

BARKLEY'S CAREER

What Barkley Did While Training with Colonel Hofer.

Charles B. Moores Explains a Few Matters of Interest Regarding the ex-Reverend Gentleman.

Charles B. Moores has written an open letter to Col. Hofer, of the Capital Journal. In answer to that paper's persistent attacks. The letter shows how the Reverend Barkley got in his graft in the legislature, and is in part as follows:

"Now then, again, did you or did you not beg Gov. Moody, like a whipped spaniel, to secure you a place on that \$10 per day committee.

"Did you or did you not, while preaching reform and denouncing extravagance in your paper and on the floor of the house, vote for bills appropriating money out of the treasury amounting to the sum of \$1,845,413.60, and were not

Messrs. Barkley and Craig only a short distance behind you? Was not the amount which you thus voted to take out of the treasury several thousand dollars more than was voted by any other member from any county of either the house or senate.

"Did you or did you not make any protest or minority report, as a member of the ways and means committee of 1895, against any of the items in the general appropriation bill of that year?

"Did not yourself and Messrs. Barkley and Craig, who constituted the 'reform' element of the Marion county delegation every one of you, vote to appropriate thousands of dollars more out of the treasury than did either Senators Gener, Hobson or Patterson or Mr. Calvert or myself?

"Did you not employ a clerk as chairman of the committee on insurance? Did not Mr. Craig employ a clerk as chairman of the committee on agriculture and did not Mr. Barkley employ three clerks as chairman of the committee on education? Is it not a fact that

these clerks did not altogether have an hour's work to do that you and Messrs. Craig and Barkley could not have done without interfering in any way with your duties as legislators for which you were paid by the state? Was not this employment of the 'reform element' of five notorious clerks a shameful and disgraceful robbery of the public treasury?

"Will you flatly answer these questions, yes or no, or will you continue to dodge them?

"Was Mr. Boone the sackholder at the sessions of 1895 and 1897 and were Mr. Barkley and other members of the reform element in the habit of frequently cashing his checks at Woodburn and elsewhere."

It would be interesting to know at this time whether or no Barkley carried any checks and, if so, in what amount. Surely there weren't any fires in Salem then, for what could he have received checks? Of course, the good colonel knows, but he probably won't tell. Barkley wants to return to the legislature; may be there are some more checks in Salem.

Send the ENTERPRISE to your friend in the East and thus give him an idea of what is going on in Clackamas county. It may induce him to locate with us.

Herbert Spencer's Tragedy.

The English papers are citing good stories from Sir Grant Duff's "Diaries." Here is one: "Arthur Russell made me laugh by a story of a discussion at the Lewes. Some one maintained that everybody had written a tragedy. 'Yes,' said Lewes, 'every one, even Herbert Spencer.' 'Ah!' interposed Huxley 'I know what the catastrophe would be—an induction killed by a fact.'"

"When Lord Malmesbury came into office, he fired off a highly patriotic dispatch. Lord Cowley received it, saw that it could only result in war and, putting it in his pocket, went off to Walewski. 'You must understand,' he said, 'that I come as Lord Cowley and not as an English ambassador, but I have received a dispatch from my government which is so strong that I should like you to see it privately before I hand it to you officially.' Walewski read the dispatch and said, 'You may give me that dispatch, but if you do I will send you your passports tomorrow morning.' Lord Cowley did not present the dispatch, but sent it back for alteration, and it was altered and reissued before it was formally presented."

Rose Dates.

Few persons who are more than a little fond of particular varieties of roses are aware of how recent is a really strong individuality in foreign varieties of their favorite flower.

The Gloire de Dijon dates from 1853. The General Jacqueminot was offered to the public in 1859. The Marechal Niel (which beautiful rose seems lately unjustly out of vogue) was perfected in 1864. La France came in 1868. The Mme. Isaac-Pereire is of 1880. La Reine is almost the oldest of the hybrids still beloved, having made its success in 1843.

The new and assumed varieties now put forth annually still reach the number of 70 or 80, but the majority of them have no decisive characteristics to enable them to hold their own against others. The American Beauty and Catherine Mermet are the most significant additions within a few seasons to the general catalogue and not yet in universal favor.—Harper's Weekly.

Are We Inhumane?

Prate of humanity? Rot! What did the United States do to the Indians? Remember Wind river. Three thousand red men, women and children were corralled there, and 1,000 of them escaped. The others? Oh, they couldn't escape! Weren't able to. They were starved to death. Dying babes nursed mothers whose breasts afforded no nourishment. Dying mothers nursed dead babes. Humanity!

Old Tippecanoe, the grandfather of "Our Ben," handled the Indians without gloves. In one of his campaigns he supposed his arms had destroyed every buck, squaw and pappoose, but one day a soldier brought in his tent a fat youngster who had escaped the general massacre by hiding under a tepos. "What shall I do with him, general?"

"Kill him," was the mandate of the "Washington of the West." "Nits make lice."—New York Press.

Mark and the Maiden.

At an evening party in London a gushing young thing was introduced to Mark Twain.

"Oh, Mr. Clemens!" she said. "Now please do tell me! I've been thinking of taking up writing, but I am so afraid of that dreadful writer's cramp—did you ever have it?"

"I did, madam."

"And what did you take for it?"

"Deafstauk."

"Just fancy. But how and where did you apply it?"

"Droiled and internally," said Clemens gravely. "I can't answer for its being a panacea, but it cured the kind of cramp I had, all right."—Criterion.

Their Likeness.

"Really, now, how can you have the assurance to say that Cornfield is as great an actor as Forrest?"

"Well, he is in one respect, anyway. The newspapers are telling the same anecdotes about him that used to be told of Forrest."—Indianapolis Journal.

Some Famous Benefits.

It was as far back as 1668, according to Samuel Pepys, that one Knipp came to him about the "woman's day" at the playhouse, which he was expected to patronize in order to increase the profits. Perhaps the first organized benefit for a particular favorite, however, was that given to Mrs. Barry in 1687. On such occasions it was customary to charge for admission to the stage, which in consequence often became so thronged that when a player to whom the distinction was accorded had to make his appearance before the footlights to take up his part in the piece it had not infrequently to be stopped for several minutes while the attendants forced a passage for the unfortunate actor through the throng of his admirers.

Thus on the occasion of Quin's benefit at Covent Garden, in 1753, the old actor, who was incumbered with the heavy dress of Falstaff, was several minutes before he could pass on to the stage on account of the crowds that were assembled in the wings. Perhaps one of the saddest of the many benefits which have been celebrated at Drury Lane was that given on June 27, 1828, for Grimaldi, the greatest clown the stage has known, when the heartbroken old man was wheeled on to the stage in an armchair and hopelessly broke down in his endeavor to sing his once famous ditty "Hot Codlins." The old man's memory had completely forsaken him. On that occasion a sum of £1,700 was realized, which for many years remained a record.—St. James Gazette.

The Modern Agnostic.

We look at our churches with their congregations, growing in numbers and dwindling in faith, says H. G. Chapman in The Atlantic, and we ask ourselves: In all these buildings, cheap or costly, what real prayers rise, and of those that rise do any get above the roof? What God hears them and has there ever been an answered prayer? We look at the face of the dead and repeat a burial service. If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage it me if the dead rise not? And as we say the words we ask ourselves, "Do the dead rise?" And if any one is found who believes these things he knows that there is another at his elbow who believes them not a whit or an atom, and these two can hit on no universe that shall satisfy both, nor can one be post to the other.

Suspicion.

"Do you remember that girl who came here and said that what she most desired was a good home?" asked the housewife.

"What is the matter now?" responded her husband. "Have you missed something else?"

"Yes. I guess she has a good home pretty nearly paid for by this time."—Washington Star.



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STATE SCHOOL BOOKS

A STATEMENT FROM THE AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY.

Gross Amount of the Business, Prices and Other Information.

PORTLAND, Or., May 27.—(To the Editor.)—Much has been published of late regarding the American Book Company and the cost of school books furnished by that company to the people of Oregon. Interested persons have persistently circulated misstatements. I feel that the public should be told the truth, and, therefore, beg space in your paper for the following brief statement, which may throw some light upon the much-mooted and grossly misrepresented text-book question.

The American Book Company invites the closest investigation of the school-book question, knowing that every person who investigates candidly and without prejudice will be convinced that it has dealt with the people of Oregon in a straightforward, business way, and that it has endeavored to serve the people faithfully and to promote the best interests of their schools. We could not hope to retain the goodwill and business of the people in any other way. We obtained our contract four years ago against heavy competition, and the prices of our publications were as low, if not lower, than those of any other concern offering standard text-books to this state.

The official records show that there were about 100,000 pupils enrolled in Oregon in 1897. Our total sales of books of all kinds in Oregon during the year 1897, including all books sold to dealers, private schools, colleges, academies, pedagogical works and miscellaneous books, as well as all books for public schools, including high schools, were \$48,941 85. Of this amount, \$42,601 22 was for books for the public schools. More than one-half of these books were purchased by the people at catalogue prices, and the balance at the dealers' contract retail prices—10 per cent above list—so that the total amount paid by the people for the books could not exceed \$41,204 85. Therefore, the total cost of the books to the people was less than 50 cents per pupil attending school, and the total amount received by us for the same was less than 43 cents per pupil. These are actual figures. They demonstrate that the cost of school books in Oregon is not excessive. They also show the utter absurdity of the statements published by some of our more ignorant detractors, that our annual business in Oregon amounts to \$500,000, and that we sell books amounting to \$100,000 a year in the city of Portland. There are but two states in the Union (Arkansas and Alabama) where the cost of school books per pupil is less than in Oregon.

Enemies of the American Book Company are attempting to confuse the public mind by publishing tables of the cost of books in other states purchased under different systems, and comparing them with the retail or highest prices at which books adopted for use in the public schools of this state may be sold by the retail dealers. The net wholesale or contract price in Chicago or New York (which is uniform to all states) is taken as a basis of comparison with the maximum retail price allowed by the contract to be charged in Oregon; and, disregarding the relative merit of the books, the cost of a worthless or inferior book used in some states is compared with the price of a standard book used in this state. It is a well-known law of production and sale that an article can be purchased at a less figure at first cost from the manufacturer at the place of production or manufacture than at some place removed thousands of miles and when sold at retail. The cost of transportation must be added to the cost of manufacture, as well as the profit made by the middleman or retail dealer.

Our assailants have asserted that Idaho purchases our school publications cheaper than does the state of Oregon. This is not true in fact. In Oregon the people buy the school books from the retail dealers in their several localities. In Idaho the state purchases the books in bulk in Chicago at the net wholesale contract price, and pays the freight from Chicago to Idaho and the additional expenses of handling and distributing the books to the various school districts as they may be required. If the amounts paid by Idaho for freight and other expenses in distributing the books be added to the prices paid for the books in Chicago, it will be found that the books actually cost the people of Idaho more than they do the people of Oregon last year, as shown above, was less than 50 cents per pupil. Idaho last year paid for its school books in Chicago more than \$16,000, not counting freight or expenses of distribution. Their school enrollment was about 20,000 pupils. Therefore, their school books cost them at Chicago more than 75 cents per pupil. Freight and expenses of distribution make the total cost still greater. The maximum discount from the trade list of publishers received by Idaho (the books being delivered in Chicago) is 20 per cent. In Oregon the discount to the retail dealers (we delivering the books in Oregon), is 10 per cent from the list. The cost of freight and distribution, in fact, exceeds the difference between these discounts, and we would make a larger profit on our Oregon business if the state bought the books from us at our wholesale prices in the East, and shipped and distributed them at its own expense, as Idaho does, than we make in Oregon under the present system. In Idaho the state purchases the books in Chicago at the net wholesale price, 20 per

cent from the list, and the books are paid for out of a special fund and reimbursed by each school district out of the general school fund. The districts furnish the books to the pupils free. The cost of freight and distribution is paid by the school districts from their school appropriation. The system is so complicated that it is impossible to ascertain exactly the total cost of the books delivered to the pupils. Since the new text-book law went into effect in Idaho, in 1893, the consumption of books has increased nearly 100 per cent. There is much greater waste of books under the free text-book system than where the books are purchased and owned by the pupils, as in Oregon. It is a case, in Idaho, of getting something for nothing, and there is always extravagance where some one else, generally the taxpayer, pays the bill.

It has been stated that the contract retail prices of school books in Oregon (that is, the maximum prices which can be charged by the retail dealers) are 10 per cent above the catalogue or list prices. This is true of most of the books. It is also true that the bid of every other publisher for standard text-books at the adoption four years ago provided for this same profit to the retail dealer. The law of Oregon imposes conditions on the publisher which are not required by the law of any other state. It requires the contracting publisher to maintain a general depository or place of business in this state, and to maintain subdepositories at such points throughout the state (now more than 25) than from time to time designated by the state board of education. We are therefore required to keep on sale and on consignment in various parts of the state large numbers of books, amounting to thousands of dollars. A number of these places are remote from railroads, the freight in many cases costing as much as 15 per cent. The contract requires that the books shall be sold at uniform prices at every place in the state, and in order to do this and to place all sections of the state and all dealers on an equal footing we are obliged to pay the cost of transportation, supply large stocks of books, of which there may be no demand, and which are ultimately returned at our expense, and in a damaged condition, the loss falling upon us. The retail prices specified in the contract are the maximum prices allowed to be charged by the retail dealers for the books. In many places in the state and at Portland the books are sold at retail at catalogue prices. We also sell the books at retail, postage prepaid, to any point in the state, at the catalogue prices.

Our opponents are rival publishing houses, or their agents or their partisans. Their only object is to bring about a change of text-books. We ask in all fairness why a change should be made. A change in publishing houses would in no wise lessen taxes or effect any saving to the people, because the prices of all standard text-books are alike. It would not benefit the schools, because our publications must be conceded to equal or better standard merit than of any other publisher. Common business prudence and economy require a uniform series of books adopted for definite periods. In no other way can favorable prices be secured or the people be protected from frequent and expensive changes. Our books are in use in the schools of the state. Large numbers of them, amounting to many thousands of dollars, are the property of the school patrons. These would become valueless if a change were made. It is manifest folly to suggest a change on the ground of economy. Let us consider what a change of text-books means. For example, 50 per cent, or 50,000 pupils in Oregon are in the grade that use a "First Reader." If a change were made, the people would necessarily have to purchase 20,000 of the new "First Readers." No standard "First Reader" is sold at less than 25 cents, most of them at 25 cents. In other words, it would cost not less than \$5000 to buy a supply of new "First Readers" alone. Our sales books for 1895 and 1897 show that we have sold annually but 6000 "First Readers" in Oregon, which at a retail price of 25 cents would be but \$1500. In fact, a large percentage of these books were sold at the catalogue price of 15 cents. "First Readers," therefore, cost the people of Oregon less than \$1500 a year, while it would cost at least \$5000 to buy a supply of a new kind. An annual sale of 6000 as against 20,000 "First Readers" in use, means practically a renewal of these books but once in five years. The same readers serving five successive classes at a nominal cost to the pupil after first purchase. And, 40 per cent of the pupils in the public schools study geography. There are two books in use. There would, therefore, be 40,000 pupils in these classes, one-half in the elementary and one-half in the advanced book. Twenty thousand pupils purchasing an elementary geography, if a new book were introduced displacing the one now in use, at 60 cents per copy, which is the price of all standard geographies, regardless of the publisher, would cost the state \$12,000. Yet the annual sales of "Monteith's Elementary Geography," the book now used in our schools throughout the state, is but 4453 copies, costing \$258 00. If space permitted we would go through the list of books in use and show exactly what the expense of a change of text-books would be. The total would amount to not less than \$24,000. That is the sum that the people of Oregon would have to pay out for books the first year if the text-books were changed. Under the present system the annual cost of books is less than \$5,000. The sales of text-books in this state are normal. The books have been in use for a number of years, the people are well supplied, and the sales each year are only to fill in and renew books actually worn out in the schools.

These figures prove the saving to the people by continuing in use the books they have on hand. The conditions now are similar to those existing four years ago when the present books were introduced. The public then almost unanimously opposed a change. They did not then, nor do they now, wish to incur the expense which a change of text-books would involve.

R. L. EDWARDS, General Agent American Book Co.