

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

The only Republican Daily Newspaper on Wasco County.

EASTERN OFFICE—230 to 234 Temple Court, N. Y. City. E. KATZ, Agent.

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THURSDAY -- NOVEMBER 11, 1897

UNTO ITSELF A LAW.

"A few more loose leaves," says the Oregonian yesterday, and "with The Dalles Chronicle a few words more." This being the time of year for the dead leaves to rustle, we are glad to note that those of the Oregonian act on natural principles. The trouble with our big contemporary is that it has gotten upon so lofty a pinnacle that it, like the laws of the Medes and Persians, cannot be read or understood of mortals. Having lived and matured surrounded by inconsistencies of its own creation, it fails to realize that they are inconsistent, but they are the single standard by which it measures all things. It prates of inconsistency and virtually says, "An inconsistency is a thing inconsistent; but if I create an inconsistency, it is not inconsistent to me, but plain as a pike-staff." Dogberry himself would be shamed into admiration of such wonderful premises and such clear and overwhelming conclusions.

Let us see. The Oregonian says, and quotes from itself to prove it, that in 1890 the free silver plank was inserted in the state platform by A. H. Tanner in order to aid Mitchell, and that few members of the convention knew it, and those few preferred not raise a disturbance about it. The Oregonian called attention to it, said it was a wrong principle, but supported the ticket. It did the same thing in 1892, and in 1894 the Oregonian editor admits having assisted in making the state platform, which reaffirmed the national platform of 1892, which platform, it asserts, was, "on any fair interpretation, a gold standard platform." Was it? If so, why should it need any interpretation, fair or otherwise? If it was, why was it not written in that clear and plain style pervading the Oregonian's editorial comments, which it quotes? Why was it not made clear and distinct so that it needed no interpretation? The fact is, the platform, like most recent platforms, was a juggling one, made so that it meant all things to all men. If it was so constructed as to require interpretation, why had not Senator Mitchell, Congressman Hermann and Ellis as much right to interpret for themselves as the Oregonian for itself—and everybody else? The editor of the Oregonian assisted in making this inconsistent platform, hence, as we have said, it is not inconsistent—to him.

Again, he supported the tickets in 1890, 1892, 1894 and 1896, yet none of them were single-standard platforms. He asserted the principles wrong, at times, but he submitted to the will of the majority and supported the tickets. We do not inquire into his motive for doing so, but state the fact. Putting him in the most unfavorable light, did Senator Mitchell do more than this when he said he stood squarely on the national platform made at St. Louis? Does Ellis more than this when he asserts that he will stand by that same platform? Most assuredly not.

The Oregonian arrogates to itself the right to do all the thinking for everybody and has over-taxed its thinker. This is why the dead leaves rustle around the Oregonian office, and this is perhaps why it takes THE CHRONICLE to task for its position. Our big contemporary thinks the CHRONICLE editor content "to support that which is false against that which is true under leadership congenial to

reptile journalism," and this in spite of the fact that we have never followed the leaders congenial to the Oregonian.

The Oregonian devoted a column yesterday to asking Congressman Ellis what he would do if Mexico or Bolivia or the South American states would join the United States in adopting bimetalism. The Oregonian does not want to be answered by Mr. Ellis, because no answer he could make would satisfy it, and the senile drivel it is indulging in is simply unanswerable, because senseless. The only answer Mr. Ellis could make would be that "Upon the happening of any of these pending and threatened events, I would do whatever the Oregonian dictated."

Pendleton has the credit of being a real live wide-awake town, but just at present it seems to be overlooking the fact that it may lose one of its most important industries. Astoria offers \$50,000 and a site for the mills, together with a guaranty of wheat, if he will re-build his mills there instead of in Pendleton. Our neighboring city is great in reaching out for new industries; will she neglect to hold fast that which she has?

Fright Breaks Them Up.
Crayfishes, crabs and lobsters are peculiarly sensitive to loud noises, and it is a fact that a loud and sudden clap of thunder will cause them to amputate or drop their large claws and "pinners." The impulse which seizes them when suddenly alarmed is to throw off their heavy claws, so that they may the quicker scurry off to a place of safety. Crabs or lobsters can in ten days or a fortnight grow new claws, as large as the old ones. For several weeks, however, the patient who is growing on a new set of fighting weapons does not appear among the armed members of his family, because, his claws being soft, he could not "take his own part," and would be eaten by his cannibal brethren.

A Bloodless Battle.
In 1518 a battle was fought near Milan, in Italy, and so perfect was the armor of both armies that, although the conflict raged from nine a. m. to four p. m., no one on either side was either killed or wounded, though one man broke his collar bone by falling off his horse.

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