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WEATHER REPORT.

Portland, Dec. 16.—Western Oregon and Western Washington
Saturday: Cloudy with rain.
Eastern Oregon, Cloudy and unsettled, probably rain or snow.

HON. JOSEPH W. SUPREMANANT.

Hardly had the voice of the people of this city, calling him to their service for the third time, died out, before the hand of death intervened to snatch away Joseph W. Suprenant, mayor, and mayor-elect, of Astoria. He died in the silence of the night of Thursday, without sign or cry and was found yesterday morning, by those that loved him most, lying in apparent slumber at his home, but beyond all earthly summons and care.

His demise occurs at a peculiar juncture in the affairs of the city, and one that lends remarkable emphasis to the extraordinary loss sustained by the community. Mr. Suprenant was elected on Wednesday last to the mayoralty of Astoria for the third time, and the triple honor but accentuates his sudden death, increases the public interest in the sad event, as well as adding to the discomfiture of the popular hopes centered in his new administration; but death is ruthless and takes no cognizance of the will and purposes of humanity, and all that is left for Astoria is to mourn this faithful citizen and public servant with the sincerity born of her perfect knowledge of the man, garnered through the thirty-two years of his citizenship here.

During these years he has built well in the estimation of the community and there is not one to deny him the acclaim of honest and upright manhood and the encomium of high citizenship. He will be missed and mourned in every walk of life as it is represented here, and has gone hence with all the honors the city of his adoption could bestow upon him, no less than the fullest measure of private and personal regard and esteem.

MODERN PAPACY.

Upon his election, the world knew little of Pope Pius. His piety was his chief fame. It was said the new pontiff was given to seclusion and little used to the turmoil of public life. He has surprised not only his supporters but the world. With Leo's mind, he appears to possess a quiet energy and unostentatious self-reliance quite equal to those of the great pope of the nineteenth century. Close observers of the Catholic affairs have watched with interest the pope's steady progress against unfortunate prejudice and narrow tradition. He has openly entered politics and by his influence hopelessly beaten the socialist party of Italy. He has rearranged an amiable understanding between the vatican and the Italian temporal government. He has raised his voice and hands against abuses hitherto unnoted from the vatican. He has warned America, his richest trust, that he will not tolerate certain practices not in keeping with Christianity. He has appointed foreigners to the vatican, ig-

norning the claims of his old friends and those at his elbow. By his fearlessness and consistent Christianity, he has won many friends, outside the walls of his church, and has come to command in a short space of time the admiration and respect of the general public.

BOYCOTT THE BOYCOTTERS.

The ingenious suggestion is made by Americans in China who have suffered from the boycott there, according to a Tribune correspondent at Hankow, that it would be an effective thing for Americans at home to retaliate in kind by boycotting the Chinese laundries. It is represented that Hop Sing and Wun Lung and all the rest of them who work all night transforming our shirt collars into jig-saws are employees of the Six Companies, which are chiefly responsible for the boycotting of American goods in China, and that if the business of the laundries were to follow the trail of Othello's occupation there would quickly be a change of policy at Canton.

Maybe. There can be no doubt that cessation of American—including Irish, German, Italian, Swedish, Polish, Bohemian, Russian et al.—patronage to the Chinese laundries would gravely affect the business of those interesting institutions. The rule has hitherto been "No tickle, no shirt!" enforced by John with inflexible resolution; and we remember that on one memorable occasion, when an obstreperous patron insisted with force and arms upon securing "shirties" without a corresponding surrender of "tickle," John promptly tripped him prone and began applying the hottest smoothing irons to various exposed parts of his anatomy with damaging effect. But a natural corollary of that rule would be "No shirtie, no washee!" and a sequel of that would be "No washee, no laundree!" And if no shirts were presented to be washed, and there was therefore no washing, and in turn, of course, no more laundries, what would become of the Six Companies—always supposing the Six Companies to be real, live things and not, as some have suggested, a mere solar myth?

THEY DID THE WORK.

For expert naval testimony commend to us Admiral Rojestvensky, who is probably the best qualified man in the world to tell how a modern war fleet can be annihilated by the enemy. Speaking with mature deliberation, long after the battle of the Sea of Japan, he says the Japanese victory was won entirely by their guns. None of the projectiles penetrated the Russian ships, but the repeated shock of the projectiles striking and bursting against them disjoined their steel plates, sprung the rivets and set them to leaking like sieves, so that the center of gravity was shifted and the vessels sank. This effect of the firing, he says, was entirely different from what had been expected. We must regard this tribute to the Japanese guns, however, as applying equally to the men behind the guns, for the Russian admiral says that had the crews of the fleets been of equal value the result would have been different. As it was, the Russian crews quickly became demoralized by the awful fire of the Japanese, while the Japanese remained unaffected, continuing their fire with composure and with mathematical precision.

"COALS TO NEWCASTLE."

With the United States sending macaroni and wheat to Europe and wines to France, the proverb about sending coals to Newcastle seems to be practically realized. It is not surprising, however, that this country thus competes in various markets of the world, in products hitherto confined exclusively to remote localities, for the extent and variety of the American domain are such as make it a practical epitome of the whole world. There is scarcely a soil or a climate, apart from the Arctic and Tropic extremes, that is not to be found here—hot or cold, wet or dry, constant or variable. What is needed is to ascertain the character and capabilities of each part of the country, and then adapt its industries thereto. That is one of the most valuable services the Agricultural Department can perform.

ARISTOCRAT, EH?

The romance about Count Witte "rising from the ranks" is dispelled by the "Bystanders," an English publication which says his family was influential. He was born at Tizis, June 17, 1849, his father being director of the department of agriculture in the Caucasus. He is related to the famous Dolgorouki family through the marriage of his maternal grandfather, General Andrei Fadayeff. He is also related to Mme. Hahn, sometimes called the Russian George Sand, and to Mme. Blavatsky, who will be remembered by many New Yorkers. He was educated at the new Russian university at Odessa, and on graduation

went into the railroad business, in 1870, at a salary of \$500 a year. He gets more now.

ETERNAL PROBLEM.

"Public affairs," said Machiavelli, "are easily managed in a city where the body of the people is not corrupt." An intimation that in our great cities the body of the people was corrupt would be properly resented as a calumny. Then why should it be so difficult to manage their affairs? Was the illustrious Florentine mistaken in his municipal philosophy? Or is public spirit less influential in public affairs here and now than it was then and there?

Senator McKim favors the Roosevelt plan of regulating the railroads, provided Congress can be prevailed upon to put in a lot of legal side-tracks.

Missouri is taking a hand in the New York insurance investigation, and when Missouri takes a hand in anything it is always well for the other players to keep their eyes glued on the table.

Sarah Bernhardt has a genius for advertising, and even finds it thrust on her. To be the cause of a religious riot in Canada is something new in her unique are of getting into all the papers.

A 7-year-old boy in Ohio has written a comic opera. Why should the job be taken from the 6-year-olds by so venerable an intruder in the art?

TALK IT OVER

With People You Know. With Astoria People.

No evidence can be stronger than the direct testimony of people you know. The public expression of friends and neighbors is the proof of merit we offer. If you still remain a skeptic, talk it over with this testifier.

D. E. Duncan, who is employed with his brother at the Astoria sodaworks, 426 Duane street, and who resides at the corner of Duane and Ninth streets, says: "I had been troubled with a weakness of the back and kidneys for a number of years. There was a constant dull aching pain in the loins and as far up as the shoulders. Not only did my back ache, but there was a weakness from the kidney secretions which was very annoying and disturbed my rest. I heard about Doan's Kidney Pills and one day I stepped into Charles Rogers' drugstore and got a box. I found them to be a great benefit. After the first few doses I felt better. I know of others who have used them with the same good results." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

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Chicago's immediate municipal ownership has been indefinitely postponed. But it served its purpose as a campaign slogan.

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