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TESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum tem perature, 64 deg.; minimum, 45. Precipitation TODAY'S WEATHER-Cloudy, with probably

owers; winds becoming southerly. PORTLAND, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18.

THE BASIS OF MORALS.

A Democratic paper of Oregon, whose chief resource is to see what The Oregonian says and then conclude that something different should have been said, professes displeasure at a recent utterance in these columns which se verely censured some girls who had gone astray and said little or, nothing about the men in the case. All of which is not important, but may serve as a timely text for some things that need to be said today as they needed to be said forty years ago and will need to be said forty years hence.

The basis of morals must lie in the fiber of the individual soul-planted there by superior heredity, trained by intelligent environment. Punishment for men who lead girls astray is well enough, is, indeed, necessary; but no advance in morals can be made by punishment of criminals. The only advance possible is by so fortifying the individual life that it will withstand temptation. You cannot calm the ocean or abate its destructive agencies; but you can build your craft so as to outride the storm.

No one understood this better than the founder of Christianity. The kingdom of heaven, he said, is within you. That is to say, it is not without you, in laws and peace officers and repres sive agencies of any sort. Moral character does not consist in the attainment of an absence of sin because all opportunity for sin has been removed. That is not character at all ply emptiness. Character consists in the continuous and successful struggle against the powers of evil. This is the philosophy of Nature, and it was embodied with fine discernment in the anclent allegory of Eden. There will never be any Paradise on this earth without the snake. We shall never produce sober men by the elimination of all intoxicating liquors. We shall never produce virtuous women by the elimination of all irregular sexual desire in men. All the liquor in the world of no avail to tempt the man who doesn't want to drink. All the libertines in the world make no difference to the truly virtuous woman.

It is the most immoral thing in the world to teach the young that their salvation is to be worked out by the law and the courts and that the blame for their wrongdoing is to be laid upon the saloon or the gambling-house or the has so little patience with all these sible for it to go astray. The doctrine of individual accountability embodies a that it is to the weak a stumblingblock and to the ignorant foolishness. But it must be substituted for a cheap pernicious sentimentality which parades itself as morality, before we can expect any mitigation of current shall die. It need not plead in extenuaabound.

DAUGHTERS OF ECHO.

Vox, et praeterea nihil-such, to the public at least, is the unseen being known by the generic name of "Central"; just a voice, tinkling like silver cymbals when connection is made quickly, but rasping like a file when announcing "Line's busy." Echo, who plaed away for love of Narcissus, that example to modern youths of the folly of being too much stuck on one's self, was the "Central" of mythology, heard but never seen, and many longed for a glimpse of the invisible. So today the viewless "Central" attracts many a swain who falls in love with a voice, as Washington Irving's hero did with a face at a window. And despite a natural desire to behold the owner of a sympathetic voice which leads one to believe that the prompt 'raising" of Main 4-0-4-don't forget the "oh" sound for naught, please-is the one desire of "Central's" life, despite this natural desire we hold that it is better not to have the veil drawn aside. Romance thrives on mystery. The yashmak lends alturement to Oriental women that, seen face to face, worse than unprepossessing. Therefore we hold that Mr. Fowler's 'vision box" will be a blow to one of the few romances these busy days re-tain. Not that "Central" couldn't bear nelodies are sweet," says Keats, "but

"Centrals" are fair, but those unseen are fairer.

To the public, as we have said, "Cen trai" is but a voice. "Central" herself, however, knows that she is something more. She has troubles of her own. Cranky subscribers put her into as near an approach to a bad temper as she reaches, rules and regulations chafe her spirit, and life at times be comes a sorry affair. It is when a culmination is reached that "Central" does something desperate, and the public is astonished to learn that she is not a disembodied voice, an ethereal gramonone, as it were, but a girl with a kick coming. Just now "Central." three hundred or so of her, is in striking mood. She has rights, she declares in her weightiest tones, and she will see that they are respected. She has formed a union, even, and is ready to me to grips with Capital, which is always an ogre when one isn't feeling very well. And it may be that hereafter "Central" will pay no heed to our plaintive appeals for Main 4-0-4 unless our voices bear the union label.

NOT PRECINCT PROHIBITION.

No intelligent person in the State of Oregon has the right to complain that voted for prohibition last June through misunderstanding or ignorance. Over and over again in these columns it was set out distinctly and with infinite pains that the aim of the proposed law was county prohibition, that this was the purport of its provisions, and that this was the end it would reach against the Japanese with success. in practice. If any were deceived, they

deceived themselves. It was given out in the Spring campaign that the object of the proposed law was to enable residents of a precinct to call an election and decide whether they would have a saloon within the precinct or not. Such was not the aim of the authors of the law. such was not its provision, such is not now its effect. Nothing of the sort was intended, from first to last. The Oregonian exposed the humbug and that is why it was denounced by those who hoped to hoodwink the people and suc-

But now it is said that those who favored local option but not prohibition were inveigled into the matter by a promise that the law would not be invoked for county prohibitian. This is a very slim excuse. Nobody has the authority to promise how a law shall be enforced. Nobody has the right to accept such a promise as of any binding effect. If you want to know what a law will be in practice, read it. Then you will know. Then you will not be deceived.

As it is, if a man at Mount Tabor oesn't want a saloon at Mount Tabor but does want one, or at least doesn't object to one, at Third and Burnside, he cannot vote his wishes. If he votes against the saloon at Mount Tabor, his vote is counted against a saloon at Third and Burnside. It is counted against a saloon anywhere in Multnonah County. Not only that, but a pre cinct may vote itself "dry" without any election for that precinct having been called by the residents of that precinct for in any county where the question is up, the precinct that casts a majority for "dry" is thereby enacted to be "dry." All this was known by the prooters of the local option law. They were told of it, and their answer was that the law was unfair and was intended to be unfair, because the liquor business was not entitled to fair treatment. And yet persons say they were deceived!

We think that the State of Oregon would approve an honest law enabling precincts to enact precinct prohibition, but the present outcry shows plainly enough that the state will not enjoy the operation of a law, falsely called precinct prohibition and in reality county prohibition. Why, then, was the law approved at the polls? Shall we strip this question of all makeshifts and pretenses whatever? Then let us say reason prohibition carried was not because its self-deceived victims wanted prohibition, but because they were acting for revenge. Some were mad because they couldn't run Mayor Willlams. Some were mad because they didn't like the nominations for Sheriff and District Attorney. They took their revenge. They got what they voted for. And now they are not happy. Nor should they be. When a man gets staving blind mad and tears around like a wild man, it is right and proper that when he comes to himself he should sit down and say, I was a fool! It is natural perhaps, that he should say he was deceived. If so, he deceived him-

WANTED: TWO WORDS

Will some kind reader of The Oregonian coin and put into circulation libertine. That is why The Oregonian through the columns of this paper for immediate use a noun which shall clearvisionary and mischlevous proposals to ly indicate that particular class of elevate humanity by making it impos- highwaymen who hold up persons and street-cars for the purpose of robbery? We have a new word defining the crime very high standard of morality, so high Though it was drafted into the language from the street, it has come to stay. No doubt it will be recognized in the next edition of some one's dic tionary, perhaps branded as colloquial, and subsequently come in for full adoption. No one can mistake the mean social evils. The soul that sinneth, it ing of "hold-up." Perhaps "highwayman" is rejected because it carries the tion that so many opportunities of sin | idea of a country road and something of personal bravery. Occasionally we read of a reporter referring to a robber as "one of the hold-ups," and were it not for the resulting confusion the same word for the crime and the crim-

inal might have currency. There is almost equal need for a short word for "automobilist." The wonder is that some headline writer has not hit on a short word for the ve hicle liself that fellow-writers could adoptand spread over the United States within twenty-four hours, but it happens that automobile has not been su perseded by an abbreviation. The first New York elevated railroad was reduced to "L" before trains were running. Five syllables are too many in one word for the average American, and some one must coin a word to ex press a man given to riding regularly in a devil-wagon. "Autoist" was tried

the other day without response Amateur philologists who have ambition to enrich the English language by creating the two words suggested need have no fear of corrupting it. words may be born of slang or dialect or raised from the dead past. Nor is it a matter of grave concern in this case if the author goes counter to the basic principles which underlie all right usage of words, provided he makes identical the writer's wish and the

reader's want. Unfortunately, the linguist able to the test of sight. Far from it. "Heard | manufacture the needed words cannot | woman of the blessed comfort of com copyright them and draw down a roythose unbeard are sweeter." So seen alty for their use; else long before this pure, unhappy wife who, having en-

time Rudyard Kipling, or Bir Gilbert Parker, or Richard Harding Davis, or-Finley Peter Dunne, or George Ade, might have had them in the patent office with Ade's chances for popular success the brightest of all.

BOTH EAGER TO CLINCH.

Ever since Tatcheklao each stage of the snarling march northwards along the railroad by the retreating Russians and the advancing Japanese has been hailed as the scene of "the decisive battle of the campaign." Time and again the "inevitable" has been avoided has been avoided through the measured retreat of Kuropatkin, and the necessity under which the Japanese have labored of going warily. Now affairs have assumed a different aspect. Kuropatkin has turned to bay; has, indeed, gone back upon his tracks; and, if all reports are not erroneous, is about to come to grips with Oyama. As Oyama has not Kuropatkin's reasons for retreating, and has been doing his best to get on close terms with the enemy, the most skeptical must now recognize the fact that a great battle is imminent around Liao Yang.

As to Kuropatkin's reasons for assuming the offensive, there is a wide divergence of views. London seems to believe that pressure from St. Petersburg has forced the Russian leader into a movement he believes to be inexpedient. The Russian newspapers express the view that Kuropatkin now believes himself strong enough to advance klo, as usual, has little to say, but there are indications that the sudden change in the situation has caused hitherto unnoved hearts to flutter. Looking at the matter impartially, it appears most probable that Kuropatkin is acting upon his own initiative, for the reason that he is not a man to be shaken by the winds of court or even of imperial influence. For nine months he has pursued his own plan of campaign, unmoved by hostile criticism. It is not likely that he would at this time endanger his great work, the Russian army and his professional reputation from a desire to remain popular with the curled darlings of St. Petersburg. Reinforcements have been arriving steadily, and Kuropatkin has evidently come to the conclusion that he is now able to strike back with effect.

In view of the present situation, as by the press dispatches, bloody fighting is to be expected, and a more than usually interesting display of generalship. The country around the Yental mines and to the southeastward of Lino Yang is very rough. Frederick Paimer, describing similar ground around Motien Pass, likens it to a crumpled cloth, so numerous are the peaks and valleys. Both sides know the ground, and this will render the artillery duels even more interesting than usual. Contrary to the general idea, Palmer says that the Russian guns are greatly superior to the Japanese, and that the Russian artillery has most of the nation's few devoted and intelligent officers. The Japanese, however, make up the deficiency by more daring handling of their weapons and by more practical strategy, as opposed to the "book strategy" of the Russians So far as can be predicated of Kuropatkin's movement from

dispatches, it appears to be along the railroad and likely to result in a frontal attack, despite the reported attempts to gain a foothold on the Japanese right, with the obvious design of interrupting their communications with Feng Wang Cheng and Takushan. These movements might have indicated a purpose of falling upon Kuroki's army in force and crushing it com pletely, but the rapid retirement of the Japanese divisions from their eastward positions has forestalled such an attempt. Beyond the certitude of heavy fighting in the Yentai Hills, not enough information has been made public to disclose Kupopatkin's broad strategic

AN INJUSTICE TO WOMEN.

Whatever views one may hold on the ethics of divorce, or on ecclesiastical interposition to prevent it or priestly punishment for those who have obcannot help but respect and admire the clear-cut, direct presentation of the matter to the convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church now in session at Boston. In its report on revision of the canon relating to divorce and marriage, the committee recommends the enactment of the following law:

enactment of the following law:

If any minister of this church shall have reasonable cause to doubt whether a person desirous of being admitted to holy haptism, or to confirmation, or to the holy communion, has been married, otherwise than as the word of God and discipline of this church allow, such minister, before receiving such person to these ordinances, shall refer the case to the bishop for his Godly jurgment thereupon; provided, however, that no minister chall, in any case, refuse nacrament to a pentient person in immediate danger of death, nor to any person who shall solemning aver that be or she was the innocent party in a divorce for the cause of adultery.

No minister shall solemning a marriage between any two persons unless, by inquiry, he

tween any two persons unless, by inquiry, he shall have satisfied himself that neither person has been, or is, the husband or the wife of any person then living from whom he or she has been divorced for any cause arising

The issue is squarely put. In common with leaders of thought throughout Christendom this church recognizes divorce as one of the great social questions. Delegates representing the clergy and the laity are brave enough to meet it. They know that the best civilization on earth is based on one wife and one home. If the world is not to move backward, the home must be preserved with all that its fullness stands for, They propose not only to declare di-

penalty on those who commit that sin. Under the present canon, remarriage of the innocent person in a divorce suit where infidelity is alleged is permitted. It is proposed now to punish alike the innocent and the gullty. And there is no referendum. Unlike a political convention, the platform need not be ratified at the polls. Its edicts are autocratic. No relief can come from legis lative or judicial appeal. If the report shall be adopted, women will suffer most, and they have had small voice in selecting delegates to represent a highly intelligent and influential democracy suddenly transformed, so far as women are concerned, into an implacable archy. No wonder that Dr. Van Waters, representing the more enlightened and sympathetic West, exclaimed: am ashamed and chagrined at the speeches from this platform that show a feeling that the church should be more requiring than Christ demands Is it possible that these delegates from the pulpit and the body of the Protestant Episcopal Church what they are doing when they propose to rob a suffering, spiritually hungry munion with the Master? Shall the

dured social degradation, humiliation and mental agony in its most excruci-ating form, be denied fellowship in Choose Your Opportunity. Christ because she sought and obtained,

drive to suicide, and later finds conjugal happiness?

It may be that the delegates from the Atlantic States, more familiar with the inner life of New York's 400, seek thus to check the scandalous matrimonial irregularities among the idle rich whom Henry Watterson takes such delight in ampooning without mercy. These are only the nasty scum; the great lake of the church is pure and clear. The convention merits approval for every rational effort put forth to lessen a grow-ing evil, but there is certain to be revolt against the injustice of fixing like penalty for the pure and the impure,

legally and honorably, escape from a situation that might lead to insanity or

For Justice all places a temple and all ses Dr. Van Wafers is certainly a true prophet when he declares: "If we are more requiring than Christ, I am sure they will go elsewhere for marriage, elsewhere for the blessed sacrament." Many a woman cannot feel spiritual fellowship except in the church to which she was baptized and perhaps her mother and grandmother before he and her children after her. But the sacrament may be administered in the home as well, and the Episcopal pulpit full of men who in answer to appeal and ignoring their bishop will dis their priestly robes and do the work of Christ in the spirit of Christ.

A NOTABLE CONGRESS. The Trans - Mississippi Commercial Congress, an organization that has been a great factor in the commercial advancement of the states and territories of the Middle West, will hold its fifteenth annual convention at the St. Louis fair grounds during the last week in October. The effort represented by this organization has been largely-along legislative lines. It has interested itself in securing National legislation for the deepening and improvement of harbors; for the equalization of transportation rates in interstate commerce; for the reclamation of the semiarid regions by irrigation; for the construction of public works; for the encouragement of reciprocity in the commercial relations between this country and Canada, Mexico and South American republics; for improved consular service and for many other objects for the betterment of commercial conditions in what is known as the trans

Mississippi region. The tasks to which this body has addressed itself, in the fifteen years of its existence, have taken a wide range, yet all have converged toward one point, and so systematically has its ork been carried on that room and time for the consideration of the great questions involved in the development of a vast region have been found. Conspicuous among the achievements accredited to this body are the passage of the irrigation act, the establishment of the Department of Commerce, deep water for Galveston, Houston and New Orleans, and improved harbor facilities for other large cities of the Mississippi Valley. The reputation of the congress for unselfish devotion to public interests is well established, and general attention is called to its sessions, not only in the Great West, which it specifically serves, but throughout the entire country.

It is one of the provinces of a great fair to give wide audience to the proceedings of commercial and industrial bodies. Such bodies rise at the call of public needs. Great undertakings, which no individual can assume or carry forward, are presented and assured of success through co-operative action. Composed of practical men, they do not indorse viisonary schemes. While the local view, or the sectional view, may narrow somewhat the opinions of even wide-minded men, this body has not been criticised on this score, for the reason, perhaps, that the questions with which it deals apply to a realm so wide es to be incompatible with any thought of narrow or restricted effort. With a delegation composed of perhaps 2000 earmest and more or less influential men, and an audience drawn from all ections of the country, and especially from the wide and teeming West and with such men as Charles Jerome Bonaparte, F. H. Newell, chief of the recla mation service of the Department of the Interior; Gifford Pinchot, chief of the Bureau of Forestry, and others of equal note as speakers; with such topics as road improvement, irrigation in India, the great range interests, expositions and their influence upon the country's advancement, National municipal reform, etc., attractively presented and intelligently discussed, we may well suppose that the Trans-Mississipple Commercial Congress will fully establish the claim that it exists for the betterment of public conditions and the extension of public utilities.

The creditable manner in which Senator Fulton has acquitted himself on his recent speaking tour with Senator Fairbanks will be the occasion of just pride to every citizen of Oregon. How good a campaigner Senator Fulton is Oregon already knows; and he ha broadened and strengthened notably since his election to the Senate. His in quiring mind, aptitude for study and genial personality are combining to give him a useful and commanding position among the country's public men His services to the National ticket and his growing acquaintance with influential leaders of both parties should stand Oregon in good stead at Washington, and we believe they will.

At last we have what the Democratic managers have been praying for something to wake the boys up. Old Hank Davis making an even dozen speeches in one day from the rear end of a train in West Virginia, and William Jennings Bryan doing the same stunt in Missouri. Whirlwind tours are the thing to put ginger into the campaign,

In the Oregon official ballot for No vember the Republican Presidential Electors come on the first four lines. Below them are four other sets of names, and it makes no difference which set is marked; all of them will be returned under the head of "scattering." ;

Facts About Our Immigrants.

World's Work A sum approximating \$50,000,000 is sent from the United States in small sums each year to assist those left behind in the Old World, to enable them to emigrate. It has been predict-ed that the number of emigrants would soon decrease by reason of the exhaustion of the supply; but no such prom-ise is warranted by the facts. Last year 230,628 Italians, 306,911 Austrians and 136,993 Russians successfully passed the immigration barriers of the United States.

SPIRIT OF THE NORTHWEST PRESS

Pilot Rock Record.

The drubbing the Eugene Guard got at the hands of The Oregonian was deserved. It is always best when you meet a skunk to pass it by unnoticed unless you are sure of your aim and feel satisfied that by one well-directed blow you can effectively silence it.

State Won't Stand It.

Brownsville Times.

The Portland papers keep harping on the state buying the Lewis and Clark Exposition grounds and presenting them to the City of Portland for a public park. Better stop it. The people of Oregon, outside of Portland, won't stand it, and the score this fact is understood the er this fact is understood the better it will be for Portland.

An Indispensable Equipment.

Eugene Register.
Will the individual who carried off the
Register's office Bible please return the
same? We are certain that none of the Methodist ministers now assembled in Eugene are guilty of the overt act. No well-regulated printing office can be with-out a copy of the Bible and of Shakes-

Thanks, Honest Friend.

Ashland Tribune. The Eugene Guard was properly reasted in last Saturday's Oregonian for misrep-resenting that journal's report of the Eastern press comment on Parker's let-ter of acceptance. No paper published in this country is more impartial in printing political news than The Oregonian, and when the Guard or any other paper charges it with unfairness in its news service, it invites and richly deserves the severest censure.

A Good Thing Promptly Spotted.

McMinnville Reporter.

Portland papers and some of her influntial men are again airing the proposi tion that the state purchase the Lewis and Clark Fair grounds after the Expo-sition, and donate the tract to the city for a park. And the Legislature will for a park. And the Legislature will come pretty near to appropriating the public funds for this purpose if the members from Multnomah County ask it. The taxpayer—miserable worm—has no legislative right to exist outside the zone of the Lewis and Clark showgrounds, and if he is foolish enough to own property elsewhere, confiscate it. When the state goes into the park-purchasing business for the benefit of Portland, the beneficent work will be carried further. There are work will be carried further. There are other cities that might be supplied with parks, and the good thing might be passed

Tillamcok's Dairy Facilities.

Tillamook Herald. Even our esteemed contemporary, The regonian, with all its precise informa-Oregonian, with all its precise informa-tion about different parts of Oregon, does not fully realize the climatic conditions in Tiliamook in connection with dairying, for it says, "The grass is green nearly all Summer." To be correct, The Oregonian should have said, "The grass is green all Summer and nearly all Winter." In proof of this, we will state that, though ook has passed through one of the dryest Summers in the history of the county, meadows have kept green, pas-turage has been good, and today the inty is covered with a green verdure oking as bright and fresh as though it was the Spring of the year, and with indications that the dairy herds will continue to find pastures long into next year tinue to and pasteres long in fact, year before it will be necessary for dairymen to feed their stock with hay from their well-filled barns they raised on their farms. Climatic conditions and being able to raise all their feed on their farms are features which have encouraged the thrifty and industrious farmers and brought about a prosperous state of affairs in dairying that cannot be surpasse

"Comparatively Innocent." Bend Bulletin.

The Portland Oregonian, which began the crusade against fraudulent land transactions in Oregon and was largely instru-mental in instigating the official investigation that has taken place, now affects to believe that the probing has gone far enough. There is no doubt that it has reached uncomfortably near the seat of arge capital and when \$10,000 is offered for destruction of a single piece of evidence something of the power that has profited profited from the gigantic timber land swindles may be guessed. The magnitude of the task of bringing such men to justice may also be guessed. If it were merely the conviction of the McKinley-Ware-Watson-Puter outfit it might be easy. But their conviction would be likely to expose their principals, and that must be prevented at all bazards. Hence the powerful influences enlisted to shield them. The Oregonian wants Special Agent Greene to show re suits before pursuing land frauds further If The Oregonian will use its influence to the appointment of a District Attorney who will do his duty in the premises it will have no cause to complain of lack of results. At present nothing is secure from the knowledge of the sieck thieves who have made fortunes plundering the public domain. The field operations of this gang in Oregon centered at Eugene. If all that work were laid bare the purification of Oregon's land record would be largely ac-complished. The work in Eastern Oregon was comparatively innocent.

Boise News,

The interview in today's Capital News with Hon. J. H. Brady, vice-president of the National Irrigation Congress, and the largest individual ditch owner in Idaho, calls attention to the importance of securing the next meeting of the congress for Boise. There should be little difficulty in doing this because practically every one directly interested in the subject of irrigation feels that it should come here, where can be seen the best object lessons in ir-rigation. The great irrigation works owned by Mr. Brady's companies and other corporations in the southeast, the Government work at Minindoka, just be-ginning, the big enterprise at Twin Falls now nearly completed, the splendid canni systems of the Boise and Payette Valleys, several of them under co-operative ownership, and last but groatest of all the vast Roise-Payette Government pro-ject, which will no doubt be well begun by the date of next year's meeting-al these are arguments in favor of bringing the congress to Boise. It is quite prob-able that Portland, Or., will alone oppose the claims of Boise, and under ordinary circumstances the Idaho delegates would be glad to favor our eister state—we have only the kindest of feelings for her people and take a natural pride in the achievements of the Northwest metropolis. But Portland and Western Oregon have no real interest in irrigation nor ever will have, owing to natural climatic conditions, The irrigation congress is a business as-sociation not a mere junketing aggrega-tion out for pleasure and sightseeing, and to be useful must meet among the people who are in sympathy with its objects. It was truly said at Ogden last year by one advocate of Boise that an irrigation congress could never be successfully held among those who are strangers to the smell of sage brush.

Robert Cameron Rogers.

The hours I spent with thee, dear heart,
Are as a string of pearls to me;
I count them over, every one apart,

Each hour a pearl, each pearl a prayer To still a heart in absence wrung; tell each bead unto the end, and there A cross is hung.

mories that bless and burn! Ob. memora gain—and bitter loss!

Oh harren gain—and bitter loss!

I him each bead and strive at last to learn
To kiss the cross,

To kise the cross.

DANGERS IN OVERCONFIDENCE.

Lealie's Weekly. Oregon's and Vermont's elections in 1904 gave the Republicans a confidence in their assumed invincibility of which Maine. happily, furnishes a corrective. Oregon's Republican lead in the election for state Republican lead in the election for state officers and Congressmen in June, 150t. was longer than in any previous election, leaving the plurality for McKinley in 1800, which had broken all records up to that time, far in the rear. Vermont followed early in September by a victory for the Republicans by a larger plurality than ever before in a Presidential year except in 1896. All this was calculated give the Republicans that contempt for the strength of the Democracy which they held during the Civil War and reconstruc-tion days, and which very nearly proved fatal to the Republicans in the Hayes

canvass.

Mains tells the Republicans that it will be perilous to underestimate the Democracy's strength in the country at large. The Republicans have carried Maine by The Republicans have carried Maine by a longer lead, 27,000, than they ever gained in a September election in a Presidential year except in 1896 and 1900. It is 5000 longer than the lead they won in 1802, when the Republicans rolled up a large majority in the country for Congress. But the fact that the plurality was smaller than it was in 1806 relies the Republicans that they must in 1900 tells the Republicans that they must work hard and intelligently from this time o November 8 if they are to win by a najority which shall impress the coun-

Grant's overwhelming victory over Greeley in 1872 made the Republicans de-spise the Democrats in the canvass of 1876, and the consequence was that Tildan came so near victory that one vote turned in the Electoral College would have made him, instead of Hayes, President. But even with the 1876 warning, the Republicans fell into the same dangerous feeling of security in 1880. Then Mains went to the rescue with its 189 majority for the Governorship candidate of the Democratic-Greenback fusion. That was a bomb in the Republican camp. It showed that Re-publican overconfidence had allowed the Democrats to gain the advantage throughout the country, and that the tide was in favor of Hancock. That alarm-bell in the Pins Tree State in September, 1889, saved the Republicans. It compelled Grant and Conkling, who were alienated by Grant's defeat for the third-term nomination in the convention to quit their sulking and take the stump for the ticket. These lead-ers worked so effectively for the next few weeks in Ohio Indiana and New York that they turned the tide in the Republican di-rection, and elected Garfield and Arthur, though by such a narrow margin that if H,000 of Garfield's votes in the State of New York-and New York polled a total vote of 1,100,000 in that year-had been turned in the other direction, Hancock would have been elected.

Unhappliy. Maine did not sound a warning in the Blaine canvass of 1884, for under the influence of local pride she rolled up a 20,000 piurality in September for the Republican candidate for Governor. Despite the Blaine-Conkling feud in New York in that year, Republican confidence was great, but the Burchard breident and was great, but the Burchard incident and the Republican defection in Conkling's

county turned the scale.

It was overconfidence which defeated the Republicans in 1882, when the drop in Maine's Republican lead to 12,000 in September was unable to rouse the Harrison leaders from their letharsy, and Cleveland carried the country a second time. In 1904 Maine terms its characteristics. time. In 1904 Maine issues its sh mons to the Republicans to shake off all inertia, and to work as if every Northern and Western State were in doubt and uld not be won without bringing every Republican voter to the polls. The situa-tion is immeasurably better for the Re-publicans in 1904 than it was in 1884 or 1892, but it is only by making that every Republican ballot is ca November 8 that Roosevelt's victory will be rendered as decisive and overwhelming as it ought to be.

When Higgins Went Down Broadway. Earle Hooker Eaton in Harper's Weekly, Frederick D. Kilburn, State Superintendent of Banks, and quite a wag, tells an amusing anecdote concerning Mr. Higgins. According to Kilburn, he and quite a party of Albany politicians met the Lieutenant-Governor at Forty-second street and Broadway one day, and Kilburn of-fored the following fered the following resolution and move that it be adopted:

Whereas, Kind Providence has seen fit to bring about this pleasant meeting at Forty-second street and Broadway in the great city of New York; and Whereas, One of our number, Hon, Frank
Wayland Higgins, of Olean, Cattaraugus
County, New York, has recently been elevated
to the high office of Lightness County.

to the high office of Lieutenant-Governor of said state; now, therefore, be it Resolved. That the Lieutenant-Governor has g plain duty in the premises, and that we forthwith proceed down Broadway, graciously permitting the said Lieutenant-Governor to

settle all the bills that may be incurred. Some one seconded the motion, and it was adopted with but a single dissenting vote, that of the victim. The conspirators at once decided that the first thing on the programme was a dinner at the Lieuten-ant-Governor's expense. They had the very best the hotel afforded, and then moved on down Broadway. At Thirty eighth street they piayed billiards and pool for an hour, after which Mr. Higgins paid the checks. At Thirtieth street they ok a violent fancy to a line of \$3.50 necktles in a window and were speedily fitted out. Mr. Higgins didn't care for a \$3.50 necktle himself, but he squared things with the cashier. At Twenty-fitth street the Albanians ran out of smoking material, dragged Mr. Higgins into a to-bacconist's, and purchased the very best cigars in the place. Once more the Lieuenant-Governor saw the cashier,

The Albany men were having the time of their lives, but at the Flatiron building Mr. Higgins called a halt. "I had a \$199 bill at Forty-second street, and now I have only \$37 left," he said ruefully, according to the veracious Kilburn. "If it cost a man \$53 to come down from Forty-second street to Twenty-third, what under heavens would it cost him if he went all the way down to the Bat-

REASONS FOR GRATITUDE

The discussion of the tariff, the money question and the pros and cons of other policies of government are purely partisan, and members of this organization may not agree upon such questions. These matters, therefore, may well be left to so-called "regular organizations." Even the very interesting fact that Roosevelt, as a friend of expansion and the present governmental policy recarding our possessions in the Pocific. so pansion and the present governmental policy regarding our possessions in the Pucific, so vitally advantageous to Oregon and this Cast, may be passed as a selfish reason for giving him support. We must be grateful to him for his active interest in Oregon, and his great work for our Fair, in which he became for the time almost the greatest Oregonian, but all of these matters, so far as the league is concerned, are of trifling importance as compared to the duty we over our country as patriotic clinens, to render all possible support at the present moment to President Roosevelt, because we believe in him as a man honest, courageous, competent and always strenuous for his country's good.

—Bulletin of Oregon Roosevelt League. and always strenuous for his country' —Bulletin of Oregon Roosevelt Leagu

A Quiet Failure. Boston Advertiser. An honest man, handicapped by year

An honest man, handicapped by years of conscientious attempt to be absolutely impartial, is the only kind of man who could have written Judge Parker's letter of acceptance. Such men do not, cannot succeed in National politics, where whole-souled belief in policies, absolute surrender to party lines of action, are demanded of necessity. As a patriot, Judge Parker's standing cannot be questioned. As a party leader, he is a quiet failure.

Why She Laughed. Kansas City Tin

The insects gave a party.

Joe Lightningbug was there;
iss Gustemains Ant had never
Seen Joe anywhere.

She started in a laughing.
Said the: "P'chaps I'm unkind,
But he looks like an suto with
Its headlight on behind."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

ALONE IN AFRICA. A Story of True Love, Western Grit, and the Power of Classified Advertising.

Surmmary of previous rounds—Sullivan Guich wishes to marry Clementina Carp, but is hirkeds out by her guardian. Sellwood Ferry, who tells Guich that he may claim Clementina when he becomes a King. Guich accordingly inserts an advertisement in the "Situation Wanted" column of The Oregonian. ROUND III-No results came from the ad, for several months, but eventually bers early one morning, at 3:15 P. M., to be exact. Much to his surprise, a large man, black as ebony, clad in a stovepipe hat, tan shoes and a wort of striped por-

tiere, stood by his bedside, "You Sullivan Guich." said the visitor "That's me," replied Sullivan.

"Catchum job King for you," said the Zulu, producing a tattered copy of The nian and pointing to the ad. Guich jumped out of bed and looked for his pants. They were not to be found. In their place was an outfit similar to that of the Zulu, who now produced a bottle of blacking and a shoebrush, with which he gave Gulch a coat of shiny black, muttering as he applied the brush, "Shine-'em-up, shine-'em-up." Guich then donned the hat, shoes and got behind the portiere. In the street he found 50 other Zulus, similarly attired. Around them was an immense crowd, the people evidently taking Guich's escort for a min-

strel company about to parade. This gave Gulch an idea. He hired the Armory and announced that the Senegambia Minstrels, 50 performess, 50count them, 50-would give a performance. By this means he cleared up \$31. although the make-up of his endmen was roasted as making too much use of burnt cork. By giving shows of this kind, Guich nade his way as far as Newport. (To be continued.)

Kokomo is agin Bryan. How stands Kankakee?

"God's Good Man" appears to be Corelli's good seller. ___

Lord Milner is about to retire. He is sort of sweetened Kruger.

The Breuer murder is on the way to ecome an issue in city politics.

Hitherto the telephone girls have been principally interested in matrimonial

H. Gassoway Davis is said to have set out on a whiriwind campaign, More wind than whirl to it, probably.

No. Constant Reader, the statue Frederick the Great, presented to the Nation by the Kaiser, is not in honor of

As a matter of curiosity, one would like

to know why it is so rarely that a Socialist can spell correctly? Is it care-lessness or a symbol of revolt against an arbitrary system of expressing speech? From a money-making point of view It was bad business for that New York saloonkeeper to make his whisky so

fierce that it killed off most of his tomers. A less flery solution would have been better, for then the purchasers could have returned for more when they came out of the hospital. "Marnma, is Kuropatkin an angel? asked a Platte City little girl Wednesday, ecording to the Kansas City Star. "No child, why do you ask?" queried the

mother. "Because this paper says Kuro-patkin's right wing is demolfshed. Is Kuropatkin a bird, then?" asked child. The Seattle Evening News, which has reached the 25th day of existence in this troublous world, thinks that General Corbin talked vainly on the marriage question, Army officers, like other men, thinks the News, have really very little to say about whether or not they shall marry.

quoted by the Kansas City Star, an endman in a minstrel company down that way recently informed his audience that a pug dog has a curi in his tall so that the

fleas may loop the loop. Since this item was clipped researches in Portland reveal the fact that the same gag is being used here, so Missouri has

none the best-or worst-of it. Tough luck, in Mecklenburg-Schwerin As the people are rejoicing over the engagement of the Duchess Cecile to Crown Prince and the women are thinking of the trousseau she would have the Grand Duke digs up a 16th Century law enabling him to levy a special tax or the whole people to provide a trousseau shen a Princess of the grand ducal house marries. The tax is now to be collected and the people are kicking. Such is the 'popuiar rejoicing" that is always reported when a royal personage is betrofted or married. The amount of rejoicing can be easily ascertained by trying to levy a

tax on the strength of it. Written on paper of robinsegg blue and in a delicate, feminine hand, omes the following communication from "A Near Neighbor" to solve a vexatious problem:
A lady in Upper Albina (who does not desire publicity) has at last discovered a use for worsout and discurded corses. She had a henhouse, the roof of which leaked badly where the six-inch planks joised. She aire had about six pairs of old corses. Each pair of these, when properly cut out in strips lengthwise, formed four fairly good "abingles," good enough anyhow for her roofing purpose. Altogether, she got 24 of these strips out of her old corsets. She nailed these over the leaky seams in regular shingle fashion, and now the hens rejoice with her in a water-tight roof against the next six months of "Oregon mist." It has remained then for an Albina woman to solve a long and vexed problem: "What can we do with our old corsets?" Good for Mrs. Month our old corsets?" Neighber" to solve a vexations problem: WEX. J.

OUT OF THE GINGER JAR.

He-fisme one started the story that I have a big head. What do you think of it? She-There's nothing in it.—Detroit Free Press. Johnny-Paps, what does it mean when you say a man is good at repartee? "It means be basn't many friends."-Cincinnati Commercial-

He (apologetically, as clock strikes)—Why, I am late in leaving tonight! She (with best intentions)—Well, better late than never, you know—Judge. Hawkins-That pickpocket they caught is

really a very intelligent fellow. Sampson-No doubt of it. He proved that by his ability to locate a lady's pocket.—Puck. "Don't be too hard on the boy. You must re-member that he hasn't reached the age of rea-son." 'I know that. He's reached the age of excuses," Kanssa City World.

Hoar-They my the Sultan of Turkey scares his wives nearly to death. Joax-Tes; I've always heard that he was a harem-scarem sort of fellow. Philadelphia Record.

"He's employed by the raflway company now, I understand." "Yes; he has charge of the purite department." The what?" "He makes out the film-tables"—Chicago Journal.

"It was only too years are that Mrs. Woodsle.

"It was only two years ago that Mos. We took her B. A. at Vassar, wasn't It?" "She has just taken a higher degree MA in the school of life."—Philadelphia Pr