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TESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum tem TODAY'S WEATHER-Fair and slightly warmer; northerly winds,

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.

PRESIDENT BIGELOWS PROPOSALS. The principal incident of each year's gathering of the American Bankers' Association is the address of its retiring president. This year this task has fallen upon a man of unusual attainment in many ways-a man of high character, eminent business sagacity, great personal charm and a strong inclination toward the practical side of public questions. There are few financlers in the West, perhaps none, whose wlews upon currency and banking conditions would be received with more respect than will be accorded the address of President Bigelow at the New York convention on Wednesday.

The most impressive thing about Mr. Bigelow's discussion of our monetary condition is its conservatism as compared with the extreme demands made by our currency reformers. Ever since the repeal of the Sherman law, accomplished by Grover Cleveland in 1893. students and business men alike have arrayed themselves in the embattled ranks of Baltimore plan or Indianapolis plan or Gage plan or Fowler plan, and nsisted that nothing but the ad of some pet panacea could save us from another panic. Yet Mr. Bigelow confines his recommendations to three or four very simple and easy changes in

the present system.

As to conversion of the Treasury stiver into subsidiary coin, removal of the limit on banknote retirement and deposit of all Federal revenues in banks with approved security, we fully coincide with Mr. Bigelow's recommendations. An agreement on these points should be had from Congress and speedily put into law. Mr. Bigelow would also have the surplus sliver sold outright, which is probably impossible and in any event certain through populist agitation to bring upon us more harm than good. The silver burden is great and potentially dangerous, but its menace decreases year by year as it grows smaller in comparison with the gold in circulation and as it is inevitably worked up into subsidiary coinage and lost in the circulation. Every silver dollar turned back to the Treasury reduces by that much the silver certificates outstanding, and these are absorbed by business, which needs them greatly. Our subsidiary coinage in the circulation doubles in about seventeen years. Of the big dollars themselves we have absorbed \$20,000,000 since 1837.

retirement of the greenback. Theoretically the Government's continued refusal to redeem these promises to pay, a generation after the war and with offers running over with gold is little short of infamous. And yet in fact nobody who holds them is anxious to be paid. Their menace to the parity grows fainter each year, for time and usage must some day remove them from any actual place in affairs. It is ten years since they worried us so dreadfully. How much actual possibility of uncomfortable liquidation is involved in the relics of what are still carried on the books as "U. S. notes outstanding, \$346,681,016," nobody knows. Certain it is that in those ten years the gold on which our paper and silver are based has grown from \$500,000,000 to \$900,000 .-600. It is practically a certainty that the gold standard is as safe as law can make it. Under Mr. Bigelow's pro-Secretary of the Treasury could overturn the standard as readily as they could now, and that is our only dan-

It is a very impressive fact that no body of American public opinion has so keenly scented the dangers of radical currency and banking reform as the bankers themselves. They have stood unmoved by the professors and expert enthusiasts. They have refused to indorse retirement of the greenbacks, and have preferred to buy bonds as now rather than take up with the blandishments of an asset currency. The reason why they do this is partly from inherent dislike of sudden changes from familiar methods, but still more ular confidence would be disturbed by any radical reformation of our nondescript and unscientific system or lack

In this we believe they have been right. Banking systems are like all other human institutions in this, that they are slow and organic growths, branches in the wandering airs of pop- greatest gifts will be understood and direct territory, but it has been at a post-Pre

ular prejudices. It would be poor pollcy to gain some slight advantage in our tactical situation at the price of a general distrust which artful demagogues might fan into a fiame of unreasoning and therefore unappeasable protest. It is easy to see that Mr. Bryan will be greatly in favor again in 1908. Let us bring as few thorns of banking reform as possible to crackle under the fool's pot of that wisard of all wild vagaries and dangerous dreams.

TIES THAT BIND-AND OTHERS. Now that Russia has, to all intents and purposes, been driven out of Manchuria, the international aspects of Japan's success are beginning to attract more attention than the merely military. Possible conditions of peace are being discussed, and the nations principally interested in the Far East are already attempting to readjust themselves to changing conditions, Germany is reported to be anxious about her possessions at Kiao Chou, and Great Britain has actually begun negotiations at Pekin for the purchase outright of Wel Hal Wel, which she at present holds by agreement with the Chinese government until Port Arthur shall have passed out of Russian hands. In this connection an interesting question arises. Are the gunless fortifications of Wel Hai Wei due to an advance hint from Japan? The point, so far as we are aware, has not been discussed by any writer, but this theory affords an explanation of the apparently aimless action of the British government in beginning elaborate fortifications at great expense, and subsequently neglecting to mount a gun in What more likely than that Japan should have quietly hinted that Russia would not always hold Port Arthur? Writing in the current number of the Nineteenth Century and After on the preliminaries of the war, Baron Suvematsu says:

Only a little time ago an eminent French stateman told me that France understood Japan little; Russia lees. It was the sole cause of the present unfortunate war. "In that respect," he continued, "England was sharper, for she understood the Far East, and consequently the changing circumstances of the world before any other Occidental nation." There is, I believe, a good deal in it.

Aside from this point, however, which is chiefly pertinent as indicating that the Anglo-Japanese alliance may be closer than-it is generally considered to be, broader issues are being opened up. When the Russians shall have been chased into Harbin, Japan's objects will have been accomplished, for the time, at least. In the Japanese note to Russia, February 5, practically an ultimatum, two points were insisted upon. "The government of H. M. the Emperor," said the note, "regard the independence and territorial integrity of the Empire of Corea as essential to their own repose and safety." The other point was the necessity of respecting China's territorial integrity in Manchuria. Corea is now under Japanese influence, and the appointment of Durham W. Stevens has done much to strengthen Japan's position there with other nations. Of Mr. Stevens. who is an American, the Washington Post says that "few men who have come to Washington representing any foreign nation have won such general esteem, even in purely official circles." The question of Corea may be regarded as settled. Remains the question of Manchuria.

Japan, as declared in her "ultimatum," insists upon the maintenance of China's "territorial integrity in Manchuria." Russia has again and again professed her desire to have the same end accomplished. What is to prevent Japan, now that the Russian forces have been driven practically to the boundary of the province, from inviting China to step in and assume the administration of Manchuria? Nothing; and that such is her intention is to be inferred from the fact that when Dalny was occupied the Japanese and Chinese flags were hoisted side by side So strongly is this course relied upon in Pekin that, according to a well-informed writer in the Contemporary Review, the Chinese have already selected the officials for the various Manchurlan posts, and a dispatch in yesterday's Oregonian tells of China's efforts to raise money for a Manchurian garrison. Should Japan take such action. Russia would be logically deprived of any chance to get even, and if she used force, war with China would be precipitated, rather a dangerous matter in view of the international interests that

vould be involved. Japanese successes have already affected European friendships. The London Times' story, which appeared in Tuesday's Oregonian, to the effect that Germany had formed an alliance with Russia, or had at least come to a definite understanding, by virtue of which Germany would have the support of Russia in her designs in the Far Very similar is our demurrer to the East, is probably greatly exaggerated. although there are not wanting indications that such a rapprochement is probable. A French writer, M. de Marmande, in discussing the Franco-Russian alliance, says in the Fortnightly

International interests, moral and economic, are, in fact, the cause and object of all alli-ances. To deay this is to deny the witness of history and reason alike. And from this int of view the Franco-Russian siliance has for some years now, been maintained merely in obedience to an impetus once given, but of which the force is slowly and surely expending Itself. Public opinion is almost ready to

The truth of these remarks is indisputable. France has gained from the alliance nothing but the somewhat doubtful advantage of becoming a heavy creditor of Russia. Russia, in the present war, has gained nothing Far East, will give the roads having difrom the alliance, and cannot have been posed changes, a fiat President and gratified by the Franco-British "entente cordiale" which has been hailed with approbation on both sides of the Channel. Germany would be a better ally in every way. And from the German viewpoint Russia would be a better ally than none, even if Japan were finally victorious. The prospect of Japan as the predominant power in the Far East, and hand in glove with Great Britain, is one that lacks charm for the Kaiser.

The red wave of destruction which is sweeping over the forests of Oregon and Washington is causing a loss for which there is no recompense, and which can never be repaired. Large tracts of the finest timber on earth are being destroyed, and incidentally perishing with this timber are thousands and hundreds of thousands of young trees, which, had they lived, would in time fill up the gaps caused by the re- | tinental line, it may be said to have moval of the big timber. The present eneration will not appreciate to the fullest extent the loss that is being oc- trade. The Milwaukee made a trackcasioned by the forest fires, but it is age arrangement with the Union Panot so very far away in the future that their roots in age-long habit, their this awful waste of one of Nature's able Pacific Coast business from its

ago a \$4,000,000 hop crop was in jeopardy from rain, and there was an almost universal desire that the dry weather continue. Since then the fires have increased so rapidly that the value of the standing timber now imperiled is many times greater than the value of the hop crop. The wishes of the general public are not always respected by the director of the weather, but if such were the case it is probable that a drenching rain would soon be falling on the many forest fires in this vicinity, even though some damage be suffered by the hop crop.

JAPAN'S INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE. A Japanese syndicate is reported to e securing options on a number of Puget Sound shingle mills. Japanese labor has for years been employed in the manufacture of shingles and lumber in British Columbia, but thus far the little brown men have not secured much of a foothold in this line of work on the American side of the line. The prowess of Japan as a fighting power on sea and shore cannot do otherwise than increase her commercial and industrial prestige at home and abroad. Her overcrowded Islands have long ago ceased to offer much room for industrial exploitation or to supply employment for her subjects. As a result they have overrun the Hawalian Islands and have been coming into British Columbin, and the United States in great numbers. Right in our midst, they are conducting restaurants, stores, barber shops and other similar enterprises.

Judging their future movements by the past, it is but natural to suppose that they will branch out and crowd into any avenue of employment that is open. The Japanese as a class are today drunk with the wine of victory. and in their exhilarated condition are ready and willing to go to almost any length that their finances will permit in either territorial or industrial conquest. The absorption of Manchuria will offer an outlet for many millions of the Mikado's subjects, and in the development of that vast land Japan will quickly recover from the tremendous financial loss of the war. But the "Yankees of the Far East" are born traders, and they will branch out and overrun the world in their quest for business. The Pacific Coast offers a fine opportunity for them, for the reason that Japan is much in need of many of our products. If the Japanese laborer under the supervision of the Japanese foreman can make shingles and cut lumber for the white man, he can certainly do the same for the capitalist of his own land who has suffi-

cient money to establish the plant. The Japanese fishermen are catching most of the salmon that are taken in the Fraser River, and their fellowcountrymen are assisting in packing the fish, labeling the cases and doing practically everything connected with the industry, except financing the sale of the pack and paying the employes. If they can do this under white supervision there seems to be no logical reason why they should not themselves engage in the business. Japan is now a heavy buyer of Pacific Coast salmon and lumber, and she would naturally show a preference for dealing with her own people if they become established on our shores. It will be a long time after peace is finally declared before Japan will feel disposed to permit too many of her subjects to leave her immediate jurisdiction, and the new territory which it now seems almost certain will fall to her in Manchuria will offer a field for so many of them that there invasion of the Pacific Northwest by Russia's foe. As a straw of noticeable proportions indicating the direction of the industrial wind, the increasing numbers of Japanese in this country and in British Columbia are worthy of notice. "If they are as aggressive in their peaceful efforts as they are in the field of battle, they may some day become more important factors in Pacific Coast industrial life than they hold as shingle-makers, sawmill operatives or salmon-fighers. This is an economic problem that may some day bother the

ANOTHER TRANSCONTINENTAL ROAD.

walking delegate.

The announcement that the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad will extend its line to the Pacific Coast has created considerable comment in the East, and the early construction of the extension is regarded as almost a certainty. Investigations which have followed the announcement of the securing of terminals on Puget Sound have satisfied the most trustworthy financial papers in the East that the present movement will get beyond the "proposed" stage. The extension will undoubtedly be built because it is almost a necessity in order to protect the vast mileage already controlled by the road in the richest portion of the United States. The Pacific Northwest is increasing its times taxes the facilities of the roads handle it, and the territory from which this tonnage is coming is so far from reaching the possible limits of development that it may be said to be just at the beginning.

The restoration of peace in the Far East will be followed in a few years by an enormous increase in the trans-Pacific trade. That trade will call for great quantities of goods from the East and Middle West, and the transcontinental lines which are now hauling empty cars out here for lumber, shingles, wheat livestock, wool, etc., will soon be carrying freight both waya. This increasing activity in the Far West and its trans-Pacific neighbor, the rect connection with the Coast an advantage over the Milwaukee which will very materially affect the revenues which it enjoys in its present restricted sphere. Unless it strikes out for new fields and gets on even terms with its competitors in the Middle West, it is in a fair way to be worsted.

The Burlington system is a close neighbor of the Milwaukee. The two lines serve practically the same territory in several of the principal states of the Middle West, and naturally there is considerable rivalry between them Prior to the extension of the Burling ton to Billings and the direct connec tion there with the Northern Pacific, the two roads were on pretty even terms for the business originating in mutual territory. When the Burlington emerged from the "granger" class of roads and by affiliating with the Northern Pacific became in effect a transconleft the Milwaukee "bottled up" and unable to participate in some very rich cific, and has since handled consider-

disadvantage compared with its competitor, and will continue to be until it can reach tidewater on the Pacific over its own tracks.

It has gridirened Iowa, Minnesota Wisconsin, most of the Dakotas and portions of Illinois, Missouri and Michigan. Pacific Coast lumber is finding a big market through these states, and the demand is steadily increasing as the forests of that country are vanishing. The "through roads" from the source of supply will have the advantage in this trade, and they will also be better equipped for handling the west-bound traffic that originates in the territory of the "granger" roads. Rallroads are much like other industrial enterprises in that they cannot stand still, but must either keep up with the procession or go out of business. There a rich country lying between the present prairie termini of the Milwaukee's Dakota lines and tidewater on the Pacific Coast. Other roads have been moving into the country, and the Milwaukee must do the same of lose both business and prestige in the territory

where it is now firmly intrenched. In the matter of finances for building the Pacific Coast extension, the Milwaukee is probably better equipped than any other road that ever started across the continent. The company several months ago authorized the Issuance of \$25,000,000 of new stock, none of which has yet been used. Additional financial strength is given the road by the fact that William Rockefeller is the largest individual stockholder and a number of other Standard Oil capitalists are interested. The plans thus far made public indicate that Tacoma will be the terminus of the line. This fact will not lessen the interest that Portland will have in the matter, for this city has already forced recognition from other lines which paused for a time at a Puget Sound terminal. When the Milwaukee & St. Paul begins running through trains to the Pacific Coast they will come into the Union Depot in this city about five hours after they reach Tacoma.

The Novoe Vremya, the leading Russian newspaper of St. Petersburg, is not humorous publication in the sense that we regard Puck, Judge and similar papers, but since the opening of the war with Japan it has frequently given the public some delightful bits of unconscious humor. For example, it comments on the Lena as follows:

The appearance of the transport has already a panic into the contrabandists of the Coast and created a Permendous sensation throughout Europe, only showing how the slightest success on the part of Russia creates apprehension throughout the rest of

The Lena, one of the remnants of shattered and scattered fleet of Russian vessels, limps apprehensively into a neutral port seeking repairs and safety, and in the mind of the Novoe Vremya editor the feat becomes another Russian success. The juvenile ostrich, which sticks its head in the sand in an endeavor to hide from the hide their defeats and misfortunes from the public simply by labeling them as successes. Even one of the "slightest successes" on the part of Russia might create a tremendous senation on account of its rarity, if for no other reason, but we must have the real thing before we begin the applause.

Russia has bowed to the modern docin accordance with American and British proposals, as the two nations most immediately and largely concerned in the peaceful continuance of trade with Japan. Foodstuffs, Russia now announces, will be merely conditional contraband. In other words, such property will not be seized unless it is clear that it is intended for the use of a belligerent nation's fighting force. This is the most important point in the negotiations, and marks an important diplomatic victory. Railroad mterials will still be held contraband by Russia, it is announced, and while the decision is not in harmony with the forner, it is not likely to create much friction. Presumably this decision of the Russian government was reached after the prize court had dealt with the case of the British steamship Calchas. The vessel is to be released, but part of her cargo, consisting of flour, cotton and timber, is to be confiscated. The decision is totally at variance with the government's announcement, and will probably be set aside at St. Petersburg.

ber of Englishmen were engaged in the "bogus lord" business in this country. Possession of a cockney accent and a suit of broad checks was all that was required to set up in business that became profitable or otherwise, as suckers were plentiful or few. Is it possible east-bound tonnage at a rate that at that the Japanese, with true Oriental thrift, are about to glean this closelyreaped field? From St. Paul comes a telegram telling of two Japanese cruisers that chased the Lena into San Francisco, the story being on the authority of "Count Yama Osichi." The Japanese Consul at San Francisco, who is naturally interested in all that pertains to the case of the Lena, does not believe the exciting story from St. Paul. because, as he explains, there is no such Count as Yama Osichi.

Keats, in his "Ode to Melancholy," speaks of the man who-

With strengous tongu Can burst Joy's grape against his palate fine. Such a man is evidently Thomas Jones, of Newberg, who saved up \$80 to have a good time in Portland. Within the first few minutes of his good time Mr. Jones was "doped" and robbed of his eighty dollars in a lump. It is not strange to say that Mr. Jones' palate fine was not sufficiently tickled with this sudden bursting of Joy's grape, and that his soul is now with Melancholy's cloudy trophies hung, for this only bears out Keats' assertion that "in the very Temple of Delight veiled Melancholy has her sovran shrine."

NO TRIMMING HERE.

We do not have to guess at our own convictions, and then correct the guess if it seems unpopular. The principles which we profess are those in which we believe with heart and soul and strength. Men may differ from us; but they cannot accuse us of trickiness or insincerity. The policies we have pursued are those which we curnestly hold as essential to the National welfare and repute. Our actions speak even louder than our words for the faith that is in us. We base our appeal upon what we have done and are doing, upon our record of administration and legislation during the last seven years, in which we have had complete control of the Government. We intend in the future to carry on the Government in the same way that we have carried it on in the pust---Fresident Boosevelt.

#### THE SLEEPLESS NIGHT.

Chicago Tribune. insomnia, per se, would not be so full of torture if it were not so incurably pessimistic. It will not allow a man to lie awake and think pleasant thoughts, nor will it permit his mind to be a blank.

"Hello!" croaks a voice at some un "How's business? earthly hour, "How's business? We haven't had a talk for some time. Tell me all about everything. Let's see. The last time we talked you were pretty badly off. Yes, I remember, Things were going to the bow-wows. "What's that? You were needlessly

worried over trifles? Well, I have my own opinion as to that. I thought you were on your last legs. But anyhow, as between us two, how's business? I'm interested in you. You're worse off than ou imagine. How's the bank balance? "It's rather low, is it? Never mind about the money that's due you. How do you know it will ever be paid? So the balance is low, eh? Now tell me what you're going to do. How can you pay your bills? You can't pay them. An idlot could see that you're done

"You don't know about that? That's the trouble with you. You don't know. You don't know enough about your business. That's why I want to talk it

all over with you. So they talk and argue and wrestle in the stillness of the night. The tired man tosses and turns and opens his eyes and stares into blankness closes his eyes and say that he is going

to aleep You are, eh? Who's boss here? Now listen to ME. We're going to start in and discuss your business from top to bottom. We're going to take it up point by point and get things straightened out, if it's possible, which I doubt. Now, let's get right down to business. What's going to become of all that unim-proved property you owe money on? What will become of you when the mortgage is due. It's due next week. What undertaker do you wish to preside at your funeral?

"So, you'll renew the mortgage? That is, you will IP you can. Do you hear me? I said IF you can. But you can't. You're cornered. You're up a tree. You're in the air—in the air. They've got you. Still you've a chance. Maybe you can break into a bank and steal all the money without being caught. You see, I'm trying to encourage you. Ha ha! You would be all right if you were not a fool. If you had any brains you could be just as successful as other men. There's no reason why you couldn't. So cheer up. It might be worse. Of course it might be worse, but can't imagine it.

"Now, go to sleep. Go to sleep. You can't, can you? See, that's the trouble. You might do something if you would rest at night instead of thinking about you business. Good-by. I'll try to get around o your funeral."

The genial visitor departs and the man hears the bired girl in the kitchen getting breakfast.

#### GAMBLING NOT NECESSARY.

Spokane Spokesman-Review. For a time, at least, public gambling Portland seems to have been stopped. If the city remains closed long enough to have the fact demonstrated that people American people to war. can get along very well without public gambling establishments, the games are not likely to be reopened. Every time public, displays more wisdom than is gambling is put under the ban and the shown by the Muscovites who seek to law is enforced, it is harder to reopen, because the public becomes convinced that it is by no means essential to a town's prosperity that places should exist where men may try their luck and lose their

At every antigambling crusade the argument has always been advanced that a suppression of the public games would kill the town; that money would not come in outside; that people in neighboring cities and towns would remain away; Russia has bowed to the modern doc-trine that war should be made to press freely; that a depression would set in, and as lightly as possible upon neutral ar-that trade in general would lose. This arturn lively times into dull times

But actual experience shows that there is not much justification for this reasoning. There has been temporary depre in gambling circles when the resorts have been compelled to close, but it is not a depression that has ever seriously affected any substantial interest of the commun-Any harm done has been greatly

overshadowed by the good done. With gambling closed, there is not as much money floating around among dealers, professional players, boosters and the hangerson of the gambling establish-ment, but there is more in the pockets of the men of moderate means, who largely support the gambling-houses when they are running. There is less money to be wasted by those who like sport and high living, but there is more to brighten little homes and give the family t which it has not had when the head of it was squandering his earnings over the green cloth. In the end trade is doing quite as well, and there is more happiness and contentment in the community. And when a city has once tried to get along without public gambling, it finds after a while that gambling is not greatly missed and that a benefit has been worked by its

## Ned Braddock-1755.

John Williamson Palmer in Yale Alumni Weekly.
Said the Sword to the Ax, 'twixt the whacks and the hacks, "Who's your bold Berserker, cleaving for Hewing a highway through greenwood and

gien, Foot-free for cattle and heart-free for men?"
"Braddock, of Fontency, stubborn and

Carving a cross on the wilderness rim; In his own doom building large for the Lord, Steeple and State!" said the Ax to the Sword. Said the Blade to the Ax, "And shall none

say him nay? Never a broadsword to bar him the way? Never a bush where a Huron may hide, Or the shot of a Shawnee spit red on his nide?" -Down the long trail, from the fort to the

Naked and streaked, plunged a moccasin'd Huron and Wyandot, hot for the bout: Shawnee and Ottawa, barring him out! Reddn'ing the ridge, 'twist a gorge and a

gorge. Bold to the sky loom the ranks of St. George; Braddock and Fontency, belted and horsed, For a fee to be struck and a pass to be "Twixt the pit and the creet, 'twixt the

rocks and the grass.

Where the bush hides the foe and the foe holds the pass, Beaujeau and Pontiac, striving amain; Huron and Wyandot, jeering the slain! Beaujeu, bon camarade! Beaujeu the Gay! Beaujeu and Death cast their blades in the

Never a rifle that spared when they spoke. Never a scalp-knife that balked in its strokeTill the red hillocks marked where the standards had danced, And the Grenadiers gasped where their sa-bers had glanced. -But Braddock raged fierce in that storm

by the ford,
And railed at his "cura" with the flat of his

Who

#### AN IMPUDENT THREAT.

Chicago Inter-Ocean A strange tale comes from Washington. It is to the effect that H. H. Rogers, in behalf of the "Standard Oil group" of millionaires, recently visited the President and explained that the Su preme Court's decision in the Northern Securities case had caused him and his associates grave apprehension,

He had heard, Mr. Rogers continued that the Administration contemplated similar action against the United States Steel Corporation. He wished a frank statement of the Administration's policy. He asked, in fact, whether the Preside meant to enforce the law against him self and his associates as he would

against other people.

The President, ignoring the insult of such a question, explained to Mr. Rogers that he had no intention or desire to harass business interests but as the interpretation of the highest court had left the law no longer doubtful he had no choice but to enforce the law. If the Steel Corlaw he would expect it to conform to the law, and hoped this would be done volun-tarily. Reasonable time would be given and no compulsory action taken until t became apparent that there was an intention to defy the law. But action wou have to be taken against all corporations which failed, or refused, in a reasonable time, to adjust themselves to the law. out violating his oath of office he

Then Mr. Rogers tried to convince the President that it was "impracticable" for the United States Steel and other consolidations now to obey the law. He hoped the President would reconsider his determination, especially if he expected to succeed himself as President. The President answered that he had no discretion,

as he must enforce the law.
"Then there will be war," Mr. Rogers
is said to have exclaimed, rising from his

chair. "War or no war," answered Mr. Roosevelt. "the law shall be no by-word. Such is the strange tale that comes from Washington-a tale that would be inc ible were it not known that the man who asked the insulting question represented those who have on other occasions displayed a similar impropriety of conduct, and were it not known that the men who made the impudent threat have not hesitated in the past to attempt similar insolent dictation.

We have but to remember the famous Rockefeller telegram to the Senate. Attempts were made to shuffle off respond bility for that upon the folly of young Mr. Rockefeller, but whatever its source its arrogance was seen to be typical of the attitude of the men now said to presume to threaten the President of the United

That these men should have presu to ask that insulting question and to make that impudent threat is therefore by no means incredible. There is one point, however, that these gentlemen would do well to remember. When they threaten war unless then can have immunity from the laws they threaten more than Theo-dore Roosevelt. They threaten the President of the United States and through him they threaten the whole American

They would do well to remember what is the fate of those who challenge the

#### THROWING AWAY CHANCES.

New York Evening Post. The Democratic party is exceptionally fortunate this year in having at least two potent issues on which to go before the electorate. Its platform rightly denounce the protective system as the robbery of the many in the interest of a few; upon the questions of Imperialism and Execu tive usurpation its utterances are of no uncertain sound. Yet there is a noticeable timidity all along the line in joining battle manfully, which is in marked con trast to the attitude of the Republicans Said Mr. R. B. Armstrong, the Assistant etries of trade. Her modification of the gument has often carried conviction, for Czar's proclamation of contraband is no citizen carried conviction, for Czar's proclamation of contraband is no citizen cares to do that which will a willingness to meet the Democrats on tion of the personality of the President that suits them exactly. If it is the tariff, the Philippines, the Isthmian Canal, well and good." This shows the confidence of Republicans in a waiting game. As is evidenced by the attitude of their organs in this city they have no intention of doing much more than fall back upon their record in office. There never was a better opportunity, therefore, for the party of the opposition to oppose their political rivals with all that enthusiasm which is ever associated with a just and righteous

of this country were more ready to pass calmly and thoughtfully upon the arguments of either side. All the bitterness of the last two campaigns has passed away with Bryanism. Since there is no longer any danger of an attack upon our financial system people are ready to discuss and to ponder Governmental policies and methods and to cast their votes according to their sober conclusions. This is proved by the variety of reasons given by bolters, whether Republican or Democratic for going over to the other side. Plainly the conditions favor that party which has an earnest message for the people and knows how to carry it into every home. There is no mystery about successful

campaigning.
Readiness to stand up and avow your bellefs is the keynote, as the Republicans have shown and are showing. They have, at least, the merit of flying their banners where all can see. But the counsel o timidity and of shuffling which is urged upon the Democrats by those who talk of Republican majorities in Maryland, West Virginia and New Jersey, in case the fateful words, "tariff for revenue only," should be spoken, is also the counsel of claborate political suicide. If the Democratic political suicide. cratic party is again to go down to de-feat it should succumb while fighting bravely for what it considers the right. If beaten on the tariff issue as laid down in the St. Louis platform it will fall hot orably to triumph another time. But the defeat should be due to feeblene and inaction to that which marked the contest in Vermont, the party of Cleveland and Tilden will be again disgraced.

## ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

notice this morning in your excellent journal an article entitled "Free Speech in Oregon," and I read it with a great deal of interest. You thought that I would hardly dare to go to the extent that The Oregonian has in allowing free expression of views through your columns. I wish to say that I am in favor of the fullest, freest and most compiles freedom of the prese and of speech. Any cause is a poor one that cannot stand free discussion. Indeed, I have aiways regarded it to be a confession of weak-ness when any one neeks to avoid it, and I re-joice to learn that your great paper has always permitted all to be heard who would prepare their views in a proper manner. No wender

In a little town in Chester County, Pennsy vania, some years ago where I lectured I saw a hall that had been erected and dedicated to free speech. It seemed that in the early days of the agitation against slavery the churches in that town would not permit their pulpits to be used for anti-slavery lectures, so this Quaker built a hall, had it well furnished, and dedicated it to free speech, and had it And railed at his "cura" with the flat of his sword!

sword!

said the Sword to the Ax, "Where's your and in the Winter, warmed and ventilated, free Said the Sword to the Ax. "Where's your Berserker now?

Lo! his bones mark a path for a countryman's cow.

And Beaujeu the Gay? Give him place, right or wrong.

In your tale of a camp, or your stave of second will that the hall should be kept up for the purpose for which it was hullt. I always thought that that man should have a monument of thought that that man should have a monument erected by those who believe in free speech and a free press.

As long as The Oregonian allows its columns can be added to the propose for the lecturer. No limitation at all do I, so why should I sit here listening to your argument about the wickedness of docking argument about the wickedness of docking horses? I don't own a horse, and I never expect to."—Chicago Record-Heraid.

Grace—Will took me to lunch down town to day. Ethel-What did you have? Grace—Oh, nothing much. Just green turtle soup, pate do fole gras, canvashack duck, some anchovy sailed, ice cream and coffee. He wanted to have mean instead of the gross liveres and duck.

#### NOTE AND COMMENT.

A Curious Coincidence. In answer to the problem propounded by A Subscriber in this column on September 14:

When first the marriage knot was ty'd Between my wife and me.
My age was to that of my bride
As three times three to three.
But now when ten and half ten years
We man and wife have been.

Her age to mine exactly bears
As eight is to sixteen.
Now tell me, pray, from what I've said. What were our ages when we wed? we have received the following clever letter giving the solution:

Portland, Sept. 14 -- (To Note and Comment.) The answer to the problem submitted by your "Milwaukie Subscriber" is very simple, in-deed. I had no more than finished reading his clever little verse when I had the solution of his appearently knottly question in my grasp, to wit. At the time they were married the man was 45 and his wife 15 years old. I will frankly state, however, that it is not

that I am unusually bright, nor yet that I am an adept at figures, that I solved the problem so quickly, but simply because by a incidence my mother was 45 when I was 15 and I remember calling her attention to the fact that she was just three times as old as I. Curiously enough, I had never noticed it before. When I was 16, to my great amazement, the figures would not come out right. Somewhere about the middle of the nmer I became 30, and my mother is now It was only a few days ago that she called

my attention to the fact that she was gaining in the race, eince she was now only twice as the situation. I modestly take no credit to AN EAST SIDE READER. P. S.-I did not hesitate to state my age (of course, you know I am a woman by the "post-

safe. The East Side is populous, and is etili growing. That is not by way of advertise-ment, but merely a fact. safe. That is woman's way. Here is the same solution reached by the rocky road of

script") because I feel that my identity is

algebra: Portland, Sept. 14 .- (To Note and Com The solution of the problem in yesterday's Note and Comment column is easily obtained

algebraically: Let x equal age of bride Then 3x equals age of groom x plus 15 equals age of bride after 15 years. 3x plus 15 equals age of groom after 15 years. 8 (3x plus 15) equals 16 (x plus 15).

3x plus 15 equals 2x plus 30, equals 15, age of the bride at wedding, 3x equals 45, age of the gro

CARL DILLINGER.

The Sporting Printer.

There are many stories told of baseball cranks, but none better than one about Larry Powell, a printer, who had worked in almost every state of the Union. On one of his visits to Portland, Powell made several acquaintances, and five or six of them decided to go to the Sound by sidedoor Puliman. Getting ditched near Chehalfs, the boys dug up all the money that was in the crowd and gave it to Powell. who was to go up town and buy the materials for a mulligan stew. In about 20 minutes, the marketer was seen on his way back, and the near prospect of a savory dinner began to fill the hungry prints with holy joy. When Powell ar rived within speaking distance, he waved a baseball bat and cried, "Well, boys,

let's have a game of ball." He had invested the entire funds in a bat and ball.

### Qualfications.

This is the time of year that we read announcements to the effect that -Harry Smithers, the famous football player, will have charge of the Latin

classes at Dewey Academy. William Dufflefinger, one of the best guards Yale has produced, has been engaged as assistant instructor in mathematics at the Shafter Military School. The English classes at the General Alger Preparatory School will be under the charge of B. Sniffton Snooks, who made he sensational play that brought victory

## to Yarvard last season.

The girl that blistered on the beach To add a tan to Nature's charms, Now suffers in her toll to bleach The self same tan from neck and arms.

If a politax on men is unconstitutional, why not on dogs? An Everett correspondent deplores the

"race war" that is now going on in Man-

Kuroki, having made his dispositions for the battle of Motien Pass, quietly fished for minnows while his subordinates carried out his plans. This beats Grover Cleveland. You can't fool some people. The peo-

ple of Cleveland, having found the body of a woman jammed into a trunk and sunk beside a dock, suspect that a murder has been committed. Frank W. Higgins, the Republican nom-

inee for Governor of New York, comes from Cattaragus, He hasn't got much the better of some of the Manchurian villages in the matter of euphony.

With grief we hear from Mukden that the city of Lize Yang is no longer the prim and decorous place it was when the Russian standard floated over it. With the advent of the Japanese, says the man in Mukden, Liao Yang has lost its high moral tone, and many music halls have been opened. Music halls in full blast after the Sabbath-like peace of Russian occupation. What a change, what a fall, It needs a Parkhurst or a Brougher to do full justice to such a state of affairs, and we do not wonder that the man in Mukden writes of it with evident pain. Of Russian decorum there is no need to speak. The observers who tell us that the fall or evacuation of a Russian post is heralded by the flight of "soiled doves," as rats are said to leave a sinking ship, must have mistaken sisters of charity for daughters of joy.

## OUT OF THE GINGER JAR.

WEX. J.

Uncle Henry-Did Charles graduate with hon-ors at his college? Uncle George-Honors? Oh, yes: they don't count honors in the game now. -Boston Transcript.

"I never knew a man of more regular hab-is." "I should eay he was! Why, he never ers an irregular verb if he can help it."-

Beveland Plain Dealer. Hearing of a tax assessor who had been way laid and shot by robbers, Brother Dickey said; "How truly do de Bible say, 'De way of de tax necessor is hard." "—Atlanta Constitution. Harold-Did your charity ball realize anything for charity? Dolly-Well, rather. Old Jabez Gotrox sat in a draught, got pneum died next day, and left \$10,000 to an orphan asylum.-Puck.

"Don't git out o' patient wif de man dat thinks he knows it ail," eaid Uncle Eben. "De chances are dat he's gwine to git ail the lesson he needs when he stahts in takin' his own tips."-Washington Star. "No, sir, I never borrow trouble." "Neither

as long as The Oregonian allows its columns saind, ice cream and conce. The but he carved a cross on the wilderness to be used for the freedom of thought to every one, whatever he may have to may, may prostul I wouldn't let him on account of the strike, perity continue to come to it, and may its perity continue to come to it, and may its you know. I want him to economics.—Clacingle and State?" Said the Az to the Sword, days be multiplied.

JOHN SOBIESKI.