The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OBEGON.

Entered at Portland, Oragon, Postoffice as Subscription Rates-Invariably in Advance. (By Mail.)

(By Carrier.)

Dally, Sunday included, one year...... Daily, Sunday included, one month... 9.00 .75 How to Remit-Send Doutofile month... 15 rder, express order or personal check on our local bank. Stamps coin or currency re at the sender's risk. Give postoffice ad-ress in full, including county and state. Postage Rates-10 to 14 pages, 1 cent: 16 25 pages, 2 cents: 30 to 44 pages, 3 cents: 16 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage ouble rates.

Eastern Business Office-The S. C. Beck-ith Special Agency-New York, rooms 48-b Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 ribune building.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1908.

TAFT'S TRIBUTE TO CLEVELAND.

In a letter written to The Oregonian, ensuring President Taft for his eulogy on President Cleveland, delivered at the recent memorial exercises in New York, Mr. William Hampton Smith protests against the ascription to Mr. Cleveland of high merit and honor for the stand he took on the sliver ques-tion, resulting in protection of the public credit, in restoration of confi-dence in business affairs, and in preservation of the integrity of the money of the country. Mr. Smith insists that President Cleveland only played into the hand of "Wall street." and in-flicted terrible injury upon the country. We cannot print Mr. Smith's letter

in full, for it is both loose and long; but we quote a sentence or two, to wit: "The infamy of that act, which shut out silver from coimage in the United States, while its unlimited coin. age is continued among all European nations, is almost beyond conprehension. Silver is quoted on the market at 60 cents an ounce and all European countries are coining it at \$1.32 % per ounce, while the mints of the United States are prohibited from coining it

It is evident that Mr. Smith remains as to sliver in the state of mind that possessed him in the Bryan period, a lozen years ago, with only such information to this day as the silver orators mation to this day as the sliver orators supplied him. Sliver, everywhere, is now worth about 50 cents an ounce. The London rate, as quoted, is less, be-cause it is the quotation of sliver only "nine-tenths fine," according to the custom of that market. But there is no free coinage of silver in any of the mints of Europe, nor has there been for more than a quarter of a century. mints of Europe and of America deal in the same way with silver-coining it in large quantities for purposes of small payments and of "making change, change," but restricting both its coin-age and its legal tender power. Gold is the basis of money in the whole commercial world; yet all nations maintaining the gold standard use much silver as subaidary money, but limit its coinage and its use in dis-charge of debts, so as to prevent expulsion of gold and substitution of silver as the standard.

President Cleveland was fully en-titled to the eulogy he received from President Taft; not only in the matter of maintaining the gold standard, and thereby the honor and credit and in-dustry of the country, but in his wise and resolute purpose and policy of en-forcing the authority of the United States at home and our National dignity and prestige abroad. Taft's culogy of Cleveland was, one of the most discriminating and excellent tributes that any occupant of the Presi-dential office has ever rendered to a predecessor. No man's discourse on coln, or Jackson o

scribed as a "thing of shreds and patches," and what is now needed is something more concrete; something that can regulate abuses in ratemaking in the Spokane territory without involving every point along a thousand miles of shore line on the Pacific and several hundred miles inland. The Interstate Commerce Commission in its Spokane decision has turned loose a wild animal, and seems to have de-pended on the railroads getting it into a cage, or handling it so that it will not harm anything.

JUST TAKE THE MEDICINE.

We are not to expect any man of anding, of independence, of acstanding knowledged fitness and character, to announce himself r candidate for the Mayoralty of Portland, and go into the primary to fight it out with con-testants. Consequently we shall have the candidacy only of inferior men.

The tendency, the sure consequence and effect, of the existing system is and ever will be, the elimination of all men of real strength of character and of acknowledged fitness for important positions, from leadership in public affairs. fairs. High-minded men, fittest to serve the public, will not engage in this scramble. Under the representalive system public sentiment could be united on men deemed fittest, at least on men deemed fit. Not, under the primary system.

Don't worry, however, for it is an era of "reform." "The people" are to rule, and for every leading place pretenders and upstarts whom no con-vention would nominate will nominate themselves. For their merits have been long overlooked, and their time now has come. By a small plurality one of the candidates will get the nom-Ination. ination. Then, because in the first place he isn't fit, and because in the next place there has been a bitter fac-tional field in the set of t tional fight in the primary, the man of the opposite party, who probably will be no fitter, will be elected. But don't expect to get first-class men for im-portant office, under this system. All talk of bringing out under it a firstclass man for Mayor of Portland is absurd. The effect of the system-though

sadly misconceived by many, before the trial and proof of it-is to eliminate men of strength and character and leading from consideration for important places, and to give contestants

a chance to bring themselves forward men who complained they never had a chance under a deliberative or representative system-through however, their real worth, or lack of it, might be estimated.

The primary law is the opportunity of self-seeking mediocrity, or of some-thing below it, and the assurance of poor public service.

WHO'LL BE THE NEXT?

The letter from A. M. Hoffstadt, of Sedro-Woolley, Wash., which is printed Secto-woolley, wash., which is printed in another part of the paper today, is of profound interest to the City of Portland. Mr. Hoffstadt need not have asked so urgently that it be printed. The Oregonian prints the letter with inexpressible pleasure, and hones that it will be followed by othhopes that it will be followed by others of a similar tenor, though, of course, the bid should be raised by each new contributor. The man from Sedro-Wooley offers the neat sum of \$5,000,000 for a monopoly of the liquor trade in Portland. This is something like what the city ought to receive for

the privilege. Compared with the paltry offer of \$1000 a day from the promoters of the Gothenburg scheme, It is princely; but still it is not enough The monopoly is worth more. Who will bid six million?

By thus egging on those who desire a monopoly of the liquor business to bid against one another, The Orego-nian hopes to run the price up to a respectable figure in the course of a few weeks. What is to hinder us from obtaining money enough in this easy, this delightful way to pay the had been failed in Baltimore for the baltimore for the had been failed in Baltimore for the baltimore for b areworn taxpayer from all future anxiety over his lot? Nay, we shall not stop there. By dexterous maneu-vering the bids may be exalted to a figure which will give Portland all the new bridges across the Willamette that the most airy promoter could long We have also in mind an extensive series of parks, one of them inluding the whole of Washington County, to say nothing of the boulevards of which we fondly dream. No reason is apparent why all the funds needed for these patriotic enterprises should not be raised from the liquor traffic If Mr. Hoffstadt is easer to pay \$5,-000,000 for the privilege, certainly it is worth more, Undoubtedly he has studied the subject and is allowing himself a handsome profit. In a few days somebody else will bid six million, then, seven, eight, nine, and so on. Heaven alone knows where the enthralling process will stop. The one certain thing is that it opens to the city North. a prospect of unlimited riches and will act as a soothing balm to the distressed taxpayer.

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1909.

rallroads themselves, has been de- Oregon, Washington and Idaho was events we have mentioned seem like about 60,000,000 bushels, and from that crop there were shipped slightly less than 47,000,000 bushels, or nearly one-third of the total amount exported from all American ports. As the wheat crop of Canada increases the population will increase correspondingly. The statistics on wheat pro-duction, which might be supposed to duction, which might be supposed to give a country the right to be termed the "granary of the world," make a much more favorable showing for the Argentine than for any other country. In 1902 the crop of the Argentine way 117 2000 burbles, while thest of

was 117,000,000 bushels, while that of Canada was 99,000,000 bushels. Last Last year the Argentine crop was 192,000,-000 bushels, while that of Canada had increased but 25,000,000 bushels. In growth, the Argentine the possibilities for a Oregon term to any country, we may most appropriately mention the Southern country as the "granary of the world."

AN INTERESTING LIFE.

A man who, like Judge George H. Williams, lives 86 years or more, will necessarily leave the world a very different place from what he found it. This will be true even if he does not himself help to introduce changes. Variation is the law of life, and change will come whether a man likes it or not. But Judge Williams has not been numbered among those who resist so-cial growth. He has had a hand in the density of the source o the development of the country and some of the most important events which have taken place in the course of his long life he has initiated. Born in 1823, his youth and early manhood passed during the turmoil of the antislavery struggle. Clay's Missouri Com-promise was enacted three years before

seen. The lessons of the past are sometimes forgotten even by wise men. Moreover, when the Constitution comes into politics, how can the Court evade the issue?

The first rumblings, of politics which Williams heard in his boyhood must have come from the bitter strife between Andrew Jackson and John Quincy Adams. Jackson received 99 electoral votes, in 1824, while Adams had but \$4. Still the votes for Clay and Crawford threw the election into the House of Representatives where, by what Jackson's partisans called "bargain and corruption," Adams was chosen and the popular will defeated. Throughout the next four years Adams, who was an able and honest man, was hounded by this cry and it finally deprived him of re-election. In the last year of his administration the Jackson faction forced through Congress the "tariff of abominations," which definitely committed the United States to the theory of protection. The man-ufactures of Mr saachusetts now be-

gan to predominate over her shipping interests, and following the law of economic determinism, Daniel Webster abandoned the free traders and joined the high tariff men.

joined the high tariff men. Williams was nine or ten years old when Calhoun and his South Carolina supporters tried to "nullify" this pro-tective tariff act. They rather counted on Jackson's indifference, since he was a theoretical free trader and a great believer in states' rights; but he was also a believer in the Union, and his decisive action stiffed secession for the

ncient history, but Judge Williams is still alive, still active in the community, still enger to meet and welcome those changes in government and so-clety which the welfare of the world requires as time passes. It is a giorius thing to have lived so long and so well. His career is an inspiration to youth and his honored age the crowning reward of a noble life.

The people of the Mount Scott district propose to take time by the fore-lock in the matter of securing a site for a park. There is a tract of forty acres lying south of the carline be-tween Tremont and Woodmere staacres tions, covered with a beautiful wild growth, from shrubs indigenous to vastly increased acreage are very much greater than they are in Can-ada, and, if it is proper to apply the Oregon forests to fir trees of all stages round about is really a park and resi-dents go and come through it at their pleasure, the time is not far distant, judging from the rapid development

Scott carline, when the ground will either all be occupied by homes, or the increased value will render the price of land prohibitive for park pur-poses. Hence the moment Hence the movement to secure the tract to which reference is made while there is yet time. The "long book" is commendable, but it remains to be seen whether those most closely interested will be willing to back up their wishes in this matter by the cash necessary to make the long look in this instance effective.

The net gain in the price of wheat in Chicago in the past five days has been 11/2 cents per bushel. The net gain in Liverpool in the same period has been 21% cents per bushel. The speculative Chicago experts who are on the short end of Mr. Patten's wheat The Williams saw the light, and lasted until in reconciling these facts with their it was declared unconstitutional by the Dred Scott decision, in 1857. This the American wheat situation is due brought the slavery controversy to a to the manipulation of Patten. Arbrought the slavery controversy to a head and probably made the Civil War inevitable. Some writers have said that the consequences of the Dred Scott decision will forever warn the Supreme Court away from politics. Whether it will or not remains to be which the Government found in farm-ers' hands on March 1 still remains carefully concealed from the world's buyers, who are anxious to take the surplus at fancy figures.

Mrs. J. V. Taylor, a pioneer of Marion County, and widely known, a lover of flowers and long devoted to their culture, died in her greenhouse in Salem a few days ago, suddenly and painlessly, at the age of 81 years. A more fitting close to a long life, which to the last held a tender interest in growing and blossoning plants, could not well be imagined. Surrounded as if by friends and speaking things, with voices on every hand that tell of the miracle of resurrection, to those who can understand them, this gentle life that had found comfort in many sorrows in the beauty and fragrance of lowers, came to a close. It is easy, in the passing of such a life, to indors the sentiment as expressed by Longfellow that-There is no death; what seems so is tran-

Senator Chamberlain, in a note adiressed to his colleagues from Oregon in the Senate and House, says: "I am actuated solely by the hope that in all things affecting commercial and in-dustrial development of Oregon we may bury political, personal and social differences and act as a unit." It will be called a fine sentiment, but it is utterly impossible. Men who are at varlance in their political, personal and "act as a unit" on anything. It isn't human nature. "Idem sentire de republica" remains as in Cicero's time, the one sure ground of co-operation

cards gave Bret Harte such an interesting topic for his "Heathen Chinee" poem; but current news indicates but small change in some features of the At Clairton, near Pittsburg, Pa., the holder of an Ah Sin hand which contained one more ace than the late Mr. Hoyle considered necessary was sent to the hospital yester-day with two bullet holes in his lungs. There is nothing very hazardous in the act of holding five aces, but the attempt to play them has always been attended by a considerable degree of risk.

"THE PEOPLE" ARE IN THE SADDLE. Therefore They Will Use a Club on Corvallis College.

The Dalles Optimist. Now we are told that the referendum

s to be invoked on the sums appropriated by the Legislature for the improvements at the O. A. C., and one of the arguments used by the petitioners is that the Legislature had no right to make the apropriation outright, but should have alwed the people to pass upon it at the ext general election, as they now will under the referendum.

We suppose there is no use inveighing sgainst the movement. The people are in the saddle and they know best what is wanted, and they will give it to us, give it to us good and plenty. Of course in this instance "the people" will mean a few thousand soreheads, but as they have it in their power to rule we must respect them as the rulers.

We notice in this connection what Chamberlain said about the people's rule at a hanquet in New York a few days ago. He said that the people are so well

ago. He said that the people are so well pleased with their new primary iaw and the initiative and referendum laws that they would stand on our statute books for years to come. Terbaps they will. God alone knows what the Oregon voiers will do, but we do know that if there is a right way and a wrong way they are preity sure, under the present conditions, to go the wrong way. We see that very plainly from the very fact that Chamberlain was at that banquet as a Senator from Oregon. Deg that he was the choice of a majority of the people of Oregon? He knows better the same tactics as will now defeat the recent appropriation for our great edu-cational institution. It is just as trus to say that the real Oregon sentiment is against education as to say it is for Chamberlain for Senato. The special session of the Oregon Leg-islature appears to have been a deeldedly disreputable manifestation in regard.

Chamberlain for Senator. Oregon Observer (Grants Pass). The special session of the Oregon Leg-islature appears to have been a decidedly disreputable manifestation in regard to the representative section. The Senate behaved itself respectfully, but the House members seem to have been greedy again to get into the treasury all sorts of ap-propriation bills, and to have been ex-ceedingly cross and disorderly because they were prevented from further robbing the taxpayers. The normal schools had captured the House and demanded full appropriations for the schools and the House proceeded to deliver the goods ac-cording to agreement, notwithstanding strong protests from the minority. Fallure to succeed in their schemes very badly disgrantled a large number of the 60 Representatives, who proceeded to act like a hand of hoodiums. Toward the last they became altogether obstrop-

are merely excited, and that not for a vindication of principles, but for personal success. Under such conditions the loud-est brawier or the most plausible trick-ster comes to the front. or the the representatives, who proceeds to act like a hand of hoodlums. Toward the last they became altogether obsirep-erous, yelling and shouting to prevent each other being heard, drowning the voice of the Speaker and ignoring his gavel and otherwise working up an incip-tent right.

lent riot. It was a lovely House of Representa-tives, and admirers of the primary haw must have been proud of it-when the session closed. No harm was done, and that is something that the people may fairly congratulate themselves on.

"WE BUILD ONLY TO BURN." One of the Greatest and Chiefest of Our Economic Problems.

Wall Street Journal.

to secure the ballot, man is distancing her in many of the fields where she has hitherto held the monopoly. The broom, her whilom weapon, has been wrested from her by the pneumatic cleaner. Socks are darned by machine and the plano player has brought the 'Stephanle Ga-votte' into desustude. Now another blow has been struck at the supremacy of the sex in a department which seemed its exclusive domain. A man has won the gold medal at the convention of the Na-tional Milliners' Association. This is a more cruel humiliation than the recent award to a man of the prize for the best battle song in woman's campaign. The man who has carned this distinction is a civil engineer by profession, a mathema-tician by training, the son of a million-aire, and only 22 years old. This com-bination of qualities reminds one of the punch recipe—whicky to make it strong, water to make it weak, lemon to make it sour and augar to make it sweet. The modern feminine headgear requires for its construction the enthusiasm of youth, the prodigality of Croesus, a mastery of trigonomitry and calculus and the engi-Wall Street Journal. It might almost be said that we build only to burn. Our losses by fire in 1908 amounted to \$2.72 per capita, as against an average of about 33 cents for France, Germany, Italy, Switzer-land, Austria and Denmark combined. In Germany also the per capita never rises above 49 cents and in some years has fallen as low as 12 cents.

rises above 49 cents and in some years has fallen as low as 12 cents. Some striking figures bearing on this subject are presented by an in-surance expert in the Popular Science Monthly. According to his statistics, the new buildings erected, together with improvements and repairs to old ones, in the United States during the year 1908 cost \$510,000,000, while buildings destroyed by fire in the act as a unit" on anything. It isn't uman nature. "Idem sentire de re-ublica" remains as in Cicero's time, he one sure ground of co-operation mong men. It has been a long time since the device it is out and sugar to make it sweet. The same period were valued at \$218,000.-000. The maintenance of fire depart-ments, high pressure apparatus, etc., for the year cost \$300,000,000. In the country at large during the month of Termer 1998, the outlay for new

the outlay for new improvements on old buildings and improvements ones amounted to \$16,000,000, while the losses on bulldings destroyed by fire aggregated more than \$24,000,000. There were, in round numbers, 14,000 fires in the City of New York in the year 1908, making a loss of \$7,250,000, while the maintenance of the fire deent possessor so much, she is letting slip from her many things that are far bot-ter? What is the privilege of voting for partment cost \$7,000,000. In St. Louis there were 3200 fires, involving losses of \$1,298,000, and the cost of the fire department was \$1,018,000. To com-Terence O'Flansgan compared with the divine creative energy that goes into the architecture of a millinery miracle? Let may take the City of Rome, which, with a population approximately that of St. Louis, had 270 fires in 1908, with a total loss of \$56,000, and a voman reflect and choose the better part. Wins Wood-Sawing Championship

VITAL ISSUES ARE FORGOTTEN. Direct Primary "Rots Statesmanship," Says a Southern Magazine. Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The editor of Uncle Ramus' Magazine declares in the March issue that the di-

The editor of Uncle Ramus' Magazine declares in the March issue that the di-rect primary "has literally squeezed the South dry of the sap of statesmanship a necessary evil" in the past, it is one that should be no longer endured. It is possibly well to say here that the magazine is trying to be more than periodical of entertainment. Julian Harris, son the beloved teller of tales, and the pres-ent editor, endeavors to discuss public questions serionaly and from a broad American viewpoint. The south of that favorite political pances in the supposed success in the South of that favorite political pances in doubtedly weighed heavily with the sat thing which "rots statesmanship" by a thung which "tots statesmanship" by a st these: It mine cases out of ten there is no is a these is an outpouring of personal abuse. It mine the tensonal abuse is an outpouring of personal abuse. It mine cases out of ten there is no is a these is an outpouring in formal there are intered the is a the intervent of the case there are intervent. It mine cases the tensonal abuse

This experience is not confined to the

MERE MAN DISTANCES WOMAN.

Captures Medal as Boss Milliner.

Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

World,

is pratty nearly a physical wreck, his hands being swollen and terribly blis-tered

Where Fire Was Discovered.

PORTLAND, March 25.-(To the Edi-tor.)-Would you please publish where fire was first discovered and how?

Fire was first discovered by Prom-

theus, a Greek inventor, who was impris-

oned in the Caucasus Mountains and

cruelly treated by the trust magnate

who robbed him of his patent. Full par-

ticulars are given in a book called Pro-

metheus Vinctus and all the cyclopedias.

NEWSPAPER WAIFS.

"All the world's a stage." "Yes; and my ook seems to think I keep her merely as understudy."-Louisville Courier-Jour-

Mrs. Youngwife-What is the first ques-lon you ask of a maid whom you think of mploying? Mrs. Oldone-I always say first. 'Have you ever lived with me before?"-

"How did you curs your daughter of h ng left-handed?" "I bought her a beau ul diamond ring and made her wear it er right hand. So she got in the babit oing everything with that hand."----Clev and Leader.

J. P. W.

tered.

outh. It is general

trying to do now?" "I'm trying to keep these fellows from escaping," returned Big John, in a stentorian volce. "Let them go, you infernal fooil" shouted Upton. "We'd a sight rather fight 'em than feed 'em."-New York Sun.

Visitor-And are you going to be a minister, like your father, Walter? Walter (aged 4)-No, ma'am. I'm goin' in some business where I can afford to give my little boy a dime every day.-Chicago News.

In the thought which of the armies ought to win. They are too much interested in marking the attack and the defense. They see the battle as a battle, and can see it as nothing else. And so the "vital issues" are "driven out of the people's grasp" by the excite-ments of the personal combat. The peo-ple are not informed and educated. They are merely excited and they not for

Anxious Mother-Johnny, is it possible that you, as sick as you claim to be, have eaten that whole rhubarb ple? Johnny-Yes, mamma. You khow, the doctor said my system needed rhubarb, and I thought I'd better take a good dose of it before I got any worse.-Chi-caro Inter-Ocean. cago Inter-Ocean.

When the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia when the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia visited this country with his imposing suite one of the places to which the Rus-sians went was out West for a buffalo hunt. The hunt was held in South Da-kota, and Colonel Hatch, of the Army, was assigned to take the party in charge and do the honors.

and do the honors. Russians, except the Cossacks, are none too good when it comes to horsemanship, and this information was conveyed to Colonel Hatch, with the request that some mild and gentle steeds be procured for the visitors for the hunt. Hatch did the best he could with the Army mounts, and the cavalcade started from Fort Robinson. the Struggles for a Vote, While He When woman is struggling strenuously to secure the ballot, man is distancing

her in many of the fields where she has Robinson. The leaders rode slowly. It was a long The leaders rode slowly. It was a long and imposing procession. Just as Hatch was congratulating himself that every-thing was going nicely, his orderly rode up from the rear, saluted and said: "Beg pardon, Colonel, but one of them kings has fell off."-Saturday Evening Post.

The new minister in a Georgia church The new minister in a Georgia church was delivering his first sermon. The darky janitor was a critical distence from a back corner of the church. The min-ister's sermon was eloquent, and his prayers seemed to cover the whole cate-sory of human wants. After the services one of the deacons asked the old darky what he thought of the new minister. "Don't you think he offers up a good prayer, Joe?" "Ah mos' subtainly does, boss. Why, that man axed de good Lord fo' things dat de odder preacher didn't even know he had!"--Everybody's.

Two telephone girls were talking over

the wire one afterno The subject of the conversation was a lawn party, which

Life's SunnySide

When, at Gaines Mill in 1862, the Fifth

. . .

Sun. Uncle Mose, needing money, sold his pig to the wealthy Northern lawyer who had Just bought the neighboring planta-tion. After a time, needing more money, he stole the pig and resold it, this time to Judge Pickens, who lived 'down the road a piece.'' Soon aftorward the law-yer and judge met and, upon comparing notes, suspected what had happened. They confronted Uncle Mose. The old darky chearfully admitted his guilt. "Well." domanded Judge Pickens. "what are you going to de about 11." "Blessed ef I know, jedge," replied Diawyer. I reckon I'll let yo' two gen'men settle it between yo-selves."-Cleveland Leader.

. . . .

bad beginning, and with the most loyal will on either side to discuss the issues on their merits alone, those merits were necessarily obscured by the exciting spectacle of a personal encounter. The spectators of a battle can take little thought which of the armles ought to win. They are too much interested . . .

has ever had more general approval throughout the country than Tat's fine tribute to Grover Cleveland.

SEARCHING FOR THE LIGHT.

Traffic Director Stubbs, of the Har-riman lines, and Interstate Commerce Commissioner Prouty have had a conference at Chicago regarding the Spo-kane rate case decision. A Chicago dispatch says that the attempt of Mr. Stubbs to "get some light on the deeision" was unsuccessful. Mr. Prouty is said to have informed the railroad man that "the decision meant about what it said," and that the order "was drawn in a way which, in the opinion of the Commission, would make it most difficult to attack successfully." Despite the difficulty which will neces sarily be encountered in contesting the case, the interests of such a large area of country and the business of so many miles of railroad are at stake that it is an absolute necessity that some more definite understanding be reached than is possible under the Spokahe ruling in its present ambiguous shape.

The Commission specifically expressed its lack of jurisdiction over the rates which might be made between the East and Pacific Coast ports, and at the same time assumed the right to regulate rates so strongly interdependent with those established by water competition that one could not possibly be disturbed without affecting the others. The Spokane declsion-if, as stated by Mr. Prouty, it "means about what it said" -in effect prevents the transcontinental railroads from haul- grain that is grown, and that the posing west of Spokane any of the commodities which can be brought to the Coast ports by water.

It seems hardly probable that any such dreatic effect was intended by the Commission, which has at all times decreed that the long and short haul provisions of the interstate commerce act did not apply to territory affected by water competition. Re-gardless of which side is victorious in the contest that the roads will make, much trouble and expense will be incurred. Instead of meaning "about" what it says, the decision should have been so plain and should have so thoroughly covered the Coast rates, as well as the Spokane rate, that there would have been no misunderstanding.

Mr. Harriman in a recent interview was lavish in his praise of the attitude of the Mexican government toward railroads. "They grant a charter," said he, "and state just what you can do. They believe in regulation, but have no faith in commissions, and when anything unusual happens it is possible to get very quick decisions." A direct policy of this nature would vastly simplify matters which become so badly tangled as the Spokane case promises to be before we are through with it.

Our new railroad policy, which was forced on us by the arrogance of the

GRANARY OF THE WORLD.

The Literary Digest prints some in teresting observations from an Italian writer on political economy, in which it is predicted that Canada is about to become the "granary of the world." The basis for this prediction seems to be the fact that just at present the new country to the north of us is ship-which put the Presidency of the United ping a very large proportion of all the sibilities for increasing the output of the cereal are great. Reducing the

matter to figures, however, it is not at all clear that Canada has any more right to the title "granary of the world" than the Argentine would have, and not nearly as much right to the title as the United States would have. The wheat crop of the United States last year was not up to the average of recent years, the final out-turn showing about 664,000,000 bush-Exports from the United States

in 1908 were 140,000,000 bushels. The Canadian crop of last year was 124,000,000 bushels, or less than onefifth that of the United States, and much smaller in its total than the exports alone from the United States. Canada is a big country and will in the coming years show a large in-crease in its wheat production. With that increase, however, will come, as in the United States, an increase in the home consumption which will steadily lessen the proportion of the crop which will be available for other countries. At the present time, despite the sparsely settled regions of Western Canada, it is extremely

doubtful if the proportion of the crop shipped, as compared with the amount grown, is as large as that of the Pacific Northwest. The maximum crop produced in

Lloyd Garrison began the publication of the Liberator, in Boston, and the anti-slavery propaganda took shape The abolitionists were and purp as rankly tainted with disunionism as Calhoun himself, though their ethics were superior to his. Three years later Jason Lee trekked across the plains to Oregon, in company with Nathaniel Wyeth, and the colonization of the Pacific Coast by American pioneers be-Thus, when Williams was still a schoolboy, the scene where he was to pass the years of his ripe and honored age was being prepared. Ten years later, in 1844, the slave-holding oligarchs, who had by that time be

come predominant in the councils of the Nation, coupled a demand for the military occupation of Oregon with that for the annexation of Texas. For the latter they were ready to fight, for the former they cared nothing. It was only a sop to the easily outwitted Texas was annexed the next year, but it was not till 1848 that Oregon became a territory and then oply because news of the Whitman massacre quelled for a moment the opposition of the slaveholders. Two years later, in 1850, Clay made

his last attempt to allay the bitterness between the North and South by a compromise, but, inasmuch as his measure included the fugitive slave aw, it exacerbated instead of soothing the controversy. Webster delivered, in support of this compromise, States forever out of his reach. his motives were sincere historians

now concede, but few would venture commend his judgment. In spite of the growing feeling against slavery the Democrats were able to elect their candidate, the amiable Franklin Pierce, in 1852, and Williams, who was then living in Iowa, canvassed the state for him and became one of his electors. Pierce rewarded his efforts.

by appointing the rising jurist Chief Justice of Oregon territory, an office which he held until 1857, when he resigned and began private practice in The War of the Rebellion made Judge Williams a Republican. It was

as a member of the Union party that he went to the Federal Senate, in 1864, and took part in the stirring controversies of reconstruction days. well known that many of the prin-cipal act of Congress which restored the Union and established order in the South, were introduced by Judge Williams. When it became necessary

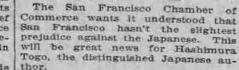
ater to extirpate the Ku Klux Clubs Grant left the work almost entirely to his Attorney-General and historians now agree that the first practical sug-gestion for settling the electoral con-

test between Hayes and Tilden, in 1876, was made by him. Judge Williams was then 53 years old, in the prime of life. Since that time a new generation has grown up to whom th fail to raise the rates during the fair.

The Pennsylvania-Ohlo kidnapping e recalls the effort of a learned phi lologer to ascertain the origin of the words "kidnap," . "kidnapper." The authorities at his command were meager and he fell back on the resources of his own ingenuity. "Kid-napping," he said, "and child-stealing I find are the same thing. The word kidnapper, then, must have been kidnabber, originally, and by the wellknown method of change through mis-taken pronunciation, kid-nabber was corrupted into kidnapper." And the professor looked wondrous wise.

Mr. Kellaher, elected to the Legislature as a Republican on a Statement No. 1 platform, is a candidate for Mayor. He will not enter the primary, but announces in advance that he will run as an independent. Which shows what kind of a Republican one Republican State Senator is. And there are others.

Paso Robles and nothing happened. was worth a good many columns for the space-writers. The most interesting news in the world is about the things that might have happened, and didn't.



The public might be willing to do mething handsome by those Sharon kidnapers if they would emigrate to country and begin operations on this Aoki.

logical moment in the Oregon land-fraud cases, after Heney had quit. Could any other have done better?

With the advent in London of the American department store, old Eng-land will now get onto the a-b-c's of the advertising art.

Seattle hotels will not show the roper spirit (Seattle spirit) if they

Hartford, Conn., Dispatch to New York charge of only \$50,000 for the fire de-

partment. Here, then, is an economic problem which, to the living generation at least, is quite as important as the conservation of the country's unde-veloped natural resources. Educa-tional and legislative processes which shall afford greater security for exist-ing property created by human enter-prise and in use by living citizens are as greatly to be desired as measures which shall secure the Nation's dor-mant wealth to generations yet un-born. Shortly after 6 o'dock Wednesday night Georga Michael, proprietor of the Pros-pect House in Bristol, sawed the last stick of ten cords of wood. Last week George Leavitt had ten cords of wood dumped in his back yard, and from a dis-cussion as to how long it would take to saw the wood emanated a wager between Leavitt and Michael. Michael bet \$100 that he could saw the wood in 30 hours, and if he did Leavitt was to pay him the that he could saw the wood in 30 hours, and if he did Leavitt was to pay him the wager and \$1 a cord. Engaging an expert saw maker to keep his two bucksaws in condition, Michael started in, and not only did he succeed in getting his job done in season, but he required only a little over 20 hours for the ten cords. He is prefit y nearly a physical wave his

GREAT RICHES FOR PORTLAND.

For Monopoly of the Saloon Business \$5,000,000.

SEDRO-WOOLLEY, Wash., March 25.-(To the Editor.)-Will you kindly publish through The Oregonian my offer to the City of Portland for the privilege of con-ducting the saloon business in Portland for the next 10 years commencing Janu-ary 1, 200. I will nav the city to more

ary 1, 1910. I will pay the city \$5,000,000 and will agree to conduct the business upon the same plan as the Gothenberg Association; and, furthermore, I will put up the entire amount of \$5,000,000 to he known as the trust fund, the same to be drawn from to pay the privileges of con-ducting the business every six months. I will give a bond of \$1,000,000 with a fran-Kindly give this space in your valuable paper.

R. M. HOFFSTADT.

Rondeau Redouble.

Chicago News. I hats a dun. It makes mo fairly sick, This letter saking me to "please remit." If I could may I'd do It mighty quick. I can't, however, so I wish they'd quit.

hey will not, though, let up a little bit. But threaten suit a very shabby trick, onsidering the suit was poor in ft. I hate a dun. It fairly makes me sick.

That is the worst of getting things on tick, I wish that I had waited for my kit. This curt reminder makes my conscience

This letter asking me to "please remit."

Credit is an invention of the pit. A thing deviced for torment by Old Nick I can't grow calloused. I am tired of it. If I could pay I'd de it michty quick. When I am broke, that is the time they

pick To pester me, to threaten with a writ. To satisfy them I'd at nothing stick: I can't, however, so I wish they'd quit.

doing everything with that hand."---tiev, iand Leader.
"She's a very natural girl." 'So?" 'Te whenever she's invited out to dine all never thinks of taking the smallest piece areas in sight, but helps herself to as muc as she would cat if she wore at home." Detroit Free Press.
"The tariff is a wonderful institution with the data of the wore at home." Detroit Free Press.
"The tariff is a wonderful institution of the data of the wore at home." Detroit free Press.
"The tariff is a wonderful institution with the data of the base of the base of the data of the base of the base of the data of the base of the base of the data of the base of the base of the data of the base of the base of the base of the data of the base of the base of the base of the data of the base of the base of the base of the data of the base of the b It seems to me as if they had but little wit. One can't get blood from turnip, stone or brick. Well, with the statement I my pipe have lit. That ends it. I shall simply lot 'em klok. I hate a dun.

was to take place the next day. Both were discussing what they should wear, and after five minutes had come to no these qualifications, will go down in history as the first man to apply the prin-ciples of engineering to the building of decla clpies of engineering to the building of roof gardens for the fair sex. Will woman realize ere it is too late that, while she is grasping after that bauble, the ballot, which bothers its pres-

Willie Vet-What's an army endurance

test, ma? Mother Vet-Living with your pa the first few days after he gets his pension money.-Puck. . . .

"He says he has never kissed his wife. I think that's outrageous, don't you?" "No; I've seen his wife."-Houston Post.

"I forget so easily. I wish I could do something to exercise my memory.", "That's simple," said his friend. "Just and me \$10, and let me know if you forget it."-Judge.

IN THE MAGAZINE SECTION OF THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN

FIGHTING A BULL BARE-

HANDED IN THE RING Edwin C. Johnson writes graphic description of an extraordinary exhibition of courage and foolhardiness by an American negro in the City of Mexico.

MEASURING TORNADOES AND STUDYING

THEIR CAUSE

Professor Frank H. Bigelow, of the Weather Bureau, is studying the devastations of tornadoes and has made many interesting discoveries as to the nature and habits of this king of storms.

STEADY PROGRESS OF FRANCIS RICHTER

Mrs. Alma A. Rogers writes of the progress of Portland's blind boy musician in his studies abroad under the great teacher, Leschetizsky.

THE LETTERS OF A JAPANESE SCHOOLBOY

Wallace Irwin has discovered a new vein of humor and created a new character in Hashimura Togo. The aerial exploits of the Wright brothers are quaintly described this weeks

'GETTING A LINE ON OGGIE''

Sewell Ford introduces Professor Shorty McCabe into aristocratic society, and incidentally he shows up an English Lord as a

Becker, it seems, struck the psycho-

Mr. Hill and Mr. Harriman met as