

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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TUESDAY, - - - - - MAY 16, 1893

THE GEARY ACT.

The decision of the supreme court of the United States on the tested constitutionality of the Geary act puts Grover Cleveland in rather a sorry attitude; and, to that extent, makes Governor Pennoyer's admonition that the president should "attend to his business" forceful and sensible. That the mere motion of an attorney for the Chinese should have the effect of postponing the execution of the act is simply another instance of "the law's delay," but has no real bearing in the case.

The court has passed upon the only question which could properly come before it, and declared the act constitutional. With the sentimental side of the matter, or the threatened Chinese retaliation we have nothing further to do.

It may be a hardship imposed on the Coolie to cut off his splendid pasturage in the field of American labor. Doubtless many of them will go back to China as poor as they came thence, and their comfortable competence of four or five hundred dollars to solace their old age be denied them. But what is their loss will be our gain.

It is a singular thing that the two prominent democrats on the supreme bench, Chief Justice Fuller, and Justice Field of California should be the only strenuous opponents of the purely democratic measure, fathered by Democrat Tom Geary and emphatically endorsed by a democratic house of representatives which had a two-thirds majority of his fellow disciples. It is noticeable, however, that their objections were purely sentimental and had no weight with the majority of the bench.

What is Cleveland going to do about it? He already stands arraigned before the bar of public opinion for obstructing the operation of a law, regularly enacted and was endorsed by the court of last resort, as far as the written law is concerned. In that higher court where the unwritten law is even more potent than any legislative enactment, Mr. Cleveland will be convicted of malfeasance in office. Who but he should have known that the Geary act was not in conflict with the provisions of the constitution? And, even if he doubted the validity of the law, what excuse can he find for suspending its operations? The fact that the money appropriated by the Geary act is entirely insufficient to carry out its provisions as to deportation of the Chinese laborer cannot have influenced him. The great mass of the democratic party is in sympathy with the anti-Coolie agitation, which proclivity Mr. Cleveland and his secretary of the treasury seem to have ignored. It is barely possible, as Dolph Hanna of Tacoma says, that the enforcement of an act of congress has been interfered with by counter action of the Chinese legation at Washington. If such is the case, an American may well take exception, and rejoice in the decision of the supreme court; for, had the decision been adverse the Chinese would have had occasion to regard themselves as masters of the situation.

What will be the consequences? Time, which "at last sets all things even" will tell. In the meantime let us preserve our souls in patience, and only keep in mind the fact that it is the duty of all good citizens to obey the law of the land and heartily co-operate in its enforcement. The supreme court of the United States has allied itself with Governor Pennoyer of Oregon in bidding President Cleveland "attend to his business."

TAX THE OWNERS.

Albert A. Pope, the bicycle maker, has written us a letter, arguing against the proposal plan to tax individual owners of bicycles. He claims that they are a necessity to the better class of workmen in the cities, enabling them to pay cheaper rents. Mr. Pope argues in a narrow groove. It will be hard to convince the vast majority of the people that bicycles are other than a luxury. The bicycles that are bought to save rent cannot amount to more than 10 per cent. of those sold. For instance, there is not a bicycle of the thirty or forty in The Dalles bought for this purpose; nor in any other town in Oregon save Portland is this probable. It is equally as probable that more than 75 per cent. of the bicycles used in Portland are owned by parties who do not buy them to save necessary walking, but are a luxury. Wage workers cannot afford to buy bicycles as a rule, especially married men with families. The other principal argument advanced is that it would be a hard matter to assess them equitably. Not at all. Any assessor who has judgment enough to assess the value of a wagon, is capable of pronouncing upon

a bicycle, with a small outlay of inquiry. Mr. Pope believes the makers should be taxed. We do not know whether it is as easy to escape taxation in Massachusetts as it has been in Oregon, but we are certainly not in favor of paying Massachusetts bounty in the shape of taxes when we can keep the money at home. Yes, a bicycle should be taxed, and the tax should be paid by the owner, whether it is a necessity, like a wagon, or a luxury, like a pleasure boat.

AN ADMIRABLE WOMAN.

Personal Characteristics of Mrs. Walter Q. Gresham.
 Walter Q. Gresham has been soldier, lawyer, judge, postmaster general, secretary of the treasury, judge again, prominent candidate for the republican presidential nomination, and is now democratic secretary of state. The newspapers have for many years devoted much space to his sayings and doings, and yet very little has been printed about the sterling woman who has been his faithful helpmeet since 1858, when she became Mrs. Walter Q. Gresham. Mrs. Gresham was born in Louisville. Her maiden name was Matilda McGrain. Her father was a merchant, who moved to a small town in Indiana while his daughter was still a little girl. There



MRS. W. Q. GRESHAM.

Matilda met Mr. Gresham, to whom she was married when she was but eighteen years of age.

The giddy whirl of Washington society will have less attraction for Mrs. Gresham than for any other of the cabinet ladies. She is no longer young, and life with her has never been a holiday. Her idea has been the bee rather than the butterfly. But she is a woman of sterling sense, and, being the wife of the secretary of state, she will entertain in the manner which the inexorable unwritten laws of society prescribe. Mrs. Gresham is really a charming hostess. She is such a thoroughly domestic creature herself that she succeeds without the slightest apparent effort in making her guests feel perfectly at home.

Mrs. Gresham is below the average in height, and her figure is as slender as that of a schoolgirl. She is not an obtrusive conversationalist, but is exceedingly entertaining after she warms up to the subject. Her hair is heavily tinged with gray, and her physical appearance would not seem to indicate that she is able to stand a protracted season of Washington balls, receptions, etc., but her past experience has taught her how to conserve her strength and she has done an amount of work in the way of correspondence for her distinguished husband that is almost incredible.

Mrs. Gresham believes that the social success of the present administration is beyond question. As she very aptly expresses it: "With a young and charming woman at the head of society, and a number of young women whose husbands are in the cabinet, there is sure to be much to do, and every one predicts an unusual season of festivities."

Mrs. Gresham's two children, Otto, aged thirty-three, and Mrs. W. H. Andrews, have always lived with their parents. This fact of itself speaks volumes of Mrs. Gresham's tact and the attractiveness of her home.

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 The Great Cough Cure. One Cent a Dose.
 25cts., 50cts., and \$1.00 per Bottle.
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J. F. FORD, Evangelist
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 Gentlemen: On arriving home last week, I found all well and anxiously awaiting. Our little girl, eight and one-half years old, who had wasted away to 38 pounds, is now well, strong and vigorous, and well fleshed up. S. B. Cough Cure has done its work well. Both of the children like it. Your S. B. Cough Cure has cured and kept away all hoarseness from me. So give it to every one, with greetings for all. Wishing you prosperity, we are Yours, Mr. & Mrs. J. F. Ford.
 If you wish to feel fresh and cheerful, and ready for the Spring's work, cleanse your system with the Headache and Liver Cure, by taking two or three doses each week.
 Sold under a positive guarantee. 50 cents per bottle for all druggists.

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Vest Jumpers, Pantaloon Overalls, Easy-fitting Pants.
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 Carries the U. S. Mail, Passengers and Express
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 Stages from Eastern and Southern Oregon, Northern California and all Interior Points.
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 No. 90 Second Street, The Dalles Or.
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"There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at its flood, leads on to fortune."
 The poet unquestionably had reference to the **Closing-Out Sale of Furniture & Carpets**
AT CRANDALL & BURGET'S,
 Who are selling these goods out at greatly-reduced rates.
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 Have your Lace Curtains, Shirts, Collars and Cuffs laundered by **THE TROY STEAM LAUNDRY,** of Portland, Or. Leave your bundles with Thos. McCoy, No. 110 Second St., before Tuesday noon, and get them on Saturday.
 Satisfaction Guaranteed.

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