

The Oregonian.

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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 83; minimum, 57; fair.

TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair and continued warm. Northwestern winds.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, AUGUST 13.

TARIFF REVISION A LIVE ISSUE.

The announcement that Senator Hanna does not anticipate any tariff reform at the next meeting of Congress is not surprising. Men of the Hanna type are always optimistic; they never "borrow trouble" until they have trouble to "lend" or to "burn."

THE NEGRO AS A FIGHTING MACHINE.

The recent appointment of three colored men as officers of the enlarged regular Army has called public attention to the negro as a soldier.

THE FUTURE OF CANADA.

Canada's special need today is population rather than capital, but the trend of emigration from Europe and even from Canada itself has thus far been to the United States.

alliance between the manufacturing East and the agricultural Northwest.

whose votes are voted by this editor of the Southwest Wisconsiner when he vigorously denounces tariff protected trusts, whose goods "yield no revenue, need no protection, and are articles of export" throughout the world.

PUBLIC DEBTS.

A great public debt, says Ruskin, affords a means through which persons who command money and wish to get an income from it through taxation of the people are enabled to gratify their desire.

These are commonplace, but obvious truths as they are, little attention is paid to them. The man who possesses property often thinks to give it increased value through the public improvements for which he permits the city to bond it.

Yet unquestionably there are objects for which public debts may properly be incurred. Some things are too necessary to admit dispute. But every community should be wise enough to know how far to go and where to stop.

As a nation, France has yielded to the debt-making propensity to an extent heretofore known elsewhere. And the greater part of her debt has grown up from her desire on the one hand to create "public utilities," and on the other from the notion that it was the duty of the state to keep the people employed.

IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

It is really a marvel to those who recall the conditions of other times in South Carolina, when they are ready to appeal on slightest provocation to the "code" for protection of their "honah," and never would submit to the most trifling insinuation or sarcasm without sending a challenge—to such it is really a marvel to read what two great statesmen of South Carolina, Tillman and McLaurin, are saying about each other; and yet each would set the other flaming ere he would challenge him.

THE STEEL TRUST.

Its Profits and Dividends on Pledgments Valued. LONG BEACH, Aug. 11.—(To the Editor.)—Re your editorial, August 9th issue, will you be good to tell your readers when the United States Steel Company paid dividends?

ENGLISH IN ALFRED'S DAY.

Some of the Words of His Period Have Come to Be Misunderstood. London Express. In the heart of the grand old Kingdom of Wessex—which, by the way, was created some little while before Thomas the Rhymer wrote his "Faery Queene," the country life-folk are going to celebrate the millenary of Alfred, who ruled in that place and was a native of it.

THE TRUST'S VICTIMS.

Omaha Bee. The Bee condoles with owners of steel stock who are being victimized by the fall in the price of their property for a while because of the strike. It says that the plutocrats who boss the trust, having raised among themselves \$200,000,000 with which to protect the stock, will buy in the stock of scared owners when it is offered cheap for sale, and then after the strike is over will reap a great harvest.

IN BAKER CITY.

Democrat. The one thing that is noticed by strangers in Baker, who are passing through the clouds of dust, is that building and the improvement in property is a steady thing here. There are a few kickers who complain that the streets are not being cleaned, sewers are not being lighted, hay and wood markets were provided, cesspools and alleys were cleaned, but then—there always will be kickers.

A LABOR DAY PROCLAMATION.

The first Monday in September will be Labor Day, according to custom, and also according to law in many states. In view of the labor troubles in the East, a proclamation issued by the Governor of West Virginia is particularly timely.

CLEARWATER SITUATION.

Northern Pacific to Build the Building, President Mellon Says. Lewiston Tribune. Mr. Mellon was shown a copy of a recent letter addressed to him and Mr. Harriman by the Commercial Club setting forth the requirements of the country for more railway facilities and after glancing at it, said: "I know what this is about and will take up the matter with Mr. Harriman on my return. We are going to build the road westward from here to Riparia, and also extend to Grangeville. We will not go further westward for some years yet, until the country has been so materially benefited by it as now. If I were going to build a new road to the West it would go through the Lolo pass and around the Clearwater valley. It will disturb the business of the main line until there is something to replace it with."

Forests of Norway are being so swiftly destroyed that it is only a question of a few years when the forests of Norway have been completely exhausted, according to a story written by William E. Curtis to the Chicago Record-Herald. All the hardwood has already disappeared, and Norway formerly had fine forests of excellent oak. While the lumber industry has eaten into the forests with great rapidity, the wood pulp business of recent years is said to have done most to destroy the forests.

"Our Chauncey," who is having his usual good time in Europe, declared emphatically the other day that he was going to set the "interior" of the "business." Before the public heard had time to break at this announcement he followed it up with generously expressed opinions upon American prosperity and the impossibility of labor troubles to check it; the trade situation in Europe and America; Lord Kitchener's latest proclamation (which, however, being a United States Senator, he was prevented from discussing); and the hopelessness of European intervention in the Boer contention. In the language of the professional talker, "with these few broken remarks, he leaves the subject with us." Next time he will, no doubt, be less brief, as the temptation to talk is one that he can hardly, at his age and with his established reputation for verbosity, be expected to overcome.

Francis does not mind matters over Crisp's death, any more than she did over that of Bismarck. Her implacable enemies in life, in death neither of these men is mourned by Frenchmen. Scouting custom under such circumstances, they do not pretend a regret which they do not feel. Crisp's death means simply to them that "another enemy of France" has disappeared, and while refraining from discussing it they are glad, they are plainly not sorry. From a standpoint simply human, there is enough in the humiliation suffered by France at the dictation of Bismarck and Crisp to justify this feeling toward these cold-blooded statesmen, and the French people are distinctively human in their impulses and judgments.

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Phenolopia Ledger. Mr. Bryan has had varied experience as a Presidential candidate. He was a candidate of impulse, precipitately nominated in 1896, and he was a candidate by deliberate choice, long created, in 1900. To the untimely ending of his experience with both styles of candidacy would seem to leave little choice between them, but Mr. Bryan has learned a lesson. To his mind the surprise method of nominating presents many advantages, and he now says, "It would be foolish for any man to announce his candidacy for such a long time as I did. He accordingly announces that he is 'a candidate for no office,' but that he 'would not enter into a bond never to become a candidate.' He says that if he should happen around his way a second time, it will find him at home.

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The comedy is supposed to be enacted in the year 1812, just before the outbreak of the war with England. Garrett O'Magh, a naturalized citizen of the United States, has returned to Dublin, after having made his fortune in America, together with his wife, a young girl, and a young man, Riparia Hardy, an American trader of the Quaker cast. Garrett's aunt, Mrs. Devlin, is of a match-making disposition, and forms a plan to marry her niece, the daughter of Roger Nagle, a Dublin attorney, between whom and herself there is an attachment. While planning their own happiness, the three young people have been attracted to each other. Riparia Hardy, a young man of the outside of the other and is repelled. Then by a series of episodes the real character of each unfolds itself to the other until by the end of the first act they are in a fair way to a mutual understanding.

In the second act, Mrs. Devlin and Mr. Nagle, seeing how Garrett is handicapped by Eileen's presence, plan an elopement for him. Eileen, unaware of the plot, consents to be won by this method. But she confides her secret to Louise Wilton, who wants Garrett for herself, and who Eileen's elopement will ruin. Eileen, who is seemingly angry, accuses the eloping couple and captures them, but Louise Wilton uncovers the scheme, whereat Eileen denounces Garrett and declares she will never see him again. The last act is taken up with a reconciliation between Garrett and Eileen. The outbreak of war between the United States and Great Britain detaches Garrett to return to America to participate in it. Prospect of his departure melts away the indignation of Eileen.

Mr. Olcott has a remarkably clear tenor voice, and he uses it last night with winning effect. His singing of "Ireland! A Gra, Ma Chree" and "My Wild Rose" in the first act, was received with much applause. He also sang "The Lass I Love" in the second act, and also "My Sweet Queen," which was much admired. His singing of "Faery" in the third act, was clever. His singing was admired as much as his delicate portrayal of the Irish character.

The most amusing part of the comedy is the second act. This kept the audience in a paroxysm of laughter. The attempt of Hardy to make love to the French girl, Josephine, was indeed very funny, and the effect was heightened by Mr. Olcott's skilful participation in it. Mr. Olcott impersonates the true Irish spirit. It is, however, of a refined grade, and is above the usual "brogue" which he has an Irish accent, but it is delightfully cultivated, and there is no offensive extreme in it. The characters all being in the refined Irish style, the comedy is a pleasing one, without the least offensiveness. It abounds in wit which the most fastidious will find to their liking. The same play is billed for tonight and tomorrow night.

ENGLISH IN ALFRED'S DAY.

Some of the Words of His Period Have Come to Be Misunderstood. London Express. In the heart of the grand old Kingdom of Wessex—which, by the way, was created some little while before Thomas the Rhymer wrote his "Faery Queene," the country life-folk are going to celebrate the millenary of Alfred, who ruled in that place and was a native of it. I mentioned the other day the fact that many of the common country words used today on the farm and in the hamlet are still pure Saxon.

It is quite true you cannot read Anglo-Saxon unless you know the Saxon words of the bulk of the words, but it is almost startling to notice how very little some of these common country words have changed. Why "fox," "beaver," "beaver," "choked," and others actually have not changed at all; while our "brook" ("badger"), "scholar," "form," "spade," "goose," and "mattock" are not very far from the original Saxon "geseolde," "form," "spad," "gos," and "mattic," which were the names of these things in Alfred's day.

Perhaps, after all, about the best English that spoken by the plowman and the carter for they speak the language in its purity—and do not spoil it by introducing horrible Frenchisms and hideous Latinisms long created. In 1590, the words which are as "gravel in the teeth."