

OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE.

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OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1892.

ESTABLISHED 1866.

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Loans made. Bills discounted. Makes collections. Buys and sells exchange on all points in the United States, Europe and Hong Kong. Deposits received subject to check. Interest at usual rates allowed on time deposits. Bank open from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Saturday evenings from 5 to 7 P. M.
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Paid up Capital, \$50,000.

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A CHANGEFUL LIFE.

The Political History of a Candidate Sketched.

HE HAS JOINED EVERY PARTY.

Free Soil, Democrat, Republican, Independent, Prohibitionist and People's Party.

To the young men in the county who will at the coming election be called upon for their suffrages, a short biographical sketch of the political life of the nominee of the farmers' alliance and people's party for state senator may be useful, in enabling them to make a more intelligent choice of candidates. Lang's "History of the Willamette Valley" (so called) credits his nativity to Connecticut. It is fitting that "the land of wooden shoes" and other spurious articles should have the credit. The man rush to the new Eldorado caught this young and ambitious yankee in its vortex, and in the spring or summer of 1850 landed him upon the golden shores of California. But the wealth of the mines, although fabulous in richness yielded only to the open season of "toil and hardship" and his stay was not prolonged in what seemed to him that hospitable country. But the autumn of that year found him in Oregon ready to avail himself of the bounty of the government and squat upon a section of land, which, to quote Lang again, he did by taking a claim near Seilo, in Linn county.

All his free soil notions, which, it is to be presumed, he brought with him from his native state were borne away as a feather before a cyclone when he found himself surrounded by neighbors who had brought with them from Missouri, from Arkansas and from Texas, the rabid proslavery principles and the intolerant and persecuting spirit, which, later in time of the great rebellion, developed into a hot bed of secession and made Seilo "Long Tom" and "Soap Creek" the notorious strongholds of copperheads and traitors. There can be but little doubt that his protestations of fidelity to "the eternal principles" would have so commended him to his neighbors as to have secured preference except for one thing—he had too much "book learning"—and his disposition to engage in severe toil, coupled with the necessity that he should do something to gain a livelihood, reconciled him to the task of school teaching. A man who had "book learning" enough to teach school was not to be trusted with the "eternal principles" in those days, by the Seilo democrats, except that he might vote the ticket, and he was not advanced beyond the rank of private, until he settled among the more advanced democrats of Molalla precinct in Clackamas county about 1854. Molalla precinct was then, as it is now, one of the democratic strongholds.

In 1856 and again in 1858 the democrats elected Mr. Starkweather to the legislature, since which time his career has been known to most of the old settlers of the county, any of whom would recognize the picture here drawn if his name were eliminated from it. In 1857 the same party elected him to the constitution which framed the constitution in the state. Early in 1859 he became a convert to the republican party then in the flush of a vigorous youth, the shadow of whose coming success was cast before. He angled successfully for a nomination for office and was elected to the state legislature, this time by the republican party. This legislature elected to the United States senate Colonel E. D. Baker and the Hon. W. A. Starkweather was rewarded for his zeal in serving the new party with the appointment as register of the United States land office at Oregon City, from which position he resigned when he had grown weary of its honors and toils, and retired to the shades of private life selecting as the place of his abode a farm on the east bank of the Willamette river between Ore on City and Milwaukie where he has ever since resided.

But the toils incident to his new vocation on the farm were even more distasteful to him than had been the labor of conducting the office of register of the United States land office, and like the Israelites in the wilderness, he began to long for the best spots of Egypt. This time he baited his hook for one of the moneyed offices of the county, and made many friendly visits to the pioneer friends whose latch-string he always hung on the outside to whom he intimated that it was about time "us farmers" were getting some recognition, and that he, for himself, would like the nomination for sheriff. And it may be remarked that this professional office seeker and demagogue at every fresh ebullition of his zeal for the recognition of "us farmers" is so entirely satisfied whenever he secures for himself a good paying office as to create the suspicion that in his estimation at least the one great purpose of any political move in which he interests himself and all that is worth contending for is gained. In this particular effort for recognition he failed to meet with the success to which he had been accustomed and the pioneers attested their appreciation of the services of one of their number, who in several of the Indian wars which had harassed the early settlers, had risked his life in their defence, and when rebellion threatened the existence of the government served three years in defense of the union, and they gave the nomination to Major J. S. Rinearson.

To Mr. Starkweather this action appears to have seemed base ingratitude. Had he not talked on the stump for the principles of the republican party, after having been a democrat? and had he not voted in the legislature for E. D. Baker for the United States senate? and had he not supported

the dignity of dignity of register of the United States land office (his clerk, Owen Wade, did all the work) while "Major Jake" as Major Rinearson was familiarly known, was hunting worthless Indians amongst the sagebrush of eastern Oregon and Idaho? During the campaign which followed he stalked in his tent, displaying no activity except it was to induce some of his friends to scratch off Major Rinearson's name and vote for John Myers, the democratic nominee for sheriff. The major was beaten by eleven votes, and this great man gloated over his revenge. Evidently thinking that his success in having his competitor at the convention beaten at the polls could be used as a club to compel the granting by the party of any favor he might ask he was not at all hushed in his demands. He would like to be appointed surveyor general for Oregon but of course he would not be unreasonable in his demands. If that were out of the possibilities in the distribution of the reward among the faithful he could be placated by giving him two surveying contracts in the John Day country near Lone Rock. Otherwise the independent convention was to be held at such a time and place for the purpose of nominating officers. Such was the covert threat which accompanied his demand for the surveying contracts. The surveyor general was unmoved by this appeal. Starkweather at once saw signs of great corruption in the republican party and came out as the independent candidate for state senator. He drew off enough republican votes to beat Hon. Peter Pasquet, the republican nominee for state senator, and gave the election to the democratic nominee, himself being left so far in the rear as to destroy all hopes of his ever getting office through the instrumentality of the independent party.

Then followed a dreary time with him. The hunger for office grew intolerable. He had aimed too deeply against the democratic party by deserting them in their direct need at the beginning of the rebellion to expect reinstatement. Besides, they were in the minority and could not reward any zeal he might bestow. The independent party was evanescent as the rainbow. His only hope was to repent and return to the republican party. But, too impatient for office, he could not await the lapse of a reasonable probationary period to test the earnestness of his faith and renewed application for appointment to the office of surveyor general was again refused. He then became a prohibitionist, but the republican party had grown so strong and his own so weak in influence that the few republicans he was enabled to draw off was not enough to beat the nominees of that party at the polls, and he was denied the exultation of gratified revenge. Again he repented and by the influence of a few of the tier leaders of the republicans of the county he was taken back into the fold and placed on the republican ticket for the legislature. There was a job passed through the legislature in the giving away to a railroad corporation the public levee at Portland, which had been dedicated to the use of the public for a free landing by Mr. Stephen Coffin, the original proprietor. Starkweather voted for this job. There was also a United States senator to elect and one of his friends referred to above by whose help this renegade was again foisted upon the republican party, was a candidate for that office. His ability to fill the position with credit to himself and honor to the state was unquestioned, and to a man having a speak of gratitude for devoted and earnest friendship, or any local pride, his duty to vote for that friend and citizen of Clackamas county would have seemed plain and imperative. Did Starkweather do this? Not at all. But deserting his friend to whom he owed so much, he voted steadily for a man whom he had previously vilified as corrupt. Again he became an applicant for a federal office and again failed to get it. He deserted the party, voted for Cleveland for president and failing to secure a lucrative office from that administration went still further in apostasy and became a howling advocate of the vagaries of the farmers' alliance and people's party.

"There is no new thing under the sun," saith the preacher; a saying which many of the unthinking, in this age of discovery are often impelled to call in question, and confronting the facts in this politician's checkered career, as the panorama of his life passes before one's imagination with its kaleidoscopic changes, one might well question whether in the records of the past there is to be found an example of such glowing inconsistency, such sudden, reckless and violent changes on such frivolous and faulty pretenses, as appear in the political life of this man. But the truth of the saying is fully exemplified to the reader of that matchless historian, Macaulay, who describes the class of politicians who came to the front in England over two centuries ago, and succeeding the time of the restoration of Charles II. After reciting the numerous sudden and violent political, religious and social changes which took place in Britain from the time of the long parliament and the beheading of Charles I. to the restoration of Charles II, which extended over the rise to the height of power and glory of a new dynasty under the great Cromwell and his sudden casting down under his less able son Richard, the great historian describes the class of politicians which was the product of that period. The farmers' alliance candidate for senator, who is blessed with the gift of gab, has also been a student of history and it would seem that early in life he must have selected a politician of the class so ably described by Macaulay for his prototype, after which he has steadily and persistently endeavored to copy; which steadiness and persistency is the only observable indication of consistency in his character. Let us quote from Macaulay:

One who in such an age is determined to attain civil greatness must renounce all thoughts

of consistency, instead of affecting immutability in the midst of endless mutation he must be always on the watch for the indications of a coming reaction. He must seize the exact moment for deserting a falling cause. Having gone all lengths with a faction while it was upmost he must suddenly extricate himself from it when its difficulties begin, must persevere it, must enter on a new career of power and prosperity in company with new associates. His situation naturally develops in him to the highest degree a peculiar class of abilities and a peculiar class of vices. He becomes quick of observation and fertile of resources. He catches without an effort the tone of any sect or party with which he chooses to mingle. He discerns the signs of the times with a sagacity which to the multitude appears miraculous with the agility with which a veteran police officer pursues the latest indication of crime, or with which a Mohawk warrior follows a track through the woods. But we shall seldom find in a statesman so trained integrity, consistency, any of the virtues of the noble family of truth. He has no faith in any doctrine, no zeal for any cause. . . . He sneers alike at those those who are anxious to preserve and at others who are eager to reform. There is nothing in the state which he could not without a scruple or a blush join in defending or in destroying. Fidelity to opinions and to friends seems to him mere dullness and wrongheadedness. Politics he regards, not as a science of which the object is the happiness of mankind, but as an exciting game of mixed chance and skill, at which a dexterous and lucky player may win an estate, a coronet, perhaps a crown, and at which one rash move may lead to the loss of fortune and of life. Ambition, which in good times and in good minds is half a virtue, now, disjoined from every elevated and philanthropic sentiment, becomes a selfish cupidity scarcely less ignoble than avarice.

This man has steadily through life pursued this policy of inconsistency, presenting the strange paradox of being consistently inconsistent, although since his second apostasy in 1850, which was rewarded by a seat in the legislature and an appointment as register of the land office, he has met with no success with the exception above referred to, (when, returning to the republican fold, he went again to the legislature,) other than to enable the party which he had lately been opposing to beat some of the candidates of the party with which he had lately been associated, apparently actuated by a feeling no nobler than that of revenge inspired by his failure to secure from his party a lucrative office.

That Mr. Starkweather has abilities of a peculiar kind may be admitted, but according to Milton, who is perhaps as good authority as we have in such matters, his most distinguishing qualities may be found in that realm of whose regal splendors that eminent authority wrote:

High on a throne of royal state, which far Outshone the wealth of Ormus and of Ind, Or where the gorgeous East with richest hand Showers on her kings barbaric pearl and gold, Satan, exalted sat, by merit raised To that high embower.

The blind poet, whose acquaintance with the courtiers of that splendid monarch seems to have been intimate, thus describes one of them:

On the other side arose
Fetal, in set more graceful and humane:
A fairer person lost not heaven; he seem'd
Fondly and composed and high exploit.
But all was false and hollow, though his tongue
Dropt manna, and could make the worst appear
The better reason to perplex and dash
Maturest counsels; for his thoughts were low,
To vice industrious, but to nobler deeds
Timorous and slothful; yet he pleased the ear.
Not now that the narrative is finished,
and the hero of the tale stands before the imagination, drawing near to the close of a long life, a large part of which has been spent in a feverish and fruitless struggle for office, with the large influence he possessed in his younger days vanishes because of his vacillating course, the classic language of that eminent American statesman, Andrew Johnson, as he spoke from the steps of the white house to an excited mob of democrats and rebel sympathizers, "I waste no ammunition on dead ducks," comes to mind and the reader no doubt is impelled to ask "Is the subject worth the candle?"

The following is the list of letters remaining in the post office at Oregon City, Oregon, May 13, 1892:

Foley, Andrew Patterson, Nick
Jaquith, Willard Tuscany, Jas
Jones, Mrs M G Thomas, Mrs Rosa
Kunzi, Gottlieb Thomas, V B
Parsell, L R-3 Za Zelle, Chas M
If called for, please say when advertised.
E. M. RANDS, P. M.

CONGRESSIONAL ABSENTEEISM.

Boston Record: If the "no work, no pay" rule is adopted in congress it will be a severe blow to the Bennings race-track and various other places of amusement that exist just outside the city's limits.

New York World: If congressmen are to be kept within call of the sergeant-at-arms it may be necessary to set up a pool-room in the capitol where they may "play the races" without going to the distant tracks.

Sent Home.

CHICAGO, May 9.—All but three of the Sioux Indian chiefs captured during last year's troubles were sent home from Fort Sheridan today. The three who remained are Kicking Bear, Short Bull, and Bring-the-White.

Minister Smith Resigns.

WASHINGTON, May 9.—Hon. Charles Emory Smith, United States minister to Russia, formally tendered his resignation to the president today in order to resume journalistic duties in Philadelphia.

A Start for Portland.

New York, May 11.—The train with delegates to the Presbyterian convention at Portland, Or., and their friends and families, containing a little over 100 passengers, left here this afternoon.

AFTER THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

The Traffic Association of California Makes a Report.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7.—At a meeting of the executive committee of the traffic association a long report was submitted by Traffic Manager Leeds, which was adopted. The report states that it is advisable at this time to submit an out line of the policy for the association pursue. The foundation of the burden which bears so heavily upon the whole coast, the report states, is the excessive local tariffs imposed by the Southern Pacific company. Other carriers on this coast are completely dominated, and all avenues of commerce in the state are as completely blocked as possible. Local rates throughout the state are not only unreasonably high; they are outrageous, and apparently not maintained alone for revenue coming directly from that source, but for the further purpose of carrying out a well-defined policy, which is directly antagonistic to the best interests of the whole state, and with particular force against the city of San Francisco.

Waukesha Will Keep Its Spring Water.

WAUKESHA, Wis., May 8.—Waukesha is patrolled by armed men tonight, and every loyal citizen is sleeping with a weapon within arm's reach, prepared to rally forth at a moment's notice to the defence of the city. These preparations are all due to an attempt made last night to lay a pipe line from the Hygera springs to the city limits to connect with a pipe-line to Chicago. At midnight Saturday a Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul train brought 300 laborers and a quantity of pipe into town. The piping of water from the Hygera Spring was forbidden by the city some time ago, but the promoters thought the work could be done before the courts could interfere. The citizens had received an intimation of the proposed invasion by telegraph from Chicago and when the train pulled into the station, a crowd of 2000 armed men was prepared to receive the invaders.

The Columbia Centennial.

ANTONIA, OR., MAY 11.—The exercises of centennial day passed off in splendid style, every detail of the elaborate programme being carried out to a letter, without accident or unnecessary delay. The weather has been delightful—somewhat cloudy, with a stiff sea breeze blowing all day. The demonstration in the harbor during the forenoon was very imposing. The street parade, witnessed by no less than 10,000 persons, and the illuminations of the harbor at night were brilliant beyond description.

Port Townsend Celebrates.

PORT TOWNSEND, May 7.—The city was handsomely decorated today in honor of its centennial celebration. Over 2000 visitors were in the city and were royally entertained. The day opened with a big procession of over 1000 men line, after which a big clam-bake was indulged in. A naval parade by the men-of-war and revenue cutters in the harbor, with a march past of the troops from the fort, to the music of the Seattle military band followed. A ball will be given tonight in the opera house.

The Flooded Marsh.

PEORIA, Ill., May 7.—Rescuing parties were out in the rescuing flooded marsh district all night, and found six of the twenty families. They have not been over the entire district. The damage will be very great. The destruction is complete, and there is a scene of the veriest desolation. Later reports indicate that all the inhabitants have been rescued alive, though much stock perished. Water is constantly rising, and the damage is appalling.

The Ranger at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 8.—The United States steamer Ranger, which has been completely refitted at Mare Island, arrived in the stream yesterday afternoon. She will take on coal and will start on Wednesday for Port Townsend to report to Captain Evans of the Yorktown. The Ranger will possibly go to Bering Sea and then to Yokohama to relieve the Palos, on the Asiatic squadron.

Fava Returning.

PARIS, May 7.—Baron Fava sailed today for New York from Havre. During his stay he has expressed great satisfaction at being able to resume diplomatic functions in the United States, and great delight that the difference between the two countries has been adjusted amicably and in a manner so honorable to both nations.

Stanford's Resignation.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 8.—The Examiner this morning prints a story, apparently well-authenticated, that Senator Stanford will resign early next year should a republican legislature be elected this fall in California. He told several intimate friends of his determination to do this before he went East.

THE WORLD'S NEWS

The Silver Question Again Being Agitated.

THE FLEET FOR BERING SEA

Rumor of Senator Stanford's Proposed Resignation—Other Important News.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—In the house today Holman attacked the river and harbor bill as being extravagant. It not only appropriated more than \$21,000,000 but authorized contracts which would make the government liable for \$20,000,000 more. Whiting, of Michigan, thought the proposition to secure a twenty-one foot channel from Duluth to Buffalo premature and ill advised. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, attacked the bill. Lockwood favored a deep water way channel as did Catchings, of Mississippi. General debate being concluded, the bill was considered under the five-minute rule, without disposing of it, the committee rose, and the house adjourned.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—In the house today Blanchard, (La.) offered additional section providing that when bids under the river and harbor bill are not deemed advantageous to the government the materials may be put in repairs and the work done otherwise than by contract.

O'Neill, (Mo.) vigorously assailed the proposed proposition, contending that the effect would be to start in motion a vast political machine, having control of the expenditure of millions of money. He was interrupted by cries of "vote," but indignantly refused to be shouted down. The amendment was finally agreed to, 123 to 45. The committee then rose and reported the bill to the house.

A motion to table the bill was rejected, and the yeas and nays were ordered. The amendments were agreed to in gross with the exception of the last section, upon which O'Neill demanded a separate vote. The section was agreed to, yeas 121, nays 97.

Stone, (Ky.) moved to reconsider the vote. Blanchard moved to table the motion, pending which O'Neill moved an adjournment, which was rejected.

Bryant, (Ind.) moved a recess till 8 o'clock, supplementing it with a motion that when the house adjourned it would be to meet Tuesday next. After motion for an adjournment till Wednesday, which was lost, the house adjourned on Bryant's motion.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The American fleet assigned to the duty of patrolling Bering sea, now at Port Townsend, will start north in a few days. The revenue vessels Rush and Corwin have been added to the fleet, and will be under the general directions of Commander R. S. Evans, of the Yorktown, who is in command of the expedition. The other vessels constituting the fleet are the Ranger, the Adams and the Mexican. The revenue cutter Bear will also report to Commander Evans for duty later in the season.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The silver question threatens to come up again as a subject of present legislative interest. The silver men are not disposed to accept their defeat, and are again circulating petitions urging the rules committee to bring out an order to fix a time for a vote on the free-coinage bill. Fifteen or more signatures have been obtained of those refused to sign several weeks ago. Ninety-nine names altogether have been secured. Exclusive of members of the rules committee, 103 constitutes a majority of the democrats in the house, so four names remain to be obtained. Pierce says he does not know what will be the result of this effort, and that he may fail to secure the requisite number of signatures, but intends to keep at work until he becomes convinced he cannot succeed. The anti-silver men are not giving themselves much concern over the matter, and say they do not believe the requisite number of names can be secured, that the house looks upon the silver question as settled for this session and is not in a temper for a renewal of the fight over the Bland bill.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

Signatures Being Obtained to Bring the Subject Before Congress Again.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The silver question question threatens to come up again as a subject of present legislative interest. The silver men are not disposed to accept their defeat, and are again circulating petitions urging the rules committee to bring out an order to fix a time for a vote on the free-coinage bill. Fifteen or more signatures have been obtained of those refused to sign several weeks ago. Ninety-nine names altogether have been secured. Exclusive of members of the rules committee, 103 constitutes a majority of the democrats in the house, so four names remain to be obtained. Pierce says he does not know what will be the result of this effort, and that he may fail to secure the requisite number of signatures, but intends to keep at work until he becomes convinced he cannot succeed. The anti-silver men are not giving themselves much concern over the matter, and say they do not believe the requisite number of names can be secured, that the house looks upon the silver question as settled for this session and is not in a temper for a renewal of the fight over the Bland bill.

The Baltimore and Charleston.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The cruisers Baltimore and Charleston, now at Astoria, Oregon, to participate in the Columbia river centennial celebration, are also ordered subsequently to visit the principal ports of Puget sound.

Modus Vivendi Ratified.

LONDON, May 7.—The ratification of the Bering sea arbitration agreement and modus vivendi convention was exchanged between Great Britain and the United States today.