WILL MR. DRESSER EXPLAIN?

To the Editor:

Considerable surprise has been expressed to me by a large number of the gentlemen who were delegates from Multnomah County to the last Republican State Convention, when it was said that they would have been more than willing to support the Hon. A. S. Dresser as their candidate for the office of United States Senator. On account of my old position as secretary of the Multnomah County Committee of the Republican party, and of the active part taken by me in securing for Mr. Dresser the nomination of joint representative for the counties of Multnomah and Clackamas at the twenty-fifth biennial session of the Oregon Legislature, I feel that in justice to myself I should make a full statement of the circumstances which caused me to oppose Mr. Dresser's candidacy with such zeal, and which resulted in his securing the nomination for joint representative for the counties of Multnomah and Clackamas.

In the last Republican State Convention the county of Multnomah had seventy delegates and the county of Clackamas fourteen. Mr. Dresser came to me before the meeting of the State Convention (which was held on the 16th of April, 1901), and asked me to use my influence with the delegates to have a Clackamas man chosen for the office of joint representative for the counties of Multnomah and Clackamas, and further desired me to exert myself with the Multnomah delegation to secure the nomination for him. I told Mr. Dresser then that I was averse to what he proposed, and that I thought he could accomplish what he desired if he could give the Multnomah delegation some assurances that if elected he would support the Hon. H. W. Corbett for the office of United States Senator. Mr. Dresser assured me that his chief desire in seeking the nomination of joint representative for the counties of Multnomah and Clackamas was that he might support Mr. Corbett for the office of U. S. Senator, as he regarded Mr. Corbett the most suitable man in Oregon for that place. He further stated to me that he knew that no man opposed to Mr. Corbett's candidacy could be nominated for that office, and that if he could secure the nomination he would know that he had gotten it at the hands of Mr. Corbett's friends, who he declared would be of that opinion as to what they had the power to take for themselves place him under a lasting obligation to Mr. Corbett and to his friends. Mr. Dresser further informed me, so that there might be no misunderstanding as to his position on this subject, that he would sign a statement which would exactly express his sentiments, and which would allow him to give his personal assurance to the members of the Oregon convention of just where he stood on this question. There was then prepared and signed in my presence that statement, which is now in my possession, and which is here submitted.

Graham Glass Jr.

If elected to the Oregon Legislature I promise to join with such other republican members as may desire a caucus for the nomination of a republican candidate for United States Senator in a call for the same. I agree to participate in the caucus and abide by its result. I also agree to vote in the caucus on every ballot which shall be taken therein for Henry W. Corbett for United States Senator, and in the event of his nomination by the caucus, or in the event that there is no caucus, or that I participate in no caucus I agree to vote in the House and in the joint convention for Henry W. Corbett on every ballot which shall be taken for United States Senator and to use any influence which I may have to further his election. I further agree to use all honorable efforts to assure Mr. Corbett's election to the United States Senate.

April 10, 1901.

A. S. Dresser