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 50
Daily, with Sunday, per year	9 00
Sunday, per year	2 00
The Weekly, per year	1 50
The Weekly, 3 months	50

To City Subscribers—

Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted.15c
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included.20c

POSTAGE RATES.

United States, Canada and Mexico:

10 to 14-page paper.....1c
16 to 28-page paper.....2c

Foreign rates double.

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

The Oregonian does not buy poems or stories from individuals, and cannot undertake to return any manuscripts sent to it without solicitation. No stamps should be inclosed for this purpose.

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

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

For sale in Los Angeles by B. F. Gardner, 259 So. Spring street, and Oliver & Haines, 305 So. Spring street.

For sale in Sacramento by Sacramento News Co., 429 K street, Sacramento, Cal.

For sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street, and Charles MacDonald, 53 Washington street.

For sale in Omaha by Barkalow Bros., 1612 Farnam street.

For sale in Salt Lake by the Salt Lake News Co., 77 W. Second South street.

For sale in Ogden by C. H. Myers.

For sale in New Orleans by A. C. Phelps, 969 Commercial Alley.

On file at Charleston, S. C., in the Oregon exhibit at the exposition.

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

For sale in Denver, Colo., by Hamilton & Kendrick, 906-912 Seventeenth street; Louthan & Jackson Book & Stationery Co., 15th and Lawrence streets; A. Berles, 1052 Champa street.

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

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 72; minimum temperature, 43; precipitation, none.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16.

AN IMMINENT PERIL.

It is undoubtedly true, as Chairman Babcock says, that the Republican prospect in this year's campaign is for a hard, uphill fight. The membership of the Democratic Congressional committee shows that the load of silverism has been cast off. Gold Democrats like Olney and Lamont in the East, and Wood, Seufert and Holman in Oregon, have returned to the party. The fight will be hot. The result will probably be close. The Republican majority in the House may be cut down or wiped out altogether.

Circumstances have combined to complicate the situation with grave dangers. The Administration has done well in its prompt action in the case of General Smith, news of which we print this morning. But the revelations at the Waller trial and in the Senate inquiry will have their effect. The controversies over the Cuban relief bill, Chinese exclusion, Nicaragua Canal, Philippine government and river and harbor bill have fomented dissensions within the party. Added to this is the friction over Miles and Schley and the embarrassment resulting from Cabinet changes already made and others that may come. The record of legislation and the situation in the Philippines are such as to give the Republican leaders justifiable cause for concern.

At such a crisis comes on the Oregon election. Its effect will be weighty, not only on the Congressional elections of this year, but also on the course of events in 1904. A Republican reverse here would stimulate the Democratic demand for abandonment of the Philippine Islands and weaken the courage of Republicans throughout the East in demanding their retention. Every influence at work in Oregon against Republican success is working also for injury to Pacific development.

It is not an auspicious time for professed Republicans of Multnomah County to be conniving with Democrats for Republican defeat.

THE BRITISH WILL PAY.

That is the one impressive thought about the new British budget with its stupendous figures of debt, deficit and fresh taxes. The British will pay. Some of them will cheer as they did Monday in the House of Commons, some will growl, for that is the British man's proud privilege, but they will all pay. The taxes will be raised, the war will go forward, the Empire will present an undaunted front to its critics at home and its traducers abroad.

A good deal of the complaint is apparently captious. A tax on bank checks is surely not inconvenient or burdensome or unjust enough to warrant the outcry against it. Nobody complained of the similar device in this country. The tax on wheat is small, and doubtless it will escape the poor man's table altogether, unless in some such form as appears in the slight dilution of beer under its added burden. The assertion of Burns that the budget and the war cost fall mostly on the poor is gratuitously untrue. The bulk falls on property and incomes.

The Chancellor's eloquent plea for liberal policies after peace is declared will awake responsive chords everywhere. War is merciless and surrender must be unconditional, but the best and most solid reconstruction is kind and alleviative. Every possible concession to the Boers, outside the limits of sovereignty, should be extended and doubtless will be extended. Peace is evidently regarded as near at hand and the world will rejoice at the conclusion of a conflict of which it has long grown weary. The restocking of Boer farms, the resumption of building and the new activity in the mines will all be welcome aids to American industry.

EFFECTIVE WORK AT WASHINGTON.

The capabilities of a determined and resourceful man at Washington are strikingly revealed in the contents of the special dispatch from Senator Mitchell in yesterday's paper, explaining the Senate increases in the river and harbor bill.

The improvement for the Columbia River, both upper and lower, is recognized to an extent that would have been impossible with less energetic effort. The $10,000 for Vancouver has been secured. The House appropriation for improving the mouth of the Siuslaw River is increased from $26,000 to $35,000, and the appropriation of $10,000 for improving the entrance to Coos Bay and harbor is changed so as to provide for maintenance and continuing the improvement and repair of the jetty to $75,000. For completing the improvement of Tillamook Bay and bar $27,000 is appropriated, and the Secretary of War is directed to cause to be made a survey and estimate the cost of securing channels across said bar of fifteen and twenty feet in depth, respectively. Provision is also made in the bill, by way of amendment to the House bill, for surveys and estimates as follows: Cape Lookout, with a view to establishing a breakwater; Yamhill River, with a view to prolonging the period of navigation; Yaquina River, from its mouth to Elk City; and Willamette River, between Portland and Oregon City.

Senator Mitchell has certainly done a remarkable piece of work, considering that he is not on the committee on commerce, which has had custody of the river and harbor bill. Had his service in Congress been uninterrupted, he would by this time have been the chairman of that committee, and in a position to render the state great good. As it is, we must make the best of it, as he is doing, and while felicitating him upon his achievement wish him success in his present campaign with the members of the conference from both houses.

RECIPROCITY UNMASKED.

The unjust basis upon which present-day reciprocity proceeds is accurately shadowed forth in the comprehensive discussion of trade with Canada just issued by the Bureau of Statistics at Washington. The burden of the argument, about which the trade statistics are grouped, is thus stated:

> The United States does more business with Canada than with the whole of South America; as much as with Central America, Mexico and the West Indies together, and nearly as much as with Africa, Asia and Oceanica. Our present tariff policy toward Canada causes the building up of great manufacturing interests to compete with our own. If we seek trade in other countries, we must not deny them the opportunity to sell some of their products to us. Canada wants to send to the United States her lumber, wood pulp, hay, barley and minerals.

The theory here, and it is the theory on which all of the Kassonian treaties have been negotiated, is that we must give tariff concessions upon foreign products in order to get tariff concessions from Canada and other countries, so that we may extend our trade there. There is no objection to this if the concessions are fairly disposed among the industries to be benefited and those to be sacrificed. But: **All the concessions proposed are upon things produced by our farmers, lumbermen and miners.**

ALL THE BENEFITS ARE TO BE REAPED BY THE PROTECTED TRUSTS.

We are to give France easier entrance here for fruits and wines. We are to give the Argentine free wool and Brazil free hides. And what are we to get? Why, easier entrance into all these countries for iron and steel goods, implements, machinery and tools.

Nobody ever proposes that as the period of isolation is past and we must make concessions, we should reduce the tariff on steel rails. Nobody ever argues that, inasmuch as we can no longer hope to sell unless we buy, President Deering of the manufacturers' reciprocity organization might offer to forego the 25 per cent ad valorem tariff now maintained upon the implements he makes.

The shoe men want free hides, but say nothing about promotion of foreign trade by reducing the tariff on shoes. The clothing men want free wool, but never think of quoting McKinley's Buffalo speech in favor of lower duties on cloth. No. The concessions must be on hay, grain, vegetables, minerals, lumber, wool, hides, fruit and wine, and the benefits must accrue to manufacturers of protected articles that even now are conquering the foreign markets. The duty on raw sugar is attacked, the duty on refined sugar is let alone. Because Canada is starting up factories to compete with our factories, the farmers along our Northern border must give up their protection for the benefit of our factories.

There should be no concessions on hay and grain until there are concessions on steel rails. There should be no reciprocity in hides and wool till there is reciprocity in shoes and cloth. There should be no reciprocity in fruit and wines till there is reciprocity in implements and machinery. There should be no reciprocity for the farmer till there is reciprocity for the trusts.

Representative McClellan, of New York, insists that reciprocity is a Democratic doctrine. If he means the Kassonian kind, let him have it.

MR. HOFER'S INVENTIONS.

A Salem paper, which seems to have been inadequately considered in this year's political arrangements, prints an ill-considered screed about the "inconsistency" of The Oregonian. The article would have been more pertinent if it touched somewhat remotely the boundaries of truth, but a more despairing jumble of misstatements would be hard to contrive within the same space. The assertion that for twenty years The Oregonian "held Geer up as an ideal public man" is purely imaginary, and so is the alleged inconsistency that it subsequently pronounced him "unfit to be Governor." The Oregonian has never "praised Mitchell to the skies" for voting for the ship subsidy; it has never favored the tariff discriminations against the Philippine Islands; it did not oppose, but qualifiedly favored the bounty proposed for Oregon sugar beets in 1898. All these assertions of the Salem paper are most palpable and gratuitous inventions.

Why it is that Mr. Hofer finds the necessity for bemeaning The Oregonian so great as to justify the wholesale manufacture of false evidence on which to base conclusions of inconsistency The Oregonian knows not, and does not greatly care. It does know that for some real or fancied slight Mr. Hofer has in the course of his Salem career run afoul of pretty nearly everything and everybody in Oregon that had public duties to perform, convictions to further or public aims to pursue. There is hardly a public man in Oregon whom Mr. Hofer has not by turns fawned upon and vilified. His paper rejoices in being a "free lance," and justly so, for never was publication more free of ordinary conventions of decency and intelligence.

The Oregonian does not resent his attacks upon it. They are altogether to be expected, and perhaps are more complimentary than otherwise. It is peculiarly gratifying to observe that Mr. Hofer adheres to the same high plane of thought and solicitous regard for the truth he has displayed in his excursions into social and municipal reform and his shuffling attitudes toward his betters, the inhabitants of Oregon. We are duly grateful to Mr. Hofer for his kind notice, and trust that the Republican ticket in Marion county—if it be true, as alleged, that he is supporting it—may manage to pull through in spite of the burden.

ANNUAL APOTHEOSIS OF JEFFERSON.

The speeches delivered at the New York City Jefferson banquet on Monday evening were of the usual sort which always cause the erring lips of intelligent Republicans to smile. It is not easy to understand how Democracy can celebrate the birthday of Washington, the birthday of Jefferson, and "Jackson Day" with about equal fervor, for Washington deeply distrusted Jefferson and denounced his "principles"; Jefferson distrusted and denounced Jackson, and Jackson was the enthusiastic champion at Richmond of Aaron Burr against President Jefferson when Jefferson strained every nerve to obtain Burr's conviction of treason, and Jackson trampled Jefferson's doctrine of state supremacy under his feet when he denounced nullification and its great exponent, Calhoun. Jefferson, too, was a protectionist, an expansionist, and sound money man. But the Democratic party makes up its calendar of political saints by claiming all the leading statesmen of American history who have been dead long enough to have their peculiar principles forgotten by the average Democratic audience. At a Democratic banquet the Democracy invariably claims everything from Washington to Lincoln. They have to do this, or else their calendar of political saints would be rather a dull record.

The recently published life of Jefferson, by Curtis, will not change the personal estimate of impartial critics that he was a man of remarkable political genius, clouded by startling inconsistency and contradictions. He was a doctrinaire in politics and a facile theorist in the whole domain of scientific knowledge. He rose in the Louisiana purchase and in his financial views to the level of a far-seeing statesman, and in his state supremacy construction of our Constitution he played the part of a mischievous political charlatan. By education, taste, inherited and married wealth he was a man of patrician habits of life; he dined off silver plate; his cellar contained the finest wines, but he pretended for a time as President to be in love with rude democratic manners, offended the Diplomatic Corps by his discourtesy and succeeded in creating a popular faith in an ideal of "Jeffersonian simplicity" to which his whole public and private career gives the lie. He was a strict constructionist in theory and an elaborate expounder of the notion of popular government, yet he bought Louisiana because it was "necessary," and planned for a government dependent on the Executive alone. He made National interests completely subordinate to his theoretical ideas as to what ought to be done, so that outside of his "Louisiana purchase" he was not an efficient Executive, for his National policy of defense found us helpless for the war with England which Jefferson weakly dodged, but which his successor, Madison, could not evade.

Jefferson was a man of "peace, plows and schools" when he ought to have been heeding Washington's farewell admonition, "In peace prepare for war." He was without conspicuous administrative ability, which is generally true of fluent talkers and facile writers. As a man of business he failed as a planter by his reckless indorsement of commercial paper. On the other hand, Jefferson was an able champion of religious liberty in Virginia. His superior social talents, urbanity and conversational powers made him the friend and correspondent of scholars and men of affairs at home and abroad, and he was the founder of the University of Virginia. His inconsistency, his contradictoriness, his versatility, recall some of Bulwer's lines describing a very different man:

> Appalling, charming, haunting St. John shone,
> And stirred that age as Byron thrilled our own;
> Sighing for ease, yet ever keen for strife,
> Zeno's his creed, yet Aretin's his life;
> With Protean grace through every change he sports.

When Madison became President, the correspondence proves that he was influenced by the advice and counsel of Jefferson more than he was by that of any member of his Cabinet, and Monroe, when he became President, sought the counsel of Jefferson when the Holy Alliance was formed and the Rush-Canning correspondence, which led to the deliverance of the Monroe Doctrine, was under consideration. Financial distress did not really pinch Jefferson until the last year or so of his life, when he was obliged through his friends to appeal to Congress, which voted to purchase his large and valuable library. He inherited great wealth and married large wealth, but he was a bad man of business. He lived luxuriously, kept open house for everybody who called on him, native or foreign tourist, and reckless indorsements, bad crops and paper money finally ruined him. In his genius and his weakness, in his manners and his infirmities, he had all the characteristics of the sanguine temperament.

A group of anarchists have established headquarters at 84 Orchard street, New York City. A picture of Czolgosz hangs in this clubroom. A card attached to the portrait reads, "In reverence to his memory." Another picture is that of the assassin of Prime Minister Canovas, of Spain. On the table is a pile of the pamplets, "Roosevelt, Czolgosz and Anarchy." An inscription on the wall in Hebrew denounces religion, ministers, priests, governments and all forms of authority as fakes and fakers. There are pictures of Bresci, the assassin of King Humbert, of John Most and of the Haymarket anarchists who were hanged at Chicago. These blatant fellows who advertise themselves so ostentatiously and vaingloriously will never hurt anybody. They belong to the Herr Most "jawsmith" anarchist tribe. The fellows to be feared are those who belong to the class of unsuspected anarchists who never announce their faith until they have revealed it by some awful, unexpected deed of murder.

The bicycle is regaining its popularity. The New York Sun says that "from all through the East and West, even from California and Oregon, it is reported that the wheel is again resuming its former place in the affections of old and young." This revival is attributed somewhat to the fact that the good-roads movement is prosecuted with zeal and determination in every state. The following figures show the great increase in our bicycle exports for the eight months ending with February, 1902, over those of the corresponding eight months of the year before. The value of the wheels exported to the United Kingdom during this period preceding February, 1901, was $165,644, while the value of those exported to that country in the eight months preceding February, 1902, was $248,123. The value of those shipped to France during the eight months ending with February of this year was $146,261, as against $56,732 for the corresponding period in the year before; the value of those shipped to Germany last year was $201,099, as compared with $85,128 the year before; and the value of the shipments of bicycles to other parts of Europe was $396,716 last year, as compared with $242,325 in 1900.

Rochester, N. Y., has recently been the meeting-place of the general conference of the "Holy Rollers," so-called, but who speak of themselves as "gospel workers." Representatives from a dozen states were present. The founder of this sect is Robert Eastman; it originated at Elgin, Pa., in April, 1894. This set practices physical prostrations, falling flat on the floor, kicking their heels in the air, rubbing oil into one another's hair, and striking their heads against the walls and chairs. This is done to "drive out the devil." There is nothing new under the sun. In the early history of Vermont, in the town of Hardwick, suddenly appeared a sect calling themselves "Holy Rollers." Their antics at first excited only amusement and contempt, but finally their holy rolling developed into acts of indecency, and at the prompting of the leading clergymen of the place the people drove the "Holy Rollers" out of town. Some of them who complained of being possessed by devils that needed to be cast out were soundly horsewhipped by individual members of the mob as an effective method of exorcism.

The late Rev. Dr. Talmage was once placed on trial before the Presbytery of his church upon charges of falsehood and fraud, which were pressed home upon him by the late Rev. Dr. Henry J. Van Dyke, one of the very first men of the church. When the trial had made some progress, and the testimony began to look rather black for Talmage, that inimitable melodramatic pulpiteer suddenly arose, burst into tears and proposed that "they should all forgive one another," should "kiss and shake hands all around," and drop all further proceedings. Thereupon Talmage proceeded to cry and kiss, and kiss and cry, and his melodramatic audacity carried the day, and the proceedings were dropped, to the great indignation of Rev. Dr. Van Dyke, who left the assembly, exclaiming that he thought a proposition to "forgive" everybody and to "kiss" everybody was not a satisfactory answer to grave charges of falsehood and fraud, and that Dr. Talmage's methods of defense recalled the old story of the fellow who said: "If I have said anything I ought to be sorry for, I am ready to accept your apology."

Despite the appeals to Jefferson in support of present Democratic doctrines addressed by Mr. D. B. Hill to the New York Democratic Club, Jefferson governed such dependencies as he acquired outside of the Constitutional provisions for the states. Hill protests because Republican Presidents do not force tariffs of their own device through Congress, but oh, how he would wail if they were guilty of such display of "imperialism"! He complains because the gold standard now needs perfective legislation, because of the curious charge that it was already "ostentatiously proclaimed" to be "unalterably adopted." This is pretty cheap sort of quibbling. In other respects, Mr. Hill's remarks are entertaining, and even instructive, particularly his plea for harmony, which recalls the pleasant observation of a Democratic paper at Greenville, Miss.:

> Right here the trouble comes in—the question of brand. We have the Bryan or bust 16-to-1 sort, the Louisiana sugar protective, the imperial paramount, the Gorman steel and iron, the Francis-Bailey Standard Oil, the Jones Round-Bale Cotton Trust, the gold-bug traitors—how can we shake all of these out the same box?

John Alexander Dowie, "the modern Elijah," has at length issued an order allowing his followers in the New Zion to be vaccinated. The stubborn prophet was brought to terms by the increasing number of cases of smallpox in Zion College, the invader failing to retreat before prayer or capitulate to theory. Dowie's order carries the clause that he himself is opposed to vaccination. Most likely he was duly vaccinated in his earlier years, and trusts to this fact and to his ability to avoid contact with the malady to render him immune. Certainly he cannot believe that prayer will be more efficacious as a preventive in his case than in that of the faithful whom he now abandons to the devices of medical science. Be this as it may, he was very glad to have those odious minions of sanitary science, the health officers, remove five patients suffering with smallpox from Zion College a few days ago and place them in the isolation hospital.

An electric railway company was recently sued by a passenger whose tender of a smooth nickel was refused by the conductor on the plea that he was obliged by his orders from the officers of the company to reject all such coins. The court ruled that such coins were legal tender, and the passenger was awarded $2000 damages. Plugged coin can, of course, be refused, but the company is safeguarded against loss by the receipt of worn and abraided coins, as the law makes it the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to cause all worn and uncurrent subsidiary silver coins to be recoined. The loss incident to such recoinage is borne by the United States. Street-car companies ought to accept them, as a refusal may cost them as dear as it did the St. Louis company.

Germany was never a bright and shining light in colonial administration, so that the details of her deficits in China afford no cause for surprise. Figures of this sort, however, are practically valueless, as the benefits of colonial trade do not appear in governmental balance sheets to offset expenditures. Few departments of governmental expenditure pay their way. We never get back directly what we spend for police and fire protection. Canada costs Great Britain money; but it comes handy in war time.

The appointment of Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, by the President a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners to succeed Bishop Whipple is an excellent nomination. There are many Roman Catholics among the Indian tribes, and the Roman Catholic missionaries in Canada and the United States have been remarkably successful in making converts among the Indians.

POE'S DENUNCIATION OF ENGLAND

Springfield Republican.

The death of Thomas Dunn English recently in Newark, at the age of 83, carries us far back, to a period of our literary history which now seems almost incredibly remote. To the world he is known as the author of "Ben Bolt," and that popular lyric will give a secure title to a more lasting fame than many men of larger achievements gain. To those whose reading is not confined to the new books his name brings up the literary life of the first half of the nineteenth century, calls back long-forgotten names embalmed in Griswold's book and Poe's "Literati." It is a cruel fate that, excepting the authorship of "Ben Bolt," he is best known as the subject of Poe's merciless and quite unmerited attack. In those days he wrote himself Thomas Dunn Brown, and after Poe's criticism the name furnished an obvious and irresistible source of ridicule. The truth is that Mr. English was a writer of no great power, and certain crudities in his style made him an easy victim for so mordant a pen as Poe's, but his literary aspirations were of a harmless sort, and deserved no such savage treatment. In the course of the bitter sketch which was included in the "Literati of New York," Poe wrote:

> I place Mr. Brown, to be sure, on the list of literary people, not on account of his poetry (which I presume he himself is not weak enough to estimate very highly), but on the score of his having edited for several months, "with the aid of numerous collaborators," a magazine called the Aristidean. This work, though professedly a monthly, was issued at irregular intervals, and was unfortunate, I fear, in not attaining at any period of more than about 50 subscribers. Mr. Brown has at least that amount of talent which would enable him to succeed in his father's profession, that of ferryman on the Schuylkill, but the fate of the Aristidean should indicate that to prosper in any higher walk of life he must apply himself to study. No spectacle could be more ludicrous than that of a man without the commonest school education busying himself in attempts to instruct mankind on topics of polite literature. The editor of the Aristidean, for example, was not the public laughing stock throughout the five months of his magazine's existence so much on account of his writing "lay" for "lie," "went" for "gone," "set" for "sit," etc., or for coupling nouns in the plural with verbs in the singular, as on account of the pertinacity with which he exposed his weakness in lamenting the "typographical blunders" which so unluckily would creep into his work. I make these remarks in no spirit of unkindness. Mr. Brown is yet young, certainly not more than 38 or 39, and might readily improve himself at points where he is most defective. No one of generosity would think the worse of him for getting private instruction. I do not personally know him. About his appearance there is nothing very remarkable, except that he exists in a perpetual state of vacillation between mustachio and goatee.

Mr. English never forgot or forgave this severe attack, and only a few years ago his natural resentment found vent in a bitter outbreak, in which he said things about Poe that would more wisely have been left unsaid.

Allied Nations but Not Allied Peoples

London Express.

Interesting evidence of the popular feeling in Germany toward English visitors is supplied by two lady members of the theatrical profession at present fulfilling engagements in Dusseldorf.

The ladies went to Germany a week ago, with no spirit of misgiving, for, despite the fact that England and the English were in great disfavor throughout the country, they foolishly believed that in consideration of their sex and of the fact that they were alone they would not be subjected to insult and annoyance.

In that respect they were very promptly undeceived.

On arriving at the theater they were treated by every one in authority with the utmost discourtesy.

Although perfectly aware of their nationality, the management absolutely refused to "bill" them as English artistes, and so they were presented to the public under the safer description of American.

Nor was the boorish rudeness of the people confined to the theater.

One of the ladies, happening to understand the German language perfectly, constantly overheard in cafes insulting references to herself and her companion.

"What do these wretched English come here for?" "Why don't they stay in their own country?" were among the comments passed by the simple German folk on their visitors.

On more than one occasion the ladies, on being recognized on the street as English, have been followed by a crowd of well-dressed persons shouting insulting remarks about the strangers and their country.

To such an extent has this treatment been carried that life in the pleasant German town has become almost impossible.

Old and New Worlds.

Popular Science Monthly.

We must look to the solar system for examples of stars in the last stage of development. Each of the planets may, in fact, be regarded as an object of this kind. The bare and rocky surface of the moon affords a desolate picture of what may result from this long-continued process of condensation. The volcanic region which is shown to excellent advantage in a photograph gives no evidence of the existence of life; in fact, the spectroscope indicates that if there is any air on the moon it is much too rare to support life as we know it.

Fortunately the moon is not the only example of a worn-out star. The earth, which probably has many counterparts in the universe, is another example of a less desolate kind. Here though the process of condensation, which is the chief cause of celestial phenomenon, has ceased, the problem of evolution has not ended. In fact, though the cosmical problems which we have considered in their barest elements will not be completely solved for centuries, it may be truly said that the questions raised by the countless living organisms in a single drop of ditch water are still more complex, and will require a still longer time for their solution.

London's Fire Record.

London Mail.

Last year 3684 fires occurred in London, of which 99 were serious and 3585 slight. Ninety-seven people lost their lives through fire during the year, and 297 were in great danger. Of the fatalities, 29 occurred before the brigade was called, and 12 were found dead by firemen. The remainder died after being taken out of burning buildings. Two firemen were awarded the silver medal for extraordinary bravery—practically the Victoria cross of the fire brigade—and 23 officers and men of the brigade were commended for bravery. The strength of the brigade is now 1173 officers and men. In 1195 fires the cause was unknown; 307 were caused by lights being thrown down; 124 to children playing with matches; 135 to oil lamps, and 204 to sparks from fire. Two cases of willful fire-setting were detected during the year. In connection with the fire appliances at theaters and music halls, 138 defects were reported in 1901. In some cases the supply of water had been entirely cut off, while frequently the appliances were useless. These defects, however, were invariably unknown to the managers, who were only too ready immediately to rectify them.

The Desert Blooms.

Philadelphia Record.

The population of the Colorado Desert, Southern California, has grown from nothing to about a thousand persons within a year, and a still more rapid increase is looked for. Irrigation is turning the desert into farm lands. It is calculated that within two or three years at least 1,000,000 acres will thus be reclaimed in Southern California, Arizona and Lower California. The lands lie in the basin of the Colorado River, where the great heat and the extreme dryness of the air are not unfavorable to human beings, provided plenty of water is to be had. Most of the water used in irrigation comes from the river, but in Southern California much is supplied by artesian wells. The irrigated lands are very fertile.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

There are two bills before Congress for the establishment of the French metric system of weights and measures. The language of the bills, while not altogether free from ambiguity, justifies the inference that it is intended to make it the only lawful system in all departments of the Government, in all workshops in which the Government is interested and in all matters connected with construction or commercial operations, whatever this last may mean. Under existing legislation the metric system may be lawfully used by those who desire to do so, and so the proposed legislation can only be construed to mean that its use is to be compulsory.

The imperfection of our present system is conceded. There is hardly any of the denominations in use as weights and measures that have a certain meaning without some qualification. We have three sorts of ounces, three sorts of pounds, though two are of equal value; gallons, quarts and pints of different capacity, and so on. We have the long ton and the short ton, or the gross ton and the net ton, while the metric ton differs from both. When it comes to bushels and barrels of various kinds and the equivalent of bushels of different commodities in weight, we get into interminable confusion. A ton of coal may be 2240 pounds, or 2000, or 1900, or 1800, or whatever the dealer chooses to give you—those at the custom-house or at wholesale or retail in different places.

Nevertheless the metric system is so remote from anything to which the masses of the people in this country are accustomed that they would never come to understand it fully, until a new generation had come upon the stage. The change might be worth all it would cost, but it would be hard, in truth, impossible, to make the people believe it. Hence, opposition to the proposed bill has already sprung up. A committee of the Society of Mechanical Engineers has sent out a vigorous protest, and all the members of the society are invited to send remonstrances to their Senators and Representatives against the enactment of the proposed legislation. There will be no great difficulty in getting many thousands of signatures to such remonstrances, and it is quite unlikely that such a protest will be disregarded.

Key to Parties in Germany.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

The heated tariff wrangle now in progress in the German Reichstag makes the composition of that body of interest. Like nearly all European parliamentary bodies, instead of the two parties to which we are accustomed in this country and in England, the lower house of the German Legislature is composed of numerous and conflicting groups, each of which stands for a certain idea. On national questions of importance, like the tariff, it is possible to divide them broadly into two parties, Liberal and Conservative, but it requires a vast amount of tact and diplomacy on the part of the leaders for the government and the opposition to keep their forces together. On the extreme right are the Conservatives, who number 51, and have for their leader Count von Limburg-Stirum. Next to them come 20 Liberal-Conservatives, whose leader is Von Kardorf. Next to them, still working toward the left, is the smallest but most obstreperous group in the House, known as the Social Reformers. There are but nine of these advocates of Pan-Germanism and anti-Semitism, and their leader is Liebermann. The center, composed of the Catholics, have 102 members, which include 13 Poles and four Hanoverians, the latter irreconcilable opponents of the Hohenzollerns and all their works. Dr. Lieber is the leader here. To the left of the center are the National Liberals, of whom there are 51. Twenty-five years ago this was the most powerful party in Germany, their representatives outnumbering the Catholics and Conservatives combined. Their leaders are Bannermann and Busing. Then come the United Liberals, 13 in number, with Rickert and Riff for leaders; the Democratic Liberals, 27 in number, with Eugene Richter as leader; seven Democrats, who are from South Germany, and are all but Socialists, and finally 58 Social Democrats, whose leaders are Bebel and Singer. In addition to these are 10 members from Alsace and 25 other members who are freelances, belonging to no group.

Cost of Seeing Coronations.

Brooklyn Eagle.

When Edward I of England was crowned the price was half a farthing; a whole farthing sufficed in Edward IIs time; to see Edward III rich men paid a halfpenny, which, we are told, "was well given." A really good seat from which to "assist" at the coronation of Edward IV cost twopence, while twice that amount insured an equally good view of Edward VI's procession. Since then the price has gone up by sixpences, shillings, crowns and guineas, and it is more than likely that a good view of Edward VII and his splendors will cost as much as the whole coronation of all the Edwards that went before him.

Did Adam Smith Write Burns?

Chicago Tribune.

The recent attempt to revive the Baconian-Shakespeare controversy, although it has fallen flat and been laughed out of court, seems to have stirred up some other absurd persons to declare that Robert Burns did not write Burns' poems. Their authorship is ascribed to the last man in the world who would ever be suspected of having dealings with Parnassus—Adam Smith, who achieved great fame with his "Wealth of Nations" and his "Theory of Moral Sentiments" and other economic and didactic works as far remote from poetry, either in sentiment, expression or form, as it is possible to conceive.

The Chess Board.

Robert Bulwer-Lytton.

My little love, do you remember,
Ere we were grown so sadly wise,
Those evenings in the bleak December,
Curtained warm from the snowy weather,
When you and I played chess together,
Checkmated by each other's eyes?

Ah! still I see your soft white hand
Hovering warm o'er Queen and Knight;
Brave Pawns in valiant battle stand;
The double Castles guard the wings;
The Bishop, bent on distant things,
Moves, sidling, through the fight.

Our fingers touch; our glances meet,
And falter; falls your golden hair
Against my cheek; your bosom sweet
Is heaving. Down the field, your Queen
Rides slow her soldiery all between,
And checks me unaware.

Ah me! the little battle's done;
Dispers'd is all its chivalry.
Full many a move since then have we
'Mid life's perplexing checkers made,
And many a game with Fortune played;
What is it we have won?
This, this at least—if this alone:

That never, never, nevermore,
As in those old still nights of yore,
(Ere we were grown so sadly wise),
Can you and I shut out the skies,
Shut out the world and wintry weather,
And, eyes exchanging warmth with eyes,
Play chess, as then we played together.

Oh Yet We Trust That Somehow Good

Alfred Tennyson.

Oh yet we trust that somehow good
Will be the final goal of ill,
To pangs of nature, sins of will,
Defects of doubt, and taints of blood;

That nothing walks with aimless feet;
That not one life shall be destroy'd,
Or cast as rubbish to the void,
When God hath made the pile complete;

That not a worm is cloven in vain;
That not a moth with vain desire
Is shrivell'd in a fruitless fire,
Or but subserves another's gain.

Behold, we know not anything;
I can but trust that good shall fall
At last—far off—at last, to all,
And every winter change to spring.

So runs my dream: but what am I?
An infant crying in the night:
An infant crying for the light:
And with no language but a cry.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Fusionists are still on a candidate hunt.

These are drouthy times. It hasn't rained for nearly 48 hours.

If Attorney-General Knox is a trust lawyer he must be untrue to his colors.

If beef keeps on going up Bryan will make money by killing that $450 heifer of his.

John D. Rockefeller is perfectly bald. However, he has several million heirs in his family.

In Wisconsin a girl has won the state oratorical contest. She probably got the last word.

The river and harbor bill is calculated to make Astoria declare for the abolition of Congress.

New Jersey has a dog that chews tobacco. He is said to be just a common plug dog.

Christmas will be indeed a melancholy Dane if some of our Congressmen happen to get hold of him.

Occasionally burglars use too much powder, thus leaving themselves open to the charge of effeminacy.

Perhaps after a few years' residence in his barn, Mr. Bryan will come over to the side of stable currency.

Miss Stone may come to the Coast to lecture, and there is talk of organizing a local lodge of brigands.

If General Miles had been wise he would have resigned his commission and enlisted in the Rough Riders.

As usual, the rumors of peace in the Transvaal have not yet reached the men who are doing the fighting.

The fact that Senator McLaurin has risen to speak without being ordered to his corner shows that all is forgiven.

Princes who are thinking of visiting America this Summer are respectfully advised to come early and avoid the rush.

Paderewski has been trying to get a New York convict pardoned. The scales of justice are not the kind he usually has to do with.

Senator Hanna has been praising Thomas Jefferson. He seems to be fixing himself to get the Democratic nomination if his own party has some other man in view.

A custom-house decision on fleas has been rendered in Switzerland. A package marked "Trained Fleas" reached Geneva. The nearest analogy the Collector could find was that of June bugs, which had been ruled to be "edibles." The case went from one official to another until it reached headquarters, at Berne, whence, after much investigation and deliberation, the conclusion was reached that the fleas came under the head of "wild animals in a menagerie."

An acceptable and the latest improvement in elevators is a series of push buttons in the car, one for each floor, the mere pressure of which governs the upward and downward crawl or flight. A push button on each floor brings the car to that landing, and the door of the shaft cannot possibly be opened until the car is opposite the landing. The opening of the door breaks the current of electricity, thereby locking the car so that it cannot be moved until the door is securely closed. An infant can operate this machine in safety.

The Women's Protective Health Association, in New York, has discovered a new form of war on the microbes. Its officers are compelling those who sell fruit and vegetables and expose the same on the sidewalk to keep them covered and so free from the deadly dangerous dust of the streets. The Grocers' Association has indorsed this work, but opposition comes from a company employing most of the street vendors of small fruits. The women have already regulated the sale of candy in the street in this respect, and they hope that this new work will be successful.

The following curious manifesto was issued the other day in Paris: "Electors and business men! On the eve of the elections the friends of the small dealers call your attention to the present very grave danger—namely, the invasion of the Chamber of Deputies by medical men. Oppose medical candidates; replace them by commercial men. And why? Because the trend of hygienists is to exercise an insupportable dictation concerning the supplying of food. To increase their authority these hygienists do not hesitate to exaggerate in an absurd manner the importance of food frauds, and then they pose as saviors of human life. Thus sometimes these hygienists, who are nothing but quacks, accuse purveyors of milk, sometimes wholesale provision dealers or rather grocers. No branch of food supplying is free from their accusation of fraud and falsification. Defend yourselves, then, against the calumny. Food purveyors of Paris and the provinces! Vote against medical men. Let all parties choose other men to uphold their flag. Let them, for instance, choose food purveyors."

Thy Voice Is Heard.

Alfred Tennyson.

Thy voice is heard thro' rolling drums
That beat to battle where he stands;
Thy face across his fancy comes,
And gives the battle to his hands;
A moment, while the trumpets blow,
He sees his brood about thy knee;
The next, like fire he meets the foe,
And strikes him dead for thine and thee.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

"Nobody sends me flowers any more." "Why, my dear child, here are some that came today. What do you mean?" "Oh, they don't count. They're in season."—Life.

Important Consideration.—Marie—Oh, which dog shall I choose? Kathryn—Take the shaggy one, of course. You can tie the most ribbons on it.—Chicago Daily News.

Double Vision.—Judge—Have I not seen you twice before under the influence of liquor? Defendant—If you were in that condition, your Honor, you probably did see me twice.—Philadelphia Press.

Her Opinion.—"Some men," said Willie Wishington, "act like perfect fools when they are in love." "Yes," answered Miss Cayenne, "and a great many more do not wait even for that excuse."—Washington Star.

Timely Warning.—"Here, Johnnie," said the proud mother, "you may have one of the first crullers I ever baked." "And be careful, Johnnie," added the father, "not to let it fall on your toes."—Ohio State Journal.

Increased Interest.—"Did you call that trust magnate to the stand?" "I did," answered the man who was conducting the investigation. "I suppose he added a great deal to the interest in the case?" "He did. It is now more mysterious than ever."