

Albany Register.

U. S. Official Paper for Oregon.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1873.

Scrutinize the Acts of Our Public Men Closely.

The Credit Mobilier and other investigations of Congress show in a measure how great and numerous are the temptations by which our public men are beset. The disposition of mankind in general to make the attainment of money and power the chief aim of life, opens an avenue of approach to the citadel of the conscience. These being the most vulnerable defenses of integrity, they are the most frequently attacked. Agents of public and private corporations, desiring special legislative favors or immunities, swarm around the genus Congressman, or Legislator, like hungry flies around a hog-head of sugar. They entice him with free passes; they seek to undermine his conscientious scruples with gifts of stocks; they tempt his cupidity with pecuniary gifts; they seek to knock the foundation of manly integrity from beneath him by offers of political promotion. Here is a gigantic corporation, like the Western Union Telegraph Company, for instance; or an immense swindling enterprise, like the Credit Mobilier; or a tremendous law-breaking, law-defying, lecherous iniquity, like the Mormon church; they desire an increase of power, new privileges, or fresh guarantees of protection; they are rich, and can afford to pay largely for any desired increase of power, or for any needed protection; they supply their agents munificently with money and send them to Washington. Counting their interests by millions, they can afford to pay thousands of dollars for single votes. Is it to be wondered that men of careless integrity, loose principles, yield readily to these approaches? If they are poor, involved in debt, here is a way to obtain relief, abundance. It is true official virtue must be sacrificed; but secrecy is promised; no one will know of it but the parties giving the bribe. These, and similar thoughts drawn out by promises of political advancement, doubtless tempt the souls of even the firmest and most scrupulous. That men in the interest of moneyed corporations are frequently elected to office through the influence of such bodies, and that Washington and our Legislative lobes are filled with agents who are there for the purpose of influencing votes, are facts patent to every careful reader of the current events of such places. Poor men are frequently elected to legislative positions, who manage somehow during their short term of office to live well and get rich, not upon their salaries, of course, for they are too small—all the public know about it is, they vote in the interest of certain wealthy corporations and after that they have plenty of money. That this State of affairs is serious, demanding remedies, no one desiring the welfare of the country and people will deny. Purity must prevail among our public men, or the nation will go to ruin. Official virtue must predominate. This can be secured only by the practice of the closest scrutiny on the part of the people. Let them watch the votes and measures advocated by their Representatives, and hold them to

strict accountability. Men of doubtful integrity should never be elected to office, and if good men fail in preserving their virtue while there, they should no longer be trusted.

Our 'Lish.

Our 'Lish seems not to have made a first-class impression in Washington as a lecturer. His audiences were small, and criticisms from one Washington journal at least (*Chronicle*) were far from complimentary. This journal pronounces his lecture a harangue; says his mannerisms were uncultivated, his language ungrammatical, his gesticulation like that of a speaker in a first-class minstrel show, and his pronunciation such as "naow," "pawer," "idee," "Ameriky," "pherlossifer," "jeroozlum," etc. It is thus that our 'Lish is passing, or has passed, through an ordeal of reportorial fire, kindled of spite, the reporter having become offended about something.

New Steam Wagon.

R. R. Doan, a resident of El Dorado county, has shown us a working model of a steam road wagon, the machinery of which is simple and not likely to get out of order, while practical machinists who have examined the model deem the invention an excellent one. The papers have been made out and an application for a patent sent on. It is proposed to make the wagons according to the following dimensions: Length, 30 feet; width, 7 feet; 4 drivers 7 feet high and 1 foot broad at the rim; steering wheel, 6 feet high; horizontal boiler 12 feet long; 2 cylinders, 9-inch bore and 18-inch stroke; total weight about 7 tons. The boiler is on the after part of the wagon, and directly beneath it and back of the fire-box are cylinders. These are connected with a shaft which has three pulleys—one in the center and one near each end. From the latter endless chains pass around pulleys connected with the after driving wheels; from the center pulley on the shaft a chain leads forward and over a large pulley on the axle of the forward drivers. It is on this that the patent is claimed, as, by means of a ball joint, the forward wheels are enabled to turn either to the right or left, as may be necessary on the road, the same as if they were independent of the pulley, and yet it is so firmly keyed on by means of four keys that the axle would be as apt to break in two as to separate from it; and at the same time it is working constantly on a direct line with a smaller pulley. Doan claims that by means of this application he can run all his wheels as drivers, and as many wheels as he sees fit, and thus it will be enabled to operate on very soft ground. He expects to be able to draw twelve plows over almost any ground, the plows having seed-sowers attached, and the field being plowed and planted at one trip of the apparatus. The steering apparatus is simple but effective. It is proposed to carry the fuel back by the furnace of the boiler, and the water-tanks, etc., forward. There is an abundance of room on the wagon, and numerous contrivances to economize space and make the different parts assist one another. The inventor proposes to have a wagon built by the next fall and in running order. It is estimated that the cost of the first one will be about \$5,000, but after one has been built the others will not cost within \$1,000 or \$1,500 as much.—*Sacramento Union*.

In a quarrel about the funds of the Bricklayers' Association, of New York, Charles Marwig, the President, shot and killed the Secretary, Chas. Grum.

A. G. Jones, book keeper for the Bank of Georgia, is pronounced defaulter to the amount of \$30,000.

Not Dead.

Andrew Johnson comes to the surface again. He is now represented as having a scheme which proposes to give to Uncle Sam a new State, though to be made out of pieces of old ones. Slices are to be cut from East Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia and these are to be Constitutionalized, as Andy would have it, probably—for he is powerful on the Constitution—into a Sovereign State, which, the *Bulletin* thinks, sly Andy "expects to be on hand to represent in the United States Senate."

Spanish Bravado.

A Spanish General having threatened to shoot the *Herald* reporter who is in Cuba, as a spy, the *Herald* talks about it in this style:

We repeat our message to Gen. Morales and his associates:—Do any injury to the *Herald* Commission while he obeys the laws of your country, and your nation will pay the penalty of the outrage. This is no Spanish threat! The American press is stronger than the American Government; it is the representative and the mouth-piece of the American people, who hold the Government in their hands. Shoot Mr. O'Kelly as a spy, and a subservient State Department would be but a reed in the way of the storm of indignation that would sweep over the United States and declare war against the assassin power. There is a broad, generous fraternity among American journals, which, in such an event, would rise superior to all rivalry and make common cause with the *Herald* in avenging the cowardly murder. But Mr. O'Kelly is safe! He will fulfill his mission faithfully and well, and the Spanish authorities will take precautions that he receives no injury at their hands. Their threats will not be likely to swerve him an inch from his line of duty, and we shall be mistaken if he does not fully carry out all he has undertaken to accomplish. If he should fail, others would be found willing to fill his place, as he himself was found ready to succeed his predecessor. Our belief is that he will not fail, and we are quite confident that he will not be shot as a spy. Spanish hauteur is magnificent, but Spanish policy is keen. There are swash-bucklers in the Spanish uniform who are brave when they have cowards to deal with and cowardly when confronted with men of firmness and courage. Mr. O'Kelly is of the latter school. Gen. Morales will not meddle with him.

While the press of this country would regard such an indignity as an affront offered to them and the people, and would promptly unite in demanding speedy punishment for it, still they are not so exclusive as to regard the rights of any class of our people with less favor. An indignity offered against any American citizen, reporter or otherwise, would be met just as unitedly with a demand for summary punishment.

The London milkman serves his customers on foot. He carries a large tin vessel, and about this are swung a number of smaller quart, pint and half-pint tins, which are filled and left at his customers' door. His incessant cry as he hurries along is "a-yoo-yip!" He dwells on the "a-yoo" to the length of two full notes, but brings out the "yip" short and sharp, with a round turn. In St. James' Park, at the fruit and cake stands, they keep cows, which are milked for you at the rate of two-pence per glass. The milking is performed by aged milkmaids, who live under umbrellas and sell stale cakes.

The President has promoted L. P. Luckey, of Illinois, to be his Private Secretary; C. C. Sniffin, Assistant Secretary, and O. L. Pruder, Executive Clerk, in accordance with the civil service reform rules.

Warmoth on Durrell.

A reporter for the *Democrat* met ex-Gov. Warmoth, of Louisiana, in the rotunda of the Southern Hotel Monday, and straightway started in for an interview. The Governor was reticent, declaring that he knew nothing of interest to the public, and that he was in too much of a hurry to talk.

"Tell me, in a word, how things stand in your State," insisted the reporter.

"Well things are pretty lively just now. We have two State Governments, and most everything is duplicated."

"How will it end?"

"I am going to Washington this evening, and shall appear before the Committee of Privileges and Elections. I think I shall be able to establish the fact of the most daring frauds and outrages, at the last election, if they will give me an opportunity."

"Won't they give you an opportunity?"

"I don't know; Congress is overwhelmingly Radical, and probably will sustain the Radical government in Louisiana."

"Do you think Judge Durrell will be impeached?"

"Yes, I do."

"They say he drinks."

"He does."

"Does he drink much?"

"He does pretty well."

"Does he get drunk?"

"Well, I don't know but what it is safe to say that either Durrell gets drunk, or the drunk gets Durrell."

"There is a report that he is a drunkard; how is that?"

"I shouldn't like to commit myself to a statement to that effect, but I don't think I do him any injustice when I say that for good, steady drinking, such drinking as would really do a man good to look at; sound drinking; drinking with a substantial basis; established on strong platform, Durrell is to be relied upon."

"Does he get drunk on the bench?"

"No, I think not. My impression is—mind, this is only an impression—my impression is he gets drunk at home, before he goes on the bench."

"Is he sound in every other way?"

"Oh! Durrell is a good fellow. I wouldn't say anything against him, you know; but I may venture the remark that his whisky is the best part of him."

"What, do you—"

"My dear fellow, you will have to excuse me, I'm going to Washington this afternoon, and I'm in a hurry. Good day." And the Governor walked off.

Warmoth is a young man, thirty-three years of age; tall, about six feet in height; slender in build and upright in his carriage. His face is a pleasant one, dark in complexion, and very expressive. His eyes are dark, large and piercing, though restless under a steady gaze. He wears a mustache, and is growing a chin beard. His manner is off-hand and agreeable, and he speaks of the weightiest of matters as though he attached no importance whatever to them. He has a droll way of expressing himself, and when he spoke of Durrell's fidelity to his whisky he smiled as though Mr. Durrell's infirmity were only to be considered in the light of an entertainment. He manifested a distaste to be interviewed, claiming that he could divulge nothing of importance; and when he left the reporter, though his departure was abrupt, he smiled and bowed politely.

The General Assembly of Virginia has passed a resolution appointing a joint committee to make arrangements to receive President Grant in such a manner as shall comport with the dignity of the commonwealth.

A Paris paper published an extra on the 4th reporting that Serrano had been appointed Dictator of Spain, and that the Republicans had suffered a severe defeat at the hands of the Carlists near Irum.

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