

Albany Register.

U. S. Official Paper for Oregon.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1913.

BE READY.

The frequent occurrence of terrible fire disasters, have rendered them a sort of contagion. They are going from city to city, from town to town, destroying in a few hours the labor of years, or of a lifetime. They have their admonitions. They say as much as say: "Look out, it will be your turn next." If proper precautionary measures are taken, if proper supervision over the construction of flues, the building of houses, is extended; if a sufficient number of fire engines are provided for the reasonable needs of the town or city; if the water supply provided, in the shape of cisterns, or some other means, is commensurate with the needs of every locality—in other words, if the agencies for preventing and conquering fires are thoroughly organized and kept in efficient condition, these sweeping conflagrations may be avoided. Providing and keeping up these agencies will cost money, of course; but they will more than pay for themselves in preventing the spread of a single fire. Does Portland regret now that she purchased the last new fire engine? Many of her citizens did object to it before the fire, thinking it was an unnecessary and extravagant investment; but we venture they do not think so now. It was an investment which more than paid for itself over and over again during the last fire, in the property it saved from destruction. Portland is now convinced, too, that her water supply is not great enough; and doubtless she will proceed at once to set upon that conviction. So, too, should Albany, and every other place, where a similar deficiency prevails.

The Salem Mercury says: "Not a single paper or public man in good standing in the organization (Republican) has, as yet, uttered one word of disapproval of Mr. Hipple's career." How that journal can have any respect for truth and make such an assertion as that is beyond our conception. We know of no Republican journal, nor public man of that party, that has spoken concerning the moral delinquencies of our Senator, but has condemned them with more or less emphasis. We have yet to read the first editorial, or hear the first language of approval from any man in favor of his sins. A Republican would be false to his faith and duty were he to do so.

Critical Condition of the Vice President.

Our readers will regret to hear that the condition of Vice President Wilson is regarded as critical; that he is not improving as was recently reported. His physicians have been delaying for him to recover his general health, so as to apply a seton on the base of the brain, as the only possible cure for his disorder. His friends entertain the gravest fears for the result. It is to be hoped he will endure this radical treatment with safety.

A Montreal special, dated August 4th, stated that it was current that Sir John A. McDonald had committed suicide. The Premier was seen in a low state.

The Democrat's Answer.

The Albany Democrat, in an issue of some weeks ago, asserted that Senator Mitchell was a "confessed bigamist." Never having seen such confession, and not believing that any such existed, we called on that journal to tell us where and when it was made. Here is its answer:

We will endeavor to answer the question of our neighbor in this way: It is a well settled rule of law that every count in the declaration or bill not denied is taken as confessed. It is charged and not denied by Mr. Mitchell or his defenders that he was married in Oregon about the year 1862, and that he was not divorced from his Pennsylvania wife until about the year 1867. It was in this sense we stated him a "confessed bigamist." Are we not right neighbor?

Very queer philosophy that truly! If Mr. Mitchell or his friends do not choose to notice by denial every false charge of immorality or crime which Democratic recklessness or venom chooses to invent, or retail concerning him, why, then, per consequence, he is guilty! He or his friends must come out and deny every allegation which enemies make, or else they are true! There is Democratic logic and equity for you. "It is a well settled rule of law," too, oracularly utters our astute neighbor. Yes, so badly "settled" is it, that it has never risen to the surface. Why, according to that theory, if we were to charge our neighbor with being *non compos mentis*, and he or his friends from some cause or other refused to deny it, that silence would be acknowledgment of its truth. The hundreds of false allegations that were invented by bad and designing men and circulated against the Father of his Country during his life, for the purpose of destroying his influence and bringing the cause which he advocated into disgrace, were all true, which he or his friends did not see proper to deny, hey? Is that it? O, fudge! The best men that ever lived would be the vilest criminals, were that theory correct. No, sir; you are not right, neighbor. Mr. Mitchell is not before you, or any of your Democratic cotemporaries for trial. He was not committed to your platforms, nor elected by your votes, and is under no obligations to account to your party for his political principles, or his morals in the past or present. Were he to deny your false allegations, and by incontestable witness prove their falsity as he did concerning the charge of embezzlement, still as in that case, you would continue to reiterate them. That is your way. He is wise in not paying any attention to you. His case is out of the hands of the people of Oregon. It belongs to the Senate of the United States, where, doubtless, he will give an account of himself in due time. The above, however, is a good illustration of the reckless manner in which Democrats treat their opponents.

A terrible accident occurred at Butler, Penn., on Saturday evening last. Three men were burned to death. They were boring for oil and were in a well at the time oil was struck. It scarcely reached the surface before taking fire and blazing up a hundred feet or more and scorching three men to death. The bodies were not recovered till Monday.

American newspaper enterprise is proverbial. The old world has regarded it with open-mouthed astonishment. We have had a brilliant illustration of such enterprise recently on this coast. The Portland fire took place on a Saturday. Next day, Sunday, the San Francisco Chronicle presented its readers, on the first page of that journal, with a large diagram of Portland, showing the burnt district. Such enterprise as that is hard to eclipse.

Mayor Failing of Portland has appointed Messrs. W. S. Ladd, W. P. Burke, J. L. Atkinson, Phil. Wasserman and Gen. E. B. Babbitt as a committee to organize and put in operation a plan for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire. A committee of Insurance has also been appointed, consisting of Messrs. O. B. Gibson, B. Goldsmith and P. C. Schuyler. Their business will be to assist rich and poor alike who hold policies to obtain their just dues.

The President on the 6th signed a postal treaty between this Government and Japan providing for exchange of correspondence between the two countries by means of a direct line of United States mail packets between San Francisco and Japan. The postoffice at San Francisco shall be a United States office of exchange, and Yokohama the office of exchange for Japan. The rate of international postage is 15 cents for each letter weighing half an ounce or less, and an additional half ounce, to be reduced to 12 cents at the expiration of 12 months from the date of carrying the convention into effect. The United States charges will be two cents on printed matter. The Japanese postoffice will collect regular rates. Japanese domestic postage is chargeable thereon by laws of the Empire. Every international letter received in both countries shall in addition to deficient postage be subject to a fine of six cents to be retained by respective postoffices. Rates of postage are required on closed mails either for or from Mexico, Canada, British Columbia and British North American Provinces when transmitted entirely by land routes. The United States office shall account to the Japanese postoffice for two cents upon every single paid letter from foreign countries sent through United States mails. In converting currency into United States currency the United States dollar is considered equivalent to the Japanese yen, and the United States cent to the Japanese sen.

A teamster was driving oxen near Las Animas, New Mexico, the other day, when a thunder storm came up, and the lightning played peculiar freaks with the animals. The team consisted of four yoke of oxen. The lightning struck and killed the off ox of the lead yoke, both oxen of the next yoke, the near ox of the third yoke, both the wheel oxen and the driver, leaving but two oxen out of eight, and no driver. The owner of the outfit regretted exceedingly the loss of his driver.

The State Democratic Convention of Ohio nominated William Allen, of Ross county, for Governor on the 6th.

A fire in Chicago on the 7th occasioned a total loss of \$60,000, in property.

Latest News.

All the persons in the Pendleton jail have given bail and are now at liberty. A white man, held on a charge of stealing, gave a thousand dollar bond and was turned loose by the Sheriff. Two Indians, confined on different charges, gave "leg bail," the other evening, when the jailer went into the prison to lock them in their cells for the night.

Three soldiers went to a sort of trading post which is kept this side of Burnt river, and while one of them threatened the man and wife with a revolver, the other two helped themselves to the goods which were available. Two of the men afterwards deserted, and the other one was delivered to the authorities, and is now in confinement at Baker City.

The Seattle Dispatch of July 31st says: "For the past two days the Trustees of the Seattle and Walla Walla Railroad and Transportation Co., have been in session through each day, and the entire clerical force at their command, has been constantly employed in receiving subscriptions and issuing certificates of stock, without being able to meet the demand. At a public meeting on Monday evening, the President announced that the Board had already received sufficient guarantees to determine them to put a corps of engineers in the field, and, as soon as practical thereafter, contract for the building of ten miles of the road by the first of January next.

The residence of W. W. Baker, at La Grande, was burned down on Thursday 7th. Loss, \$2,000.

The Bulletin says: "Some of our oldest pioneers are moving to Tacoma."

Parliament was prorogued on the 5th. The Queen's speech was read by the Royal Commissioner. The betrothal of Prince Arthur of England to Princess Thyra of Denmark, was announced.

By the explosion of a powder magazine at Valencia, recently, many insurgents were killed and wounded.

Up to the 5th, the Spanish Government had captured two insurgent frigates in the waters of Malaga.

News from Madrid to the 6th states that the Insurgent troops at Cadiz had surrendered to the National troops.

News from London to the 6th, state that John Lathrop Motley, American historian, had been stricken by apoplexy, depriving him of the use of one side.

By the explosion of two tank boats lying opposite to Rockafellows Island city oil works, N. Y., on the 5th, the Long Island City Oil Works, Standard Oil Works, a varnish factory and other buildings were destroyed. Capt. Meyer of one of the tank boats was killed, and a number of others. The explosion shook Long Island city. A block and a half was as near as firemen could approach, on account of the intense heat.

Some of the members of the Grand Army of the Republic in Hoboken, N. Y., compelled a saloon keeper to take down a German flag, which was flying over an American flag, and reverse their position, lately.

Gov. Dix has commuted the sentence of David Murphy, convicted of the murder of David Barry, to imprisonment for life.

At Florence, Arizona a party of fifteen Papsago Indians, after drink-

ing freely, broke into the house of a white man and stole all his provisions and sixty dollars in money. The liquor was furnished by traders from Sonora. These Indians, when sober, are regarded the best in Arizona.

A delegation of the city council of Philadelphia arrived at Salt Lake on the 5th and were received at Ogden by Mayor Wells and a delegation of the city council of Salt Lake, as guests of the city. The reception was entirely Mormon.

Silver City, New Mexico, has a population of 1,000.

Texas cattle are passing Denver northward every day.

Fifteen vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 3,104 tons, have been built at North Bend, Coos Bay, since 1856.

The Coos Bay News says: "Two weeks ago, some thirty Chinese laborers arrived here from San Francisco by the steamer Eastport, designing to work in the Hardy Coal Mine, opposite North Bend. At the time of their arrival, we anticipated a breeze between them and the Miners' Benevolent Association, but one of the officers of the society said to us: 'Please say nothing about it. They will not stay a month, and when they go away, they'll give the place a black eye. If we seek to drive them off, others will come in their place. Chinamen never yet have been successful as underground laborers, and never will be. All attempts to introduce them in the Nevada silver mines have failed, and this is just as bad on them.' Accordingly, we let the matter most severely alone. The result was just what our friend predicted. In three days' work, the Chinese (twenty was all that ever went into the shaft,) had taken out just three tons and a-half of coal in all, and on the fourth day they quit work. Being utterly destitute of money, Capt. R. Simpson has allowed them to work their passage back to San Francisco on the Oregonian, which goes out today, if the weather will permit. So far as the Coos Bay coal mines are concerned, the Chinese problem is rapidly finding its own solution."

Among selections by the President from 400 or more candidates for appointment as Second Lieutenants in the army, subject to the decision of the Examining Board, are Wm. Allen, Commissary Sergeant at Camp Apache, and James C. Winters, who served as a volunteer in the Modoc campaign.

Salem will purchase a fire bell weighing 2,000 pounds.

A mine of excellent yellow crockery clay has been discovered about thirty miles southeast of Eugene.

Rooms for the Medical Department of Willamette University are being fitted up in Moore's Block at Salem.

Fourteen acres of land were sold in South Salem the other day for \$100 per acre, cash. Good, considering times.

The Oregon Real Estate Company have sold their Clausen Ranch, consisting of 410 acres, for \$10,000. J. L. Hallett, the railroad contractor, is the purchaser.

The Olympia Courier says: "An Indian named Sculler, who had recently taken out citizen papers, and has been employed as a teamster in Steilacoom for some years past, was fatally stabbed by a white man, last Monday night, at that place. The murderer has not yet been arrested."