

LAFAYETTE COURIER.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1873.

FARMERS ORGANIZING.

It is a gratifying indication that the farmers of this State have fully awakened to the importance of organization, the better to be enabled to protect themselves against the exactions of middlemen and the intrigue and avarice of speculators. There is no reason why such an organization may not be effected as to compass the results sought, to be attained. There is no good reason why the producing element of our population should longer be the prey of those whose palms are strangers to toil. As it now stands the producer is victimized both in the prices he pays and the prices he receives. The speculator fixes both the prices of products of the farm and dairy and the prices the farmer must pay for all articles he must purchase for consumption in his family. The farmer asks the merchant how much per hundred pounds for his salt, but the merchant in turn does not ask the farmer what he will take per hundred pounds for his salt. He fixes the price of that, also. This is not fair. Of course the price of farm produce will always be modified by supply and demand, but it ought to be the mission of farmers' organizations to protect each other in seasons of low prices. This they can do by advancing a sum sufficient to meet imperative demands, thus enabling any given member to "hold on" to his crop. Prices can in this way be forced up; otherwise the tendency is to force them down. The speculators have close organization and definite plans of action. Let the producer meet them on their own ground.

BEFOULING ITS OWN NEST.

Some months since the Portland Herald undertook a showing by facts and figures to prove that Holladay's railroads did not pay running expenses, that a large deficiency had to be made up to cover the excess of expenses over the proceeds of the whole traffic—freight and passenger. Then the Bulletin vehemently protested that the roads did pay more than expenses and went on to particularize how the thing was done. Now however, the same Bulletin says that these same roads do not pay running expenses and never have! That paper says:

For every dollar received by railroads for carrying freight to Portland, another dollar must be put up out of private funds to pay the loss incurred in its transportation. Who, then, is losing most money? Oregon railroads are losing more than the whole amount of freight money paid them by the farmers of Oregon.

What can be believed which such a paper utters? It goes back on itself as ruthlessly as if its special mission was to falsify and falsify continually. And it railed furiously at the Herald for falsifying the facts to the detriment of Oregon! Now, it says all that the Herald alleged was true, and more.

Grant has written a letter of condolence to Schuyler Colfax assuring that Credit Mobilier thief and perjurer that he has full confidence in his integrity after all. He also hopes that he and the smiler will always be good friends. The country has not yet forgotten that Grant wrote a similar epistle to Tom Murphy, the great New York Custom House thief. What is a letter of endorsement from such a source worth?

The Yamhill Reporter comes to us this week in an enlarged form, but its outside is printed in San Francisco. This is the first instance of this kind that ever occurred in Oregon, and speaks very poorly for the Reporter's enterprise and prosperity.—Jacksonville Times.

Organization of the Portland Liberal League.

NONPAREIL HALL, March 2, 73.

The citizens met, pursuant to notice, and effected a temporary organization by the election of W. H. Chaney as chairman and T. J. Reabody Secretary.

The Chairman briefly explained the objects and necessity of such an organization, in order that the people might protect themselves and their liberties from the encroachments of sectarian oppression and political corruption. He alluded to the millions of dollars annually drawn from the Public Treasury under various pretexts, but which went directly to sustain some religious sect. In addition to this there were hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of property that paid no taxes and that this deficit was made up by imposing an extra burden on the poor laboring men and women who never even entered the churches, thus accomplishing by indirect means what was expressly prohibited by the spirit and letter of the National Constitution. To correct these abuses the people could not depend upon their present representatives, either in Congress or State Legislatures, for in nearly all the law-making assemblies of the country corrupt rings and powerful monopolies held high carnival. The only remedy lay with the people themselves, and in order that they may make their power felt, they must organize.

Boston, with her "cradle of liberty," first to pour out her blood in both 1772 and 1861, is now the first in the field with her "Liberal League," sounding the tocsin of alarm. Scarcely has this echo ceased upon the rock-bound shores of New England, ere we catch the clarion notes, leaping from peak to peak across the Rocky Mountains, nesting at last in the beautiful valley of the Willamette.

For a long time the Chairman had kept out of the muddy pool of politics, having voted but once during the past seventeen years. But now he felt that the time for action had arrived, and he was ready to buckle on the harness. His experience as a political speaker and editor had taught him the necessity of caution in the mode of organization. We want no secret plottings, or "dark lantern fraternity." Our sole object is to establish justice, compel an honest administration of law, and secure the perpetuity of those principles of liberty purchased by the blood of our fathers. To accomplish these objects, no sacrifice of life, no bloody violence is needed. As enlightened men and women who have escaped from the bigoted thrall of sectarianism which knew no weapons of warfare beyond the torture, the dungeon and the burning stake, we turn our backs upon these relics of brutal barbarism, choosing as our only weapons, moral force, sharpened by the intelligence of the age. To become a member of a Liberal League, in imitation of our fathers who gave us the Declaration of Independence, some sort of pledge seemed necessary, and he proposed the following:

LIBERAL LEAGUE PLEDGE.

In consenting to the enrollment of my name as a member of this League, I hereby pledge my honor to maintain and support the Constitution and By-laws thereof, and to maintain the following pledge of membership:

1. That I will never offer or accept a bribe, either directly, or indirectly, in any matter pertaining to politics or the interests of Government, under any circumstances whatsoever, and that if a case of bribery or corruption of any kind shall come to my knowledge, I will promptly expose and denounce the parties, regardless of the ties of friendship or kindred.

2. That I will never exert my personal or official influence, through official patronage or other means, to advance my own or the interests of another, at the expense of the public interests, nor if in my power to prevent the same will I permit it to be done by another.

3. That if elected to any office I will rigidly adhere to the letter and spirit of this pledge, and the declaration of principles set forth by the League, and will resign my

office sooner than violate the same. 4. That I will promptly aid and assist in bringing to justice and exposing to public contempt any person who shall willfully or knowingly violate this most solemn pledge.

To all of which I bind my character as well as conscience, under the penalty of having my name stricken from the Roll of Honor and published to the world as the name of an apostate and perjurer, too vile for the companionship of honorable men and women.

A vote being called for expression of the audience, the foregoing pledge was unanimously adopted.

Opportunity was then offered for persons to subscribe their names to the pledge, which was responded to by a list of thirty-four members.

The election of officers for the next ensuing quarter resulted in making choice of the following: President, J. M. Fryer; Vice President, R. Mendenhall; Recording Secretary, C. M. Pollock; Corresponding Secretary, Samuel Corwin; Treasurer, P. G. Steward; Executive Committee, D. H. Hendee, James A. Bennett and David Po well.

On motion, voted, that this League adopt the declaration of principles and platform of the Boston Liberal League, as read by the Chairman.

Prof. W. H. Chaney, D. H. Hendee and C. M. Pollock were appointed a committee to frame a code of by-laws and report at the next regular meeting.

On motion, voted unanimously that the ladies be invited to attend the meetings of this League and take part in its exercises.

Voted, that a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be furnished to the city papers with a request to publish the same.

On motion, adjourned to meet at Nonpareil Hall on Sunday evening, 16th inst., at 6 1/2 o'clock. C. M. POLLOCK, R. S.

Says a Canada paper.—"It would make some of our fine ladies stare to see Lady Dufferin grinding the streets, doing her shopping. She dresses plainly and sensibly, wears thick-soled boots, and does not fear a walk from one end of the city to the other, or face the muddiest crossing."

The old idea that odorous flowers are injurious to health, has been exploded by some recent experiments. It has been ascertained that flowers with powerful scent, such as the hyacinth, heliotrope, mignonette, etc., develop large quantities of ozone, which are of great hygienic value in the purification of the air in marshy districts.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

The Epidemic of Insanity.

Salisbury, Md., Mar. 8.—On Friday George Hall, aged 13, shot and killed Amelia Skikley, aged 14, while returning from school. Hall courted Amelia, and had written a letter which was unanswered because, as she stated, she had no time. Both parties belong to respectable families. Hall is not yet apprehended.

Quick Retribution.

Crisfield Md., March 8.—A freight train to-night ran over and killed a man who is supposed to be the murderer of the girl Amelia Skikley who was killed yesterday at Salisbury.

Of Course.

New York, March 8.—The Jury in the Scannel case could not agree and were discharged.

Fremont and Extradition.

The rumor that the French Government asked for the extradition of Fremont on a charge of complicity in fraudulent representations abroad concerning the Memphis and El Paso and Pacific Railroad Bonds, is believed to be premature. The fraud charged was in representing that these bonds were guaranteed by the United States Government. Fremont denies emphatically either having participated in the fraud or having had any guilty knowledge thereof, though it is claimed that certain papers belonging to a Paris banker which have been seized by the French government, tend strongly to implicate him in such knowledge.

Seizure of a Railroad.

Albany, March 8.—The U. S. Collector to-day seized the New York Central Railroad property at Albany for non-payment of revenue tax, amounting to \$460,720.

A Hungry Congress.

Sergeant-at-Arms Ordway waited upon Comptroller Taylor of the Treasury Department to get a warrant for \$1,600,000, as impatient and impatient Congressmen are demanding their back pay. The Comptroller informed Ordway he did not see how he could pay the money, as the section under which this payment was claimed was so clumsily worded as to be liable to several constructions; besides, there were other insuperable objections; the section did not specify the amount to be paid, and it made no appropriation for this specific purpose. Many Members of Congress, hearing this decision, and who have been waiting for their \$5,000, will leave for their homes to-night. "Cheap for Cash."

It is reported that certain Congressmen are offering their quota of public documents at 50 cents a volume. Later—Jesse Applegate Disgusted—He Resigns.

Yreka, March 11, 9 P. M.—David Horn has just arrived from Fairchild's, having left there this morning. He brings the following:

Yesterday he went with Steele to the appointed place at the point of rocks on Little Klamath Lake, ten miles from Jack's camp, for the purpose of bringing Jack and party to headquarters. After waiting four hours, they saw no signs of Indians and returned. A force of cavalry would reconnoiter the lava beds to-day and to-morrow to see what had become of the Modocs. Applegate has resigned his position as Peace Commissioner and has gone off disgusted. Rosboro and Steel will be in shortly. The whole thing has probably been turned over to Gen. Canby by this time. Some think that Cap. Jack has been maneuvering to gain time to get away from where he is into a country east of him, where, for a hundred miles, no cavalry force could follow. As soon as he gets to the Pitt river country, he will find plenty of horses and cattle.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, March 10.

SENATE.

The Senate Committee on elections are directed to examine and report at the next session the best and most practical method of electing President and Vice-President of the United States, together with a plan for the organization of a tribunal to settle all contested questions connected therewith. The committee have leave to sit during the recess of the Senate.

Morrill of Maine offered a resolution that witnesses summoned by the Senate be paid \$4 a day while in attendance and 5 per cent. mileage for distance.

Chandler presented petitions for prohibitory liquor legislation. Fenton proposed to present other petitions, when Hamlin objected to the reception of petitions of a legislative nature.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of a resolution reported by the Committee on Elections, that Alexander Caldwell is not duly or legally elected to the Senate by the Kansas Legislature.

Morton spoke on the Caldwell report, saying that Caldwell's was the most flagrant case of bribery in American politics.

Fremont in Trouble.

A Times Washington special says it is stated confidentially to-night that the French Government has demanded General Fremont, under the extradition treaty for criminal prosecution in France, on alleged frauds connected with the Memphis and El Paso Railroad bonds.

THE MODOC WAR.

From Captain Jack's Commission.

Yreka, March 11.—Frank Merritt, who arrived last night from Fairchild's camp, says that Captain Jack was to be in last Friday to treat with General Canby, but instead of his coming, Boston and Limpy came with the report that Captain Jack's principal men were out hunting deer. As soon as they came in he would meet the General. He appointed Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock for meeting, at a point of rocks near Tule Lake, where he would have his squaws and children. He wanted only the General, Applegate, and the Commissioners to come without any soldiers, and to bring three wagons. The General will send up three wagons and a few men, as agreed, but he will take good care to have soldiers within hailing distance, as all the white men—even Steele and Riddle—are afraid of treachery, or believe that they will not surrender. When Bogus Charley was at Fairchild's ranch, he boasted that he was good for twenty soldiers, and that the Modocs could divide up into small parties of two and three to commit raids on settlers, and the soldiers could not catch them. Charley even stole a can of powder while at Fairchild's, and on the way back to the lava bed found a lot of cartridges for needle guns that had been dropped on the ground by the soldiers, near the military camps. The Indians undoubtedly have plenty of arms and ammunition and unless they surrender on Monday, which we doubt very much, it will appear that they are treacherously playing some points to gain advantage.

The "Stock-Raisers" Grow.

The stock-raisers in the Modoc section complain of losing a large number of their cattle and sheep. The Indians are killing all they need, and so are the Oregon teamsters who work by the day and board themselves. Besides these, some of the soldiers also kill cattle and sheep, thinking, no doubt, that they taste better than army rations alone.

The regular courier should have arrived here this afternoon, but up to 8 o'clock he had not appeared.

The Courtiers of an Indian War.

Lieut. Bontello, with two non-commissioned officers, en route for Redding to bring up some recruits for the first cavalry, arrived this afternoon. From him we learn that E. Steele started for Dorris' Ranch yesterday morning, taking four wagons and teams, only one teamster accompanying him. He had been out to see some of the Indians before hand, and felt confident they would come to a point of rocks and there be taken in the wagons to a place across the creek opposite Dorris' house. Tents have been put up and made comfortable, with an abundance of hay, firewood and food, and various articles have also been provided for the convenience of the Modocs. There was still considerable doubt felt by some about Jack's coming out.

Yreka, Cal., March 12.—Elijah Steele arrived from the front this evening and Judge Rosborough will be in to-morrow. Mr. Steele thinks that the Modocs wanted to come in as they agreed to but were frightened from doing so by those interested in having them remain in the country. He says there is a strong rivalry between Jack and Seon-chin for the leadership. He thinks there can be no settlement of difficulties without fighting and there is no chance for Jacks having left his strong hold, as there is too much snow on the mountain ranges they would have to cross. The troops are all in fine condition and fully prepared for a forward movement and General Gillem would advance to-day and close around Jack's cave. The military have maps of the lava-bed showing every hole, cave and crevice in it and they can undoubtedly capture him now without much loss of life. Jack's present position is destitute of water, except as they get it from Tule lake. They have large quantities of ice stored in the caves which will last them for a time. Their living consists at present of beef and roots only. They have not as many arms as have been represented. The weather was very cold and stormy. The following is from the Journal extra of this afternoon:

Fairchild's Ranch, March 11.—The Indians had not come in when the courier left. General Gillem has ordered an attack and the soldiers are now in the lava-bed following Captain Jack. Hooker Jim sent word to Ivan Applegate by Modoc Sally that he wanted him to make a skookum-paper to lay before the Peace Commission to allow him to the Yainox Reservation. Applegate says he will make a strong paper for this murderer of settlers to be allowed the privilege of going to the happy hunting ground reservation, as he don't want any of his kind mixed with decent Indians at Yainox.

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