

# ASHLAND FINDINGS.



INDEPENDENT ON ALL SUBJECTS, AND DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF SOUTHERN OREGON.

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ASHLAND OREGON: FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1877.

\$2.50 PER ANNUM.

### The Grover Investigation.

Mr. Palmer then made an explanation that in his testimony yesterday he used the word Jackson in speaking what Mr. Chadwick's preference would be for warden of the Penitentiary under Palmer, if appointed superintendent.

Here followed the testimony of Wesley Graves, Wm. Lanigan, L. F. Williams, John Booth, Geo. Roland, H. Willis, John Belt, Hugh Rankin, E. O. Norton and Wm. Delaney all to the effect that Mr. Stiles was not regarded as a man of good reputation.

Dr. Bayley being recalled said he did not wish to be understood as saying in his testimony, that Mr. Palmer told him he had been tendered the superintendency of the Penitentiary until after the senatorial election.

M. Goldsmith sworn.—Clerk of B. Goldsmith; knew all about his business; took no money to Salem the night before the election; saw him leave the store without money; witness said his brother holds \$150,000 of the Lock Stock at \$10 a share; brother is in New York City with his sick boy.

Hon. H. Y. Thompson sworn.—On the 20th of September Senator Cochran of Lane introduced Senate Joint Resolution No. 12, asking that a committee on the part of the Senate and House be appointed to confer with the Lock Co., to ascertain whether they would sell the locks to the State; it was voted on and lost, 9 in favor, 19 against; Mr. Goldsmith was interested in the Resolution; telegraphed him to come up; replied that he would be up the next day, Sept. 21st; he came up on the evening train of that day and the next day Grover was elected; if he had other reasons for coming up he did not explain them to witness. Here witness explained his relations with Hon. J. S. Smith his father-in-law, the state of his bank account in September and October—covering the time he was suspected of furnishing money for the Grover election; Mr. Smith's name having been mentioned in connection with the senatorial witness told him of the fact; Mr. Smith came to Salem; was not a candidate; witness electioneered for Mr. Grover.

A. Noltaer of the Standard sworn.—Went up to Salem on the night before the election; Goldsmith was on the train; picked up his valise and asked him if that was the little joker that made all the mischief; he smiled; it had no weight about it to indicate money; there was a paper in Salem that called it the "little black bag," during the whole session of the legislature; when it first started it had reference to the purchase of members in the interest of the Locks Co.; do not know any reasons why such charges were made.

J. Bachman sworn.—Knows all about Mr. Goldsmith's business; Goldsmith's was so embarrassed that at the time of the election he could not have loaned him the small sum of \$2,000; the lock business had about used him up; did not mix in the senatorial election; Goldsmith did not desire the lock bill tacked onto anything; saw the black bag opened at the Chemeketa; contained cigars, comb, brush, tooth-brush—no money.

Allen Parker sworn.—Saw the bag lying carelessly on the desk at the Chemeketa, when Goldsmith signed the register; saw nothing to indicate his having money in his possession.

Geo. Belt sworn.—Been in the State 22 years; knew Stiles; character bad.

John F. Miller sworn.—Knows the man Stiles; don't know that he is acquainted with his general character; heard his testimony; think he perjured himself.

T. Patterson sworn.—Was at Taylor's saloon when Wilson was there; saw no \$700 or \$800 in possession of the man; did not see him pay for any dog; a comparison was made between the dog in question and the one General Grant received by express; witness had the impression that Taylor invited them to take a drink.

Ninth day: John F. Miller.—Was intimate with Chadwick; heard Stiles testimony; do not think Chadwick would have offered the superintendency of the Penitentiary to any one without the knowledge of witness.

Wm. F. Effinger sworn.—Attorney in Portland for Goldsmith and the corporations which he represented; at the time of the senatorial election Goldsmith was embarrassed for funds; know

he did not wish to unite the Lock and senatorial questions; since then has been compelled to part with much of his corporation stock and private property; he was anxious to get rid of the locks.

Stephen Smith of Astoria sworn.—Member of the last legislature. On the evening before the election Mosier asked witness if he thought it would be wrong to receive a thousand dollars to change his vote for Grover; witness said he didn't know; Mosier asked witness if he could tell him of three Republicans who would change to Grover for \$5,000. Straight told witness he would not hold out for Nesmith after 11 o'clock unless the Republicans would go for him.

Senator Cochran of Lane sworn.—At the instance of Mr. Goldsmith introduced a resolution relative to purchase of the locks; did not understand that the lock question was connected with the senatorial question; do not know of any attempt by Grover or his friends to influence the election by the use of money; witness used his influence with Mosier to get him to support the regular caucus nominee; witness voted for Grover every time.

A. E. Ditzel of Salem sworn.—Stiles reputation not good.

Senator Cochran being recalled said he boarded at the Chemeketa hotel during senatorial contest; didn't remember whether Butler and Goodman did or not; members were constantly passing to and fro on the stairway.

Mr. Straight recalled, said Goodman, Mosier and Butler boarded at the Chemeketa.

James Walton of Salem sworn.—Stiles reputation at Salem very bad; the Democrats of Salem had got tired of having Grover's man Watkins in everything, so they organized a Tilden and Hendricks club "without any Watkins" in it; Stiles was a strong Nesmith man; so was witness; Nesmith's friends met in office of witness during senatorial contest; Cheesman made a speech in favor of Nesmith; did not suit Mosier; don't think Mosier voted for Nesmith after that; Cheesman's speech "cooked the Goose" for Nesmith's friends. In answer to the question "why did you mention Watkins' name in connection with Stiles?" witness said, "simply because it was anti-Watkins; wasn't going to have Watkins or any of his stragglers in the club; we had been run to death by the penitentiary Democrats."

A. C. Edmunds sworn.—Was at Chemeketa hotel night before Grover's election; don't remember seeing Stiles there on that night; nor Gilfrey; saw Grover about 12 o'clock; Mr. Grover said, "if I am elected Senator I will be elected honorably or not at all."

A. D. Jones of Jacksonville sworn.—Had no reason to believe that Gov. Grover or any of his friends attempted to secure his election by the use of money; the State officers, private secretary and the superintendent of the penitentiary, supported Grover actively; did not think Chadwick took much interest in the election.

J. L. Ferguson of Yamhill sworn.—Stated publicly and privately that he was not pledged to the support of any candidate for U. S. Senate; said he would go into the caucus and abide by its decision; don't remember telling Mr. Watts on the night before the election that Mr. Grover would be elected next day. Witness said there was but one thing he didn't like the looks of: "After we had been balloting and came near making the nomination unanimous, the next day one member jumped the ballot and voted against Grover; I presume his acting that way has given much cause for talk." Witness heard that man was Mr. Mosier; don't know what influences made him come back; witness always supported Mr. Grover.

Dr. J. C. Hawthorne sworn.—Superintendent of the Insane Asylum; took an active part in the senatorial contest; was not acquainted with Mosier till after election; urged the Democrats to stand by the caucus nominee; saw no action on the part of Grover or his friends which intimated the use of other than fair means to secure his election; witness has had charge of the Asylum since 62; several efforts have been made to get the State to build an Asylum; witness has always opposed it; keeps the insane at his private asylum;

witness has had to look pretty sharp to keep the State from building an asylum; spent some money, not in buying votes but to pay personal expenses and in employing men to assist in working against the State building an asylum; had no assistance in this from Gov. Grover; witness did not furnish one dollar directly or indirectly to assist in election of Mr. Grover; there are 230 patients in the asylum; get \$5.50 per week for each. In answer to the question: "Did you pay any persons a salary for their services in your behalf for the asylum business at the legislature?" the witness said: "When I wanted a matter done I paid what it was worth for doing what I could not do."

R. H. Love of Multnomah sworn.—As far as witness had any knowledge there was no improper influence brought to bear to secure the election of Mr. Grover; witness was a friend of Grover and always supported him. Witness testified that after the adjournment of the "third house" referred to by Stiles, Palmer and Brown, he walked down with Palmer, and though Stiles may have been in the crowd, he did not recollect seeing him, and was satisfied Stiles had no conversation with Palmer at that time. About 20 in all went down and took a free drink; Palmer paid for it.

M. Caton of Jacksonville sworn.—Never proposed to run a straight Republican ticket for the purpose of electing a Democratic ticket in Jackson county; witness denied *in toto* that any agreement existed between him and Messrs. Grover and Chadwick as stated by Dr. Danforth in his testimony.

J. L. Ferguson recalled.—He detailed a history of the proceedings in the caucuses, not materially differing however from former witnesses who testified on the same subject.

George Cogan sworn.—Keeps St. Charles hotel in Portland; Stiles stopped at his house about a week in March 1877; Mr. Kelly paid his board bill; Stiles conducted himself like a gentleman; witness was in Salem night before the election; heard talk that money was in circulation to buy votes to elect Grover the next day; it was common talk; do not know anything about members being bought; did not bet \$100 that Grover would take his seat; witness is termed a pretty black Republican.

Tenth day: E. F. Dowell sworn.—Reside in Jacksonville; Republican; proprietor of the *Sentinel*; was surety for Sam. May, Secretary of State; was a proceeding upon the bond upon which witness was security for May; judgment obtained; was no proposition by Grover or Chadwick made to witness to run a Republican ticket in Jackson county so as to elect Democrats to the legislature; don't know what passed between Donforth and Caton; heard a conversation between them afterwards in which they contradicted each other. In answer to the question: "never any such proposition made to you?" witness said, "not through Chadwick purporting to come from Chadwick by letter; I had letters which showed the contrary, and I showed these to them, and they contradicted each other in my office; afterwards this affidavit was gotten up; one swore one way and the other, the other."

John M. Garin sworn.—Present at meeting of "third house." Only in session about an hour; walked down the street with Mr. Brown; think Palmer and Love were along; didn't see Stiles; time was too brief for Brown to have taken oysters with Stiles or any one else on the way down.

R. P. Earhart sworn.—Had known Stiles since '71; was in the employ of witness for about a year; his character at that time was good and would believe him on oath; came to Cox and Earhart recommended by the best citizens in Salem; witness was acquainted with Wilson of Tillamook. Saw him about 10 days after the legislature adjourned. Stated to witness that his feelings had been hurt by overtures made to him by persons during the legislature. He was not satisfied with men now as he was before he went to the legislature or something to that effect. He told witness that personally he ought to support Nesmith or Chadwick, but in explanation of his vote said the pressure was great and so he supported Grover. When Stiles worked for witness he was industrious and

faithful. He was employed as a salesman and was entirely competent. His habits were good. Heard nothing against him until the last few days. Heard more for than against him since the commission has been in session.

John G. Wright ex-mayor of Salem, E. Friedman, A. B. Crossman, John Coffey, Bliss D. Rickey, J. A. Baker, B. H. Bowman, L. S. Scott, A. B. Waterman, Charles Boyer, J. M. Patterson, Geo. Holman, R. H. Price, E. S. Olinger, Miles M. Miller, A. N. Gilbert, E. Williams, L. L. Rowland, Superintendent of Public Instruction, I. R. Moores and E. W. Cook being sworn, they all testified to the good character of W. H. N. Stiles.

Eleventh day: L. L. Rowland recalled.—In July last Secretary Chadwick recommended Stiles to witness as a suitable person to employ to assist him in making up his report as Superintendent of public instruction. Upon that recommendation witness tried to secure the services of Stiles to teach his daughter penmanship. The office does not handle any money.

E. Hirsch sworn.—Would believe Stiles on oath in any court of justice. The division of opinion in regard to his character has arisen in the last few days.

Stephen Staats sworn.—Member of the last legislature. Did not hear a conversation at any time between Grover and Gilfrey; in speaking of Stiles' evidence to Mr. Waters in Salem a few days ago, said he was present and heard the conversation between Grover and Gilfrey; may perhaps have said he heard the conversation in which Gilfrey said Goodman's vote had been secured for a thousand dollars, if so, it was only in a tone of levity, jesting and jocularly, thought Waters had reason to know he was jesting in this conversation; supported Nesmith until Grover received the caucus nomination.

W. H. II. Waters sworn.—Had a conversation with Staats in Salem a few days ago in reference to testimony of Stiles; Staats stated that he heard Grover ask Gilfrey how Goodman was and Gilfrey represented that he was all right; Staats said he regarded it as a joke between Grover and Gilfrey and would not be evidence before a committee. Witness did not think Staats was joking; witness and Staats were in the habit of joking together; strange as it may appear witness had not taken a drink that day; was in his normal condition either drunk or sober.

J. H. Mosier, of Wasco, sworn.—[Mr Mosier's examination was an exhaustive one, occupying much time, and we are compelled to make a very brief synopsis of it.—Ed.] Was subpoenaed on Saturday the 7th at Prineville, met Gilfrey at the Dalles—merely accidental; meeting some time ago with Butler and Trevitt referred to in Monday's testimony accidental. Grover was witness' choice from the beginning, considered himself free. At the time that witness' vote would elect Grover, referred to in previous evidence, was because Nesmith's friends had reported that Grover was opposed to the improvements on the Columbia and the Dalles and Salt Lake Railroad. Witness was never offered money directly or indirectly to vote for Grover, never got any directly or indirectly, nobody offered witness money. Nesmith's statement was pretty nearly correct except as to the amount mentioned; approached Nesmith to ascertain whether money was being used or not, told Nesmith he thought money was being used simply to draw him out, tried on the wrong man, he was a little too smart; witness may have told Goodman that he (witness) could get a thousand dollars for voting for Grover, may have told him that he knew where there was \$3,000 to buy three votes, object was to see if he knew where there was any; there had been a good deal of talk on the streets and witness wanted to find out whether Goodman know anything about it.

N. D. Hare sworn.—Slightly acquainted with Mr. Wilson once a member of the legislature; saw him at Astoria just before the meeting of the legislature told witness he had pledged himself and his honor as a man to vote against Grover. He said there were no circumstances under which he would vote for Grover, he said acting Governor Chadwick was his choice but as he

would not be a candidate, he would vote for Nesmith, finding no chance for Nesmith he would go for a Republican in preference to Grover; told witness he was a poor man, had hardly money enough to pay his expenses to Salem, was sorry he had been elected, was elected more as an Independent than anything else and Republicans had voted for him with the understanding that he would vote against Grover. Witness had always understood Wilson was regarded as a man of integrity in his community. Witness is collector of customs at Astoria.

Mosier recalled.—The testimony of Goodman was read and witness said "I think it was very near that sir." Witness said after Mr. Nesmith's testimony was read to him, "something near that, I don't recollect telling him I could get money, think I did tell him there was money being used, I believed from reports something of the kind; it was my belief from what his friends told me that I could get money." Witness thought he told Nesmith that he was a poor man; didn't think he told Stephen Smith that three Republicans could get three thousand dollars. Had a talk with Mr. Porter, thought he told Porter that it was his opinion that a little money would go a great ways with those who were standing out against Grover, was under the impression that they were holding out for money. Witness made all haste to answer the subpoena to appear as a witness in this case had no conversation with Gilfrey or any one else as to what he should testify to. Witness pronounced the statement of Stiles relative to his being in the Governor's office and counting out money in the presence of Stiles, false; witness never received a dollar of any man's money to vote for anybody, did not want any; "never saw Stiles till yesterday," never was introduced to him, never to a man of that name, was never in the Governor's office in his life. Stiles may possibly have seen him paid off in the Treasurer's office, that was the only chance. Witness never had as much as \$750 in his possession while at the legislature. Grover never asked witness to vote for him neither did Nesmith. Witness has about 800 acres of land in Wasco and his wife and her three children 444 acres in Linn county, has been offered \$22 50 an acre for the land in Linn county, the land is paid for; witness also has about fifty head of cattle, thirty horses, hogs and "such things."

Was in debt about \$150 last winter, bought a mill in the way of a debt. House burnt a year ago the third of last April and has not been able to build a new one. Witness is not acquainted with Goldsmith or Johns, met Hendershott but is not acquainted with him. Don't recollect saying any thing to John F. Miller about the use of money. There was nothing in the affidavit witness forwarded to Col. Cann some time ago that was not true.

Hon. J. S. Smith.—Reside in Portland, have read the proceedings; all insinuations declarations or otherwise that witness went to Salem to use money in the senatorial contest are false; took no active part in the contest, had no conversation with anybody but Grover and Thompson, Grover told witness he thought money was being used against him, said he was making an honorable fight and if he got the election he would get it without the use of money. Witness desired to prevent the use of his name and use his influence to elect Governor Grover, thought he might be able to influence Republicans to go for Grover; had no conversation with any member of the legislature.

J. H. Turner, of Umatilla, sworn.—Am acquainted with Mr. Goodman, his character in his county is good, he is one of our best citizens. The Democrats of Umatilla were first in favor of Nesmith, then Grover and then Slater. Goodman was nominated as a Nesmith man; wrote letters to our delegation urging them to support the Democratic caucus nominee, there were expressions made in this county that he was expected to support the caucus nominee. Presume Goodman is worth \$10,000. Have not heard of his buying lands since the senatorial election; wrote to Mr. Morrow to urge him to see Goodman and get him to support the caucus nominee.

Twelfth day: D. W. Butler, of Wasco

sworn.—Met Trevitt and Mosier at the Dalles, by accident; was there on business; don't remember Mr. Trevitt saying anything about the investigation; saw Gilfrey last Friday in Tygh valley; was a friend to Nesmith, attended only the first caucus for election of officers of the house, did not believe in the secret balloting so did not attend the caucuses after that; don't remember talking with Palmer about the senatorial contest; only voted for Grover on the last ballot, a great many urged that it would be better to drop Nesmith and take up Grover; Had no conversation with Goldsmith in regard to the election; talked with Mosier at different times about the election, sometimes he was in favor of Grover sometimes for Nesmith. Once Mosier suggested to witness that he had better "make a piece," or something to that effect, suppose he meant money; couldn't say whether Mosier was wanting witness to vote for Grover or not, witness and other friends lost hope of electing Nesmith and agreed that it was best to withdraw his name. Nesmith told witness that he thought he had been beaten by the use of money. Witness, in electioneering for Nesmith may have said he thought money was being used against him; heard different persons say they thought Mosier had received money, think the suspicions grew out of his changing his vote around, sometimes he voted for Grover sometimes for Nesmith. There was joking on all sides at Salem during the contest; articles appeared in the Dalles Tribune urging witness to support the caucus nominee; regarded the withdrawal of Nesmith's name as by his authority. Witness bought a mill since last session and paid for it in note and mortgage, have copy of the record of the mortgage at the hotel. Witness has a farm valued at \$4,000, and 10 or 12 head of horses; didn't know there was a subpoena out for him till he got to Dalles, was then on his way down, having seen Mr. Miller's testimony in regard to the mill.

Wm. Goodman, of Umatilla, sworn.—The sentiment of the constituents of witness was favorable to Nesmith, witness was a friend to Nesmith and supported him in joint convention until the last ballot, on that ballot voted for Grover, didn't remember of talking with Mosier about the election, never had any conversation with Goldsmith, Trevitt and Barnhart were friends to Nesmith, Palmer was a friend to Grover, witness voted for Grover because he was second choice, Nesmith having withdrawn his name from the contest. Two or three days before the election came off, told Grover that if Nesmith could not be elected was in favor of him. Witness pronounced statements made relative to him by Stiles, as false. Had no promise from Grover of any office and never received a dollar, was never approached by any man upon that subject, neither of the Grover factions nor of the Nesmith factions. There was no influence brought to bear on witness whatever.

John Hobson of Astoria sworn.—Was a delegate to the convention which nominated Wilson of Tillamook. Nominated him with the expectation that he would get a good many Republican votes. Witness gave a long account of the political situation in Tillamook and the reasons for the nomination of Wilson. On his way to Salem, Wilson came to Astoria to learn the wishes of his constituents at that place. A meeting was called and he was instructed to abide by the decision of the caucus. He didn't agree to support Grover but to go into caucus and abide by its decision. Witness thought Wilson had carried out his instructions.

W. H. Watkins recalled.—Of his own knowledge knew nothing about Wilson receiving money from School or Agricultural funds. Heard something about his receiving in advance of the mortgage. Congie and Dick Williams told witness that they were satisfied Wilson had sold his vote as he had paid a large debt. Brown, State Treasurer said he had loaned Wilson some money on Chadwick's recommendation. Brown said between 400 and 500 dollars. Witness never heard the question of Palmer being superintendent of the penitentiary until about a week after the election. Witness had no knowledge that the question of who should be superintendent of the penitentiary had anything to do with the election of Mr. Grover. It was witnessed understanding that Wilson borrowed the money from the State Treasury to pay a debt he owed on his farm.