

The Oregonian.

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White Oak Swamp while Longstreet and Hill were fighting desperately to cut the Federal Army in two at Gettysburg. These are facts which foreign historians of our war seem to be either ignorant or to ignore in their hero-worship.

There is a worse rubbish than all this partisan panegyric, and that is the vast mass of "Personal Reminiscences of the War," the work of imaginative and totally irresponsible writers, military fabulists whose printed personal narrative reads like the record of a nightmare.

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to suggest a man of such distinguished and versatile ability. Edmund Burke, the greatest English statesman of the eighteenth century, can no more be accounted for by heraldry than Dean Swift, or Milton, or Burns, or Keats.

The ancestors of Byron on the father's side were merely dissolute men, and his mother had no superiority of intellectual endowments, but had a most violent and brutal temper. Such an imagination as that exhibited by Bunyan is beyond explanation, for none of his ancestors were gifted persons.

It is often said that Napoleon, while he had a weak father, had a very superior mother. She was a sturdy Italian woman of vigorous physique and resolute will, but there is no evidence that she was an intellectual woman, and she was the mother of all the rest of the Bonapartes, who were, with the possible exception of Lucien, a very bad lot.

The men were vain and weak and the women depraved. Napoleon, the second son, was the only light in this very obscure family.

There is nobody behind Cromwell, Marlborough, Goethe, Bismarck, Balzac, Hugo, George Eliot, Ruskin, Hawthorne or Poe that dimly suggests the peculiar kind of genius that these men possessed. There was no poetic taste or literary aptitude exhibited by any of the ancestors of Shakespeare, but from the hereditary point of view, he is more inexplicable than Shelley, who in heart, brain, soul, ambition and temper was as far apart from either his father or grandfather as it was possible for a man to be.

He was absolutely antagonistic to all the traditions of his family, and so much the traitor to his class and caste that you might suspect some night-ripping villain had changed him in the cradle for the child of a radical neighbor. The superiority of Lincoln equally eludes explanation on lines of heredity, and so does the superiority of Patrick Henry, Alexander Hamilton and Henry Clay.

TEACHING GOOD MANNERS. The Superintendent of Public Instruction has been solicited by Alexander M. Jess, of Josephine County, for rules of etiquette to be taught, and adds that parents fail to teach their children good manners because they were not instructed in such matters when they were young.

Superintendent Ackerman has replied that courtesy to each other and to older persons can be taught in school, although as occasion may require, without changing the moral and social atmosphere of the home.

There is a good deal of bad deportment in public, perpetrated by men and women who are quite familiar with what is termed fashionable etiquette, which is a thing of comparatively small consequence compared with a breach of good manners, without due consideration for the feelings of others.

Now come certain of their fellow-citizens—exasperated, scandalized, enraged—full of the determination to exercise this demon folly from among them. Armed with a tar bucket and a bag of feathers, they proceed to do their duty as social regulators.

MR. WEBSTER'S BUGGY. On the 18th day of June, 1903—the anniversary of Waterloo—Private Yager, of Troop A, Seventh Cavalry, was engaged with other cavalrymen in tactical exercises near Camp George H. Thomas, Georgia.

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taught good manners. When children are educated to respect the golden rule, they will not violate good manners seriously, but they may know all about formal etiquette and have very vile manners, both at home and abroad.

A QUESTIONABLE REMEDY. Certain citizens of Benton County, in the vicinity of Corvallis, have, no doubt, had great provocation to wrath in the exaggerated and indecent pranks that have been played there recently in the name of religion by a number of persons known by the suggestive and inelegant title of "Holy Rollers."

The wisdom of the methods that were tried by sundry good citizens to purge the community of the "Holy Rollers" is a question that is being asked by the community.

THE BATTLE WITH CONSUMPTION. No general reader can fail to have noticed what serious attention is now given to the cause, prevention and cure of consumption.

It continues to be a widespread popular fallacy that consumption is hereditary, and with this goes too frequently the tacit assumption that those who do not "inherit" the disease are in little or no danger of contracting it.

It is not all that those whose families are not said to be consumptive are in a general way less liable to the disease. But this is true only in a general way.

The immediate cause of consumption is infection of the lungs by a well-known and identifiable bacillus. This bacillus cannot leave a wet substance or surface, but may be breathed into the lungs when dry enough to float in the air.

People suppose that they know what fresh air is, usually they do not know at all. Air may be too cold or too damp, but never too fresh; and hardly too cold or too damp except for very sensitive people—made sensitive, perhaps, for lack of fresh air.

Not least of all the factors involved in a successful preventive campaign is the importance of all measures that will facilitate early diagnosis. To this end it would be well if health departments could afford free microscopic examination of suspected sputum.

First in importance is the education of the masses in better methods of living; this is the foundation upon which to rear the fabric of prevention. They must be made to appreciate fully the necessity of clean, well-ventilated homes, with perfect hygienic surroundings; to have plain, properly cooked food; to avoid all excesses, particularly alcohol; in fact, to avoid everything that tends to reduce vitality.

The value of life-saving stations at exposed points on the coast line has been so often and so fully demonstrated that there is no room for argument upon the score of possible need when an extension of the life-saving service to such a point is proposed.

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upon. His action consisted of making a notation—"Respectfully referred to the Chief Quartermaster for remark"—and of passing it along.

The Chief Quartermaster was also convinced that justice was with Mr. Webster and his urgency, but he was also resolved that the Adjutant-General should not shirk the responsibility of satisfying his demands, so he returned the letter with an indorsement recommending the return of the letter to Colonel Morton for a receipted bill.

The Adjutant-General bowed to the opinion of the Chief Quartermaster and "respectfully referred" the matter to the commanding officer at Camp George H. Thomas. The commanding officer inclosed the receipted bill as ordered, and the Chief Quartermaster thereupon returned the documents to the Adjutant-General, with the recommendation that the War Department consider the claim favorably.

The matter was then "respectfully forwarded" from Governor's Island to the Adjutant-General of the Army. The Adjutant-General of the Army "respectfully referred" the question to the Quartermaster-General. The Quartermaster-General of the Army returned the documents to the Secretary of War, recommending that the claim be transmitted for action of Congress.

Dec. 15, 1895—Referred to the committee on claims and ordered to be printed. The printed copy of these documents is a very creditable piece of work.

Vertical writing is now an absolute necessity if a child is to pass the eighth-grade examinations. Why not box the compass in writing?

We used to write slantingly, like the line on the right. Now we write perpendicularly, like the line in the middle. Having tried this long enough, let us write for the next few years with a horizontal line, like the line on the left.

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this point, while viewed from the standpoint of humanity, its value is inestimable and unquestioned. The service has been extended but slowly to the Pacific Coast, though a few of its more exposed and dangerous points have been covered for many years.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

Distance. The Jap in Japan is a fine little man; We want a good tick in the scrap; We cherish with love, And say, "Go it, my boy, Just wipe them tar from the map."

The luckiest thing about a "boy bandit" is that he ceases to be a bandit long before he ceases being a boy. A Salem paper thought it unlucky to be sentenced to the pen on Friday. The least superstitious will agree with him.

War is now inevitable. The Czar has called Richard Harding Davis, asking what date he would prefer for the commencement of hostilities. War is in the air. Japan has appropriated \$100,000,000 for use against Russia, and our Government has appropriated \$20,000,000 for use against the bull devil.

Shelley's cloud that brought "fresh showers to thirsting flowers" is not a marker to the war cloud that brings fresh snow to the thirsting crews that man the Oriental newspapers. The Panama Canal, according to Mr. James J. Hill, is to be an excellent thing for the man who likes bananas. For a while we feared that Mr. Hill would speak slightly of this great National project.

Herriek sings of Two eyes. Which starlike sparkle in their skies. It's pretty tough luck when an officer loses the "star-like eyes" and the real star as well. In San Francisco an Englishman, after a kiss from a telephone girl, left saying, "To hell with Russia," and committed suicide. He evidently wanted Russia to be greeted as warmly as he had been.

Everyone was shocked at the story from San Francisco that a woman had placed her infant grandson on a hot stove to "correct his bad habits." And "every one" includes those who believe that God sends many infants to an everlasting hell. Boston's School Directors are endeavoring to break their teachers of the gum habit. Since it is evident that nothing can prevent lovely women from triturating gum, the directors should turn their efforts to having the teachers show the girls in their classes how to chew gracefully. Lessons in the art would be popular, as it is of more practical value for a girl to be able to manage a gold skullion than to have the power of disfiguring white paper with so-called sketches.

Some wag once said that the best editorials written for the papers of Arizona were those in the New York Sun. At any rate, it shows taste to get one's editorials from that shining source, but the Vancouver (B. C.) Province apparently prefers to send a package of the breakfast food editorials used by the Kansas City World—those kind chopped up into lines and other single words, the binding verb being left out of many of the desiccated sentences. It is not a bad way to get editorials, of course, and a World is no doubt sufficiently greater than a Province to ignore the omission of credit lines.

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