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ASTORIA, OREGON, SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1884.

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RAIN IN CUBA.

Coming Down in Vast Sheets Containing Tons.

The rainy season has set in in Havana, the yellow fever is sweeping down its victims, the Americans who have been wintering there went back weeks ago and those few Cubans who have got the means are in New York on their way to Europe. Never was rain more needed than when it began to fall there a few days ago. For months the hot sun had pierced an absolutely clear sky and the last drop of moisture seemed to have dried out of the earth.

JOAQUIN SPEAKS A PIECE.

So many people write asking about schools and the like in the far west, says Joaquin Miller, that I want to say here and once for all that the schools there are about as good as they are here. And that is saying they are good enough for the best. I am perpetually provoked by these inquiries and suggestions that the far west is a wild country with wild people. Some say here that the people of Oregon and California also and other like lands out there are much better read and better bred, too, than the people of New York. Take the statistics of crime: Seven murders in New York to one in Oregon; prison records show about the same fearful balance. As for schools, briefly, the University of Oregon is the peer of anything of the kind here. Ah, wonderful and well informed! Atlantic states! Don't you know that we have the same books out there? The same papers—everything? And the only difference we read them; you don't. We have no lighted cities to walk in at night, no theaters to go to; so we read and read and read. And thus it is that the Oregonian or the Californian is, in a general way, far better informed than the New York man. I doubt if you will find an average western man who is not well up in Plutarch, Plato and Xenophon. Yet during all my years in New York I never once heard of these. However, I must admit that I found a man and his wife reading Plutarch here in Washington the other evening. I must admit that they are from the west. Here is my new tree-planting poem for the Oregon University:

THE TREE BY THE WELL.
An Arab Shik in deserts wide
Once sorrowed so for thirsting man
He led before the caravan
And digging wells, he thirsting, died.

He died of thirst! the wells remain!
Oh, daring, patient Pioneer,
God's angels, what a triumph here!
To know no well is digged in vain!

We led against the sunset gold,
We lifted hand in desert land,
Dugged wells—and graves—in drifting
The Arab's piteous tale of old.

We plant a tree beside this well
Of knowledge in the westward West.
You peak rise up to call it blest,
They stand eternal sentinels!

Blaine's First Hunt for Office.
Now that Blaine is the nominee there is no end to the stories that are being related of his boyhood. Congressman Pusey of Iowa who went to school with him in Washington county, Penn., tells an anecdote illustrating the spirit which has not only made him the greatest man in America, but at last brought him within a step of the White House. At school the Plumed Knight was called "Nosey Blaine" in consequence of his prominent proboscis, which is still his only homely feature, and the boys, among whom he was always a leader, physically and intellectually, were very fond of making fun of him. Blaine, however, never lost his temper. One day "Nosey" conceived the idea of being president of a literary society to which many of his schoolmates belonged, and he made a rapid canvass of the field. There was but one candidate against him, who withdrew at once when he heard Blaine was in the contest. Only one objection was urged against young Blaine, he was the best debater in the society, the biggest boy and the brightest scholar. Coming to Pusey he disclosed his ambition.

"Why, Nosey," said Pusey, "of course I'll help you; but you can't fill the place."
"Can't fill the place?" exclaimed Blaine, astonished at Pusey's lack of confidence. "Why not?"
"Because you don't know anything about parliamentary law. You can't preside without a good knowledge of points of order and things of that kind. The young candidate, sure enough, had overlooked this qualification, and was somewhat abashed to reflect that what Pusey said was probably true. But suddenly brightening up he said, "I'll fix that mighty quick. The election is to-morrow. I'll commit Cushing's Manual to memory to-night."

And Pusey says he did it. Before daylight next morning he knew every important part of Cushing by heart, and within a week was an authority on parliamentary law while speaker of the house, and the wonderful facility with which he unraveled the most intricate questions of order, will pass credit to Pusey's story. His memory of principles, dates, names and facts, naturally strong, has been cultivated until it is more remarkable than his genius for leadership and command.

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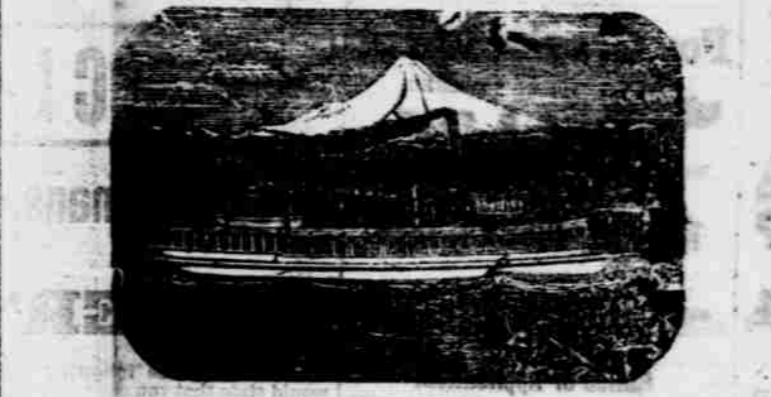
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Oregon, June 24, 10 AM
Columbia, June 26, 10 AM
Oregon, June 28, 10 AM
Columbia, June 30, 10 AM
Oregon, July 2, 10 AM
Columbia, July 4, 10 AM
Oregon, July 6, 10 AM
Columbia, July 8, 10 AM
Oregon, July 10, 10 AM
Columbia, July 12, 10 AM
Oregon, July 14, 10 AM
Columbia, July 16, 10 AM
Oregon, July 18, 10 AM
Columbia, July 20, 10 AM
Oregon, July 22, 10 AM
Columbia, July 24, 10 AM
Oregon, July 26, 10 AM
Columbia, July 28, 10 AM
Oregon, July 30, 10 AM
Columbia, August 1, 10 AM
Oregon, August 3, 10 AM
Columbia, August 5, 10 AM
Oregon, August 7, 10 AM
Columbia, August 9, 10 AM
Oregon, August 11, 10 AM
Columbia, August 13, 10 AM
Oregon, August 15, 10 AM
Columbia, August 17, 10 AM
Oregon, August 19, 10 AM
Columbia, August 21, 10 AM
Oregon, August 23, 10 AM
Columbia, August 25, 10 AM
Oregon, August 27, 10 AM
Columbia, August 29, 10 AM
Oregon, August 31, 10 AM
Columbia, September 2, 10 AM
Oregon, September 4, 10 AM
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Oregon, December 29, 10 AM
Columbia, December 31, 10 AM

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