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AND, SUNDAY, FEB. 26, 1905.

ORTH SEA INQUIRY DECISION. ne efforts of the North Sea Comers to formulate a decision h should not "cast any disrespect o use the exact words of the translaon either party to the proceeding, ey seem to have stretched their comsense and logic to the limit. The miliar circumstances may be recalled ment. British fishermen were their trade in a dark night on sed fishing grounds in the North sea, some forty to fifty miles off the on path from the Baltic to the Straits of Dover. Their presence and occupation were proved by the custom-The majority of the Commission declare that in their opinion no torpedo-boats were either among the fishing-boats or in their vicinity. The Russian fleet passed close to the fishing mission declare that in their opinion smacks, and without warning or ingulry opened fire and continued firing on them. The result was that two of the fishermen were killed, one boat sunk, other men wounded and boats sunk, other men wounded and boats the ultimates. So, at the present, we are the search-strikingly involved in large changes which that the emotion of the Grand Duchess thing as absolute age. Those who So close were the searchlights of the war vessels that some of he fishermen deposed to being in their full glare and yet the firing was con-

So the Commission declares excluding the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire. But, say the Commisoners, unanimously, the Russian Adsally, from deet did "all he could I

e expense, and

othing remains except to note the es-

lifting the abuse of neutrals by bellig-

erents in time of war. Some compen-

sation will, of course, be made to the

families of the dead and for injury to

the wounded, and for the destruction of

property. Possibly the British people

into future arbitration when their peo

ple have been killed and their rights

REGULATE THE BILLBOARDS.

Rail as we may against the unsightli-

nore cupidity than civic pride and ac

at offended by vulgar commercialism

edden on. But war has been averted

not rush with as much eagerness

nt of another precedent jus-

tinued until the battleships, pressing on

helr course, had passed away into the

darkness. So reckless was the firing

that one or more of the Russian ships

suffered from the cannonade of their

treapasser It must be curbed. It will not be permitted without restriction to invade inviting residential districts to their disfigurement.

Just now Portland is considerably worked up over the matter. A genuine spirit of reform is in the air. There is no public demand for more billboards. and wide dissatisfaction is voiced over the especially offensive ones that have been forced on the community. Disregard of the universal protest against this nuisance may be met with a license fee which will tax billposters out of existence; therefore, it will be best for property-owners and paste-daubers to submit to reasonable regulation.

"A BELIGIOUS AWAKENING." Early in the present year a wave of religious enthusiasm struck the little principality of Wales and for a time carried all before it. The undercurrent was speedily felt in the north of England, and even the surface of the great City of London was for a time agitated by its partially-spent force. Yet a little longer and it reached our own Atlantic seaboard, and, starting inland, struck Schenectady, N. Y., with the resuit that the "Electric City," so called, justified its name by flashing into a sudden glow of enthusiasm. A genuine old-fashioned revival of religion followed, minus, it is said, of some of the more hysterical features that belonged to the campmeeting and circuit-riding era, among which shouting, handshaking, embracing and wild exhortation were conspicuous

Another long lenp and Denver was struck, and again there was quick response. That there was need of a great awakening of conscience in the Rocky Mountain metropolis cannot be doubted, unless the reports that have come from there during recent months are wholly discredited. Be this as it may under the direction of Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, who will soon be due in this city on like purpose intent, the meetings grew in interest until on one week day early in the present month 400 business-houses closed their doors, 35,000 persons crowded into places of worship in answer to a proclamation of the Mayor, and the State Legislature ad-

journed for the day. Theorists are at work attempting to give an explanation in the light of human experience for this sudden impulse or stirring of the human emotions by which thousands have been touched and moved in widely separated cities. It is the common view that great religious awakenings are co-ordinate with, or follow closely upon, periods of financial depression or panics in the business world. So long, it is said, as the country is prosperous and its inhabitants do not lack in material comforts. their thoughts feed on things temporal rather than things spiritual. When trouble comes and the social and economic foundations are disturbed or threatened, men turn for consolation and assurance toward things which material disaster cannot reach. In other words, as Public Opinion says, "the prodigal returns not from the joys of riotous living, but from the husks of the swineyard."

From this bald and somewhat cynical theory the conditions attending the present religious awakening plainly dissent. Men are turning to religion in a time of great material prosperity. What then? The journal above quoted makes answer as follows:

The cause of general religious reany condition or set of conditions that will religion simply as a consolation for material failure. What man wants is truth-somethi upon which he may rely with full confidence upon which he may very with the control and the greater his reason for immediate unperous; we are in the full enjoyment of man intellectual as well as material blessings. But the processes of change are making us feel in secure—we cannot see whither we are going industrially, politically, socially. The unusus rapidity of the motion in the various depart ments of active life is the greater reason wh we desire a sure compass and a safe char We are uncertain about the menning of things; hence we are prepared for the mes sage of religion. Bravado may lash the helm in defiant ignorance. Same intelligence will

seek the truth. That "sane intelligence" is due time asserts its away and the masses who are stirred by "conditions of great uncertainty" recover their mental poise, is one of the facts of human experience. History repeats itself along these nes as well as upon the events of the aterial world. "Time rules us all." A events work out in their own way uncertainties that vex and annoy. rehension gives place again to a ng of security and the world wags before-until the next "religious

tland has not been without its exce in this line. Without any fort of memory the emotional ent into which many of its citire thrown by the work of Evan-Earl some thirty-five or forty ago may be recalled. Edward n Hammond came later, and the ating rink was crowded to suffon many a sultry midsummer night Evangelists, including Moody, Alexander Dowie, "Jack" the boy preacher, and others re or less renowned for their power to "move the people" through song and exhortation, have come and passed with the years. The wave is again setting this way, and upon its crest rides Dr. Chapman-earnest, voluble, sive. A great religious awakening is presaged. Ministers and laymen are working for it, systematically and persistently. That it will follow along familiar lines cannot be doubted, both in the flow and the ebb of the great tide of human emotions upon which its movement depends.

BOYCOTT IN LOVE AFFAIRS Love laughs at tariffs and boycotts

and that will cover a multitude of but even love may be forced to laugh on the wrong side of its mouth by concerted action. According to the Arlington Appeal, and in dealing with such a momentous matter the editor ess of billboards, we cannot remove would hardly indulge in surmise or lend the weight of print to mere rumor. entirely. They are with us to some such struggle between love and So long as owners of vacant lots and buildings with "dead walls" have organised repression is going on in Umatilia County, "Girls at Weston." says the Appeal, "will boycott the merchants wish to push business among a populace who can best be young men who keep company with the who attend the Normal. The girls eached through street advertisements, e nulsance will flourish. The only home girls claim the interlopers have gobbled up all the marriageable young laces in America safeguarded against men of that city." The boycott, of he vandalism of the billposter are our course, will be of no more effect than a public parks. Here, at least, we are vaudeville slapstick in the case of the young man who is "keeping steady But the evil may easily be reduced. ompany." He boycotts himself. He By municipal statute Portland can regwate the height and the length of these tries to forget that there is more than en-air pictorial dreadfuls. Billpostone girl in the world. As regards the butterfly lads of Weston, things will ng has a quasi standing in the busibe different. They will feel the force of ness world, but, like the porcine mer-

organized reprisals, and a lonely lot will

be theirs when the Normal is deserted for vacations. Women have always been protection

> ists. When one of the "heathen gods or goddesses" became enamored of a mortal, the mortal got it in the neck from the jealous partner. Io was turned into a heifer by Zeus, who thus hoped to baffle the revengeful mistress of his Olympian household. Cain made himself "Impossible" by taking a wife from the land of Nod. The rape of the Sabine maidens was possible only because there were no Roman women to boy cott the men who married the captives The American girl who goes abroad as the Duchess of Rockyboro is looked upon with small favor by the girls who had contemplated with satisfaction the effect of a title of their own. There would be nothing strange, therefore, in a display of resentment by home-dwell ing girls who had seen strangers within their gates monopolize the attention of the young men, drink the soda of fellowship, consume the ice cream, snuggle into the buggles, take all the dances and receive all the tokens of admiration that are so dear to the heart of ingenuous girlhood. It may be that concerted action will cause the young men to pause before it is too late, and they are all engaged to girls from the distant counties of Harney or Lake. But if they still persist in ignoring the giris with whon

A year ago, and blithely paired Their rough-und-tumble play they sharedthere is still hope for the boycotters. Let them also become trespassers. Thanks to a kindly Legislature, there is more than one Normal. Let the girls of Weston attend the school at Drain, and make bond-servants of the young men in the district. It is a poor rule that will not work in both Weston and Drain.

GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH. The Grand Duchess Elizabeth, widow of Sergius, is a conspicuous example of the quiet submission to her fate of a high-spirited woman of much sensibility and rare culture. A Princess of Hesse-Darmstadt, born of an English mother (the second daughter of Queen Victoria), trained and confirmed in the Lutheran faith, beautiful and highly accomplished, she married while yet quite young the imperious Grand Duke Bergius, the most dominating and imperious of the "big sons of Alexander II." She stipulated, as did the wife of Grand Duke Vladimir, also a German Princess, that she was to retain the religion in which she was reared, unless of her own free will, through conviction and conscience, she became willing to accept the tenets of the Greek orthodox church of Imperial Russia. This privilege was, however, withdrawn very early in her married life, and she was subjected to such persecution, slights and indignities by the court and church officials of Russia, and treated with such open and flagrant brutality by her husband that she finally yielded the point, joined the Greek Church and proclaimed her own religion "accursed," according to requirement.

During this period of her troubled life she sought sympathy and advice from her grandmother, Queen Victoria, hoping that she would be counseled to a separation from Sergius and be given an asylum in England. The Queen, however, with her well-known disapproval of divorce, advised her persecuted grand-daughter to return to Russia and conform to its customs. This she did, and that she has learned the of submission and endurance well has been attested by her uncomplaining life and strict adherence to

Russian customs ever since. In view of what she has suffered at when required to kiss the dead body of due to horror and disgust rather than grief. She acquitted herself of this last revolting service, however, heroically, and may now consider the martyrdom of her marriage at an end. The Grand was hated. She has long been associated with the Red Cross and with other gentle charities, having taken her first lessons in this work when a child in Darmstadt under the tutelage of her mother, who was noted for her practical efforts for the relief of the poor, and especially of the soldiers' wives, who bore such heavy burdens during the war which resulted in the unification of Germany. The Grand Duchess is forty years of age, and, though she has bidden good-by to youth, is still a beautiful woman, with many possibilities for usefulness, and, it may be hoped, some for happiness yet in store.

ABNORMALLY OLD CHILDREN.

Dr. Maxwell, Superintendent of Schools in New York, has published facts carefully planned from observation, and statistics as carefully compiled, which show that from twentyfive to fifty per cent of the boys and girls in the public schools of that city are from two to six years too old for the classes in which they are being taught. In his opinion this fact is the most serious one that confronts the school authorities and presents an abnormal condition for which a remedy should speedly be found. In the mean time he has ordered all the principals of the schools in which there are dull and undeveloped children to organize special classes for their instruction.

Specifically, it is stated that thou sands of children between the ages of nine and fourteen years are found in classes with children of six years. This classes, since it compels association in school life that is not profitable to either. The crowding of the lower classes by dull children, who from one cause or another fall to be promoted, necessarily forces the others on part time, and further adds to the number

of the "abnormally old." Dr. Maxwell's statement has been taken quite seriously, as it deserves to be, by the press of New York. He says -and the newspapers generally agree with him-that every other problem with which the school authorities are confronted is insignificant as compared with the problem involved in the ages of abnormally old children. One thing is apparent. The public school curriculum cannot be adjusted to the pace of the minority. As stated by the Brook-

That the bright should not he kept back in heir work by the duliness of the less for-unate is plain enough, but that the duli should be lept at their tasks in extra hours is a mat ter in which physicians should have a word. Mental strain may be as damaging as the physical strain of athletical. Moreover, it is unfair to regard most of the backward pupils as duli. Thousands of children have not the time to give to their books that they should bave. They come from poor homes, where they

where they must sweep, wash cook run errands and care for smaller enildren, while their parents toil in the sweatshope for the price of bread. At any rate, it is unfair to assume that a majority of our children is full because it cannot keep pace with a hard-driven minerity.

riven minority.

In our own city, the conditions of which in this respect are, however, not comparable with those of New York, with its large foreign population, preventive effort has been made in advance of any material difficulty in this line. A plan or system has been elaborated whereby the bright-even abnormally bright-pupils can go forward as rapidly as they are able, or as their parents will permit them to do, while those less quick in comprehension or less strong physically can find their places in the work and pass along easily and naturally without undue The trouble with us seems to be that our abnormally old pupils are at the top instead of the bottom of the Boys in knee breeches and little girls with flying curls crowd the High School and learn parrot-like lessons in the sciences, which it is idle to suppose their minds are capable of assimilating and retaining. The problem of properly placing abnormally old chiliren in school work, whether viewed from the one standpoint or the other, is, therefore, it must be admitted, a per-

ON GROWING OLD GRACEFULLY.

No thanks are due to Dr. Osier for the almost brutal way in which he forces people of 40 or over either to agree with or differ from him on the proposition that at 40 we must get ready to let go and at 60 retire as gracefully as we may from the world's work. Some of us hoped that he had been misreported, but, now that he repeats his blows, it is up to us to take stock of our contemporaries and of ourselves In industrial or rather in factory, life, Dr. Osier is in the fashion. Until now it has been felt that experience and the ease that it brings in handling men and machines overset the brightness and spring of youth when the management of large enterprises and many men was in question. Maturity was supposed to add value to men as well as to wine. But twentieth century ideas run in other grooves. When all is specialized in industrial affairs and for every operation a new machine is invented of almost automatic efficiency. and the men attend the machines and supply them instead of the machines assisting the work of the men, it foilows that the whole scheme of industry may be, and is reconsidered. So the readiness of the young to adopt new methods, their enthusiasm, their teachability, fits them to get all there is out of the new conditions of industrial life. And all who overpass Dr. Osler's standards must, it seems, resign themselves to this replacement. But then the ability to do things does not make the total of life. The men and women most fit for action, fortunately, do not constitute the world, though they may dominate it.

In this twentieth century eight hours seems to be by common consent the day's work. This is but one-third of the day. What about the other twothirds, in which the claims of the most vital parts of men find their opportunity? For, after all, we are meant to work to live, not to live to work. There is an element of selfishness in the assertions of the young that the world revolves around them. The very activitles in which they have their being tend to engrose and so to figuit their outlook. Yet so strong is this doctrine of the world for the young that in thinking of it we forget the very point of consolation for those who are passhis hands and the indignities that he ing the milestones marking the middle heaped upon her through his gross in-fidelities, the world may well believe of Dr. Osler and his adherents, no such know their Pickwick as intimately as her husband during the obsequies was they should will recall Sam Weller's eulogy on his master, "Bless him, his

soul was born twenty years after his body!" Some folks, and those the best-loved of their time, have the happy faculty Duchess is beloved by the people of of holding their own with their souls, Russia as much as Grand Duke Sergius even when limbs stiffen a little, and the run is exchanged for the walk, the hair whitens, and the pursuits of the contemplative life begin to loom up above the urgencles of the active life. What charming companions they are, at home and abroad! The ripeness and mellow ness of Autumn are as beautiful as the early greens of Spring, and the heats of the Summer world. Competition with the young is far from their thought, and they are willing to stand by and give full and fair play to the coming generation, taking pleasure in the sight of their activities and pride in their power to do.

To grow old willingly and gracefully is an art to be studied, especially when the fortieth birthday has come and gone. It is one thing, however, calmly to resign oneself to and to make the best of the inevitable, and quite another thing to seek an excuse for a lazy life, Against this last those whose years admonish them should heartly fight. To grow old by necessity is our common lot; not to give up to growing old postpones the evil day of inability

LOSS BY DEATH'S DELAY.

William McGee, said to be the only survivor of the Custer massacre, is on trial for murder in New York, with an excellent prospect for ending an excit ing life in a convict cell or the electrical chair. Here is an illustration which might serve to prove that there are occasional cases when the world and the individual most concerned would be a gainer had the age limit of Dr. Osler been enforced. But as a rule, with few is a condition which works evil to both exceptions, it is the individual, and not society as a whole, that would be the gainer by the removal when man reached his prime. William McGee, by murdering a man in a quarrel over a trivial matter, proved himself to be a poorly balanced old man with vicious tendencies, and nothing of the heroid to relieve them. And yet, had William McGee, the Indian fighter, gone down to his death with Custer in that awful massacre on the Little Big Horn River. the world would have paid homage to his memory, as it always will to that of the gallant Custer and his band of heroes who perished on that bloody field.

The world's history from the beginning of time presents numerous illus trations where men who had scaled "the starry heights of fame" slipped back into obscurity, poverty and not infrequently disgrace, simply because death failed to reach them in time to save their position. William McGee, in escaping the fate of his comrades, lived too long, but it is a certainty that among that gallant band butchered by Sitting Bull were others for whom fate had something better in store than a murderer's doom. The world of litera-

even approximate its less by the Civil War, but unquestionably thousands o Americans with talents that in later life would have enabled them to reach high places were sacrificed on the altar of their country. Sleeping their last sleep throughout the sunny Southland are thousands of young men, the flower of the Nation, and their passing from life just at a time when they were beginning to master its mysteries in a degree retarded the intellectual develop-

ment of the country for a generation. There were undoubtedly William Mc Gees among both the blue and the gray who are "waiting the call of the judgment day," but it would be a harsh reflection on the thousands of others to advance the theory that the world as day" in St. Petersburg. It would seem well as themselves was a gainer by that even managers and critics might their early demise. There can be found live together in peace and unity, but today criminals, vagabonds and miscellaneous nonentities within age limits of fifteen to ninety. There are also to be found plenty of men in all walks of this country, James S. Metcalfe. life who have failed to get even a foothold on prosperity's pathway until they were well past sixty, just as there are others who have taken high rank before they reached the age of forty: There are rules that cannot be proven by the exceptions, and one of them is that which assumes that all men are so nearly equal that a horizontal age limit establishing their degree of usefulness will be sufficiently fair to warrant its enforcement. This is a matter that can be gauged only by the individual, and

not by the people as a whole, William McGes would cut a much better figure as a dead hero than as a live murderer, and it is a matter of regret that he did not remain with his comrades on the Little Big Horn thirty We must quite naturally assume that Dr. Osler is speaking from experience, and there will accordingly be no great protest if he applies the chloroform bottle and thus prevents the crulet world from referring to him as "that old 'has-been,' Dr. Osler." There is a growing disposition to hold the individual responsible for his acts, and because William McGee, after reaching a certain age, became a murderer and Dr. Osler an ass, society in general must not be held accountable because they were not killed off earlier in life.

No State Fair will be held in 1905, but the annual appropriation will be used for the construction of buildings and the making of such permanent improvements as may be needed. To the annual appropriation of \$19,000 the Legislature added \$5000, and all of this sum can be used in putting the State Fair grounds in good condition. The Marion County delegation, which always looks after the interests of the Fair, even though it is not a local institution, displayed good judgment in making this arrangement for the present year, for it promotes harmony and good feeling, and will prove most advantageous to all concerned. It is very doubtful whether the State Fair could have been made a success in 1905, for the reason that no county exhibits would be made. The several counties are putting forth great efforts to make a good showing at the Lewis and Clark Fair, and could not have undertaken work at the State Fair at the same time. So far as attendance is concerned, it is not probable that the State Fair would have interfered in any way with the Lewis and Clark Exposition, but the holding of two fairs in one year would mean a division of effort that could not be productive of good.

Wars may come and wars may go, but the Mad Mullah goes on forever. A dispatch from Aden states that this angry gentleman from Somaliland is again on the warpath, and has killed a number of the Sultan of Obdia's followers and is within a day's march of Obtimes, and if his life were subject to the same limitations as that of the ordinary cat that is credited with but nine lives, he would have long since passed from the minds of the present generation. If some of his numerous captors would hang on to him long enough to make if worth while, they could amass a colossal fortune by taking him down the vaudeville circuit.

Dr. Osler would cut a man off as a umberer of the ground when he is forty. Other men who claim to be scientists say there is no reason why a man should not live to be 150. Between these two extremes lies the golden mean which the majority of men, aided by kind Nature, find. To die before one is forty is to curtail life's possibilities and enjoyments in a measure that it is not pleasant to contemplate. To live beyond eighty or ninety is to survive all, or nearly all, the friends whose association made existence worthy to be called life on the journey to the sum-

Tracklaying on the Ariington branch of the O. R. & N. is proceeding with a rush, and a National bank for Condon at the interior end of the track, has been organized for business. Settlers are pouring into the country, and new buildings springing up all along the line. The activity noticeable along this branch is no greater than that which will be in evidence in Central Oregon, in the Wallows country, in the Nehalem and in a number of other isolated localities as soon as they are given transportation facilities for reaching the outside markets,

Mr. Richard Croker has decided to leave America to its fate, and will hereafter reside on his country estate near Dublin. He will thus escape the oftrecurring inquiry as to where the money came from, and if Ireland can stand it New York may as well make the best of it. The ex-Tummany leader might form an alliance with William Wadorf Astor, as they have much in common, neither of them being missed from this country nor welcomed in the land they now claim as home.

It is probably just as well for the all blockade-runners that they were gathered in by the Japanese. The decision regarding the North Sea incident establishes quite clearly the fact that no craft is safe within reach of the Russian, guns, and the Vladivostok squadron would most certainly have mistaken the blockade-runners for Japnnese torpedo-boats, men-of-war or transports, and served them with the same greeting as was given the Dogger Rank fishermen.

The Washington papers which are complaining about the treatment their state by the Lewis and Clark Commission will perhaps cease when they learn that they owe much to the consideration and good-will of an exposition management which has given Washington a fine location for its buildture, science, art and politice can never ling at no little trouble and sacrifice.

WOES OF A DRAMATIC CRITIC.

These be times of peril for the dramatic critic, as the Metcaife incident bears witness. The resolutions committee of a National convention of theatrical managers would probably report back this plank for the platform

"Resolved. That dramatic critics should be shot without benefit of ofergy."

It is almost a certainty that the plank would be adopted with a whoop, and, if the syndicate were in possession of all branches of the Govern ment, the critics would supply a car nival of carnage equal to the "Red Sunrecent occurrences prove the contrary.

At the present time one of the foremost writers on dramatic subjects in Life, is refused admission to 17 New York theaters, which practically bars him from every payhouse in Manhattan.

Metcaife has incurred the displeasure of Klaw & Erlanger, and, as these gentlemen are in the seats of the mighty, they retaliate by stopping him at the theater door.

Acton Davies, of the Sun, one of the ablest and most entertaining reviewers in the metropolis, is likewise shut out of the Klaw & Erinager houses, and although the late Hilary Bell has been dead more than two years, his paper, the Press, is blacklisted. Alan Dale of the Journal finds no welcome at any of the syndicate houses. In fact, he cannot get in for love nor money, and Dale is commonly supposed to be Charles Frohman's press agent, Frohman being a leading member of the trust.

Even William Winter, dean of Amercan critics and the most learned, has been subjected to the humiliation of closed doors. A year ago he was refused admission to two or three New York theaters. During the Nance O'Neil engagement Davies and Alan Dale were barred from Daly's, but when the unfortunate engagement terminated the embargo was raised.

This suggests a story of the bitter quarrel between William Winter and Augustin Daly, which occurred some 18 years ago, and was afterwards healed. The two great men fell out over some caustic articles Winter had written, and the manager issued orders that Winter was no longer persons Just think of being out in a shower of grata at the stagedour. The great autos. critic was not denied admission to the front of the house, but whereas he had always been cordially received at the lander is chasing a wife who has back of the stage, he was to be pun- skipped with a cross-eyed man. ished by exclusion.

Now, in those days Daly had a stage the stage door he was to be refused admission. Promptly on the accustomed hour.

Winter showed up with the intention of going "behind," and was politely but firmly told that he could not ge in. Old Owen imperiously aside and pushed keeper's hand set the critic on fire and gagement. he landed a blow on the faithful Owen's features. Now, it should be underdia. It's a poor season when the Mad stood that Mr. Winter is a little man tions upon the North Sea incident, came doorkeeper promptly ploked the Tribune representative up in his arms and him on the floor. A wrestle ensued which created sufficient disturbance to attract the attention of Daly, who came running back to learn the reason. He was amszed at the sight he saw and set about extricating the entwined arms and legs, after which he led Mr. Winter to the door and out onto Sixth avenue. For years there-after the two men did not speak, but before Daly's death they made it up and were the best of friends.

There was a time within recent years when William Winter was forbidden en trance to the front of the house at Daly's This was after Daniel Frohman secured the bistoric theater, and the occasion was Maude Adams' attempt at "Juliet." Winter sat in a box, and during the first performance tore his hair and expressed his quiet disapproval of Miss Adams in the part. He endured it until the third act, when he got up and stalked out of the theater in disgust. The next morn ing the Tribune printed his critique of the piece under the caption, "A Very Sad Affair," and Mies Adams was mercilessly scored. During the remainder of that engagement it was understood that William Winter need not apply. The lot of the dramatic critic is not al

together pleasant, even under the most favorable of circumstances. Performances, good, bad and indifferent, he must patiently sit through. Between acts the house manager or the company manager take turns at telling him what a fine fellow he is, and incidentally volunteering the information that his notice on the following morning will mean success or failure for the engagement. They insist that "Maggie Lovelock," the leading lady, is suffering from sore throat, and is not singing in her usual form, but "if you could have heard her at South Yakima last night you'd have been delighted. However, you understand how to make allowances, old man"-and so ad infini-

When the critic tells what he thinks in the next morning's paper, he finds that none is so poor as to do him reverence. If he praises the performance, the public accuses him of being bought up, and if he grills the show, the public accuses him of being sore because the 'second lady" wouldn't go out to supper with him. As for the managers, so long as there is praise for their offerings there is nothing more than matter of course, but when the harpoon enters there goes up a wall, long and loud, upon which the unfortunate critic cannot close his ringing cars. Sometimes follow recriminations and red, red war, ending in locked thos-ter doors and locked newspaper forms. Such conditions do not exist locally—

erish the thought-but in most localities there is a heartfelt sympathy on the part of dramatic reviewers for Metcalfe and the ther New York craftsmen who are out of favor with the benevolent managers. The managers told them they were fine fellows on opening night, and they ungratefully told the truth the next day. Therefore, wherefore—"You scurrilous scribblers for a venal press, you must not contamin-ate the virgin atmosphere of our theaters with your presence." All of which leads up to the everlasting and unanswered query: "If a man is willing to pay the price, shall he see the show! A. A. G.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Collector.

o all you foreign nations come and bearken And I'll show you all the pathway to a brim. ming treasuree. Since Uncle Sam in Ninety-eight waitzed up

He's got an all-possessing craze to pay and pay and pay He's making a collection of your islands, great And bring they gain or bring they loss, le dorsn't cure at all.

So if you've got an idend. Swampy land or dry land, Low land or high land, Put it up for sale; Uncle Sam will buy it, Never ask to try it, But pay you on the nail.

He started his collection with some choics Pacific istes the scattered archipelago where the bolooicked up for a bagatelle that lone Guam

rounded out that set of isles by getting Porto Rico. And now he's in the market for islands great at all.

> The best of San Domingo Called Uncle Sam the Gringe And now that land, by Jingo is a half-protectorate. Of the Denish trie St. Thomas Just the thing to make a milion

But when the islands all are bought, from Enghand to Cevb nents will still remain, though smaller game is gone

iska came by purchase, and if China does the same, will be a fair extension of the mand-pur chase game. So all you foreign nations, join the sellers is

> avoid the ruch. For Uncle Sam is dying To be buying and a-unying And to have his flag a-flying Over all the land there is. te is out to buy and buy land, He it continent or island. No matter how the market may

your homes right early, if you would

"Momoirs of a Rat" and "The Autobiography of a Dog" are two books that have just been published by the Macmillan Company. We may soon expect "Reminiscences of a Worm." "Ruminations of a Cow," and "Travets of a Flea.

"Among the many gifts he showered on his bride was an automobile," says a story in the Philadelphia Bulletin,

Love is not always blind. A Port-

There is a certain amount of humor in the notice pasted on the safe of the doorkeeper who is still remembered as Albina Fuel Company, "Save your time; a unique character. He was known as no money in this safe. How disgusted "Old Owen," No one ever heard his the burglars must have been when they other name, and he was faithful to Mr. discovered by investigation the truth Daly with the fidelity of a dog. One of the placard. But why not have a day the great manager instructed Old pane of glass in each safe used in Owen that if William Winter came to Portland? The robbers could then satisfy themselves that there was no coin inside and the owners would be saved the expense of repairs.

The Hon, Something French is now a private in the United States Army. If The lordly sage of the Tribune waved the fashion spreads, barrack-rooms will become something of a society resort, his way in. The old retainer was not and the little sisters or the billionaires to be undone, so he followed Mr. Win- will be "walking out" with Private the ter and laid a heavy hand on his Earl of Entail and Trooper the Marquis shoulder, saying that Mr. Daly had of Nedough. The regiments most afordered that William Winter should not | fected by the peers and heirs to peerbe admitted. The pressure of the door- ages will be represented in every en-

Five Admirals, after grave deliberaand Owen was a giant; so the hig to the conclusion that "much was to he said upon both sides."

Some jocular dramatic critic recently innounced that Frohman had decided to dramatize one of Shakespeare's plays. The lest has a grain of truth in its satire, for "The School for Scandai" has been turned into a musical affair called "Lady Teazle" and "She Stoops to Conquer" has been made over into "The Two Roses," another musical thingamajig. There is no apparent reason why some of Shakepeare's plays should not be defily worked into musical comedies.

Buffalo Bill's divorce case pursues the laughing tenor of its way. A young woman who figures prominently in Mrs. Cody's accusations is described by the ofbulous scout as a lady press agent. His enemies insinuate, however, that most of the press work was done when Buffalo Bill had his arm around the agent's

An exchange says that the Swedish town of Hafanger is about to impose a graduated tax upon all persons weighing more than 130 pounds. As if a fat man or a fat woman didn't have troubles enough al-

A Kansas City paper refers to the proposed oil refinery as the refinatentiary. and says: "There is nothing absurd in the proposition that the addition of a \$10,000 building in which to board is or 30 convicts to a \$300,000 refinery, with a working capital of \$390,000, makes the whole a penitentiary." But this is wrote sarcas-

Chicago's Alimony Club certainly has an apt motto in "United we stand; divided we stand it better." After all, altmony ls a fixed amount that cannot be increased; but how different with household expenses.

From the Kansas City Weekly Journal of February 15: R. H.-When will the Lewis and Clark Ex-

position open, and what will be the nature of the Exposition?

A. I have not even the date announced. It will be of the same general nature as the

Chicago and St. Louis Expositions. An anti-gambling bill has been stolen from the Missouri Legislature. Appar-

ently Oregon hasn't all the smooth ones. Interference by the Chief of Police prerented a pleasant social affair that had been planned in Olympia. It was to have been a fancy dress ball, pajamas being the fancy dress. Truly the life of the egislator is dull and colorless, and the police take it upon themselves to make things worse by preventing the quiet relaxations that mean so much to the over-

ectorating in public places. She should have growed Seattle's; it doesn't appear to be

worked man.

There is no need for alarm. Portland's ordinance joins Seattle's in the realm of mnocuous 'desuetude.

Portland got a peep into Spring's blue eyes yesterday.

WEXFORD JONES.