

OREGON SENTINEL

JACKSONVILLE.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1883.
BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

"Cad" and "Boarding House" are the names of a couple of plays which a theatrical company recently presented to the good people of Portland. If reports are to be trusted, the company has every reason to be satisfied with the financial success of its efforts in the metropolis. For a week, it played to crowded houses. Everybody went to see the plays and the Portland press, as is usual on such occasions, occupied prominent positions in free boxes and said not a word against the immoral nature, or evil effects of the performances. No sooner, however, had the plays ended and the players departed, than the Portland papers set boldly to the front and read the people long moral essays upon the decline of the drama and the demoralizing tendency of the modern "flash" drama, and use these same plays to point their moral and adorn their tale. That there is much to be said in the interest of morality as opposed to such sentiments and ideas as are held forth in "Cad" and "Boarding House" there can be no doubt, and that it is a part of the business of the press to present such matters to their readers is equally beyond question. But the progressive spirit of the public journals of to-day has been grievously overrated if their duties do not extend beyond a mere outcry against an evil after it has passed. A paper which permits an immoral exhibition to be repeated for a whole week without raising its voice against the outrage and using every effort to render it obnoxious and to protect the people from the moral contamination which it communicates, is either lamentably deficient in convictions or is sadly in need of some additional courage. The charming unanimity which characterized Portland's rival dailies on this subject as soon as the troop had gone, shows that they knew the plays were wrong and leaves one to conclude that they either lacked courage to declare their convictions, or found it more to their interest to remain silent. That progressive, courageous, fearless spirit of opposition to wrong doing and immorality, which is one of the great boasts of modern journalism now and then sinks to the level of contemptible cowardice or common self seeking. Sometimes, even the great dailies, whose custom it is to sneer at country papers, contribute very little toward the realization of this outspoken independence so dearly cherished and highly prized by the American press.

Alfred Anderson, the Portland murderer who has been on trial for several days, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree. The verdict seems to give general satisfaction, and there is a fair prospect that Portland will celebrate this triumph of law and order, by hanging this cold blooded mercenary murderer. This man murdered his own brother in order to get possession of his money and property; and if there can be a case which justifies the taking of human life in expiation of crime, this would certainly seem to be one. Let us hope that the era of moral courage to enforce the law against the criminal classes has set in, in real earnest; and that it will not pass until Jackson county, and the rest of Southern Oregon shall have felt the effect of its influence. We do not need more, or for the matter of that better, laws than are now on our Statute Books. What we do need, is the moral courage to enforce the laws we already have.

Our Democratic brethren have dropped into a dreary state of silence upon the subject of the California legislature. This is the collection of Bourbon statesmen that were going to re-model and reorganize the affairs of the Golden state, introduce honesty and economy in all the departments of government, and dispense with favoritism and all the other political evils with which they alleged it was afflicted. So far they have done literally nothing, and only a few days of the session remain in which to redeem the pledges of the party politicians.

Columbia College, one of the oldest, most conservative, and most successful educational institutions in this country is about to open its doors for the admission of women. Whatever may be said pro or con on the woman suffrage question, the fact that there is a strong and increasing tendency toward co-education of the sexes and the higher and more liberal education of woman is beyond dispute.

The Apaches in Mexico are again on the war path. The citizen soldiers have been instructed by the governor to "pursue, fight, capture, kill and scalp" the Indians and are following the instructions to the letter.

A NEW PARTY.

A call has been issued for a meeting of the dissatisfied elements in both parties, at Chicago on the 4th of July next. A new party is to be organized, ostensibly, in the interest of the anti-monopoly agitation. Viewed in the light of the past history of these new party movements, we may fairly conclude that the principal motive of the leading spirits in this new enterprise is their own, individual and personal advancement. A political party is not made to order and turned out fully equipped and ready for use. It grows slowly and gradually. True, the outward form may assume shape at a single sitting of a convention; but the underlying ground work must be deeply laid, and must be composed of some new necessity with which existing organizations are unable, or unwilling to cope, or of an accumulation of long continued grievances, which the old parties have failed or refused to remove. No new national party can, in these days, subsist upon a single issue. It must be prepared to meet all the important issues, and be able to afford some reasonable assurance, not only that its policies and theories are better adapted to the solution of the political problems before the country, but that it possesses, or at least has fair promise of acquiring, power sufficient to correct the abuses and effect the reforms which it proposes. No political party is sufficiently perfect to fully satisfy all the people who compose it. Parties are but associations of individuals, each of whom compromise, with all the others upon a basis of the greatest good to the greatest number. Individual opinions are, to some extent at least, surrendered to the end that a union may be effected and greater power thereby assured. Upon one or two principal and leading questions, all may be united; but upon a great multitude of minor questions, and side issues, there is a vast variety of opinions. Now and then a faction of one, or both, the existing political parties, (for there are in reality but two), become dissatisfied because their opinions on some particular subject are not adopted and acted upon by the entire party, and under the leadership of men who see in this dissatisfaction the prospect of political advancement, organize a new party. In this way the Greenback party was organized. The central idea around which that party revolved was, that the public debt should be paid off in greenbacks and while they were laboring to accomplish this, in a manner wholly at variance with the good faith of the government, the Republican party brought the greenbacks upon a par with gold by returning to specie payment, and the Greenback party was left without an issue. And so it will be with this new, so called, Anti-monopoly party. If the men engaged in the organization of this party would lend their influence to the advancement of the best interest of the people they should join their fortunes to the great party of the people and take their places in the ranks of the Republican organization. This is the party of the future, as it has been the greatest and grandest party of the past.

The floods in the east continue to increase. The Ohio river, at Cincinnati was sixty-four feet three inches at 11 o'clock last Tuesday and was still rising at the rate of two inches an hour. Heavy rains were reported above, and it was believed the river would rise at least four or five feet more, without any additional rains. The damage already done to property in Cincinnati Ohio and at Newport and Covington Kentucky is estimated at several millions of dollars. The Scioto, Maumee, White, and Wash rivers are also doing great damage. Villages and towns along these rivers are almost entirely overgrown and many farms are completely submerged. And as the rains still continue there is no telling where the destruction will end. Never before, within the memory of the people now living, has anything like the present floods been experienced. The city of Lawrenceburg Ind. is entirely under water, and the Mayor has telegraphed to Cincinnati for bread. As the city cannot be reached by rail, and no boats can land there, provisions were sent by skiffs.

Frank James has been taken to Kansas to be tried for murder. Present appearances indicate that the Kansas authorities are not disposed to look upon the enormity of this Missouri hero's crimes as an evidence of his respectability. This may be a little hard on the criminal, but it is very gratifying to the country.

If the people of Jacksonville don't select a good Marshal at the coming election it will not be for want of material to choose from.

The State of Oregon was 24 years of age last Thursday.

PRACTICAL EDUCATION.

We clip the following from the New Orleans "Picayune":
Mr. Vaux, who has been making a philosophic study of prison statistics, reaches the conclusion that the part played by mere illiteracy in making criminals is slight when compared with the effect of ignorance of special occupations. He supports this conclusion by a reference to the statistics of the prisoners received at the Eastern Penitentiary in Philadelphia for two decades. From January 1, 1850, to 1859, the whole number of criminals received at that institution was 1605. Of this number 243 could neither read nor write; 257 could read only; 1115 could do both; 1217 had been unapprenticed. For the decade ending with the year 1859, the whole number received was 2388, and of that number 410 could neither read nor write; 286 could read only; 1677 could do both, and 1050 were unapprenticed.

The conclusion to which these figures point is made still more probable by a review of the records of the convicts incarcerated in the same prison on first conviction, aged 21 and under, for the years 1871 and 1881 inclusive. In those ten years 780 was the total number of prisoners received of the class described. Of these 572 were from public schools; 17 from private schools; 173 had never been to school; 55 were from the House of Refuge, and 755 had no trade.

From this showing—regarding the Eastern Penitentiary of Philadelphia as a fairly representative prison—the inference is clear that one of the causes of crime is not so much deficiency in literary education as in technical education. The explanation of this fact is also sufficiently obvious. A poor boy who has been taught to read and write, and who has become tolerably familiar with the other branches which make up the ordinary curriculum of the public schools, will most likely have come to think it beneath a person of his attainments to earn his bread as a manual laborer. He would be very willing to support himself as a journeyman carpenter, a house painter, a brick layer, a draftsman, an engineer, or in any one of a hundred similar capacities. But all of those trades require a special training, and the unfortunate youth is ignorant of their rudiments. Even if he could get his own consent to engage himself in rough, unskilled labor, the chances are he would lack the requisite muscle and power of physical endurance. Like the man in the parable, he cannot dig, to beg he is ashamed; therefore he steals. Education without a trade or a profession is accordingly more dangerous to society than absolute illiteracy.

The statistical statements which we have quoted simply substantiate an old and long known truth. But that truth is a very important one, one too generally disregarded in American systems of popular education particularly. Why should not a boy be taught things practically available in the great struggle for life? Why should he not be taught gardening, elementary carpentering, printing, drawing and the like? For the poor, for the great mass of men everywhere, that knowledge is the best which can be brought into the honest market of supply and demand. This consideration should also enter into the councils of those whose duty it is to prescribe the discipline of prisons. If a young man has found his way to prison because he knew nothing useful, it is greatly to be feared that the same cause will produce the same effect when he shall have been released from confinement; but the convict who has been taught a trade in the penitentiary will return to freedom with at least a tempting opportunity to lead an honest life. This reform, however, will necessitate the abandonment of the present practice of hiring out the convicts in gangs to do the work of contractors who will consider nothing beyond their own immediate profit.

The opening of the English Parliament is likely to be accompanied by an exhibition not usual on such occasions. Arrangements have been made for an immense gathering of people in sympathy with Bradlaugh, the member who has been denied his seat because of a refusal to take the usual oath. These people, numbering several thousand, intend to march in procession to Westminster, headed by Bradlaugh and demand that he be permitted to take his seat. It is feared that, should this demand be refused, as it is no doubt will be, a riot will be the result. As a means of solving the problem presented by this case, and to provide against similar difficulties in the future, a proposition is being considered which permits members to substitute an affirmation for the usual oath now required upon taking their seats. If this proposition should be adopted, Bradlaugh will be entitled to the credit of having introduced one measure of advancement in the English government.

A VALENTINE.

There are some people in this world who are eternally boasting of what they have done, and can do, and will do. They can do almost anything better than anybody else; and whatever they possess is better than the possessions of any of their neighbors. In season and out of season—and most generally out of season—such people proclaim the superiority of their own possessions and performances. There seems to be a sort of disease that lays hold of a person of this kind, and sets him singing his own praise with a discordant and dismal monotony which is not to be equalled, even by the performance of the average itinerant music master. Once this disease is firmly seated, it grows with his growth and gradually increases until it distributes itself over the entire anatomy of its victim. Not only does he sound aloud his own superiority by continually asserting and reasserting it, but one can read it in his every action. "I am better than you" is written all over him in large capitals. And he is glad it is too, for he wants you to know that one fact, and to know that he knows it. He is one great gas factory continually in operation and always consuming all the gas he produces to illuminate his great deeds and wonderful achievements. To himself, such a man is an all sufficient, absolutely perfect, individual. To those upon whom his presence is inflicted, he is a small sized self conceited ass, who seems to be a necessary part of the evils of this world, just as gnats and flies, and mosquitoes are accounted necessary. And after all, perhaps, we say perhaps, with considerable emphasis on the word, this same small souled, narrow minded specimen of humanity, may answer some purpose in the great economy of the universe. It may be that this combination of flesh, and blood, and bones, and a very little brains, may fill his sphere in this old world and answer the purpose of an all wise Creator. It is to be hoped he does, for the long suffering of the people of this earth will be but poorly compensated if such a man bore the world with his windy boasting for no better purpose than appears to the unfortunate community upon whom he is inflicted. To be sure most people take a just pride in their possessions and are pleased to be esteemed by their fellows; and this, so far from being the subject of adverse criticism, should be, and is, commended as the basis of much of our social progress. There is, however, no need to brand the subject of this essay in order to distinguish him from the rest of humanity. Everybody knows him and he may be seen in all his glory spluttering around and holding forth the merits of his this, or my that, in almost every community in the country.



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WELDE MEYER'S CATARRH Cure, a Constitutional Antidote for this terrible malady, by Absorption. The most Important Discovery since Vaccination. Other remedies may relieve Catarrh, this cures at any stage before Consumption sets in.

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A SURE CURE GUARANTEED.

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Notice.

LAND OFFICE at ROSSBURG, OR.,

January 26, 1883.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Judge or Clerk of Jackson county at Jacksonville, on Wednesday March 7, 1883, viz: Samuel Mathis Homestead No. 2345 for the S E 1/4 of S E 1/4 Sec. 24 T33 N. 4. N 1/2 of N E 1/4 and N E 1/4 of N W 1/4. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of, said land, viz: James G. Hixley of Jacksonville, Robert A. Cook, Lewis Orme, of Drake and Wm. Colvig of Rock Point, all of Jackson county Oregon.

W. M. F. BENJAMIN, Register.

Happy Jack's Saloon,

U. S. HOTEL BUILDING,

Jacksonville, Oregon.

The undersigned takes pleasure in informing the public that he has opened a place of refreshment in the U. S. Hotel building, where he will be pleased to have his friends call and "smile." The bar will be kept stocked with the best of wines, liquors and cigars. No pains spared to give satisfaction.

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J. CALLAGHAN.

Jacksonville, June 24th, 1882.

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JOHN MILLER, - Proprietor.

DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, tools of all kinds and a general assortment of shell hardware.

He also keeps the largest stock of, and all the latest improvements in

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Fishing Tackle,

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LAMPS, CHANDELIERS,

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City Market, Jacksonville, Jan. 20, 1883.