

DUTY TO THE FUTURE.

A GREAT EVIL in this country, stated in broad and general terms, is the failure of those entrusted with making and executing laws sufficiently to consider and perform their duty to the future, to the next and succeeding generations. They have given away, or parted with for paltry prices, lands and franchises of immense and constantly increasing value, and have authorized or permitted the despoilment of various natural resources, to the injury of their cotemporaries, and what is more important, to the incalculable damage of innumerable growing and still unborn children.

A REPREHENSIBLE CUSTOM.

SENATOR FOSTER, it is announced, will soon return from Washington, D. C., to Washington state to attend personally to his campaign for re-election, and will remain until his successor is elected, which is likely to be after the expiration of the Fifty-eighth congress. There will, in all probability, be a prolonged contest, and during all that time Senator Foster will be neglecting his duties and the people's affairs at the national capital, in order to work for himself.

Small Change

Feels a little skatingish. Only 17 days more till you know what. The earlier the better—for Christmas shopping. Some new sort of woe comes to light every day. That sewer ought to be sufficiently investigated after awhile. Eat as many salmon as you can; in a few years you won't get any.

Meaning of the Avalanche

Samuel W. Moffett in New York World. Three weeks have passed since the election, and we are able to measure the proportions of the cataclysm. No such majorities have ever been known before in American politics. Over 500,000 in Pennsylvania, 175,000 in New York, 300,000 in Illinois, 205,000 in Michigan, 125,000 in Minnesota, 130,000 in Wisconsin, 125,000 in Kansas, 55,000 in Nebraska, 540,000 in Ohio, nearly 100,000 in Indiana, 125,000 in California, 72,000 in Washington, 25,000 in Missouri—the figures are bewildering. What does it all mean? Are we to understand that the American people are tired of the declaration of independence, that they are tired of the rule of distant subjects by armed force, that they like the big stick and the pal cadillacs, the polo man in South America, that they admire a tariff that enables the steel trust to sell rails at \$20 abroad and \$23 at home, that they favor the unchecked growth of the trust under the protection of the government?

The Play

"Pretty Peggy" which was brought out in this country by William A. Brady for his wife, Grace George, is one of the most interesting of the many Peg Woffington pictures that have adorned the stage. The play was presented last night before a large audience at the Marquam, with Jane Corcoran as Woffington and Andrew Robson as Garrick. "Pretty Peggy" takes up the life of the Drury Lane idol while she is still an Irish circus girl and follows her through the love affair with David Garrick and her triumphs until the end of her days of time. In the first act she is shown as a rough diamond, ambitious to become a real actress. Garrick discovers her in the circus and takes her to London. The curtain of the second act finds her the queen of the theatrical world, with a great banquet in the greenroom in her honor. In the third act she discovers Garrick's deception concerning his earlier love for the dancer, Eva Sorel, and breaks off their engagement on the day of the proposed marriage. Then her physical decline, the riot in the theatre, caused by the cry of "Treason" when a French dancer appears in her performance; and finally her failure in speaking the English language, which she has learned, she goes out with her pathetic pleading, "Davy, take me home," in its ears.

A Record and a Remedy

From the Toronto Star. Speaking from the bench, Judge in Georgia recently said that more homicides were committed in that state alone than in the whole British empire. "Here," he added, "one person in a hundred is convicted and punished, while in England one in three is made to suffer." The growing disregard for law in the United States is one of the most disturbing symptoms seen at present in any of the leading countries of the world. The modern murderer sees little in the law that he need fear; the average citizen sees little in the law to induce him to repose faith in it rather than in his own wit and vigilance. Some facts and figures are put forth in McClure's for December that will arouse alarm throughout the United States. Judge Thomas, of Alabama, in addressing the judges gave some striking figures. In three years the British losses in the Boer war were 22,000 men; in the same three years there were killed on the United States railroads 12,547 persons, including 1,314 homicides in the republic numbered 1,395. On one particular date this year the situation in San Francisco stood thus: In five years 114 murders had been committed in that city, exclusive of Chinese killings, and no one had been sent to the gallows. In 47 cases no arrests were made; 28 accused persons were acquitted, 15 were sentenced to life imprisonment, and others to shorter terms. In South Carolina it is a common saying that the safest of cities is the taking of human life. During the year 1902 in that state 122 homicides were committed. In the same year in Chicago there were 128 homicides, while in London, Eng., with three or four times the population, there were but 24. In Chicago in that year 122 homicides were committed. In London nine were hanged and four sent to insane asylums. In Paris there were but 15 murders for the year. The crime of homicide has much increased in the United States in the past 25 years. In 1881 the ratio of murders and homicides to population was one to 40,534, while in 1902 it was one to 8,555 inhabitants. In 1881 the murders and homicides numbered 1,164 and 30 persons were hanged. In 1903 the number was 5,976, and 124 persons were executed. There were 7,716 more crimes and only 24 more executions than in the year 1881. These figures and many more, with facts and opinions, are given in McClure's, and are alarming enough. What is at the bottom of it all? Not the foreign population, as some will say, for on comparing the ratio of homicides to population comes in there as high a ratio of murders and homicides as in the United States, except in Russia. In states like Kentucky, where there is no foreign population, the ratio is particularly bad. The root of the evil seems to be in politics. The courts are not trusted—not respected nor entitled to respect. The judges are politicians. The politicians are politicians. The jury is packed with partisans and appealed to by political considerations. One man shoots another and is acquitted because he had "provocation" in angry words. Another man is hanged because the jury is packed with partisans and appealed to by political considerations. One man shoots another and is acquitted because he had "provocation" in angry words. Another man is hanged because the jury is packed with partisans and appealed to by political considerations.

Responsibility of Parents.

ONE DAY last week five fathers in Chicago were sentenced to serve out fines in the county jail because they allowed their children to run at large upon the streets instead of sending them to school. Not many years ago this would have been a strange piece of news, and it is not common now, not half so common as it should be, for most if not all states have compulsory education laws, which are not sufficiently observed. Such is the case in Portland, though probably as large a proportion of children of school age are in school here as in almost any city. There are exceptional cases, where the suitable labor of a boy or girl is necessary, but the law should be enforced more strictly than it is.

Oregon Sidelights

Bandon is to have a bank. Silver Lake is growing steadily. Amity needs a bank and electric lights. Three Condon men killed 65 geese in three days. Capacity of Silverton sawmill will be much increased. Dayton has built more this year than in ten years past. Grass on the foothills of all the mountains is rank and fine. About 50,000 sheep have been sold out of Crook county this year. An Independence hyopard of 28 acres has been rented for \$2,000 a year. A Condon man has purchased 400,000 brick from the Weston brickyard. Sheriff Shutt has ordered all Morrow county saloons to close on Sundays. The St. Mary's academy buildings at Jacksonville are to be improved \$10,000 worth. Bankrupts are scarce in Oregon nowadays, but one turned up last week at Weston. He was not a farmer, however. Weston is to have a poultry show lasting from December 24 to January 1—perhaps to give the hens time to lay some holiday eggs. An Ashland fool girl sent a package containing a bouquet, her photograph and a letter to Adolph Weber, the young Auburn supposed murderer. Estacada has a new paper, the News. Estacada has 35 pupils in the public school, an amusement club of 40 members, and is to have electric lights. On his 15th birthday W. C. Brown of Dallas invited all his acquaintances aged over 70, who numbered about 70, to a dinner at the hotel, and the old folks had a good time. A Weston man, in ill-health and with young children he could not support, stole about 50 bushels of grain, worth \$25, but in consideration of his need was fined only \$5. Portions of a mammoth animal's skeleton were unearthed in the northern part of Umatilla county, another evidence that there were animal giants in this country "in those days." A year ago Mayor Whitworth of Lakeview failed in business, and though not charged with any criminality or crookedness, left the town and no one, not even any of his family, knew since what had become of him. Inquiry and search were made, and it was thought that despondency and mortification had caused him to commit suicide. But one day last week, without having sent any forewarning, he returned, having been profitably employed in Montana, and his friends and especially his family were rejoiced at his return.

Letters from the People

Results in New York. Portland, Or., Dec. 7.—To the Editor of The Journal—Would you kindly inform me through the columns of your paper what Judge Parker's majority was over Roosevelt in Greater New York. A SUBSCRIBER. New York state went Republican by about 60,000. In Greater New York, outside of Brooklyn, Parker secured a plurality of about 40,000. Roosevelt's plurality in Brooklyn was 1,500. THE DEBUTANTE'S GOWN. From the Chicago News. It must be becoming. It is best not too elaborate. Chiffon is soft and becoming, but perishable. Brussels net is more durable and as attractive as any. Needs a quantity of lace trimming. Crepe de chine is unequalled for real serviceableness. It cleans very well and can be dyed for a second year. Finished crepe is as soft and pretty as the new crepes and less expensive. White liberty satin is extremely effective and a youthful looking fabric. Liberty silk is a good material for investment where economy is a factor. Peau de sole in white may be worn, but the colored silk is too old. A white cloth costume will be useful for many occasions later, and may be draped softly, so as not to appear stiff. SINGING IS GOOD MEDICINE. A writer on singing says: "At the present era, when physical culture is a part of the curriculum of our most intellectual schools, and is so generally regarded as a necessary element toward supplying and maintaining the body for the sound mind, it is worth while to consider a recent statement of eminent physicians that the mere exercise of singing is a great help toward the prevention, cure or amelioration of lung diseases." It was disclosed by statistics in Italy some years ago that vocal artists are usually long-lived, and that brass instrumental players, who bring their lungs and chest into unusual activity, have not had consumptive victims among them. No matter how thin or weak the voice, young people should be encouraged to indulge in song. It would be no happier medicine, and if hearers sometimes suffer, they should be encouraged to bear the infliction in view of the good it may do." Diseases Up to Date. From the Chicago Tribune. An eccentric old gentleman placed in a field on his estate a board with the following generous offer painted thereon: "I will give this field to any man who is contented." He soon had an applicant. "Well, my man, are you a contented fellow?" asked the old gentleman. "Yes, sir, very." "Then why do you want my field?" The applicant did not wait to reply.

When Men Wear Barrings.

From the London Globe. The Mohammedans have a curious legend to account for the beginning of the custom of wearing earrings. They say that Sarah, being jealous of Hagar, vowed that she would not rest until she had imbrued her hands in the blood of her bondmaid. Abraham quickly pierced Hagar's ear and drew a ring through it, so that Sarah was able to fulfill her rash vow without danger to the bondmaid's life. From that time, they say, it became customary for women to wear earrings. The story of Rebekah's earring is only one of many early Biblical allusions to the ornament. When Aaron made the golden calf, it will be remembered, he called upon the Israelites to "break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, or your sons and of your daughters, and bring them unto me." And out of that and other golden ornaments the calf was made. From this it is plain that earrings were worn by the Hebrews without regard to sex or age. In our own country the familiar ornaments have been worn for many centuries, and not by women only. Charles I. it is said, wore pearl earrings of considerable value, and the day before his execution took one from his ear and gave it to Bishop Juxon for transmission to his daughter, the Princess Royal. Rabalais tells us that it was in his day—the era of our Henry VII.—that men in France first began to wear earrings. It is worth noting that at least one existing portrait of Shakespeare represents him wearing such an adornment. This is at Wentworth park, Yorkshshire, and shows the poet with mustache and beard, and an earring in his left ear. Lord Sherborne possesses, at Sherborne house, near the old world town of Northleach, a portrait of one Thomas Dutton, a 16th century worthy, who is represented, says his biographer, as wearing a remarkably fine pearl in his left ear. The right ear is not shown, but presumably he wore a corresponding earring in it. Nowadays, in this country, few men

Lewis and Clark

December 8.—The thermometer stood at 12 degrees below zero, that is at 42 degrees below the freezing point; the wind was from the northwest. Lewis and Clark were out to hunt buffalo, great numbers of which darkened the prairies for a considerable distance; they did not return till after dark, having killed eight buffaloes and one deer. The hunt was, however, very fatiguing, as they were obliged to make a circuit at a distance of more than seven miles; the cold, too, was so excessive that the air was filled six or eight inches deep and sometimes 18, in consequence of which two of the party were ill, and several had their feet frostbitten. MAN'S POSSIBILITY FOR LIVING. Actuaries employed by insurance companies adopt a standard method of computing prospective ages of risks. To ascertain how many years a person of given age is ordinarily expected to live, the present age is deducted from 80, and two thirds of the remainder of life. Actuarial schedules are a unit in this system of calculation. In illustration of the above statement: Age 20 deducted from 80 years shows that 40 years is the allotment, while age 40 from 80, leaving balance of 20, represents that 18 years and three months should, in favorable routine, elapse before the insured individual's life is classified in the past tense column. Thus it is seen that the remainder of corporations go to 100 years better, and "three-score and 10" ten years better.