

The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair and warmer; easterly winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 72; minimum temperature, 45; precipitation, 0.01 inch.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18.

A GOOD DAY'S WORK.

The Oregonian expressed no opinion upon the merits of the kindergarten issue which was adjudicated at the polls on Monday. It forebore, out of deference to the earnest desire of many of our best people, to whom the kindergarten as an adjunct of the public school system has appeared in the garb of a Cause and almost a Religion.

It is any one going to resist the tendency to saddle upon the state the duties that devolve upon the man and woman, the father and mother? If there any point whatever in all this long descent from sturdy self-reliance to social dependence where the mad rush to paternalism can be called to halt? Some times it seems not, but the vote of Monday indicates that in Oregon at least, where free text-books and free pencils have not yet followed free bridges, free libraries and free baths, a body of taxpayers can be found who are not free to do as they please.

If the state is to be obliged to raise the children, then it must have something to say about what children shall be born, and what they shall do. Talk about the state's interest in having its children educated—what is that interest to its interest that the criminal and hopelessly diseased shall not propagate their kind? If children are to be unloaded on the state, then the state will have something to say in regulation of the quality and quantity of that load.

Many thinkers, we may say most thinkers, agree with John Stuart Mill that if the duties of parents are to be thrown upon the state, then the state will be compelled to "regulate" the parents. That is, if the state is to take care of the children, then it will be compelled also to take measures for regulation of the propagation of the race.

A cheerful aggregation of men from 60 to 75 and 80 years young were the company of Indian War Veterans who, with their wives, yesterday, as a feature of their annual reunion, partook of the hospitality of the association known as Daughters of Indian War Veterans.

The annual reunion of the pioneers of Oregon will be held in this city today. The announced programme will be rendered in the Exposition building, and at the conclusion a banquet furnished by citizens of Portland will be served by pioneer women and their daughters, resident of the city.

ment of the pension bill now awaiting only the signature of the President to become a law, the specific object of which is to remove many of these men from waiting during the last stage of their life's pilgrimage, has been long overdue. But "better late than never" say the veterans, and this estimate the public cordially indorses.

ANTI-ISM HAS SINS OF ITS OWN.

Secretary Root's main assumption of full responsibility for the payments to General Gomez and his expressed belief that unless something of the sort had been done in Cuba we should have had the same sort of difficulties in Cuba that we have had in the Philippines, will give some of the anti-is, we may be sure, a bad quarter of an hour. He gives them the choice of two alternatives, either of which, if they take it, bids fair to lead them to a point where they wish they had taken the other.

The first anti-imperialist impulse, on reading the Secretary's declaration, will be to jump up and shout on the wise: "Saved an insurrection by treating Gomez and his crowd handsomely? Of course! We ought to have done the same thing in the Philippines. If we had only treated Aguinaldo, Mabini and the rest as we treated Gomez, instead of pursuing them with guns and real powder, all would have been well.

Nevertheless, the view of every practical mind will be with Secretary Root. The final arbiter of the complex problem which the Spanish War left with us is—results. There is a wide difference between payments to Washington lobbyists for influence on legislation and payments to Cuban soldiers to keep the peace. One move is to sway Congress, the other to create conditions. If reasonable compensation to Gomez had the practical effect of keeping the peace, it would undoubtedly be the cheapest way in which that end could be reached.

It should be pointed out, however, that Cuba's case and the Philippines are not on all fours, and Secretary Root does not say so. He does intimate that stiffness with Gomez would have caused trouble, but he does not intimate that payments to Aguinaldo would have prevented trouble. Gomez was a soldier and patriot, Aguinaldo a cheap adventurer and freebooter. We had insurrection on our hands in Luzon without Aguinaldo's having any cause of complaint, and with the memory of that redoubtable pirate for \$400,000 dead in Spain in his mind, the American people would never have sanctioned a similar financial undertaking.

The truth is that hostility in this country to the Administration's necessary course in Cuba and the Philippines is soon to reckon with popular disapproval which will make it ashamed and apologetic as Rawlins and Carmack have been in the Senate. The truth is that the head and front of offending in our Philippine difficulties have not been the anti-imperialists, who have not only hampered prompt and efficient effort at home, but have fomented rebellion abroad.

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PIONEER DAY.

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The Pioneer reunion, it is literally speaking, an "old subject"—so old that there is nothing new to be said about it. Yet, so indulgent is human nature upon this theme that The Oregonian ventures year after year to rehearse the story of the long ago, in connection with the stereotyped welcome to its associates of the olden time, confident of a respectful if a wearied audience.

This is the one occasion which bids defiance to the dogmatic declaration that "old things have passed away," flinging back into the very face of time and change a bold denial of the statement. The pioneer era can never pass away beyond at least temporary resurrection, as long as actors in the drama have strength and spirit left with which to appear upon the stage and rehearse its incidents, recount its dangers and recite its pleasures. Pioneers, The Oregonian, one of your number, a collaborator with you for our common interests in the past, rejoicing with you for the future of Oregon, again bids you welcome to Portland.

A HISTORIC OCCASION.

That class of our fellow-citizens—a small and rapidly dwindling class—known as the "Indian War Veterans," or such numbers thereof as were permitted by their growing infirmities to leave their homes and come hither, held their annual reunion in this city yesterday. These men form a remnant of a stalwart band that made ready answer to the call for volunteers to defend the menaced homes of the border—and all Oregon was then border land, as reckoned from the meridian of civilization—and went out sturdily against the savage foe. What stirring times those were—the months of a Summer now nearly half a century old! How soon the muster rolls were full of names! How the streets of the village rendezvous rang with the cheers of the men! How they resounded with the galloping feet of horses and the clanking spurs of riders eager to be off to the defense of the settlers, whose isolated homes the threat of torch and massacre shadowed! All that was long ago; yet in the memories of the survivors who rode away to the fray, and of the women who performed the brave trying if less salient part of waiting and watching in pioneer homes, the events of those times stand out distinctly, hallowed but undimmed by the touch of time.

But if the going out of the volunteers against the Indians is so well remembered, what of their homecoming and what of their hardships and dangers and strife that lay between? Of these we heard something yesterday from the lips of the veterans who gathered at a table in the hall of the grandstand in a banquet hall in this city. The forced march, the chilly bivouac, the night surprise, the ambuscade, the call to battle, the dead left upon the field, the wounded carried to the rear, and later the bearing home now and then, stark and gory, of a friend and neighbor, a husband and father, to waiting ones, cruelly bereft—of these events the veterans spoke.

These were the incidents of our early Indian wars; they are, indeed, the incidents of all wars, though when the civilized soldier meets a savage foe, the details of the encounter are often more harrowing than the fact of death itself, in the barbarities perpetrated upon the wounded and the dead. Who that has read the pathetic story told by Elizabeth B. Custer, of campaigning on the plains with her husband, General Custer, who perished with his command in the battle of the Little Big Horn, in June, 1876, has not recoiled with added horror from the picture of that bloody scene, at the statement that it was found that "Rah-in-the-Face," the fendish ally of Sitting Bull, had "cut out the brave heart of that gallant, loyal and lovable man, Colonel Tom Custer?" And who among the veterans assembled yesterday did not recall with a shudder the story of the death of Captain A. J. Hembree, of Yamhill County, who, while leading his company on a Yakima battle-field in 1855 and later brought back for burial in the graveyard near his home, a white bandage around his head telling that his scalp hung at the belt of a savage chief? Perhaps it is not well to recall these incidents, yet they belong distinctively to the history of a time that the reunion of Indian War Veterans with thinning ranks touchingly commemorates year after year.

The reunion, however, was, however, made joyful by the announcement that the Indian War Veteran pension bill had passed the United States Senate and was now "up to the President." Veterans but now weary with hope deferred assumed for the time the spirit of youth and wrung each other's hands in effusive congratulation. The President was eulogized as the friend of the bill, and Representative Tongue as an indefatigable worker with added interest. Past trials and disappointments were forgotten in present pleasure and future promise, and the veterans separated in high spirits, feeling that at last just recognition for service rendered had come to them. The Oregonian adds its congratulations, and supplements them with the hope that this long-delayed bounty of the Government will be ample for the purpose of insuring against want in his declining years the men who defended the infant settlements of Oregon from the savages that menaced their existence.

THE MEAT SUPPLY.

The question of the meat supply is one of the most prominent and, in a way, the most interesting of any now before the public. Recent events, such as the meat strike in New York and Chicago, and the great advance in prices, point to conditions that certainly will tend to decrease of consumption in the United States. We are the greatest meat eaters in the world, and have been from the earliest settlement of America; but it may be taken as certain that the consumption of meat in our country will tend henceforth toward a reduction to the basis or proportions long observed in older countries. The growth of population exceeds the growth of meat supply.

The Illinois idea is that the tariff is the father of the trust and the trust is the father of imperialism. This arrangement of old Grandfather Protection would have done credit to the Chicago and Kansas City platform. Bryan may eye it with jealous envy as a rival of his cross of gold, etc. It will please those who favor the tariff, and the solution of the expansion problem. It is awkward, however, that the Democrats in Congress could not be induced to vote for free trade with the Philippines.

The Spooner compromise is probably wrong while, not so much for the pitiful 30 per cent concession it gives to Cuba, but for the defeat it involves to the similar scheme for Cuban reciprocity which will help Cuba just a little and hurt no one. It would be a fitting rebuke to the long and ungracious delay of Congress if Cuba should reject the whole proposal and do all the business she can with Great Britain.

the other, it is asked, with the significance of conviction on the affirmative side of the question, whether or not the consolidation of the packing business has caused lower prices to be paid to the farmer.

The Journal above quoted considers that the most interesting question that has been raised by the whole discussion of the increased supply of butchers' meat is whether, along with the enormous benefits that the great packing-houses have conferred on mankind, they have discouraged the production of the normal supply, and it goes on to say: "The improvements made by the packers in killing, shipping and saving hogs and cattle, and by the utilization of the by-products of the slaughter-house, deserve to be reckoned among the most important practical benefits of modern organization." The result that ought to follow is cheaper and not dearer meat.

The big rush of settlers and miners at Fort Hall reservation yesterday was but a repetition of similar "outbreaks" at various points in the West. Every new mining camp, no matter in what part of the world it is located, numbers among its inhabitants a certain number of restless "sooners," who, like the soul of the late John Brown, go marching on. At Thunder Mountain will be found the men who were with the vanguard at Cripple Creek, Leadville, Roseland, Nome and Dawson; and later at Buffalo Hump. Representatives from Coolgardie, Johannesburg and other remote districts are there, and even the grizzled and old-time prospector, who stamped since the Golden Cariboo mingles with the younger restless spirits.

It is a matter of regret that the passage of the river and harbor bill was delayed until too late to get in through it a full Summer's work at the mouth of the Columbia this year. Work of this character moves slowly in its preliminary stages, and if pushed to its utmost now could only result in a brief season's work, and that, too, at a lower rate than can be met by the owner of an unseasoned ship.

A French vessel is coming from Liverpool to Portland in ballast to load wheat at 28c 3/4, the lowest rate ever paid for such a long voyage for a single cargo. The vessel making the trip would show a loss were it not for the fact that the French bounty amounts to several thousand dollars. In other words, the French Government presents the shipowner with a sum sufficient to cover the loss of the wheat to the market at a lower rate than can be met by the owner of an unseasoned ship.

The advance of 3 cents per bushel in July corn in Chicago yesterday is probably a mild introduction to the squeeze which is awaiting the men who sold 15,000,000 bushels of corn and now have 1,000,000 bushels of contract grain with which to fill the orders. The business of selling something which one does not possess has ground the financial life out of hundreds of Chicago Board of Trade speculators, but the agriculturist, who at times has suffered the needless depression of the products of his farm by the manipulations of these creature bears, will not extend the same measure of sympathy that is usually given the under dog in the fight.

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Senator Spooner succeeded in putting our Philippine affairs in the hands of the President; he advocated the same course for the Isthmian canal, and now he seems if a fair way to carry through a similar scheme for Cuban reciprocity. If there were such a thing as militant imperialism, Spooner would be its chief exponent.

GREAT DESPAIR AND GREAT HOPE

Harper's Weekly. It must have been with a pang, self- or self-owned, that most readers of Mr. Herbert Spencer's latest and perhaps last word to the world came upon his avowal of disbelief in a life hereafter. It is made with nothing of that arrogance of the elder statesman which the older generations used so rudely to call infidelity. But thinking carefully over the claims of revelation, and collating them with the facts of experience and observation, he has found no real grounds for expecting that if a man dies, he shall live again, and he says so without apparent regret.

The regret and the emotion are the reader's, and they form together the pang which he has to reason away before he can realize that Mr. Spencer's conclusion is for himself alone, and has nothing whatever to do with the truth of the matter. In a certain measure he speaks as one having authority; his eminent services to the world in the field of social science entitle him to the most reverent attention. When such an agnostic declares that he knows no sufficient cause for our disquiet in taken away, and he depends upon his own reason, and he is humbly humble ourselves to his opinion.

In like manner, though in less measure, the wise and good and helpful woman who was laid to rest yesterday in Massachusetts, and who in the funeral she herself had written for her funeral spoke the words that comforted and sustained us. It is the philosophy of the philosopher that she had found no more reason to think she should live again than the philosopher Spencer. Neither of these great spirits bade us doubt, for less earnestly we renounce any hope that comforted or sustained us; they simply bore their testimony to the unbelief where the soul abides.

Dear Mother and Sister, I am going to heaven. I want you all to meet me in heaven. Tell all your friends to meet me there, and I will be there to meet them. I have not suffered much. Your boy, your friend, JOHN HENDON.

It would be a wrong to the faith which dictated these words, and to the greater authority than is due to the despair of the philosopher and the physician; but it would be an equal wrong not to claim as such. This is an affair that belongs to the church, and it is not for every one that lives is equally authorized to utter himself upon it. Whatever any one says is of the same weight as any other that is said, and it is not for the prophets of the religions. Because we can hardly read the messages of those dying men without tears is no proof that they knew more than those who deny the faith of their affairs. But we must not forget, in our reverence for the piety that despairs, the reverence due to the piety that hopes.

The Referendum in Oregon. New Orleans Times-Democrat. Aside from National matters, the Oregon election was a success because of the triumphant success of a new legislative system submitted to the people—the adoption of the Swiss idea of referendum and initiative. This was submitted to the voters in a constitutional amendment, which declares that, while the legislative power is vested in a Legislative Assembly, consisting of a Senate and House of Representatives, yet the people reserve to themselves power to propose laws and amendments to the constitution independently of the Legislative Assembly, and also to amend or repeal laws by referendum, and that any enactment of the Legislative Assembly may be submitted to popular vote by such Assembly, acting voluntarily, and must be submitted when requested by 5 per cent of the voters; and that the power of the people shall not extend to enactments voted on with approval.

These lips are mute, these eyes are dry. But in my breast, and in my brain, the power of the people is kindling. The thought that ne'er shall cease again, My soul no longer shall complain, Though grief and passion there rebel; Only know we love, and we are true. I only feel—farewell! farewell!

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OREGON'S OFFICIAL RESULT.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The official figures in the vote on Congressmen in Oregon tell a story which the country will be interested in reading. Of course, it is known that the result on Governor is that of no partisan significance. A bolting faction of the Republican party took away enough votes from the Governorship candidate to let the Democratic nominee get ahead of him. The Democratic candidate, out of a total vote of about 71,000, has a lead in the neighborhood of 300. If there had been no wrangle among the Republicans their divided vote for Governor would have been elected by a plurality ranging anywhere from 10,000 to 15,000. All the rest of the Republican state ticket was elected by long leads. The Republican margin in the Legislature is greater as a result of the late election than it was in the recent body.

It is the contest on Congressmen, however, which is of the greatest interest and significance. In 1888, the preceding year, the margin for the two Republican candidates for Congress in Oregon was 12,729. In the Presidential election of 1888, when the Presidential excitement ran the vote up to high figures, it was 15,231 in last week's election. These figures tell the story. Usually a party's loss in a Presidential year in the state is not a canvass until the succeeding Presidential campaign. The canvass this year in Oregon made a sharp departure from that rule. The majorities in last week's election were far ahead of those of two years ago, when there was an special incentive, on account of the Presidential campaign, to a large canvass.

This rise in the Republican vote means something. It means that on the issue of National expansion, which will be dominant in the Congressional canvass throughout the country this year, the Republican party is invincible. The voice of Oregon on this question is the voice of the entire Pacific Coast, and of the entire West. It is the voice of the States as a whole. National expansion, as expressed in the question of the retention of the Philippines, is a winning issue. The Republican party in the state, as expressed by the expression of the Republican majority in Congress. The flag in the Philippines will stay up. On this issue the Republican party will sweep the country in the Congressional canvass of 1902.

German Humor of the Real Brand.

Sonn und Montag Zeitung (Vienna). The diligent newspaper reader has lately been a little contemptuous of the German humor which has had the spirited toast which the Emperor and President of the French Republic have exchanged, and he hears of nothing but the bygone of political humor. He asks himself: "What is the cause of this alliance between Russia and France and no other object in view than the tranquillity of Europe. In presence of the toasts of the Emperor and the President of the French Republic, the German Emperor cannot keep silent. He also delivers a speech, which he addresses to the Alsatisians, whom he has just gratified by the repeal of the discriminatory paragraph. 'What is the cause of this alliance between Russia and France and no other object in view than the tranquillity of Europe. In presence of the toasts of the Emperor and the President of the French Republic, the German Emperor cannot keep silent. 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