

A HYPOCRITE UNMASKED.

The Oregonian, in a half-page editorial statement, came before the bar of public opinion yesterday with a labored attempt at explanation of its false and unprincipled libel of Mr. Ladd.

First—That Mr. Ladd is a plutocrat and this paper is the organ of the pluto-aristocrats and the Oregonian is the people's champion, especially against franchise grabbing.

Now, in fact, this has nothing whatever to do with a false and malicious assault upon a man's character, be he plutocrat or poor. But since when has the Oregonian been so virtuous? We have printed before its defense of the blanket franchise, extending the charter of the street railways of Portland and its contemptuous information to the people that the right to monopolize the streets of Portland was worth nothing; that this right ought to be given away free to whoever wanted it.

The Journal has printed repeatedly the Oregonian's past utterances on the subject of these franchises. For the present it is enough to quote once more from its editorial of November 20, 1902, when it said:

"The blanket franchise agreed upon between the city authorities and the Portland consolidated streetcar system is one that will be looked back upon with pride in future years by every participant in its framing. The city officials have served the public well, and the streetcar people themselves have set an example which entitles them to the honor of pioneers in an inevitable era of profit-sharing by the city in corporate enterprises."

The Oregonian has steadily supported in the past every invasion of the people's rights, and so recently as the question of the use of Front street it had nothing to say in defense of the people's rights in that thoroughfare. It did turn, in a vicious assault, on the gas company and Mr. Adams. The Journal admits, for its part, that the service of gas to the people was open to just criticism, but how far it could have been otherwise, under our rapidly growing conditions, The Journal does not pretend to say, for the hateful cry of "Plutocrat" will not intimidate The Journal into consciously doing a wrong to any man, rich or poor. Mr. Adams said that the hostility of the Oregonian began because he refused to permit the gas company to be held up by a species of extortion on the part of the Oregonian.

Now, do the people of Portland believe that the Oregonian reversed all its past because of a suddenly acquired love for the plain people, or because it was determined to punish those whom it could not blackmail? The Journal will be glad to see how far the Oregonian will follow it in an honest and just effort to instruct the people in their rights and protect them.

The Journal believes that the gas and electric light and street railway companies, and every other public utility corporation, should either be owned by the people themselves or actually managed by the people, but not in a way to further increase the profits of landlords. The Journal has always advocated this. The curious may examine the files of the Oregonian to see where it has stood. The Journal has faith in the equity and justice of the single tax theory of Henry George, which would not only compel Mr. Ladd to bring vacant property into use, but would compel Mr. Pittcock either to improve or to let go his hold of the vacant block on Washington street, which is worth as much as the Ladd farm. Will the Oregonian advocate this release of the plain people from bondage?

The Journal is not wholly in accord with the details of the present effort to reform the water system, but it believes and declares that the present system is radically wrong and that the cost of water mains should be paid for by the property benefited, just as sewers are. Unlike the Oregonian, The Journal is against any free gift whatever of any special privilege or franchise whatever by any legislature or council whatever. The Journal is against every monopoly, wherever existing. It believes where monopoly exists, tyranny will follow. It believes there is no greater monopoly in this state than the monopoly of the Associated Press, which is held by the plutocratic Oregonian. The Journal denounces the efforts of the Oregonian to belittle and "knock" Portland, as an outrageous use of plutocratic power, prompted by sordid and selfish fear that its monopoly may be broken. The Journal believes the Oregonian to be a bulldozer of the people and a tribute-taker from the people of the most unscrupulous and plutocratic type. The Journal believes that every corporation, be it railway or newspaper corporation, ought to be subject to a suit to revoke its charter, or corporate existence, whenever the corporation has been wilfully guilty of gross abuse of its corporate power. Will the Oregonian join The Journal in advocating this protection to the people?

It is because The Journal has always said these things of the Oregonian, and because The Journal has made some inroad on the treasury of the Oregonian, that the Oregonian has singled out Mr. Ladd, the richest stockholder of The Journal, for its venom, but, as has been said so many times, Mr. Ladd is a mere minority stockholder and has nothing to do with the policy of this paper. Were he like Mr. Pittcock, the controlling stockholder, he could then be held justly responsible for what he permitted his paper to do.

Second—The Oregonian says no one could have been deceived into the belief that the cartoon which represented Mr. Ladd clothed as a clergyman, holding up a sheaf labeled "Editorial Page of The Journal," on which was printed murderous declarations against President McKinley, intended to express that these sentiments had been expressed by The Oregon Journal and that Mr. Ladd approved of them. Whether or not this was the intent of the cartoon, and whether or not people who saw it took it so, we leave each man to say for himself, but if this cowardly deception was not intended, it would have been easy to have had the words read, "Editorial Page of the New York Journal," instead of "Editorial Page of The Journal." Why were the words "New York" omitted? But no matter what paper originally printed those fearful words, Mr. Ladd was held up to the world, wherever the Oregonian might circulate, as standing in hypocrite's garb and approving these revolting sentiments.

It is said that this paper has rushed to Mr. Ladd's defense. It has. It has rushed to the defense of common decency, and it now offers its columns and pledges its help to the humblest man or woman who shall ever be so outraged. This is no, with The Journal, a case of rich man or poor man, of a stockholder in its company or a stranger to it. It is a case of American manhood and a preservation of the ideals of justice and fair play.

Third—The Oregonian seeks to belound in some way its infamy by intimating that this is a newspaper fight. It is not, and the Oregonian knows it is not, and no one is deceived. But let us say it is a newspaper fight. Does the honorable and haughty Oregonian, with no tinge of yellow in its veins, mean to say that a newspaper fight justifies a resort to every infamous method? That it justifies lies, and lies upon lies, and cruel and malicious lies which make women weep?

The Oregonian sneers that Mr. Ladd's aged mother, and wife, went before the grand jury. Why should they not go? The law itself says that he is a malicious libeler who out of his mouth annoys the family of any one. Does this infamy not annoy the family of Mr. Ladd? Shall they sit silent, as they have for years, or should they not, in their desperation, lay their case before the men of the grand jury, upon whom the law has put the duty of protecting them?

It is a cheap defense, this sneer at women who, finding no consideration for them in Mr. Scott's tiger heart, no protection from the generous impulses of manhood, are compelled to go before the people in the course of law and ask for help and protection. Did Mr. Scott think that his false and malicious attacks on her son would not cut the aged mother to the heart? The Oregonian says it never attacked any one but Mr. Ladd himself.

What pitiful pettyfogging. Can a newspaper lash with envenomed lies the face of a man and suppose that his wife, his mother and his children will enjoy the outrage? The law of libel was made for the protection of the helpless ones, even more than for the man himself, who has other means of protecting himself, and it is out of consideration for the helpless ones that the law makes it the duty of the grand jury and the district attorney to proceed, whether the one who has been libeled desires to, or not.

But when the Oregonian says it has not attacked the Ladd family, it lies again. Time and time again it has held up the dead man and his widow and the whole Ladd family to opprobrium, by direct charge and mean innuendo. The Journal appeals to every man and woman in the community with an honest heart and asks, is not he who will crucify either men or women maliciously and from revenge a coward beyond contempt? A man who is a man in all that manhood implies, a man with clear and honest eyes and a brave and manly heart, would as lief cut off his hand as to throw into that widow's face sneers against her dead husband and lies against her son.

Now, let the Oregonian say that we are bringing before the public an aged woman near the end of her earthy career to excite sympathy. We are replying to the Oregonian's attacks. It is the Oregonian which has assailed women as well as men. And by the living God, Mr. Scott, The Journal will close its doors on that day when it shall be wrong to show to an outraged people wounds calling for their sympathy and help.

Go to any teachers of morals and decency, Mr. Scott, to any clergyman whatever, and ask him, in secret, what he thinks of you. Go to any teachers of law and order, to the federal judges and the judges of this county and the supreme judges of the state, and ask them what they think of you. Try and turn the X-ray on the secret hearts of the men of the city, of the club, of the Masonic lodge, from the plutocrat to the plain man, honest in his manliness, and see what each thinks of you. Close the doors on the grand jury and on public opinion and stand up before the bar of your own conscience and ask yourself: Have I lived an honorable and worthy life? Have I done well? Have I left an honorable example to the world?

The Play

By Johnston McCully. "Oh, God! make them as clay in my hands!"—The Middleman—Act II.

When the Belasco theater, opened in this city, John Sainpolis played Colonel Thorpe in "The Heart of Maryland," and Portland players declared he had reached the acme of his ability. Yesterday on the stage of the Baker, John Sainpolis played Cyrus Blankenship in "The Middleman," and the local players declared that he had advanced a few paces. Sainpolis is an actor near to genius.

and holds the center of the stage. It is a one-man show, but one of those one-man shows where the one man, to save the play from failure, must possess great magnetism, must realize the depth of his role and must portray the light and shade of a naturally sunny nature hardened by hatred to the point of revenge. It is a great character, and Sainpolis is great in it. His grasp upon the character is exact. The light and shade of his work are brought out with fidelity. He has stepped into the shoes of E. S. Willard and gives just as characteristic a performance as did that Star. There is no false ring in his voice, no false movement in his gestures. He portrays the anguish of constant failure and the hope of ultimate success well.

As a whole, "The Middleman" is one of the most successful productions of the Bakerites. It is not as modern as the plays of the company has produced, but in regard to merit it stands near the top of the list. William Gleason, as Joseph Chandler, played second to Sainpolis all through. William Dillis was damned by a part that does not suit his talents, but he acquitted himself well. William Harris (there is a bunch of Williams in the Bakerites) had a little "bit" of character work in the first act, when, as Epiphany Danes, he held the center of the stage for a few minutes and made good in huge quantities. Harris is a talented actor and in a role suited to his personality can make good anywhere.

As Cyrus Blankenship in Henry Arthur Jones, "The Middleman," Sainpolis takes

and did it well. Donald Bowles was first as Captain Chandler, a role that is im-

Opinions Concerning Mr. Harriman

From the Springfield Republican. It is to be noted that in the throwing out of Stuyvesant Fish from the Illinois Central the desires of E. H. Harriman, president of the Mutual Life Insurance company of New York, and in trying to hold on; Auchincloss and Charles A. Peabody. The former put the motions and the latter seconded them. Peabody is president of the Mutual Life Insurance company of New York, and is trying to hold on; Auchincloss was a member of the company's investigating committee; and, with Peabody and W. H. Truesdale, Auchincloss prevented the carrying out of the resolutions of the committee; and, thus forced Fish in honesty and self-respect out of the committee and out of the Mutual's directory. Now Peabody and Auchincloss appear as Harriman agents in the punishment of Fish for refusing to be tied to the Harriman chariot. How do the Mutual's policyholders enjoy this exhibition?

From the Chicago Record-Herald. Control of that road is now desired by the group of "sure thing" gamblers who make and ruin fortunes at their secret conferences on a scale that was never before dreamed of. The United States has the wealthiest stock market, and what they may do with the Illinois Central or any other property depends to a very large extent upon their will. Naturally, the people of Illinois do not support the project, and we should suppose that the small stockholders would feel some alarm over the thought that the road may be made part of the gamblers' paraphernalia. We say this with all due allowance for the constructive work that has been done under the direction of the system.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer. It thus appears that one of the most upright and conservative of American railway presidents has been ousted by a notorious and typical representative of the "system" convicted, among other things, of using insurance funds to finance the great corporate interests; whose well-earned fame as a railway builder is eclipsed by his notoriety as a Wall-street operator. His possession, or control of the Illinois Central will strengthen a hand already so strong as to be a public scandal and danger, and influence a public sentiment which is becoming almost as menacing to legitimate business as it is to financial buccaneering.

From the Philadelphia Record. Stuyvesant Fish, for 19 years president of the Illinois Central, under whose management the road has made great progress, has been ousted by Harriman, and we may see another great railroad merger, that road being absorbed by the Union Pacific. In New York Harriman has the reputation of regarding the stock market side of a railway company as far more interesting than the transportation side.

From the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Not content with his unsavory fame in having kept secret the dividend of 10 per cent declared on the Union Pacific railway stock until his friends could buy this stock from the unsuspecting public at prices far above its intrinsic worth, Mr. E. H. Harriman has again hoisted the black flag of political high finance in depositing Stuyvesant Fish, president of the Illinois Central railroad.

From the Philadelphia Press. The summary vote by which Stuyvesant Fish has been turned out of the presidency of the Illinois Central by the road by E. H. Harriman is one of those ruthless exercises of the power of sheer millions which diminish public confidence in railroad investments and make the small investor feel that he has no security, no adequate defense for his rights, and no efficient way to exercise his voting power.

From the Hartford Times. Mr. Harriman will not let anybody by asserting that he is not the prime mover in displacing Mr. Fish. The control of the Illinois Central is essential to the completion of his trans-continental line between New York and San Francisco, no less than for stopping competition with the Southern Pacific at New Orleans.

From the Chicago Record-Herald. There are people who believe E. H. Harriman is now doing more than all other forces combined to advance the principle of government ownership of railroads.

Good for Dayton. From the Dayton Optimist. The Journal is offering space for a 1,500-word writup to any town in Oregon, with the additional incentive of a full-page illustrated writup of the section that gets up the best article.

From the Dayton Commercial Club. The Dayton Commercial club has taken up the matter and will get facts together for an article on Dayton. You can help in this movement by handing any industrial facts to any business man in Dayton.

Let us make this a good article, for we have wonderful resources and a simple story of what has been done and can be done in this part of the valley about the price of the full-page, illustrated writup.

Important from hearsay rather than through direct acting. Miss Lawrence as Mary Blankenship played with her usual skill, but was plainly out of her element. She was not suited to Miss Lawrence. Frances Slosson was excellent as Nancy. No newspaper reporter would ever act as did Leo Lindhard as Danper in his first act.

Therefore, Sainpolis is the show, and keeps the movement of the drama, which is strong in conception and treatment, progressing rapidly and with intense feeling. "The Middleman" is worthy a visit by the most exacting theatre-goer in Portland. The climax scene in the third act, where the climax of Blankenship's 20 years of work and patience is reached, is worth many times the price of admission.

"Middleman" will be the bill all week at the Baker, with a matinee Saturday. In all sincerity, it is worth seeing.

"Peck's Bad Boy." As old as the hills and then some is "Peck's Bad Boy," which opened at the Empire yesterday afternoon for a week's run. And as popular as "Uncle Tom" with the juvenile population it is, and consequently may be expected to draw a record crowd at the Morrison street playhouse. It has delighted a multitude of people and will, perhaps, continue to do so for several years to come.

This season the piece has been freshened by new jokes and tricks and while the basic idea is old, there are enough new things to draw out many a laugh. The company this year is fairly good. Cora Quentin is excellent as the "Bad Boy." Jack Marsa is good as Everett Wren and his juggling is worthy of mention. All week at the Empire with matinees Wednesday and Saturday.

BIRDSEYE VIEWS OF TIMELY TOPICS

SMALL CHANGE. It was an unseasonable Chinook. Boni might get a job "singing hark." Anna got hers—and the no-count his. Nobody weeps when Rockefeller loses. Mayor Schmitt will also be welcomed home. To serve the people, Hughes must be a party splitter. Besides, Herrmann needs the salary until March 4 next. It rained also at Colon—but Teddy is not afraid to get wet.

Market Item (1907): Eggs in brisk demand at 70 cents a dozen. Are the landlides occurring over in Washington also Republican? These are days when one can see fine games of irrigated football. Silver without the mint stamp is beginning to look respectable again. Looks like Portland would extend out to Fairview and Troutdale in a few years.

Uncle Joe will be a bigger boss of legislation than ever. Smile when he cusses. Country people act as if poultry and egg money were tainted; few of them want it. Col. Hofer seems to entertain hope yet. He remarks: "Malcolm is not yet collector. Whatever happens to young Murray, other young men will notice what happened to young Whitney. Governor Gooding waited until after the election to issue his Thanksgiving proclamation. Now he means it.

And the rains descended and the flood came, and the houses along the rivers emptying into Puget Sound had to be vacated. Upton Sinclair received only 715 votes for representative in congress in a New Jersey district, and now he regards that state as a jungle. A paragrapher says he doesn't know whether fights are immoral or not, but does know that they are unbecoming to most women. How can he know any such thing?

Noting the birth of five girls to one boy in Spokane, the Pendleton Tribune says that at this rate the servant girl question will be solved in a few years. Vain and impotent conclusion: girls are not born these days to become servant girls, misters. The suggestion is a gross insult to the little pink darlings.

McKinleyville Telephone-Register: The exhibit of choice fruit has demonstrated the fact that the Willamette valley can produce apples as fine as can be raised in the world, when pains-taking care is given to effort to put forth by the farmers in cultivating their orchards and preparing their fruit for the market.

Raw land around Echo that was considered almost worthless only a few years ago, and which has changed hands at from \$5 to \$6 per acre for grazing purposes is now worth from \$40 to \$75 per acre and as soon as it is fully reclaimed will be worth \$100 per acre and upward.

Canty Tribune: If some enterprising man will put in a sheet at Hilo, Boons Ferry, Barlow, Needy, Woolfer, Prairie, Molalla, Mackaburg, Butteville, and two or three other places where there is a couple of houses and a barn, the field would be pretty well covered. There is nothing like a newspaper as a money-maker.

Scio News: It is true that men did get drunk when we had a licensed saloon in town. It is true that men are seen drunk even more frequently since the town was closed down. They do not get the liquor in Scio, Packages received by express tell the story. The liquor question is a difficult problem to solve. Just which is the better system has not yet been solved.

It Was to Be Expected. From the Detroit News. The Castellane row, which appears to have reached its climax, is in one sense a family affair which does not concern outsiders. In another sense it is an affair of national concern, because it is an aggravated case of a sort that is altogether too common. When Miss Gould entered into a deal with the Castellane family by which she paid out of a dowry of \$10,000,000, to the mother of Count Bismarck \$2,000,000 for her consent, and to the count himself \$5,000,000, she gave a demonstration of the maxim that a fool and his or her money are soon parted.

This whole affair was vibrated between the state of an international joke and a world-wide scandal. It has been humiliating and disgusting to the sensible Goules.

Some American women who marry foreigners find great disappointment when they discover that the man they have supposed to be the superior of those with whom they have associated is usually less attentive and less companionable than was expected. In Europe, marriage for love is common enough, but the commercial side is always conspicuous. The percentage of fortune hunters is greater and profligacy is more common.

The Duke to a Flat. It is reported that the Duke of Marlborough will close his ancestral Blenheim palace at once. The Duke will be lucky if he manages to keep up a two-room flat, now that the Vanderbilt income has been taken away from him.

Keen Sympathy. From the Chicago Record-Herald. Count Boni de Castellane probably sympathizes deeply with the king of Annam, who has recently been getting into trouble by having one of his wives killed and cooked.

An Infallible System. From the Philadelphia Ledger. The stranger gazed smiling around the office and removed his hat, which he laid aside.

"I have here," he began, "a complete memory system perfected by myself. It rejuvenates the power of recalling the past. Buy it and no more the string about the finger. Never again reproachful-glance as your wife fishes forth the unmailed letter. Never—"

"Nothin' doin'," said the sad-eyed man addressed; "there is so much I want to forget."

The visitor went away, but returned breathless in a few minutes. He had come back for his hat.

Quotations. From Puck. Robinson—How's the market? Crusoe—Dull. Straight ticket voters, \$18 bid and \$20 asked; read call for ticket splitters at \$5, or repeaters at \$5.

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The situation that has not its duty, is never yet occupied by man. Carlyle.

A SIMPLE PROPOSITION.

CONGRESS is supposed to be composed of good business men, such as are able intelligently and wisely to conduct large and important business affairs. Among other public matters which it has to look out and care for is the deepening of the channel at the mouth of the Columbia river, one of the country's largest and most important streams and one draining a vast and resourceful area. The plan of improvement has long been decided on and by intermittent and piecemeal operations carried on, and thus a large portion of the money appropriated has been wasted, the work done having in large part to be done over again by another inadequate appropriation. Now it is proposed to continue this policy, and the chief of engineers reports in favor of \$1,000,000, which the officer in charge of the work says will only be sufficient to pay for work that unless supplemented with further and continuous work until the job is completed will be of little or no value. As a matter of economy, of simple business common sense—meaning no criticism of General Mackenzie; he cuts his garments according to the probable amount of cloth he will get—every member of congress ought to agree that if this work is to be done at all it should be carried on continuously and diligently until fully completed. It is of a character that cannot be done successfully or without a very large percentage of waste and loss in any other way. There is no dispute, no question, about this. It seems as if the mere statement of the case should be sufficient to induce the committees having the matter in hand and members of congress generally to appropriate enough money to carry this job forward to completion or make it a continuing contract job. Any other treatment of it is manifestly wasteful and foolish. The important thing to do is to impress this upon the members of congress who will have the matter in charge.

There is no avoiding or repressing occasional floods in western Washington, and people along the streams will have to take their chances and expect overflows quite frequently and once in an indefinite number of years a more torrential and destructive flood, such as occurred last week. But where land is rich, and resources are abundant, people will take chances, and perhaps can afford to sustain an occasional flood loss.

The next legislature will have several very important matters to consider and act upon, and all members ought to be preparing themselves the best they can to act intelligently and wisely. Legislation must now be framed up to meet new and expanding conditions, and to do it right and for the best interests of all the people will require the exercise of diligent and conscientious wisdom.

While vigorously prosecuting a few individuals who were guilty of unlawful action with reference to the acquisition of public lands, it seems that the great Union Pacific railroad was entirely overlooked when by similar or worse frauds it gained possession of an immense area of coal lands in Wyoming. We suppose the Union Pacific officials, however, are immune from punishment.

The Standard Oil officers say that company is perfectly innocent and in every way entirely proper, right, nice and even lovely. Well, nobody expected them to plead guilty the first thing.

Teddy is homeward bound again, and it is to be hoped that what he now knows about the canal won't be so big a load as to swamp the ship.

Those who attend Pat Crowe's revival meetings should leave all but a little small change at home, and keep hold of the kids.