## The Oregonian

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THE WAR OF THE EXPLORERS. The elder Disraeli devoted one of the books of his "Curiosities of Litersture" series to an account of "The Quarrels and Calamities of Authors.' Such quarrels are often calamities; yet

it must be owned that multitudes of bibliophiles and literary mawworms take a kind of delight in them. So long as such controversies are recent and friends of the opposing parties survive, there will be a good deal of rattle of armor among the contestants; and curiosity about great con-tests of this kind often survives long after all contemporaries have passed away.

The contest between Peary and Cook will be of the nature of a literary quarrel; for their writings, the examination of their records by scientists, and innumerable essays on the facts and conjectures, in every country, will make an immense mess of written memorials. Able men will get into the controversy on either side. No one can tell yet whether Cook or Peary will have the better of But it will be another veritable "Battle of the Books."

There was ample room at the North Pole for the visits of two men, without interference with each other, especially since their dates place them at the Pole more than one year apart. Hut there is to be a controversy, beside which all recent quarrels and calamities will pale their ineffectual fires. Both Cook and Peary may their claims to have reached the Pole; but Peary has challenged the veracity of Cook. Evidentdoes not believe that Cook reached the Pole, and intends to stake his reputation on his ability to prove On this point there must be discomfiture for one or the other.

"We take it for granted," says the New York Evening Post, "that Peary convinced that his proofs are indisputable. As a scientific man, he must know that so sweeping a denial will inaugurate the bitterest kind of controversy, beside which other differences between explorers will seem utterly insignificant. Commander Peary must have realized also that there are many who will accuse him of jealo and spite, and, therefore, discount his utterances; and that many others will wish he had deferred any comment on his rival until his return to this country. But the die is now cast." Peary alleges that he will produce the testimony of Cook's Eskimos against him. But these people have no knowledge of a scientific kind, and their testimony may conclude nothing. Could shether they were at the But Peary says he had Pole or not? the same Eskimos that had served with Cook; and their denial of Cook's claims would be most embarrassing to

their author. But the observations and general data furnished by the two explorers will be sifted with utmost care and with scientific precision by a multitude of examiners and critics, and on these results the case will be made up. could not be expected that Peary would be able to find any relics left by Cook at or near the Pole, a year arlier; for the movement of the ice field across the polar region, which is both considerable and incessant, would render futile any expectation of the discovery by later explorers of the

relics of former ones. But it is evident that the newspaper world will be ringing months, perhaps for years, with the resounding clamor of the two conestants and of their many partisans. Brooklyn is preparing to award to Cook, a resident of that borough, a mighty reception, and apparently in-tends to become his champion. The ontest, however, is not one that numbers will decide, but competent judgment, passing on the evidence to be furnished by the two explorers.

A CANAL DREAM RECALLED. Revival of interest in waterway con-

struction and improvement recalls the enthusiastic advocacy of coastwise canal-digging, by the late United States Senator John Tyler Morgan, of Alabama. Senator Morgan was up to the last an uncompromising advocate of the Nicaragua route. He had, moreover, a vision, so to speak, of a chain of inland waterways from Portcomprehended a series of canals that would safeguard the American domestic marine by cutting off the hazards of Cape Cod, Cape Hatterns and sundry shallow seas and bayous. saw in the future-and attempted to make his vision clear to his colleagues-a ship canal joining Delaand Chesapeake Bay; an-Dismal through the Great Swamp into Albemarle Sound, thence Pamlico Sound, thence Onslow Bay. These were, in time, to be supplemented by a ship canal across Florida, and by other artificial waterways across the Gulf coast to the mouth of the Rio Grande, thus securing what he deemed absolute safety to

domestic marine trade. Senator Morgan's plan, to which few would listen except to discredit it, with due courtesy, was to build, first of all, the Nicaraguan Canal and from the profits of this, which he was sure would be large, to build from year to year until completed this great inland coast waterway. He falled to arouse enthusiasm among his colleagues at the time. There is yet indeed no disposition to consider such a project, yet it had some merits to commend it and these may eventually prove of sufficient value to revive it. private capital, that of Henry M. Flagler and his associates,

foresees profits in the operation of an ocean railroad from the lower east coast of Florida over almost fathom- Fulahs and Hausas, tribes of the Ni-

less depths of sait water to Key West and Cuba. Money to the extent of uncounted millions stands ready to finance this scheme, compared with which the construction of an inland waterway, such as Senator Morgan planned, appears a small undertaking.

In reviving memories of this old canal scheme and outlining that of the proposed ocean railroad, the New York Commercial recalls that, in the twenty years following 1881, not less than 1000 vessels-steam and sailwere wrecked off Cape Cod or in con-tiguous waters. The loss of life due to these wrecks was appalling and the financial loss reached into the hundreds of millions. A cangl connecting Cape Cod with Buzzard's Bay would have prevented all that loss. This citation is certainly pertinent to the subject of the inland waterways improvement, that was the dream of Senator Morgan, and Indicates possibility of a late fulfillment of his dream.

IN A TROUBLED SEA. The President intends to speak on tariff on his journey. Mighty deep water here, and cross-currents and whiripools. The President is a proteetionist, but all "protection" some obtain others must pay for. They who can wield the main forces of the system grow enormously rich -of course, at the expense of others -the enrichment of the few at the cost of the many. Such always is the result of "protection."

But, since protection is the policy of the country, since protection is the system to which the country is committed, it is natural that each and every part of the country should demand and insist on protection for its own particular interests. This produces the combinations that is-Each state sue in robber tariff bills. or district supposes it is taking care of its particular interests. But the peculiar genius that presides over the system brings the greatest profits to the few who have put themselves in position to control it and be its chief beneficiaries.

They control the sources of supply of materials, as well as the markets and prices. They have the beds of iron ore, they have the sugar planta-tions; they have the sources of wood pulp; they even force the railroads, on market staples, and the producer and laborer is forced also.

The system would be unjust and burdensome, even without protective tariff to support it. With protective tariff for its buttress, it can force such additional exactions as it thinks can be had without immediate danger of

political revolution. Its strength and continuance lie in the fact that each particular district or state believes it can get special advantages to itself out of the shake of the dicebox. Doubtless it is true, to an extent, since the system is to continue; but who doesn't know that the chief advantages will enure to the few, already enormously rich, who are in a position to get the main usufruct?

e President, doubtless, will take a middle course in trying to navigate

STORY OF THE NEGRO. The story of the negro, as Mr. Booker Washington tells it, in Outlook, makes interesting reading. In the first installment, which is written in an easy, sketchy style, he gently destroys the foundation of ignorance which most of our common prejudices against the cofored race have reposed Perhaps Mr. Washington has not tried to be amusing in the course of this piece of iconoclasm, but in one instance he has whether he tried or not. In touching, by the way, upon the vexed subject of mixed blood, he points out that white men usually say the offspring of miscegenation is always degenerate inferior to black and white alike. This is all very fine and possibly true, but in the next breath you will hear the same white men declaring that no negro has ever done anything worth while unless his blood was mixed. Evidently the logic of this double arraignment halts a little. Washington indulged in a quiet smile as he analyzed it.

As a rule, in trying to inform ourlives about the negro in this country and make up our minds about his capacities for progress, we have not paid enough attention to what travelers tell about his condition in those parts of Africa where he has dwelt out of contact with whites, Mr. Washington quotes copiously from these accounts and, if we heed them, we shall be rescued from two errors at least. We shall escape from the superstitious belief that slavery improved the negro morally and mentally, and we shall learn that it is untrue to say that he has never advanced without help from white men.

Slavery improved the negro in some respects, but it injured him in others. For example, in his native Africa it is easy to convince oneself that he had developed a good deal of independent initiative. He had faced the problems of life as they presented themselves in tropical Africa and had solved many of them adequately. This power of initiative, slavery de-It obliterated the impulse of self-help and along this line pushed the colored race a long way back toward childhood. Forbidden to think or act for themselves, they naturally lost the inclination to do so and even the power of individual must have atrophied. That it has measurably revived in the short time since slavery ceased, is a marvel to any thoughtful mind. It ought not to surprise us that the negroes rechildren mentally. semble ought to surprise us is that so many of them display manly intelligence after three centuries of systematic

mental dwarfing. Unless African travelers are all in error about the facts of the case, it is a mistake to believe that the negroes have never made any progress toward civilization from their native impulse. The truth seems to be that they have made a great deal. body knows that the negro of pure stock has a fine physique. If we could get rid of our blinding prejudice we should agree with Wait Whitman that he is a handsome man, Mr. Washington class plenty of facts to show that the negro's intelligence is by no means despicable. In the interior of Africa he has developed a considerable agriculture, one which supplies him with food at any rate. the tribes who have not been harried, enslaved and murdered there is an admirable network of exchange carried on in market places which have existed for many generations. Nor are they incapable of settled govern-ment. Mr. Washington cites the instance of the chiefthin, Mohammed Askia, a negro of pure blood who founded a great empire in 1492. The

ger now under British rule, were particularly gifted as inventors of laws

and settled institutions. Evidently what we commonly take for knowledge of the negro in his aboriginal state is altogether too much the product of our own fancy and We holdly declare that he never has done anything when the eyidence proves that he has done quite as much as any other primitive race before it felt the stimulus of contact with outsiders. There seems to be no doubt at all that the negro in the African forests is fully up to the mark of our own barbarous ancestors in the Ewropean forests. What he will accomplish and how far he will advance when white men cease to murder and torture him remains to be seen,

THE "PLURALITY" EVIL.

The evil of plurality rule constitutes the main evil of the direct primary, when the direct primary is not guided by some kind of representative action. The absurd results which have been realized in Oregon, under this method, have a highly deterrent effect in other states. It is not the primary itself, but the self-suggestion of numerous candidates and nomination by a small plurality of one of a bunch, who is not a representative man, that constitutes the objection. Hence the necessity of councils, assemblies or conventions to suggest candidates for the primary, Only so can there be any maintenance of principles or distinctive purposes, through representative party action

A citizen of Indianapolis, Adolph Schmuck-not a politician, but a dis interested citizen-has written several articles for various newspapers on the evil of plurality rule, through unguided primaries-drawing his observations from recent experiences in his own city. His latest is an elaborate article in the Indianapolis News -a paper that has warmly supported the direct primary, and still favors it. but confesses its disappointment with the practical working of the law under the system that invites candidates nominate themselves. It finds that representative men do not ob-The personal scramble excludes the fittest, and the plurality system completes the farce. We of Oregon have ound all this, in ample measure.

The general situation in Indianapilis, on which Mr. Schmuck founds his statement and reasoning, does not differ from the situation here, or other places where a mass of candi-dates offer themselves and a plurality candidate comes forth as the nomine of his party. It is seldom in such : ase that the man who is successful represent the majority tendency of his party; and men who would b fittest for the positions to be filled will not come forth, under the conditions. It is becoming an old story

Then comes party revolt, and the real sentiment of the people finds no expression in the succeeding election. It is said to be certain that the candidates for the Mayoralty in Indianapolis do not represent their parties at all, nor the people either, though one of them will be elected; and then the "professional" element and "boss" influence will be stronger than before. The primary must remain under strict regulation and direction of law but the attempt to make party nom-inations under it, without some guide to representative party action, always will be a blunder. Yet our primary law leaves a way open to rational proceedings in the direction of party representation; and this way will be fol-

lowed in Oregon hereafter. "UNTO DUST SHALT THOU RETURN." 'Unto dust shalt thou return' mortal of the railroad king. This was hermetically sealed and lowered into a brick-lined vault hewn from the solid rock of the hillside and imprisoned therein with cement. fenced against, the processes of decay will be staved and hampered and hin-

dered, but not defeated Such disposal of a body may soothe grief temporarily or flatter human vanity, but it can serve no ultimate ourpose in the economy of Nature or in the shaping of events. Even the body of the great Pharach was at length ruthlessly dragged from its centuries-old hiding place and, ghastly and repulsive in its time-blackened cerements, was installed in a niche where it might meet the irreverent gaze of the curious.

Compliance with the demand that Nature makes for its own is much nore gracefully and not the less surely met by the simple process of crenation, which, overreaching all the revolting, intervening steps of decay, leaves of the human body in a few short hours but a small heap of clean, gray cinders.

A SCHOOL COURSE IN ETHICS A total of 12,000 public schools were opened in Kansas yesterday. This is very commonplace announcement since an equal or greater number of public schools were opened in other states on the same day, the grand aggregate forming a stupendous number. But in Kansas it is different. In Kansas most things are different from

things of similar character in other states-not including Oklahoma. example, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, collaborating with the State Board of Education, formulated a new order whereby ethics will be taught in the public schools

This subject does not appear in the regular course of study; that would make it commonplace. It is tached thereto by a sweeping order of the State Superintendent of Schools It implies the curtailment of many liberties of which Kansan and other fathers still boast as belonging to the estate of boyhood. Before it falls the telight of beating the other fellow at It means that the young Jayhawker," after playing his game, having duly observed the old-fashioned rule of "knuckle-down," and other tame regulations supposed to induce fair play, may pocket his maroles and walk demurely away without a galling sense of loss or an undus sense of exultation. It means that the exuberance of boyish spirits, induced by the first, or any subsequent, snowfall must not find expression in pelting passers-by with snowballs. Again the boy who, forgetful or defiant of the new order of things, puts pepper or sulphur on the schoolhouse stove, or scatters snuff about, or ties tin cans to the tails of dogs, or pulls the girls' hair, or unties their apron strings, will be dealt with-must be solemnly dealt with-by the Kansan school-

How dealt with, and by what

means? Moral sussion, of course since in Kansas as elsewhere the birch in schools has fallen into disrepute. It moreover, hardly probable that fathers who have made themselves heroes in the eyes of the Kansar schoolboys, by a recital of their success in the game of "keeps," by stories of luscious watermelons abstracted by night from a neighbor's garden with the wrathful owner in full chase and perhaps a building in full cry, or of a mysterious epidemic of speezing that followed the innocent scattering of snuff on the schoolroom floor, will join very heartly in the effort to make these and similar misdemeanors appear heinous in the eyes of their sons. It is manifestly up to the Kansan teachers, sharply supervised by the State Superintendent, to make this course in ethics interesting to the schoolboys of the Sunflower State. In full realization of the difficulties that the in the pathway of this endeavor, and of the sleepless vigilance that this course in ethics will entail upon the nembers of an already fad-ridden profession. The Oregonian begs to extend sympathy and proffer moral support in the premises.

Preliminary steps for establishnent of the Reed Institute, made possible by the generous bequest limeon G, and Amanda Reed, will shortly be taken. In a measure of this kind it is the part of wisdom to make haste slowly. It is, in fact, necessary to proceed with a deliberation and prudence, to the end that the intent of the donors may be faithfully carried out. Litigation having ceased the bequest which makes the Reed Institute an assured fact is now at the disposal of the board of managers that has been delegated to handle it and the weighty questions covering the scope and purpose of the institute are being carefully considered. No community can afford to have a mistake made in a matter that trenches so closely upon its welfare as this. may be added, with confidence, that no mistake will be made in this case.

If Southern Oregon papers that publish sneers about "the recent dis-covery of Southern Oregon by the Oregonian" had either memory or knowledge, they would know that The Oregonian, many and many a has published more matter descrip-tive of Southern Oregon and its adantages than all other publications whatsoever. Through the whole of its own long history and that of the state, The Oregonian has been doing this continuously. Climate, soil, productive capacity, mines, fruits and the scenic known to the world through The Oregonian; and the work has been kept up from the first-for The Oregonian always has been the newspaper of all Oregon, and of the Oregon Country, now constituting many states. It has been the work of more than fifty years.

The public schools of this city and the wide area known as District No. opened yesterday with a full corps of teachers and a large first-day at tendance. Later, when the children gather in from the hop yards and prune orchards and from Summer outngs at seaside resort and mountain camps, the largest enrollment in the history of the Portland public schools o doubt be reached. The growth of a city is measured by the growth of its homes and homes without children are still happily the exception to the good old-fashioned rule.

Transfer of Henry B. Miller from the post of Consul-General at Yokohama to that of Consul at Belfast will no doubt prove acceptable to him and All that wealth and human ingenu-ity could do to turn aside the decree Orient since 1900, Mr. Miller having of corks as souvenirs. served as Consul at Chung King and terposed in behalf of the body of E. H. | Niu Chwang prior to his appointment Harriman. A steel casket, strongly at Yokohama. A thoroughly practiconstructed, received all that was cal man, he has served the country well in the important stations to which he has been assigned.

A young Indiana church organist detained in Los Angeles for eloping with a wealthy young woman, says he is wiling to go back and believes he can arrange to be forgiven by the deserted wife. There is no doubt of it, as she is said to be an invalld and has three young children, and women are If she "easy." proverbially strong and husky, with a square jaw and muscle to match, his repentance would not be evident.

It has been found necessary on the part of the state to transfer a murder ease in the Superior Court at Tacoma because the judge is opposed to capital When men who "adorn' the bench are allowed to interpret jus tice to suit their whims, it is little conder the proletariat has a howl coming.

A Heldelberg professor announces that he has discovered Halley's comet which has been lost these soventy years. In the present era of incredulify, how does he propose to lay his ofs before an international scientific board of investigation?

Postmaster-General Hitchcock prooses to find out whether Uncle Sam is paying the railroads too much or too little for carrying the mails. you ever hear of a railroad hauling

With the opening of schools yesterday there is a cry for more room from all parts of the state. The director the census would read the Oregon news with profit.

How the world does how! with joy when a clergyman falls from grace, and how the world should be ashamed of itself! To err is human, and sometimes divine. When Anna Held-in the news dis-

New York in an airship, it proves originality and effectiveness in her Says our Jonathan: "If I can be the chief fugieman in entertainment of the President at my City of Portland, I care not who discovers the

patches offers \$10,000 to be landed at

Pole. Some people are saying Peary took Cook house in the Arctic. His friends think he has taken the bakery,

Meteorological traditions have been The State Fair opened without rain.

make Christmas presents for Mrs. Mr. Beals, having returned, is giv-

Mrs. Peary isn't sitting up nights to

ing us his prettiest.

Chance for the Every-Day American to Perspire for His Country.

Baltimore Sun.

The eminent citizens who compose the reception committee in Louisiana have resolved that during President Taft's visit to the state they will not appear in long-talled coats and silk hats. They have decided that comfort is more than style and the body than raiment; and they do not propose to swelter along in hot clothes just for the sake of making a show. Weighing a few stone under 200 pounds, Mr. Taft is somewhat of a swelterer himself, and he must appreciate the feelings of the stout committeemen who have to wad-dle around as his bodyguard.

But is this showing proper respect for the President of the United States? For generations whenever an American has wished to put on his dignity in the daytime he has arrayed himself in long-tailed black coat that covers hi like a blanket and makes him look like clothler's dummy. He has topped his ostume with the high silk hat, which is the unfalling mark of prominence and importance. True, when Princess Eulalie came from Spain to grace the World's Fair at Chicago certain eminent although the princess of the second ent citizens of that enterprising town appeared at the municipal breakfast in swallow-tailed evening clothes, but their fate has been ever since a warn-ing to other receptionists not to appear in anything save the regular recognized uniform

The Louisians men may be brave in resolving to face the country in common everyday clothes, but it is bravery that verges on sheer recklessness. For several days they will be right in the limelight and the public gaze will rest upon them. They will be so close to the President that they will look almost prominent. Do they dare allow the eyes of the populace to rest on them when they are in ordinary attire? Their very appearance will at arouse the suspicion that they are arouse the suspicion that they are not the men for the place. How can the people look up to them if they have no high hats? How can they be distinguished from the mere folks who are not committeemen? Everyone will suspect that they are committeeing under false pretenses.

der false pretenses.

No matter what the Louisianans may do, we hope the 2927 committeemen at the other points on the President's tour will realize what the occasion demands and measure up to their full duty. It may be trying to wear a long-tailed coat blanketed around you. and struggle along under a high hat that looks like a stovepipe and fits like a crackerbox, but there are times when personal feelings must be put aside. It is a poor committeeman who will not be willing to perspire for his

THIRSTY HARD HIT BY TARIFF. More Evidence of What the Consumer Finds in the Payne Bill.

Kansas City Star. Another example of what Mr. Ultimate Consumer drew in that fascinating prize package which those funny Sena-tors in Washington wrapped up this Summer and labeled the Payne bill has been brought to his attention in the last few days. Cute little placards have ap-peared in most of the bars in the city within a day or two convents. this interesting intelligence:

All Imported Beers, 15 Cents.

Now, as everybody knows who knows anything about it, that means that those tall, tapering glasses containing Pilsener and other German brews which one formerly purchased to give the crowd the that he had traveled extensively abroad, have been rudely snatched ut of reach of the great common peop and handed over to the jaded palates of the pampered rich.

The reason for this blow leveled at the great American thirst is, of course, the increased duties on the beverage levied under the new law. Of course, proportionate increases have been made on champagne, brandles and other imported wines and liquors, but these do not bear so heavily on the every-day straphanger who only goes to a banquet once a year and doesn't care what the "whoopee"

at 5 cents the glass, but in these days, when the cost of all the necessities of life is going skyrocketing, there's no telling. Ten cents may be the price before long.

Muszle for Crowing Rooster. Washington, D. C., Dispatch

The recent municipal edict, which may spell the banishment of the sleep-destroying rooster within Washington's limits, has aroused the inventive genius of a man who has devised a rooster muzzle. His idea is to kill the crow, but save the rooster. This advocate of a noiseless chanticleer be-lieves that if the authorities will sanction the use of the device, which con-sists of a simple collar of leather with a small cotton pad fastened around rooster's neck sufficiently tight to throttle the vocal organ, both the community and the rooster can live in

Hartford (Conn.) Times. William H. Seward annexed Alaska the United States in 1867, and now Dr. Cook has annexed the North Pole if discovery carries with it the right It is easy enough to say do not want to own the Pole, but a good many people said the same thing about Alaska at first. There may be great advantages some day in having title to the 200,000 square miles of "territory cut out from the terrestria) unknown," as the explorer strik-ingly says. For one thing, there is probably a lot of coal up there, and coal land is good property wherever you find it on the surface of the earth.

Chicago Record-Herald. The American Veterinary Association declares that the number of deaths from hydrophobia in this country varies from 100 to 300 a year, despite all that the Pasteur institutes can do. In contrast with our record there is the record of Great Britain in which there has been no case of hydrophobia since 1899; of Holland, where there has been none since 1879, and of Berlin, where there has been none since 1883. Muz-zling and quarantine of imported dogs serve to eradicate the disease.

Suggestion to Dr. Cook.

Chicago Tribune.

Dr. Cook should explain more comthe wilderness after having, as he says, reached the Pole. The first and the last thought of a man who had thus gained a title to enduring fame would be to hasten back to civilization and claim his laurel wreath. He would immured for a year in the desolation of Ellesmere Land. brave many dangers to escape being immured for a year in the desolation

Reading, Pa., Dispatch

Mayor Arthur, of McKeesport, Pa. has decided that men convicted of intoxication must sign a paper permitting their wives to draw their wages for at least one year. In the case of an unmarried man his next of kin, man or woman, is to draw his wages. The alternative is a term of six months in the workhouse.

Licensed Chnuffeur 13 Years Old. Bangor, Me., Dispatch. Arthur H. Terry, Jr., 13 years old, is said to be the youngest licensed chauffeur in Maine. The boy drives a 10-horsepower automobile for his father. Where the policeman is.

WHAT TO WEAR WHEN TAFT COMES NEW USE FOR THE INITIATIVE. Employ It to Check the Tendency To-

ward Uscless Public Officers. PORTLAND, Sept. 13 .- (To the Editor.) An editorial in The Oregonian Friday on "Nothing Doing" was a center shot at the bullseys. The county has no more use for five Circuit Judges than it has officers. You are not the only citizen who is supremely disgusted with the ten-dency toward officialism run to seed-

But this Circuit Judge business is the mit. Officialism in this direction has one daft in Oregon. Baker County, for ustance, has now a Circuit Judge all to Hmlt. hast Legislature, controlled by the "choice of the people," "Il Reners" and "Statement One" devotes, folsted another or Union and Wallows have one. The Multnomah against a decided popular protest and another on a Southern Oregon district where the presiding judge him-self voiced his opposition to the scheme. But Chamberlain demanded it as a reward for his sacrifice in accepting the senatorship at the hands of servile "Republicans," and it was done. Had to be

Why not get the people in action with the initiative in support of a measure to abolish at least two of the judgeships in Multnomah County, consolidate several outside districts and thereby lessen the number of superfluous Judges by three or four and weed out a regiment of uscless

ourdens to the people?

It is not likely that the world is governed too much, but there is no doubt that there is a growing and fattening excess of men on official payrolls who pretend to be governing something or some-body. It is likely that the people will be-fore long wipe out the initiative and other modern excresences on our hitherto representative system of government, but while it is yet with them they should give through its agency a final swat to this unchecked drift toward more officers, and still more.

A few doses like that would tend to indicate that the people have some same conception of what the initiative privilege may be made to do and the process would go far toward creating a sentiment in favor of its retention.

Why not use it in that way' HUMOR OF POLES AND POLLS.

Hennesay Murphy Gives Flippant Ideas on New Discoveries. PORTLAND, Sept. 13.—(To the Editor.)
—People are keeping their brains, or what's left of them, stewed up over the discovery of the North Pole. Why should we interfere with the business of the ex-

perts, or the disciples of Ananias?
That's a queer place, anyway, to nail the Stars and Stripes. I'll bet \$2 that the American eagle will keep away from the North Pole, although it might be a good place for decaying things like Stategood piace for decaying things like State-ment No. 1. Saddest of all, it has got the poets on a sublime spree. One of them sings of the purple cold eternal, and the doom of all things vernal, where the wind is death in motion, flying o'er a frozen ocean—and then pictures the flag, bloom-ing with the beauty of a cause that caning with the beauty of a cause that can-not die, smiling at the outer worlds against a frozen sky.

I wonder if that poet is any kin to Jona. than Bourne? Jonathan is the only man I know of who can picture bloom and beauty in a commonwealth of frozen faces. Brethren, you should study your own poles or polls—your understandings have been frozen up long enough. Two hot bricks ought to thaw them out. If Oregon studied the poles or polls of its National representatives, it would apolement as to the South Pole. It would send greetings to the Eskimos as having the one government free from hot air, and the one country where you can't make a statesman out of a flunky. Brethren, study the poles when President Taft comes here, and the poles will make you JAMES HENNESSY MURPHY.

Getting in Touch With the Soil. L. H. Robbins, in Newark (N. J.) News. A \$75,000 automobile rolled through \$60,000 bronze gates and up the winding avenue to the \$20,000

marble steps. with forest at an expense of \$200,000, glowed in the last golden rays of the setting gun. billionnire sunk luxuriously into

a \$2000 lvery porch chair and rested his feet on the rosewood railing of the

'It is pleasant," he observed, "to get back to nature once in a while. After the cares and worries of the business day, I certainly love to run out to this quiet little \$60,000,000 country club of urs and taste a bit of simple life. It is good to keep in touch with the soil, for what is man but dust after all?" Feeling restored, he passed in through ner.

Scouts for Swarming Bees. Scientific American

Swarms of bees are sometimes com-elled to take refuge in remarkable elters. A peculiar and instructive stance was observed by the writer in the Spring of 1908. The swarm flew over a large vineyard which contained few buildings. One of these buildings constructed of hollow's concrete blocks. The swarm flew directly toward a small hole in one of the blocks and disappeared in the interior. No doubt the swarm had rested on a tree or shrub on the preceding day and had sent out scouts to seek a home. The scouts found the little hole

leading into the great cavity of the concrete block and reported their discovery to their comrades. This case indisputable proof that hole could not have been discovered asked Mr. Hennessy.
in the rapid and lofty flight of the "It's ondecided," said Mr. Dooley the rapid and lofty flight of the SWRITE.

The Charm of Youthful Eves.

Washington (D. C.) Herald. "Up to the age of 16 Dick had re tained the proper scorn of things fem-inine," said Fred S. Coler, of Chicago at the Riggs, telling the following lit the yarn. "Then he went to a dancing school and was smitten by the charms of several youthful Eves. Accordingly, pick approached his father and required theater tickets for two. "Father complied and merely

as he turned over the seats, 'Which girl 'I'm going to take Mabel,' Dick responded. "Then she's the one you like best?"

"Dick turned a superior and pitying eye upon his parent. 'Oh, no. I don't like her best. You don't understand the situation, father. It isn't the girl I care about. It's the experience I want,"

Inherently Improbable.

Baldwin-What's the matter with you, Rambo - Been cel'bratin' th' dishcov'ry of th' Pole, ole fel'r. Baldwin-Think you can make me be-lieve you accumulated a jag like that on dogment and train oll?

Three Chances. Princeton Tiger.
"Baltimore has three saloons to one

policeman."
"That gives you three guesses as to

## "Mr. Dooley" on the North Pole

"D'ye think," asked Mr. Hennessy, "that both these lads" has discovered the North Pole?"

"Faith, I don't know," said Mr. Dooley. 'Ayether they have discovered it or they've invinted it. It don't make much diff'rence which. I am't an Artic explor. er. All the polar observations I have iver took has been took at a pint about a foot an' a half fr'm a base-burnin' stove on a Winter's night. But I've had me the ries an' I'm giad to see thim verified. Wan iv thim was that th' North Pole was in a northerly direction. Another was wud find ice in th' neighborhood. Both in doubt. Th' North Pole is surtainly in th' north. It is not so far north to go to as I thought, but it is further to come away fr'm. Ye go up in th' afthernoon on th' publick sledge that meets th' two-thirty at Uppenavik an 'ye come back in fr'm two to five years. As f'r th' ice, it was not niciesry to bring back specimens. Both explorers agree that they noted dis tinct thraces iv this precyous min'ral in-dicatin' that there are valyable deposits near by. Why, thin, ask me what good oes Artic exploration do whin these two gobs ly knowledge have been added to th' wurruld's store iv informatio low know all there is to be known about the North Pole.

"Who do I think gets th' henor iv bein' there first? Paith, I'm not goin' to decide. As Dock Cook says th' honor is great enough I'r both an' there's little enough Iv it, as it is. If th' Dock wasn't th' first there he was th' first to say he was, an' I sin't sure that it don't take more courage to be th' first to say that ye wint there thin it does to be th' first to go there. I believe thim both, I don't see anny reason f'r not believin' th It's alsier to believe thim thin not. I tind me hand to both iv thim. I say: congratylate ye with all me heart. No, no; don't show me anny proofs. If ye've got to prove it, it ain't so. But if ye'd come to me years ago I wud've told ye all about it an' yet might've been at wurruk all this time at some useful occy-

"How did they get up there? says ye.
Th' dector took what is known as th'
gum dhrop route. 'I discovered,' says
he, 'years ago that th' way to win me
way to th' North Pole was be means iv
a judicyous disthribution iv gum dhrops. This here delicious but sticky priced beyond annything in Priced beyond annything in thim gran Northern climes as an ornymint.

"At two-thirty we put th' electhric lights iv Upper Navik behind us an' were started on our journey. Th' days flew with incredible speed. Our sufferies were intense. At 3 o'clock we stopped in's were intense. At 3 o'clock we stopped to kill a musk ox. At three-thiry we see to kill a musk ox. At three-thiry we see on our right a vast island iv thirty-six thousand, five hundherd miles in extinct which Wallo Wallo said was a game preserve. We did not go near it. A lack iv public spirit on th' part iv th' Polar taxpayers has left th' ice here in an exthremely bad condition. It full by ruts. Why will not these peo-larn that their business will suffer they do not keep up th' highways?

"At four o'clock we had a dog f'r tea. This rejocced our speed to sixty miles an hour. But at five o'clock me hears an hour. But at five o'closs me stopped beating, fr Wallo Wallo cried. "Here we ar-re." We were at last a th' gool iv our ambitions. I will de the gool is our ambitions. I will de scribe me sinsations. Me first sinsa-tion was: "They won't believe it." M sicond an' last sinsation was: hiven 'tis an' American an' it Peary that has won this glory for th' old flag,' I immedately made scientific observations. I first ast th' askymo chief if he was sure he was right. He said he knew th' disthrict as well as I knew Fulton street, Brooklyn. Fr th' purpose iv further satisfyln' th' skëptical obsarved that th' pole was surrounded an' covered be ice. How wud I describe it? I wud say that it looked like a skating rink although not "Well, sir, the inthrepid explorer had

bardly been back in Copenhagen long
Descending from the machine, the enough to have his hair cut an' take billionaire paused a moment to view the smiling \$500,000 lawn a \$125,000 discovered th' North Pole too. Strhange Silver lake lay specifing in the shades of early evening, and beyond it rose a been on th' other side iv the Pole at th' same time. 'Twud've been very the same time. 'Twud've been very the same time.' offectin' if these two men had met on th' top iv th' earth. Thin there wudden't be anny question iv which was th' first. Th' one that got home at all wud be th' boy. How they wud've embraced each other an' rasseled over th' frozen sea. But it didn't happen. Th' North Pole must have a bigger top thin. I thought if these two old one. thin I thought if these two old com rades niver run into each other at in' both iv them there at th' same time But they didn't see each other an' didn' ayether by thim is that he didn't see the other. 'How do I establish my claim to findin' th' North Pole?' says Peary. Because Cook wasn't there.' 'How do I know I was at th' Pole? says Cook. Because I took careful observation an' found that Peary wasn't there, says he. It's a fine thing to see th' the scientific spirit that these two heroes show, an' to know there ain't anny more jealousy among thim thin ye'd be liable to find among actors. 'I honor Peary,' says th' magnanimous Cook, 'Some day I hope will devote his patience an' his energy to th' gr-reat cause iv Arctle Exploration.' Dector Cook,' says Peary, is a splendid man an' I'm glad to know that he's goin' to spind his life fr'm that he's goin' to spind his life on in the orchid huntin' Brazil,

he says, "Thank th' Lord, iv'e niver discovered th' North Pole an' so me repytation for truth an' verseity will go on bein' good among sthrangers. Yet I don't know that I wudden't be easier in me mind knowin' twybody thought I was a Har than if I thought lyrybody else was a liar."
"Who will th' North Pole belong to?"

"Some think England, some says th' United States and some says Denmark. There'll probably be a fight over it but think Denmark will get it

nsked Mr. Hennessy. "It will go to th' loser," said Mr. (Copyright 1909 by H. H. McClure & Co.)

## POLITICAL SHORT COMMENT.

Bryan had a spirited runsway acci-dent by motorcar in Springfield. Mo-He hasn't been able to strike so fast a pace since he ran away with a National convention.—Boston Herald.

The public invariably tires of a prayer are Colonel Bryan, who cannot get a hit in several times at bat. He might make a good maptre, but he will never be a good ball player.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat. player like Colonel Bryan, who canno

Western people look forward eagerly to the day when Mr. Cannon will be given a minority membership on the House committee on Potomac River front and ventilation and acoustics that is if he remains in Congress .-Kansas City Star.

In popular governments political stagnation is certain to follow the disappearance of an alert opppesition. Some of the ills of Democracy are due to the fact that in various respects it has ceased to oppose Republicanism, and has sought to assist it. Others are traceable to the platform habit, which has led it into many strange and contradictory declarations. In main, however, the spirit of faction has grown ever, the spirit of faction has grown because in the search by would-be leaders for a novelty the real principles of the party, always applicable, have been neglected .- New York World.