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COUNTING THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

The Electoral Commission having decided that the vote of Florida should be counted by Hayes and Wheeler, the two houses of Congress assembled in joint convention on Sunday, Feb. 10, Vice President Ferry presiding. The decision of the Electoral Commission having been read, written objections were made by Representative Field on the part of five Senators and twelve Representatives, and then the two houses separated. The Electoral Commission state that the grounds of their decision are: That it is not competent under the Constitution and law as it existed at the date of the passage of the act constituting the commission to go into evidence outside the papers opened by the President of the Senate, in the presence of the two houses, to prove that other persons than those regularly certified to by the Government of Florida, according to the determination and declaration of their appointment by the board of State canvassers prior to the time required for the performance of their duties had been appointed electors, or by counter proof to show they had not, and that all proceedings of the courts or acts of the legislature or of the executive of Florida, subsequent to casting the votes of the electors on the prescribed day, are inadmissible for any such purpose. As to the objections made to the eligibility of Humphreys, the commission is of the opinion that, without reference to the question of the effect of the vote of the ineligible elector, the evidence does not show that he held the office of shipping commissioner on the day when the electors were appointed. The commission also decided as a consequence of the foregoing, and upon the grounds before stated, that neither of the papers purporting to be certificates of the electoral votes of Florida are certificates or votes provided for by the constitution of the United States, and they ought not to be counted as such. In accordance with the law, the two houses then separated, the Senate returning to its chamber, when it was resolved that the decision of the Commission should stand as the judgment of the Senate as to the vote of Florida. The house of Representatives took a recess until Monday at 10 o'clock. On Monday, Feb. 12th, after debate, the House resolved that the vote of Florida should be counted in accordance with the decision of the Electoral Commission. It was then ordered that the clerk inform the Senate of the action of the House, and that the House is now ready to meet the Senate in the hall of the House. At 2:15 Senators arrived. The presiding officer said: The joint meeting of Congress resumes its session. The two houses separately have considered and determined the objection submitted by a member of House to the decision of the commission on the certificate from the State of Florida. The clerk of the Senate will now read the decision of the Senate. The decision of the Senate having been read by its clerk, and that of the House by its clerk, Ferry said the two houses not concurring in ordering otherwise, the decision of the commission will stand unrevoked. Counting will now proceed in conformity with the decision of the commission. The tellers will announce the vote of Florida. Senator Allison thereupon announced that Florida had given four votes for R. T. Hayes as President, and four votes for William A. Wheeler as Vice President. The Vice President then opened the certificate from the State of Georgia and handed it to the tellers. It was read by Representative Cook, of Georgia. The presiding officer asked whether there was any objection to the vote of Georgia. None being made, he announced the vote would be counted, and directed it to be so declared. Cook then declared that the State of Georgia had given eleven votes for Samuel J. Tilden as President, and eleven votes for Thos. A. Hendricks as Vice President. Next followed in succession the State of Illinois with 21 votes for Hayes and Wheeler, Indiana with 12 votes for Tilden and Hendricks, Iowa with 11 votes for Hayes and Wheeler, Kansas with 11 votes for Hayes and Wheeler, and Kentucky with 12 votes for Tilden and Hendricks. The State of Louisiana having been reached, four sets of certificates were opened and read. The first and third gave the eight votes of the State to Hayes and Wheeler, and the second, signed by McEnery, as Governor, gave them to Tilden and Hendricks. The fourth was a mere burlesque, all the electors bearing the name of John Smith, being authenticated by John Smith, bulldozer Governor of Louisiana, and ending, "Such is life in Louisiana." Objections being raised to both sets of electoral votes from Louisiana, the Vice President stated that they would now be submitted to the Electoral Commission for judgment and decision. The Senate then withdrew. THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION. FEB. 12.—The electoral commission was called to order at 4:30 p. m., and received certificates and accompanying papers in the case of Louisiana from the presiding officer of the joint session. Upon the arrival of the various counts of Field, Campbell, Trumbull, Carpenter, Merrick, Hoadley and Green for the Democrat side, and Everts, Matthews, Shellabarger, and Stoughton for the Republican side, the presiding Justice inquired who would represent the objectors. Field replied: Senators McDonald and Jencks of the House, to certificates Nos. 1 and 3. Everts announced Howe and Shellabarger would object to certificate No. 2. The Commission adjourned until 11 a. m. to-morrow. Sleighting at Portland last Sunday.

Grant and the Darien Canal.

It is reported to-night, upon completion of negotiations now pending between Nicaragua and the United States for a treaty concerning the subject of the proposed ship canal, that Grant will be tendered the position of President of the corporation or company, which under the provisions of the treaty will be authorized to undertake the work of constructing the great canal. It is said this fact explains the sudden purpose recently formed by Grant to go to Europe as soon as his term of office expires, his visit abroad being in the interest of the company, for whom he will be empowered to negotiate a loan among the capitalists of Europe, Rothschilds being already mentioned as first to whom the project and an investment in its stock, or bonds, will be recommended. In the course of the past eight years the President, both in official life at Washington, and in retirement at Long Branch, established relations of close friendship with many of these foreign capitalists, either in person or with their partners in this country, and the intimacy thus formed is regarded as one of the many reasons that induced the selection of the President for the head of the company, as well as the negotiation of capital in aid of the undertaking, not to speak of his unswerving honesty as a public man, and his energy and practical experience in the army, as at Vicksburg and elsewhere, in conducting great engineering enterprises.

A Little Story.

HUTCHINSON, MINN., Jan. 26, 1877. EDITOR WILLAMETTE FARMER: I have been much interested in the transportation question in your State, not personally at present, but my sympathies are always enlisted, and generally for the "under dog in the fight," and as the people are generally in that position in their fight against monopolies, I am on the people's side every time. I took my pen to tell your farmers a little story. Many years ago, when I was a boy, living near Lake Champlain, in Vermont, steamboating became a huge monopoly on said Lake. The farmers built and ran a new opposition boat, determined to run the old line off the Lake or bring them to terms. Competition was sharp between the two lines, the "Sultans" (the name of the new boat) charging \$1 for a ticket, where the old line had charged \$2.50. The old line often sold tickets at 25 cents after the new boat commenced running. One of their runners approached an honest old Ten on and offered him a ticket at the latter price; he was answered as follows: "Oh, dot is cheap; dot is very cheap; but I will go on de boat dot makes you go sheep." Now, Mr. Editor, I think the principle was a correct one, and it appears to me that if the farmers and business men of Oregon adopt it, and carry it out through thick and thin, they will soon settle the "transportation question" for all time. Yours, C. D. McEwen.

Letter from Coquille.

COQUILLE CITY, Feb. 6, 1877. ED. FARMER: One farmer just across the river from this town, picked from a single bean stalk 202 perfect pods of beans. The same man's garden produced without manure of any sort, a blood beet measuring 24 inches in circumference. We have got a new mail route from this place to the C. B. W. Road, ten miles, and mail is now only two days from Roseburg, instead of going 28 miles around by the way of Coos Bay, and being three days longer on road as heretofore. Capt. Rackliff's steamer passed up the river to-day. She is now ready to run, and only waiting for the inspectors. Weather splendid—The finest winter on record. Two vessels are now ber bound in the Coquille river, the Cordelia and Twin Sisters. They are loaded and ready for sea, but the westerly wind and heavy swell drives in the sand so as to obstruct the channel, and vessels must wait until the wind changes. The same is reported to be the case with Coos Bay and the Umpqua river bars, and vessels which are inside cannot get out.

Mr. Henry Hawk, of Lower Clatsop County, Douglas county, narrowly escaped a fearful death the other day. While returning from a hunting excursion his horse stumbled and fell to the ground, throwing him to one side with his foot in the stirrup. The horse got up, and becoming frightened, commenced running; but fortunately for Mr. Hawk, as the horse ran by a rail fence, his rider caught a hold of a fence stake, by aid of which he succeeded in pulling his boot from the stirrup. It was a fortunate separation. Mr. Hawk sprained his ankle quite severely. The people of Highland church district, across the river in Polk County, are soon to have an exhibition, the time set is February 20th. There will be dialogues, music, recitations, etc. They will undoubtedly entertain their friends in a handsome manner. The proceeds are to be used in the purchase of a new organ. Price of admission 50 cents.

GRANGE MATTERS.

Resolutions. We the committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sentiments of Mono Grange, No. 25, P. of H., in regard to transportation on the Willamette river, beg leave to report as follows: Whereas, so soon as the O. S. N. Co. bought out the Lake Co., they raised the freight to more than double what it previously was, and as soon as the Independent Line was a tried put down the freight to less than one half what it was worth, intending thereby to crush out opposition and monopolize the transportation on the Willamette river. Resolved, That the Farmers of Husbandry are opposed to paying more than anything is worth, or getting anything for less than its worth, but set on the principle of live and let live. Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to support the Independent Line of boats so long as their charges are reasonable. Resolved, That we will patronize those merchants who support the Independent Line. ISAAC STAATS, ISAAC SMITH, D. K. LEWIS, Committee.

DAMASCUS, Oga., Jan. 10th, 1877.

ED. FARMER: Damascus Grange, No. 41, still lives, and on the 6th inst. met and installed the following officers for the ensuing year: Dan'l Grim, M.; D. H. Beardorf, O.; R. J. Sharp, L.; Sam'l Hick, A. S.; Edgar Ritchey, A. S.; G. B. Bork, T.; Norman Darling, Sec.; R. J. Park, Chap.; D. Vinzani, G. K.; Mrs. C. C. Riches, Cerer; Mrs. S. E. Boring, Pomona; Mrs. L. Beardorf, Flora; Mrs. P. Vinzani, L. A. S.

Whereas, It has pleased the Lord of life and death to remove from our society, our worthy sister Lavina Parks, whose presence of our Divine Master, she awaits our coming, and Whereas, Our Grange has lost a faithful and efficient sister, the community a useful member, the sick and afflicted a true and kind friend, therefore Resolved, That while we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family we would point them to Him who death all things will.

Resolved, That we wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days. Resolved, That the secretary is hereby ordered to place upon the records in a memorial tablet, this tribute of respect to the memory of one of the earliest and most consistent friend of the Grange.

Resolved, That the Secretary present the family of the deceased, with a copy of these resolutions under seal of the Grange, and a copy to the WILLAMETTE FARMER for publication. MRS. S. E. BORING, MRS. E. M. BORKER, MRS. U. C. RICHIEY, Committee.

HOWELL PRAIRIE, Feb. 9, 1877.

ED. FARMER: I have noticed in the FARMER for the last 6 or 7 weeks, several communications in reference to ticks on horses and cattle, in reference to which I will say my experiences has been that the ticks are bred on the animals themselves instead of being bred in the oak or fir bushes as some contend. My theory is that the mother of such ticks lays her eggs in the hair of the animal, and by the warmth of said animal the insect is hatched out and there remains until it is full grown, and perhaps redests the brute again and again, unless some artificial means are used to rid them of the insect. I have noticed in all my experience in raising young horses and taking care of old ones, that if you turn them out in the woods or in the prairie to make a living for themselves on such pasture as they can generally make only a scant living, that they invariably have ticks, but if you turn your stock on good green pasture where they will keep in good thriving order the winter through, your animals will not be troubled with this ravenous blood-sucking insect, you will ask me perhaps why it is that all animals that are turned out to make their own living are not infested with said insects. I will answer that the animals most infested with such insects are those that are turned on short pasture where they cannot get only a scanty supply of food and consequently become poor and haggard with long coats of hair, or rather wool, in such cases which remains on them until spring or shedding time, thereby affording a splendid harbor for the protection and production of such insects, while the animals that are well fed and cared for never have any to amount to anything, the reason being that instead of having long coats of hair they have only a short thin coat and no woolly fiber mixed with it as in the case of the poor half fed and half starved unsheltered stock that is suffered to roam over the pasture at large without any protection what ever; consequently the fat well fed animals do not

afford the harbor that the poor ones do. My theory is that if you wish to raise stock with out them being infested with ticks or lice, the only way that it can be done is to have good timothy hay and oats and feed your stock sufficient to keep them in good thriving order, keeping them up in the sheds during the worst storms, this being done and you will never have an occasion to ask your neighbor how to kill ticks. T. C. SHAW.

Letter from Douglas County.

CANYONVILLE, Feb. 11, 1877.

ED. FARMER: Perhaps a few lines from this place may interest your many readers. Canyonville is a small country town, surrounded by a good farming country. The farmers in this section are almost through seeding small grain this year. There has been much more snow than in former years. We have had a very pleasant winter; there has been but a few days that a man could not work on the farm.

We have a rich mineral country here. There is considerable interest being manifested by the Tellurium Gold and Silver Mining company, formed and incorporated last Fall for the purpose of developing the Tellurium lode, which is situated on the north slope of the Canyon range of mountains, about three and a half miles west of Canyonville. The company has sunk a shaft on the lode to the depth of fifty feet, at which point the water came in so fast that it was impossible to make any progress, even by continuous working, day and night. There are on the dump several tons of very rich ore that shows well for itself. The company has started a tunnel at right angles with ledge, 250 feet below the surface. The tunnel will have to be run about 300 feet. The company is anxious to sell stock so they may be better able to push along the work more rapidly. In your correspondent's opinion those that are investing their money in mining stock can't do better any where else than to give them a call. FERNANDO.

Garden Valley.

Perhaps the readers of the FARMER will not object to a short description of one of the lovely valleys of the Umpqua. Our beautiful valley lies below the junction of the north and south Umpqua rivers, eight miles northwest from Roseburg, and is called, as it really is, the Garden Valley of the Umpqua, the soil being of the rich alluvial or river loam. The valley is bound on the south, west, and north by the Umpqua river, on the east by the oak hills, which afford extensive pastures. The valley was settled in 1850, when the red men piled his bark canoes upon our waters, or built his willow wigwam upon the banks of the rapid Umpqua, where we only heard the barking of the wolf and coyote, the thrilling scream of the panther, or perhaps the more dreaded Indian war hoop twenty-seven years ago. To-day we hear the loud neighing of the iron horse as he dashes on with almost the speed of the wind as he traverses our hills and valleys, coming the distance in a few hours that used to take our slow ox teams two and three weeks to travel. In that early day our settlements were so sparse that schools were barely thought of, and churches did not exist. To day, throughout the country, school-houses dot the hillside and plain, every village and neighborhood has its place of worship, every town its high school or academy. Thus we see civilization has advanced, education and christianity have followed and in hand, the arts and sciences have progressed, and the people have become prosperous and happy under the beneficent influence of our educational institutions, and the promulgation of the principles of christianity. H. V. GRUBBE.

COQUILLE CITY, OR., Jan. 17, 1877.

ED. FARMER: I noticed in your last issue an article on the subject of "Ticks on Horses." Now I can't tell you "where they come from," or "what becomes of them," or "why they are found among oaks and not among firs." But as to the practical and most important question, how to get rid of them, I have had some experience. Coming to Oregon in '53, I have handled many a "ticky cayuse," and have never had any trouble in ridding a horse of them by feeding and grooming. Ticks, like all other parasitic animals, always attack those of their victims which are low in flesh, or "going down hill." A horse in good condition never has any ticks on him of any amount, and if unfortunately one gets poor and becomes "ticky," I have always found that sabbling at night, generous feeding, and a reasonable use of brush and card, (I never use

that old fashioned abomination a "curry comb,") would soon relieve him. In the early days as described by "Old Pioneer," in "Oregon as it was," we always felt it a disgrace to ride a "ticky cayuse," as it was considered as evidence of neglect, at least on the part of the owner, and it certainly is disgraceful in any one to neglect so noble an animal and use a servant to man as the horse. Then rake the ticks off your horse, and don't punish him by "holding" him with medicine, or striking him up with cast oil or carbolic acid. M.

The Ashtabula disaster seems to have been one of the most unique and shocking of modern times. The bodies of more than fifty victims seem to be utterly lost, so that instead of being unidentifiable, like those of the minority in the Brooklyn Theatre, they cannot be found at all. A correspondent of a morning paper says: "No bodies are left where the three last cars came crashing one over another, and the railroad authorities now admit that evidently in these three cars must have been utterly consumed, and the ashes washed away in the stream, probably fifty in all." Some in other cars shared the same fate of practical annihilation. The fire made thorough work. Yet it was half an hour before it really got to burning, and witnesses swear that it could easily have been extinguished while confined to the first car. James Manning, the water-works engineer, was interrogated about the fire piping at the water-works. He swore that he had tried the hose couplings of the fire brigade on his piping and it would not fit. The coupling and pump cap were afterwards produced and found to fit perfectly, and Manning was compelled to admit that he had made a great mistake! resulted in the burning up, beyond recognition even as human remains, the bodies of a majority of the victims. The revelation of this horrible blunder naturally creates a sensation among the friends of the lost and adds to the ghastliness of the horror.—Graphic.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We are now greatly crowded with interesting correspondence, and if any of our friends find their communications shorter than they wrote them, it is because we are obliged to select the matter we think most useful and interesting to our readers. We publish the paper for them, not for ourselves, and shall always give them the benefit of our judgment in selecting matter. Also, while we are firm friends of temperance, and desirous to promote the cause, we recognize that our columns can only afford limited space for the discussion of the temperance question. We recognize the grange as chief embodiment of the farming interests, and are disposed to give more space to that than most other local matters, but after publishing fully what must be considered grange news and miscellaneous matter calculated to give valuable information we have to confine ourselves to certain limits and select from communications what will be acceptable to the mass of readers.

STATE PENITENTIARY.—The resignation of W. H. Watkins has been accepted, and Gov. Chadwick has filled that important position by the appointment of Hon. B. F. Burch, of Independence. Polk county, who is well and favorably known among us. Mr. Burch commands respect of all who know him as an honest and reliable man. His appointment is judicious, and a good beginning for Gov. Chadwick's administration.

The following students are attending the course of medical lectures at the Willamette University at the present time: Miss Julia Johnson, Miss Angie L. Ford, Miss Ella A. J. Ford, Mrs. M. T. Cole, Mrs. C. Carlton, Mrs. J. L. Parrish, Mrs. E. H. Borker, Horace Cox, J. W. Cole, H. P. Crocker, O. M. Doobson, Z. T. Deaton, R. M. Davis, E. V. Davis, J. W. Farley, H. R. Holmes, E. O. Hyde, Geo. Hill, J. M. Kibben, G. Kähler, W. T. Morrison, J. M. Morgan, W. T. McCauley, W. W. Ogden, M. Payne, I. N. Powers, John E. Payton, J. W. Robinson, W. E. Rinehart, J. R. Smith, J. W. Star, W. A. Williams.

ANTELOPE, Wasco Co., Feb.

ED. FARMER: Do you happen to know of any one in your neighborhood, or about Portland, who has any good half-bred Clydesdale mares by a good horse? If you should know of any such as I describe, I should like to see a great favor if you would kindly drop me a line, and giving some idea of the price that would be asked for one of about five years old that has had colts, and is a true worker, also a whole colt. Yours, truly, E. L. KING.

[Any one having such an animal for sale, as above described, can address Mr. King.]

Disease Grows Apace.

Like an ill wind, and cannot be mastered too early. What is a trifling attack of sickness to-day may, if unattended to, become a serious case in a week. Small ailments should be nipped in the bud before they blossom into full blown maladies. If this advice were attended to, many a heavy bill for medical attendance might be avoided. When the liver is disordered, the stomach fails, the bowels obstructed, or the nervous system, mental and all other faculties are deranged, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, a few doses of which will restore healthy action and put the system in perfect order. It is a wise precaution to keep this incomparable preventive in the house, since it checks, with unrivaled promptness, a few doses of which will restore healthy action and put the system in perfect order. It is a wise precaution to keep this incomparable preventive in the house, since it checks, with unrivaled promptness, a few doses of which will restore healthy action and put the system in perfect order. It is a wise precaution to keep this incomparable preventive in the house, since it checks, with unrivaled promptness, a few doses of which will restore healthy action and put the system in perfect order.