

# The East Oregonian.

SATURDAY..... FEB. 28, 1880.

J. H. TURNER. B. B. BISHOP.  
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**TURNER & BISHOP.**  
TERMS IN ADVANCE

One Year ..... \$3.

**Democratic State Convention.**

A Democratic State Convention is hereby called to meet at Albany, on Wednesday, April 7, at 1 o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Congress, three candidates for Supreme Judges, Judges for each of the several judicial districts and Prosecuting Attorneys, and the election of six delegates to attend the National Democratic State Convention, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Convention. The Convention will consist of 150 delegates, apportioned among the different counties as follows:

Baker	8	Linn	15
Benton	7	Mason	13
Cassiar	5	Josephine	9
Columbia	2	Polk	8
Columbia	2	Umatilla	1
Clatsop	1	Wasco	9
Curry	1	Washington	6
Douglas	11	Wallowa	5
Graham	1	Yakima	1
Jefferson	2	Total	169
Lake	2		
Lane	10		

It is recommended that no person cast more than two votes, either by proxy or otherwise, and said Convention, a full representation is most earnestly requested. The Committee suggests that the primaries, unless otherwise ordered by the proper local committees, be held on Saturday, March 20th, and the County Conventions on Saturday, March 27th.

By order of the Democratic State Central Committee. JOHN F. MILLER, Chairman.

A. NOLTEK, Secretary.

The Democratic County Convention for Umatilla County, Oregon, will be held in the Court House in Pendleton, on Saturday March 27th, for the purpose of electing ten delegates to the State Convention, to be held at Albany, on Wednesday, April 7th, and to nominate candidates for county officers. Primary meetings will be held at the usual places of voting on Saturday, March 20th, at 1 o'clock p. m.

Delegates are entitled to representation as follows:

Centerville	5	Lens	2
Weston	7	Hedges	6
Milton	6	Lower Willow creek	2
Greasewood	3	Meadows	2
Pendleton	8	Umatilla	2
Alta	4	Cottonwood	2
Upper Butter creek	2	Midway	3
Lower Willow creek	3		

By order of the Democratic Central Committee. JNO. C. ARNOLD, Chairman.

Fence or No-Fence.

We have put off having anything to say about the fence law thinking that the better plan would be to print such communications as were sent us, but believing as we do that further silence on our part might be mistaken as a wish to shirk a responsibility. First, we have concluded to state our objections, under the territorial laws that were enacted for Oregon a great many local laws were passed, not only for the benefit of individuals, but for the benefit of certain localities of the territory, in fact favoritism and monopoly was the chief stock in trade of the average politician, and these local laws became a stench in the nostrils of the intelligent and fair minded legislator, and when the territory was about to be admitted as a state, a clause was placed in the constitution prohibiting all laws of a local nature, and making it imperative on the legislature to pass no laws but of a general character. So any one can see that if a law were passed exempting Umatilla county or rather citizens of Umatilla county from fencing their farms, the courts would immediately on the first case brought before them declare the law unconstitutional.

The only way that a no-fence law can obtain in this county, or in any county in the State, is to pass a general no-fence law that will include all the counties of the State. Now such being the facts of the case, what is the use of trying to bring it into politics. The Republicans are turning themselves loose on all the different divides, hoping thereby in some manner to divide the ranks of the Democratic party. We hope that who counsels will prevail among the farmers and stock growers, and that you will send up to the county convention "good men and true," who will select for the legislature men who will not sell their birthright for a mess of pottage, and who have had the good sense not to pledge themselves before hand to divide the county or go for a no-fence law in preference to standing by the laws and constitution and good old Democratic party.

Gen. Wheaton has recommended an appropriation of \$30,000 for the permanent repairing of the Mullan wagon road to connect Washington and Montana, and Gen. Sherman has endorsed the recommendation. It is sincerely to be hoped that the appropriation will be made and the work accomplished. The soldiers under Wheaton have during the past year, done much towards improving the road for temporary use, but to make it a permanent and practicable road at all seasons requires several changes in the grade to place it above high waters.

We have always heard that Oregon and Washington were far ahead of any of the western states in the production of grain, per acre; but a recent report made by the secretary of the state board of agriculture of Illinois, makes a showing of which no state need be ashamed: The footings show a large yield per acre—38 bushels; crop in bushels, \$97,463,052. The crop in 1878 was 250,560,810 bushels, valued at \$56,085,848, the largest average was 37 bushels, in Scott county.

The Weston Leader will please remember that the bridge across the Umatilla river, above Pendleton, was built at the request of Weston and vicinity, and not especially for the benefit of Pendleton. Do you wish us to publish the list of names to the petition?

Snow is reported four feet deep at Pierce City and quite solid. It is about three feet deep on Craig's mountain and solid.

## Opinions of Practical Men in Reference to Common Schools.

### What is thought of their Management.

INTERVIEWS WITH A NUMBER OF TAX-PAYERS, GIVING THEIR VIEWS UPON THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION, THE HIGH SCHOOL AND OTHER PERTINENT MATTERS.

The criticisms of the Oregonian upon the management of the public schools of this city have caused during the past few days much comment in all circles of society. In order to get an expression of public sentiment on the subject, Oregonian reporters interviewed a number of prominent citizens whose opinions are given below. The interviews were taken at random, and without a foreknowledge of the views to be given.

W. H. Watkins—I am in favor of a State tax for free school purposes and squarely opposed to the present system. An old and true saying is that Vandals could destroy more in a year than the whole civilized nation of the earth could build in centuries. "Behold how great a fire a little spark kindleth;" ten months ago the citizens of this county were not aware that the little ring in the town of Pendleton had built up a tyranny which was no longer endurable, it was left to comparative strangers to start the ball rolling, and if we are to believe the editorials of the Leader, the greatest fury exists not only at Weston but all over the county for a division of the county, all brought about by men who have not resided in the county for two years, and men who after assuming the championship of the Democratic party, have let go all holds and in the last issue of their paper openly declare war to "the hilt" on any thing that smacks of Democracy or Republicanism provided these parties cannot be made subservient to the scheme started at Weston for a division of the county. Now we are willing to acknowledge that there are hardships that individuals have to bear when their business calls them from long distances to the country seat. It is also a hardship to be called as a juror in ones own precinct, in fact it is required of everyone to give up a little of their natural rights for the benefit of the whole community, but so far as "Weston and her friends" are concerned we can't let the life of us think but what they are in the wrong when they think it is farther from Weston to Pendleton than from Pendleton to Weston. Weston is a nice little town and has been a place of considerable business importance but as its citizens know it has arrived to the pinnacle of its fame and as the Leader and its backers begin to see the mantle of their greatness falling upon an embryo city, scarcely a year old, their actions re-enforce the actions of the other party who are bringing forward the division in order to secure the prestige which has so long hovered over the town. Of course the settlers are not in it but a few merchants who have made themselves rich off the yonder of the county, can't bear to see their interests interfered with by go ahead men who have made up their minds that Weston is not the hub of the universe and they are bringing forward the division in order to secure the prestige which has so long hovered over the town.

C. D. Folger—I have read the Oregonian's views on the school question very attentively and endorse them in every particular. I don't believe in higher education at public expense. Give children a thorough training in elementary branches, and if they have the ambition and energy for further study, they will find the means to accomplish their desires, and in the end be better fitted for the duties of life than under the present system.

Gov. W. W. Thayer—I am in favor of a good, practical education for all children who desire it, without the "extra" accomplishments. I don't think the public should give children specific educations. I would like to see every child have a good basis for an education with a view of preparing it for industrial and business pursuits, rather than for professional life.

Reporter—What do you think of the high school as part of the common school system?

Gov. Thayer—I haven't given the subject very close attention, but I don't believe in it as a part of the system. Advanced education and preparation for professions should be at private, not public expense. If any facilities are granted at public expense, beyond elementary education, it should be for learning some trade.

W. S. Ladd—I don't think an academic or university course should be a part of the common school system. More of reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, history and geography should be taught—something for the advantage of the business of every day life—those things which are of practical benefit. Give children a good elementary start, and if a scholar needs more than that, he or she will be sure to find means to obtain it.

James Steel—I don't believe in making the public schools a place to get a classical education, but I would have them give every one who wants it, a thorough, plain English education, and stop at that. I believe that the rich should pay for the education of the poor. I believe that every educated child is a guardian of the property of the rich. I don't think that dead or foreign languages should be taught.

Dr. J. A. Chapman—I am of the opinion that a thorough knowledge of the elementary branches of the English language is all that could be asked for children from the public schools. When that is given, any scholar with the requisite ambition and energy will find means to acquire such additional education as he may desire.

C. A. Dolph—While I am a friend of free schools and universal education, I am opposed to teaching Latin, French, German and other extras at public expense.

A young man or woman with a thorough knowledge of the elementary English branches is better fitted for the ordinary avocations of life than one who has a smattering of everything.

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Compliment to the Weather Bureau.

Washington dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.

The German government recently paid the highest compliment to the United States by addressing, through the German minister at Washington, a letter requesting to be informed exactly as to the process by which the signal service bureau so promptly collects at the War department the meteorological reports from all parts of the United States—an extent of territory greater than Europe—and so rapidly drafts and publishes them upon the daily weather map. These maps are issued three hours after the records are read at the distant stations. When it is remembered that the request comes from a government noted for its skilled chartographists, and standing first in Europe, the value of the compliment will be appreciated. It is understood that the German government proposes an advance in meteorological work. The information sought has been minutely prepared by the chief signal officer, General Myer, with the approval of the Secretary of War.

Umatilla county ought to be divided because: 1st, we are the sole agents for the famous Nabol whiskey for family use. 2nd, because there is no other place in Weston where this famous article can be had for strictly family use. 3rd, children cry for it, and we are the only one's that keep it.—Weston Leader.

Sir Garnet Wolseley has discovered that the ten English missionaries in Zululand for the last twelve years have grown fat and rich but have not converted one single native.

We view with admiration the latest and the master head piece of the Weston Leader. An old and true saying is that Vandals could destroy more in a year than the whole civilized nation of the earth could build in centuries. "Behold how great a fire a little spark kindleth;" ten months ago

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