

The New Northwest.

FREE SPEECH, FREE PRESS, FREE PEOPLE.

VOLUME X.—NO. 15.

PORTLAND, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1880.

PER YEAR—\$3.00.

EASTERN OREGON.

MRS. DUNIWAY AT LA GRANDE AND PENDLETON—HER USUAL BUDGET OF NEWS—A CONTEMPTIBLE "EDITOR."

PENDLETON, OR., December 11, 1880.

DEAR READERS OF THE NEW NORTHWEST:

The heavy snow-storm, which held us in thrall in La Grande at the last writing, continued with unabated rigor until Tuesday, the 6th inst., when the weather suddenly moderated, with every indication of a speedy breaking-up of the Winter King's reign. The citizens of La Grande and vicinity turned out *en masse* to the lectures in spite of the storm, and on Sabbath evening the Methodist church was again crowded, the closing discourse, "The Centennial Year," being the theme of the hour. Rev. Mr. Eades, the pastor in charge, very kindly gave us the use of his pulpit, and a choir of ladies and gentlemen furnished excellent music for each occasion.

Hon. M. Baker, a leading Eastern Oregon lawyer, resides here, and has done much in times past to make Woman Suffrage popular. His interesting family are also leaders in the cause, and we shall lose our guess if Miss Jessie Baker doesn't make a platform-star. Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Chaplain, Mrs. Crandall, Mrs. Anson, Mrs. Akley, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Eades and other ladies assisted us much in our work by their kindly influence; and a large number of young ladies and gentlemen who attend the University evinced their interest in the cause by their nightly attendance and hearty cooperation.

The deep snow retarded our work socially to a great extent, but we ventured forth a little in the business part of the town during the daytime, and found Mrs. Anson's well-filled and well-patronized dry goods store, Mrs. Akley's variety store, the large mercantile house of Snodgrass & Miner, the furniture store of Mr. J. W. Gray, the Land Office, in which Mr. Dwight is Registrar and Mr. Chaplain Receiver, and the office of the Eastern Oregon Republican, where we were politely received by the editor and publisher, a little Englishman, who thinks women ought not to vote because they do not fight; and yet, if the conscription act were to go into effect to-morrow, he wouldn't be in any danger of the draft, for he isn't tall enough for military duty—but he votes. This little editor, who has all his life prior to this been a subject of Queen Victoria, and who thinks the English government the grandest under the sun, is also afraid that Woman Suffrage will take American women out of their sphere. He took occasion, during our visit, to print a column of what he doubtless thought was argument, to prove that all laws that recognize the inalienable rights of married women to liberty and property are "unconstitutional." His attempt at argument is too shallow for refutation, but it goes to prove how hard the doctrine of masculine supremacy is dying in some quarters, and how far-fetched are some of its excuses for a little longer lease of unlimited power over the mothers of men.

One evening, during the progress of the lectures, everybody who wanted women to have equality with men before the law, was asked to rise. Everybody got up and was astonished to see everybody else do likewise. There was no negative vote, and the affirmative was declared unanimous.

Monday evening came, and we were ready to pursue our homeward way, but the stage, which came by from Union on runners, was full to overflowing, and we were compelled to wait till morning. But we got paid for waiting, for we engaged the escort of Mr. J. H. Shoemaker, a gentleman well known in Portland, and on Tuesday came over the Blue Mountains with him in a cutter. The roads were excellent. The four-horse stage goes over the route each way daily, and freight teams are constantly passing, keeping the snow packed and in splendid condition for sleighing. In many places the snow was three or four feet deep, but in others not deeper than at La Grande, where we judged the average fall to have been fifteen inches. Took dinner at the old Meacham station, not far from the camps of the railway surveying party. It will not be many months before staging in the Blue Mountains will have become a thing of the past.

At nightfall we reached the last mountain station, but not before the snow grew wet under the cutter's shoes, apprising us that the "chinook" was in the air and upon the land, and the sleighing on our route at an end. The "chinook" is a warm south wind that melts the snows like the blasts of a simoon. Its breezes are as pleasant as the breath of May to the traveler, and no snow can live in them. They had played all day upon the southern and western slopes of the mountains, laying bare the muddy earth, and of course our sleigh could go no farther. Mrs. Luney, the bright and obliging little woman who keeps the station, consented to keep us over night. The

little house was full to repletion, but in the country there is always room for more. Mr. Shoemaker found refuge in the barn, and the undersigned shared the landlady's couch, behind a friendly curtain. About two o'clock in the morning the stage came over from La Grande, and the good woman arose from her bed and made pallets all over the floor for the chilled and sleepy travelers, who dumped themselves down with their boots on and snored lustily till morning.

After breakfast, Mr. S. returned to Grand Ronde, and we took a seat beside a gentlemanly Dutchman in the great Concord coach, which was lashed full of mail bags, inside and out, with more valises, baskets and trunks in addition to bump our heads against than we cared to take note of. The "chinook" had made the descent of the mountain muddy, slippery and dangerous; but the careful driver rough-locked the hinder wheels, and we reached the valley with only a half-dozen hair-breadth escapes from the danger of overturning.

A dozen miles farther on, in a sink in the uplands, is the thriving town of Pendleton, which, like all other frontier places we have visited, is growing rapidly. We were soon at home in the new and excellent hotel known as the Villard House—Livermore & Ellis, proprietors. Here, greatly to our delight, we met Mrs. M. J. Hall, a well-known dressmaker of Portland, and were suddenly reminded that we were sadly in need of repairs. A dress was purchased from the store of the Blum Brothers, also formerly of Portland, and several hours were spent in matching trimmings, buttons and the like. What a great blessing it would be for busy women if they could go to a

clothing store and get an outfit ready-made, and have the agony off of their minds. A good bath and sound sleep prepared us for the forthcoming lectures, two of which have been given at this writing, and have been well attended, in spite of the shocking condition of the streets. The "chinook" has melted the snow, and the mud and slush remind us of a January thaw in Illinois. There is considerable sickness here, owing mainly to the want of proper drainage. We find old friends upon every hand, and not a few new ones. The Tribune, a live weekly Republican paper, is friendly to our mission, but the East Oregonian, J. H. Turner's paper, is on the rampage after us, as usual, with the classic vernacular of the Barbary Coast. The good citizens are ashamed of the thing that thinks itself an editor, and which, with the sublime impudence of the puppy that barked at the moon, sent us a copy of its paper containing its scurrility—with its compliments. It is easy enough to furnish unanswerable arguments in favor of right and justice, but it is impossible to furnish those voters who lack understanding with sufficient brains to comprehend them. If Mr. Turner wants any more apologies printed in the NEW NORTHWEST, we'd advise him to discontinue that poor apology for an editor or take his own name from the columns of his paper.

We are so worried because of the ice blockade that prevents our return to Portland that we scarcely know which way to turn. But the present mild weather will surely burst the ice in the Cascades of the Columbia and clear the way for steamers before Christmas. A. S. D.

P. S.—Sunday, A. M.—Another fine audience last night; subject, "The New Dispensation." Put the question of Woman Suffrage to a vote with a satisfactory result. Put the negative, and a man whose excellent wife is a housekeeper at a popular hotel, and who of course believes that women are supported by men, arose promptly. Called for others, and a boy got up. Asked the sovereign citizen if he could tell us why women oughtn't to vote. There was no answer, and the merry applause that followed was as universal as enthusiastic. To-night, by unanimous vote, we are to speak again; subject, "Lessons of the Century." To-morrow, at two o'clock, a Umatilla County Woman Suffrage Association is to be organized. The weather continues warm and sultry, too warm for health or comfort. But the "chinook" has dethroned the ice king, and we have little fear this morning that we can be at home for the holidays. A. S. D.

"The University College Council, Toronto, Canada, has declined to admit a young lady who has passed with credit at least two examinations in the University, on the assumption that it would lead to a subversion of the moral order and discipline of the institution."—Ex. The young men attending that University must be an exceedingly vile crowd, if one girl's presence would be so disastrous.

From the Pendleton Tribune of December 17th: "Notwithstanding the scurrilous article towards Mrs. Duniway, published in the last issue of the East Oregonian, the editor of that paper joined the Woman Suffrage Association organized at the Court House on Monday evening. 'Consistency, thou art a jewel.'"

A CHANCE FOR WOMEN.

[From the Oregonian.]

Some days since, three young women entered the office of the Brooklyn Eagle to work as compositors, whereupon thirty men "struck," and refused to work another hour unless the women were sent away. One of the strikers, speaking for the rest, said they quit because it was degrading to work with women at the printing trade, a remark which he afterwards modified by saying they meant it was degrading for women to work with men. Of course this explanation was an after-thought, as the real cause of the strike was a selfish desire to keep women out of an important department of industry, and maintain a monopoly of it based on sex or class distinctions. But either way it was a direct slur on all women, emphasized by the refusal of the men to work with them. Woman is not an inferior being, to be put off with lowest employments. She is not on a level with the Chinaman, and her competition therefore does not degrade the noble white man. The men who refused to work with women in the Brooklyn printing office simply affected the "Big Injun" style. This is one of the cases which are constantly occurring to weaken and destroy that beautiful theory that men represent women and take care of their interests. It is one of the instances that go far to prove that while men in their after-dinner remarks and set speeches, in song and story, may wax eloquent, and in glowing phrases exalt women as superior beings and endow them with angelic qualities in the highest degree, yet when they come down to real practical every-day business do not allow women who in any way come into competition with them any kind of fair play. All such say in effect that women should not be allowed to choose their own way of making a living, nor allowed a chance to make it. The assumption is based on the mean instinct surviving from the times of barbarism that woman should be kept as a drudge in a limited range of employments at small pay, and that if she wants to do anything else she is "getting out of her sphere." The Brooklyn incident is but one among a multitude of similar ones of daily occurrence in which this chivalrous and knightly protest against giving woman a chance to help herself is made. On morning papers, where endurance and highest physical efficiency are required, it is but rare that a woman can be found able to endure the continued strain of a compositor's work; but on afternoon and weekly papers women can very well fill all requirements in this line. In all parts of the country large numbers of them are engaging in it. One of the great needs of social reform is enlargement of the field of independent employment for women. If young women were shown how they could support themselves decently and in independence, fewer of them would be driven to marry worthless young men. Half the marriages entered into by young women who take this step because they can't do anything else, are imprudent and foolish in themselves and evil in their results. Were young women taught to support themselves and shown ways to do it, there would be fewer precipitate and inconsiderate marriages, a proper restraint upon which would be the greatest of all possible social reforms.

B. Gratz Brown, of Missouri, in the three days' discussion in the United States Senate in 1866 on Senator Cowan's motion to strike "male" from the District of Columbia suffrage bill, said: "Mr. President, I say here on the floor of the American Senate, I stand for universal suffrage, and, as a matter of fundamental principle, do not recognize the right of society to limit it on any ground of race or sex. I will go further, and say that I recognize the right of franchise as being intrinsically a natural right. I do not believe that society is authorized to impose any limitations upon it that do not spring out of the necessities of the social state itself. Sir, I have been shocked, in the course of this debate, to hear Senators declare this right only a conventional and political arrangement, a privilege yielded to you and me and others; not a right in any sense, only a concession! Mr. President, I do not hold my liberties by any such tenure. On the contrary, I believe that whenever you establish that doctrine, whenever you crystallize that idea in the public mind of this country, you ring the death-knell of American liberties."

That women soon learn to effectively use the ballot, is shown by the fact that the women of Salem, Mass., (although school suffrage in the Bay State is in its infancy) recently held a meeting in the interest of the reelection of the present Superintendent of Schools, at which they agreed to give their support to Miss M. Cramer of Ward 1, Steven B. Ives, Jr., of Ward 2, James Donaldson of Ward 4, and Emma B. Lord of Ward 5. No nominations were made for Wards 3 and 6.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN UMATILLA.

[From the Pendleton Tribune.]

Pursuant to previous announcement, a number of the friends of Woman Suffrage met in the Court House on Monday, December 13th, to organize a Umatilla County Woman Suffrage Association.

On motion, Mrs. Duniway was elected President and Mrs. Despain Secretary *pro tem*. Mrs. Duniway briefly stated the objects of the meeting, and submitted the form of a constitution, which was accepted.

The election of permanent officers was next in order. Mrs. N. E. Despain was unanimously chosen President, and Mr. Lot Livermore was made Vice-President by a similar vote. Miss Josie Lee was duly elected Recording Secretary, Mr. J. H. Turner Corresponding Secretary, and Mrs. S. Seely Treasurer.

An Executive Committee of five was appointed by the Chair, consisting of Mrs. B. B. Bishop, Mrs. C. Hexter, Mrs. J. S. Statler, Mrs. N. J. Hall and Mr. G. W. Walker.

A Committee on Resolutions was appointed as follows: Mrs. J. Despain, Mrs. J. S. Statler and Mrs. A. L. Crawford. This Committee, after a brief consultation, submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, It is a conceded principle in American politics that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; and, whereas, women in the United States are taxed to sustain the Government and obey its laws in direct violation of this right of consent; therefore,

Resolved, That we heartily concur in the action of the Legislature of 1880, in submitting a resolution for the ratification of the Legislature of 1882, for so amending the State Constitution that the voters may have the power to bestow the elective franchise upon the women of Oregon in the State election of 1884.

Resolved, That our thanks are due to the members of the Oregon Senate and House of Representatives of 1880, who voted "aye" on the Woman Suffrage resolution, for their act of simple justice toward the mothers of men.

Resolved, That we will use all honorable means to elect members to the Legislature of 1882 who are pledged to ratify the action of the session of 1880, for bestowing the elective franchise upon women.

The San Jose Mercury says: "The plea of the anti-woman suffragists is that the exercise of the elective franchise is calculated to lower the standard of womanhood—that it would be degrading to women to mix in the filthy pool of politics. That argument is answered by the fact that all of our intelligent women mix more or less in politics now, especially in all important elections. In Presidential elections they frequently become quite as enthusiastic as the men, and that, too, without any sacrifice of those fine traits that are supposed most to adorn womanhood. Surely, the exercise of the franchise—a momentary affair, and in the performance of which we can see no more impropriety for woman than there is in walking unveiled upon the street—could not possibly be any more degrading than the waving of a handkerchief at a political procession, or occupying a front seat at a political meeting. They would exercise the privilege with quite as much sound discretion and judgment as the average male voter, and certainly with much less corruption and whisky."

Lucinda B. Chandler, of the Margaret Fuller Society of Chicago, in a letter to the Inter-Ocean, says: "Will not women, everywhere, who realize the necessity of education upon questions of political interest, endeavor to organize women's societies for that purpose? The Margaret Fuller Society of Chicago is established to educate women in political economy and the principles of government. Such organizations should be multiplied. I will be glad to receive communications from any person, women especially, who sympathize with the idea of education, of study, and discussion, as the method demanded for the exercise of citizen suffrage and a people's government. If any one would like further information, or to consult in reference to the furtherance of such organizations, please address me at 16 Ogden avenue, Chicago, Ill."

"What," asks a correspondent in Iowa, "will stand out more prominently in the history of the year 1880 than the fact that 40,000,000 free people chose for themselves a ruler?" To this the Woman's Journal answers: "In history the prominent fact of this election will be, that out of forty millions of people, one-half, viz., all the women, were denied the right and the chance to vote at all, and that, too, after such service in the war as allies of the party in power, as no other allies ever gave. These women are now the political pegs of Jeff Davis. This is the fact that will stand out most prominent in history."

The Buffalo horror—the burning of a number of factory employes—has aroused the indignation of the people. They censure the city authorities for not providing fire escapes, and demand a searching investigation.