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A DEED AND A WORD. A little stream had lost its way Amid the grass and fern. A passing stranger scooped a well, Where weary men might turn. He walled it in and hung with care A ladle at the brink. He thought not of the deed he did, But judged that all might drink. He passed again, and lo, the well. By summer never dried. Had cooled ten thousand parching tongues And saved a life beside. A nameless man amid a crowd That thronged the daily mart Let fall a word of hope and love. Unstudied, from the heart. A whisper on the tumult thrown A transitory breath. It raised a brother from the dust; It saved a soul from death. O germ, O fount, O word of love O thought at random cast. Ye were but little at the first, But mighty at the last! —Charles Mackay.

WOULD YOU GO BACK?

Judge Henry E. McGinn is one of the big republicans of the state who does not believe in the reactionary assembly plan. At the assembly smoker held in Portland Wednesday evening he struck straight from the shoulder at the scheme that is now being fostered with so much care. "The direct primary law came to us as the result of the most corrupt politics any state has ever known," declared the judge. "If there had ever been an honest election of United States senators, or an uncontrolled convention, or decent politics of any kind under the old system, there would have been no direct primary law, no Statement No. 1, no initiative and referendum. These things are the result of the protest of the people against the rottenness of the old plan and the old politics and the old leaders of the state. I know this, you all know it. I know it because I was a part of it, be it said to my shame. I, as a young man, went through the school of the old system and I do not want to see any young man of the present day go through the same experience that I went through before the passing of the old regime and the coming of the new. For that reason, if for nothing else, I am against the assembly and what means. * * * * *

"You say you are going to have an assembly. I ask you who will be there who will compose it, who will control it? I will tell you. The agents of the electric light company will be there. The agents of the street railways and the gas companies and of the predatory trusts, and combinations and of the big railroad companies will all have seats. The men who have franchises to guard, the men who fatten off the fruits of the red light district, the men who own saloons, they will all be there. But the wage worker, the small tax payer, the merchant and business man, the honest people of the state, will not be present. How in God's name could they be? What chance would they have to be selected? "In all the history of the state I have known but one senatorial election by the legislature under the old system that was honest, and that was the election of Senator Fulton. There never was a time, except that, when the senatorship was not put up for barter and sale. I know because I was there and through it. I remember the time when the Northern Pacific put up \$30,000 to defeat the election of Senator Simon and we only had \$18,000 ourselves. And I remember other political campaigns where the interests paid our whole campaign expenses and no man had to put up a cent in his own behalf. Judge McGinn's speech rings strong and true and it is wholesome music to hear a man speak fearlessly as he did. Now what do you think Mr.

Average Republican, are you in favor of the assembly plan? Do you want to go back to the system of government by party machines and bosses and in behalf of the special interests that influence those bosses, or would you rather see primaries and elections held in a fair and open manner in conformity with the spirit and letter of the direct primary law?

WE ARE NOT AFRAID.

The knocker we have with us always and so it is not surprising that he has raised his woeful wail against the plan of the Washington & Oregon traction company to enter this city. Some of the criticisms heard, though, are too near the limit to be endured.

"That company has a franchise," exclaimed Sad Face excitedly, "that gives them the right to build a street car line on any street in the city. If it would do that and an opposition company should enter the field we would have two tracks upon every street."

Sad, said indeed is the predicament into which Pendleton has fallen. A possibility of two or more street car lines upon every street in town! It is a wretched outlook for sure. With even one car track upon each street in the city the situation would be deplorable enough. Mrs. Jones' brindle cow would then have to go elsewhere than to the thoroughfares of the west end to find good pasture. The small boys on Johnson street could no longer play football in safety in front of their homes, the Lewis street horse shoe pitching tournament would have to be abandoned and the bulldog that bites at the automobiles would have to look out or get hit by a trolley car. It is a fearful outlook indeed and Sad Face does well to shiver with fright at the very thought of two car lines upon every street in the city.

However it is comforting to know that there are not many Sad Faces in Pendleton. The bulk of our people are well informed, progressive men and women. They know that cities are seldom burdened with too many traction systems and that property owners do not usually object when street car lines are built in front of their property.

VERY HOPEFUL.

With the four and a half inches of rainfall already this season it seems certain that the two years drouth has been broken and that in Umatilla county at least we will have more than a normal precipitation for the season.

In the situation at present there is much room for felicitation. A proper rainfall is all that eastern Oregon needs to obtain bumper crops. The soil of this section is abundantly rich. Good crops may be raised every year when there is enough moisture or when by proper methods of tillage the moisture is conserved in the soil. It is the lack of moisture that makes summerfallowing so prevalent in eastern Oregon. The land itself needs no rest thought it would be improved by a rotation of crops.

Pendleton needs all the electric power it can secure. This city needs the power to be developed by the Washington & Oregon company; it needs the power from the John Day river and likewise the power to be developed upon the Umatilla. Electric power means traction lines and manufacturing establishments. These are essentials in the upbuilding of a city.

This city needs a "Pendleton man" for mayor and furthermore the city needs a man who will be mayor for all the people. Mayor Murphy is such a man.

People may now be thankful that Thanksgiving is over.

WHAT WAS THE LADY'S AGE.

Toward the close of a recent lawsuit in Massachusetts the wife of an eminent Harvard professor arose and with a flaming face timidly addressed the court.

"Your honor," said she, "if I told you I had made an error in my testimony, would it vitiate all I have said?"

Instantly the lawyers for each side stirred themselves in excitement, while his honor gravely regarded her. "Well, ma'am," said the court after a pause, "that depends entirely on the nature of your error. What was it, please?"

"Why, you see," answered the lady, more and more red and embarrassed, "I told the clerk I was thirty-eight. I was so flustered, you know, that when he asked my age I inadvertently gave him my bust measurement."—Everybody's Magazine.

Often a man who is gentlemanly enough to laugh heartily at a story he has heard a dozen times, will go home and get grouchy when his wife gently reminds him of some chore she has asked him to do.

HIS NEW BROTHER.

Yes, I've got a little brother. Never asked for him from mother. But he's here! But I s'pose they went and bought him. For last week the doctor brought him. Ain't it queer?

When I heard the news from Molly. Why, I thought at first 'twas jolly. 'Cause you see I just 'imagined I could get him. And our dear mamma would let him play with me.

But when once I had looked at him. I cried out, "Oh, dear!" to that him. "Just that mite?" They said, "Yes, and you must kiss him!" Well, I'm sure I'd never miss him. He's a fright!

He's so small it's just amazing. And you'd think that he was blazing. He's so red; And his nose is like a berry. And he's bald as Uncle Jerry. On his head.

He's no kind of good whatever. And he cries as if he'd never. Never stop! Won't sit up—you can't arrange him! Oh, why doesn't father change him At the shop?

Now we've got to dress and feed him. And we really didn't need him. Little frog! And I can't think why father Should have bought him, when I'd rather Have a dog! —London Daily News.

HEARD SOMETHING DRAP.

There are many darkies of the old sort in the south who make it a point to pride themselves upon their remarkable memory touching remote events and persons long since dead.

To one such a Richmond man was putting a series of questions in a spirit of banter. To his query as to whether she remembered George Washington, the old woman replied that she did, indeed, having served Martha Washington in a domestic capacity.

They was put an interrogation concerning the Revolutionary war, which the old woman recalled perfectly. Finally the questioner said: "I'll wager you don't remember the fall of the Roman empire."

At that the old woman took a good, long breath and reflected. Then she replied: "De fact is, sah, I was pretty young den, an' so I doesn't have no very distinct remembrance 'bout dat. But I does remember, now dat you speaks it, dat I did hear de white folks tell 'bout hearin' somethin' drap."—Philadelphia Ledger.

GENERALLY THAT WAY.

A physician at a recent meeting of the College of Physicians, in Philadelphia, told a story illustrating the witty comprehension of a patient of Irish nativity. The physician declared that one of his patients, an Irishman, could not understand why, if one of his arms refused to perform its usual functions the other should remain normal.

"It is the balancing power of nature," explained the physician. "If a man is blind in one eye, nature generally provides additional strength for the remaining eye. When deafness is discovered in one ear, the hearing of the other ear becomes unusually acute."

"Now that you mention it, O, believe 'de so," said the patient. "When a man has wan short leg, th' other leg is generally longer."—Judge.

A Remnant of the Dark.

A colored man died without medical attendance, and the coroner went to investigate. "Did Samuel Williams live here?" he asked the weeping woman, who opened the door.

"Yassuh," she replied between sobs. "I want to see the remains." "I is de remains," she answered promptly.—Everybody's Magazine.

"A Beaut."

The golden-haired song bird had just bowed to her audience when a man rushed frantically upon the stage and cried: "Is there a physician in the house?" A young man in the third row, blushing with embarrassment, arose.

"Say, Doc," asked the man on the stage, with a jerk of his thumb toward the singer, "ain't she a beaut?"

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Counting German Noses.

The statistical year book for the German empire, the 1909 edition of which has just been printed, gives the population of Germany on June 30, 1909, at 63,886,000. The population of the empire on June 30, 1908, was 62,982,000. The year thus shows an increase of 904,000. This is slightly less than the increase for the year ended June 30, 1908, which is given at 999,000. The last census of the empire was taken in December, 1907, when the population was found to be 60,641,278. Later population figures are arrived at by adding the excess of births over deaths and emigrations.

By this method the population on June 30, 1906, was 61,117,000; in 1907 it was 62,083,000. In the three and a half years since the last census the increase in population has been 2,250,000, and since the founding of the German empire in 1871 it has been, in round figures, 23,000,000.

At a Chicago dressmaker's convention they are going to show all the different styles of feminine wearing apparel since the days of Eve—Peek-a-boo! Abdul Hamid is writing a book. He persists in persecuting mankind.

S.S.S. BEST TREATMENT FOR CATARRH. There is no way to cure Catarrh—except to purify the blood and thus do away with the cause. The symptoms may be relieved by the use of washes, injections, sprays, medicated lotions, etc., but through the use of such treatment catarrh suffers merely temporary relief and discomfort. External and local measures however, cannot have any effect on the blood, and therefore their use alone is of no real value. Catarrh is a deep-seated blood disease, and comes as the result of catarrhal matter and other impurities in the circulation. These impurities collect in the blood cause an inflammation and irritated condition of the mucous membrane of the cavities of the body, producing an irritating secretion, ringing noises in the ears, stuffy feeling in the head, nose, headachos, hoarseness, bronchial affections, watery eyes, etc. S.S.S. is the best treatment for Catarrh because it is the greatest of all blood purifiers. This medicine removes every particle of the catarrhal impurities from the circulation, making the vital fluid pure, fresh and healthy. Thus the inflamed membrane begins to heal, because they are nourished with pure, health-giving blood, every symptom disappears, and soon S.S.S. produces a perfect cure. S.S.S. does not contain any habit-forming drugs, really never can cure Catarrh, but often runs the health. Book on Catarrh and any medical advice. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

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