



Salem, Saturday, April 27.

#### BRIBERY — A POSSIBLE EMERGENCY.

Now here is an encouraging record for the young men who are to pattern after the old men. Where is the missionary to China, and the Sunday School teacher?

The representative from one of the counties east of the mountains has been taken by the ears by his party and made to explain how he came in possession of a check for \$3,000 while in the Legislature. He admitted that he did draw the check for \$3,000, but not for himself. It was handed to him in a sealed envelope, to be paid to those partisans who had to be bought into the party caucus for U. S. Senator.

This is a little new light on bribery, and we are glad it has been exposed. But no one here, who is acquainted with the circumstances of the past four years, doubts for a minute that this individual went away from Salem heavily laden with the "Duke's" money.

There is not the least doubt but that, if justice had been meted out to the money lords in this State and their corrupt tools in the Legislature who steal the people's rights, as it is to the poor devils who steal horses, the penitentiary would contain a much larger population than it now does.

We commend the following appropriate remarks on this subject, from the *Pacific Christian Advocate*, to the attention of every friend of Oregon:

"Bribery is justly condemned by all true patriots, of highminded and honorable men. It is giving a man money in exchange for his convictions of what is right and just. The man who gives no less than he who receives a consideration thus for his convictions of right is unprincipled, and is so far unworthy the respect of his fellow-beings. We are on the eve of another election. In this State, there will doubtless be found men unprincipled enough to undertake to buy up votes with money, for men unprincipled enough to sell their votes for the same. Money is a mighty instrument for good in the hands of noble minded and benevolent persons; but when in the possession of selfish, sordid and unprincipled men, it is used for bribery and corruption, it becomes no less potent for evil. We hope the coming election will from its incipency be characterized by purity and justice, and that all those who attempt to make merchandise out of the principles of others will receive the odium they justly deserve."

There is a contingency that may arise to settle this matter of bribery and corruption. History repeats itself, and wise men ought to learn from its teachings to guard against evils visiting the people the second time. California suffered long, as Oregon is now doing, under the control of a set of thieves, cut-throats, murderers, ballot-box stuffers, corrupt judges and juries, and every class of roughs that afflict society. Men were assassinated in open day in the streets of San Francisco, and the assassins went unpunished. The people's votes were tampered with, and other men elected to office than the people had chosen. Bribery was the great order of the day, and judge, jury, and almost all men in power walked the streets as corrupt as the minions of Beelzebub. With a condition of things much worse than we have described, the people, in 1856, recognizing the old Roman maxim that "the safety of the people is the supreme law," organized a vigilance committee, to rid themselves of the intolerable injustice and corruption in their midst. The sequel we all know, and we know the State is now comparatively free from the evils which then afflicted it.

Has Oregon got to pass through the dark and dismal days of a vigilance committee, to free herself from the cesspool of corruption that now lies festering in her very midst, and which is growing greater every day? We deprecate and abhor lawlessness, but we have a greater deprecation and abhorrence for a state of society that forces that lawlessness upon the people as a matter of self-protection,

—to protect their lives and homes. Rather than see our legislators bought and sold; our elections carried contrary to the will of the people; the rights of citizens sacrificed, and the people taxed to enrich monopolies in railroads and steamboats, and in carrying out divers swindles; the young people of our State grow up with an education that perjury is the highest aim of our public men, we prefer to return to the "pack-saddle period" and see every foot of railway torn up, and every oak tree in the valley ornamented with monopolists and their agents.

If the game once opens, many men in this State who only tax their brains in devising means to (legally) swindle the honest laborer of his earnings, will have to hunt some climate more congenial to their calling.

#### Where our Garden Seeds Come From.

Few persons are probably aware that the United States do not supply our home demand for garden seeds. Oregon not only imports four-fifths of the garden seeds planted in the State, but the Atlantic States are large consumers of foreign seeds, imported principally from France, Belgium, and Germany, and to the extent of at least half the seeds planted. Is this not simply ridiculous? Here is a country which can supply the world with an enormous surplus of grain and flour, and yet we send abroad over one million dollars annually for seeds to plant our gardens, which million dollars ought to be kept at home.

It is the almost universal opinion among gardeners and grain growers that a change of seed is necessary occasionally, to keep the seed from "running out," as it is expressed. Now what are the facts with regard to the cultivation of seeds by the foreigners we purchase of? They cultivate the same seed on the same ground year after year. They never send to us for a change of seed, or for anything unless it is a new variety. And instead of deteriorating in quality, their seeds are generally improving. But by their method, they bestow more care in cultivation. They always select the largest and heaviest seeds for planting, carefully winnowing out the lightest and inferior seeds. The indiscriminate gathering of all seeds is never practiced by the scientific and successful cultivator. Like begets like, holds good in the vegetable as well as in the animal kingdoms. If we always select the largest, finest and most perfect animals for breeding purposes, we will always have the best specimens of any breed. And so in planting seed. If we sow and plant nothing but the best seed, we may expect to have, other things being provided for the successful growth of the plant, the best results of the seed.

"SLOTTED OVER."—The *Corvallis Gazette* "slops over" very badly when it says "the railroad has doubled the price of wheat, by giving direct shipment from Oregon, instead of sending it to San Francisco, and by enabling the farmer to put it into market in the dry season, and before the boats could take it."

Conundrum: Did the Oregon railroad double the price of wheat in San Francisco and Europe?

Another: If the railroad doubled the price of wheat in Oregon last fall, why didn't it keep it so?

The price of wheat is subject to the demand, and the only effect Ben Holladay had on it was to raise the price of transportation.

We are now ready to hear some one give Holladay credit for the high price of wool in Oregon. The *Bulletin* will probably speak first, but who speaks next?

COMMUNICATIONS, ETC. — Persons will please send communications intended for, and all letters on business connected with, the FARMER, direct to the publisher. We make this request for the reason that many correspondents send their letters to Maj. S. Francis, at Portland. His editorial duties on the paper ceased some time ago, and the re-mailing of the letters to us causes him some considerable trouble.

#### OUR CUP OF COFFEE.

Farmers generally are coffee drinkers. It is a tonic stimulant well suited to their labors and life; and no farmer's daughter should consider herself ready to get married until she can make a cup of coffee of the highest excellence. There are several varieties of coffee. "Rio," raised in South America, is the cheapest and the poorest. "Mocha," raised in Arabia, is the highest priced and the best flavored. "Costa Rica," is a very good variety, and costs a little more generally than "Rio." "Java" is the best generally kept on sale in our stores. But the very best variety may be spoiled by negligence or ignorance in preparing it; while very good coffee may be made from the poorest variety by careful treatment. The old bachelor editor of this paper can make good coffee—he doubts very much whether he has many superiors in the coffee making line. His plan is to take the green berries, parch them slowly until they become such a dark brown as to break readily between the teeth, stirring frequently, to have every grain parched alike, but never scorching to blackness or "sweating" a single one of them. Grind the berries to coarse powder. Put into your coffee pot a table spoon level full of the ground coffee for each cupful you want to drink, then break an egg in the ground coffee, thoroughly mixing it with the dry powder until you have made the whole into a thick paste. Then pour in a large cupful of cold or lukewarm water for each spoonful of ground coffee and one cupful for waste, set one the stove and boil slowly for half an hour—if you want it bitter boil longer. Dress the hot coffee on the table with genuine cream; none of your skim-milk in ours—and as you drink this down, a beverage fit for the gods, you will wonder how it was ever found out that this coffee bean was good to use in this way. Well, we will tell you.

Toward the middle of the fifteenth century, a poor Arab was traveling through Abyssinia, and finding himself weak and weary from fatigue, he stopped near a grove. Then, being in want of fuel to cook his rice, he cut down a tree which happened to be covered with dead berries. His meal being cooked and eaten, the traveler discovered that the half-burned berries were very fragrant. He collected a number of these, and on crushing them with a stone discovered that the aroma increased to a great extent. While wondering about this he accidentally let fall the pounded berries into a can which contained his scanty supply of water; and Lo! what a miracle! The almost putrid liquid was instantly purified. He brought it to his lips; it was fresh and agreeable, and soon the traveler's energy and strength returned so he could go on his journey. The lucky Arab gathered as many berries as he could, and having arrived at Aiden, in Arabia, he informed the Governor of his discovery. That worthy was an inveterate opium smoker, and had been suffering for years from the influence of that poisonous drug. He tried an infusion of the roasted berries, and was so delighted at the recovery of his own strength and vigor, that in gratitude to the tree he called it *Cahuah*, which in the Arabic language, signifies force. And that is the way in which coffee was discovered.

TAXATION.—Mrs. Duniway complains in the *New Northwest* that taxes are high in Portland, 7½ mills being the levy made in that city. We think our sister ought to be happy when she learns that in Salem we have an 8 mills tax for city, and 3½ mills for school purposes. This, with a levy of 20 or 25 mills for county purposes, and 2 mills road tax, will be anything but agreeable to us up here. "Something rotten in the State of Denmark." Another year or two of such taxation, and there will not be a man of any means remain in the city who can sell and get to some other locality. We repeat our question of some weeks ago: Have we a Boss Tweed among us?

#### HOLLADAY AND HIS MONOPOLY.

MARION, April 20, 1872.  
ED. FARMER: By seeing my name below, you will at once recognize me as an old and constant supporter of the FARMER. I have favored it for different reasons, but the main one is that it is the farmers' paper, and in it they can, in every number, receive practical and useful information, on different subjects, in which they are most vitally interested, and enable them to keep pace with their friends in the older and more densely populated portions of the world, and be the better able to develop our resources, and demonstrate to the outside world that we are not inferior, in point of agricultural resources at least, to any other State in the Union, or any other country in the world. And whilst I have favored the FARMER, I have at the same time been a warm advocate of railroads. And as Ben Holladay is the only man that has ever practically attempted to build railroads in Oregon, I may say, I have, in my weak way, been a supporter of his schemes. We are all bound to admit that had it not been for Ben Holladay we would have no railroads in Oregon to-day; and whilst some are opposed to them, I think that ninety-nine out of every hundred of the farmers of Oregon will admit that they have been directly benefitted by them. I don't ask every body to get stuck after Ben Holladay, and go to him when they die, but I am in favor of giving the devil his due. Of course he expects to make money out of his enterprises, and I, for one, hope he will; for if his roads pay large dividends, that fact itself will invite competition; and other ambitious and enterprising capitalists may find it to their interest to build railroads, and give us more, and perhaps cheaper, means of transportation than we now have. There is certainly plenty of room left in this valley for more roads than we have yet got; and if the present ones pay largely, others will undoubtedly be built. I don't see what good can be accomplished by prejudicing the farmers against Mr. Holladay, for certainly things are no worse than they were before he came to Oregon. If he has done us no good, he certainly has done us no harm.—My opinion is, if the farmers and land-owners would put our waste lands into cultivation, and raise more wheat, oats, hay, potatoes, roots, cattle, hogs, horses, &c., that we would not long be complaining of Ben Holladay's monopoly. What do you say? Yours, truly,  
J. M. JOHNS.

What do we say? We will tell you. This "sainting" of Ben Holladay as an Oregon railroad builder is all nonsense. The building of a railroad in this valley was only a question of time. Mr. Elliott came here and initiated all that Mr. Holladay has carried out. Mr. Elliott let Mr. Holladay into the railroad with him, and Holladay let Elliott out.

We do not oppose railroads, neither do we wish to create any undue prejudice against Mr. Holladay. On the contrary, we would do all in our power to encourage such enterprises in every direction, and would allow Mr. Holladay or any one else a very liberal income on his investment.—But here we stop. Nothing further than this is he entitled to. We oppose his monopoly of the carrying trade in the Willamette valley.

Now, as to competition being invited in case the railroad pays large dividends, it is an argument after Ben Holladay's own heart, and we will suggest to Mr. Johns how the matter can be made a complete success. Mr. Johns is a merchant at Marion; his store and property are worth perhaps \$15,000; let him give Mr. Holladay's railroad one half of his possessions; and then use his influence with his farmer friends to make Mr. H. a deed for one half of their property. This will make the railroad pay big, and will invite capitalists from abroad to come here and build another road, in case they can get the other half of Mr. Johns' and his farmer friends' property.—It will ultimately be very severe on Mr. J. and the farmers, but it is a fair application of our correspondent's logic. Mr. Holladay doesn't want anything better, and if not soon checked will have things in very nearly that shape before he stops.

IMPROVING.—We are pleased to learn that the health of Maj. Francis, of Portland, is improving. He has been in very feeble health since the last State Fair.

#### WAS THE LEGISLATURE BRIBED?

The printed evidence of Mr. Holladay in the suit of Elliott vs. Holladay, is voluminous, and affords some rich ideas. The attorney for the plaintiff wanted to know what money had been spent by Mr. Holladay for objects outside the "expenses of the road." After a great deal of evasion, this is his answer:

"I do not know; we may have expended—let me see—there has been some money expended in the Legislature of Oregon, and some in Washington."

This was going too far for the nerves of Mr. McAllister, (Holladay's attorney,) because he knew a little more of such evidence would send his client to the penitentiary, and he quickly corrected Mr. Holladay's evidence with this remark:

"Lobbying, you mean; not in the Legislature."

And the mild-mannered man, Ben, responded, "Yes, sir."

It is known that money was used to bribe members of the Legislature, and we wish to propound this conundrum to some legal gentleman: If it should be proven, on investigation, that Mr. Holladay furnished the money to buy those men, would he not be liable to an indictment for perjury, after swearing that no money had been used in the Legislature?

#### WEALTH AND TAXATION.

The census of 1870 shows the present distribution of wealth and taxation among the States and the people. We cannot give the list for each State, but only the extremes. New York is the richest State in the Union, and has \$1483.20 for each person; while Texas is the poorest State, having only \$194.30 for each person. Oregon has \$507.06 for each person, which is a little below the average. The Southern States are all poor, and go to the bottom of the list.

In taxation, Nevada heads the list in expense, being \$19.30 for each person, while Texas is again at the bottom, paying only \$1.38 for each person. Texas illustrates the scripture, "to whom little has been given, little will be required." The taxes for each person in Oregon is \$6.39, being below the average. The rate of taxation on each one thousand dollars of property, stands as follows: Nevada is the highest, being \$26.34; while Delaware is the lowest, being only \$4.30. Little Delaware has therefore the cheapest and most economical government in the Union, while Nevada has the most expensive. Oregon pays \$11.26 on the thousand dollars, which is a little above the average in all the States. These are the rates on actual values, not the assessed values.

ANOTHER DIRTY TRICK.—The individual who superintends the passenger travel on the railroad is wise (?) beyond his day and generation; and is now charged with a trick some meaner than that perpetrated on the school children of Salem about a year ago. After inducing the Odd Fellows of Portland and the towns along the railroad line to resolve to have a union picnic on the 26th inst., at Aurora, that individual placed the charges for a special train from Portland to Aurora, twenty-five miles, at such an exorbitant figure that those interested felt forced to decline it. The liberality of the railroad company will be better understood when we state that the terms were \$525 for two passenger and seven freight cars, the company to have all over that amount that might be made by the train. The expenses of running a special train from Portland to Aurora and back would not probably have exceeded \$100.

LATE ROSE POTATOES.—Mr. T. L. Davidson has received one pound of this new variety of potato, and promises to report to us the result of his experience with it. It is claimed by the originator that it is the most prolific potato known, and equals any variety for the table.

THE *Northwestern Home* wants to be swallowed by a monopoly. We here in Oregon propose to swallow a monopoly. Won't that be better for the people?