

# OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE.

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## HERE IS THE PROOF DEFEATED JUSTICE

### Statesman Correspondent Tells of Barkley's Methods. Gives Good and Sufficient Reasons Why He Should Not Be Returned to the Legislature.

### How The Rev. Barkley Hid Away Witness Mitchell.

A correspondent, writing to the Salem Statesman, has this to say of Elder Barkley:

EDITOR STATESMAN: Your recent publication of the letters of H. L. Barkley and C. W. Corby relating to the hiding of an important witness in the Wolfe case, growing out of a suspicious fire at Portland, has created a great sensation. Mr. Barkley's friends would like to break the force of the charges against him by crying "persecution," and telling us it is a shame to attack his "private" character. How can he be a worthy and faithful public servant if his private character is bad? The people of this county have had reasons to doubt Mr. Barkley's sincerity and political honesty, but few have thought him capable of the work these letters show him to have been engaged in. He has been known as a close confidant of the notorious Jonathan Bourne, and has been specifically charged with cashing Bourne's checks at suspicious times. In the legislature he loaded down his do-nothing committee with a lot of superfluous clerks, and was almost at the head of the list in voting money out of the public treasury. His extravagance in the legislature of 1895 is a part of history, as is also his association with Bourne and U'Ren in the "hold-up" of 1897. Marion county knows him well as a man who blusters a great deal on the stump and as a man who, in private life, whines a great deal about his own superior goodness. Little is known of Corby, except that he considers that his only duty in life is to worship Barkley, and is one who has well earned his title of "Barkley's fat boy." He is the man who, in the last campaign, drove around a hack load of heels from place to place to hiss W. J. D'Arcy, the democratic candidate for representative, a shameful performance, which Mr. Barkley seemed very proud of, as an evidence of personal devotion to him. Mr. Barkley denies the charges of T. H. Mitchell, and "pities the people who find it necessary to resort to such vile methods, and hopes his friends will defend his honor and good name." How much that does sound like Mr. Barkley! Mr. Corby denounces Mr. Mitchell as a "perjured villain." Of course; but most people will ask for better evidence than the word of Mr. Corby. Mr. Mitchell's affidavit is nothing compared to the letters of Mr. Corby and Mr. Barkley. What does Mr. Corby mean by saying "I will pull the Jews the first opportunity," "there is game in the future if we hit the hunting ground," "am glad my name has not been mentioned," and "you and Mrs. Mitchell are not so badly disgraced as you seem to think?" What does Mr. Barkley mean by these expressions in his letter to Rev. Rhys Gwynn: "Mum is the word," "keep all under your own eye," "never allow any one to detect you," "give this to the man," and "old man do your finest job." After these letters are published Mr. Gwynn, a minister in Mr. Barkley's own church, in a public meeting at Scott's Mills, is produced as another witness to the truth of the charges. Mr. Barkley also asks his friends to protect his "honor." Who ever heard of Mr. Griffith or Mr. Dimick, the other two Populist nominees for senator, asking their friends to protect their "honor?" Their conduct, as pioneer citizens of this county, has always taken care of itself.

Is it any wonder that the Christian religion makes no greater progress when its ministers and its bishops set such an example before the world; but the church is not to be judged by its unworthy disciples. No one ever heard of Bishop Cranston, of the Methodist church, writing to any one "old man do your finest job." No one can charge Bishop Morris, of the Episcopal church with writing to a parishioner "never allow any one to detect you." Imagine if you can, Rev. J. S. White skulking around the corridors of the capitol for forty days, peeping through the cracks of the doorways into the hall of the house, where he should have been doing his duty as a representative. Think of Rev. W. C. Kanner, consorting with such men as Jonathan Bourne, and hanging around such a place of resort as the Eldridge block was during that time. Of course, a very large proportion of the Populist party will give Mr. Barkley their support, whatever his character, as they are blind and rapid partisans, but we cannot believe that the earnest men in that party, who are honestly and sincerely desirous of rooting out political corruption and electing men who are worthy of confidence to places of trust, will endorse work of this kind. How can a man whose private life is unworthy prove a faithful public servant?

The following affidavit will be read with interest by the voters of Clackamas and Marion counties. It shows up "Rev." Barkley in his true light, and, coming from a minister, cannot be doubted:

STATE OF OREGON, } ss.  
COUNTY OF MARION, }

I, Rhys Gwynn, D. D., being first duly sworn, on oath do say: That, on or about the 26th day of December, 1896, Charles Corby, of Woodburn, Oregon, came to my residence, near Wilhoit, Oregon, with a man whom he introduced to me as Mr. Mitchell, a personal friend of Rev. H. L. Barkley, and said that Barkley wished me to keep him and treat him as one of my family, and that said Mitchell was an honorable gentleman, and I would find him a nice fellow; that Barkley would pay the bill when Mitchell was called for; that said Mitchell stayed at my place about fifteen days; that the letters as published in the Salem Statesman of May 22, 1898, were written by H. L. Barkley to me, and received by me at the time; that I am well acquainted with the handwriting of H. L. Barkley and know the letters are in his handwriting; that, owing to the acts of Mitchell and Corby and the letters received from Barkley at that time, I became suspicious that there was something wrong and demanded of Mitchell to know, and threatened to expose said Mitchell, Barkley and Corby as soon as Mitchell told me that it was a scheme and arrangement between them to get eight or ten thousand dollars out of the insurance cases; that Mitchell immediately wrote to Corby to come and get him; that, about the 10th day of January, 1897, Charles Corby came and took Mitchell from my place; that, on or about the 26th day of May, 1897, F. G. Eby came to my house and asked me concerning the letters received by me from Barkley; that I refused to give the said letters to him; that, on or about the 19th day of June, 1897, while our conference was in session at Abiquau, and while I was attending said conference, Mitchell came to my place and obtained the letters from my son Rhys, without my knowledge or consent; that at said time Elisha, my son, came to me at the conference and told me what had happened.

I immediately told Barkley what had happened. Barkley said to me: "I'll put my fist clear through that Tom Mitchell!" I said: "Brother Barkley, be careful." Barkley replied: "I DON'T CARE WHAT IS DONE OR SAID; I HAVE THE BEST LAWYER IN THE STATE BACK OF ME, AND IT IS JOE SIMON, TOO."

That, on the 27th day of May, 1898, I was at Scott's Mills to attend the political speaking and was called upon by one of the speakers to make a statement, either denying or affirming the letters published, or be denounced; that I stated publicly at that time that I had received the said letters, and knew them to be in Barkley's handwriting as addressed to me; that, on the 28th day of May, I called at Woodburn, on my way to my sister-in-law's, on the Harding place, west of Woodburn; that, while on the streets of Woodburn, I was accosted by Mr. Rigdon and Charles Corby and taken into the office of E. P. Morcom and rigidly questioned by them concerning the whole transaction; that they asked me at that time if I would stay in Woodburn until the evening of May 30, at which time, they said, they, with other county committeemen, would hold an investigation, and that Barkley would be present; they assured me that, if I would remain, they would make a thorough investigation, and that I should be permitted to have two or three disinterested witnesses present to hear what was said;

That, at 8 o'clock p. m., the time appointed, I was on hand with witnesses; that they refused admittance to my witnesses, saying it was a strictly private affair; that Bayne, of Salem, an attorney; U'Ren, of Clackamas county, and Rigden of Marion county, proceeded to rigidly question me concerning the matter under the pretended investigation, not for the purpose of finding out the truth, but for the purpose of trying to lay foundations for my impeachment; that in the meantime E. P. Morcom, an attorney, was busy writing something. I saw the trap that had been laid for me and started to make my exit from the room; whereupon Bayne laid hands upon me by catching me by the coat, and told me they were not through with me yet, as they had some other questions to ask; and asked me to sign a written statement. I told them "yes," I would; to come along before a notary public and I would do so. They then asked me if I would make and sign a statement that Barkley and Corby were both good, honest men, and would not do wrong under any circumstances. I told them I could not. Rigdon then asked me if I had not said previously that Barkley was a good man. I replied: "Yes; and so was the devil an angel of light at one time, but he fell." I escaped and went to the office of F. G. Eby. Bayne followed me. I asked him where Rigdon was, and if he thought they had done right. He said Rigdon had gone home. Just then someone opened the door and Rigdon was at the door and came in. I then, for the third time, offered to make a written statement and swear to the same before a notary public. Bayne said, in the presence of Lew Adams, Hobert, Davis, Mitchell, Eby and myself: "We've had enough of you; we will show you up tomorrow."

That said H. L. Barkley was not present at said pretended "investigation;" that the committee asked me to go over to Barkley's house. I refused, saying: "You are trying to trap me further, but I will face Barkley here with witnesses only. Bring him here."

That I make this statement and affidavit for the reason that I believe the pretended committee intends, in order to clear up Barkley's skirts, to slander, falsify and impeach me, if possible.

RHYS GWYNN, D. D.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of May, 1898.  
F. G. EBY, Notary Public for Oregon.