

ASHLAND TIDINGS.

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

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ASHLAND TIDINGS.

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The Grover Investigation.

(CONCLUDED)

L. M. Savage sworn: Was a member of the State Senate; regarded the senatorial election as regular in all respects; never had much acquaintance with Stiles; he wished witness to join the Tilden & Hendricks club before referred to; witness told him he didn't wish to join the club; Stiles was indignant and talked about throwing off on the party. Goldsmith told witness during the election that he was taking no sides whatever in the contest; not acquainted with Mr. Mosier; was pointed out to witness on the street yesterday for the first time; never heard of rumors of money being used from any responsible person—never from any member.

E. L. Bristow, editor and publisher of the *Mercury*:—Conversed with Mr. Goldsmith on the evening before Grover's election; Mr. Goldsmith said he was really not taking much part in the election, was looking after the Look matter and could not afford to make enemies of the friends of either candidate by taking part in the contest.

Wm. H. Clark of Grant Co., sworn.—Witness never had in his possession during or immediately after the session of the legislature a note signed by Goldsmith; knew a man named John Schmidt but never had any financial dealings with him; witness is a merchant; deals with L. Goldsmith & Co.; no statement of witnesses indebtedness to them was made in March; in senatorial canvass was for Nesmith; the election of Senator Grover was as fair as any election of that kind.

E. A. Lake sworn.—Once made an affidavit that Mosier had received \$1,900 for voting for Grover, and he saw the money paid to Mosier, and that he had no interest in the matter; witness made this said he out at the instance of W. B. Higbee of Corvallis, who was to get him subpoenaed to Washington for doing it, and that Higbee knew he was making a false affidavit at the time. Afterwards witness made another affidavit contradicting the first one and the last one is correct. He detailed a conversation between himself and Higbee at the Chemeketa hotel, since the election, in which he demanded his first affidavit and some money which he understood was to be advanced to him as a part of the mileage to Washington. He says he had a Mr. Williams under the bed at the time listening to the conversation. The first affidavit was made in Dolph's law office in Portland; while this witness was under examination the two affidavits referred to, also letters from Higbee to Lake, were introduced in evidence.

J. L. Williams of Salem, sworn.—Was under the bed and heard the conversation between Higbee and Lake; Lake made Higbee tell what the arrangements were between them; Lake asked Higbee for money; would give him an order on Waters; the main point with Lake was to find out where his affidavit was; Higbee said it was at Corvallis but a copy had gone to Washington; Higbee thought he could make \$5,000 out of it; heard Lake tell Higbee "you know, Higbee, there is no truth in the affidavit; Higbee replied "I know it, but that is all right, I have got into this matter now and I propose to make some money out of the matter." Higbee is a Republican; witness first saw Lake in 1864, went to California; came back last year under the name of Wright, but soon resumed the old name; the first suggestion that perhaps Lake knew something about false affidavits being made was made by Mr. Watkins to witness; the manner of finding out was of witnesses own concoction; in the conversation overheard by witness, Higbee said he was in with Palmer in the expose, that Palmer had fallen out and was ready to make evidence that he had received \$10,000 or \$12,000; Higbee held out the idea that he (Higbee) would sell out to either of the parties; was waiting to hear from the Democrats.

Thirteenth day: John Hackleman, sworn.—Is intrusted with certain duties under the Board of Land Commissioners; was a member of the Third house; the Third house convened at 10 o'clock and adjourned in 3 quarters of an hour; know Mr. Stiles; after adjournment of Third house, went down the street with Palmer, Brown and

others; don't think Stiles was in the company; am confident that Palmer did not stop to talk with Stiles that night.

Emanuel Myers, sworn.—Reside in Salem; after the adjournment of the Third house before referred to Stiles was the last to come in to Emerson's restaurant; was intoxicated; he asked for oysters and when Mr. Emerson told him he had none, Stiles said, "What kind of a d—d house do you keep anyway" and knocked some things off the table. Emerson was going to put him out but Mr. Dearborn interposed saying that he wrung himself in anyway and to let him alone; Dearborn, Love, Palmer, Capt. Wiley and Rozay were there.

J. R. Wiley, sworn.—Sergeant at arms of the House last winter. Was not possible for the Third house to have been in session on the night referred to in evidence, as late as 1 or 2 o'clock; legislature adjourned at 10 and Third house met immediately; don't remember seeing Mr. Stiles that night after Third party left the Capital.

R. H. Love, recalled.—Do not know whether Stiles was at the supper or not. Third house did not adjourn later than 11 o'clock.

J. L. Ferguson recalled.—The Speakers gavel dropped at about 10 minutes after 10 and the Third house assembled immediately after and was in session about an hour.

Judge N. H. Gates sworn.—Have known Mosier since 1854; his farms are worth from 8 to 10 thousand dollars; houses and lots in the Dalles \$3,000; never heard his character called in question in the community; nor the character of Mr. Butler for truth and honesty in any respect; witness did the writing when Butler bought the mill; got the mill on 15 months credit, and gave a chattel mortgage on the machinery. Did not hear of Butler and Mosier being instructed to vote for any one; saw Messrs. Trevitt, Mosier and Butler in the Dalles; Trevitt was there to bid on road bonds sold by witness; Butler told witness he was there to make a trade with Mrs. Humason about cattle. Witness would believe any statement made by Mosier.

Judge O. S. Savage of Wasco Co., sworn.—Have known Butler and Mosier about 18 years; do not think money could buy them; they were not instructed; but it was expected they would abide by the decision of the caucus.

Albert Wilson of Salem sworn.—Am the son of the Mr. Wilson spoken of in the testimony; about the 16th of October he received about \$145 from a brother of witness on Puget Sound. The express books at Salem show he received \$100 more from the same source. He received \$400 from Mr. Brown or Mr. Chadwick; know of his selling his flax to Mr. Holman in Salem; he had no dog from the time of the session to the time of his death; his father had no money at the time of his death; he was a pure, upright christian man and so considered by his neighbors.

A. Hackleman sworn.—Did not tell Mr. Levi Parsons that he was sent for to go to Salem and that he knew money was being used; went to Salem on private business; saw nothing to indicate that any improper means were being used to elect Grover; Mr. Hill of the *Oregonian* and witness had talked the matter over and agreed that it was fair and honorable.

States Treasurer Brown, detailed the circumstance connected with the loan of \$400 to Mr. Wilson on recommendation of Mr. Chadwick. The transaction was regular and legal; witness said it had nothing to do with the election; considered Wilson an upright man.

Gov. Chadwick recalled.—Corroborated Mr. Brown's statement about the \$400 transaction; was no connection between the tender of the penitentiary to Mr. Palmer and the defeat of the bill for leasing the prison; the tender of the office of superintendent of the penitentiary to Palmer had nothing to do with the senatorial election.

John Hackleman, recalled and during the course of an exhaustive examination detailed the matter of the loan to Wilson, corroborating the testimony of Brown and Chadwick.

J. H. D'Arsey, attorney at law, sworn.—Know something about Mr. Stiles' connection with the Democratic club at Salem; he was a Nesmith man; witness thought; his character is not

good for truth and veracity in Salem; witness had not heard Mr. Stiles' character assailed until recently; the principal charges have been made since he testified here; witness said: "I heard his character mentioned once before the controversy came up; I know how I always considered the man; I always avoided him as much as possible."

Ex-Senator Kelly, sworn.—Have known Mosier and Butler for many years; they were always regarded as honorable upright men; the party would not have nominated them for office if they had not been honorable men; would believe a statement made by Mr. Mosier if he were not jesting; if on oath he averred that a statement had been made with apparent seriousness to a party to ascertain what the other party knew, witness would believe him; at times addicted to drinking but witness did not think this militated against his honor nor his truthfulness; when under the influence of liquor, like many others, he does some silly things, says some silly things, but he is not as a general thing addicted to drinking.

James Harrington sworn.—Reside in Tillamook and am a brother-in-law to Mr. Wilson; know nothing of his buying a dog and bringing it up there; never brought one home; was not in the habit of speculating in dogs; never followed that for a living; "never took none home."

Hon. J. W. Nesmith recalled.—On the afternoon preceding the election saw Mosier and Col. Cann walking together; knew Cann was opposed to witness; had curiosity to know what effect Cann had on Mosier; soon after saw Mosier and asked him, "Mr. Mosier will you come around to the room where my friends meet to-night?" He said, "Colonel there is money being used in this contest; I am a poor man and I want some of it." We had some further conversation; reminded him that he had been sent to the legislature to support witness; said he had been offered \$1,400 for his vote; did not ask him who offered it; witness felt indignant and said to him, "I have no money to use for that purpose." He then intimated that he wanted money as witness understood him; do not undertake to repeat his exact words; told him he must use his own discretion about that; witness felt disgusted and left satisfied that he would not get his vote any more. He appeared to be in dead earnest about it; never spoke to him after that day. Said to Palmer during the canvass, "Palmer you will get a majority in this county." He said, "I am doing all I can for you in a quiet way, Nesmith; there's no use in my making pledges, you understand how I am on the senatorial question." Had no conversation with him about the superintendency of the Penitentiary until legislature adjourned. He insisted on witness going into caucus; offered to bet \$1,000 if witness would go into caucus he would get the nomination. He told witness he would be his friend if he would go into caucus, but his previous conduct had destroyed witness' faith in him. He told witness he could be nominated if he would go; they had put up a job on witness and he refused to go; it was a thimble-rigging concern; was intended to be swindled out from the start in secret ballot; had refused to go in and could not vacillate; had to take a stand somewhere and would not go. Never was in a Democratic caucus where that kind of voting (secret ballot) was done and have been in a good many; witness had been told his friends protested against it.

Dr. S. W. Dodd of Astoria, sworn.—Was at the meeting called at the request of Mr. Wilson at Astoria for the purpose of instructing him relative to his course in the legislature. He gave his positive assurance that he would stand by the caucus nominee. His first choice was Chadwick, but he would stand by the caucus nominee. Ten or twelve persons were present at the meeting. Wilson did not say in presence of witness that he had been elected as a Nesmith man; witness did not know of any pledge of Wilson to support Nesmith.

Peter Emerson sworn.—Reside in Salem; not personally acquainted with Stiles. On the night of the adjournment of the legislature he ordered no supper for himself, Mr. Palmer and others; remember of his being there; he came in pretty drunk; some say his

character is good, some say it is bad. Heard considerable talk about his character before the investigation.

J. M. Martin of Salem, sworn.—Am a grocer; heard nothing prior to the investigation of the character of Stiles; was acquainted with Wilson; his character was generally good. Heard nothing against Stiles' character except what old Mr. Cox has stated. Witness said Stiles' character was good and that he would believe him on oath.

O. J. Carr, of Seattle sworn.—Is assistant post master. Knew Wilson; his son sent him through the mails \$300 at one time last August. Do not know why the money was sent. The old gentleman told witness three or four years ago that he had but little means; was intending to buy a farm at Tillamook and go into the business of raising sheep. Mentioned the money that was coming to him from Mr. Martin and that he was expecting some from his son. He also said there was money owing from Cox and Earhart. Think he was in debt at the time he ran for the legislature. His son may have sent him other money beside the \$300. He told witness he was dependent on his son to some extent for assistance.

Mr. Martin recalled.—Bought a house from Mr. Wilson in Salem in 1873, paid him cash, balance secured by mortgage on the property. Paid the last half on the 20th of August 1875.

H. H. Gilfrey sworn.—The witness pronounced the testimony of Stiles relative to the meeting of Grover and Gilfrey at the foot of the stairs in the Chemeketa hotel on the night preceding the election as absolutely false and the man who made it a black hearted perjurer. May have had a casual conversation with Grover at the foot of the stairs that night about the election. The understanding of witness is that Grover went to bed at half past 10 that night. Could not have been at the place mentioned at 12. Never directly or indirectly offered Mr. Goodman or any other member any money or other consideration to influence their vote. Don't think Mr. Mosier was in the Governor's office during the session. Never was in there with witness. Never come out of Governor's office and found Stiles in room of witness. Whole statement as far as it relates to witness is an unmitigated falsehood. Knew Wilson. He told witness One Arm Brown had offered him \$1,500 not to vote for Grover and to keep out of the caucus. He said he felt badly about it. Witness considered Wilson an honorable upright man. Do not know of an attempt on the part of Grover or of any of his friends to influence members in his favor. Grover told witness that if he got the office he wanted to go there with a clear title, in order that he might fight corruption wherever it came from. Stiles once said in presence of witness that he would eavesdrop the Republican caucus. Witness objected to it. Did not think it was right. Witness was 6 years private secretary of the Governor. Salary was raised from \$600 to \$1200. Never heard of Mr. Mosier's declarations that he had received money until after the election.

There were idle rumors on the outside of money being used, made by those who wanted to beat Mr. Grover. At the instance of Mr. Grover went up the Columbia to get Mr. Butler and Mr. Mosier to come down. It was stated that a subpoena had been served on them and they could not be found. The Governor's friends did not believe that they were trying to evade the summons. Did not go for the purpose of conferring with these gentlemen in advance as to what they would testify to. Witness received during the 6 years of his service, for various duties perhaps \$14,000.

Wm. H. Watkins recalled.—No such meeting occurred between Grover Gilfrey and witness as Stiles mentions. Witness considered Stiles a bad man, and had told him so, and had he been there at that hour and Grover and Gilfrey talking, witness would have stopped it; witness was in the hotel about 12 o'clock and Straight and Crane wanted to see Grover, and witness went and got him to come down; saw Stiles on the street a short time before; may have been in the hotel; knew of no money being used to influence the election of Grover; Grover told witness not to use money or allow any to be used; Grover did not give a pledge that witness should not be appointed U. S.

Marshal; Stiles offered to eavesdrop the Republican caucus and report to witness for \$20; told him had not got so low down in politics. Witness explained how the matter was managed through Williams to work up the Higby-Lake matter.

Dr. J. B. Lee, of Corvallis sworn.—Was a senator from Benton; knew Wilson since 1870; he was for Nesmith after he found there was no show for Chadwick. He told witness early in the session that he would prefer Applegate to Grover, that he would not vote for Grover under any circumstances. Wilson and witness sat together while balloting was going on for senator and saw Wilson vote for Grover, and said to him: "You have changed your opinion;" he answered he had reasons and inducements for doing so. Subsequently witness said to him, "You sold out cheap." He answered that others had sold out cheaper.

Geo. W. Wilson sworn.—Son of Mr. Wilson, of Tillamook. Had been in the habit of sending money to father ever since he purchased the property in Tillamook. After his election, sent him altogether, at different times \$840. Witness never heard anything against his father's reputation.

T. C. Smith, Benj. Belt, and John Morgan testified that the character of Stiles is not good.

John B. McCane.—Was at the Chemeketa on the night before election, think Grover was there; if any such conversation had occurred as mentioned by Stiles, would certainly have heard it; did not see Stiles there; was intimate with Grover and heard him say that if he could not be elected fairly he didn't want to be elected at all. If there had been any money used by Grover or his friends witness would have been likely to have known it.

J. K. Weatherford sworn.—Speaker of the House; was acquainted with Goodman of Umatilla. His first choice was Nesmith, second Grover. Witness found him a man of honor and integrity in all his dealings with him. Saw nothing to indicate to mind of witness that Grover or his friends used bribery. Talked with Butler and Goodman and they expressed themselves the same as they have since in evidence. Witness said he heard Wilson express a determination to go for the caucus nominee.

Jas. Walton recalled.—In organizing the Democratic club at Salem the design was to keep out measurably the Grover men and more especially the Watkins men; this was to purify and elevate the Democratic party in Marion county. The penitentiary Democrats undertook to secure control of the club but they were snubbed effectually; considered the election of Grover fair, only that the time honored usages of the party were departed from by holding the secret caucus.

John F. Miller recalled.—Didn't want Wilson to support Grover, for in the event of his election he would appoint Watkins to some office. Wilson told witness he had in black and white from Grover that he would not do that; on that assurance he said he thought he could support Grover.

James Quick, of Tillamook, sworn.—Mr. Wilson told witness, we have lots of men in Oregon that are preferable to Grover—lots of them. After his return from Salem he told witness that the reason he did not support Nesmith was because he behaved so ridiculously about the caucus.

Julius Sorenson.—Had known Mr. Mosier for 20 years; always considered a reliable and a truthful man; would believe him on oath.

J. C. Bewley, a Tillamook Republican, sworn.—Mr. Wilson was for Chadwick first, then for Nesmith. Said in a public speech he would lay aside all feelings he might have on any account, and vote for the interest of the people as he understood it.

H. C. Dale sworn.—Wilson told witness the reason he, a Democrat, came to be elected in a Republican county was because he was an anti-Grover man Wilson regarded Mr. Wilson as an incorruptible man.

C. C. Babcock sworn.—Mr. Hiram Straight said in a speech in Pape's hall at Oregon City, during the campaign, that if he voted for Grover they might know that he had sold out for coin.

Fifteenth (and last) day: A. H. Sale, of Astoria sworn.—Knew Mr. Wilson and conversed with him before senatorial election.
Continued to fourth page.