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TODAY'S WEATHER .- Probably fair and warmer: weet

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1901.

#### A TIME FOR ACTION.

Hitherto the Union Pacific has not formed. Mrs. Dye's book is the most looked properly after its interests in the fascinating of the three, its every page Northwest. For a long time it was not being invested with that peculiar drain position to do so. It was entangled matic charm which promises to make in various ways, from which it was unher the literary apostle par eminence of able, during many years, to extricate Oregon among the masses. No one who itself. But conditions have changed, or has once fallen under the spell of her are fast changing. The Union Pacific spirited and moving romance is likely is now a consolidated system. It pos- to neglect anything that comes from sesses the Oregon Short Line and the her pen, or to fall to recommend her O, R. & N. It is associated with the writings to acquaintances near and far. Chicago & Northwestern. Joined with This "Stories of Oregon" will serve a it is the Southern Pacific. Unity of useful purpose if it introduces the genpurpose and of action is now to be pursued by great interests which formerly worthy and useful "Dr. McLoughlin and were separate and divergent, each tak- Old Oregon," a historical romance ing its own course. The Union Pacific is now getting into position to do for the Northwest what we of the North- read by every Oregonian. In "Stories west have long been waiting with great of Oregon" no connected plan is held, impatience for it to do. It has already established a line of great steamers be tween Portland and the Orient. It has Northwest and Southwest passages to connected the two parts of the Oregon railroad by a cut-off line from Wallula to Riparia. It has surveyed and established a route along Snake River from Riparia to Lewiston, and has occupied with its surveys the only practicable route from Lewiston into the Upper Clearwater country. It is true that it has thus far been held back from construction eastward from Riparia by the opposition of the Northern Pacific: but recent events in New York lend probability to the belief that the Northern Pacific's veto will not be so pow- they bring points of interest into prom-

Pacific to induce it to construct this stirred. No one can read them and not love the names that are identified with road, and to construct it now. No rail-Oregon's early years. road should be permitted to "bottle up" a country, as the Northern Pacific has done, in this case. Direct connection NO POETRY FROM PROMOTERS.

by the natural route, the line by which the great river and its tributaries flow, is the rightful demand of the upper country, as it is also the rightful demand of Portland. The Union Pacific argued that our present material deis in position to execute this demand. It ought to do it. It must do it. The demand is natural, rational, necessary. There can be no greater wrong to a country than obstruction of its natural our Tennysons, Longfellows, Hawroutes of transport. In this matter the thornes, Emersons, Michael Angelos, Northern Pacific for years has been Shakespeares and Raphaels are at prescommitting a wrong against the interior ent engaged in planning tunnels, concountry and a wrong against Portland. solidating railroads, manipulating the The Union Pacific has not wished hithmarkets of the world and expanding

erto to enter into the controversy; but trusts. Mr. Depew appears to think the "unpleasantness" at New York last that when this day of intense tempononth made conditions to which the tary absorption of the American intelconstruction of this link from Riparia lect in material development is over eastward, so long delayed out of comthis same American intellect will flower plaisance to the Northern Pacific, in the higher form of the noblest aft would scarcely add new materials of and the finest literature. Our utilita-The Oregonian desires to repeat, with rian men of genius will find both time all possible emphasis, every influence and inclination to paint Sistine Ma-

donnas and portray poetic figures as noble as Hamlet, Othelio or Prince Hal. that Portland can exert, through its organized trade bodies, through popular This notion of Mr. Depew is not new, assembly, through individual citizens, and it is certainly not true; it is contraought to be directed to the effort of urgdicted by the experience of history; it is ing the Union Pacific to put the O. R. totally out of line with the moral and & N. Railroad into Lewiston from Riparla, and into the great productive spiritual development of mankind. More than seventy years ago Macaulay in country beyond. The long-continued his essay on Dryden traversed this ab-"bluff" of the Northern Pacific against this extension is immoral. It is an outsurd notion of Mr. Depew and showed rage upon the interior country and a by ample historical proof that the Nawrong to Portland, that ought no longtion which gives itself to material ends will produce material fruits. er to be treated with any kind of con-

From the Greek who worshiped beauty came the natural fruits of incomparable art, poetry and literature, but utilitarian Rome had no literature Two women and one man have re except what was merely a continuation cently made contributions of great inof the literature of the Greeks. Julius terest and value to the literature of Caesar called Terence half Menander. early Oregon history. The three books which Macaulay says was "sure proof that Menander was not a quarter Aris-"Stories of Oregon," by Eva Emery Dye. tophanes." The essence of Macaulay's argument is that it is the law of utilization as it is the law of nature that our judgment ripens; our imagination decays; that in the progress of nations toward refinement the reasoning powers are improved at the expense of the imagination. "The sciences improve rapidly, but poetry in the highest sense of the word disappears. Then comes the dotage of the fine arts, the age of critical poetry, of poetry by courtesy, of poetry to which the memory, the judgment and the wit contribute far more than the imagination." The conclusion of Macaulay is that "Italy will never produce another Inferno or England another Hamlet." In Greece the imaginative, creative school of poetry gradually faded into the

merely critical; it was a steady decline from Aeschylus and Pindar to Theocritus and the Alexandrian versifiers. The Romans were in art and literature mere pupils of the Greeks; they began where Greece left off; they had almost no period of original invention; Lucretius and Catullus alone had notable vigor of imagination. The poetry of France, Italy and Spain has undergone the same change; the drift from imaginative creative poetry down to critical verse. In England the change was still more abrupt, for Macaulay points out that the same person who, when a boy, had witnessed the first representation of Shakespeare's "Tempest" might have lived to read the earlier works of the critical school of Prior and Addison.

As knowledge is extended and as the reason develops itself, the imitative arts decay. The few great works of Imagination which appear in a critical age are the works of uneducated persons, like Bunyan and Burns. The difference between the age of Shakespeare and the age of Tennyson is the difference

what they are fit to do; they are not doing today a great work in art and lit-

erature for the same reason that the Romans didn't equal the Greeks in these respects. They simply could not Chauncey Depew justified his reputa- do more than be pupils of their Greek tion for inaccurate knowledge and su- master; they could do a great many perficial thinking in his address at the grand things that the Greeks were opening of the Hall of Fame, when he never equal to, but the particular excellence of the Greek in art and literavelopment is the necessary prelude to ture was the despair of the Roman. intellectual and spiritual expansion in So we Americans are a great people, art, in letters and in the higher Na- but we do not promise in the near futional life. Senator Depew says that ture a great literature or a noble art.

fobies.

#### OUR COUNTRY IN PROPHECY.

There is nothing startling, nothing sensational, nothing at which to cavil, in the assumption based upon the facts of history that the Republic known as for or against them. the United States of America is not an everlasting political entity. It is not necessary to go over the facts in the rise, decline and fall of the Roman Empire to prove that nations are not made of everlasting stuff, or that history repeats itself, with some modification as to details, but with utter fidelity as to to embarrass people, they began to be fact, as the ages roll on and on. Change is the general order, yet the history of mankind as recited in the lives of nations and of individuals repeats itself with stubborn literation, scorning to give a reason, yet with reasons so by plainly apparent that he who runs may read. Underlying this great fact is the other fact which declares that human nature is the same the world over, and has been the same through the ages. The triumph of a principle-the princiof liberty, perhaps hotly contested ple and dearly won-is prone to beget arrogance and self-sufficiency. Prosperity following the lines of humble endeavor is prone to desert the tents of economy and thrift, and in espousing extravagance lay the foundation for a brood of weaklings that are catalogued as vices or follies, as the case may be, but in which, whatever the name, are the seeds of weakness and decay. Rising to balance the account, the sturdy elements of human nature appear, turning National or individual disaster aside, if sufficiently powerful-if not, to go down to temporary defeat, pending a reorganization of forces and the rising of the new in the place of the old-both ever new and ever old. These facts are known of all men,

nence when Elder Jones, of the Seventh-Day Adventists, tells us, as he did last in the century previous, a man like Si Sunday, that our Nation as a Nation Matthew Hale affirmed to have the auwill not live forever; that it has within all nations-spoke of, in short, just as its body-social and politic-the elements of decay; that these are potent forces in its destiny, and that it will stand or of the miraculous; and it was compara fall according to the balance that is tively easy, no doubt, to abandon one demaintained between the forces that build and the forces that destroy, he the forces of experience which have pre-vailed against witchcraft will inevitably does not need to quote from the anclent Hebrew prophets to substantiate his story or give weight to his words. The great law of cause and effect holds in the universe and governs the affairs of nations and of men just as it did nations," during the rise, decline and fall of Rome. It is but a shallow spirit of boastfulness, the voice of the ego in nan piping shrilly or babb.ing foolishly, abandonment of certain long-current beliefs depends upon a man's own will, or even upon his sum of powere, natural that makes the American laud his country as above all others and proor acquired. Sir Matthew Hale was not claim his belief that its government inferior in force of mind to a modern Chief Justice because he believed in is everlasting; that causes the German to indulge in a like bellef in regard to witchcraft; nay, the more enlightened modern who drops errors of his fore-fathers by help of that mass of experi-ence which his forefathers aided in achis nation, and the Englishman and even the Chinaman to echo the sentiment, taking care to apply it each to cumulating, may often be, according to the well-known saying, "a dwarf on the giant's shoulders." His merits may be his own. Patriotism, in its narrow sense, is but a sublimated form of selfishness, running naturally into boastfulness, and likely to merge into paltry self-seeking.

The good elder, who declared in effect along in his shadow. Yet this itself, sure-ly, is something. We have to renounce that the United States as a Nation is rushing madly upon the "bossy shield of the Omnipotent" in its management of the insular problem with which it has grave historical and scientific fact. We been unexpectedly confronted, discloses the bias of the political anti-expansionist rather than the prescience of the prophet of good and evil, as based upon the teachings of the Scriptures. There is the threatening tone of ecclesiasticism in his prophecies, the voice of one whose wish is father to the thought, that weakens the force of his warning and the vigor of his arraignment of our National sins. He furnishes a gleam of consolation, however, in the suggestion that, while our Nation will, no doubt, eventually go the way of nations, it is not upon the immediate verge of ignominious extinction from the cause which he assigns-the acquirement of the Philippines and the attempt to bring the inhabitants thereof under our National jurisdiction.

# can people today are doing just about MATTHEW ARNOLD ON MIRACLES NEW PRASE OF LIBRARY QUESTION

Since the butcher delivers his beefsteaks Epiphanius tells us that at each anniversary of the mirucle of Cana the water at the door of his customer, the baker his of the springs of Cibyra in Caria and loaves, the groceryman his potatoes and Gerasa, in Arabia, was changed into turnips, the storekeeper shoestrings wine; that he himself had drunk of the toothpicks and carpets, and the millings transformed water of Cibyra, and his rose-aureole hats, why should not the brothers of that of Gerasa. Fifty years library also deliver its books at the doors ago a plain hinglighman would have nad no difficulty in thinking that the Cana of its readers?

The logic is simple and unanswerable. miracle was true, and the other miracles as Seymour Eaton and his confreres are He is now irresistibly ied just now proving to the world. The topic to class all these occurrences in one cateof the hour in professional and bookgory as unsubstantial tales of marvel. Scales seem to drop from his eyes in re-gard to miracles, and if he is to hold fast loving circles of the East is the extraordi. nary success of this new library venture his Christianity, it must no longer depend that is aweeping over the country with upon them. It was not to discredit mir-iracies that Literature and Dogma was such unprecedented rapidity. It has rather a characterless name-the Book. written, but because miracles are so widey and deeply discredited already. And t is lost labor, we repeat, to be arguing Lovers' Library. But this has not prevented the enterprise from reaching co-Mankind did not lossal proportions. Philadelphia was the originally accept miracics because it had formal proof of them, but because its imstarting point. New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Washington, Brooklyn perfect experience inclined it to them. and Newark folned the ranks. Others Nor will mankind now drop miracles be cause it has formal proof against them, quickly followed, until now several hunbut because its more complete experience dred cities and towns are included, South. detaches it from them. The final result was sure; as soon as ever miracles began ward to New Orleans, westward to Den. ver, the movement is now speeding to a certain limited period long ago over. Irenaeus says that people in his toward the Pacific, with the sure and re sistless energy of fore-ordained successthe success that springs from a public time had arisen from the dead, "and abode with us a good number of years." "and want until now unsupplied because unrecognized.

One of his commentators, embarrassed The project is an ingenious one, and is by such stupendous miracles occurring outside of the Bible, tries to explain being carried out with boldness and aplomb. In essence it is nothing more nor away the remarkable allegation, but the most recent editor of Irenaeus points out, with truth, that the attempt is vain. less than a huge circulating library, with branches extending into every well-popu. Irenaeus was as sure to want and to find lated district of the United States; but And all the comforts dear to mortal num, miracles as the Bible's writers were. And sooner or later mankind was sure to see with this difference: the catalogue comprises only the newest books. Orders are how universally and easily stories like this of Irenaeus arose, and that they arose with the Bible-writers just as they arose taken for these, and the volumes are delivered to the members hot from the with Irenaeus, and are not a whit more press, sometimes on the very day of pubcoming from them than from him. lication. To all appearances whole editions A Catholic imagines that he gets over are likely to be swallowed up as soon as the difficulty by believing, or professing to believe, the miracles of Irenaeus and Epiphanius as well as those of the Biblethey issue from the publisher's hands. At first glance the whole scheme appears writers. But for him, too, even for him, to be merely a clever ruse of the pubthe Time Spirit is gradually becoming too strong. As we may say in general, that, lishers to advertise their books, or a new sort of trust perhaps in masquerade. But although an educated Protestant may this suspicion is quickly put to rout by manage to retain for his own lifetime the the reflection that the plan seems quite belief in miracles in which he has been as likely to ruin the publisher as to brought up, yet his children will lose it; so to an educated Catholic we may say, putting the change only a little further benefit him, since it undoubtedly deprives him of many purchasers, and loads the off, that (unless some unforseen deluge should overwheim European civilization, market with whole editions of secondhand books; for as soon as the volumes leaving everything to be begun anew) his grandchildren will lose it. They will lose it insensibly, as the last century has seen worn or solled they are withdrawn from circulation in the Book-Lovers' Library. Suspicion is still further put to flight by the air of dignity and good faith that extinction, among the educated classes, of that belief in witchcraft which,

clings to the book committee. Professor Carpenter, of Columbia University: Lewis Gates, of Harvard: Albert S. Cook, of thority of Scripture and of the wisdom of many religious people speak of miratles now. Witchcraft is but one department Yale, and other university worthles from Princeton, Cornell and Ann Arbor, are not men to lend themselves lightly to a scheme that is going to work ill to the public. Their names give weight to the assertion that the library has no monepartment when men had the rest of the region to fall back upon. Nevertheless, assertion that the horary has no mou-tary interest whatever in any book of books, and therefore is perfectly free to select only those books which are good, and to offer opinions and sug-gestions that are frank and unbiased. prevail also against miracles at large, and that by the mere progress of time. The charge of presumption, and of setting one's self up above all the great men This it does by means of carefully prepared and attractive bulletins, issued weekly, which aim to supply the latest Insued past days, above "the wisdom of all which is often brought against and most trustworthy information con these who pronounce the old view of cerning new books in fiction, literature, history, biography, science, etc. In addition to these there are special our religion to be untenable, springs out of a failure to perceive how little the

catalogues for physicians; catalogues also for clergymen and other specialists, together with lists of the best French and other foreign publications. The delivery coaches call once a week to receive orders and deliver books, members being privileged to keep the volumes any length of time from one week to 52 weeks without fine. A Portland man much interested in library methods, who has recently enjoyed an opportunity to the workings of this new system in East. ern cilles, was greatly impressed with the excellence of equipment and of service rendered the members, and is of opinion small compared with those of the giant. Perhaps his only merit is that he has had the good sense to get up on the giant's that this is the secret of the library's asulders instead of trotting contentedly tonishing success. But not in any real sense of the word

is this a library for the masses, the memossible attempts to take the legendary bership being confined to the professional. the dilettanti, the busy ones and the idlers of polite society, who already have SLINGS AND ARROWS.

## Vacation.

When, bursting from the pale and amber east, when, sursting from the pale and amore easi-The sum rides radiant through a cloudless axy. And, each succeeding day, goes up against And heats the record of the day before. We feel that work is brissme, and that we due to do not be day before. dos Must load our wife and children and th Upon a train or steamboat, and go forth To list to Nature's teachings by the sad And rythmic rumble of the lashing surf. Or, where the rocking pines sigh musically, And falling needles tapestry the earth, In some foriorn and mountain wilderness.

So, drawing out our balance from the bank. We purchase tickets to a far retreat. Withcome such name as Whaleville-by-the-sca Or Mountaindale, or Eyrie-of-the-Fines; We hid a long farewell to city life. To downy beds and thick beefsteaks and fee, To all the comforts of a home, in posth, And soon are speeding on a crowded train. Forsaking pleasures that are real sure things fly to others that we know not of.

Three weary weeks we live in exile drear Ve aleen on beds consisting most of shirs, And canned ourn beef, dried apples and prune

Tle me the substance of our daily fare We take long walks beneath the scorching sum, And bisters rise upon our neck and face. While lank monguitor, hungry and keen-billed, espangle all of our anatom; besun has left untinged, with smorting welts. We play croquet-God save the mark, croquel! Recause there's not another thing to do: We read light novels from The Duches' UCS. And other clevating fiction of that kind. And all the while the memory of things We left behind us-such as beer on draught nd cool gin fix ex, and gool, wholes me meals, ones up within us and we see ourselves As others ought to see us-as blank fools.

Why things are thus, why we should leave our

To spend good money on had beds and f.od: To wear our bodies out with tadious tramps. And dull our brains with lack of excretise. Is something that no man has yet found out

The Name That's Never Left Ont. Skamokawa, June 8.-Ah Sing's washhouse burned down last night. We understand that Sing once washed a shirt for J. P. Morgan.

Berlin, June 8.-In conversation with a member of his household today, the Kalser is said to have mentioned the name of J. P. Morgan.

Shanghai, June 5 (delayed in transmission.)-Hon, Li Hung Chang, in a speech today, said that if J. P. Morgan bought all the railroads in China he would probabiy own them.

Greenland's Icy Mountain, June 8 .- An Eskimo who died at this place yesterday owned a newspaper in which the name of J. P. Morgan is mentioned,

Snohomish, June 8.-J. P. Margan has never visited here.

Carlsbad, June 8 -- An American now taking the waters here is said to have once known the third cousin of J. P. Morgan.

Constantinople, June &-The Sultan said yesterday that he never had seen J. P. Morgan.

Manila, June 8 .- Aguinaldo is reported to have written a letter to a friend of his in Bayombang, in which he alludes to J. P. Morgan.

Terra del Fuego, June 4 .- There is no truth in the report that J. P. Morgan is going to build a Summer residence here Buffaio, June 8.-It is possible that J. P. Morgan will visit the exposition on his

return from Europe. Woodstock, June 8.-When your correspondent asked ex-Governor Pennoyer, at his ranch, near here, yesterday, if he did not think J. P. Morgan will return from his European trip when he comes back, the ex-Governor replied: "Who the - is J. P. Morgan?"

When Sura Plays Romeo.

Sara Bernhardt is to play Romeo next teason to Maud Adam's Jullet.-Press dispatch.

When Sara plays bold Romeo to Maudie's

Juliet, We'll see the other mummers hump to keep

the pace they set; As old Jack Falstaff, Edna May will trip across the scene, fcross the scene, And staid Dick Mansfield must tog out as

eral reader to Mrs. Dye's far more brought out last year by A. C. McClurg & Co., of Chicago, which should be but fragmentary introductions are

given to the effort of navigators for India, discovery of the Oregon and Washington coast, and points of interest; Lewis and Clark's expedition; Astor's enterprise at Astoria; Dr. John McLoughlin; Captain Bonneville; the

missionaries: the Cayuse War and Whitman massacre; Ben Holladay, Joseph Lane and General Summers, with the Oregon Volunteers in Luzon. The two books on Lewis and Clark have not the excuse for disjointed-ness that Mrs. Dye's simple stories have, and despite the skill with which erful henceforth as it has been. It is inence, they leave a painful impression "between sublime invention and agreethe Union Pacific is getting of incompleteness, perhaps we should able imitation. This, stated with necready to do in the Northwest certain say of hurried preparation and insuffiessary brevity, is the substance of Mathings that it could be wished it had cient care. Most grievous of all, neither caulay's argument that we cannot look seen its way to do years ago. We re- Mr. Lighton nor Miss Kingsley seems to to civilization, whose glory, like that have become saturated with the subof Rome, is that of great genius for ject so as to treat it out of a full knowlthe production of material prosperity and colossal works of utility on an edge and a full heart. They have, apparently, hastily pawed over the memenormous scale, to give us the bright. consummate flower of the noblest oirs and set down what caught the eye poetry or the finest art. Rome had a and "let it go at that." Yet the merbrief day of critical poetry and imiits of their work are considerable. Each has important details of the expedition tative literature, taking the Greeks for masters; but the strength, the originality,of Rome was its utilitarian genius. Lighton has made especially interesting use of the original and imperfect It could form a splendid army; it could build a bridge, a military road, an The estimates are truthful and appreaqueduct, a sewer; it could make a system of jurisprudence that is immortal; It could govern ably; it could both conquer an empire and rule it after conquest. But in Rome this genius for utilitarian invention and production, was not associated with the Greek genius. for apprehending the spirit of beauty in man and nature so perfectly that, to use Wendell Phillips' fine phrase, Athens may be said to have "invented" In all this considerable body of early art and been the mother of all great Oregon history that is appearing we are literature. reminded of the romantic element in We have had our brief, brilliant day of literary development. With the exception of a few names like those of Hawthorne, Poe and perhaps Emerson, our best literature has been nothing but the continuation of the literature of clation of the romance of that early time. It is in the drama and the novel England, even as the literature of Rome was but the continuation and that history shines in its most attractive light. Memory loves to dwell on imitation of that of Greece. There is the exploits tradition has bequeathed no American poet, or philosopher, or

Whittaker & Ray. San Francisco. "Lewis and Clark," by W. R. Lighton Houghton, Miffila & Co. Boston. "The Story of Captain Meriwether Lewis and Captain William Clark," by Nellis F. Kingsley, Werner Company, Chicago. No one can doubt that these works will uncover to large numbers of people the heroism and romance in which the early annals of this region were

OREGON'S FRUITFUL ROMANCE.

print on this page from the Lewiston Tribune an article to which we now desire to call attention. Its headline is, 'Alleged Decadence of Portland."

The handicap that Portland and the O. R. & N. have suffered and still suffer in doing business in Idaho is well shown in this article. Yet in spite of that handicap Portland still does the bulk that are omitted by the other, and Mr. of the business. It is done, however, through a circuitous and expensive route, with long delays. The natural English in Captain Clark's journal. avenue of this great business is the line by which the water flows to Port- ciative, not only of the explorers themland; but it is interrupted because the selves, but of Jefferson and other actors Northern Pacific has forbidden the con- in the great Oregon undertaking. The struction of the O. R. & N. further east appearance of the books is timely, in than Riparia. "The avenue," says the view of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Lewiston journal, "'s there to bind the of 1905, and ways should be found to country indissolubly to Portland, yet utilize them in 'connection with the Portland has been willing to keep the commemorative celebration and comavenue closed and let its trade be mercial exposition it is designed to hold taxed to cross barriers to reach it." at Portland in that year. But Portland is not willing. She has chafed for years under these conditions, imposed by the veto of the Northern Pacific. The Union Pacific has been our annals, too long neglected. The unwilling to make the fight that never- historical novel of Revolutionary times, theless was inevitable, and rather than so greatly in vogue within the last enter it has allowed the Northern Pa- few years, owes its success to its apprecific's bluff to prevail. So there is no railroad along the natural route east of Riparia.

Such road must, however, be built, and there is reason to believe that the Union Pacific will no longer allow the Northern Pacific to forbid or prevent it. Extension of the O. R. & N. from Riparia to Lewiston southeasterly into the great Clearwater region would have great meaning for the trade and devel- at the Forge, Paine outlawed in Engopment of the country and for the business of Portland-both mercantile and shipping. The traffic of a very great country, both ways, would then have unobstructed course. It always has been that Oregon's wonderful story must be preposterous to suppose that the great traffic of Northern Idaho, and much of brought to the attention of the mass of that of Eastern Washington, could be studious few, but few only are they permanently cut off from its natural and easy course, and sent round about who can be reached with fact, unover a ridgy country, circuitous routes and high mountains. Lewiston is but portant. What is wanted is some one other than material fruits. We do no a few hundred feet above the sea level. who can seize upon the romantic ele-It is reached by a Northern Pacific ments in our history and set them out branch road, which descends a long and in attractive and impressive guise. Mrs. crocked canyon, for many miles. The Dye has made a beginning in this diproducts of the great country that flow rection, so noteworthy that it might into Lewiston must be pulled out of this be difficult to set bounds to her ulticanyon, up a grade on which two enmate success. The beautiful romances gines can with difficulty draw six cars; she has spun about Fort Vancouver and then the course is around over and the Willamette Valley missions, the ridges, up and down by long cir- old Astoria and the Lewis and Clark cuits to intersection with the main line expedition, are literary gems. She of the Northern Pacific. Then the great selzes upon the human interest of her barrier of the Cascade Mountains is narratives and unfolds it with thrilling still to be encountered. All this busiinterest, rapidity of action and pathos ness, both ways, can be done direct, of moving power. While we are dredgupon a line that follows a great river, ing channels and digging for coal and practically without any grade. Conentertaining visiting statesmen, we struction of sixty-five miles of railway shall leave a most important work for from Riparla to Lewiston will open Oregon undone if we do not read these excellent books of Mrs. Dye's and then the way. send them to some Eastern friend who

Here is by far the most important of the railway undertakings that remain will talk about them and pass' them in the great valley of the Columbia. on. There is a power in affection no Every influence that Portland can exert other force can supply; and in these

of "Mad Anthony" Wayne and Nathan Hale and Marion's band, Decatur and Paul Jones, Phillp and Massasoit, Frontenac and La Salle, Pizarro and Cor tez, Franklin in France, Washington land and thrown into prison at Luxembourg by Robesplerre, or Ledyard, esof the critical rather than the creative corted to the Polish frontier by stern school. It will be a literature of books soldiers of the Empress Catharine. It is through the medium of romance

of science, of criticism, of travel, of political history; the natural expression of the taste of a people who have little time to dream and every disposition to readers. It is known already to the do in this world. It is utterly absurd to assume, as Mr. Depew does, that a nation can be greatly given over th other than material fruits. We do not gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles. Of course we shall have plenty of rich men, like Morgan, buying costly paintings and tapestries in Europe, but that is no assurance and promise of a coming day of original productivity in American art, for rich men buy costly

works of art just as they do costly race horses; just as a successful Ethioplan minstrel or gambler is sure to wear diamonds. Just so long as the great mass of the people look on material success as the end of life, we need not expect that any

new period of American letters of the creative quality of Hawthorne and Emerson will come. A man with a brain fine enough to write "The Scarlet Letter" will not be content with the business of consolidating railroads, building tunnels, manipulating stock markets or watering trusts. A man

who is artist enough to recall Raphael's work is in no danger of burying his should be brought to bear on the Union romances the heart is profoundly genius in a mining shaft. The Ameri- both pointed and sensible.

The Georgia Sheriff who resolutely defended his prisoner against a lynching party confirms the view expressed years ago by Chief Justice Bleckley, of Georgia, who in an address before the State Bar Association said that a resolute Sheriff, who was determined to do his duty, seldom failed to stand off a mob, who were as a rule

cowardly, if they were satisfied that the officers of the law were in earnest in their decision to defend their prisoner. Some ten years ago an Alabama Sheriff made a vigorous and successful defense of his jail against the mob, because he shot down the ringleaders without hesitation the moment they attempted to storm the jail. We do not remember an instance when a Sheriff has shot promptly to kill that he has lost his prisoner.

In Windham County, Vermont, forty Federal liquor licenses are annually issued to dealers in spirituous liquors, and Windham County has fewer in proportion to its inhabitants than some other counties in the state. The fact that in an ironclad prohibition state there are forty persons who confess that they are illegal sellers of liquor under the state law by taking out a Federal license to sell liquor furnishes the opposition to prohibition with sufficient argument for a state license law.

Of-course, we shall have some red-hot stories from Vancouver, Port Townsend and other Puget Sound points of wars and massacres along the international boundary. The young gentlemen of the press up that way are tireless in manufacture and irreproachable in effrontery. Their imaginations cannot be equaled outside of San Francisco.

So Governor Rogers will soon have a Legislature on his hands. Considering that it is the same outfit from whose crazy legislation the state is now trying to escape, the Governor is a brave man.

A good many women have committed<sup>2</sup> murder of late, and perhaps one reason is the injudicious sympathy shown female murderers by maudlin

If exceptions prove the rule, it is well enough to observe that Fred Grant's utterance about Aguinaldo is

ave to accustom ourselves to regard enceforth all this part as poetry and legend. In the Old Testament, as an immense poetry growing round and in-vesting an immortal truth, the "secret of the Eternal." Righteousness is salvation, In the New, as an immense poetry growing round and investing the secret of Jesus: He that will save his life shall it, he that will lose his life shall save it.

#### PORTLAND'S ALLEGED DECADENCE. Remarks From Northern Idaho

#### the Railrond Handlenp. Lewiston Tribune.

With any actual or imaginary decadence of prestige attributed to Portland the general public has nothing to do beyond hoping that the statement is in error, but as to the misuse and neglect of a great commercial highway that should be a potential factor in improving industrial conditions for a vast region having its comnercial outlet at Portland, the public has a great deal to do. All statements to the contrary notwithstanding, Portland is still the distributing point for the Northwest, but on account of insufficient and improper transportation facilities traffic is burdened with unjust and unnecessary charges that are now borne by the country doing business with that port. North Idaho, for instance, buys much of its bulk merchandise in Portland, but instead of being transported by the natural water grade route it goes up to Puget Sound and is hauled by a circuitous route over the Cascade Mountains, up and down, around and across all the irregurities of a mountainous country. The Idaho purchaser can buy in Portland and ship by this route more advantageously than he can do otherwise, yet his husi-

deprived of the cheap route to and from market with which Nature has endowed the country. It may be said that Portland has done its part in being able to undersell competitors to an extent that enables traffic to be hauled this way at a profit to the purchaser, but if Portland is content to look at it that way, as now seems to be the case, the end of its commercial supremacy is within plain view. The advantages it now has of great capital, heavy stocks and the strong infuence of long associations are only temporary and are being rapidly overtaken by the young but aggressive cities of the Sound in the nature of things these inequalities must soon reach an approximate level, and the nearer this condition is approached the more of Portland's old territory will fall away from it. The avenue is there to bind the country indissolubly to Portland, yet Portland has been

willing to keep the avenue closed and let its trade be taxed to cross barriers to reach it. As long as this condition remains, while all that Portland's enemies say of it may not be true, they are bound to become true. Portland may argue that it can afford to lose the Idaho trade if it can continue to make profits with no material exertion on the business that cannot get away from it, but as a matter of fact it cannot afford to maintain the establishment of a commercial power it it is content with a policy that permits the Idaho trade to go elsewhere in spite of the physical affinity that draws the two localities so closely together.

cultur almong the residents of the Back Bay district, which is the plyotal point of Bos-

time, notwithstanding the fact that any one of these members is in four minutes' walking distance of Boston's splendidly

significant feature of the enterprise. The aim is to have the books circulate only in refined homes. Hence there is a library mittee whose sole duty is to pas judgment on names recommended, and prepare a list of desirable families in each mmunity to whom are offered the privileges of membership. All others are barred out. The ostensible object of this plan is to insure perfect service by thus limiting the membership, and to protect the public against the promiscuous cir-culation of books. It will be interesting to study the effect of this new impulse toward upheaval of all the time-honored library traditions. Its influence is already being felt in the great centers of library activity. The free li-braries, and those supported by endowment are congratulating themselves upor being relieved of much of their work But the private libraries that depend largely upon personal subscription for support must feel the change very keen-These are sure to he greatly crip pled by this sudden onset, for it is al-most sure to deprive them of the fiction gourmands who, however light they may In their taste, make a heavy sho when it comes to the balance sheet Whether these libraries will be forced to

adopt the same methods as their rival, remains yet to be seen. It is not improbable that this new move ment may usher in an era of specializa tion in library work. Since it deals only with books fresh from the press, it is, in essence, a successful effort to separate the more or less ophemeral literature ness is improperly taxed because he is that deals with current thought-the pas sions, the reforms, the discoveries, the autocratic judgments of the passing day-from the time-sifted and enduring books of a by-gone age,

It is curious to note that a somewhat similar idea of differentiation was ad-vanced at the International Congress of Librarians, held in Paris last September, M. Henri Martin, the well-known French librarian, in what was perhaps the mos notable paper read before the congress, proposed the establishment in all the great cities of librales devoted exclusively to newspapers and periodicals, which have so much increased both in number and in bulk during the last few years. He regards the presence of newspapers in li-braries very much as he regards the plebelan motor car in the Palais de Trianon. Yet there is a constantly growing need of newspapers and magazines prop-erly indexed for reference. The proposi tion was held to be one for immediate discussion and action, and as such it cre ated no little stir, winning the entire approval of the librarians present. Other suggestions were made at the congress which tended conspicuously toward the same end-specialization. The need of greater prompiness

quicker service was also dwelt upon. But at the very moment Frenchmen were ar-guing the pros and cons of the case, the Americans across the Atlantic were bringing these points to a practical issue. And why not? Are not we, more than all other peoples, a Nation of omnivorous readers? Have we not the best equipped public libraries on the globe, the most ingenious library systems? And have we not reached the climax of distinction that of being scolded by alarmed peda gogues who fear that the reading habit umong Americans is becoming a National vice?

dear, pellte for example, it has won a large clientele Nat Goodwin as La Tosca would go thirsting

for revenge: As Tess could Irving, hunted, fice for shelter

ton's culture and wealth. Over a thou-to Stone Benge. The fad will beat the book-play crase, 'twill be the greatest yet.

When Sara's playing Romeo to Maudie's Juliet, Blanch Bates would make a brave Prince Hal,

as Topsy could John Drew lave a hit; and how Jean L'Are would do for Kyrle Beliew! equipped public library. This is a highly Achieve a

As Portia, Joseph Jefferson could hardly fail

to score. Giliette as Cleopatra would be well worth pay-

ing for And Mrs. Fiske as big Bill Sykes would crowded hos uses draw

While Frederick Wards would make the best Neil Gwynn we ever saw. They all must get in line or find they're feft

out in the wet,

When Sara's playing Romeo to Maudie's Juliet. When Francis Wilson makes his bow as Lit-

Eva, we Will see Modjeska's Uncle Tom, a thing worth

And Ada Rehan, when again she chooses to appear.

Will wear a white and flowing beard and rave

and storm as Lear. May Irwin would be great as Wang, and H. Cisy Barnabee

As Desdemona couldn't fail to be 'way up in G.

There'll be thirgs doing on the stage next season, you can bet, When Sara's playing Romeo to Maudie's Julist,

Modern Proverbs.

Too far to the good is a long ways to the bad.

As goes the main guy, so goes the whole push.

A knock from a knocker is as good as a hoest.

He who puts his faith in hunches never sets off right.

Look out for the man who plugs his own game.

## A Plan.

My ma, she says I ain't no use, Says I'm always underfoot Says she'd like a little boy That 'ud stay where he wuz put

She mays other little hoys That she knows is good as gold, They ain't never in the way,

'N' they does jus' what they's told. Guess I'll run away some day, Far as far as far as far cafi be, P'raps I'll find some lady that 'Ud like a little boy like me.

Mebbe then my ma she'd be Serry I wuz gone, becuz Then sho'd know het little boy Wuz better than she thought he wuz,

She might got another boy. But I jus' am sure that he Couldn't seem to my dear ma Jus' enzackly same as me.

Anyway. I'll jus' run off, 'N hide close by the house, 'n then Pretty soon my ma'll come 'N ask me to come back again. J. J. MONTAGUE.

### Asphodel,

Wills Sibert Cather in The Critic. As some rule shade in glorious hattle slaim, On beds of rur, beside the stlent streams, Recalls outworn delights in happy dreams; the play of oars upon that flashing main, The speed of runners, and the swelling vein, And toll in pleasant upland field that thems With vine and gadding gourd, until he seems s feel wan memorics of the sun again And scent the vineyard slopes when dawn is wet,

But feels no ache within his loosened knees To join the runners white the course is set, Nor smile the billows of the fruitiess seas-So I recall our day of passion yet,

jurors. -

## novelist, living today who deserves to be classed as the peer of Emerson and Hawthorne. We are not without the presence and the further prospect of an excellent literature, but it will not be a creative literature in poeiry and fiction; it will be an excellent literature