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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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I hold every man a debtor to his profession; from the which, as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves, by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereunto.—Bacon, "Law Tracts."

THE ROSE FESTIVAL

THIS IS the day it begins. There will be six days of it, each better than the other. Roses are the main thing about it, and there are literally millions of them, and every one a beauty and a delight. But there will be many other attractive and enjoyable things about the week's festivity. There will be flowers galore in addition to the roses. There will be swarms of the prettiest women and girls on earth. There will be parades worth coming hundreds of miles to see. There will be the society circus, better than anybody ever saw before. There will be much fine music and games and amusements of many kinds, for all classes and conditions of people. There will be, as always, but with a little imagination more enjoyable than ever, the green hills, the distant mountains, the parks, the river. There will be in the midst of this magnificent setting the splendid, rapidly growing city, with all its attractions for visitors. There may also be rain—bring your umbrellas—but rain or shine, the finest, most enjoyable Rose Festival ever seen since the rose was invented, is going to be pulled off here this week. Everybody who can should make part of it; and make the most and the best of it.

MR. BROWNELL AND THE ASSEMBLY

IN GEORGE C. BROWNELL'S denunciation of the assembly scheme Chairman George and his cohorts have an omen. Mr. Brownell has one of the best ears that ever stayed close to the ground. Every one, even of Mr. Brownell's political enemies, will admit that his ear heareth accurately in which way the wind bloweth. His friends know that no man in the state is more astute in gauging public sentiment. If Mr. Brownell's attitude means nothing else, it means that Clackamas county Republicans are strongly against the assembly madness. It means that as they are in Clackamas county, so they will be in many another county. It means that this unlawful attempt to force the Republican party of Oregon to about face and reverse itself on the direct primary is vain, foolish, disruptive and impossible. It means that the foolish persons who begot the plan and are trying to steer it through in spite of widespread and most vigorous Republican protest are bringing their party in the state to the verge of temporary ruin. All this is portended in the protests of many strong Republican newspapers, in the protests of the granges reflecting as they do the sentiment of the men on the soil, in the protests of many prominent Republicans, and finally in the ringing protest of Mr. Brownell, whose denunciation of the plan is an almost certain indication that the Republicans of Clackamas county are overwhelmingly against the assembly folly.

Incidentally, Mr. Brownell is consistent in his defense of the direct primary against the assembly. It is of record that he advocated and voted for the initiative and referendum. It is also history that he prepared and was ready to champion the direct primary at the special session of 1898, but was finally dissuaded from doing so by appeals and pressure brought upon him by powerful political figures who always succeed so admirably in disposing of legislative legislation they do not relish.

COSTLIER SCHOOLS

THAT THE cost of living to their teachers is higher, the members of the school board must admit. That salaries for teachers are higher in San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles and Seattle than in Portland, they must also admit. That the teachers receive compensation 10 months in the year and that during the other two months in the 12 they are without employment or income, the board is likewise forced to admit. Having admitted all these things, the board is forced to acknowledge the case of the teachers, of whom 800 have petitioned for added compensation.

Salaries that were barely adequate a year ago are not adequate now. There has been an advance in the price of nearly every article a teacher must buy, which is equivalent to a reduction of salary to that extent. If the advance averages 10 per cent, and it is not very far from that amount, the purchasing power of the teacher's salary is reduced 10 per cent.

The school board cannot escape the argument of the teachers, for any member of the board who buys bacon, flour, poultry, vegetables, clothing or labor, skilled or unskilled, knows that a salary buys less than it ever bought before. If bacon and every other life necessity is costlier, why should we not expect education to be more costly? If we vote for and perpetuate a system that makes everything else high priced, we must reconcile ourselves to the alternative that our schools, too, must be higher priced.

THE CASE AGAINST THE RAILROADS

THE government is proceeding against the railroads not for raising rates, but for doing so by mutual agreement, for all agreeing to do so equally and simultaneously, this being in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, and, the government alleges, an illegal conspiracy. But the issue raised can not be tried out without a consideration of the reasonableness of the new rates. It is this that shippers and consumers are interested in, rather than the question whether the traffic managers have conspired in violation of law.

Both are big questions. It must be said in defense of the railroads that if rates are to be raised or lowered it must and should be done by all or most of them. Their business relations are so intertwined, the ramifications of the transportation business are so extensive, that there must be considerable mutuality of action, whether prearranged or not. Yet there is the law, and it is a necessary one, unless it can be somehow modified. The problem is to allow the railroads all necessary and reasonable privileges in the matter of mutual agreements, and yet so restrict them that they cannot oppress the people with unreasonable rates. It would seem that such concerted action as is now complained of might be legalized provided it was fully approved, beforehand, by the interstate commerce commission. The people have to trust somebody to guard their interests; who better than the commission?

The question, are the higher rates reasonable, must be determined from much evidence. All will admit that railroading is much more expensive than it was a few years ago. Everything, labor being the principal item, costs more. The railroad men point to these facts and say they must have larger revenues, and to get them must have higher freight rates. On the face of the matter, so far, this seems reasonable. But before deciding in their favor one must know several things: Were the rates prior to this "increased cost of living" reasonable, or too high, and if too high, how much? Is the percentage of dividends or revenue required based on actual investment to the amount represented? Did the purported capital cost dollar for dollar in cash or its equivalent, or is it partly fictitious capital, water? And finally, have not the gross earnings increased, with the rapidly growing traffic, so that the increased expense is absorbed by the greater receipts, still leaving a sufficient net revenue? The railroad men flatly deny this latter proposition, and say that their net earnings have greatly decreased, and that they are all headed for the poorhouse or a bankruptcy court. If this is so, and if the other queries are answered satisfactorily, then the poor railroads should be permitted to charge a little higher rates. But multitudes of shippers, speaking through chambers of commerce and otherwise, tell a different story and some are prepared to show, they claim, that present rates are quite high enough and that the net income is sufficient.

All this presents large and complicated questions, which will require long discussion and consideration. All reasonable people desire the fair prosperity of the railroads, and wish them to earn a liberal net income; but the people want to know and are bound to know all about the railroads' business, because, as we have often said, it is public rather than private business. Being public business, it will not be "let alone" by the people. When high railroad officials say that all they ask is to be "let alone," they show that they are behind the times, have not learned all the important lessons that the past few years have taught—with Bryan and Roosevelt as head teachers.

NO OCCASION FOR PESSIMISM

MUCH THAT Senator Chauncey M. Depew says on "The Tariff, the Cost of Living and Prosperity" in the June Lippincott's, is true and well expressed. With his conclusion that the tariff has had nothing to do with increased cost of living we cannot agree; but that it has been the sole cause no well-informed and sincere person will assert. But it would be well if men of higher repute than Mr. Depew, and who would command more attention, would adopt, publicly, his optimistic views regarding the future of the country.

Even if the anthracite coal gives out in 100 years or so, there is bituminous coal enough practically "in sight" for thousands of years. Besides, coal is being largely superseded. The forests have been greatly depleted, in much of the country destroyed, but conservation will check this process of destruction and even, eventually, increase our forests. Care and conservation of crowded little Germany have given her a wood supply equal to her needs; we can do many times over what Germany has done if need arises.

Nor is there occasion, even in Europe, Mr. Depew thinks, for pessimism about the food supply. The same dire predictions have been made for 300 years. Wastefulness is a natural characteristic of humanity; necessity will enforce care, conservation, better utilization of resources. There has been so far in this country no need of forced or even of careful and scientific cultivation. As The Journal has repeatedly asserted, our agricultural resources have been but slightly utilized. The pessimist bases his doleful predictions on what has been accomplished as the limit, or nearly so, of future possibilities. This is as foolish as it would be to say that a 10-year-old child would never be any stronger or wiser.

"History repeats itself, and history proves that each generation finds the means of caring for itself." Improved methods only come with the need for them, but always come then. And improved methods are getting into large swing now. The agricultural department at Washington, the agricultural colleges and experiment stations, the railroads' instruction trains, the aroused interest in scientific farming, the published pocketbook results,—all indicate that there is going to be a great increase in agricultural production in this country. And this, whatever the tariff may be, will tend to reduce prices.

Already we see the beginning of this development. Production is more than keeping pace with the increase of population. There was an increase in 1909 over 1908 of 1,169,000,000 bushels of grain in this country, and 3,500,000 tons of hay. And this increase is but a beginning of larger annual increases, if there shall be a demand for the products at good prices.

The average potato yield in this country is about 80 bushels an acre, but in Wyoming one man raised 1000 bushels on an acre. Not all farmers can do that, but the 80 bushels could no doubt be doubled, on the same total area. If that is not enough the area can be indefinitely increased, any year. So with any crop. The total crop area can not be indefinitely increased, though it can be very greatly increased; but production per acre can be increased, in a multitude of cases many times over.

We have drifted away from Mr. Depew's article, but the tone of it is along these lines, and whatever his purely political views or record, the article is healthy and to be commended. There is no occasion for the existence of a pessimist in this country, less than ever before, in so far as material prospects are concerned. What the country needs to do is to see to it that, as far as possible, the rewards of labor, the wealth produced, is equitably distributed, that some are not legalized to rob others, that the producing classes get a square deal, that the plane of statesmanship is raised.

CONCERNING THE BOYCOTT

IT IS TO BE hoped that there will be no Chinese boycott of American products, such as is threatened by the Chinese, whose countrymen in San Francisco are protesting against alleged discrimination relative to immigration by the Washington bureau of commerce and labor. Disturbances of trade relations are always undesirable, and in this instance, the chief effects would fall on the Pacific coast.

But, if there is to be a boycott of American products, it would better be by the Chinese than some other nations. Each inhabitant of China buys from us less than four cents worth of goods annually. Each inhabitants of Germany buys $3.52 worth; and each inhabitant of Great Britain $12.23 worth. Our more important interests lie with the Germans, the French, the British and other great nations who keep our mills and fields busy with purchases of our products.

OUR WARLIKE EXPERIMENT

IT IS HIGH time for such a peace commission as is proposed in congress. Our present folly and the need of a change is shown in comparison of the naval cost for the two five year periods ending respectively in 1896 and 1911. The expenditures on the navy for five years ending in 1911 are: 1907, $102,071,670; 1908, $98,958,507; 1909, $122,662,485; 1910, $136,935,199; 1911, $134,000,000; total, $593,727,861. This aggregate is four and one half times that of the five year period ending in 1896, which was: 1892, $31,541,645; 1893, $23,543,267; 1894, $22,104,061; 1895, $25,366,827; in 1896, $29,416,077; total, $131,971,877. This total for five years is actually less than for the single year through which we are passing, or for the year upon which we are entering. Our warlike experiment is as costly as our living is high, and even our congress ought to see the need of a change.

John A. Dix has superseded "Fingy" Connors as chairman of the New York Democratic state central committee. Dix has not national fame, but his name, that of his once celebrated grandfather, sounds like a great improvement over that of the repulsive Buffalo boss. It was General John A. Dix, grandpere, who, replying to a query, ordered: "If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot."

It is reported that Governor Hughes of New York may be invited to address the Republican assembly. That will do very well, if he will accept, but Roosevelt should be secured, too, if possible. If the colonel could be induced to come out and indorse the assembly, and order people to support it, who would dare peep against it? But "it is to laugh"; the assembly leaders must be in dire straits indeed when they appeal to Governor Hughes to come out and help them.

Senator Cummins, by pairing, voted for the railroad bill, but he does not yet like it altogether, and especially dislikes the commerce court feature of it. Many true representatives of the people are suspicious of or doubtful about this part of the bill, but something had to be yielded to the administration and the regulars, and the country will hope for the best.

Mr. Hawley got the $300,000 appropriation for the Willamette locks, says the Oregonian. Mr. Hawley must have astonishing influence in the senate; he couldn't get the appropriation put in the bill in the house. It was the senate that put it in, and the senators who held it there in conference.

"The disgraceful conditions which we find in the administration of law." This is not the expression of a Socialist, or anarchist, or a "muckraking" magazine or newspaper, but of William H. Taft, for years a judge and now president of the United States.

The Oregon Rose

By Miles Overholt.

Roses with petals like angels' wings,
Soft as the down from the sweet voiced birds,
Scent like a loving memory clings,
Beauty too exquisite far for words.

Roses of red that speak of love,
Like two ripe lips of a maiden sweet,
Whose eyes, like the stars that shine above,
Gaze on the flower—to each a treat.

Roses white, like a pure, white soul,
Innocent as a prattling child,
Ecstatic visions seem to roll
Up from its heart, caressing and mild.

Roses that bring to mem'ries' gates
A line or two of an old time song;
A simple youth by the roadside waits
His sweetheart's call; and the day is long.

And fancy carries the mind away,
Back to the dear old childhood home.
Into the vales of yesterday,
On memory wavelets' froth and foam.

Roses that bloom in a king's domain,
Roses that bloom in a hovel yard,
Gladden the heart like a sweet refrain,
Proud heads held high, nor beauty marred.

Roses that glisten with morning dew,
Sparkle like jewels in June time morn,
Roses fragrant, of every hue,
Bringing new life to the tired and worn.

Roses as rare as a precious gem,
Fairies and sprites in their hearts repose,
Lulling and soothing the souls of them:
Greetings to you, sweet Oregon Rose.

Letters From the People

Conservation Prizes.

Portland, Or., June 6.—To the Editor of The Journal: I desire to call the attention of all students throughout the state of Oregon, who intend to present papers on conservation topics in connection with the prizes offered some months ago by the Oregon State Conservation Commission, that all papers must be filed with Professor F. G. Young, University of Oregon, Eugene, Or., by June 15, 1910. Prize winners will be announced November 1, 1910.

Contestants must follow the rules prescribed. The cash prizes aggregate $1350 and cover six topics:

The Forests of Oregon.
Irrigation Institutions in Oregon.
Soils.
Dry-farming in Oregon.
Roads in Oregon.
Fish.

On each topic there is a first, second and third prize for students in universities and colleges, and a like number for students in high schools and institutions of a similar grade. For universities and colleges the first prize is $75, the second $50, the third $25. For high schools the first prize is $40, the second $20, the third $10.

JOSEPH N. TEAL,
Chairman Oregon State Conservation Commission.

Ohio's 100 Days of Sleighing.

From Howe's Historical Collections.

During the winter of 1855 and 1856 there were about 100 days of continuous sleighing throughout northern Ohio. In February the people of Solon township, Cuyahoga county, organized a sleighride consisting of seven four horse teams, and drove to Akron, Summit county. It seems that there had been several smaller parties there from Medjan and several other counties, and it was understood that the Solon party intended to eclipse any previous party, for among other decorations used by them was a small cotton flag (33 by 55 inches), painted with the regulation number of stars and stripes and containing in addition a profile with a thumb to the nose and fingers extended.

This was interpreted by the people of the townships through which the party passed as a banter and invitation to take the flag if they could muster a larger party; indeed, an Akron paper published an evidently authorized challenge to that effect. The people of the township of Twinburg, through which the Solon party drove, concluded that they could easily capture the flag, and upon trial mustered 14 four horse teams and went to Solon. The flag was gracefully surrendered to them and carried to Twinburg. The people of Royalton, Cuyahoga county, concluded that the flag must come back to their county. They rallied 38 four horse teams and appeared at Twinburg, when the flag was duly surrendered to them. The matter now became a county affair, Cuyahoga, Summit and Medina entering into the competition.

The competing delegations met at Richfield, Summit county (which township adjoins both Cuyahoga and Medina counties), on March 14. Medina had 144 four horse teams, Cuyahoga had 151, and Summit 171, in all 466 four horse teams and sleighs, each containing an average of 14 persons, total 6524, and 1864 horses. In addition to these there were a large number of single sleighs with their loads, which did not enter into the count. In each party were a number of brass bands, for in those days nearly every township in that part of the reserve had a brass band. Of course, Summit captured the flag and carried it to Akron. As the competition had been mostly between Cuyahoga and Summit counties, the Medina delegation, upon their return trip, decided that the correct thing would be to have the flag removed into Medina county, and four days later, March 18, 1856, they appeared in Akron about noon with 132 four horse teams, and one team of four mules.

They carried a great number of banners and devices and were accompanied by numerous brass bands. They were received by the citizens of Akron with extravagant demonstrations, including the ringing of bells, firing of cannon and uproarious cheers. Word was passed back from the head of the line to the last load, which commenced cheering, and the cheers came swelling back up the line, and were taken up by the rapidly congregating citizens until the town was in one deafening roar of human voices. The flag was presented to the delegation by President Pierce, of Hudson college, with appropriate remarks which were responded to by Charles E. Bostwick, chief marshal of the delegation. Two songs, composed expressly for the occasion, were then sung, after which refreshments were served, and the delegation returned to Medina county with the flag, probably the largest and most joyous party of the kind ever assembled. No accident occurred, and, like the Hinckley Hunt, no one got drunk.

Wills of Sovereigns Seldom Public.

By Marquise de Fontenoy in New York Tribune.

Nothing definite will ever be known concerning the testamentary dispositions of Edward VII. The courts of probate have no power over the will of the sovereign, nor is there any legal machinery by which probate can be granted. Therefore the public has no means of ascertaining its contents. Even so great a gossip as Charles Greville, author of the famous "Memoirs," was unable to obtain any information regarding the wills of George IV and William IV, despite his being the secretary and chief clerk for their privy council. Only one royal English will has ever been made public. It was that of Henry VIII. But it related to the disposition of the crown rather than to his private property. After his marriage with Lady Jane Seymour he secured an act of parliament authorizing him to dispose of the crown either by letters patent "or by his last will, made in writing, and signed under his hand, to such person or persons, in possession or remainder and after such order or condition as he should judge expedient."

In 1800 Prime Minister Pitt secured the enactment by parliament of a measure known as the "private property of sovereign" act, authorizing the king, his heirs and successors, "by any instrument under his or their royal sign manual, attested by two witnesses, or by his or their last will and testament in writing, duly signed by him and attested by witnesses," to "give or devise any lands, property, etc., purchased out of moneys issued and applied for the use of the privy purse," or with moneys "not appropriated to any public service." A section of this act declares that all moneys for the privy purse, or not appropriated to any public service or effects, which shall not come to his majesty in right of the crown, shall be deemed personal estate, and subject to disposition by his will in writing. Still another clause of the same act dispenses with the necessity of publication of the terms of the will.

To what extent the provisions of the will of a monarch receive execution depends largely on the good will of his successor, and it is a matter of historic record that when, after the death of George I, the Archbishop of Canterbury handed to his son, George II, the deceased monarch's will, by the terms of which he had made enormous bequests to his German sultana, the Duchess of Kendal, and to other equally unsavory favorites, the new king consigned it to the flames. It is only within the last two years that through the unearthing of some documents in the British Museum information was obtained (subsequently substantiated by official records in Germany) that the king had not destroyed his father's will until he had submitted it to his ministers of the crown in England and in Hanover and had obtained their approval of its destruction as a shameful and altogether disgraceful document.

Other rulers are understood to have acted in much the same way when confronted by analogous testamentary dispositions on the part of their predecessors on the throne, and those who suffer thereby have virtually no means of redress. It is only now and then that a little daylight is let by chance into the mystery of royal wills, as, for instance, when unsuccessful attempts were made by the revenue officials of England to tax certain moneys which Alexander III and also Alexander II left to his morganatic wife, Princess Youriefske, and her children was bequeathed in this fashion; that is to say, after being deposited in London in order to prevent any attempt by his successor, Alexander III, to withhold the property from her.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

It starts out all right.

Be sure that the milk is pure.

Keep the flies out of the house.

The rose is queen of the festival.

Help the strangers to enjoy themselves.

The summer is full fledged and full bloomed.

This is Portland's especially hospitable week.

Nothing but Roosevelt will save the assembly ticket.

The flood is coming this week all right—a flood of people.

Other towns have nice rose festivals, but this will be the one.

There'll be more roses than anybody ever saw together before.

Whatever other parks Portland has, it should have Council Crest.

No, Gwendolina, a pastured cow doesn't give Pasteurized milk.

Even if the cost of living decreases, some people always want more.

It took the senate 12 weeks to pass the railroad bill; it ought to be a good one.

Pity the people back east; winter's not much more than gone till summer is on them.

Don't put your hand on your pocketbook and take it away again; some thief might be looking.

Lectures and strictures of a visitor from abroad that offend a nation do harm rather than good.

The average pay of the ministers of the United States—preachers—is only $663. But this doesn't include weddings and funerals.

A bride can get $100,000 worth of stuff on her, but a groom, however rich, can't show off more than a few hundred dollars' worth.

After the festival comes vacation. Life is just one pleasant thing after another, for those who have the leisure and the price.

Prices of grain, wool and many other agricultural products have come down, but the consumers are paying about as much as ever for necessaries.

Still, it is doubtful if anybody will ever get to heaven in an aeroplane. Coming to Portland in the summer time will be the nearest approach to it.

Birmingham, Ala., says the Age-Herald, has a delightful summer climate. In comparison with Yuma, doubtless. But not if anyone has summered in Portland.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

A trout hatchery may be established at Bend.

Scarcity of men delays the hay harvest around Echo.

The Dalles may have a manufactory of grape and fruit juices.

Over 2800 head of cattle were shipped from Heppner to Montana last week.

Postoffice receipts at The Dalles are 30 per cent more than a year ago.

Several big business structures will go up in Klamath Falls this summer.

The "cream" of the Willamette valley is around Gervais, claims the Star.

Eugene is doing more building than any town of its size, claims the Register.

Number of sheep in the southwestern Oregon forest reserve this summer will exceed 2,000,000.

Both Seaside and Newport, the prospect is, will have more visitors than ever this summer.

A temporary fishway having been built at the Ament dam, a large run of salmon is coming up the Rogue.

More than 20 automobile loads of people, besides many in other vehicles, from La Grande, attended the Union horse show.

A Marion county farm of 180 acres was sold about 14 years ago for $4000, next for $4400, two years ago for $8000, and last week for $12,000.

More sod land has been broken this year at Enterprise than in the previous two seasons. Much of the work is being done by new settlers who have been arriving in large numbers.

Signs point to a second successive bumper small grain crop in Grand Ronde valley this year. That last year's record crop of 1,000,000 bushels will be duplicated by wheat growers for the second successive time can now be predicted with considerable certainty, says the La Grande Observer.

Blasting on the Eugene-Klamath railroad is distinctly heard in Eugene day and night, the displacement sometimes rattling the windows like an earthquake, although the blasts are from 15 to 35 miles away. A big force of men is employed on construction, which is being rushed with all possible speed.

Central Point Herald: Along with the balance of the Rogue river valley, which is just now enjoying an era of development never before witnessed or equaled in its history, the town of Tolo has become a veritable beehive of industry, more than 250 men being employed in road and street grading, townsite clearing, mill and carpenter work and putting in of a complete water and light system and otherwise making ready to build an industrial city, where power for many manufacturing plants can be obtained.

June 6 in History—Birthday of Nathan Hale

Nathan Hale, one of the most picturesque of the martyrs of the Revolution, was born on June 6, 1755. He was a descendant, through a long line of distinguished ancestry, from John Hale, the New England clergyman, who was chaplain in the expedition to Canada in 1690, and one of the prominent persons in the Salem witchcraft trials in 1692.

Hale was only 21 years old when he was made captain of the "Connecticut Rangers," a corps known as "Congress' Own," commanded by Thomas Knowlton. Dr. Eneas Munson, of New Haven, says of him at this time that "he was almost six feet in height, perfectly proportioned and in figure and deportment he was the most manly man I ever met. His chest was broad, his muscles were firm, his face wore a most benign expression, his complexion was roseate, his eyes were light blue, and beamed with intelligence, his hair was soft and light-brown in color, and his speech was rather low, sweet and musical."

Early in September, in 1776, Hale was in New York. Washington was anxious to secure some private information regarding the condition of the British army. Hale volunteered to enter the British lines. Disguising himself as a schoolmaster and loyalist, he visited all of the British camps on Long Island and in New York, openly making observations, drawings and memoranda of fortifications.

As he was about returning he was apprehended and taken before Sir William Howe, who upon the evidence found in his shoes, condemned him to be executed before sunrise on the following morning. He was denied the attendance of a chaplain, and his request for a Bible was refused.

The letters he had written to his sister and betrothed (who was his stepsister) were destroyed before his eyes by the provost marshal, William Cunningham, so that, as he afterwards said, "the rebels should never know that they had a man who could die with such firmness."

Hale's execution took place in Colonel Henry Rutgers' orchard, near the present junction of Market street and East Broadway, New York city. As he ascended the scaffold he said: "You are shedding the blood of the innocent; if I had ten thousand lives, I would lay them down in defense of my injured, bleeding country;" and his last words were: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

At the time of the breaking out of the Revolution, Hale was teaching school in New London, Conn. The news of Lexington reached the quiet village, and a town meeting was at once held. Hale was among the speakers, and he urged immediate action, saying: "Let us march immediately, and never lay down our arms until we obtain our independence." He at once enrolled himself as a volunteer and was made a lieutenant in Colonel Charles Webb's regiment.

Hale's military career was cut short owing to the unfortunate circumstances referred to above, but the country has come to greatly admire this daring young patriot, who risked so much for our cause, and met such an untimely death, on September 22, 1776. His countrymen never pretended that the beauty of Hale's character should have exempted him from the penalty which the laws of war of that day imposed; their only complaint was that the hours of his imprisonment were imbittered by barbarious harshness.

June 6 is the date of the burning of the Temple of Diana of Ephesus, B. C., 356. It is the birthday of Pierre Corneille, the noted French dramatist, (1606); John Trumbull, the noted soldier and artist (1756); Samuel P. Newman, author and educator (1797); Louis A. Godey, publisher (1804); Catherine A. Warfield, poet and author (1816); and Thomas L. Bradford, physician and authority on Homeopathy (1847). Today is the date of the death of Patrick Henry in 1799.

TANGLEFOOT

By Miles Overholt

VAUDEVILLE LESSON NO. 2.

(Two characters, man and woman, who have just moved to the farm from the city.)

Man says: "Gracious, I'm tired. Dug over 10 acres and got only eight potatoes."

Woman, looking at eight small turnips, says: "Potatoes? Those are not potatoes; they're beets. Can't you see they have no eyes?"

"Oh, yes, they're potatoes, all right; but you see they were so lonesome they cried their eyes out. Have you set the hens yet?"

"No, I didn't have any yeast."

"Yeast! Why, you don't set hens like you set bread."

"Oh!"

"I believe we ought to pick the geese and can the gooseberries."

"So do I. And then let's pick the goslings and get enough 'gauze' to cover my new dress."

"We might. By the way, were there any cuckoos here when we bought the place? I'm so hungry for a cooky."

"No, silly; cookies are cooked by a cook. But I saw more nice crabapples growing in the orchard. We might have some boiled crab."

"It's an awful task to raise things when you don't know anything about farming. I think we ought to exercise judgment in buying seeds. For instance, in raising flowers, we should buy only self-rising flour seeds."

"Yes, that's what I think. The other day I planted some bachelor buttons—they're awfully pretty—but I couldn't find any buttonhole seeds in town."

(That's the idea. You see, this line of talk is continued about 15 minutes longer, after which the orchestra plays something sad and the moving pictures begin.)

A SHINING LIGHT.

"That young leading man seems to have his own way around here a good deal," said the man who was watching a rehearsal. "Is he the star?"

"No—son," replied the fellow who criticises plays and sometimes players.

THE BREAKER.

He broke his limbs when he was young,
He broke his parents, too;
He broke a friend when he got stung,
He broke a word or two.
He broke the Ten Commandments,
And he broke alone for pelf,
One day he broke into the "street,"
And then he broke himself.

More Ballingers Than One.

From the Atlanta Journal.

In a single sentence, Attorney Louis D. Brandeis has sketched a vigorous picture of Secretary of Interior Ballinger. In his argument before the congressional committee yesterday Mr. Brandeis summed up by declaring that the secretary had not been vigilant and resolute in resisting the aggressiveness of special interests, and that his course had been characterized by a lack of fidelity to the public interests.

That seems to be a fair and well seasoned summary of the evidence which the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation has brought to light. But it is considerably more than that. It is a description which may be taken as a type of public officials always useless and now intolerable to the people of the United States.

The fault in Secretary Ballinger appears to have been not so much straightout hostility to popular interests as apathy and indifference to public interests. He has not been vigilant and resolute in resisting the aggressiveness of private monopolies. Like Mother Goose's son, Jack, he is not very good and not very bad. He has been a sort of cipher, through which the peoples' business has slipped neglected.

Like all tepid souls, he has chafed under criticism, and when Gifford Pinchot set out to protect public interests that were being jeopardized and even destroyed, Mr. Ballinger was naturally very sore. His efforts to defend his record have been as futile as his administration of the department of the interior, for it has consisted of a long and ill-joined series of excuses.

The American people are weary of public officials who are figureheads. Vigilance and resoluteness in resisting the aggressiveness of private interests is today the great essential of a man intrusted with the business of the state, the city, or the nation. Lacking these qualities, he lacks the sword shield behind which the people's welfare is secure. There are many Ballingers in office, but fortunately for the country's good they are fast being called to account.

Fine Art of Letter Opening.

From the London Chronicle.

In Russia one letter in every ten passing through the post is opened by the government as a matter of course. Indeed the postal authorities of every country have experts who have raised letter opening to a fine art. Some kinds of paper can be steamed open without leaving any traces, and this simple operation is finished by reburnishing the flap with a bone instrument. In the case of a seal a matrix is taken by means of new bread before breaking the wax. When other methods fail the envelope is placed between pieces of wood with edge projecting one twentieth of an inch. The edge of the envelope is first flattened, then roughened and finally slit open. Later a hair line of strong white gum is applied and the edges united under presure.

Are You One?

From Everybody's Magazine.

"Say, pop, what is a pessimist?"

"A pessimist, my son, is one who, of two evils, chooses them both."

King George

(Contributed to The Journal by Walt Mason, the famous Kansas poet. His prose-poems are a regular feature of this column in The Daily Journal.)

He called his counselors and said, one day in London town: "It is decreed that my poor head must wear the kingly crown. And when that crown is on my brow, the sceptre in my hand, I'll reign the best that I know how, and guard my native land. But, to avoid a muss that would deface the nation's fame, there's one thing must be understood this early in the game. At reigning I will labor hard, as busy as a bee, but you must keep that Austin bard from shooting songs at me. A monarch cannot put up hay, or make a useful sound, if Alfred Austin springs a lay, whenever he turns round. And so, my lords and gentlemen, you should be looking sharp; go, confiscate that poet's pen, and smash his blamed old harp. A monarch bears a heavy load, e'en when there is no bard; if Alfred Austin writes an ode, that rubs it in too hard."

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