THE MORNING OREGONIAN, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1902.

The Oregonian.

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

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.	
By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance-	
Daily, with Sunday, per month	85
Daily, Sunday excepted, per year 7	20
Dally, with Sunday, per year	00
Sunday, per year	399
The Wockly, per year 1	20
The Weekly, 3 months	50
To City Subaritaria-	
The state of the s	17

Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted 15 Daily, per week delivered Sondays included 20 POSTAGE RATES.

d States, Canada and Maxico: 10 to 14-page paper

to 28-page paper Foreign rates double. News or discussion intended for publication in The Orogonian should be addressed invaria bly "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual. Letters relating to adver-tising, subscriptions or to any business matter should be affiressed simply "The Oregonian." The Oregonian raphy? The Oregonian does not buy portes or starter from individuals, and cannot undertake to renumeriph sent to it without solici-stamps should be inclosed for this turn any m purpose

Eastern Business Office, 47, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49 Tribune buildin building, New York City; 469 "The ," Chicage: the S. C. Beckwith special agency, Eastern many entative

For sale in San Francisco by L. E. Los, Palace Hotel news stand; Goldemith Bros., 236 Sutter street; F. W. Fitts, 1008 Market street; J. K. Cooper Co., 740 Market street, near the Palace Hotel; Foster & Orosr, Ferry news ith Bros., 239 stand.

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Co., 77 W. Second South street. For sale in Option by W. C. Kind, 204 Twen-ty-fifth street, and C. H. Myers.

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For sale in Denver, Colo., by Hamilton & Kendrick, 500-912 Seventeenih street; Loutha enkson Blook & Stationery Co., 15th and more structs. 5 Janks

TODAT'S WEATHER-Showers. South to

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum ten minimum temperature, 42; prepersture, 49 cipitation, 1.42 inches.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

LIBEL SUITS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

It is the experience of the responsible newspapers of the country that the common expedient of those whose wrong-doing is exposed by the press is the libel suit. It is seldom that The Oregonian has been exempt from these infestations. But, beyond some annoyance, slight and temporary, they are nothing; for, though libe; suits in countless numbers have been brought against The Oregonian in no case, during its long career, has judgment ever been Local railroad officials had their hands given against it. Of the suit brought by County Commissioner Mack, The Oregonian will say nothing now beyond the statement that, of all the complaints ever filed against it, this one is the most ridiculous. The man who transnets public busicess in the way that Mr. Mack has been shown to transact it, is clearly wanting in moral intelliconce: but it is a little surprising to find him so stupid in his treatment of the consequences,

The experience of the press is that the people are always disposed to stand has been a sufferer from its unprosperby the newspaper that does its duty to them. Without the aid of the press, jey has been entered upon, there is great there can be no proper participation of hope of advancement for this very rich the people in affairs of their govern- region. for they will have no sufficient information upon which to act. It is faith in the country to invest money in the business of the press to be vigilant. in ascertainment and publication of all That the Harriman syndicate has this facts that relate to the action of public

administers a cut-and-dried "system," and who is but nominally responsible to the School Board? What is this that we hear on every hand of men securely entrenched in position, who rule intelligent, hardworking teachers by the uplifted rod of dismissal if they dare to open their mouths in protest or pertinent inquiry? The stiffed breath of scandal; the cruel

stab of injustice borne in enforced silence; the strenuous effort to bend everything to meet the demands of the "system"-la it any wonder that under such conditions, the public schools are not character-builders: that many pupils complete the course of studies prescribed, and at the end are unable to pass a creditable examination in spelling, arithmetic, grammar and geog-

done away with altogether, and not one penny should be put up for the Truly, "a stream cannot rise higher political scavengers who go to Salem than its source." And if, as asserted every two years for the alleged purby the correspondent who had a hearpose of checking legislation which ing Sunday, no effort is made in the might be detrimental to the pliots. public schools under the present man-Perhaps if the pilots could be assured agement to inculcate self-respect, truththat they were to keep all of the money

bar.

NEARING THE END.

But there will probably be some

will be difficult to get rid wholly

point of exhaustion.

war.

fulness, honor and pride of character in they earn in their dangerous calling pupils, it is high time that new methods they would have less objection to adof instruction under new managers mitting a few more workers, and cutwere inaugurated. If this arrangement ting off some of the bloodsuckers. is a just one, have we not under the name of education, too long paid tithes of mint and anise and cummin and It is evident that the British are gradneglected the weightier matters of the ually wearing Boer resistance out. Deiaw? It is for the School Board to conpletion of the Boer forces compels them sider these questions, and, in the light to act in smaller bodies; the blockof facts that, in the very nature of house system commands all the railthings, must be in the possession of at

roads; concentration, subsistence and east a majority of the members of that movement of such forces as the Boers body, to make answer by its official Fir Dearborn street. For sale in Omnha by Barkalow Bros. 1612 acts that will at once prove its courage still hold together are daily becoming more difficult. The whole affair may its discernment and its devotion to pubnot terminate at once, but it will be over before the end of the present year. From all indications, it becomes quite

IMPROVEMENT FOR WESTERN OREGON.

Even the old Oregon & California, which has so long been regarded as a third-rate railroad property, an absorbent of good money earned else-where, and a refuge for antiquated rollng stock of all descriptions-even this xponent of mossbackism in railroads is beginning to "take notice" and to catch on to the spirit of progress that has made other lines popular and profitable. The announcement comes that it is to indulge in new steel bridges, to do away with great numbers of mountain trestles, and to lay many miles of heavy steel rails. These improvements. it is understood, are preliminary to heavier and more efficient rolling stock and a general elevation of the physical condition of the property to the level of the best modern standards. This is good news for Oregon-the best railroad news it has had in many a day.

tem will be established than the country ever has known, and after the Western Oregon has suffered for want waste of war shall have been repaired of up-to-date railroad accommodations a high degree of prosperity will follow. All it could do was to grumble and feel The Boers have made a stubborn, rather hostile to the railroad as an institution. than an intelligent, fight; but their courage and constancy are qualities of tied by the powers in New York and high order, worth the admiration of the San Francisco. This was not in any world. sense a transcontinental line, and it suffered the fortunes of a feeder that would not stand alone. It had to get A NAVAL POWER BY NECESSITY. along with the least possible expense Last year, while the United States Interest on its bonds alone took \$964,550 launched only two battle-ships of the a year, which was more than the road first class, two coast defense monitors ever earned above Its operating exand a number of torpedo-boats, Great penses. Under the policy that has been Britain launched thirty-two ships of pursued, a floating debt of about \$6,500,war. The English navy today exceeds 000 has been incurred by the lessee to the combined French and Russian keep the thing going. Western Oregon fleets, but England needs additional ous railroads, and now that another polity, for France, which ranks next to

of their fleets at an enormous cost. The Of course, it requires courage and British theory of naval administration is that the navy of England should improvements under these conditions. equal the combined navles of any two other powers. Next to Russia in prescourage and faith in Orego ent strength it would be difficult to de for rejoicing. It is no work of charity, cide between the United States and Gerhowever. This is the means taken to many, for, while the United States has reduce operating expenses, to bring bet 17 battle-ships built or building, against ter economy into the affairs of the rafl. Germany's 14 battle-ships, Germany has road, to getja broad-gauge business pol-26 second-class battle-ships. On the icy installed. The new policy of the whole the United States Navy, meastraffic department may be trusted to ured by its seagoing efficiency and thoropen the country and get it to producough equipment, is probably equal to ing greater tonnage for transportation that of Germany. to market. Western Oregon has settled If this estimate be correct, the Nav, deep into a rut, and it is no dream of a of the United States ranks at least midsummer night to get it out; but fourth, to which rank it has advanced the agencies by which this will be acduring the last ten years from a complished are coming, and the people twelfth-rate naval power. Our cruisers will have every encouragement to enterin speed and efficiency far surpass those prise and broad development. A new of the German Navy, and in the matter era is opening, and the wise will not of armored cruisers of the type of th hesitate to take advantage of it. The New York and Brooklyn we have as state has long desired this opportunity. good ships as there are in the world. England remains today what she has

more pliots would cut down the remufallen into English hands. England is neration of those already on the bar at Aden, at Zanzibar, at St. Helena, at to a point where the best men would be Cape Town, at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, at Bombay, at Ceylon, at Singaforced to retire are too ridiculous to be given serious consideration. An inpore, in Australia, in the islands of the crease of six pllots in the number now Pacific, at the Falkland Islands at the employed would still admit of yearly extremity of South America; England earnings of nearly \$2500 each, and that holds naval stations in the West Infigure is sufficient attractive to keep dies, holds the Bahamas and the Bersome pretty good men at work on the mudas, so that there is a great circle of naval stations from Hallfax to St. Kitts

With an increased number of pilots, and Jamaica. England has accomhowever, it would be necessary that the plished all this not because she is a pllots retain all of the money that they born sallor or descended from a seaearn. There should be no compulsory faring race, for the Saxons were an inland tribe, but because she is a born presents of costly diamonds to the wives of politicians. The annual contribution trader and man of business, and was to political sacks should be reduced quick to perceive that in order safely to from thousands to hundreds, or even extend her trade and protect it she must perforce become the greatest naval power of the globe. Great Britain has become a great naval power from the pressure of business necessity, and it is not unlikely that the United States will slowly but steadily become a great naval power for the same reason.

Our trade is extending by leaps and bounds into foreign markets. We cannot avoid, if we would, collision some day with some of the great powers of the world in a trade quarrel, and the only way we can make our strength felt will be through a powerful Navy. We cannot hope to transport great armies of invasion across the seas; we shall be obliged to do as England has done-fill every great commercial sea with our battle-ships to protect our commercial interests and uphold our flag. All this will not come at once, but some day we are sure to become a great naval power.

The association recently formed in this city for the promotion of outdoor

art, public beauty and civic improve clear that the Boers are nearing the ment, is worthy the encouragement and co-operation of our citizens. It is very appropriately named the "Lewis and rotiation at last, as a means of com-Clark Civic Improvement Association," pleting the pacification. Otherwise it and upon the success of its efforts along lines designated, and of the progress of guerrilla bands. No one imagines that the campaign of education that it proindependence will ever be conceded to the Boers. That has been impossible poses to inaugurate in the interest of thrift, beauty and cleanliness, the apfrom the first; and after the sacrifices pearance of Portland at the Lewis and Great Britain has made with progress Clark Centennial Exposition will in a of her forces and exhaustion of the large measure depend. Nature has been resources of the Boers, no body of pubexceedingly generous to Portland. "Of lie opinion in the British Empire would pleasure situate in hill and dale," river, entertain the idea. But the British will grant local self-government, for the mountain view and location, it is opulent. To cultivate, improve and care whole of South Africa, as soon as all for this heritage, so that it will be at registance shall cease; and there will its best and look its best all the time, is be general amnesty, except in a few a duty which will develop into a pleasnotorious cases, where atroclous acts ure as the work is taken up in detail have been committed, under guise of and carried forward. Under British rule a more liberal sys

The appointment of Mr. Arrasmith as Washington State Grain Inspector will give that useless office more standing in both the business and farming community than it has ever had. The fact that, out of the millions of bushels of wheat exported from Washington, not

a single bushel is sold in the foreign markets on the State Inspector's grading, is conclusive evidence that the office is superfluous, and a tax on the farmers, for which they receive nothing in return. As it is the wheatgrower alone who foots the bills, however, it is eminently proper that the beneficiary

should be one of their own number in stead of a cheap politician." With Mr. Arrasmith it was a case of the office seeking the man, and the Legislature which next takes up the task of abolonstruction to maintain her superiorishing this fifth wheel on the state wagon will not find the new appointed England, and Russia, which ranks next at Olympia lobbying to hold his job. o France, are pushing on the increas The Republican State Committee rec

mmends that the primary elections be held March 22. That day, probably, will be adopted. All persons who desire to participate in the primaries, which, un der the new law, virtually will be the election, should register before March 22. And since there will surely be a rush towards the last days, better register now. For the first time, the primaries are to be held under all the regulations of law provided for a general election. Every one who desires can cast his vote and indicate his choic for candidates, with assurance that his vote will be counted. But registration is the first requirement. Every voter should register before primary day, and there isn't too much time. The new tax law deals openly, fairly and in a businesslike way with taxpayers. The rebate of 3 per cent allowed for the payment of the amount of each individual tax within 30 days from the date of the opening of the tax roll is an been for more than 200 years, the misordinary business procedure, which tress of the seas, not only through her should make the Sheriff's office a busy navy, but through her vast merchant place between now and the 15th of marine. The growth of England as a March. Let taxpayers do their part naval power is not wholly due to the to simplify the complex tax system unfact that her insular situation made the der which they have so long chafed by people naturally a race of fishermen. making prompt payment, taking care coasters and smugglers. England was to file their receipts away carefully. not a naval power of formidable thus reducing taxes to their lowest strength when Genoa, Venice, Spain terms, and making lighter a burden and Portugal were enterprising naviwhich cannot by any possibility be cast The off.

TRUE POLITICAL EXPEDIENCY.

Chicago Tribune A number of objections have been openly nade to the proposition to reduce the dudes on Cuban sugar and tobacco. It has been alleged that enough has been done for the Cubans; that they are not really in such distress as to need aid; that if the sugar and tobacco duties are lowered two domestic industries will be injured; and that if the duty on sugar should be reduced the sugar trust will get all the good of it and the Cubans none,

These objections have all been answered fully. Some have been answered by the men who raise them. The individuals who ter, Mr. Morton writes to Mr. Mylton, St say now that the beet sugar industry will good care of his "Baby Madge, the letter arrives at the Mylton be destroyed by a concession to the Cu ban sugar planters are on record as hav-Cuing explained with great minuteness two years ago why that industry could not be harmed by the free admission of Cuban sugar. As regards the objection that the Cubans are quite well off and need no as-sistance, it is disposed of by the state-ments of Governor-General Wood and of the President-elect of Cuba, The latter has just mid: "It will be impossible for me or any one else to establish a strong and stable government in Cuba tariff concessions are made to us by the United States."

There is another objection which is being whispered in the cars of Republican Congressmen by associates who, for whatever reason, are unwilling to assist the Cubans. It is that it will not be politically expedient to touch these sugar and tobacco duties; that to do so will "hurt the party"; that it will involve the loss of votes in beet sugar and tobacco districts, and may mean the loss of the control of the House of Representatives. Where a question involves a moral issue complications ensue. Mylton's michovi young men friends tell Gladys about as this Cuban question does it is poll! ally expedient to be on the right side of that issue. It cannot be politically expedient for a party to refuse to do what honor and justice demand shall be done. To stick to the right is the highest expeinced. The diency. To deny to the Cubans that which a decent regard for the moral obligations of the republic demands shall be given tends the arrival of the baby's toys and them would be to shock the sense of jus tice of the American people. It never can be expedient for a party to do that. hiding the infant, to cover up her crime. Young Mylton nids Abigail in her comedy.

The Representatives of districts in which beet sugar is made or tobacco raised ought not to be stampeded by these hints raised that by doing a shameful wrong-by dis honoring their country-they will save honoring their country-they will save themselves and their party from defeat These Representatives will invite and will serve defeat if they listen to the cow ardly counsels which are being given

For every voter whom the gift of more favorable duties to the Cubans may turn against the Republican party there are a hundred who will be turned against the refusal of its Representatives in Con gress to deal fairly, justly and honorably by these Cubans, whose distress is gen-uine and great. Congressmen who assume that their constituents are indiff-erent to the moral aspects of questions which may come before Congress are deceived. These constituents are not so much interested in American beet sugar as they are in the maintenance of the hopor of their country, on which these men who are whispering of "political expediency" would put an ineffaceable stain.

AN EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM.

The Church College in Competition With the State College.

PORTLAND, Feb. 9.-(To the Editor. -As higher education is under strenuous consideration in Oregon, it may not be out of place to ask whether the matter of colleges and their maintenance in our state have not, within the last 20 years or so, materially shifted. There was time when the church school afforde the only opportunity for those who sought the advantages of a college course, but now that the state has taken up the matter of higher education by establishing and maintaining a number of excellent institutions thoroughly equipped in every way for the training of men and women in all the vocations of life, excepting pos-sibly that of theology, is it necessary or ossible, longer to sustain at Portland, salem, Newberg, Forest Grove, Lebanon, McMinnville, Dallas, Jacksonville, Philomath and Pendleton, schools by private contributions laid upon the altar of de-ing an entire show of topliners. The Pa-

NOTE AND COMMENT.

AMUSEMENTS.

fun-maker in her slatternly make-up

Cordray's Theater was crowded last

Today's weather-Assorted.

night at the first presentation of Mark Swan's roaring farce, "Whose Haby Are You?" Miss May Vokes was the principal Marconi is keeping quiet. Is he courting another girl?

Why not build a canal across Chill, the Abigail, the janitor's daughter, and haugh ter proceeded at the rate of about a laugh a minute, with little ones thrown in be-Andce and Brazil?

tween. The farce begins when Madke Morton, who is a blashing maiden of 15, finds that she is sent by her father to the watchful care of an old friend, Walter It is understood that there is some little political talk around town.

It is hard to see the point of a tack Mylton, Sr. In his anxiety to warn his old friend of the arrival of his only daughwhen you are at the butt of it.

We might as well make "The Wacht am asking him for old-times' sake to take good care of his "Baby Madge." When Rhein" the national anthem and be done with it.

is opened by mistake by Walter Mylton, Jr. (C. W. Bowser), who reads the con-tents to three wild chams of his. The Kipling hasn't written any poetry lately, and John Buil is beginning to have latter are puzzled at the idea of Mr. Morrelapse of chestiness. ton sending his baby daughter to the care of young Mylton, who is an artist and

Thirteen persons were killed in a Panlives in the hope of inheriting his uncle's ma church Saturday. Now can anyone wealth some day. But the young men are determined not to show the white my that 13 is not an unlucky number?

feather, even at the prospect of the ar-rival of a baby in their midst, and they buy up the contents of various stores in The Kaiser is making a fight against Mary Baker G. Eddy. When autocrat meets autocrat there is going to be their anxiety to furnish the baby with the fatest toy dogs, cats and rattles, to say trouble.

A German Baron and Baroness, played Prince' Henry's special train will have effectively by Mr. Fred Runnells and Miss Cora Macy, arrive at young MyRon's to car for newspaper correspondents. But then, it must be remembered that he studio, with their baby reposing in a baby is not running for any office, coach, and young Mylton rashly agrees to watch the baby while the Baroness goes

It is announced that the Boers were out. The artist's model and sweetheart, Gladys Penfield, prettily taken by Miss Rose Tapley, finds out about the arrival taken by surprise and defeated. But It is natural for them to be surprised when of the mysterious baby in the studio, and they happen to lose a battle.

A canvassing committee has a field in-Walter's many shortcomings, one of them being the arrival of the baby at the house, chuding newspapers, reporters and feed stores. Why were threshing machines and Gladys listens, woman-like, half conand camelopards discriminated against?

janitor's daughter, Abigail, superin There are still a few sections of New York which have not fallen victim to the clothes, and adds to the general mix-up that ensues by feeding the Baron's baby seemingly general belief that gunpowder and dynamite can be treated like railroad with ice cream and lobster, and then baggage.

President Roosevelt will not allow Colnel Roosevelt to be brevetted for galantry. This jealousy of the reputation In the midst of plot and counter-plot, the real "Baby Madge," Miss Madge Morof a brave officer is certainly an unworthy trait.

ton, a part eleverly taken by Miss Ger-trude Liddy, arrives, and she takes up her The New York statute against prizeresidence in the artist's studio, under the impression that she is being entertained at the home of Mr. Mylton, Sr., who is fighting was passed by the Legislature on the express recommendation of Governor Roosevelt in his annual message of 1900, and the bill was approved by him as Governor. In his message Governor Roosevelt said: "Athletic sports are excellent when treated as what they should he, that is, as healthy pastimes; they become harmful if indulged in to excess, and if their importance in relation to the

erious work of life is misestimated; and mer still more harmful when twisted into adjuncts of brutality or gambling."

> A monument has been erected at the old Pawnee Indian village near the town of Courtland, Kan., to the memory of Captain Zebulon Montgomery Pike, U. S. A., who, at that place on September 29, 1806, pulled down a Spanish flag and raised the Stars and Stripes. It was the first time and place the then new National flag had been raised west of the Mississippi. From the place in Kansas where the monument has now been dediented, Pike went west along the Arkansas River, and camped near the springs now known as Manitou, at the base of the great peak which bears and perpetuates his name. The land for the monument site was given by Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, and the Legislature appropriated the money for the monument. The man thus onored, the soldier-explorer, Pike, was killed in 1812 in the attack on Toronto

(then York) by the explosion of the magazine of the captured fort.

On the railroad running between Buf.

the same way, Manager Baker is evidentfalo and Olcott, N. Y., an electric locomotive has been in operation handling over freight cars for three years. It has

absent at the time she calls. Hearing that a baby is missing at the Mylton nouse, the artist's men friends thought fully send three real babies on the scene and at the end of the second act the bables, dressed in white and looking like sweet little cherubs, arrive in their nurses' In the third act Madge Morton kindly makes known her identity and the mys tery lessens, and saves the artist's met friends the pain of pretending that they

suffer from lunacy, with regard to the baby act. Then the pretty model bolleves that her Walter is faithless and she considerately fails in love with one of his friends, who returns her affection. Nothing daunted, Walter consoles himself with Madge Morton. Then Abigail does a vigbrous dance, which nearly brings down the gallery.

and lodges the infant in his private room

to keep its identity hidden from his beau-tiful model, fearing possible complications

The fun in the farce is infectious, "Whose Baby Are You?" will be the attraction at Cordray's this week, and it is worth seeing. VAUDEVILLE AT THE BAKER.

Splendid Programme Pleases Two Large Houses.

from Omaha to San Francisco and

na Ladies' Quartet, which he

That the season of polite vaudeville at the Baker has caught the public fancy was evidenced by the two large houses at yesterday's performances. The bill is attractive beyond the usual vaudeville pr gramme in theaters on the regular cl cuit, and when the fact is considered that It is necessary to bring the artists 800 miles off the established routes of vaudeville performers, who make the jumy

officials. The Oregonian recently has discovered and reported certain transactions that the people had a right to know. It believes, and the people generally believe, that there are many more of similar kind. Indeed, the question lies on the public mind whether transactions of this nature do not run through a very great proportion of the ness of the county

This sort of men, this sort of dealing, is the natural fruit of the system of politics that has grown up among us. It organizes itself into a machine, and, through the methods its employs, based on the influence secured to it by control of the public treasury, it seeks to perpetuate its power. It often succeeds in sheltering itself for a time under some great question of National import, as the Spanish War and its consequences, or the necessity of sinking everything else in the contest for maintenance of the integrity of the monetary system State of Washington have announced of the country; but a time comes when their intention of issuing licenses to as at last it is to be called to account. If this is not the situation the present year, The Oregonian makes a great mistake in his diagnosis and fore-ast. The people want sound administration at schooner will undoubtedly be in service home and creditable, efficient representation at Washington. To these results they are entitled. To say they cannot be attained is to proclaim the hopeleseness of popular government,

WHAT IS THIS THAT WE HEAR!

per cent paid the tugboats for towing The communication published in The the schooner, carrying the pilots back Sunday Oregonian over the signature, and forth, and supplying them with "A. B.," on "Character in Education," meals, the net earnings would probably indicates plainly, not only that some amount to \$35,000, an average of \$4600 thing is the matter with our system of each. This is a greater yearly stipend than has ever before been paid bar pilots, and, despite the fact that the education as carried on in the publischools of this city, but it points with equal plainness to what that something calling in unpleasant and dangerous, it Is it possible, in this age of inquiry is in excess of the figure at which plenty and development, that a large corps of of good pilots can be secured. The net intelligent teachers are held under the earnings last year were sufficient to inflexible rule of the "system," by the maintain two schooners on the bar and alternative of dismissal from service, still leave over \$2500 per month to be strictly to the dry routine of pages to divided among a force of fifteen pilots. be covered in daily recitation, with the If the Washington Commissioners will view simply to the protoction of pupils provide the extra half-dozen pilots, for to the next grade? Again, is it possible which there is ample remuneration in that in the early part of the Spanish the business, a schooner can be secured War, when we were making history to work in harmony with the Oregon rapidly, and National geographical schooner. The O. R. & N. Co. has oflines were shifting, a teacher was fered to carry Washington pilots on the warned in effect to stick to the texttugs on the same terms as the Oregon books and fail not therein at her peril; pilots are now carried. This neuor that, when she found pupils in her trai attitude of the company would grade very deficient in the first prinforce the Oregon pilots to work in ciples of grammar and arithmetic, she harmony with the Washington plwas further warned by a friendly colots, and an understanding between laborer, who had long been in the har- them would soon be reached by which ness, saying, "Don't take time for re- the two schooners could be kept on staview; you have a certain number of tions far enough apart to render it expages to teach for examination; if you tremely improbable that a ship could take time for other work you will fail come up toward the bar and miss both on your pages"; or that this advice of them. The schooner Pulitzer, which she would have been compelled to fol- is nominally the Washington pilot low had she continued to hold a teachschooner, is at present controlled by er's position in the public schools unthe Oregon pilots, who own the greater der the principal by whom her work part of the vessel. She has for a num-was then supervised, and who, as she ber of years been operated in place of mays, has since been promoted to a the Oregon schooner San Jose, which is larger school? And is there not a not very well adapted to the work. plain hint at the tyranny under which This would necessitate the commissionteachers supervised by at least one ing of another schooner by the Washprincipal work in the timid plea follow- ington Pilot Commissioners, and the ing this friendly counsel: "Don't say business of the river certainly warrants that I advised you"? Are the suborsuch an increase in facilities for handling shipping. dinate teachers, then, the puppets of the principals, who are in turn the puppets The fears expressed by the Oregon

PILOT REFORM PROBABLE.

The new Pilot Commissioners for the many competent men as are needed to maintain a good pilot service at the mouth of the river. If they follow out this' determination, a second pilot off the mouth of the river before another busy shipping season sets in. The fees gutors and daring sea fighters. collected last year by the nine pilots who at present have a monopoly of the business amounted to approximately \$45,990. After deducting the cost of maintaining the schooner, and the 10

great discoverers, Columbus, Magellan, Vasco da Gama, Cartler, Champlain, were none of them English navigators. Public danger from Spain forced Elizabeth to organize a respectable navy, but when that danger was over the English navy under James, who suc ceeded Elizabeth, sank into a decline Public danger under Cromwell made the English navy the first in Europe, but under spiritless Charles II the English navy lost its supremacy to the Dutch. Public danger under warlike William III again restored England to the dignity of a first-class naval power, and from 1692 England has been the first naval power of the world. It was England's navy, not England's armies, that really crushed Napoleon by absolutely wiping out France as a naval power as early as October, 1805, so that from this time forward until Waterloo Napoleon was without a navy. Pressure of necessity to protect her world-encircling trade and to repel invasion made England the supreme naval power of the globe. England became a great fighting seaman because she was statesman enough to see that only by supremacy on the water could she make up for incapacity numerically to equal the trained armies of Continental Europe. There is no more reason why England should be mistress of the seas than France, save that England was the first to appreciate the vital importance of a great navy to a great commercial nation. France has a great coast line full of

splendid harbors on the Atlantic and Mediterranean. She has a fine seafaring population, but the French mind, which has displayed so much genius for war on land, never seemed to be equal to construction and support of a great navy. It seems singular today that none of the great captains of Louis XIV appreciated the necessity of France becoming at least the mistress of the Mediterranean from Gibraltar to Alexan-

dria. England was allowed to wrest Gibraltar from Spain, and since that of a higher authority that arbitrarily Commissioners that the addition of date Malta, Cyprus and Suez have last days, if you don't register now.

The illness of the President's son is to be regretted, first, of course, because it threatens the life of a promising lad, and then on account of its wider significance in view of close oming events of National and even of international importance. The trip to Charleston has already been given up, to the extreme disappointment of the managers of the fair, both the President and his wife going to their son's bedside at Groton, Mass., instead. It is hoped that the danger will have been safely passed and the lad will be well on the road to recovery before the Hohenzellern drops anchor off Sandy Hook.

A majority of the stock subscribed for the Lewis and Clark celebration must be represented at the meeting called for Wednesday, or no business can be transacted. Therefore, those who will not be present at Wednesday's meeting Washington street in ample time for use at the coming meeting, when changes in the by-laws will be proposed and authority asked to increase the capital stock of the corporation from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

They say that Mr. Mack bases his claim for \$50,000 damages on the loss of his expectation of being Sheriff. Recent disclosures have withered his hopes in that direction; cut of which, following the linoleum precedent, he reasonably expected a graft of \$50,000.

The action of the German Govern ment against "Eddyism" will tend to make a martyr of a very cheap subject. Better let it alone, since it is of the stuff that thrives on free advertising.

Only one-fourth of the vote of the city and county is registered thus far. You will get left in the crush of the And, in short, it seems to me Sounds and letters disagree.

ninational pride When no other means of securing an education existed, the church did well in from last week, has made a decided hit, and last night received an ovation from providing a way, but does that necessity exist now? With a multiplicity of church old friends and new ones made on the spot. The Volkyra family, equilibrists were newcomers, and presented a splen. schools, most of them struggling against inadequate quarters, scanty appliances and less than half-paid teachers, wholly unable under the circumstances to do the did act of difficult balancing. There is a refreshing newness to the feats which makes it go big. Weston and Herbert, work required, is it not simply sentiment struggling against utility? It is perfectly natural for Christians to prefer for their children schools of their own church, just as the Roman Catholic pleads for his parochial school, a plea which the Protestant refuses to hear, forcing the former to support two schools, one by taxation and the other by private giving. plea, which the solo, and then to show some of the other

ficult club-swinging turn and clever danc-ing. May Russell, in illustrated songs, caught the crowd, and the pictures were unusually good. Al Hazzard presented an Furthermore, it is urged that the moral and religious atmosphere of the state institution is not just the thing for children amusing and at times clever exhibits of ventriloquism, a specialty that growing less frequent each year. Ha from Christian homes, which may, in some respects, be true. Certainly this and other matters are not in all respects and other matters are not in all respects what the regents and faculty wish, but these governors are most, if not all of them, active members of the various churches, doing everything in their power to make some influence. True, there is zard understands his art, and his per-formance was in every way satisfactory Carita, a girl conjurer and magician, performed several new tricks in a most ac. ceptable way. The Carlson sisters in no denominational propagandism, or in-struction in theology-a matter wisely ad-justed by one denomination maintaining songs and dances, and Billy Johnson, a comedian, in a schoolboy make-up, were also on the bill, Both acts were enterpecific religious instruction for classes n theology-in connection with the State taining and found favor with the audi-

University, availing themselves without trouble or cost of the literary benefits furnished at the expense of the state. It is understood that other churches are at liberty to do the same. While this is not written as a plea for the state school, neverthelees it is by

no means certain that the moral and re-ligious influence in and about the state institutions is inferior to that of the church college. The legal right of the state to tax its citizens for educational purposes beyond rudimentary principles is seriously ques-tioned by many, but the state schools we have are of a high order, and here to stay, and scraping to the bone the church people for means to support what, in some

stand the value of the offer. The failure not be present at Wednesday's meeting have been asked to execute proxies and leave them with the secretary at 245 ner, the Independent earnestly condemned his sad and mischievous opposense of our own advantage and a higher sense of our stewardship of life, liberty and happiness among the nations.

> St. Nicholas. When the English tongue we speak Why is 'break' not rhymed with 'freak''? Will you tell me why it's true We say 'sew," but likewise "few"; And the maker of a verse Cannot cap his 'horse' with 'worse''? "React" sounds not the same as "bard": "Beard" sounds not the same as "Deard"; "Cord" is different from "word"; "Cord" is cow, but "low" is low; "Shoe" is never rhymed with "foe." Think of "hose" and "dose" and "lose"; And of "goose"-and yet of "choose." Think of "comb" and "tomb" and "lose"; And since "pay" is rhymed with "say." Why not "paid" with "said." I pray? Why not "paid" with "said." I pray? Why not "paid" with "said." I pray? Why not "blood" and "food" and "good"; "Mould" is not pronounced like "could." Wherefore "done." but "gone" and "lone? Is there any reason known? "Beard" sounds not the same as "heard";

land promises to be well received. The supporting company has been especially engaged for their particular ability. The scenery, costumes and investures are di-rect from the artists of Daly's and the Lyceum Theaters, in New York.

pulled up 24 loaded freight cars at one time, but usually 16 to 18 cars make up a train. The speed is about 30 miles an hour. The company has also developed the past season the trolley freight car for handling fruit and vegetables. The car is of the ordinary freight and express musical comedians, played a number of selections, and the instruments were as varied as the reportoire. Weston furcar type, 32 by 6½ feet, and furnished with a motor similar to that of an ordinnishes an excellent brand of comedy with ary street-car. Late in the evening the the music. Carrie Weston, a talented and versatile little miss, rendered a violin fruit and the farm products are placed on the car at Olcott and arrive in Butfala about 3 A. M., ready for the early omplishments she possesses did a difmarket. This season the company will haul all sorts of farm products. The present rate of 40 cents per 100 pounds will be reduced when the system is thoroughly organized. A conductor, motorman⁺and two assistants are employed for Hazeach car, which carries fruit, vegetables and poultry. The freight motor car carries rail wagons as trailers, which take the load unbroken in the wagon from the time it is loaded until it is delivered, This rail wagon is a combined road wagon and railway truck, animal nower being used on the highway, and electric power on the rail tracks, the skeleton truck being placed under and between its wheels when elevated some six inches Manager Baker Gives Up Baker City above the bed of the roadway.

Mr. Harriman as a Humorist Indianapolis Sentinel

Mr. Harriman really outdid himself in his explanation to the Interstate Commerce Commission of the benefits of the Northern Pacific combination. In ly to a suggestion that it would enable the company to control rates, he said that the complaint had been made that rates were too high and "we may be able to stop the discrimination in rates of one shipper against another." Considering the recent testimony before the commis-sion, the idea that complete control by railroad officials would eliminate discrim nation in rates is quite humor Mr. Harriman has a humorous vein. He seriously argued to the commission that competition could not cause any percompetition could not cause any per-manent reduction in rates.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Wagenhals & Kemper's production of "Heary VIII," which will be presented tonight and tomorrow night at the Mar-quam by Louis James and Madame Mod. An Honored Name .- "Remember," said the impressive person, "that your ancestors have left you an honorable name." "Well," an-swered the titled youth, ruefully, "It is all jeska, is a production said to vie with the best efforts of either Sir Heury Irving or Richard Mansfield. The play is one of right on a visiting card; but it isn't much at a bank."-Washington Star.

Teacher (taking the class in English history) -Now, William Johnston, what happened on the 5th of November? William (readily)-Please, air, our Henry got his finger blowed off and dad singed off all his whiskers.-Titthe most popular on the American stage and it is replete with spectacular effects The special incidental music, written by Carl Busch, and the work of the chorus and bellet materially enhance the real-

Mother-But, Jacky, I don't think a clockwork engine would be a good toy to give haby. He's such a little thing, he'd only break it, Jacky-Oh, but mother, I'd promise you I'd never let him even touch it!-Punch.

Some Consolation .- "Ah!" sighed the widow, 'no other man can ever fill poor John's place. I leved him from the bottom of my beart." "Of course," rejoined the sympathetic friend, "but you know there is always room at the top."-Chicago Daily News.

Too Much for Him.-Civil Service Examiner (very sternly, to Erastus Smith, colored, who aspires to the office of mail-carrier)-How far is it from the earth to the moon? Erastus (in Anthony Hope's sequel to the "Prisoner of Zenda," which will be produced at the terror)-Golly, bess! of you's gwine to put mo on dut route I don't want de job -Judge,

Rigidly Exact.-"A good man has gone," wrote the editor of the Hickory Ridge Mis-sourian, in winding up his oblivary of Colonel Weppnjaw, "He was honored and respected Weppajaw. "He was honored and respected by all, and a large concourse of sympathizing friends and neighbors followed to the tomb all that was mortal of our distinguished citizen, except a leg, which he had the misfortune to loss while fighting bravely at Chickamauga 38 years ago."-Chicago Tribune

instances at least, may be considered needless, if not hopeless enterprises, seems little else than emphasizing a conflict between sentiment and practical util-ity, CITIZEN, Growth Since Sumner. Independent, see things differently from what Production of Henry VIII by Com We

we did a generation ago. Then San Do-mingo was offered to us, and President Grant had prescience enough to underof the Senate to confirm the treaty was the chief disappointment of his adminissition which killed the plan. Now our people and our Congress have a clearer

Our Queer Language.

BAKER CITY, Feb. 8.—George L. Baker has resigned as manager of the opera-house in this city. Mr. Baker came up from Portland to attend a meeting of the board of directors of the opera-ho Thursday evening, and returned to Port-land on the early train yesterday morn, ing. Before returning he placed his resignation in the hands of the president of the board and at a meeting held inst night it was accepted. Lee H. Pearl, who has been the local manager under Mr. Baker, stated last evening that L. H.

ONE THEATER IS ENOUGH.

Opera-House Management.

McCord had been selected to fill Mr, Baker's place. It is understood that the new manager will make a complete change in the force around the opera-

house. MODJESKA AND JAMES.

pany Headed by Famous Stars.

ism of the court pageants and functions, Queen Katherine, who stood as a pillar of moral grandeur and exalted purpose in

a sea of corruption, could have no greater exponent than the famous Polish actress. Mr. James should be no less brilliant in portraying the insatiable and over-

reaching ambition of the crafty cardinal.

Rupert of Hentzau.

The cast of "Rupert of Hentzau,

Marquam on Friday and Saturday even

ings, is headed by such well-known play-ers as Harry Leighton, as Rudolph Ras-

Queen Flavia. "Rupert of Hentzau" is popular with Eastern theater-going peo-

and its initial appearance in Port-

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sendyl, and Miss Charlotte Tittell,