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TODAY'S WEATHER.—Partly cloudy, with occasional showers; westerly winds.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JUNE 13.

ANALOGOUS CASES.

Philadelphia is ninety-six miles from the sea. There is little difference between her distance from the sea and that of Portland. But Portland's channel is naturally much better than that of Philadelphia. And it now requires far less expenditure to make it fit and to keep it fit for the largest ships. The Delaware is but a small river compared with the Columbia. Its volume, indeed, does not exceed that of the Willamette. Great expenditure has been made, during many years, on the Delaware River and Bay, yet vessels come and go at Portland with less difficulty than vessels of similar class find at Philadelphia; and the future problem at Portland is far less difficult than at Philadelphia. But the people of Pennsylvania do not demand that Philadelphia shall "abandon her pretensions to be a seaport." The Philadelphia Inquirer says that "the natural outlet of the state is the port of Philadelphia and the Delaware River"; that "the whole State of Pennsylvania is interested in the commerce which passes through this port, and it is but just and right that the Legislature should also aid."

Not only is the port of Portland and the Columbia River the natural outlet but the actual outlet of the State of Oregon; and not only of Oregon, but of the whole of the great basin of the great river of the West. To say that Portland cannot be a seaport is to say that Philadelphia cannot be a seaport, nor New Orleans a seaport, nor Montreal a seaport, nor Hamburg a seaport—all of which in fact are great seaports.

The National Government is expected to engage with new vigor in the work of deepening the channel between Philadelphia and the sea. Pennsylvania and New Jersey, through their delegations in Congress, will give the effort their united support. The City of Philadelphia is just now adding $2,000,000 to her former heavy expenditures in this direction. All the conditions there are analogous to those that prevail here. But though this work on the Columbia River is a work in which the whole of Oregon is as much concerned as the whole of Pennsylvania is concerned in the work on the Delaware, yet we shall not demand the direct aid of the state, as Philadelphia does, since there are obstacles, constitutional and other; but at least we shall expect that no obstruction will be made to Portland's own endeavor, or to the effort to obtain National aid for this necessary improvement. Vessels of 6000 to 8000 tons now come and go with ease at Portland. The work will be continued till the channel will accommodate the largest vessels that float.

Portland's position is in every way better than that of Philadelphia, New Orleans, Montreal or Hamburg. It is better to be directly on the sea, as San Francisco is, but there are few such ports. New York itself had little favor of nature. Time was when vessels of sixteen feet could not get up to New York without waiting for Spring tides, and such vessels would lie for many days awaiting conditions under which they might get out.

There is no problem here that may not be more easily solved than the like problem at most other ports of the world. In fact, our problem is half solved already. From eight to ten feet have been added to the depth of our channel by the little work thus far done upon it. The rest may follow, will follow; for Portland and Oregon will see that it shall follow.

RECKLESS WASTE OF TIMBER.

The Canadians have never shown much of an inclination to object to the duty levied by America on lumber, and from present indications the time is rapidly approaching when our neighbors on the north will rise up and call us blessed for keeping their lumber out of our market. There is a wholesale destruction of forests under way in the United States which promises to leave this country treeless within a comparatively short time. The timbermen, who have seen the forests of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota pass out of existence in but little more than a generation, stand aghast at the insignificant value that is placed on timber in the Pacific Northwest. Sawmill men complain bitterly at the excessive prices demanded for logs, and yet this price is but $6 per thousand for the finest timber in the world.

All over the state huge slabs which would some day be worth more than is now commanded by the logs from which they are cut are going up in smoke. The only points at which there is any attempt at saving the "offal" is in the large cities, and even there the waste is tremendous. Giant trees, older than American civilization, are laid low, and, after a few choice cuts, the upper part of the trunk and massive branches are left to cumber the land until the brush fires of the settlers remove them forever. The prodigality of nature is proverbial, but, great as are her recuperative powers, it would require the work of centuries again to build up such magnificent forests as are now going down before the ax of the logger with a "posterity-be-damned" recklessness that is almost criminal.

This wholesale destruction of our forests is not only hastening the time when its scarcity will force timber up to prohibitive prices, but it is withdrawing from the country a protection to its agricultural interests which will be sadly needed in the not far distant future. The vast forests of fir, pine and spruce act as reservoirs for the storage of moisture, which is thrown out to the surrounding dry regions, thus making tillable large tracts which otherwise would be worthless. Enter any of the dense forests of the Pacific Northwest many days after a period of showers, and you will find raindrops still lingering in the foliage of a plant life that flourishes only under the protection of the giant trees. The rough bark of the tree, the moss attached thereto, and the spreading branches, all gather up stores of moisture and retain it. The presence of icebergs on the ocean is made known to mariners long before they are sighted, by the effect they have on the temperature, and in the same manner the cool forests, with their stores of moisture, affect the air and the earth for miles beyond their confines.

The Government has been much too generous in disposing of these forests, and instead of retaining some of them, has selected its forest reserves among mountains, rocks and lava beds, issuing in exchange for them forest reserve scrip, which has been plastered over heavily timbered land. This timber land rapidly fell into the hands of big syndicates, which can reap enormous profits without the necessity of attempting to be economical in disposing of their timber, and they are killing the goose which laid the golden egg as rapidly as possible. In some countries where civilization is older than ours, and in some where it is not so old, the government enforces strict laws regarding the preservation of forest life, and a man has no more right totally to denude his land of trees than he has to change the course of a river which may meander through his land. Some day there will be an awakening to the necessity of similar measures regarding forest protection in this country. Unfortunately, action will probably be delayed until it will be a case of locking the stable door after the horse is stolen. We have shut Canada out of our lumber markets and thus saved her forests, but the day is coming when we will let her in, and we will pay her five times as much for her lumber as we secured for our own when we sold it.

CHURCHES AND FREE MASONRY.

The representatives of influential secret orders, including labor unions, severely criticise the action of the assembly of the United Presbyterian Church at its recent session at Des Moines, Ia., which adopted an article condemning secret societies as "inconsistent with the genius and spirit of Christianity," and declaring that those who "willfully adhere to such associations shall not be received into church membership." The debate showed that the chief opposition was to the order of Free Masons. "No man can be a good Mason and at the same time a good Christian," said one of the speakers. Nevertheless a good many clergymen of the Unitarian and Episcopal denominations are Masons. The present anathema of the United Presbyterians against Free Masonry is like the papal bull against the comet. There was a time in the history of this country when anti-Masonry was the cry of a distinct political party from about 1826 to 1840. In September, 1826, William Morgan, a Royal Arch Mason, was abducted and thought to be murdered by certain members of the Masonic fraternity in Batavia, N. Y. That Morgan was murdered by drowning in Niagara River the testimony of Thurlow Weed, to whom the crime was confessed long after its commission, leaves no reasonable doubt, but the plot was conceived and carried into execution by a few persons without the consent or approbation of any recognized power or authority in the order. It is out of all reason to suppose that the Masonic order, which at that time included a majority of the ablest and most influential men in the country, had any knowledge of this desperate proceeding. Morgan, who was a printer, was murdered because it was learned that he was about to publish a book divulging the so-called secrets of Free Masonry, and his disappearance was followed by a public excitement in Western New York almost without parallel in modern history. The excitement entered into every walk of life, and in the Spring of 1827 anti-Masonry began to crystallize into a political party organization. Political demagogues used the anti-Masonic excitement to further their own purpose.

General Jackson and De Witt Clinton were both high Masons, and the union of Clinton and Van Buren to support Jackson was made to appear as another evidence of Masonic influence by the opposition, who seized all the opportunities to operate upon the prevalent public sentiment against Masonry. In the election of 1828, 33,345 votes were cast for the anti-Masonic candidate for Governor. Millard Fillmore, afterwards President of the United States, was among the anti-Masons elected to the Legislature, and among other champions were General James S. Wadsworth, John C. Spencer, Francis Granger, William H. Seward and Thurlow Weed. In 1830 the anti-Masonic party furnished a large portion of the 120,000 votes cast for Francis Granger for Governor, and it was the formidable remnant of the anti-Masonic party that turned the scale and elected William H. Seward Governor in 1838 and 1840. The anti-Masonic party tried to extend its organization throughout the Union so as to beat Andrew Jackson, who was a Free Mason, for President, and it succeeded in establishing itself as a strong local party in Vermont, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Ohio. It tried to force Henry Clay, who was a Free Mason, from the field as a candidate for President in 1832 by nominating beforehand William Wirt, of Maryland, but at the election Wirt received only the electoral vote of Vermont. With the Presidential election of 1832 anti-Free Masonry ceased to have any life outside of Western New York. Like know-nothingism, it had no rational foundation, and naturally enjoyed but a brief existence.

The hostility of the United Presbyterian Church to Masonry of course does not rest upon the absurd political creed of the anti-Masonic party of 1826-1840, but is based upon the belief that Free Masonry represents a society "bound by oath and affirmation to secrecy, which inculcates a Christless religion." The Presbyterian Church holds that "the entire contents and bearings of Christianity should be emphasized in the pulpit teaching." The Roman Catholic Church has always set its face resolutely against the order. Five bulls have been directed against it by name, viz., in 1738, 1751, 1821, 1826, 1864, and the latest and strongest of all by Pope Leo XIII, who holds that the present crusade against the schools of the church orders in France is largely inspired by the Free Masons. An eminent Catholic priest writes the New York Sun a long letter in explanation of the reasons of Catholic opposition to the order of Free Masons. This opposition is based upon the fact that Free Masonry professes by means of symbolical language and certain ceremonies of initiation and promotion to lay down a code of morality founded on the brotherhood of humanity only. The war against the Catholic Church in Germany had no more bitter supporters than Free Masonry; the promoters of the anti-Catholic legislation were nearly all Free Masons. In France and Belgium the lodges have specially commanded their members to assist the league whose purpose is to bring about the complete secularization of the primary public schools. English-speaking Free Masons, this priest concedes, usually disown for their order any aims but those of a social and mutual benefit society, but "Catholics see that indifferentism in religion is one of the necessary results of English-speaking Masonry at its best," and he concludes his explanation of the hostility of the Catholic Church by saying:

> The Catholic Church renounces Free Masonry as essentially opposed to the belief in the personality of God, whose name in the Masonic rituals veils the doctrine of blind force only governing the universe; as also essentially subversive of legitimate authority, by professing to furnish man an all-sufficient guide and thus helping to make him independent of the church, and because by its everywhere ridiculing rank and authority it tends, in spite of its protests of loyalty, to bring all government into contempt.

A STUDY IN PERCENTAGE.

An Astoria paper, caught in a deliberate misstatement of facts regarding wheat prices in Portland and San Francisco, endeavors to withdraw its head from the pillory in the following awkward manner:

> In a lame effort to reply to the statement made in this paper that wheat is worth $2 more a ton at San Francisco than at Portland, The Oregonian today quotes the market prices in both cities. To begin with, these reports are "cooked" to suit the convenience of the gentlemen who are operating on the Coast. The statement of the Daily News is based on this fact: Last year the O. R. & N. Co.'s steamers hauled from Portland to San Francisco about 100,000 tons of wheat, which was loaded on foreign-bound ships at San Francisco. The O. R. & N. charged $2 50 a ton for carrying that wheat to San Francisco. Of necessity then, wheat is worth $2 50 more at San Francisco than at Portland, all market reports to the contrary notwithstanding.

To begin with, the reports mentioned are not "cooked." They are based on Liverpool quotations, which rule the world's markets, and every wheat producer can figure out to the fraction of a cent the value of the cereal at tidewater on the Pacific Coast. California cargoes were quoted in Liverpool yesterday at 29s 3d to 29s 6d, and Walla Walla cargoes at 29s to 29s 3d. Ships were offering yesterday at 41s 6d for Portland, San Francisco or Tacoma loading. Five steamships have been chartered for wheat loading this season at 40 shillings, and the charterer has the option of loading them at Portland, San Francisco or Puget Sound, at exactly the same rate in either port. Under such circumstances, the necessity for the "gentlemen who are operating on the Coast" to "cook" reports is not very plain.

The assertion that the reports are not correct, however, is almost too ridiculous to be considered. They are the reports that are sent all over the world, and are considered as valuable and accurate in Liverpool as the Liverpool quotations are considered in Portland, San Francisco and Puget Sound ports. The Oregonian proved by figures of unquestionable accuracy that wheat was not worth $2 per ton more in San Francisco than at Portland, and that there was not a scintilla of truth in the assertion of the Astoria paper. Now as to the amount of wheat taken to San Francisco by the steamers. The report of the San Francisco Produce Exchange, under date of June 8, gives the "receipts of wheat from Oregon and Washington by water" as follows:

Month.	Wheat, centals.	Month.	Wheat, centals.
June, 1900	3,507	January, 1901	3,402
July	8,017	February	650
August	5,720	March	None
September	2,178	April	None
October	8,742	May	90
November	1,065		
December	None	Total	33,830

This shows that the combined water shipments of Portland and Puget Sound to San Francisco for the past year were 1510 long tons. The figures are not segregated in the report of the Produce Exchange, but, admitting that Portland shipped two-thirds of the amount, we have the enormous amount of 1000 tons shipped to San Francisco in a year. Not a bushel of this was shipped to San Francisco for export, however, but was used for mixing, for seed and for other purposes where the amount needed was insignificant.

The statement of the Astoria paper regarding wheat prices was an even 100 per cent falsehood. The statement regarding the amount of wheat shipped to San Francisco was only 99 per cent falsehood and 1 per cent truth. This is an improvement in the moral tone of the Astoria sheet which should not escape attention.

In the report of Tuesday's meeting of the Board of Public Works there is large opportunity for study by the Charter Commission's subcommittee on streets, highways and roads. Among the matters which came up for action and which the board could not meet and dispose of were: A petition one year old for improving Second street, every property-owner willing and anxious to pay his assessment, advertisements published, contracts let, and yet there is a deadlock for which no one seems to be held responsible; disclosure by the City Engineer that it will be impossible to repair streets paved with wooden blocks; faulty bids and letting of contracts for repairing three elevated roadways about to fall to pieces; uncertainty about forcing street-car companies to pay their share of an improvement; a too rapidly decreasing repair fund; divided opinion as to whether the city or abutting property must pay for a certain repair, and overshadowing every movement toward removing present entanglements is the recent decision of the Federal Court throwing doubt on the equitableness of Portland's law assessing property for street improvements. The subcommittee has a very important work before it. If its members have the wisdom to frame provisions which shall solve present problems, they are within the way of getting their names into the city's future Hall of Fame.

The Oregonian has received the following letter from a man who has fallen into a strange error:

> Portland, June 12.—(To the Editor.)—In your editorial yesterday morning on P. H. D'Arcy's address to the graduating class of the college of law of Willamette University, did you not make as big a blunder as D'Arcy himself? You place in your list of great advocates and jurists the name of Stowell. Was not Stowell the brother of Elden, and a purely literary man? Is it not a fact that he was not only never called to the bar, but that he never even studied law? XERXES.

William Scott, Baron Stowell, was a brother of Lord Eldon, and he was one of the ablest and most accomplished of English Judges. He joined the Middle Temple in 1762, obtained his degree of bachelor of civil law in 1772, began the systematic study of the law in 1776, and commenced practice in the ecclesiastical courts. In 1788 he was made Judge of the Consistory Court and Advocate-General, and in 1798 became Judge of the High Court of Admiralty. After a life of distinguished judicial service he retired in 1821; he was a man of great judicial mind, and his decisions form the basis of maritime law in this country. On questions of international law and on the history of the marriage law, Lord Stowell stands in the very first rank of English jurists. Thomas Noon Talfourd, a famous English lawyer, includes in his essays one on "Lord Eldon and Lord Stowell," in which these two great jurists are contrasted.

Virginia also has a convention called to revise the state constitution, and is doubtless composed wholly of Democrats, as the state election law places the election machinery wholly in the hands of the Democrats, and they have undoubtedly used their power to make sure of a very large party majority in the convention. The chief object of the convention is to disfranchise the colored voters on the plea of elevating the suffrage by eliminating the ignorant and corrupt element. The ballot will be taken from the ignorant colored voter, but will be saved to the white man, however ignorant and corrupt he may be, by some such device as the notorious "grandfather" clause, which originated in Louisiana and has been adopted in North Carolina. When the work of disfranchising the colored voter is completed in Virginia, there will then be six states in the South which disfranchise their colored voters by constitutional provision. These six states are entitled to twenty-three Representatives in Congress for the colored population out of the total number of fifty-one given them by the recent apportionment. The white Democrats not only claim the right to disfranchise the colored man, but also to have representation for him in Congress and the Electoral College.

The Oregonian has often spoken in high terms of the writings of Hon. Hannis Taylor, of Alabama, who was Minister to Spain during the second administration of President Cleveland. His books on the origin and growth of the English constitution, and on international law, are of highest credit. They add new laurels to American authorship. It is now announced that the University of Dublin has invited Mr. Taylor to be present, June 27, to receive in person the degree of doctor of laws, which that seat of learning has voted to confer upon him. Such an honor from that university, one of the most famous in the world, and one not prodigal of its compliments, is an honor indeed. There could be, let us say, no better introduction to the study of our own constitutional history than Mr. Taylor's work on the constitutional history of England. His exposition of the truth that ours is but an outgrowth or offshoot of England's is most interesting and valuable.

We are fast getting the consent of the governed in the Philippine Islands. Somewhat troublesome it has been to get it, but we are getting it. In the same way we got the consent of the governed in our Confederate States. Great Britain has a pretty tough job of similar kind, in South Africa. Such undertakings present difficulties, it is true; but they are necessary to the progress of the world and the betterment of mankind. The result proved that the Confederate States were mistaken in their assumption that the war on them was a war upon the rights of freedom and self-government. In their similar assumption the Filipinos and the Boers have committed a similar mistake. Their full "consent" will be obtained, after their power of resistance shall have been exhausted; and then they will see their error, as our Southern States see it today. No "rights" in this world are absolute. For "there are others," always.

Fraud in the Army supply services, by many long suspected, has at length come to light in San Francisco, and an investigation by the grand jury promises sensational developments. Thus far only the matters of clothing and forage are involved. It is hoped that the investigation may reach into the methods of the transport service also, for it is widely believed that improper motives have governed the award of much of that business, and it is said the improprieties may be traced to officers in high station.

The order of the War Department defining hazing and announcing a penalty for the practice at West Point Academy was long overdue. But it is reasonably explicit in terms, and will doubtless be beneficial to the academy. The abuses at that institution have long called for vigorous measures for suppression. The Naval Academy at Annapolis might also be benefited by the same kind of an order.

From the disposition to meddle with laws already good enough, the State of Washington has been put to the expense and trouble of another session of the Legislature. It is a disposition that costs every state great inconvenience and great sums of money. When will the lesson be learned that to innovate is not to reform? We may suppose never.

The call for a third term for McKinley, by Hanna, Grosvenor and the rest, gave McKinley an excellent chance to make an ostentatious declination. No art could have arranged it better.

BAKER WILL SUPPORT PORTLAND

Baker City Democrat, June 11.

Baker City wants it understood by Oregon that Baker stands emphatically for the improvement of the Columbia and Snake Rivers, so that navigation can be opened from the sea to the head of navigation. The forthcoming visit of the river and harbor committee of Congress to Oregon, and the inspection by its members of the Columbia and Snake Rivers, means much to the entire Inland Empire. The building of a canal around the Celilo Rapids is the only feasible method of opening navigation to the interior, and the plans for this work, already submitted by the United States' engineers, fully cover the necessities of the case, and should be adopted by Congress. In addition to this, more work is necessary to be done in the channel of the Columbia between Portland and Astoria, and more work is necessary at the mouth of the river in order to keep a sufficient depth of water to permit the larger vessels now engaged in the Oriental trade to pass in and out of the lower harbor freely at all stages of water, at high or low tide.

The water sheds of the Cascade Range of mountains and the Blue Mountains are so formed as to make a confluence of nature's highways, which carry the stream of traffic to Portland and the mouth of the Columbia. The Columbia is the greatest fresh-water harbor on the American Continent, and is today doing more business than the other harbors on the Pacific Coast with the possible exception of San Francisco, in some particular lines of trade. Why should not Congress preserve the natural highway of the people?

The Inland Empire is not interested in Astoria's fight against Portland on what some of its business men and newspapers are pleased to call the "common-point rate" question, and the effort of Astoria to drive Portland out of business as a shipping port. All the Inland Empire cares about is the transportation rate to the ocean vessel which carries our products to the foreign market. It is this rate that comes out of the pocket of the producer, and the only known leveler of rail rates is water competition. Open the great waterways which are Oregon's rich inheritance from Mother Nature, and the inland farmer can always figure on a square deal. The present management of Oregon's home railroad, the O. R. & N., has been broad-minded and liberal to a degree that has called forth the support of the people, and it is preparing for better things in the future by reducing the cost of transportation by expending millions of dollars in straightening out its track, reducing grades and laying the heaviest steel rails, so that in the future one engine can do the work of two, and two cars can be hauled where but one can now be handled. This great work will be finished this year.

Portland is 110 miles nearer the Inland Empire than is Astoria, and Portland is our natural seaport. The Inland Empire stands pat for Portland and the maintenance of an open channel between that point and the sea. The general Government will not have to spend an extravagant sum, in addition to what Portland is doing herself, to keep this channel open. Today the largest vessels and steamers that ever passed over the Columbia River bar are loading cargoes for the Orient and Europe. These vessels carry as large cargoes as pass out of any Pacific Coast port, and the Inland Empire will stand by the last gun to see that its natural outlet is maintained. Given an open river from Lewiston to the sea, and nothing can retard the progress of the Inland Empire, the greatest territory in the United States. The Baker City Chamber of Commerce will send a committee to Portland to join with the Chambers of Commerce of Portland, Lewiston, Spokane and other cities in entertaining the river and harbor committee of Congress.

Filipinos Not Citizens.

Chicago Tribune.

The United States Supreme Court has adjourned until October without deciding the case it had in hand involving the legality of the collection of a duty on goods imported from the Philippines. It is not certain what the court will hold finally. It may hold that there was no power to collect the duties after the ratification of the treaty of peace and prior to the enactment of the Philippine legislation of this year, vesting military, civil, and judicial powers necessary to govern the Philippines in such persons as the President may direct. It may be of the opinion that that legislation does not authorize the collection of customs duties on Philippine imports. It may decide that the state of insurrection which existed in the islands put them in a category by themselves.

The presumption is that if a majority of the Judges are of the opinion that the collection of duties on imports from the Philippines is unlawful at this time they would have said so. That would have necessitated the calling of a special session of Congress to enact tariff legislation for the Philippines, but would have prevented the collection for months to come of duties which would have to be refunded.

There are a few sentences in the opinion of the majority of the court in the Downs case which evidently refer to the Philippines, or rather to their inhabitants. It is an answer to those nervous individuals who asserted that the acquisition of the islands made their inhabitants, or their children at least, citizens of the United States. The workingmen were told that nothing could prevent millions of these Malay "citizens" from coming to this country and taking the bread out of their mouths. A good deal was said about the admission of Philippine states, represented in Congress by Filipino Senators and Representatives.

The Supreme Court says:

> We are also of opinion that power to acquire territory by treaty implies not only the power to govern such territory, but to prescribe upon what terms the United States will receive its inhabitants, and what their status shall be in what Chief Justice Marshall termed the "American Empire." There seems to be no middle ground between this position and the doctrine that if their inhabitants do not become, immediately upon annexation, citizens of the United States, their children, thereafter born, whether savages or civilized, are such, and entitled to all the rights, privileges and immunities of citizens.

The treaty with Spain provides that the civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories ceded to the United States shall be determined by Congress. The Supreme Court will not attempt so to construe the Constitution as to make these native inhabitants citizens offhand. It will leave to Congress the determination of their political status.

Rostand: Academician.

Brooklyn Eagle.

The election of Edmond Rostand to the French Academy for having written two plays is a notable instance of the modernizing influences that have affected even France. Hitherto the eligible for the Academy was a spectacular person who had done, or thought he had done, great things for the art or letters of his land. He enjoyed the high opinion of a school, albeit he was not infrequently a fossil before he got his seat and his suit and his order. The last election shows that it has become possible to enter the Academy by virtue of a single chef d'oeuvre, for Rostand is not likely to write another "Cyrano." And the effect of this may be as healthy as that of admitting only the people who have written several important works, none of them, however, so popular or influential on the tastes of the community as the one masterpiece. It is almost a misfortune when a single success induces an author, or a musician, or a painter, to keep on repeating it while his vogue remains. Better take time, and produce but half a dozen good things in a life than to fill libraries with mere words, cabinets with scores that are mere notes, galleries with mere canvas. Rostand has nothing more to work for. He has money; he has all the honors; therefore, he can take life easy and proceed at his leisure, allowing nothing to leave his hands that is not as perfect as he knows how to make it.

THE CANTEEN AND THE SABBATH

New York Times.

To anybody who regards the question of the Army canteen as one to be dealt with according to the teachings of experience and from the point of view of practical expediency, the action of the Army surgeons at their convention last week in St. Paul will be entirely conclusive. These doctors are expert witnesses of the highest class. As to the physical results of the two systems, their authority is even superior to that of the line officers of the Army. When they unanimously recommend the restoration of the canteen, in the interests of "temperance, morality and sanitation," there is nothing more to be said. The case is closed for everybody who considers it from a human and secular point of view.

The other view is that expressed by a correspondent of ours who said last week that the sale of liquor "is a crime against God and man." Whoever is capable of taking this proposition as applicable to and decisive of the controversy about the canteen is of course inaccessible to reason on this subject. He will oppose the restoration of the canteen, even though every officer in the Army, which alone the question concerns, favors it, and even though the withdrawal of it should be proved to have converted every enlisted man into a drunkard or a physical wreck, as the Army surgeons assure us it has had a distinct tendency to do. But when there is no opposition left to the canteen except that of such fanaticism, it is not to be supposed that Congress will hesitate to undo its mistaken and mischievous action and to leave the Army to be regulated upon this point of "morality, discipline and sanitation," as upon other such points, by its own officers, who have both the competency and the responsibility for its regulation.

What permission to the Army to enable enlisted men to buy beer inside Army posts is to one class of fanatics, Sunday traveling is to another. A Mr. Havemeyer declared on Sunday that whoso traveled by steam or trolley on "the Sabbath" "violated the laws of God and man." It is gratifying to note that he was thereupon denounced from the body of his congregation by a hearer who called upon him to repent and stop his desecration of the real Sabbath. According to this objector, the real Sabbath is Saturday, and there is a strong historical case to be made for that view. It was the same view expressed by a worldling in the Long Parliament, or possibly "Barebones," who moved as an amendment to a bill for enforcing a better observance of "the Sabbath, commonly called Sunday," that it should be described as Saturday, commonly called Sunday. But the inappreciative assembly put him in jail, as doubtless the Methodist in Yonkers would have been glad to do with his impertinently pertinent critic.

Just suppose some member of Congress should introduce into that body a bill providing that since traveling on Sunday was "a crime against God and man," therefore "commerce between the states" should cease on that day. What would be the view taken of that statesman by his fellow-legislators? Yet there would be precisely as much sense in his proposition as in a proposition to continue the prohibition of the Army canteen after the overwhelming proof that the canteen is an agency for the promotion of temperance, morality and discipline.

"O My Prophetic Soul!"—Hamlet.

The Oregonian of yesterday, in its forecast of what the Administration toad-eaters would say about the declination of third-term honors by President McKinley, set this down as the part of the "Pee Eye" at Seattle:

> Again our noble and beloved President has spoken and put to shame the envious machinations of his defamers. Those who knew William McKinley did not need to be assured that in his own time he would speak out upon the subject of the third term in no uncertain voice. Though he is held in the highest estimation of the people today, he voluntarily puts aside the thought of another term and truly says his only ambition is to serve through his second term to the acceptance of his countrymen, whose generous confidence he so deeply appreciates, and then with them to do his duty in the ranks of private citizenship. No one can read those sterling sentiments of exalted patriotism and fail to realize that William McKinley is the greatest and only that ever happened.

And this is what that organ of slush and gush actually said:

> It needed but this declaration to crown the work and complete the record of President McKinley, to establish forever the place that he holds in the love and admiration of his countrymen. It was not necessary that he should say a word. No man who knows him ever had one moment's doubt of his purpose or his wish. He silences the mischief-maker and the calumniator with one telling blow. It is characteristic of the great man who now sits in the White House that he should speak thus instantly, plainly and confidentially to the people whom he loves and who both love and understand him.

But The Oregonian's forecast was not clairvoyance. Given the conditions, and anybody can tell what your snob and flunkey, who flatters, that thrift may follow fawning, will say.

Like Christian Science.

Notes and Queries.

A young woman was ill and the doctor said she had consumption. As he could not do her any good they consulted a herbalist, who said she had no consumption about her. It was an "askard egg" that she had swallowed some time when drinking cold water. As long as it was an egg it did no harm, but as she grew it grew, and the herbalist said that she would never be well till she got rid of it. He advised that she should stand with her mouth open over a piece of roasting meat when it began to smell, and said that the askard would then come out to get at the meat. But as soon as this happened she was to shut her mouth directly, or the askard would "laup" back again. The askard did come out, and tried to run away; but the mother and daughter pursued it, the one with the poker and the other with the tongs, and it looked "right wicked" at them. The narrator was firmly convinced of the truth of this story, having seen the askard in a bottle of spirits in the herbalist's window. It was impossible to convince her that the story could not be true, because she had seen the askard, and there was nothing more to be said. But her mother had often thrashed her, when she was a girl, for drinking cold water out of the pump.

Filipino Ladies Smoke 16-inch Cigars

London Science.

The ladies of the Philippines have progressed far beyond the dainty cigarette; indeed, their cigars, which measure some sixteen inches, are not intended for an evening's pleasure or an after-dinner smoke. In the Philippines they prefer smoking on the installment plan, for these huge rolls of tobacco, which measure five inches in circumference, constitute one week's pleasure for the ladies of Luzon. To offset the difficulty presented by the weight, the mouth end is filled with a soft fibre of tobacco, so that when the cigar is grasped firmly between the teeth so great an indention is made that for the remainder of the six days' smoke the huge cigar fits naturally to the mouth, and can be held without any conscious effort.

It's Different Now.

Chicago Chronicle.

The two new Senators from Nebraska have arranged a division of their state with reference to the distribution of the Federal patronage, and it is promised that everything will be harmonious.—Sioux City Tribune.

This is a kind of harmony that depends to a large extent upon the man who occupies the White House. When Grover Cleveland and Benjamin Harrison were there such divisions of the spoils did not go.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Depew proposes; McKinley disposes.

Two terms in the hand are worth three in the imagination.

Anyway, the is-it-hot-enough-for-you friend is not among us.

Hazing is forbidden at West Point. At Annapolis it is prohibited.

And yet, perhaps, the crown would be put by reluctantly if offered three times.

Isn't it about time for Roosevelt's press agent to get back from his Spring vacation?

As it will make all the shares it sells, the plow trust ought to be a profitable concern.

Chicago is having record hot weather. Trust Chicago to start pace-setting early in the season.

A successor to Aguinaldo has been proclaimed, and General Funston is overhauling his traveling clothes.

The Salvation Army ought to get Mr. Morgan to harmonize its interests and those of the Volunteers of America.

Hon. Perry Heath, for his championship of the cause of Mark Hanna, has secured "honorable mntion" for Vice-President.

Perhaps if Mr. Carnegie would brush up his dialect before offering money to the canny Scots they would be more likely to accept it.

Who can accuse Richard Croker of having established corrupt government in New York when Sunday golfers are arrested there every few days?

A recent issue of the London Times contains this suggestive advertisement: "Position as private secretary to an American or English millionaire required by a nobleman of good family. Advertiser is 30, doctor juris, speaks and writes German, English and French perfectly; has managed a large fortune invested in landed property and industrial enterprises for several years, and has traveled over many countries, including the United States. Please address," etc.

The wives of only two Presidents have died while their husbands were in that high office. The first death was that of Mrs. John Tyler. She died in September, 1842, and her husband remarried before the expiration of his term in 1845. Mrs. Benjamin Harrison died in the White House in October, 1892, a little over four months before the expiration of her husband's term. Four Presidents have died in office, Harrison and Tyler from natural causes, and Lincoln and Garfield at the hands of assassins.

A Buffalonian says that the exposition city now has nearly 240 hotels, affording accommodations to more than 40,000 people. There are about 700 boarding and lodging houses that can easily take care of 20,000 more. Nearly 8000 householders have opened their homes to the public, providing sleeping room for some 120,000 visitors. In addition, the exposition authorities have pitched tents inside the grounds for uniformed bodies to the number of 250, and speculative organizations managing tent plans will take care of 1000 more. It is believed that Buffalo can now provide ample entertainment in the shape of ordinary bed and board for 220,000 strangers daily.

Miss Frances L. Carr is a practical placer miner, and in following her profession has penetrated into the remote interior of South America on three different occasions, and has also explored Guatemala and Honduras. By way of variation last year she visited Alaska and staked several claims on the Upper Yukon River. She has traveled 20,000 miles in the past five years, and only returned from her third trip to the United States of Colombia a few months ago. Miss Carr took lunch on the equator on her last trip, but said it was at a station in the Sierra Nevada mountains, and it was intensely cold. The altitude was about 16,000 feet, and the water she drank was melted snow. She says it is not an infrequent thing to run across palatial homes in the most remote and isolated mountain districts of Colombia, and in these homes are to be found pianos, works of art, and many of the most modern conveniences. Many such families send their sons to France, Germany, England and the United States to be educated.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Another Effect.—"You know, practice makes perfect." "I know; but it also makes one tired."—Puck.

Church—What is the principal musical instrument in China—the lyre? Gotham—No; I believe it is the loot.—Yonkers Statesman.

Householder (to suspicious character)—What do you want? Suspicious Character (thoughtfully)—Well, I dunno; what yer got?—Harlem Life.

Not Entirely.—"Is he a criminal lawyer?" "Well, I should hardly call him a criminal, though some of his practices come very close to being felonies."—Town and Country.

"Why do you not eat your apple, Tommy?" "I'm waiting till Johnny Briggs comes along. Apples tastes much better when there's some other fellow to watch you eat 'em."—Tit-Bits.

In the Literary Throes.—"Was your club paper troublesome, Dorothy?" "Oh, horrible! I ransacked eleven books and ate three pounds of chocolate caramels while I was getting it up."—Detroit Free Press.

Her Idea of It.—"Charley, dear," said young Mrs. Torkins, "I wish you would save up your money and buy a yacht." "What for?" "We need so many things for the table. And winning races seems such a cheap way to get silverware."—Washington Star.

Runs No Personal Risk.—"It seems to me worthy of note," commented the thoughtful man, "that the fellow who is sure the old pistol is not loaded is seldom so sure of it that he points it at himself when he pulls the trigger. If he did there would be little cause for complaint."—Chicago Post.

A Conservative Choice.—Miss Highstep—'Scuse mah bluntness, honey, but why did yo' marry such a homely man? Mrs. Washington—Wa-al, I preferred a homely husband dat would stay home an' wring mah clothes radder dan a handsome niggah dat would kite aroun' an' wring mah heart!"—Puck.

Honesty Pays.—Jim—Honesty is ther best policy, arter all. Bill—How? "Remember that dog I stole?" "Yep." "Well, I tried two hull days to sell 'im, an' no one offered more'n a dollar. So I went, like a honest man, an' guv him to th' ole lady what owned 'im, an' she guv me five dollars."—New York Weekly.

Bound to Enjoy Herself.—"Now, dear," said mamma, giving final instructions to Elsie, who is going to take tea with a playmate, "when you are asked if you will have something you must say, 'Yes, thank you,' and if you don't want it you must say—" "Oh, you needn't bother about that," Elsie interrupted. "I don't expect to refuse anything."—Philadelphia Press.

Appropriate.—The Rev. Dr. Lastly's church having been partially destroyed by fire, the trustees had secured as a temporary hall for the use of the congregation the only available room in that part of the city, and it was on the top floor of a skyscraper. "My friends," said the good doctor, rising to give out the hymn for the morning service on the occasion of the first meeting in the new quarters, "we will sing,

'"I'm nearer my home in Heaven today
Than ever I've been before."'

—Chicago Tribune.