

**The Dalles Daily Chronicle.**

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FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1897

WHICH IS BALAM?

The Portland Dispatch says the Mitchell push held up the legislature; that finding Mitchell could not be elected, it held up the legislature and tried to throw the blame on Bourne and his Populist allies. It adds: "The Benson house having thirty-one members, could have gone into the Davis house and captured the organization at any time, but they did not want it." The editor of the Dispatch knows, at every Oregonian knows, that the Benson house was not organized until after the Davis house had been in session several days. That the legislators who went into the Benson house were first in the Davis house, and only left it when Davis, their speaker, refused to make any effort to bring in the Bourne crowd or the other stay-outs. They might have captured the Davis house; in fact did capture it, but they caught a Tartar, and could do nothing. There were twenty-one members who would not come in when they joined forces with Davis, and that gentleman refused to entertain any motion of any kind except to adjourn. The editor of the Dispatch knows this as well as anybody. Besides, let us see what Corbett says, for the two do not agree. We do not pretend to say which is Balam and which the ass, though Corbett seems to talk the most. But be that as it may, Mr. Corbett, in a recent interview at Washington City, speaking of Mitchell, said:

In the senate he had made speeches in favor of free silver, and, when questioned as to his position by the gold men, he told them that he stood by the principles laid down in the St. Louis platform. The men then compared notes and found that some one was bound to get left, and so they agreed to not take the oath of office, and thus they prevented the election of Mitchell.

Which tells the truth, Robinson Crusoe or his man Friday? The former owned the goats, had them in his own corral, and by Jimmie! he ought to know.

**THE OREGON SPHINX.**

Tony Noltner, in the Portland Dispatch, says that Eastern Oregon is to have a splendid grain crop. Tony knows, because he has just been through Eastern Oregon, though not, if rumor is correct, for the purpose of examining the crop prospects. It shows, though, that Tony is observing, and that he is able to tell what he sees and knows if he wants to.

Why then does he so stubbornly refuse to enlighten his readers concerning things they are anxious to know, and of which he is well informed. They would like to know all about those ten Democratic senators whom the magical silvery tones of Tony's voice wooed into the Corbett fold. They would like to know at whose invitation Tony took that trip to Washington when he slipped off so quietly that no one knew he was gone. They would like to know the nature of the seal upon his lips that closes those eloquent portals of free silver speech that they lip of the grain prospects in Eastern Oregon when the readers of his paper are anguishing for information that they know he has hidden deep in the bathos beneath his hat.

For the sake of a long-suffering and anxious public, Tony, remove that embargo on free speech and let the liquid notes of melody come

plunking on each other's heels to our enlightenment.

Through the corridors of the capitol at Washington stalks the gloomy and unequal-legged Corbett, hopelessly hopeful, waiting the action of the committee; waiting the gathering rush of those ten Democratic senators to bear him bay-wreathed and triumphant to that vacant chair. He chatters occasionally, and, as Bret Hart puts it, "playfully mumbles his chestnuts," but Tony is not that way. His level gaze, like that of the Sphinx, sweeps the vast desert of our non-information, stony-eyed, imperturbable, remorseless.

With Corbett on deck and Tony at the helm, "the dead steered by the dumb, float upward with the tide."

While congress is monkeying with the tariff bill, the speculators of the country are getting their work in. Within a week foreign wools have been received in New York amounting to 24,000,000 pounds; in Philadelphia 8,000,000, and Boston 65,000,000; or in all nearly 100,000,000 pounds. The government will get but little benefit from the tariff on wool for a year or two.

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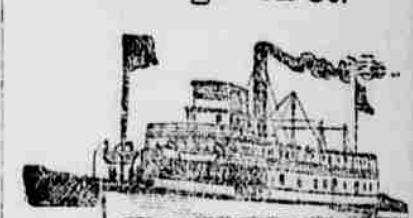
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