

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

We have not space in this issue to publish the Message of Governor Gibbs, sent to the Special session of the Legislative Assembly, on the opening day, Dec. 5th, as we received a copy too late for that purpose.

The Message starts out with a sort of sobriety against slavery, in the first part of which the Governor tells the Legislative Assembly that his principal object in calling them together is to recommend them to adopt the proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution for the total abolition of slavery.

From slavery the Message jumps to "Suffrage," and here, while the Governor is worthy, it cannot be said that he is not absolutely wretched. His arguments are the basest of sophistries, and are even worse in sentiment than contemptible in reasoning.

He suggests that the division line between the counties of Jackson and Wasco be so drawn as to bring the Klamath Lake country into the former county.

Next, he refers to the Draconian Code, and suggests a more specific definition to the class of offenses included in the intolerant Sunday law.

Oh, most illustrious General, you do us wrong—you do, indeed. Not in the whole State was there a warmer admirer of the very last act of the last Legislative Assembly committed than our humble self, most mighty General.

A REMARKABLE THEFT.—Some unscrupulous knaves have stolen thirty-six pairs of blankets, the bed, bedding, and cooking utensils, from the small-pox hospital at Dallas City.

DEATHS AMONG HORSES.—There is a good deal of suffering to the horses and of loss to their owners in Rogue River Valley, occasioned by "red lice" and "sore tongue."

MURDEROUS ABUSE.—Jas. Murray, late assistant cook at the Capitol Hotel, Salem, lately made a stealthy and murderous attack upon Ed. Herman, the chief cook, with a large stone.

STATE FAIR REPORTS.—Mr. E. M. Waite, late Corresponding Secretary of the Oregon Agricultural Society, has kindly sent to us two bundles of the pamphlet copies of the Reports and Premium Lists of the Society for the past year, for distribution.

not to do it. The finances plainly bother the Governor. He knows the people know that he knows his Administration has been a most burdensome one for the tax-payers, but he does not know exactly how to conceal the facts from the voters in such way as to prevent them from asking how it is that while under Governor Whitaker the total tax generally averaged eight or nine mills on the dollar, it now swells up to nearly double that sum.

From finances the Governor goes on to the Insane Asylum, and even here he does not seem to have faith enough in his ability to dwell long, but dismisses the subject in a six line paragraph. We certainly expected something here from his Excellency on Idiocy, particularly since he was so lame on insanity.

But the neglected subject evidently agitated his ponderous frame, for his closing paragraph immediately follows, and in that he exhibits a usefulness of style, and greenness—we shall not say veridicality—of imagery, which calls forcibly to our mind an article which appeared in the Atlantic Monthly a year or more ago, "Concerning Idiocy." His Excellency even poetizes in it, and ends with a stanza.

In mourning Lincoln he does not forget to do full homage to Andrew Johnson, and is pleased to say that he trusts him. The Message closes as follows: "Of witnesses for God."

The review of the accompanying papers is deferred till our next issue. They embrace the Report of the Penitentiary Commissioners, the Report of the Proprietors of the Insane Asylum, and the Report of the State Printer.

MOST WELCOME.—The Jacksonville Reporter of Nov. 25th did not reach us until Monday last, but we hail it with a hearty welcome, late as the mails brought it. It is the introductory of its new editor, Mr. Frank R. Stuart, and he gives forth the earnest of sterling metal.

It is Democracy that he utters—not the whitened semblance of it, and we rejoice at the accession of so worthy a co-laborer in the broad, fruitful field which the Democrats of Oregon are sure to handsomely harvest next June.

We are doubly glad to know that the Reporter will be maintained in its sphere of usefulness, and that our party brethren in Southern Oregon will be so fully and ably represented through its columns.

We shall exert ourselves to the extent of our ability to resist the effort now being made by some of the leading professed Democrats in Oregon and elsewhere, to wear the Democracy from its true allegiance, and transfer it to the support of Andrew Johnson—an aptate Democrat and a time-server—and thus make it the tool of individual ambition; believing it to be subversive of the cause of true republicanism, and, if successful, will surely result in the dismemberment of our party, and thus defer the hope of peace and security to our distracted country.

We are especially rejoiced at this distinct, manly, unequivocal avowal, because of a sentence which appeared in the Valdey of the late editor, with reference to "Johnson Democracy." Now, we know just where the Reporter stands. A right hearty welcome to its editor, and high success to his brave Democratic organ.

IN ERROR.—Elisha Applegate—we think—asks in the last State Journal: "Did the Legislature ever adopt, propose or recommend anything that pleased this Salem censor, or Jas. O'Moars?" Not much.

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THE REGISTRY LAW.

In another column we give a copy of the Registry law introduced in the Senate last Wednesday by Mr. Cranston of Lane county, and ask the especial attention of our readers to it. We think all will agree that it is the most infamous Bill ever presented for the consideration of a deliberative body.

From information derived from intelligent sources we expect the Bill will pass and receive the sanction of the Governor.

The brief time the copy of the Bill has been in our possession precludes us from reviewing its atrocious features as fully as we desire. It provides for the appointment of a Register to every voting precinct, by the County Courts, and these Registers are to sit to receive the names of voters for thirty days, the closing day of the sitting to be thirty days prior to the day of election.

These provisions place it in the power of the County Judges to appoint any tool of their own as Registers, and work the grievous wrong of disfranchising every voter who may not be able to call at the Registry office during the allotted thirty days. A bona fide voter, who may be a resident of any given precinct, if absent during these thirty days, or sick, or from any cause is unable to attend during that period at the Registry office, cannot vote, even though he were to return, or be enabled to call for the registry of his name, on the twenty-ninth day preceding the election, or on any subsequent day.

Again, voters who are, under the Constitution and present law regulating elections, entitled to vote for State and District officers out of their own precinct, if through business or other causes, absent from their place of residence on the day of election, are disfranchised. To be allowed the right to vote a citizen must not only have been a resident of his precinct the constitutional and lawful time, but he must have his name on the registry book from sixty to thirty days before the election; and after this registering of his name he must take the infamous oath prescribed in this Bill, at the polls, or have his vote rejected.

A startling feature of this Bill is that it surrenders entirely to the discretion or option of the Registers, the right to record or reject the name of the applicant, and, in case of the refusal of any Register to record the name of an applicant, the latter has no appeal from his decision, no recourse against the officer for the grievous outrage upon his highest right as a citizen. The Register's authority is supreme and final; he can record or reject the name of a known voter at his pleasure, will or caprice, and yet go entirely unpunished for the high-handed tyranny which destroys the citizen's right of suffrage. The officer is invested with the utmost power, without limit whatever, and yet is relieved from responsibility in any shape for the faithful performance of his duty. There cannot be found a parallel for this monstrous provision on the statute books of any State in the Republic. It is borrowed from absolutism, and is most destructive in its operation.

Again, it is required of every voter that he shall, before being permitted to vote, take the infamous oath prescribed. And after he does this, it is left apparently to the option or caprice of the Election Judges whether or not his vote shall be received. The Bill assumes for its chief object the security of the election against the votes of persons lately from the "rebellious" or "disloyal" States, who participated in or sympathized with the rebellion. If this were really the object of its framers, why did they not confine the prescription of the oath, or the latter portion of it, exclusively to emigrants? They have not done this; but, on the contrary, compel the citizen who has resided in Oregon for twenty years steadily to take the full oath equally with the "rebel" lately come from a "rebellious" State.

But there is a latent poison in the oath which is cunningly directed against the old Democratic voters of Oregon in order that they may be disfranchised. It is charged by the Abolitionists that there is, or has been, a "secret organization" of Democrats in this State, which is or was "treasonable," and it is against any and all who may belong or who did belong to that organization, one special clause in the oath is directed. We would gladly have that clause strictly and justly administered, for if it be, every member of the treasonable and damnable Loyalty League—and nearly every Abolitionist in Oregon has been or is a member of it—would be inhibited from voting. But the rule will not be justly applied. It will be directed only against Democrats. Thus, if a Democratic citizen presents himself before the Register of his precinct for the purpose of having his name registered, that officer is permitted to ask him whatever questions be please, without stint or limit, and if it shall appear that the citizen has ever belonged to any "secret organization," no matter how purely patriotic its object, or declines to answer that question, either the Register then refuses to record his name, or, if he does record it, the Judges on the day of election will refuse to receive his vote. Yet a Loyalty Leaguer, whose secret organization oath was compound treason against both the Federal and State Constitutions, is neither questioned on that score nor refused his vote because of his membership.

Again, the Bill provides that any rebel sympathizer who has availed himself of the President's Amnesty, shall not be required to take the oath, while it is exacted of the old citizen of the State who has continuously resided here for years.

The cost to the State for practically carrying out the operations of this Bill is barely stated—the Registers are to receive a compensation of twenty-five cents for each name registered. There must be added to this the cost of office rent for each Register, for thirty days, and incidental expenses, which will surely increase the sum total to full twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars for every general election.

The Bill is in fact a declaration of war or servitude, to operate only against Democrats. The Abolitionists are well aware that Oregon is now undoubtedly Democratic in sentiment—that the next State election will result in a Democratic triumph, if some arbitrary, unconstitutional, and coercive measures, are not adopted to prevent such a conclusion. This Bill is the engine by which they hope to continue the power to themselves, to secure the success of their ticket. Let Democrats now apply themselves to a full consideration of the political situation. There is no need of hasty or precipitate action, but there is every need for complete organization, wise and calm deliberation, and, to follow these, a firm, united, resolute action at the critical moment. The Bill is in every sense an atrocious and infamous one. The oath is akin to that which a highwayman or an assassin might exact, and is worthy no better consideration. Our party brethren, we feel perfectly convinced, will be fully able to meet the great emergency which the passage of the Bill will devolve upon them, and for that good time let us all agree to patiently wait. We are numerically strongest. We should all remember the old fable of the father and his sons with the bundle of rods. Acting singly or in factions we shall be hopelessly broken or our cause destroyed. Together, in one firm, united, compact body, all the power and force of the Abolition party cannot break or overcome our organization, or defeat our ticket at the polls next June.

AFTER INDIANS.—The Mountainers say: A movement is on foot in Owyhee to fit out a party of one hundred men to go against the Snake Indians up the Malheur and Owyhee rivers. The 61 soldiers who were kept at Camp Watson to vote for Hogue might have done some service against Indians; but it seems our "brave volunteers" are never ordered to such "risky" duty. Some of them might get hurt, or be disabled for voting. The settlers and miners must pay taxes to support these treacherous troops, and then do their own fighting in self-protection against Indians.

ROBBERS CAUGHT.—Two men, named Williams and Daniels, were arrested in Portland last Saturday, for the robbery of the safe at Rogers' Hotel in Umatilla, from which they took \$3,000 belonging to Mr. Beckham, a returned Kootenai miner, and \$500 from the hotel proprietor. Pretty nearly all the stolen money was recovered from them, and they have been sent back to Umatilla to await trial.

CONSCIENCE PRICKED HIM.—At the late term of the Circuit Court in Marion county, a witness named Lasser confessed that he had falsely sworn in the same case at a former trial, and that his conscience had not been easy since. He was placed in custody, indicted for perjury, and is now in prison to await trial.

TELEGRAPHIC.

OVERLAND DISPATCHES.

DATES TO NOVEMBER 27.

Washington, Nov. 25.—General Butler arrived here on Monday, and was escorted with honor and members of Congress who were not in the city. Mr. Morton of Indiana has gone to Europe for his health.

New York, Nov. 25.—Charles Jenkins is elected Governor of Georgia.

The small-pox is raging among the freedmen in Virginia, Georgia and Alabama.

Heavy frosts in the West have been reported in Kentucky have been discovered.

The Wilmington, N. C., Herald gives the following account of the election in that city: The vote of North Carolina on the anti-slavery vote was for 4,279—against, 1,197.

A special from Alabama says Gov. Parson in his message urges the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment abolishing slavery, and the passage of laws for the protection of the present and prospective freedmen.

A Tallahassee (Florida) letter says: The proposition to re-instate the rebel war debt and admitting negro testimony, encountered strong opposition. It would not have passed, but the members of the Legislature, and the State of Florida, have decided to be admitted to Congress.

The colored troops are all to be raised, and there will be left only from 7,000 to 10,000 white soldiers in the State.

The World's special dispatch says: Among the prisoners recently brought from the South, under circumstances of great mystery and incarceration in the military prison, at Ft. Moultrie, S. C., was arrested in Florida. He was in charge of the Salisbury prison while the mortality was greatest among the Union prisoners there.

Reports from nearly all the States received at the President's Bureau, have established the fact that there is considerable suffering among negroes.

An arrival from Newberry, S. C., says: People look upon the recent election there as a complete failure. None of the Congressmen elected can take the oath, and the only candidate who could do so, was defeated by a large majority.

New York, Nov. 26.—A Washington special contains the following: Gen. Grant and his staff will leave on Monday for Richmond, Charleston and the interior cities. They will be accompanied by a special train.

The daughter of ex-Secretary Mallory has not succeeded as yet in obtaining her father's release. It is reported that during Secretary Mallory's trip to the States he visited his daughter in Louisiana, and required some information concerning the archives of the rebel army. Mallory declined giving it.

Mr. Clement C. Clay has been informed by his husband cannot be pardoned, but will be held for trial.

Among the pardoned granted to-day by the President was a special favor to Major Repole, a graduate of West Point and an officer of the old army. Repole was Chief Engineer of the rebel defenses at Charleston. He is the first instance of a man being granted to any one of that class of an honorable discharge from the rebel army.

The trial of Commodore Craven for not attacking the ram Steamer was continued to-day. Nothing of interest was said.

The Herald's Savannah correspondence contains an order outlawing white children from sitting at the tables of freedmen, and from attending the cupping lands which have been restored to their former owners, to remove before December 20th.

St. Louis, Nov. 26.—Col. Bravo of the Mexican army and leader of dispatches from Juarez to the United States, arrived at Kansas City, Mo., on the 24th, en route to Mexico. He states the Mexicans have 25,000 troops under arms, and that 500,000 more can be put in the field as soon as means are raised, which will be speedily.

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DATES TO DECEMBER 1.

General News. New York, Nov. 28.—The President has just issued an order relieving from Fort Dalhart, Pecos, and other military posts, all the soldiers of the 9th Cavalry.

An impression prevails that Grant will visit New Orleans for the purpose of meeting Sheridan and negotiating relative to affairs on the Rio Grande. It is believed there will not be any further demonstration by Sheridan's troops now on that line.

The Times' special says: The report that John M. Schuyler had returned to the States is a fiction. He had not taken the oath of allegiance.

Two or three Representatives of States recently in rebellion have arrived. It is understood they will attempt to interfere with the organization of the House. They await the action of the Clerk and the dominant party.

The re-election of Colfax for Speaker and McPherson for Clerk of the House seems to be generally conceded.

A special says: Heralded Y. Johnson thinks the Southern members will not be admitted.

Washington, Nov. 26.—It is said that the oath required will be tested by Stuart of Virginia, who will make application for his seat without taking the oath.

It is rumored that the New York delegation will attempt the organization of the House by depositing McPherson as Clerk.

There will be seven contested seats—from the 1st District, New York, 12th and 21st Pa., 12th Ohio, 7th Indiana, 4th Missouri, and 1st Wisconsin. The credentials of members are very slow in arriving. It is doubtful if the Clerk will be able to make up the roll in time from the credentials received.

The Chronicle says McPherson, Clerk of the House, has declined to accept the office of Speaker and Tennessee members from the official roll.

The friends of the President, however, insist that Maynard and Johnson should be admitted to the organization of the House. They will probably be admitted.

Washington, Dec. 1.—So far about seventy-five members of Congress have received their credentials. The House will convene on Monday.

Gov. Wells urges the Legislature to stand for the re-construction policy.

New York, Nov. 28.—The North Carolina Legislature have elected a Union Speaker, Governor Johnson is improving. President Johnson has written to Holden, promising to remove from the State his views against the admission of Southern members to Congress.

Gen. Greney, Chief of the Bureau of Freedmen of Texas, is reported to have spoken lately to the negroes, wherein he condemned the President's reconstruction policy.

St. Louis, Nov. 29.—A collision occurred here last night, between a party of State militia searching for arms among the freedmen, and a squad of negroes, by some colored soldiers. Several of the militia were wounded and one severely. A large number of muskets, powder, &c. were found and taken from the negroes.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Gen. Croghan's course in Mississippi is generally denounced. He is said to be mistaking the negroes with incendiary sentiments.

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was before called, Maynard of Tennessee, whose name had not been placed on the roll by McPherson, wanted to suggest something, but the Clerk refused to be interrupted. After the roll was completed, Maynard rose to speak, but the clerk ruled him out of order. One hundred and seventy-five members answered to their names.

The House took no action on the subject, but the Senate met at noon and was called to order by Foster, President pro tem. Sen. McPherson then offered prayer.

Holland, of Vermont, successor to Coffey, appeared and was sworn into office.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The Ohio Union seems not yet to be attended by sixteen Representatives.

The main business of the session will be the re-construction of the States. The President's message will be read and discussed. The Union seems also decided to go in a body for Colfax for Speaker and McPherson for Clerk of the House.

There are a large number from Southern Oregon in Montana. Coyote Falls had not been seen since his release from custody on a charge involving some maniacity. Capt. Koeler says it is quite common to hang two or three of a night at Helena. Why don't they change the name of the place to Stanton—it would be singularly appropriate, only we presume, those hung in Helena are not innocent.

A TERRIBLE SUCCESSION OF MISFORTUNES. The Vancouver Register of Dec. 24 says: The house of the late Victor Smith, at Port Angeles, was totally destroyed by fire one night of last week. The fire occurred so suddenly that Mr. Smith had barely time to escape in her night clothes.

SILVER LODES IN JACKSON COUNTY.—The Reporter of last Saturday says a good deal of excitement has been caused in the section lately by the discovery of lodes or veins of silver bearing quartz on Jackson Creek.

TERRIBLE CASUALTY.—During the recent storms two ditches on the side hill at Scotts Bar, Siskiyou county, California, broke away and flooded the town below.

GOOD FOR ST. HELENS.—The last Vancouver Register says: We are not in possession of the particulars, but we are informed that a company has taken its command at least a half million dollars, has been organized with a view to the development and building up of our little neighbor St. Helens. Good for St. Helens! She deserves some sunshine after having sat so long and pallidly in the darkness of her mountain shadow.

ANNEXATION.—The Walla Walla Statesman agitates the proposition of annexation to Oregon, and says that late investigation develops the fact that a very large majority of the people of that Valley and the section directly interested in the annexation project, warmly favor it. For us, we should certainly favor the measure, and hope it may be accomplished.

THE GALE.—Late advices from Pagsd Sound give accounts of the violence of the recent gale there. A bark and brig were seriously damaged, several small sailing craft are missing, and great injury was done to the forests of pine, fir, and cedar, and to the roads which the fallen timber obstructed.

PORTLAND FREEMEN'S ELECTION.—Last Monday the freemen of Portland held their election for Chief and Assistant Engineers. Thomas S. Young was chosen Chief and Joseph Buchtel, W. H. Weed was chosen First, and W. F. Peterson, Second Assistant Engineers. The total vote was 233.

CHINA MEN.—Several thousand of Chinese laborers are to be put to work in the coal place diggings of Idaho next year, by wealthy Chinese companies.

CONVICTED.—Kurtz, tried for the murder of a Chinaman in Idaho, was convicted, and sentenced to be hung January 18th, 1866.

ACQUITTED.—Jas. Ullman, tried for killing a negro barber in Idaho City, has been acquitted.