

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, JUNE 24.

THE LIFE OF GENERAL STEVENS.

Two noble volumes are the fruit of the purpose of Hazard Stevens to prepare a life of his distinguished father, General Isaac Ingalls Stevens.

In these ample volumes there is a fine story of the Mexican War, or that part of it in which Stevens was engaged.

In politics Governor Stevens adhered to the "regular" Democratic organization, and supported Breckinridge for President in 1860.

Naval architecture is a wonderfully progressive science. A circular was recently issued by the Secretary of the Navy to armor-plate manufacturers.

These ships are to be much larger and faster than any of our battle-ships now afloat or in course of construction.

The time has always been "ripe," and always will be "ripe," we suppose, to enact extravagant pension legislation.

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6-inch rapid-firing rifles, twelve 3-inch (14-pounder) rapid-firing rifle guns, twelve 2-pounders, eight 1-pounders, two 3-inch field guns, two Gatlings and six .30-caliber automatics.

THE TIME-LIMIT for the completion of these ships is thirty-six months. If this is adhered to the creation of these monster battle-ships will be phenomenally rapid.

WHY NOT?

The Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R. has expressed the opinion in the West that the time is "not ripe" for the return of the Confederate flags.

Two ex-Confederates died on the United States Supreme Bench; an ex-Confederate Brigadier in the Cabinet.

The ex-Confederates do not care a button whether these sad relics are returned or not. They lost them without dishonor, and they can afford to wait patiently for that hour of reason and good sense.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENTS IN LIBRARIES. An important theme of discussion at the recent meeting of the American Library Association at Montreal was the children's department in public libraries.

It is important to note that the children's department in public libraries is not a new thing, but that some of us can readily recall it, when it was not considered necessary to supply children who were past the age of appreciation of the "Mother Goose Melodies" with reading matter outside their schoolbooks.

THE READING HABIT thus fixed upon children became, as it were, a heritage to their children, and with the widening opportunities of popular education, and through the activity of the book-maker and the printing press, it has increased until the children of today are omnivorous readers.

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estimate the strength of the powers which the Empress Dowager derides, and he sees the necessity, if the empire is to survive, of the speedy restoration of peace in China and the absolute protection of its foreign residents.

MORE SAILING SHIPS NEEDED.

High ocean freights are absorbing a liberal share of the profits which should accrue to the Pacific Coast wheat-grower. This is one of the results of England's abandonment of the sailor and taking up with the tramp steamer a few years ago.

ALTHOUGH there is a scarcity of ballast tonnage, the list of sailing ships bound from Europe to Pacific Coast ports with cargo is greater at the present time than it has been for several years.

THE NOTION that systematic athletics tends to develop the heroic qualities which a nation needs in great crises is not borne out by the facts.

W. H. H. DUFUR, forest supervisor in charge of the Bull Run reserve, whose communication is published elsewhere, shows commendable public spirit in offering a reward of \$150 from his private funds for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the first person guilty of violating the law relating to forest fires.

IT IS DIFFICULT to suppose that the Salem Statesman can really believe that our producers of hops, wheat, onions, lumber, dairy products, etc., are "protected" against foreign competition by tariffs.

PERHAPS we ought to be grateful, after all, for the things the Republicans platform does not contain. Web Davis and his Boer plank seem to have been ditched.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHS. "Do you know, I never dreamed she was a trained nurse." "How did you find it out?" "Saw her bill."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

THE FOLLOWING notice was lately affixed to a church door in Hertfordshire, and read in the church: "This is to give notice that no person is to be buried in this churchyard who has lived in the parish; and those who wish to be buried are desired to apply to the parish clerk."

a fad of playing whist, with or without a dummy. The most tiresome creature that runs at large is a man, young or old, who cannot or will not talk about anything but "athletics" of some sort.

THE DISPATCHES make the important announcement that the attacks made upon the foreign troops at Tsin were delivered, not by the Boxers, but by Chinese regular soldiers, furnished with formidable artillery.

THE BOER WAR cannot endure many days longer, Lord Roberts and General Buller have joined hands at Standerton, and with the whole line from Pretoria via Laing's Nek to Ladysmith and Durban in his possession, the Orange State Boers under President Steyn, to the number of 10,000, are sure to be starved out of the mountains and forced to surrender.

HEEDED HIS ADVICE. "Young men and women," said the prominent citizen who had been selected to address the graduating class, "look upward, look ever upward, and your careers will be assured."

MODESTY. His modesty was so intense that he would not open his mouth to any of his admirers. I'm really of no consequence, I know I look like thirty cents, marked down to twenty-nine.

THE DISAPPOINTED PIANIST. Once upon a time a Commercial Traveler sat in a Hotel Parlor and played the Overture from "William Tell" in Rag Time.

HOW IT WAS DONE. When the statistic is gathered, and the weary census is done, and the people who took it are dying from mental fatigue, one by one, we shall read and grow old in the waiting.

THE EXPLANATION. "Look at that mule," said General Kitchener, "he walks right through shot and shell and doesn't turn a hair. I envy or saw anything like it."

IN DESPERATE STRAITS. "My glory has departed," said Agunaldo. "First, the Boers crowded me off the first pages of the newspapers, and now the troops of the Americans have deserted me for a lot of Chinese Boxers."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT. This is the Indianapolis News, an Independent Republican Journal, and about Roosevelt on the day the convention met: "It is probably not too much to say that just now the public mind is fixated on Roosevelt as the most popular man in the Republican party."

SAFELY IN HIS PREDICTIONS. When Colonel Jack Chalmers ventured the opinion that every man in Kentucky who needed hanging would get it, the Colonel was in New York.

WILLY LI HUNG CHANG. Li Hung Chang has been very strong. No can fool him much longer. King he thinks: "Oh Li Hung, no man good; no man good; young."

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STONZAS FROM "CHILDRENS PILGRIMAGE" - Lord Byron. There was a sound of revelry by night, And England's capital had gladdened them.

There was a sound of revelry by night, And England's capital had gladdened them. Her Beauty and her Chivalry, and bright The lamps show o'er fair women and brave men.

Did you not hear it?—'twas but the wind, Or the car rattling off the stony street; On with the dance! let joy be unconfined; No steps till morn when Youth and Pleasure meet.

And there was mounting in hot haste; the steed, The murrain'd courser, and the clattering car, Went pouring forward with impetuous speed, And swiftly forming in the ranks of war.

Last noon beheld them full of hasty life, Last evening in Beauty's arms they lay, The midnight brought the signal sound of strife, The morn the marshaling in arms,—the day Battle's majestic trophies array'd.

Who now shall lead thy scatter'd children forth, And long accustom'd bondage uncreate? Not such thy sons who whilom did await, The hapless warriors of a willing doom, In bleak Thermopylae's sepulchral strait—Oh! who that gallant spirit shall assume, Leap from Eurystro's banks, and call them from the tomb?

I see before me the Gladiator lie! He leans upon his hand—his manly brow Consents to death, but conquers agony, And his droop'd head sinks gradually low, And through his side the last, long drop, o'erslow.

There is a pleasure in the lonely woods, There is a rapture on the pathless shore, There is society where none intrudes, By the deep sea, and music in its roar: I love not Man the less, but Nature more; From these our Interiors, in which I steal From all I may be, or have been, before, To mingle with the Universe, and feel What I can ne'er express, yet cannot all conceal.

Thou glorious mirror, where the Almighty's form Gleams in full vista;—infectious in all time, Calm or convulsed—in breeze, or gale, or storm, Laid on the pole, or in the torrid clime, Dark-heaving—boundless—endless, and sublime, The image of Eternity—the throne Of the Invisible, even from our thine! The monsters of the deep are made; each one Obeys thee; thou givest forth, dread, fathomless, alone.