

Albany Register.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY BY
COLL. VAN CLEVE,
 ALBANY, OREGON.
 SUBSCRIPTION—IN ADVANCE:
 One copy, one year..... \$ 2 50
 Ten copies, one year..... 20 00
 Special inducements offered to persons desirous of canvassing for subscriptions to the REGISTER.
 U. S. Official Paper for Oregon.
 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1874.

The People Will Decide the Question.

Several of the leading papers of the country show decided signs of uneasiness at Grant's reticence in relation to the third-term question. Commencing the attack with hints, suggestions and innuendoes, they have at last come out boldly and asked the President to "speak out in meetin'," quiet their nervous fears, and put the awful question forever at rest. This looks to us like the softest kind of nonsense—worse than undertaking to chop wood with a hammer. Let the People speak out on this matter; the People make and unmake Presidents; and if the sovereigns of this country desire Grant to be placed in the Executive Chair for a third term, nothing will prevent it; but if they do not desire such a consummation, all the power that Grant can wield, through his vast army of office-holders, would not secure him the vote of a single State. This country has not reached, and we believe never will, that point in Caesarism at which the election of any man to the Presidency depends his own sweet will. Should President Grant cause himself to be nominated for a third term, his candidacy will not be dangerous, "will not amount to a row of pins," unless the People ratify the nomination. The whole matter rests entirely and exclusively with the People, who are just now beginning to fully realize and enforce their power. That a third term would be an attack upon any latent right existing in the People, we do not say; but if the People so regard it, they will quickly settle any such aspirations. The People will settle this matter of a third term, and not President Grant. Rest easy.

A Roman Catholic organ, in an article entitled "Hot Bricks for Masons," the chief design of which seems to be to prove that GEORGE WASHINGTON was not a Mason, prints the letter of WASHINGTON to Rev. Mr. Snyder, in which he says: "The fact is I preside over none (Masonic Lodges), nor have I been in one more than once or twice within the last thirty years." To almost any average intellect this would seem to be very poor proof to sustain the proposition that WASHINGTON was not a Mason. If he was not a Mason, how could he have gained admission to a Lodge even once "within the last thirty years?"

BE CAUTIOUS.—A great deal of damage has been done already this season by parties attempting to burn straw piles, through high winds or other causes, the fire having got beyond control, spread over the fields, destroying fences, buildings, etc. The utmost caution should be used at this season of the year, in setting out fires, as everything is dry, and will ignite readily, burning like tinder.

The Valcour Community.

Chicago has the doubtful honor of having given birth to the latest attempt to organize a genuine free-love community. The parties chiefly interested in the movement are Spiritualists. The chief promoter of the new Communistic experiment is Colonel John Wilcox, of Wisconsin, who is the author of a sensational work known as "The Approaching Conflict," in which he predicts a bloody revolution within a few years, out of which will arise the overthrow of the present social system and the marriage relation and the inauguration of a reign of free-love. Through the munificence of a fellow enthusiast, who, unlike most enthusiasts, is also a capitalist, Colonel Wilcox is enabled to make a practical test of his free-love theory. The fellow-enthusiast, Owen Shipman, owns an island called Valcour, situated in Lake Champlain, and containing some 600 acres of land. This island he has dedicated to the "Community," by which the new experiment in Socialism is to be tested. Absolute social freedom and the sovereign right of each individual to control his or her destiny in the sexual relation, is the fundamental organic law of the association. The community at present includes seven men, five women and four children. Unless they can scare up at least two more women there is bound to be discord before long.

Robert Toombs is a fine old specimen of the unreconstructed rebel. He says:

I have been asked to run by a great many gentlemen in my district, but if every man, woman and child in this district were to rise up and press it upon me I would not like it. I hate the Government of the United States, and would give my life to overthrow it.

We fear that Mr. Toombs is "a representative man" of the South, and that the feeling he expresses is by no means confined to this "single breath."

The Louisiana Enterprise is a frank, outspoken organ. Recently, speaking of the negroes, it says: "Their right to vote is but the result of the war; their exercise of it is a monstrous imposition." Half a dozen, at least, of the Southern journals talk in the same strain. It begins to look as if the war is not over.

A man who drove through a camp of grasshoppers near Fort Dodge, Iowa, recently, declares that they covered a square half mile of ground, and formed a living, squirming, wiggling mass, over three inches thick on the average. Wherever they camp vegetation is totally destroyed.

The women cleaned the saloons out of Urbana, Ohio, and now rattlesnakes, that for fifty years have been unknown, infest the place to that extent that not a man dares stir abroad without his bottle of whisky as antidote against the apprehended poison.

MARSHAL MACMAHON'S WIFE.—Lucy Hooper, of the Philadelphia Press, thus describes Marshal MacMahon's wife: "Marshall MacMahon was present, as was also his stout, and short, and most unstylish-looking wife, who, in her dress of dark-blue silk, with tunic and sleeveless corsage of open-worked black silk, a hat wreathed with pale pink roses in her hand, looked like the housekeeper of some aristocratic family abroad in her best clothes."

NOT TRUE.

The assertion so frequently made that the code of morality that obtains among lawyers is lower than that which obtains in any other of the professions, is not true. It is urged, in proof of the assertion, that in other professions it is held dishonorable for a man to advocate for money that which he believes to be wrong or opposes that which he believes to be right, while lawyers are openly retained to make the worse appear the better cause—to make black appear white. The law gives every person charged with crime the right to make the best defense he can. The fact of being guilty of a violation of the law does not justify the conclusion that nothing can be urged in extenuation of such violation. Probably the great majority of crimes are committed under provocation—not sufficient always to warrant an acquittal, but sufficient to effect the extenuation in which the offender will be held in the esteem of his fellow-citizens. Is it not just and right, therefore, that when he is called to the bar to answer for the crime committed he should be afforded an opportunity to throw in-sight the causes which impelled him to commit the misdeed? So also with questions of constitutional law, the truth—the bedrock—can only be reached by an exhaustive array of argument on both sides of the question at issue. The reasoning by which conclusions are obtained is a mere exercise of the intellect. The lawyer certainly does not impair his self-respect by the labor of producing arguments which he expects his opponent to confute. In the language of another, "the truth in law is best attained by a strict and able analysis of statutes, and the lawyer who is on the wrong side often contributes as much to the final evolution of truth as he who fights on what is held to be the right side. The arguments which apply to the lawyer in the discussion of the constitutionality of a statute do not apply to the legislator, whose duty it is to make laws conform to his interpretation of the Constitution."

A Model Police Judge.

"Margaret Graham, why is this thus?" asked His Honor, as an aged woman stood at the bar.

"I couldn't help it, sir," she sadly said, folding her hands and dropping her eyes.

"I see gray hairs, wrinkles of age and signs that you are slowly drifting into the grave," he continued, "and yet you get drunk and hurrah for General Jackson, and rouse the neighbors from their beds."

"Please, sir, it was a small drunk," she explained.

"And yet you have been here before, and I have let mercy overpower justice. I am ashamed, Margaret, to think that, in this nineteenth century of civilization, a woman forty-four years old should be brought in here charged with drunkenness."

"I'll do better, sir."

"I hope so, Margaret, I hope you will dash the cup from you and take a solemn vow never to drink anything stronger than river water after this."

"I will, sir."

"And, though the bloom of youth may not return to your faded cheek, you will feel young again in spirit, and life will seem to you like a grand picnic at Belle Isle with frosted cake piled up ten feet high. One further remark and I am done—I shall send you up for ninety days."—*Detroit Free Press.*

General News.

La Creole Academy begins the fall term on Monday of this week, under the management of Prof. F. S. Bennett and wife.

There are 19 warehouses in Polk county—4 in Buena Vista, 8 in Independence, 1 on Bird Island, 3 in Eola and 3 in Lincoln.

The Board of Equalization for Lane county reduced the valuation on the lands of the O. & C. R. R. Co. from 40 to 30 cents per acre.

Upwards of \$24,000 worth of goods were shipped to San Francisco and Portland from the Willamette Woolen Mills in August.

Mr. George Belknap, residing a few miles below Eugene, has a field of wheat which he estimates will yield fifty bushels to the acre.

Dr. D. Payton declines to serve on the Committee to which he was elected at the recent State Medical Society Annual Convocation.

Two boys about eight or ten years of age, were detected a few days ago robbing the till of Renshaw & Dillard's market at Eugene City.

The Dallas Itemizer says the Ellendale water power will probably be brought into Dallas and a farming implement factory started upon it.

W. W. Parker has resigned his office as an Alderman of the city of Astoria, and W. L. Worthington has been elected to fill the vacancy.

Dallas comes proudly to the front with the champion wood-chopper. He cut and piled five cords of oak wood and walked back to town, (a distance of three miles) arriving at four o'clock.

Up to the 28th, one month since the trial trip in July, the steam tug Astoria had hooked on to 29 vessels, bringing them in or taking them to sea. This is a decided increase in the number for any corresponding period at this season of year.

A little girl of C. P. Cottrell, of Eden precinct, Jackson county, aged six years, while playing in the corral and passing near a vicious cow, received a kick which resulted in the breaking of her leg above the knee.

Two or three large rafts of piles, now afloat on the Columbia river for Astoria improvements, attract the eyes of passengers on steamboats, and resemble the famous flotilla of this kind so frequently met by Mississippi steamers.

The citizens of Astoria are requested to meet at the Custom House, at Astoria on Saturday evening at 7½ o'clock, for consultation upon matters of importance to the commercial interest of the State. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

There are a number of very unsafe bridges on the road between Corvallis and Elk City. On the way over from Elk, recently, the stage team broke through three bridges, and nothing but good luck kept the team from being badly injured.

Every capitalist, mechanic, stockman, and agriculturist will consult their best interests by giving all possible encouragement to every effort put forth in the establishment of manufactories in the State, however small and insignificant they may appear at first. So says the Record, and we concur.

The Dallas Itemizer learns that a son of Mr. Lew Hannan, living on the big Luckimute, met with a terrible accident, which may prove

fatal. The little fellow was standing on a load of hay, and by a misstep slid from the wagon striking in his descent on one of the sharp stakes which pierced into his body nearly a foot.

Wednesday, in State Fair week, all children under 15 years of age that have a mind to come, belonging to public or Sabbath Schools in the State, will be admitted to the State Fair free. Their teachers or Superintendents can get admission tickets by applying to the Secretary of the Agricultural Society, Mr. E. M. Waite.

Last Saturday week while Mr. John L. Bright was engaged in painting the new dwelling house of Messrs. Friendly and Laner, at Eugene City, the ladder gave way, and he fell to the roof of the porch and then to the ground. He struck upon some rough boards and pieces of lumber, and was quite seriously cut and bruised.

This is how a prominent Granger took the Fifth Degree in that Order a few days since: He and a brother Granger, who it seems was high enough up in the Order to confer degrees, argued some work about a threshing machine when the farmer put his hand in his pocket in a manner strongly suggestive of pistols and gunpowder. Thereupon the other procured a fence stake and braided upon his forehead the emblem of the Order. He said it was the hardest degree to take that he had yet reached.

Some villain placed a railroad tie across the Dalles and Celilo Railroad, near Willow bridge, and a rock on the track near Simpson's ranch, on the 30th ult. The O. S. N. Co. offer a reward of \$500 for the apprehension and conviction of the scoundrel. A hand car passing over the road was thrown from the track, and one of the men, Michael Day, who was at the crank, was thrown out of and in front of the car, which passed over his right leg just above the knee, luckily not breaking it, but spraining his left ankle, and altogether bruising him badly.

Situated in the center of a farming country that has no superior in the valley stands the little town of Lewisville, in Polk county, and though removed from the line of the proposed westside railroad, it bids fair to become a place of some size and importance. Already it has become a place of considerable trade, and its go-ahead business men inform us that their business is constantly increasing. Lewisville has a good church, school house, a Lodge each of Odd Fellows, Independent Champions and Good Templars, all in a flourishing condition.

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