

The Oregonian.

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

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Daily, by mail (postage prepaid in Advance)...

UNITED STATES, CANADA AND MEXICO. 12 to 14-page paper...

For sale in San Francisco by L. E. Lee, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100...

TO-day's WEATHER—Showers in the morning clearing during the afternoon; warmer, westerly winds.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JULY 4.

TRUTH VS. FICTION.

The Salem Journal finds mares' nests.

We do not state any secret when we say that Mr. Scott went to Washington early in the month of June...

First, let us remark that it is pathetic indeed to witness this solicitude for the Republican party and this holy zeal against "disorganizers" of it, on the part of one who deserted it for Bryan, for silver, for populism, and who put in many years of frantic and fanatic effort in trying to destroy it.

"We do not state any secret," says our silver-populist-friend Mr. Scott. Indeed, he does not; nor any party either. Mr. Scott has made no "deal" in his life of any kind.

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Perhaps Superintendent Lee, of the Oregon State Prison, did not mean it, but his statement that neither Tracy nor Merrill was ever, while in the Pen-

itentiary, struck by lash, whip or rod, and were even spared the humiliation of discipline by means of the "Brook-way spanker" is in view of the circumstances, the strongest argument that could be urged at this time in favor of corporal punishment for unruly convicts.

Perhaps a word should be said, before the incident is closed, about the attitude of the city towards franchises of various sorts in harmonious excess upon the conflicting theories that have perplexed the community the past few weeks.

Practically all of the objections to franchises involving public improvements can be swept away with one breath as captious, obstructive and insincere.

On the other hand, while every encouragement should be held out that is possible, all talk of foregoing taxation of franchises or earnings is the most mischievous sort of folly.

Fortunately, the present issues seem to have been wisely adjudicated. The Hillsboro line's application has been granted by the Council, virtually approved by the Board of Public Works, and whether this enacts the franchise into law as some contend or not, the road can undoubtedly be built.

Why will piece work tend to prevent the union treating as a body with the railroad? Because it tends to bring out the individuality of the man and sink his community or tribal relationship with his fellows.

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those trades where employers have shown most consideration for their workmen.

popular influence for years because they had been branded as "copperheads" by their conduct during the Nation's struggle for Mrs. Leaser men, like Voorhees, who had stooped to vulgar personal abuse of the Union soldier, were victims of public contempt outside their own narrow provincial field.

The soldier who fights and dies under our flag is always a pathetic personality. That is the reason why, in the state which politicians misuse, he protects from destruction the wealth gathered by the trader.

The British Navy, formidable as it is, is not, according to Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Beresford, without many and glaring deficiencies.

Jefferson, in his authorship of the Declaration of Independence, has been charged with having derived his political philosophy from Rousseau.

China's difficulties with the payment of her indemnity afford a most striking lesson on the dangers and losses incident to an unstable money standard.

The Minnesota Republican platform is remarkable for its clear escape from anything like dictation by the railroad trusts; for its endorsement of reciprocity with Cuba, notwithstanding the affiliation of Minnesota men with the Congressional "insurgents"; for its study protest against the copperheads of 1902, and for its advocacy of President Roosevelt's renomination.

Senor Buencamino left the White House Wednesday with the remark that the Philippine bill establishes self-government in the islands. This is perfectly true, though not in accord with the tenets of anti-imperialism.

The man who is always in duty bound to print in his paper every morning what is going to happen that day is always taking big chances.

They have some men at Seattle, apparently, who realize that an armed desperado will not be taken without a battle in which some one other than himself will get hurt.

One position after another has been abandoned by anti-imperialism, from the unconstitutionality of expansion itself to the project of an immediate protectorate over the Philippines.

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NOTE AND COMMENT. Bang! Keep the garden hose handy. We have out-shot the chutes. Good morning. Did you hear it? Let it rain; we all have umbrellas. Never mind; the youngsters are enjoying it. Even the game will turn, if followed too long. Mr. Merrill is keeping pretty quiet, if he is alive. The man hunt seems to be working backwards. Better look at your fire alarm card early and often. Would that George Washington could see us now? Keep perfectly quiet, so the children can hear the crackers. Perhaps Tracy was only firing his rifle in honor of the day. There will be other things loaded besides fireworks before night. At any rate Tracy has removed all doubts as to his identity. The celebration ought to be postponed until the diving suits arrive. The sunrise gun has apparently multiplied by about a half a million. Already enough powder has been burned to light two or three middle-sized wars. We are ahead of Seattle. She has the sound in front of her. It is all around us. If Seattle wants to make a showing in the next census she had better keep Tracy out of town. They may have made more noise in Revolutionary days, but they spread it over seven years. What have the engineers to say about Tracy's running a boat down Puget Sound without any license? A casual visitor from the other world might have thought we were shooting a convict here in Portland. If this hasn't waked up King George IV it is because he is sleeping more easily than Americans are ready to believe. Let us hope that somebody will kill Tracy. His crimes are now beyond any adequate punishment that the law can inflict. The telephone numbers of the Good Samaritan and St. Vincent's Hospitals are Main 229 and 152, respectively. You can choose your own doctor. Be gentle with your little boy. And he wants to kill you. By shooting at you with his toy Revolver, let him. Will you? Tracy confesses to having killed Merrill in Washington. Perhaps there will be rivalry as to which state shall hang him. But first let us catch our Tracy. The residents of the mountains along the west fork of Dairy Creek, in the northern part of Washington County, wanted a road up the creek, and asked the Commissioners to build it. The Commissioners, who had other calls of the same character, didn't see the immediate necessity of a road up Dairy Creek, but finally ordered the construction of an apology for one, which served in dry weather, but, owing to its innocence of bridges, was not silable when the clouds that blow over the Coast Range got to pouring down water in bucketfuls. So the mountaineers banded together, built the bridge, and that those who run may read, posted upon it the following notice.

BUILT BY THE STATE MOUNTAIN-ERRS. THE COUNTY WAS TOO POOR. Let the booming, banging crackers fill the air with joyous noise; Let a down-blast of music stir the souls of scores of boys; Let the playful, handy children tamper with explosive toys; Let you blow up without a sound or flash of warlike intent; Let toy pistols do the errands of a grim and certain fate; Let Dewey's charger scoot along where people congregate; Let nothing interrupt us on the day we celebrate; There'll be time to think it over in the morning.

Banish every thought of jocklaw, do not think of hitting horns; Tell your reason with the morning and the aftermath returns; You will need your whole attention for the next day's exigencies; With the hunting every highway is adorned; Dodge the cracker, shy the cannon, give the pistol right-of-way; Keep within your left hip pocket half a pint of armory; Never mind single hair or whisker on the head; There'll be time for dust reduction in the morning.

Oh, we love the land we live in and the glories that are its; And we're glad in the racket frighten us; We are willing on occasion to be shattered into bits; For a patriot all thought of fear is scornful; Let them shoot an ounce and blow up all the powder they can find; Let them fire the grand old banner to the wind, blowing in the face of the wind; Let them destroy and burn us, but we'll just say, "Never mind!" There'll be time to think about it in the morning.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHS. As they reckon Time—"How long has she been on the stage?" "Only about three divorces."—Chicago Record-Herald. "Who made good?" "Ab, Billy! You would not have asked that question in your sophomore year. You'd have known."—Life. "I can safely say that no man ever attempted to bribe me, gentlemen." Votes in the race. "Don't be down-hearted, old chap; your luck may change."—The Bits. Sunday School Teacher—"And so Lot's wife was turned to salt." Can any one tell what Wicked Willy (from the rear) says was too fresh?—Harvard Lampoon.

He knew—She-I never saw a married couple who got on so well together as Mr. and Mrs. Right. He—Humph! I know! Each of them does exactly as she likes.—Brooklyn Life. Doan to the village doctor, who is a sportsman, and is met with his gun—Shure, doctor, you are a careful man, for if your physic mixes 'em yer always carry yer gun.—Glasgow Evening Times. Involving a Surgical Operation—Cholly-I'm going to spend my vacation on the grand plain of the West. I want to give my mind a chance to expand. Birds—Going to have something done to your head?—Chicago Tribune.

"Yes, Count, in all the park there is no place I like so well as under this old, old tree." (Sighing sentimentally.) "There are tender associations, you see." "I comprehend, man, but you have yourself planted the tree?"—Punch. They Knew Him—Towne—Judging from what I've heard, your great improvement and will enable a citizen of Portland to show a visitor through the city without blushing at every turn for its shocking violation of the rules of common cleanliness and decency.

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