

Albany Register.

U. S. Official Paper for Oregon.
SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1874.

To my Fellow Democrats of Linn County.

The biennial farce of holding a convention, called Democratic, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the county offices for the ensuing two years, has been again enacted, and the result is as usual. Three precincts, containing about two-fifths of the population of the county, have gobbled up everything worth having, leaving to the remaining three-fifths, the duty and the glory of electing them next June. For instance: The lucrative offices are Clerk, Sheriff, Judge, Treasurer, school Superintendent, Assessor and Surveyor.

The offices of Clerk and Sheriff are either of them worth more than all the others. Albany gets the Clerk, Treasurer and School Superintendent, who was brought forward, however, by Brownsville, his former home. Brownsville has the Sheriff, and Harrisburg retains the Judge, who holds over.

These precincts also have more than their full share of the other offices, four Representatives, one Senator and one Commissioner, leaving for the other three-fifths of the county two Representatives, two Senators, one Commissioner, the Assessor and the Surveyor. Almost every one of the Thirty Thousand Dollars to be paid out of the county Treasury or the pockets of the people, as fees or salaries to these officers, if elected, will be paid to citizens of those three precincts. The ring did their work well and thoroughly.

But it will no doubt be said that this is merely an accident—it just happened so. Let us see if the nominations are not in the habit of happening so. Two years ago the same three precincts obtained Judge, School Superintendent, Clerk, Sheriff, Treasurer, Surveyor, three Representatives, one Commissioner, and retained both Senators, they holding over, leaving for the rest of us two Representatives and one Commissioner, and the Assessor: "just that, and nothing more."

But this may have been only a remarkable coincidence—very remarkable. Let us examine the nominations of the preceding convention. Those three precincts reserved to themselves the Judge, Clerk, Sheriff, Treasurer, Superintendent, Assessor, Surveyor, both Senators, both Commissioners, and three Representatives, I think; leaving for the rest of the county two Representatives. This appears to be a more remarkable coincidence than ever, so remarkable that I cannot but admire the skill and the unblinking, unscrupulous audacity of the men who engineered it through.

The fact is, a ring was formed before the Convention of 1870, in those three precincts, with two or three smaller precincts, which were wheedled into the combination, and this ring still exists, as is plainly proved. It may be denied, for they have the cheek of the devil; but any man who knows the history of the last three conventions, and disbelieves the existence of that ring, is an ass, and hopeless of any higher development. He is, and always

must be nothing better than an ass.

The Forks wanted the office of Sheriff, and presented a good man, an honest farmer, and a gentleman; but that office was too good a thing to let go; they couldn't begin to spare that; but as it would not do to snub us entirely (they may need our votes next June), they scattered a few crumbs over here that they did not want; to keep us quiet in harness till after the election, when we can again go to grass like trusty work-horses after the spring plowing.

The Monkers have influence and command a good many votes—they gave one of them a Senatorship; no money in it, but a great deal of honor, you know, which is what the people of the Forks most need. The Sheltons, also, have many votes, and one of them is to be Representative again—*more honor*, you know; and the Curly's and Bilyeu's and Crabtrees are all connected more or less, and it wouldn't do to slight them entirely, there's too many of them, but they are very cheap—so are all the people in the Forks. A very poor bone will satisfy them, you know; and so the ring gave John Curl the Assessor's place, the only thing worth a cent they did not hag as usual, and that not worth much.

Young Bryant got the nomination for Surveyor, simply from the fact that none of the ring felt qualified to fill the office. The rest of the county, East and North of Albany and Brownsville, were not worth noticing, and received not a crumb, though polling at least a fourth of the votes of the county; nor have they had anything of any consequence for years, since the ring took matters in hand. They presented good men, but no matter what a man's abilities may be, or how good his reputation, for personal and political honor and fidelity, so far as his chances for a nomination to any office worth anything is concerned, in a so-called Democratic Convention of Linn county, he might as well be a negro, be in China, or be dead, as to be opposed to the ring. Truly all things are lovely and the goose hangs high, but we'll cook it next June.

More anon.
BEDROCK DEMOCRAT.

W. A. George, on a hunting expedition with some friends in Texas, concluded to frighten them by imitating the cry of a panther. It was night, and he crawled up into a tree for the purpose. They were startled from their sleep by the clever imitation, and one of them fired into the tree where he saw the faint outline of a moving body. George was hit severely, and tumbled down at the feet of his companions.

Gardener, who was pardoned out of jail at Walla Walla by the Governor a few days ago, could not stand prosperity. He got drunk and was locked up in jail before night.

The Odd Fellows' ball at Olympia last Monday was one of the most brilliant affairs that has transpired in that place for some time.

The Woolen Factory at Dayton has been turning out a quantity of fine goods, which are being put in the market at Walla Walla and Lewiston.

Olympia and Sound people are still awaiting the arrival of the steamer Tabor to take the route regularly.

Temperance Topics.

A tale of misery—the cock-tail.
The crusaders will be called upon to remove the "bars" from Mississippi.

A New England paper says Connecticut is discussing the temperance question pro and con.

Every woman connected with the temperance movement sets up for a censor morum, but not in the sense of more rum.

It is so bad in Ohio that when a bevy of school girls go out for a walk the saloon keepers put up their shutters and also walk out at the back door.

At Hartford City (Indiana) all the saloons are closed.

Mrs. Elizabeth Oakes Smith, the veteran authoress, is leading the woman's temperance crusade on Long Island.

The liquor drunk in New York city yearly, would supply the Croton pipes for at least two days as a substitute for water.

The winding ways of the drunkard of the future, if these crusaders continue, are likely to take the shape of a private corkscrew.

Fort Wayne (Ind.) languishes for the temperance tidal wave. Logansport has tried hard, but can report only a dozen conversions.

They have got the seizure business down to a fine point at the Hub. A young man was arrested in Boston the other day because he had a case of bottled cider under his arm.

Jefferson (Ind.) is a stubborn town. Several saloon keepers, however, admit the ladies to pray.

The excitement at Bloomington (Illinois) is intense. The leading worker is the Catholic priest.

The Ladies of Columbus have a collection of thirty-three hymns printed for convenience and use on the streets.

A young German clergyman of Hamilton, Ohio, who was active in the work, has been twice chased by a mob, who have threatened his life.

A writer in the Cincinnati Gazette predicts with seeming exultation, that ninety per cent. of those who have signed the pledge will return to their old ways.

Two new wards have been created in Springfield, Illinois, which insures a radical temperance city government. Five hundred signed the pledge at a recent meeting.

Woman imposters are taking advantage of the temperance movement in Cincinnati by begging money, ostensibly to aid the cause, but really for their own use.

At a meeting in Chicago it was announced that a Presbyterian in that city had allowed his stores to stand idle for two years rather than rent them for the sale of rum.

No wonder Kentucky is so incorrigibly Bourbonish. In a single revenue district of that State there are sixty distilleries in operation, making 350,000 gallons of whisky a month.

In Steubenville, Ohio, the druggists and doctors refuse to take the pledge presented to them, but offered to sign one of their own. This was not accepted. The street crusade is to be begun.

The druggists of Loudonville, Ohio, have all succumbed to the pleading of the temperance women who are now nearly ready to attend to the saloon keepers. Prayer meetings are held day and evening in all the churches.

The Supreme Court of Indiana having decided that saloon keepers are not responsible for the acts of their barkeepers, the crusaders propose instituting a series of legal experiments to determine the question, "who are?"

As the result of the ladies' work in Upper Sandusky, recently, the Morgan brothers hung out a white flag. A little later James Pierson ran up a flag with the word "surrender" upon it, and suspended an inverted bottle before his establishment.

At Galena, at an immense meeting a unanimous vote was passed to vote at the coming election for no license.

It is contended by District Attorney Briggs of Westchester, New York, that the old law of 1857, authorizing the sale of liquor to be drunk on the premises, by inn keepers alone, is still in force.

Dr. Guthrie said he conscientiously believed that more people have been destroyed by intoxicating drink than were lost when the deluge swept the earth. If we understand the doctor aright, it is his opinion that more people have been killed by alcohol than by water.

The temperance crusade is a gin-wine movement against the supporters of rum-antic dealers in all-logic liquors. The only trouble about it and what ails it the most is that by its dramatic spirit it excites the rye-sibility of those who witness it.

A temperance society in San Francisco arrays itself against the habit of saying, "What'll you have?" "Come let's take a drink," or anything of the kind. The members do not approve of total abstinence; they only solemnly pledge themselves not to pay for any other man's drink, nor to drink at the bar with anybody. The society is serious in its intentions, believes that the conviviality of bar rooms is the cause of most intemperance, and has a membership of standing and influence.

CHURCH SERVICES.—Rev. John Babcock, of the Episcopal Church, Salem, will hold services, at the Congregational Church, on Monday evening, May 11th, 1874. All are invited.

The materials for a complete history of the State of Vermont are being collected.

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