The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter.

TELEPHONES.
Editorial Rooms.....166 | Business Office...667

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance—

Daily, with Sunday, per month	$ 85
Daily, Sunday, excepted, per year	7 50
Daily, with Sunday, per year	9 00
Sunday, per year	2 00
The Weekly, per year	1 50
The Weekly, 3 months	50
To City Subscribers—	
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted	15c
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included	20c

POSTAGE RATES.

United States, Canada and Mexico:	
10 to 16-page paper	1c
18 to 32-page paper	2c
Foreign rates double.	

News or discussion intended for publication in The Oregonian should be addressed invariably "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual. Letters relating to advertising, subscriptions or to any business matter should be addressed simply "The Oregonian."

The Oregonian does not buy poems or stories from individuals, and cannot undertake to return any manuscripts sent to it without solicitation. No stamps should be inclosed for this purpose.

Puget Sound Bureau—Captain A. Thompson, office at 1111 Pacific avenue, Tacoma. Box 955, Tacoma Postoffice.

Eastern Business Office—47, 48, 49 and 50 Tribune building, New York City; 469 "The Rookery," Chicago; the S. C. Beckwith special agency, Eastern representative.

For sale in San Francisco by J. K. Cooper, 746 Market street, near the Palace Hotel; Goldsmith Bros., 236 Sutter street; F. W. Pitts, 1008 Market street; Foster & Orear, Ferry news stand.

For sale in Los Angeles by B. F. Gardner, 250 So. Spring street, and Oliver & Haines, 106 So. Spring street.

For sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street.

For sale in Omaha by Barkalow Bros., 1612 Farnam street.

For sale in Salt Lake by the Salt Lake News Co., 77 W. Second South street.

For sale in Ogden by W. C. Kind, 204 Twenty-fifth street.

On file at Buffalo, N. Y., in the Oregon exhibit at the exposition.

For sale in Washington, D. C., by the Ebbett House newstand.

For sale in Denver, Colo., by Hamilton & Kendrick, 906-912 Seventh street.

TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair; warmer east portion; southerly winds.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1901.

PROGRESS AND PROSPECT.

No one but the traveler through Eastern Oregon and Washington has any adequate idea of the stupendous advance made by that vast and resourceful region within recent years. Town and country alike have moved up to a higher plane. At Pendleton and Walla Walla villages have been replaced by bustling, beautiful cities, with busy streets, luxurious homes and an air of substantial prosperity, while through all the countryside the marks of thrift and abundance are on every hand. Prominent as an agency in this upward direction, and unique in the field of railroad enterprise, is the work of the progressive management of the O. R. & N. Company, especially revealed through its industrial department.

A wide range is covered by these developmental undertakings. The experimental farm near Walla Walla has brought grains and grasses from the ends of the earth to demonstrate to farmers what varieties are best adapted to their needs, and to afford them the results of experience as to methods of treatment. Turkestan alfalfa promises to be a priceless boon to the stock interests of the region, and the native bunchgrass, when cared for with moderate attention, seems likely not only to provide abundant feed, but to reclaim sandy tracts long abandoned as hopeless waste. The company has also exerted a powerful influence of help in the direction of dairy and stock improvement, organization of growers and of lumbermen for advantageous access to markets, and promotion of immigration.

The result of this far-sighted effort is already apparent in improvement of the physical status of the people. Diversified crops, higher grades of stock, mortgages lifted, cleaner fields, better roads, more profitable markets and more comfortable homes are a few of the outward evidences of the good work. But it would be a mistake to limit the benefits to the physical man, for it is only through the acquisition of creature comforts and escape from grinding deprivation that the way is opened for social uplift. Here, then, is a powerful auxiliary to the general progress in the condition of the common people. The basis of high society is leisure for the arts of social cultivation. The man who makes two blades of grass grow where but one has grown before is the forerunner and apostle of science and literature.

That is to say, if the Renaissance of the fifteenth century and the glorious Elizabethan age of England are any guide to the future, the amelioration of the lot of the common people, with its corresponding gifts of wealth and leisure to the upper classes, is preparing us for an era of intellectual development, which may reasonably be expected to produce another golden age of thought and feeling. No revival is yet apparent, but of the preliminary conditions the evidences multiply on every hand. The possessions and manners of the people are improved beyond comparison with those of a generation ago. Pianos, once a luxury, are sent into the homes of the millions; homespun is succeeded by modish dress, and tallow-dips by bright lights of oil or electricity; children are sustained at distant institutions of learning; the almanac is replaced by the illustrated magazine, the rumbling wagon by a stylish equipage, and the country graveyard, that once supported only the plainest headstones, gleams with polished shafts. All betoken the passing of the day of drudgery and the dawn of an era of refined society, a high plane of intelligence, art and architecture, scientific and literary achievement.

He who stands by the side of the Whitman monument in June and drinks in the beauty of the wonderful prospect before him, with its neighboring groves and peaceful flocks, winding streams and distant hills of blue, is apt to ask himself if anywhere else his eyes could meet so fair a scene. But it is a common experience in every part of this great Pacific Northwest region, with its unsurpassed beauties of natural scenery. Whether we stand before our snowy mountain peaks or look at sunset over the magnificent silver sea at the lower reaches of the Columbia, or admire the palisades and gorges of the upper river, or look down from some eminence, as at Portland, upon the always changing panorama of the Willamette Valley, or slowly steam past mossy rocks and evergreen hills of Coos Bay or Tillamook or Yaquina, there is only the same profound sense of beauty and of Nature's lavish furnishing of a land supremely blest in climate, scenery and resources, auspicious in its settlement and happy in its history. It is for us to prove worthy of the priceless heritage.

THE POWER OF CONGRESS.

Colonel Bryan should cheer up. There is really no need of his extremely pessimistic views as to the consequences of the recent decisions of the Supreme Court. We are not about to lose our liberties, nor to change our form of government to a monarchy, nor to deny to the inhabitants of our new possessions protection to person, property or industry, nor even to withhold from them the "rights of man." Any time these hundred years, windy orators like Colonel Bryan have been uttering predictions similar to those which he is uttering now. It is, in fact, but a little time since he himself was bawling at the top of his voice that free coinage of silver was the one indispensable sovereign remedy which alone could save the American people from industrial, financial and political despotism. There was a "conspiracy for gold" which he asserted would "change our form of government," and that assertion was even louder than his present one that the recent decisions of the Supreme Court will change it. The gold standard, moreover, was to destroy the liberties of the people, reduce free labor to enforced servitude, set the dollar above the man, press down a crown of thorns on the brow of labor, and crucify mankind upon a cross of gold. It is at least encouraging to find that consequences not quite so bad as these are to flow from the recent decisions of the Supreme Court.

Colonel Bryan's rhetoric seems to be growing tame and stale. Time was when his bathos was better bathos, and his magniloquence more magniloquent magniloquence. Colonel Bryan has "talked himself out." Orators of his quality always do. Their speech is stuff and rubbish, of which there could be no better example or proof than this latest "statement" by Colonel Bryan.

What are these decisions of the Supreme Court, in which the hot-blast orator finds so many dangers and evils? Simply affirmation of the historical doctrine that Congress has plenary power of legislation over territory belonging to the United States. It is a power that Congress has constantly exercised for a century. It may be exercised injudiciously, it is true. That is a question for the people of the United States. If they do not approve of the manner in which Congress exercises its power over the newly acquired territory, they will let members of Congress know it. In our country it is but a short time between elections. It is conceivable that Congress may forget "our plain duty" in dealing with the new possessions, and may enact legislation which the people will not approve; but it is not conceivable that the American people will deny the power of Congress to legislate for territory acquired by the United States. Of course, however, they will pass judgment on that legislation, and if they disapprove it will probably defeat the party responsible for it. The Supreme Court did not undertake to pass upon the political question. That right belongs to the people of the United States. The dominant party in Congress, therefore, will do well to consult its interest by minding very carefully what legislation it enacts.

But these decisions of our Supreme Court do not "change our form of government." On the contrary, they conform to it exactly; they are in accord with all precedents; they affirm a power that Congress has always possessed and always exercised. In this passage, worth republication for its clearness and historical accuracy, as often as the question is raised, the whole case is stated by the court, to-wit: "Indeed, it is scarcely too much to say that there has not been a session of Congress since the Territory of Louisiana was purchased that that body has not enacted legislation based upon the assumed authority to govern and control territory. It is an authority which arises not necessarily from the territorial clause of the Constitution, but from the necessities of the case, and from the inability of the states to act upon the subject. Under this power Congress may deal with territory acquired by treaty; may administer its government as it does that of the District of Columbia; it may organize a local territorial government; it may admit it as a state upon equality with other states; it may sell its public ownings to individual citizens or may donate them as homesteads to actual settlers. In short, when once acquired by treaty it belongs to the United States, and is subject to the disposition of Congress." Here is the whole sum of the matter. Congress has the power, but it must beware how it exercises the power, lest it lose the support of the people of the United States.

POINTS ON ASIATIC COMMERCE.

Developments, or rather expected developments, in trans-Pacific trade are supplying the Eastern newspapers with considerable "filin'" just now, and some of these writers display an astonishing amount of ignorance regarding the subject. A number of them profess to see in the recent report of a scheme for making a Pacific Coast terminus at Manzanillo the discovery of a "short route to the Orient." They follow up this discovery with columns of descriptive matter showing how freight may be taken across the country into the Mexican port, and thence by steamer to the Orient, at a great saving of time and expense to shippers.

The report of this sudden discovery of Manzanillo as the terminus of a great transcontinental railroad and a trans-Pacific steamship line is followed by the announcement that the Hamburg-American steamship line will place a number of steamers on the Pacific to operate in connection with the Santa Fe Railroad line. Both of these lines may in time be in operation, but they can never become serious or harmful competitors of the lines sailing from points in the Northwest, and they are about as far from being short routes to the Orient as could well be imagined. The air-line distance to Manzanillo from New York, which is and will indefinitely remain the principal center of trade in the East, is practically the same as from New York to Portland, but from the Mexican port to Yokohama is over 5700 miles, compared with less than 4300 miles from Portland. This difference means an additional five days' steaming for an average-speed Pacific liner.

The fact that the earth is round, and not flat, seems to have escaped the notice of some of the Eastern writers who are making and unmaking Pacific seaports on paper, and while a vessel in the latitude of Manzanillo must steam 56.4 miles to the degree, one leaving the Columbia River and following the great circle route to Yokohama need steam but 38.6 miles to the degree. The Hamburg-American line, if it makes San Diego a terminus, will be at a disadvantage of over 700 miles compared with the northern ports. So much for the ocean division of these new lines, and on shore other handicaps are in evidence. All lines south of the Union Pacific traverse hundreds of miles of a desert land which produces absolutely nothing that can afford revenue to a railroad. The expense of maintenance of these desert divisions must all come out of the traffic that originates elsewhere on the line, and in this respect the northern roads have a decided advantage, as almost the entire distance the roads traverse a country which produces something which will aid in making revenues for the road.

Portland has less to fear from the competition of these projected rival lines to the south than any other port, for the reason that the country directly tributary to this city has always produced a greater proportion of the Oriental cargoes than was possible at the terminus of other lines. With a shorter route to the Orient, and an immense traffic originating right at our doors, this city is in exceptionally fine position to handle transcontinental business with the Orient to the best possible advantage.

PORTLAND'S INTEREST NOT NEGLIGIBLE.

The visit of President Hays, of the Southern Pacific, offers a favorable opportunity for settling the terms upon which a railroad shall be built to the Nehalem and Tillamook districts. Mr. Hays represents the Harriman interests in California, and particularly in the Southern Pacific. Mr. Harriman has interests in Oregon which are represented primarily by the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company, and secondarily by its connecting lines. A conference between the representatives of the Harriman properties, the business men of Portland and the officers of the corporation which has projected an independent line to Nehalem and Tillamook is in order. Probably the transcontinental lines will do what suits them, regardless of what may be said or done at the conference, but at the same time Portland is entitled to be heard.

Apparently the most sensible solution of the problem is for the three transcontinental lines in interest—the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific, controlled by Harriman, and the Northern Pacific, controlled in its present directorate by Hill—to agree to build a joint line with Portland as the terminus. Should the Northern Pacific be unwilling to be a party to a three-fold agreement for the reason that it would be a minority holder, Harriman should go ahead and build on his own account. The Northern Pacific has a certain interest, from a railroad point of view, in the territory to be developed, but its interest is not so great as Harriman's. Its mileage in Oregon is small compared with the vast trackage of the Union and Northern Pacific. Its interest in Portland is not so great as that of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific, and the traffic it would get from Nehalem and Tillamook is not to be weighed in the same scale with that which would be the share of the other two roads.

Portland's right to a direct line has been stated to Mr. Harriman in the correspondence of his representatives in Portland, and in the proposal of the Portland, Nehalem & Tillamook to the transcontinental roads. He ought by this time to have a thorough understanding of the situation. As he is morally bound to protect the revenue of the Southern Pacific as well as that of the Union Pacific, he has a delicate question to decide, as Nehalem and Tillamook are legitimately the territory of both of these roads. Union Pacific interests appear to require a direct line from Portland, and Southern Pacific interests either a half partnership in the direct line or a satisfactory division of the traffic. In suggesting a direct line, The Oregonian does not wish to be understood as championing the route selected by the Portland, Nehalem & Tillamook. If a better route can be found, well and good, provided it starts from Portland. What Portland does not want is diversion of the Nehalem and Tillamook traffic to the Northern Pacific at Scappoose or to the Southern Pacific by way of an extension from Sheridan. Portland is quite willing for the transcontinental roads to give full consideration to their rights in this undertaking, but it insists at the same time that due credit be given its position as the chief city and natural mart and distributing point of the field.

It is not easy to predict what course the community of ownership idea is likely to take, if it is applied to the Nehalem-Tillamook region, but one thing is certain—Mr. Harriman will throw away the key to the situation if he rejects the direct route from Portland. The line has been surveyed, and from all accounts it is the best grade obtainable, and offers the advantages of low cost of construction and cheap operation. If Harriman decides to go elsewhere with his road, the direct route will still be open for independent effort. Whoever controls the direct route on substantially the line selected by the Portland, Nehalem & Tillamook will get the cream of the traffic, no matter how many roads may be built from Scappoose or Sheridan.

In a paper read before the National Conference of Charities and Corrections, held in Washington recently, President Lewis, of the New York Prison Association, said: "Practically, the vast majority of our prisons are but schools of criminality. Imprisonment sentences should be ended only by the attainment of fitness for freedom." The concluding words of this paragraph briefly present the results of the careful labors of criminologists in recent years. A stated term of imprisonment for certain classes of crime is manifestly both absurd and unjust. Our punitive system, practically speaking, turns upon the idea that all men who steal, for example, are criminals in degree as well as in kind. Hence the man driven by stress of hunger or other adverse circumstance to commit theft is dealt with according to the hard and fast rule which governs the penalty imposed upon the sneak-thief, who makes theft a vocation, and who is caught up, tried and sentenced for petty larceny. In a system permitting such inequalities of punishment there is neither discrimination nor justice. Imprisonment that ends only by the attainment of fitness for freedom, and as soon as this fitness is apparent through the daily walk of the convict, is the remedy that careful men who have made such matters a study indorse for this inequality in punishment. Such papers as that to which reference is above made, says the Boston Herald, "may some time make the world understand that vice is not always to be treated as a skin affection, but sometimes as a disease of the blood and bone."

A written constitution is a useful instrument; but the real constitution of any country is the public conscience of the nation. Liberty is dependent on the socially adaptive and creative powers of the nation, not on any written constitution. Such a document is unintelligible except as it is given meaning by the political discernment of citizens. If liberty were a product of empty phrases instead of a common understanding, would Thersites be allowed to belch "hot air," secure in his inalienable right of toleration? If political aptitude, sagacity and insight are not the real constitution of a nation, how does Colonel Bryan account for freedom in England, where the constitution exists unwritten, in the mind of the people? And yet that country, enjoying the widest scope of individual liberty, has a King and an absolute Parliament. If in America the Supreme Court actually could make Congress the absolute authority of government, there would still remain supreme in the Nation, and therefore at last in the Government, the will of the people. Colonel Bryan's vociferation on this subject is as shallow as his effort to make debased silver money the palladium of the liberties of the country.

A new thing in joint stock companies is the George Q. Cannon Association, whose stockholders are the thirty-three children of the late Mormon leader, and one nephew. The usual process in the case of minor children is to put the estate in the hands of trustees, but Mr. Cannon's offspring extended far enough to make it seem a better plan to incorporate them and turn the estate over to them in this form. When the youngest stockholder is 40 it is intended to have the association wind up its affairs and distribute its assets, but there is no reason why the association should not be perpetuated for the preservation of the estate and the benefit of the children of the original stockholders. This is believed to be the first instance of the financing of a family or the incorporation of a body of heirs to manage their joint property.

The Oregonian has always preached the error of the Democratic party in abandoning tariff reform for dishonest money. A curious similarity with that position is disclosed in this utterance of the Democratic Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser:

> If we had held to the tariff for revenue plank as one of the prominent planks in our platforms, and insisted on maintaining that sound principle, instead of wandering off after strange gods in 1896 and 1900, our party would be in a far different plight from that in which it now finds itself. When Democrats abandoned the sound-money theory the Republicans took it up and rode into power on it. Shall we let them continue in power by appropriating another distinctive Democratic principle?

The Advertiser's reference, of course, is to expansion, and it is noteworthy that Bryan, who forced free silver on his party, has been permitted to foist upon it the equally foolish cry of "anti-imperialism."

It is recorded that a naval engineer has just performed a great feat, and in so doing saved the Government $20,000. This was the removal of a damaged seventy-ton gun on the Kearsarge through a turret-hole just one-fourth of an inch wider than itself. Is it out of the range of possibility for battleships to be so constructed that injured guns can be removed without entailing any great expense or calling for the exercise of expert engineering skill? By failing to provide for a very possible contingency of this kind, it appears to the uninitiated at least that forethought in construction is sadly lacking. Otherwise these monster guns would be given more than a fourth of an inch leeway for an emergency that requires their removal from the ship.

Five men in Modoc County, Cal., were lynched by a mob which had been worked up to fury by depredations of thieves, and which believed the victims were the culprits. If the victims were not guilty, the cure is effective, because the thieves who escaped will not dare to keep up their work. If the murdered men were guilty, they will probably steal no more, at least in this life. The mob numbered many determined persons, who took the powers of government into their own hands and became in reality the government. We are prone to sublimate government into an abstraction, and such episodes are useful to keep in our minds the true basis of government.

The suggestion has been made, and it seems to The Oregonian a good one, that the members of the mining congress shortly to assemble at Boise be invited to visit the Eastern Oregon and Southern Oregon mining districts before their return to the East. This is certainly important enough to merit earnest consideration from our mining and commercial bodies. Some money might require to be raised for entertainment, but it would well repay the investment. What our mines need is to become known, and nowhere else will that knowledge do us more good than among practical mining men.

A plaint comes drifting down the Columbia from Eastern Oregon that four candidates recently catalogued for Governor all belong to the western part of the state. The lament might be louder if it had any cause for sorrow. Both Eastern and Western Oregon have thousands of candidates whose great potentiality inheres in their obscurity. Any schoolboy may be President. Why not Governor?

England's censorship in South Africa has reached that perfection where there is no danger of the country's being scared into a spasm. The British lost an important battle near Pretoria the other day; but, thanks to the efficiency of the War Department, there is not a single ripple on the placidity of the English mind.

Can the late apostle of silver, class prejudice and anarchy smite our consciences in the Philippines by howling "Taxation without representation"? Can he do this when he has been howling all the time about the treasure we have been sending to the Philippines?

Soldiers at the Presidio indulged in riot and saloon-smashing. Temperance people cannot plead the canteen as a cause. Evidently here is a case where temperance is in evil company with intemperate riot.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC CORNER

Louisville Courier-Journal.

The corner in Northern Pacific was the biggest thing of the kind Wall street has ever known. The cost to the short interest was terrific at the lowest calculation. Arbitrage houses had sold 60,000 or 70,000 shares for customers abroad, and, while these were really short, their transactions were legitimate and they will not be penalized because of the necessary delay in delivery. Not so with the sellers of 100,000 shares more than the entire stock issue, though much of this selling was done in good faith. At an advance of only 50 points a share this would mean losses of $5,000,000 to the sellers. As a matter of fact, 50 points is probably less than the real loss at which the covering was done. Premiums of 5 to 7 per cent were charged Tuesday for the loan of the stock over night, and on the next day premiums ran to as high as 35 to 50 per cent, with one brokerage house actually bidding 66 per cent for the loan of 1000 shares. Rates were again high Thursday, though the announcement had been made that the settlement would not be forced and would be at 150. Probably 70 to 75 points would represent more nearly the average cost to the short interest, a total of $7,000,000 to $7,500,000. The indirect losses occasioned by the corner were immensely larger.

The corner of this week was not the first time within a year that Northern Pacific has cost the short interests dearly. Last June when wheat speculators were circulating stories of the utter destruction of the Northwestern crop, the price of the stock was forced down to 46. When it developed that the crop damage was not so serious and that general business in the Northwest had increased enough to keep up the earnings, the stock was rapidly advanced until it got to 88. Again it was depressed, and only two months ago it sold as low as 81¼ till the announcements of the Burlington deal sent it above par.

However, Northern Pacific long ago was a great factor on the speculative situation. In 1873 and 1884, these who were "long" of the stock were brought to the verge of ruin by its depreciation in value. The downfall of Jay Cooke & Co. was due to this in 1873, and in 1884 Henry Villard and his associates were the victims. The reorganized road has had a very prosperous career since it fell into the hands of J. J. Hill and his associates. Mr. Hill began acquiring the ownership when the common stock was selling at 18, and he again bought heavily last year when it was in the neighborhood of 50. In the buying for control the stock has been forced up to prices which are simply marvelous for a 4 per cent dividend-payer, but its possibilities as a member of the Hill transcontinental system are great.

The struggle between the Hill and Harriman interests as represented by Kuhn, Loeb & Co., has apparently resulted in another Hill triumph, though it was at first thought Harriman had won. The Hill-Morgan interests, held 400,000 shares as a permanent investment, which, of course, was off the market, and which represented half the whole issue of 800,000 shares. About 200,000 shares were held abroad, most of which was bought for Kuhn, Loeb & Co., leaving only about 200,000 on the market here, and it was over these the battle of the giants was fought. It seems Mr. Hill's opponents secured enough contracts, but not actual shares. Those who had bought contracts would accept nothing but the shares, which were needed for control; hence, the unheard-of prices. The investment party has won, having the advantage of the start, and incidentally J. J. Keene has executed the greatest coup of his time in the stock market. The Morgan and Harriman banking-houses have consented to accept a settlement on the "reasonable" basis of $150 a share, but Mr. Keene shows the wolfish nature of the professional operator in the reported remark that the shorts ought to be made to settle on a $400 basis. Fortunately they will have to deal with more conservative men.

A Nasty Business.

Chicago Chronicle.

The marriage of Professor Herron and Miss Rand appears to have been a common law affair with a good deal of socialistic moonshine on the side. No vows were taken and none were necessary, for the very good reason that the doctrine which the parties to the union are attempting to inculcate expressly repudiates all authority, responsibility and obligation. If the professor be not grievously misunderstood he is a god, and, of course, his new wife, under the forms of socialism, must be a goddess. The so-called marriage ceremony was a pitiful sequel to a scandal of outrageous proportions and it ought to put an end to the interest and even the curiosity with which the participants have been regarded. The assumption of such characters to lay down correct rules of life and of religion for the guidance of other people is one of the most astounding manifestations of an era of loose thought and loose action.

An Impending Event.

Kansas City Star.

An event which seems to be impending in American politics is the downfall of Richard Croker. Political bosses, like champion pugilists, are ever doomed to final disaster. It is the nature of things that they must be overthrown, but seldom indeed does a boss think of retiring while he is in the zenith of his power. Matters appear to be shaping themselves in New York for the destruction of Croker. When it comes the people will wonder how it was possible that he ever wielded such an enormous influence. John D. Townsend's declaration in the book published five years after his death that Croker broke John Kelly's heart by base ingratitude will help to undermine the Tammany chief. He has enjoyed a long period of popularity, but this is beginning to wane, and that means the beginning of the end.

Kansas in Distress Again.

Indianapolis News.

Kansas is in dire need and appeals to the country for assistance. She wants help, and nothing short of about 20,000 helpers will satisfy her. The wheat crop is to be cut, stacked and threshed within a short time. The harvest promises to be great. Laborers are few. In the next three months at least 20,000 of them will find steady work and fine wages in Kansas, and the states north and west are in similar need. Iowa will want help, and so will Nebraska, Minnesota and the Dakotas. The great West simply languishes in its need for workers. We ought to be equal to our opportunity. Great and golden as our prosperity is, it must be met and utilized or it dissipates.

Fooling the People.

Atlanta Constitution.

One of the candidates for Governor of Virginia, who is at the present an officeholder, declared in a speech to an intelligent audience that he would rather be defeated a thousand times by the bosses than elected by them. How long is a patient public to be offered this sort of buncombe by the politicians?—Washington Post.

Probably just as long as there are politicians. We sometimes have grave doubts of that famous aphorism of Lincoln about fooling the people; they seem to revel in being hoodwinked by the sort of guff quoted above. The particular politician referred to by the Post owes his present position to the man whom he is trying to defeat by his "party bosses" cry.

Prosperity Strikes the Workingmen.

Springfield Republican.

By means of strikes, in part, but largely through the voluntary action of employers, wages are being lifted all around, and the workmen are thus coming into a share of the prevailing prosperity. It is stated in a news item from Youngstown, O., for example, that unskilled labor there is now commanding $1 75 a day, the highest price known in many years. Heretofore the prevailing rate was $1 50 a day.

COMMENT ON THE DECISION.

Atlanta Constitution.

The Constitution does not follow the flag. This means for one thing that the ultimate fate of the Philippines is still, and can for all time be an open question. Had the court held that the Constitution accompanied sovereignty the islands would, as the result of the Treaty of Paris, have to remain a part of the Union for all time. Once acquired there could be no parting with them. The court now holds that we have the right to hold them and give them any government we may choose, and that while they belong to the United States, they are not part of the Union, in the meaning of the Constitution. This means that if it should be deemed unwise to hold them, we can make such disposition of them as we see fit, transferring to a local government or even some foreign government. While this is true, it seems likely that the practical result of the declaration will be that a majority of the people will regard colonial government as an accepted fact.

New York Times.

We know now that Porto Rico and the Philippines are a part of our territory, but we also know that the Constitution in its entirety is not applicable to them. It is a matter of justified inference that the court would now hold that the Porto Ricans are not citizens, that the rights do not rest upon the guarantees of the Constitution, but upon the prohibitions of that instrument, which forbid Congress and the Executive to do anywhere acts abhorrent to humanity and to justice, and upon the civilized character of this, the Nation that is their sovereign. This is made plain by the language of Justice Brown. It is plain also that it is not within the contemplation of the court that Congress shall forever keep these island territories in their present condition of appurtenance, but that it may sometime organize them as territories and perhaps admit them as states. But it has already been determined that those steps are altogether within the discretion of Congress.

New York Journal.

When the decision is clearly understood it ought to have an excellent effect, both in Porto Rico and in the Philippines. The persistence of the Philippine insurrection has been largely due to the reluctance of the Filipinos to submit to arbitrary government outside of the Constitution. President McKinley, it may be remembered, picked out certain clauses of the Constitution and sent them over to the Philippine Commission to be observed, not as part of the fundamental law of the land, but as his instructions. Henceforth the people of the islands will feel that their rights are not dependent upon the good will of any man, but are under the protection of the Supreme Court of the United States, acting as the guardian of the Constitution.

The vision of empire has passed. Henceforth we may differ about policies, but they will be Constitutional policies, shaped in accordance with the principles of republican government.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

The effect of the decision is to sustain the Republican policy in Porto Rico, but its logic leaves the position in regard to the Philippine tariff in a confused state. Under the ruling in the Delima case the Philippines are a part of the United States and continue so until Congress has acted. Congress has not acted further than to give the President power to establish a provisional civil government. It is hard to see how this logic can fail to strike down the tariff between the Philippines and the United States, subject the Government there to the Constitutional restrictions, and under the Treaty of Paris for the admission of her goods free permit Spain, if the distance does not prevent, to make the Philippines a way station of duty to the United States. The inference is very strong that early action by Congress for the establishment of a government there will be urgently necessary.

Washington Star.

The Supreme Court has decided the insular cases in such manner as to promote the welfare both of the Union of States and of our new island possessions. The flexibility in methods of governing our Asiatic territory which is essential to the latter's quickest and best development is confirmed as an attribute of Congress in its capacity of Territorial Legislature. Congress may legislate discriminatingly for the territory belonging to the United States, unhampered by those provisions of the Constitution which compel a rigid uniformity in dealing on the same lines with the states of the Union.

New York Sun.

The several cases turned on different questions of fact and of law, and at first sight the homogeneity of the decisions was not apparent. The fundamental principle was reached in the opinion of the cases directly involving the Constitutionality of the Porto Rican tariff act. In upholding that law, and in affirming the power of Congress to legislate for Porto Rico regardless of the limitations of the Constitution that are applicable to the states of the Union, the court put an end forever to the old Calhoun doctrine recently invoked by the opponents of National expansion.

Pittsburg Times.

The decision removes the danger which it was feared might arise from the acquisition of the Philippines as well as of Porto Rico by the free admission of some of their products into this country which might have come into competition with some native here. It also prevents the importation here without duty of Spanish products, which, under the treaty of peace, were to be admitted to the islands. The decision simplifies the task of the Government in dealing with our new possessions, and it is gratifying that there is no partisan division of the court on the subject.

New York World.

The contentions of the Administration were in effect completely sustained, although the line of argument advanced by the Administration in support of its acts was disregarded. The decisions leave open several minor questions in regard to the new territories. But they settle all the main points and leave the President and the Congress practically untrammeled by the Constitution and as free as is the British Empire to pursue a policy of expansion and to govern colonies upon whatever lines circumstances may seem to make expedient.

Pittsburg Commercial Gazette.

The decision will act as a charter of liberty for our new possessions. There can now be no dispute as to the power of the Government to give to each the institutions best suited to the character of the people, their circumstances and their needs. The Constitution is no bed of Procrustes, upon which must be stretched every people who come under our flag. It is an Aegis, under which they can find shelter and safety.

Philadelphia Press.

The Supreme Court, in an epoch-making decision, by a path no one anticipated and through judicial conclusions no one predicted, has established the full authority of Congress to deal as the needs of the Nation require with the territory the Nation acquires before it is organized into states. The Constitution follows the flag, but it follows only as far as Congress decides and determines.

New York Tribune.

The decision of the Supreme Court in the insular cases is a decided victory for the Administration, and makes possible the holding of territory without incorporating it into the United States and extending to it our domestic tariff laws and domestic system of government. That was the important question at issue.

Chicago Tribune.

This is a great legal victory for the President and his advisers. It is a defeat for the persons who have been making long arguments to prove that the ratification of the treaty of peace made Porto Rico and the Philippines a part of the United States, and that the Foraker law was unconstitutional.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

And still it is cloudy. Et tu June?

The Wall street golden rule reads: Do as you wouldn't be done.

Oom Paul is as silent as the late Democratic candidates for Vice-President.

The strike of the marble-workers will probably have a serious effect on the Summer girls.

The end of the Boer war continues to be in sight, but only to people with the Lot's wife neck.

Now an American woman has had herself tattooed from head to foot. Of course, she is from Kansas.

General Funston has been sent into the woods again, and will come out with another bunch of major-generals.

A man was reported to have been robbed of $17,000 at Seattle. But there is a further surprise; the story has turned out a "fake."

Where now is the Astoria boycott since the announcement of the unity of the railroad and the O. R. & N.? Is it left in the lurch?

Bryan has been reviling the Supreme Court again, but it will continue to do business at the old stand, nevertheless and notwithstanding.

President McKinley has done a good many things which have made him subject to criticism, but he never went sailing on a cup challenger.

Morgan has been looking over Windsor Palace, but as it is not paying very large dividends, it is unlikely that he will acquire a controlling interest in it.

A congress of poets is being held in Paris. It is not likely that the barbers subscribed very heavily to the fund for the entertainment of the delegates.

Tillman is indignant because his resignation was not accepted promptly and declares he represents the people. His indignation therefore is well understood.

Bryan says the insular case decision raises an issue which must be settled by the people. He attempts to settle it. But how can he be the people when the people cannot be fooled all the time?

The city is going into partnership with a street railway to sprinkle streets. This method may result in some saving since on rainy days the car company will not feel bound to care for political "heelers" and henchmen who need grafts.

Can metals feel? Recently at the Royal Institution Professor Jagadis Chunder Bose proved that they can, in much the same way as animate beings. He struck a piece of copper, pinched a piece of zinc, gave it poison and administered an antidote, and threw light upon an artificial retina. In each case the electrical emotion, as registered by the galvanometer, was painful to witness. As the London Mail suggests in telling the story, there is an opening for a society for the prevention of cruelty to metals.

Miss Martha Walk is superintendent of a Philadelphia Home for Friendless Children. Remembering a region in Indiana County, Pa., which ought to produce a good quality of coal, she secured a week's leave of absence in February and went up there. Within a week she satisfied herself that coal of the best quality and in enormous quantities lay hidden beneath the snow. Within another week she had options upon 20,000 acres in the heart of the district, and her friends became interested in about 40,000 acres more, all secured at the option price of $30 to $40 an acre. She returned to Philadelphia and proceeded to market her options. Surveyors were sent into the region, a syndicate was organized, with a result that it took Miss Walk's 20,000 acres off her hands at an advance of $10 an acre, and is negotiating for a second lot which she controls.

"No, I have never pulled a Chinaman's tooth," said a dentist who has an office on the outskirts of Chinatown in one of the larger cities. "I don't believe any other dentist has, either. As a rule, the teeth of the Chinese are very sound and strong, notwithstanding their yellowness. When a Chinaman has a decayed tooth he suffers like a stoic until the pain becomes unbearable, and then he asks one of his friends to pull it out for him. This operation is performed, not with forceps, but in the primitive manner, with the thumb and forefinger. It requires considerable time, but rather than sit in the dentist's chair and be confronted by an array of instruments, the Chinaman willingly submits to having the decayed tooth loosened gradually by a revolving motion of the fingers. As the tooth gets looser and looser the pressure is increased, and really the patient doesn't seem to suffer as much pain as you would suppose, even with a large molar. I once saw the operation performed. It lasted about 10 minutes."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Old Joke Over Again.—"Did you ever hear that George Washington had an impediment in his speech?" "Why, no. Did he?" "Well, they say he couldn't tell a lie."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Grounds for Suspicion.—Bank director—What reasons have you for suspecting that the cashier's accounts are crooked? President—He says he can't afford to take a vacation this year.—Chicago News.

A Tie Opinion.—"What did you and Joe fall out about?" "He thought I ought to be friendly enough to give him that dog; and I thought he ought to be friendly enough to buy it of me."—Detroit Free Press.

Sayings of Little People.—A little girl read a composition before the minister. The subject was "A Cow." She wove in this complimentary sentence: "A cow is the most useful animal in the world, except religion."—Leslie's Weekly.

Degrading.—"But then the marriage service; it seems to lower one so." "How do you make that out?" "Why, the man takes the woman and the woman the man, for better, for worse. It's so like a rummage sale, you know."—Brooklyn Life.

"The Sins of the Father," etc.—Tommy (studying his lesson)—I say, pa, where does the Merrimac rise, and into what sea does it empty?" Pa—I don't know, my son. Tommy—You don't know, eh? And tomorrow the teacher will lick me on account of your ignorance.—Harlem Life.

A country servant was given a ticket by her mistress for a local concert. She arrived home rather late, and was questioned by her mistress on the matter. "I came away before 'twas over," she replied, "and they were hurrying it on, 'cause they were singing two at a time when I left."—Tit-Bits.

Revenge.—Mr. Fijjit—I thought you said our new neighbors would not let their children play with our Tommie; I see him with them now. Mrs. Fijjit—Yes, but their parents don't know it; Tommie is just getting over the measles, and I want their children to catch 'em—the stuck-up things!—Ohio State Journal.

What She Would Have.—"For instance, Johnnie," said the teacher to the bright boy of the arithmetic class, "suppose your father had $100 and gave your mother $50, and then borrowed $10 from her—what would she have?" "She'd have a sore hand." "What do you mean?" "He'd have to cut the money loose from her fingers."—Baltimore American.