

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.

FRIDAY - - DECEMBER 31, 1897

WILL IT BE WAR?

The closing years of the century bid fair to see some mighty changes among the governments of the earth. The hurrying of fleets toward China, whether it mean the partition of that moribund monarchy or not, gives evidence that some territorial readjustment is in prospect. The theater of action is changed from Europe to Asia, and the shores of the Pacific mark the place where stirring scenes may be witnessed.

The latter part of the eighteenth century saw the American revolution and the terrible anarchy of France; in the beginning of this one were enacted the deeds of Napoleon and the temporary crushing of France. It is not probable that the world will be shaken by war now as it was then, for the strength of the great nations is more evenly balanced, and as each looks upon the preparations of the other, there is less and less wish for the beginning of hostilities.

At the same time the social unrest in the European countries will serve as an incentive for the different rulers to engage the attention of their subjects away from home. China would be a good field for this, and the complications that may ensue from the occupation of Port Arthur by Russia may be a sufficient pretext for the clashing of the powers. Should it come, as many are willing to predict, all previous conflicts would be small in comparison to this one.

War has its benefits as well as its horror, and as the United States can be counted upon to keep itself clear, the prospect may be viewed with more complacency from our standpoint than from that of the nations more directly interested.

The treasury statement for December shows a great increase in the government's receipts for that month. For one day the increase from customs alone was \$735,567, the highest figure reached since the new tariff law went into effect. On several different days in December the receipts exceeded \$600,000, and it is estimated that the excess of December over November will be above \$2,500,000. Those who have watched the situation closely say this may be kept up for an indefinite period. When it is remembered what immense imports were received just previous to the going into effect of the Dingley law, it can be seen that when a fair trial is given, the present tariff measure will be found working satisfactorily. When the deficits began under the Wilson bill the Democratic press asked for time that the merits of the measure might be shown. The country waited, and nearly went bankrupt while doing so. We are confident that a far different story can be told when the Dingley law shall have been in operation as long a time as its predecessor. It may not be perfect; that there is room for improvement in some particulars is true, but the principle upon which it is founded is the correct one for maintaining the prosperity of the United States, and at the close of President McKinley's administration this fact will be generally recognized, if such is not the case even now.

If Secretary Alger were to run for office in Portland, he would be unmercifully slaughtered. His refusal to allow Portland to manage the Klondike relief expedition has caused Portland people to speak of the secretary of war in no pleasant terms. At the same time his action is loudly praised by Seattleites. Are the starving miners on the Klondike

to be made the subject of advertising rivalry on the part of Portland and Seattle? If so, the action of Secretary Alger is quite right and proper.

If the breach in the Republican party in Multnomah county can be healed, as it is possible now it may be, the Republican League meeting in February will be in the nature of a love feast to celebrate the prodigal's return. Just which one is the wayward son each can decide for himself.

Eight Mile Debating Club.

EIGHT MILE, Dec. 30, 1897. Anyone passing 8-Mile schoolhouse last night might have thought that a campmeeting was in session owing to the number of horses and vehicles hitched in the open space in front of the school yard and the number of persons congregated about the door, together with the clamor of voices within. The occasion was the third meeting of the 8-Mile Debating Club, the subject, being one chosen particularly for the young folks, was, "Resolved, That the Cow is More Useful to Man than the Horse." Unusual interest was taken by those debating, the leader of the affirmative being Charles Connelly, and of the negative Walter Ryan. The judges decided in favor of the horse.

After a short recess, a few matters of business were disposed of, when the following program was rendered:

Song—Marching Through Georgia..... Society Reading—Peril of a Passenger Train. Vernon Paul Reading—The Elixir of Life..... O. B. Connelly Speech—Domestic Animals..... Henry Ryan Reading—Across the Continent..... W. McDonald

Subject for next meeting is, "Resolved That Capital Punishment Be Abolished" Leaders, O. H. Kerns affirmative, L. A. Sears negative.

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Items from Enderby.

ENDERBY, OR., Dec. 30, 1897.

EDITOR CHRONICLE: The entertainment at the Enderby school house held a few days ago, was a grand success. A good program was rendered, the most pleasing number of which were the music by the Enderby Glee Club, singing by the Egbert Bros., recitations, declamations and dialogues. After the program was over the ladies served a bountiful supper, and all present enjoyed the red checked pippins, the popcorn and other sweets so appropriate for the Christmas time. The guests enjoyed these good things till a late hour, when the delightful gathering broke up for the night.

The funeral of the late W. S. Ward was held at the Odd Fellow's cemetery near Dufur, Wednesday, at 11 o'clock. The services was conducted by Rev. Jenkins, of Hood River.

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4:50 p. m. Lv. Portland. Ar. 8:25 a. m.
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