East Oregonian.

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

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NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

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The night has a thousand eyes,
The day but one—
Yet the light of the whole world dies
When day is done!

The mind has a thousand eyes—
The heart but one;
Yet the light of the whole life dies
When Love is done.

—Song.

## WILL THE DRAMA GROW OLD?

Without cessation for over two centuries of turmoil and evolution, the Shakespearean plays have been admired by a changing and capricious world.

Tonight one of the old dramas which has been repeated hundreds of thousands of times before audiences of all colors, classes, dispositions, sentiment and condition will be repeated in Pendleton, and there is even keener interest in the "pound of flesh," in the merchant of the Rialto, in the judgment of Portia, than at any time in the long and varied history of this delightful romance.

Will the dramas ever grow old? Will there ever come a time while the old world stands in which the thrill of the story will not draw us to the footlights, and make us idle dreamers again and again while the unreal, yet delicious elixir of love and chivalry and adventure dominates our mind?

Will there ever come a time in which the heart will be so barren of sentiment that it will be unresponsive to the call of this art of arts?

In "The Merchant of Venice," which will be presented tonight, there is not a solitary scene familiar to the American, not a solitary combination of circumstances possible in this age, not a situation which any of us hope to see enacted in life—and yet there clings about the old story that magic something which tugs at the heart and stirs the soul and inspires the mind as though it were a refreshing baptism of inspiration.

The drama is a part of life, because it depicts life. It is a part of human history because it portrays the passions that burn, the hopes and fears and longings that surge in the heart of man, yet which are not recorded in the cold histories of the world's action.

Upon the mimic stage we see and feel the things which are in us, yet which are unexpressed. We hear the voices which have called to us from within yet which we have not understood before.

So as long as the heart rules and the mind serves, as long as the waves of passion and yearning murmur on the far shores of human life, so long will the unreal queen of drama hold us in thrall!

## CANADIAN REBELLION.

Singular news comes from Victoria, British Columbia,—nothing less than that British Columbia threatens to secede from the Dominion of Canada.

It appears that for several years discontent has been growing over the refusal of the dominion to consider a readjustment of the terms upon which British Columbia entered the Dominion in 1871, and now members of the provincial parliament have openly advocated secession, as a solution of the difficulty. "Better terms or secession," is said to be likely to become the political battle-cry in British Columbia.

Sensational as is the idea of an independent commonwealth on our northwest border, the idea of secession is not new. British Columbians have always been an independent and forthright folk, and more than once have they threatened to secede. Indeed, that is always the sword that they hold over the head of the dominion, when there is trouble in the air.

## VOLUNTEER COMMANDERS.

One of the thorns in the flesh of General Miles when he was commander-in-chief of the army was the fact that he was not a West Pointer. He entered the army in the civil war as a volunteer from Massachusetts and rose through all the ranks to that of senior major general, which gave him the command under the old system.

But he never got on well with the administration, and when he retired as lieutenant general after the Spanish war, it was with a feeling that the West Pointers in the army had never given him very cordial support because he was not one of them.

But it is a curious fact that the first chief of staff under the new system, Adna R. Chaffee, was not a West Pointer either; and it is further worthy of note that three of General Chaffee's successors in office, Bates, Corbin and McArthur, are not West Pointers. Two of them, Corbin and McArthur, had difficulty in getting into the army at all, and Bates owed his appointment directly to President Lincoln who commissioned him a second lieutenant. The others enlisted as privates.

The army appears to have done well under the guidance of men who learned the art of war in the actual school of the battlefield and camp.

It is a tribute to the genius of the American people and our democratic institutions that so many men have risen by the sheer force of merit to the highest rank in the army and have there acquitted themselves with credit to their country. West Point may be necessary in the long run, but it must be evident that it is not indispensable.

## SENATORIAL GRAFT.

An interesting story is told of how the senate figured it out to pay Burton of Kansas his mileage. Burton is constructively a member of the senate, but actually he has been warned not to appear on the floor. He just hangs about the cloak rooms and the corridors, probably smoking cigarettes and wishing the United States courts were in Jericho.

Recently the senate mileage account came up and it became necessary for some employe of the senate to certify that he had seen the Kansas senator in the chamber. This was difficult since the senate itself has warned him to keep out. But Mr. Burton was induced to stand in the doorway and an employe was stationed so he could see him from the floor. He thereupon posted off in haste and made affidavit that the senator from Kansas was "in attendance."

This comes under the same head as the people paying for the manicuring of senatorial nails and flesh-brushing after the senatorial "bawth." Mr. Burton is not a member of the senate in the sense that he is doing anything for the people of his state. He is, senatorially speaking, in a state of suspended animation.

Should the court of last resort sustain his conviction he would cease immediately to be a member of the senate. Should his conviction be finally set aside he would be in the position of a senator who from illness or another cause had been unable to attend the session of the senate. He is entitled to no mileage and the payment to him is a petty graft.

Several thousand sheep have changed hands in Gilliam county lately, $2.85 being paid for June delivery. At this price sheepmen will realize about $5 a head for their sheep. Among the sellers are Andrew Neel, 3000; Jeff Neel, 1500; Albert Still, 1200. These sheep are nearly all mixed yearlings, sold to Montana buyers.

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## DOWN ON THE FARM.

We'd miss a lot of cheer and fun,
If things should prove what they appear;
Why, there are streaks of glory run
Clear through the dark days of the year!
A blazing fire
To sit before;
A year's desire
Attained and more;
O'erflowing cribs,
And barns a-burst;
Yams and spare-ribs,
And cures for thirst.
And Oh! the jingle we can make—
How clear it calls'—
Just any time we choose to shake
Our overalls!
Who cares how low the clouds may lean,
Or fears because the north wind roars?
Why, there are good, strong walls between
Them and the glad, bright world indoors!
There is content,
From envy free;
And merriment,
And childish glee;
And pumpkin pie,
And candy stew;
And pop-corn balls,
And kisses too!
And, oh! that feeling, felt always—
How sweet its charm!—
That comes, when come the year's dark days,
Down on the farm.

—J. P. Sjolander.

## CHANGED.

With a burning heart from the stinging smart
Of ungratified desire,
He carved his name in the hall of fame
With words of living fire.
And people marveled the tale he told—
The ringing truth, the thoughts of gold.

But riches came with his tardy fame,
And gnawed his heart away,
Till his only creed was a growing greed,
And his idols but fossil clay.
And people shrank from the things he said—
The foolish rhymes, the thoughts of lead.

—Bent Twigley.

## BURBANK'S "HUMAN PLANTS."

Luther Burbank, the California man who originates new kinds of flowers and plants and fruit, at a recent gathering in San Francisco, made the following statement:

"Did you ever think what is the most pliable and the most precious product of all the ages? It is not pigs, mules, books or locomotives, cotton or corn—but children. Children cannot be treated alike. Each has his or her special individuality which is the most valuable of all endowments. If all were alike no progress could be made and right here comes the weakest point in the present educational system. If we hope for any improvement of the human race we must begin with the child, as the child responds more readily to environment than any creature in existence.

"We in America form a nation with the bloods of half the people of the world within our veins. We are more crossed than any other nation in the history of the world and here we meet with the same results that are always seen in a much crossed race of plants: all the worst as well as all the best qualities of each are brought out in their fullest intensity, and right here is where selective environment counts. All the necessary has been done and now comes the work of elimination, the work of refining, until we shall get an ultimate product that will be the finest human race which has ever been known. Many years will pass before the finished work is attained, but it is sure to come. The color, the perfume, the size and form that are placed in plants will have their analogies in the composite, the American of the future."

## NO WAITS; NO TIPS; NO DELAYS.

Fritz Morris describes the ingenious automatic restaurants which have recently been introduced in Berlin.

Cabinets with glass fronts line the walls, Mr. Morris writes, and through these glass fronts are to be seen rows and rows of little elevators, with the slots and mechanism for working them. On one side of the restaurant is fitted an "automat" bar, where by dropping the indicated price into the proper slot, the wished-for drink comes to the waiting customer.

Shelves, all around, on the little elevators, bring up hot soups, hot roasts, cold meats, pies, sandwiches, tea, coffee—in fact, whatever is on the menu, and that is changed daily. All the customer has to do is to decide what he wants, drop his coin in the little opening, and await results. In less than a minute, up comes his meal, raised by electricty from the kitchen in the basement, and it comes either steaming hot or ice cold, just as ordered, and clean, fresh and sweet with no waiter with black cuffs and greasy napkin, to take your appetite away while handing it to you.—Technical World.

## WHO OWN AMERICA?

Today it is computed that there are in the United States no fewer than 70 estates that average in value $35,000,000 each. There are 10 private fortunes aggregating $2,000,000,000—those, namely of John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, Marshall Field, W. K. Vanderbilt, John Jacob Astor, J. P. Morgan, Russell Sage, J. J. Hill, Senator W. A. Clark and William Rockefeller. There are 400 fortunes aggregating $3,000,000,000, and 4500 aggregating $10,000,000,000. Five thousand men in this country, whose aggregate wealth is estimated at $15,000,000,000, actually own, to say nothing of how much they control, nearly one-sixth of our entire national wealth in money, land, mines, buildings, industries, franchises and everything else of value, which sixth, if put into gold, would give them all of the yellow metal above ground in the world and leave more than $9,000,000,000 still owing them.—Harper's Weekly.

John E. Madden paid $47,000 for Prince Milbourne at the Splan sale at Chicago February 9. The price is among the highest ever paid for a horse in the west.

It is officially stated at the naval academy at Annapolis, that the first honors in this year's graduating class will go to Allen Chantry, of Malvern, Iowa.

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