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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.

### FUTILE SYMPATHY.

For the malfeasance of men there should be pointed and fearless criticism, regardless of party, regardless of wealth and power; but the logic of events and the resistless march of civlization there is little use in arraigning. Along such lines there is little for the critic to accomplish but the making of himself ridiculous. The Philadelphia Public Ledger, for example, is old enough to know better than to say anything like this:

Possibly more sympathy would be shown for the negro in his grievance by Northern Re-publicans, but for the novel policy to which the country seems converted of accribing to the Anglo-Saxon rights and powers withheld from the Latin races, as well as from the mixed races of our colonies.

Who is withholding rights and powers from the Latin races? Nobody but themselves. Nothing is withholding empire from Spain and sanity from France, and solvency from Italy but their own incompetence.

Who is withholding rights and powers from the mixed races of Latin-America? Cuba and Porto Rico are at present under our protection as a sequence of their delivery from Spain; but all Latin-America outside of these two islands is pursuing unrestrainedly its own sweet will, through revolution, disorder and bankruptcy of high and varied picturesqueness. In addition to the rights and powers of independence and wide-open politics, they have the the United States occasionally to help them out, as we did with Venezuela,

The Ledger and those who think or rather growl with it seem incapable of seeing that what alls the Latin races and the mixed races of our dependencles and the negro in the South is not so much suppression from without as it is incapacity from within. You can't make a man a self-governing creature by law any more than you can make him a scholar and a gentleman by mere act of Congress or proclamation by the President. The Angio-Saxon is what he politically, if we take the Ledger for it, because of certain rights and powers ascribed to him, and the negro or the Filipino is what he is, politically, Anglo-Saxon claims for himself are by the Anglo-Saxon withheld from him, Nothing could be more perverse or more

Self-government is not a boon to be given at will. It is a stage of progress, development, of capacity, to be attained by painful steps and slow growth. The dogma of special creation is hard to eliminate, it appears, from ever thoroughly science has dispelled It from other fields. Numbers still afet to believe that fiat can create a self-governing community instanter, though every other quality and capacity of the race is recognized as having to come up from small beginnings ugh great tribulation.

If a child doesn't know the use of a razor, is it the part of wisdom to give it to him to play with and go off hugging the coast line and regarding and leave him? If a people do not the vast interior with dread mixed with know or understand the use of self- superstitious awe. For over a century government, is it right to leave them after the founding of Jamestown the alone with it to work their own detruction? Now, the fact is that neither known to the Virginians. "It was still he Filipino nor the negro can be ened with government any more afely for his own good than you can the remote shores which Drake had st a 10-year-old boy with a locome The use of tools has to be learned, nd self-government is a tool whose plexity requires long tutelage for s safe employment. The Anglo-Saxon, aning by that the British and Ameran peoples, has learned self-governent in a thousand years of apprenship, and very gradually, step by ep, he has taken on more and more of he functions of government, leaving s and less to the ruling class, inhered from the day when the ruling class mly was fit to rule

The reason why the North does not se up to put the negro in power over he Southern white is simply that it alizes at length that the negro is not to govern. His unfitness is not physal, but mental. His incapacity dwells, of in the color of his skin or the habit his hair, but in his intellectual status Ignorance and insufferable insolence. people who are fit to rule are going endure to be governed by those who e unfit to rule. Negro domination in South is an unbearable ignominy, ght, an estimable citizen when proply governed, and a servant without

belongs to him in his proper place becomes intolerable arrogance and misthievousness when he is raised above it. It is time we had done with these plous hypocrisies about the poor Fili-

pino and the poor negro. Not a mother's son of these hysterical Northern editors would consent, if he was in business in Manila, to have its government turned over to the Tagal bandits and blackmailers. Not one of them would consent, if he lived in the South, to have a big, insolent buck "nigger" dragging his wife and daughter into court as witnesses or radiating his insufferable airs as toastmaster at the Mayor's banquet. There is too much horse sense in the country for it to be longer aroused to partisan fury or maudiin tears by such senseless and In The Oregonian should be addressed invaria-bly "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual. Letters relating to advertis-ing, subscriptions or to any business matter should be addressed simply "The Oregonian."

dishonest appeals. Some time, maybe, the Pilipino and the negro will be as fit for governing himself and others as the Anglo-Saxon is, And when that time comes he will be doing it. Mean-The Oregonian does not buy poems or stories from individuals, and cannot undertake to return any manuscripts sent to it without selletation. No stamps should be inclosed for this the strong. The fit will not be governed by the unfit.

#### A NEW MUNICIPAL TRIUMPH.

In Oregon there are very few places where mosquitoes abound. There is little stagnant water in the Pacific States, and our mountain streams and lakes are too cold to permit the eggs to hatch, But still we have a mosquito here and there, and now and then. It is worth while, therefore, to note what a writer in the Independent has to say about the mosquito,

This writer is N. T. Barton, Mayor For sale in Salt Lake by the Salt Lake News | greatly annoyed by this irritating in-7 W. Second South street.

Sect. but he says he has rid it of the says both industrially and subsale in Ogden by W. C. Kind, 204 Twenpest. How he did it he thus describes: stantially, is a well-known fact-We apply kerosene to the breeding pools. Ex-periment shows that about an ounce (a tea cup full) of kerosene to each 15 square feet of water nurface on small people will effective cup full) of kerosene to each 15 aguare feet of water surface on small pools will effectually destroy all the larvae and pupae in the pool, and that the adult female who comes to the pool to deposit her eggs will either go away, or if she alights, will die and her eggs will perish with her. Nor need this inexpensive application of kerosene be renewed more than once a month. It need not be sprinkled. There are many people, of course, who are lazy as well as poor, if simply poured into the pool the oil will reach all parts of the water's surface.

Mr. Barton says that he has "dabbled in entomology in an amateurish sort of way," and so was led to take an interest in the habits of the mosto four hundred in a mass, depositing them on still pools of water, where in warm weather they hatch in little time, The female mosquito is the buzzer, and the biter also. The male is an insignificant individual, reminding one of the "An," in Bulwer's "Coming Race," whose function is wholly subordinate tion in planting and cultivating accuto the "Gy,"

When Mr. Barton first proposed his remedy to the Common Council of Winchester, there was a storm of ridicule. Agitation of the subject, however, resulted in the adoption of an ordinance providing for the systematic application of kerosene to all the breedingplaces of the insect. People who had rain barrels were required to keep them covered. The result of these measures is thus described:

In many parts of the city the pest wholly disappeared, and in all parts it was greatly reduced in virulence; nets were taken down; and plazzas and lighted rooms at night again became comfortable and habitable. It was very evident, too, that the continued existence of the measure in a few parts of the town was the mosquito in a few parts of the town was due to the failure of the residents there is obey the ordinance. Where it was observed the mosquitoes were practically annihilated.

But the degree of success attained was so considerable that an amended ordinance has been passed, with penalties for non-observance; and what was taken as a joke in the beginning has now passed into a municipal policy, noteworthy privilege of calling upon that none undertakes to gainsay. Our title to which he aspired, whether from socialistic brethren may be congratulated on the addition of this municipal ection to their list of "public utilities," It strikes us as the most rational thing we have seen, in this line.

# SETTLEMENT OF OREGON.

The Whitman enthusiasts would have the world believe that their hero of the midwinter journey across the continent organized and directed the great immigration of 1843 which gave the Americans the preponderance of population in the Oregon Country, and was an important factor in the settlement of the boundary dispute in favor of the United States. No argument could be more indefensible. Oregon was settled and, because the rights and powers the it might be said, saved, by the pioneer men and women, "sooners," as we would now term them, who gathered on the frontier of civilization in Western Missouri in the Fall and Winter of 1842 and rushed to the Pacific with the opening of the Spring of 1843. Whitman was with them and his advice and experience were of benefit to them because he had made the trip before. But he did not lend the immigrants, the realm of political thinking, how- for they were on the frontier before he retraced his steps from Boston, and bilt and represents Vanderbilt interhad their minds set on Oregon. They would have come whether he was with

them or not. From the time the Aryan race began to leave its cradle in Asia the migration of its sturdiest stock has been towards the West. It swarmed over Europe and built empires and republics. Next we find it in the New World, beautiful Shenandoah Valley was unpart of the unmeasured wilderness," says Fiske, "that stretched away to once called by the name of New Albion," Spotswood, who was Governor Swift Run Gap, about eighty miles and opened the way for the Scotch-Irish who flocked into the Shenandoah Vailey, beginning in 1739. Spotswood's merry Knights of the Golden Horseshoe proved the Western country to be habitable. From the Shenandoah it was but a step to the Valley of the Ohlo, then to the Mississippi, and then

over the Rockies to the Pacific Ocean. The settlement of Oregon was but a art of the great Western movement of the Aryan race, a movement which still continues, though the boundless Pacific separates it from its ancient home. Floyd of Virginia, who was The German States have followed Prustireless in his effort in behalf of Amer- sia and now pretty much all Europ ican occupation of the Columbia River, said of the immigration which it was proposed to direct this way: "At most, government; in Hungary, 8150 miles. it is only acting upon precisely the In 1897 the Russian Government same principle which has directed the owned 15,780 miles out of a total progress of population from the moment the English first landed in Virginia." He might with equal truth have said that it was acting upon precisely rior when fitly trained. But as a the same principle which has directed rior officer over Americans he is a the progress of the Aryan since he

in the early stages of the Oregon ques-

As we reach the Rocky Mountains we would be unwise did we not pass the narrow space which separates the mountains from the ocean, to secure advantages far greater than the existing advantages of all the country between the Missiscipi and the mountains. Sir, our National boundary is the Pacific Ocean. The awelling tide of our population must and will roll on until that mighty ocean limits our territorial empire. Then with two oceans washing our shores, the commercial wealth of the world is ours, and imagination can hardly conceive the greatness, the grandeur and the power that await us.

Few migrations in the history of man As we reach the Rocky Mountains we would

Few migrations in the history of man may justly be compared to the coming of the ploneers of 1843. John Minto said in his address at the pioneer reunion of 1876 that the men, women and children of 1843 "crossed an unsettled country covering twenty-eight degrees of longitude; every part of the way liable to attacks from savage foes." the Anglo-Saxon is. And when that Of all the movements of man, Mr. Minto thought the journey of the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan offers the closest parallel to the immigration of 1843. the Israelites "being encumbered with their families, but there the distance was hundreds of miles while this was thousands." Spotswood was the pathfinder of the Alleghanies and Lewis and Clark were the pathfinders of the Rock-The Irish-Scotch pioneers who les. filled the Shenandoah Valley were the predecessors and, to a certain degree, the ancestors of the "sooners" who came to Oregon in 1843.

PINGREE GARDENS. The "Pingree garden" represents one of the most simple yet practical chariof Winchester, Va. His town was ties of recent years. That it has helped hundreds of families to help Women and children have been important factors in carrying out the idea, being contingent upon the former. There are others who, having been bred in the narrow surroundings of "poverty row," know nothing whatever about seed time, cultivation and harquito. He found that the female lays eggs to the number of two hundred garden proposition does not appeal: members of the latter are frequently eager to learn, but their instruction and supervision require an outlay of money which may easily go beyond the value of the vegetables which they raise.

In this case, however, there is a decided gain, for those who receive instrucmulate thereby a fund of simple, practical knowledge that will stand them in good stead in the future. Children especially trained in the art of making things grow are much less likely to make demands as men and women upon organized charities for help than if they had not received such instruction. Auxiliary to this is the feeling of self-dependence that honest earnings, however small, engenders. Thus, while the Pingree garden, as a fad, has passed, it still exists as an industrial factor, representing self-respect and self-dependence, among a considerable number of the industrious poor in several cities, notably in those of Chicago and Detroit. It is said that in the first-named city over 200 families are raising their Summer vegetables upon otherwise waste places in the city's area, while some of them are looking to a surplus of cabbage and potatoes

for Winter use. If the fame of the late ex-Governor Pingree as a "friend of the poor"-a political or philanthropic motives it is ished hanging in 1872 and returned to not now pertinent to inquire—is held to it in 1878. There are now only four must be conceded that it has a fair blades of grass grow where but one grew before is a benefactor of his race. the before undiscovered capital of the sentence. beneficiaries, may be regarded as a dispenser of practical benevolence of

Yesterday's election of new directors pany indicates what progress has been made in the process of harmonizing the control of transcontinental lines. shows that the new policy has already than was supposed. In the new board not only are the Great Northern, the Union Pacific and the Pennsylvania lines represented in the persons of Messrs. Hill, Harrlman and Rea, but the Northwestern has one of its active sult. directors, Mr. Twombley, who is a brother-in-law of William K. Vander ests in general, and the Milwaukee road gets representation through William E. Rockefeller, who is a director of Milwaukee and a very large holder of that he was the man who frustrated the deal by which the Milwaukee was to have been tied up with the Northern lines as the Burlington has been. The new Northern Pacific board affords evidence that the Milwaukee has been in Chicago and Colorado. "harmonized" with the transcontinent als as effectually, probably, as the Bur lington, and the Northwestern is also in line, Beside the direct Northwestern representation on the new board, Mr. Vanderbilt is made the general arbitrator of disagreements among the other interests. Of those who go out of the Northern Pacific, Mr. Adams is of Virginia, crossed the Blue Ridge at the most prominent railroad man, and he is suspected of having played into southwest of Harper's Ferry, in 1716, the hands of the Harriman-Schiff people last May, when the struggle for Northern Pacific stock was in progress. His partisanship then made him offen sive to the Hill-Morgan combination, and he was dropped in the interest of harmony. The most notable thing about the new Northern Pacific board is the evidence it gives of the vast extent to which the new policy of harmonization has already reached.

State railroad ownership is increasing in Europe, owing to the example and save England. In Austria 6300 miles are owned and of 24,300 miles, aside from the government railroads in Finland and Siberia. The Servian, Roumanian and Bulgarian railroads are owned exclusively by the government. Norway's roads are all government, and Sweden conspicuous misfit and unmiti- began to migrate. Hon, Francis Bay- operates 2303 miles on public account ed nulsance. The deference that | iles, of Massachusetts, said in Congress | against 4387 in private hands, which the | now is the time to subscribe.

government is making efforts to acquire. Denmark has 1167 miles of government road, and 525 miles of private, Switzerland's government, by gradual purchase, will soon own all the railroads. Belgium owns the whole of the Belgian rallway system. Holland and Italy adopted the plan of buying up all the railroads and letting them out are less satisfactory than full public ownership and operation. France has at present a comparative small public rallroad mileage, but the private roads all revert to the government in the last half of the present century, according to present arrangements. England and the United States are the only great countries whose railroads are exclusively in private hands, but England owns and operates all the telegraph

lines as part of the postal system,

The recent trial of Lord Russell by the House of Lords recalls the fact that Lord Ferrers was tried for the murder of his steward by the House of Lords in 1760, was convicted and hanged. Ferrers tried to kill his wife, and when she brought a suit for separation the steward swore in her favor, whereupon Ferrers murdered him. He was the last peer to be hanged. Lord Byron, the wicked ancestor of the great poet, was tried in 1765 for murder by his peers, having killed his brother-inlaw, Mr. Chatsworth, in a duel, but he was acquitted. The Duchess of Kingston was tried for bigamy in 1776, and Lord Cardigan was tried by the House of Lords in 1841. The hearing by the House of Lords in 1820 of the application for divorce of King George IV from his Queen, Caroline of Brunswick, whom he charged with adultery, is commonly known as "the trial of Queer Caroline." She was defended so ably and eloquently by Lord Brougham, and commanded such general popular sympathy, that the bill was suddenly dropped by the prosecution after reaching the third reading.

If only the people of the Middle West could know the difference between the fierce heat that is scorching them day and night and withering their crops in the fields and the balmy airs, cool nights and thriving vegetation of the Pacific Northwest, every immigrant car that could be mustered by transcontinental railroads would be on the rails, speeding westward, packed to its fullest capacity, inside of a month. There never was a more auspicious time than the present for the dissemination of the truth about Oregon's climate and agricultural resources and possibilities, Our citizens at the Pan-American Exposition are doing all they can in this line but there is room for work looking to an increase of our population by legitimate advertising much farther west than Buffalo.

The hot wave is still in the recordpreaking business in the Middle West, One would be disposed to think that 'the very hottest day ever experienced' in so many sections was an estimate extorted by present suffering, which is prone to be greater than any that has preceded it, but for the fact that the records of thirty years are consulted in verification of the statement. Hence, while enjoying to the utmost our balmy Pacific Coast breezes, we are forced to accept the record of "hottest days" in other sections. We can but instinctively mop our brows in sympathy with our less fortunate brethren in the Mississippi Valley, and hope with and for them relief may soon come to them.

The bill by which Colorado restored the death penalty has become a law. Colorado is the second state to return rest upon the Pingree garden idea, it states where capital punishment is not resorted to-Rhode Island, Maine, Michfoundation. If he who makes two igan and Wisconsin. Practically, however, capital punishment is not resorted to in Kansas, for the law there requires surely the man who has made the the Governor of the state to sign the waste places of cities produce tons of death warrant of every convicted crimvegetables to feed the poor, utilizing inal, and this the Governors refuse to in the process a store of latent energy. | do. The alternative is commutation of

The inexplicable propensity of deaf persons to walk on railroad tracks around curves causes many deaths which in one sense can scarcely for the Northern Pacific Railway Com- called accidental, every year. The latest of these victims in this state was a boy of 8 years who was walking on the track near the summit of the Blue Mountains, in Union County, a few attained to a more important status days ago, and, unable to hear the approach of a freight train which swept upon him around a sharp curve, was killed. The incident is peculiar only in that it was a child instead of a man who took this risk, with the usual re-

In Chicago women found drinking at the bar of a saloon are arrested. In Colorado, where equal suffrage prevalls, the courts assert the right of a woman to enter a saloon, to call for any drink wanted, and to drink the same stock in that corporation. It is said either standing at the bar or sitting at a table. If the woman calling for the drink and taking it were open to no charge of personal misconduct, it is not easy to understand why her rights in this respect are not exactly alike, both

The average Sunday attendance at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo has been nearer 10,000 than 20,000 against a daily week-day average of over 30,000. It is suggested that the slim attendance on Sunday is due largely to the fact that the midway features of the exposition are not open on Sundays as they are on other days. As popular drawing cards, the midway overtops all other exposition features combined.

Perhaps if the steel trust will assist Mr. Shaffer to secure a high tariff on all workmen coming into the country, he will be willing to call the strike off. Of course, the trust would have no difficulty in obtaining the required legis-

Secretary of War Root has directed that the graduating class at West Point shall each year visit some one of the great battle-fields of the Civil War, the strategy and tactics of which have formed a part of the school curriculum.

The telegraphic news is full of indisputable evidence that Oregon is the country which the Lord made for man to live in-

The baiting of Colonel Watterson is

not so popular a pastime as it was before the Kentucky editor began to talk Concerning the free swimming bath-

## AN ABLE SECRETARY OF WAR.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. Whether this country has been burdened with too many Secretaries of War who have not understood the needs of the Army, or whether the experience of the to private companies, but the results thoroughly equipped and more efficient regular Army, the fact is that from the never as high as it ought to have been. The Spanish war showed that, while rellance can be placed upon a prompt response to a call for volunteers to bring the forces of National defense up to a strength adequate for almost any emergency, time is needed to make the volun-teer force efficient for active service. The small regular Army, with its corps of trained officers of the line and with its ell-organized staff departments, overborne to a large extent by the num bers of volunteeers. The commissary, quartermaster's and medical departments vere unable to meet the demands upon them, not because they were not indi-vidually efficient in most particulars, but because they had suddenly had dumped upon them over a hundred thousand volunteers who had much to learn of the methods of securing supplies and as to camp sanitation. Had the volunteer cers all understood their duties, and had the men understood better how to take care of themselves, there would have been, as the experience of certain efficient regiments proved, but little trouble in securing supplies and no serious epi-demics. But to say that the ignorance of the volunteeers in military affairs was to a great extent the cause of the difficulty is not to relieve the War

Department of all responsibility in the matter. The trouble was aggravated by the fact that the War Department was administered by a politician of little executive ability, who connived at appoint-ments made more for the "pull" than for The staff departments were hampered by inefficient civilian appointees, and, perhaps, most important of all, there was a lack of co-ordination between the staff bureaus and an immense amount of red tape, both of which were the growth of the long period of peace and the infusion of politics into the Army, es-pecially in the matter of staff appointments, by Secretaries of War who were not jealous to protect the Army from this destroying element. Nor were the secretaries who understood the weaknesses of the Army and the importance of correcting them able to do much in the face of the apathy of Congress and the public, who had lost sight of the regular Army in the overwhelming numbers of volun-teeers during the Civil war, and who did not appreciate that in any foreign war the regular Army would be the essential nucleus of the forces of defense. Fortunately, today there is much less ikelihood of a breakdown in case sudden call to arms than there has been for several decades. The credit for this

ongs more to Secretary Root than to any other one man. In spite of the fact that he has been burdened with heavy that he has been burdened with heavy responsibilities in connection with the administration of civil affairs both in Cuba and the Philippinens, and has had to supervise the conduct of the campaigns in the latter islands, he has accomplished reforms in the Army that other secretaries have been unable to effect. His sound judgment, great tact, keen insight into the nature of the defects in the organization and into the character of the organization and into the character of the men with whom he has had to deal, and his insistence upon efficiency have ehown him to be as capable an adminis-trator as he is a lawyer. He has undertrator as he is a lawyer. He has under-stood the military problem of this coun-try, and is in a fair way to solve it. He is, in short, one of the greatest Secre-taries of War that the country has had. That military authorities appreciate the work of Secretary Root is indicated by the following extract from the Army and Navy Journai: Navy Journal: Since assuming the position of Secretary of

War, about two years ago, the work accom-plished by Mr. Root for the good of the Army has been truly remarkable. His bills for the reorganization of the regular service marked the beginning of a new and better epoch for the Army of this country. Placed upon a more secure footing in every respect, it is now in a far better position to meet the emergency of a foreign war than probably ever before in our history. Not only has the present Secretary of War obtained legislation for the good of the commissional security. the good of the cor oned and enlist d personnel of the Army, but every detail absenteeism. An employe goes away when the member who appoints him needs real management of affairs has shown an imhim at home for political or other services. The law requires that he shall be present at least for the signing of the pay organization of the Army which it is Mr. organization of the Army which it is Mr. Root's intention to take up with Congress during the coming session. Together with his able assistant, Mr. Sanger, he is working out a scheme which looks to the establishment of a military reserve, composed of the militia of the various states. Quitely, but none the less effectively, the Assistant Secretary of War has been sounding the militiamen of the states in the matter, and it has developed that there is a substantial unanimity of opinion among them as to the practicability and utility ong them as to the practicability and utility of such an organization.

The tribute is deserved. A thoroughly organized staff at Washington, able to act promptly and efficiently when called upon, a regular Army thoroughly organized and equipped for defensive and offeneave campaigning, a corps of regular of-ficers fitted by study and practical experience to whip a large mass of volunteers into shape, and, still more, a greater number of men in each state who understand the handling and care of men in camp, and who by their knowl-edge will assist instead of hampering the egular Army in organizing the National forces, present the best practical so-lution of the problem of National de-fense. With such an organization the problems of prompt mobilization would not be difficult to solve, and the scandals and the disease that marked the Spanish war and the early days of the Civil war would disappear. The co-operation of Congress as well as of the National Guard is needed to make such an organization possible, and it is to be hoped that Congress will take more intelligent thought for the mor. row in this regard than it has some-times displayed when dealing with pro-posed military reforms. In getting Con-gress to act Secretary Root will put his billity to the severest test it has yet

## Turn About Is Fair Play.

Kansas City Star.

According to the call for a National convention, issued by the chairman of the National Populist Committee, the Bryan Democrate are emocrats are to be invited to reciprocate for the fusion of the "Pops" in 1898 and 1900. On the principle that "turn about is fair play" something ought to come of the invitation. The Populists did all they could to elect Bryan, so why shouldn't the Bryan Democrats, who will find themselves alienated from the regular organi-zation, turn in and help their former al-lies? It may well be argued, however, that the Bryanized Democracy met the ulists more than half way, both as to

#### Conl Trust and Labor. Rochester Herald.

The coal interests of the country within two years have united to advance the price of anthracite and bituminous coal to a height which has seldom been ap-proached since coal came into common use as fuel and at which the price was never before sustained for so long a period. Of the great sum which is thus extorted from the consumer by the coal combine how small a fraction reaches the pockets of the coal workers may be inferred from the wages and hours of the fremen. Twelve hours constitute a day's work and Twelve hours constitute a day's work and \$1 70 a day's pay.

## Prayer and Tree Planting.

Philadelphia Record. In the rainless parts of the corn best disputatious persons are debating whether or not there is scriptural warrant for praying for rain. If they want to put serious pressure on the rain-dispensing powers they should plant trees.

### A DISGUSTING RECORD.

New York Times. It is well known that most members of Congress of either party look on the system of appointments to the public service for merit with cordial animosity. They past three years has opened the eyes of are generally ready at all times and in any the public to the necessity for a more way possible to evade or "beat" the system, where they can do so without too obvious offense to the sense of decency Civil War down to the advent of Secre- among their constituents. A report made tary Root the standard of the Army was at the last session of the House, the substance of which is published by the Civil Service Reform League, throws light or the reasons why so many members of the House have "poor opinion of the law."

The House employs 367 persons at an average annual compensation of \$400,000 for all, or \$1120 a year each. The pay would be very good even if the service were constant and as exacting as that of ordinary employes of the same class in private business. The actual service, however, is for not more than one-half the time of each Congress, and the average payment per month of such service is something like \$300, a very high rate For that pay the House should get the faithful service of the very best men, and could enforce the strictest dis-cipline. As a matter of fact, it gets much very poor service, and from a considera-ble number of its nominal employes it gets no service whatever. If we ask why it is that the House, as a Government body, pays heavily for poor work or none, the answer is that the pay is really given to the appointees of the members of Con-gress, who demand in return sometimes the political aid of the beneficiaries, and sometimes release themselves from the obligation of supporting those dependent on them. The larger part of the sum taken from the Treasury to pay for work for the Government is thus diverted for the advantage of members of the House. These members are engaged in a rather petty and wholly contemptible conspiracy, through the abuse of their authority, to benefit themselves in pocket or otherwise It is a system of elaborate pilfering, and is not in the least on a higher level morally than picking the till of the Treasury or the neckets of the taxpayers

testimony of the doorkeeper:

the service of the House, speaking generally, a man has to have behind him the indorsement of some member?

A.—Yes, sir.
Q.—The effect of this is, of course, the flouse officers become responsible for the work of their subordinates without any work of power of selection? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—The effect often is to lose a man who has gained experience and become efficient and to replace him with some other?

A .- You, mir. Q .- Can there be under such a system as

that, under anyone's administration, any successful service?

A.-I do not think there can be as successful as if men were selected for the exact dutles they are to perform. (Teatimony, special investigation of House employes. Page 65.)

Now see how this works in practice.
One O. M. Enyert is appointed House tellegrapher, for which he precives in all \$1600. He performs none of the duties of the place, but spends his time in the House library, where he seems to be engaged in compiling the Biographical Dictionary of Congress, a work of no public utility whatever. Meanwhile, one J. J. Constantine is employed as telegrapher,

and paid out of an appropriation of \$900 carried in the legislative act as for "hire use of the clerk's office." Then still an-other man is hired at \$40 a month as teamster, and the money is contributed by other employes. Here is a total of \$2980 a year paid for service for which \$1200 is regularly appropriated, \$2500 by the Government and \$480 by employes. These latter evidently are taxed in this way to suit the demands of members. Again, Winthrop C. Jones is paid \$1440 a year as "locksmith," while he acts as messenger, and another man is paid \$75 a month dur-ing the session to do the work of lock-

roll as a session folder. Jones himself is not a locksmith at all. pointed at the demand of the Michigan delegation, and was absent from Wash-ington for eight months of the year, roll, but this is arranged for him, so that he can leave monthly receipts and have his checks sent to him. Another effect, equally logical, is that these favorites of the Congressmen are frequently called on

to divide their pay with others who have not so "soft a snap." This is done quite shamelessly, sometimes the Congressman himself taking the money, and, presuma-bly, distributing it. Contributions for en-tirely undefined purposes are frequently made, and no accounting for them is re-quired. Men who hold their places and draw their pay by favor cannot either re-sist demands from their backers or ask too closely what is done with their money. We have given only a few instances of the facts brought out in this report. The abuses prevail mostly among the men of the majority, but they are not confined to these by any means. A certain share in the common plunder is allotted to the minority, who are thus silenced as to the practices of the majority. It is not nice. It is calculated to make a self-respecting citizen hold his nose when he thinks of a member of Congress. But the case is not hopeless when a committee of the House is found willing to make such a report. That is the first step in an appeal to

## Step in Right Direction,

The Alabama Constitutional Convention has agreed on a provision making it the duty of the Governor, when a Sheriff al-lows a prisoner in his custody to be lynched, to institute impeachment pro-ceedings against the officer, and to suspend him pending trial. Alabama seems to be in earnest. This is the first really dequate measure against lynching yet adopted in any state.

## Our Two Opinions.

Us two wux boys when we fell out Nigh to the age of my youngest now;
Don't ree'lect what 'twus about,
Some small deeff'rence, I'll allow,
Lived next neighbors twenty years,
A-hatin' each other, me 'nd Jim,
He havin' his opinyin uv me 'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him

Grew up together 'nd wouldn't speak, Courted sisters 'nd marr'd 'em, too;
'Tended same meetin-house oncet a week,
A'hatin' each other through 'nd through
But when Abe Linkem asked the West
F'r soldiers, we answered—me 'nd Jim—
He havin' his opinyin uv me
'Nd J backs' 'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him

But down in Tennessee one night
Ther' wur sound of firin' fur away,
''Nd the Sorgeant allowed ther' 'd be a fight
With the Johnnie Rebs some time nex' day; 'Nd as I wur thinkin' uv Lizzie 'nd her Jim stood afore me, long 'nd slim— He havin' his opinyin uv me 'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him.

Seemed like we knew ther' wux goin' to be Serious trouble f'r me 'nd him; Us two shuck hands, did Jim 'nd me; But never a word from me or Jim! He went his way 'nd I went mine. 'Nd into the battle's roar went we— I havin', my coincip up. I'm. I havin' my opinyin uv Jim
'Nd he havin' his opinyin uv

Jim never came back from the war again.
But I bain't forgot that last, last night.
When, waitin' fir orders, us two men
Made up 'nd shuck hands afore the fight.
'Nd, after it all, it's scothin' to know
That here I be 'nd yonder's Jim—
He havin' his opinyin uv me
'Nd I havin' my opinyin uv him.

### NOTE AND COMMENT.

Has it ever occurred to Carnegie to float his barrel over Niagara Falls?

King Edward is picking and choosing a title as if he were a new play.

Again it is given out that the Boer War is near its end, and again the inquiry arises, which end?

If the man who goes around talking about the hot weather worries you, read the news from Kansas City. The weather man at Indianapolis has re-

graphers made too hard a combination for The ghoulish glee with which the yellow journals discuss sensational murder trials has at last been suppressed by an upright

Judge.

signed. Unruly elements and gibing para-

When the president of Stanford University begins to tell fish stories, muffled sounds are heard from the grave, where reposes all that is mortal of the late Ananias.

Emperor William has made 916 speeches, which does not even put him in the Depew class, say nothing of enabling him to get a place in the running with the editor of the Commoner.

Professor Koch has discovered that the prowling microbe which has its abiding place in milk is harmless, but as water is a great disseminator of typhoid, his discovery does not exactly benefit the milk-

The report that an Eastern poet committed suicide because an editor declined his poem is probably exaggerated. If an editor wants to make a poet fall dead, he should accept his contribution, not decline it.

The fact that the members of the House divide up among themselves the appointments of employes who are overpaid and underworked is shown by the following pen of the owner, who, as he ingenuously admits, is also the owner. He evidently fears to claim too much for his tavern, but still is unwilling that the traveling public shall escape without having their attention directed to it in a quiet way:

This splendid and well-located building is the great Province of British Columbia, the gement justly claim to have placed it first on the list of hotels in regard t lence of design, magnificence of furnishings, and adaptation to the purpose for which it is

Its pre-eminence in popular favor is largely due to the foregoing facts, and equally to the consistent policy of the management, which is so directed as to deserve, if not command,

As Labouchere tells the story in Truth, the most servile and abject worshipers of kingship have often shown themselves plus royalistes que le roi. This has happened once again over the question of the King's chaplains. "In the late committee on the civil list I moved for a reduction in the preposterous number of these functionaries. I did so not solely in the inof horses and wagons and cartage for the terests of economy, but also because it appeared to me that to assume that 36 chaplains were necessary to the King's spiritual welfare was the reverse of flattery to His Majesty, for it implies that proposal of reduction; but the King himself has now taken my view of the matter, and reduced his 36 chaplains to 12. In this he shows, if I may respectfully say so, that sound common sense which has smith, though he is on the doorkeeper's marked all his domestic reforms since he came to the throne."

Thou shrill-voiced tenur of the insect choir, With all a choir tenur's quarrelsomeness; For which thy death affords but scant re-

dress; Thy evil ways grave Bryant once did mark, And chid thee gently in smooth-flowing verse, But penlience awakened not in thee, And yet in still night watches mortals hark To thy dread song, and breathe a fervent

Upon the water thou dron'st unceasingly.

But yet be warned, O minstrel of the dank And alimy marshes where the builtrogs sing, And where among the grasses, growing rank, Thou learn'st to whirr thy thin, transparent

ce now has marked thee for her own

She lies in walt for thee, to bring about And compass thy destruction, so take heed, And where thou sniff at the deadly coal oil strown Among thy haunts, look out, thou pest, look

## PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Merchant (to new boy)-Has the bookkeep told you what to do in the afternoon? Youth Yes, sir; I am to wake him up when I see you coming.-Tit-Bits.

She-I love this excessively hot weather! Don't you, Mr. Boerham? He-No! I can't stand it. I shall go away if it continues! She -I do hope it will!-Punch.

On the Ground Floor.-First Politician-Do you think we'd better take the public into our confidence? Second Politician-Oh, we'll take 'em in, all right!-Brooklyn Life. Good Advice.—"I'm thinking of doing a lit-tle speculating," said the lamb. "What's the best thing to put your money in?" "A safe deposit vault," replied the old bird.—Philadelphia Press.

At the Funeral.-Rigg-Poor old Mudge. He does'nt look like the same man. Tigg-No. And just listen to that culogy. It doesn't sound as if it were for the same man, either. -Baltimore American.

Reeping Busy.—'Why are you so pensive?'
'No reason in particular." answered Willie
Washington. "I didn't have anything else to
do, so I thought I might as well look as if I
were thinking."—Washington Star.

The Chip Off the Block.—"I can tell you one thing, Maris. If Johnny is like me, he will have good staying qualities, anyhow." "He has them now, John. He'd stay in bed till noon every day if I'd let him."—Boston Trav-

Hard Lines.—Drummer—It is pretty hard to get a drink in this town, isn't it? Landlord (Kansas hote!)—You bet. Why, you can't even work the snake-bite racket any more unless you carry the snake to the drug store and let him bite you in the presence of a committee!

To Be Consistent.—Von Blumer—The doctor thinks I ought to go on a fishing trip. Mrs. Von Blumer—But of course you don't believe him. Von Blumer—Why not? Mrs. Von Blumer—Well, you didn't have any confidence in him when he told me I ought to go to Europe.—Harper's Bazar.

Reached the Limit.—Maud.—Tour finance called on me last night. Mahel.—Indeed? Maud.—Yes, guess what he said to me. Mahel.—Indeed? Maud.—Yes, guess what he said to me. Mahel.—It wish that I dared to kiss you." Mahel (condently)—But he didn't do it. Maud.—How do you know? Mahel (sweetly)—There are limits even to herolam.—Town and Country.

From "Lucretina."
What! Shall the dateless worlds in dust be Back to the unremembered and unknown And this frail thou-this flame of yesterday-Burn on, forlorn, immertal and alone?

Did Nature in the nurseries of the night Tend it for this-Nature, whose heedless might, Like some poor shipwrecked sailor, takes the

And casts it, bleating, on the shores of light? -W. H. Mailock,