

The West.

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THE demo-populo candidate Pierce, whose name appeared twice on some of the tickets in this state, will have to get his credentials from the Supreme Court, since the legality of the twice printing has been brought forward for adjudication.

How short lived is fame! When you speak to one of your countrymen now of "the great struggle" he no longer thinks you refer to the presidential election or even to the Corbett-Sullivan fight, but replies at once: "Yes; Yale got away from Princeton dead easy."

A NOVEL site for a honeymoon was recently chosen by a couple from Kansas. The newly-wedded pair was determined to avoid the madding crowd and to enjoy each other's company alone without being sneered at, so they retired to the depths of an old coal mine.

SENATOR DOLPH introduced a bill to provide for the retirement of Judge Deady at full salary on or after March 4th next. This bill could not pass, if it provided for retirement at an earlier date, as the democracy would want Cleveland to appoint his successor. —Oregonian.

MAJOR HANDBURY has submitted a report, that goes to Congress, advocating the improvement of the Willamette river as far up as Eugene. He calls attention to the importance of the commerce of the country and gives that as a reason why the improvement should be made. His estimates for cost of surveys and plans, are \$12,000.

LARGELY in advance of all other motives of townspeople are the ones of improvements. Some way there is a blending of thrift and good morals in them, for a shabby-looking town is not flourishing and its morality is at its lowest ebb. Since we have begun building sidewalks in Florence, cleaning and otherwise improving our streets, we all look better, act better, and are better because we feel a pride in the improvements.

"CAPTAIN SYMONS reports that the Coos river is worthy of improvement and states that it is necessary to remove the snags, boulders and sunken logs in order to make the river navigable for at least forty miles. He also gives a statement of the commerce of that region." This is a late recommendation to the Government. Pity 'tis that the Siuslaw and Tillamook harbors are not worthy a recommend for improvements, and the counties through which they pass have no commerce of sufficient greatness for an Engineer's paragraph!

THE gold yield during the year 1891 was far in excess of any previous twelve months, being 6,033,000 ounces, or \$132,726,000. Of this the United States produced \$34,903,000. The chief feature of recent years has been the development of the Witwatersrand gold fields. It is a curious reflection that the little

state of Transvaal, formed by men whose only desire was to get away from civilization and lead a patriarchal life, untouched by outside influences, should end in being fed by the greatest gold mine the world has ever seen.

THE *Scout*, a democratic journal published at Union, Oregon, in speaking of pensions for Union soldiers, says: "The country is, of course, rich and prosperous, but the people object to having the burden of taxation increased to pay pensions to men who are not entitled to them." As it requires an honorable discharge from the service, and proof of disablement to get a pension, it must be concluded that the whole lot of soldiers are not entitled to pensions. It is perfectly proper for democrats not only to think this, but carry it out in their legislative enactments. The second act of the incoming Congress should be to repeal all pension laws and take up the southern war claims, so long lying on the shelves at Washington, and pass them as a reward for the fidelity of the southern states to the democratic party.

HE WHO aspires to do any thing well should look upon nothing with greater suspicion than upon that which he seems to have done easily. It is true that easy doing comes of hard practice, but that same hard practice is really the preliminary part of the doing. Yet even then the attainment of a measure of ease ought to be the signal to move on toward that which is less easy. A recent writer, speaking of Tennyson's devotion to ideal excellence, remarks that "he was not easily satisfied with his own performance, but ever returned upon it with a critic's eye and a courageous hand. Every cadence, every word, was challenged and assayed." He was the greatest poet of his day, partly because writing poetry was hard work to him. And, conversely, many of the smallest poets of the day are so small because they find the writing of poetry so easy.

LATELY, in New York, Monsignor Satolli delivered a lecture before the Archbishop of the Catholic faith regarding the education of Catholic youths in public schools. He seems to be sure that "certain corruption seems to impend from the fact that children of both sexes are brought together in the same room for lessons." In reviewing the Pope's letter on the subject and directed to the Archbishop of New York, Satolli favors the plan of the Pope, that of a separate building near our public schools where the children may assemble and be taught religion according to catholicism. The distance is not far to travel where the young leave parochial teachings when once they enter our free common school rooms. Without any extra effort on the part of teachers, there is an air of liberty of thought in every school-house, because of the self-reliant, self-helping part of the educa-

tion. Free schools of this country is one of the synonyms of liberty and free thought, and even Catholic children catch these free inspirations, and soon learn that the Pope is like all other men and not second in authority to the Creator. It is little wonder, under the circumstances, that the Catholic authorities look with alarm at the decreasing number of church members recruited from the rising generation in America who attend the public schools.

WHAT a pleasant review it would be if more papers would tell a few facts about work-people abroad, and leave out a little of their imagination. Even in England where free trade and aristocracy prevail, the officials are reporting against the horrible "sweating system" by which the making of clothes is farmed out to women in their homes at incredibly low prices, and the scrutiny is meeting with alarming results. Even the wedding garments of wealthy maidens have been found in "fever dens." An English case is published in which a woman suffering from typhoid fever made a wedding dress; but, she being taken to the hospital before it was finished, the clerk of the "sweater" hurried it out of the infected house and gave it to another girl to complete. Finally, after the lives of at least twenty persons had been endangered, the infected garment was seized and destroyed. What foolishness we find in the complaints of well-paid labor in this country, when compared with facts of the condition of toilers in the Old World.

THERE is but one point of view from which the question of free trade can be regarded by the democratic party. Whether considered from the standing ground of revenue to support the Government, or a defense to our manufactories and laborers, the decision must be free trade, for a party has no moral right to declare that protection is unconstitutional and tariff a robbery, without repealing such law when the power is given them. Not even to retain the good fame of our country among other nations should a "robber tariff" be preserved. The reasons making for the abandonment of the McKinley tariff bill are overwhelmingly strong for the democratic party. It was a political issue and the wage-workers voted for it, and so did a majority of the farmers and artisans. Already we see in democratic exchanges, that a few weeks ago called the tariff a robber, now entering into the subject of the imperative political considerations that demand that Congress should retain its hold on the key of protection until they can let themselves down easy into free trade. There is not the semblance of an excuse for a paper or a party that has declared a law a robber not to enter into its evacuation, though it tear asunder every thread which holds together this Government. A country has no right to exist when it

draws its sustenance from a single law that is a thief. It is the duty of the democratic press to keep their party lashed with "robber tariff" articles, just as they did before the election, and demand that when the next Congress meets the free trade ax shall fall on the protection law with a startling suddenness, for it will be hardly the time to be recklessly throwing away opportunities of breaking fresh ground in the fields of free trade.

THE ingenuity of Americans is phenomenal. A man named Myers has invented a "Poor Man's Voting Machine" that can be operated by merely pressing a series of buttons. The names of the respective candidates and offices are arranged in rows of different colors up and down the wall, and the party designations at the head of the list, and the voter who cannot read can pick out his candidate by the color. Next each name is a knob to push, which counts for the candidate one vote, which is recorded by an automatic counter in the back of the machine. Any man who wants to vote a straight party ticket can pull a lever, which will press a whole row of knobs at once. If he wants to divide his ticket, he presses individual knobs in the different rows. If he wants to vote for some one who has not been regularly nominated he omits to press the knob referring to the special office and hands in the written name instead. This sort of machine may be very ingenious, but we are not suffering to increase the facilities for polling the ignorant and illiterate vote. The man who cannot mark his ballot intelligently under our system can be spared as a shining light in the management of national affairs.

MARTIN LUTHER.

Nothing is to be gained for the religion of Christ by attacking the motives of long dead champions of any of the churches which bear the name Christian. It would be strange, indeed, if any human being should pursue any course of action from unmixed motives of Christliness; and it would be equally strange if any man were to stand out against what he believed to be the sins of his times, and turn the current of the world's thought, from wholly ignoble motives. The danger of this age is not hero-worship, but hero-analysis, which we may press so far as to destroy all the beautiful and strong models that the past has given to us, more or less truthfully, by the adroit method of throwing into shadow all of the real picture that does not harmonise with the ideal. Who will profit when Homer, Shakespeare and many another goes down amid the grins of unknown mediocrity? Who would be the gainer if Martin Luther were shown to be a little worse or a little better than he is pictured? His handiwork stands to-day in the Protestant Church and doctrine; and if any would assail it, it is here on top of the earth and ready to defend itself. It is always cheap to arraign the dead.