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The Plaindealer
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DODGERS,
LETTER HEADS,
BILL HEADS,
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THE PRESENT LEGISLATIVE HOLD UP AND THE AFFAIR OF 1868.

A correspondent of the Oregonian writing from Salem and suspected to be an ex-speaker of the house, refers to the present legislative hold up and the resignation of the republican members in 1868 as follows:

The old proverb that "politics makes strange bedfellows" was probably never better illustrated than in the present complication in the Oregon legislative assembly. Goldbugs are arrayed against goldbugs; quondam friends of "free and unlimited coinage" are clashing at each other's throats. A new line of cleavage divides the democratic party, and the "money power" is getting a short respite while populists exchange among themselves the compliments of the season. Mr. Simon, the republican president of the senate; Mr. Mackay, the republican chairman of the Multnomah county committee; Mr. John C. Young, chairman of the populist state central committee; and Jonathan Bourne, whilom Mitchell republican candidate for the speakership of the house, are making common cause against Senator Mitchell; while some of the staunchest advocates of the gold standard, having no sympathy for the views formerly advocated by our senior senator, are now earnestly advocating his re-election.

Hon. Joseph Gaston, one of the leading oracles of populism, overlooking the history of Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado, declares that the present disorder is characteristic of republicans generally, and of Oregon republicans in particular. In support of his declaration, he cites the Oregon legislature of 1868, and there seems to be a popular misconception of the action taken in that body. That legislature was democratic in both branches. Both houses had been in session for the usual period of 40 days before any trouble arose. At that time, the population of the state was probably less than one-third what it is today, and the subject matters of legislation were probably not one-tenth their present volume, and importance. If 40 days are sufficient for legislation at this time, 20 days should have been ample in 1868; but it appears that the two democratic houses of that session frittered away the entire 40 days without bringing in the general appropriation bill. The republican minority in the house did everything within reason to secure the introduction and disposal of that bill, making repeated efforts to call it up, and remained in their seats ready for business until three days beyond the prescribed 40 days had expired. At the end of that time, despairing of any action, they submitted their resignations and went home.

PERPETUAL HARVEST.

The wheat crop is always being harvested somewhere. Just now while the American farmer is not thinking of wheat, the crop of Australia, Chili and the Argentine Republic is being put on the market. In February and March the fields of Upper Egypt and those of India are harvested. That of Lower Egypt, which is irrigated by the overflowing of the Nile, is harvested in April, while Syria, Cyprus, Persia and Asia Minor also gather crops during that month. Cuba's wheat will also be gathered in April.

Texas is the first of our states to send wheat to the market. This is during May, at the same time that fields of Algeria, Central Asia, China, Japan and Morocco are making their yield. In June those of California, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky, Arkansas, Kansas, Utah, Colorado, Missouri, Turkey, Greece, Italy, Spain, Portugal and the south of France are harvested. In July the North Pacific states begin. Rumania then begins to gather her grain, more being harvested in August, when Manitoba, Lower Canada, North Dakota and the northernmost countries of Europe are the scenes of the harvest. Sweden, Norway and Northern Russia are the only wheat fields covered with the golden grain in September and October. But just as these are gathered, the crops in Peru and South Africa are ready, and in December New South Wales gathers her harvest.

Corn for the Starving in India.

A plan to relieve the famine sufferers in India by securing contributions of corn to be shipped to Bombay is being participated in by the Methodist ministers of Illinois and was discussed at their regular weekly meeting. R. G. Hobbs, secretary of the Illinois conference and pastor of the Centenary church at Jacksonville, Ill., wrote to the Methodist Ministers' Association telling them of a plan he had started and asking their co-operation. He has asked the farmers in the vicinity of Jacksonville to contribute corn for the relief of the sufferers from famine in India. He met with a ready response to his request, the farmers offering not only to contribute the corn, but to load it on the cars. This plan was submitted to Dr. W. B. Leonard, secretary of the Methodist Foreign Missionary Society, whose office is in New York. He suggested that the corn secured by Mr. Hobbs be shipped to Chicago and sold, and the money realized from the sale of it sent to New York, where he proposes to invest it in old corn and ship this to India.

RE-APPORTIONMENT.

The constitution requires that a census shall be taken every ten years beginning with 1865, and the next session of the legislature shall make an apportionment in accordance with the population as shown by said census. In compliance with this requirement Representative Thomas, of Multnomah, has presented to the house a bill re-apportioning the state in senatorial and representative districts. The ratio of apportionment for senators shall be one for every 12,083 of population, or fraction over one-half; and for the house members, one district for every 6041 of population or fraction exceeding one-half. The senatorial districts are designated as follows:

- First district—Marion county, two senators.
- Second—Marion, Crook, Harney and Lake, one.
- Third—Linn, one.
- Fourth—Linn and Lane, one.
- Fifth—Lane, one.
- Sixth—Douglas, one.
- Seventh—Douglas, Jackson, Josephine and Klamath, one.
- Eighth—Jackson, one.
- Ninth—Coos and Curry, one.
- Tenth—Benton and Lincoln, one.
- Eleventh—Polk and Tillamook, one.
- Twelfth—Yamhill, one.
- Thirteenth—Clackamas, one.
- Fourteenth—Clackamas and Yamhill, one.
- Fifteenth—Washington, one.
- Sixteenth—Washington and Columbia, one.
- Seventeenth—Multnomah, seven.
- Eighteenth—Clatsop, one.
- Nineteenth—Wasco, one.
- Twentieth—Gilliam, Morrow and Sherman, one.
- Twenty-first—Umatilla, one.
- Twenty-second—Union and Willows, one.
- Twenty-third—Baker, Grant and Malheur, one.

The representative districts shall be as follows:

- First district—Marion county, five representatives.
- Second—Linn, three.
- Third—Lane, four.
- Fourth—Lane, Klamath and Jackson, one.
- Fifth—Douglas, two.
- Sixth—Douglas, Coos and Curry, one.
- Seventh—Coos, one.
- Eighth—Josephine, one.
- Ninth—Jackson, two.
- Tenth—Benton, one.
- Eleventh—Polk, one.
- Twelfth—Polk and Lincoln, one.
- Thirteenth—Yamhill, two.
- Fourteenth—Yamhill and Tillamook, one.
- Fifteenth—Clackamas, four.
- Sixteenth—Multnomah, fifteen.
- Seventeenth—Washington, three.
- Eighteenth—Clatsop, two.
- Nineteenth—Columbia, one.
- Twentieth—Wasco, one.
- Twenty-first—Wasco and Sherman, one.
- Twenty-second—Gilliam and Morrow, one.
- Twenty-third—Umatilla, two.
- Twenty-fourth—Union, one.
- Twenty-fifth—Union and Grant, one.
- Twenty-sixth—Baker, one.
- Twenty-seventh—Lake and Crook, one.
- Twenty-eighth—Malheur and Harney, one.
- Twenty-ninth—Willows, one.

Senators holding over in joint districts shall hereafter, if their districts are changed, be considered to represent the districts in which they reside. Representative Thomas states that his proposed apportionment is based strictly on population, and there is no politics in it. Representative Somers of Linn also has introduced a bill substantially the same as that of Mr. Thomas.

Counterfeit Dollars.

That millions of counterfeit silver dollars are afloat in the country is now certain. How many no one will ever know for not only are they of the same weight as those coined in the United States mints, but in nearly every case of the same fineness of actual silver. Strange as it may seem, many of these counterfeits contain more silver than legal dollars, running as high as 940 fine. This evil, however, cannot be easily checked, for these counterfeit silver dollars cannot be detected by microscope or acid.

Frenzied Bread Rioters.

LONDON, Feb. 3.—A Madrid dispatch tells of the manner in which the bread riots at Madrid and Arakjuez were quieted by the militia. According to these accounts the officers promised to examine into the popular grievances. During the riots, the correspondent says, the mob succeeded in destroying all of the Octrol posts. The mayor and municipal officers were stoned and compelled to seek hurried refuge in the town hall. The police were very feeble, largely on account of the presence among the rioters of many women and children.

There was a pretty general snow storm throughout Eastern Oregon last week the fall being all the way from four inches to a foot in depth. This is hailed with satisfaction by the farmers of that region as it goes far toward insuring a good crop next fall.

ENCOUNTER WITH BANDITS IN ALASKA.

The steamer Aiki, on her last trip from Alaska brought news of a bloody chapter in the career of Sims Birch, the notorious young desperado of Juneau, who, while awaiting transportation to serve a three-year sentence in San Quentin prison, Cal., was released by accomplices, who visited the jail, overpowering the jailer, locked him in a cell and accompanied the escaping prisoner.

No tidings of Birch were received until the closing days of January, when Indians brought news to Juneau that Birch and his companions were stopping in a cabin 20 miles from Juneau, on an island. Deputy Marshal Hale at once chartered a steamer, and making up a posse, comprising Deputy United States Marshal Watts, Jailer Lindquist, Guard Bayne and an Indian policeman, started in pursuit. The cabin was found the following day, after a tortuous trip over rough, snowy country, amid terrific cold. Bad generalship in the charge which was made on the cabin permitted two of the four inmates to escape to a rocky eminence, between which and the cabin the posse was sheltered.

A terrific battle then began. Watts was shot twice, Hale once seriously, and Bayne was wounded in both legs. Ten minutes later all of the posse except Watts started on the back trail from the scene of the fight to where the boat was anchored. Watts, being left at the mercy of the outlaws on the hill, was shot several times where he lay between two logs.

The steamer made all haste back to Juneau with the wounded men, and a posse of 20 started out, returning the next day. Then 30 more Juneauites, together with several men from Sitka and the neighboring cannery settlement, went out. Watts was found dead, frozen stiff in the snow, where his cowardly companions had left him.

The search was continued for two days without success, but the desperadoes were finally found by two Indians, lying asleep in a dense underbrush. Word was carried to a cannery, where were two Herculean fellows, Cheney and Olsen, and they made the capture in picturesque style. Unarmed, they climbed a ledge 12 feet above the sleeping and heavily armed pair of bandits, and at a signal jumped down on them. Both men were manacled, after a short resistance.

Birch's lone companion is also an old offender, named Snell, who robbed the Treadwell works some years ago. Both are in jail at Sitka. Cheney and Olsen will get the \$500 offered for Birch's capture.

Indignation runs very high in Juneau, and the two men would have been lynched, had they been taken there. Birch's two other companions had not been apprehended when the Aiki sailed.

The Protective Policy.

The weak-kneed and the half-breeds are putting forth the idea that it will not be wise for Mr. McKinley and the incoming administration to return to the old-time protective policy of the party. Why not? It is true that the victory of 1896 was under the banner of sound money, and by this is meant the preservation of the gold standard, but every man who voted the republican ticket expected that in the event of its success not only would the gold standard be maintained, but the deficit-producing Wilson-Gorman bill would be repealed. That evidence of "party, perfidy and dishonor" would not be allowed to longer cumber the record. Every man who voted against the republican nominee had as one of his reasons for so voting the belief that a tariff law on McKinley lines would follow McKinley's election. The cry of "go slow" in the matter of tariff legislation is a device of the enemy. Times have changed since 1890 and an exact re-enactment of the law of that year would not fit just now; but the idea must be followed if it is expected that the good times under the much abused McKinley tariff are to be restored.

John Williams and Jim Waters, two Indians, who were fishing for sturgeon in the Columbia river, were drowned last Tuesday. The accident occurred at the Narrows, three miles above The Dalles, where the current is very swift. An immense sturgeon got hold of their line and swung the boat across the current. The boat was upset and the whirling water soon carried them down. A 9 year-old boy who was with them managed to reach shore with the aid of the oars from the boat, and told the story.

"Did you hear about the funny thing that happened up at Dumley's house?" asked Wigwag.

"No, what was it?"

"Dumley added two wings to the old building and a chimney flue."—Philadelphia Record.

There are fifty-two penitentiaries and over 17,000 jails in the United States. They cost \$500,000,000 to build them. The criminal expense of the country is not less than \$100,000,000 annually.

Johnny—Ma, what is a grass widow?
Ma—It is a woman whose husband is engaged in the business of sowing wild oats.—Boston Transcript.



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I want your trade, and as an inducement to get it I make the following liberal offer: Call and I will present you with a card like the one printed opposite, so that when the card is used up you may secure the portrait.

BRING this Card with you and have your GAMING PURCHASES matched out to the amount of \$10, and you can have a Life-like Portrait, Crayon or Water Color Print, from any photograph or tintype you may desire.

We further assure you that if the portrait is not satisfactory you need not accept it.

We give you the portrait FREE, you pay only for the frame.

The cost of the frame, glass, etc. will be at wholesale cost prices.

Call and see samples of these beautiful portraits displayed in my show window and let me present you with a 40c ticket.

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