# The Weekly Chronicle.


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### *A PECULIAR QUALITY OF DESPOTISM.*

THE CHRONICLE submits that its Dalles contemporary is lacking in the respect that is due to the intelligence of its readers when it says, among a number of other equally baseless assertions, that the administration "has established a despotism in Porto Rico and is attempting to do the same with the Philippines." What the administration is supposed to be "attempting" may be left to Democratic imagination but, as regards the statement of facts, what is there to justify the wanton recklessness that would affirm that a despotism has been established in Porto Rico? Our contemporary cannot point to a single instance in the history of the world where a parent nation has treated a territory, or dependancy, or colony, or what you will, with the consideration and generosity that has characterized our treatment of Porto Rico. If a Republican administration has maintained the right of congress to make such laws for the government of the island as humanity suggested and the necessities of the people demanded; if the administration refused to recognize the doctrine invented by Calhoun for the perpetuation and extension of slavery that the constitution of its own force follows the flag and that therefore our whole internal revenue system must be imposed upon a people under conditions of wretchedness and poverty that would turn the system into practical confiscation, they have only asserted a principle that has marked our conduct towards every territory we have acquired since the acquisition of Louisiana in 1803; they have only asserted a principle that is in operation today in every territory under the flag. If a despotism has been established in Porto Rico, because a system of taxation different from that which prevails in the United States has been imposed upon the island, then a despotism has been established in Alaska for the same reason. But apart from the constitutional aspect of this question what right has any man who has any respect for the facts of history to speak of a despotism in Porto Rico? Are the necessities of Bryanism so desperate that its apologists must ignore facts that are known to all the world? When a tornado swept the island and left tens of thousands homeless and starving we went down into our pockets and contributed three quarters of a million for their relief. Is this the manner of despots? When Governor General Davis, who knew better than any American living the condition of the islanders, assured the administration that direct taxation would mean confiscation, and free trade would mean a bonded debt or direct appropriation from the United States treasury, the administration refused to yield to an unreasoning popular clamor and in the teeth of vilification and abuse that has hardly a parallel in history adopted a temporary measure that will make the burdens of taxation rest where they ought to rest, upon those best able to bear them and not upon the masses of the "storm swept and starving islanders." Is this also the manner of despots? When the administration imposed a tax of 15 per cent of the Dingley rates on the traffic with the mainland it was conditioned on the fact that every cent so collected—not even deducting the cost of collection—should be devoted to the necessities of the Porto Ricans. Is this the way despots act? And lastly, when upwards of two million dollars had been collected on the imports from the island, and the trusts which had paid the tax had entered suit against the United States for its recovery, and a Democratic congressman had introduced a bill in congress to give it back to the trusts under the Democratic contention that its collection was unconstitutional. William McKinley, the boss despot, if you will, asked congress to give it back, not to the trusts, but to the islanders, and for their sole use and benefit; and it was done as the president requested. If this is despotism there are vast tracts of the habitable earth that would not be greatly injured by a liberal application of it.

### *WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.*

Since the Republicans of this county will be called upon next June to vote for a number of joint legislators who are strangers to many of them, and whose acquaintance only a fraction of the voters will have an opportunity of making, the following extracts from the home papers of one of them will be appreciated. We know of no better way of estimating a man's character than to find out what his neighbors say about him. Of R. A. Emmitt, Republican candidate for joint representative, the Klamath Republican says:

The nomination of R. A. Emmitt, of Keno, for representative, accords deserved recognition to this county and bestows honor on a man who is eminently worthy and well fitted to take an active part in the deliberations of the next legislature. Mr. Emmitt is a pioneer of Klamath county, is a staunch Republican and a man of ability and well known integrity.

The Ashland Tidings, which is not in this district, contributes the following voluntary testimony to Mr. Emmitt:

The Republicans have named R. A. Emmitt of Keno, Klamath county, as their candidate for joint representative. He is a successful farmer and stock raiser, a man of remarkable executive ability, and is well posted on the wants of the section he represents in the line of state legislation. His election as joint representative is a foregone conclusion

The Lake County Examiner has this to say of Mr. Emmitt:

Robert A. Emmitt, of Klamath county, the Republican nominee for representative for Klamath, Lake, Crook and Wasco counties, has long and faithfully served the Republican party of Klamath county. He has been a member of the state board of equalization and is a successful farmer and stockman of Klamath county. There is no doubt of his election.

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The fact that at this early period of the year the Meadows, which are the main source of the water supply for this city, are clear of snow admonishes taxpayers and water consumers that economy must be used if we would escape the inconvenience of a scarcity of this necessary fluid. Competent engineers have estimated that the supply is amply sufficient for a town half as large again as The Dalles, but in this estimate allowance is not made for the enormous waste that often takes place through mere carelessness and indifference. The situation is such that economy during the summer months will become absolutely necessary. Superintendent Crossen estimates that not less than from twenty to fifty thousand gallons of water go to waste daily that might be saved for necessary uses if consumers would only exercise a little care in keeping the water shut off in closets and other places when not in use. It needs no argument to prove that it will be much cheaper for taxpayers to make a conscience of economy in the use of water than to put up forty or fifty thousand dollars for the extension of the water system.

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There is no office in the gift of the people of Wasco county that requires as high a standard of mental and moral efficiency as that of assessor. It is to him more than anyone else that we must look for such an assessment as will make every man pay his just proportion of the public burdens and no more. The assessor should be a man of business experience, of good judgment and possessed of sufficient moral back bone to put his judgment and experience into effect. Such a man the Republicans have nominated in the person of C. L. Schmidt.

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Wm. Orr, Newark, O., says, "We never feel safe without One Minute Cough Cure in the house. It saved my little boy's life when he had the pneumonia. We think it is the best medicine made." It cures coughs and all lung diseases. Pleasant to take harmless and gives immediate results.

# Republican Ticket.

STATE OFFICERS.

Justice of the Supreme Court—C. E. Wolverton.

Food and Dairy Commissioner—J. W. Bailey.

Presidential Electors—O. F. Paxton, of Multnomah; Tillman Ford, of Marion; J. C. Fullerton, of Douglas; W. J. Furnish, of Umatilla.

DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Congressman—Malcolm A. Moody, of The Dalles.

Joint Senators—J. N. Williamson, of Crook; T. H. Johnston, of Wasco; W. W. Steiwer, of Wheeler.

Joint Representatives—A. S. Roberts, of Wasco; R. A. Emmett, of Klamath; George Miller, of Gilliam; George Cattanach, of Grant; George A. Barrett, of Grant; T. H. McGreer, of Wasco.

District Attorney—Frank Menefee, of The Dalles.

COUNTY TICKET.

County Judge—A. S. Blowers, of Hood River.

Commissioner—P. A. Kirchheimer, of Antelope.

Sheriff—Robert Kelly, of The Dalles.

Clerk—A. L. Lake, of Wamic.

Treasurer—C. L. Phillips, of The Dalles.

Assessor—C. L. Schmidt, of The Dalles.

Superintendent of Schools—C. L. Gilbert, of The Dalles.

Surveyor—J. B. Goit, of The Dalles.

Coroner—W. H. Butts, of The Dalles.

For Justice of the Peace of The Dalles—Timothy Brownhill.

### *A BIT OF HISTORY.*

When the Times-Mountaineer asserts that congress has established a despotism in Porto Rico it means by that term a tyrrany, else all it says on the subject is harmless thunder; for even his favorite Webster might have taught our contemporary that a despotic government may be beneficent and that absolutism is not necessarily tyrranous. But this only by way of preface, and as introductory to a little bit of American history. It will relate solely to the doings of Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson, and will be brief and to the point. May it be a means of grace to our Democratic brother! Thomas Jefferson drafted the declaration of independence and thought so much of it that he directed his executors to make the fact his epitaph. He probably had as much respect for the constitution as the editor of the Times-Mountaineer, yet the government which he established for the territory of Louisiana had every element which the latter gentleman denounces as a despotism in Porto Rico, and some to spare! The act of October 31, 1803, passed by congress and signed by Jefferson, vested—

"All military, civil and judicial powers in such person or persons, and to be exercised in such manner as the president of the United States should direct."

Now if the act signed by William McKinley, vesting the government of the island in a governor, an executive council, two houses of legislature and about a score of other executive and judicial officers, was a despotism, meaning always by that term a tyrrany, what was the act signed by Thomas Jefferson? The Times-Mountaineer need not answer this question at once. It will keep.

Sixteen years after this Jefferson "despotism" had been established in the territory of Louisiana, Florida was acquired and Andrew Jackson was appointed its governor. The act under which he received his appointment again—

"Vested all civil, military and judicial powers in such person or persons, and to be exercised in such manner as the president of the United States shall direct."

Here again there was not even the semblance of representative government. And right royally did Old Hickory play the despot; passing laws which it took an act of congress to repeal; sitting in judgment upon the transgressors of these laws; citing before him even a federal judge for this cause, and executing punishment upon their transgressors; thus exercising in his own blessed, Democratic person the functions of a legislature, judiciary, and executive all in one. And all this, mark you, not over a horde of half civilized mongrels, but over a colony of Spanish, French and English, besides a number of American settlements.

Of course it makes all the difference in the world whether a "despotism" has been established by a Jefferson Democrat or a McKinley Republican, for the party of Jefferson and Jackson for fifty years did with impunity what is now denounced as tyrranous and imperialistic in the party of Lincoln and Grant and McKinley; yet one cannot help but feel that in the presence of some of the facts of Democratic history nothing is so becoming in a Democrat as the grace of silence.

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"Strange isn't it, that it has taken the Democratic party thirty-five years to recognize the superior political virtues in Abraham Lincoln." Not so strange after all, says the Plaindealer. It usually takes Democracy about that period of time to get anything rational through its head. In about 1935 they will be "pointing with pride" to the political wisdom and virtue of Wm. McKinley.

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Here are words true as proofs from holy writ. Says the Oregonian: Every man that votes the Fusion ticket June 4th votes to tie a millstone about the neck of Oregon industry, to throttle trans-Pacific trade, to continue the subservience of this coast to the influences that have hitherto held back its progress. Every man that votes the Fusion ticket June 4th votes to kill business in every Pacific Coast city and saddle hardship on the children he will leave behind him.

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### The Coroner's Verdict.

Coroner Butts held an inquest near Hood River, Wednesday, over remains of Charles Grodt. The evidence showed that Grodt was accidently killed while blasting stumps. The body was found about 80 feet from the stump that he had been blowing up. He had been dead for some time and the body was badly decomposed, but a hole through his hat indicated that he had been struck in the forehead. Grodt was a single man, a native of Germany and aged about 47 years. He was working on his own claim and his neighbors all testified that he was a quiet, honest and industrious man and a good citizen. The following is the verdict:

We, the jury impanneled by the coroner to enquire into the cause of the death of the body now before us, find his name to be Charles Grodt and that he came to his death on or about April 23, 1900, by being blown up while blasting stumps on his place about seven miles from Hood River.

O. S. OLINGER,
W. EHRICK.
H. SIEVERKREPP,
P. KOPKE,
AUGUST PAASH.

### A False Report Nailed.

EDITOR CHRONICLE:

DEAR SIR:—Will you allow us, through your valuable columns, to correct a false report which is being circulated throughout Wheeler county for political purposes.

The Gilman-French Land & Live Stock Co. are opposed to Twickenham for the county seat of Wheeler county, for reasons not necessary to state here. This corporation has never given any party or parties any assurance that they would lay out, or sell to be laid out, any piece or parcel of land for an addition to the town site of Twickingham. It has no land that it desires to sell for that purpose.

Fossil is and should be the county seat of Wheeler county, and we hope and believe that at the coming June election there will be polled an overwhelming vote for Fossil to be and remain the county seat of Wheeler county.

GILMAN-FRENCH LAND AND LIVE STOCK CO.,
S. FRENCH, Secretary.

The Dalles, May 3, 1900.

### Where Joe Meek Stood.

In accordance with his appointment for that purpose by the Oregon Historical Society, Governor Geer was billed to go to Butteville today and locate the exact spot where Joe Meek stood when, in a mass meeting of settlers, he called for a division of the settlers upon the question of a provisional government. F. X. Matthieu is the only person living who was present at that meeting, and he will locate the exact spot where the event occurred. George H. Hines, secretary of the Oregon Historical Society, and F. H. Saylor, grand secretary of the Native Sons of Oregon, will also be present. The spot designated by Mr. Matthieu will be marked temporarily with a stone and will later be marked with an appropriate monument.

The meeting referred to took place on May 2, 1843, exactly 57 years ago today. By the division called for by Meek, a vote of 52 to 50 was secured in favor of the formation of a civil government in accordance with the plan favored by the American settlers, the French Canadians voting against it.


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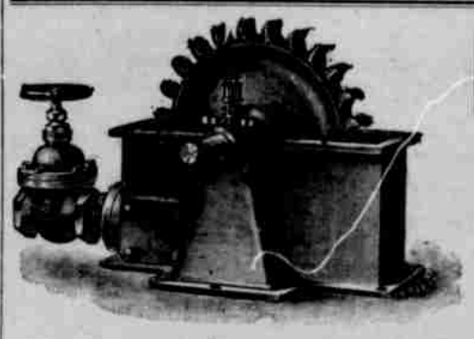

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