

The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter.

Editorial Rooms... 106 1/2 Business Office... 101

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Mail (postage prepaid) in Advance: Daily, with Sunday, per month... 30 00

To City Subscribers: Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted, 23c

News or discussion intended for publication in The Oregonian should be addressed invariably to "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual.

The Oregonian does not buy copies of stories from individuals, and cannot, without discretion, accept any material from such sources.

No stamps should be inclosed for this purpose.

Agents: Pacific Bureau—Captain A. Thompson, office at 311 1/2 Grand avenue, Tacoma, Wash. 2022, Tacoma postoffice.

Eastern Business Office—The Tribune building, New York city, 102 Broadway, second floor; the S. C. De Witt special agent, New York.

For sale in San Francisco by J. K. Cooper, 146 Market street, near the Palace hotel, and Golden Gate, No. 220 Market street.

For sale in Chicago by the F. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street.

TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair, with northwest wind.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

THE PRETEXT IN KENTUCKY.

It is alleged that there was just ground for the determination of the Gobelites in Kentucky to oust Taylor, that ground was declared to be the intimidation of voters at Louisville by troops at the polls.

At Louisville on election day, fearing riot, the governor had some companies of militia in readiness, but they did not interfere in the election, in any way. They did not appear at the polls, but remained at their quarters.

For proof that democratic voters were not kept away from the polls by intimidation, it is only necessary to point to the fact that Taylor's majority in the city of Louisville was less than that of Bradley, his republican predecessor, over Hardin, the democratic candidate, and far below the majority for McKinley.

Louisville is in Jefferson county, and the city holds about the same relation or proportion to the county of Jefferson that Portland holds to the county of Multnomah.

Here is the vote of Jefferson county at the state election of 1892: Bradley, rep., 55; Hardin, dem., 28; Pettit, pop., 21. Total vote, 104.

In 1899 the vote of the county stood thus: Taylor, rep., 15,445; Gobel, dem., 15,222; Brown, anti-Gobel dem., 2672; Blair, pop., 40. Total vote, 36,389.

It will be seen that notwithstanding all this talk of intimidation by the military in 1899, the vote of the city and county was greater than in the next proceeding general election, and though Gobel's vote fell a little short (397, to be exact) of the cast for the democratic candidate at the preceding election, yet the vote for Brown, the anti-Gobel democratic candidate, far more than accounts for this loss.

In 1896 McKinley's majority in the city and county reached the great total of 12,460—due to the fact that Louisville is an important commercial and industrial city, and therefore greatly interested in maintenance of the gold standard.

The examination and comparison of these figures, particularly of those of the last two state elections, completely disprove the Gobel pretense that there was "military intimidation" at Louisville, and that "thousands were prevented from voting." Yet this is the basis on which the democrats, led by Gobel, have proceeded to set aside the election. Every one sees that it is a mere pretext, pretense, invention, subterfuge.

Yet the laws give the legislature the authority and power; and any party that chooses to get a majority in the legislature may, on any pretext that ingenuity can invent, set aside the result of an election. The Gobelites have not intended that there shall be any elections in Kentucky hereafter.

They have fixed up the laws so as to have all the machinery in their own hands; and whatever miss may chance to be made by the election boards or returning boards they fix upon the legislature and through the courts—the latter wholly in their own hands.

All this is the work chiefly of William Gobel; and the condition of anarchy, bordering on civil war, in which he has left the state of Kentucky, is his title to fame.

Yet from the first The Oregonian has not been able to see how this usurpation could be successfully resisted.

In all its successive steps the usurpation has followed the forms of law; it still boasts of its adherence to perfectly lawful proceedings, and denounces resistance as revolutionary.

Yet as it has seemed to us certain that opposition must fail, we have thought it better that the republicans should yield to the usurpation rather than attempt to resist it. The key of the situation is the possession of the legislature by the usurpers.

From the first it has been manifest that this is an advantage that could not be overcome.

The Southern Pacific Company will have two exhibits at Paris during the exposition of the present year, one at No. 25 Boulevard des Italiens, the other at Frascati Palace grounds in a separate pavilion, erected by Huel.

All letters of inquiry addressed to W. H. Mills, No. 25 Boulevard des Italiens, Paris, will be promptly answered.

A reduction of 75 per cent in customs dues on imports from Puerto Rico is certainly on its face a very material advantage to the producers of that island in their competition with other West Indian and Central and South American communities. It will not satisfy the interests there or the American politicians who have been demanding free trade, and it is considered enough to alarm sincere protectionists.

How the scheme will work there is, unfortunately, no means of

knowing except through experiment, because all the testimony so far submitted is interested and ex parte.

AN EPOCHAL COMPROMISE.

The legal relation of Puerto Rico to the United States appears to be settled, and far as congress is concerned, and there is a feeling that it would inevitable appeal to the supreme court will reverse the action of congress.

This adjudication may be regarded as final, so far as a principle of action relative to the new dependencies is concerned, and any changes subsequently determined upon will be in the nature of amendments and adjustment to new conditions or new surroundings of old conditions, and not in the nature of correction or retreat.

An epochal stage in constitutional history has been passed, and the arbiter is that momentous author of nearly the whole body of American law, whose name is written across every great period of our history—COMPROMISE.

Puerto Rico, congress decides, is not a part of the United States. Neither the Philippines. Whatever is to be done in relation to it is to be decided on its merits, without regard to the mandates or inhibitions of the constitution.

This decision is partly right and partly wrong. It is worth a good deal to have the truth recognized that the constitution is a living, adaptable instrument, and not a cast-iron code to be taken only for its letter.

We see here the same lesson we had to learn when the anti-slavery law had no warrant in the constitution for conquest or purchase of foreign soil.

The constitution was not made for us, we learned then cannot successfully be invoked against the exercise of necessary functions of sovereignty.

We learned the same lesson, again, when Robert was excluded from congress. There is no provision in the constitution for exclusion of members duly elected. But this action became necessary to the Roberts case in obedience to the higher law of self-preservation.

Against this right and necessary law was done, the constitution will be invoked in vain. Perhaps one other illustration may safely be added, and that is the decision in the Corbett case in the senate.

Mr. Corbett was excluded, not on constitutional grounds, but on grounds of public policy; and on that ground Quay will probably be excluded also.

So in this present case congress sees that the thing to do is what is expedient and best; and along with this discovery goes the realization that the constitution was not devised for such cases as Puerto Rico and the Philippines.

It was framed for the original Union, and great and sagacious though its framers were, they had no more than human prescience. They did not foresee the extension of our domain to new and distant territory, and they did not provide for that emergency.

The ingenuity of the decision is in the purpose, that have dictated it. The compromise in the practical details regarding tariff is reached through conflict of unworthy self-seeking designs. The democrats have insisted on free trade with Puerto Rico and the Philippines, not in the interests of justice, but in order to make expansion as odious as possible.

"Take the Philippines and Puerto Rico, will you?" they say, "then you shall be compelled to make every savage warrior of these mountain tribes a full-fledged American citizen. Then you shall admit them to congress, give their laborers untrammeled access to this country, let their products in free duty, and close the door of trade at Manila."

This is the sort of expansion the anti-slaveryists sought to foist upon the republicans, who declined to permit the anti to form their course for them.

On the other hand, the republicans have yielded in their decision to the clamor of certain private interests. They were afraid of the president recommended it and Secretary Root urged it, for fear of losing the votes of protected interests like fruit, wool, sugar and hides, and perhaps indirectly those of iron, copper and manufactures generally.

It was in the power of congress to say: We have the right to give Puerto Rico and the Philippines either tariff or free trade; but we choose to give them free trade, and if you do not like this, but instead has compromised the fare of the islands, and injured the great trade prospective between Atlantic ports and Puerto Rico and between our Pacific ports and the Philippines, in order to placate protectionist sentiment on the eve of a presidential election.

Such a compromise, if of course, thoroughly please neither side. But it may serve its ends. Compromises are frequently as practicable in operation as they are unworthy in purpose.

PORTLAND A MINING CENTER.

This year's development in the Eastern Oregon gold belt, Bohemia, Ochoco, Santiam and Blue river districts, and in the Southern, Southwestern and Southeastern sections, will establish Oregon's position at the great mining center. Every place where gold is found is throbbing with new life.

Permanence and value of ore have been definitely established in every camp. The pocket formation theory of the Southern Oregon lodes, so long adhered to, has been proved a myth, and experiment has demonstrated that the Eastern Oregon ores gain and not lose value with depth.

Capitalists are eagerly taking hold of all properties that have been shown to be worthy of investment. Machinery is being set up as fast as the work can be done.

Two years ago the Eastern Oregon gold belt had but 100 stamps. Before summer it will have between 220 and 250 stamps and perhaps more.

Last year Oregon's gold output was \$1,285,000. This year, with the present indications of enormous development, the yield will pass \$2,000,000.

As the mining center of a great mining state, Portland is justly entitled to an assay office. The forced objection of the mint officials to Portland, on the ground that there are already too many assay offices in the Northwest, falls flat in the face of the facts that the offices at Boise, Helena and Seattle now have all the work they can handle, that if one were located at Portland it would be busy from the start, and that the Portland office would not interfere with the offices at Helena, Boise or Seattle.

With prospects for tremendous gold production in the Northwest, there is more than enough business in sight for all the offices.

Without an assay office at Portland, Oregon cannot hope to have its gold yield reported at anything near the correct figure. Try as the mint officials may, and it is only fair to give them

credit for conscientious endeavor, they seem unable to get at the right figures.

Last year they estimated Oregon's yield at \$1,360,287, about one-half the actual total. Washington was put down for \$806,102.

Oregon's gold yield last year was fully three times that of Washington.

Last year's estimate for Oregon was made up by the Seattle office. This is an injustice to Oregon, as Seattle is not the mining center of Oregon or Washington.

It has not the direct rail lines to the mines of Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho that Portland has.

It is receiving only a small percentage of the Washington yield, and practically nothing from Oregon and Idaho.

It was established to accommodate the mining duffers, but is not accommodated to the mining interests of the Northwest proper.

Portland does not like to be put in the position of opposing Baker City's effort to get an assay office, but it is only justice to say in behalf of Portland that an office at Baker City would be a local office, while one at Portland would serve the entire Northwest.

Baker City's office would be of no service to the miners of Western and Southern Oregon, nor to those returning from Alaska and the British possessions.

Again, it is quite probable that Portland will soon have more direct railroad connection with the rich mines west of Baker City.

Another point favorable to Portland is that there is an assay office at Boise, only 148 miles from Baker City.

Portland will soon have an abundance of cheap coal for smelting operations.

Near proximity to the mining district, connection with low rates make Portland the logical and natural location of the smelter, the assay office and the mint, if one should be established.

Sooner or later Portland will be the great mining city of the Northwest and the headquarters of all mining interests.

To Portland the miner will come to close his deals, to educate his children, to seek capital. Here will be located the rights and necessary laws should be established the other office, it is a down-grade haul to Portland from every mining camp in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

And here the ores will be treated. Portland is as truly the mining center of the Northwest as San Francisco is of California, and as Denver is of Colorado.

No matter in what part of California the mines are, north or south, near or far, San Francisco is the hub; so it will be in the Northwest with Portland.

And of the mining industry it may be said without exaggeration that the period of great development is here, and that they who are now in their teens will not live to see the end of it.

THE POLITICAL CARD-SHARP.

William Allen White, in the current number of Scribner's Magazine, draws a powerful picture of what may be called, for lack of a better name, a "political card-sharp."

Under the name of Senator Wharton we have the repulsive portrait of a creature that stands for this type of the "meat-ax" politician in the United States; that is a man who is not attracted to the field of national politics because he has any talent for the transaction of public business, because he is possessed of political learning or historical knowledge, or because he has exceptional powers of legitimate public speech either as eloquent orator or incisive debater.

The average "meat-ax" politician is drawn into politics purely through the hunger and thirst of a vulgar and unscrupulous, joined to the vulgar vanity which enjoys being regarded and treated as a man of "influence."

Senator Wharton reveals his sordid intellectual quality when he tells the reporter to interview him after his election that "a boy from Harvard sniffs at his country and tolerates his unlivings; that 'if I had a boy come home with that Harvard pickle on him I'd put him into the chamber-work department of a laundry establishment; he could say his prayers and hold off his hat to the American flag.'"

The senator-elect does not wish this bit of robust satire printed in the paper, as "there's a little bunch of Harvard in the senate, and I may need it in my business."

The new senator holds civic service reform in contempt; thinks it will only increase political apathy; "to take away all the offices from the party workers and put them in cold storage," and adds:

"Well, 'em it's all right to holler about a public office being a private seas, but ask how the registration is going to be kept up in the ward if manning in the show are to be the only reward for the men who do it."

Wharton comes to the senate after twelve years' service in the house, which he entered with a good record made in the state legislature. Before he completes his third term in congress he accepts deals and jobs and sly legalized official steals as matters of fact. Later he takes Indian supply contracts. His strong hold as a congressman was in pensions; he framed a pension law that made his name sacred at the time. He camps and annual encampment at the great mining center. Every place where gold is found is throbbing with new life.

Permanence and value of ore have been definitely established in every camp. The pocket formation theory of the Southern Oregon lodes, so long adhered to, has been proved a myth, and experiment has demonstrated that the Eastern Oregon ores gain and not lose value with depth.

Capitalists are eagerly taking hold of all properties that have been shown to be worthy of investment. Machinery is being set up as fast as the work can be done.

Two years ago the Eastern Oregon gold belt had but 100 stamps. Before summer it will have between 220 and 250 stamps and perhaps more.

Last year Oregon's gold output was \$1,285,000. This year, with the present indications of enormous development, the yield will pass \$2,000,000.

As the mining center of a great mining state, Portland is justly entitled to an assay office. The forced objection of the mint officials to Portland, on the ground that there are already too many assay offices in the Northwest, falls flat in the face of the facts that the offices at Boise, Helena and Seattle now have all the work they can handle, that if one were located at Portland it would be busy from the start, and that the Portland office would not interfere with the offices at Helena, Boise or Seattle.

With prospects for tremendous gold production in the Northwest, there is more than enough business in sight for all the offices.

Without an assay office at Portland, Oregon cannot hope to have its gold yield reported at anything near the correct figure. Try as the mint officials may, and it is only fair to give them

the beautiful." His speeches, however, continued to demand a tariff on butter and hides or sounded an alarm against the trusts.

He became so notorious as a lobby senator that he was satirically described as "a thrifty fellow who had saved from a salary of \$5000 a year a fortune amounting to the millions."

For Oregon was made up by the Seattle office. This is an injustice to Oregon, as Seattle is not the mining center of Oregon or Washington.

It has not the direct rail lines to the mines of Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho that Portland has.

It is receiving only a small percentage of the Washington yield, and practically nothing from Oregon and Idaho.

It was established to accommodate the mining duffers, but is not accommodated to the mining interests of the Northwest proper.

Portland does not like to be put in the position of opposing Baker City's effort to get an assay office, but it is only justice to say in behalf of Portland that an office at Baker City would be a local office, while one at Portland would serve the entire Northwest.

Baker City's office would be of no service to the miners of Western and Southern Oregon, nor to those returning from Alaska and the British possessions.

Again, it is quite probable that Portland will soon have more direct railroad connection with the rich mines west of Baker City.

Another point favorable to Portland is that there is an assay office at Boise, only 148 miles from Baker City.

Portland will soon have an abundance of cheap coal for smelting operations.

Near proximity to the mining district, connection with low rates make Portland the logical and natural location of the smelter, the assay office and the mint, if one should be established.

Sooner or later Portland will be the great mining city of the Northwest and the headquarters of all mining interests.

To Portland the miner will come to close his deals, to educate his children, to seek capital. Here will be located the rights and necessary laws should be established the other office, it is a down-grade haul to Portland from every mining camp in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

And here the ores will be treated. Portland is as truly the mining center of the Northwest as San Francisco is of California, and as Denver is of Colorado.

No matter in what part of California the mines are, north or south, near or far, San Francisco is the hub; so it will be in the Northwest with Portland.

And of the mining industry it may be said without exaggeration that the period of great development is here, and that they who are now in their teens will not live to see the end of it.

The people of Tillamook want railway connection with the outside world, and they "want it bad."

Practically shut out from the rest of the world during the winter months; served by a very limited coastwise commerce even at the best, and shut off from market by an impassable range that in the winter carries the people of that otherwise favored section chafe at their isolation.

It is not too much to say that, for its area, Tillamook county is not surpassed in natural resources by any other county of the state.

Of course, it is only a question of time when a railroad will tap a section rich in mineral deposits, in timber and in graining facilities. The people, however, hide their time-lit

There are those who believe that the recommendation by the Philippine commission of government to the Philippines islands substantially on the basis of our territorial governments in the United States implies or requires in the Philippines a greater degree of civic advancement or present capacity for participation in government than they will be found to possess.

Yet perhaps it is deemed necessary to make this recommendation and to follow it with trial of the method it suggests, as a consolation to those in our own country who reach a plateau of sturdiness and without reflection that the truth reveals high capacity of self-government.

Persons owning summer cottages at Newport have been taking their turn with predatory prowlers, who visit summer resorts in the winter-seeking.

Cottagers at Seaside suffered from this cause for several years, but their trouble was at length ended in the death of the depredator, though at the cost of two other lives, one being that of the sheriff of Clatsop county.

Officers of the law were more fortunate in the arrest of the thief at Newport, this being accomplished without serious effort. He awaits in jail the deliberate processes of justice, which, will, towards midsummer, land him in the penitentiary.

General Ludlow, in a recent letter to the New York Times, defends his action in suppressing certain Havana newspapers as justified both by the letter of the Spanish law then in force in Cuba and by the peculiar exigencies of the situation.

Of the temperament of the average citizen is evident, and amenable to transitory influences. He reads the paper and for the moment believes what he reads.

He is not, like the American, accusatorial in his habits, and does not infer weakness rather than strength from a looking of attack.

The movements of General Buller indicate that he now has forces enough to sustain a vigorous flank attack and at the same time to make a heavy attack in front.

At the critical moment, should there be any opportunity, the garriotte of Ladysmith may be expected to attack the Boer positions between itself and General Buller.

The work that will decide the fate of Ladysmith may be expected within a few days.

The protectionists seem to have intimidated the president and beaten him out of his scheme of free trade with the "colonies." Nevertheless, there are many, very many, people, who do not think that cheaper sugar, cheaper coffee, cheaper tobacco, cheaper rice, cheaper tropical fruits to consumers would be the very worst consequences in the world.

If you haven't yet registered your would better do it at once. The pressure will be great pretty soon.

Not more than one-fifth of the voters of Multnomah county are yet registered.

Wharton would be a warm-blooded man, although a cold-blooded scoundrel, and his dissolute habits began to undermine his mental and bodily health.

He was ignored socially by men whom he cynically called "the good, the true, and

the beautiful." His speeches, however, continued to demand a tariff on butter and hides or sounded an alarm against the trusts.

He became so notorious as a lobby senator that he was satirically described as "a thrifty fellow who had saved from a salary of \$5000 a year a fortune amounting to the millions."

For Oregon was made up by the Seattle office. This is an injustice to Oregon, as Seattle is not the mining center of Oregon or Washington.

It has not the direct rail lines to the mines of Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington and Idaho that Portland has.

It is receiving only a small percentage of the Washington yield, and practically nothing from Oregon and Idaho.

It was established to accommodate the mining duffers, but is not accommodated to the mining interests of the Northwest proper.

Portland does not like to be put in the position of opposing Baker City's effort to get an assay office, but it is only justice to say in behalf of Portland that an office at Baker City would be a local office, while one at Portland would serve the entire Northwest.

Baker City's office would be of no service to the miners of Western and Southern Oregon, nor to those returning from Alaska and the British possessions.

Again, it is quite probable that Portland will soon have more direct railroad connection with the rich mines west of Baker City.

Another point favorable to Portland is that there is an assay office at Boise, only 148 miles from Baker City.

Portland will soon have an abundance of cheap coal for smelting operations.

Near proximity to the mining district, connection with low rates make Portland the logical and natural location of the smelter, the assay office and the mint, if one should be established.

Sooner or later Portland will be the great mining city of the Northwest and the headquarters of all mining interests.

To Portland the miner will come to close his deals, to educate his children, to seek capital. Here will be located the rights and necessary laws should be established the other office, it is a down-grade haul to Portland from every mining camp in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

And here the ores will be treated. Portland is as truly the mining center of the Northwest as San Francisco is of California, and as Denver is of Colorado.

No matter in what part of California the mines are, north or south, near or far, San Francisco is the hub; so it will be in the Northwest with Portland.

And of the mining industry it may be said without exaggeration that the period of great development is here, and that they who are now in their teens will not live to see the end of it.

The people of Tillamook want railway connection with the outside world, and they "want it bad."

Practically shut out from the rest of the world during the winter months; served by a very limited coastwise commerce even at the best, and shut off from market by an impassable range that in the winter carries the people of that otherwise favored section chafe at their isolation.

It is not too much to say that, for its area, Tillamook county is not surpassed in natural resources by any other county of the state.

Of course, it is only a question of time when a railroad will tap a section rich in mineral deposits, in timber and in graining facilities. The people, however, hide their time-lit

There are those who believe that the recommendation by the Philippine commission of government to the Philippines islands substantially on the basis of our territorial governments in the United States implies or requires in the Philippines a greater degree of civic advancement or present capacity for participation in government than they will be found to possess.

Yet perhaps it is deemed necessary to make this recommendation and to follow it with trial of the method it suggests, as a consolation to those in our own country who reach a plateau of sturdiness and without reflection that the truth reveals high capacity of self-government.

Persons owning summer cottages at Newport have been taking their turn with predatory prowlers, who visit summer resorts in the winter-seeking.

Cottagers at Seaside suffered from this cause for several years, but their trouble was at length ended in the death of the depredator, though at the cost of two other lives, one being that of the sheriff of Clatsop county.

Officers of the law were more fortunate in the arrest of the thief at Newport, this being accomplished without serious effort. He awaits in jail the deliberate processes of justice, which, will, towards midsummer, land him in the penitentiary.

General Ludlow, in a recent letter to the New York Times, defends his action in suppressing certain Havana newspapers as justified both by the letter of the Spanish law then in force in Cuba and by the peculiar exigencies of the situation.

Of the temperament of the average citizen is evident, and amenable to transitory influences. He reads the paper and for the moment believes what he reads.

He is not, like the American, accusatorial in his habits, and does not infer weakness rather than strength from a looking of attack.

The movements of General Buller indicate that he now has forces enough to sustain a vigorous flank attack and at the same time to make a heavy attack in front.

At the critical moment, should there be any opportunity, the garriotte of Ladysmith may be expected to attack the Boer positions between itself and General Buller.

The work that will decide the fate of Ladysmith may be expected within a few days.

The protectionists seem to have intimidated the president and beaten him out of his scheme of free trade with the "colonies." Nevertheless, there are many, very many, people, who do not think that cheaper sugar, cheaper coffee, cheaper tobacco, cheaper rice, cheaper tropical fruits to consumers would be the very worst consequences in the world.

If you haven't yet registered your would better do it at once. The pressure will be great pretty soon.

Not more than one-fifth of the voters of Multnomah county are yet registered.

Wharton would be a warm-blooded man, although a cold-blooded scoundrel, and his dissolute habits began to undermine his mental and bodily health.

He was ignored socially by men whom he cynically called "the good, the true, and

to stand the constitutional tests, they must apply to farmers and to laborers as well as to other classes—a truth which makes the task of the legislator a very heavy one.

No class in the community is more disposed to form combinations for industrial purposes than the farmers, and these combinations are frequently necessary for their protection against extremes in prices.

Many of the laborers are also firmly convinced that combination is necessary for their prosperity, and yet the combinations which they form favor of monopoly. On the whole it seems that if there are to be anti-monopoly laws they must be impartial and universal—a requirement