

# Albany Register.

## LOCAL MATTERS.

### THE FARMERS' CLUB CONVENTION.

This body, according to previous announcement, convened in the Court House, in this place, between ten and eleven o'clock last Saturday forenoon. The body of the building was well filled with interested spectators from the country and city, who had gathered to witness the proceedings.

A temporary organization was formed by electing G. W. Vernon for President, and George Simpson Secretary.

A Committee on Credentials was then appointed, consisting of Messrs. Finlayson, Powell and Anderson.

After quite a delay the Committee reported delegates from Farmers' Clubs as follows:

District No. 29—Messrs. Miller, Morgan, Bringle, Stanard and W. P. Anderson.

District No. 18—Martin Miller, A. G. Marchel, F. S. Powell, W. H. Wiles.

District No. 25—Messrs. McClung, Ingram and Geo. Simpson.

District No. 15—Messrs. Finlayson, McClure, Pike and Wheeler.

District No. 7—Wm. Climer, David Smith and W. W. Galtre.

District No. 26—D. M. Cook, Mr. Fauning and Mr. Vernon.

Peoria—Messrs. Atkinson, Curry and T. L. Porter.

Halsey—D. P. Porter, James Davis and Jos. Lane.

Harrisburg—Wm. McCulloch and John H. Smith.

The report of the committee was accepted.

On motion reporters for the press were invited to seats within the bar.

A motion to raise a committee on resolutions was so amended as to appoint one member from each Club. They were designated as follows:

District 25, J. Finlayson; 18, W. H. Wildes; 7, Wm. Clymer; 26, Mr. Fanning; 25, Isaac McClung; 27, Mr. Stanard; Peoria, D. L. Porter; Halsey, Mr. Davis; Harrisburg, Mr. Smith.

A committee on Permanent Organization and order of business was then, on motion, appointed by the Chair, as follows: Messrs. Pike, Anderson, Atchison, Lane and Marks.

The Convention then adjourned until 1 P. M.

### AFTERNOON PROCEEDINGS.

At the hour designated by the forenoon adjournment, the convention was called to order by the temporary President, Mr. Vernon.

The crowd in attendance during the morning session was quite large, but every available seat in the ample court room was filled during the continuance of the afternoon session. Not less than between five and six hundred persons were present.

The committee on Permanent Organization reported as follows:

For President, Judge Baber; Vice-President, James Finlayson; Secretary, A. W. Stanard; Corresponding Secretary, J. H. Smith.

The report of the committee was accepted and adopted. The Committee also suggested the following order of business, which was adopted.

*Resolved*, That we have one speech one half hour in length, and that others be had at the discretion of the Chair, not to exceed ten minutes each.

The Committee recommend that each Club respectively elect one Delegate to the State Convention.

The Committee on Resolutions reported as follows:

*Resolved*, That we cordially endorse the propositions as contained in the call for a State Convention of Farmers to be held at Salem on April 10th, 1873.

*Resolved*, That we hail with unbounded pleasure the news that reaches us from different quarters of the State of the organization of Farmers' Clubs for their mutual protection.

*Resolved*, That we implore our brethren throughout the State to proceed at once to organize Farmers' Clubs in those portions of the State where such organizations do not exist.

*Resolved*, That it is manifestly the interest of the Farmers to build their own warehouses and to hold their produce in their own possession until sold.

*Resolved*, That we as Farmers do not propose to make war upon or interfere with the interest of any business man or men but simply to protect ourselves.

*Resolved*, That we tender our sincere thanks to the editors of those papers who have given us aid and comfort by publishing letters, notices and other matter that have tended to the furthering of our interest, and we consider it our duty to give them our patronage and support.

After the adoption of these resolutions by a unanimous vote of the Convention, Mr. John Henry Smith, of Harrisburg, was called upon to address the meeting, who, after some apologies, proceeded to deliver a very able and interesting speech, the most of which was well received by the farmers present, being frequently applauded. We are sorry of our inability to give the effort of Mr. Smith but a limited and necessarily imperfect notice, our notes having become somewhat mixed, and many of the best points have escaped us entirely.

### SPEECH OF J. H. SMITH.

The speaker said the object of the Farmers' movement was not to wage war against any class, but to relieve the farmer; to provide ways and means by which he might obtain better prices for his products. He spoke of those who talk on paper, in regard to rotation in crops, as knowing no more of the subject than the knowledge of farming jokingly attributed to the late Mr. Greeley. Oregon is pre-eminently a wheat country; wheat is the chief corner stone, always had been, and farmers must depend upon the production of that mainly. To get a good price for wheat was the chief anxiety. How may Oregon farmers do this? Affairs in Europe indicate a wheat famine in England, as she depends largely on Russia for her supplies. If the right kind of preparations are made, handsome prices may be realized for Oregon wheat the coming season. The first step required in this direction, is organization. Farmers' Clubs should be established in every District, that all classes of farmers, rich and poor, may act in harmony, and with a definite purpose. Another step was for the farmers, through these clubs, to build their own warehouses. Had been a wheat buyer, and knew the advantage of these houses. Gave an instance of where farmers in Yamhill county were compelled to take \$1 for their wheat, instead of \$1 10, which he would have given, had there been warehouses in which to place it. Insurance paid for wheat would build the warehouses. Now that the Willamette river is open, free to any kind of boats, flat boats, or any other kind may be used to carry the wheat. Freights can always be carried much cheaper by water than by rail. The speaker showed in detail how much loss, delay and expense were incurred to the farmer by the present mode of shipping wheat. Much of this could be obviated by loading at the Club warehouses on the bank of the river, and then carrying it clear to Astoria without change. It would help to make up the discrepancy in prices between Portland and San Francisco. They would make haste, however, to go slow. Begin by building warehouses. In regard to the statement often urged that "Farmers can't unite," he thought this predicament mainly to the independent nature of the farmers' business. The farmers is used to command, and hence restraint, or direction, chafes him; hence, it is hard for him to unite; but concessions must be made to do anything, and especially in the present case. He thought, however, that as farmers constitute about four-fifths of our population, that if any class received favors it should be theirs.

The speaker then flew off into an argument to prove that the doctrine of free trade was just the thing needed to restore the heads to Oregon farmers, which the policy of protection, as applied to American iron used in the building of our Pacific Railroad, as we understood him, decapitated. The illustration he used here of the sword and scimeter was very nice, very sharply used, but we are afraid it severed the influence of the former part of his speech upon the minds of those who believe in protection. That part could have been left out with profit. The main points made by the speaker, however, on the importance of union of effort, building of warehouses, carrying of freight through in bulk to Astoria, were strongly and convincingly made. We are sorry the figures and illustrations used by the speaker as he went along are not at our command.

### SPEECH OF CAPTAIN GRAY.

This gentleman, a resident of Astoria, being present, at the call of the Convention came forward, and in a plain business-like manner gave some very important information relative to the navigation of the Columbia, its bars, etc. Had been steamboating for twelve years; regarded the reputation for danger, which the bar at the mouth of the Columbia had abroad, as the most important thing to be attended to by the people of Oregon. Its reputation for danger was highly exaggerated—a great bugbear. Statistics show that fewer wrecks occur at the mouth of the Columbia, than on the San Francisco bar, and on others which are regarded as less dangerous. The Captain said that vessels frequently enter the bar without a pilot, and gave instances of recent occurrence; stated that at low tide there were twenty-one feet of water on the bar. He thought one of the best things the farmers could do for the promotion of their interests—to bring vessels to the Columbia—would be to publish charts of the bar at the mouth of the Columbia, and give the tonnage of the world correct information in regard to it. Such charts now cannot be procured for love or money. If this were done, tonnage would not be so difficult to procure. Being questioned as to the best kind of vessels to be used from Portland to Astoria for the carrying of wheat, he gave his opinion in favor of barges capable of holding from 4,000 to 5,000 tons, or for a vessel to run from here to Astoria, a stern wheeler, without cabin, would be his choice. He said there was plenty of room at Astoria for the building of warehouses, and the citizens were ready to do their part in assisting the building enterprise. The Captain gave other information in regard to the bars at Tongue Point, Swan Island, St. Helens, and mouth of the Willamette, dreaded places in the Columbia, which were valuable to the Convention.

At the conclusion of the Captain's speech, on motion, the order of business was so amended as to make the officers of the County Club, the "Board of Five," to attend the State Convention. It was then, on motion, ordered that all Clubs organized, and others which may be organized, be instructed to send one delegate to the State Convention.

As a Treasurer in the board of officers had not been provided for in the report of the Committee on Permanent Organization, on motion, that office was created, and Mr. Jason Wheeler elected to the position.

After several gentlemen had been called upon, but without avail, for speeches,

### MR. JAMES FINLAYSON

At length stepped forward, and delivered a short, but lively speech, closing his interesting remarks by reading some verses which he had prepared for the occasion. He described the Farmers' movement as like the stone cut out of the mountain, which was destined to fill the whole earth; spoke of the importance of union, saying that if the proper efforts are made, instead of 55c. a bushel for wheat, next year \$1 25 will be received. Exhorted the farmers to come forward and unite, all they needed was capital—farmers' capital, to build warehouses, and all would be well. He closed by reading the following stirring poem, which was received with unbounded applause throughout:

### THE POEM.

Now farmers all, arise in might  
To crush these soulless traders down!  
Unite, come forth, demand your right!  
Your work with glory will be crowned.

You are oppressed on every side  
By these infernal moneyed men:  
They take your wheat for less than cost,  
And crush you to the earth again.

If you stand back and don't unite,  
Our battlements will surely fall;  
Now rally round the farmers' flag—  
Unite, show front, both one and all.

Let sturdy yeomanry come forth  
With banners flying in the breeze;  
Protect your rights at any cost,  
With railroads, rivers, travelers, seas.

We have an enemy to fight  
Who is so powerful, we're told,  
They soon will crush the farmers down,  
Because they're armed with swords of gold.

Our success now with you depends,  
Upon the action you shall take,  
Show to the world that you are men,  
And for Protection wide awake.

Let anxious traders mock and sneer  
As long ago, in Noah's day;  
Let's build our ark and straight it steer—  
The flood will wash them all away.

The farmers, then, will rise above  
Those circumstance-lionists so bold;  
The profits, then, will come to you,  
And line your purses well with gold.

If every farmer does his part,  
Those sharpers soon will disappear;  
They soon will get a Julius' place—  
I think before another year.

At the conclusion of the reading of these verses by Mr. Finlayson, a gentleman on our left remarked, "Why, he is a regular Burns."

### PHILIP LOW.

This gentleman being called for, made a few sensible remarks in favor of barges, as the safest vessels in which to ship wheat from this point. The Convention then adjourned.

The meeting was largely attended, and great harmony and much enthusiasm prevailed. The tangible results are yet to be seen. United action is now the need.

**LOW RATES.**—The freight and passenger tariff to be charged by the Willamette River Transportation Co.'s boats is very liberal indeed. Down freight from this city to Portland, for grain, flour and apples, is \$3; up freight, \$4 75 per ton. The charge for passage is put at \$1 50.

**SUPPOSED SUICIDE.**—An old gentleman named Crowley, living in the forks of the Santiam, died at the residence of a relative named Gaines, on Thursday night of last week, under circumstances that lead to the belief that he had taken some kind of poison, probably opium. On Thursday morning he left Gaines', saying he was going to another relative, Daniels, about a half mile distant. During the afternoon some of Daniels' family going over to Gaines', and stating that Crowley had not been there, suspicion was aroused that all was not right, and search was instituted. Deceased was found late in the evening, in a thick bunch of firs, apparently in great pain. He was immediately taken to the house, where he died during the night.

Since the above was written we have been furnished with further particulars. Early last week, accompanied by a nephew, deceased came to this city to express some money to a relative in California. On the way into the city, he said to his nephew that he did not see any pleasure in living—couldn't see what people desired to live in this world for, and more to the same effect. After transacting his business in this city, he inquired for a drug store, and was directed to Geo. F. Settlement's, where he procured two ounces of laudanum. On the way home, his nephew inquired of him, on two several occasions, if he had procured the medicine he wanted, and on the second inquiry the old gentleman answered that he did get some medicine, but that it was of no account. When found in the fir brush, as above stated, he seemed to be in a stupor, and presented every evidence of a person under the effects of a large quantity of opium. Deceased was eighty-one years old, and is estimated to have been worth about fifty thousand dollars in lands and money. It is the belief by some of his relatives that he had been laboring for a year or more past over religious problems, as almost his entire conversation was upon religious topics. His business affairs were pretty thoroughly settled and left in good shape.

### Another Club Organized.

LINN COUNTY, Or., March 7, 1873.

**ED. REGISTER:**—A Farmers' Club was organized to-day, at the Morgan School-house.

Officers elected are M. Morgan, President; A. Brandon, Vice-President; A. D. McMichael, Secretary, and W. P. Anderson, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer.

The regular meetings of the Club will be held on the second Saturday of each month, at 1 P. M.

A. D. McMICHAEL, Sec.

**INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.**—It is now stated that, owing to the large size of the Annie Stewart, making her hard to manage on the rapids of the Willamette, said steamer will not attempt to make a trip to this city—at least for some time. We are sorry for this, as our citizens generally have anxiously awaited her arrival, believing that her advent would bring renewed activity in business. Our advice to the W. R. T. Co. is, build or purchase smaller boats, and put them on the river at once—the people will welcome you.

**EQUALIZING ASSESSMENTS.**—The City Council will sit as a Board of Equalization, to equalize the assessment for city taxes made for the year 1873, at the Council Chamber in this city, on Thursday evening, March 20th, 1873, at which time and place complaints of excessive valuation of property should be made. A hint to the wise is sufficient.

**HALSEY FARMERS' CLUB.**—The farmers in the vicinity of Halsey, met at Oak Plain School-house, March 6th, and organized a Farmers' Club. Three delegates were elected to the County Convention which met in this city last Saturday. The Club adjourned to meet at Halsey, on Saturday, March 15th—to-morrow. T. J. Black is Secretary of the Club; the names of the other officers we did not learn.

**TO PRINTERS.**—A Washington Hand Press, in splendid order, for sale cheap.

**TWO NEW OIL CHROMOS**, called "Too Familiar" and "The Little Surgeon," have been issued by the publishers of that standard and popular illustrated family magazine, *American Homes*. The first is after a painting by Rhinehart. Both Chromos are 12x15 1-2, mounted, sized and varnished, ready for framing. "Too Familiar" represents a little girl and boy in a pasture with a number of pet sheep, and the other represents a field scene, bright with flowers and foliage, where a little boy sits on a stump, and his little sister acts as surgeon in drawing a splinter from his foot, an older sister sitting by and superintending the operation. Both are perfect gems of art, highly colored and elegantly finished, and each would readily retail for \$5. The magazine, containing 600 pages of illustrated reading for old and young, and these two beautiful Oil Chromos are offered for only \$2. Agents and the people say it is the best offer in the field. The February number of the magazine is full of interesting stories, poems, fun, &c., has an original song set to music, and other entertaining features, and is adapted to all the varied tastes of the home circle. Send \$2 at once to Chas. H. Taylor & Co., 61 Cornhill, Boston, or 92 Market St., Chicago.

**TRIED AND APPROVED.**—Mr. Owen, the agent of the "Champion Wash-Boiler," exhibited at the house of our reporter a day or two since, the merits of his machine. He "did out" a big double washing in a couple of hours and the domestic authority at the house, who is a judge of such matters, says that the things looked "beautifully white." The machine gives the highest satisfaction wherever it has been tried.—*Statesman*.

We have one of the machines at our house, and it gives the fullest satisfaction—its the best thing in the washing line yet invented. Mr. O. H. Stott is the agent for this county. If you want to make the wife perfectly happy, get a "Champion."

**PETERS' MUSICAL MONTHLY.**—For March, contains the following selection of new music: Saviour, thou art ever near, Pretty Evaline Adair, Geraldine, He kissed me good-bye at the gate, Hear me say my little prayer, Just as I am, Let the world chant and sing, Put on your best array, Kittie's polka, The village festival, and The toast, all of which can be obtained in the Monthly for 30c. The publisher will send you six back numbers of 1873 for \$1, or the last three numbers for 75 cents. Subscription price, \$3 per year. Address, J. L. Peters, 599 Broadway, New York.

**SUDDEN DEATH.**—A little girl nine or ten years of age, daughter of Fred. Stroeder, of Shedd, died very suddenly at that place, on Tuesday. She had been playing as usual until towards noon, when she complained of feeling unwell, and laid down. In three or four hours thereafter she was dead. Diphtheria is thought to have been the cause of her death.

**FORWARDED TO THE ASYLUM.**—John Goodhue, who was let out of the Insane Asylum at East Portland last fall, and who has been working for Walter Houston in this county, having shown signs of insanity again, was brought before the authorities here last Wednesday, and after a thorough examination by Drs. Jones and Hill, adjudged insane. Goodhue is about 19 years of age. Messrs. Fed. Parker and W. H. Queener started for the Asylum with the unfortunate man on Thursday.

**SUB COMMITTEES.**—Following named gentlemen have been appointed to solicit subscriptions for the Centennial Exposition, in their various localities, and report to the head-centre in this city:

Scioto—Jesse B. Irvine and George B. Christie.

Lebanon—S. H. Claughton and C. B. Montague.

Brownsville—J. H. Washburn and W. R. Kirk.

Harrisburg—Hiram Smith and E. Hout.

Halsey—Jacob Thompson and Caleb Gray.

Shedd—C. P. Houge and Frank Shedd.

A. WHEELER, C. F. HOUGE, C. B. WHEELER.

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**Forwarding & Commiss'n Merchants.**

Dealers in Merchandise and Produce. A good assortment of all kinds of Goods always in store at lowest market rates. Agents for sale of Wagons, Grain Drills, Cider Mills, Churns, &c., &c. CASH paid for WHEAT, OATS, PORK, BUTTER, EGGS and POULTRY.