

CORRESPONDENCE from all portions of Eastern Oregon is solicited for the DEMOCRAT. All communications, to receive attention, must be accompanied by a responsible name. Personal communications will be charged at special advertisements.

**S. M. PETTENGILL & CO., 10 State Street, Boston, 37 Park Row, New York, and 701 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, are our Agents for procuring advertisements for the BEDROCK DEMOCRAT, in the above cities, and are authorized to contract for advertising at our lowest rates. n31f**

**JOB WORK.**  
We are now prepared to do all kinds of JOB WORK on short notice and at reasonable rates.  
N. B.—All Job Work MUST BE PAID FOR ON DELIVERY.

**UNION NURSERY,**  
H. J. GEER, Proprietor.

**THE UNDERSIGNED WOULD** respectfully call the attention of FARMERS and FRUIT GROWERS to my extensive and varied assortment of Fruit Trees and Shrubbery, both useful and ornamental, for which I will sell low for "MONTHS."  
SEND FOR CATALOGUE.  
Address, H. J. GEER, Coye, Union County, Oregon. n17ly

**PROFESSIONAL CARDS.**  
L. O. STERNS, T. C. HYDE,  
NOTARY PUBLIC.  
**Sterns & Hyde,**  
Attorneys and Counselors at-Law,  
BAKER CITY, OREGON.  
L. O. STERNS will attend the Courts of the Fifth Judicial District, and of Idaho and Washington Territories.  
Water Rights and Mining Litigation a SPECIALTY.  
Collections promptly attended to.  
June 18, 1873. n6y

**ANDREW J. LAWRENCE,**  
Attorney-at-Law,  
BAKER CITY, OREGON.  
WILL PRACTICE IN ALL COURTS of the State.  
Baker City, Sept. 1, 1873. n17y.

I. D. HAINES,  
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW, Baker City, Oregon. n17f

**J. M. SHEPHERD,**  
Attorney-at-Law,  
BAKER CITY, OREGON.

**S. V. KNOX,**  
Attorney at Law,  
(And Notary Public.)  
WESTON, OREGON.  
Will practice in the Courts of this State and Washington Territory. n13f

**JOSEPH H. SHINN,**  
Notary Public  
AND  
Conveyancer,  
Will attend to Conveyancing and making ABSTRACTS OF TITLE.  
Baker City, Sept. 11, 1872. n18f

**E. W. REYNOLDS,**  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
AND  
DEPUTY U. S. MARSHAL.  
Office with John Brattain, Three Doors South of BEDROCK DEMOCRAT OFFICE, on side of the Street.  
Baker City, Sept. 3, 1873. n17m4


**Dr. E. P. Tierney,**  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,  
BAKER CITY, OREGON.  
RESPECTFULLY INFORMS THE CITIZENS of Eastern Oregon that he has located in Baker City, and gives strict attention to his Profession.  
Office opposite the corner Drug Store.  
Private Residence, next door to the Catholic Church.  
Baker City, Nov. 5, 1872. n26f.

**T. N. Snow, M. D.**  
Physician and Surgeon,  
BAKER CITY, OREGON.  
OFFICE—At the City Drug Store.  
MEDICAL EXAMINER  
For the New York Life Insurance Co. n131f

**Mrs. R. C. Shepherd**  
IS AGENT FOR  
Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines.  
Baker City, Dec. 1, 1872. n30f

**R. M'INTOSH,**  
Respectfully offers his services to the Public in the capacity of  
**CARPENTER, HOUSE-BUILDER,**  
JOINER AND  
**Cabinet-Maker.**  
All kinds and every  
**DESCRIPTION**  
Of Work in Wood neatly and promptly done.  
P. O. Box 1, Jan. 1, 1873. n1f

**BUSINESS NOTICES.**

**DRS. PRICE & NEWSOM,**  
  
Have permanently located in BAKER CITY, OREGON. And are prepared to operate in all branches of the DENTAL PROFESSION. All work Warranted. Office One Door below the CITY DRUG STORE. Baker City, Oregon. n17y

**J. B. GARDNER,**  
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER,  
ESTABLISHED IN BAKER CITY IN 1867, Keeps constantly on hand a well assorted Stock of  
**WATCHES, CLOCKS & JEWELRY,**  
and is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line of business.  
Waltham and Elgin Watches at Factory n3] Prices [1f.

**Western Hotel.**  
REID & FLETCHER, Prop'r.  
THIS HOUSE has been enlarged and refitted, and is now the best Hotel on the Umatilla and Idaho stage route. Stages leave this House for Coe and below, and also for Clark's Creek Eldorado, Gem City and Sparta.  
Connected with the Hotel will be found a first class  
**SALOON!**  
Liquors, Wines and Cigars of the best quality. Phenix Improved Billiard Tables all in good order.  
N. B.—Those indebted to either the Hotel or Saloon are requested to appear at the Captain's office and settle. n6v3f.

**COSMOPOLITAN SALOON.**  
WILLIAM CONSTABLE WOULD respectfully inform the Public that he has opened the  
**Cosmopolitan Saloon,**  
Corner of Front Street and Court Avenue, opposite Virtue's Bank, where he will be pleased to see and wait upon his friends and the Public generally. His  
**BAR**  
is supplied with the very best of every article which is used in the Billiard Table for the use of his customers.  
Baker City, Dec. 17, 1873. n32f

**PORTLAND ADVERTISEMENTS.**  
A. P. HOTALING, } (E. C. LOED, }  
San Francisco, } Portland. }  
**A. P. Hotaling & Co.**  
Sole Agents for the  
**J. H. Catter Old Bourbon Whisky,**  
And Importers of  
**Fine Wines and Liquors,**  
431 Jackson Street, San Francisco,  
AND  
26 FRONT STREET, PORTLAND,  
Oregon. n45f

**DIMMITT'S**  
**COUGH**  
**BALSAM!**  
IS THE NEWEST, THE CHEAPEST and the BEST thing in market for all diseases of the Lungs and Throat  
**DAVIS & SCHUYLER,**  
Portland, Oregon, Wholesale Agents.  
Oct. 29, 1873. n25n33

**S. J. M'CORMICK,**  
Importer and Dealer in  
**Books, Stationary, Toys, Music And NEWSPAPERS,**  
FRANKLIN BOOK-STORE and SANTA CLAUS' Headquarters, Fire-proof Brick Building, 105 Front street, Portland, n17 Oregon. [1f

**DR. J. B. CARDWELL,**  
Dentist  
DENTAL ROOMS, No. 89, First street, Portland, Oregon. The late and improved styles of work at reduced rates. Nitrous oxide for the painless extraction of teeth. n29f

**W. H. WATKINS, M. D.**  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.  
OFFICE, Odd Fellows' Building. Residence, corner of Main and Park streets, Portland, Oregon. Special attention to diseases of the Eye and Ear. n29

**BEDROCK DEMOCRAT.**

THE BEDROCK DEMOCRAT has more BONA FIDE, paying subscribers in Baker County, than has any other two papers published in the State. We put no man's name on our subscription list unless we have orders so to do. n1

**Second Edition.**  
For the benefit of subscribers in certain localities, we issue a second edition of the DEMOCRAT on every Monday morning, which contains all the news of importance received at this city up to Saturday noon.

Look at the Supplement for first rate miscellaneous reading matter.

**SPEECH**  
OF  
HON. E. S. MCOMAS,  
Delivered at La Grande, Oregon,  
February 21st, 1874, in reply to  
Hon. James H. Slater.

[Continued from last week.]  
UNION COUNTY, Aug 20th, 1873.  
EDITOR DEMOCRAT:—In looking over the wide spread and extensively copied communication of our late member of Congress from Union county, which appeared in the BEDROCK DEMOCRAT of July 22nd, in reply to a letter received by him from Col. T. H. Cann of Salem, we find many items of peculiar interest, at this particular time, to the Democracy of this State, especially as it is a well known fact that our Hon. E. S. M. C. has, as usual, got his "dish out"—a chronic habit with him, whenever there is signs of an official shower, and one that he has closely adhered to ever since the enthusiastic Democracy of Union county first placed his name prominently before the people. The situation was such in 1868, that the Democracy of Eastern Oregon had been induced to name the Representative to Congress from east of the Cascades. They had by united action, and at a heavy expense to many members of said party, who never afterwards expected any remuneration in the way of office, built up the party, and furnished a "reserve guard" that had turned the tide in favor of Democracy in many a hard fought political contest.

On looking around there seemed to be but one who deserved the nomination, and he (J. H. Slater) was the one. He was enthusiastic in favor of the Democracy of Oregon man receiving the nomination, and more particularly that he should be THE MAN. All favored a man from this locality who seemed to care much more for the good in Congress as he would at home. There seemed to be no opposition on that score in Baker City. Those who were anxious in regard to our railroad interests, and the nomination was made—made by men who could as easily have defeated as have selected the man they desired. It ensued raised him from the humble position of a county attorney to one of great responsibility and considerable profit—over a million dollars in property—by way of the North Pole. He went, he saw, he DRAW HIS SALARY and came home. Those who enquired for him during his absence were informed that he was supposed to be in Washington. Those who were interrogated felt safe in venturing the assertion, as he had departed from La Grande with a pocket full of affidavits of those who were opposed to the election, the purport of which were to show the proper route to the "BROAD ROAD" that led to the National Capitol was by way of Portland and San Francisco. He got ready to start, and notwithstanding the fact that he had GUIDE BOARDS in his pockets—affidavits of warm, personal friends, solemnly sworn to, to inform him which was the proper route, he went to show the committee on mileage the route by which he came, HE TOOK THE WRONG ROUTE, or rather, he got on the stage the same as if he had taken the route by way of Kelton and the Union Pacific Railroad, east.

"Recognizing," as he does, "the right of the people to criticize all wrongs," he might have dreamed of going to Congress, we should certainly like very much to criticize and record all due praise to each and every act of his, in order to give it to his constituents, but really, our memory fails to furnish anything worthy of either approval or censure. There were but few who heard from him during his sojourn in Washington—there would be fewer now since the franking privilege has been abolished. In most instances those who did hear from him were "Bollers" who went to Washington to see the "People's Ticket," and done everything in their power against him in 1868, thus causing him to run far behind the strength of the Democratic ticket. Now, however, he gains the "Bollers" have ever since been his chosen counselors, his warm bosom companions; he has been constantly courting the favor of these stray coils, trying to induce them to "suck" the evidently present belief that all that is required to carry the strength of the Democratic party, is to see that those who always bolt are on his side, and made right and left by the means of a "bull team," while he has been calculating in this respect at the time he was elected, having run far behind his ticket in his home county; also in Wasco and Grant, where they are "Bollers" and are prosecuting Attorney, busily engaged in the capacity of a "smelling committee."

There are many reasons why the Democracy should be dissatisfied with some more able competent and acceptable man, of which she has thousands in her ranks. The Democracy have attacked the "back salary steal," from the President down to the smallest steal. The People—the laboring classes, the patrons of husbandry, the anti-monopolists of all denominations all endorse the course of the Democracy in this matter. This becomes a powerful weapon in the hands of the Democracy. But should we nominate one who openly and boldly acknowledges that he has received some Eleven Hundred dollars, and proposes to hold on to it with a grip for which he is famous where he is best known—and thus put a weapon into the hands of our opponents that we are entitled to ourselves. What kind of a denunciation of the back pay grab could the Democracy of this State expect to hear from one whose left breast pocket was stuffed with a wallet containing eleven hundred dollars of those same identical grabbacks? The honorable gentleman seems to try to console his conscience by believing that he should have been entitled to as much compensation as any former member from this State, although the route traveled by him could only have been traveled by them at the time they went with a "bull team," while he sped swiftly over the plains and through the tunnelled mountains, drawn by the Iron Horse. Should he receive the nomination, he will have an opportunity to defend his course before the people. We will then have a candidate who will be compelled to make a defensive canvass—while it is evident to every one that we should nominate a candidate who will have no personal defense to make, but who can employ his whole time in exposing the frauds and corruption of the Administration party, even down to "Hippelism."

The charge has been boldly made against Mr. Slater, and comes from head quarters, that the representations made to the Indian Department by him, after holding in council with the Nez Perce Indians on the 4th of July, 1872, was the primary cause, and opened up the subject of setting the Wallowa Valley aside as an Indian Reservation, the result of which has been the loss to Union county of one of the finest valleys in the State, and to the Pioneers, who desired to settle there and make homes for themselves and their posterity, the loss of one of the finest agricultural and stock growing countrys on the Pacific coast. Whether this charge be true or not, I am prepared to see it has been allowed to go unanswerd until it will require an explanation before the people in the coming canvass, which we are afraid will be given by Mr. Slater, in reply to the above charges, together with the well known fact that he has been the cause of the discussions that exist in the Democratic party in Union county, and which were the result of his conduct in holding the ticket in his last Congressional contest, are urgent and strong reasons, in our mind, why the Convention should not nominate him, but select some other Democrat who can go before the people in the coming canvass and conduct an aggressive, instead of a defensive campaign. We have always been Democrats, and we believe in the Democracy as long as the great principles of the old time Democracy exist, and they can never die in a government, and we shall never die in the name of the coming Democracy or Convention, but we will support, let him be who he will—nevertheless we claim the right to urge upon the members of that Convention to give us a candidate who can go before the people in the party, and not one that must depend entirely on the strength of the party to carry him through.

After carefully studying the contents of that letter in calmness and in the quietude, I am willing to make this apology:—If there is anything in that article that I am sorry for I am glad of it. In a communication delivered at Baker City, last Fall, he denounced, in his most scathing language, the statement made in that article in reference to the Wallowa Valley. He stated that he had received information from Maj. M. E. Berry, one of the commissioners who appraised the property of settlers in said valley, and he stated, in presence of four other gentlemen, that he had been deceived by the statements written back to Washington, by James H. Slater while a M. C., the action in regard to the Wallowa Valley would have been different, had he been true to this statement, openly and boldly, in presence of gentlemen of both political parties, and I know him to be a man who holds himself responsible for what he says. Mr. Slater is willing to all he can make out of it. For my part I have no reason to doubt Maj. Berry's word; I HAVE that of Mr. Slater.

Mr. Slater has made several speeches in which he endeavors to answer some of the charges preferred against him in this communication, and has totally failed, and here let me say, in order to be fair, that he should have devoted the remainder of his life he can never satisfactorily explain them before the people. The dark morning recast which he, in his greed for greenbacks, was proper to fasten upon himself, will forever consign him to oblivion amongst honest men. The days of those who received and possessed the proceeds of the "Back Pay Steal" of last Congress are numbered, and their political skeletons are now marking as mile stones along the pathway of corruption, and which has been so constantly thronged by many of our leading politicians for the past quarter of a century, and we would not be surprised to see the "Back Pay Steal" of one of the illustrious right of man and one to which we have resorted only when forbearance has ceased to be a virtue. About the first of January last, I learned that Mr. Slater had been elected to the office of speaker, each of whom based all his hopes of success upon Mr. Slater's ability as a "battering ram." Desiring to work in harmony with Mr. Slater, and to give the strength to the Democratic party, I sent him the following communication thro' a friend of Mr. Slater's, also a friend of mine, who had talked with Mr. Slater, and said to him that he thought Mr. Slater and I would meet and talk together about any difference existing between us might readily be compromised by slight concessions, and to this proposal Mr. Slater seemed to readily consent. In view of this fact I handed him this letter:

LA GRANDE, Ogn., Jan. 7th, 1874.  
MR. JOHN B. MARTIN:—SIR: Believing you to be a warm, personal friend to Hon. E. S. Mcomas, and knowing you to be a warm, personal friend of mine, I desire to say to you that I am painfully aware of the ill personal feeling existing between Mr. Slater and myself, of which I presume you have no knowledge further than you may have heard. If you have been led to believe that Mr. Slater has done everything in his power against me, I know not, I have his to say upon my honor, which I deem as firm a bond as any man living: First—I will assume freely the authorship of any article of public print ever written by me in regard to Mr. Slater, and defend the same before the public whenever I deem it necessary. But, before doing so, I desire to say that I am not a candidate for any office within the gift of the people of this State, and Mr. Slater may, if he may place his finger on any office he may desire to work for and I will do all in my power to put him there; providing he will not work against me, but for me, for any man I may desire to work for THAT DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH HIS INTEREST. But I do not intend, as heretofore, to work for the position, and I will do all in my power to place him there, with a like reciprocity on his part; or to allow him to "paddle his own canoe," and I will do the same—although the former course would, as always would, have suited me much the best. You have my consent to inform Mr. Slater of my views on this subject if you see a favorable opportunity and desire to do so.

Yours, very respectfully,  
E. S. MCOMAS.  
Upon receiving this proposition he asked "time to consider it." He considered and counseled his friends six days, and then returned me the answer that, "the fight had gone so far that he could not consistently withdraw from it, therefore, he was on the 'war path.'" Previous to this deliberate decision I had met Mr. Slater on the streets and in Col. Chapman's room, at the Mountain Exchange Hotel, in company with a number of gentlemen who were interested in the formation of a Railroad Construction Company, to assist in building a Railroad over the route that Mr. Slater, a very short time ago, boldly declared that nobody but "an insane person or a fool would ever think of building a railroad over," and he exhibited no signs of the workings in his blood, of the hydrophobia which so soon drove him mad. Again I met him at Mr. Daniel Chaplin's, in company with gentlemen who met there for the purpose of forming an incorporation to build an Academy, and he showed no signs of his malady; but, on the day after he had answered my peace propositions, by announcing that he was on the "war path," some of the gentlemen who desired to organize the Construction Co., desiring his presence before me as a Notary Public, to acknowledge his signature to the articles of incorporation, went out to hunt him up at the appointed hour, as that always has to be done when anything is required of him that pertains to the public interest. They found him in a saloon, treating the crowd to—a long and bitter harangue against me, declaring himself on the "war path," and admirably imitating a "blatting ruminant." He positively refused to come before me to acknowledge said articles of incorporation, thus certainly exhibiting more of the qualities of an insane person or a fool, than any person I have ever known as having to do with the Portland, Dalles and Salt Lake Railroad, and acting in many other respects so directly adverse to the honorable, open, high toned and gentlemanly demeanor which is supposed to characterize the conduct of an "average Congressman, that those gentlemen beat a hasty retreat, with a dark suspicion on their minds that one ex-M. C. was on a "huge blow out." They described his appearance as being fit to ride in the extreme, the gigantic form of the "battering ram" looked like a toad stool in a fog. His voice sounded like the braying of a superannuated ass in his maiden attempt at a war whoop; his eyes blazed like two rotten apples in a dark cellar, and they said he was actually "black in the face." On being informed of the condition of things, and fearing he might do something rash in his madness, I at once repaired to the saloon, but he was gone—"Deaths stillness reigned supreme." Fearing in his frenzy that he had given way to his feelings, and been too lavish in the distribution of his "smiles," I hurriedly interviewed the "bar-keeper," as to the amount of his "clean-up," he informed me, with tears in his eyes, that Mr. Slater had been constantly treating the house to gratuitous decauctions of any persons who would have the brazen audacity to wear side whiskers, but that the bar had not taken in so much as the "sweat from a bit, and then he fell into a reverie and, unconsciously, repeated the following:

"Are Congressmen all gabbling rogues,  
Intent alone on plunder,  
Wife for a dollar would scale the Mount  
Of O'Connell, and steal by thunder."  
Now, to the citizens of Union county, I desire to propound a conundrum or two:—What was the sudden cause of Mr. Slater's asserting that he was on the war path? Where does there exist, in Union county, any political ring, and of whom is it composed? Mr. Slater has charged me all over this county as being an organizer of "political rings." Now, I boldly assert that there is only one political ring in existence in the Democratic Party in Union county, to my knowledge, and the leader of that "Ring" is James H. Slater, and he has his subordinates, major generals and blowers and strikers in each precinct in this valley, and the only reason that he is now on the war path, is because each of the members of this little ring expect to obtain a county office, in case he is successful, and full well they know they never could succeed on their own merits, as they are mainly composed of disaffected bollers, and it is into the hands of this class of men that he proposes to place the county offices of this county in case he is successful, and he said in his speech at Summerville, that he was told by a friend, that if he did not make the fight as he is now making it, that his friends would throw off on him; and this particular friend boldly stated that he told Mr. Slater that he must go on with this fight, and plumb the line just as it was laid down for him, or he would canvass this county against him. Now, as an singular instance, I know of a man who has had the people gather around him, and push him along and bolster him up, until they had placed him in Congress, would allow himself to be so thoroughly and completely overshadowed, and made a puppet in the hands of this insignificant and unprincipled bag of wind, and allow himself to be come moulded like a piece of putty in the hands of a few designing men, who care nothing whatever for him or the Democratic Party, and whose only ambition is to endeavor to foist themselves on the people of this county, and secure some little, petty county office. What a contrast is brought to our minds, when we think of a man, who once claimed the high and honorable position of a member of the American Congress, who, from his lofty position, should lend his influence, his energy and ability in safely guiding the ship of State, and assist in piloting the Government of the United States from among the shoals and reefs that have so long threatened her destruction, descending to the depths of a county precinct politician; engaged in mud slinging and personal abuse so low down and contemptible, that no gentleman dare undertake to reply, without descending to vulgarity that would cause a bluish to mantle the cheek of the lowest and vilest denizen of "Barbery Coast." Oh! consistency, thou art a Jewel—a Congressman on the war path! a statesman dabbling in the politics of a precinct on the Pacific Coast, and as a pettifogging attorney, pleading the cause of bollers and party disorganizers! a great political apostle preaching to the people to send the "best men" to act as their delegates in conventions, and then, if they did not do the business to suit them, to "scratch the war path!" A Back Pay Grabber, preaching against corruption! A political leader advising his followers to "bolt the ticket," if everything was not entirely satisfactory: What are party Conventions for? I have heard of about seven candidates for Sheriff in the Democratic Party. There will be at least six of these defeated, and the chances are they will all be dissatisfied; it is a very easy thing to say the Convention was "packed." Mr. Slater said, in his speech at Summerville, "send your best men as delegates, then if they don't do the business to suit you, scratch the ticket, that's the kind of a Democrat for me." This kind of teaching says to six defeated candidates and all their friends, "go in and win if you can, if you can't, go to work and defeat the person who does." What dangerous political heresy is this, and where did he learn it? Was this his early education at "Oberlin," or was it taught him by the lady with whom he boarded at Washington?

But, let us refer to Mr. Slater and his "Ring." Who are they, and what do they want? The leader lives in Iowa Precinct, and wants Mr. Slater to say: "Well done thou good and faithful right bowler, I'll play you for my land office trumps, take a seat at my right hand, or give a country school until Mr. Slater's time is out; keep cool and your hogs out of other peoples' wheat stacks, and you shall have your reward." His Headquarter General, or staff officer has his headquarters at Summerville and his hind quarters in the saddle, he is not only willing to fight, bleed and die for the cause, like our fore-fathers of Banker Hill, but he is also anxious to be hailed as the honorable gentleman from Union, at our next session of the Legislature. Next, in the Cove the member expects not only to be a Warwick in politics, but also to fill the place so ably filled by Warnick as Sheriff; while the member from Union is willing to put up, for the present, with the judicial robes of Justice Brattain. This combination should be organized under the corporate name of the "Office Seekers Co-operative Union," an organization or "ring" formed and conducted on the plan of a "Mutual Admiration Society," and for the purpose of dishing out offices to its principal stockholders. The capital stock, or principal offices for distribution, are already engaged, yet I understand there are a few places of minor importance that might be secured by early applicants. Having heretofore had some experience as a stockholder in an incorporation of which Mr. Slater was the head manager, I deem it my duty to warn my friends of the fact that the stock is rapidly on the decline, and I have no doubt the whole concern could be purchased in a short time for the price of a plug hat. This gentleman, is the "Slater Ring," and is the only political ring that I know of existing in Union county. He is no leader of Rings! No, no, he and why? The reason is so plain that the smallest boys all over the county can see it. The "Ring" possess brains than he, consequently he has nothing more than a truck, open, plain, subservient tool, who performs the part assigned to him by its members, saying: "Oh, master, whatsoever be thy will even that will I do. If you counsel him to accept honorable terms of peace, he is willing to do so. If they advise him to take the war path, he at once makes a break for a saloon, and tries to induce some person, however unscrupulously nature has been very kind to him, and evidently cut him out for a great warrior, as it has given him a visage so black and grim that he needs no war paint to make him look sufficiently hideous for the occasion. Were I not well acquainted with him, I might feel some alarm, but I have seen him on the war path before, and he has been an attorney once, about one fourth his size, and he deemed it necessary to arm himself with a volume of the Code of Oregon; and I, in the goodness of my heart, canvassed around amongst his friends and paid his fine. He puts me very much in mind of the fine, swarthy conductor who, in passing through the car, notices that some person has been smoking tobacco juice on the car floor, he ripped out an oath and said: show me the man that had the audacity to spit tobacco juice on this car floor. A tall, slender, young man raised up and said: I am the man, sir! All right, says the conductor, you are a very cheap 'n' looking for—give me a 'chaw tobacco'.

What Mr. Slater expects in this attempt to ride over me, I am entirely unable to see. That some of his backers expect to secure office in case of his success, I am fully aware. They have, therefore, resorted to the same old cry that has always been raised heretofore, a "ring," a "clique," a "faction." It is the same old cry that stop thief, stop thief, yonder he goes, there is so often resorted to by pick pockets to screen themselves. It is a painful and humiliating duty that devolves upon me to defend myself—pained from the fact that there exists, probably, but very little difference between the views of Mr. Slater and myself on the political issues of the day. True, I claim to be a better and more consistent Democrat than he, and he made out of the black broth of a dozen like him, if boiled down into the concentrated quintessence of the pure and unadulterated article; having never bolted or scratched a Democratic ticket in my life, and having never thrown cold water on any Democratic ticket which I have seen in the field, and with all these essential Democratic qualifications, I possess, and of which he is entirely destitute, judging from his past record and late speeches, I was willing to extend to him the right hand of Democratic fellowship, believing as I always have, that—  
"While the lamp holds out to burn,  
The vilest sinner may return"  
Humiliating from the fact that our common opponents, the Republicans, who are suffering the dire calamities of a family quarrel between the M'Intoshes and the Carters, their party, are looking on and highly enjoying this fight. Again, in this respect, I claim to be far a better Democrat than my opponent—I never like to see our opponents enjoy any fun at our expense, I, therefore, proposed the fairest terms I could think of for peace. I offered to let Mr. Slater select his position, and I would do all I could to put him there, with a like reciprocity on his part with me, for any position that did not interfere with him. He claims that the proposition was all one sided—I certainly think so too; but I think it was all on his side. If the proposition was not a fair one, I was willing to appear before the Central Committee, and state our grievances, and leave the decision to the Committee as jurors, and able their decision. I stated to the members of the Committee my willingness to do this, but he could not accept this arbitration, and who? Because his friends, his "ring," told him that he must "plumb the line," walk the tow-path that they had marked out for him, and I would do all I could to lose the influence and support of his little faction. What a humiliating spectacle, to see a member of Congress with his finger caught by a "crab," and the crab running away with him. But why, if Mr. Slater had any grievances against me, or if his punishment, like Cain, was greater than he could bear, did he not come to me on the street, or in my office, where he could find me every day, and state them like a man. I would have been willing, and am yet, to make any apology that I deemed due, if he could have shown me where I had done him any wrong, with a like reciprocity on his part. Again, when he concluded to take the war path, and decided to make a canvass of this county, why did he not come to me like a man, and tell me he was after my scalp, and if I had any defense to make, to go with him and divide time; I would willingly have accompanied him, furnished one half the conveyance and one half the expense—furnished all the whisky, and slept with him, for the sake of economy—and I would do all I could to do. Mr. Slater is an old resident of this county and so am I. I am perfectly willing to allow myself cast into the scale with him, and have all our actions of the past, weighed in the scale of Justice, and submitted to the People as jurors.  
In 1872, when it became apparent that the time on the notes taken by the State on the sale of State lands, must be extended, so as to give the purchasers longer time to pay for their lands, what assistance did Mr. Slater render? Ask Sam Hannah and Dunham Wright, our only living representatives of that session—but Mr. Slater was not a member say you—neither was I, yet we were both in Salem at the time. I remember standing in front of the State Department one day, just after the Legislative body had adjourned.