

The Weekly Chronicle.

THE DALLES - OREGON

Entered at the postoffice at The Dalles, Oregon, as second-class mail matter.

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 Secretary of State..... H. R. Kincaid
 Treasurer..... Phillip Metchan
 Supt. of Public Instruction..... G. M. Irwin
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 State Printer..... W. H. Leeds

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 Sheriff..... T. J. Driver
 Clerk..... A. M. Kelsay
 Treasurer..... Wm. Mitchell
 Commissioners..... Frank Kincaid
 A. S. Blowers
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 Assessor..... E. F. Sharp
 Surveyor..... Troy Shelley
 Superintendent of Public Schools..... W. H. Butts
 Coroner..... W. H. Butts

SAN FRANCISCO MINISTERS.

The San Francisco women must be dreadful creatures. Since the unfortunate plight in which Dr. Brown, of the First Congregational church, finds himself has been made public, several city pastors have announced their intention of throwing up barriers to protect themselves from Amazonian onslaughts. Rev. S. S. Palmer, of the Brooklyn Presbyterian church, has closed his study in the church and receives visitors at his home, where Mrs. Palmer is within easy call. Rev. V. Marshall Law, an Episcopal minister of Oakland, who a few years ago occupied a similar station in Walla Walla, has announced that he will not receive women parishoners, unless accompanied by a male relative, in the study at the church.

Either the new woman is of a voracious type, or San Francisco ministers are made of a stuff the ingredients of which do not combine in proper proportions for ministerial character. These clergymen of San Francisco, who are either so afraid that they cannot refrain from saying sweet things to fair callers, or are fearful lest some unholly scandal-monger should pervert the truth and make statements which, if false, would fall harmlessly from the object of the attack, and hurt only the person from whom they emanated, should be taken under the protection of the city authorities, as their belief in their own self-reliance seems shaky.

Because Dr. Brown is either a fool or a knave—and probably the latter since such foolishness as he has confessed is almost criminal—is no reason why other ministers should follow him in making themselves less thought of in the public eye. By their course in this affair—if correctly reported—Revs. Palmer and Law will not advance in public estimation. They show themselves shallow and timorous and lacking in that sterner stuff which ministers, as well as all other leaders of men, should possess. If their characters are not strong enough to withstand the vile tongue of blackmail, they could take no better method of disclosing that fact than by saying to the feminine portion of San Francisco, "Keep away at safe distance; I am weak and foolish and unskilled in ways of prudence." The minister is looked upon as a leader; as one who can be freely sought by those seeking advice, and when they confess their weakness, as these two clergymen are reported to have done, their influence is greatly shattered. What Messrs. Palmer and Law should do is to act as all consecrated men are supposed to act, and as most of them are doing—fearlessly, honestly; ever keeping in mind that the teachings of their religion is that truth shall prevail, and the duty of ministers is to "visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and keep themselves unspotted from the world."

SOME GOOD STATEMENTS.

To THE EDITOR:
 I see by yesterday's Oregonian that we have another chance to purchase of Denmark the islands of St. Thomas, St. John and Santa Cruz, in the West Indies, and the opportunity should not be allowed to pass, as was done in 1807-8. I was then, and in fact have always been, in favor of our government acquiring, by purchase or otherwise, all of such properties which lie adjacent to us.

The president, in his message on the Venezuelan question, stated, in the way the commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States should have done, the sentiments of the people of this country on the Monroe doctrine, and the determination of the government to insist on the settlement of this, and all other like questions, on the lines laid down in the celebrated document issued by his predecessor, a position in which he has, practically, the unanimous support of the people of the United States, and especially of "our friends, the enemy," of thirty odd years ago down South.

The men who wore the gray remember, and have taught their sons to know and remember too, that it was England who encouraged them to rebel; England's promises of assistance on which they relied, and that it was England who failed them in their hour of need. These men have, in innumerable ways since the war ended, declared their devotion to the welfare of our common country, and only want the opportunity to show that they are sincere; and no part of our broad land would furnish braver or better soldiers in defense of

its flag. These men will always remember, with grateful hearts, the prompt and unanimous action of the senate in passing the bill removing the disabilities from those who served in the rebel armies. I was born and brought up among them; they are my people, and I believe I know that the men who followed Lee and Jackson and Johnson and Hood and Stuart and Forrest will be just as prompt to rally, with their sons, as those of us who followed Grant and Sherman and Sheridan and Thomas and Buford and Stanley, and there will be a generous rivalry between their boys and ours as to which will be foremost in support of the old flag; which will be most ready to die for it.

I not only believe in the Monroe doctrine as generally understood, but I believe also in its expansion. This government should never rest on that subject until every foot of land in both North and South America is forever freed from ownership or occupancy by any power not American.

JOHN W. LEWIS.

The Dalles, Jan. 8, 1896.

THE DALLES PUBLIC BUILDING.

Below is published the bill which Senator Mitchell has introduced for a public building at The Dalles. While the measure is not likely to become a law, its provisions are of interest. It is entitled:

A bill for the erection of a public building for a postoffice and United States land office at the city of The Dalles, Oregon.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled,

That the secretary of the treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to acquire, by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, a site, and cause to be erected thereon a suitable building, including fireproof vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, elevators, and approaches, for the use and accommodation of the United States postoffice and other government offices in the city of The Dalles, and state of Oregon, the cost of said site and building, including said vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, elevators, and approaches, complete, not to exceed the sum of \$100,000, which said sum of \$100,000 is hereby appropriated for said purpose out of any moneys in the United States treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Proposals for the sale of land suitable for said site shall be invited by public advertisement in one or more of the newspapers of said city, of largest circulation for at least twenty days prior to the date specified in said advertisement for the opening of said proposals.

Proposals made in response to said advertisement shall be addressed and mailed to the secretary of treasury, who shall then cause the said proposed sites, and such others as he may think proper to designate, to be examined in person by an agent of the treasury department, who shall make written report to said secretary or the results of said examination, and of his recommendation thereon, and the reasons therefor, which shall be accompanied by the original proposals and all maps, plats, and statements which shall have come into his possession relating to the said proposed sites.

If, upon consideration of said report and accompanying papers, the secretary of the treasury shall deem further investigation necessary, he may appoint a commission of not more than three persons, one of whom shall be an officer of the treasury department, which commission shall also examine the said proposed sites and such others as the secretary of the treasury may designate, and grant such hearings in relation thereto as they shall deem necessary; and said commission shall, within thirty days after such examination, make to the secretary of the treasury written report of their conclusion in the premises, accompanied by all statements, maps, plats, or documents taken by or submitted to them, in like manner as hereinbefore provided in regard to the proceedings of said agent of the treasury department; and the secretary of the treasury shall thereupon finally determine the location of the building to be erected.

The compensation of said commissioners shall be fixed by the secretary of the treasury, but the same shall not exceed \$6 per day and actual traveling expenses: Provided, however, That the member of said commission appointed from the treasury department shall be paid only his actual traveling expenses.

So much of the appropriation herein made as may be necessary to defray the expenses of advertising for proposals, actual traveling expenses of said agent, and the compensation and actual traveling expenses of said commissioners, and other expenses incident to the selection of the site, and for necessary survey thereof, shall be immediately available.

So much of said appropriation as may be necessary for the preparation of sketch plans, drawings, specifications, and detailed estimates for the building by the supervising architect of the treasury department shall be available immediately upon the approval by the secretary of treasury of such site.

No money appropriated by this act shall be available, except as hereinbefore provided, until a valid title to the site for said building shall be vested in the United States, nor until the state of Oregon shall have ceded to the United

States exclusive jurisdiction over the same during the time the United States shall be or remain the owner thereof, for all purposes except the administration of the criminal laws of said state and the service of civil process therein.

After the said site shall have been paid for and the sketch plans and detailed estimates for the building shall have been prepared by the supervising architect and approved by the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of the interior and the postmaster-general, the balance of said appropriation shall be available for the erection and completion of the building, including fireproof vaults, heating and ventilating apparatus, elevators, and approaches.

The building shall be unexposed to danger from fire by an open space of at least forty feet on each side, including streets and alleys.

As many people expected, a resolution has been introduced into the United States senate reviving the grade of lieutenant-general for the benefit of General Miles, at present in the command of the army. We hope the resolution will not pass; not because of any ill-wishes towards General Miles, but because the promiscuous bestowing of this very honorable title will soon render it meaningless. The title of lieutenant-general has been held by few soldiers, and nearly all of them were men preeminent for military abilities. To confer it upon Washington, Scott, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, was to give them what they had won, and by the common consent of the world deserved. Miles has proved himself a good soldier, brave and sagacious; but between his record and that of the generals mentioned, there are lacking those achievements which justify the bestowing of the most honorable designation a member of the army can receive. To many people the giving of this title to Schofield did not meet with approval. In the instance at hand it would be still more unfitting. Let this rank be given only to our greatest commanders—each a genius in military lines. In the war with England, if it comes, should General Miles win this title, the American people will gladly sanction its bestowal. Until that time let us not lessen its value by making it common.

It has long been conceded that Secretary Seward made a good bargain when he negotiated the purchase of Alaska from Russia; but the benefits of the deal are proving of greater extent as a better knowledge of our northern possessions is obtained. Alaska will probably never support a large population, but will annually produce returns more than justifying the purchase price. Besides containing mines of untold richness, Alaska sends great quantities of fish and furs to the United States. Reports from Sitka say that fifteen hundred other skins were brought to the traders there this season, besides the furs of bears and foxes, aggregating in value many thousands of dollars. In the nomenclature of Alaska the name of Seward should have a prominent place, as his discerning vision foresaw what the eyes of other statesmen did not.

The battleship Texas, concerning which so many unsatisfactory reports are received, is the product of English brains and planing. While William C. Whitney was secretary of the navy he conceived the idea of a battleship built according to English specifications, and the Texas is the result. The naval inspection board has just made a report upon the ship's condition, and has recommended that the Texas go out of commission and go to the Norfolk navy yard, where attempts will be made to remedy flagrant defects. The experiments has proven a costly one, but has settled the question of the United States going to England to be taught how to build naval vessels. Most people are of the opinion that things which are good enough for Americans can be built in America.

Senator Elkins has scored a good mark in having his resolution passed, which calls for the public sale of government bonds whose issue is contemplated. This action, while unwelcome to the syndicate of New York bankers, whose opportunity to make millions easily will be curtailed, meets with favor throughout the country, where is condemned the clandestine bargain which Cleveland made with Wall street. The senatorial courtesy which proclaims that the new members of the senate must be seen and not heard, received a set-back in this instance, and the way is paved for the younger members to take that share in legislation which is their's by right.

Another run is probable on the gold reserve, and \$3,000,000 is expected to be drawn out today for European shipment. It is a severe reflection on American statesmanship that the combined intelligence of men in both parties cannot stop the drain on the country's treasury. Whether from incompetency or design the country's finances are getting in such shape that every day will make the extrication more difficult. If such blindness as exists among public men were shown in the conduct of private business, neither the men nor the business would suffer long continuance. The carrying on of the national government is like the management of a private business, only on a larger scale.

to all reservations. This judicial opinion is an important one and will further complicate matters regarding the Indian and his recently-acquired citizenship. A few more conflicting decisions, and the Indian will be able to lead a sort of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde existence—a citizen while drunk and a ward of the government when sober and provisions scarce.

Superstitious people have figured out that no man who was ever nominated at St. Louis for the presidency succeeded in being elected. Both Tilden and Cleveland suffered defeat after being chosen candidates at St. Louis. No better opportunity for breaking the spell could be afforded than that presented by the republicans in designating that city as the place of holding the convention. It is a safe bet that the third time will destroy the charm.

The reported fact that the O. R. & N. is to have an independent existence and management, is good news. It would be better for the country if all railroads were owned by home capitalists who are more or less in sympathy with the conditions which govern the business affairs of the people. The O. R. & N. Co., with headquarters in Portland, will be a good piece of property, provided the policy of building up the country tributary to the road is fostered.

A remarkable decision was rendered Tuesday in the federal court at Omaha. Judge Shiras handed down an opinion declaring that in all cases where Indians have become citizens the government is still bound by the treaty stipulations existing under the tribal relations. The wide scope of the decision is set forth in a declaration of the judge that it applies

Chairman Dingley, of the house ways and means committee, characterizes the December treasury statement as a palpable fraud, and shows that a true statement of the receipts and expenses of the government for December would show a deficit of more than \$3,500,000, instead of the half-million surplus claimed by Secretary Carlisle's official report.

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Spokesman-Review: The Washington correspondent of the London Daily Chronicle deserves the thanks of civilization for his efforts to preserve an honorable peace between England and the United States. His cable letters to London have been broad and liberal in their statement of facts, and most admirable in tone. Lord Salisbury needs this advice and if he is the great statesman men in America believe him to be he will be guided by it.

Evening Telegram: In a few days the Democratic national committee will get together to name a time and place for holding the nominating convention. It will be confronted by a mass of petitions from chambers of commerce, boards of trade and other business bodies requesting it to fix the date of the convention as late as possible, thus making a short campaign, but there is no reason to hope that the prayers will receive any more favorable consideration than they were given by the republican committee. The democratic moguls are practical politicians, and as such they do not desire a namby-pamby campaign. Popular composure is not what they want. It will serve their purpose better to stir up the people, to exploit their eloquence and advertise themselves and make use of the excitement which they arouse to promote their own selfish ambition. Therefore it is too much to hope that they will show sufficient consideration for the welfare of business to decide upon a late convention.

OF NEIGHBORLY INTEREST.

Evening Telegram: For the past four or five years the organization known as the Oregon immigration board has been practically dead, largely on account of lacking funds to further its purposes. This failure to advertise the desirability of this state as a place of residence has been felt by the business community in the decrease of the number of immigrants. It is intended to organize county committees, who will take care of arriving immigrants, and also to publish a monthly pamphlet or magazine, with fresh matter, describing different sections of the state, in each issue. The railroads promise their full support, and with the aid of the business community, the Pacific Northwest immigration board seems an assured success.

Goldendale Sentinel: Mayor Brooks received a letter from Day Bros. last week stating they would be in Goldendale in the near future to further examine the proposed route of the railroad to Lyle, and if as favorably impressed with the situation as at present, they will sign a contract to build the road, providing our citizens grade twenty miles on this end of the line. A letter was also received from parties connected with the Vancouver road, stating they were coming to look over the route. Eastern parties are figuring on building a line from the mouth of Rock creek through the valley to the mouth of the Klickitat, to use the same as a local and portage road combined. The prospects are bright for rail communication with the river at no distant day.

Notice to School Clerks of Wasco Co.

I will mail to each clerk of school districts, who have applied for the same, the amount of taxable property in their district, on or before the 25th inst. School meetings can be held and tax voted in the meantime, so that return can be made by February 1st, as required by law.

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