

The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter, October 3, 1881.

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES. By Mail (Postage prepaid, in advance)...

Foreign rates double.

United States, Canada and Mexico: 10 to 14-page paper, per month, \$1.00...

NEWS OF DISCUSSION. News of discussion intended for publication in The Oregonian should be addressed invariably to "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual.

TODAY'S WEATHER. Showers and cooler, south to west winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER. Maximum temperature, 60; minimum temperature, 45; precipitation, none.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

REPRESENTATION AT ST. LOUIS.

Mrs. Montgomery's suggestion that Oregon should be represented in some special and notable way at the St. Louis Exposition is both important and timely.

Within six months from the close of the St. Louis Exposition our Fair will open its doors, and if we go about the matter with any sort of diplomacy we can make the earlier and bigger show contribute greatly to the interest of the later.

The managers of the St. Louis Exposition fully understand the value of cooperative effort of this kind, and have made it an important feature of their year.

A GALLANT SOLDIER.

General Alexander S. Webb, who for more than thirty years has been president of the College of the City of New York, has resigned, his resignation to take effect December 1.

General Webb was a second time severely wounded at Spotsylvania in May, 1862, while leading his brigade in a charge.

General of Volunteers with the brevet rank of Major-General in the regular Army. His father was General James Watson Webb, the once famous editor of the New York Courier and Inquirer.

INDIAN INSPECTOR REPORTS PROGRESS.

The very prevalent belief that the Indians are dying off rapidly appears to be without foundation in fact. Major J. E. Edwards, Inspector of Indian Affairs, reports that the number of Indians in Idaho and Washington is greater than that of the agencies, he is authority for the statement that the Indian population is increasing slightly instead of decreasing rapidly.

A more important fact than this is disclosed in the further statement of Major Edwards that the "Indian is progressing." He is going out into the world, and in so doing is proving his growing ability to take care of himself on a self-supporting basis.

In a small state of 250,000 people it is easy to see that the hand that owned and manipulated all the railroads of the state was sure to become an evil, corrupting influence in business, society and politics.

Newsongers are busy with matrimonial possibilities that center in the White House. Now they state on "unbounded authority" that Miss Alice Roosevelt's engagement will soon be announced, and again the statement is as emphatic as the first.

The Chinese government's latest census of the population of China proper gives the number of inhabitants as about 426,000,000 souls, which is only 13,000,000 more than the Chinese figures for 1882.

THE ARMY.

The President has ordered the reduction of the Army to 56,889, the minimum authorized by law. The present size of the Army is 65,000. Under the present system the President could increase the Army to 100,000 tomorrow on his simple order.

The contrast between the military burdens borne by the United States and those endured by Germany, Russia, France and Austria is very striking. With a population of 57,000,000 inhabitants, Germany maintains an effective standing army of nearly 500,000 men.

due at once to about 57,000, our people have reason to be grateful that our young men are not tempted to expatriate themselves to avoid conscription for a standing Army.

THE ABSORBER AT LAST ABSORBED.

The Central Vermont Railroad is now simply a branch of the Grand Trunk system of Canada in all essential respects, and this fact is clearly established by the election of Charles M. Hays, of Montreal, to the presidency of the Central Vermont, succeeding ex-Governor E. C. Smith, by whom the Central Vermont was purchased.

The suggestion of a correspondent made in The Oregonian yesterday, that it would be well to have a law enacted making the State Penitentiary the place for all legal executions, is timely.

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The chief opportunity to reconstruction among the Cape Colony Dutch, according to the terms of peace in South Africa, is coming, not from the fighting patriots who have in good faith laid down their guns.

Special Session for Senator.

Multnomah County may just as well understand that its future, so far as that her delegation must act fairly with the outside delegations.

The total registration of New York City is 592,308, which is 37,000 more than the total of 1898, and 21,500 less than the total for last year.

A more distressing domestic calamity than that represented by the disappearance of her home of a timid young girl can scarcely be imagined.

Deer are increasing in Southern Oregon rapidly through protection. It is their natural tendency. The deer have increased rapidly in Canada through protection that the wolves have become a pest and a terror.

Flint Salaries to the Front.

It begins to look as if a special session of the Legislature might be called by Governor Geer for the purpose of putting state officials upon flat salaries and doing away with the fee system.

Didn't Hear The Oregonian Speak.

Banker Corbett is out for an extra session of the Legislature, and it is amusing to note how quietly the Lewis and Clark Exposition outside Portland pulls in its opposition to Geer's idea of making the call.

Take One, but Not Both.

Two matters in particular are worrying Portland—how to secure a \$500,000 Legislative appropriation and the United States Senatorship.

A Movement of the People.

The fight for a special session has made great progress in the last few days. The Portland papers are full of it, and as a purely people's movement it bids fair to win out.

Portland's Benefit Is Astoria's.

The sold men of Portland, the Taxpayers' League, have initiated a movement for a special session of the Legislature. No doubt the benefit of the Portland and Astoria is for the benefit of Astoria.

Referendum on the Centennial.

If a special session is held, and if it is to be held before the initiative and referendum is made the law of the state, it would be wise to submit to the people of the state the initiative and referendum.

Why Gnat's Dance.

A correspondent noting what is fairly well known among entomologists, that many species of flies congregate together to dance, says it is well known that this is for a very utilitarian purpose—the selection of a mate.

A Contemplation Upon Flowers.

Henry King. Brave flowers that I could callant I like you. And be as little vain! You come abroad, and make a harmless show.

THE DESTINY OF NAMES.

Kansas City Star. Judge Wofford, who has earned a reputation for quiet plainness, the people of City, asked the name of one of the girls of his probationary school, "Marie," she said, "Humph! No wonder you stole."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Dr. Wise is now at the bat. Attorney Lord practices where he preaches.

The bicyclists are rejoiced over the cement sidewalks.

The book agents have heard that this is an open town.

Mr. Kilner has retired to practice what he has been preaching.

The Law Enforcement League will again take amateur standing.

The white dove of peace seems to still have a little coal dust on her wings.

If the blanket franchise can cover the streets, it will save much unpleasantness.

Mr. Morgan has been compelled to present London with the freedom of the city.

A preacher with an honest purpose is sometimes more effective than a lawyer with a fee.

The Sphinx is hereafter to carry a parasol. This solves the century-long riddle of its sex.

Mr. Lord and Mr. Kilner are discouraged about Portland's morality. This is the best sign yet.

Somebody tried to kill the Sultan of Turkey the other day. Reform is getting to be world-wide.

Now that the stage is fast becoming a dissecting-room, it is quite proper for a physician to become an actor.

When a man has his son, aged 12, arrested for vagrancy, it does not necessarily follow that the boy took after his father.

John D. Rockefeller is returning pecuniary thanks for being saved from fire. Some people think this is in the nature of precaution.

Hoban Sanjuro Shimizu, to whom has just been awarded the Catherine M. White scholarship for excellence in the engineering department of the Armour Institute of Technology, is a young Japanese student who entered the Institute four years ago.

Mrs. Marie W. Witt, a resident of Baltimore, recently secured a divorce from her husband and on Wednesday evening celebrated the event by hiring a hall and giving a "divorce party" to a large number of her acquaintances.

Baron Tauchnitz, the German publisher, has made an interesting confession. When the suggestion was made to him that his terms to writers might be improved upon he answered by showing that the circulation of books published by him is much smaller than is generally supposed.

Judge Evans, of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, has taken a practical step toward improving the quality of jurors drawn. He has addressed circulars to leading business men, of all kinds, asking them to send names of employes competent to serve as jurors.

A setting of Ben Jonson's "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes" was published recently by the Wa-Wan Press at Newton Center, Mass. In a few weeks there came a letter from a woman who had been a singer in light opera, but who quit the stage because she could not make a better living popularizing songs by singing them into the phonograph.

Dear Madam—As Jonson was a pal of "Bill Shakespeare's," he isn't with us at the present time. In any case, he would not sanction this edition of a song which might be so much more satisfactorily applied at the Memorial Tavern. We feel that the last three centuries have sufficiently heralded his name abroad to make it unnecessary to resort to the phonograph in the present emergency.

PLEASANTIES OF PARAGRAPHERS.

"Josh bet Zeke that he could stay under water two minutes." "Did Josh win?" "Yep." "Where is he now?" "Under that yet." Philadelphia Press.

"I intend to come and see your wife this afternoon. I haven't been able to come." "Thank you kindly, miss. It'll be like a bottle of physic to her!" Punch.

"A fine old thing to preserve some things," remarked the speaker of the occasion. "Things that will not preserve order."—Yonkers Statesman.

"If your son gifted in any way" asked the visitor. "Mr. Kimball may be," answered Mrs. Cornwell. "About everything he has been given him by us."—Washington Star.

Hogan—An is a blooded dog, Mike? "Blooded? It'd say he was. Why, when he was a pup he had to weed him to keep him from a bloodhound, faith!"—Chicago Daily News.

"Mercy sakes! Why have you bought all this crap and black silk?" "Well, I had a chance to get it at a bargain, and my husband is working on a flying machine, you know!"—Chicago Record-Herald.

Judge—Yes, Rishamuddin declares that he is a "self-made man." Judge—That's true enough, if he only had those "fingers." "Now he's gone to work and made a fool out of himself bragging about it."—Baltimore Herald.

"A fooler citizen hasn't spoken to a human being for 40 years, and all because a girl hit him when he was a callow youth." "Well, perhaps that's a good deal better than talking the neck of a horse and making a fool out of himself bragging about it."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Wear! Wear!—Ladies, can't you help a poor fellow who'd do coal strike has knocked out of his wits?" "Mr. Kimball—Here, take this quantity of carrots and of beets, of corn and of meats, of flour and of coal and of fruit, of milk and of butter, of eggs and of potatoes, milk and cheese, of the product of the bees, of the product of the earth, of all that sinks or floats, of all that's in the world, and of all that's in the air." He's paying out the money that he saved before he was raised, and his heart is full of praise. —Chicago Post.

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