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the same on

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work by the Lightning pro-
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till after the Fourth.

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WASHINGTON.

News of the Week From Our Regular Cor-
respondent at the Capital.

WASHINGTON, July 31, 1891.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:—

Washington has not had such a lively
week, politically speaking, for
months as the present one has been,
and if outward indications count for
anything the Blaine boom has sudden-
ly grown into such proportions as to
completely overshadow the Harrison
boom, which has up to this week ap-
parently had the right of way on the
republican track, and the prediction is
being freely made that it is only a ques-
tion of time when Mr. Harrison will
formally announce the withdrawal of
his name. What has brought about this
change? Well opinions differ; the
prominent republicans here, members
of the National Executive committee
and others attracted here by the meet-
ing of that committee, held Wednesday
evening, say that there has been no
change and that the present situation
is the logical outcome of the almost uni-
versal demand of the rank and file of
the republican party that Blaine be the
nominee; others say that the action of
certain republicans favorable to Mr.
Harrison in helping to spread misrep-
resentations of Mr. Blaine's actions
and health has done the work. I can-
not say which, if either, of these opin-
ions are correct; but the fact remains
that while Mr. Blaine, according to
those who are certainly in a position
to speak for him, will not be a candi-
date, he will do nothing to prevent his
being nominated and if the nomination
comes to him without effort on his
part he will accept it. That is all his
friends wanted, and those republicans
here this week, including the national
executive committee, appear to be all
his friends and all certain that he will
be the nominee. Well, we shall see.

Statistics are not usually interesting
to the average reader, but the state-
ments made this week by the Treas-
ury Bureau of Statistics of the foreign
commerce and immigration of the United
States for the fiscal year ending
June 30, 1891, contains figures that
should interest every intelligent person.
The total value of our foreign com-
merce was \$1,729,330,896, a much
larger amount than it ever reached
before in a single year. We imported
merchandise to the amount of \$844,905,
491, and exported \$844,425,405, worth.
The McKinley tariff law went into
effect on October 6, 1890, and from
that time until June 30, 1891, a few
days less than nine months, we imported
merchandise to the value of \$630,
206,005, against \$598,769,905, during
a corresponding period in the pre-
ceding fiscal year. During the same
period the value of goods admitted
free of duty was \$295,963,665, against
\$208,983,873, during the same time
in the preceding fiscal year. More
gold was exported during the last fiscal
year than in any single year of our
history. Here are the figures: Exported
\$86,363,622; imported \$18,246,512.
The total immigration into the
United States during the fiscal year
was 555,496, against 451,215 the
preceding year, the increase being large-
ly from the following countries: Italy,
23,354; Austria-Hungary, 14,861;
Germany, 21,122, and Russia, in-
cluding Poland, 28,245. Stop and think a
moment over these figures; it will en-
large your ideas of the immensity of
this country.

Secretary Foster has quietly ignored
the letter recently written by Commis-
sioner Owen to Representative Neid-
ringhaus taking the ground that Welch
tin-plate workers can be legally
brought to this country under contract,
and has written another letter stating
that the Treasury department cannot
undertake to determine in advance of
the importation of tin-plate workers
the legality of bringing them. It is
said that the secretary was very much
put out by what he considers Commis-
sioner Owen's bad break, and that he
intimated to that gentleman very
plainly that a letter of such importance
should not have been sent without
first being submitted to him. The
outcome of the matter is to be a series
of regulations, supposed to cover every-
thing coming under the alien contract
law, which, it is stated, are soon to be
issued by the Treasury department.

Two other subordinates of Secretary
Foster have been overruled by him in
a little matter upon which they had
set their hearts. Assistant Secretary

Crouse and Treasurer Nebeker it
seems found the pleasure of holding
office so great that they wished their
respective sons to get a share of it, so
each of them appointed his son to be
his private secretary. When the ap-
pointments reached the secretary, he
refused to confirm them. Then the
two gentlemen put their heads together
and the result was that Mr. Crouse
appointed Mr. Nebeker's son to be his
private secretary and Mr. Nebeker re-
procated by appointing Mr. Crouse's
son to be his private secretary, but
Secretary Foster wasn't to be caught
by any such deal as that, and he again
vetoed the two appointments.

A reciprocity treaty with San
Domingo has been agreed upon, and
will go into effect September 1.

The resignations of Senator Quay,
chairman, and Col. W. W. Dudley,
treasurer, of the republican national
committee, were accepted by the ex-
ecutive committee and Mr. J. S.
Clarkson was elected chairman and
instructed to appoint a treasurer. Mr.
Quay has also resigned his place on the
national committee, which removes
him from national politics entirely.

J. H. C.

Crop-Weather Bulletin, No. 22.

The observer of the Oregon Weather
Bureau, of Portland, Oregon, has is-
sued the bulletin for the week ending
Saturday, Aug. 8, 1891, the same be-
ing based upon reports received from
147 correspondents, which is as follows:

WESTERN OREGON.

Weather.—The temperature has
been from 2 to 5 degrees a day below
the average for the week. On Tuesday
and Wednesday thunder storms were
quite general and rain fell, especially
in the Willamette valley and along the
coast; rain also fell on Thursday and
Friday, while today is clearing weather
and warmer. The rain fall was heav-
iest in Multnomah and Columbia
counties and gradually decreased to
the south, especially south of Marion
county; south of the Calapooia moun-
tains less than .15 of an inch of rain
fell. In the northern part of Willam-
ette valley about .75 of an inch of rain
fell; in a few sections hail fell on the
5th.

Crops.—The rain did no material
damage to the wheat crop; much of
the fall wheat was cut and in shock,
ready for the thrasher, and about all
the damage done was the delay which
will crowd fall wheat threshing and
spring wheat cutting close together.
There are a few reports of wheat having
fallen, but this is practically nothing.
A continuation of the rain would have
caused the wheat to sprout; the clear-
ing weather was most timely. Threshed
wheat in Polk and Yamhill
counties has been averaging from 25 to
40 bushels per acre; oats also yielded
well. In some sections plowing for
summer-fallowing is in progress. The
rains were of great benefit to root crops,
garden, pasturage and young orchards,
and had a tendency to destroy and
cause a cessation of the ravages made
by the hop louse and codlin moth.
The four days rain was most unusual
this season of the year, but fortunately,
no damage was done and good results
from it are expected.

EASTERN OREGON.

Weather.—The temperature has
been considerably below the average
for this season of the year. The weather
has been cloudy or partly cloudy
and general showers prevailed on
Thursday and Friday, ranging from
.04 of an inch at The Dalles, .07 of an
inch at Heppner to .33 of an inch at
Baker City. In the Blue mountains
in Union, Wallowa and Baker counties
snow fell on the night of the 5th. The
temperature was so cool that fires were
necessary in the house for comfort.

Crops.—The rains delayed harvest-
ing and threshing two days; no damage
was done to the wheat by the rain,
though it did some damage to the hay
crop east and south of the Blue moun-
tains. In Wasco county from Dufur
to The Dalles the wheat is shrunken
and the yield is poor; some smut is to
be found; in other sections the wheat
yield is good. In Gilliam county there
is some rust. In Morrow county the
wheat is yielding even better than was
expected. In Umatilla county the
yield is better than for many years.
Wallowa, Union, Baker, Crook, Grant
and other interior counties have excel-
lent prospects.

B. S. PAGUE,
Observer, U. S. Weather Bureau.

BIBLICAL QUESTIONS.

"Forus" Presents Further Proof That a
Flood Did Exist.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:—

In THE SCOUT of July 16th, H. C.
Emery has an article entitled "Reply to
a Few Questions," but in that arti-
cle he does not attempt to answer a
single question I asked. He quotes
the 6th, 7th and 8th verses of the 104th
Psalm and then tries to explain them,
but it is evident to anyone that he has
twisted them around to suit his opin-
ion. Now any schoolboy can come a
great deal nearer giving the meaning
of those verses than he has done;
further, he fails to quote the 9th verse,
intentionally I suppose, for it would
have placed his explanation of the
other verses in a bad light. The 9th
verse reads: "Thou hast set a bound
that they may not pass over; that they
turn not again to cover the earth."
I would like for him to explain this
verse so that it would agree with his
explanation of the others. Is it a sci-
entific truth that a bound must be set
to the clouds so they will not again
cover the earth? He asks, "Does sci-
ence teach that water runs up hills
and mountains to seek its level?"
This question will be answered in the
following proofs. In conclusion he
says, "I will still hold to my first state-
ment until more positive proof is pro-
duced than the old Psalmist David."

His statement was a denial of the
possibility of a flood as recorded by
the Bible. As to the flood story we
will notice first the flood-legend, one
form of which has come down through
Berosus and Josephus, but which ac-
quires much more certain antiquity
and greater grandeur from the Inscrp-
tions. Their account, says Schrader,
whose bias cannot, I think, be con-
sidered as friendly toward the Hebrew
record, "brings the Biblical narrative
into much closer relation with the
Chaldean flood-legend than could be
assumed on the basis of tradition in
Berosus." It forms part of the Izdu-
bar legends discovered by George
Smith, who published his account of
them in 1872, and who assigns to
them a date anterior to 2000 years
B. C., under the early Babylonian
empire. (See "Assyrian Discoveries,"
page 165.)

The Bible story of the flood derives
corroboration from the Babylonian
record, inasmuch as it is thus carried
back by an independent testimony to
a very great antiquity. That record,
composed, as Smith thinks, not long
after the time of Izdubar or Nimrod,
gives us the tradition of a flood which
was a divine punishment of the wick-
edness of the world, and of a holy man
who built an ark and escaped the des-
truction. The voice of natural sci-
ence has not been, and probably is not
at present, uniform on this subject.
The negative has just been presented
to the world by Professor Huxley. He
conceives that Christian theology must
stand or fall with the historical trust-
worthiness of the Jewish Scriptures.
(Nineteenth Century, July, 1890; page
8.) I may be bold enough to mention
that, while Mr. Huxley is speaking in
the name of science at large, some
votaries of science hold an entirely
different opinion. Moreover, that the
idea of a flood was not dismissed by
the luminaries of the scientific world
anterior to the present day; and that
the grounds of this dismissal are not
of recent discovery, but were fully
open to the geologist of the last gener-
ation. Quite recently the doctrine of
a deluge has been maintained by Sir
J. Dawson, ("Modern Science in Bible
Lands," page 252.) by Mr. Howarth,
(by the Duke of Argyll, (The Scotch-
ish Geographical Magazine, April,
1890.) all of whom are surely to be
considered as serious scientific inquir-
ers.

Mr. Howarth, in his learned and
laborious work on "The Mammoth and
the Flood," is not bound by any super-
stitious reverence of the mere text of
the Book of Genesis, for, in his pre-
face, he casts aside as null its traditions
respecting all that precedes the crea-
tion of man. He collects not only the
diluvial traditions of so many races
and countries, but an immense mass
of paleontological evidence, and hav-
ing laid this wide ground for his in-
duction he declares that, in his judg-
ment, the whole points unmistakably
"to a wide spread calamity, involving
a flood on a great scale." "I do not
see how the historian, the archaeolo-

gist and the paleontologist can avoid
making this conclusion in future a
prime factor in their discussions, and
I venture to think that before long it
will be accepted as unanswerable."

I quote in conclusion the following
passage from Lanormant, which fol-
lows a copious collection of testimonies
to the erodition of a deluge in almost
all lands: "The long review, to which
we have just applied ourselves, war-
rants our affirming that the tale of the
deluge is a universal tradition among
all branches of the human family,
excepting, however, the blacks. But a
remembrance prevailing everywhere,
so precise and so concordant, cannot
be that of a myth arbitrarily invented.
No religious or cosmogonic myth pre-
sents such a character of universality.
It must of necessity be a recollection
of a great and terrible occurrence
which impressed the imagination of
the ancestors of our race so profoundly
as never to have been forgotten by
their descendants." (Second edition,
1880.) Pons.

STARKEY STRIKES.

STARKEY, Oregon, August 7, 1891.

Everybody is busy haying—between
showers.

School closed on the 24th for a two
weeks vacation.

Several Umatillaites are in the
mountains huckleberrying.

Last Thursday the high hills were
covered with snow.

Mr. Frank Chevett made a flying
trip to Pendleton last week.

Charley Thompkins and Henry
Schaffer are engaged repairing the
school house during vacation.

A hail storm visited this vicinity on
the 16th ult., doing considerable dam-
age to crops.

Pat. Loftus finished stacking his
hay on the Alden place on the 4th,
James Handahan superintending the
job.

Mr. J. F. Adams and family, who
have been rusticing here for the past
week, returned to their home in Umatilla
county on the 4th.

The French Bros. arrived with their
threshing machine on the 1st, and the
ranchers will have an opportunity to
test the yield of their crops. Every-
body is saving some grain to thresh
instead of cutting all for hay as has
been the case heretofore.

A special correspondent of the Pen-
dleton Tribune passed through Star-
key last week. He was surprised at
finding a settlement so far back in the
mountains. He says there is as good
grain here as he has seen anywhere,
and we will no doubt get a puff from
the Tribune. Old Socks.

New and Novel.

Tulare, California, proposes to fur-
nish a very novel exhibit for the fair.
From a gigantic redwood tree, 390 feet
high and 26 feet in diameter, will be
cut two lengths forty-five feet long and
these will be transformed into full-sized
railway coaches by hollowing out the
interior. The rough bark of the tree
will be left on the top of the roof and
on the sides and ends the natural
wood will be left unpolished. The in-
terior will be finished after the style of
the Pullman cars. One will be a buffet
dining car, with bath, barber-shop
and kitchen, and the other a sleeper
with observation room. Ordinary car
trucks will be put underneath, and
the men of Tulare, with their wives
and children, will make their trip to
Chicago in these strange coaches and
live in them while there. The inten-
tion is to keep these cars on the ex-
position grounds, and to sell as mementos
the portion of the tree cut away in
their construction.

Take It Before Breakfast.

The great appetizer, tonic and liver regu-
lator. In use for more than 50 years in En-
gland. Positive specific for liver complaint,
bad taste in the mouth on arising in the
morning, dull pains in the head and back
of the eyes, tired feeling, dizziness, languor
symptoms of liver complaint Remedy—
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Relieves constipation, sharpens the appetite
and tones up the entire system. Get the
genuine from your druggist for \$1, and take
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