

Proposed Constitution.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

Not having heard from or seen any of the Committee on the Constitution for a Farmers' Union, since the adjournment of the State Convention, I have thought best to submit the constitution which I presented at the State Convention, to you, for publication in the FARMER. Not that it is perfect, nor that it contains any special merit, but I do so that the other members of the Committee, and especially the members of the State Convention, may consider the various features, and determine as to its defects and the necessary remedies. It would be strange, indeed, if it was not defective in some particulars, as its author has never had any experience in anything of the kind heretofore, and whatever it may have in the way of defects, I am sure none of us wants them perpetuated. I sincerely hope that every member of the State Convention will give this matter anxious thought and not depend upon me or any one else in particular, but let us all strive to perfect a constitution under which we will be willing to act, if act we must.

You will see that this constitution contemplates a Union under a stipulated contract, and not under the corporation laws. The corporation laws, as you all are aware, contemplate a joint-stock company with a moneyed capital. This, as I conceive, is not what we want. I therefore prefer a stipulated contract between the producers and responsible agents through whom we can sell, store, transport, or ship our commodities. What think you all? Should this sort of an organization fail to meet the views of the Convention, I would then recommend the scheme of our friend Watt as the next best alternative. WM. RUBLE.

Eola, May 19, 1873.

PREAMBLE.

We, the delegates of the Farmers' State Convention assembled in the city of Salem, June 10th, 1873, believing the time has come in which it is necessary for the farmers of Oregon to organize for their protection and for the advancement of the common interest of the country, do ordain and adopt the following constitution, and recommend it to the farmers of the country for their approval and adoption:

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—This organization shall be known as The Farmers' Union of the State of Oregon.

ART. II.—The objects of this organization shall be to promote the interest of agriculture by selling our surplus in bulk, by foreign shipment, internal transportation, storage, or any other lawful means by which our surplus commodities can reach the consumer without depriving the producer of a just recompense for his capital invested and labor expended in its production.

ART. III.—The officers of this organization shall be a President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall hold their office for one year or until their successors are elected and qualified, and under whose direction the business of the organization shall be transacted.

ART. IV.—It shall be the duty of the State Board to take charge of all surplus commodities entrusted to their care by members of the organization, and to store, transport, sell, or ship the same to foreign ports, as they may deem best for the organization, securing, if possible, the best price the market affords, if they believe said price a just recompense to the producer; and, if not, to hold such commodities for paying prices, subject to instruction from the owner or owners thereof.

ART. V.—It shall be the duty of the Board to meet for business as often as three times per year, or oftener, if the business of the organization shall require it; and they shall sit upon their own adjournments, but a full Board and a majority vote will be necessary in order to do business for the organization.

ART. VI.—Sec. 1. It shall be the duty of said Board, before entering upon the discharge of their duties in the interest of the organization, to take a solemn oath or affirmation to faithfully discharge their duties as contemplated by the organization and this constitution.

Sec. 2 provides that all the vested rights of property in such officers at the time of their acceptance of office at the hands of this organization, shall be held and firmly bound to the organization in trust for the faithful

performance of their duties, and no subsequent sale or transfer of such property shall wrest it from right of seizure by authority of said organization to liquidate the just claims of the same or any member thereof who shall suffer loss through the willful neglect, fraud, or mismanagement of any such officer.

Sec. 3 provides that no order, contract, sale, or consignment made by any officer of the Board shall be valid unless the same shall have the authority of the Board, and shall be specified in writing, signed by the President and countersigned by the Corresponding Secretary and recorded by the Recording Secretary.

Sec. 4 provides that no sale or transfer of any commodity aggregating the sum of one thousand dollars shall be made, whereby any agent or consignee shall be permitted to draw the money to that amount except by draft upon some reliable bank payable upon the order of the State Board to those to whom the money is due from such sale.

Sec. 5 provides that it shall be the duty of the State Board to negotiate with the banks or private individuals (if they can do so) for the use of money for the purpose of making advance payments to any members of the organization who are pressed for money, not to exceed one half the cash valuation of the commodities he has placed at the disposal of the State Board.

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ART. VIII.—Sec. 1. Any person engaged in any agricultural pursuit, or any person engaged in the home manufacture of any useful article, and who desires to make any sales or shipments through the organization, and who approves and signs this constitution, may become a member of the Farmers' Union, by stating opposite his name the amount of produce or manufactured commodities which he will hold subject to the order of said Board for the ensuing year.

Sec. 2 provides that any person signifying any amount of products or commodity to be held subject to the order of said Board, as provided for in the preceding section, and shall thereafter sell, convey, or in any way dispose of the same without the advice or consent of said Board, by which means the State Board or organization shall suffer damage or loss, shall be liable to the State Board or organization for the amount of such damage, or any amount thereof which does not exceed the cash value of the products or commodity placed by him at the disposal of the State Board.

Sec. 3 provides that it shall be the duty of every member of the organization to furnish the Recording Secretary of the State Board, by the first of May of each year, either in person or through the clerk of some minor organization to which he belongs, (this year excepted,) a written statement of the amount of products held by him subject to the order of the State Board, and on failure to do so will be held responsible for the same amount as the previous year.

ART. IX.—It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary of the State Board to receive from clerks of clubs, precinct or county organizations, or individual persons engaged in agriculture or domestic manufacture, a statement of the amount of surplus which such persons or organizations will place at the disposal of the State Board, and to keep a faithful record of the same in a book kept for such purpose.

ART. X. provides that each member of the organization shall be entitled to receive of the proceeds of the ultimate sales made by the board of any given commodity in exact proportion to the amount he has placed at the disposal of the State Board, according to its relative proportion compared to the whole amount of the same kind of commodity placed at the disposal of said Board. Domestic sales may make an exception.

ART. XI. provides that the State Board shall have full power and authority to begin operations as per the provision of this constitution whenever there are commodities placed at their disposal to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars moneyed valuation.

ART. XII. provides that there shall be an annual convention held by this organization on the first Thursday of April of each year, at the capital of the State, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year and for the purpose of discussing questions of interest to the Union, and at which time this constitution may be altered or amended

by a two-thirds vote of all the delegates present.

ART. XIII. provides that the basis of representation in said convention shall be one for every twenty-five members of the Farmers' Union in any given community, club, precinct, or county organization.

ART. XIV.—It shall be the privilege of the State Convention to enact the necessary by-laws to enforce the various provisions of the foregoing stipulations, or to better secure the rights of members of the organization under it.

ART. XV.—Sec. 1 provides that it shall be the duty of the officers of the Farmers' Union to present their books and accounts to the annual convention for their inspection each year.

Sec. 2 provides that the books of the State Board shall be open to inspection at any time, upon the written requisition of any ten members.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Washington, May 16.—Under direction of the Senate Special Committee, transportation blanks for information regarding the Pacific Coast have been completed, and Senator Cossery has them in charge, he and Mitchell, of Oregon, have been appointed a subcommittee for the purpose. These blanks are to be filled out with the average current prices of wheat and wheat flour at San Francisco, embracing each year from 1853 to 1872, inclusive, and the average rates of freight on wheat from San Francisco to Atlantic ports of the United States and to Europe, from 1856 to 1873. In order to arrive at a comparative statement of the prices of wheat at various points in the United States and in foreign countries, it is necessary that prices of the same grades of wheat should be determined at the various points to which reference is made. The prices, description and classes known to the trade at San Francisco are therefore desired, and such information will lead to a comparison between the prices of the grades of wheat which are recognized in the trade at New York, London and Liverpool.

The Attorney-General and the Government agreed not to give any party a copy of the bill in equity, to be filed at Hartford, against the Union Pacific Railroad Company and stockholders of Credit Mobilier, until it shall have been filed in Court.

Senator Casserly has sent a check to the Secretary of the Treasury for his back pay as member of the Forty-second Congress.

The internal revenue receipts for the present month have reached nearly \$7,000,000, and the receipts of the fiscal year to date are over \$77,000,000. It is estimated that the receipts of the present fiscal year were \$110,000,000, and the probabilities are, judging from the receipts of the past month that they will be exceeded from three to five millions.

Philadelphia, May 16.—The fifty-seventh anniversary of the American Bible Society was held last night. From the addresses made, it appears there are 3,000 auxiliary bodies in the United States; that 30,000,000 Bibles have been distributed through the agency of the Society, and that it is now sending out daily 3,000 Bibles.

Chicago, May 17.—The Directors of the Inter-State Industrial Exposition have decided upon a plan and site for the Exposition building. The structure will be of immense proportions, being 800 feet long by 200 feet wide and 96 feet high, the materials being mainly iron and glass, and will cost \$250,000. It will be erected on Lake, front and Park streets, between Adams and Jackson.

A fire at Joliet, Ill., yesterday morning, destroyed eighteen buildings on the bluffs, involving a loss of \$40,000.

Lexington, Ky., May 16.—The best three-year-old race on record was run here to-day, "Tom Bowling" winning in two straight heats; time, 1:43. This was his first appearance on the turf.

New York, May 17.—The Sun says the expedition to explore the mysterious country lying between the South Pass, in Wyoming, and Gallatin Valley, in Montana, will be under the command of Captain Jones, of Gen. Ord's Staff. It will include a scientific corps numbering fifteen. The escort will be two companies of cavalry, under command of Lieutenant Jas. N. Whelan. The party were to have left Fort Bridger for the Wind River country on the 10th of May, and will go as far as Yellowstone Lakes traversing a new and most interesting country which according to popular belief, contains rich deposits of gold and other valuable metals.

The Cunard steamers will hereafter take different routes in their eastward and westward voyages across the Atlantic, in order to diminish the danger of collisions in the darkness and fog. Other lines are expected to follow their example as the danger named has become formidable since ocean ferry-boats have become so numerous.

The fruits of the election of Mayor Havemeyer are beginning to appear. Receipts paid into the Treasury by bureau permits under Mayor Hall averaged \$8,900 yearly. The same bureau under Havemeyer yielded \$6,500 in a fortnight.

The funeral services of the Countess Pourtales, daughter of Ben Holladay, will take place near White Plains tomorrow.

New York, May 17.—The striking gas men of Brooklyn are still upon the streets, and beginning to think the company will not reinstate them on any terms.

The strike of the iron workers at Phoenixville and Danville, Tenn., is becoming serious. The Phoenix Iron Company have stopped all orders. The suspension is proving disastrous to the company and embarrassing to manufacturers needing iron supplies. There is some fear at Danville of an armed collision between the strikers and workers.

St. Louis, May 16.—Charles W. Guthrie to-day shot and killed Charles W. Weaver, his brother-in-law. Guthrie's wife, a sister of Weaver, died some months ago, and her family suspecting foul play on the part of Guthrie, had the body exhumed and examined by the Coroner. Out of this grew a feud, of which the shooting of young Weaver is the result. Guthrie surrendered himself.

New York, May 18.—Owing to the loss of the Atlantic, and temporary disability of two other steamers, the White Star line has failed several times, recently, to comply with the terms of its contract for carrying the Saturday European mails from New York, and the Inman Steamship Company having applied to the Postmaster General for the privilege of performing this mail service, as formerly, the Postmaster General has notified the agents of the White Star line to appear in Washington and show cause why their contract should not be revoked on account of inadequacy of their present service.

Messrs. Cain and Kinsler (colored), Congressmen from South Carolina, have nominated white youths who excelled in competitive examination for West Point Cadetships. Cain also nominated a colored youth to Naval Cadetship.

A Washington special says General Ben Green, brother of Duff Green, who claims to have originally obtained the charter of the Credit Mobilier Company, and who still claims to be the owner of the majority of its stock, proposes, as soon as the Government files its bill in equity in the suit against the Union Pacific Railroad, to himself file a bill asking that he may be made a party to the suit, in order that his rights and interests may be protected.

From a person who recently talked with Hon. William M. Everts, upon the subject, it is inferred that Everts would not seek the office of Chief Justice of the United States, but would gladly accept it if the President should tender him the nomination.

A special from Khartoum of the 12th, via London 17th, says that a letter has been received from Sir Samuel Baker on the White Nile. He reports all well and that a passage through to the end was effected with great difficulty and that he hopes the obstructions will have been entirely removed during the present summer.

Fortress Monroe, May 18.—Representative J. H. Platt, Jr., of this place, has appointed J. W. Williams as Cadet to West Point Academy. He is a mulatto boy, born a slave, and seventeen years old.

New York, May 18.—A Herald special from London gives a telegram from Tiflis, dated 17th, confirms the news that Khiva was taken, and says the Khan was taken prisoner by the Russians, who have sustained slight losses.

Raleigh (N. C.), May 19.—There was a general strike here to-day among the colored journeymen and mechanics, who insist upon ten hours as a day's labor.

Chicago, May 19.—A Washington special says the arrival here of the survivors of the Polar expedition is looked for with much interest, because it is expected that they will be able to settle the question whether or not there was insubordination or mutiny on board the ship prior to as well as after the death of Captain Hall. Stories and explanations already published are far from satisfactory to the Navy Department, and it is the purpose of the Secretary to put the survivors through a sharp examination. Old naval officers are of the opinion that there may have been something like insubordination among the crew. Though the letter of instructions addressed by Secretary Robinson to Captain Hall stated that the rules and regulations of the navy should be enforced on the Polar, the crew, however, were not regularly in the naval service, and, of course, could not be subjected to the punishment visited upon refractory sailors in the navy. It is the opinion of the Secretary of the Navy that the Polar is safe, and that she will be heard from toward the close of the summer.

New York, May 19.—The obsequies of Countess Pourtales, daughter of Ben Holladay, were celebrated yesterday in the private chapel of the family, on Holladay's estate, in Westchester County, known as Ophir Farm. A special train from the city carried a large company of friends, including several schoolmates of deceased to attend the rites and show their respects for her memory, and sympathize with the afflicted family. A richly-mounted rosewood casket, inclosing the remains, rested on a bier, bordered heavily with violets and laden with profusion of other floral tributes of affec-

tion. Madame Holladay, prostrated by sudden affliction, was unable to be present. The death of the Countess was not expected so soon, even by her immediate attendants, and while seeming to slumber, passed away. When the funeral ceremonies of the Catholic faith had been concluded, the casket was laid away in the family vault, and the friends returned to the city.

Hudson, (N. Y.), May 19.—Joseph Waltz, in his confession of having murdered Hatcher, states that the deed was done about ten o'clock in the evening on the first of May. He went to the room of Hatcher, whom he found asleep, and struck him with the blunt point, and twice with the sharp edge. He only groaned, and all was over. Waltz then took the body to the stone wall, where blood was found and covered it up; there he left it until the next night, when he took it down into an orchard and buried it. The officers having learned all they could, they took him out to show where the body was buried in the orchard, and a few inches below the surface the body was found, wrapped in a blanket, with the head horribly mangled. Waltz also confessed to having burned three school-houses in the town, and buried the books, which have been found at the place he designated. When asked why he committed the murder, he replied: "I did it for mischief and, not for gain; the bad spirit was in me, and I wanted to do something bad."

It has long been known that Professor Agassiz wished to establish a school at which free instruction in natural history could be given to teachers during the summer months, when they were having vacation.—With a view of procuring funds to carry out this scheme, he invited the Legislature of Massachusetts to visit his museum at Cambridge, and learn his plan of giving instruction. They paid the visit, but no appropriation was made for carrying out the great scholar's plans. But it chanced that a lady who was present wrote a letter to the New York Tribune, in which she gave an account of what Agassiz said of the importance of this kind of instruction. This letter was published, and next morning Mr. John Anderson, the celebrated tobacco manufacturer in New York, city read it. Then he commissioned two gentlemen to go to Cambridge and to tender to Agassiz the gift of Pencikese Island, in Buzzard's Bay, as a permanent location for the summer school. Within a few days he added the gift of \$50,000 for an endowment fund. The island contains about one hundred acres and possesses many advantages for the purpose to which it is dedicated. It had been purchased by Mr. Anderson for a summer residence, and large sums have been spent in buildings and improvements. The property was valued \$100,000. Thus a tobaccoist comes to the aid of science, and helps the undertaking of a man who says, "I cannot afford to waste my time in money making." Hereafter, every scientist should use Anderson's Sweet Solace Smoking Tobacco, and should buy no other.—Praise Farmer.

It is quite certain that where manure is not one of the principal objects of feeding, soiling and steaming will not pay. In a section where feed is abundant and manure is little needed, the mere saving of food will not pay for the labor of soiling and steaming. It is only where land is high and feed expensive that there is any chance of profitably adopting these processes. And on such land and in such circumstances manure is a great object.

S. M. Wait, Esq., of Dayton, Washington Territory, writes a letter pronouncing untrue the statement published that he had carried news to Walla Walla representing that hostile bands of Indians were gathering near Priests' Rapids on the Columbia River. He says he heard from all parts of the upper country, and there are no indications of Indian hostilities.

WATER FRONT PUBLIC LANDS.—

A San Francisco paper says: The decision of the Supreme Court, asserting that sand beach is not open to entry, as private land, is of very much importance to Santa Cruz. It effectually bars out the claim of Henry Cowell to any portion of the narrow strip of land surveyed on the water front.

The Benton County farmers are building a warehouse at Spring Hill, on the river, three miles below Albany. It will have a storage capacity of about 15,000 bushels.