 in common stock when it drops from 47, say, to 10? It will not be Mr. Carnegie, it will not be Mr. Gates, it will not be Mr. Hill. Ten to one it will not be Morgan, either, or Schwab, or the Goulds, or Harriman, or the Speyers, or Kuhn, Loeb & Co. It is a fair inference that the engineers of these deals will know enough to get out with handsome profits and leave the rank and file of investors to "hold the sack."

To pursue the sources of this ominous situation to their origin would be a tedious and not very profitable task; but one lesson, at least, may be pointed out. This is that people rush into stock-buying, grain-gambling and mining ventures because of our outdated systems of taxation, which bear heavily on mercantile operations and real estate, but permit corporations to escape with inconsiderable assessments. It is true that there are houses enough to live in as it is, and stores enough in which to buy goods; but it is also true that industrial enterprises are amply able as they are to supply the market's demands. A considerable portion of this accumulated capital could profitably be released upon mercantile and real estate operations instead of pouring into the stock markets to congest and breed panics.

The economic solution of our immense accumulations of savings is in expansion. In Charles A. Conant's and Josiah Strong's books this problem is admirably worked out. What Western civilization needs footholds in Africa, South America and Asia for, more than for anything else, is for the chance to employ its hoarded millions, rapidly outrunning the American and European openings for profitable investment, for the chance to build railroads and steamships, bridges and factories, and bring the imperfectly developed regions up to their full capacity of production and consumption. The collapse of this industrial inflation, when it comes, will bring greater pressure than ever from Europe and the United States upon the waste lands and backward peoples of the globe. It is a movement that nothing can withstand.

Yesterday was "Patriots' day." In Massachusetts, until a few years ago, a Thursday early in April was set apart as Fast day, but as it had long lost all religious character, it was abolished, and in its stead April 19, the anniversary of Lexington and Concord and of the firing on the Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers on their way to Washington by a Baltimore mob, was established in its stead, under the name of Patriots' day. The New York Evening Post makes the excellent suggestion that a better name for April 19 would be "Liberty day," since the farmers at Lexington were not fighting for their country, but fighting for their liberty, for the recovery of rights which they held were inherent in Anglo-Saxon representative government, but had been recently abridged by a despotic sovereign.

CANONIZING A LUNATIC.

The most stupid thing that Prohibitionists have done in Kansas and elsewhere is to treat Mother Nation seriously. The common sense view of Mrs. Nation was to treat her as a blend between a monomaniac and a charlatan, and not to attempt to make any defense for her lawless behavior. Prohibition correspondents of The Oregonian, old enough to know better, have seriously asked The Oregonian to explain what "law" Mrs. Nation violated when she destroyed the property of persons who were themselves violators of law. Judge Dale, of Wichita, promptly decided that Mrs. Nation was a lawbreaker upon the ground that buildings occupied by saloons are entitled to the protection of law, and can only be confiscated by the court. It did not need a lawyer to decide this point, for a person of ordinary intelligence, nevertheless it was seriously pleaded by Prohibitionists that because a saloonkeeper was doing business in violation of law he thereby became an outlaw whose property could be destroyed by anybody without a warrant, without legal authority, without action of Sheriff or Constable; that anybody could wreck a saloon-keeper's premises without authority of law, because he was a lawbreaker, just as anybody might shoot a pirate on the high seas.

The time is not far distant when the reaction from this stupid canonization of a bedlamite as a saint by the Prohibitionists will make their wretched party in Kansas repent its folly. The result of the recent elections in Kansas shows that Mrs. Nation's crusade has not strengthened prohibition, for all the larger cities, including Wichita, Mrs. Nation's home place, went against it. The verdict in Topeka, the capital of the state, is significant. This city has a normal Republican majority of 2500, and special efforts were made to get out the voters this year, both men and women. The registration was the largest ever known in the city, the total being 15,611, of whom 8779 were men and 6832 were women. Topeka has been the principal scene of Mrs. Nation's saloon-smashing crusade. The result was an anti-law enforcement victory, the Democratic candidate for Mayor, who was also the candidate of the anti-Prohibitionists, having a majority of 11. As all the other candidates on the Republican ticket were elected, it is clear that the result was an anti-Mrs. Nation victory. Kansas has tried prohibition about twenty years, the prohibitory constitutional amendment having been adopted in 1880. The laws passed to enforce this amendment have always been grossly violated in the large cities and towns, as they are in the large cities and towns of Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire, where the sale of liquor is prohibited.

The saloon smashing of Mrs. Nation did not result in an overwhelming support of Prohibition, as was predicted by the Prohibitionists. The people of Kansas are not ready perhaps to repudiate Prohibition, but they are clearly not greatly in favor of "Mother" Nation's smashing crusade. The explanation of Mrs. Nation and her absurd supporters we need not go far to seek. On the subjects of religion and temperance fools have always pressed forward where wise men fear to tread. Macaulay, in one of his essays, says that he has ceased to wonder at any of the vagaries of superstition. He "has seen an old woman with no talents beyond the cunning of a fortune teller and with the education of a scullion exalted into a prophetess and surrounded by tens of thousands of devoted followers, many of whom were in station and knowledge immeasurably her superiors; and all this in the nineteenth century and in London." Mrs. Nation is clearly of the same breed of that nineteenth century prophetess whom Macaulay describes as follows:

> Her restless enthusiasm ferments into madness, untinctured with craft. She becomes the prophetess, the mother of the faithful, holds disputations with the devil, issues sealed pardons to her adorers and lies in of the Shiloh.

DEMOCRATS SPLIT OVER SOCIALISM

Governor Dockery's veto of the Missouri compulsory education act, on the ground of its socialistic and paternalistic tendency, stands out in sharp contrast to the socialistic tendency unmistakably revealed within the Democratic party by such an event as the recent election of Tom L. Johnson in Cleveland. It is evident that a hard fight is in store for the Democracy over this very question; for Dockery is as ambitious as Johnson, and large numbers of the Gold Democrats, whom the National convention of 1904 will seek to win back, are relentless foes of paternalism in every form.

Johnson himself has always been a Sound-Money Democrat. In 1896 he refused to participate in the Presidential campaign because his party and its candidate stood committed to free silver. Bryan and Johnson have become warm friends, but Johnson did not give up his adherence to sound money. He is his own candidate for the Democratic nomination in 1904, and expects to swing the Sound-Money Democrats to his support. But Mr. Johnson, while repudiating free silver, supports the radical socialistic features of the Democratic platforms of 1896 and 1900. He is a rich man, an able and successful man of business; he spoke for free trade when he was making money out of protection in the manufacture of steel rails; he stands for the single tax on land, although he is a large landholder; he declared for the public ownership of public-service corporations when he was profiting heavily from the private ownership of street railways; he is personally popular with the working classes, and he is a Southerner, born of an old Kentucky family. He is described as a sincere man, of earnest convictions, and is an able politician, who manages his own campaigns so skillfully that in the late contest in Cleveland he obtained the support of the saloon element without losing strength among the temperance people. He has popularity, large wealth, and oratorical ability; and with his tendency to push the socialistic drift of the Democratic party to a radical extreme, he is fairly regarded as a candidate who is likely to have great strength before the Democratic National Convention in 1904, and great strength before the country at large if he should be nominated. His friends insist that he is the only leader in the Democratic party on whom both factions can unite.

The nomination of Mr. Johnson would mean the nomination of a man far more radical in his ideas, save in the matter of the currency, than Mr. Bryan. The nomination of a "single-taxer" and an advocate of public ownership of public-service corporations means Bryanism modified and readjusted along socialistic lines, rather than a return to supremacy in the party of the old Gold Democracy of Whitney and Cleveland. It means the setting aside of Bryan's silver policy with the retention of the other radical features of the Democratic National platform. Johnson has the friendship of Bryan and the sincerest friends of Bryan. The New York Sun thinks Johnson represents "a square and radical social and political issue with the Republican party," and that in the present Democratic drift to socialism "the single-taxer, municipal ownership Tom Johnson would be a logical candidate and appropriate leader."

Whether it be Tom Johnson or another, it is clear that the Democratic party in 1904 will be sore beset by its Populist element, which believes in municipal ownership of public utilities and in the enlargement of the sphere of government action in respect to the control of railroads. This element will contend for advocacy of extension of the paternalism in government now represented by Government ownership of the mail service to Government ownership of the railroad service. Free silver is dead, but Populism in the direction of state socialism and Government paternalism will be found alive and kicking in 1904 within a powerful faction of the Democratic party. The issue of that campaign now promises to be the domination of protected corporations; but if the socialistic Democrats have their way, this issue will be more or less obscured by that of paternalism. The Republican managers will hope to see the socialists succeed, and the wish is doubtless father to the thought. Such help as Johnson can get from Mr. Hanna is likely to be ungrudgingly bestowed.

The Washington State Grain Inspector's office is just at present the storm center of a lively political row. So many political rewards were earned in the last campaign that a heavy draft has since been necessary on all kinds of "graft" throughout the state. The immediate trouble is over the attempted removal of the Deputy Grain Inspector at Seattle to make room for a Tacoma politician. The argument used by those who are endeavoring to keep the Seattle man in office is that the man who is slated as a successor is a cigarmaker, and is unfamiliar with handling and grading grain. Just why this should be an objection is not apparent. The Washington state grain-inspection service has never been regarded in grain-shipping circles as anything but a means for providing useful political workers with a position at the expense of the farmers. Not a bushel of wheat is exported from a Washington port until it is inspected by men appointed by the Portland Chamber of Commerce grain committee. The Liverpool Corn Trade Association pays no attention whatever to the grades established by the Washington Grain Inspectors, but buys and sells on the grades established for Washington wheat by Portland dealers. If it becomes necessary to break up Inspector Wright's office-holding family in order to make room at the trough for another political pig, Washington politicians, like love, "will find a way." They will also find it unnecessary to make any apologies for supplanting one ward politician with another, as the benefits which the grain-producer will reap from the grain-inspection service will not be affected in the slightest degree by the change.

The editor of an alleged grain paper printed in this city, after a 48-hour tour of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, tells the Walla Walla Union that 10,000,000 bushels of wheat are yet to be marketed in the three states. It is the reprinting of such stuff and nonsense as this in reputable papers that is responsible for the continued strength in the freight market and the attendant low prices for wheat. Locally, where the source of this information is known, it is regarded at its true worth, but where it is given currency by responsible journals it results in serious loss to the farmers. There are not 10,000,000 bushels of wheat, and there are not 5,000,000 bushels of wheat, available for export in the territory mentioned, and the sooner the foreign shipowners learn the truth of this matter, the sooner will they accept rates for spot and near-by ships in keeping with the actual condition of business.

As predicted some days ago, the state institutions at Salem will be able to get all the wood they require for fuel, in defiance of the wood trust recently organized to put up prices on the state. The forest fuel supply has not yet been depleted in the Willamette Valley to an extent that makes a corner in wood possible. Sturdy choppers, each possessed of a good ax and a strong team of horses, form a combination that can be depended upon to hold a fuel monopoly in check in any community of Western Oregon for some years to come.

As usual, in all cases of controversy, there are two sides to this question whether the "gulch owner" or "low land owner" ought to pay for bringing the street up to grade in front of his property. Some say it virtually means confiscation. But what is "the land in the hole" worth, in its natural state? Just nothing at all. From this point of view the question is whether the owner further out or closer in ought to be taxed to make the gulch owner's land valuable. Of course, however, the decisions of the highest courts make the law.

It is very noticeable that the man who did the intellectual work necessary for production of the swindling bill as to tax arrears that was sneaked through the Legislature—the man who conceived the scheme and wrote the bill—is not coming forward to claim paternity of the measure. He is satisfied to wear his honors in a box unseen. Content with his achievement, this public thief will not announce himself.

THE PRESIDENT'S TRAIN.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The composition of the special train upon which the President and his party will make the 10,000-mile trip to the Pacific Coast and return has been determined. It will consist of an engine and seven cars. The combination baggage and smoking car "Atlantic," the dining car "St. James," two compartment cars each with seven staterooms and two drawing-rooms, the "Omena" and the "Diana"; two 12-section drawing-room sleepers, the "Pelion" and the "Charmion," and the private car "Olympia," which will be occupied by President and Mrs. McKinley. The "Olympia" will be used only on the trip out, the return being made in the private car "Campania." It will be one of the finest trains ever put on a railroad track. The "Olympia," in which the President will go West, has been used by him on other occasions. It has five private rooms and one sofa section. Two of the rooms contain brass beds, large mirrors, wardrobes and every convenience. The dining and observation-room is located at the rear of the car. It is finished in vermillion; the private rooms are in maple, mahogany and oak, and the kitchen in English oak. The car is lighted with gas and equipped with steam heat. The "Campania" is almost a counterpart of the "Olympia." The compartment cars, in which the members of the Cabinet and their wives and other guests will travel, are finished in vermillion, elaborately carved, and the rooms are painted in ivory and gold. The ceilings are beautifully decorated, and the upholstering and draperies are in harmony with the general color scheme. The combined baggage and smoking car is fitted up with a barber shop, bathroom, writing cabinets and a library.

Hurts Mrs. Maybrick's Case.

Henry White, secretary of the United States Embassy at London, was introduced to the President today before the Cabinet meeting by Secretary Hay. Mr. White is here on his annual visit to this country and will return to England next month. He has taken a great interest in the case of Mrs. Maybrick.

"The worst thing that could happen for Mrs. Maybrick," said he, "is for some one to resume the agitation of her case in his country. Her eventual freedom has been delayed by the agitation over here. The revival of the talk has led to abusive letters being sent to the English authorities by people in this country. Even Queen Victoria was the recipient of several letters from enthusiasts in Mrs. Maybrick's cause. I have been working on the case ever since Mrs. Maybrick was sent to prison, and at every opportunity to do something for the unfortunate woman, I have exerted myself with every Home Secretary in the British Cabinet. I have no means of knowing what King Edward will do, but I do not believe he will interfere in the case. Mrs. Maybrick is in the Aylesbury prison and is kindly treated. I hear indirectly from her twice a week. Her health is not seriously affected, although she has not been in the best of health. She is fairly cheerful and has a good prison record."

Resignation of Mr. Kasson.

John A. Kasson has severed his official connection with the State Department, where he has been since the beginning of Mr. McKinley's administration, engaged as Special Plenipotentiary to conduct the negotiations which resulted in the drawing of a number of reciprocity treaties and arrangements under the terms of the Dingley act. Although thus severing his official connection, Mr. Kasson holds himself ready to respond to any call of the department for the special information of which he is posessed. Meantime the bureau in the State Department which he organized will continue in existence so that the highly trained expert force may be of service at short notice whenever the Secretary of State decides to resume reciprocity negotiations.

Appointed by the President.

The President today made the following appointments:

State—S. T. Stapleton, of West Virginia, to be Consul of the United States at Nueva Laredo, Mexico.

War—Howard A. Grube, to be assistant surgeon of volunteers, with the rank of Captain.

Interior—Morris C. Barro, to be receiver of public moneys at Douglas, Wyo.; Ephraim H. Smock, to be receiver of public moneys at Buffalo, Wyo., and Alpha T. Hoyt, to be register of the land office at Sundance, Wyo.

French Miners Will Strike.

A strike by the coal miners of France, planned to be general and to include all the miners in the country, is scheduled to take place about the end of the coming June, unless terms are agreed upon before that date. This latter eventuality is not expected, according to United States Consul Brunot, at St. Etienne, in a report to the State Department. There is likelihood, too, that other trades will join the strike.

Short Cabinet Meeting.

The Cabinet meeting today developed nothing of importance. It was said after the meeting adjourned that there were no advices from China, and that nothing of public moment was discussed. The session lasted less than an hour. From now until the departure of the President for the West only those having the most urgent business will be seen by him. He has an immense amount of public business to dispose of during the next eight days, and it would be impossible for him to get it out of the way if his days should be given up to receiving visitors.

Says There Is Peace in Colombia.

The Colombian Minister, Dr. Martinez Silvela, has received a cable dispatch from Bogota saying that the government authorities have the situation completely in hand, peace and quiet being restored at all important points, and the revolutionists being scattered to the interior regions. It is added that the extensive river commerce has been resumed and that the exports of coffee and sugar are being revived in a most satisfactory manner.

Amendatory Treaty Signed.

The President has signed and ratified the treaty amendatory of the Brussels convention for the protection of industrial property, and the document has been forwarded to Brussels, where it will be deposited.

Admiral O'Neil Retained.

Secretary Long today recommended to the President the reappointment of Admiral O'Neil as Chief of the Naval Bureau of Ordnance. This recommendation is equivalent to a reappointment.

Examination of Army Chaplains.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—The President recently appointed 17 army chaplains. Under the law all such appointments are subject to examination except in the case of chaplains serving in the volunteer establishments, of which there are only six. The War Department has just completed arrangements for the examination of the remaining 11, instructions having been issued to the board defining the scope of the examination to the chaplains as follows:

First—English grammar, including orthography, reading, writing from oral dictation and English literature.

Second—Mathematics, including arithmetic, algebra, to include the solutions of the first degree containing one unknown quantity, the use of logarithms, the elements of plant geometry, plane trigonometry and surveying.

Third—Geography, particularly in reference to the United States and North America. The outlines of general history and particularly the history of the United States.

Fourth—The Constitution of the United States and the organization of the Government under it, and the elements of international law.

Fifth—Physical aptitude, as determined by the medical examination.

Sixth—Moral character and civil record as verified after a thorough investigation by the board.

AMUSEMENTS

The people who crowded out of the Marquam last night were talking about Edythe Chapman, volubly and enthusiastically. They had just seen her rise to meet the first really great opportunity she has had in Portland in a fashion which, exceeding mere art, fell nothing short of genius. And they were trying as best they could to express their admiration to one another in a manner which should be convincing. It was a hard task, for all wanted to talk at once, and if the catastrophe which attended the talk-fest on the Tower of Babel did not descend upon them it was because they were too soon in the open air, and, dividing into little home-going groups, went their several ways, separating the great volume of voices into inocuous units. Miss Chapman has played many characters—in fact, everyone she has attempted to—remarkably well, but she never before has been seen here in a part like that of Cigarette in "Under Two Flags," which the Neill Company presented last night. It cannot be said that the role fits her, for it doesn't. Rather by sinking her identity and entering into it with all her mind, soul, and strength, she fits the role, and fits it so perfectly that the actress becomes the character, and the violent love, the undaunted spirit and the passionate nature of the little vivandierre are real as life to those who watch her; while her pitiful death is a calamity which they all feel as a personal bereavement, and long for the means to avenge. And for fully a minute after the fall of the curtain on the last tragic act, they sat in their seats blinking at their surroundings as if wondering when and how they woke up from their dream. Then they began to talk, and their theme was the actress whose spell had held them like an opiate.

The play itself is a melodrama of melodramas, often stilted in its language, lurid in its situations, and manifestly and ridiculously impossible, yet, for all that the story of the little soldier girl whose love is an alternating current of fury and tenderness is simply and directly told, and the plot of which it forms the theme holds the interest like a burning building. So, if Bertie Cecil was making a rather unusual sacrifice in submitting to the insults of a cowardly superior in the French Army in Algeria rather than declare his innocence of a forgery committed by his brother, the audience pities his miseries rather than doubts his sanity. The love of Bertie for the Princess Coronna, a friend of his better days, who finds him in Algeria and loves him, though not recognizing him in the private soldier of whose bravery she has heard so much, is adroitly employed to bring out the jealousy of Cigarette's nature, as well as to prompt Bertie to expose himself to a death sentence when Blackhawk, his dastardly Colonel, insults his sweetheart. And without such a plot, how would it be possible for Cigarette to secure a pardon for the man she loves, and, after riding through a desert sandstorm to deliver it, find she can only save him by throwing herself between him and the bullets of the execution party which are fired as she arrives, weak and breathless on the scene. Whatever, therefore, there may be of the improbable or the impossible in the story, it is lost or forgotten in the intensity with which the fortunes of the characters are followed, and the play is one which will linger in the memory when many a more matter-of-fact drama is forgotten.

Miss Chapman was not alone deserving of credit, for the Bertie of Mr. Neill was as fine a piece of acting as one would wish to see, while Frank E. Camp made a splendid Blackhawk, Miss Dean a charming Princess Coronna and the rest of the company were admirable in their several parts. But Cigarette is eminently the character of the play, and from the first time she entered in her gay regimentals until she lay, gasping her last, in the arms of the man whose life she had saved at the sacrifice of her own, it was of her that people thought, with her they sympathized and for her they feared. The air of careless bravado necessary to make the character natural sat upon Miss Chapman lightly and easily, her impassioned utterances, frequently of great length, were spoken as they could be spoken only by one who for the time being felt herself to be Cigarette, and, rapidly as her fervor moved her to speak, not one syllable was unintelligible. Her jealous rage as she charged upon the Princess with intent to destroy a rival seemed as dangerous as her realization of her rudeness and folly a moment later seemed pathetic. Her plea for the life of Bertie before the marshal brought forth a fluttering of handkerchiefs to feminine eyes, and her humiliation when her lover charged her with being unsexed was a clever bit of acting which compelled admiration. At the close of the third act when she strikes up the pistol Blackhawk has levelled at Bertie the enthusiasm was so great that it could be allayed only by a response to four curtain calls, and repeated calls followed every act. That such a performance should be appreciated as it deserved proves that Portland people are ready to respond when the occasion arises, and certainly there has never been a greater, if as great, occasion than last night.

As a production the play was given as are all those Mr. Neill puts on. The rough melodromatic corners are rounded off, the agony eliminated, and modulated voices made to convey more meaning than shouts or screams. The scenery is adequate, the artificial propagation of the desert sandstorm serving to add a touch of realism, which, while it is not absolutely necessary, helps to show what a stout-hearted little heroine Cigarette is. Altogether the production is the finest thing the Neills have given in Portland, and it is doubtful, very doubtful, if any other company playing the drama can do as much with it.

Same bill this afternoon and the concluding performance of the engagement tonight.

MATINEES TODAY.

"Under Two Flags" and Mrs. Partington and Her Son Ike.

The Neill Company will present at the Marquam this afternoon its strongest bill, "Under Two Flags," which has been the greatest New York success of the season. The company is strongly cast, and the production scenically is magnificent. Souvenirs will be distributed to those who attend.

At Cordray's the Elleford Company will give "Mrs. Partington and Her Son Ike," a farce comedy which is intended chiefly to amuse. After the matinee performance the two charming little girls of the company will hold a reception to their little friends on the stage.

Keep Them Where They Are.

Philadelphia Press.

Another effort to release the Younger brothers from the Minnesota state prison, where they are serving life sentence for murder and robbery, has failed. The Younger brothers were known as one of the worst gangs of highway robbers that infested the West 25 years ago. In 1876 in an attempt to rob the bank at Northfield, Minn., they murdered the cashier, but were subsequently captured, tried, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for life. They were hardly in prison before the effort began to excite a mawkish sympathy in their behalf and get them pardoned out. So far it has failed, however. These criminals should be left where they are. They deliberately chose a life of crime when they were young, and showed no mercy to any one who stood in their path. If they had not been captured and imprisoned, they would be robbing and murdering today. They should be kept where they are, and not turned loose on society again.

Hurrah for the Goldsborough!

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A speed of 30 knots an hour is reported for the American torpedo-boat Goldsborough, which is enough to make old Neptune's head swim.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

General MacArthur cannot make light of the commissary scandals by firing up.

Of course Aguinaldo will be invited to deliver a Fourth of July oration on Boston Common.

> In the morning call me early,
> Call me early, comrade dear,
> For tomorrow we have bock beer, gardner,
> Tomorrow we have bock beer.

Jenks says that the poet who feels that his soul is on fire ought to produce hot stuff.

Some one should present the Reichsrath with a large painting of the Kilkeny cats to hang up in its chamber.

The appointment of Emperor William's son to a position in the German Navy will not call forth any protest from Admiral Sampson.

> Now doth the weary, weary tramp
> Count many a railroad tie,
> In quest of quiet country life
> And home-made cake and pie.

A California woman is suing the girl with whom her husband eloped for $500. The facts in the case prove that the husband isn't worth it.

> In many a stream and lake and pool,
> As in old Walton's day,
> The largest fish that swim about
> Proceed to get away.

They are having a row in Tennessee because somebody tried to bribe a Legislator. Kentucky looks across the border and smiles sardonically the while.

A Pan-American commissionership will hold Mr. Barrett for a while, but we may be sure he has not forgotten that the parties will have Presidential candidates to nominate in a few years.

> Let dogs delight
> To bark and bite,
> In that way they reveal
> Just how you know
> In every show
> The losing owners feel.

A man who lives on the East Side has an Irish setter which helps itself to street-car rides whenever it feels so inclined. When the dog comes to the West Side to call on its master at his place of business, he mosies to the street-car which passes the house and is taken aboard as a passenger. The conductors all know the dog and stop for him. This animal is on exhibit at the show.

During the session of the Legislature in one of the Northwestern states last Winter, the apportionment bill being up for final passage, Mr. Wayback, from ——— County, delivered the following characteristic speech in stentorian tones, accompanied by elaborate gestures. It was caught by a stenographer, and is here reported verbatim:

> Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen: I am compelled to appeal to you in my simplicity, as it has been stated by the politicians of this House that the reasons why for the purposes of this bill was for a certain politician that this division was made. Had this not come to my own ears from this politician so clearly now I could have supported him two years from now, because I believe he is absolutely fair; but he is contrary to anything we have ever heard in the United States or in this country. I do hope this veto will be vetted by rightfully and decrease the population whereby the present members will be put where they belong.

The bench show now in progress in Portland gives rise to many stories of canine intelligence. One of the best comes from Eugene, and its truth is vouched for by a resident of that place.

Some years ago a man by the name of Millican was one of the cattle kings of the Upper Willamette Valley. A shepherd dog which he owned was noted for fidelity to his master's interests. There was a bridge near Eugene upon which was conspicuously displayed the sign: "$10 fine for driving more than 10 head of cattle over this bridge at one time." Millican's dog was employed by the herders only a few times in driving cattle over this bridge, separating the herds into bunches of 10 head of animals, until the dog understood the requirement.

Thereafter when approaching any bridge the dog ran ahead of the herders without orders to put the steers over in bunches of 10. It is asserted that the dog was accurate in his count.

It is a matter of history that a shepherd dog was an important aid in operating the trains that ran on the first railroad built in the Territory of Washington. When Dorsey S. Baker constructed a strap railroad from Wallula, on the Columbia River, to Walla Walla, the trading center of the Inland Empire, horses and cattle covered the "thousand hills" and blockaded the valleys through which the pioneer line ran. A dog was kept on the engine to clear the track when brutes became so numerous as to bring the train to a standstill. There are many early settlers living in the Northwest who tell the story of the usefulness of this little shepherd dog in operating trains on the Dr. Baker railroad.

After the dog had been used several years and was known by all the miners of Idaho and Montana who traveled that way, an accident ended his career. While doing duty on the track in front of the engine, the faithful animal was run over.

At Twilight's Close.

Frank L. Stanton in Atlanta Constitution.

I.

The day's last lingering kisses rest
Lovingly on the fragrant land;
The song-bird flutters to its nest,
In the mossed oak, by the south winds fanned;—
And Twilight steals o'er land and sea,
And weeps to think the day is dead;
But none will ever weep for me,
Or breathe a blessing on my head.

II.

The kisses of the South are cold—
The rainy April winds are sad;
The stars are not the stars of old,
And lost seems all the light they had!
Yet still they shine in heavens of blue,
And still they rise from out the sea;
But nevermore, in dawn or dew,
Shall any star arise for me!

III.

But song was sweet; and far and near,
Through all the depth and breadth of land
Faint voices, to this day I hear—
Lips, they lean to me,—kiss my hand.
And sometimes, where I faint and fall,
Even with Spring's roses on my breast
Let me believe, who pities all
Will lead to valleys sweet with rest!

Reform!

Washington Star.

Let's all reform! Let's all reform!
The sun is smilin' soft an' warm,
Your politician seeks relief
By turnin' over some new leaf,
And their example far and near
Seems thrillin' through the atmosphere
They promise they will earn our praise
An' cease their money-gettin' ways.

This money-gettin' is the thing
That takes the sweetness out o' Spring.
So let's enjoy a holiday
An' never think of sordid pay.
Let's hear the birds an' feel the air
An' have no mercenary care.
Let's bid farewell to strife an' storm,
Let's all reform! Let's all reform!