The Oregonian

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DAILY METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—8 P. M.—Maximum temperature, 45; minimum temperature, 38; height of river at 11 A. M., 3.6; change in the past 24 hours, —0.4; precipitation today, 0.01; precipitation from September 1, 1894 (wet season), to date, 19.77; average, 31.42; deficiency, 11.65; number hours of sunshine Thursday, 3.40; possible number, 10.30.

WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

A storm having appeared north of Tatoosh Island, the barometer fell rapidly today over Oregon and Washington. Rain is falling in Northwestern Oregon and Western Washington. East of the Cascades the weather continues fair, principally due to an area of high barometric pressure, extending over that section. Much warmer weather prevails in the Dakotas and Montana.

WEATHER FORECASTS.

Forecasts made at Portland for the 24 hours ending at midnight February 16:

For Western Oregon and Western Washington—Rain and warmer, with fresh southerly winds, high on the coast.

For Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho—Fair weather and warmer, with fresh southerly winds.

For Portland—Rain and warmer, with fresh southerly winds.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, FEB. 16.

SPECIAL FEATURES TOMORROW.

A fourth and highly interesting chapter of Anthony Hope's great serial, "Chronicles of Count Antonio."

Frank Carpenter tells of the reforms in Corea, and the great need of them.

"Bab" writes of the beneficial influences exerted by the high social standard of New York.

Something about Mrs. Lincoln, the wife of the martyred president, and belle of Springfield.

An article on the finest breeds of dogs seen at the bench shows.

The "Woman's Department" contains letters on the fashions, artistic designs and is grippe.

The "Youth's Department" has a continuation of "Little Mr. Thimblefinger," stories of Washington and his obedience, and a story of adventure, "On the Spanish Trail."

A social review of the week in Portland and vicinity.

THE WORK AT THE DALLES.

Through the efforts of Mr. Dolph, an appropriation has been secured for obtainment of right of way and beginning of work upon a boat railway at The Dalles. This duty is in the hands of the engineer officer in charge here. No person competent as an engineer to form a judgment doubts the practicability of the undertaking. The work could be pushed to completion in three or four years at furthest.

But if the state shall interpose with a portage-railway scheme, if it shall interfere with obtainment of the right of way by the United States, the general government will be very likely to go on with the work. It will be reported at Washington that the state has undertaken a substitutional enterprise, and the natural thing will be the abandonment by the government of this practicable boat-railway scheme.

Again, there is not room both for the boat railway and for this state portage railway. The O. R. & N., moreover, is the first occupant, and it must still be allowed room. If we do not interfere with the plans of the government's engineers, we shall in a few years have a boat railway, that will be far more useful than any mere portage road. It is known that the plans of the government's engineers are already well prepared and quite well advanced.

Mr. Dolph could do more in the senate for this work than any man who could be substituted for him, because he has long been an advocate of it; because he has worked it up; because he has gained a place in the senate which will assure him the position on committees where the real work is to be done; because he has promises of support from senators that would not be fulfilled to another; because, in short, he is the man who can do right here and now what no other man can do. If, however, the state now interposes with a portage road, and Mr. Dolph is not returned to the senate, this boat-railway scheme will fall through; and then, even if we should get the state portage road, it would be but a poor thing, obtained at heavy cost to our taxpayers, compared with the work that the general government has undertaken to do without cost to us.

The Oregonian states these things simply to make a record, not at all in the expectation that rational suggestions will have any force with those who, through selfish and petty ambitions, are "working" the legislature.

BONDS AND GOLD.

All kinds of bonds are gold bonds so long as the parity is maintained, though gold be not nominated in them. The government receives gold for the bonds it sells, and will pay gold back. It will likewise continue the policy necessary for maintenance of all forms of money and substitutes for money at parity with gold. Adherence to restriction or limitation of the coinage of silver is the first thing necessary to this end. Secondary measures that would be very helpful are retirement of a portion of the treasury notes and readjustment of the tariff and excise laws, so as to bring more revenue into the treasury.

Coin bonds, therefore, are gold bonds so long as the parity is maintained. The great thing, then, is to maintain the parity, which is to be done at all hazards. This can be done only by maintenance of an adequate gold reserve in the treasury; and to get this gold there is no way at present but to sell bonds for it.

It is pretty certain that these bonds would bring more money if gold were nominated in them. But there is a class of persons who, while accepting the fact of the gold standard, and having no idea that it will be abandoned, take fright at the name of gold, and avoid the use of it when they can. They expect the gold standard to be upheld, but don't want to fight for it. Some, again, are moved by the plausible plea that, if gold shall be named in the new bonds, the old bonds, in which it is not named, will be discredited. But in fact no bonds can be discredited so long as the parity of all kinds of money and of substitutes for money shall be preserved. Of course, if we sink to the silver basis, "coin" bonds will become payable in silver money, and silver money will have only its bullion value.

But the whole problem is a simple one, because everything is involved in maintenance of the parity; and this, in its turn, depends on a sufficient gold reserve. With such reserve in the treasury, the problem solves itself. It may now be regarded as probable that it will not be necessary to sell any more bonds to get gold for the reserve, for it is mostly foreign gold that is now coming in, and there are signs of the increase of the revenues, which will supply funds for current expenses, and perhaps enable the treasury to hold some portion of its notes out of circulation. If the revenues, therefore, shall increase, as anticipated, the crisis may be regarded as past. If the revenues do not increase, there will still be serious trouble. A while ago it looked as if it were certain that the president would be compelled to summon the next congress soon after March 4. But the acquisition of this large amount of foreign gold by the late sale of bonds may now make this unnecessary, and pretty certainly will if the revenues shall show the expected increase.

CONDITIONS WILL BE REVERSED.

The vote in the house Thursday is not as discouraging to hope of sound financial legislation in the future as it appears. It is too much controlled by partisan considerations on either side to be an index to the probable action of members of the next congress. That will meet under different conditions and legislate under different motives.

The play of partisan motive is plainly visible in Thursday's vote. Nobody can suppose that two-thirds of the republicans are opposed to legislation to maintain the public credit and the parity of value of gold and silver. On the other hand, it is a new thing to find a majority of democrats voting for a measure to make bonds payable in gold. The truth is that both republicans and democrats voted under influences which led them away from their real purposes and tendencies. The action of these influences will be reversed in the next congress, and the arrangement of parties on this question will be found to be reversed also. Then more than two-thirds of the republicans—probably all of them—will be found voting for some well-considered measure to protect the gold reserve, increase the revenues and maintain the parity. Certainly a majority of the democrats in the house, and probably all of them, will be found voting—as they invariably vote in opposition—in support of all manner of loose and dangerous popular notions of finance.

Two influences hold the majority of democrats to sound and wholesome financial action now. The sense of responsibility for legislation is powerful with the more intelligent representatives, and holds them to the right course, as it holds men like Secretary Carlisle, in spite of their divagations when not so restrained. Weaker and less intelligent representatives are held in line by the personal influence of the president, whether exercised through his command of patronage or by the direct dominance of a strong nature over weaker. Large part of this influence will be dissipated in the next congress, where democrats will be an irresponsible minority, and when the personal influence of the president will be diminished by the approach of the next election. Then it will be seen that democrats have reverted to their natural habit of courting popular favor by supporting loose notions about money.

In the next congress, the steadying sense of responsibility for legislation will be transferred to the republicans, who will be a majority so great that they can spare a few members of populist tendencies and still control the house of representatives. It is certain that they will frame and pass a sounder measure of financial relief and currency reform than that against which two-thirds of them voted Thursday. It may not be a gold-bond measure, but it will make such provision for maintaining the parity that coin bonds will sell as well as gold bonds. Above all, it will be a revenue measure, and will put an end to treasury deficiencies. Probably the main reason for republican refusal to support Cleveland's legislation is that it makes no provision for this most vital point.

SECURITY ON OFFICIAL BONDS.

Experts having examined the books and accounts of the Washington state penitentiary, find Coblentz's shortage to be between $12,000 and $14,000. Strenuous efforts are being made to relieve the sureties of the defaulting and defunct warden from liability, or, more properly speaking, to lighten their liabilities, the plea being that, through careful management in the erection of buildings, Coblentz saved the state several thousand dollars. Since this saving was in the exact line of his official duty, it is difficult to see how it can be diverted to the relief of Coblentz's bondsmen.

The idea that giving bonds for the faithful and honest performance of official duty is a mere matter of form, that had its beginning in an age in which men were less capable and honorable than now, is quite too prevalent. Sureties with solid financial backing to stand between the public and the possible dissipation of its money by extravagant, incapable or dishonest officials never were more in demand than now. Having undertaken this duty, such sureties should be held to a strict accountability in the event that the possibility against which their names and financial standing were interposed becomes a fact. Multnomah county would be many thousand dollars better off today had the requirements of prudence and responsibility in the matter of requiring ample security on official bonds within the past few years been properly and honestly met, and the intent of such bonds rigidly enforced. In private life, and where only individual interests are involved, one may, if he desires to be magnanimous rather than prudent, consider every man honest until he proves to be otherwise; but when the larger interests of the public are involved, the law justly demands and common prudence insists upon the acceptance of the opposite theory.

This judgment, founded upon the fallibility of human nature, which no man disputes, and the potency of temptation, which all men acknowledge, and justified almost every day in the year by the story of "a good man gone wrong," is not harsh; it is simply practical, and the closer it is adhered to in the requirement of ample security on official bonds, and in holding such sureties responsible, when necessary, the better for the individual and the community. To discard this theory is to be confronted, sooner or later, by a most perplexing condition, as the taxpayers of this county are all too well aware, and as those of the state of Washington will be made to feel, in case they find, in connection with Coblentz's peculations, that official sureties do not always insure against public loss.

NAVAL MILITIA.

The report of Lieutenant Schuetze on the naval militia of the United States, just made public by Secretary Herbert, shows that the exact status of that body and the nature of its employment in case of war have not yet been determined. The report suggests that steps be taken to call together the principal officers of the naval militia for consultation as to the probable duties of the militia on the outbreaak of a war. Invitations are to be sent to the authorities of the various states, asking them to participate in this initial movement toward suggesting positive legislation regarding the duties of the naval militia, and its relation to the general government and its naval forces.

This is indeed timely. It has troubled National Guard authorities not a little to fix the exact status of the naval militia. It is an outgrowth of the well-known lack of sufficient men for the navy in case of war, but, as at present organized, does not give promise of supplying the need. A regiment of infantry can be ordered into service, either locally or at a distance, and serve as an organized body. Not so a battalion of naval militia. Uncle Sam has no ships to turn over to such an organization, and if he had, the officers of the naval reserve are not competent to command them. A long, technical education and years of experience are required to make a naval commander. It is evident that the officers of the naval reserve would be useless for active service, and the only available material would be the men, who would be available only as drafted into the crews of vessels. Considering the class of men who compose the majority of these naval-reserve organizations, it is not to be presumed that they would be willing to perform sea duty in this manner. The radical difference between land service and sea service is what renders a militia organization of little practical utility for the latter.

In maintaining organized militia, it is to be assumed that the states do so primarily for their own protection, to preserve the peace within their own borders. For this purpose naval militia, as such, are of no value whatever. States own no warships, and could not use them for the suppression of riot if they did. Naval militia not drilled and armed so as to operate effectually as infantry would be of little value to a state. Seacoast-defense battalions could be made of practical service in manning coast defenses, and could preserve their organization intact. They could also be made of service for state purposes in the suppression of riots.

So far as a naval reserve is concerned, it should be strictly national in its character, and should be so organized that it could be drafted into service to help fill the complement of men for active duty on board ships already in commission, to serve under regular officers of the navy. Some plan by which the United States might create a reserve force for this purpose in time of need is highly desirable. Indeed, unless something of this kind is done, it is difficult to see where the navy would secure the men it would require in case of war. There is certainly need for a conference to settle the status and character of the naval reserve.

We shall have bimetalism, with free coinage of silver and gold, only when the leading nations take action together for it at some agreed ratio. In present conditions the co-operation of Great Britain is essential to this result; for France and Germany completely nullify each other, and neither will stir till other nations move. If Great Britain could take action, this "deadlock" of the nations would be broken; but Great Britain will not take action under her present government. Many, however, think she will when the conservative party shall come into power, an event which may not be far off. Extracts from a letter published today, written by Professor Foxwell, of Cambridge, to a citizen of Portland, holds out the assurance that action looking to international bimetalism may be taken in Great Britain at no distant day. We are not over-confident that Great Britain will do this, but till she does it there will be no rehabilitation of silver in the money system of the world. The United States could not do this alone, and will not attempt it, because the United States alone could not restore and sustain the value of silver. But if Great Britain would show a willingness to act, the United States would gladly act, too; and this would bring in Germany, France and other nations at once. But an international arrangement is absolutely necessary. No nation can venture an attempt to carry silver alone. Professor Foxwell's letter is well worth attention.

Lincoln's birthday, February 12, has been added to the legal holidays of the state of Washington. The tendency of the age is to create too many legal holidays. What with Washington's birthday, Decoration day, Labor day, Independence day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, the people of Oregon are pretty well supplied with these disorganizers of business, and contributors—through idleness—to crime and wastefulness. If there is any honor in the designation of a birthday as a legal holiday, it is well to bestow it upon the memory of Lincoln, though, since he was a workaday, and not in any sense a holiday, man, the propriety of dedicating a day of idleness to his memory may be doubted.

A very large petition has reached Washington, praying for withdrawal of the protection of the government from the opium and liquor traffic wherever legalized. There is a common confusion of ideas here. Our government imposes a duty on opium and an excise tax on liquor, but this doesn't "legalize" the trade in them. It merely taxes a trade that had previously existed, and was as lawful as trade in cotton or corn. A trade is not "protected" by taxing it; a man's income is not "protected" by the new income tax. Quite the reverse.

All over the state, county officers whose fees have been cut off by legislation undertake to punish the state for impairing their emoluments by neglecting to collect the fees, which now go into the public treasury. If they can reduce the receipts from fees below their own salaries now paid by the counties, and so make the latter actual losers by the change made for the public benefit, they think perhaps they can bring back the old profligate system. The remedy for this malfeasance in office is hinted at by the policy of Judge Northup in dealing with the sheriff of Multnomah. County judges ought to see that fees required by law to be paid are charged against the proper officers, whether collected by them or not, and the amount deducted from their salaries. If these are not enough to make restitution, recourse should be had by suit against the delinquents or their bondsmen.

It is of no great consequence that the insurance agents do not like the bill to tax foreign companies doing business in the state. If it affected them only it could be endured. But in point of fact it will affect them not at all. They simply will add the amount of the tax—and a little more to cover contingencies—to the premium upon insurance, and policy-holders will pay it. It is really a bill to increase the cost of insurance in Oregon; to put a premium upon careless business methods by laying a discriminating tax upon property whose owners are prudent enough to insure it. The author of the bill does not know this, because he is a crazy socialist, knowing nothing about business and its laws. But others in the legislature ought to know it. They are not crazy socialists—not many of them. The representatives have acted without thinking. The senate should reject the bill.

The professional office-holder has fallen upon evil times. Sheriff Sears complains that strict enforcement of the law by the county judge has cut down his emoluments so that he "cannot pay expenses." By this he means he cannot get back the money he spent in his campaign to beat the regular republican nominee. This is precisely the complaint of the other beneficiaries of the system that has made public office a private snap in Multnomah county. They think it an injustice that they may not wring out of the public in fees for their own benefit the money they spent last summer to get their offices. They want the legislature to put a premium on bribery and corruption in elections by taxing their campaign expenses upon the public. This is a little the most impudent demand that ever was made upon a legislative body.

The fruit-pest law just enacted by the legislature is a great improvement upon the present, since it confers full power to condemn and destroy infected trees and fruit, and to quarantine against infected importations. It is only doubtful whether the means provided for enforcing the law are adequate. The board is to be maintained and the whole state patrolled for $9000. It seems probable that this money would go farther in hands of one man, who could give all his time to the work for a reasonable salary.

Between Mrs. Gaff, who is after her uxorial equity in that $8000 which the doctor had accumulated to furnish forth his carefully planned season of amorous dalliance, and the grand jury, which has undertaken to make an indictment for kidnaping against him stick, the middle-aged Romeo of Albina begins to realize that a lover's lot is not always a blissful one. In this case, a desperate effort is making to prove the law not always impotent to punish domestic offenses.

Last year, in Massachusetts, 480,835 women, old and young, deposited $33,469,023 11 in savings banks. This was nearly one-half in number and amount of all depositors and deposits. Now, of course, let us reduce the value of the dollar one-half and destroy one-half the savings of these plutocrats.

There is decent weather again in Oregon. It set in last night, with soft wind and rain, between 6 and 7 o'clock.

WHY IT SHOULD BE DOLPH.

A Plain, Candid and Moderate Statement of the Situation.

The Dalles Times-Mountaineer.

The attitude of the bolters becomes more censurable every day, for they are not only blocking legislation and defeating the expressed wishes of the people in the choice of United States senator, but have not paid the least attention to petitions of their constituents or concentrated their votes on any man to represent Oregon in congress. During the campaign last June the issue was fairly made between Dolph and anti-Dolph, and on every platform in the state republican speakers were called upon to defend the actions of the senior senator. He was assailed by democratic and populist orators and papers, and particular emphasis was given to his position on the money question. There never was a canvass in the state of Oregon in which such particular stress was laid upon the approaching election of United States senator. Voters were warned that a vote for the republican ticket was a vote for the re-election of J. N. Dolph to the United States senate, and every available objection to him was made. Notwithstanding this fact the republicans carried the state by over 20,000 majority, and the people virtually said by that large plurality that they desired Mr. Dolph to retain his position in congress. He was virtually elected to the senate by the popular vote of the electors, and it was so considered until the silver craze rendered some legislators wild and made them forget every obligation to their constituents and to the party.

In Eastern Oregon Senator Dolph was favored because he was an able champion of the republican doctrine of protection, and had supported measures and secured their passage throught the senate in the interest of the producer. He was instrumental in the forfeiture of the Wallula-Portland land grant, and he framed and introduced the just bill that became a law. The Columbia river had received larger appropriations during the time he was senator from Oregon than ever before, and the government work at the locks had been changed to the contract system. During three sesions he had secured the passage of a bill through the senate for the construction of a ship railway above this point to Celilo, carrying with them liberal appropriations; but twice these measures had been defeated in a democratic house. Last year he was successful, and the preliminary survey for a ship railway has been made. The title to the wagon road land grants, through his efforts, has been settled by the passage of an act of congress. When the forfeited lands went back to the public domain it was by his arduous endeavors that they were reduced to the minimum price of $1 25 an acre, and an extension of time given in which settlers could make the payments. In every instance he has proved himself a friend to the producer and farmer, and has done more for the state of Oregon than any other man who ever represented it at Washington. This senseless howl about Mr. Dolph being a corporation attorney, under the pay of Wall street and acting in the interest of English gold-loaners, comes from the populists' camp, and is used to cause dissension in republican ranks, and pave the way for their success in 1896. His record for the 12 years he has been in the senate is well known, and it proves absolutely false every one of these groundless charges.

Mr. Dolph is undoubtedly the choice of the people for United States senator, and has proved himself on public questions a statesman among statesmen. He has been the friend of the people, and an earnest advocate of an open river. As a champion of the grand principles of the republican party there is not his peer on the Pacific coast, and in the next congress it will need its ablest defenders on the floors of congress. For these and other reasons Hon. J. N. Dolph should be re-elected to the position he has occupied with such unquestionable ability and integrity.

INTERNATIONAL BIMETALISM.

Notable Growth of the Doctrine in Great Britain.

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—(To the Editor.)—I ask you to publish the following extract from a letter received a day or two ago from H. S. Foxwell, professor of political economy in the university of Cambridge, England. Professor Foxwell has in the past four years written articles in favor of the use of both gold and silver as coin metal—that have been acknowledged the ablest that have appeared in the British press.

Let me here remark that there is no professor of political economy in England who is not a bimetalist. My authority for making this statement is the Right Hon. Henry Chaplin, M. P., for Sleaford, and late minister of agriculture in the Salisbury cabinet. In December last Mr. Chaplin "stumped" Forforshire, in Scotland, and the Brigg division of Lincolnshire in England. Both these districts had always been liberal in politics, but in December last, when byelections were held, the liberal candidates declared in favor of a single gold standard and the tory candidates in favor of bimetalism, and the latter were elected.

I take the liberty of making an extract from Professor Foxwell's letter, to show what all men who have marked the current of events in Great Britain already knew, namely, that the cause of bimetalism has made gigantic strides in the past three years. The people of England, who have recently studied the question, and as I sincerely believe any intelligent man who will carefully examine into the bimetallic question, have come to the conclusion that both gold and silver must have free and unlimited coinage and be made equal in debt-paying power. But it must be by international agreement.

Said A. J. Balfour, the great conservative leader, "If money ought not to be a subject of international agreement, what should it be?" But here is the extract from

PROFESSOR FOXWELL'S LETTER.

Like you, I am a strong international bimetalist. Nothing short of complete confidence and unlimited money will ever restore silver; and these can only be obtained by international agreement. We are making great progress here. It is on the cards that international bimetalism may become a plank in the conservative platform at the approaching general election. Every member of parliament who has been elected this year is pledged to do all in his power to further an international agreement.

We incline to an agreement for the unlimited purchase of gold and silver "bullion" for legal tenders, leaving it to each government to say what form that legal tender shall take—whether coins or notes—always, of course, observing your principle, that whatever forms of legal tender are current must all be maintained at a par.

As to a ratio, I incline to 20 to 1; 15½ to 1 is arbitrary, and rather too high, in my judgment. Twenty to one would fit the decimal system and facilitate all calculations.

Existing coins might be maintained as token coins, circulating at above the international par, just as they now circulate above the existing market par.

I commend this letter of the great free silver leader of Great Britain to my Oregon silver friends.

J. B. MONTGOMERY.

MR. FULTON'S DENIAL.

The Astorian.

The following statement appeared in the Salem correspondence to The Oregonian published yesterday:

"The anti-Dolph element is making its last struggles before giving up the fight. The chief activity today and tonight is with democrats and populists, to whom anxious overtures have been made. The name most frequently heard in connection with the effort is that of Fulton, and report has it that promises have been made to the effect that, in return for support, Fulton would sign an agreement satisfactory to the populists and democrats. Of course, in such an event, the senator elected could scarcely be classed as other than a populist, receiving the vote of that party and bolters from another. No fears need be entertained, however, of such an agreement being perfected."

In order to set Mr. Fulton right, if he had been misrepresented in the article, the Astorian telegraphed him late last evening to know whether he desired to deny the statement and in reply received the following telegram:

SALEM, Feb. 14.—(Editor Astorian)—Deny it absolutely; in fact, not seeking at all. C. W. FULTON.

It hardly needed the positive and emphatic denial from Mr. Fulton to convince his friends and old political associates that to whatever extent he may have gone in opposition to the prevailing republican sentiment on the money question, he could not commit the unpardonable error of seeking election to the senate by trading off his past record and principles in return for populist or democratic votes; and it is a satisfaction to know that the representative from Salem who first circulated the report in Astoria, and perhaps elsewhere, had no such authority from Mr. Fulton, but on the contrary, was guilty of a gross misrepresentation when he did it.

PERSONS WORTH KNOWING ABOUT.

Colonel Hamilton Robinson, now 85 years of age, is the oldest Odd Fellow in Indiana.

Motoyosi Saizan, a Japanese who for several years ettled in France, has brought out on the stage Japanese plays turned into French.

Though the Rev. Dr. Furness, of Philadelphia, is the oldest graduate of Harvard, another graduate of that institution, Dr. Russell, of Barre, Mass., is one year older, being 94.

An excellent bust of the late Henry W. Grady, of Georgia, has just been cast in bronze by the Mullers, of New York. It is the work of Orion Frazie, one of Mr. Grady's warmest personal friends.

Skidmore Alston died recently in Rolesville, N. C., at the advanced age of 85 years. Skidmore was the father of 24 children, and had so many grandchildren he was never able to recognize all of them.

Mrs. Newel Case, of Battle Creek, Mich., has a new pair of twin babies, born on different days of the week, different months, and different years; one just before and one just after the New Year midnight.

William E. Gladstone, a second cousin of England's Grand Old Man, died in New York last Saturday, at the age of 59. He came to this country about a quarter of a century ago, and for 20 years had manufactured oxygen on Broadway.

Preparations are being made for the celebration next June of Professor C. C. Landgell's 25th anniversary as dean of the Harvard law school. He was appointed Dane professor in the school in 1870, and in December of the same year he was elected to the deanship.

The death of John Chapman, editor of the Westminster Review, recalls to a correspondent of the Independent a little anecdote of Mr. Chapman's bright daughter, told by Mrs. Chapman to a circle of interested and amused listeners—a circle including George Eliot, Bayard Taylor, and others equally appreciative, if less distinguished—a good many years ago. "Mamma," said the little daughter—as Mrs. Chapman related the incident—"Mamma, how do they milk cows?" "Why," said the mother, "don't you remember the day when we were in the country, and you saw the men milking the cows?" "Oh, no, mamma," she answered, "they were not milking the cows; they were unmilking them. I want to know how they milk them."

"A-COMIN' AND A-GWINE."

"To Ketch 'Em" This Way the Umatilla Man Set His County Division Coon Trap.

Pendleton Tribune.

Representative Davis is composed of that material out of which wirepullers are made, and while comparatively young and inexperienced, he has given evidence of being a Napoleon in the caucus; might possibly develop into a political boss, or a "practical politician," as he shows evidence of genius for affairs and combinations. His hobby was and is division. The writer was told he formed a combination with the Dolph men in the house and the silverites at the same time, in order to secure a score for himself in securing his division bill. He voted for Mr. Dolph and exulted over the receipt of letters and telegrams from his Milton home commending his good judgment in standing by Mr. Dolph. When it was shown that three-fourths of the votes cast for division came from the anti-Dolph men, Mr. Davis concluded that a scheme that would work in the house would work equally as well in the senate, and therefore withdrew his support from Mr. Dolph to return after the senate passed favorably on his division bill. The division bill has not yet passed the senate, and if Mr. Dolph's only show of being elected depends upon favorable action on the Davis bill the Tribune would feel disposed to predict his defeat.

HONOR IN POLITICS.

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—(To the Editor.)—It is indeed amusing to see to what straits the free-silver-populist element of the legislature are driven to continue the deadlock against Senator Dolph. When the caucus was held at Salem and a vote was taken to determine who was the choice of the republicans for senator, Mr. Dolph was declared the nominee, and his nomination was made unanimous by the caucus. Messrs. Fulton and Tongue, who were then the formidable candidates in opposition to Mr. Dolph, quietly withdrew from the field and went home, conceding the election to Mr. Dolph. The contest was by all consistent republicans considered at an end, and only the formality of casting the vote of the legislature for the caucus nominee was left to conclude the work of electing Mr. Dolph. Notwithstanding all this, the legislature has been thwarted to an alarming extent by this crowd, who seem to think that there is no honor in politics and that "kickers" can control the solemn judgment of the consistent and loyal element of the republican party. This state of affairs, shameful as it is and as it may appear to the loyal republicans of the state, has continued until a feeling of disgust is prevalent everywhere. It seems to many leading and influential republicans that if Mr. Fulton or Mr. Tongue ever expect political promotion in this state, they must throw off their coats and, like men, assist in the election of the man who was an honorable competitor of theirs and who won the prize fairly and honestly, and is entitled to receive it from the hands of the party. The lukewarmness of these two ambitious gentlemen is clearly manifest, and will be charged against them if their present course is continued. So far as Mr. Lowell is concerned, he is not now and never has been looked upon as a serious candidate. The fact is, he is what you might call a schoolboy. He has not been in the state four years, and, I am informed, has not seen one-half dozen counties in the state, and the straits the bolters have been driven to to find a candidate to vote for seems ridiculous in the extreme to the earnest looker-on. Honesty in politics is as much of a virtue as honest motives and doings in the business affairs of life, and the element at Salem who are attempting to thwart the voice of the majority in the choice of senator cannot be too highly condemned; and to say that this element will be condemned in the future by the best element of the party is putting the case mildly.

FAIR PLAY.

THE SALMON BILLS.

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—(To the Editor.)—In reference to the proposed fish laws, allow me space to express a few ideas gained from experience. There is no doubt that unless proper laws are enacted and enforced the salmon industry will soon be a thing of the past. In allowing certain selfish classes to make laws to suit themselves the ruin of this important industry will soon be accomplished. I am of the opinion that there is no use for a spring close season, for the fish are not then seeking the spawning grounds as such. The fall close season should include both August and September. The importance of a long fall close season should be one of the leading features of the law, and what is taken from the present spring close season should be added to the fall close season.

Every one who has looked into this subject from a neutral standpoint will agree with me that a law should be passed for the protection of salmon, and not for the protection of a few individuals, to the detriment of the state.

I think that gill-nets, set-nets, and also dip-nets (if taxed at all) ought to be taxed as proposed in the Steiwer bill; and traps, wheels, pound-nets, weirs, seines, and other fixed appliances should be taxed at least $50 each. Canneries and packing establishments should be taxed from $100 upward, according to their capacity. By licensing at the above figures, the state would have about $14,000 annually, with which to operate hatcheries, etc., over and above the fish commissioner's salary and other expenses connected with the office. I think the Steiwer bill (No. 183) would be about what we want, with the close season from August 1 to October 1 or 10, with the license fees as noted above.

I am also in favor of a weekly close season, as at present, and trust the committee on fisheries will not overlook this important point. The most satisfactory laws appear to be those which prescribe at least one day in each week, usually Sunday, during which the ascent of fish may not be interrupted. According to the fish commissioner's report, as published December 1, 1894, apparatus licensed at the above figures would foot up, as above stated, $14,000, without the cannery tax, and this will come from those who get the direct benefit, instead of taxing the state to maintain hatcheries, pay salaries, etc.

WILLIAM J. BOTHWELL.

Lands Subject to Homestead.

THE DALLES, Or., Feb. 14.—(To the Editor.)—We would like to announce through the columns of your paper that the lists of lands being published in the local papers of Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam and Morrow counties are furnished from this office. These are indemnity lands, which were heretofore selected by the N. P. R. R. Co., and were not—but now are—subject to entry under the homestead laws, and are situate in Sherman, Gilliam and Morrow counties, of this state. As persons of your city have been inquiring of this office relative to the location and quality of these lands, and as to whether the same are subject to entry, under the homestead laws, we thought perhaps you would kindly give such persons the desired information through the columns of your paper. We are unable to say what the character of the lands is, but the lands are, as published, all within this land district, and aggregate about 174,000 acres in the three counties named.

J. F. MOORE, Register.

A Fatal Mistake.

Oswego Times.

When President Cleveland wrote Judge Gresham after election instructing him to come to Washington, saying, "I need you," it is now discovered he misdirected the letter. It was John Sherman he needed.

NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST.

Oregon.

The La Grande city election will occur March 11.

The Corvallis Marine band will be reorganized.

It is proposed to organize a stock company at Eugene to build a flour mill.

J. B. Barnes, of Gervais, split hop poles Monday until he split his foot from toe to ankle.

Company B, at McMinnville, celebrated its fourth anniversary Wednesday night with a "big eat" at its armory.

Many deer are seen along the base of the Cascades and Blue mountains, having been driven out by the deep snow.

It is feared that the unusually deep snow in Malheur county will cause the death of much stock, especially horses.

Boys at Lone Rock caught a lynx and matched him against the fighting dogs of the town. There are no fighting dogs now.

The Baker City papers deny and the Huntington paper affirms that the movement to annex Huntington to Malheur county is serious.

Corvallis will have to raise a loan or shorten the school term next year, as pay will be five months in arrears at the end of the present term.

Eugene has had several fires recently, and it is suspected that a firebug is at work. The last fire, in a barn, was evidently of incendiary origin.

Since Baker City imposed a license fee upon laundries, the Chinese washhouses have closed and the city is threatened with a superabundance of dirty linen.

Colonel Muney tells the Bandon Recorder that the new machine being used at the Randolph blacksand mines, is a perfect success. It catches all the gold in the sand, and also saves the quicksilver that was lost by other machines.

Last Saturday two sons of James Coulee, living near Newburg, started out for a hunt, and, as they passed through the timber, a twig caught the hammer of a rifle carried by one of them, and the result was a bullet in the other's arm.

Perhaps the oldest horse in the United States died last week on Upper Willow creek. The horse lacked just one month of being 40 years old, and was the property of Mr. Rose, a farmer, who had owned the animal since it was 8 years old. Mr. Rose deeply regretted the death of his old friend and gave him a very respectable burial.

Joseph Palmer, the stockman, has returned to La Grande from Omaha, where he has been engaged for several weeks winding up and closing out a large stock shipment in which he was interested. During the last summer and fall he bought, fed and shipped about 2000 head of cattle. The stock was secured principally in Malheur county, and the prices realized in the Omaha market were satisfactory.

Adolph Geyer killed a ferocious-looking cougar on Savage creek about eight miles from Grant's Pass last Thursday. The animal had been treed by Adolph's dog, but on seeing the gun approach left his refuge and broke for tall timber when he was stopped by a Winchester ball which went straight through his body. Calhoun Bros. bought the trophy for $5, and Mr. S. H. Calhoun will probably mount his cougarship in all the naturalness of the taxidermist's art. Seven feet was the measurement from tip to tip. The cougar had been living off the farmers' hogs and was very fat, weighing 125 pounds.

Washington.

A Spokane grocer has been convicted of selling oleomargarine for butter.

From one to four tons of fish are being shipped from Snohomish daily.

Leo Wise had his ankle broken while playing football at Hwaco Sunday. He stepped into a hole, fell and several others fell on top of him.

The legislative committee visited the Medical Lake asylum Monday, danced with the inmates, and will report favorably upon its management.

J. W. Edgecomb is building a saw mill two miles east of Machias, and the S. L. S. & E. road will run a spur to the mill. Fir, cedar, spruce and hemlock will be cut.

There is great alarm along the Idaho border, about a disease resembling blackleg that has broken out among the cattle near Latah, Idaho. A Spokane veterinarian has gone to investigate the matter.

Two of Spokane's colored population had a duel with rocks in an alley before a large crowd of howling spectators. The one who was hit in the head drove the one whose shins suffered off the field, and was himself led off, though an exultant victor, by a policeman.

Two carloads of Hollanders will soon arrive on the Sound from Michigan and settle on Whidby island, where 18,000 acres have been purchased for the colony.

The commissioners of Clallam county have employed an expert at $800 to examine defaulting Treasurer Clump's accounts, and an attorney at $1500 to settle with his bondholders. An injunction will be asked by citizens who do not think it good business to pay $2300 to recover $3000, the amount of the shortage.

PARAGRAPHERS' PLEASANTRIES.

He—What is this new dish, dear, we have for dinner? She—I'm not perfectly sure, darling, which I used, the recipe for taking spots out of the carpet or the one for Washington pie.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Modern mother—It's very sad; but I'm afraid poor Jane will never be popular in society. Friend—Indeed! Modern mother—Yes; she's got such silly, old-fashioned ideas about always speaking the truth.—Ally Soper.

Figg—You generally find that people believe what they want to believe. Fogg—Yes; and probably that accounts for the belief in everlasting punishment—for other people, of course—being popular.—Boston Transcript.

"Yes," said the editor, "here are a number of directions from outsiders as to the best way of running a newspaper. See that they are all carried out." And the subordinate, gathering them into a large basket, did so.—Detroit Tribune.

Collector—See here, when are you going to do anything on this account? Mudge—I don't know. I've been hypnotized so that I can't go through the performance of paying even when I have the money. I'm awfully sorry, I assure you.—Indianapolis Journal.

"What is that you are reading?" asked the fond father. "The People of the Mist," answered the dutiful daughter. "It's a novel." "A novel, eh? I allowed from the name of it that it was a list of the last democratic congress."—Indianapolis Sentinel.

Officer—The man's back is broken, and he can make no statement as to the circumstances of the assault. Magistrate—It looks very much like justifiable tackling, but we will hold the prisoner on the charge of interference in the first degree, pending further investigation.

Tammany hall for many years past has been a source of anxiety and surprise to the national democracy, but the last election campaign capped the climax. The course of Tammany reminds one of a certain hired man who was continually astonishing his employer, a farmer, by doing strange and unexpected things. One day the farmer went into the barn and found that his man had hanged himself. Looking at the dangling body a few minutes, he exclaimed: "What on earth will that fellow do next?"—Texas Siftings.

What Has Become of It?

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—(To the Editor.)—What has become of the bill providing for public depositories for the safe keeping and security of public moneys, prepared by the Committee of One Hundred and introduced by Mr. Paxton. It is rumored that our newly-elected county treasurer is using his influence to defeat the bill. We call upon Mr. Paxton and our delegation to pass this bill, as one of the most important for the security of the taxpayers. We want no more losses of public moneys! TAXPAYER.