

OREGON UNION

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT
CORVALLIS, OREGON.

FRIDAY, JAN. 6, 1898.

THRIFT! THRIFT! HORATIO.

The selection of school books for the public schools of Oregon will hardly be taken out of the hands of the active educators in the public schools, and placed in the hands of persons who are not by education and experience qualified to decide upon the matter.—Albany Herald.

The above squib has no reason for being published aside from an insinuation it contains that the governor will appoint "persons who are not by education and experience qualified to decide upon the matter" of selecting school books, and apparently willful ignorance of the matter it discusses. No one supposes that men will be selected by the governor under the new bill, who have not the requisite education and experience to select text books, and, besides, we expect that official to select men who have the business sense to make a respectable bargain for books and not have the state robbed so that certain school superintendents may get presents from the successful book trusts. The newspaper that now advocates the selection of text books by the school superintendent, as the law has been, is not the friend of the conscientious superintendent who sees in the present law a disagreeable duty to perform which is not of his choosing and for which he receives no recompense, but rather of those hirelings who are clamoring to assume this responsibility of selecting text books. A responsibility that has no place in the list of their duties. So great an anxiety to assume a burden argues a reward from some source, and it is not to be found in their salary.

No other state in the Union asks superintendents to select text books, and most of them have just such a commission as the new law proposes. The result is that we have the worst text books at the highest price of any state in the Union. But these newspapers are very likely to hear a good deal more about this matter before the close of the coming session of the legislature.

A STATESMAN AND LEADER.

The McKinley administration coming in as it did in a season of unparalleled adversity will go down to posterity as one of the brightest pages in our history if no accident befalls it later on. There are possibly mistakes and errors, to count against it but mistakes and errors attach to everything human and finite. Chief of the accusations against it is the management of the war department during the late war or rather the mismanagement of the secretary of war, and although there is no doubt that much hardship and suffering was needlessly inflicted on our soldiers yet most of this is attributable to the extreme exigencies of the case, and a committee of investigation have failed to fasten any serious dereliction of duty on any one connected with the war department. Another charge against the administration is that the president made pre-election promises of offices, but this if true, although reprehensible is not a very grave charge. It is the miserable office hunting gang that besegs every president before and after his election and which it is almost as impossible to steer clear of as it would be to run away from an earthquake. These same spoils-men were the direct cause of Garfield's assassination, and have been a thorn in the side of every president since Washington's time. It was perhaps wrong to make promises, but having made them surely there can be no rebuke due for fulfilling them. But whether these charges be true or false they will not count seriously against the splendid background of McKinley's administration for whether we look at the grand personality of the man, the steady hand by which he guides or the unerring instinct by which he feels the popular pulse, there is no place where McKinley does not shine as a statesman and a leader of men. He will succeed himself as president of the United States and Oregon will cast her vote for him.

THE NEW YEAY.

With this our first greeting for the year 1898 we wish everybody a happy and prosperous new year.

and the prospects for having such a wish fulfilled were never so plainly in evidence in this glorious country of ours as they are now. In our town, there exists a fine condition of things. Our merchants are doing a good business, our hotels are well filled, our health is excellent, and everyone appears to be busy. In our county, the farmers have a large acreage of fall grain in, the largest in the history of the country. They are practically out of debt, as the debts remaining are not a burden and many of them are loaning money. Everything they produced last year brought a good price and the outlook for next years crop and prices is excellent. Our debt and our taxes are decreasing, and our country government is honestly and faithfully conducted.

Our state never had a more prosperous outlook for the future. It is morally certain that a large immigration will set in this year from the middle west, of a superior class who have learned more of Oregon's greatness during the past year than in all her previous history. A distinct start is being made in manufacturing lines and all of our great resources are likely to receive attention. And our nation, what shall we say of it? It is true that no country on the earth stands out in bolder braver, more honest light than the United States of America. We have risen to every occasion that confronted us and came out with honor. We have proved our ability to rise to even greater calls upon us. It is our great possibilities that the world stands in awe of and only a few croakers at home doubt the future greatness of our career.

With such a list of facts before them our own people have every right to feel proud and happy and to look forward to a year of unusual prosperity which we again wish them.

THE CHICAGO STRAY.

Democratic newspapers of character and ability throughout the nation are urging the party to cut loose from the Chicago platforms and Bryanism because they see that the miscellaneous assortment of rubbish and devilishness contained in them can never produce anything but danger to the nation and disaster to the party. The proper thing to do with Bryan and his Chicago platform is to hand them over as a job lot to the populists. As a party they are now in the market, looking for a platform of some kind. A ready made one will suit them best, their old corps of inventors of schemes and fomenters of sedition, have all got rich and retired, or are dead, and no new corps seems to be coming forward to take their places, so the old Chicago platform will suit them well enough, and for heaven's sake let them have it. The 16 to 1 part always belonged to them, and except the plank giving the business control of the nation to anarchistic mobs, there is not much else in it. Give it to them. They can bush it up and put a few planks in it cinching railroads, and crippling other industries, and demanding loans from the government in advance on their potato crop with several other impossible and wholly irrational schemes, and make a pretty good populist platform out of it. Let them have it.

Pick up your life or your load where today finds it. Never mind past mistakes. Forget them. Remember that he is not the best Christian or the best general who makes fewest mistakes. He is best who succeeds in bringing victory out of mistakes; and what a splendid victory it is. Lift up your head, don't look in the gutter, look aloft. Keep your heart clean, your mind bright, and give your soul the reins for 1899 and 1900 will find you a stronger, wiser and happier man.

The noisy shouting of some of the nations for peace just now while they are preparing for war, recalls the couplet printed in a Dublin paper during the Catholic emancipation troubles in Ireland. Describing the feeling among the people it wound up by saying: They were fighting like devils for conciliation; and hating each other for the love of God.

Cider on Tap.

A delicious article in the shape of cider is now on tap at the factory at the south end of Main street. For sale in small or large quantities.

Five men appointed by Mr. Geer to select text books for the public schools can be located and the responsibility fixed if they sell out to any text book trust. A majority of 41 men, as now required by law to select text books, can't be located nor held responsible. See?—Capital Journal.

From Kings Valley.

We have had a singing class in Kings Valley and Pee Dee. The classes were taught by Prof. W. A. Ginn of Salem, and at the close of twelve lessons at each place both classes united and the professor gave a vocal concert at the old church in Kings Valley on the evening of December 27th, assisted by Mrs. Ginn. The program consisted of many class songs, choruses, solos, trios, quartets and comic songs. One instrumental piece was executed nicely by Curtis Miller. All were highly pleased who attended and went home feeling that they had heard something unusually good. But the class feel that they owe all gratitude to the professor. He is a whole orchestra in himself and anyone wishing to become a singer would do well to give him a call. Professor and Mrs. Ginn have taken their departure for their home in Salem but were made a heartfelt good bye by the class. CORRESPONDENT.

New and Select Harness Supplies.

J. M. Cameron carries the largest and best selection of robes in the state of Oregon, outside of Portland. They have just received a very large invoice direct from the factory, and the low prices at which they sell them will astonish you. The prices range from 50 cents upward. They have a full line of saddles and harness, and other supplies in their line, either bought for cash or manufactured in their own establishment. The prices cannot be beat, and the quality they guarantee.

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SOUTH AND EAST VIA Southern Pacific Route.
Shasta Line
Express Trains leave Portland Daily

SOUTH		EAST	
8:30 P. M.	Lv Portland	At	9:50 A. M.
9:40 P. M.	Ar Corvallis	Lv	6:30 P. M.
8:15 A. M.	Ar San Francisco	Lv	7:30 A. M.

The above trains stop at all stations between Portland and Salem, Turner, Marion, Albany, Teague, Shedd, Halsey, Harrisburg, Junction City, Eugene, Cottage Grove, Drift, Jewell, and all stations from Roseburg to Ashland, inclusive.

ROSEBURG MAIL DAILY—

8:30 A. M.	Lv Portland	Ar	4:30 P. M.
12:25 P. M.	Lv Albany	Lv	12:30 P. M.
5:20 P. M.	Ar Roseburg	Lv	7:30 A. M.

LOCAL PASSENGER TRAIN DAILY (EXCEPT SUNDAY)—

8:10 A. M.	Lv Albany	Ar	10:30 A. M.
9:00 A. M.	Ar Lebanon	Lv	1:30 A. M.
4:50 P. M.	Lv Albany	Ar	1:30 P. M.
5:40 P. M.	Ar Lebanon	Lv	10:00 P. M.

Dining Cars on Ogden Route.
Pullman Buffet Sleepers

Second class Sleeping Cars,
Attached to all through trains.

West Side Division,
Between Portland and Corvallis.

MAIL TRAIN DAILY (EXCEPT SUNDAY)—

7:30 A. M.	Lv Portland	Ar	8:30 P. M.
11:35 P. M.	Ar Corvallis	Lv	8:30 P. M.

At Albany and Corvallis connect with trains of Oregon Central & Eastern Railroad.

EXPRESS TRAIN DAILY (EXCEPT SUNDAY)—

4:50 P. M.	Lv Portland	Ar	8:25 A. M.
7:30 P. M.	Ar McMinnville	Lv	5:50 A. M.
8:30 P. M.	Ar Independence	Lv	4:50 A. M.

THROUGH TICKETS
To all points East and South.

Rebate tickets on sale between Portland, Sacramento and San Francisco. Net rates, \$10 first-class and \$17.00 second-class, including sleeper.

For tickets and information regarding rates, maps, etc., call on company's agent, A. K. Miller at Corvallis.

R. KOEHLER, Manager.
E. F. ROGERS, Asst. G. F. & P. Agt. Portland, Oregon.

Closing-Out Sale
DRESS GOODS,
Ladies' Fine Shoes and Jackets
AT COST.

This is no Advertising Fake. We mean every word we say, as we are determined to close those lines out before January 1, 1899.

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S. L. KLINE, The White House

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Remember: We will always keep prices lower than any other store.

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Connecting at YAQUINA with the

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Every respect. One of our steamers is due to sail about every five days.

For Sale.
A litter of thoroughbred Scotch Collie pups. Will make splendid cattle and sheep dogs. Apply to C. J. Eshnor, Tidewater, Lincoln County, Or.

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The Union, \$1 a Year

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CAUTHORN & TAYLOR
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1st. Dick Kiger, \$20 Suit, Amount of purchase, \$133.20.

2nd. Fred Kruse, \$15 Suit, Amount of purchase, \$109.55.

3rd. A. Fruit, \$10 Suit, Amount of purchase, \$101.75.

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The largest stock of Men's and Boys' Merchandise in Benton County.

Big cut in Suits, Overcoats and Mackintoshes.

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Fresh bread daily. We keep a complete stock of Caudle's, Fruit and Nuts. Everything in the line of Smoker's Supplies.

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Will practice in all the courts of the state.

Prices for Woodsawing.
On and after this date, October 15th, 1898, the prices for sawing wood will be 50 and 60 cents per cord.
WALKER, FISCHER & MAHA