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TODAT'S WEATHER-Cloudy, with showers Probably frost in early merning; warmer by afternoon or night. Westerly winds, shifting

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum temturn, 42; ml m temperature, 35; fair. PORTLAND, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11.

THE CRUEL/TY OF WAR.

The passage in Chamberlain's Edinburgh speech which is so hotly resented in Germany was this (he was sit still and do nothing. They wouldn't speaking of the war in South Africa): "I think the time has come, or is coming, when measures of greater severity may be necessary. If that time comes, we can find precedents for anything we do in the actions of those nations who now criticise our 'barbarity' and 'cruelty,' but whose examples in Poland, in the Caucasus, in Algeria, in Tonguin, in Bosnia and in the Franco-Prussian War we have never approached." This has been attacked and denounced with great fury by the German press-especially the reference to the Franco-Prussian War. Yet there is no need of warmth. The "cruelty" and "barbarity" of the Germans in France were the necessary proceedings of a great war. They were frightful, indeed, but unavoidable, from the standpoint of the necessity of crushing resistance in France; and they were as much worse than the present cruclties in South Africa as the war between France and Germany was a greater and fiercer conflict-a war, moreover, in a country of dense population, containing millions of women and children, shut up in cities and fortresses that were subjected to all the horrors of slege. But, of course, nobody expected the Germans to desist or to draw off their armies. It was the invariable answer that the way for the French to have an end of the horrors of war was to cease their military re-British to the Boers in South Africa

"All war is cruel," said General Sher-

was expected to be a Republican walk-over has turned out to be a verifiable retreat from Mos-cow. Not only has the head of the ticket failten, but most of the other candidates have failten with him. Virtually the machine has been broken to pieces, and the aspirants for office who rolled upon it to carry them through are santered like the passengers of a wrecked automobile. . . Every step taken by the beases who controlled the machine tended to destruction. Where they did not act like knaves they acted like fools. In not one single important proceeding did they act with marac-ily or even decorer. If they had deliberately tried to wreck the machine they could not have gone about it more succeasfully than they did. was expected to be a Republican walk-over has tion.

gone about it more successfully than they did. This is a very old lesson in politics. but it has to be learned over and over again. New York has just enforced it, San Francisco has evidently done the same. The methods of ringsters may succeed for a time, but there comes a

day of awful reckoning. In the end the people will get the men and measures that they want. Some machines are shrewd enough to recognize this and act accordingly. Platt, for example, did it in New York this year. Others have the hardihood to set the people at defiance, but inevitably to

tory, and may be looked for again.

EACH IN HIS OWN WAY. Another thing the Lewis and Clark Centennial is going to do for Portland is to uncover to the gaze of some excellent but unhappy persons the real merits of many a man whom they have been disposed to misjudge. There will be names and amounts on the subscription roll that will surprise some of our discontented ones to joy and repentance.

their own undoing. Instances

plenty enough in Portland's past his-

Unfortunate though it may be, and fortunate as it is, we are not all made alike. We don't all acquire money in the same way, and we don't all spend it in the same way. Some men get rich by settling on a piece of land and

watching its value grow by the community's development. This is not pleasing to men who work with other methods. They wouldn't be content to have the patience to keep the land, or wear old clothes in order to pay the taxes, or turn a deaf ear to every subscription paper or promoter that came along. Not they. They would sell the maybe land in the poorhouse, Anybody can tell a man how he

property; but if he should take the advice and lose all he had, Mr. Anybody would not support him or provide for his family after he died. Some men can build business blocks and make money by renting them; others great inter-mountain' plain can be simply can't. Their ability doean't run that way. Some men can succeed at manufacturing, others at mining, others at speculation; but one man's meat is another man's poison. Suppose we all put our money into smelters and East-

should deserve to. It is a very dangerous thing to judge another's conduct by our own capacity and qualifications. The man who can take a drink of whisky three times a other man for whom there is no resting-

man, in his answer to General Hood, business every two years regularly. He interest in it, and with most gratifying who had protested against the "cru- favored pavements, sidewalks, new results. We must go to the soil for elty" of Sherman's order for removal buildings, more lights, more sewers. If the basis of all prosperity, and nothing of the inhabitants of Atlanta, after the there had been bloycle paths he would is more commendable than the study have favored them. He advertised lib- and practice of methods that shall

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1901.

ADDING TO OUR RESOURCES.

In studying the conditions of plant life in the far West, the Department of Agriculture is performing a service of the greatest importance to the country. Hand in hand with this investigation go experiments with methods calculated to protect valuable native plants from extermination and the introduction of exotics that seem to be adapted to the hard conditions found in some sections of the arid or semi-arid belt. The programme also includes experiments with foreign plants where those of native origin or that have been long adopted still do passably well. If there are better varieties we want them, and every quarter of the globe has been raked for specimens to be tested here. Already

much good has come from this work, and it is only fairly begun. In the semi-arid West there is room for much work of this character. It is beyond the scope of private endeavor because most of the land that may be reclaimed to usefulness through the efforts of the department still belongs to the public domain and present conditions offer no incentive to settlers to occupy it. Ranges that have been eaten out by herds and flocks are little better than open desert. To put new grass on the hills is to rejuvenate the coun-

try. And if the new grass be better than the old, more nutritious and hardler, it is a distinct step in advance that is reflected in increased industrial development. Where grass grows settlers may and will go and establish homes. Irrigation and general farming will follow, and the semi-arid waste will becomp a seat of numerous population and extensive industrial life.

As a feature of this development, however, the Government must provide for a more general distribution of the moisture of the country, Encouragement is now given for the construction of irrigation works, but it is found that land, invest the money, go broke, and in many localities the encouragement is not sufficient to induce the investment of private capital in the necessary enshould run his business, or manage his terprises because the water sources are already largely monopolized by private holders, by virtue of which they control vast areas of soil to which they have no title. Some way around this difficulty must be found before the

brought up to its full possibilities. Private rights that prevent the use of large areas of public domain must in some manner be extinguished. To bind the shifting sands of ocean beach and river strand, to introduce ern Oregon mines, and eight-story build. new grasses and grains, to give instrucings, and woollen mills, and furniture tion in methods of cultivation that shall factories-what would become of us? get the best results from the soil and We should die of starvation, and we conserve present resources, to study the peculiarities of present conditions and products, to educate our producers in

"the why and wherefore" of their busipess, is a grand work, and Secretary Wilson is doing it well. Nothing to day and no more music't censure the compare with it has heretofore been done. Irrigation and forestry are unplace between the first drink and the der the jurisdiction of another departgutter; nor must the weaker censure ment, but they may safely articulate the stronger. The man who likes to be with the Department of Agriculture in free with his money musin't complain reducing the arid West. In Oregon and sistance. Such is the answer of the of the man who knows he must be cau. Washington the work of inaugurating tious or lose all. There was a first-class this new movement in agriculture has printer in Omaha once who saved his been greatly promoted by the railroads, salary and wont into the real estate the O. R. & N. Co. having taken special

surrounding conditions is unknown to her down carried an additional 120 tons British military tactics. Iron-clad reg- of lighterage, which was placed 013 ulations rule in camp, on march and in | board two hours after the arrival of the battle. Hence war with the Boer drags ship at Astoria, at no expense whatever along with varying successes, and its to the ship. On arrival at Astoria the cost in men and money continues to eat master of the Leyland Brothers found into the very vitals of the British na- seven ships ahead of him waiting an opportunity to get to sea. Not one of these ships lightered a pound of cargo, and some of them had been at Astoria two weeks ready for sea. They are there yet, and their experience, as well as that of others which have preceded them and which will follow them, stands as incontrovertible testimony as to where the delays are experienced on the

Columbia River. When rebuked by The Oregonian for villification of the Columbia River, a Seattle paper recently explained its the mouth of the Columbia River alone be improved, and that no attention be given the stream above Astoria. But the fact is that Portland, Oregon, Washington and Idaho all need help at three states to put the channel from Astoria to the sea in as good shape as the channel from Portland to Astoria. Portland will attend to the matter of getting ships up and down the river, and they will never increase in size so rapidly but what anything that can enter the river can come to Portland and receive good dispatch and quick transit between this city and Fort Stevena

An Albany correspondent asks upon what authority The Oregonian referred in a recent editorial to Josephine, the wife of Napoleon Bonaparte, as "the mistress of Barras." That Josephine was the mistress of Barras and the mistress of the famous General Hoche is beyond reasonable historical doubt. Barras, in his published "Memoirs," confesses to his illicit relations with confesses to his illicit relations with Josephine. Before her marriage to Bonaparte Josephine was the bosom friend of the notoriously dissolute Madame Tallien, to whose ball dress a wag attached a slip of paper upon which was written, "Respect the property of the French Nation." During Bonaparte's absence in Egypt Josephine was no open in her gallantries with a young French officer that Napoleon was with difficulty reconciled to her on his return through the appeals of ner children, Eugene and Hortense, for whom he felt a very strong affection. All the recently published books on the Napoleonic period agree as to Josephine's amours, both before and after her marriage to Bonaparte. After Marengo, when she saw a brilliant future before her, Josephine gave no further cause for complaint. She was then nearly 33, and was too far past her prime for further foily. Before his return from Egypt, Bonaparte had been informed of Josephine's disgraceful conduct by General Junot, and his brother Lucien confirmed these reports. During Bonaparte's famous campaign of 1796-97 Josephine's conduct at Paris was an open scandal.

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The other day a murderer confined in the jail at Goldendale killed himself with materials that had been left in his ceil inadvertently by his keepers. It was a deplorable act, and the true have received from Goldendale over a fictitious signature:

Through criminal carelesaness the murderer farris was allowed to commit suicide, his cell eing full of broken giass, rope and wire. No earch had ever been made since his incarceration. These officials in charge ought to be pillforied to the world, or punished. The peo-ple here know the facts, but dare not axy a word, through fear. Can't you send up a dis-

FRANCHISE AS BASIS OF TAXATION

Chicago Railway Age.

The Supreme Court of Illinois has an-nounced a decision to the effect that every corporation in the State of Illinois must pay taxes not only on its tangible property, like individuais, but also on its capital stock, its bonded indebtedness and the intangible and indefinite asset known

as "franchises." The decision is the result of a suit brought a year ago at the instance of an organization of public school teachers of Chicago for the purpose of increasing the amount of taxes available for the pay-ment of teachers' salaries in that city. A state law existing for many years requires the State Board of Equalization to assess the capital stock and franchises of corporations at "a fair cash value." The lands, buildings, machinery, equipment course by stating that the interests of and all other tangible property of the the State of Washington demanded that corporation are assessed on the same principle as other property, by the local assessors in the municipality and the coun-ty, and the practice of the State Board of Equalization has been to add to the amount of the local assessments what it considered to be a just and reasonable the mouth of the river now, and there ought to be enough influence in the three states to put the channel from compensation which, as in the case of street rallway and gas companies, they may have paid to the municipalities by which they are chartered.

The assessed valuation of property in Cook County for 1900 was \$365,000,000. The lawyers representing the teachers's association selected 23 corporations, representing street railway, gas and electric lighting companies, out of the 4000 or more corporations existing in the county, and adding together their capital stock and bonds, demanded that \$268,000,000 be added to the taxable property values for 1900

and assessed against these corporations. The Board of Equalization declined to to make these additions, holding that the companies, or, in some cases, the corpo-rations by which the companies named had been absorbed, had already been faircomplainants and ordered the Board of Equalization to assess the corporations named according to the following rule: In making the assessment of the capital

In making the assessment of the capital stock of corporations, including franchises, it is proper to add the market or fair cash value of the capital stock to the minrket or fair cash value of the debt of the corporation (carduding from such debt the indebtedness for surront expensed), and to deduct from the result the aggregate amount of the equalized or avsecsed valuation of all the tangible property of said corporation, and one-fifth of the remainder would be the met assessmed valuation of the capital stock, including franchises, over and above the assessment of its tangible property. The Surgrams Court of Lillhols has now The Supreme Court of Illinois has now affirmed this ruling in a decision which consures the Board of Equalization for failing to assess the full market value of the capital stock and for excluding the indebtedness and the amounts paid for compensation to the City of Chicago. The proposed method of obtaining the taxable value of the corporations is illustrated by the court by taking the returns of one corporation, the People's Gas Light & Coke Company, and reducing the figures to the following proposition:

Net assessed valuation of capital stock and franchise \$47,142,025 Taxable value (one-fifth of assessed satura) 0.428,403

9,428,403 value) Taxable value as assessed by State Hoard Additional amount which should be assessed 450,000 8.978,403 By this line of argument, therefore, it It was a deplorable act, and the true heinousness of it in all its relations is disclosed by the appended letter we worth of intangible property; in other "Lord and Lady Algy" will be rewords, on its privilege of existing in Chi-cago, although it had paid taxes on \$15,-500,000 of tangible property, and the hold-ers of its bonds to the amount of \$34,000,-

000 had presumably paid personal property taxes on that. But not content with their victory, But not content with then then the second se of Cook County for the year 1900 and in-crease the taxes for that year 22,250,000 or ropolitan

AMUSEMENTS.

The Frawley Company, with but fow changes since their appearance last year, opened a week's engagement at Cordray's last night in "Lord and Lady Algy," and the manner of their welcome by a house that filled the theater was convincing most first they are still the rest form: proof that they are still the real favor-ites of the frequenters of the theater as well, indeed, as with a very large number of the playgoers of the city. The changes that have been made in the com-pany are not material: the only noticeable The difference last night was the addition of Bianche Douglas, a very charming ac-tress, who had an excellent opportunity to make a good impression, and improved it. All the better known members of the company, Mr. Frawley, Miss Van Buren, Mr Reynolds, Mr. Amory and Minnette Barrett, the Portland girl who took up the singe a few years ago, remain, and all do their usual finished work. Mr. an ab their usual huished work. Ar-Frawley has introduced several ideas of his own into the mounting of "Lord and Lady Algy," which are decidedly telling, the effect of the setting of the first and last act being particularly pleasing. The company work together admirably, and show the effect of careful and painstaking show the effect of careful and painstaking training. An instance of their perfect discipline was given in the last act, when the audience, thinking the curtain was about to fall, started to move, and in-stantiy the play was stopped by Mr. Frawley, not to be resumed until the impatient ones had again settled in their places

places "Lord and Lady Algy" is a police com-edy, rather overfull of words, but at the same time affording plenty of chance for good situations and dialogue, theme is the differing reputations The brothers, one of whom, Lord Algernon

Chetiand, plays the races and is known as considerable of a sport, while the other, Quarmy, is a shining light of so-ciety and a model in general. Alsy has been separated from his wife, owing to their different taskes in horses, cigarettes and other matters, but they still think a great deal of one another, and Lady Algy has considerable to do ,with unraveling the complications that ensue. These complications are caused by the purpose

of Quarmy to elope with the wife of a wealthy soap manufacturer, their meet-ings being held in Algy's rooms. Of course it is a dramatic necessity that the soapmaker should suspect Algy of alienating the affections of his wife, and that the suspicion should be prolonged to almost the conclusion of the last act, when, thanks to Algy's good nature and the timely appearance of Lady Algy, every-

thing is straightened out, a little judicious prevarigation saving the necessity of a world of embarrassing explanations. The reuniting of Lord and Lady Algy ends the play. As Lord Algy Mr. Frawley does an unusually excellent bit of acting. He is quiet without being indifferent, and makes as light work of his rather prolix speeches as possible, although it is impossible to keep from falling now and then into the drag that pervades the whole piece. His drunken scene in the second act was par-ticularly artistic, being entirely free from offensiveness, and only adding to the sympathy which the audience is made to

feel for the unfortunate young nobleman. Miss Van Buren is her usual charming self as Lady Algy, and gives much zest to the many bright lines which have been entrusted to that character. Harrington Reynolds has not a great deal to do as Quarmy, but does what he has in his usual finished style. Wallace Shaw is an which is near the verge of ruin by over-acting as she is by the machinations of is well cast. The costumes of the women are very striking, a fancy dress ball scene gives a splendid opportunity for a

"KING OF THE OPIUM BING."

Popular Drama Draws Crowds to the Metropolitan.

· NOTE AND COMMENT

Get out your skates.

The Sultan believes that it is Dyer too late to take water.

Have our English citizens been isportng some of that Lunnon fog?

The court of inquiry managed to stage gle along without Admiral Sampson afar all.

The Chicago servant girls' union has disbanded. Case of too many cooks, probably.

Of course Bourke Cockran will be engaged to deliver the Tammany funeral oration.

Wby make a hero of Schley? He never distinguished himself in any way but fighting.

How fleeting is fame. Newspapers are now issued without more than five or six mentions of Sir Thomas Lipton.

It is surprising that President Roosevelt doesn't run out to Kansas to get a little convict-shooting while the open searon lasts.

Pedestrians are looking engerly forward to the construction of city bicycle paths. They will then have a place to walk without mortal peril.

Now that there is another Prince of Walcs, the man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo will have to look out for his laure's. Hot sports are these Princes of

Wales. By communicating with real estate dealers Andrew Carnegle may learn that there are yet a few acres of ground in the United States, which he hasn't purchased for library sites. -

Nothing has been heard of Charles M. Schwab since he said he was looking for 25 E0,000 a year employes. He probably found it necessary to go to the tail timber for a temporary sojourn.

The following curious marriage notice appeared the other day in the London Times: "On Tuesday, the 15th inst., at Bottesfield, Lincolnshire, John Kirk, an occasional preacher in the Methodist Connection, to Susanna Seaton, of Burringham, mantua-maker. The patient bride had kept company near two years with a blacksmith of the same place, and was actually published with him in the church the very Sunday preceding her marriage, but for the reasons best known to herself eloped next day with the preacher; so true is it that we know not what a day may bring forth."

"Unless one has specially schooled himself, memory is bound to be treacherous sometimes. I don't trust mine any more," said a prominent Eastern business man recently. "It has gone back on me too often. Besides, a postal card only costs a cent, and I always carry a lot of them around with me. My end of excellent soap-maker, and Miss Blanche lot of them around with me. My end of Dougins does particularly well with the part of Mrs. Soapmaker, a character store a great deal, and, no matter where I may be-riding on a street-car, walking, or in one of the numerous places acting as she is by the machinations of Quarmy. Mr. J. R. Amory is an ad-mirable servant. Minnotte Barrett gets all that can be got out of a very small part, and the remainder of the company tention I jot a memorandum of it down on a postal card, address it to myself and drop it in the nearest letter box. Some days I will send a dozen postal cards to myself, and the next morning they are on my desk awaiting me. I have been doing this for two or three years, and I think it's a pretty good system."

In the churchyard at Bewcastle, Cum-That the public thirst for the drama entitled "King of the Opium Ring" was 12 miles from any railway station, is a beginning from any railway station, is a monument built 1230 years ago, bearing the inscription; "The first year of Ecgfrith, King of this realm," I. e., A. D. 670. Another inscription (Runic) on the west side says that it was set up as a "Standard of victory in memory of Alchfrith, lately King" (of Northumbria), who played so important a part in the history of the time. An interesting account of the cross is given in Bishop Browne's work, "The Conversion of the Heptarchy." He says that the Inscriptions are "the carliest examples known to be in existence of English literature," and "looking to the importance in the history of the world of the conversion of England, there is no historical monument in these lands to compare with the Bowcastle Cross." The shaft, as it stands, is a square pillar, composed of a single block of gray freestone 11% feet high. The cross head is gone, but when entire the monument must have been about 21 feet high.

tested, "in the name of God and hu-manity," against this "unprecedented the great future in store for Omaha. measure," as he called it, which, he He rose grandly to every opportunity asserted further, "transcends in studied to subscribe for new mills and facand ingenious cruelty all acts ever brought to my attention in the dark history of war." But Sherman's reasons were military; Atlanta was a central point, vital for military purposes; there were no means of feeding the keep at work for wages all his life. people without impairment of the efficiency of the Army; and though there was crucity in the expulsion of the nonabatant inhabitants, there would have been greater cruelty in allowing them to remain. Besides, the object was to end the war, and everything had to yield to the single object.

No civilized nation ever practices get his own gauge and work accordingneedless cruelty. It was not done in our Civil War; it was not done in the can only realize that his neighbors, Franco-German War; it is not done in the South Affican War; we have not done it, are not doing it, in the Phil-But cruelty is inseparable from war, and nations at war must and will employ the means necessary to end it-of course, without wanton or meedless oppression of non-combatants. But what courses it may be necessary to take, what measures to adopt, the nmanders in the enemy's country will decide for themselves, according to circumstances. One of the most difficult of all the problems is how to deal In an enemy's country with the noncombatant population, which is usually hostile and always a source of support to their countrymen in arms. To deprive the non-combatants of the power to help their countrymen in arms as a necessary part of war; but every civilized nation acts as humanely in this regard as the circumstances will permit. The alternative of such measures is cessation of resistance on one side, or withdrawal from the conflict on the other. A fighting force of the Boers as yet refuses to surrender or desist, and the English will not withdraw from South Africa. The inhabitants must suffer, of course; but hysterics on the subject will not contribute to the solution.

SAN FRANCISCO'S MESSAGE.

We are beginning to get some adequate explanation of the late upheavail in San Francisco politics. At first the city seemed to be struck all of a heap, and treated the election of Schmitz to the mayoralty as very much of a mystery and something of a joke. Now It is dawning on the local mind that the result was nothing more or less than a rebuke to machine methods in municipal affairs. We printed the other day some representative press comment from the San Francisco papers, and their more recent utterances bring the facts out in yet clearer light. Mayorelect Schmitz, it is worth noticing, expressly disclaims having been elected by the labor vote principally or primarily, "I recognize in my election," he says, "a rebuke to the bosses." He is a Republican, and when the present exigency for the overthrow of bosses has lapsed he will again he found in the Republican camp. Instructive is the comment of the Call;

Mr. Wells has gone down to derest amid the wreck of the Republican machine. That which end not yet in sight. Adaptability to two feet, and the towboat which towed the years following,

make the best use of the soil. tories. But every two years he was "broke" and back with his apron on, locking up pages for the Western Newspaper Union. He would have

been better off to save his money and It is not alone that some men are born cautious and others enterprising. What we need to see is that the cautious man simply has to do in his own way. Most men that make a failure in life fail simply because they try to do as somebody else does. A man will get along far better in life if he can only ly. A man will be a better fellow if he who go contrary to his ideas of the correct thing, are pursuing what is for them the only right and successful course. Many a patient, plodding soul,

whose way to success lies only through slow saving and patient sitting still, has lost his all and become an embittered burden on society because he tried to make his cake by some other man's recipe.

LACKING IN VELDT-CRAFT.

A late dispatch says: "It is underetood that it is the intention of the British War Office to send 5000 more mounted men to South Africa within the next six weeks." It is an accepted fact that if the Boers are to be conquered the British must match them in tactics and means of warfare as effective as their own-that is to say, as suitable as their own to the conditions that affords indisputable evidence of the are to be met in campaigning on the veldt. "A knowledge of veldt-craft," says the World's Work, "or perhaps it is an instinct, is given to the Boer at his birth, and because of this instinct he understands under all circumstances how to take care of his horse, when to feed and water him, when to 'off saddle' and let the sweat dry on his back, how to take care of the hoofs at night," in short, how to keep this indispensable end of the Oceanic dock and Albina auxiliary to successful scouting in condition to sustain the hard service imposed upon him. In addition to this, the Boer scout understands exactly how to conceal himself, taking advantage of every donga or dip in the land or bit of scrub to accomplish this purpose.

Naturally, the English soldier, born and brought up in England, knows nothing of this craft. In consequence, the British scout will ride up to the very crest of a hill to examine the surrounding country with his glasses. The enemy, if there is any in the neighborhood, is well hidden, while he on the sky line is easily picked off, and his horse as well, by the invisible enemy. It is the habit of British soldiers to make targets of themselves regardless

of the tactics of their enemies-a habit that does not seem to have changed since "Braddock's defeat," familiar to every American schoolboy. To this fact probably more than any other is due the further discouraging fact that the third year of the war in South Africa reet and fearless reporter?

A WONDERFUL WATERWAY.

The account of a trip from Portland to Astoria on a twenty-two-foot ship is printed in another column this morning. ' Deeper-draft yessels have been taken up and down the river since the water dropped below the "zero mark," and there is nothing unusual in the trip mentioned except that it comes at a time when the obstructions stween Portland and the sea can be viewed to the best advantage. The most striking impression gained by an experience of this kind is the plainly manifested fact that between Portland and Astoria there are over ninety miles of river containing a depth of from thirty to sixty feet of water at low tide. This depth is increased in cer-

tain places to over 100 feet of water, proving beyond all doubt that there is a sufficient volume of water in both the Willamette and Columbia Rivers to float the largest ships in the world with perfect safety. Between these remarkable stretches of deep water are occasional shoaler places, where the depth decreases to twenty feet at extreme low tide. The combined distance of these shoals on the 100-mile run from Portland to Astoria is approximately five miles, with an additional mile or two where a greater depth, but not the full thirty feet that is in evidence for such a large portion of the

distance, can be carried. The work performed by the Government and the Port of Portland at St. Helens and Walker's Island, where the former sixteen-foot channel has now become a permanent thirty-foot channel, comparative case in which the entire distance between the two cities can be made to carry a draft of thirty feet and over. The Port of Portland Commission cut a channel up as far as the lower end of the Oceanic dock, and stopped. The result of this work is shown in a fine channel as far as it was built, and the most uscless channel Portland ever had between the lower ferry. The commission is pumping mud from Postoffice Bar and dumping it right where it will slide back into the channel inside of sixty days, or as soon as the water rises over the top of the dike where it was dumped. It has dredged-a channel at Reeder's across the river at nearly right angles with the current, and, naturally, it will fill up and will be a nuisance to navigation before it does fill up. All of this mis-

management, however, does not reflect in the slightest degree on the actual merits of the river, nor does it lossen the possibility of making all of it as good as-the formerly impassable bars at St. Helens and Walker's Island. The river is not in bad condition, and in spite of the mistakes and mismanagement of some who have had charge of its improvement, it is still in so much

better shape than the bar at the mouth that the delays encountered are insignificant. The Leyland Brothers, on which an Oregonian representative crease of apple orchard area in the made the trip to Astoria, went through state within the next five years, and a

Numerous are the discreet and fear-

ess reporters attached to The Oregonian's local staff-though the boldest of them is usually the least discrect, and vice-versa-yet it will be impossible for us to comply with the appeal of our anonymous friend and fellow-citilzen. owing to the lateness of the hour, crowded condition of our columns, etc etc. We accordingly dismiss the subject with a reprimand of the Sheriff, jailer and all others concerned, especialthe criminal himself. Malfeasance of this kind is impossible to condone or forgive, and should any other murderer within our jurisdiction repeat Mr. Farris' act of self-destruction, we shall ondemn him also in fit terms.

Nevertheless, the man is dead. He did not have to be hanged at public expense. Rope left in murderers' cells, by the way, should always be of full strength.

The loyal soldiers of the British Emire struggling for dominion in South Africa are each to be remembered by Queen Alexandra on Christmas by a gift of a briarwood pipe, mounted in silver and bearing the monogram of Her Majesty. The Queen shows tact in the selection of her Christmas favors for Tommy Atkins, knowing full well that, next to his sweetheart in far-away England, his pipe comes closest to the homesick soldier's heart, and affords him the greatest consolation. The wife of a smoker, the mother of smokers, the associate all her life of smokers of high degree, Alexandra would have been dull of apprehension indeed had she not discovered that nothing is so pleasing to the smoker as a Christmas present as a good pipe with a woman's monogram upon it indorsing its use.

The death of Adolph Kraus, the famous sculptor, in an insane asylum in Massachusetts closes a record of gentus and ambition, of success and disappointment, under which a brilliant mind gave way. The record of such a life is that of "hopes abortive, victories half blown, and citadels begun, reduced to dust." The work accomplished by Kraus brought him distinction that would have satisfied a less ambitious man, and his end at 51 years is inexpressibly sad.

Among the changes incident to the death of Victoria and the succession of Edward VII is that of the shifting of the royal birthday and its loyal celebration from May 24 to November 9. The latter date passed with quiet mention

and with scant attempt at celebration yesterday; the former, with festal observances that made a holiday throughout the British Empire in the Mays of more than three-fourths of a century, has passed into history.

-Oregon seems likely to regain its prestige as the land of big red apples apples without blemish and innocent of harboring worms. The wise horticulturists see possibilities in applegrowing that will result in a large in-

more, the teachers propose to date back the decision a quarter of a century, and to bring both civil and criminal proceedings against the unfortunate individuals omposing the State Board of Equalization from year to year for their failure to suppress the corporations long ago. One of the leaders of the Teachers' Federation says: This will not end our fight by any means.

This will not end our next of any means. We have several more suits in contomplation. The next one will be a suit in debt against the members of the old board to recover the the memory penalty for neglecting to assess the corporations of Cook County. The intention is to bring a suit for \$5,000,000 or more, on the ground that the county least one-half of the sum by their neglect or connivance. The teach-ers also contemplate another mandamus suit series the state heard is compared it to make against the state board to compel it to make against the mate board to compare to make now all the assessments it should have made and did not make during the last 25 years. These back sneesmants amount to many bill-tons of collars, and the revenue law requires that the taxes levied on them shall have added to them 10 per cent interest per annum from the time they should have been paid to the time they may actually be paid. The teachers also contemplate the prosecution of the mom-bers of the board criminally in Sangamon County, but do not attach so much importance to the criminal procedure as to this suit in

Low and the Sunday Question.

Chicago Tribune. Seth Low would not have had so large a majority, and perhaps would have had no majority, but for his intelligent, judicious reatment of the Sunday saloon question. He had the wisdom in the first speeches he made to remove that question altogeth-er out of the campaign. This was the first time for some years that that issue did not obtrude itself. The reaction in favor of Tammany four years ago was occasioned in part by the efforts of Theo-dore Roosevelt while Police Commissioner to enforce the law for the closing of the aloons on Sunday. This year Mr. Low hastened to anno

what his policy would be if elected. He said that he would imitate the example set by Mayor Schieren, of Bro years ago. That Mayor did not under take the hopeless and provocative task of closing the drinking places on Sunday, but required them to run quietly and unostentatiously, especially during church hours.

After this declaration of Mr. Low 1 was impossible for Tammany to inject the Sunday issue into the campaign, much as Tammany would have liked to do so The votes of thousands of moderate-minded personal liberty man, the majority of them Germans, but many of them o other nationalities, were gained for Mr Low by his disclaimer of a radical puritanical Sunday observance policy.

It is to be hoped that the Sunday ques-tion is out of politics in New York City for all time to come. It was a disturbing ement in Chicago politics until about wonty-five years ago, when both parties ecided that they had had enough of it. If it can be got rid of in New York as it has been here it will be possible for the elements of law, order and decency in that city to get Tammany down and keep it down.

Johnny on the Dachshund.

Chicago Tribune If I had to be a dog, I would much rather be a large Newfoundland. Still we must not repine at our lot. Whatever Providence orders is hest for us. Our hired girl says her cousin once had a dachshund that got in his way when he was chopping wood, and he accidentally cut the dog's tail off. At 9 o'clock the next day the dachabund emitted a frightful scream, its had just found it out. A dachahund is the

corresponding profit to themselves in thing you cannot buy at a department store.

ing. At the matince performance crowds were turned 'away, and last evening a swarm of people tilled Third street for nearly half a block, crowded toward the box office and clamored for seats. house was packed as full as it hold, and it was not till long after the rise of the curtain that those outside could be convinced that even standingroom was no longer on sale. The play, which appeals strongly to the

average playgoer, is acted by a far ter company this year than it was last, and becomes far more interesting as a re-The story is one which sult. seems to fascinate those who hear it told, for noth-ing could have created more excitement than the trip through a Chinese oplum joint which the audience were taken last night, and the series of narrow escapes the principal characters indulged in. The strain is greatly relieved by a voin of comedy which is kept running pretty steadily through the play, two jocose Chinese washermen, a negro and Irishwoman a messenger boy and one or two other characters all being needed to keep the plot from getting too thick for endurance. The play is admirably mounted, the optum-joint scene being as natural as possible, and all the other stage pictures pro-

ortionately accurate, M. M. Murray in the name part did all ir had to do very well and won for him self some yery good opinions of his ability as an actor. Robert McClung, as ironsides, a suffor, had some heroics which he nanaged very judiciously. Wah Sing, the highbinder, as played by Robert was sufficiently revolting to sult the tastes of the most fastidious. James J. Flannlgan and Walter Schrode made two very good comedy Chinamen, and got plenty aughter and applause as a reward for their efforts. Genevieve Kane played Georgette in a

manner which made many friends for her, Stella Adama made a good Billy Macy and Lizzie Mulvey was equal to the require ments of the part of Duty Peck. The re-mainder of the company was all that was DECESSIONY.

In the specialty bill Edwinn and company gave a song and drill which was a taking number, the Schrode brothers did come clever acrohatic work, Pelot, the comedy juggler, delighted the house with his feats, and Ned Curila put on a very good burnt-cork turn.

'Ring of the Oplum Ring" will run all the week, with matinees Wednesday and Saturday.

Amos

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| R. | Wells | s in | the | Christian | Enilion |

World. Ten new committees, vigorous and fine; One was too ambitious, and then there were nine. zealous and elste One got offended, and then there were eight.

Eight new committees, laboring for heaven; One got to shirking, and then there

seven. Seven new committees, "putting in best licks" One found it tedious, and then there were six.

Sig new committees, looking all allve; One went to sleep, and then there were five.

Five new committees, keeping up their score: One became "too busy," and then there we Tour.

Four new committees, bright as bright could 150; One became careless, and then there were

Three new committees, hunting things to do. One thought it couldn't, and then there were two.

> Two new committees, proud of good things One grew "so tired," and then there was one.

One new committee holding on for fun:

Fun got exhausted, and then there was-none.

There is a tract of land in Tazewell County, Illinois, lying along the Mackinaw River, which consists of a continuous series of abrupt and deep ravines. Not a foot of the tract could be cultivated. The ridges are full of fox dens, wolves are occasionally found, and turkey buzzards hover over it in large flocks. Even people familiar with the territory have been lost in the dense forest. Except for a few giant oaks, the wood has no commercial value. The tract is known as the "Lost Forty." because no one knows who owns it. For years it has been used for trading purposes, and many unwary persons from a distance have advanced money upon it and taken mortgages in various sums, only to receive a questionable title to a worthless piece of land. On the Tazewell County tax books the

"Forty" appears with "Owner unknown," The land is watered by innumerable springs, and the Mackinaw River, which winds its way through.

The New York Legal Ald Society, of which Arthur von Briesen, a wealthy lawyer with a lucrative practice, is president, is wholly supported from contributions from the purses of wealthy men interested in the work, and it has accomplished a marvelous amount of good. "A poor man or woman," said Mr. von Briesen recently, "may have honestly earned by hard labor an amount of money. Payment is refused. A lawyer is consulted, and if the sum is not promptly obtained the cost of redress in most cases exceeds the sum due. Thousands of such cases occur in New York yearly. Right then and there an anarchist at heart is made. We take such cases up, nocept a retainer of 10 cents to help our client's self-respect and collect the money. That represents the iotal charge, and even that is not always exacted. To date we have collected over \$855,000 for 115,000 individuals, who otherwise would have been unjustly deprived of that vast amount of money."

Finished His Talmudie Dictionary. Philadelphia Times.

After more than a quarter of a century f erulite inbor the venerable rabbi, the tev. Dr. Marcus Jastrow, of Germanown, has completed in manuscript the which has Dictionary of the Talmud." been awaited with interest by Biblical students and Oriental scholars all over the world. Begun in 1877, the actual compiling and writing of this important work have taken twenty-four of the ripest years of Dr. Jastrow's life.