The Oregonian.

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

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

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance—
Daily, with Sunday, per month.....$ 85
Daily, Sunday excepted, per year..... 7 50
Daily, with Sunday, per year..... 9 00
Sunday, per year..... 2 00
The Weekly, per year..... 1 50
The Weekly, 3 months..... 50
To City Subscribers—
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted.15c
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included.20c

POSTAGE RATES.

United States, Canada and Mexico:
10 to 14-page paper.....1c
16 to 32-page paper.....2c
Foreign rates double.

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

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

Eastern Business Office, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, Tribune building, New York City; 469 "The Rookery," Chicago; the S. C. Beckwith special agency, Eastern representative.

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

For sale in Los Angeles by B. F. Gardner, 259 So. Spring street, and Oliver & Haines, 106 So. Spring street.

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

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

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

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Cloudy to partly cloudy, with probably showers; cooler; south to west winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 93 degrees; minimum temperature, 64 degrees; a trace of rain fell.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, AUGUST 16.

CHINA WILL NOT BE "ASSIMILATED."

Rev. George S. Miner, just returned to New York from ten years' missionary service in China, declares that the present time is unprecedented in opportunity for work in that country; that the biggest task before the world today is the task of assimilating China.

That, indeed, is a big task; so big that it is actually impossible. China cannot be assimilated to European and American civilization. Race character forbids it. No new birth for such a people is possible. They are what they are from the inherent and innate qualities of their nature. It is beyond any human influence to change the psychological basis of a people so numerous, so fixed in habits that are more than a second nature; for with such, nature and habits correspond, and no one can say which is first and which is second.

Nowhere else in the world is custom so strong a force; nowhere else such reverence for antiquity. In China, as nowhere else, education and thought look wholly to the past. The system has imparted a uniform stamp to the Chinese, under every variety of physical condition. It perfectly suits their nature, their intellectual wants, or it would not prevail. The political and educational systems dovetail perfectly into each other. In all this there is no accident. Amid the isolation of thousands of years a self-sufficiency has been established which cannot be broken down, even by conquest. Neither foreign wars, nor internal commotions, nor repeated subjugations by conquerors from the north, alien in blood, language and religion, have more than temporarily affected the life of this people. Yet the corner-stone of their civilization is one of those that the most progressive nations place at the bottom of their own systems. Christendom has received it from Israel, in the commandment, "Honor thy father and thy mother." Obedience of the child to the parent and reverence of the young to the old is the fundamental principle of Chinese civilization. But in the way they apply it it is a principle of goodness carried to excess. It "dies in its own too-much."

Students of Chinese institutions report the political system of that country as the most perfect example in history of the idea of the family expanded into that of the nation. Its vast imperialism is but the perfected evolution of the parental and filial relations; and the primal idea scarcely modified in its essence, binds together the administrative system under which perhaps one-fourth part of the human race dwells. We have here the most remarkable example in history, not excepting that of Israel, of the unity and persistency of an original type. The Chinese creative faculty remains wholly within the plane of certain organic habits. "They are a swarm of plodding utilitarians, sternly adherent to things actual and positive; who insist that the world is the plainest of facts and needs no explanation; that it is purely a working world wherein a seventh-day rest would be an impertinence—a world wherein every atom is intensely real and valuable; where domestic and social uses stand for poetry, metaphysics and religion." It is a race of materialists, the like of which the world never has seen. The people therefore have before them a finite goal, which has sapped the principle of progress. It is older than Confucius, who simply conformed his system to it. Fatalism goes with it, and an unteachableness which no force can overcome. A fixed belief in established ways, a self-sufficiency never shaken, even by disaster, are steady characteristics. The people think their way, the way of their ancestors, the best way and the only way; and if they come to defeat through that way, they think it still the best.

To talk of transformation of such a people, or of their assimilation to the nations of Christendom, is to show striking misconception of ethnical differences and of the permanent forces of race character. No great people can be turned thus from its natural bent and disposition. To his other qualities the Chinese adds a patient industry unknown among any other people. He will work more hours for less pay than any other man in the world, and will live on less. He may be ruled, in his own country, by the foreigner, but he will not be changed.

The smoke during the past few days has been more dense than for many seasons past, but the condition is by no means unprecedented. In 1868, somewhat later in the season than this, it is recalled that the smoke was so dense for several days that schools, which had entered upon the Fall term, were compelled to suspend study at 2 P. M., and the sun from the middle of the afternoon, "shorn of his beams," rode to his setting a great, dull, red sphere. Rain soon came to dispel the smoke, and Oregon was herself again, though with great loss to her forest wealth. This experience is recalled to reassure the timid and to confound the croaker, who is quite certain that smoke so dense as that which has obscured the mountains now for several days was never known before in Oregon. It is a disagreeable incident, and represents a timber loss which is justly deplored; but it also represents the slashing and burning of a large area of brush land, and the addition a few years hence of many acres to the cultivated area of the state.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS.

Industrial statistics of our Southern States show results that are growing to mighty proportions. From them we get a view that shows how great an empire "The South" is.

From the Atlanta Constitution we collect a summary, with comparisons showing the gain and growth in twenty years. In 1880 the South's cotton crop yielded 5,761,252 bales, while the total amount of capital invested in cotton mills aggregated $21,076,000. Last year the cotton crop yielded 10,300,000 bales, while the aggregate amount of money invested in cotton mills was $150,000,000. In 1880 the cotton mills numbered 667,000 spindles and consumed 188,744 bales of cotton. Last year they numbered 667,854 spindles and consumed 1,597,000 bales of cotton. In cotton-seed oil mills the amount of money invested reaches $50,000,000.

In 1880 there were only 397,300 tons of pig iron smelted in the South, whereas in 1900 the output was 2,604,621 tons. Still greater progress is shown in the coal mining industry. In 1880 the total output of coal in the Southern States was 6,049,471 tons, while last year the total output was 42,192,053 tons, or nearly eight times as much.

During the two decades between 1880 and 1900 the railway mileage of the South increased from 20,612 miles to 53,000 miles.

In the phosphate industry the figures are surprising. Twenty years ago the amount of phosphate rock produced was something like 190,000 tons, while today the total output is not less than 1,550,000 tons. But the petroleum industry has grown even more rapidly. In 1880 only 179,000 barrels of petroleum were produced, whereas last year the product reached 15,000,000 barrels.

Twenty years ago the amount of capital invested in manufactures in the South was $251,692,038, while the total value of the manufactured products was $445,576,462. Today, according to conservative estimates, the amount of capital invested in manufactures is in round numbers $1,000,000,000, while the total value of the manufactured product is $1,500,000,000. Twenty years ago the grain production of the South aggregated 431,000,000 bushels, against 660,716,216 bushels today, and the value of the agricultural products twenty years ago was $571,000,000, against $1,200,000,000 today. In 1880 the value of Southern exports was $291,031,448. Last year they were valued at $530,317,000.

This is an amazing exhibit. It cannot fail to make impression on the minds of those who have not been giving much attention to the progress which this great section of our country is making. Prosperity is general, and there was no backset, as in the North, from the panic of 1893-97.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

Edward E. Britton, of Brooklyn, is devoting himself to an effort to secure from Congress legislation relative to the organization and government of the militia forces of the United States by which "the archaic militia laws" enacted in 1792 shall be superseded. He proposes a bill providing for the appointment by the President of a commission "to compile information relating to the militia forces of the United States" and to report to Congress a bill embodying the fruits of such study. Mr. Britton's proposition receives the unbroken support of the Adjutant-Generals of the states, as appears in his pamphlet devoted to this matter. General Gantenbein, of Oregon, in substance replies that he agrees with Mr. Britton that what is needed is a uniform militia law for all the states, and an organization of all commands under one system in all the states.

The aggregate force of the various National Guards throughout the Union, as reported by General Corbin to Secretary Root, is 113,967, including 8246 officers of all ranks. The returns are accompanied by estimates from the several Adjutant-Generals of the number of men available for military duty in their respective states. Pennsylvania reports a total unorganized force of 917,528 potential soldiers, while New York, with a million more of population, reports only 800,000. Massachusetts reports a possible fighting force 50 per cent larger than that reported by Texas, her superior in population. These returns make it clear that this country could in a dire military emergency put into the field nearly 10,500,000 fighting men.

To be able rapidly to leaven this vast lump of raw military material is a matter of the highest importance, and it could only be done by keeping not only our regular Army, but our National Guard, in a high state of efficiency. The regular Army may be trusted, because it is a permanent institution, to maintain itself in that excellent training that in peace is the proper preparation for war, but our National Guard is not in a state of decent efficiency, and never will be, until Congress not only enacts the necessary legislation asked for by Mr. Britton, but votes the National Guard a generous monetary support. Its arms should be identical with those of the regular Army; it should be generously supplied with ammunition, so that by constant practice every militiaman can become an expert shot, without which qualification no soldier is worth his salt in the present condition of modern warfare. Without a National Guard brought up to a high standard of military efficiency, this great country, with nearly 10,500,000 of possible fighting men, could not go to war with a second-rate military power of Europe, like Turkey, for example, and hope for success. No improvised Army, no matter how numerous and high-spirited, could hope for success except against an enemy notably inferior in quality. The incapacity of armies of militiamen to execute a strategical offensive was demonstrated in 1870, when the republican masses of France were repelled by the trained and disciplined German armies, although they were often five times superior to the latter in number. At the battle of Lisaine 120,000 Frenchmen failed to force the thin line of defense of General Von Werder, occupied by only one man per meter. The Garretson brigade of American volunteers on its march from Ponce toward Adjuntas, Porto Rico, according to the report of General Guy V. Henry, was almost disbanded in a few days.

The reason why the raw armies of the first French Republic in 1792-94 became so soon veteranized was because the popular uprising was so general that it swept into the ranks of the republic the whole existing regular army of France and every old soldier, like Massena, who had retired to private life. These old soldiers were numerous enough to form good cadres to which the French raw levies were incorporated. It was Napoleon who said, "When a nation lacks cadres and has no principle of military organization, it is very difficult to organize an army." So worthless were our volunteers that a strategical offensive directed against Havana in June, 1898, would probably have suffered disaster. And yet today our militia system is as defective as at the outset of the war with Spain. The disadvantages connected with our militia system were not obvious during the War of Secession, for the belligerents prepared under equal conditions, but they were visible even under the feeble touch of the Spanish War, and in event of a great war with a first-class military power would subject us to humiliating disaster.

"WHAT OUR STATE NEEDS."

Governor Geer says truly, "What our state needs is more people—many more people. Then development will come in earnest—not before." With the conditions of climate that have prevailed in the Middle West—in fact, in the entire region east of the Rocky Mountains—with our own delightful Summer and abundant crops; with the tourist travel that has passed through the state, and with the opportunities furnished by the Buffalo Exposition to make known the facts in regard to our climate, products and resources, there should be a large accession to our population next year. Oregon needs people who come hither with a purpose. Whether that purpose looks to agriculture, general or special; mining, lumbering or stockraising, if only it has the homebuilding idea as its basis and an intelligent desire to make the most of opportunity as its incentive, it will represent what is needed for the development of the yet unguessed resources of the state.

But while Oregon needs people—purposeful people—it does not want folk merely for "filling." It wants men and women who gratefully appreciate the difference between a climate of extreme heat and bitter cold, and one of equable temperature that makes the dividing line between the seasons one that can be crossed without serious discomfort or loss of crops and stock; who will not grow cynical and join in the clamor of the idle against Oregon rains in the Winter, but will sensibly prefer them, with the promise of abundance that has never yet been unfulfilled, to the fierce blizzards of the prairie states and the bitter, stubborn cold of the Atlantic seaboard.

Not being exempt from the common ills of life, we have already some croakers and complainers—not many, relatively speaking, but enough. The invitation to people who desire to better their situation to "come to Oregon" is to industrious, sensible, energetic persons who know what they want, and know when they want it. There is room and welcome in Oregon for thousands of people of this stamp. Homes await them here for the making, and in due time competence for the winning. No fool's paradise is here, and no lazy man's retreat, but opportunity in farming, in dairying, in stockraising, in horticulture, in mining, in lumbering and in the industrial trades. What Oregon needs is people to close with opportunity as represented in these and other lines of enterprise and endeavor. To such it offers an abundance of undeveloped resources, a certainty of returns for their labor, and the finest climate on earth to cheer them on their way.

THE PHILIPPINES.

In his report on the Philippines General MacArthur says: "The power that holds these islands must of necessity exert an active and potential influence upon the affairs of Asia. The presence of America in these islands is simply one of results, in logical sequence, of great material prosperity, and in remote consequences is likely to transcend in importance anything recorded in the history of the world since the discovery of America. To doubt the wisdom of the United States remaining in the islands is to doubt the stability of republican institutions, and it amounts to a declaration that a nation thus governed is incapable of successfully resisting strains that arise naturally from its own freedom and from its own productive energy."

This is substantially what was said by The Oregonian, immediately after it became apparent, through the attack made by the Filipinos upon our troops, that we must, for our own vindication, compel submission of the insurgents, and therefore must remain in the islands. From the moment of that attack it became impossible for us to withdraw, or to treat with the insurgents for their independence. In the face of the world we could not make a cowardly retreat.

If it be said that it is aside from the nature or proper purpose of a democratic government, like ours, to hold distant territorial possessions, it may be answered that this is merely an opinion, derived from party feeling, to meet a political exigency of the time. If it be said that a democracy like ours is unfit for a work of this kind, the reply is that it is the business of democracy to meet all problems that arise, and democracy must do it, if it would vindicate its claim to be the leading force in the affairs of mankind.

As to commerce, the Philippine Islands afford us an incomparable position in the Orient; and it may be asserted, with assurance that reaches certainty, that no political party in the United States will invite defeat through a proposition to our people to abandon them. Moreover, the rule of our country in the Philippines is liberty for the people, not servitude. Of this bugbear we shall hear no more.

It is no surprise these days when an employer of labor requires that his men be sober. It is not often, however, that so sweeping an order is made in this respect as that just promulgated by General Manager Dickinson, of the Union Pacific Railroad. It is so clear and complete a statement that it is here reproduced:

> It is a well-known fact that drinking impairs a workman's efficiency. The duties of railroad men, particularly those in the transportation and mechanical departments, are exacting, and, necessarily demand cool judgment and a sound body. Notice is therefore given that habitual intemperance or the frequenting of saloons will be followed by discharge.

Habitual intemperance has long been recognized as cause for dismissal in nearly all lines of employment. But General Manager Dickinson goes further and prescribes that the frequenting of saloons shall be cause for discharge. This leaves no room for quibbling. Abstainers have no reason to frequent saloons. It is a safe assumption that the man who does frequent those drinking-places drinks more than is good for him, which impairs his value as a workman. The new Union Pacific order is not satisfied by abstemiousness in working hours. At no time will men be permitted to frequent saloons. That is, the service of men of sober habit is what is wanted, not of men who will go on a debauch after working hours and then "sober up" to go to work. That is not efficient sobriety.

Lieutenant-General Lyttleton, who is about to succeed Lord Kitchener as commander-in-chief of the British forces in South Africa, is a most intimate friend and former staff officer of Lord Wolseley. He is a nephew of the great statesman, Gladstone, the General's mother having been the youngest sister of the late Mrs. Gladstone. The late Lord Lyttleton and the famous Liberal Premier married the two sisters of Sir Stephen Glynne on the same day and in the same church. General Lyttleton has achieved fame as an athlete and a sportsman. General Lyttleton is a brother of Lord Cobham, of the Hon. Alfred Lyttleton, M. P., and of Canon Lyttleton, the head master of Hailesbury College.

Mr. Bryan's advice to his friends in Ohio is to "commend the good parts of the Ohio platform and condemn the weak parts, but support the ticket." Of this the New York Sun asks: "And can this be the same Bryan who wrote to George A. Carden, of Texas, not many months before the Chicago convention of 1896, justifying his intention to bolt the ticket if the platform should be unsatisfactory on the financial issue? And is it the same Bryan who, during the session of the Nebraska Democratic State Convention of 1893, declared in a published interview that, if the Nebraska Democracy indorsed a gold platform, 'I shall fight the battle of free silver under another name'?"

Charles Francis Adams prints a letter in the New York Evening Post in which he proposes the following remedy for such disastrous strikes as that which is now upon the country:

> Machinery to elicit all the facts on both sides of a controversy like that between the steel masters and men; a free, open, and impartial investigation; then a judgment on the merits, rendered by men above suspicion of self-interest, and left to be enforced only by its own reasonableness, backed by public opinion.

The Post thinks that if a device of this sort had been ready to the hand of the Governor of Pennsylvania, or even of the President of the United States, the lamentable steel strike could have been averted or promptly settled.

Henry M. Flagler, the millionaire oil magnate, has, at the age of 72, procured a divorce from his wife on the ground of insanity. He had to go to Florida to find a statute that would serve his purpose on this point, a recent Legislature of that state having obligingly enacted a law providing that insanity of four years' standing is sufficient grounds for divorce. Whatever sympathy or excuse might be felt or urged for a young man thus situated, an old man who seeks divorce under such circumstances merits only contempt, softened, perhaps, by the pity due the dotard who refuses to accept the evidence of the years in regard to his age.

There is not the slightest prospect that the rivers and harbors appropriation bill to be passed at the coming session of Congress will carry a smaller total than the measure that was talked to death by Tom Carter in the last moments of his term as Senator from Montana last March. Many worthy projects will suffer before money under the new appropriation will become available. This might be endured without a murmur if it were to be made the means of defeating unworthy appropriations. But they will be in the law finally. The new bill will not be subject to defeat by a single disgruntled Senator from an inland state.

A reader of The Oregonian, who has had a dispute with a neighbor on the latter's assertion that the people of Porto Rico had sent a petition to the Congress of the United States requesting that Porto Rico be restored to the dominion of Spain, asks The Oregonian if that is true. The Oregonian never heard of any such petition. Possibly, however, some very few Porto Ricans may have sent such address; but no considerable number of the people of the island ever took such action. All testimony goes to show that the islanders are entirely satisfied with the rule of the United States.

The amount of money already provided for the World's Fair at St. Louis exceeds sixteen million dollars. The National Government appropriated five millions; the State of Missouri and the City of St. Louis have supplied the remainder. Still more money will be wanted, and it will be forthcoming. It is believed the association will open the fair with little debt, and the receipts will do the rest.

A distressing incident of attempts in the East to eradicate the mosquito by sprinkling kerosene over goose ponds and other waters that harbor wigglers is the annoyance it causes aquatic fowl. Geese and ducks refuse to be comforted in water bearing an iridescent petroleum scum. They prefer the mosquitoes.

French papers declare that the United States is actuated by selfish interest when it takes steps to observe its treaty obligations at the Isthmus of Panama. But this is as nothing compared with what the Frenchmen would say if the United States were to ignore its obligations there.

It is the opinion of Editor Bryan, of The Commoner, that any man can now become "a prominent Democrat" by denouncing the Kansas City platform. Which is "sarkasm."

CORONATION CURIOSITIES.

Quaint Ceremonials Whereof King Edward Proposes to Omit Some.

London Mail.

The Court of Claims appointed by the King, as set forth in his majesty's recent coronation proclamation, will gravely sit in order to settle the claims of various persons who believe that they ought to do certain things at the coronation of the King of England. The task is somewhat lightened by the clause in his majesty's proclamation, which dispenses with many of the old ceremonies.

The last occasion upon which all these ceremonies were performed without omission was at the coronation of George IV., and the full list is as follows:

1. The lord of the manor of Heydon presents the King with a towel, and attends him while he washes his hands in the gilt basin and ewer. In 1821 the lord of the manor was Mr. Peter Buckworth-Hearne-Soame, afterwards the seventh baronet of his family, which, however, does not now possess the manor.

2. The lord of the manor of Bardolf (otherwise Addington) presents a mess of "Dillegrout" (whatever that may be), prepared by the King's master cook. This office was performed by deputy in 1821, the archbishop of Canterbury being then the lord of the manor.

3. The lord of the manor of Great Wymondley, in Hertfordshire, receives from the officer of the jewel house a silver gilt cup containing wine, and presents the same to the King, and his majesty, having drunk thereof, returns the cup for his fee. The present owner of the manor is Mr. C. W. Wilshere of the Frythe, Hertfordshire.

4. The heritable master of the household of Scotland presents a gold cup of wine, and his majesty drinks and returns the cup as the fee. The hereditary master is the Duke of Argyll.

5. The throwing down of the glove by the King's champion.

6. The lord of the manor of Nether Bilsington presents the King with three maple cups. The owner in 1821 was a Mr. Thomas Rider.

7. The Duke of Norfolk, as Earl of Arundel, and lord of the manor of Kenninghall, performs the office of chief butler of England.

8. The Marquis of Ormonde performs the office of chief butler of Ireland.

9. The Lord Mayor of London and 12 principal citizens (as assistants to the chief butler of England) present his majesty with wine in a gold cup, and the King, having drunk therefrom, returns the gold cup to the Lord Mayor as his fee.

10. The Mayor of Oxford and eight burgesses of that city, as assistants to the Lord Mayor and citizens of London (who themselves are only assistants to the Duke of Norfolk as chief butler), present the King with a bowl of wine, and the Mayor of Oxford receives the three maple cups for his fee.

11. The lord of the manor of Liston (in 1821 Mr. John Campbell) brings a charger of wafers to his majesty's table.

12. In 1821 the Duke of Atholl, as lord of the Isle of Man, presented his majesty with two falcons—the tenure upon which the sovereignty of Man had been originally granted. As the sovereignty of the island was sold back to the crown in 1765, presumably the grand sergeantry has been allowed to survive for some unknown reason.

13. The master of the horse performs the office of sergeant of the silver scullery.

14. The Marquis of Exeter is hereditary grand almoner.

15. The lord of the manor of Scoulton is chief larderer. In 1821 the lord of the manor was the Earl of Abergavenny.

16. Lord Grey de Ruthyn claims to be the hereditary bearer of the great gold spur at the coronation. If this claim is substantiated, apparently he would take his place in the procession within Westminster abbey; but no ancestor of his appears to have so officiated in 1821, when the gold spurs (which possibly are not the same thing) were carried by Lord Calthorp. The last occasion when a Lord Grey de Ruthyn so officiated was at the coronation of George I.

17. The Earl of Erroll is hereditary high constable of Scotland, and walks in the procession, though he does not appear to do anything more.

18. Lord Lauderdale is the hereditary standard-bearer of Scotland, and as such will carry the standard of that country. This office, however, is also claimed by hereditary right by Mr. Scrymgeour-Wedderburn. Lord Lauderdale's predecessor, however, officiated in 1821.

It is interesting to note that an earl's coronation coronet cost £85, the others about £65.

HOMESTEADS AND LEASED RANGE.

Settlers Could Hardly Invade Leasehold to Look for Claims.

Harney County News.

The tracts of land now lying open to homestead settlement in the public land states are well known to derive great part of their value from the range privileges of the circumjacent public lands. So long as the livestock industry predominates, so long must the opportunities for exclusive agriculture remain subject to the conditions of supply and demand as they affect purely local markets. It is well understood that the resources of a quarter-section, of land, amid environments of combined agriculture and stockraising, furnish precarious opportunity for prosperity, so precarious that only a small percentage of the whole population, and only the ones owning favored tracts can afford to rely upon it exclusively. None realize this better than the men who would gain control of stock-raising sections under a range leasing system, and therefore it is not surprising that they advocate the passage of a lease law of terms that would permit the homestead settler to deprive them of small tracts at will. They have the opportunity for reasoning that the settler will hesitate to place his homestead filing where he would be debarred from enjoying the most valuable advantages the country has to offer. However, as the wealthier advocates of the scheme, according to their latest printed utterances, have an eye principally to the control of the vast desert ranges, they probably can well afford to saddle their brethren whose lease holds would apply to lands more susceptible to agriculture with the expense of a range system which they themselves claim will be without any positive guarantee against invasion without notice.

Sir Edwin Arnold's Latest Work.

Sir Edwin Arnold in spite of his loss of sight has completed an epic poem of some 5000 lines entitled "The Voyage of Ithobal." The Academy describes the poem as follows:

The hero is a sea-captain of Tyre, who takes service with Neko, King of Egypt, to explore the unknown waters beyond the Red Sea. After picturesque scenes at Tyre—where he buys in the slave market, with a priceless pearl, an African Princess made captive in the Dark Continent, and alone knowing its secrets—he builds three ships at Suez and sets forth. Returning with two out of the three ships, after numerous and exciting adventures, which bring out almost every feature of African life and scenery, Ithobal relates the story of his enterprise in a discourse of seven days before the throne of Pharaoh, who loads with honor the successful captain, the Princess (his wife) and his crews.

Drunkenness and Theology.

When, 35 years ago, Lord Methuen joined the Scots Fusilier Guards, one day, after a subaltern had received punishment in the orderly-room for the offense of drunkenness, Lieutenant Methuen, who took an interest in the topper, severely remonstrated with him concerning his infirmity.

The man shook his head and replied: "Sir, I can't help it; I'll never be sober until the breath is out of my body."

With a smile Lieutenant Methuen retorted: "Ah, but when the breath is out of your body, then I'm afraid you'll have the greatest possible justification for being thirsty!"

A NEW YORKER IN BOSTON.

The Bookman.

We lately spent a day or two in Boston for the first time in several years, and while there we looked about us shyly in quest of something new and interesting. The newspapers were still speaking of "Pres" McKinley, and were tickled to death over the fireworks at Nantasket. We found the Springfield Republican on sale at the principal news-stands, and we bought a copy for 5 cents. The editor was discussing "the trend of recent scientific thought." Hansom cabs seem to be increasing, and may in time supplant the herdic. We shall be sorry when this happens, for although we never take a herdic, they some how or other belong to our conception of Boston. We discovered a place where you can get toasted muffins that actually taste like the toasted muffins you get at breakfast in England with strawberry jam. Passing down a steep street we observed a kiosque which displayed a large blue-and-white sign with the words "Egg Spa." This excited our curiosity, as it seemed to imply that somewhere on the premises there existed some sort of a geyser which spouted eggs. So we went inside. There we found a young woman in a mauve shirt waist and wearing more side combs and other kinds of combs than we had ever seen entangled in the tresses of any young woman before. She was behind a short bar, or counter, on which were heaped up piles of comestibles shrouded by blue gauze netting. In one corner a pale man was eating huckleberries and milk with a tin spoon. In answer to an inquiry about the egg spa, the young woman silently pointed with her thumb to another sign which announced in black-and-white letters "Egg Drinks." We waited a little while and then asked the young woman diffidently when the egg was going to drink and whether we might contemplate it in the act of drinking. The man who was eating huckleberries and milk choked, and the young woman looked at us contemptuously. Then we came away, for it isn't a pleasant thing to have a young woman look at you contemptuously. These matters have no particular relevance to the Bookman; but they interest us, and so we just thought that we would jot them down.

The Heredity of Cancer.

New York Herald.

The death of the Dowager Empress Frederick has a significant importance in connection with the possible apearance of the disease in her offspring. Regarding the question of heredity there is an additional element of anxiety in the fact that her august husband succumbed to a like ailment. The law of transmission has thus a double force, bearing strongly upon many momentous issues at stake. The future physical well-being of the present Emperor of Germany is certainly not so well assured as might otherwise be the case. While cancer may appear in individuals who have no inherited taint, its invasion is most frequently explained by the propagation of family tendencies. Its most direct descent is from one or other parent to child, although it may often skip a generation or come by way of aunt or uncle. Intermarriage with even distant relatives is apt to intensify a predisposition to the disease, while the infusion of new blood has often an opposite effect. There is also some consolation in the thought that there may be enough of reserved vitality in the threatened individual to resist the most pronounced hereditary tendencies and escape entirely the most dreaded of all infliction. This is the best to hope for in the instance in point, with so much weighty argument on the other side.

Putting It on Thick.

Chicago Record-Herald.

At a recent dinner given by a fashionable German society in Baltimore they had the following menu:

Krammetsvogelsuppe auf Elsaesserart.
Kraftbruhe mit Schildkroeteneinlage.
Lammsmilcher—Coteletten.
Rheinsalm nach "Joinville."
Hannover Kalbsruecken auf Freubiltogsart.
Fasanenfilets nach "badziwill."
Mittelmeer—Langaustern nach "Prinz Karl."
Getruffelte Masthuehner gebraten mit Wachtein umelgt.
Salat—Compot.
Sachsenkaiser Riesentangenspargel mit deutscher Sauce.
Gefrorene Sahnenspeise nach "Victoria."
Backwerk.
Kaeselangen.
Nachtisch—Obst.

So, after all, it would seem that there are more formidable things than some of the French they have on the cards at Chicago restaurants. It must take a long time to get through a menu like that.

McKinley's Magic.

Baltimore News.

President McKinley has a sovereign remedy at his command which double discounts in its marvelous cures even the affidavits submitted by proprietors and venders of patent medicines. A month ago Charles W. Mussey, the convicted Vermont bank wrecker, was surely dying. Mr. McKinley made one application of pardon, and behold! Mussey is a well man today and at present on an extended hunting trip in the Adirondacks. Medicine so magical in its effects should be prescribed with greater care than Dr. McKinley seems to have exercised in this case.

A Great Industrial Revolution.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

What would the statesmen of 1860 have thought of a prophecy that in 1901 South Carolina would be second to Massachusetts in the manufacture of cotton goods, with a chance of soon leading New England? And what is true of South Carolina as to the development of her textile industries, is rapidly becoming true of every other Southern state, particularly Georgia.

POLITICAL NOTES.

A great many booms have recently run into washouts.—Washington Star.

Webster Davis and Eugene Debs must be thinking up something to say.—Washington Star.

William Jennings Bryan appears to regard Generalities as another one of the evils of militarism.—Kansas City Star.

The Ohio Bryanites transacted business at their "State Convention" without a quorum.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Senator Tillman might increase his fame by proposing a lynching amendment to the Constitution.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Mr. Bryan will be obliged to include Ohio Democrats as inhabitants of the enemy's country.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

But the question still remains who is going to pitch Ben Tillman overboard when the party gets back to Democratic principles.—Atlanta Journal.

"Then you don't regard Mr. Statesman as a Presidential possibility?"

"Oh, no! But he might get the Democratic nomination."—Puck.

Mr. Bryan "will not enter into a bond never to become a candidate" on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. On the other days Mr. Bryan is "a candidate for no office."—Chicago Tribune.

In a lecture last night Mr. Bryan said the Democrats should "stand firm on the money question." So should the man who is kicked by a mule, even if the animal breaks its leg.—Minneapolis Journal.

"The Lesson."

Chicago Tribune.

(Additional stanzas from Mr. Kipling's latest masterpiece.)

We made a mistake in thinking that the
Boers were heathen Chinese,
And we said: "Why we can chase them around
any old way we please."
Neow, this was a fault and a crackajack
fault, and we ought to take a tumble;
And I hope that the jolt we got will tend to
make us a bit more humble.

I could scribble along like this for four and
twenty stanzas more,
For all I have got to do is to rhyme this line
with the line before;
But I think I have said enough already to
hold you for awhile—
You rulers of this dinky little nine-by-seven
isle.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Blessed are they that are warm, for they shall be cooler.

It takes gauze sleeves and neckyokes to show off beauty by the pound.

Get your spirits above the thermometer and you'll be as cool as a cucumber.

Now is the time for him that hath two coats to impart to him that hath none.

We often love the ground she walks on, but not always because she walks on it.

That airship of Santos-Dumont follows the rule. All air schemes generally fall flat.

Oregon might repeal the scalp bounty law and subsidize Roosevelt to kill coyotes.

The Pennsylvania Democrats are the latest who do not point to Bryan with pride.

Sweet are the uses of adversity,
That is, when others than myself pay tolls;
Sweet are the babes I meet on Sunday strolls,
Sweet only since they don't belong to me.

Better give to the bath fund now, when you feel like it. You won't need a bath in mid-Winter.

These are the days when people who like to show off before their neighbors order their coal.

The Franco-Turkish dispute has been settled. Both sides were getting too excited for safety.

Lift not your prayers to have this sun abated,
But bear it as a humble martyr should;
Whatever is is here no less than fated,
Tomorrow would be cooler if it could.

Out here in the West, Kipling's meter would be understood if compared with a bucking broncho.

The fact that Columbia and Constitution are equally fast does not make either of them a slower boat.

It is complained that Waldersee is talking too much, but the complaint is not valid, since he is a hero.

Oh, Muse, please don't look this way
While I this indite;
This heat makes me negligee
And a perfect fright.

If that fence of Uncle Jesse Carr's were only a political institution, we might understand the fuss about it.

Kipling's latest poem is called "The Lesson." The poem and not what's in the poem constitutes the lesson.

Although Cervera is not the equal of a few American Admirals as a fighter, he makes up in common sense.

The battle between Colombia and Venezuela is reported to be serious, but as both sides retired we can't see what's serious about it.

It's all on account of a speckle
That she works early and late;
And it is the awfulest freckle
That ever afflicted poor Kate.

The Boers were defeated the other day, but they are further from defeat now than then, because a few days have elapsed since the battle.

It is announced that the nose is not an index to character. That depends on how our own noses look in the glass and whether the other fellow minds his own business.

Noah's neighbors did not have to pray for rain, but Kansans did. This is not meant as an evil reflection on the people of Kansas, but to call attention to the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God. How unsearchable are his judgments and his ways past finding out!

John Morley, talking with a friend about his literary work at Hawarden, said that his labor had been greatly lessened by Mr. Gladstone's personal habits of order and regularity. Through the last 60 years of his career he not only preserved eevry important letter or document that reached him, but neatly indorsed it with his own hand and stowed it way in order of date. Among the papers docketed and stored at Hawarden in order of date Mr. Morley found notes of a speech delivered by Mr. Gladstone at the Oxford union just 70 years ago.

Thomas W. Lawson, owner of the Independence, is something of a fatalist. The toss of a coin has determined for him more than one stock transaction. He believes that whatever befalls after a man has done his best is part of a grand scheme of the total of human events. He believes in the good luck of certain numerals. The figure 3 or its multiples appear in all his affairs. His telephones are 333 and 3339, respectively. His yacht's first sailing test took place on the 3d of June. He wears a watch chain consisting of 333 gold beads.

A Sunday school teacher in Carthage, Ill., has a class of little girls, and it is her custom to tell them each Sunday of some little incident that has happened in the week and request the children to quote a verse of Scripture to illustrate the story. In this way she hopes to impress the usefulness of biblical knowledge upon the little ones. One Sunday she told her class of a cruel boy who would catch cats and cut their tails off. "Now, can any little girl tell me of an appropriate verse?" she asked. There was a pause for a few moments, when one little girl arose and in a solemn voice said: "Whatsoever God has joined together, let no man put asunder."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

The following appeal is extracted from a church paper: "Old man, lame, deaf, epileptic, desires situation. Will any Christian take him for a gardener?"—St. James Gazette.

It Baffled Him.—"This pool-table," growled the luckless player, "must be built like a woman's dress. I haven't been able to find a pocket in it for an hour."—Baltimore American.

The Worry of It.—"Mrs. Gotrox is always making excuses for those good-for-nothing sons of hers." "Yes, and Mr. Gotrox has to make allowances for them. That's what makes him sore."—Philadelphia Press.

To a Dot.—Willie—How would you define a true sportsman? Papa—He is a man who believes in giving every kind of game creature a chance for its life, and then is disgusted if the poor creature escapes with it.—Life.

An Unreasonable Man.—Mrs. Inswym—The Gadsbys don't appear to get along very well together. Mrs. Galey—No wonder: the brute will neither agree to a separation nor give her any grounds for divorce.—Brooklyn Life.

Without Mincing Matters.—"I am afraid," said the European, "that your country is going to the deuce." "I suppose," said the Chinaman, "that that is your delicate way of intimating that it is going to the foreign devil."—Washington Star.

The Visitor—You seem to be much interested in me, little girl. What is it? The Little Girl—I don't see how your face can be so smooth and clear. Papa says you have traveled all over the country on it.—Boston Transcript.