

OREGON CITY COURIER

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OREGON CITY, DECEMBER 25, 1903



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE.

The Message of Christmas! It can be compressed into a sentence or elaborated into a history. The Angelic choir gave the sentence, "Peace on earth, good will to Men."

The triumphant career of Christianity is the history. The story of Christmas is as simple as the smile of a child, and mysterious as the life which is back of the smile. The two elements of simplicity and mystery meet and mingle in adoration and worship as we gaze with the Shepherds and the wise men from the East upon the infant face of the world's Redeemer. All that is sweetest and holiest in life gathers about this cradle in Bethlehem. Here is a motherhood clothed with the sanctity of heaven's own miracle; here is babyhood, beautiful in its helpless dependence, but holding in its tiny form the secret of redemptive love; here is the consecration of lowly life, the Son of God born in a manger; here, too, is the royalty of divine life which needs no crown such as earth can give, but whose glory is recognized and honored in the strange star, and the heavenly chorus and worshipping group of loving hearts; here, too, is prophecy of a day when learning, represented by the scholars from the East shall bring its choicest gifts to crown Him, who is the source of the world's truest wisdom; here, in a word, is Christianity in germ, the religion which has to do with all the sanctities and duties of life, and the deep, yet radiant mysteries of eternity. Gladness and service are the high notes of Christmas, and may their music fill our hearts!—Dr. E. L. POWELL in Courier Journal.

THE REPUBLICAN WHERE ARE-WE-AT?

The Republican leaders do not know where the people "are at" The signs of the times are mixed up in the political heavens and the wise men now engaged in Washington are not able to figure out horoscopes that please their hopes and inspire confidence at the white house.

Cuban reciprocity is all right. It will go through in a lame and laggard way that will show how feebly the Republicans themselves desire to keep their promises to a clean and free nation.

The announcement by Senator Aldrich, senior attorney in the senate for the trusts, that no more such measures are at all expectable, shows that the McKinley idea of reciprocity is to be signally and utterly repudiated by the leaders of the party. McKinley was omnipotent while alive, he is impotent since he is dead.

Mr. Roosevelt once showed signs that he was sane enough and brave enough to pursue an American policy of equity in trade relations with the world, sacrificing no essential American manufacturing interest, but putting the question of fair competition to the test in all foreign markets. But the saddest of all the falls that American statesmen have suffered is that of Theodore Roosevelt who, for a renomination to the presidency, has sacrificed his independence, his honest views and his political fame of the future, to the pusillanimous demands of the trade-worms of his party. He has given up a patriotic splendor for a partisan limelight and exchanged a national name for an incidental selling-plaster chance to win a stake. This reduction to which Theodore Roosevelt, the man with an Ego, has reduced himself.

The opportunity thus presented to the Democratic party is one which we trust

the leaders are not unable to comprehend. The people of America believe in their inner souls that the future prosperity and ascendancy of trade rests upon a right policy of reciprocity. The idea that we can force the whole world to trade with us on our absolute terms is full exploded. They do not have to, and McKinley so declared. Hence they will trade here, there and everywhere at their pleasure and profit. If we do not offer them superior terms, then we are out of the deal. Democracy ought to spell Democracy, and if Democracy does not mean reciprocity, then the United States has become a Chinese autocracy where the favored few are always to be preferred to the possible many.

TRYING TO EXPLAIN.

His Majesty, Judge Thomas F. Ryan, has written the Courier another long letter of explanation, this time in connection with the warrants issued to Andrews and Johnson for repairs on the county court house. We want to deal with Judge Ryan in perfect fairness and in good faith and at his request we publish his letter in full. We would not if we could, do an injustice to any member of the present Republican administration in Clackamas county. They have enough sins of omission and commission without enlarging on facts or indulging in idle speculation. We have read and re-read Judge Ryan's letter. At the best it is "a little muddy." After poring over it a number of times we are not yet certain "whether the snake that made the track, is coming out or going back."

We take it that substantially all of the contentions of the Courier are admitted, with the single exception that he did not receive the premium for his own personal use on these warrants but turned the same back into the county Treasury. We do not care this week to take up the matter or further discuss it; but will do so at a later season. This is Christmas week and we feel kindly towards all the world. After the holidays we will take up the "Court house crowd again" and point out; if you please; a few of the trifling little things which the people would like to know and many of which will keep our friends explaining until after the June election. Read the Judge's letter and give him the benefit of all the doubts.

JUDGE RYAN'S LETTER.

My Dear Sir:—In a leading editorial in your issue of Dec. 15th you state that the Courier, Johnson & Andrews and many people would like to know what became of the premium on the warrants issued in payment of the addition to County Court House. I am pleased to state that the county of Clackamas got said premium; that the contract for said addition was advertised to be paid in cash, was drawn up to be paid in cash and cash payments were insisted upon by the contractors in accordance with the terms of said contract; the county court before letting said contract, in open court and by unanimous vote, decided to take advantage of the fact that premium could be obtained upon county warrants and arranged matters so that whatever was received should reduce the cost of construction. The Court finding that they could not get but one per cent premium at the banks, sold the same to private parties at two per cent premium, the said premium to be deducted from warrants drawn in final payment of contract. By an understanding between the court and contractors, as the contractors desired to receive money upon completion of certain parts of work, so as to enable them to pay the laborers employed, it was agreed that the said contractors should receive payments upon the filing of Certificates of Architect, I agreeing to honor same without cost or charge either to county or contractors, which was done.

The contract price was \$3400.00 and the court by proceeding as we have in said matter has reduced the cost \$68.00 not much but better than nothing. We simply as business men took advantage of the fact that under Republican administration of affairs the credit of our county was two per cent above par, and thought that it was more creditable to do business in this manner, than by the drawing of deficiency warrants to make up discounts as was done in those halcyon days of Democratic administration under Judge White when warrants were discounted from 5 to 14 per cent.

In conclusion I desire to call your attention to your statement that you desired to criticize in a spirit of fairness and decency the administration of county affairs, so that if you are sincere, you will kindly publish this letter so that it may receive the same wide circulation as your editorial had; I would also suggest that same spirit of fairness and justice would be well exercised by investigating statements that reflect upon the integrity of public officials before you publish them to the world. I also desire to state that I agree with you that it is bad policy for any county official to buy county warrants, and trust that such a law as you suggest will be enacted at an early date.

THOS. F. RYAN, County Judge.

ASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Fletcher

TRE PARCEL POST

Those who live in the country are especially benefited by the parcels post. Many industries can exist in the country merely because the parcels post enables them to send their goods to the cities promptly at slight cost. Eggs, butter and poultry are some of the objects which are sent to the German cities in this manner. In return the country people can order anything they desire from the city. In fact the parcels post in Germany is the cause of an extensive internal trade between small industries all over the Empire.

Those in this country, who for selfish reasons oppose a parcels post, argue that it would cost the government a great deal and also that the postoffice should not enter the domain of private enterprise. As for the cost, the money which now supports the countless number of express companies comes from the public, and there is no doubt that the postoffice could give a cheaper as well as better service. As for the second objection, when public welfare conflicts with private interest the latter always has, and always will have, to give way.

U'Ren is Pleased With Decision.

W. S. U'Ren, of this city, known as the "Father" of the Initiative and Referendum movement, expressed his complete satisfaction at the decision of the State Supreme Court sustaining the amendment.

Mr. U'Ren and others have been active in bringing the Initiative and Referendum before the people of the state for the past few years, they having commenced to agitate in its favor in September, 1892. Since that time their labor in behalf of the amendment to the state constitution has been unremitting and constant. Mr. U'Ren said:

"While the papers have given me more publicity in this matter than they have others, and have named me the 'father' of the movement, very many others have been as constant in their devotion to the cause as myself, and deserve no less credit. I have been only one of many men who have been working for its success. Many others who have long been prominent in business, professional life and in the farming and laboring classes have been backing the movement up steadily. Various organizations have helped greatly towards the ultimate success.

"Our next step will be to proceed with the complete organization for presenting the direct primary nomination law, progress on which was interrupted by the adverse decision of the Multnomah county circuit court last July.

"I believe that the Initiative and Referendum will be found to be an improvement on the exclusively representative system, and since all government is a growth, I regard it as a development along the line of American idealism. Needless to say I am very much satisfied with the decision, although I was never in doubt as to the ultimate outcome. No other decision under the circumstances could have been reached by the Supreme Court."

Congregational Church.

The services at this church next Sunday will be in harmony with the season of the year. The statistical and financial year closes. New members will be received.

The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, December 29.

The Red Light.

Mr. Robertson, the Seventh Street Grocer, has about the finest display to be found in Oregon City. If you don't believe it, go and take a look at it.

Feel Free; Free!

Call at Block's store Wednesday and Thursday before Christmas and get a handsome souvenir free.

Revolution imminent.

A sure sign of approaching revolt and serious trouble in your system is nervousness, sleeplessness, or stomach upsets. Electric Bitters will quickly dismember the troublesome causes. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the Kidneys and Bowels, stimulate the Liver, and clarify the blood. Run down systems benefit particularly and all the usual attending aches vanish under its searching and thorough effectiveness. Electric Bitters is only 50c, and that is returned if it don't give perfect satisfaction. Guaranteed by Charman & Co. Druggist.

Classified Advertisements.

Money to Loan—At 6 and 7 per cent an Real Estate Security. C. H. DYE.

Bargain—Small farm 5 miles out, good land and good improvements, also 240 acres timber land in Clackamas county. Address L. 20, Milwaukie Oregon.

Money to Loan—7 per cent interest allowed on money left with me to loan. Principal with accrued interest returned upon demand. Abstracts furnished. G. B. DIMICK, Attorney-at-law, Oregon City, Ore.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY Take Lavative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

GLADSTONE

Get a home where you have all the fresh air and freedom of the country, and at the same time every advantage of city life. The elegant cars of the Oregon Water Power and Railway Company make the run to Gladstone from Oregon City in six minutes. After your day's work you travel home in luxury and comfort.

TITLE GUARANTEED

Every purchaser of property in Gladstone will receive a Warranty Deed, and an absolute title in fee simple, free of all incumbrances.

Call in at the office of the company and see the map of Gladstone, and an agent will cheerfully conduct you to the property without expense to yourself, and give all needed information in making a selection for your future home. Remember you are under no obligation to buy, only come and we will show you the handsomest tract of land in Oregon.

PARK

The great offer of the Gladstone Real Estate Association made to the people of Oregon, of one hundred lots to be selected by the purchaser in the handsome townsite of Gladstone, at an even \$100 per lot, \$10 down and \$10 per month with out interest, has attracted widespread attention. Already lots are being sold to careful, conscientious buyers, who not only know a bargain when they see it, but are taking advantage of the low price to get an elegant property where the location is ideal and the enhancement in values is sure to follow. Already Portland buyers are rapidly approaching Gladstone on the north. In two years time the electric cars will not be out of sight of handsome dwellings in the entire run of 12 miles from Oregon City to Portland. There is no longer any doubt that the motor company will have a double track railway between the two cities by the time of the great Lewis and Clark exposition. Ask any fair man, consult your own good, common sense and there can be but one conclusion, and that is, that property between Oregon City and Portland is as safe as stock in the First National Bank of Portland. It is far better than money at interest. Again, if you ask any fair and unprejudiced man, who does not own property of his own so situated as to be a rival for public favor, as to the handsomest suburb of Oregon City and with greatest promise for the future, and he will unhesitatingly say: GLADSTONE. Already there is a population of five hundred people at Gladstone and not a vacant house. Schools, churches, telephone system and all other modern and up-to-date conveniences rapidly following.

Remember the Great Proposition is—

100 lots of your own selection, in the splendid townsite of Gladstone, on the banks of the Clackamas river, a mountain stream famed for its beauty and purity, at \$100 per lot, \$10 down and \$10 per month without taxes or interest.

Any purchaser can have his money back with \$25 profit on each lot when he has paid for his property, if he is then dissatisfied, provided he give 30 days previous notice to that effect

bright, capable agents wanted in every community to whom liberal inducements will be made to sell Gladstone Property. Write for full information.

Main and Seventh Streets, OREGON CITY.

H. E. CROSS.



UNTIL Jan. 1st, 1904

YOU CAN VISIT PORTLAND FREE OF CHARGE

With every purchase of \$15 or over, made from my GREAT STOCK OF CLOTHING

I will pay your ROUND TRIP RAILROAD FARE from Ore-City or any intermediate station.

My Prices are the Lowest for First Class Clothing

Have your railroad or steamboat agent stamp this coupon here and present same after you have made your purchase.

BEN SELLING PORTLAND, Oregon's Leading Clothier.

ENERGY 10c Your money back if not satisfied.

DO YOU WANT A RIG Or a horse or anything pertaining to a first-class livery stable. If you do Gross & Moody the liverymen, will furnish it to you at a reasonable figure from their barn near the depot. First-class service. Driver furnished if required. GROSS & MOODY SUCCESSOR TO Vaughan & Gross