The Oregon Sentinel.

JACKSONVILLE, THURSDAY, December 22, 1887.

STATE'S RIGHTS IN THE COURT.

President Cleveland's first batch of nominations to the senate, included three cabinet officers, four heads of bureaus, and a possible supreme court judge. There seems to be no reasons why seven of these nominees should not be confirmed. The other one, Lucius Q. C. Lamar of Mississippi, for associate justice of the supreme court, is liable to serious objection, and it is a very grave question whether he should be confirmed.

Mr. Lamar has been Mr. Cleveland's secretary of the interior, and has been able and active in that office. He is sixty-three years old, a more advanced age than that of any judge of the supreme court heretofore appointed. But his age is not so much against him as his antecedents. When objection is made to Lamar because of his secession, nullification and state's rights record, it is presented as a most serious matter. It is not at all in the view that an ex-rebel should be always disqualified for high office, although that, indeed, might have have been a good rule for universal application. But it is that Mr. Lamar is not known to entertain opinions in harmony with the principles that have been embodied in the Constitution since the war or with the decisions that the court has given in interpreting them. Mr. Lamar as a judge might be the one person to reverse the decisions that have sustained the purpose and intent of the new amendments, and in passing upon new questions involving these fundamental principles he might interpret those differently from the holdings of the court heretofore.

There is something to be said for Mr. Lamar, as he is represented to express himself. It is that while he retracts no opinion or act of his preceding the war time, he concedes that the principle of nationality is firmly established, and that state's rights, nullification and secession have no present applicability. Besides, Mr. Cleveland will name some democrat to the supreme bench, and is he likely to be any better than Lamar?

Mr. Lamar has been a senator and a cabinet officer. Ordinarily his nomination to an office would be confirmed without reference. But this selection to the highest judicial tribunal in the land, is too grave a matter to be treated on courtesy. It will go to the judiciary committee, and if the Republican senate be not thoroughly convinced that Mr. Lamar is a safe and proper person for the supreme court bench, his confirmation will be resisted. It is altogether probable that were the supreme court to be made democratic, the political quality would be reflected in that tribunal's action.

A VOICE FROM CANADA.

Canada pleads the baby act on the fisheries question, but the consummation of its desire for closer trade relations without corresponding mutual benefits, is extremely doubtful. The eastern papers are printing a very striking letter from Hon. J. W. Longley, attorney-general of Nova Scotia, treating upon this subject. Mr. Longley thinks that party prejudices upon both sides obscure this question. Canada, he says, enforces the treaty of 1818, not because of any vast interests involved, but simply because its interpretation warrants the action which has been taken, and because the American policy of the last twenty years has been ungenerous in regard to trade relations toward Canada. Mr. Longley should remember that if the United States have been ungenerous in not opening her ports to the free trade of the Canada fishermen, contrary to law and to a proper regard for the interest of her own fishermen, Canada has been inhuman in her enforcement of the treaty clauses, not so much against violations of the treaty as against the urgent necessities of American fisherman, from which naturally the Canadians in the very exercise of humanity, would reap no inconsiderable benefit. Mr. Longley proceeds to argue that the great American nation, with its boundless resources and enormous wealth, should put aside its pride and prejudices, and with its 60,000,000 of population, and great cities, pursue a generous policy toward the young nation of 5,000,000 lying side by side and speaking the same language. He forgets that the destinies of Canada lie in her own hands. Preferring dependence upon Great Britain in her relations to other powers, to independence, or to union with the United States, the mere fact of contiguity presents no adequate claim upon the latter to treat Canada in all essential respects as one of its own constituent elements. That it is a young colony of the British empire, or that it speaks the same language, constitute no irrefragable claim to other treatment than is accorded older and more remote foreign states.

Harry Smith, the very capable journal clerk of the house of representatives, was discharged recently. He has occupied the office for about twenty years, and was deemed well-nigh indispensable at the desk. Although a Republican, he has, as a necessity and convenience, been kept along under clerks of all parties. His knowledge of parliamentary law and of congressional precedents surpasses that of any other man. Mr. Smith is from Michigan.

When Joseph Chamberlain was the guest of the American commissioners at the recent banquet in Washington the table was glorious with the magnificent display of orchids. Every state in the Union was drawn upon for the flowers, and 2000 words of telegraph were used in ordering them. This is what is now known as "Jeffersonian simplicity."

GROWLS.

Two thousand miles of distance intervening between two points makes 2000 miles of difference in sentiment sometimes The little democratic papers on the Pacific coast are emulating each other in a rather inferior laudation of the president's late message. They are doing the right as it is given them to see the right. They undoubtedly utter their true sentiments; for if you wish to know their political sentiments at present on any question, ask Cleveland. His opinions are their principles every time. They are in that peculiar condition of enlightment on the principles of political economy that the only result which appears to them worthy of achievement is the success of the democratic party. Were the message the production of one of their campaign stump-speakers they would be disappointed; but emanating as it does from their president, it is to them the law and the gospel. With their necks long bent to the yoke of party servility, they dare not think, dare not interpret. And, again, since "the tariff is a local question," and since the people in their immediate section are mainly producers of raw material and consumers of manufactured articles, if they did think their views would not extend beyond their immediate environments, would not comprehend the interests of the whole country, would not be so broad as to be national in their character, but would be in full accord with the free trade theories of the president. There are and would be no kickers among them. But not so with their political brethren two thousand or more miles away. Northern money, skill and enterprise have, since the war, sought and found abundant fields for operation in the hitherto purely agricultural South. Manufactories have sprung up; business has been stimulated; trade has been organized; manufactured goods and wares bearing a southern brand have been put upon the markets of the world, and the interests of the people have been in certain sections radically changed. Those people have become possesssd of the secret of our modern national success, of the success of our nation under successive Republican rule, of that success which has impressed European nations as utterly unknown to history, as being marvelous in the extreme. In many of these localities interest has induced the people to express a most emphatic dissent in respect to the free trade tenets of the message. They not only dissent but they also growl and indulge in disastrous forebodings concerning the future successes of their party. And they are democrats. The wool-growers of all parties growl and protest and resolve. The president has strewn thorns in the pathway of his party.

The right of a state to cover itself with the disgrace of repudiation is affirmed by the decision of the supreme court in the cases of the state officers of Virginia who were arrested for refusing to receive the coupons of state bonds for taxes. The state in 1871 contracted to receive the coupons. This pledge has in late years been repudiated by laws, the effect of which has been to absolutely prohibit the tendering of the bonds for payment of taxes. The supreme court of the United States ruled that the state law was a violation of contract, and under this ruling the arrests were ordered. The decision of the court ordering the officials' release held that suits against the state officials were reall suits against the state, and therefore a violation of the eleventh amendment. The vindication of the right to perjure herself, is an unenviable victory for the state of Virginia, but that is about what it amounts to.

The editor of the Medford Transcript is "almost anything you please, sir, for a quarter" He essayed to be a repudiationist; now he says, "Pay the debt." He charged the "ring in power" with being corrupt; then a ring composed of men of both parties were the corruptionists and were constantly increasing the debt, and though somebody knows where the leak is the people are powerless to stop it; now he exonerates the present board and impugns by indirection the integrity of all preceding boards during the last twenty years. He foolishly fights the Medford school and then immediately lands it under the same management. Truly, what he knows of the county's finances or any other matter of moment could all be put in his eye. Where he is and whathe is on any question, he does not know and no one else is any wiser on that point than he has shown himself to be.

The national government has had for some time a private detective in San Francisco, looking into the operation of the Chinese immigration laws at that place. He is about to present a written report that will contain startling evidence of fraud on the part of government officials in that city. The operation of the restriction act has for a long time been defeated by the exercise of the habeus corpus privelege. When a Chinaman has been refused permission to land some one would swear out a writ of habeus corpus, and get the interdicted immigrant ashore, where he invariably remained. The courts are supposed to be corrupt, and an investigation will no doubt be made. The judges, however, are defiant.

Henry Clay was for six terms (twelve years) speaker of the house of representatives. No other man has ever sat in the speaker's chair more than eight years. Kentucky has filled that office twenty-one years, with Carlisle for two years more. Virginia has held it fourteen years, Pennsylvania eleven, Massachusetts ten, Indiana eight, Maine, North Carolina and New Jersey each six years, Ohio four, and Georgia two years. New York has held the speakership but three years.

The department reports and estimates call for an increase of about $25,000,000 above the allowances of last year. That is the usual course of democratic economy.

Vermont is the first state to call a convention to name delegates to the next Republican national convention. It will meet the first Wednesday in April.

THE ROAD COMPLETED.

[Portland News.]

ASHLAND, Dec. 17.—The ceremonies connected with the driving of the last spike connecting the Oregon & California Railroad with the California & Oregon were conducted here this afternoon. The Oregon delegation arrived at 10:30 this morning. Among them were the following prominent—citizens:

The members of the Portland reception committee—Mayor Gates, Donald McCleay, C H Dodd, F K Arnold, Geo. H Durham, Henry Failing, J D Wilcox, C F Paxton, M C George and C M Forbes.

Other Portland guests are as follows—J W Whalley, R P Earhart, John McCraken, C A Dolph, J Lowenberg, C N Scott, C J McDougall, F R Mellis, J C Carson, R M Dement, N J Levinson, W W Brotherton,

The guests from Salem were Governor Pennoyer, State Treasurer G W Webb, Supreme Judges W P Lord and R S Strahan, Mayor Wm Ramsey and J H Albert.

Mayors of various places in the valley were—E C Wheeler, East Portland. E. L Eastham, Oregon City; J K Weatherford, Albany; F B Dunn, Eugene; H C Stanton, Roseburg; F W VanDyke, Grant's Pass; D R Mills, Ashland; Dr F A Bailey, Hillsboro; Roswell Shelley, Independence; Jacob Wortman, McMinnville; J O Wilson, Corvallis.

There were also present: Prof. B J Hawthorne, Eugene; Judge P P Prim and Chas Nickell, Jacksonville; J D Whitman, Medford; Hon W D Fenton, McMinnville, and Chas H Kittinger, of Seattle.

A SLIGHT DELAY.

The train bearing the California delegation was unavoidably delayed in the Siskivous, and therefore did not arrive till 4:30, an hour and a half after the advertised time.

In the meanwhile the throng of Oregonians waited patiently through a chilling wind, then darkness began to settle on all around. The arrival of the Californians was welcomed by vociferous cheering.

Owing to the fact that the day was almost spent, it was at first undecided what was best to do, but finally the committees determined to proceed with the exercises. The excursionists then gathered around the speaker's stand.

THE SUPREME MOMENT.

At this moment Colonel Charles F. Crocker, Vice-President of the Southern Pacific Railroad, stepped forward with the golden spike in his hand, and struck the three blows which announced that the two great States of the Pacific Coast were finally united.

Mr. Wm. Mills representing the California State Board of Trade, stepped to the front and introduced Hon. Horace Davis as President of the day. Mr. Davis made a brief speech.

Frank M. Pixley, of the San Francisco Argonaut, was then introduced. His remarks were eloquent and appropriate.

THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

Governor Pennoyer was then introduced, and delivered the following address.

Gentlemen of the various municipalities of California, and fellow citizens: It is proper at the completion of a great work of this character, which completion has just now been signalized by driving the last spike, which connects the Oregon & California with the California and Oregon railroad, and which now for the first time in the history of these two states brings them into close overland commercial intercourse, that the representatives of such states should meet as we are now met to exchange congratulations over the event and extend to each other the right hand of fellowship and friendly greeting. Representatives of California, we here now upon our own soil bid you a right hearty welcome to Oregon, coming as you do to celebrate the completion of the railroad which will hereafter bind the two states in bonds of more intimate business relations. These states have heretofore been separated by a formidable mountain barrier. The early pioneers of Oregon and California, who were here a quarter of a century and more ago, who came to this country by the tedious route by the sea or the still more tedious route across the plains, and who for long years have lived in comparative isolation, rejoice at all such improvements. They most heartily welcome any and all advances in the means by which their produce can reach the market. These avenues should be for the mutual benefit of all. Let us all then join in congratulations upon this auspicious occasion, which is destined to mark a new era in the history of the two conjoined states. Let us hope that this enterprise, just now completed, may be advantageous, not only to the proprietors but also to the patrons of the road. Let us hope that the two sister states of the Pacific, now that the mountain wall of partition between them has been practically removed, may as one people move irresistibly forward in all the laudable pursuits of higher civilization, that they may have no other contention but that which prompts each to outdo the other in all those efforts which tend to expand the wealth and dignify the condition of all classes of its citizens and diffuse among all the inestimable blessing of a just and free government.

Governor Pennoyer's speech was enthusiastically received, after which Hon. M. C. George was introduced. He remarked on the great importance of this event to the people of both states, and closed by a friendly comparison of the past contests for commercial supremacy.

Donald Macleay, President of the Portland Board of Trade, then followed with pointed remarks on commercial advantages to result from the completion of the road.

John P. Irish, of the San Francisco Alta, made a short speech, and shortly after the exercises closed.

The celebration was thoroughly enjoyedby all, not withstanding the situation and weather were so unfavorable, It was an event long to be remembered by everyone connected with it.

The two trains leave for Portland at 6 A. M. to-morrow.

TWO TRAINS LEAVE ASHLAND.

EUGENE City, Dec. 19.—Two excursion trains left Ashland at 7 o'clock this morning. The first train contained eleven cars, the largest passenger train that ever passed over the road. In it were Colonel Charles F. Crocker and the California delegation. The second train carried the Portland delegation and followed but a short distance behind the first.

Medford was reached before many Medford passengers were out of their berths, and cheers by the crowd and music by the band at the station reminded them of other duties than sleep. On the platform were tables spread with apples, enormous potatoes and cabages. The visitors were invited to help themselves, and nearly every one took as a morning appetizer a few big Oregon apples. The platforms of the train were filled with huge squashes and pumpkins, and boxes of apples were put aboard the cars.

Grant's Pass was reached at 9:15.

AT GRANT'S PASS

A large crowd assembled and displayed the products of the section, including fine specimens of sugar pine lumber.

While crossing the mountains from Rogue river valley, the sun came out bright, and dispelled the fog which hung over the landscape. It was a beautiful day, cool and bracing, with fleecy clouds hanging over the mountain tops.

The visitors were much surprised at the magnificent scenery, rich valleys, prosperous farms, and homes which they passed.

Nothing has been more fortunate for Oregon than the almost perfect day which greeted the guests.

AT GLENDALE.

The train stopped at Glendale, and the Portland delegation boarded the California train and mingled with the guests, forming acquaintances and extending information.

THE RECEPTION AT ROSEBURG.

The run to Roseburg was made without incident, the train reaching that place at 2:15 p. m. Lafayette Lane made an address of welcome, which was responded to by Col. Crocker, who exhibited the golden spike which had united San Francisco and Los Angeles and was now used to connect Portland and San Francisco. When he had finished loud calls were made for John P. Irish, who, minus his coat and cravat, with cap on the back of his head looked a typical Bohemian. His witty speech kept the crowd in roars of laughter. Frank Pixley was next called for and made a brilliant and touching speech.

On leaving Roseburg the delegation returned to their train, taking with them many guests to enjoy their hospitalities on board of train No. 2, in the car Triumph, and after luncheon toasts were proposed and the health of different guests drank, who responded with many happy speeches.

The whole afternoon, until dinner time, was consumed in exchanges of healths and toasts.

Particular credit is due Superintendent Boot, of the Pullman car service, for the generous and excellent manner in which so many guests were provided for.

Secretary Davis, of the California delegation, in boarding the train at Roseburg while in motion, missed his footing and fell to the ground. The train stopped, but Davis jumped to his feet uninjured and took the second train.

THE TRAIN AT SALEM.

SALEM, Or., Dec., 18.—10:35 p. m.—The excursion train has just arrived in Salem. There will be no demonstration here to-night. The programme will be carried out to-morrow morning. On the completion of the programme the train will leave immediately for Portland. It is expected to arrive in Portland about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, although the time is not definitely settled as yet and depending on the length of the programme at Salem. The day is pronounced by all to be a red letter one in the history of the state. The railroad company has spared no expense to make the trip memorable, and Nature has smiled and put on her best robes. The ride from Ashland excited warm comments from the visitors, who are delighted with the journey.

A stop was made at Albany for fifteen minutes, where speeches were made by Colonel C. F. Crocker, Frank Pixley and John P. Irish. All the towns along the road where the trains stopped met the excursion with brass bands, bonfires and large crowds. There was great enthusiasm all along the line.