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Yesterday *Oregonian* furnishes a list of bills introduced by Mr. Herman on the 5th instant. Among these we notice one calling for an appropriation of \$1,500,000 for the work at the Cascade Locks. This work Mr. Herman hopes to have placed in the system now applied to Galveston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Hay Lake channel and Soo Sault Marie canal, which provides authority to the war department to contract for the entire work. Eastern Oregon and Washington will owe Mr. Herman a deep debt of gratitude if he succeeds in carrying this measure through. A still more important measure, if possible, Mr. Herman proposes to submit to the house next week. He will introduce a bill, on such a plan as he thinks most likely to pass his committee for overcoming the obstructions of the Columbia at the dalles and it will probably be the project finally reported by him at the last session for temporary relief in a portage railroad pending an appropriation for a canal or a ship railway. We shall watch the success of this latter measure with intense interest.

The Salem board of trade has taken up the matter of providing better roads for Marion county. Petitions are being signed in all parts of the county urging the court to levy a 2-mill tax to build good gravel roads under contract. Fifty some similar steps have not been taken here. There is a stretch of alleged road between the city and Long Ward's that has been calling to heaven for the last twenty years that something might be done different from summer following it every spring. It is a road the improvement of which is of immense interest to this city and county. Two or three mills added to the tax levy, and judiciously expended on this and other roads that demand attention would scarcely be felt and would benefit the people immensely. Such work has got to be done sometime and the sooner the better. There is no greater tax on the farmers than bad roads. If the county court, when making the tax levy for the current year would add a little on behalf of our county roads we believe the tax payers ought not to complain about it.

Archdeacon Farrar of London says that he will give \$500 for proof of a single case, in the church or out of it, where a person has been cured of intemperance without practicing total abstinence. This means says the Denver Sun that the Archdeacon's observation teaches him that the person who has fallen or drifted into the habit of drinking to demoralizing, disgraceful or dangerous excess can never tone himself over into a quiet, moderate, decorous drinker again. He must continue in his excesses or not drink at all. He must give up the pleasures of the wine table and the social party as the price of safety. There are doubtless others whose observations will corroborate the Archdeacon's conclusions, some may even confirm it by experience.

The fact that Governor Pennoyer has signed the Dalles board of trade circular urging our congressmen to work for a portage railroad at the dalles has encouraged the friends of the measure to send blank circulars to the governors of Washington and Idaho for their signatures also. The CHRONICLE suggests that a circular be sent to Senator Allen to see what he would do with it. The people of Oregon have observed with regret that while the Senator has always a good word to say for any purely internal or sea coast project in which Washington is interested, if he has ever said a word in favor of an open river it has never been loud enough to reach Oregon.

Russell Sage has resumed business at the old stand but now he has to have a body guard at a probable expense of ten dollars a week. Russell is reported to have had a suit of clothes destroyed by the bomb explosion that cost him fifteen dollars, cash, two years ago. The expense of a body guard and a new suit of clothes will break him all up.

Ex-Governor Hill of New York has leased one of the best houses in Albany, notwithstanding the fact that his position as senator is supposed to keep him in Washington for the next six years. This action of Mr. Hill is taken to indicate that he intends to be governor of New York as well as United States senator.

The biennial crop of candidates for state and county offices is beginning to bud and in some instances put forth leaves. As an exchange says we cannot all agree as to which party we can act with but we do all agree as to the necessity of good government. Good government begins at the bottom. To leave the primaries to a few local workers who generally take their cue from the party

bosses is a mistake. The best element society affords is none too good for a primary. If the people want good government and clean candidates they must guard the primaries above everything else.

Members of The Dalles board of trade have gathered statistics from thoroughly reliable sources upon which they base the estimate that the people of Wasco, Sherman and Klickitat counties have, since the opening of the Cascade portage, on the wheat crops of last season alone, received the sum of \$100,000 for their crops over and above what they would have received had the Cascade portage not been in existence.

Senator Chandler, of New Hampshire, has introduced a proposition to amend the constitution of the United States by adding to it the following:

No person of foreign birth, not a citizen of the United States, shall be allowed to vote for any officers, State or National.

The proposition is in the interest of good government but politicians of the Tammany stripe to whom anything that can handle a prepared ballot is a voter, will never permit to a pass.

An exchange of very pronounced democratic proclivities, which strongly denounces David B. Hill, says the party has need of him, under present condition, because of his superior shrewdness and ability to cope with the "other rascals" in the opposition party. Politicians have come to a pretty pass when a "rascal" becomes indispensable to any party.

The Union Pacific is reported to have discharged one half of the crew between Pendleton and Huntington and it is said the crews between Pendleton and Portland will also be reduced. The company is evidently preparing for the annual winter killing so auspiciously started the other day near La Grande.

The Union Pacific company has failed to file its annual report with the board of railroad commissioners as required by law and the board has notified the governor accordingly. We hope the governor may show the company that there is a bigger man in Oregon than Jay Gould.

Senator Peffer has introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to issue treasury notes to the amount of \$100,000,000, the notes to be loaned to people of Indiana on mortgages upon their lands. There is not the least likelihood that such a bill will ever become a law.

Street Commissioner Breman of New York has been voted \$1,978,540 by the city council for cleaning the streets during the current year. This is an increase of \$400,000 over last year. Tammany has some nice, fat pickings at its disposal.

Morrow county has only \$11,425 in real estate mortgages on its assessment roll. That's a mighty good showing for Morrow county.

NORTHWEST NEWS.

The first Baptist church of Portland has sold the half block on south side of Alder street, between Fourth and Fifth, to Henry Fatzing, for \$150,000.

H. J. Geer of Union county says he raised 800 gallons Longworth's Prolific strawberries to the acre and he says the Jessie yields 1000 gallons per acre.

The alliance "movement" in this country is a "thorn in the flesh" to the partisan politician. Partisan politics means ring rule. Partisan politics is on the downward trend.

All the high points in Crook county are deeply covered with snow, and while feed is plentiful, stockmen are not well enough prepared to rejoice over future probable prospects.

It is said that the whaleback C. W. Wetmore was unable to land at the wharf in Everett, Wash. The vessel could get in at high tide, but would be stuck in the mud at low water.

The verdict of the coroner's jury empaneled to investigate the cause which led up to the recent disaster on the Union Pacific railroad near La Grande, was practically to the effect that the company was responsible for the wreck, because of the imperfect ballasting of the road bed, and the poor judgment shown in running such a heavy engine at the high rate of speed required. It is said that the families of the deceased engineer and fireman intend to enter suit against the Union Pacific company to recover damages, and that this verdict will be of great advantage to them in its prosecution.

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A SUCCESSFUL FIRM.**A Brief Account of a Dalles Business House—Its Growth.**

Few persons unacquainted with this city have any idea of the amount of stock carried and business transacted by some of our larger business houses. Few would imagine that we have houses in this city that do a large and profitable wholesale trade with other business houses extending upwards of 200 miles into the interior. Yet such is the case as the business transactions of the firm of Snipes & Kinersly will testify. This firm commenced business on the 15th of January 1879, nearly thirteen years ago. The firm is composed of Ben E. Snipes, the cattle king and banker of Ellensburg, Wash., and O. Kinersly. They first bought out the business of H. J. Waldron who started in business in this city in the year 1864 and whom they succeeded in the old Waldron stone building at the foot of Washington street. Thirteen years ago the business houses of this city were rapidly moving away from Main street and following the procession Snipes & Kinersly moved into their present quarters in the spring of 1880. At that time the upper floor of the building was used as an opera house, but the demands of a rapidly increasing trade ordained that pleasure should yield to utility and the opera house became transformed into part of one great warehouse occupying three floors, each thirty feet wide by one hundred feet in length, or an area of 27,000 square feet. From the very first the firm of Snipes & Kinersly took its position as the leading drug store in the city. It started with and still maintains every important element that goes to build up a successful enterprise, such as intense devotion to business and accomodating and obliging manners on the part of the managing partner which leave their impress on every employee of the firm and an unlimited capital which enables the firm to take advantage of the markets and to purchase from first hands in large quantities and on the best terms. It is not surprising, therefore, that three registered pharmacists and other minor assistants should find their time so fully occupied that in answer to a question put by the writer as to how business was progressing, one of them should say, "We have always so much to do that we never catch up," or that another question as to their prescription business brought out the answer, "We have on our files upwards of 53,000 prescriptions."

As one enters this immense drug store he finds on the right what is justly said to be the finest cigar "show case in Oregon," a case of heavy plate glass, ever so many feet in length and height, filled with every quality and grade of cigars, from the best products of our home factories to the finest imported Havanas. Back of this come long tiers of shelves filled with patent medicines of which the firm keeps in stock every leading kind and buys them direct from the manufacturers. Then comes another range of shelves and show cases filled in every corner with every variety of druggists sundries. Still further on another tier replete with retail samples of their immense stock of paints, oils, varnishes, window glass and kindred materials. An hundred feet of shelving and show cases on the left are occupied with drugs and chemicals while the middle of the floor is occupied with a bewildering variety of artists materials, studies, panels, porcelain plaques, Japanese goods, patent medicines, toilet requisites and apparently everything else to be found within the precincts of a modern drug store. It is the extreme northern and of the main floor stands an immense rack reaching from floor to ceiling filled and overflowing with every variety of wall paper from the cheapest in the market up to a quality fit to decorate a palace. The upper floor and basement are chiefly used as storage rooms. A walk through them finds them literally packed with goods. Here are rows of boxes and barrels filled with empty bottles, yonder stacks of cases of patent medicines. Further on heaps of tubs and bottles and cans redolent of the flavor of white lead and turpentine. Still further rows of venerable barrels bearing the familiar legend "Old Kentucky Bourbon" or "California Port" of the still and vintage of 1800 and ever so many years back. In this corner is a packing room, in yonder an apartment filled from floor to ceiling with the firms own proprietary medicines and flavoring extracts, and thus one may travel on for long enough only to find boxes and cans, bottles and cases, barrels and demijohns and then more boxes and cans and bottles and cases and barrels and demijohns on floor and shelf and closet and counter and table and gallery till one turns away with the one lingering impression that gave preface to this article namely that one who has never visited the store of Snipes & Kinersly could imagine that outside the metropolis of Oregon there could not be found any one firm carrying so large a stock of the goods usually found in a drug store.

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A Preacher Mistaken for a Detective.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 8.—The Rev. G. R. Hicks, of Barbourville, Ky., is visiting friends near Fort Payne. While taking a walk last night he was attacked by four men, who began beating him. When he protested they told him that he was Tom Hewlett, detective of this city. He had molested friends of theirs, they declared, and they were going to even up accounts. The Rev. Hicks undertook to open his satchel and identify himself with his bible, but his assailants thought it was a ruse to get hold of his pistol and they knocked him senseless. After beating him unmercifully with clubs and sticks they left him in the road, where friends found him. He is not mortally injured, but will be sore and lame for many days. The preacher had never before heard of Tom Hewlett, but thinks seriously of altering his personal appearance if he looks like the detective. It is thought the four men belong to a gang of moonshiners who successfully repulsed the officers from their fortified still on Sand mountain last week, but who afterward surrendered their stronghold and fled.

Report That a Body of English Marines Landed at Tangiers.

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The stock exchange today is in a state of wild excitement, owing to a very warlike rumor. This report as spread is to the effect that a British war vessel at Tangiers has landed a force of blue jackets and marines at that place. It is added that the French admiral there has given the British admiral notice that France gives England twenty-four hours in which to re-embark her landing party, and that if this is not done at the expiration of that time, the French fleet will attack the British warships. It is supposed that this startling report