

The Oregonian.

Published at the Oregonian Building, Portland, Oregon, on a second-class matter.

TELEPHONE.

Editorial Rooms...106; Business Office...607

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Mail: Single copies, 10 cents; Advance... Daily, with Sunday, per month... \$1.00

News or circulation intended for publication in the Oregonian should be addressed invariably to the Oregonian, 106 to the name of any individual or firm relating to advertising, subscriptions or to any business matter should be addressed simply "The Oregonian."

The Oregonian is not responsible for articles from individuals, and cannot undertake to return any manuscripts sent to it without solicitation. No stamps should be enclosed for this purpose.

Pacific States Bureau—Captain A. Thompson, office at 1111 Pacific avenue, Tacoma, Box 630, Tacoma, Pacific.

Eastern Business Office—The Tribune building, New York city; "The Bookery," Chicago; the E. C. Beckwith special agency, New York.

For sale in San Francisco by J. K. Cooper, 745 Market street, next to the hotel, and at Golden Gate, 236 Sutter street.

For sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street.

TODAY'S WEATHER.—Occasional rain; winds changing to southeast, becoming fresh to brisk.

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, JAN. 7.

MOODY AND BEECHER.

At a recent meeting of Plymouth church, Dr. Lyman Abbott, who was present for the first time since his retirement from the pastorate, said that Mr. Moody was the greatest evangelist of his time, and that he did more than any other man to make people study and stand by the Bible.

The difference between Moody and Beecher was not chiefly one of education and training. It was a spiritual, if not a moral difference; for Beecher never rose even to the high level of that highly educated preacher, Ph. Phillips Brooks, as a true evangelist.

Why, then, hesitate? The most probable explanation is that the world would precipitate hostile action elsewhere on the part of France and Russia, for which England is not yet fully prepared.

It seems to us that this memorial celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of Beecher's pastorate will only serve to obtain from the public press a reiteration of the judgment pronounced upon Beecher's remarkable career which was closed by death in 1867, viz., that he had lost the spiritual confidence of the leading clergymen of his own denomination and of the fair-minded public slowly but steadily after his famous trial in 1875 ended in disagreement of the jury.

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local Lilliput of Plymouth church, where once he had been among the most conspicuous of the nation's moral and spiritual leaders.

A POSSIBLE SOLUTION.

The impressive thing about the Gametree engagement, as with other recent episodes, is the withering devastation, annihilating fire of the Boers. Esprit de corps is comparatively meaningless in a massacre so frightful that hostilities are suspended to facilitate the labors of Red Cross forces, while friend and foe gather over the heaps of lacerated corpses and still breathing forms, to reanimate over the character of weapons and missiles used.

Nobody doubts that the British empire is abundantly able to keep up this sort of thing; but contemplation of the fearful price that must be paid for any considerable forward movement will certainly set public sentiment in England thinking and hesitating. There is not some better way to Pretoria than wading knee-deep in British blood.

The relations between Great Britain and Portugal are of the closest. The latest treaty between the two powers has never been officially promulgated, but it is known to bind Britain to re-establish Portugal financially, as she has already done with Egypt and Siam, and to this end to administer certain of Portugal's outlying estates, Delagoa bay being one of them.

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THE LIGHT CURE.

The world always lends attentive ear to the claims of modern medicine, especially those that promise to eradicate all the ills to which human flesh is heir by new, cheap and heretofore untried means. The blue-glass cure, the red-room cure and the barefoot cure, may be cited as recent and familiar examples of this fact.

If we had nothing but the doctor's word for it, supplemented by testimonials from those who profess to have been "cured," we might pass the matter by as illustrating the vagaries of an older crank and his dupes. But Mr. Laurits S. Swenson, United States minister to Denmark, takes pains to vouch for the responsibility of Dr. Finssen, and confirms the report of remarkable cures effected by him, adding that eminent physicians in Copenhagen endorse the new discovery.

cured by the white and violet rays, while there are other formulas for treating erysipelas, scarlet fever, etc., etc. Many physicians follow in the footsteps of light or through the recorded cases of cures through its agency are neither numerous nor startling. The blue-glass craze of some years ago is well remembered, but as far as the records show, no sick person was ever really cured by it. The memory of that sensation, and of many similar experiences, will make the general public skeptical of the light cure, though proclaimed from and indorsed in high places.

TRADE OF TWO HARBORS.

The government printing office at Washington has just turned out a neat little brochure entitled "Annual Report of the Supervising Special Agent of the Treasury Department for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1899." This publication contains some very interesting facts and figures, touching on the relative importance of Portland and Puget sound as importing points.

The exports from Puget sound ports make a worse showing proportionately than the imports, no export duty is paid on anything shipped foreign from the Pacific Northwest, this matter is not taken up in the special agent's report mentioned. Some light is thrown on this matter, however, by the West Coast Trade, a weekly commercial paper printed at Tacoma.

LETTING OUT THE BELT.

The Rev. Mr. Ackerman says that "the liberal church is one of the smallest in the country today." In the technical sense that the Unitarian or the Universalist church is not large in numbers, Mr. Ackerman is right, but in the sense that the old-time orthodox churches have been obliged to "let out their belts" a number of holes, he is altogether wrong.

FROM THE BRIDE'S PARENTS, A COW.

An industrious young rancher of Surprise valley, in Lake county, was recently wedded to a young woman of Modoc county, California. The list of gifts to the couple appears in the Lakeview Examiner, and is headed with "a fine cow, presented by the parents of the bride." This may appear a trifle grotesque to young people of aimless life, who have never earned a dollar, but to a couple just setting up for themselves, out on the frontier, where work must be the portion of both, the gift of a good cow is better than jewels or plate.

their callings they have brought respect for the dignity of work and regard for the obligations of professional life, which is likely to be well shared by men and women who have never known the stimulus of want nor felt the spur of poverty.

THE RECORD OF DIVIDENDS.

How the East draws its wealth from the whole country, and very largely from the West, is shown by publication of the January dividends, in Eastern papers. Here, for example, is the Hartford Courant. It presents this summary of disbursements for January dividends by corporations of Hartford:

RAILROADS AND TEMPERANCE REFORM.

Temperance effort of the aggressive, persistent type, to which the mind commonly reverts when reference is made to the temperance movement, is wont to credit itself with whatever change for the better is noted in the character for sobriety of men holding responsible places in the great world of work. Without detracting or seeking to detract from the results in this field of endeavor of the painstaking, often self-sacrificing, labor that has been performed by self-styled, widely advertised temperance advocates, and the movements that have inaugurated and carried forward, thoughtful, observant persons cannot fail to note the practical value of educational work, unadvertised as such, but broadly salutary that has followed along regular business lines.

NEVER WEARY OF BREATH.

It is still a cry of "Scissors! scissors!" with Windy William. Still he shouts for "bimetallism" at "16 to 1." But each of these terms excludes the other. It would be as rational to cry "hot ice," a colored pig-vender in the street was crying his wares "hot pigs!" A customer bought one and found it frozen. "You rascal!" he exclaimed, "you said this was a hot pig!" "Dat's all right, boss," was the answer, "dat's de name ob de pig." So Windy William gives his 16-to-1 pie the name of bimetallism.

Of course, Windy William knows this. It is beyond possibility that he should not know it. With men of his stamp it is no longer necessary to have the least patience, or to treat their utterances with even a frigid show of respect. For crucifixion of mankind on a cross of gold, read crucifixion of Windy William and his ilk on the cross of public indignation with shameless insincerity.

swer questions which the teacher "will be sure to ask." Is indirect evidence of the interest which intelligent pupils, inspired by energetic teachers, take in "what is going on in the world."

PUT UP THE SWORD.

I have sung of the soldier's glory As it never shall fade forever. I have gazed on the shambles gory, I have smelt of the slaughter-pen. There is blood in the inkwell dotted. There are stains on the laund list. And the pages of Fame are bloodied. With the tears of a widow's grief.

TO A VIOLIN.

What wondrous power from heaven upon thee wrought? What priested Ariel within thee broods? Marvel of human skill and human thought, Light as a dry leaf in the winter woods.

CAMPS OF GREEN.

Lo the camps of tents are green, With the leaves of ferns keep filling, and the days of war keep filling.

THE OLD FLAG.

Off with your hat as the flag goes by! And let the heart have life in you; You're man enough for a tear in your eye; That you will not wipe away.

OUTSIDE THE TOYSHOP.

Beside the door they stand, aware the pane Tricked with toy-wares. It is a dapple-gray In smooth rows in the higher air. One prancing foot from grass-green board up-stairs.

THE LONDON SPECTATOR.

The London Spectator makes this sound protest: "Ski-rushes are described as battles, petty defeats as disasters, ordinary movements as stupendous efforts, and unavoidable accidents as shocking destructions of human life."

THROUGH THE STREETS.

Through the dim London morning The soldiers rode away. The crowd rose in the higher air; The sky above them gray.

THE BEVERIDGE RESOLUTION.

The Beveridge resolution does not find favor with the senators, and that's to be expected. It is short and to the point, grammatical, unsilted, and falls not upon the ears of the higher grades of contemporary history.

There are no "ups" in life, there are no "downs." For "high" and "low" are words of like degree; He who is light of heart when fortune frowns, He is a king though merriment in the frowns.

THE SALEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Salem chamber of commerce is endeavoring to secure the co-operation of boards of trade in Valley towns for the purpose of raising money to send a competent immigration agent through the Middle Western states, to lay before the people there the facts about opportunities in the Willamette valley. The expense is placed at about \$200 per month, exclusive of railroad fares.

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