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TODAY'S WEATHER—Partly cloudy, with showers; southwesterly winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 53; minimum temperature, 49; precipitation, 0.12 inch.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JAN. 9, 1902.

AN ERROR DEALT WITH ONCE MORE.

Our friends at St. Louis, who are laying all forces within their reach under contribution for support of the Louisiana Purchase Centennial, are making remonstrance against the statement and even against the proof that the Oregon Country was not included within the Louisiana Purchase. Evidently they think to make their centenary celebration a greater event, or more attractive to the imagination, by insisting that it was through the acquisition of Louisiana that the first footing of the United States was gained on the Pacific Ocean. And yet the contention is entirely erroneous. The Oregon Country was not included in the Louisiana Purchase. Yet the notion that it was so acquired persists in an unaccountable way. They who hold the error and propagate it do not care to study the historical facts.

When the United States acquired the Louisiana Country the boundaries of it were not clearly defined. But it was certain that the purchase extended no further west than the summit of the Rocky Mountains. France and Spain, alternate possessors of Louisiana, had never attempted exact definitions of the boundaries of the great territory. France, first proprietor, through the expeditions and discoveries of La Salle, ceded the country to Spain in 1762. Spain ceded it back to France in October, 1800. Both France and Spain clearly understood that Louisiana extended on the west to the Rio Grande, but the eastern and a portion of the northern and northwestern boundary remained undetermined because little was known of the country. When France, in 1803, ceded the territory to the United States, this indefiniteness had not been cleared up. Livingston, acting for the United States, asked Talleyrand, negotiator for France: "What are the eastern bounds of Louisiana?" Talleyrand replied: "I do not know. You must take it as we received it." In 1800, when France received the country back from Spain, the French Minister, Decres, in giving instructions as to taking possession, said: "The extent of Louisiana is well determined in the south by the Gulf of Mexico. But, bounded on the west by the river called the Rio Bravo, from its mouth to the 30th parallel, the line of demarcation stops after reaching this point, and there seems never to have been any agreement in regard to this part of the frontier. The farther we go northward the more uncertain is the boundary. This part of America contains little more than uninhabited forests or Indian tribes, and the necessity of fixing a boundary has never yet been felt there."

Indefinite as this was, nevertheless it was the general understanding that the line was to follow the summit of the Rocky Mountains northward from the sources of the Rio Grande and the Arkansas. Possession of the mouth of the Mississippi carried with it the country drained by that great stream. But France possessed nothing and therefore could have conveyed to us nothing west of the Rocky Mountains. The northern limits of Spanish territory on the Pacific were as yet unknown, but these were fixed afterward by the treaty of 1819, through which Spain ceded Florida to the United States. Part of that treaty was an agreement that the 42d parallel of latitude, from the summit of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, should form the northern boundary of the Spanish possessions, and the southern boundary of those of the United States, in that quarter. This boundary hitherto had been an open question. Moreover, the boundary between Florida and Louisiana, indeterminate as other parts of this boundary question during a long period, remained a source of irritation till Florida was finally ceded to the United States.

The Oregon Country was not involved in these difficulties over the boundaries of the Louisiana Purchase, for our title to the Oregon Country came through Gray's discovery of the Columbia River and the exploration of Lewis and Clark. The southern boundary of Oregon was, indeed, not precisely settled till 1819, as related above; but Spain made no claims in this quarter that caused us any embarrassment.

We got Texas with Louisiana, in 1803; for, as we have seen, both Spain and France understood that the Louisiana country extended west to the Rio Grande. But in 1819, when Spain ceded Florida to us, we gave up Texas to her. This was a most singular proceeding, showing that the United States at that time regarded Florida as superior in value to Texas. President Monroe, in his message to Congress, said: "For territory ceded by Spain (Florida), other territory (Texas), to which our claim was well founded, was ceded by the United States." We repossessed Texas through annexation of the Texan Republic, which had achieved its independence in 1845—the event that caused the war with Mexico. In the speeches made in Congress at the time of the admission of Texas into the Union the act was usually spoken of, not as the "annexation," but as the "re-annexation," of Texas. President Tyler, in announcing the negotiation of the annexation treaty, said that in the event of its approval by the Senate "our Government will have succeeded in reclaiming a territory which formerly constituted a portion of its domain under the cession of 1803, by France to the United States."

This history, it will be seen, presents a somewhat tangled skein of events, covering nearly two centuries. They who do not take the trouble to unravel it think in a vague way that our title to Oregon was somehow involved in the Louisiana Purchase; but it is not so at all. Beyond question, however, the acquisition of Louisiana was a leading motive in causing President Jefferson to organize and despatch the exploring expedition of Lewis and Clark across the continent to the Pacific Ocean. He had, indeed, thought of the project before the acquisition of Louisiana, yet while the negotiation was in progress; but it was the successful termination of this affair that hastened the expedition. The transactions indeed were separate; but the centennial of Oregon follows hard upon that of Louisiana. Each was an epoch-making event in the history of the United States.

COMPROMISES OF POLITICS.

Senator Mitchell indicates what his course will be relative to his amendments of the Philippine tariff bill. He will press them upon the committee, he will urge them upon the party to which he belongs, and when he has done all he can within the party and fails, if he does fail, he will not break with the party or with the Administration, but will accept the verdict of the majority with the same grace that a defeated aspirant summons when a rival has captured the nomination in a convention.

It is unfortunate, but it is true, that, however correct a man's ideas may be, he cannot force their acceptance upon Congress by organizing a party of one. He must co-operate if he is to get along. He can't have his way all the time, but he can have it part of the time if he has the discretion and firmness to give or to take at the proper time. A man can be a power within his party, but he can be little else than a nuisance if he insists on being a party by himself upon every issue that comes along.

Within these limits there is sufficient play for the talents and reward for the contentions of a man of force and diplomacy. In such ways Gorman secured the amendment of the Wilson bill in 1894, Chandler and Wolcott the Senate substitute for the House gold-standard bill of 1900, Lodge and Davis the amendment of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. The legislation effected by men like Clay and Webster in shape of compromises is writ large in the Nation's history.

It is a hard choice for a man to make in politics between absolute independence and limited independence working within party lines. Especially hard is the task of doing this without violating convictions. But a middle course in such matters is not more imperative in politics than it is in business, or in the daily walk of ordinary life. In business, in society, in our pleasures, even, we are fain to take what we can get, or we get nothing. We urge our views and press our claims, but when the contract is signed, or the invitation list is sent out, or the payroll is made up, it is a bundle of compromises. We do not wash our hands of the whole affair because our wishes have been in some respects overruled. This is the way with Senator Mitchell. And he is probably quite as likely to get favorable consideration for his amendments as he would be if it were known he stood ready to bolt the caucus every time he couldn't have all he asked for.

THE SOUTH NOT A FINANCIER.

The appointment of Leslie M. Shaw, of Iowa, to the head of the Treasury recalls the fact that the eminent financiers of this country have without a notable exception been men of Northern birth and training. Great jurists, great soldiers and sailors, great scientists, physicians and surgeons, great statesmen and orators the South has not lacked, but the great financiers, the great captains of industry, and even the great inventors, have been children of the North. The South gave us Washington, Scott, Lee and Johnston among soldiers, John Marshall among jurists, Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Clay and Benton among statesmen, and gave us our greatest orator, Patrick Henry. In medicine and science the South gave us Marion Sims, McDowell, Thomas, Sayre, Le Conte, but the great financiers of the country have been of Northern birth and training, save Hamilton and Gallatin, who were of foreign birth. Hamilton's training from his boyhood, however, had been in New York City. All the great Secretaries of the Treasury, Walker, Chase, McCulloch, Sherman, Boutwell, Windom, Folger, Manning, Fairchild and Gage, were Northern-born and bred. Secretary Carlisle was only an able lawyer who for years before his appointment was a champion of silver. It would be easy to show by examples that the great captains of industry and the great mechanical inventors were of Northern training if not always of Northern birth. Further examples of the fertility of the North in men of financial talents could be cited in Martin Van Buren, Silas Wright, Samuel J. Tilden, James G. Blaine, William L. Marcy. The only man of Southern birth and breeding conspicuous for his capacity to think straight in the matter of finance was Lamar, of Mississippi.

We need not go far to seek a reason for the comparative dearth of men of sound business brains at the South. It is due to the same cause that made the South before the war comparatively barren in literary productivity; it was due to the peculiar civilization engendered by slavery. The intellectual men of the South, when they cared for public life, sought distinction in law and politics. Literary taste they had, but they did not often pursue literature as a calling. Poe's literary life was all spent in Philadelphia and New York City; no other Southern man was eminent in the domain of pure American literature. There was no incentive to literary pursuits in the environment of the old slave civilization. Calhoun, Randolph, Hayne, and Southern statesmen generally were lovers of sound literature, men of excellent culture, but law and politics absorbed the Southern intellect in time of peace. It was an agricultural civilization. There were opulent ease and comfort in plantation life; there was no middle class of intelligent white mechanics and small farmers; no busy centers of small manufactures and lively village trade. Out of such an environment as was inseparable from a slave civilization no sustained literary effort could be expected, and out of such an environment no breed of able financiers or captains of industry in the Northern sense could be expected. This was not due to any natural lack of mental versatility or taste in the Southern mind, but it was due to the fact that able men, like Calhoun, were obliged to consider great financial questions like those of the tariff with reference to the antagonistic interests and exigencies of a slave civilization, and men of less ability than Calhoun at the South did not study National questions of purely financial or industrial importance profoundly, because they did not "have to." They were not trained as planters and slavemasters to study questions of money and prices as keenly as did the frugal small traders, farmers and mechanics of New England.

The slave civilization of the South was not nearly as good a training to breed a race of sharp traders, keen bankers and all-around business men as the environment of the North. The difference was clearly manifest in the Civil War. In that great struggle the Southern mind showed itself the equal at least of the Northern brain in everything save its financial administration. In capacity for military or naval operations, in prompt construction of ironclads, in creating gun factories, powder mills, the South exhibited an unsuspected ability and energy. Making due allowance for the privations created by our blockade, the brains exhibited by the South in the Civil War were of the highest quality, with the single exception that their financial management was far worse than even our own, for we had sense enough to impose heavy war taxes and collect them, but the South never imposed adequate war taxes promptly, and what it did impose were collected in a half-hearted way. The South was not so good a man of business as the North, but if it had been the South would have held out at least a year longer than it did, and would probably have worried the North into making peace. With the slave civilization extinct, the South today leads the literature of the generation that followed the war; and with the extinction of the silver craze the South ought to be henceforth a sound man of business.

WEIGHTY FOR NICARAGUA.

A great deal can be said, with perfect truth, against the Nicaragua route and in favor of the Panama route. Roughly speaking, for almost every disadvantage pertaining to the Panama route a compensatory advantage can be adduced for it over the Nicaragua route. Panama is nearer to the West Coast of South America, Nicaragua is nearer for New York and San Francisco. The Nicaragua line is longer, the Panama line is in the belt of calms. Colon, on the Panama route, is exposed to northers, but Greytown, on the Nicaragua route, is a waste of shifting sands. The Bohio dam, on the Panama route, is a gigantic and precarious problem, but the Nicaragua Canal will take longer to build. These things measurably offset each other, but there is one consideration which should greatly weigh in the choice between the two routes, and that is the influence the canal will exert in the Americanization of Central America.

Nobody knows the details of the protocol that has been signed with Nicaragua, but in general it is understood to bind Nicaragua to give the United States jurisdiction over a belt six miles wide along the route of the canal. This Government will not only have the right to construct a canal through this territory, but it will have such control as would go with the absolute cession. The constitution of Nicaragua distinctly prohibits the government from ceding territory, but in lieu of cession the United States is given a perpetual lease with absolute jurisdiction, the establishment of civil and criminal courts, and the police power throughout the zone. A protocol with Costa Rica identical in terms, except in the matter of price, has been in course of negotiation, and that protocol is expected to reach Washington in the near future.

It is impossible to overestimate the effect this occupation will have upon Central America throughout the ten years or more that must elapse before the canal is completed. The Panama Canal must always remain a mere passageway between the oceans. Climate and topography forbid such development of its route as will inure to Central America. It has been a highway of commerce for more than 300 years, and a railroad has been in operation there for nearly fifty years, but, as the Walker Commission says in its report, "this has effected industrial changes of but little consequence."

Nor will the establishment and maintenance of American industries, agricultural, manufacturing and commercial, cease with the canal's completion. Not only would the consumption of United States products be introduced as a permanent practice with the Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans, but considerable colonies of American laborers, engineers, railroad and maritime men, be established along the route of the canal and at its two terminal points. We have a right to expect cities there of some such importance and activity as Suez and Port Said, at the terminals of the Suez Canal. What they are to British commerce, Greytown and Brito will be to American commerce. Port Said was made by the Suez Canal, and has a population of 17,000 people. It is a port of call for Mediterranean steamers, just as Brito will be for Pacific Coast coasting trade and Greytown for Gulf trade. Suez has been transformed from a town of 5000 built of sun-dried bricks into an improved city of 12,000.

Both Nicaragua and Costa Rica already contain numerous Americans, engaged in various industries, such as livestock and coffee-raising. Their ranks will be greatly augmented through the canal and its resultant development. We may look forward, in short, to some such Americanization process in Central America as we have seen in Hawaii. The sovereignty of the United States might never be asked for or needed, for the Americans would control, probably a minority in numbers, but a majority in force and capacity. They would give that troubled region what it has never truly enjoyed—self-government. We cannot afford to turn our backs upon the Americanization of Central America for the barren wastes of Panama.

Moreton Frewen, the British "bimetalist," has come to life again and suggests in a letter from Washington to a New York paper that the cause of the fall is apparently to be found in a reduced demand by governments. Since 1896 Russia has coined 192,000,000 rubles and Spain 324,000,000 pesetas—say 150,000,000 ounces in all. The currency requirements of these two countries terminated with 1900. In the financial year 1900-1901 the government of India purchased the prodigious amount of 51,500,000 ounces of silver and coined 150,000,000 rupees. So that India, having suspended "free coinage," has coined more silver in the twelvemonth than with open mints she usually coined in three years. Mr. Frewen thinks that the demand by Russia and Spain having ceased, and the British India demand having slackened, the price of bullion, and thus the exchange rate with China, has fallen sharply. "This fall," he says, "must be embarrassing the exporters from your Pacific ports to China and Singapore, and, of course, to Mexico also." Mexico's embarrassment is, indeed, a matter of some notoriety. Silver-standard countries can never expect anything else than a fluctuating currency. There is a remedy, which Mr. Frewen, however, has always disparaged, namely, the gold standard. His excursions do not seem to afford much comfort for "bimetalism."

Puget Sound papers, which argue that Portland is not the seat of financial capital for the Pacific Northwest because its National bank statement does not show the largest figures, should remember that Portland, unlike the other cities, has most of its banking capital in private institutions. These do not make public statements of their condition or the extent of their business. Portland has but four National banks. Upon the showing these make, Puget Sound bases its estimate of Portland capital. Portland has nine other banking-houses, however, five of which undoubtedly do more business than the National banks here. The National banks of Portland probably do nearly two-fifths of the banking business of the town. In the other cities the National banks do perhaps four-fifths of the business. Towns which do not hesitate to use National banks, like their clearing-houses, as advertising incidents rather than as business conveniences, should remember that Portland National bank statements by no means show the volume of Portland's banking capital. But some of the very institutions that make such creditable showing for the financial strength of the other cities are largely owned by Portland men and find their strength in Portland, the seat of financial capital for the entire Pacific Northwest.

Within the year just closed, 141 sailing vessels and 50 steamships entered the Columbia from foreign ports. This was an increase of nearly 40 per cent over the business of any year since 1897, and yet the number of bar pilots has been reduced to nine men, compared with ten in 1900 and eleven in 1899. As Portland's shipping interests alone suffer by an insufficient number of pilots at the mouth of the river, some method should be devised for controlling the pilot business from this city. The non-compulsory pilotage law on the river has resulted in improving the service and reducing the cost to the ship. Perhaps a similar change is necessary on the bar. In any event Portland has more at stake in the matter than any other point on the river, and should have the privilege of regulating the service.

Wheat, despite the hammering of the bears and the generally accepted rule that it "always declines right after the turn of the year," is still ruling firm at the best prices of the season, with an excellent prospect for higher prices. The enormous shortage in corn in the Middle West is an important contributing factor to the strength of wheat, but there is also a heavy shortage in coarse grains in Europe. These shortages, together with a universal prosperity which admits of the consumption of wheat among classes who are ordinarily forced to subsist on coarser fare, are now affecting the market, and unfavorable weather for the new season crop will be very sure to result in still higher prices.

And now comes the transportation committee of the Chamber of Commerce regretting the extension of community of ownership among the railroads and attributing to that policy the non-success of the committee in efforts for adjustment of freight rates in Portland's commercial territory. The community policy is losing friends every day. Even among railroad men of high degree the novelty of the new plan has worn off and dissatisfaction is apparent in several quarters. From this cause rather than from court decrees will the gigantic transportation combinations some day go to pieces.

Secretary Root's opposition to Philippine tariff reduction is inexplicable on any other basis than a desire to alienate the islands. He was strong for free trade with Porto Rico, and is red hot now for concessions to Cuba. But he is firm as adamant for exacting from the Philippines the extreme penalties provided for aliens. It may be said, also, that if Mr. Root really wants us to get rid of the islands, he is proceeding in the wisest possible way to bring it about.

The Lodge bill in the Senate and the Cooper bill in the House do well to follow the financial scheme prepared by Mr. Charles A. Conant, of Boston, for the government of the Philippines. Mr. Conant is an indefatigable student and an expert authority in currency matters. His report on the Philippine monetary and fiscal situation is the most noteworthy financial study that has appeared since the book of the Indianapolis Commission.

Delightful as this weather is, it is a little absurd for this latitude. Seventy degrees in the shade is hardly a normal temperature for January, even in Oregon. If fruits and flowers are not unseasonably encouraged by it, all will be well, but continuance of this warm weather will be cause for anxiety.

Railroad men are manifesting much interest in farmers' meetings these days. The farmers will probably return the compliment when the Legislature meets.

Congressmen are rushing to the support of the Panama route. There must be a good deal of margin, then, even in the $40,000,000.

THE NEW YEAR'S OREGONIAN.

Whatcom Reveille.

The Oregonian's New Year edition was a masterly array of marvelous facts, splendid illustrations and stirring historical sketches into a well connected and interesting story. The development of the Northwest from the days of the Lewis and Clark expedition down to the close of 1901 is without a parallel in the history of the world. The Oregon country, as the section bounded on the east by the crest of the Rockies and on the west by the Pacific, was originally called, is a land of wonders. Scenery, climate, native products, mighty rivers, land-locked waters, snow-capped mountains and the luxurious wealth of soil, are factors that are rapidly making the Pacific Northwest the richest portion of the continent. The Oregonian has told of these in a way that will give added interest to this favored land. The perusal of it will create a desire among the people of less delightful places to gain a more intimate knowledge of conditions and opportunities on the North Pacific Coast and in the great Inland Empire.

Shaniko Leader.

The annual number of The Oregonian is one of the best ever published. It is filled with matter of interest to the people of the entire state, and will be productive of much good. No one should be without a copy of this issue and not only keep it for future reference, but send several copies to your Eastern friends and let them know what a great state Oregon is. The Oregonian people have spent time and money towards setting forth Oregon as she is; now let everyone do his part and scatter it broadcast so that the seed furnished by The Oregonian's efforts will take root and bear fruit. We know from experience that getting out these annual numbers is no child's play, and if the people could only realize their vast importance and the immense good they do to every section of the state, every person in Oregon would make an extra effort to see that they were placed in every nook and cranny of the Union.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.

The 64-page New Year's edition of The Oregonian is one of the most comprehensive and best prepared issues that paper has ever published. It is an interesting and accurate write-up of the resources of Oregon, Southern Washington and the Lewiston country, and tells a splendid story of the agricultural, industrial and commercial growth of those sections of the Pacific Northwest. Farming, stock-raising, horticulture, dairying, hopraising, mining and the fisheries are treated at length, and there has never been a better presentation of what this country offers to the homeseeker. A good deal of space is devoted to the interests of Eastern and Western Oregon, and of course there is a complete review of the trade of the City of Portland. The edition is handsomely illustrated and contains much information that will be of great value to people looking toward the Oregon country with a view of settlement.

Harrisburg Bulletin.

The Oregonian, in a transcendent effort, places itself away ahead of any of its former New Year's issues. It treats of the things of paramount importance to the growth and prosperity of our state with a degree of intelligence and unbiased faithfulness that will make it a valuable addition to any library. But passing this single and selfish idea, its mission is intended to acquaint intending homeseekers with what awaits them here, and in its ample and complete showing it is the very best advertising medium that it is possible to employ at this time. And inasmuch as every citizen of Oregon is a direct beneficiary to the pending results of the time, labor and brains expended in this comprehensive work, it is their bounden duty to see to it that it has a wide circulation all through the Eastern States.

Lewiston Tribune.

The annual New Year's edition of The Portland Oregonian for 1902 is exceptional in interest, completeness and importance. In scope it is even broader than usual, and comprises every subject that ought to be valuable to those interested in the Pacific Northwest. Lewiston and the Clearwater country and their industrial projects are ably reviewed by E. H. Libby, of this city, while Idaho as a state is handled by M. S. Parker, of Caldwell. Superior local views accompany the Lewiston article. The Tribune cannot forego a special word of appreciation for The Oregonian's continuous contributions toward the general development, and for its uniform excellence, rendered as it is without the hope of reward except as it may share in a minor way in the general results its service may produce.

Heppner Times.

The 64-page New Year's edition of The Oregonian no doubt eclipses all former efforts and is the best advertisement the state has ever had. From reading these 64 pages of carefully arranged and reliable descriptive matter, the Eastern people can gain an accurate knowledge of what Oregon is as it appears today, and the wonderful opportunities that await the worthy homeseeker. The Oregonian, all are now willing to admit, is the greatest and most ably-edited paper west of the Mississippi River. For typographical perfection none of the renowned journals of the world excel it. All Oregon is justly proud of her great paper.

Eugene Register.

No edition of The Oregonian has ever been issued that has been as valuable to the state and the Pacific Northwest as the big 64-page encyclopedia of facts published New Year's day. The whole edition bristles with the facts about the empire of the West, and will be of untold value in inspiring the whole country with the importance of the Lewis and Clark Centennial and will inspire Eastern people with renewed desire to see the land "where rolls the Oregon," and to become part of our citizenship.

Walla Walla Union.

The New Year's edition of The Portland Oregonian, containing 64 pages, is a gem. It is full of interesting and very valuable information about the Pacific Northwest, and lends much encouragement to the Lewis and Clark Exposition, which The Oregonian is pushing in such an excellent manner. This New Year's edition of The Oregonian reflects great credit upon the management of that great newspaper, its city and its state, and, in fact, the entire Pacific Northwest.

Hillsboro Argus.

The annual number of The Oregonian was this year more replete with information of the Northwest that is of value to readers and of benefit to the section than any number heretofore published. It will bear excellent results in the East, where people are looking for a home in a country where we have climate endurable and soil beyond passing in fertility.

— Der „Morning Oregonian" von Portland hat seine Leser mit einer prächtigen Neujahrs-Ausgabe erfreut. Sie umfaßt volle 64 Seiten des großen Formates; enthält eine ungeheure Fülle statistischen Materials vom Nordwesten und Portland insbesondere. Solche Ausgaben sind für unseren jungen Staat von großem Nutzen.

Ione Post.

The New Year's edition of The Oregonian is a masterpiece—a perfect compendium of facts and figures gotten up in a clear, concise, reliable manner. It covers the whole field. The Oregonian is becoming one of the most potent factors in the upbuilding of our great and glorious country—the Pacific Northwest.

Toledo Leader.

The Oregonian's New Year number is considered by many to be the best ever issued by that great paper. It covers a great deal more territory than its predecessors, and should be of much benefit to the great Pacific Northwest.

AMUSEMENTS.

There is unmistakable evidence this week of Frederick Warde's increasing popularity in Portland. Attendance at the Marquam during the present engagement equals that which was attracted when in former seasons Warde was only one out of three stars in a play. Sheridan Knowles' masterpiece, "Virginius," was the bill last night and served to pack the theater to the doors. Warde never played the name part better and received enthusiastic plaudits, often and generously offered.

Nothing that is new can be said of "Virginius." Few of Shakespeare's plays have a stronger hold upon the American public than has this great work of Knowles. Its plot is so simple that a child understands; its theme is so lofty and yet so lowly that it appeals with irresistible force to men, women and youth in every walk of life, for it tells the story of a brave, strong man's love for his motherless daughter; its dramatic construction is perfect, with a climax that never can be forgotten; its literary quality is so high that it cannot be out of place in a Shakespearean repertoire.

In "Virginius," Warde reaches the acme of his art. It was the first play in which he starred and to it he has given the best that is in him. In physique and temperament, he is perfectly suited to it. Whether in the domestic scenes within his home or facing with righteous indignation the threatened ruin of his own flesh and blood by enthroned power, or in his mental wanderings or his awful act of vengeance, Warde always "suits the action to the word." There is a tenderness in his speech, a majesty in his bearing and a force in his movement, admirable in the highest degree. He is the great Virginius of his day.

Miss Ashton is a very attractive Virginia, beautiful and sympathetic. Miss Virginia Drew Prescott played Servia very well indeed. Her recital of one impassioned speech was capital and brought a round of applause. Mr. Herman played Appius Claudius and Mr. Johnstone Icilius, in excellent fashion. The support throughout was all that could be desired.

Tonight "King Lear," with which the engagement closes.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Big Sale of Seats for "The Burgomaster."

The sale of seats opened yesterday morning for "The Burgomaster," which comes to the Marquam Grand Theater next Friday and Saturday nights, with a special matinee Saturday, and judging from the length of the line in front of the theater the opera will be seen by many of Portland's playgoers.

"The Burgomaster" is one of the most cheering musical comedies of recent years. The company comprises Herbert Cawthorne, Eugene Sandford, Harry de Lorme, George Broderick, Ernest Salvator, Will Peters, Joe Nicol, Andy Lynam, A. J. Murray, Edith Yerrington, Ida Hawley, Madeline Winthrop, Sadie Stockton and many others of equal prominence.

"The Village Parson."

"The Village Parson" will be presented at Cordray's Sunday and all next week. The play is not only a well-constructed plot, but is of human interest throughout. There are many strong situations in the piece. In act first, where husband and wife separate, the scene becomes one of much interest. The situation in act third is another strong scene in which Little Myrtle, the blind child, does some earnest work, and holds the audience with closest attention. The play presents a number of exciting climaxes. "The Village Parson" will be given with complete stage settings, the scenery being brought here by the management. The company includes actors of ability.

Pollard's Juvenile Opera Company.

Commencing next Monday night and continuing for the entire week with matinees Wednesday and Saturday, Pollard's Australian Juvenile Opera Company will be the attraction at the Marquam Grand Theater. The repertoire for the week will be, Monday and Tuesday nights, "The Geisha"; Wednesday matinee, night and Thursday night, "The Gaiety Girl"; Friday night, "In Town"; Saturday matinee and night, the always welcome "La Mascotte." The sale of seats will open tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Cuban Reciprocity.

Boston Herald.

If the statement made to the effect that, since the United States assumed guardianship over Cuba, the Cubans have been buying more freely of European, and less freely of American, products is correct, it deserves the serious consideration of our Nation. If this arose from sentimental feelings, it would clearly be a reproach to us; but we are inclined to hold that there is not much sentiment in trade. The Cubans buy the most freely where they can buy to the best advantage. If we, in our proximity to them and our presumed intimate relations growing out of it, cannot compete with Europeans in their market, it is a stigma upon our practical good sense as a people. The Chicago Tribune proposes that the United States reduce its duties on sugar on condition that Cuba reduces hers on flour, grain and agricultural implements. But what is this but tariff reciprocity? And tariff reciprocity we understand to be tabooed by the majority of Republicans in Congress. Rather than permit it, they would concede to Europe what she is now taking from us—the natural trade advantages of this country.

Bad Morals, Bad Business.

Boston Herald.

Trade follows the hearts of the people who engage in it. We find the hearts of the Philippine people none too well affected toward us without this tariff legislation, more embittered by the fact that it is, on the testimony of our own commission there, framed to operate to their disadvantage. This Philippine tariff is not only wrong; like many other wrong things, it is fatuous also. As a measure of statesmanship in the interest of our Nation, it is altogether mistaken.

Meeting His Just Reward.

St. Paul Globe.

It seems to represent the very irony of fate that Maclay should be spat upon and cast about by those whose dirty work he has done so effectively. Whatever may ultimately become of him, his present experience gives point to the truth that the man who prostitutes his abilities or influence to the accomplishment of the unworthy ends of others has only the contempt of his fellow-men to look forward to for his reward.

Little Brown Hands.

M. H. Krout.

They drive home the cows from the pasture,
Up through the long, shady lane,
Where the quail whistles loud in the wheat fields
That are yellow with ripening grain.
They find in the thick, waving grasses
Where the scarlet-lipped strawberry grows;
They gather the earliest snow-drops
And the first crimson buds of the rose.

They toss the new hay in the meadow;
They gather the elder bloom white;
They find where the dusky grapes purple
In the soft-tinted October light.
They know where the apples hang ripest,
And are sweeter than Italy's wines;
They know where the fruit hangs the thickest
On the long, thorny blackberry vines.

They gather the delicate sea weeds,
And build tiny castles of sand;
They pick up the beautiful sea shells—
Fairy barks that have drifted to land.
They wave from the tall, rocking tree-tops,
Where the oriole's hammock-nest swings;
And at night time are folded in slumber
By a song that a fond mother sings.

Those who toil bravely are strongest;
The humble and poor become great;
And so from these brown-handed children
Shall grow mighty rulers of state.
The pen of the author and statesman—
The noble and wise of the land—
The sword and the chisel, and palette
Shall be held in the little brown hand.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

As yet North Front street is navigable only by light-draught vessels.

Alfred Austin seems to like Americans. Perhaps he believes in reciprocity.

Eighty thousand lobsters have been caught in Maine, but there are others.

The Chicago reporter who shot two highwaymen certainly knew how to run down a good story.

The new President of Cuba says his country has had enough of politics. She hasn't had any yet.

Secretary Shaw was born in a log cabin, and yet a Cabinet position is the highest honor he has attained.

Admiral Dewey has gone to Florida. Other naval officers find it hot enough for them in Washington.

Officers of the railroad are now to go before a court of inquiry. Of course, they will all emerge as heroes.

The keen-eyed Chinamen can now discern only a "no-help-wanted" sign when he looks toward America.

King Edward has been asked to settle disputes in South America, but thus far South Africa has not seen fit to call for his good offices.

San Francisco's schools are going to be in charge of a professional musician. The pupils will now have reason to expect less working and more playing.

The prophecy of a college professor that Americans will become Indians has been fulfilled in some cases which have come under our observation.

With Vanderbilt and Belmont running for Congress, a poor voter ought to be able to quench his thirst now and then without getting set back the customary 5 cents.

Wu Ting Fang remains in this country, although rumors of his recall have been current for a long time. Perhaps the wily old boy has cut the wires that lead to the Chinese Embassy.

The following advertisement recently appeared in a London paper.

Milk.—If the individual who stole the milk off my doorstep this morning will be good enough to knock at the door on the occasion of his next professional visit, I'll give him a drop of rum to put in it. Milk taken neat on cold mornings and an empty stomach is likely to injure the internal economy of outdoor workers. Address, etc.

"I tell you," says a Kansas boy who has been serving in the Philippines, "there is no country like America when one has been in an uncivilized country for 2½ years and then plunges right into New York City. I don't believe in hollering and yelling the way the majority of soldiers do, but when I was sailing up New York Harbor and passed the statue of Liberty I threw my hat in the air and yelled until I was hoarse."

Adelina Patti, aged 57, and not a bit afraid to say how old she is, gave her annual concert in Albert Hall, London, not long ago, and was greeted by a crowded house. The wonderful little woman does not look a day over 45, and was in splendid voice, though, of course, nearly everything she sings nowadays is sung in lower keys than in days of yore. It is over 40 years since she made her first real debut in Covent Garden Theater, London, and the critics say her rendition of the jewel song from "Faust" was as near perfection as it was over a generation ago, when she sang Marguerite to Mario's Faust.

The dispersal of the religious orders in Paris has been followed by the appearance of a large number of religious books in the boxes of the dealers on the Quai d'Orsay. Here they jostle with Voltaire under the shadow of his statue and with ditties of the "cafe concert." These books principally come from the Carmelites' library, in the Rue de Vaugirard, which was dispersed two months ago, when the order turned its back upon France at the bidding of an inhospitable law. Some of the books are very old, dating back 200 or 300 years. The signatures of their pious owners are pale and rusty on pages that have turned yellow with age.

"I was killing time in Los Angeles the other day," said the drummer, "and an English friend of mine took me in tow and pulled me out to the golf links, where some kind of a tournament was doing. I watched the game for a while, and couldn't see much but a lot of men and girls with bicycle suits and canes pulling off a go-as-you-please walking-match, when all of a sudden a dub in a pair of pink pantaloons slugged out with his cane and my friend began to cheer to beat a bleecherite.

"'Here,' I says, 'there's nothing to root about, as far as I can see. Put me next.'

"He turned on me with a look of withering scorn. 'Why, blawst it,' he says, 'he foozled his putt, bunkered from tee, but still cinched the bogie on the hole.'

"'Oh,' I says, 'why didn't you tell me before?' and, throwing my hat in the air, I yelled as loud as anybody. I was perfectly willing to be in the game, but I wanted to know where my chips were."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

At Last.—"I see that Wagson is going to get married." "I'm glad he has found a way to support himself."—Detroit Free Press.

An Employer.—Smith—Has Brown any capital? Jones—No. But he gives employment to a great many men. Smith—What do they do? Jones—Try to collect money due his creditors.—Chicago Daily News.

Harriet—Have you read the magazine, Charles? Charles—Everything but the matter that's inserted between the front and back advertising pages; but I guess I've got the cream of the number.—Boston Transcript.

The Beginning.—Briggs—It won't be long now before the United States will have to act as peacemaker for those South American republics. Griggs—Well, we never shall own them unless we make a beginning some time.—Life.

Harry—Now, what would you say, Uncle George, as to the right course to escape poverty? Uncle George—When you have got enough money together to purchase and support a yacht, don't buy it.—Boston Evening Transcript.

Kind Old Man.—Ascum—What did that rich old uncle of yours give you for Christmas? Something useful, I'll bet. Hauskeep—Yes, a little device for saving coal bills. Ascum—Ah! An arrangement to attach to the heater. Hauskeep—No; to keep on my desk. It's a bill file.—Philadelphia Press.

Delicate Consideration.—Mother (just before Christmas)—Why did you jump and run when your father came in? Daughter—I had a lap full of Christmas presents. Mother—But they are not for him. Daughter—No; but I wanted him to have the pleasure of thinking they were.—New York Weekly.

The Remnant Stage.—Manager—We are getting up a series of last-act performances for suburbanites who have to catch trains and have never seen these last acts. Suburbanite—How kind! But, say! Why don't you get up a series of first-act performances for city folk who come in late and never see the first act?—Puck.

A Patriotic Boast.—"There is one thing to be said in favor of our style of government," said the South American dictator. "What is that?" "It promotes veracity. When some one starts a rumor that a high official is going to relinquish office, you can pretty near depend on its coming true."—Washington Star.