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TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair; warmer; northwest winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 72; minimum temperature, 56; precipitation, none.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JULY 12.

A PRECEDENT IN MEXICO.

It is somewhat airily put forth from the Vatican that the United States has perpetrated something of a diplomatic blunder in its conduct of the Philippine negotiations. We ask the withdrawal of the friars, but really that's impossible, don't you know. If the Washington Government had only taken the trouble to employ pour parleurs at the outset of the transaction, it might have ascertained in advance that the Vatican could never consent to the proposed withdrawal, and thus have saved itself some embarrassment.

All of which is diverting, perhaps, but not serious. There will be no embarrassment here. There will be no embarrassment of American purposes and necessities in the Philippines. The friars will not remain. They will go. Such embarrassment as ensues will be at the unconsenting Vatican and with the dispossessed and exiled orders. There is a pleasant and an unpleasant way of doing things, and Secretary Hay, like the accomplished gentleman he is, tries the pleasant way first. He would smooth the inevitable way for the ecclesiastical orders, but if rougher methods are by them preferred, so be it.

All the world knows, and all the world but friardom acknowledges, that the insurrections of the Philippines were protests not so much against Spain as against the church, and not so much against the church, again, as against the oppression of the religious orders. There can be no lasting peace in the Northern Philippines until the friars are withdrawn. The church will retain its ecclesiastical appurtenances, but not its civil jurisdictions or its lands; Justice will not be meted out to these unworthy representatives of a great church. Their sins and shortcomings will not be visited with confiscation and drastic banishment, but some generous consideration will be shown, monetary and sentimental, not on their account, but on behalf of the great body of their co-religionists throughout civilization and especially those in the United States, where the withdrawal of the friars is generally approved and earnestly desired. There is no more sincere believer in separation of church and state than the American Catholic. There is no wish in the Catholic Church of America concerning the Philippine friars but that they be dispossessed as soon as possible and replaced with native and American priests.

History might have enabled the Vatican to correct its bearings and facilitate its function of compliance. There is a parallel for the present Philippine situation in the fateful annals of Mexico. Her loss of that precious possession Spain owes to her friars, as she owes the loss of the Philippines. The revolt that ended in Mexican independence was due to the oppression of the religious orders, living 300 years behind the times and seeking to enforce upon the Mexicans the tyrannies and exactions of the Middle Ages. The tragic end of the Maximilian episode was largely due to the recollection of that ecclesiastical despotism. Not so much at Napoleon as at the old tyranny of the church was the resistance aimed.

In Mexico this ancient and intolerable regime got what was coming to it. Celibacy and ecclesiastical tribunals were suppressed. Over a third of the soil with other property valued at nearly $400,000,000 belonging to the church was confiscated. From the recognition of Mexican independence by Spain in 1821 down to the adoption of the present constitution in 1873, the struggle to wrest from entrenched ecclesiastical authority the powers that should reside with the people in their civil capacity has torn the peninsula with dissension and still animates its politics. The Americanization of the Philippines is inevitable, and in no respect more inevitable than in the secularization of its lands, public property and public functions. To the peaceful and thorough fruition of this process the friars are a dangerous menace. The work that has been done in Mexico must be done in Luzon; only it will be done with more consideration for the feelings and conservation of the financial welfare of the late supreme but now deposed religious orders. The Vatican will not "save its face" at the expense of the United States.

An interesting statement has been issued of the distribution of the steel trust shares. It indicates that they are very widely held, and that many of the men who have been commonly supposed to have the largest holdings are not possessed of such enormous quantities after all. The list given out covers only 7,717,000 of the 11,000,000 shares of the company, and these 7,717,000 shares were voted by 14,211 stockholders. A list of those who hold over 2000 shares of the preferred stock comprises about seventy names, but many of these are names of brokers who represent several individual shareholders. An interesting fact is that a London house and an Amsterdam house together are down on the list as owning or controlling by far the largest holdings on the list, 239,368 shares of preferred and 377,472 of common. One Bertram Cutler, said to represent the Standard Oil interests, was down for 123,000 shares of preferred and 25,365 of common. Henry Phipps, Carnegie's former partner, came third with 120,000 shares of preferred and 76,900 shares of common, and Henry C. Frick was down for 100,000 shares of preferred and 50,000 shares of common. These comprise all the holders of more than 100,000 shares of common or preferred. The president of the company, Charles M. Schwab, is down for only 50,001 shares of preferred and 5000 of common, while Pierpont Morgan holds only 7131 of the preferred and 12,590 of the common, and his banking-house, J. P. Morgan & Co., only 2820 of the preferred. The St. Paul Pioneer Press offers the pertinent observation that the fact that all the rest of the 7,700,000 shares that were voted are held in smaller quantities than 2000 of the preferred, together with the enormous number of individuals voting on the proposition, indicates that the profits of the steel trust do not go only into the pockets of big ironmasters, financial princes and railroad kings, but are distributed all over the country, as the reward of thrift by small investors.

LABOR CONTRACTS SHOULD BE KEPT.

The ranks of organized labor in Portland were considerably torn up a few days ago, when an employer of teamsters announced his decision to suspend an agreement he had recently made to pay them weekly instead of once a month. It is proper to draw their attention to the fact that the teamsters of Chicago packing-houses, who went back to work a month ago under a signed agreement covering twelve months, have walked out again in sympathy with the striking freight-handlers.

Of all the claptrap that strikes promote, and the product seems endless, none is more senseless than the plea on behalf of capital that it lives up to its agreements while labor does not. The plea is one of those many diversions with which one side of labor controversies is sought to be ornamented. Nothing is more plain to the observant than that contingencies may arise on either side which will render these solemn agreements ridiculous and in execution impossible. Long contracts of any kind between employer and employed are the source of more trouble than benefit. The price of retention to any employe is continued faithful labor, and the price of steady and cheerful service to any employer is right treatment of his men. Violations of these conditions are pretty certain to work disengagements at any time, and where the natural play of self-interest is interfered with by artificial restraints the result is of doubtful advantage to real merit on either side.

The fact remains that these agreements, when made, should be kept. Adherence to promises is the very backbone of industrial activity. What credit is to investment, contracts are to business. It is only upon perfect confidence in the inviolability of its undertakings that organized labor can hope for recognition as a social entity, and it is only through corresponding probity that employing capital can depend upon cheerful service, which is the only kind worth having. If Mr. Banfield could not see his way clear to pay his men weekly, regardless of any subsequent complication with other firms in his line, he should not have agreed to do so. If the Chicago teamsters knew that they were subject to any chance interference from other unions, they should not have pledged themselves to work for a year at so much a day for so many hours' work.

A line of cleavage is discernible within the ranks of unionism here as in other aspects of the labor field; for there are enlightened unions where contracts are regarded as sacred and are depended upon with safety by employers. In those lines of production capital has no fear of perfidy in its men. In other unions, perhaps those where the foreign idea of curtailing production is more prevalent, contracts are so often broken on both sides as to be lightly esteemed. The felicitous goal in these matters is mutual esteem and confidence. A long and painful evolution is ahead of those industries where masters view their men as brutes, and where men regard masters as their enemies. The horrors of industrial warfare will be mitigated as time goes on, and education lifts up and charity broadens and mutual knowledge breaks down prejudices. The civilized world lives with peace between the nations today, and a way was found without the annihilation of one side by the other.

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON.

Naturally, public confidence would be stronger if it were known just who and what are back of the railroad enterprise which is proposing to connect Coos Bay and Southwestern Oregon in general with Portland. But it really doesn't matter who the railroad-builders are if they do the work, and from the way they are going about it there is reason to believe that they mean business. The primary object of this enterprise no doubt is to exploit the timber fields which lie between Roseburg and Coos Bay, but in doing this there will incidentally be opened up a large section of country, part of which is already occupied by settlers and all of which is susceptible of production. Southwestern Oregon has always been cut off from the rest of the state by the triple barrier of distance, high mountain ranges and a difficult navigation. There has not even been a decent road between this great country and the outer world; and oftentimes for weeks together, owing to the difficulties of the Coos Bay entrance, the whole region has literally been bottled up and corked down.

Apparently the time has come when this severe isolation is to be broken, when through railroad enterprise Southwestern Oregon is to find herself in closer touch with outside activities and in a position to make something out of the resources which at some points surpass those of any other part of Oregon. If, indeed, there were nothing in the country but its deposits of coal and its fine forests, these alone would be enough to make its fortune; but it has in addition all the advantages which belong to any other of our Coast districts, including in almost precise duplicate the conditions which have made the wealth of the famous Humboldt country of Northern California. Transportation cannot fail to arouse these now dormant interests into active life and to develop others which are not now dreamed of.

Districts just now being opened by transportation, like those of Nehalem, Tillamook and Coos Bay, are in a position to benefit greatly by the active immigration movement to the Northwest. Here conditions are precisely to the hand of the newcomer. Lands are relatively cheap, and the general means of getting started are rather more favorable than in districts long settled and in which conditions of every sort are measurably fixed. As soon as immigrants shall be able to ride into these newer districts by rail, they are likely to gain population very much faster than the older parts of the country. There is to the settler an irresistible fascination in virgin country, a fact which serves mightily to promote their fortunes. But the first essential is transportation. The modern immigrant is not like his predecessor of the '40s; he likes a new country, to be sure, but he has no mind to bury himself. He halts when he is invited to get very far away from a railroad track, for he has learned that without transportation enterprise and industry miss half their just reward, and that life loses much of the variety and interest which in the modern view makes it worth the living.

EXPOSITION EXPERIENCE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

The Midwinter Fair, held in San Francisco nine years ago, affords in its history and records much that ought to be helpful in relation to the Lewis and Clark project. It is the only enterprise of the kind on a large scale ever attempted on the Pacific Coast, and it was, in a financial sense, at least, successful in the face of a season of unexampled hard times. Its management was close and prudent, and if the general results were not just what we hope to gain at Portland, they were at least all that was sought for at San Francisco.

The Midwinter Fair was not a spontaneous or in any sense a popular enterprise, though for business reasons a very considerable fund for it was subscribed by citizens of San Francisco. It originated in the mind of one of the most shrewd business men of San Francisco, but a man locally very unpopular. This fact made it from the start largely a one-man enterprise not very cordially sustained by the business public, excepting in so far as it might be expected to contribute to the life of trade in what was believed to be a coming dull season.

There is a disposition in the East among those who may be called exposition experts to deny the Midwinter Fair a place among the historic expositions of the country; and this is due largely to the fact that it was not an original enterprise, but a sort of warmed-over affair drawing almost the whole of its attractions directly from the Columbian Fair, at Chicago. And to some extent this criticism is legitimate. The Midwinter Fair was, to one who had not seen the Columbian, a very charming thing, but it was not an original fair and it did not in any large, sufficient and characteristic way, represent California or the Pacific Coast. There was reason for this in the haste in which it was gotten up; but no quantity of good reasons quite excuses an exposition from failure to be representative of the country in which it is held. Such a fair, of course, must fail to answer the expectations of every serious visitor; it must fail, of course, to be of much permanent value to its state or district; it exposes too baldly that its purpose is simply to make a local attraction for the sake of an active season for retail trade. Then, too, the Midwinter Fair lacked a historic basis. There was, in the large sense, no reason for it to be. All these considerations operated together to prevent the Midwinter Fair, either at home or abroad, from taking rank with expositions like those held at Omaha, Atlanta, Nashville and New Orleans.

From the first the Midwinter Fair sought to exploit the amusement as distinct from the educational idea. It has, indeed, been described as "merely a midway show," and if this is not wholly true it is at least true in part. Everything that could be got in the shape of a midway attraction was drafted into service, and as there were practically no restrictions based on moral sensibilities, it turned out to be a vast and wide-open carnival. Even where there was a pretense of introducing Pacific Ocean features, as in the Hawaiian, Samoan and Japanese villages, the amusement idea predominated over that which is common in expositions. Nothing was serious; everything was designed in light spirit and incidentaly to make money. There was good business management in all this—a management which justified itself by practical results—but it did not make much of an exposition, and it is not surprising that it fails to find historic recognition.

We want something more at Portland than a show that will amuse people and make a Summer of good trade. We have not gotten up this Lewis and Clark enterprise either to amuse the public or to bridge over a season of slack times. We shall not be satisfied even with a good financial balance if, after all is over, we shall have done nothing in historic keeping with the great historic event we celebrate, nothing to advance the Pacific Northwest in the world's knowledge and the world's respect. Of course, the amusement feature of the fair is expected to serve its legitimate purpose, but it is not expected to be nor will it be permitted to be the whole thing.

Perhaps the most manifest lesson of the Midwinter Fair is that an exposition can be made to attract a very considerable attendance, that it can put at least one good season's life into a town, and that it can be financially profitable, and with all this turn out disappointing. But there is further and pleasanter instruction in the methods by which the excellent business results at San Francisco were attained. Perhaps in the whole history of expositions large and small there was never one whose business management—whose general business administration—was on sounder and more practical lines than were those of the Midwinter Fair. There was no niggardliness; there was no waste. Some mistakes there were, of course, as there are in all large and hurried enterprises; but on the whole the management was admirable. Fortunately, the details of the administration of this fair have been preserved in carefully digested form. A history of the fair written immediately after its close contains a world of information in careful detail which will be useful at every point in the work of organization and administration here. Mr. Paul Wessinger has made a careful study of this history, and from his report to his fellow-directors of the Lewis and Clark Association we make liberal extracts on another page, for the matter is one in which the public as well as the officials of the fair are immediately concerned.

There is a certain parallelism between the case of Tracy and that of Sontag and Evans, the Visalia bandits, but the latter part of the Tracy story far outdoes the California exploit on the points of desperate circumstance and intense and sustained interest. Sontag and Evans eluded arrest and terrorized the officials for something more than a year, but under circumstances wholly in their favor. They were in a country rough and difficult as that of Western Oregon and Washington, familiar with every foot of it, and supported by the active and undisguised partisanship of the whole local population, to many of whom they were allied by blood or through marriage connection. They were liberally supplied by their friends, who operated with them at every crisis to distract and outwit the officers; and, having established themselves in a concealed and impregnable natural fortress provided with every physical comfort, they were able to stand off the officers for months, during which, in the course of daredevil excursions from their lair, they had several hot fights. There was nothing at any time in their situation comparable with the conditions against which Tracy has battled this past month, and especially during the time which has elapsed since he landed at Meadow Point, near Seattle. We recall no story in criminal annals which in its succession of desperate incidents and in its continuing dramatic interest equals that of this truly wonderful desperado. The theory of Tracy's insanity is probably a correct one. His conduct and his amazing fortune in getting out of tight places are not explainable upon any theory of sanity. Something of the luck which proverbially waits upon the lunatic has been in all these extraordinary escapes. In the end, of course, he is almost certain to be killed. His physical powers must soon fall under the terrible strain. The officers will come upon him at last; and as the time is past when quarter will be given, he will be shot down like a wild beast, which in truth he is. This will be the best possible ending. His capture alive, to be followed by a sensational trial, would—since the world is full of poor, morbid creatures—be a public misfortune.

We are not willing to believe that the head of the War Department would intentionally injure or affront the States of Oregon and Washington; and yet he has done just this in the order by which Captain McKinstay is detained in the East for the New London maneuvers, to the delay of important work here. Apparently it does not occur to Secretary Root that a season's delay in enterprises looking to the promotion of our commerce, and for which Congress has made provision, is a matter of as much importance as the sports at New London. Or, possibly, the Secretary does not understand that to throw the preliminary work to which Captain McKinstay has been assigned over to September is practically to delay the whole enterprise a full season. In any view, the incident illustrates lack of knowledge or lack of consideration neither creditable to the Secretary of War nor to the Government.

The arbitrators have decided that the owners or lessees may go on with rebuilding the old, rotten and stinking shack at the corner of Fourth and Alder. Since this is the spirit that has the ascendant in Portland, one or another who may want to do things may as well "lie down." Portland will make no progress so long as this spirit shall prevail; and apparently it will prevail to all eternity. Restoration of this putrid old stinking hen-coop, on one of the most conspicuous corners of the city, is the greatest triumph that dirty and sordid mossbackism has yet achieved. Who is George W. Gordon, commissioner or arbitrator on the part of the city, who has authorized this outrage? He must have lived in a chicken-coop, or doghouse, or worse, all his life.

The War Department is as serenely oblivious of the Columbia River now as it was in the transport awards and the embarkation and disembarkation of the Philippine armies. Mr. Root's attention is elsewhere, no doubt, but he is responsible for the unjust and questionable procedure of his subordinates by which this port has received most unfair discrimination. The hopes of fairness that rested upon the change from McKinley to Roosevelt are in a fair way to be dashed.

The currency scarcity at unexpected times can only be explained by the phenomenal activity of business everywhere, which is admirably reflected also in the buoyancy of the iron market. In the face of strikes, floods and a Congressional campaign, prosperity moves on apace. It means Republican votes in November.

It is earnestly to be hoped that King Edward will be crowned this time according to schedule, if for no other reason than the discomfiture of superstitious believers in baleful prophecies of charlatans and the maledictions of cranks. Every setback for these worthies brings the millennium nearer.

Portland will heartily appreciate the honor done it in the selection of Mr. Bailey as president of the Pure-Food Association. It is no less a compliment to the town than to that efficient officer. His duties are in the main thankless, and what glory it occasionally affords should be made the most of.

The only useful service of the lottery anathema at London is to call renewed attention to the supremacy of law in Great Britain and its wholesome disrespect of persons. The purposes of the drawing were commendable, and its methods as harmless as a Methodist grab-bag.

The fine Italian hand of Senator Hanna will again be recognized by our astute Populists in the Nicaragua revolution. Of course he starts it as an aid to his Panama route for the canal.

Echo's Lament for Narcissus.

Ben Jonson.

Slow, slow, fresh fount, keep time with my salt tears;
Yet, slower yet; O faintly, gentle Springs;
List to the heavy part the music bears;
Woe weeps out her division when she sings.
Droop herbs and flowers;
Fall grief in showers,
Our beauties are not ours;
Oh, I could still,
Like melting snow upon some craggy hill,
Drop, drop, drop, drop,
Since nature's pride is now a wither'd daffodil.

OUR STAKE IN THE ORIENT.

San Francisco Bulletin.

Do the people of San Francisco and the Pacific Coast realize what a magnificent future National and world events of the past few years have opened to California and its great metropolis and seaport? The winning of the commercial Orient, through our providential acquisition of the Philippine Archipelago, has furnished the United States with a strategical trade base that, with intelligent treatment, will give us the master key to the door of all Asiatic consumption. Where, hitherto, we have been able to gain only a small percentage of far Eastern commerce, there is now no just reason for doubting that before many years our flag and American enterprise will be preponderant in it.

Without Manila and the Philippines, our foodstuffs and manufactured articles, for the most part, would continue to go through the port of Hong Kong, to be there reshipped to Chinese points as English goods. Our possession of the island empire is changing all that. The trade between Manila, China and Asia generally will be recognized and hailed as American, and, maugre the pessimism of Eastern philanthropists who fancy otherwise, it will be promoted by the Chinese Government and people, on account of their conviction that this country means to and will treat them fairly, and is neither aggressive nor territorially greedy in its policy toward them.

The magnificent trade of the Pacific Ocean, which is to change almost the map of the world's commerce, will not alone inure enormously to the growth and wealth of this Nation, but will find its center and inspiration in Greater San Francisco. While the Coast metropolis is sending its staples and manufactured commodities to feed, clothe and equip with tools and facilities the teeming millions over-sea, it will be drawing thence the materials to build up the industries of the city to a point little dreamed of by a majority of our people at present. The Philippines reek with practically undeveloped resources which can and will be exploited for home industrial benefit. Placer and auriferous quartz deposits abound. From copper deposits of exceptional richness, cargoes of "matte" will be coming here by and by. Coal beds of great extent and good quality are reported generally throughout the principal islands. The agricultural possibilities of the possession are beyond comprehension. Manila hemp is the queen of the market for that article. Its high price, the ease and economy with which it can be cultivated, prepared and shipped will not fail to attract American enterprise, and the control of Europe over the trade ought to be broken and transferred to San Francisco within a few years. With anything like the devotion of ordinary intelligence and energy to rice culture, that product of prolific growth in the Philippines could be made to supply the wants of the insular population, and still leave a large surplus for export. Under present conditions of labor and enterprise—or the lack of it—a great deal of rice has to be imported annually to meet the native demand. We all know something about Manila tobacco, its excellence and the improvement it would bring to many of our home-grown and made cigars as a mixture. San Francisco might utilize it to advantage in many new factories. In fact, this city, as in other respects, as yet is too much at the mercy of Eastern manufacturers, and we smoke the weeds of the Connecticut Valley, or the bitter stogie plant of the Wheeling region, and think that it is great fun—also, that it is tobacco.

Probably one of the best and most feasible directions in which the industrial advancement of San Francisco can be promoted, on the basis of Philippine resources, is in that of the exploitation of the island timber. The forests of the archipelago are of unknown extent, estimates of their area varying from 30,000,000 to 60,000,000 acres. Probably the higher figure is nearer to the mark. Nearly the whole of the large island of Mindanao is covered with virgin forest. The same is true of many others. In many places 10,000 feet of merchantable timber to the acre can be relied on. In this vast natural resource are included between 450 and 500 tree species. Over 400 have been classified and described by the Philippine Forestry Bureau. Of the varieties valuable in connection with the purpose of this article it may be said that 17 are dye woods. Then there are gum, rubber and gutta percha trees, and a wealth of ornamental woods, such as rosewood—a dozen kinds; several varieties of mahogany, teak, ebony and other sorts of high value and ready sale. In speaking of the timber resources of the archipelago, Captain Ahern, U. S. A., in charge of the forestry work, said: "These forests produce timber and firewood; resin, gum and gutta percha; textiles from seed, bark and trunk fibers; oils, including perfume essence; dyes, bark for tanning, sugar and fermented beverages; medicines and fruit and other food."

What a foundation for a great cabinet-making industry is presented in the story of the Philippine woods! It only needs for Pacific Coast industry to get in and exploit these riches in rosewood, mahogany, teak and ebony to establish the basis for San Francisco furniture plants that ought to and would astonish the country and the world with their output of artistic and gorgeous domestic equipment. The timber could be sawed into convenient lengths on the ground, or into rough shapes at Manila, and landed here at a low cost of carriage. Then our home manufacturers and skilled artisans would do the rest.

We require the Philippine ornamental and dye wood, and such resources in our business. General irrigation is bound to add hugely to agricultural population and production. We want diversified industries to help eat up the increase, and to supply the enlarged farming community with its numberless necessities, for many if not most of which, as things now are, we should have to pay tribute to the East in the form of onerous freight rates. The undeveloped wealth of our Oriental possession is meat for this infant industrial Colossus of the Golden Gate. But he wants to hunt it.

Oregon's Representatives.

Woodburn Independent.

Oregon has no reason to complain of the treatment of Congress this year, securing for her rivers and harbors, including the Columbia, about $2,589,000. In addition to this, Oregon secured the passage of an Indian war pension bill, the Crater Lake National Park, authorization of the sale of the Umatilla reservation, relief for Sherman County settlers and a number of private pension bills. In fact, Oregon got about all she wanted this trip. Her representatives have been faithful to their trusts and covered themselves with glory; that is, all but Senator Simon, who has turned out a skeedaddler and a poor stick. What a disappointment this man has been. He has demonstrated, to the full satisfaction of all, that he is a peerless ward politician, but a dead failure in the upper branch of the National Legislature. The people of Oregon had good reason to turn him down.

Lottery in Cuba.

Army and Navy Journal.

Of course, the new Government of Cuba has the power to establish a national lottery if it sees fit to do so, but the officials of the young Republic might just as well understand to begin with that the adoption of that method of raising revenue would be extremely distasteful to the moral sense of the United States. Legalized gambling, and especially lottery gambling, was a curse to Cuba under Spanish rule, and it would be no less demoralizing under native rule. It is a vice which cannot safely be sanctioned under popular government, and its introduction in Cuba, besides dissipating money which should be invested in legitimate enterprise, would almost inevitably lead to serious embarrassment in the postal relations between the island and the United States. The Cuban authorities should think twice before legalizing a practice which is so thoroughly opposed to sound policy and public morals.

THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST.

Boston Herald.

Reports recently received from our Northwestern states indicate that the migration to the Canadian Northwest has set in in even greater proportions than was anticipated. In referring to this subject some time ago we said that the probabilities were that 10 years from this time it would be found that there were as many people of American birth living in the Dominion of Canada as there are people of Canadian birth now living in the United States, and that these Americans so residing would be found to form a very considerable proportion of the entire population of Canada. The four provinces of the Dominion, which, by the agricultural opportunities they hold out, are drawing in scores of thousands of Americans, are Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta. These four divisions make up an area of nearly 400,000 square miles—that is, an area between seven and eight times greater than that of either the State of New York or Illinois. At the present time this country is very sparsely settled. Manitoba is estimated to have about 200,000 people, but the three other provinces combined are not likely, at the present time, to have much more than half the population of the older and more thickly settled province.

A few years ago it would have been supposed that this northern district, occupying the space between the 49th and 55th parallels of latitude, was altogether too near the Arctic zone to be of value for the purposes of farming. Unquestionably the Summer in that northern latitude is short, the Winter is long and the cold sometimes intense; but it will be remembered that it required a campaign of education, carried on at the expense of the Northern Pacific Railway Company, before a great many of the people of this country could be brought to believe that Minnesota, North Dakota and Montana were states in which it would pay for sensible Americans to settle themselves. The Summer of the Northwestern provinces of Canada may be a short one, but it is one of intense heat while it lasts, and the wheat grown in that area has qualities which favorably differentiate it from grain grown under what might be supposed to be more favorable conditions.

But this is by no means all. This vast tract of land is in most parts abundantly watered by the many streams flowing into the Saskatchewan and the Athabasca Rivers, and is the only great area now known on this continent where desirable farms can be had almost for the asking. Not only has land in large quantities been taken up under homestead titles from the Canadian Government, but the large land grants that have been accorded to certain of the railroad companies have been disposed of to American real estate syndicates, and these have in turn arranged to sell out farms to American settlers on terms which, while profitable to the middlemen are yet sufficiently attractive to new settlers to make many of them eager to become purchasers.

It is a somewhat curious circumstance that these Canadian lands appear to be settled much more by people from the United States than by immigrants from across the Atlantic. There are quite a number of the latter who are making their way westward, but unless reports received are misleading, the great army of industrial invaders, who are preparing to settle down upon this hitherto deserted area, is made up largely of those who have acquired their money and experience in the United States, even in those instances where they can claim for a birthplace some country beyond the seas. Rather more than half a century ago the demand was very generally made by American citizens to have the northwestern border of the United States carried up to what would be the present equivalent of the northern border of Saskatchewan and Alberta. The cry of "Fifty-four-forty or fight" was heard from one end of our country to the other at the time of a certain warmly contested presidential campaign, but for a variety of reasons it was deemed expedient not to transmute this popular sentiment into diplomatic practice.

But if the migratory movement we have just referred to goes on, it seems to us that its effect must be to give to the American people that border line which they claimed so many years ago. It may be called Canadian land, but if inhabited by American citizens—and these, we are inclined to think, the inhabitants of these provinces will continue to be—the American influence will certainly make itself felt even when acting under a foreign flag. More than this, the interest which will spring up through the development of these vast wheat fields will be better served by transportation through a southern railroad connection than by transportation through systems that run East and West. It would be of great advantage to Minneapolis to have as direct tributaries to its flour mills the wheat fields of these Canadian provinces and such influence as our Northern and Northwestern states can exert to smooth down and rub out the border differences that now exist will undoubtedly be vigorously employed to bring about the changes to which we have just referred.

A New Way to Collect Bills.

"You've made a mistake in my bill," said a young man, excitedly, to the proprietor of a prominent tailoring-house, according to the Philadelphia Record.

"That can't be," asserted the tailor, mildly.

"Oh, but it's so," exclaimed the youth in a flurry. "Look here! Ten dollars too much charged on this bill."

The proprietor compared the bill with his books. "You are right, Mr. Blank," he admitted. "I'll take $10 off, and how much did you say you wanted to pay on account?"

The young man grew red, coughed, and finally produced a $5 note.

"That works every time," confided the tailor to an interested bystander, after the customer had departed. "Nothing brings a man here in such a hurry as to overcharge him on his bill. When a customer gets a little backward and dodges the place, I send him a bill overcharging him. He comes on a rush to have the mistake corrected, and a little diplomacy does the rest. Best of all, it doesn't hurt his feelings, as would a visit from a collector."

To Primroses.

Robert Herrick.

(Filled with morning dew.)

Why do ye weep, sweet babes? Can tears
Speak grief in you,
Who were but born
Just as the modest morn
Teemed her refreshing dew?
Alas! ye have not known that shower
That mars a flower;
Nor felt th' unkind
Breath of a blasting wind;
Nor are ye worn with years;
Or warped, as we,
Who think it strange to see
Such pretty flowers, like to orphans young,
Speaking by tears before ye have a tongue.

Speak, whimpering younglings, and make known
The reason why
Ye droop and weep.
Is it for want of sleep,
Or childish lullaby?
Or, that ye have not seen as yet
The violet?
Or brought a kiss
From that sweetheart to this?
No, no; this sorrow, shown
By your tears shed,
Would have this lecture read:—
That things of greatest, so of meanest worth,
Conceived with grief are, and with tears brought forth.

The Spring.

John Lyly.

What birds so sings, yet does so wail? 1
Oh, 'tis the ravished nightingale!
"Jug, jug, jug, jug, tereu," she cries,
And still her woes at midnight rise.
Brave prick-song! who is't now we hear?
None but the lark so shrill and clear;
Now at heaven's gate she claps her wings,
The morn not waking till she sings.
Hark, hark, with what a pretty throat
Poor robin-redbreast tunes his note;
Hark, how the jolly cuckoos sing!
Cuckoo to welcome in the Spring,
Cuckoo to welcome in the Spring!

NOTE AND COMMENT.

For Sheriffs come and Sheriffs go,
But Tracy goes forever.

Why not bring Aguinaldo over here and put him to work shooting convicts?

Tracy and Merrill are probably waiting to join Buffalo Bill's Wild West show.

Geographical Note.—A fugitive is an armed criminal surrounded by Deputy Sheriffs.

It looks as if the payment of rewards would never impoverish either Oregon or Washington.

Mount Pelee continues to announce that there are other things on the map besides Tracy and Merrill.

The war between Turkey and Bulgaria will not come off. The Sultan found the money somewhere.

Johnstown, Pa., may always be depended upon to furnish its full share of the mortality statistics.

Tracy doesn't seem to be worrying about the fact that he already has six hangings coming to him.

Judging by the inactivity of Sir Thomas Lipton, he does not think that America's cup is any lighter than it was last year.

William Watson also wrote a coronation ode, but it was too meritorious to gain the wide circulation enjoyed by the Austin brand.

People who have been reading about this kind of weather in the works of William Wordsworth ought to get out and see what it is like.

Now that submarine wireless telegraphy has been perfected, it will be only fair for volcanoes, which contemplate eruptions to give due notice to the yellow journals.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will reside in Dublin a portion of each year, and it is expected that the traditional divinity will be called upon to surround them with an unusually high hedge.

Harry McCalmant, member of the British House of Commons, of the Jockey Club, of the Royal Yacht Squadron and a dozen other clubs, has been appointed to take the Earl of Hopetoun's position as Federal Governor of Australia. It should not cause the surprise that it seems to be. Mr. McCalmant is a very shrewd man in business, especially finance. He has had opportunities of studying the British constitution thoroughly. His business qualities will appeal to the Australian Parliaments, which are composed very largely of commercial men. Furthermore, he has always been persona grata with King Edward. The fact that all Australians are born sportsmen and have incomparably the finest racecourse in the world will not hurt the famous Harry very much. If he has no title in fact, he is a Prince in the eyes of his countrymen, all the same. If being fond of well-bred horses were to debar him from taking such an important position, it would mean a revolution in Great Britain. Lord Rosebery, and even His Majesty himself, would be out of the race, with a thousand of other noblemen, gentry and true Englishmen.

The wealthiest clergyman in the United States was the late Dean Hoffman, whose estate is valued at $25,000,000. The wealthiest Judge is Justice P. Henry Dugro, of the New York Supreme Court. He is variously styled P. Henry, Philip H. and Philip Henry Dugro. The value of Justice Dugro's estate is well up among the millions. Inheriting a large fortune from his father, he has by shrewd real estate speculation increased it twenty-fold. He is one of the younger generation of Judges, not yet having attained his 47th year, and has been on the bench ever since 1886. Justice Dugro has a quaint fad. He is one of the most expert carvers in the world, and his interest in the Hotel Savoy is so intense that he spends a good deal of his time in the kitchen, seeing that the food and service are satisfactory. The close personal supervision has made the Savoy bill of fare famous the world over. When there is a crush in the dining-room he throws off his coat—his judicial ermine, so to speak—and buckles to with the carvers until the "hurrah" is over. Few of the hundreds of thousands who have dined at the Savoy realized at the time that the perfect cut of roast beef set before them was carved by the hands of one of the distinguished Justices of the Supreme Court of New York. Think of having a carver with a salary of $17,500 a year and a property of millions!

When the Summer sun begins to start the perspiration on the brow of the small boy and the dust begins to coat his cuticle he naturally turns to thoughts of swimming, and if he is a well-regulated boy it is dollars to doughnuts that he will run away to go. The haunting fear of the river is so active in the breasts of anxious mothers that the idea of swimming in it is horrible, and even fond fathers, who many a time and oft have sneaked down back alleys to join comrades at the mystic sign of the two fingers, are prone to remark philosophically, when asked for permission to go and learn to swim, that they notice that it is the expert swimmer who is always drowned. This sort of thing ought to be stopped. Portland now has a free swimming bath, where youngsters can learn to swim in perfect safety, and they should be allowed to use it early and often. Expert swimmers are drowned once in a while, it is true. Expert soldiers are sometimes killed in battle, but they are more able to protect themselves because of their knowledge, just the same. Knowing how to swim should be a part of every boy's education, and should be insisted upon by parents instead of discouraged. Let the youngsters learn to swim if you want them to grow up without practicing a vicious disobedience, for they will do it anyway, and incidentally remember that of all the drownings that bring sorrow to households annually, eight in every ten might have been averted had the victims not been utterly helpless in the water.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

A Model.—"Oh, no," declared the younger one, "my husband never goes to clubs or any other places of amusement unless he can take me with him." "Dear me! What a splendid man. How long have you been married?" "It'll be seven weeks next Thursday."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Accidentally Appropriate.—"The measure will be beeten," wrote the Congressman. "Excuse me," said the secretary, "but haven't you misspelled 'beaten'?" "No," said the statesman, who makes it a rule to admit nothing; "I have not misspelled anything. I am talking about Cuban reciprocity."—Washington Star.

Eloquent and Instructive.—"I suppose," said the first committeeman, "that, as a feature of our Fourth of July celebration, we should have some young lady read the Declaration of Independence." "I don't know," mused the second committeeman. "In view of the usual results of the celebration, wouldn't it be better to have her read a paper on 'First Aid to the Injured'?"—Baltimore American.