

# ATHENA PRESS

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By J. W. SMITH, PROPRIETOR.

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ATHENA, AUGUST 11th, 1893.

## TWO VIEWS OF THE BUSINESS DEPRESSION.

On Thursday General Harrison described to an acquaintance the existing business depression as follows: "The Sherman act is not alone responsible for the prevailing want of confidence. The distrust is not against silver only; it is not against the Government issue of money. Relatively gold is circulated as is silver; people are withdrawing money—gold, silver and paper alike—from circulating banks or savings institutions and are locking it in safe deposit vaults or hiding it away in old stockings. They do this because they are fearful of business calamities. Distrust is increasing and the outlook is gloomy. The Sherman act is not the sole cause of the bad times. That measure has served its purpose, it is true, but it is not responsible for the depression which overhangs commerce, trade and agriculture.

"The political party in power came in on the statement of its principles formulated and promulgated at Chicago. It was announced to the country that the existing system of tariff should be modified to the extent of a tariff for revenue only. On this base the candidates of the party now in power were elected. The enormous manufacturing interests were, of course, duly impressed, and business has been compelled to suit itself to the condition to which Chicago platform would logically lead. It is impossible to suddenly bridge over the wide chasm intervening between comparative free trade and the protective system under which the Nation grew rich without prolonged convulsions in trade. The business of the country cannot prosper under these circumstances. The distrust is widespread; everything languishes. The heterogeneous political elements that will meet at Washington in August will represent free trade and many other theories contrary to business ability. The conservative portion of the country stands aghast at the possibilities of legislation, and are trimming sails to suit the weather. The outlook is dark, because it is difficult to see how relief is to come. This distrust might be dispelled, perhaps, but how? I can see no Moses at present who will lead the business world out of its slough of despond.

Ex-Secretary William C. Whitney, in an interview in the New York World says: I heartily endorse Mr. Cleveland's policy of urging the repeal of the Sherman law as a preliminary to tariff reform. However small may be the actual intrinsic effect of the silver purchase upon the currency, there can be no doubt that apprehension of such effects is the first cause of the existing lack of confidence in business circles and the consequent widespread financial distress. If the country is not being drowned in a silver flood, it is at any rate being scared to death by the fear of such a deluge. The first thing to be done is to shut off whatever flood there is, be it big or little, and stop the scare. There can be no doubt that the absolute and unqualified repeal of the Sherman law would do this. Even Mr. Harrison implicitly admits as much. I agree with Mr. Cleveland simply repeal, without amendment or substitute, is the only thing to be considered now. But I do not wish to be regarded as considering the repeal of the Sherman law a permanent cure for our Nation's ills. I look upon repeal as a palliative, not a panacea. The currency question is not the most vital one with which we have to deal. The

silver scare will not be long over before some other scare will begin, unless we go to the bottom of the trouble and get the business and industry of the country off the artificial basis upon which it is being conducted. The country's prosperity will never be permanently established while an annual tax of three or four hundred millions is laid upon its industries. No matter what disguise it may assume, our present tariff system is essentially a tax upon the producing and industrial classes. The tariff is assessed, not upon what men own, but upon what they eat and drink and wear. Under it, it is easily possible that a poor man with a large family may be compelled to pay more taxes for the support of the National Government than an economical millionaire with only himself to keep.

The only permanent remedy is in a readjustment of this great burden of taxation and equalizing its pressure upon all alike. Other countries do this. There is no reason why the United States cannot. To such a reform the Democratic party is pledged. The Republicans fulfilled their promise by passing the McKinley bill, increasing the tariff and perpetuating its inequities. The McKinley bill mistake of the Republicans would be a mere quibble compared with the monumental folly of which the Democratic party would be guilty should it ignore the issue upon which it elected Mr. Cleveland. If Mr. Harrison were as frank as he is shrewd, he would not lay foundations for a fresh destruction of public confidence by predicting fresh disaster from an attempt to "bridge over suddenly the wide chasm intervening between comparative free trade and the protective system." Neither he or any other leading Republican really believes that Mr. Cleveland is an Anarchist and the members of the Democratic party a vast conspiracy against the property of the whole people, Democrats included. Of course there will be some friction about it; men and industries which have thrived on Governmental favors are found to suffer when that favor is withdrawn, no matter how carefully the withdrawal is effected.—New York World.

We publish in this issue two views of the causes of business depression as given in the World. The prominence of these two men attract much attention to their utterances on this subject, especially at this time when people are anxious for light on this subject. Such being the case, their views are receiving due consideration from the press of the country. The St. Louis Globe Democrat (Rep) says, in regard to Harrison, it is not in good taste for ex-President Harrison to give out for publication the utterances attributed to him holding the present administration responsible for the financial situation. A surgeon who, summoned to the scene of an accident, instead of setting limbs and binding wounds, should proceed to inquire how the calamity was brought about and whether it could not have been avoided, would be strangely derelict in his professional duties. Yet his conduct would be very much like that of men of high standing like General Harrison who became critical when they should be remedial. They "do rub the wound" when they should "bring the plasters."

The Indianapolis News (Ind) says, "we regret to see that ex-President Harrison does not seem to realize that criticism from him, of all men in the world, should be conspicuous by its absence. The country has not forgotten the desperate struggles of his Secretary of the Treasury for more than a year to avoid an unfavorable balance. He, himself, should be able to remember how Tanner and Raum squandered the magnificent surplus turned over by the first Cleveland administration. These things played a great part in developing the distrust of which the ex-President speaks in his recent interview."

In speaking of Whitney, the Albany Argus (Dem) says, "The Hon. W. C. Whitney has deservedly a National reputation as a far-seeing, prudent yet aggressive Democratic leader and his views upon party policy, accordingly, are entitled to the general consideration which they will receive. The

Democratic party is historically the party of a revenue tariff and the last election was carried on that platform against protectionism. We would not divert the attention of party leaders for a moment from the immediate task before it, the stoppage of Treasury purchases of silver, but the country must keep in mind that tariff reduction is the prime purpose of the Democracy, and that other necessary preliminary labors will not swerve the party from the fulfillment of its pledges to the people last year."

And the Boston Transcript (Ind) says "Mr. Whitney's manifesto possesses a large quantity of the masculine common sense attributed to this sagacious political manager. No sensible man fears such revision of the tariff as Whitney or Cleveland would sanction."

**DIFFERENT SUBJECTS.**  
While a newspaper may print column after column of matter eulogistic of its town, its very bright sayings will be received with a grain of doubt; says the Aberdeen News, if its advertising columns do not bear the impress of enterprise. The outside public has become well used to the patriotic utterances of the western press, and now when an eastern man takes up a western paper he invariably turns first to see for himself what enterprises are represented in the town. If he finds the advertising columns well filled he knows at once that the paper is published in a well established, prosperous community, and he next proceeds to examine reading matter to gain special information. He knows that so far as reading matter is concerned an elegant paper can be published in a claim shanty, but to him the advertisements are indisputable evidence of actual development. A newspaper, to be real benefit to a town in the way of attracting investors, must be the joint production of the publishers and local business men.

New York World: For three years past we have been inflating the currency at the rate of about \$4,000,000 a month. There has been—as there always is under such circumstances—a corresponding inflation in other directions. Business in many departments has been overdone. With easy money, enterprises have been undertaken which could not endure the pinch of stringency. Credit has been stretched and fictitious values established. Worse still, great swindling schemes, such as the cordage trust, the Reading conspiracy, the whisky trust and the like, have been put forward to tempt men to their ruin. Plain fraud has helped over-confidence to flood the market with stocks at prices wholly out of proportion to actual values.

The circulation statement issued by the treasury department Wednesday shows that the amount of gold certificates, United States notes and national bank notes in circulation August 1 was \$1,611,099, 117, an increase during the month of July of \$17,297,606. The increase during the last 12 was in round figures \$9,000,000. The per capita circulation, based on an estimated population of 67,000,000 August 1, was \$24.02.

**COUNCIL MEETING.**  
The council met in regular session last Monday night. All the members were present except councilman Kirk. Spencer reported some street crossings near the U. P. depot needed repairing. The matter was referred to the committee on street and public improvements. Spencer reported that the crossing on the east side of Main street had been built by Thompson & Crow according to contract, and that they were entitled to pay for the same. There was some discussion about the duties of the committee on street and public improvement. Bloch contended that they had no authority to contract for building walks, that it was the street commissioner's duty to look after such matters.

The ordinance concerning the impounding of stock was amended so as to require the Marshal to publish them in the paper instead of posting as heretofore. Nightwatchman Ward's appointment was approved and a salary of \$20 per month was allowed him. The following bills were allowed:  
Joel Stanton..... \$ 13 75  
Froome & Son..... 2 50  
Cox, McRae & Co..... 6 15  
S. Dickenson..... 21 75  
H. L. Tompson..... 35 52  
J. C. Stamper..... 75 00  
J. W. Smith..... 1 95  
Doc. Wyamer..... 13 75  
Wm. Mills..... 6 00  
Wes Ward..... 15 33  
The bill of Ad. Gross for \$10.80 repairing buggy broken by flag pole falling on it was referred to finance committee. A petition of Wm. Tompson asking the city to allow \$25 a month for street sprinkling was read and referred to committee on street and public improvement.

## Do You Want Money?

I have lately taken the agency for the D. S. Baker estate for loaning money on real estate in Umatilla county. Those contemplating securing loans will do well to call on me. Besides making loans as cheap or cheaper than any one else, I can assure you prompt action and less red tape.

W. T. GILMAN.

## Estray Notice.

Notice is hereby given that I have on this tenth day of August 1893, taken up the following property to wit:  
One white horse 5 to 10 years old, heavy collar marked, shows work horse branded on left side, also one black mare mule no brand visible, split in both ears, shows heavy collar marks.

Therefore I will sell the same at public auction at the city pound on Tuesday, AUG. 15th, 1893 at 1 o'clock p. m. on said day unless redeemed by owner, for cash in hand, JAS. C. STAMPEL, Marshal.

Dated at Athena this 10th day of August 1893.

## Notice.

To whom it may concern:  
Notice is hereby given that I will apply to the common council of the city of Athena, Oregon, at a meeting thereof held on the 25th day of August 1893, for a license to sell, spirituous, vinous and malt liquors in less quantities than one gallon. Place of business on lot 8, block 5, on Main street, Athena, Ore. T. W. TRENKLE, Applicant.

**HAMILTON & ROURKE,**  
Grain Dealers,  
ARE STILL HERE  
GRAIN BAGS FOR SALE.  
DAVE TAYLOR AGENT.  
Athena, Oregon.

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We are now ready to do a general warehouse business, and by placing your grain in our house you get the advantage of all the wheat competition of

## PORTLAND, TACOMA & SEATTLE

We positively guarantee to load your grain on either line of railway at one cost. Farmers look to your own interests and see our manager, J. N. B. Gerking, at the office, or J. R. Armstrong, assistant manager. Office and Warehouse, West Main Street, Between E. F. and W. & C. R. Railway Tracks.

FARMERS WAREHOUSE COMPANY, Athena, Oregon.

## Dr. Joseph J. Bill,

Graduate, M. B. C. V. S., London, Eng.

## Veterinary Surgeon and Dentist.

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I am prepared to do all kinds of Veterinary Surgery, Emasculating horses and Reglins a Specialty. (This is the only true method of operating on horses.) Spaying of cattle and dogs on short notice. I will treat all animals in the most approved procedure of Veterinary Surgery. If you have any sick animals it will be to your interest to call on

DR. JOS. J. BILL, Commercial Stables, Athena Oregon.

## Geo. W. Proebstel

## THE LIVE HARDWARE DEALER

of Weston Oregon.

Is selling at Bottom Prices:

- HARDWARE, STOVES AND TINWARE, NEW
- HOME SEWING MACHINES, DECORA ALL STEEL
- WINDMILLS AND TOWERS, LUMBER, SHINGLES
- AND WOOD WAGONS AND FARM MACHINERY.

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To the many superior points that have characterized the old reliable Buckeye Mowers have been added many new features including a power balance for lifting the cutter bar, etc.

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## HAND & SELF-DUMP HORSE HAY RAKES,

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J. H. CLARK, Mng'r, Athena, Or.

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## Ladies

Our new stock of Dress Goods has arrived from New York, and we will be pleased to show them. Among the dress goods will be the latest patterns in Pointelles, Grendines, Sateens, Chambrays Cashmeres, Sublime, Summer Suitings, etc etc.

## LATEST NOVELTIES IN TRIMMINGS TO MATCH

Chiffon and Oriental laces, embroideries, Hamburg edgings, fancy Ties, Gloves mitts, Handkerchiefs, etc. Entirely new and complete line of Ribbons, unique in design and very pretty, Underwear and Hosiery in all grades, and remember that we

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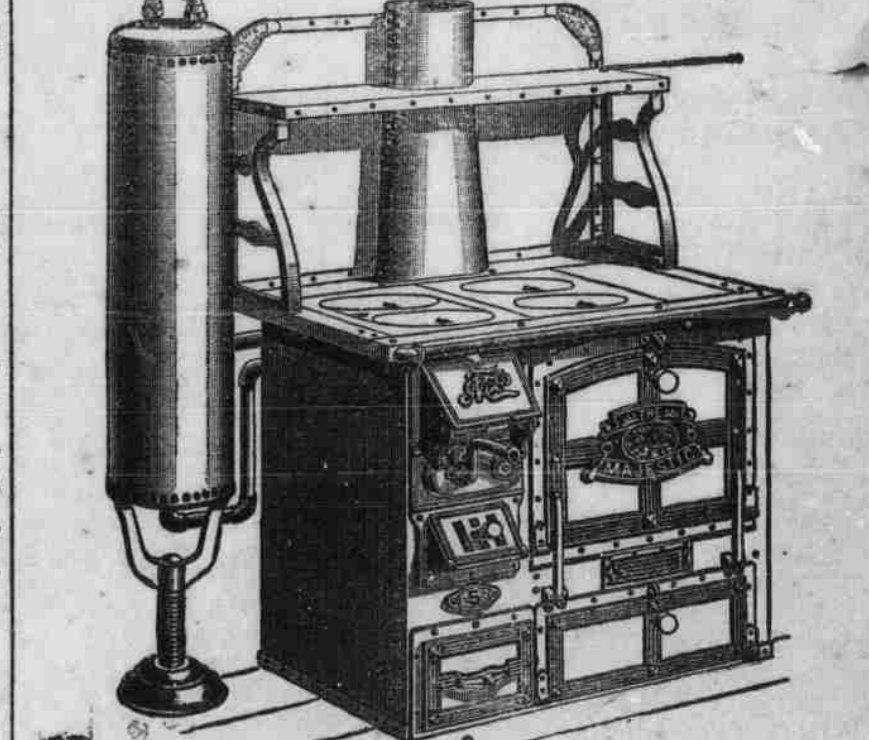
## Prices.

We would respectfully ask your inspection of these goods, knowing you will be pleased, and it will be a pleasure for us to show them to you.

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Athena Oregon.

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DEALERS IN SHELF and HEAVY HARDWARE.

FARM IMPLEMENTS, THRESHERS,

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I am the only dealer in Athena that buys direct from the manufacturer, and that manufacturer, Wm. Campbell, of New York, is independent of the National Wall Paper Combination. I buy my paper to the best advantage to myself and I sell to the best advantage of my customers. I have the largest line of wall paper in the county and it ranges in price all the way from 15c double roll, to 65c for the best gilt paper made. A fine line of undertaxing goods constantly on hand, and I am prepared to do embalming.

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