

THE JOURNAL

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Troubles spring from idleness and grievous wrongs from needless ease.—Franklin.

TREAT THEM ALL ALIKE.

THE REVOCATION of perpetual franchises to public-service corporations inconsiderately granted by legislatures many years ago is one thing; the revocation of a franchise to one particular corporation, to gratify a malicious grudge of a newspaper, is another thing.

The Journal insists that all should be treated alike as to the revocation of such franchises and as to their taxation, and that neither the legislature nor the Multnomah county delegation should be used as an instrument to carry out the selfish and malicious schemes of the Oregonian, as was done some years ago when it succeeded in defeating a measure regarding the publication of delinquent taxes, and so fleeced the taxpayers out of some \$50,000.

THE ONLY SAFE WAY.

THE locomotive engineer sits with his hand on the throttle and, by his preparedness for action, avoids many an accident and saves many a life. With his hand on the throttle of state, Governor Meade of Washington was, by his preparedness for action through the power of removal, quickly and effectively able to prune his railroad commission.

Survival by merit is the true test, and if an appropriation cannot pass on that basis, it ought to fail. Bad faith with the people, with the executive and with the legislature itself, is suggested the moment an institution enters into a combination in order to enforce its demands.

A LEGISLATIVE DUTY.

IF THE representatives from the normal school counties persist in combining, it looks as if it would be quite justifiable, in the people's interests, for representatives from other counties to do a little combining on the normal school subject.

possible, but frequent. It means, if it means anything, that first of all as a measure of safety there must be power of instant removal by a responsible executive so there may be safe and speedy correction of error, and that in the procedure for selection the utmost care is imperative.

A NEEDED CHANGE.

THE LAW ought to be changed in this state and in others, so as to allow the rest of a jury, if one member dies or becomes incapacitated during a trial, to bring in a verdict. The Thompson case in Tacoma lasted eight weeks, yet if one of the jurors had died during the last week, or the last day of the trial, it would have been necessary, unless the attorneys on both sides agreed otherwise, to try the case over again.

OMNIBUS APPROPRIATION BILLS.

LET us misjudge affairs at Salem let us believe that the indefinite postponement by the house of the resolution instructing the ways and means committee to provide for but two normals, was not the result of a combination of the higher educational forces.

RAILROAD CAPITALIZATION.

THE TOTAL capitalization, in stocks and bonds, of railroads in the United States in 1880 was \$5,229,000,000. In 1890 it was \$10,675,000,000, or more than double the amount 10 years before.

TO WHOM IS THE CREDIT DUE?

From the Pendleton East Oregonian. In an editorial ridiculing William J. Bryan and his reform measures, T. T. Geer, editor of the Pendleton Tribune, takes all the credit to his own party for the reforms in popular legislation which have come to Oregon in the past few years.

schools in all other towns, and one normal school in addition to these is enough for western Oregon. It will be disagreeable to cut two of them off, and regrettably damaging in a rather small degree to the towns where they are located, but the people of the state as a whole will not stand for the biennially increasing appropriations for all these schools.

RIVERS AND HARBORS.

SEVERAL representatives in congress, among them Burton, chairman of the rivers and harbors committee, and Ransdell, a member of the committee, have "put in some good licks" for larger river and harbor appropriations, and therefore, incidentally, for Oregon. Whether the comparisons made between the expenditures on the navy and those on the country's rivers and harbors had any effect on the house or not, they were well entitled to thoughtful consideration.

THE PLAY.

"Susan in Search of a Husband" is about the prettiest and most delightful bit of comedy that has journeyed this way. It was presented at the Halling last night by Leah Irving and seven other high-class artists in a way that charmed one of the largest audiences of the season.

IMMORTALITY AND HUMANITY.

Salem, Or., Feb. 4.—To the Editor of The Journal—"Student's" essay on "Immortality and Humanity" is in many points a most admirable paper. His first proposition—"Let us live as we can today and trust tomorrow for all the good it can bring; perhaps it would be just as well to let it go at that and let the gods make peace, retaining only the observance and practice of that fundamental principle, 'Do to others as you would have others do to you.'"

KISSING AS A FINE ART.

Portland, Feb. 4.—To the Editor of The Journal—I beg to register a most vigorous kick against the article in The Sunday Journal entitled, "What is a Kiss?"

WHEN FATHER HAS THE GRIP.

From the Detroit Free Press. Poor mother wears a worried look, And sister wears a frown; And if I venture up the stairs They send me straightaway down.

Letters From the People

Free Text-Book Commission. Portland, Feb. 5.—To the Editor of The Journal—A few weeks ago there appeared in The Journal a letter from the Albany Herald regarding the kind of men who should serve on the free textbooks commission.

A Famous Love Tragedy

By Beatrice Fairfax. Of all the famous love stories of history, perhaps the most tragic and heart-breaking is that of Abelard and Heloise. Seven hundred years have passed since the convent and monastery doors separated the man and woman who sacrificed everything for the sake of love.

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Where is the Gain?

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Mail Routes of Klamath

Klamath Falls, Or., Feb. 5.—To the Editor of The Journal: Since the mail routes contracts from this city to Fort Klamath and Merrill and Tule lakes are to be re-let, the department holding the great contracts made by the city is complying with the rules with reference to residence and personal attention to transportation of mails, a change in the route to Merrill merits attention.

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