

The Weekly Chronicle.

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STATE OFFICIALS.

Governor, N. Penneyer; Secretary of State, H. R. Kinraid; Treasurer, Phillip Metcham; Superintendent of Public Instruction, G. M. Irwin; Attorney General, C. M. Tollemach; Senators, J. N. Dolph, J. H. Mitchell, B. Hermans, I. W. Ellis; State Printer, W. H. Leeds.

COUNTY OFFICIALS.

County Judge, Geo. C. Blakely; Sheriff, T. J. Driver; Clerk, W. M. Kealy; Treasurer, Wm. Mitchell; Commissioners, A. S. Blowers, F. H. Wakenfield, E. F. Sharp; Assessor, T. W. Shelby; Superintendent of Public Schools, W. B. Rutto; Coroner, ...

FOR A NEW CONSTITUTION.

It is high time that the constitution of the state be changed. It was all right when it was made, but it is not a fit one for five hundred thousand. We have outgrown it, worn it out. Under present conditions it simply operates to prevent the people doing anything that will be for the interest of the whole state. Indeed the affairs of the state cannot be managed without violating the provisions of the constitution. The supreme court is compelled to wink wisely at some things that are done because the things are necessary in spite of the inhibitions of the obsolete document we call the constitution.

The capital of the state ought to be at Portland, where it is convenient to all parts of the state; the state buildings, while most of them are properly located at the capital, should not be forced there when the interests of the state demand some other arrangement. This is particularly true of the insane asylum and of the penitentiary. The one should be located, or its branches should be located, where the climate is best for the patients, regardless of where that may be. The penitentiary should be located convenient to some stone quarry, or some place where work could be provided for the prisoners.

The salaries of the governor, the supreme judges, and other state officers, should be fixed in such sums as would amply reward them, without piecing them out by commissions, or some other shift made necessary by the restrictions of the constitution. Our elections should be changed from June to November, so that business is not interfered with all summer every four years. The expense of a constitutional convention would be saved in a little while by the saving on extra elections alone.

We need a new constitution, and we need it badly, and the coming session of the legislature will be derelict in its duty if it does not take the steps necessary to submit the question to the voters.

SENSE VS. SOPHOMORE.

We feel that Bishop Joyce did not mean to say what he is reported as saying in his sermon last Sunday, to the effect that newspaper men, most of whom had not attained the standing of sophomores, were in the habit of criticizing religion. We do not believe he intended to convey the meaning that his language indicated. There are several reasons why we do not believe it. In the first place, the bishop being an educated, intelligent man, would hardly be guilty of throwing stones, because the Methodist mansion is, in respect to sophomores, composed largely of crystal. We noticed in the report of last year's conference, held, we believe, at Spokane, the requirements held to be necessary to admit applicants to the ministry, were rather brief, the last one mentioned being that they "must have common sense." There is nothing said about collegiate education. In fact the college graduates among the ranks of the ministry are in a very large minority, and this is especially true of the Methodist church, which of all denominations is most liberal in permitting its members to fill its pulpits. Besides, when Christ selected his twelve disciples he sought them not from among the wealthy, not from among those who had been given the opportunities for higher education. There was not one of them who had arrived at the dignity of a sophomore's station.

In this connection we might add that a college education does not necessarily make an intelligent man or a successful one. A calf may suck two cows and only succeed in being a bigger calf; and the same is true of humanity in regard to absorbing the mental pabulum furnished by our colleges. Four-fifths of the college graduates are practically failures in life. The "common sense" required by the rules of the church to permit members becoming ministers is a much more important requirement than the sophomore's education, and if the good bishop meant what he said, he himself is a fair demonstration of it.

THE HARPIES GONE.

Congress has adjourned and the country can now apply arnica and sticking plaster to its wounds, knowing it will receive no more for some months at least, and recover as best it may. The president thanked both the house and senate, and expressed the wish that

they might have a pleasant vacation. The dispatches do not say whether or not he included Gorman, though it is probable that he did, with the mental addition to his good wishes that in that gentleman's case the said vacation might extend over a period of time equal to that mentioned in the marriage service.

We congratulate the president in that he no longer has a congress on his hands; the country on the fact that it can take a rest, and congress for its opportunity to take a much-needed and long-continued rest. The president has been so annoyed and harassed by the congressional crows that for a while, at least, he will be lonesome. But then, when he feels that he can no longer exist without the companionship of the old congressional flock, he can go to Buzzards bay.

President Cleveland has written a letter to Congressman Catchings of Mississippi giving his reasons for not vetoing the Wilson bill, with Gorman's brands and ear-marks on it. The president says he is not bigger than his party, but that he is in accord with it. Gorman has done at least one good thing in convincing the president of what common people knew before. When he took Gresham for a bedfellow he was not of his present opinion. He thought he was a great deal larger than his party. As a result his administration finds itself covered with mugwump vermin, which serves only to make it scratch.

The Tacoma affair was opened yesterday. United States Senator Watson C. Squire was selected to press the button, which from much practice in the political arena, he did with a delicacy and precision of touch that prevented his fine Italian hand being seen in the operation. The crowd is estimated to number 50,000, which would indicate that, by the census, nearly two-thirds of the citizens of the charming village were at home. This proves conclusively that Tacomatics are patriotic and that most of them came home from the mountains, in spite of the disagreeableness of the fair in time to swell the crowd.

Politics are getting warm in most of the states, but Oregon has had her little fever and recovered, and so can look on calmly while her sister states wrestle with the disease. The elections are of more than usual interest, as they are the first held since the tariff agitation began, and as the successors of those who passed the bill will be chosen, the judgment of the people on the measure will be learned from the ballot boxes in November. Local matters will have some effect on the results, but taken as a whole, the result of the November election will be a fair expression of public opinion on the Gorman bill.

We acknowledge the receipt this morning of the fifty-eighth monthly report of the Oregon State Weather Service, giving a detailed description of weather conditions last January. It is intensely interesting reading while the thermometer is up near the hundred mark, and shows the wisdom of Messrs. Hayes and Blandford. Some persons, if they had charge of the weather, would get out the monthly report at the end of the month, but Hayes and Blandford, with a wisdom that compels admiration, turn on their January weather report in August, and the August variety in January. Great heads.

The last river and harbor bill passed by the recent congress provides, amongst other things, \$100,000 for The Dalles boat railway. Some folks think this will cause considerable work here, but they are badly mistaken. It will take all of the amount to put the engineers in a good humor, and make a preliminary survey. It is largely a political move, but still something may come of it in the next twenty or thirty years. With the experience we have had with the canal and locks at the cascades, Dalles people are not liable to grow enthusiastic over the matter.

The Salem Independent reiterates the charge the Lower Soda Springs were poisoned. Amongst other things in proof of its charge it adds that "not long since a rank taste was noticed in the Sodaville water, and upon opening the reservoir where the water is caught, a litter of pups in an advanced state of decomposition was discovered." This indicates that the old Latin poet, Horace, we believe, must have visited that locality before he wrote those charming lines beginning "O! Fer pupp-ua!" "Violet-colored Spring."

August 30th has come and and is gone, the earth has not quaked and the tidal wave has not waded. The conjunctiveness of Saturn, Jupiter and the other inhabitants of space did not affect the crust of the earth to make it heave. Fall is no good; he is a gay, giddy deceiver, who didn't have money enough to visit the seashore, and maliciously tried to drive everybody else home. Fall couldn't predict rain in Oregon in March.

The name Gorman is probably derived from gourmand and so in plain English is a synonym for glutton, swine, etc. This is according to the eternal fitness of things, Gorman being the great American hog.

SOME SALEM POINTERS.

The Salem Statesman commenting on what we said the other day, concerning the state fair, "that Eastern Oregon would cheerfully assist in making some other place the capital of the state," says:

"This unkindest cut of all is from THE CHRONICLE, a paper published at The Dalles, which city reaps the benefit of the portage railway, which was built by state appropriation. But Salem never objected to the appropriation. She believed it was for the best interest of the state."

The Statesman dodges the question that has stirred Eastern and Southern Oregon up against her. It points to the portage road at the Cascades, which cost \$60,000, an amount about equal to that expended on the dome of the capitol at Salem the same year. Of course Salem did not object to the building of the portage at the Cascades. It would have done so, however, if it had been possible to move the Cascades to Salem. It comes with ill grace from that paper to twit Eastern Oregon about the Cascades portage, for years before Eastern Oregon stood manfully by the Willamette valley in constructing the locks at Oregon City. Salem did not object to that either, what she does object to is the building of any state buildings outside of the reach of Salem. That the constitution of the state gives her ground for this contention we freely admit, but the agricultural college, the soldiers' home and other state institutions have been located elsewhere in violation of it. The state constitution was made for a commonwealth of thirty or forty thousand people, and Oregon has outgrown it. We need a new one, or else such an interpretation of the present one as will allow the state to do business. The locating of a branch insane asylum in Eastern Oregon is an absolute necessity. It is needed to provide a place for the treatment of the insane from the valley and coast counties, because it gives a change of climate and plenty of sunshine, but the welfare of the insane must stand on one side to satisfy the grasping disposition of Salem. We are not finding fault with the board locating the asylum elsewhere than at The Dalles. We wanted it, it is true, but when the board in its wisdom selected another site, we acquiesced cheerfully in its decision. It matters not to us a cent whether the branch asylum is built or not, but we reiterate the statement that Salem's action has aroused the indignation of the entire state, and that most of the people feel as we do, that the capitol should be removed to Portland, which is the traffic center of the state, and the proper place for it. To get from one section of the state to any other the traveler is compelled to pass through Portland. It is the natural and most convenient place for the state capital, and as fellows up in Eastern Oregon stand ready to help remove it to that point. If Portland will get a move on, she can have the capital just as soon as the constitution and laws can be changed to permit it.

NEVADA HAS THE STRINGS

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, it is said, is about to begin an action to separate herself from her husband. It seems they do not get along nicely together, it being stated that she exacts too much and her husband concedes too little. At any rate there is a pretty mess of scandal stirred up in Paris over Mr. Vanderbilt's openly expressed admiration for, and association with an American grass widow of the oligotokous variety, a Mrs. Neustratter, formerly the wife of a cigar drummer in San Francisco. The lady was born in Eureka, Nevada, thirty years ago, her father being a prominent merchant of that sage brush city in its palmiest days. She is said to be the handsomest woman in Paris, and when Mr. Vanderbilt first met her the sunlight of a love as warm as high noon in Yuma in August poured into the deepest recesses of his aorta. He would have surrendered to her charms, but he did not have time, so he just succumbed. He presented her 40,000 francs, bought her a palace, and dressed her servants up in the same gaudy livery that was worn by those of his wife. In short, he seemed troubled with a desire to see how many kinds of a burro he could make of himself at once, and succeeded in breaking the record in that line without a skip.

Mrs. Vanderbilt, having to draw the line somewhere, naturally objected to Mrs. Neustratter's servants wearing the Vanderbilt livery. She very properly desired the public to know the Vanderbilt uniform only accompanied the Vanderbilt family, and objected to that uniform being so used as to place her in a false position. The result of it all is that the Vanderbilt friends are crossing the wide ocean numerously to get some kind of a peace patch up between them. The chief peace-maker is a Mr. Jay, who is all that his name suggests for having anything to do with the social-deceit. In the meanwhile the pretty little Jewess is assisting William in sowing a goodly portion of the old commodore's wealth, and is not bothering herself about what either the world, Mrs. V. or the d--I think of her.

Just for a little comparison to show that our worthy friend of the Salem Statesman is a consistent gentleman, we quote two sentences from the article in which he makes a personal attack on the editor of THE CHRONICLE. He says: "It is not our purpose now to discuss the legal aspect of the branch asylum question, as there is doubtful merit in the position of a man who stands forth and openly advocates a disregard of fundamental law which happens to stand in the way of local ambition." And then speaking of Salem's legislators, he says: "They voted for the location of the branch asylum in Eastern Oregon despite their knowledge of its unconstitutionality, simply from pure generosity to those people." It will be seen from this that it is high treason for an Eastern Oregon citizen to suggest a change in the constitution; but a commendable act for a Salem legislator to violate it.

It is a pity that the starving stock of Kansas and Nebraska cannot be shipped to Oregon to fatten on the ten cent wheat that is piled up through this country. If our wheat growers had the capital to purchase hogs—feeders—and put their wheat into them, we feel certain that instead of ten cents a bushel it would net from fifty to seventy cents. We are told by the newspapers of the East that stock hogs can be purchased for a trifle, that horses are being killed to prevent their starving. It seems as though some arrangement could be made with the railroads to transport this stock cheaply so that profitless grain and starving animals could be brought together. There would be a big profit in the transaction and besides it would demonstrate the feasibility of raising hogs on wheat, and so put life into a new industry.

BEATS THE RECORDS.

If Edward Folsom, aged 27, under arrest at Hammondport, N. Y., is as black a villain as he is painted, he is easily the worst outlaw that ever lived. It is charged that Folsom, within the past two weeks, planned three murders, tried to rob a bank three times, passed half a dozen forged notes; attempted to wreck a train, fired eleven buildings, eloped with the prettiest girl in the village and after the arrest twice attempted suicide. A companion obtained money for him on forged notes. One was refused payment, and he plotted to kill the cashier. The scheme fell through, as the "pal" engaged for the deed lost his nerve. On Friday last he placed an iron rail on the Bath and Hammondport track, but the obstruction was seen in time.

Over thirty fires have occurred in Hammondport within the last two months. On Monday last five houses, four barns and a gristmill were destroyed. When the officers appeared at Folsom's house last night the young man grabbed a butcherknife and tried to cut his own throat. He then dashed to the street and threw himself in a near-by pond. He was nearly drowned. Folsom's wife is the seventeen-year-old daughter of the wealthiest man in the village. The ceremony was performed by a minister who had previously been adjudged insane.

A WREATHY ANT.

An article in this family journal a few days ago concerning Salem and the state fair, aroused the wrath of the Statesman, which makes a personal attack on the writer hereof. We presume the article was penned by C. B. Irvine, as his name appears as manager of that paper. Here is the way the gentlemanly editor casts our horoscope:

"We are happily aware of the fact that when the newspaper shyster Cradlebaugh presumes to speak as 'Eastern Oregon,' he does so in an equally representative capacity with the three London tailors who spoke for 'we, the people of England,' and it is not particularly to reply to him that this article is intended. He deserves neither attention nor argument. He has never been other in the newspaper business than the hired tool of jealous opponents

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