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TODAT'S WEATHER-Occasional rain: brisk YESTERDAT'S WEATHER-Maximum

imum temperature, 42; preperature, 52; m cipitation, 0.48 inch.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, DECEMBER 23.

SATAN REBUKING SIN.

Obscure and elusive at the best, the its devastating effects. trust problem is not notably cleared up have thought of that before. by the denunciation of trusts offered before the Chicago bankers Saturday trust. As everything is to be gained by sharp discrimination in terms, it is Schwab's definitions. We can distinguish the trust, he says, by three things, it throttles competition. The "consolidation." however, which term Mr. Schwab affects, expands trade and lowers prices. If you find a business combinagion that seeks to eliminate competition, reduces output and raises prices. that is a trust. If you find one that does the opposite, that is a consolidation_

Persons who are engaged in disreputable practices do not like the terminology popularly applied to their craft. "Scab" and "rat" are repudiated by the nonunion workman, but for all that both have passed into the vernacular. American Catholics resent the expression "Church of Rome" but the most careful editor cannot altogether keep it out of his paper. The old "American" party passed into history by its derisive at pains to find a suphemism for "copperhead," and all languages grow by accretion from terms originally coined by hostility and scorn as well as by

cy and pride

and that this property must always be false in principle and permicious in practice.

SCHLEY CASE PROBABLY OVER.

Common law has ordained, that the prosecution always has the last word. In spite of all the safeguards the individual accused has been able to wrest from hostile Government this one prerogative of closing the case has been regarded too dear to be foregone. It seems a little hard, perhaps, that the instigator of trouble, whether criminal prosecutor or civil plaintiff, should be given the superior opportunity to make his accusation stand, but so it is; and

in domestic issues the rule is still the same, for the last word in this field also is by universal consent awarded to the which have reflected so seriously on the pute

The Navy Department seems to have an idea there is no limit to this good old rule. As to Schley, it began on him, and now it is determined to have "the last word." The court of inquiry decided "Schley's wrong, we are right"

-and now let no more be said. Secretary Long approves the majority report. He has his say, and observes, "Now let no more be said." Who has not heard the bully-ragging disputant announce his conclusion of a heated argument and then say, as if to bear all before him, "and let that be an end of the mat-

ter"? The Navy Department is well advised. Further discussion of the Schley case is not good for it. The affair is a mess, It always has been. It has blasted two noble careers in our naval history, em-Sill Dearborn street. For sale in Omaha by Barkalow Bros., 1615 bittered the Maryland man's memory of rationt victory, and broken Sampson's gallant victory, and broken Sampson's

> the administration of Secretary Long. whose superior talents and high character deserved a better fate; it has been a blot upon two Presidential terms and has embrolled both Army and Navy in a discreditable feud. All this is reason enough why the Navy Department should wish an end of the controversy. But the complaint is not

justly directed toward the persecuted Admiral and his friends. The offense is with those who set out to asperse his record, and who counted on, as they received, the aid and comfort of the Navy Department. It comes with had grace from the Sampsonites, therefore,

to deplore the controversy and bewall They should

Not that we wish to be understood as predicting a persistent agitation on night by the president of the steel the part of the Schley partisans, or a widespread popular sympathy with them in such effort. Far more likely worth while to look carefully at Mr. is their appeal for satisfaction to be in vain. The people want justice, but they don't want it badly enough to put It restricts trade, it raises prices, and themselves out for it. It is fair to conclude that the public is tired of the whole affair. And if it is, Schley's attorneys may be interviewed and Schley papers hurl black letter and double leads at the verdict and Congress and the Navy Department in vain. The average man is red hot for justice when his barometer is high and the wind

fresh. But he will not be bored. Past the point of ennul no National crime need hope for redress.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISASTER.

The decision of the court of inquiry in the case of the abandoned ship Pinmore, while somewhat of a surprise to people who had formed their opinions from a casual reading of the stories given out at the time of the wreck, is nickname, "Know-Nothing." Nobody is undoubtedly just. The court was composed of H. B. M. Consul James Laidlaw, who has listened to testimony in scores of shipwreck cases; Captain Froggatt, and the venerable Captain who was commanding a ship when the Pinmore's master was a babe led prosaic, humble sort of lives, not in arms. It was well fitted by age and lending themselves readily to heroics. objectionable, and the hope of the experience to judge rightly in the case, Each was concerned about a multitude and the verdict will be accepted with the consideration to which it is entitled. of trivial details, one with his trees and bushes, walks and sloping banks, birds On sea or shore, in time of disaster, there are no trusts, and while he may have been technically right, he was in to all else, and the testimony brought and beasts; the other with household cares and making home beautiful, and out at the inquiry showed that the lives event so common that it happens someof all on board the Pinmore were im where, they say, every moment of the periled to such an extent that death hurrying night and day, was staring them in the face for hours But in all these cares shone forth that before they decided to take to the boats. An older and more experienced man than Captain Jamieson might have reand without which the grandest career fused to heed the clamorings of his is a dismal failure. Perhaps we do well, crew and remained with the ship, but therefore, to seek out and emphasize would hardly have been credited with the good that was in the dead. There superior judgment by so doing. Had is in every life, and all through our the anchors failed to hold, the unmancommon human nature, a great deal ageable ship might have drifted into that is good and noble and worthy of the breakers, where escape by the small all praise. And he who goes through life without finding anything to honor boats would have been impossible. That portion of the verdict which has and love only reveals the depths of his the most important bearing on the Coown depravity. lumbla River's maritime interests is found in the tenth section, which reads

run from Astoria, and rescued her. Under the old Flavel regime, when the the Northern combination might have bar was in much worse condition than

it is at the present time, commerce groaned under the burden of the excessive charges levied by tuge and eration for the interests of the people pilots, but the service rendered was efficient. There was no loafing around doing so. They did what it was for Astoria, but Baker's Bay and Fort Ste- their private, selfish interests to do, and vens were far enough away from the if the interests of the public were to ocean for Flavel's tugboats and pilots, reap benefit in any way, this would be and when ships were reported in dis-It tress the boats remained outside for of the deal. It is nonsense for Mr. Hill days at a time searching for them. A to seek to convey the impression that happy medium of the old Flavel tug all this labored manipulation of colossal and pilot service and the modern schedule of prices is what is needed at the purpose of keeping the spirit of the antimouth of the river. Portland has much at stake in this matter, and no effort should be spared to correct the evils port within the past six weeks.

LESSONS OF BEREAVEMENT.

Sudden death has removed two of Portland's well-known residents under circumstances of most heartrending nature. It is hard to say which is the have been accustomed to recognize in more distressing-the cruel wheels of James J. Hill. Time may be an essenthe electric car, crushing out the life of tial element in proving the wisdom of the busy man and faithful official, or the dark hour of childbirth, carrying away the devoted wife and mother from under the very gaze of agonizing love. Death is the great leveler. Grief holds tion is obviously addressed to the peoimpartial sway in the humble lodge of ple who take the view that his railroad the late keeper at the City Park and trust is illegal and harmful. If it is so in the stately mansion on Nob Hill, De- today, time cannot justify it. A plea cember's rain falls alike on the laurel that Mr. Myers had planted with his securely the new railroad policy of nonown hands and over the stately sward at Twentieth and Hoyt, December's cold wind stirs alike the cedar boughs that mourn their recent master and the heart as well as mind; it has clouded ivy clinging yet where Mrs Mackenzie's

fingers had fastened it to marble pillar and granite wall. Probably few of us know how large a place we fill till we are gone and sorrow sits alone to catalogue its loss. Each of these two occupied a position. that no one else could fill, and consolation, unless it can restore the departed, is of no avail. What the one home wanted was the husband and father: what the other wanted and now so beseechingly wants is the wife and mother-just that and nothing else. Other the vacant place. The world is just the same, except for that one thing, and in "telephone"; renounce such plurals that one thing now seems all the world. as "sheep" and "deer"; throw out the Nothing can be done but to perform feminine suffix "ess" and the apostrophe as unobtrusively as possible the last of the possessive case; drop the adverbsad rites of respect, to summon the for-

titude of resignation, and to live again before, For Memory is the only friend

That Grief can call its own.

Which is the best judge of the departed-the casual world of business or Is the throng the nearest truth, who go of expression. scarcely heeding, perhaps coldly critical, on their way, or the bereaved one who sees in his loss a great calamity? Let us say it is the mourner, who has nances are to be enforced forbidding had the best opportunity for judging. the sweeping of dust, bits of paper, etc., Let us believe, as all of us one day would like it to be believed of us, that | emphatically making a cleaner city. No there is a great deal of good in all of more are pavements littered with us, which only close and confidential broken bottles and the general sweepacquaintance can disclose. Let us think, ings of a store. No more doth the fesin view of the evidence, that what tive porter wash his favorite cuspidors

fective vision, and that if we could see beneath the surface we should find went into effect about eight persons goodness we dreamed not of, and de- have been arrested and fined \$5 each, votion that would put the careless criticism or neglect to shame.

an amiable weakness rather than good sense or the highest morals. But per- tion of our community and educate the haps the truth is that the merits we are householder and the boys and girls that quick to realize when one is dead ex- we want and intend to have a new and isted in plain view all along, only we clean Portland. In this work the police were too blinded with bustle and care.

HILL'S EXPLANATION CHILDISH.

President Hill's statement of the cir-

One need not quarrel with Mr. Hill's

as Mr. Hill says, the railroad kings in

sold their stock at a handsome advance, but it will take Mr. Hill a long time to convince the public that it was considof Minnesota that deterred them from entirely incidental to the main object railroad interests was for the particular consolidation laws, and at serious financial loss to the men responsible for the action. It is all gammon.

"Let time determine," says Mr. Hill, "whether the public will be benefited or injured by what we have done and will This is a specious continue to do." plea. It is the plea of a Gulteau or a Czolgosz, not of the magnificent rallroad-builder and business organizer we some courses of action, but an act that is morally and legally and economically wrong cannot be made otherwise by lapse of time. Mr. Hill's entire explanafor tolerance, for time to entrench more competition, will find small favor with the general public, and will probably move the people of Minnesota to more determined action against the combination,

Professor G. F. Chamberlain, of Clark University, proposes to make English even more grammarless. He would slough off the few inflections we have left, do away with the subjunctive mood, and, in fact, achieve the complete emancipation of English from Greek and Latin models. He would no longer say "If I were," or "If he go"; would sacrifice the irregular and inflected parts of verbs in the participle and past tense and follow the usage friends remain, but they cannot fill up of such verbs as "lit" and "let"; employ nouns and verbs in the same form as ial form for the adjective, as "neatly" for "neat"; give "but" and "as" the In fancy the experiences that have gone prepositional use; make "who," "that" and "which" interchangeable, and exclude further importation of Greek and Latin words. If he can accomplish all this he may approach the simplicity of the Chinook jargon, which from his society, or the intimate sharer of the life? poilt of view should be an ideal medium

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Recent orders sent to all business men by the police department that ordifrom store doors across sidewalks are passes for imperfection is our own de- at the corner, for all such offenders are liable to arrest. Since the order and, curiously enough, almost every offender pleaded in extenuation that he We like to speak well of the dead, and had not been warned that the law was ometimes this propensity is accounted to be enforced. The next move is to

spread the order in the residence por-

ANOTHER SOCIALISTIC FAILURE

Chicago Chronicle, If the high-flying Socialists will peruse the annual report of Commissioner of Indian Affairs Jones they will gain some valuable information on the subject of

The Indian is a ward of the Government, just as everybody else would be under the Socialistic regime. Individuality is discouraged. The great father at Washington provides for his children, and, like most children of older growth who are relieved of the responsibility of looking out for themselves, the red men nat-urally look to him for everything and de-

pend upon themselves for nothing. Mr. Jones finds that the elaborate and expensive system of education maintained for the benefit of the Indians results not

only in a waste of money but in positive injury to the individuals whom it is sought to improve. He makes the assertion without qualification that Indian education as now carried on runs its course unvaryingly from barbarism and ignorance to refinement and luxury and back again to idleness and barbarism in prac-tically every case which the Government takes in hand.

Some peopla will be disposed to attrib-ute the blame of this state of affairs to the Indians, but there is reason to believe that similar methods would produce the same results ultimately if applied to any that similar in the similar is applied to any mother takes the fourth act was a bullet in his brain. The trial and ac-coddling by Government, and he never that she is not a negro at all, but a Span-ter above it.

Enough money has been spent by the people during the last generation for the support of the Indian population to provide every aboriginal in the land with a comfortably furnished home. For education alone the people have spent money enough to build and endow half a dozen first-class universities or training schools. In spite of this the Indian remains as he was at the beginning-lazy, thriftless, without ambition, and, whether educated or not, wholly dependent upon the Gov-

The Socialistic system was applied to to feed and clothe the savages than it was to fight them. This alternative is no longer presented. The question now is whether the industrious whites are forever to be charged with the expense of maintaining in idleness a race which, in spite of all ideas to the contrary, does not materially decrease in numbers, and which makes practically no improvement. Under the policy now pursued there can

be no hope of progress. It was the socialism of the Indiana themselves which made them objection-able and dangerous to the whitee origin-ally. We have confirmed them in the debilitating habits of that theory by applying to them the socialistic practices of the whites. The average man, white, red or black, will not work unless he finds it necessary to do so. For a hundred years we have put a premium on idleness among the Indians and of late we have sought by higher education to develop among men naturally lazy and unenterprising qualities which never have been found in any race except as a result of individual energy and aspiration, promoted by stern

tern necessity. The time is near at hand when the red man should be given an opportunity to make the solemn choice which sooner or later fails to most white men. Shall be work or shall he die?

SAVE THE OLD HYMNS.

Chicago Tribune

It was a sorry day for the hymnals when Professor Triggs sent forth his sarcastic opinions as to the merits of various popular hymns. It seems to have aroused a desire for revision among some of the de-nominations. Curiously enough its most disastrous effects are visible among Methodists, who, of all others, would be expected to cling to the old hymns which so often have been their songs of victory

At the recent General Conference of that church commissioners were appointed to church commissioners were appointed to revise the hymnal. Sub-committees have been selected to carry out the details, and they will report in March next. It is learned already that three of the most admired hymns, and the three perhaps which have brought more comfort to the

AMUSEMENTS.

"At the Old Cross Roads," opened a week's engagement to standing room at

Cordray's Theater last night, and more than justified the claim made for it that it is the best play Hal Reid has yet writvaluable information on the subject of the practical workings of the system which they admire so much. the blood and thunder heroics which

distinguishes much of Reld's work, the characters are eleverly sketched and contrasted, the situations are strong and well introduced, and the comedy is made incidental to the play and not dragged in by the cars. The com-

pany is thoroughly capable, and is a credit to manager Alston. It was, therefore, small wonder that the play made one of the hits of the season, that cur tain calls followed one another in rapid succession, and that no one in the 311dience seemed to feel that five acts were

too long. The story's chief strength is in its o sistency. The drop of negro blood that makes a "nigger" out of its possessor, however white she may be is the theme around which the plot has been woven, and the haired of Parepa, an octoroon girl, for the husband who has ruined her and been forced to marry her supplie abundant material. The woman's daughter

is brought up as a lady, and the secret of her birth is kept from her during her girlhood, but when her father, Thornton, a thoroughgoing scoundrel, at last tells her the secret of her life, the outraged

lard, her betrothal to a large-hearted

gambler who has loved her all the time, and several other live-happy-ever-after incidents again fall into the Reid style. but the play as a whole is far ahead of his ordinary work, and well deserved the

reception it received. Muss Estha Williams made a fine char-acter of the octoroon woman, and proved for the severalth time to a Portland au-

dience that she is an emotional actross of excellent ability. Mrs. Charles G. Craig cantured the house by her clever charac-

ter work as a jovial old darkey. Edward the Indians in this country in the first place on the theory that it was a necessi-ty of the case. It was held to be cheaper to feed and clothe the savages than it was to feet them. This alternative is not supplied to be cheaper villian. Thomas H. Ince made a good tramp. Louise Valentine was a charming \$1,201,240,000; France, \$554,220,000, and the pickaninny, Maurice Hedges was a clever Southern major, and the remainder of the cast was proportionately good.

The mounting is excellent, the first two scenes being pretty Southern landscapes, which add much to the atmosphere of the both in this country and in European

"At the Old Cross Roads" will run all "At the Old Cross Roads" will run all In this country these hold \$700,000,000 of mas day.

"OLE OLSON."

young woman who had persistently accost Ben Hendricks Creates Enthusiasm ed her on the streets, asking for alms, at the Baker Theater. It appeared from the evidence of the

Hilarity ran riot at the Baker Theater yesterday afternoon and evening, the oc-casion being the advent of Ben Hendricks daughter had refused to work, saying she in his always welcome Swedish comedy "Ole Olson." Mr. Hendricks is easily first among interpretors of the Americanized Scandinavian, and certainly no other even got a more rousing reception than he did generally. The fraudulent character of from two big houses The people laughed her occupation was further exemplified energetically and persistently all the time he was on the stage. They laughed when he spoke, when he smoked, when he sat

down, when he rose, in fact they laughed whenever their eyes fell upon him. Mr. Hendricks has come this year with a good company, and his comedy is just as much of a hit as it always has been, as much of a hit as it niways has been The melodramatic side of it, while subor breakfast, consisting of some cold meat, dinated largely to the humor, has not been lost sight of, and cheers were al-ways forthcoming when the honest Swede refused to be the dupe of the villians, and announced that he would rather die than take a child from its mother. But he nary pastry. Dinner is served in his liturns readily from heroics to the more important business of provoking mirth, and his funny dialect, his stolid indifference, his frequent exhibitions of strength in hustling objectionable people out of his presence, and his really artistic charac-

ter acting was what caught the house, Of the support Miss Nettle Trauband, a bright and lively little actress, was the star, her acting heing cheering to the 5 kreuzer, about 5 cents apiece.

Alexander McDowell, the clerk of the National House of Representatives, had a Ryan was a good G. Quintan Shingle, Miss Belle Francis was an acceptable Mrs. Jordon, and Miss Annie Douglars made a roistering Mrs. O'Flannigan The play is well-staged, and the scenic features of the scene in which Ole effects a daring rescue from the teeth of a whirt- panlon. "Because," said he, "I'm going to ing saw was one of the hits of the even-The Swedish ladles quartet sang i umber of songs in a style that carne for them repeated encores. The organization is one of the strongest that has ever been heard in Portland, and they more than deserved all the applause they re-then at its height, and McDowell had no ceived. Altogether the attraction is one of the best Manager Buker has yet booked, and will no doubt crowd the house through the week. A special matince will be given Christmas day.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Come early and mix up with the rush. It wasn't any of Miles' business, any-

how.

Be sure to have your chimneys swept JUC.

Santa Claus will have to come in & gondola

The esteemed General is evidently sorry he spoke.

The Navy is more in evidence even than on May 1, 1898.

The President has one Secretary who is a strenuist after his own heart.

General Miles probably looks on the Secretary of War as the Root of all evil.

You can't make the express messenger see anything joyous in the holiday season.

Snow, snow, beautiful-We didn't finish this, because the weather changes on us.

Maclay has been asked to resign. It was supposed that he had the good taste to do so long ago,

England is dead slow. The smallest and most despicable of South American Republics has pulled off 15 wars to her one.

Two more revolutions in Venezuela in

one day. The sons of the revolution

It is worth something to be a private

citizen. You can't wear a \$400 uniform,

but you can speak your mind once in a

while without running any risk greater

Savings bank deposits in this country

are now the largest in the world, reacaing

\$2,310,660,000. These deposits have doubled

in about 15 years. Germany is the next

largest, \$1,900,000,000; Austria-Hungary,

United Kingdom \$329,020,000. Comparisons

of this kind are not conclusive, because

savings in Germany are placed in co-

operative banks. Building associations

A lady appeared as a complainant in a

New York court the other day against a

young woman's own mother that her

could make money easier by begging, and

that she sometimes got \$3 or \$4 in a day,

which she spent on dress and amusement

when, after the court had mercifully let

her off with a fine of only \$10, she coolly

The Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria

is very plain in his tastes and habits. At

6 o'clock in the morning he takes his

coffee and fresh-made bread and cake.

Between 12 and 1 o'clock he takes his de-

jouner, two dishes of meat and some ordi-

brary at his writing desk. Not even a

tablecloth is spread. The Emperor does

not care much for wine. He prefers a

ginas of beer. Nor does he indulge in ex-

pensive cigars. A plain home-made cigar,

the so-called Virginia cigar, long and thin,

sent for her bankbook to pay it.

than that of taking a licking.

down there must be too numerous to men-

tion.

The trust by any other name would smell as rank. Its essential nature is trusts to escape odium by convicting the popular name for them of inaccuracy is vain. Mr. Hanna once said reality as wrong as Mr. Schwab is today in seeking to draw one of the worst of the trusts out of the general category. The sole fragment of truth in what Mr. Hanna contended for was that the old trust method of depositing shares of independent concerns in a common "trust" fund has been superseded by the modern trust method of forming a central stock company and purchasing the independent concerns outright. The nature of the beast is the same, though he is working with a new tool. And so, when Mr. Schwab pretends to differentiate trusts and consolidations on the basis of raising or lowering prices, he most dismally fails, because everybody knows that a trust or "consolidation" or "combination" or "community of ownership" will raise or lower its prices, not according to its name, but according to what it thinks will increase the dividends.

Trust arguments destroy each other We have constantly been hearing about the beneficent function of the trust in destroying competition, that enemy of progress and bane of public morals, when along comes Mr. Schwab and says off the mouth of the river through the that trusts-that is, "consolidations"don't destroy competition. He doesn't explain just how they promote competition, and that would really have been traffic in and out of the river was not great and good men who direct the desworth while, inasmuch as the steel trust itself, for example, has combined Oregon and Washington supported pilot a large number of independent competitive plants under one non-competitive ownership and management. have been hearing how the beneficent trust had saved industries from ruin by reacuing them from a paralysis of eruise twenty to forty miles off shore, insupportably low prices, and now comes Mr. Schwab to assure us that dius of thirty miles off the mouth of the way in which the trust really does get on is by reducing prices.

There may be trusts or consolidations that aim to promote competition, and discourage restriction of output, and Captain Jamieson's first trip to the Co-fight desperately in the direction of lumbia, and, being unfamiliar with the lower prices on their own goods; but the steel trust is not among them. If the trusts would actually do these things, instead of talking so much about them, no doubt the popular antipathy to them would be measurably assunged. Then the term "trust" would not be the one of opprobrium Mr. Schwab beach, or, failing in that, their familiarnow correctly conceives it, but a name of honor he would be proud to claim. Other things the trusts could do to A little more efficiency on the part of mitigate the undesirable significance of the pilot service would probably have their name would be to cease to close up independent plants they acquire, to ting north of the Columbia River. offer to forego a protective tariff on the wares they freely export, and to sell their product at home as cheaply as they 'do abroad. Practical demon with the trusts. There would still re never be overcome, and that is the con-

strations of this sort would soon re- the mouth of the river. The Pinmore main a matter of sentiment which may ognition, and it was four days after her viction that the trust is essentially mo- was known in Astoria before a Puget

as follows: The evidence before the court justifies it in expressing its sense of the necessity for the nprovement in the towage and pilotage serv ices on the Columbia River bar, and also the better marking of the channel to enable ves-1100 better marking of the channel to enabl sels to enter by tilght as well as by day.

This testimony, supplemented by the ber of ships which have been delayed it is also a revelation of weakness, of conscious weakness, on the part of Mr. inefficient tug and pllot service, will Hill, his friends and his enemies. This carry considerable weight, and should revelation is presented in Mr. Hill's arbe heeded. A few years ago, when the gument, the essence of which is that the one-half as great as it is today, both tinles of the new railroad trust have been forced into this position at treschooners, which were kept cruismendous sacrifice to themselves for the ing off the mouth of the river all the protection of the dear people. And for We time, there being as high and fifteen this heroic self-macrifice are they critipilots engaged in the work. The rivalry cised by an unfeeling public! thus engendered caused the cutters to statement of facts in order to see the and any ship showing up within a rafallacy of his insidious conclusions, though it is news that the Harriman the river was sure of picking up a pllot. The Pinmore came up off the

secure a pilot or a tugboat. It was course of the current or the prevailing winds at this season of the year, he drifted hither and thither at the mercy of the wind and tide. Had any of the Columbia River pilots been on board. they could have kept him out of the northerly drift that set him in to the ity with the locality would have enabled them to sail into Gray's Harbor. prevented the Ernest Reyer from get-The court of inquiry, however, does

not discriminate. It recognizes the necessity for an improvement in the towage as well as the photage service at Columbia River fug, but secured no recpresence at anchor near Gray's Harbor

deserve hearty commendation, and essness to see them. Both these two ought to get the co-operation of all good citizens.

It is just as well to remember at this joyous season that the combination of candle-dotted Christmas tree and cotton-trimmed Santa Claus is an exceedingly dangerous one. But a year or two lately with an expectant dread of an ago a well-known Portland man was severely burned in Tacoma while playing the role of the bountiful saint, and hardly a year passes without some accident of this kind to mar the general festivsingle-minded devotion which hallows ity. Either unusual precautions should even the meanest life if it is steadfast, be taken to guard the tiny flames that gutter and flare on the inflammable fir branches, or the presiding genius of the occasion should wear asbestos fur. It might not be a bad idea for Fire Chief Campbell to inspect the larger, and consequently more dangerous, Sunday school trees before they are lighted. Families will have to take the risks of household celebrations.

Salesmen and ship girls, postmen and express messengers, delivery-men and the drivers of the thousands of carts that are flying around town will cumstances that gave rise to the North-ern Securities Company is a testimonial to the power of public opinion. As such day means two weeks of the hard-ert work of the whole year of abnorbe truly thankful when Christno fault is to be found with it, for it est work of the whole year, of abnordeals with matters of which it is proper mally busy and consequently irascible statements of the captains of a num- that the public should be informed. But employers, and irritated and wrathful customers. If those who buy and those who sell will bear this in mind today and tomorrow they will be practicing a Christian charity that is in fine accord with the right spirit of the season.

> There are dentists enough in Oregon now. This appears to be the conviction of the State Dental Board. And that's what's the matter with Oregon. There are enough or too many lawyers, doctors, merchants, manufacturers, farmers, workingmen, if we take the word of those already in possession of each particular field. Through such enlightened theories have all stagnant communities reached their present exalted

Senator Mitchell is pulling for an assay office at Portland, and Representative Moody is pulling for one at Baker City. Would there be more chance of an assay office if they could pull together?

By all means let the Seventh Ward ecord its protest against extinction, oud and without delay. Better so than that the charter should go to the poils with a whole ward unanimously against

As to reciprocity with Cuba, we have been doing a great deal in that line in the past three years. It's Cuba's move.

A hearty "Merry Christmas" doesn't cost anything, and it is worth many times more than many a gift. ----

There are a good many houses that Santa Claus will not see. Can't you show him some of them? ____

Some men take pleasure in Christmas

sorrowing and the grief-stricken than any others, are doomed to dismissal from the hymnal. These are, "Lead, Kindly Light," "He Leadeth Me" and "Sweet Hour of Prayer." It is remarkable that Newman's great hymn, "Lead, Kindly Light," which even Professor Triggs excepted from his censure, and which commends itself both as literature and as an expression of devoutness, should be excluded. This and the other two hymns, which are universally popular, are to be tabooed, it is said, because they are not

definitely theological in statement of doc-trine, Cardinal Newman's hymn not spe-cially recognizing Christ; "He Leadeth Me," a paraphrase of the well-known psalm, because it makes no allusion to the mediation of Christ; and "Sweet House of Desure" because its adding lines Hour of Prayer" because its closing lines indicate that prayer ends here. If these statements be correct it would seem as though the commissioners were growing finical and laying more stress upon dog-

ma than upon devotion, But worse remains. It is intimated that Bishop Heber's two great hymns, "Bright est and Best of the Sons of the Morning" and "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," are also marked for condemnation, the first because it is an ode of praise to the Star of Bethlehem and the other beto cause it instructs people only in geog-

Is it not time for the Methodist faity to rise in protest, or at least to find out whether these reports are true, for if these hymns are to go there is no reason why "Come, Ye Disconsolate," "Corona-tion," and the "Doxology" may not have to go also. They are no better and no worse than the others marked for ejection from the hymnal. Is there any surer or more pleasant way of going from "Jor-dan's Stormy Banks" "To Canaan's Fuir and Happy Land" than to the music of these simple old hymns of the old-time

Chicago Tribune. "Farewell!" Another gloomy work As ever into language crept. "Tis often written, never heard

Except In playhouse. Ere the hero fits-In handcuffs-from our pitying view, "Farewell!" he murmurs, then exits R. U.

"Farewell!" It is too sighful for An age that has not time to sigh. We say, "Til see you later," or "Good-bye!"

When, warned by chanticleer, you go From her to whom you owe devoir, "Say not good bye," she laughs, "but au Revoir!"

Thus from the garden are you sped; And Juliet were the first to tell

"Fare well," meant long ago, before It crept, tear-spattered, into song, "Safe voyage!" "Pleasant journey!" or "So-long!"

But gone its cheery, old-time ring; The poets made it rhyme with knell. Joined, it became a dismal thing-"Farewell"

"Farewell!" Into the lover's soul You see Fate plunge the cruel iron. All poets use it. It's the whole Of Byron.

"I only feel-farewell!" said he; And always tearful was the teiling. Lord Byron was sternally Farewelling.

"Farewell" A dismal word, 'tis true, (And why not tell the truth about it?) But what on earth would poets do Without it?

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Primrose and Dockstaders Minstrels at the Marquam Tomorrow Night.

Tomorrow night, at the Marquam Grand Theater, the big American ministrels of Primrose and Dockstader, will open their engagement, continuing on the Christmas attraction both afternoon and evening. These gentlemen are able actors themselves, and are surounded by a comserves, and are surounded by a com-pany of players any oute of whom may be considered as topliner in his act. Among these are Eddle Leonard, Will-iam Halett, in the comedy line; George Pearce, Harry Ellis, James Bradley, Fred Gladdis, Frederick Barnes, Waiter Vaughn, vocalists; while the olio will in-clude Lew Dockstader, George H. Prim-Walter rose, Zeno, Carl and Zeno; Ollie Young and brother, and Claudius and Corbin. Primrose and Dockstader are not blased. by any false economy ideas, and hence it is that they are able to give the best of entertainments because they always get the best entertainers. The scenic equipment is said to be unusually beauti-ful. The opening scene is something un-usual in the introduction of a ministrei company. The sale of seats is now open,

"Foggs Ferry."

"Foggs Ferry," in a new dress, and said to be better than ever, will come to the Marquam Theater Friday and Saturday nights, with a matinee Saturday afternoon. The play is said to be strong dramatically, and a marvel of realism. A good company is promised.

Woman Sculptor to Wed Her Model.

Chicago Americán. Akron, O.-Mrs. Maude Necs Fox, a sculptress and wealthy woman, has gone to Washington to become the bride of Dominic Corroni. Their love story is romantic.

Mrs. Fox and her mother were in Italy last year. Corroni was employed in the house at which they lived. He wanted to come to America, but had no money. Ad-miring both him and his ambition, Mrs. For word, his way to be ambition. Fox paid his way to her own home at Uniontown, a village of this county, and secured work for him on the Canton-Akron Electric Railway.

Coronni was very grateful. He often called to see Mrs. Fox at her home, and is said to have posed for her in her work, Mrs. Fox had secured a divorce from her husband, Louis Fox, well known to the vaudeville stage as a bird and animal imi-tator to whom she was married seven tator, to whom she was married seven years ago, and she told Corroni she would marry him.

Corroni is 25 years old and comes of a respectable family. Mrs. Fox is 30 years old and pretty. Her father was W. H. respectable family. Mrs. Fox is 20 years old and pretty. Her father was W. H. Nees, and from him she inherited prop-erty estimated at \$100,000. She has done some fine work in sculpture. She and her husband will live at her country home in Uniontown. Uniontown.

singular start in life. As he tells story, he was setting type one day in a printing office in Oil City, Pa., when he saw a steamboat stop at a wharf near by. "I have set my last type," he said to the man next to him. "Why?" asked his com-Pittsburg." McDowell, true to his word, was a passenger on the boat. When he landed at Pittsburg he saw a man on the wharf selling cheap jewelry, He bought the man's stock for a very small sum and trouble in seiling his gold-plated rings and his gaudy brooches at a price far beyond the few dollars they had cost him. When he had sold out he was over \$500 ahead of the game. He invested the money judiciously and made more. Now he is a

banker and well off in this world's goods.

The Work of the Beaver.

Everybody's Magazine. Standing on his hind legs, the beaver hegins by tearing off the moss and bark, his shurp teeth crunching through across the grain of the wood. Round and round he goes, cutting deepest into the side nearest the water, in the direction he wishes the tree to fall; and, strange as it may seem, nearly every tree felled in this vicinity had been successfully dropped waterward, and, judging from the trees still standing, there is really no reason for supposing that they inclined naturally in that direction. If the tree selected by our beaver is a very large one, it will re-quire many hours of patient work to gnaw it through, but a small poplar, of perhaps 12 inches in diameter, fails after about one hour's work-so, at least, say the trappers. Let us imagine the beaver as he gives the final cut. The tree trembles slightly in the gentle night breeze, and then, leaning over, commences its downward fall, crashing through the branches of its neighbors, shaking off their few remaining dry leaves and filiing the woods with the fierce echoes of its

dying struggle.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Servant-Piease, ma'am, I'd like to give you a week's notice. Mintress-Why, Mary, this is a surprise! Do you hope to better yourself? Servant (blushing)-Well, not exactly that, ma'am. I'm going to get married.-Tit-Bits. Nothing to Do.-"Yes, she's dreadfully dis-appointed. She married him to reform him, you know." "And she couldn't do it?" "On the contrary, she did it in six months, and now she feels that she is bereft of a mission in life."-Chicago Post.

Wighlan't Do.- "Is my hat on-?" began Mrs. Colfingwood, when her husband interrupted: "Yes, your hat's on straight. Come along, or we shall be late." "If it's straight it won't do. Wait a minute till I go back into the house and tilt it a little."-Detroit Free Press.

Power of the Press.-Famous Scientist (exchieldy-Something must be done to stop the spread of the optium habit among women. Great Editor (calmiy)-Very well, sir. Til put in a paragraph saying that a hankering for opium is a sign of old age .- New York Week-

The Football Girl .- "Have you got a lock of Jack Halfback's hair?" asked the sweet young thing, rooting for Princeton. "No." responded the girl in the Yale sweater, "but he gave me a piece of scalp and a lock of hair from Mr. Rusher, the fullback on the Columbia eleven." -Puck

Curate (highly delighted)-I've had a great

people were first to attempt the capture of the Burlington system. But the state of self-satisfaction. mouth of the river and was unable to Burlington having finally been secured for the Northern lines, and at least temporary control of the Northern Pacific having been obtained by the Union Pacific, seems no justification for the orlated into certain railroad shares. Less than \$250,000,000 of Northern Pacific and

ganization of a new corporation, the apparent purpose of which was to crystallize in permanent form the extravagant "values" that had been manipu-

Great Northern stock constitute the assets of the Northern Securities Company; yet that company is expected to earn between 4 and 5 per cent on its capital of \$400,000,000. By this process the \$250,000,000 is made to yield a sum that would be legitimate return on \$400,-

000,000, and it is done in a way calculated to protect the investors from public scrutiny.

Five per cent does not seem too large an income from legitimate investments, move much of the popular discontent was twice within halling distance of a but 5 per cent on \$400,000 is 8 per cent on \$250,000,000, and a combination having for its object the throttling of competition in order that such great profits may be taken from the people very reanopolistic in ambition and tendency, Sound tug came down, within five hours' sonably arouses public hostility. True, because it comes only once a year.

You, you were stilly if you said "Farewell!"

"meetin'-house."? "Farewell."