

HUMORIST FACES GOOD AUDIENCE

John Kendrick Bangs Gives Joyful Reading at the White Temple.

GIVES SELECTIONS FROM HIS OWN WORK

Reads From Unpublished Articles as Well as Famous Ones and Causes Frequent Outbursts of Laughter and Applause.

The Portland public, or that portion of it that attended the second of the Y. M. C. A. course of lectures last night at the White Temple, had an opportunity of hearing portions of the



John Kendrick Bangs.

works of one of America's greatest humorists, selected by the humorist, read and interpreted by that same dignitary, John Kendrick Bangs, most widely

known in the city. "Houseboat on the bay" drew a fair house—one that filled the auditorium of the church without at all crowding it—and sent the auditors away well pleased. They had not been hilarious, although interruptions to the readings were frequent, as some more brilliant witicism than the rest compelled the laugh. But what they will prize most of all in the experience of last night will be the fact that they have heard the great humorist interpret his own work.

The evening's entertainment consisted of selections from various works of the author. There was the discussion of the possibilities of antediluvian animals for a menagerie, by P. T. Barnum and Noah, from the "Houseboat"; there was the Christmas morn of the year 1863; a day at Oyster Bay, the account of which was published in the New York Herald, but never in book form—Mr. Bangs says it was written in the wilds of Maine hunting grounds, and is never likely to appear in any volume—and one or two other selections from works published and unpublished. They served to illustrate various sides of the author's nature, and the humorous exaggeration, amounting almost to a caricature, that seems to be the prevailing note, though by no means the only witty one, of them all.

The selections were read without the slightest apparent straining after effect, without even any apparent attempt at elocution—yet with such art as to bring out in the almost nonchalant manner characteristic of the author, every shade of meaning. In other words he read with the highest art.

Those who attended with the idea that they would hear something of the Sam Jones type of speech, were disap-

SKIDOO PROBLEM

A coin collector had an accumulation of pennies. He told his son he would make him a present of the entire lot if he would put them in boxes, the same number in each box. There was an odd number of pennies so that if he put an equal number in each of two boxes there would be one penny left over; in a like manner he figured on 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 boxes, but in every case if he put an equal number in each box there would be one (only one) penny left over. The son gave it up and told his father he thought it impossible to perform the feat. His father replied: "SKIDOO—23 for you." Then the son put the entire lot of pennies in 23 boxes, the same number in each box. How many pennies were there?

To make the problem plain: The entire number of pennies was a number, which if divided by any number from 2 to 22 inclusive, there will be a remainder of one (only one) and if divided by 23 there will be no remainder. Address all answers to **PUZZLE EDITOR**, The Journal, Portland.

The prizes are worth working for and winning. To the person who sends in the best solution of the Skidoo problem, \$10 in bright new pennies will be given; for 22 others, beautiful "23" stickpins are the award; and others will get 23 pennies just from the mint.

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SKIDOO WORKERS WILL DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH THEIR TURKEY

"Skidoo is too easy for us boys in Couch school, a lot of us did it in an hour, when teacher wasn't looking. And it's interesting, too. The answer is 23 for you. We're going to divide the money. Boys can't guess what each'll get. Use boys know."

"BOBBY BROWN, 'For 7 Other Fellows.'"

Robert, Robert—and the seven other boys—the puzzle editor is pained—positively shocked. The idea that pupils would take time from their studies to find the solution of the skidoo problem! The fact that the puzzle is interesting has nothing to do with the case; the school problems should be considered interesting, and should be taken up with pleasure by the scholars. It is fortunate that the skidoo contest is nearing an end, as the boys and girls seem to be giving more attention to it than they are giving to their studies.

"The one thing above all others that I have to be thankful for," writes Mrs. Greig of Bellwood, "is that I have finally solved the skidoo puzzle. I never saw anything like it; it's the hardest thing I ever undertook. The answer is 2,708,568,880. I'm thankful it is done." Mrs. Christine Facker, Lenta, writes that the puzzle is not hard, and that one is the answer, and in the same mail Fred Wallace, R. F. D. No. 1, Aurora, gives the same answer. The way Mrs. Facker and Mr. Wallace figure it out is very convincing indeed, and made the puzzle editor wonder if one wasn't the right answer. But Harry Merwin, 373 Porter street, sends in his solution, very carefully worked out, and that is the answer he gets: 1,124,060,727, 777,607,650,000 pennies in each box, so the puzzle editor is still in doubt.

The answers to the skidoo problem are getting more interesting each day. The twenty-threesies are numerous, and figures do not fit, 23 could easily be the answer. Among those who say 23 is right are: Earl Eric, 1760 Hodge street; Emma Flock Lenta; P. M. Roush, Rainier; John B. Gibbs, Forest Grove; Thomas McConn, Worcester building; Viva Dufoe, 240 E. Sixth street; Fredrick C. Coates, Ashland; T. S. Menze, Tualatin; E. E. Weber, 142 Russell street.

If it takes seventeen yards of baby ribbon to make a baby elephant's smoking jacket, how far must a feather fall to break a \$4 bill? This is the correct answer to the skidoo problem; but the correct solution is to find the least

pointed. Those who thought it impossible for a noted writer to entertain an audience were also disappointed, agreeably. The only originality in the even-



ing lay in what the author was able to produce in the mind of the hearer that the latter had not seen in the before. The entertainment lay in the clever manner in which this was done.

In a word, it was "an evening with Bangs."

TURKISH RUGS AT A BARGAIN

Discriminating Shoppers Offered Unusual Inducements to Buy Rare Oriental Rugs at 25 per cent Discount.

The rug-importing house of Jabour & Co., 241 Washington street, is easily in the lead this season with a choice collection of rare and worthy novelties in rugs, carpets, floorings and China lacquer embroidered patterns and other decorative novelties designed to please the most captious of Christmas shoppers in this line. The importance of this discount sale may be realized by those who have patronized the Jabour store and have been convinced of the fact that this rug house gives customers the real worth of their money. To meet the demand for art goods there has just been received from Paris a splendid line of goods, all of which will be included in this sale. A substantial and creditable gift for the home of a friend is a Turkish rug and shawl, or the West can compare Jabour for prices and patterns. If now outfitting a new home, flat or one room, or if you are interested in knowing how economically to transform the appearance of a too-familiar room and would like to make it cheerier, let us advise you. We have rugs at prices to suit all tastes and purses. We have imported rugs and carpets with a view to putting the most discriminating and fastidious customers and we now offer you unusual opportunities, which cannot possibly last long, to make selections for your holiday purchases now. Everyone who visits the store will be amply repaid for the time spent in examining and comparing our prices and goods. We offer something dainty and desirable and at the right prices for shirt-waist patterns, kimono and fancy lacoes. The cream of the novelties is found here and shoppers are invited to call early and take advantage of this chance. Out-of-town inquiries will be given prompt attention and letters cheerfully answered.

Arlington Wedding.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)—Arlington, Or., Nov. 29.—The wedding of W. H. Morrison and Mrs. Hattie Snodgrass Wristen was solemnized at high noon yesterday at the residence of the bride's parents, Rev. Moorhead officiating. The ceremony was well known in business circles, holding the position of foreman for Kerr, Gifford & Co. at Condon, and the bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Snodgrass, pioneer residents of the section. Both young people are very popular throughout the county and left on the evening train for Condon, their future home.

Had a Close Call.

"A dangerous surgical operation, involving the removal of a malignant ulcer, as large as my hand, from my daughter's hip, was prevented by the application of Bucklen's Arnica Saliva," says A. C. Sticker of Milletus, W. Va. "Persistent use of the Salve completely cured it." Cures Cuts, Burns and Injuries. 25c at Red Cross Pharmacy.

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It matches the rocker opposite and is equally as comfortable. Weathered oak finish, and well pleasing design, and one you'll find around town selling at double the money.

HANDSOME ROCKER \$3.45
Weathered oak finish, beautifully grained. A rocker of simple, yet built; it's a chair that is in no way to be compared to the average bargain counter article.

EXTENSION TABLE \$20.00
Golden quarter sawed oak, hand-somely polished; extends 18 & feet in length.

Square Table \$16.20
Same style and finish as the round table; extends to 3 feet, and is an unusually good bargain.

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Illustration shows one of the handsomest brass beds on the market. The headboard is 48 inches high, filled with beautiful scrolls and heavy straight fillers set off with 2 1/2-inch husks. It is made of the best quality brass and finished in the finest quality French lacquer.

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A GOOD PLACE TO TRADE

STOCKMEN BLAME ROAD FOR LOSS

Baker County Cattlemen State That Railroad Delays Furnishing Cars Needed.

FORCED TO HOLD STOCK FOR WEEKS SOMETIMES

Traffic Officials Say That Shippers Are to Blame for Not Ordering in Time—Business Demoralized by Recent Floods.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Baker City, Or., Nov. 29.—Thousands of dollars have been lost by Baker county stockmen during the present season through shrinkage caused by delay in shipping. Upon whose shoulders rests the blame for this shrinkage is a question which is agitating local shipping circles now, the stockmen claiming that they have been unable to get cars when promised by the railroad, and the officials of the latter declaring that the shippers fail to notify them of their proposed shipments until it is too late to get them cars.

It is estimated by local shippers that approximately 1,000 head of cattle are shipped out of this city every month of the shipping season. The stockmen declare that in every instance they are forced to hold up their shipments from two to 14 days, while awaiting the arrival of cars. This delay causes a loss, they say, of \$10 a day on every 1,000 head, as they are forced to feed hay, costing \$10 a ton, and shrinkage amounts to 22 cents a head a day. If their estimates are correct and the average time they are forced to wait is five days on each shipment, the loss has been \$1,100 a month, a total of nearly \$5,000 loss for the season.

On the other hand Agent Lawrence says this loss has been brought upon

OLYMPIA REFUNDS CITY'S PUBLIC DEBT

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Olympia, Wash., Nov. 29.—Mayor Carlson has signed a new contract with the water company for furnishing the city with water for fire purposes, which reduces the rental to \$50 a year for the first 20 hydrants and \$36 a year for hydrants hereafter, installed by order of the city. The city council has also refunded \$200,000 of city indebtedness, having procured the money from the common school fund. Interest is thereby reduced from 6 per cent per annum to 2 1/2 per cent per annum.

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