

have strongly intimated that the Oregon Pacific was to be the western terminus of the Chicago & Northwestern, which it was to meet at Boise City, and they have never contradicted such statements when made by the press and based upon interviews with them. It would seem, however, that such is not the case, since this agreement with the Union Pacific is made by the Northwestern for the express purpose of securing a Pacific coast outlet without the necessity of building one. The Oregon Pacific can no longer recline under the shadow of the Northwestern, and the public will naturally inquire what eastern connection does it expect to have and what great road, if any, is backing it. The WEST SHORE hopes that the Oregon Pacific will be built to some eastern connection, and that right speedily, for the country needs such a line badly, but it would like to see a little more candor and a little less buncomb talk on the part of its managers.

Just why President Harrison should delay issuing a proclamation admitting North and South Dakota and Washington to the Union because returns from Montana have not been received, is difficult to understand. Under the provisions of the enabling act, he can, if he sees fit, issue four separate proclamations, the admission of each state depending not upon the conduct or association of the others. If there has been fraud practiced in Montana the entire nation is interested in having it discovered and its fruits rejected. Montana can afford to wait until this is done and come into the union with a clean record; but there is no good reason why the others should be held back. An intention to delay is no doubt wrongfully attributed to the president, and he may issue a proclamation admitting the three states even before this paper leaves the press.

General Rosecrans stands to-day in a better light with the American people than he did a few weeks ago. It has just been made public that in 1864 he refused to leave his post in the army and accept the nomination against Mr. Lincoln, on the ground that his country had given him a military education to be used in her defense in just such an emergency as then existed, and that his place was in the ranks of her defenders. General Rosecrans lost much cast because of his rancor against Grant, but he has never been guilty of an unpatriotic act, and this incident shows that he adhered conscientiously to his post of duty when overweening ambition seduced others of less heroic mold.

Salem has done something that every citizen of Oregon feels an interest in. It has been decided to convert into a park the ground between the depot and the state capitol, practically making very large and hand-

some capitol grounds. Although Salem has done this for her own adornment, yet, as it makes more extended the grounds about the state capitol, it may be considered in the light of a gift to the state, and one in which the people may well take pride. Salem is certainly earning her right to be the seat of government of a great state.

It is estimated by the secretary of the association that 150,000 people were admitted to the fair whose doors were closed last Saturday night. The exposition was a great success in every particular, even financially, and has undoubtedly done more to introduce the northwest to the consideration of the people of the United States than any other agency. In her enterprise exhibited in founding and conducting an exposition of such magnitude and of such undoubted benefit to the entire northwest, Portland has demonstrated her right to claim metropolitan honors.

Chief Arthur's re-election by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is a matter of congratulation to the whole nation, since it shows that the conservative policy and respect for law and order that has characterized that labor organization since Mr. Arthur became its head will be continued. It would be a calamity indeed were this powerful organization to fall into the hands of as demagogic and unscrupulous men as are shaping the policy and controlling the actions of some of the labor societies in America.

Port Townsend is preparing to take advantage of its position as the nearest American port to the deep sea fisheries of our northern coast. The Puget Sound Fish Preserving Co. has been incorporated there with a capital stock of \$30,000, which will treat fish for the market by the Raven process. Port Townsend will be the center of a fishing industry of great magnitude, embracing the coast fisheries from Cape Flattery to the waters of Alaska.

Seattle is providing herself with numerous suburban transportation lines. Contracts have been let for construction on an electric road to Green lake, six and one half miles from the city, which is to be completed by the first of April. This policy of making herself the center of a net work of local railways is doing more than any other cause to build up a large and prosperous city on Elliott bay.

Without waiting for the new steel cells that are to "relieve the crowded condition" of the county jail to arrive, five of the prisoners decided that more prompt measures of relief should be taken, and slipped quietly through an extemporized hole in the wall.