# The Oregonian

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#### THE LESSON.

anti-capital punishment amendment ing an all-day liquor debauch, must rest on some other evidence than the revelations in the Wehrman case. In the beginning it may be said that simost without a doubt John Arthur Pender would not have been hanged for murder even if the bill to abolish capital punishment had failed of enactment. So far as Governor West is concerned, he had in effect passed the fate of Pender on to his successor. Before election he declared it his purpose to grant a stay of execution in the case until some time during the session of the Legislature.

Pender was convicted on the flimsiest of evidence. The case against him was almost wholly inference and conflicting testimony, with a few small circumstances partially to justify the suspicion that was directed against It is hardly conceivable that Withycombe would have Governor permitted Pender to hang, once the ase was fairly presented to him.

Yes, innocent men are sometimes Innocent men, too, sometimes wear their lives away in prison. Neither should be true. That these things are facts does not in itself justify abolishment of the noose any more than it justifies abolishment of penitentiaries. Truth is that punishment of the innocent is indicative only of errors in our judicial procedure.

Our criminal trials are not conducted by the prosecution and defense sofely with intent to see that exact The whole aim of the justice is done. as an arbitrator over two warring ele-ments, himself uninformed as to what what circumstances bearing on the crime either element may elect to suppress misrepresent.

In respect to the fancied bearing upon capital punishment of the Pender case, one sentimental newspaper re-calls the fate of a prisoner who was proved innocent after serving fifteen years. "By reason of the long incarceration and his melancholy reflec-tions over his unjust punishment, his

faction of recalling that a beneficent date for anything.

In permitted him to suffer lingering The Oregonian w death instead of ending it all in a few moments

mercy in his case. It is that his sub-jection to the torture of undeserved im-throwing their professions of economy prisonment until reason departed and to the winds, they plan to plunge death claimed him was a crying in- their arms to the elbows into the state fessed advocates of absolute neutraljustice and a sacrifice to the mockery treasury and return with enormous ity who propose that the United States of our eriminal jurisprudence.

strong a safeguard against unjust in- Home, or \$8000 for the Oregon Hiscarceration as against the treading of torical Society, or \$7500 for the Flor- do not recognize that this fact is due the gallows. Pender was convicted in ence Crittenton Home, or one or two to the fortune of war, which now gives shall be proved innocent beyond a state. It must be so indeed.

The company of th demand that a victim pay the penalty to cut off the \$600,000 biennial approand a correction of court defects, that 000 for the School for Feeble-Minded, justice may not again be dethroned by or \$72,000 for the State Training clamor nor by blunders of the legal School, or \$37,000 for the Blind

# TWO COURTS IN CONFLICT.

There is an apparent conflict between the decisions of the United States courts at Philadelphia and St. Louis in their interpretation of the anti-trust law. The St. Louis court held the Harvester Company to be illegal for the sole reason that it controlled so large a percentage of the business as to be a monopoly, though in and around Salem.

it had not used its power injuriously. The Philadelphia court now recase Company, though it controls a The Portland "ring large percentage of the filled watchcase business of the country and though the court found that it had named to burn attempted to use its power "by attempting to fix and maintain prices by using a species of boycott or blacklisting, in order to lessen the trade of its rivuls." In the face of this finding, the court says that "when a large busilarge

The Sherman law condemns a monopoly because it is a monopoly, and the attempt to boycott implies that the Keystone Company is a monopoly, of far greater weight than the precise for such an attempt implies conscious source of a woman's vital fluid, or possession of monopolistic power. The man's either for that matter. law condemns monopoly because it has Mrs. Little's husband, who wants a this power, because this power is inimical to free competition and because ried life, says she is the daughter of

This principle conveys no condem- for divorce proceedings. There is ample scope for a single busi- some sparks of evidence would be de-There is ample scope for a single and Little has none at all.

mess to grow to the largest proportions sirable and Little has none at all.

Which can make use of modern meth-

### SIERKS' CONFESSION.

It will have been observed by those who read Mr. Thacher's study of John Sierks in The Oregonian Monday

The same details are now subjected Sierks has had opportunity in the qualities should have been produced meantime to brood over the murder by such a parentage is not to be and rehearse in his own feeble mind believed. what he might say if compelled or

trial of John Arthur Pender, who is jingolsm. now serving sentence for the murder. It is the most natural thing in the world for a feeble-minded person to confuse with what he has heard or read events that actually occurred at a time when his brain was sedden of "Teblia" blood and was therefore PORTLAND, TUESDAY, JAN. 5. 1915. a time when his brain was sodden of "white" blood and was therefore with liquor. Moreover, it would be able to transmit the Mendelian units almost absurd to expect a normal man characteristic of that stock. to relate with truthful particularity Justification for the adoption of the all that happened on a night follow-

The strongest factor in the case that points to the substantial truth Slerks' confession is the nature of the were Hottentots from Central Africa. crime. It had none of the aspects of cold, premeditated murder or of murder which a sane man was prepared to commit if he were thwarted in a purpose. It was perpetrated in insane to which Pender is not known to be addicted, while Sierks is.

when crossed and confesses to having attempted assault upon his nother. He was but ten miles from the Wehrman cabin on the day pre-ceding the night of the murder. He was infatuated with Mrs. Wehrman. He was suspected, so he says, by his own family of being the guilty one. Here are circumstances at least as strong as those on which Pender was onvicted.

There are certain phases of the Sierks confession that can be checked as to truth. No effort should be spared to confirm it. If the bullet he says is in the Wehrman cabin wall, or the revolver he says he buried in the garder is found, the confession will have been substantiated in the minds of all intelligent persons, regardless of what Sierks says in the matter of other details.

The Salem Capital Journal is much offended because—as it says—the "Portland ring" is laying plans to orpurpose of the defense is to secure ganize the next session of the Legis-leracy must be fairly widespread acquittal. The trial judge sits merely lature. The twelve citizens who make throughout the land. up the House delegation from Mult-nomah and the seven other citizens nomah and the seven other citizens to make good literature hateful to who have been chosen for the Senate, young people in college. The strong-will be much interested, no doubt, to learn from unimpeachable Salem au- in the great poets and prose writers thority that they constitute a "ring." which they undergo in the preparafor their own selfish sectional reatory schools. This drill reduces
sons, they are accused of having gone
out to Lake County, 500 miles from
Portland, and chosen Mr. Thompson
devour so much and you get your
for President of the Senate, and to
marks for all the world like a porker
for the consumes have conspired together-under the fattening for market. He consumer maleficent direction of The Orego- so many pounds of swill and is expect-

The point is not that imposition of the death pensity would have been mercy in his case. It is that his subthe The law says that no man shall be Doubtless they will seek to perpetuate convicted of crime unless his guilt be the stupendous graft of \$1000 per proved beyond a reasonable doubt. Reasonable doubt ought to be as or \$6000 per annum for the Patton the fact that Germany's enemies alone of reasonable doubt as to his other similar items which altogether Great Britain naval supremacy, guilt. If, as now seems probable, he make up Portland's largess from the long as the German navy is in

We cannot imagine it possible that life he has given to gratify a public Portland is suspected of a dark design for revolting crimes can never be re-turned to him nor fully recompensed. Asylum, located at Salem, or \$200,000 Let his case impel us to introspection for the State Penitentiary, or \$200,-School, or \$50,000 for the Industrial School, or \$30,000 for the State Fair. or for any of the innumerable special appropriations, such as \$320,000 for the new library building, every Legislature is called upon to make, with great resultant benefit to Salem. It is a fact that the average blennial appropriations of an Oregon Legislature, including continuing appropriations are nearly \$5,000,000, and one-half, or more-about \$3,000,000-is spent

Now we really should like to know The Philadelphia court now re-what the Salem paper thinks the country would not be practicing neu-fuses to condemn the Keystone Watch-Portland "ring" contemplates doing. trailty; it would be depriving the allies "ring" two years ago chose both Speaker and President fight and would be accused of an un Just see what happened to hurt Salem and help Port-

# NEGRO BLOOD.

land.

The question whether Mrs. Arthur Little, of Detroit, has negro blood in ness has proved itself to be beneficial her veins or not does not seem to us harmful to the community it to be of the first importance. should not be condemned because it is might have a generous infusion of that particular fluid and still be a worthy naval supremacy over our enemy and woman abounding in good works and may need to import supplies of some

s possession implies its exercise.

Ex-President Taft said that when combine several corporations she is the daughter of a white couple with the effect that they control a who died in her babyhood. Since she certain industry it is to be presumed is described as a "golden-haired that they purpose to produce that effect and to exercise the power gained by the combination. His idea was that band's. It would be interesting to the more presentation of such power is the mere possession of such power is learn how he came to light upon the in the eye of the law a public danger, story of her negro blood as a ground nation of business because it is large. a judge that his contention was true

which can make use of modern methods and bring about economy, and yet of negro blood and still show no patons and bring about economy, and yet of negro blood and still show no patons of it in complexion, hair or enough. We have before us a picture not to grow to the dimensions of a ent signs of it in complexion, hair or monopoly which, by its very existence, features. She would of course possess of the endangers competition. A decision by the Mendelian units of heredity that school buildings which five districts the United States Supreme Court is came from her dark ancestors, but united to build. The children are

tween the two lower courts, and it may result from the appeal just taken by the Harvester Company.

SIERKS CONFESSION.

as the phrase goes. But if both her parents were negroes it is to the last degree incredible that she should not show at least a few marks of her origin. According to the accounts

none are to be found. A full-blooded negro father could have transmitted to her only authentic negro traits. He could not have given morning that the criminologist antici. her a solitary "white" unit of heredity, pated much of the attempt to pick to for the excellent reason that he had none to transmit. Her mother, we pieces the half-wit's confession.

Mr. Thacher distinctly said that he learn, was merely "colored"; she may learn, was merely "colored"; she may did not believe that certain of the de-tails of the confession were accurate. she might have transmitted "white" Mendelian units, but not any more to dispute. It must be remembered than she herself possessed either as that several years have elapsed since dominant or recessive traits. That a the commission of the crime, that person accurately "white" in all her

The sole fact that tells for Mr. Little is the high improbability of the exist-He was familiar with some of the ence of a "pure-blooded negro" in the details of the evidence adduced at the country. Pure races are a myth of They exist only in the ex-"white" blood and was therefore

But the whole discussion is futile The only question of real importance relates to Mrs. Little's mind and charhat acter. If she is a good wife and of mother it matters little if her parents

### ILLITERATE STUDENTS.

With admirable discretion Chicago University has done its level best to suppress the scandalous answers which its English students perpetrated Sierks is a degenerate, a half-wit at a recent examination, but some of to be mar with homicidal tendencies, dangerous them have leaked out. The class at a recent examination, but some of under examination was "advanced," which perhaps accounts for the ignorance of the answers. The farther college student advances from the of his admission require-"English" ments the less he is naturally supposed to know about his mother tongue and its literature.

One promising young student wrote that Greina Green was the richest woman in the United States. Another described the Lake Poets as "Indiana Monitor." writers who had moved to Chicago." third defined the Oxford Movement as "something in a watch." And so it went through the whole big pile of examination papers.

A similar story comes from the Co-lumbia school of journalism, where as it may seem, they are a worse scandal than those of Chicago Uni-versity. The students under examination were from all parts of the country, so that the blight of college illit-

No doubt several factors combine nian—to name Mr. Seiling from their ed to put on a corresponding weight own number for Speaker of the House.

Sad indeed! How much sadder it would have been had he been hanged in the beginning! Throughout all gation has no right to act together books in his soul is a marvel. Most faction of realling that the satisfor any purpose or to have a candi-The Oregonian would be pleased to of Shakespeare or Werdsworth. We have the Salem paper, or any other do not wonder at the effect. What little Democratic journalistic cuckoo surprises us is that any of them

# ONLY THE FORTUNE OF WAR.

Those German-Americans and probenefit of Portland, declare an embargo on exports of war material do not look far enough ahead.

Those who are prompted by par-tiality to Germany and who chafe at practically unimpaired, there is a possibility that Germany may become supreme at sea. Germany and her al-lies would then monopolize the opportunity of importing war materials from this country, which is now enjoyed only by their enemies. Would they then be willing to abide by the prin ciple which their friends now invoke? If that principle were now adopted, it would operate to Germany's hurt in

case the tables were turned. Those who regard our trade in war material as a violation of neutrality are really endeavoring to commit this country to a serious breach of neu-trality. Supplies go to the allies alone because they alone are able to convoy ships safely across the ocean. Were Germany equally able them, they would go to her in equal quantity, so long as she wished to buy and was able to pay. Were the United States to proclaim an embargo, this country would not be practicing neuof an advantage they have won in fair friendly act towards them, and with good cause. If Germany controlled the sea and we were to proclaim such an embargo, she would very promptly give us to understand that we were taking sides against her in the war.

Furthermore, this Vollmer doctrinif adopted by us, would rise up to She plague us. It is conceivable that we may at some time be at war, may gain kinds. We should be in a very embarrassing position if the country whence we desired such supplies were to proclaim an export embargo, and, when we protested, were to cite the precedent we had established in 1915. Irent Britain placed herself in this position by laying down principles as to contraband during the Boer and Russo-Turkish wars which we are now

quoting against her. The United States is observing strict neutrality by permitting its citizens to sell to all comers who are willing to buy. If Germany is unable to buy, two; color, black. buy. that is no fault of ours. If through a change in the fortune of war Great Austria also announces confidence Britain should be unable to buy, it of winning. Must place great hope in would still be no fault of ours.

The sensible union school is replace ing the isolated and impoverished players may go to the front. Under "little red school house" as rapidly as of the Alsea union graded and high Idaho. Something in euphony. peeded to reconcile the conflict be- they might all lie latent, or recessive brought from a circuit of five miles McAdoo. Come inf

in school wagons which are as peda-

Like many others of the early Oregon ploneers, John Minto has a fine literary gift. His prose is entertaining and his poetry is full of true feeling with a lively taste for scenery and human adventure. His "Rhymes of Early Oregon Life" contains a number of poems, some essays and historical ances, notes, a short account of the author's

useful to scholars. We gather from Mr. Minto's footnotes that some of the poems are from other pens than his own, but no doubt most of them are original. They are all interesting and characteristic. The rthodox manner for a ballad, "Come all young men who ride the range where grows the fine bunch grass. They are invited to sing the merits of their loves, none of whom can com pare, as it turns out, with "the Belle of Wasco Plains."

The bunch grass is not so fine on the range as it was in 1844 when John Minto came to Oregon, but the belles of Wasco plains have lost none of their charms. Has the romance of Oregon passed away with the prairie schooners and cowboys? Where are the young poets of today who can sing, as John Minto did, the beauties of their loves and feel the great inspiration of the land they live in? know a pioneer who rode a broncho from Union to The Dalles on his way to be married at Salem in the days of The youth of this degenerate age would be likely to ride twice as far to escape matrimony

The first printing office in America was not in Boston, but in Mexico City. It was established in 1539, some eighty years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, by Juan Cromberger, of Seville, whose resident agent in Mexico was Juan Pablos, or Paoli, an teers if War Comes. We clip this interesting item from the esteemed Christian Science Monitor.

country life and its plans for meeting There is now an agricultural them. Talcott Williams held an examination training course at Monmouth in which in English the other day. He has teachers learn the fundamental prinpublished the returns and, incredible ciples of farm work and acquire some knowledge of rural problems.

creaking machinery of our riminal procedure is usually occupied in turning criminals loose. But the rocess is varied now and then by conicting an innocent man. Do not the facts fully justify all that Mr. Taft has said about the fatuity of this blundering system?

Great Britain may adopt conscrip tion. Now is the time for the ladies of the equal rights brigade to assert themselves and claim full equality in the matter of going to the front, The State Department is exerting it

self to prevent anti-Jap legislation at the California Legislature. Yes, by all means spare W. Jennings from an attack of nervous prostration.

An Austrian editor has been ex-ecuted for his utterances. We truly hope and pray that this gentle practice does not come into widespread

Another small tract of ground has een gained by the French near Roye, Enough ground, no doubt, on which o bury those lost in making the gain.

Mr. Gardner is surely a great miliprimed from the background,

All the Germans held in Siberia eed is "food, clothing and medicines," which are about all anybody in detenion or otherwise needs. With the Germans at a standstill in

and Teuton appears to reached an impasse. A man arrested yesterday charged with non-support is alleged to have

three wives. No wonder. How could he support them? The Germans announce that they are certain to win. The Allies claim it is they who will win. And there

vou are. That marine flea, the Karlsruhe, has been sighted off Venezuela and ews of a one-sided engagement may be expected,

We trust the legislators will keep the faith and spend no more of our money than necessary this session.

The English now pray for victory That is precisely what we would have to fall back upon in event of war.

oes she not put a head tax on immi grants from the United States? It is a dull day in Portland when

ome new phase of growing prosperity does not manifest itself. The annual installment of the story

ning in the local press.

is the epitome of the good news of the Pacific Northwest.

the Germans.

## Twenty-Five Years Ago.

From The Morning Oregonian Jan. 2, 1890. Columbus, O., Jan. 2.—John McLean Brice and Thomas, three ambitious millionaires, are furlously fighting each other in a closely-contested race for the Ohio Senatorship.

Sleighing is excellent today follow ing last night's big fall of mow, and we'll have skating soon, from appear-ances. The storm is general through-out the Northwest, with the mouth of notes, a short account of the author's boyhood and a "Tale of the Oregon Coast," reprinted from the Oregon Teachers' Monthly, with an introductory note by the late Horace S. Lyman, whose large "History of Oregon" is whose large "History of Oregon" is fall the Northwest has seen in five present to scholars.

eaped to death from her third-story "Oregon Cowboy's Song" is particular, window to escape sufferings. Lord ly pleasing. It begins in the good old Salisbury is reported better, and Eu-

morgue for over a week.

# GREAT COST OF UNPREPAREDNESS

CAMAS, Wash., Jan. 4 .- (To the Editor.)-The many articles appearing in print in different publications abusing Congressman Gardner for his patriotic The Monmouth Normal School stand for an adequate defense for our country make us remember the Spanish schools which discusses the needs of ration, either. Our Army was small and scattered, but that did not keep us from going to war, did it? Neither preparation nor lack of it will ever influ-ence the action of this country. We will not go to war without just cause and if our cause is just we will not keep back our hand because it is empty or armed only with a broken reed. And when the day comes when we must fight it will not be the peace-at-

any-price men, the men who refuse provide an army, who will do the fighting. They will not suffer; no, not they. They are assainst war and will be in Congress or in the Cabinet or at Bryan has said that "if the country

calls for a million men before night there will be a million men in arms."
That is, of course, "piffle." There will be a million brave and patriotic youns men ready to serve their country but they will not be armed. They will not the readers I remain be a million brave and patriotic young they will not be armed. be peace-at-any-price men either; they will just be ordinary, every-day Ameri-can citizens, ready to serve or die, but they might as well be so many

tary student or else a group of pro-fessional experts are keeping him primed from the background army armed with Mauser rifles, with only obsolete, single shot, black powder guns in their hands. Any soidier could have told what the result was to be. It meant for one thing the unneces-sary death of many a young man whose life was as dear to him and to his friends and as valuable to his country the lives of most of the members

Poland, once more the strife between of Congress.

It seems to me a shameful thing that

equipment for our forces.

When a war comes now we shall not have six months to train in. Where have six months to train in. Where would Paris and France be now if they were all as unprepared as we? Where would we be now if attacked as France was? Washington would be in ashes again and New York under tribute, our Army annihilated and a large part of country overrun. Of course, welld some day win it back, at a cos death and suffering. It would not be done by the peace propagandists, however. They, having done all the harm possible to the country, would be in Canada or Mexico. A VOLUNTEER. As Canada needs more revenue, why

### AXIOMS ONLY IN CONSTITUTION Contributor Believes Controversial Matters Out of Place There.

LONG BEACH, Cal., Jan. 1.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian December 33 is an editorial entitled "Latter Day The annual installment of the story of the thriftless and shiftless is running in the local press.

Now that the worthy poor have recovered from holiday indigestion, how about needed relief?

Despite complaints from belligerents, the United States is the market place of the world.

"Sawmills will resume work." That is the epitome of the good news of the pacific Northwest. legislation.

But all things that may be subjects

Pacific Northwest.

Wetumpka, Ala., had the usual diversion yesterday. Number of victims, two; color, black.

Austria also announces confidence of winning. Must place great hope in the Germans.

At last the brave English football players may go to the front. Under draft.

Conner of Bonner is Speaker in Idaho. Something in euphony.

Good times are at the door, says McAdoo. Come in!

But all things that may be subjects for legislation are not proper subjects to be placed in the Constitution. The fonstitution is a bill of rights and should contain only those provisions that are universally accepted as right the constitution. The Medical Journals in Oregon in the Editor.)

Kindly give names and addresses of the matter correctly when he said, in effect, that we can preserve our liberties only when the majority is willing to put restraint on itself to protect the rights of the midical Journal published in Oregon is the Medical Sentine.

The sole medical Journal of the Medical Sentine.

The official journal of the Washings and what the shall eat, what he sail drink what he shall wear, with the constitution. The official journal of the majority is willing to put restraint on itself to protect the rights of the midical Journal of the Mindulation. The official journal of the Washings and what kind of clothes he shall wear, with the

### LITERATURE MINUS ADJECTIVES It Would Be Dull and Dry in Absence

of Their Adorament.

As to an infinitive, we admit it to be a crime to split one, and probably would never do so if we could recognize one while wielding the ax. It is more than probable that 39 per cent of your readers would not know that the darnest thing had been split and would care less, though they might be greatly pleased with the letter or editorial and fully concur with the thoughts expressed.

To write well is a great accomplish.

New York, Jan. 2.—The epidemic of grippe is making progress throughout the East. Ellen Carroll, mother of four children, delirious from an attack, leaned to death from her third-story. to express the thought in elegant lan-guage, or even good language, should not prevent the expression, nor should it submit the writer to public criticism

Salisbury is reported better, and Europe notables die.

Olympia, Wash. Jan. 2.—Over 300 cases of grippe here.

Portland's Chinese and Japanese trade is leaping forward with long steps and great bounds. The demand in those countries for Pacific Coast stuffs is growing rapidly, and they are requisitioning carge after carge of lumber and barrels of flour galore.

A gentleman from Kansas, who recently announced his intention to erect a cheese factory hear Turner if 250 milk cows could be pledged, now that the demand has been complied with, says he can't erect that cheese factory because he is without funds.

Mr. E. J. Jeffery, president of the brick "trust," announces that bricks will cost \$8 per thousand next season.

Samuel Tiliman, who has been in the city over twenty-five years and is popularly known as "Little Sam," was found dead in the snow this morning. He was the first dead man in the morgue for over a week.

Our schools take no heed of such matter as good writing or good speaking unless the student passes beyond the public schools. They fill the mind with useless Latin, Greek, French and German, neglecting English and Spanish, be language of our continent, are both given little or no consideration. No wonder the groundlings" "split an infinitive." It's a wonder they do not make complete kindling wood of it.

As for adjectives. "Use them not at a finitive." It's a wonder they do not make complete kindling wood of it.

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As for adjectives. It is a good salitive." I

solemn.

Not use adjectives! Just as well abolish salt from food. What a dry old world of literature we would have without these adorning colors, shapes, images and imaginings.

Now the bright morning star, day's har-Comes dancing from the East, and leads with her The flow'ry May, who, from her green lap throws.

The yellow cowallp and the pale primruse.

Or this:

Or this:

Through the bush'd air the whitening shower descends, At first thin was'ring, till at last the flakes Fall broad and wide, and fast, dimming the the bush'd air the whitening Pall broad and wide, and lar.

day
With continual glow. The cherish'd fields
Put on their Winter-robe of purest white:
"Tis brightness all, save where the snow
melta
Along the mazy current.
Go to! Abolish "split infinitives" if
you will, but preserve to us our adtectiverosity.

jectiverosity. Let us reason further along the line elegant grouping

of correct and ele words and syllables: words and syllables:

. Knowledge dwells
In heads replete with thoughts of other men;
Wisdom in minds attentive to their own;
Books are not setdom tallsmans and spells
By which the magic art of shrewder wits
Holds an unthinking multitude enthrall'd.

With all matiner of respect to the
educated writer and commiscration for
the vergors I remain pire city, for it was "all advertising." Yet it had merit, for the displays spoke

THE VALEITE.

## EATON WRITES ONCE MORE Snowballin' time has come agin up in Thus Getting a Little More Advertising

the first people in Congress and out will the son of a Civil War volunteer and a volunteer myself in the Spanish War. I believe well be so many for His Candidacy.

for His Candidacy.

PORTLAND, Jan. 4.—(To the Editor.)

Answering your editorial of January the only real fact you urge against me for the Speakership is that I have supported the university appropriations. Since you admit that Mr. Selling supported the same bill in the Legislature and that before the people on the referendum vota you yourself supported the same bill. As the son of a Civil War volunteer and a volunteer myself in the Spanish War, I believe a protest is due against this idea that all that is necessary to be done is to call out the volunteer on that issue, I think I can rest

this idea that all that is necessary to be done is to call out the volunteers and expect a mob of brave and patriotic young men, unarmed, untrained and unofficered, to meet an army, for instance, such as Von Kluck led across Belgium.

When the Spanish War came we were in the same condition, but we went to war just the same. These same volunteers were sent to fight a modern own columns to say that in my opinion wn columns, to say that in my opi your antagonism to me is not based at all upon my support of the university, or my legislative action in any other respect, but exists solely because you respect, but exists salely because you deem that I am an obstacle to the programme of The Oregonian in seeking to control and direct legislation, not in the interest of the country, nor in the true interest of The Oregonian and its handful of aiders and abettors.

ALLEN EATON.

It seems to me a shameful thing that a country so great and rich as this can do no better when she calls her sons to defend her than place in their hands obsolete and worthless arms and tell them to go and fight with them. It is because of the indifference of Congressmen who would rather get appropriations for their districts and jobs for their friends than spend a little money in preparation. money in preparation.

If it were decreed that when war does come the front ranks should be filled by every member of Congress, a modern proposal for simplified government, all to keep their hands at the throat of affairs in Oregon. The Oregonian's sole interest in the organization of the Legislature is to give what aid it can to a successful fulfillment of the pledges upon which nearly all members were elected. Governor West has already permitted it to be advertised that he will be present throughout ost the session as a public mentor and a thousand times greater in toll and critic. Whatever he further intends the

# No Possible Need to Fight.

PORTLAND, Jan. 4.—(To the Editor.)—Your editorial, "Suppose," seems to me misleading and mischievous, as it suggests bloodshed to attain something which could be attained in a peaceful way by losing some trade which would be lost anyway.

Suppose the government of Great Britain did not listen to reason and the Government of the United States would prohibit the export of everything to

Government of the United States would probibit the export of everything to the ablies? Would that not have the desired result?

Why always think of fighting? It only shows the barbarian in us. Might is right, but the greatest might is intelligence and knowledge. Let us live up to the principles laid down by the founders of this Republic, and we can form a sure alliance with the Southern

founders of this republic, and we can form a sure alliance with the Southerr republics and maybe after a while with Canada, in which case there is no power on earth which would threaton us with war. WILLIAM ISENSEE.

# Haif a Century Ago.

VALE, Or., Jan. 3 .- (To the Editor.) From The Oregonian of January 5, 1885. VALE, Or., Jan. 3.—(To the Editor.)
—It is with great pleasure we read the letters and editorials on educational subjects in The Oregonian. It is pleasant for us of the "groundlings" to be informed that men should not write unless they have something to say and when they do say it, that they must never "split an infinitive" nor "use an adjective."

As to an infinitive, we admit it to be

Charleston are panie-africken and place. In all quarters the Union forces are very active. It is said the Unionists in Texas and North Carolina are taking steps to chen they do say it, that they must be used to restore the discrete."

As to an infinitive, we admit it to be Charleston are panic-stricken.

> The steamer Oregon, H. J. Johnston, captain, will sail tonight at 8 o'clock for San Francisco.

> Francis Atwood inserts an advertisement in this issue saying he has found a trunk eight miles below Portland on the wagon road. It has been left at Henley Jackson's place. It has been

> A large audience saw "Rob Roy" at the Willamette Theater last night. This evening is set about for the benefit of Mrs. C. Getzler. The play is "The Life of an Actress" and Mrs. Getzler will essay the role of Violet.

Nathan Pearcy, son-in-law of Mr. Knight, of Clarke County, sustained a badly shattered left arm when his fewling-piece burst a few days age. Mr. Pearcy lives on Rush Island, a few miles below Vancouver

#### SEASONAL NUMBERS ARE ISSUED Numerous Northwest Newspapers Are Out in Annual Dress.

The "Eleventh Anniversary Number" of the Jewish Tribune, of Portland, is at up to the standard of excellence estab-an lished by its editor years ago. It is an remarkable for its literary quality and the number of eminent contributors, among them being Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Governor Mones Alexander, of Idaho, and many Jews of National preminence in letters and professions.

The holiday issue of the Marshfield Evening Record is given more to exploiting its advertisers and, so do ing, shows the business men of the Coos Bay metropolis are a "live bunch."

The annual number of the Salam Statesman is "the best ever," for it tells of the "City of Beautiful Homes" and the people who made it so, not neglecting to bear testimony to other paries of Marion County that have merit and hold out opportunity for investor and homemaker. Of a certainty Medford business ap-

preciates the startling character of its

morning paper, the Sun, and shows it by appearing in the holiday number. There is naught of vainglory in this particular issue but that is not for lack of opportunity. Medford is the great city of Southern Oregon and the Sun is The Oregon City Enterprise's recog-nition of the recent holiday season was a riot of color and wealth of advertis-

ing, with enough literary matter to leaven the lump. The annual number of the Walls Walls Union filled 60 pages within an illuminated cover. There were seven sections and the whole was a study in

Commercial activity of the Inland Em

SNOWBALLIN' TIME HAS COME. these Cascade hills,
Sometimes it falls in flakes, sometimes
like little liver pills,
An' us kids has the mestest fun 'at ever
liappened. We
Have battles that

happened. We
Have battles that we make believe's
like them across the sea.
Bill Grimes he is the Kizer in our make
believin' war,
An' I'm the King o' England, an' Red
Rogers the K-zar,
An' when the fightin' foes advance an'
halls begin to fly
The air is full o' that white ammunition
from the sky.

from the sky.

The Germans book the Kizer, an' some The Germans hock the Riser, an some of 'em tries to sing 'Bout wachin' on the Rhine, an' we yell out, 'God save the King,' The Rushin's whosp fur the K-zar, an' little Limpy Bates,

little Limpy Bates.
That's crippied, stands a-lookin' on an'
plays United States.
The hottest battle that we fit was on
less Chris'mus day.
When Heinrich Schwartz, the processman, said he would give away A bottle o' red sody to each German if they would Defeat the sassy allies an' 'd lick 'em pienty good.

Then Walker, o' the rival store, said on the aly 'at he
Would give us bags o' candy if we won
the victory.
An' then our patr'otism riz plum up to

fever heat. An' 'twasn't long afore we had the An' twasn't long afore we had the Germans on retreat.
You see, the news leaked out about the candy he'd pervide
An' half their men deserted an' come over to our side.
An' when the fight was over an' we'd overcome the foe

Us kids was chawin' candy an' the Dutch was chawin' snew. Snowballin' time has come again, the hills is full o' snow,

An' all us kids feel sorry fur the kids way down below
That's livin' in the valleys an' the
woods an' on the plains
Where every time it out to snow it jus'

Where every lime it ort to snow it just cuts loose an' rains.

Whilst we are coastin' on our sleds an' playin' snowball war.

An' skatin' on the little lake that's froze from shore to shore.

We're mighty glad 'st we don't live down where it never snows.

An' where dad says the kids have wals. like ducks, atween their toes.
-James Barton Adams

# Little- Bit of Medical Advice.

Fashionable physician (to new patient)—"Ah, madam, I perceive that you are all run down, a complete nervous wreck, in fact. (Sixing un luxurious environment, and absently falling into his usual formula.) I would advise a change of scene erasy a little trip to Europe—" Lady (shricking)—"Good gracious, doctor, I'vo just come from there!" Judge.

# A Wise Woman's Way

It was a wise and experienced It was a wise and experienced woman who declared that she always sought the advertising columns of her newspaper before she set out on a shopping tour.

The advertisements gave her definite information as to the various attractions; they told her about the goods, they told her of the prices. And so when she set out she went forth with a fixed idea of what she wanted and where she wanted to go.

wanted to go.

Thus advertising to her wa guide post. It enabled her to go in the easiest and quickest direc-

It led her straight to wise And that is one of the functions

And that is on a different and today, more than ever, does he seek to make his advertisements thoroughly valumble vertisements thoroughly valuable and heipful by crowding into them in attractive form everything bear-ing upon the aubject—article, price and service.