

The Oregonian

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Portland, Tuesday, Dec. 27, 1904.

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should cease to sell lieuland upon the mere approval of the local Land Office...

A word may be offered in this connection regarding the obligation of the state toward the purchasers of lieuland...

It is old as the hills to find men saying they don't like their own calling...

It is, in fact, only a trait of which we have a record almost since history and literature began...

The war spirit in Japan is stimulated rather than checked by the menace which the Baltic fleet is bearing to the coast...

If Russia succeeds in destroying the sea power of Japan, the light is over; if otherwise, Russia should show wisdom by allowing her mortification...

The Postal Progress League is indefatigable in the effort expressed by its title...

Colorado has introduced a political novelty in the "post-election campaign," which appears to be the most important feature of the election...

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government of the Caar strongly disposed to treat, on the best terms obtainable, for peace.

"RELIGION AND POLITICS." The New York Evening Post has this paragraph, which it seems to think contains a lot of satire or sarcasm:

General Wood has discovered that the Filipino soldiers are too well educated to be "hooked" by him.

The legitimate object is that of a postal service—rural or parcels—that will not be a dependent upon the Government, as a child upon the parent...

A hard, dull business of cold that checked the melting and the circling race of life-blood in the arteries of face.

A Seattle real estate man has just been convicted of swindling a blind man out of \$400.

The Tacoma Ledger hurries to the rescue of Senator Foster from the heinous charge of "being right" than a down-East former and colleague.

Another of the Letter family has wedded a titled Englishman. It is, of course, a matter of regret that the young ladies of the Letter family...

The holiday number of the Northwestern Miller, of Minneapolis, is the handsomest publication that has reached this office this year.

The first kindergarten was opened in St. Louis in 1872. There are now 123 of these schools in the East.

A Siberian merchant has been sending vodka to the front labeled as medical supplies. Well, isn't it?

The Baltic fleet has temporarily disappeared from view. On meeting the Japs it will disappear from view permanently.

Yesterday was not as warm as some of the Christmas days of the past, but the Portlanders who wandered over the hills and out to the Fair grounds...

We suppose that Tacoma may endeavor to respond to Seattle's just and reasonable demands by pointing out that few states choose their Senators with reference to their residence in their principal cities.

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NOTE AND COMMENT. "1861" Next: "Say, old man, how is your purse?"

Exit Nan Patterson. Enter "Cassie." Butler says "the construction of the Morrison-street bridge was an honest (?) job."

"Thank de lawd, Santa Claus is not due for another 12 months" voices the existing sentiment in Portland.

We have an affair of our own. "Hill the Trail." Yesterday telegraphic dispatches carried the story of Thomas O'Brien's death in a mental asylum.

All employees of the French Foreign Office must have. Such is the text of a peremptory decree from the Minister.

Portland had a day off yesterday. George H. Howell is hot after Mr. Butler and repeats his charge against the Pacific Construction Company.

What's the matter with Multnomah? Wow! The "farmers" will now go back to the plows and harrows.

Four days more in which to form your good resolutions. Centralia, Wash., had a \$5,000 fire Christmas night. "That's going some."

The teachers this morning are thinking: "Will we?" "We won't." "We ought to." "We will."

A feller in Boston or New York or somewhere is going to kill Lawson, he says. He will not, but he would shut off a lot of "guff" if he should.

There is nothing like breaking the news gently. Dispatches tell us that the announcement of King Alfonso's engagement to the Princess Marie Antoinette...

"According to the New York Press, "one of the oddest fancies for a Christmas remembrance is a Brooklyn mother's idea of setting the first tooth in a finger ring, with a tiny diamond on either side to disguise the real character of the central gem, which the girl does most effectively."

The lines of the Australian poet are going the rounds again. They are worth repeating: Life is mostly froth and bubble, Two things stand like steel, Kindness in another's trouble, Courage in thine own.

Topo has been congratulating the men of the Fort Arthur blockading squadron. If any persons are more deserving of congratulations we should like to know where they are.

Harbin is booming. The Russians are building enlarged bathhouses, churches and a hospital there. The dispatches say nothing about saloons, but there is not so much necessary for them when every soldier carries a bottle.

A Siberian merchant has been sending vodka to the front labeled as medical supplies. Well, isn't it? The Baltic fleet has temporarily disappeared from view. On meeting the Japs it will disappear from view permanently.

An alrship has been doing great things at Los Angeles, but then the Californians were always pretty fly. Some families try to complete a string of pearls. The Letter family is collecting a string of Earls.

There is a rising among the Palajanos. The name sounds as if the people had swallowed a few cakes of yeast. Asks the Walla Walla Union, "Can you give a good reason for living?" We could give a better reason for dying.

He is Financially Responsible. Thomas W. Lawson, whatever he may be said of his character, methods and purposes, is financially responsible. Those aggrieved at his printed charges would present a better appearance by proceeding against him under laws which apply except the case than by threatening a distributor in advance of the distribution of the magazine containing those charges.

GREAT WOMEN OF MODERN TIMES CATHERINE DE MEDICI (By Arrangement with the Chicago Tribune.)

CATHERINE DE MEDICI was the wife of one King and the mother of three. Between her marriage in 1533 and her death in 1588 she lived in France under five reigns. She had no influence upon the government of her father-in-law, Francis I, and hardly more under that of her husband, Henry II, who made himself but little felt when her son, Francis II, was on the throne.

During the reigns of her sons, Charles IX, and Henry III, she was the real monarch of France. Had she used her command over the king's undoubted abilities solely for the good of the country, she might have saved it from the miseries of the "war of the public virtue." But selfish ambition, not the welfare of France, was her chief character. She employed her Italian cunning and skill in statecraft, not for the good of France, but to strengthen the position of herself and her children.

The result was she almost disrupted and wrecked the French nation. Her character must not, however, be measured by the high moral standards of the present time. Her age was one of private treachery, political intrigue, and of public crimes. If Catherine was no better than her age, she was no worse.

Catherine was the daughter of Lorenzo de Medici, the magnificent and celebrated Duke of Urbino, and was born at Florence. She was taken to France and married to Henry II, son of King Francis I, in her 14th year. Her situation at court was a secondary and even precarious one, but she set to work with fine hair to win the favor of the king.

At the same time she kept her eyes and ears open, and soon knew more about them than any other woman of the court. The king, her father-in-law, was under the influence of his mistress, the Duchess d'Etampes. Her own husband had for mistress the beautiful Diana of Poitiers.

By the death of his eldest brother Henry became heir to the throne. As Catherine bore him no children for two years there was talk of divorcing her. Catherine threw herself at the feet of Francis I, her father-in-law, and professed to renounce her husband in favor of his son. If, after she was chosen, to be the humblest of her attendants, the old King's heart was touched, he ended Henry's marriage with Catherine.

Catherine was a woman of great energy and ability. She was a religious fanatic, his mother's power became under his reign greater than ever. St. Bartholomew had widened the breach between Catholics and Protestants, and Henry's reign was a period of incessant war between them.

At first Henry and his mother supported the Catholics, new organized into the famous league. Henry being childless, the crown passed to his brother, Francis II, who was the gallant Henry, King of Navarre, new leader of the Protestants, and Henry Duke of Guise laid claim to the succession.

Henry III was dead, Henry of Guise, less certain of his and fearful lest the King should be removed, had the King on his side. The Protestants, however, were still in the hands of the Duke of Guise, under pretense of presenting a petition, took possession of his and made the King a prisoner. He was then killed. The Duke of Guise was then killed. The Duke of Guise was then killed.

ways joined the young King in his stag chases, and was a good and even reckless rider. But she let nothing interfere with business. She assumed complete management of the King's household. The Guises and the Catholic party were new in the ascendant. True to her trimming policy, Catherine leaned toward the Protestants in the struggle with them.

By God's will it will take such vengeance it shall never be forgotten," said Charles, in a fury, when he heard the news. Late in the night of the next day, however, his mother and brother entered his apartment, confessed their complicity in the crime, and urged upon the King that Coligny's death was necessary to prevent their betrayal and the destruction of his throne and the Catholic religion.

"By God's death," his usual oath, the King at last exclaimed, "since you think proper to kill the Admiral, I consent; but all the blood which is shed in order that there remain not one of my friends." The Guises, Catherine and the Duke of Anjou had already laid plans for a wholesale murder of Protestants, and the words were heard out of the King's mouth when the historic and hideous massacre of St. Bartholomew began.

Coligny was one of the first to be killed. In all France a number of people estimated at from 30,000 to 100,000 were butchered. Charles IX died miserably two years later, walling himself with his last breath from the horrible crime to which his consent had been extorted.

The Duke of Anjou, now King of Poland, fled from that country in disguise, and without adding to his throne, took the throne of France. Henry III was Catherine's favorite son. It was even charged she had poisoned Charles IX to make way for him. An indolent and pleasure-loving monarch, Henry III was a religious fanatic, his mother's power became under his reign greater than ever.

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BITS OF NORTHWEST LIFE.

Nine Ducks at One Shot. Washtucna Enterprise. Frank Castrol, the champion hunter of Hooper, killed nine ducks at one shot Saturday.

Ye Editor's Merry Christmas. Weston Leader. The Leader wishes his friends and neighbors a merry Christmas. Incidentally, we will remark that if you owe us anything we hope you'll settle us over until July 4.

What Became of the Window. Hoquiam Sawyer. W. Briscoe walked through a plate-glass window last week and escaped without a scratch. Will had forgot his hammer, and while working outside of Vern Smith's new store, struck the window, going through the window, the glaziers having put in the glass during Briscoe's absence.

The Swivel Gun in Sport. Olympia Daily Recorder. Sheriff McClanckly went to Neskally today to investigate complaints that have been made of parties infringing on the game laws by shooting ducks for market. It is alleged that a swivel gun mounted on a boat and pointed at the water has been used with deadly effect by a couple of strangers. The Sheriff, it might be added, took along his gun and hunting dogs.

Mr. Desmond's Great Bear. Pitner Correspondence Thiamook Herald. We wish some of those bear hunters would relieve Charles Desmond, for he said there is such a large bear on the island that he is so fat that he almost drags his tracks out when crossing on his premises. He will not go out in the woods without his mastiff dog, but he says that if he would allow he thinks the bear would disappear.

Notes From Willow Creek. Crook County Journal. The weather is looking more like Winter the last day of the month. Mrs. William J. Cain has moved to Willow Creek to send her children to school.

P. Chitwood, after a few weeks' illness, is improving rapidly. He is going to the schoolhouse to send his children to school.

Walter Newbill and wife left for Washington the first of the week. They will remain there all Winter. Mr. Lovelock was seen on the streets at Grizzly Monday.

Complimentary Unpopularity. The Washington correspondents are quite generally agreed that Pension Commissioner Ware retires from office the most hated man who ever set foot in Washington. That is to say, he was hated by the Government clerks and other attaches of the Pension Office, whom Commissioner Ware held up to a rigid accountability. It is a fact, not denied, that the office has never been run in so business-like a manner as during his term, and that the Government never before got anything like so much for its money. For the first time in the entire history of the Pension Office the work is up-to-date.

Milkman's Crime. Aitchison Globe. A number of Aitchison men will bring suit for damages against Doc Morrison, the milkman. They claim that while he talks to their wives in delivering milk, he breathes in the oven, the fire dies out in the furnace, the stove is left unattended, and other waste is incurred.

THE SO-CALLED OPEN-AIR CURE.

Paterson, N. J., the Scene of a Health Experiment That is Interesting. Brooklyn Eagle. The doctors are putting a young man named Scott through a course of treatment at Paterson calculated to show that one need not go to the Adirondacks or Colorado for the benefit of the open-air cure. He was attacked by pulmonary disease some months ago, the doctors declared that he had quick consumption and must sleep in the open air. At first they were content with the removal of the young man's sashes from the young man's room, and he showed marked improvement after sleeping in that atmosphere. When William Scott went to the Adirondacks to free the other people in the house, so he had an open house made in the yard, with a tight roof and with the sides made of windows on pivots. Before he goes to bed the windows are closed, and somewhat with an oil stove. Then someone comes in, turns out the oil stove and opens all the windows and the patient sleeps all morning wrapped in army blankets. In the morning the process is reversed so that he may have the edge taken off the air before he dresses. The progress toward recovery is declared to be excellent under the present treatment, it has been in various mountain sanitoriums where the open-air treatment is the chief remedial agent relied upon. It is to be observed that young Scott is undergoing this treatment under the eye of a physician and by order. The publicity being given to his case should not tempt persons with weak lungs to try open-air experiments. In the present case, there is no doubt nine-tenths of us who are in average health might be better for windows wider open at night, provided the change was made with care. The danger of exposure, but tuberculosis is too serious a matter for guesswork. Persons whose lungs are in the last affected should be under competent medical care from the first. Open-air cures, undergoing aging as they are, are for the guidance of physicians and are not to be undertaken except under medical orders. And as there are sanitoriums of different kinds, and as scarcely two cases of two constitutions are alike, it will be well for each patient to obey and believe in his own doctor, "live or die."

The Census of British South Africa. London Geographical Journal. The tabulated results of the census of the various South African colonies, carried out early in the present year, are: Cape Colony, 380,380; 1,925,172; 2,465,524; Transvaal and Swaziland, 200,225; 1,063,975; 1,354,200; Orange River Colony, 141,419; 241,925; 385,945; Southern Rhodesia, 12,625; 100,000; 150,000; Natal, 97,100; 187,000; 288,600.

The increase in the total population of Cape Colony is 25.5 per cent since 1891, while the percentages for the white and colored population are 51.96 and 58.68, respectively. In the Orange River Colony the percentages of the white population of the colored population are 51.96 and 58.68, respectively. In 1890 had been 27.45 and 22.58, amounting in 1904 to 37.25 and 62.75, respectively, or a very slight increase of natives. The relative increase of natives since 1891 is, however, much more considerable. In Southern Rhodesia the total net increase of whites has been 1,391 in the last three years. The colored population of the Transvaal includes a small proportion (17 per cent of total population) of non-native races, while in Natal the number of Indians alone reaches 100,978.

Laziness. Aitchison Globe. They didn't sing "Beloved, It is Morn" at the wedding of a certain Aitchison woman, but she has been told every morning since, though in different language, that it is time for her to get up.