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VOL. XII. ROSEBURG, OREGON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2. 1887. NO. 22.

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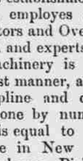

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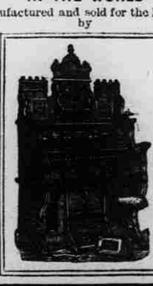
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BEETHOVEN
PIANO ORGAN CO.
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MENTION THIS PAPER.

THE CAUSES OF THE DECLINE OF MEDICAL PRESTIGE.

There exist in every community hundreds of men whose capacity for manual labor is *nil*. Why? because their fathers were possessed of the insane idea that their first born was too good to work. They had worked all their lives, and they were determined that their sons should be gentle men, and their daughters ladies. They pinched themselves, and endured poverty to enable them to give their sons and daughters an education. The daughters were taught deportment, music, French and polite airs generally, and their sons Latin and mathematics, and an abhorrence of manuel labor, as only fit for slaves, or persons of low degree. Following the old English idea, the first born must be dedicated to the army, and the younger to the church, medicine, or law. The intermediate could take care of themselves, only that they were bound to uphold the family honor and keep themselves free from the stigma of labor. We are a republic, and yet the heredity of this monarchial system clings to us, and is shown in our every day's experience. There is no man in this world, bound as all must be by the mental organism received from his ancesters, but will recognize this fact, that he desires for his sons, some position where brains and not muscle shall enable him to obtain a livelihood. And by brains, we mean those purely mental occupations that do not demand the exercise of those intellectual faculties, which encroach on the domain of labor. To be a linguist, a theorist, (theologian, or scientist,) a lecturer on abstruce science, a lawyer, or last of all, a medical man, might not detract from the honor of the race; but to be a "dirty mechanic," to promulgate any theory in mechanical science, or to invent or discover any theory by which the *"oi polloi,"* the common mass of the population were to be benefited, was to degrade the higher classes of humanity, by elevating above their station the lower order of mankind. The desire to obtain a living without labor, and to belong to that class of society called intellectual, has flooded the community with thousands of half educated persons, whose efforts to sustain themselves rest only on the ignorance of the masses, and on the amount of assurance and chicanery they can bring to their aid.

Although each one of the so-called "learned professions" affords abundant example of the truth of this assertion, yet in none is it more manifest than in our own. We say now, as we have said before, that it is in answer to this demand for an occupation without labor, (that may elevate men in the world and give them prestige and wealth, without the capacity to sustain themselves,) that has caused multiplication of medical colleges, whose only aim has been the money paid by its students (!) and year by year there are sent out to prey upon the credulity and ignorance of the people—doctors(!) who have not the first qualification for the prosession. As artizans, engineers, business men, farmers, they would have acquired fortunes and happiness. Physicians, like poets, *"nascitur non fit."* Take fifty so-called doctors and place them in line, then let some educated physician, born to his profession, choose from among them, his equal. Let any uneducated man declare the occupation of each, and in either case, how many would be chosen as physicians? It is the desire for competence without labor or brains, on the one hand, and the pandering to this desire on the other, that has lowered the standard and the prestige of the true physician. That this is the right view of this subject, has been shown by the action of the State Board of Health of Iowa, which absolutely refuses to recognize the diplomas of some thirty colleges of the class we deride. This is virtually boycotting, but it must receive the sanction of the world, since it is a protection to human life. What similar bodies, confident in their own integrity and high standard, have courage to follow this example? Institutions thus ostracised will soon close their doors. This is the only way to purge the profession of uneducated members, and to rehabilitate the practice of medicine. Unworthy institutions being no longer recognized, let the legitimate colleges raise the standard of primary qualifications, and admit no neophyte, unless qualified by a four years collegiate course of study; then will the term physician take the place of doctor, and profession as a whole receive the respect add consideration that belongs to it. Competition and jealousies will cease, and educated skill will not be obliged to compete with arrogance, avarice and ignorance.

Entrance to the medical profession in England is no easy matter. The diploma of no American college is recognized in London. A man must first attend the course of a college, graduate, and then practice six years under a hospital license, before he can get a diploma from the London Board.—*The Pacific Record.*

COMMUNICATION.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Aug. 15th, 1887.

Ex-Congressman Brady, one of the Republican leaders of Virginia, was in the Capital a day or two since, and being at sixes and sevens with little Billy Mahone, the Republican boss of that State, Mr. Brady gently submitted to an interview in which he gives some interesting information regarding the political situation in the Old Dominion. He says that Mahone in his mad desire to make every other interest subservient to his ambition to return to the United States Senate, has alienated all of his own lieutenants, including such men as Senator Riddleberger, Ex-Govenor Cameron and two of the Republican Congressman elect so, that only listless apathy and egregious blunders on the part of the Democrats can secure Mahone's return to power from the Mother of Presidents.

That piece of monumental folly and pet Republican measure, the Blair Educational Bill, has been sat upon in the house of their friends, or what was supposed to be such, for the Committee on Federal Affairs in the New Hampshire House of Representatives, by a vote of seven to three, has laid on the table resolutions endorsing the bill. And this from cranky Senator Blair's own State and party! "That was the most unkindest cut of all" worse by far than the Democrats could give.

Secretary Fairchild, a few days since, dismissed a pair of Republican clerks for consuming a portion of their valuable time during office hours in abusing the Democratic party one of them being a brother of the brass-throated G. A. R. howler, Gen. Grosvenor, Congressman from Ohio. The Secretary well says that he thinks it too good in the Administration to keep Republicans in their places, but; that indecent criticism of the Democracy should not be permitted. The sentiment of the able and popular young Secretary of tee Treasury will find a ready echo in the hearts of thousands of Democrats, with the wish that there were more Fairchilds in the Cabinet.

Secretary Whitney is pushing forward with the earnestness and enthusiasm characteristic of him, his efforts to re habilitate the American Navy, having just awarded the contract for the building of two gunboats and three cruisers, after the most improved designs, and with such iron-clad test as to speed and capacity that full compliance with these conditions is guaranteed, Another commendable action of the Secretary is his continued refusal to furnish any funds for the repair of rotten hulks like the Monocracy that were inherited from the late Republican regime.

Two Republican chief clerks of the Interior Department have resigned during the present Administration, the successor of the last one not yet having been chosen. I trust Secretary Lamar will be able to find some good and worthy Democrat for the position. It is a fact, perhaps not generally known, that with a single exception, every chief clerk of a Department under President Cleveland's Administration, is a hold-over Republican, although those places are not under civil service rules. Why this is thus, I have, as yet, been unable to discover; but, it "overcomes me like a summer dream."

In the Washington Police Court the preliminary trial of the Crawford fornication case, which I have heretofore mentioned, still drags its slow length along like a slimy serpent, owing to the fact that it must give way each day to the regular routine of cases. There was a most exciting scene in this scandalous case; one of the defendant's counsel told the Judge that the United States District Attorney had said to the two associate counsel for the defense, that the Judge would decide the case in the Government's favor, regardless alike of argument and evidence—that, in fact, he had pre judged the case. This statement the Judge had reduced to writing, and as the venerable Jurist read the charge in open Court, his anger and passion were so overpowering that he shook like an aspen leaf, as he denounced the arraignment "as a false aspersion upon my character." Then, the District Attorney and the opposing counsel had an unseemly wrangle—the former affirming and the latter denying. I fully agree with one of the defendant's lawyers, who, in a towering rage, declared that the way the case was being tried was "a disgrace and an outrage on all concerned in it."

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