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PORTLAND, MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1912.

THUS FICKLE WORLD.

Oregon, I presume, is full of geople that knew Rocerett long before they ever heard of The Oregonian, and believe he is the same old Roceretti. It is the company that Taft kneps that buris more than his mistakes. Common voters do not hitch with Baries of New York. Gugzenheim of Chlorafo, Loriner and Cannon of Hitnels and such like.

This is an extract from a plea letter to The Oregonian by an acidulous Roosevelt partisan, whose name we are not quite able to decipher. Doubtless, he is in many ways the same Roosevelt. If he, too, is to be judged by the company he keeps, we fear that our friend will acquire an equally harsh opinion of his idol. For the company Taft keeps at Washington is Congress, and it is much the same Congress it was when Roosevelt was President. If the people want the President to keep different company, t would be well to elect other leaders to Congress.

We wonder if our unrecognizable friend recalls that Roosevelt as President went on record for Mr. Cannon's re-election as Speaker? Does he re-member Paul Morton, the railipoad re-bater, and Rossevelt Cabinet officer, and the President's blank refusal to prosecute a member of his own official family who had been caught with the goods? Does he remember the mighty row with Senator Halley and Senator Tillman, after President Roosevelt had made a tacit alliance with them to pass the Hepburn bill and had repudiated it when he made another deal with Aldrich and other Senate leaders?

But what of it? Roosevelt worked with the instruments at hand for his ultimate great objects; and the people approved. Taft worked with the instruments at hand for precisely the same great purposes-and attained them-and the people condemn.

It's a fickle world. A habitation giddy and unsure hath he who buildeth on the vulgar heart.

CHEEKY PRETENSIONS.

The astounding pretension of Reprepresentative Lafferty that he is the author and the moving force of the Government's suits for forfeiture of land grant was completely exposed by the statement of James N. Davis in The Oregonian yesterday, made after careful investigation of the records. Lafferty is not a friend of the people in this suit; he is not a supporter of the Government; he is the attorney of sixty-five deluded squatters who have paid, or have agreed to pay, Lafferty contingent fee of \$12 Lafferty is not even the friend of his clients, for they have no chance, or only the poorest chance, to get what he has falsely represented to them he will be able get by his fruitless and mistaken Lafferty has no 'intervention." guined a single point for his clients. He has merely harassed and annoyed the Government by his checky projecand advertised himself before the publie by his audacious claim that he is the champion of the people and the

for of the railroads. But Lafferty's insufferable nerve h matched by the effrontery of another standing candidate for Congress, Mr. Shepherd, who professes to be greatly concerned by the speciacle of "big business" supporting the candidacy of Mr. Gantenbein. Shepherd's worry, if genuine, arises wholly out of the fear that he may thus lose a job, for Shepherd has always been, or striven to be the lobbyist and general all-around swabber of "big business" wherever he could be. He left the City Council to become a hired political agent of the Harriman railroad, and he was the attorney and champion of the Inman Peulsen Mill Company in its effort to hold the public streets it had holdly grabbed for its mill site. Big husiness? When hig business gets away from Shepherd's thrifty mitt it

These are the fellows, with Clyde ho are running against Mr. Gantenbeln for Congress. It is fortunate for Portland that there is a candidate worthy as Mr. Gantenbein, choice were merely between Lafferty. Shepherd and Clyde, the anxious voter would have to shut his eyes and then

IN IT WORTH WHILE? Such an outery is being made about the "burden" which Panama Canal

The rate of toll considered probable in Washington is \$1 per ton net regis. ter, which is equivalent to 62% cents per ton of cargo. Professor Johnson's estimate of ships using the canal in gates. the first year of operation, based on actual voyages in the year 1899, and subsequent increase, is 19,500,000 tons. which 1,180,000 tons is coastwise, 9.349,000 tons foreign. The net cost of operation and maintenance the first year, after deducting an estimated profit of \$500,000 on ships' supplies old by the Government, is estimated at \$3,500,000. Estimating interest on cost of the canal at 3 per cent on \$400,000,000, this item would amount o \$12,000,000 a year. Thus we have has worked to carry ou total cost of \$15,500,000 the first denf's progressive policies year, against a revenue from the tolls of \$10,500,000. Since the tonnage of hips passing between the Atlantic and cent in 10 years under present condithe stimulus the canal will give com- rect nominations for every office from comforting to hope that they are not

merce, the increase in the first 10 the highest to the lowest. years of operation will be 100 per cent or more. Estimating the annual tonnage at 20,000,000 and cost of operating at \$4,000,000, we shall have a total of \$16,000,600 to raise, which a toll of 80 cents a net registered ton would suffice. As Colonel Goethals states that the canal can pass 80,000,-000 tons a years as first constructed. we can safely expect a continuous in-crease in traffic with little, if any, increase in operating cost. Increased profit on ships' supplies as traffic exany increased expense. On this basis toils could be reduced as traffic in-

creases on the following scale:

When we consider that the toll per on of cargo would be equivalent to only 62% per cent of the toll per net registered ton; also that the world's merce is increasing at such a pace that the tonnage using the canal is quite likely to reach its present capacmiddle age, carrying with it a possible reduction to 20 cents a net registered ton, which is equivalent to only 12 1/2 cents a ton of cargo, it appears that the outery about the "burden" of tolls is out of all proportion to the size of this "burden."

GRANT A FAIR FRANCHISE, The Southern Pacific ought to be given a fair franchise on Fourth street. and doubtless it will be; but it ought not to be given, and doubtless will not be given, a franchise that in any way perpetuates or recognizes as valid the present so-called perpetual franchise. Mayor Rushlight is entirely correct in his contention that the old franchise ought not to be used as a basis for any new franchise. He did not give way

to the worked-up pressure from the Valley towns against his proposed veto

of the revocation ordinance, and he should not have yielded. The Valley towns appear to have feared that Portland is going to eject the Southern Pacific from Fourth street without recourse; but obviously Portland as just as anxious for the renovated and electrified West Side railroad to enter the city as the Valley people are. Neither the railroad nor the Valley need fear that when the Southern Pacific shows its faith by its works a reasonable franchise will not be granted. Public opinion and the public interest will require it.

STRIKES AND VIOLENCE.

Mr. Edgar W. Stahl has written an Interesting letter to The Oregonian to-day in which he discusses labor conditions, strikes and the Hicks trial from the standpoint of a working man. The letter has one important merit. Its tone is not offensive to those who do not agree with the opinions of the writer. Mr. Stahl, it will be observed, does not believe that anything is gained by physical violence in strike periods. He has applied the same views in formulating his letter. He seems to be one who recognizes that verbal abuse and inflammatory speech are almost equally as derogatory to the Southern Pacific's great Oregon labor's cause as are physical clashes begun, encouraged or permitted by

The chief errors committed by Mr. Stahl, we believe, are his application of deplorable conditions in certain trades or classes of labor to the entire body of working men and his presentation of the inference that all prosperity and happiness are found among the oyers. We venture to say that more real contentment, happiness and by the world, it will probably still be physical comfort are measured, among student of the phenomena of spiritism the wagearners than among the em- and deemed himself a fairly successful

is by obtaining the sympathy and sup- from Henry Ward Beecher and other port of that great mass of people who in class war between labor and capital would be non-combatants. the intermediary class-the professions, men who live in salaried ease, small farmers, persons who are their lines of endeavor-the class whose the Holy land and Egypt in the course views are broadly termed public senti- of his wanderings. Then he became an ment. It is through this class that editor and in the end formed a publabor's wrongs will be righted, but its lishing firm in New York, known as support will never be gained by inendiarism

There is truth in the assertion that violence by strikers is but an expres sion of human nature. Neverthe brings a result opposite from that desired and ought to be prevented. It never gained a cause for labor. has defeated many a contest. It may be true that labor organizations are powerless wholly to curb such outbreaks. But there is another force that is not. If there is a moral re aponsibility for the slaying of Wortman not found in his own unbility of passion it rests with that adequate check on lawlessness which has failed to do its duty in the machinists' strike, the police power of the

PENNSYLVANIA.

For years a strong element in the Republican party in Penasylvania has opposed the domination of Quay and his successor, Penrose. It was strong enough to elect Pattison, a Dem twice as Governor and to elect Berry, another Democrat, State Treasurer, It has grown in power with the uptolls will impose on American ships rising against machine rule throughshall be in a position to consider known within the state as the Keystone League, whether it is worth while to expose ourselves to the charge of the charge whether it is worth while to expose stone party. It has gathered to itself ourselves to the charge of violating a all the forces of revolt which are solemn treaty in order to escape this aligned behind Roosevelt in some states, behind La Follette in others, divided between both those leaders in yet others. It has swamped Penrose and has carried Taft to defeat with him in the contest for National dele-

> Taft had converted Penrose from standpatism to progressivism on the tariff. As leader of his party in the Senate Penrose procured the passage of the reciprocity bilk. He has fallen in line with Taft on the tariff and is endeavoring to carry out the policy of scientific revision by supporting a wool bill in accordance with the Tariff Board's recommendations. He put through the postal savings bank bill. He has seen the light since 1910 and has worked to carry out the Presi-

But he has been branded as a boss, and that is the unpardonable sin In the eyes of the voters this year. Every Republican who has risen to leader-ship through convention methods is to from the chaft. Many others suppose Pacific oceans was lucreased by 59 per Republican who has risen to leadertions, it is safe to assume that, with be struck down in the crusade for di- they possess the same faculty.

Taft has accepted the aid of Penrose in carrying out the policies which the 1908, the voters condemn him as a rejects her lover's gift, much as she desires it, because the messenger who

Democratic convention takes away the sting of the Governor's defeat in Illinois and suggests that he Illinois and suggests that he may secure most backing in the East, while Clark's main strength will be in the Middle West, the two dividing the South with Underwood and Harmon. Either the Guffey machine has loyally supported him or found the demand for his nomination so strong that prudence dictated swimming with the tide of party sentiment.

THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Some of the readers of The Oregonian receive regularly the Congressional Record, which, as its name implies, is a record of the proceedings of the House and Senate. Under the present system about 28,000 copies of the Record are published the day following each dally session of either branch of Congress, and these copies are sent out by the members as gratuities to their friends as a rule, but one can subscribe for the Record direct, if he dislikes to be under obligations to a member, the subscription price being according to the length of the session. For the three sessions of the Sixty-first Congress the cost was \$25.91. There were about 1200 sub-scribers for the three sessions, their

subscriptions totaling \$3219.50. A bill is pending to give each mem-ber a sort of drawing account against which his garden seeds, Records and other printed matter is charged, said account to be \$2500 to Senators and \$1800 for members of the House. Under this proposed law the Record ould cost the members \$8 for each long session and \$4 for each short

Senator Heyhurn proposes to reduce the price of the Record to a basis which will give it a large circulation. He thinks there is no doubt but with the subscription price cut down to the figures he suggests, and every postmaster in the country compelled to act as a subscription agent without pay, as provided for in his amendment -under such favorable conditions the Senator thinks the subscribers to the Congressional Record should number -but here are the Senator's words, as reported in the Record of April 5:

I have taken some pains to inquire as to public sentiment and the probable results of this amendment. I have no hesitation in saying—and I speak from the consensus of a large reope of opinion—that there would be 2,000,000 anisorihers to the Congressional Record at those prices, \$1 for the short session and \$1.50 or even \$2 for the long ression.

It is not for us to say that the Senator's estimate is exaggerated, for there is not the least doubt in the world that he knows more about the newspaper business than any man in the newspaper business-not a bit. That some of the great metropolitan newspapers, published every the year, giving not only practically all of the proceedings of Congress, and just a few stray items of news besides, cost but little more than the Record would cost even at the Senator's suggestion, and have circulations in use exceeding a tenth of that number, few of them a twentieth, many of the best of them a fortleth-those figures cut no ice with Senator Heyburn for the reason that he knows all about the newspaper game

DR. I. K. FUNK.

omparing class and class there is Dr. Isaac K. Funk has been forgotten even comfort, when mental as well as remembered that he was an earnest one. No doublt he was as successful But there is undoubtedly room for as most others. He saw visions of ma-equalization and the way to gain it terialized spirits, had communication as most others. He saw visions of ma. eminent residents of the other world and received supernatural directions There is where to find lost objects. Dr. Funk was educated for the ministry at Wittenberg College, in Ohio, and preached for some years. Ultimately he resigned own employers in a thousand and one his pulpit in order to travel, visiting Funk and Wagnalls, It was this firm which began the publication of the prohibitionist "Voice," in 1880. The paper was designed at first as a campaign document merely, but later it vas decided to make it a permanent affair. The Voice has always been distinguished more for zeal than accubut the public has been dis posed to pardon its shortcomings for the sake of its good intention

Funk and Wagnalis also originated The Literary Digest, the first publi ution of its kind in the world. It sims to keep readers acquainted with what is going on in the realm of current letters by giving extracts from the more important articles that appear, and summaries of the rest. The same object has since been sought in a more elaborate way by the Review of Reviews, but the Literary Digest retains its clientele and is perhaps more pop-ular now than in former years. Dr. funk's firm also published a dictionary It was in connection with this last teresting spiritualistic experiences. He had borrowed a rare coin, a copper epton of Palestine, from which to make an engraving for the dictionary, and supposed he had returned it to the owner, though really it was in his safe. The coin is worth only the tenth part of a cent intrinsically, but its market value is about \$2500 on account of its rarity and antiquity. The owner of the lepton died without making any demand for his property and the entire ncident slipped out of remembrance But some two years afterward the spirit of Henry Ward Beecher came to Dr. Funk at a seance and told him he had not returned the coin and that it was lying in his safe. He looked for it and, finding it just as the spirit said he would, returned it to the estate of the owner. This curious incident was the foundation for Dr. Funk's

"The Widow's Mite." He was converted to spiritualism by the medium Slade who was repeatedly exposed as a humbug. Still the manifestations by which he impressed Dr Funk may have occu genuine. The maxim "once a fraud always a fraud" does not apply to mediums. They seen o mingle the deceptive and the genuine in their seances in the most perplexing way and no doubt Dr. Funk

own mind that the phenomena of spiritualism were genuine but he did ople approved by electing Taft in not go so far as to say that the possi-1908, the voters condemn him as a billity of communications from the means of condemning Penrose. They other world had been scientifically want those policies, but only through demonstrated. The evidence was suf-the men and by the means they ap- ficient for him, but he admitted with may not be good policy

Like all intelligent men Dr. Funk was profoundly interested in the problem of future life. Most of us rest content with faith or a vague hope that existence continues beyond the grave. Dr. Funk sought to transform hope into certainty. He was not satisfied with faith. He required demonstration. Like everyone else who has tried to penetrate the mysteries beyond the veil he failed, or, at least, he did not succeed completely. In our opinion it is the mystics and not the spiritualists who have found the most satisfactory means of communicating with the other world. The spiritualists depend upon inferior beings for their knowledge and are often deceived. One spiritualists go directly to the spirity lelis one story and another another. The mystics go directly to the source of all truth for their information. They enjoy "the inner light," as they call it which is nothing less than the Almighty himself illuminating their souls. Hence what they learn of the other world ought to be true. But mystics and spiritualists together But mystics and spiritualists together never have since the beginning of time given the world a single item of definite information which some other mystic or spiritualist has not flatly contradicted

The greatest work done by Taft is the enforcement of the anti-trust-law with such success that the trusts themselves denounce him as a radical. He has forced the oil and tobacco trusts to dissolve. Other trusts, warned by the fate of these giants among their number, have voluntarily dissolved, some without awaiting trial of the suits begun against them, others without even awaiting the beginning of suits. The Sherman law is no longer despised and ignored; it is feared and obeyed, since Taft put life into it by attacking scores of trusts. He has not picked out a combination here and there as an easy object of attack. has haled them all into court without discrimination, sparing neither personal nor political friends. He has not confined his efforts to the mild measures of injunction, but has caused nu-merous indictments to be brought unthe criminal sections of the law. He has secured the first prison sen-tences for violators of this law and but for the excessive leniency of the judges appointed by former Presidents, he would have sent more trust officials to jail. He has made the Sherman law a real, active force governing the Nation's industries.

La Follette contends that the only just basis for railroad rates is the ac-

When everything else about the late former statesmen who have underning the enduring fame of the beneficent statesman, despising the fleeting popularity of the demagogue and time-

> Electricity being invisible, eminently proper that a scientific Dane should invent an accumulator so full of holes as to increase the efficiency fivefold

> A blasting rebuke to a spendthrift is embodied in the will of the wealthy Brooklyn woman who left \$5 to her husband to be paid in 5-cent installments.

> If La Follette can strike such telling blows when he is represented to be a mere nervous wreck, what would he do if he were in good fighting trim?

the exportation of art treasures, has as interesting a time as when he smashes cameras in New York. Queen Mary promises to make the English court as dull and decorous as during the widowhood of King Now.

George's grandmother Pendleton speech, he may regret ever having encouraged the bellicose Senator's candidacy.

Homer C. Atwell is to be congratulated on realization of his dream-a selling organization of North Pacific apple growers.

In sending Hobson back to Congress possibly Alabama was moved by the fear that he might remain at

There will be many a campaign in which to regulate the universe before we drop into the cluster of Hercules. Seattle has an upright Judge of the

cannot live on the salary of \$4000. As this is likely to be a good year for hops, threatened famine in champagne is of little moment.

Superior Court who resigns because he

President Taft is little better off the rest of mankind, with but "\$840 cash in hand."

Only four days for strenuous poli

tics, with the opening game to eclipse Watch Great Britain attend to the Mexicans who bastinadoed a Canadian

woman. Glorious weather yesterday fore-tokened the Sunday excursion season.

James J. Hill is too busy to deny the rumor that he will retire. Cyclones are starting early in Mis-

Arrange to go early tomorrow.

H. Carey Suggests Initiative Mea-

sure Removing Distranchisement. PORTLAND, April 13.—(To the Editor.)—As I am a candidate for election in the coming primaries as delegate to the Republican National Convention, it They resemble a woman who her lover's gift, much as she it, because the messenger who it is squint-eyed.

In the means they applicant for him, but he admitted with may not be good policy for me to write the letter. I know that it is not generally considered popular to criticise any of the laws adopted by popular to criticise accredited to him. One of them is tion laws and to suggest the laws and the laws and to suggest the laws and the laws are laws and the laws and the laws and the laws are laws are laws and the laws are laws are laws and the laws are laws are laws are laws and the laws are ceredited to him. One of them is called "The Next Step in Evolution."
The other, "The Psychic Riddle."
Like all intelligent men Dr. Funk

ture of the supporters of the three.

True, the law requires all delegates to take oath that they will support the people's choice at the convention, but thorough-going, loyal support to the people's candidate may not be secured by such a mixed delegation. The casting of the vote for the head of the ticket is not the whole duty of the delegates. They make the platform ticket is not the whole duty of the delegates. They make the platform and, in many ways, can aid or injura the randidate supported by the people of Oregon. If a mixed delegation goes to Chicago, those who did not favor the successful candidate selected by the Republican voters of the state will not, perhaps, be as cordial or as enthusiastic in their interest as they should be, although they may and probably will obey the law and vote for him. obey the law and vote for him.

I have had a good deal of experience in National conventions, having attend-

in National conventions, having attended many of them during the past 30 years, and I know that if I were to be a candidate before such a convention I should want Oregon not only to declare for me, but also to send me a delegation that would support me on principal and not by force of statute.

not by force of statute.

I am not criticising the principle of Presidential primaries which gives direct expression of the opinion and wishes of the voters for the Presidential office, but I think this set is not well planned in not providing that the voters may vote for the full number of Presidential electors and delegates to the convention. In a close election like the Hayes-Tilden election in 1876, this selection of a divided group of Presidential electors might easily result in thwarting the choice of the people of the state.

Would it not be a good plan, since this law applies to both the Republican and the Democratic parties and to their Presidential electors and delegates to conventions, to have the chairman of the state central committees of those parties co-operate in preparation of an initiative bill for an amendment to be parties co-operate in preparation of an initiative bill for an amendment to be submitted to the voters at the November elective duties is the cost of production in the United States and abroad. The same rule applies in both cases. If it is good for the railroads of Wisconsin, it is equally good for all the industries of the United States. Taft stands for the application of the Wisconsin principle to the tariff, and La Follette should support him instead of joining the Democrats in guesswork revision.

Taft has courageously set his shoulder to the wheel in the effort to bring the tariff into harmony with the opinion of the people. He is not daunted by the disasters which have befallen former statesmen who have undertaken this task. He is moved by a patriotic purpose, his mind set on winning the enduring fame of the benefithe election four years bence CHARLES H. CAREY.

> THE ROCK AREAD OF SOCIALISM It is the Destruction of Institution of

CORVALLIS. Or.; April 13.—(To the Editor.)—E. B., writing in The Oregonian, has misunderstood my letter of April 1 on the subject of Socialism. I did not and never have said that Socialists propose to destroy private property. If it is so printed, the error must be typographical. I said: "The Russell idea is to destroy the institution of private property," or to that effect. There is a lot of difference between the is a lot of difference between the institution of private property and the property itself. When you have conerred ownership of all property on the government, have you not destroyed the institution of private property? Of course you have. Right there is the rock on which Socialism in its present form will strand. If that were elimi-nated, the La Follette idea would come near to representing the feelings of the people of unrest. Mr. Roosevelt has Morgan, fighting Italians angry at heen saying some things along this line, but few believe that he means them. The next logical step for Roosethem. The next logical step for the velt is Socialism. Do they want him?

Now, when you brush away the fal-Now, when you brush away the fallacies of Socialism, place the people on
one side and capital on the other, for
that is where the issues are framing
up. I am as much on the side of the
people as E. B. who is a personal
friend of mine, and one whom I esteem
most highly. I know who he is because he called my bluff, so to say,
when he referred to my three children,
for no one in Portland knows, or cares
whether I have children or not. I will
admit he has me cornered on the expense bill of keeping a wife "and three
children," not to mention my own travchildren," not to mention my own trav-eling expenses, on \$500.

It can't be done. But my income is several times the average, and I know

that I can eliminate some things and I know that I can eliminate some things and live more cheaply, but in so doing I will just that much lighten the profits of a number of worthy institutions our present civilization demands On this point he has me cornered.

J. H. WILSON.

RECOMPENSE.

It is my sincere endeavor. To help a man whenever see him slipping backward on life's For perhaps he's lacking muscle To be victor in the tusale. And again maybap he has an unfair

It is not for me to pass his In hot haste and roughly class him An uncouth thing as he so feebly

For the heart in him is beating.
Just the same as mine and greeting
Him, I reach to help him onward with both bands.

To make brothers feel like living, My assistance I am giving, And I do not ask that money be my

Tis my tribute to the master.
To help those who meet disaster.
And are falling in the mire along the

Let me see them banish sadness. Let me see them smile in gla And at heart I am repaid in every sense,
Just to know that through my calling
Some one has been kept from failing.
Is the greatest and most happy recom--G. N. Pleasants.

Because deceived. He was convinced in his CHANGE NEEDED IN PRIMARY LAW HEAVENLY AND EARTHLY MERCY Writer Would Aim at Omnipotent Policy

in Dealing With Criminals. PORTLAND, April 13, - (To the Edtor.)-I am constrained to reply to an article published in The Oregonian April 11, by J. C. Guyer, in which he gives reasons why capital punishment should be retained in Oregon, and points out its advantages. One scin-tillating feature of Mr. Guyer's argument is that a criminal, after be has done his work and is a candidate for the rope, should be allowed to repent

He says:

I believe in giving every criminal a chance to repent that they may be saved by our gracious Saviour, who is anxious and ever ready to save even those who have given their whole life to the devil, but are willing to devote their last few hours to him. Yet, let them have time to repentitrat, that the one they have so faitiguily served in life may not be allowed them hereafter, but it is not Christilike, does not show mercy and is not a benefit to the country to parole or pardon them, or commute their sentence.

Now there is a trinity of logic, consistency and fair play. It isn't Christilke to show a criminal any morecy, yet He says:

like to show a criminal any mercy, yet Christ is ever ready to take them to his bosom. The criminal has forfeited his right to live among us earthly saints, and must repent and go to heaven. We don't want him; he's too low and vile and steeped in crime and sin. Let the heavenly throng take him after he has repented and been choken to death by us. Heaven ac-cepts a repentance and a criminal that we repudiate. He says the criminal should be allowed to repent and go to heaven in order that the devil may be cheated out of a bright prospect that be has been following for a lifetime. Now, I'm in favor of a square deal; I don't believe in cheating the devil like that. Why should be be thus cheated? Hasn't be any right to fair play? Cheating is cheating, no matter who Mr. Guyer's letter has opened to me

new avenue of thought. Un theory we can pick out certain less people we know who ought to have been in the "bottomless pit" a long time ago, suddenly shoot, cut or garrote them in the midst of their sins and send them to perdition pell mell. Then when the hand of the law takes us in taw and decrees that we shall die also, we can "repent," and join the gentle Saviour in heaven. And throughout the endless ages a bilesful eternity we can transmillite ourselves with the we can tranquillize ourselves with the thought that we worked a clever stunt and sent our enemies to hell. Such is the philosophy of J. C. Guyer and all others who believe as he does.

GEORGE W. DIXON.

Mr. Dixon might apply his sarcasm to the earthly mercy the opponents of capital punishment would show murderers. We might pick out the worthless ones we know, slay them, and then in smug repentance postpone spiritual thoughts, enjoy the flowers sent by sentimental females, thrive on improved prison fare, participate in the penitentiary ball games and await with patience the probable day of parole.

Most theologians, however, teach that unless there has been true repentance or atonoment, no mercy is shown the sinner in heaven. If mortals were able to distinguish between true repentance and hypocrisy much of the ground for controversy over the death penalty would not exist.

MERCY AND THE DEATH PENALTY.

Murderous Degenerate Not Shawn Kindness by Confinement. PORTLAND, April 13.—(To the Editor.)—A prominent citizen has s that the vilest murderers should condemned to imprisonment for life. Human condemnation ceased to be justified 1900 years ago, although the one who told us not to judge declared that the worthless should be destroyed. The time is not far distant when crime will be universally recognized and treated as a disease. M. Gerard, a French lawyer, says; "Broadly speaking, there is not a single moral disorder that does not correspond to a

ost intelligent people

thing possible should be done for the uplift of the criminal that can cured. Why should we conde Temperament and temptation much to do with the destiny of There is a great deal of talk cerning capital punishment, but

derously inclined degenerate and give a normal enjoyment of life? In kindly riercy to such, ought the not to be put to death as quickly painlessly and quietly as possible? Nor should their relatives suffer dis grace or more than the natural grief that were theirs had death resulted

from another cause.

For the good of humanity, would i he better that the state should help such as have been driven our midst because they were desi than that it should take upon itself the expense of feeding, clottling, nurs-ing, sheltering and guarding prespon-sible unfortunates throughout their desolate lives SARAH HINDS WILDER.

1908 E. Stark Street

MYTHS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS Study Proves Advantageous, Says One Recently Graduated.

PORTLAND, April 13.—(To the Editor.)—I have read with interest the letter published in The Oregonian regarding the teaching of mythology in our public schools, and as I am a young man who recently graduated from an Eastern high school where the myths of Ancient Greece and Rome is one of the principal studies, I want to express my opinion of these myths.

I can truthfully say that they have given me more of an insight into different art studies than any other study taught in the high school. We never read a newspaper but what we see some reference to one of the principal characters of some of the myths, such as Olympia, Vulcan, Romus and others too numerous to mention. If we should drop the study of these myths, it would not be long until we should be wondering at the meaning of the names which are used in mythology and which are used so much at the present time. I can truthfully say that they have

are used in mythology and which are used so much at the present time. Practically all of our famous art studies are connected in some way with the myths, and it would be making a great mistake to discontinue terching the stories which connect the two. At our great international expositions nearly all of the sculptured works of art used to decorate the grounds and withings relate to some subject taken mildings relate to some subject taker

buildings relate to the from mythology.

In my mind it would be as great a wrong to discontinue the study of mythology in the schools as the teaching of the Bible in the home.

H. N. W.

MARSHFIELD, Or., April 12.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian, April 10, 1 see a headline, "When Is Drunk" In Milwaukee, Wis., the police depart-ment has established the rule that so long as a man can lie on the grass and not fall off he is not to be arrested for being drunk. This would be a good rule for the Portland saloonmen. E. JOHNSON.

This Way Diogenes By Dean Collins.

went down the street, and wherever Were hundreds and hundreds of folk,

Incircling boxes and automobiles, Whence leather-lunged spellbinders listened to them, and the things they

And solemnly murmured, "Well now, 'pon my word.

This town is clean crowded with paragon chaps.

If I am to judge from the things I have heard."

The candidates running for Sheriff and

Judge, For Coroner, Senator, Clerk, And eke many more, were extelled to the skies.

In the place where the spellbinders

work.

I murmured "Indeed, 'tis a marvelous thing, The number of persons whose praises . - they sing. Can this be the season when honest men grow And burgeon long with the flow'rs of the Spring"

I caught an idea, and flew like the wind To seek out a psychical chap, Who calls up the spirits to kick over chairs,

Tip tables and hammer and rap A handful of shekels I eagerly shot him. The shade of Diogenes—hurry and spot him!"

He rolled up his eyes and he breathed through his nose then.

Anni presently answered "All right, I have got him."

"And does he seek honest men still now, as ever?"

"Yep," answered the psychical gink.
"Then tell him to grab up his lantern and beat it
And get here as quick as a wink.
And tell him to trim it and light up

the wick. I've been on the streets, where the people crowd thick-

out rightly. he can come down here and just take his pick." - Dean Collins, Portland, April 14,

Half a Century Ago

Prom The Oregonian of April 18, 1862.
Union State Ticket—For Representative to Congress, John R. McBride, of Yamhill County; for Governor, Addison C. Gibbs, of Jackson County; for Secretary of State, Samuel E. May, of Jackson County; for State Printer, Harvey Gordon, of Marion County; for State Treasurer, Edwin N. Cook, of Marion County; for Judge of Fourth Judicial district, E. D. Shattack, of Multnomah County; for Prosecuting Attorneys; First district, James F. Gazley, of Douglas County; Second district, A. of Douglas County; Second district, A.
J. Thayer, of Benton County; Third
district, J. G. Wilson, of Marion County;
Fourth district, W. C. Johnson, of Clackamas County.

The New York Herald says: Our Paris correspondent says that the rebel agents in Paris have stated that the second states will approve of the construction of a monarchy in the South, if it can be attempted with a prospect of success. of success.

Our reporter supposes that the Her-mann steamer, after having made a trip to Victoria, will come to Portland on hr way back to San Francisco. We apprehend there is a mistake in this matter. The Hermann is too large a vessel for our river navigation.

The gymnasium, under the direction of Mr. P. Hardenburg, opens again to-

Secesh nominations for Clackamas: Secesh nominations for Clauders Secesary for Carlotte Representatives, John Myers, William Engle, Nathaniel Robbins; Sheriff, Horace Baker; County Judge, F. S. Holland; County Clerk, John Thomas; Trasurer, John Fleming; Assessor, C. Beattle; County Commissi Cown, J. A. Burne Old Bill Holmes, who drank the health of Davis C. Beauregard, was very properly chief director in getting up of Davis C.

The Advocate states that in the disaster of the ferryboat in crossing the Deschutes, by which the ferryman was drowned, Thomas Carter, Esq., of this parrowly escaped drowning.

St. Louis, March 27,-Porter's mortar fleet sailed from Ship Island on the 14th for the Southwest Pass (mouth of the Misalssippi). On the 17th it stopped at the pass, where the fleet rendezyoused and proceeded up the to attack the fortified approaches

St. Louis March 28.—Officers who have just reported at Fort Mouroe from the Gulf fleet state that the reduction of the forts below New Orleans commenced several days since.

St. Louis, March 27.-A terrible barracks near Orizabs. They had blown up, and 1300 bodies had been found among the ruins.

As "Ed" Howe Sees Life

People will never be entirely satis-fied until they have no expenses and are permitted to name their own in-

A man attempts to rob me, is caught at it and apologizes. Must I forgive him? I may say: "Oh, that's all right." but it isn't.

Throwing rocks attracts a crowd and tewspaper attention. And so long as

Every man who denies paipable facts not only loses the time he devotes to denying them, but the money he invests in his doctrine. Go into any public meeting and you

will find those present discussing not what can be done, but what should be done. A public meeting seems the natural place to air big opinions.

In our material affairs we have progressed wonderfully, but in our social affairs we are still savage.

In every right, both sides claim they engaged in it to advance great principles, but usually both sides engage n it because of great stubbornness. Many people can look into the fu-ture and see many things not there.

What do the farmers intend to do about the roads this Summer? Is the talk of town men to be received with the usual inditterence?

The faith some people have in them-selves is on the verge of madness.

HARDMAN, Or., April 12 .- (To the Editor)—Please inform me what is a lawful mail box on mail lines in the country? Is it a box of sack hung on a hook? GEORGE HENDRIX.

On a star-route delivery any kind of a receptable can be used. On an es-tablished rural route only those boxes approved by the Postmaster-General permissible, these being of fully 30 are permissible, different makes.