



"If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot!" -Gen. Dix

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. Adams, Editor.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1862.

President Lincoln's Proclamation.

The President's proclamation that slavery will be abolished in all States and parts of States which shall be in open rebellion on the first of January next, is said to meet the approval of the army officers generally, to be acceptable to the leading Union journals East, and to have inspired the masses of all shades of politics throughout the North with a conviction that the Government will succeed in putting down the rebellion. For the last six months there has been a public sentiment being rapidly formed in favor of striking at the root of the rebellion by wiping out slavery, until there has got to be such a unanimity of opinion, that we do not suppose there is really an honest Union man in the entire North, and but few if any in the border States, who will not heartily endorse the President's proclamation. The President has refrained thus far from interfering with slavery, because he was determined to try the experiment of crushing the rebellion without disturbing any of the domestic institutions of the rebellious States. Whatever his notions might have been, we have no means of knowing, but we have always believed that from the beginning of the rebellion he occupied common ground with multitudes of our most sagacious statesmen who were not blinded by a slave-driving sympathy, who were confident that there never would be any permanent peace on this continent till slavery was extinguished, if indeed there could be a cessation of hostilities long enough to patch up a reconstruction of the Union on a temporary, rotten, pro-slavery basis. Indeed we now believe, as we always have believed, that if public sentiment had been sufficiently enlightened on the day of his inauguration to back him up in inaugurating a policy which his own judgment would have marked out, he would at first have taken the black imp of slavery by the throat and choked it to death in a way that would have ended the war before this, and saved a vast amount of human life and suffering. We said before Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated, that the wisest, most human, christian, and effectual mode in which he could treat the rebellion would be to march an army through the rebel States, arming and officering the loyal portion of the people black and white, and hunt the rebels to their holes. This would have prevented the shedding of innocent blood by insurrections and would have so paralyzed the rebels with fear that no large armies could have been concentrated by the Confederate leaders as long as domestic institutions needed attention at home.

But then public sentiment wasn't yet schooled up to a point where it would have held up the hands of the Government in thus taking the rebel bull by the horns.—Public sentiment had become so demoralized and blinded by the distribution of federal patronage at the hands of the slave power, as well as by the teachings of democratic politicians and corrupt priests, that the right to the products of a man's own farm which rested on civil and natural law was even less sacred than the "right" to property in man which derived its whole authority from civil law and was in violation of natural law. This corrupt and debauched public sentiment, full of the gangrene of pro-slavery sympathy, after it endorsed the confiscation of rebel property consisting of horses, cattle, and hogs, shrank back, when it was proposed to touch negro property, and many Northern Union men, partially insane under the fetters of a pro-slavery scrofula (which they conceived to be democratic gatherings), were willing to wade into the fire of rebellion far enough to sing the hair of their men, rather than incur the odium of being called "abolitionists," by favoring a policy that threatened to hurt slavery. Slavery, which the leading rebels called the "keystone of the arch" of civil government, Mr. Lincoln knew full well, as did the best men in the world, was an ulcerated, festering member of the body politic, which must sooner or later be cut off, and we believe he thought it would need to be done during the war, and ought to be done at once. A goodly number of the people thought so, too; but then a large portion of them, consisting of democratic politicians, Bell and Everett admirers, and "conservative republicans," thought otherwise. Nine-tenths of the army officers thought otherwise, and a part of Lincoln's Cabinet agreed with them.—The slave power had corrupted and blinded the nation, till men had become almost callous to the impulses of humanity, and the statesmen of the age had dwindled into pigmies. A suggestion from the President on the day of his inauguration, that he would probably have to use the scalpel and send the saw crashing through the bones of the slavery leg on which the beast of secession was hobbling, would have thrown Scott into spasms, caused the cold

sweat to stand in great drops on the faces of the army officers generally, and made "conservatives" everywhere shove both hands upwards with astonishment.

Among those who were for crushing out the rebellion by the power of arms, were those who thought slavery wouldn't stand much in the way of conquering a speedy peace. Some thought the presence of a tolerably sized army in the border States, or perhaps just over the Ohio river "fernest neutral Kentucky," would awe the rebels into submission without firing a gun. Others thought that while it might be necessary to send the army among the rebels with perhaps loaded guns, they ought to pursue a humane and liberal policy that Northern conservatives would be satisfied that we didn't intend either to "coerce" the South, "subjugate" the rebels, or interfere with "constitutional rights" to nigger property; and our "Southern brethren" would come to the same conclusion too, and soon be induced by such kind acts as the enforcement by the army of the fugitive slave law, and such local State laws as provided for flogging niggers at a public whipping post, to come back into the Union, under the impression that "Old Abe" was really a better pro-slavery man than Jeff Davis. A few sap-heads like Wait thought the inflammation could be taken out of the leg of the beast by applying to the belly of the rebellion a soothing poultice made of the "Crittenden compromise" and a few "democratic platitudes," with some such skillful Esculapins as Dolf Hannah to apply it. All the while the army was being raised, the people were divided among themselves as to whether the army was big enough to overawe the rebels without fighting much, and if so, what policy was to be adopted by the Government that would be satisfactory to the army officers, and quiet the rebellion without much bloodshed, or incurring the odium of having "destroyed the Union forever" by "coercing" our "Southern brethren," and treading on their "constitutional rights." The army being raised, all eyes were turned towards Washington for the announcement of the programme, when the "scarred veteran," the "Old Virginia war-horse," an intense "conservative," the General-in-Chief, Gen. Scott, mounted the Capital dome, and heaving under the weight of years and profound wisdom, of course, announced as the programme,

"THE ANACONDA SYSTEM." Off went three million hats from as many loyal heads, and a popular shout rent the heavens with—"Great is the anaconda system!" Scott replied "EUREKA!" bowed his head, and retired. The masses said—"AMEN!" While a few on the outskirts, of the Wait school, snivelled out a preference for the poultice system, and now and then a "philosopher" wearing a "white hat," feared there was too much poultice in it to cure the disease by removing the causes—the people generally were disposed to take it on the recommendation of the Old Hero. Army officers liked it because it was supposed to be strictly in harmony with West Point tactics, and didn't interfere with the "constitutional rights" of rebels. Jeff Davis and his officers clucked over it as "not bad to take," though they held it up to their fellows as an infernal abolition system, which could only be met by opposing to it the rattle-snake system.

Well, the war has now been waged about eighteen months, with various success. We have gained many advantages. It is true; but the rebellion still looks formidable. Scott's "anaconda" had his tail considerably bruised before Richmond, and his middle well nigh cut in two on the Potomac only a few days ago. We have lost in battle and by sickness about three hundred thousand men. We have treated the rebels kindly. We have guarded rebel property, while the owners of it were in the rebel army. We have respected "constitutional rights" of men who denied the authority of the Constitution, and spit on it. We have paid rebels for their corn, when they were all the time stealing ours. We have sent back their niggers, when they were seizing free negro servants belonging to our army and selling them into perpetual slavery. We have worn out our own sons and brothers in felling timber, digging ditches, and building bridges in a burning sun, rather than use the precious labor of rebels' slaves. We have kept nearly four million of stout black servants raising provisions to feed white rebels who boast that they can carry on a war under the present "anaconda system" for twenty years. We have failed to enlist on our side the sympathy of the masses whose hearts palpitate on the side of human liberty the world over. Nay, we have corroborated with them the statement Yancey made to the English Commons, when he said the North was as pro-slavery as the South, and that liberty found no sympathy in the American Government.

In doing all this, we have done well, so long as we have done another thing—that is, we have satisfied the loyal portion of our own country that in order to crush the rebellion we have got to take the cause of it by the throat. The people demand, that emollient cataplasms be flung to the dogs, and that the dying "anaconda" shall be put up in liquor and sent to the World's Fair or be decently buried out of sight.—If the rebellion isn't squelched before next January, the President tells them that the saw and scalpel shall be used, and the beast of secession, like the serpent of Eden,

for a want of a leg, "shall go on his belly," and for want of provisions raised by slaves, "shall eat dirt." This dernier resort, is a "military necessity." It will inaugurate a new era in the war. It will bring human liberty and slavery to a back hug, and we shall see which will get a broken back. It will arouse all the latent devilism of the rebellion which has not yet developed itself. It will evoke a storm that will sweep the continent like a whirlwind. The writhings and execrations of torture that will be felt by the beast when the saw touches the narrow of its underpinning, will only find a parallel in the sufferings of damned rebels in Milton's hell. The continent will tremble under the tread of opposing armies. The smoke of the conflict will be seen afar off. The North will be punished for letting the slave power debase the nation, and control the Government till it has grown up into a giant monster—while the monster itself will expiate some of its damnable villainies.—Through the gathering blackness of the storm, we see an approaching millennium. Devils will set up a howl at the close of the conflict, while the righteous will "stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."

Corruption. Grave charges of corruption have been made against several U. S. officials on this coast. A commission of investigation is said to have been appointed at Washington to examine into the conduct of the Custom-House officials in San Francisco, against whom the late Deputy Collector Cushman and others have entered serious complaints. Out of a long list of specifications which are on file in Washington, and which are published in the S. F. Bulletin as having been made under oath, we select a few "samples." After allowing excessive drayage on the goods sent to the appraiser's rooms for examination, it is charged that the goods are rather freely "sampled" by certain interested parties belonging to the appraiser's department.—One of the affidavits swears that to his certain knowledge "fancy goods from France and Germany, also Japanese and China goods, cigars, coffee, sugar, and oil, have been largely sampled." These "samples" are said to be either distributed to friends, or reserved for private use. A large lot of costly tea has been taken out in pound packages and distributed. A cargo of Japanese goods consisting of writing cases, ladies' work cases, and other costly specimens, were largely sampled and the samples sent around as Christmas presents.—An invoice of porcelain ware from Bordeaux was sampled so heavily that it took "a large cask and box" to carry the samples off to the private residence of the Custom-House officer who sampled the articles. Coffee, tea, sugar, &c., are stored away in large quantities in certain rooms for "family use"—sometimes as high as 150 pounds of coffee being required for a "sample."—One of the employees proposed to a fellow that they sample largely from the goods sent to the Custom-House, and then sell the samples and divide the money. It is charged that Deputy Cushman, in trying to prevent this rapacity, raised a storm around his ears, and that Collector Rankin, instead of sustaining him in his reformatory efforts, dismissed him from office.

Very serious charges have also been made against Victor Smith, Collector at Port Townsend, W. T., which, if the half of them are true, show him to be entirely unfit for any post of honor or trust. The papers of Washington Territory are some of them publishing specifications of very serious charges against the integrity of Indian Agent W. H. Barnhart. Equally grave charges are also made in high quarters against Indian Agent Bidde, at Corvallis. Complaints are also made in reference to one or two other officials, but not having been made public, we defer speaking of them for the present. Now all of these officials may be able to set themselves right with the Administration, and we hope they will. The heads of all the Departments are men of the soundest integrity, and while they will require conclusive evidence of malfeasance in office before condemning an officer, we believe that with that evidence no time will be lost in making a public example of such as are guilty of dishonesty. This Administration came into power under a pledge to reorganize, to correct abuses, and install reformatory measures generally. We have always advocated such a policy on the part of the Government, and those who took office under it did so with a full knowledge that honest men alone were wanted for places of public trust. If culprits cannot be got at effectually on this coast in the absence of law sufficiently severe to meet the case, we hope that martial law will be extended over us for that purpose, for we have pretty much made up our mind that dishonest officials, as well as rebels, ought to be hung. It seems to be a clear case of "military necessity."

Hon. J. Quinn Thornton was elected President of the Oregon State Agricultural Society, at a late meeting, C. N. Terry, Cor. Secy, S. E. May, Rec. Secy, and J. H. Moores, Treas.

McCormick's Almanac for 1863 has been issued containing the usual variety of interesting statistics of Oregon and Washington.

Hon. J. H. Mitchell, of the Senate, and Hon. P. W. Gillette, of the House, have our thanks for public documents.

Barbarity of the Rebels. The instances of rebel atrocity towards our prisoners as well as the brutal treatment they extend towards Union men who fall into their clutches in the South, are numerous enough to fill columns of our paper every week, if we had room to publish them.

We learn from an Ohio paper that a wounded soldier has just reached his home at Milan, Ohio, after having been tortured well nigh to death by the rebel surgeons. He was wounded in the leg at Cairo, Ferris, and taken prisoner. While lying on a bed, several rebel surgeons, accompanied by John B. Floyd, entered the room. Floyd asked, "How is this d— Yankee getting along?" One of the surgeons stepped up to him, and tore off the bandage in a rough brutal manner, that tore open his wound afresh and tortured him severely—saying that his leg must be amputated. The wounded man assured him there was no need of it, as it was only a flesh wound and was so nearly well that he was now able to walk. It was all to no purpose, for out came the instruments, and his leg was cut off below the knee in a rough, brutal manner, without regard to his life or his sufferings, the murdering operation consuming nearly an hour. In two or three days the surgeons returned again, accompanied by Floyd. The bandages were again rudely jerked off, and the surgeons announced that it must be cut off again this time above the knee. The weak and almost dying man expostulated and begged them to kill him and end his misery. Floyd said, "G—d d—n him, cut off both his legs; that will prevent him from fighting again." This time, they were an hour and forty minutes in the operation, giving him no stimulants or any of the usual helps to sustain him while under their hands. The poor sufferer fortunately so far recovered as to be able to be removed, when he was exchanged, and has finally reached home.

This is the way the rebels repay the kind treatment we give their wounded soldiers who fall into our hands.

Some may think that such fiends in human shape, are only found in the rebel States, and that they are scarce even there; but the rebel sympathizers here who never condemn these savage acts in their "brethren," would do the same things to us if we should ever be unfortunate enough to fall into their hands. We would sooner place ourself at the mercy of a Comanche, than that of one of the white-livered villains, who hasn't soul enough to love liberty and hate treason. The fact is, a secessionist is a man who sympathizes with every crime perpetrated by the rebels, rejoices at all their successes, and feels a hellish satisfaction every time he hears of fields covered with dead and mangled soldiers pierced with rebel bayonets, and scalped with the knives of their savage allies. These secessionists are all the tools of such men as Jo Lane, whose mission to Oregon will never be fulfilled till the Pacific coast is "put on the Southern platform," as Lane has it, or our streams are red with blood shed in the effort to annex us to the Davis Confederacy. For this purpose, Floyd shipped the seventy thousand stand of arms to California that were sent back by Sumner, and the country to-day is full of Jo Lane's tools, who are acting as spies for Davis and waiting for some grand success of rebel arms to justify them in showing their teeth. We have said before, and we still believe it, that the war will go on, till loyal men will be made to groan under the burthen imposed upon them to support the Government, till the scales will fall from their eyes so that a sneaking cut-throat Northern traitor, who gives aid and comfort to the enemies of all decency, will be viewed in his true light, as the enemy of mankind, a foe to religion and humanity, and an alien who is not entitled to the protection of the Government which he is trying to destroy. The time was, when a man would be turned out of the church, and be detested by the world, for merely stealing a sheep, but now-a-days a secessionist who aids and abets stealing, robbery, and murder, by the wholesale, and tries to break the arm of the Government in its effort to save its own life, sets up a terrible whine if Christian men refuse to commune with him, or if the Government requires him to attend to his own business.

We are getting to view these sneaking tools of Jolane in such a light that we no longer view them as worthy of being treated with common respect. Their place is in the nigger quarters of some cotton-planting nabob—and the quarters of mighty mean niggers at that.

Amounts handed to F. Charman, Esq., this week, for the Sanitary Commission, as follows: J. B. Howard, \$1.50; R. S. Howard, 50; Thomas R. Howard, 50; Jacob Wortman, 10.00; Mrs. J. Wortman, 5.00; John T. Wortman, 2.00; Charles F. Wortman, 2.00; Jacob L. Wortman, 1.00; John Allen, 5.00; Peter Rauch, 1.25; Ladies Union Sewing Society, 25.00; L. Hunaker, 50; Jacob Hunaker, Jr., 5.00; Mrs. A. Weatherstone, 1.00.

Amount this week \$60.25 " previously acknowledged, 1243.24 Total, 1303.49

Read Treasurer's Notice in another column.

The Prospects of our Union. After our astonishment and indignation at the attack on Sumner's feeble garrison had somewhat subsided, and our national self-love had been placated by hurling in successive detachments magnificent armies, counted in numbers by hundreds of thousands, against the Southern rebels—a complacent feeling that our efforts were equal to the emergency not only allayed our excitement, but lulled us into an apathy from which McElleran's reverses before Richmond, and the mortifying consciousness that our gallant army of soldiers in the field found their energies suddenly and terribly taxed for purposes of defense, has painfully roused us. From the time when Gen. Scott said his broad palm in expressive but amusing pantomime, all indications of the fate of secession—through all changes of men and measures down to the time when the broken and shattered fragments of our grand army were swept back in the last great spasm of the rebellion—flying from an attack on the rebel capital and strong hold, to defend our own seat of government against the unexpected energy of their invasion, we have underestimated most lamentably the energy and resources of rebellion. Another serious misapprehension on our part has been in supposing that many hearts even in the rebel ranks yet beat responsive to the American idea of Union; that touched by National magnanimity, no less than awed by National power—conquered by kindness, not less than by the sword—we should gain many bloodless victories as the result of our own forbearance. We have been miserably deceived. Not in the patriotism, nor in the courage of our people—not in our material resources to arm and equip a million men in this contest—not in the superiority of our inventors and architects, called suddenly to meet the stern demands of war—our Monitor in the East and our gunboats in the West have proved a splendid success, and worked a complete revolution in naval warfare—in all these there has been no deception; here, we maintain our old pre-eminence. But we have been deceived, in the magnitude of the responsibility which destiny has imposed upon us—in the implacable hostility which the slave holding South entertains toward our institutions, no less than toward our people—and in the nature of the remedy which a disease so desperate demands. Years ago the Declaration of Independence, starting out with its first magnificent truth, the only broad and strong foundation upon which an enduring Republic can be built, was assented to by the Nation as correct in theory, but ignored and denied in practice. One of the authors of that Declaration dared to say "I tremble for my Country when I remember that God is just." Well might the far-sighted statesman tremble as he saw with prophetic intuition what we see this day. The genius of American Liberty seeing her fields and vineyards increase, had but one thought, to build larger barns, and more magnificent storehouses, neglecting to do justice, and love mercy. This day the Angel of Retribution is calling the soul of our people to Judgment. Before the rebellion, Dr. Snythe, a leader in South Carolina scholasticism, in a work published in pamphlet form, asks—"What is the difficulty, and what the remedy? Not in the election of Republican Presidents—Not! Not in the execution of the Fugitive bill—Not! But it lies back of all these. It is found in that Atheistic, Red Republican doctrine of the Declaration of Independence. Until it is trampled under foot, there can be no peace!" (To be continued.) J. B. L.

Salem, Oct. 7, 1862. Ed. Argus: The bill requiring persons to take and subscribe to an oath to support the Government of the United States, and the State of Oregon, before drawing money from the treasury of this State, which Gov. Gibbs vetoed last week, and which the Senate passed over his veto, by a vote of 12 to 4, was reconsidered in the House yesterday. It was debated at length, and with much feeling on both sides. When the question was put, "Shall this bill pass notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?" the vote resulted as follows: Messrs. Applegate, Colliard, Conyers, Cummins, Dufur, Engle, Gillette, Henningway, Kenner, McClure, McCully, McCoy, Palmer, Ramsby, Richardson, Smith, Stevenson, Simpson, Wasserman, Wilkins, Watson, and Wilson, voting for; and Messrs. Blair, Brown, Fay, Humanson, Haines, Mallory, Minto, Morris, Reed, Vandyke, Witham, and Wilcox, against. So the bill was lost, two-thirds being necessary to its passage. Union men are disappointed and disgusted with the result, while secessionists are clucking and rejoicing over their triumph. Fay is his champion in the House, and Kelley in the Senate. Gov. Gibbs, in his inaugural, reflects the strongest Union sentiments, but when he comes to act, does he adhere to his promise? He says: "The all absorbing question of the day is, how to put down the rebellion and pay the expenses of the war. A great majority of the people of Oregon are loyal men—willing to pay their taxes, and in the circulation of United States Treasury notes without a murmur—to do any act prompted by the spirit of our fathers when they mutually pledged to each other their lives, their fortunes and sacred honors, to establish this Government. There is but one line between Union and disunion. Those who are not for us are against us. It has been often and truly said that "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Mark its pregnant truths at this time, and watch those who carp at every real or imaginary error of the Administration, and are complaining of the "tax bill," because a small portion of their fortunes is required to preserve civil and religious liberty in America. Honorable gentlemen, nearly all of you, like myself, were elected under a pledge "to support the officers of the Government in all constitutional means to put down the present wicked rebellion." The proposition that the Government has no power to weaken its enemies, in open arms against it, by taking their property—that their lives may be taken, but not their property—is, to my mind, too absurd for discussion. A secessionist should have no property, in agriculture, or anything else. Property is power; and should we leave it in rebel hands, to be wielded against us, while the bones of our countrymen are bleaching on the fields of a hundred battles, and while hundreds of thousands of our fellow-citizens are liable to share the same fate? I consider it my highest duty, as well as pleasure, to do all I can, and exert all the influence of my present position, as long and abroad, in putting down secession, and preserving the best Government and reformation, and should strive to remove all further cause for visitations of God's judgments upon our State and Nation—remembering that He that ruleth the hosts of Heaven, holds in his hands the destinies of nations!"

Here the Governor pledges himself to use his best efforts to protect and sustain wicked rebellion. He says, "the idea that the Government has no power to take the property of its enemies is absurd;" that in rebel hands to be wielded against us, while the bones of our countrymen are bleaching on the fields of a hundred battles, and while hundreds of thousands of our fellow-citizens are liable to share the same fate?" Now this bill that Gov. Gibbs refuses to sign, has no other object than to prevent traitors from drawing money from the treasury of this State. Money, which his Excellency truly says is power, and should not be put in the hands of our enemies. Yet, when he is asked to sanction a law requiring persons suspected of treason to produce evidence of their loyalty, he refuses to place this bar between traitors and our treasury—a bar that can work no possible hardship to any loyal person. Why should not the people of Oregon be permitted to guard their treasury against aiders and abettors of treason? "The Government and disunion. Those who are not for us, are against us."

Now, I will not presume to say which side of this line His Excellency and the 4 Senators and 12 Representatives may seem to be, but will leave that question for their constituents and the people to decide. I believe the people want and the State demands such a law. Yet it is refused them, although 34 out of the 50 Senators and Representatives of the people of this State voted in favor of the law.

The State Fair. We had intended to be at the Fair, but the rains prevented, and the same cause to doubt operated much against its success.—We learn, however, that there was a good attendance—quite a large amount of stock exhibited, the best in the State—needles, work of various kinds—products of the farm and of the dairy—cabinets of articles in natural history, articles of mechanism, and fruits. We are told by those present that in some of the latter departments the exhibition was meagre in comparison to what it should have been, and in fruits the exhibition was poor indeed. On the whole, there may have been more horses, cattle, and sheep at the Salem Fair than at the Chickamauga Fair, but in other departments the Salem Fair was much behind the Fair of 1861. This ought not to have been, and shows that the farmers of Marion did not enter into the exhibition with the spirit that was expected of them.

Nevertheless there are some facts in connection with the late Fair which are encouraging. The grounds, intended for permanent Fair grounds, are fine, and can be made most beautiful. The land consists of eighty acres, about sixty of which are enclosed by a fence eight feet high. Three-fourths of the grounds are prairie, and the northern part well set with young oaks, which when trimmed and the underbrush taken out will greatly add to the beauty of the grounds and the comfort of those who will hereafter visit them. There was quite a large number of stalls and pens for stock which were not sufficient for the demands of exhibitors, and the number must be largely increased for the next Fair. There was a large building for the exhibition of articles—40 feet by 80—but entirely inefficient for the purpose, and another building of equal size must be erected the next season.

The great disadvantage of the late Fair was the result of holding it too late in the season. It should have been held at least a fortnight sooner, and probably would have been had the improvements been ready at an earlier day. We suppose some 150,000 feet of lumber were used upon the grounds. We have intimated that the farmers of Marion did not come up to the fair as was anticipated. Manifestly they did not realize the necessity of bringing specimens of their fruit, vegetables, and household productions. They were apprehensive they might be beaten; and what? they see! Would they not be glad to be beaten by superior specimens, and to learn how those specimens were produced? The State Fair is intended to present exhibitions of the agricultural and other productions of our State, such as shall show what our soils and skill are able to produce. There is another matter in which they could be great improvement. The getting up and managing of a State Fair is a great and complicated business. No one can be capable of doing it justice, work as industriously as he may. Most of the time of the late Fair it was observed that the President of the Society was the only officer present, and he was compelled to do the duties of clerk, messenger, provide superintendents of departments, committee, and in some cases superintend them in the performance of their duties—most of the committees being unacquainted with their duty. The business managers of the Society ought to be constantly present, and they cannot neglect this duty without seriously affecting the success of the Fair. State Fairs will not manage themselves. There must be system, and agents to carry out the system. When the Fairs shall be thrice as large as they have been, great dissatisfaction will result from officers failing to perform the duties expected of them.

On the first of January next the newly-elected officers of the Society will refer upon their duties. These new officers have doubtless learned much from past experience, and we trust the people will realize their expectations in witnessing their efforts to make our State Agricultural Society one of the most useful institutions of the State. They can do this, if they will the State. They can do this, if they will—and all the considerations we suppose to govern good citizens ought to impel them to do it.

Martin the Wizard has returned, and will give to-night one of his remarkable performances for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission. Let every one attend.—See advertisement.

We are under obligations to the Hon. B. Parker, Sergeant-at-Arms of the House, for full files of Legislative documents.