

W. H. SEWARD.

At 7 P. M. Oct. 10th, W. H. Seward died at his home in Auburn, New York, at the age of 71 years and nearly 3 months. He was one among the greatest men of the generation which has now nearly passed away. Few men have ever lived who were for so long a period as he, in active public life. He began his official career in 1850, as State Senator, and till the accession of Gen. Grant to the Presidency, he was almost constantly the recipient of some public position, or actively engaged in the campaigns of his party. He was first anti-Mason, after that a Whig, and when that party went to pieces, he was one of the organizers of the Republican party. He was Governor of New York from 1855 to 1858; U. S. Senator from 1859 to 1861, when he was appointed Secretary of State by President Lincoln, which place he filled with distinguished ability and statesmanship for eight years, being re-appointed at the beginning of Mr. Lincoln's second term. Since his retirement from the Cabinet, he has traveled through the principal countries of the world, and written voluminously of his characteristics and people. His speeches, letters, official correspondence, etc., form an important part of American political history and literature. As a statesman and diplomat he held rank among the first, either in America or Europe. Perhaps no man lived, on the morning of the 10th, more widely known throughout the world; and when he died, every eye on the face of the earth took notice of it. Such a fame has been vouchsafed to very few of even the greatest characters of history.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

We are informed that wheat sells for ten cents per bushel more at Junction City, at Corvallis, Tension-Junction is on the railroad, by which shipments can be made any day, thus giving the buyer the advantage of changes or demand in the market. Corvallis is on the river, by which nothing can be shipped till after the rainy season sets in. At Junction City, that much wheat has been hauled in wagons from the neighborhood of Corvallis, and from points even below, to be sold or stored at Junction.

At the late election of officers, the Agricultural Society, of Walla Walla, elected D. M. Jesse, President; S. M. Walt, Vice President; H. P. Isaacs, Orley Hall, Frank Shelton, Wm. Shelton and Philip Ritz, Directors. O. P. Lacy, Secretary; Chas. Moore, Treasurer.

Hop-growing is becoming quite a feature in the agricultural interests of Puget Sound. The low lands of the Sound are peculiarly adapted to the successful production of the crop. The hop-growers of the Puget Sound finished picking last week. The crop about 24,000 pounds. Five thousand pounds were shipped to Portland by the last steamer.

The Clarke County Annual Fair opened on the 9th inst. M. R. Hallaway, President of the Association, delivered the Annual Address, Thursday, the 10th. It was devoted to the best methods of developing the resources and enhancing the prosperity of the county in mechanical and agricultural matters. The show of stock is the fairest ever before.

IMMIGRATION, ETC.

The Legislature seems to be about to adopt some measures which will aid the State in a practical way in the matter of advertising it abroad and promoting immigration. To the agent Gen. E. L. Appleton, as Commissioner has already passed both houses; a bill to pay Mrs. Dr. Sawtelle a small compensation for labor as an Immigration Commissioner, and the bill to provide for a State Board of Immigration, are pending. We do not think the Legislature can do a better thing than to make liberal provision for the promotion of immigration through the spread of information by all these or other similar agencies. Applegate ought to have a reasonable salary; Dr. Sawtelle can do effective service for the small compensation asked; and the State can do an immense work with anything like liberal means. The aggregate of all the annual sums asked for this purpose is insignificant compared with the sums which the State is asked to give away for things of much less merit to the people.

There is another small matter pending to which we wish to call special attention—the proposition to provide for the expenses of the Centennial Exposition Commissioner. Only \$4,000 is asked for—\$1,000 each year. It will be the business of the Commissioner to see that the product and industries of Oregon are exhibited at that exposition. His field will be the world; for the world will be there to see, to hear and to learn. It will be a magnificent opportunity for our State. Mr. A. J. Duffer, the Commissioner, is an enthusiastic friend of Oregon and an indefatigable worker in her behalf. He has already spent largely of his own private fortune in the work of making Oregon known. At the exposition he will have on exhibition everything which public or private enterprise should provide. He will do much in this direction, himself, and he will stir up other liberal-hearted friends of the State to assist him. He will have such a chance to advertise and commend Oregon to the people of all countries as no man may ever have again. In view of the important results which may be achieved through him, the State ought to open its treasury doors and bestow liberally, munificently, to aid him.

The Secretary of the National Republican Convention, given his conclusions as to the result of the November election. He gives Greeley, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia; puts Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, New York and West Virginia as doubtful, and gives the rest to Grant. We do not see any special reason for altering the Secretary's figures. The States given to Greeley, said 53 electoral votes. The doubtful States named, said 70 electoral votes. Should Greeley get every one of them his total electoral vote would be 123, just 50 less than half the Electoral College.

As exchange very truly says: "The strength of the Irish devotion to the Democratic party is being thoroughly tested this Fall. There is not an Irishman on any Democratic ticket in the West, except in Illinois, where he has no possible show of being elected." "H. H. Mitchell, 8th Senator elect, speaks of Albany on the 12th as saying: 'The strength of the Irish devotion to the Democratic party is being thoroughly tested this Fall. There is not an Irishman on any Democratic ticket in the West, except in Illinois, where he has no possible show of being elected.'"

AGRICULTURE.

The scheme of the Canal and Locks Company to dispose of the works to the State has been revived in a new form. The bill was reported last week to the Committee, yesterday, with an amendment which is practically a substitute, and as amended the proposition is substantially that the State shall purchase the works at \$600,000, payable in annual installments of \$50,000, ten per cent, of which goes to the school fund. The bill does not provide in set phrase for "sale," but for a "lease," for the term of twelve years, at a yearly rental of \$50,000 and at the last payment, the State to have title. It is substantially a sale by the Company and a purchase by the State. As we propose to discuss this bill fairly and with reason only, and as we have not been able to ascertain precisely the details, we shall defer comment till the bill shall be printed.

INDIANA is one of the States which all the Liberal and Democratic politicians have constantly claimed as "sine for Greeley." They spared no effort to make it sure for the mongrel ticket in October. The effort was concentrated and desperate. But, after all, they have only elected Hendricks Governor, by a scratch, and the Republicans have elected the rest of the State ticket, the Congressmen-at-large and a majority in both houses of the Legislature. Hendricks was elected partly because of his boundless popularity with the Democracy of Indiana, and partly through a Republican defection from the Republican ticket. At the time of his nomination it was stated that he was the weakest of the three aspirants for the Presidency. It does not seem, however, as though Indiana is at all "sine for Greeley." On the contrary, the State indicates that the State is sure for Grant.

WHAT THE REPUBLICAN PRESS SAYS.

The Oregonian is the only Republican paper of note, we believe, which has taken decided ground in favor of, and given active support to, the bill. On the other hand, the Bulletin, Mountaineer, Register, Sentinel, Panhandle and STATESMAN have decidedly opposed the scheme. The following are extracts from some of the papers we have named:

The Jacksonville Sentinel says: "From all the facts that we can gather on the subject, it is evident that speculation is about to prove a sinking game for the Company, and they are anxious to get off the hands, and have resorted to the above scheme to further swindle the State."

The Corvallis Gazette opposes the bill to lease the Oregon City Canal and Locks. It asserts confidently that the Republicans of Benton county, as a party, are opposed to the measure. We think that is also true of every other county in the State.

The Mountaineer says: "The Canal and Locks will not be completed until January 1st, 1873, which is the time when the bill creating the Company. In our opinion it will be time enough for the State to learn that the bill is a swindle, and that the speculation turns out disastrous for the Company, let them lose it in the same manner as any other party, and if there is as much money in it as they are anxious to make the people of Oregon believe there is, why, we are willing they should make it. At least we are inclined to the belief that it is not for the State to have anything to do with this matter at present. We hope this bill will be killed and all other bills of the kind rejected."

The Panhandle calls it a "job," an "unblushing raid upon the State finances," and adds: "The whole bill was evidently framed by a shrewd, speculative, bold, and unscrupulous man, who has evidently in the interest of the Canal, Lock and Dammed Company, who, believing they could not manage the collection of tolls at sufficient profit themselves, now desire to lease to the State, and the taxpayers of Oregon, fifty thousand dollars a year. We hold this whole scheme up to public scorn and condemnation, and charge any one who has any sense, or who is a citizen, with coming a law, as recent to the best interests of the State."

There has been enough robbery already done by this Lock and Dammed Swindle, let us let it have no more for the credit of the State, the honor of her legislators, and the welfare of her people."

The Bulletin's utterances have been from day to day, and are too voluminous for quotation. It has fought the scheme vigorously and effectively. Of the Democratic papers we know of but two—the East Portland Era and the Eugene Guard—do not favor the scheme. It is noticeable, however, in this connection, that the Era has become silent the last week. The situation may be summed up about thus: The Oregonian and the Democratic press favor the bill; the Republican press and the Republicans everywhere and almost unanimously, oppose it. With this showing, and remembering the theory of the war which the Republican party has made against the whole stupendous swindle in the matter of the canal and locks, will the Republican members of the Legislature consent to the consummation of the swindle? We earnestly warn them. In the name of the Republican party and the tax-paying people, against it.

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THE LOCK AND CANAL BILL.

Having obtained a copy of the amended bill to provide for a lease by the State of the Willamette Locks and Canal, we find that we stated its principal features correctly in the STATESMAN of Sunday morning. The details are immaterial, in considering the main proposition which is that the State shall lease the works for twelve years at a yearly rent of \$50,000, and upon the last payment to the owner. The bill is even more objectionable in some respects than the original. The fact that it secures eventual ownership is the only redeeming feature in it. It proposes to give the Company \$600,000 less the 10 per centum which is to go to the school fund. The net payment to the Company will be \$540,000. The sum is enormous, and very greatly beyond the highest possible value of the works as a business investment. The bill makes no provision whatever for the return of the \$200,000 originally donated to the Company by the State. That is treated as gone. 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