



WILLAMETTE FARMER PUBLISHING CO. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. One year, (Postage paid), in advance, \$ 2.00

Notice to Subscribers.

We publish only a sufficient number of the FARMER to supply actual prepaid subscribers and we cannot supply back numbers.

If it is desired by subscribers to secure all issues they must arrange to send in their renewals in ample time to reach this office before expiration.

ANYONE RECEIVING A COPY OF THIS PAPER WILL CONSIDER IT AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE.

WE HAVE a great deal of Tammany Hall politics but in these times Tammany can make a good show of principles. At a late meeting of the Tammany Society, resolutions were adopted favoring reduction of tariff and taxation of luxuries rather than necessities, discriminating in favor of home industries; that forfeited land grants shall revert to the government, if conditions of the grants have been violated; that existing telegraph lines shall be purchased at a fair valuation, as provided in the Sumner bill. It is probable that all parties will hold about the same views on all these questions.

WHAT THE mortgage tax law accomplished that was of especial importance was the collection of tax on mortgages in the counties where the land is located, instead of paying the tax by Portland bankers, which is the case when money pays the tax under the old law. The fact of the new law being inoperative does not release the money-lender from paying taxes, but deprives county, school, and road districts of their fair proportion of revenue. We have mentioned, long ago, the fact of a road district that could collect tax from only two small land owners. The rest was offset by debt, and the money was given in at Portland. There are many evils attending taxation of money and credits, and this is one of the chief among them—that millions of money loaned in Portland exempt that much landed estate in the various counties, and works a hardship on the country at large. It is a downright fraud on the various counties and the road and school districts they contain. The Legislature to meet next fall or winter will no doubt remedy this evil and give us taxation of mortgages in some shape that can stand the Supreme Court test.

W. B. MASON, otherwise known as "Black Hawk," has the miserable reputation that some creatures that have human form seem to covet, of being the roughest mouthed man in the country. There are occasionally people who seem to be abandoned of God to do evil and show their natural depravity by the use of indecent language. Such men are a curse to the community they live in. They pollute the social atmosphere and poison the minds of the young, to say nothing of forcing their pollution into the minds of all who come near them. This creature who degrades humanity in the vicinity of the lower Willamette, lately was obscene towards Robert Caples, of St. Johns, who prosecuted him before a justice of the peace. The use of profane or obscene language is a transgression of our State law, and the evidence satisfied a jury that he was guilty. He was fined \$20, and in default was committed to Multnomah county jail ten days. It is refreshing to all lovers of decency that such a punishment should befall such a man. Profanity and obscenity occur too often and they never should occur without recourse to law to punish the offense. That a man should be vile is bad enough; that he should go abroad, a living curse to the community that tolerates him, is too bad. Every good citizen is interested in preserving the moral atmosphere pure, and in protecting the young from foul-mouthed education.

RAILROAD MATTERS.

"How not to do it" is an art in politics as in other matters. Delegate Brents writes that he believes some people favor extreme measures in relation to land grants for the purpose of making them odious and impassable, which is one way of working in the interest of the land

grant roads. The committee on public lands, to which he belongs, votes in favor of revoking the entire grant of the Northern Pacific west of Missouri river, which would take away from the company lands that have been confirmed to it by the action of the President and Secretaries of the Interior for a thousand miles of road, much of which has been already sold. The average Congressman knows that this bill cannot pass, and if the land committee will adhere to it and work for it persistently, the issue will be that no bill will pass this session. Brents favors repealing the grant from Wallula to Portland, and restoring the land to the public domain. As the road is built down the Columbia, there is no reason for giving land to build another. The grant across the Cascades to Tacoma may be needed to give the ability to build the road; so, if the road is really desired by the people, it may be good policy to aid its construction—not otherwise. The trouble is that demagogues play for selfish ends with great public interests. They endeavor to sail with the current, and go to any extreme to make themselves acceptable. Such men are fully as dangerous to the welfare of society as those who openly oppose the rights of the people; more dangerous, at times, when the people put confidence in them and place them in position to betray their interests.

Speaking of the Northern Pacific reminds us that at an early day, when the company had means at command, it preferred to build from the sound to the Columbia river rather than from Portland up the Columbia. An old Oregonian, who labored for many years for the road from Portland to Salt Lake, says the object and expectation then was to draw the business of Oregon to Puget Sound, but instead the business of the Sound came to Portland. The duty of the company then was to construct up the Columbia river from Portland one hundred miles, instead of one hundred miles from Kalama to the Sound. That would have given them control of the Columbia river and a good paying business, and would have brought into cultivation all the arable lands along the Columbia river, instead of leaving them locked up in an unearned land grant. They neglected a manifest duty, and, as a consequence, now have not the control of the Columbia river, and have lost rich lands in Wasco, Umatilla, and Klickitat that would have paid for building the road. The same interest controls the road and has the same object, to build up trade on Puget Sound at the expense of Portland. The idea is to cross the Cascades to Tacoma and take the commerce of the Inland Empire there also. They never can do this. Portland shows quite a magnanimous spirit in favoring the continuance of the land grant, when without it they cannot build to Tacoma. But Portland can afford to be magnanimous, as it has nothing to fear from Tacoma or Puget Sound. It looks as if these men might have learned something from the results of the past, and not sacrifice too much to the idea of a metropolis on Puget Sound.

POOR JUSTICE AND MOB LAW

The recent news from Cincinnati is of the most horrible character. A man who had committed a horrible murder had three or four lawyers to help him out of the scrape he was in. They managed to exclude the best evidence, the man's own confession, and only convicted him of manslaughter instead of murder. This evasion of law infuriated the many people. As the excitement grew, a rough mob collected, and ruffians who do not care for law, only for rioting, took up the cry. Cincinnati has been the scene of as infamous rioting as our country has ever known. The court house has been burned, the jail assaulted and defended by the militia. At last accounts seventy-five lives had been sacrificed—some rioters and including many mere spectators. It became a fight between the militia and mob element. The convict, Berner, who was the object of mob vengeance, escaped from the train, was re-captured, and finally lodged safely in the penitentiary; but the mob continued at war in Cincinnati, and had allies in other mobs in Dayton and Columbus. The Governor called all the State militia to rush to Cincinnati as fast as possible, to defend the city. The mob spirit is abroad like an epidemic, and looks for any excuse to commit outrage.

There is a lawless spirit among the lower classes, usually found in densely settled communities and great cities, that is vicious of instinct; but there is also a long suffering majority, who do the world's drudgery and win its curses often, that becomes the victim of monopoly and the greed of capital, who sometimes realize, when their cup of

bitterness overflows, is pressed down and ranning over. It is well to inquire if that is not the condition of our world at the present time, when Vanderbilt, without an hour's hard labor, has acquired \$200,000,000; when Jay Gould has half as much; when other railroad magnates range in riches from ten to a hundred millions each; all made by gambling with the immense franchises the nation has created for them to manipulate? Stock jobbing and the manipulating of great public franchises have become the curse of the age; when one man becomes a millionaire, at least a thousand are beggared to allow space for his wealth to exist. At that rate at least 200,000 persons are impoverished to let Vanderbilt acquire two hundred millions. Our country has suddenly become famous for as great fortunes as Rome accumulated at the very epoch of its decay. We seem to realize in our national history the force of Goldsmith's wonderful prophetic words:

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey, Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

We may expect mobs to ravage and riot to prevail like an epidemic, if our land is to be portioned out among great corporations and our boasted freedom be subservient to the greed of gain. It becomes us as a nation to purify our politics; to lessen the opportunity for public plunder; to purge the civil service of its venality; to elect good men to office and make laws to keep down the domination of wealth. This is all within the power of the farming community that contains no riotous forces within itself, but has the wealth, honesty, purity, and numbers necessary to correct all national evils and elevate the nation above the criminal, base, and selfish motives that now exist, that give license to mobs and invite rioting.

INDEPENDENCE IN POLITICS.

A distinguished writer, who lately published his opinion of the independent voter, in connection with political affairs, predicts that he (the said independent voter) will decide the next succession to the Presidency of the United States. It is agreeable to think that such will be the case. The times are awake with independent sentiment, and to make that sentiment prevail in politics is to purify the nation and put good and honest men in command.

This writer draws with great effect an interesting parallel to illustrate his view of independence in political action. He accepts Edmunds of the Republicans and Bayard of the Democrats as representatives of purity and fair dealing in politics. Both parties contain men like those, who are high above sectional or partisan feeling, and favor reform of the civil service that shall be genuine and unmistakable. The same parties have Gen. Logan, a Republican, and Judge Thurman, a Democrat, who are the opposites of the first named. With Logan and Thurman, party allegiance covers a multitude of sins. They believe in dividing the offices among the faithful workers. While their honesty and honorable character is unimpeachable and they stand the equals of Edmunds and Bayard in personal character, yet they represent the machine in politics and are men that the independent voter rejects. The time seems to have come when allegiance to party is not the passport to political promotion, which is because the independent voter is abroad in the land.

According to the writer we refer to, the question of political moment is this: Will the two great parties present for the suffrages of the nation as candidates for the Presidency prototypes of Judge Edmunds and Senator Bayard? or will they select adherents of the machine in politics, of whom Gen. Logan and Judge Thurman are types? Fortunately for the nation, independence of thought, feeling, and action grow and spread until politicians recognize that the independent voter holds the balance of power. The time has been when Germans or Irish have been courted for their suffrage, when even the whisky interest was propitiated to insure success, but, thank God for it, the time is come when honest independence holds the key to success. The politician trembles in his boots for fear that the moral sentiment of the country will go against him.

The question as to who shall be placed in nomination for President involves fully as vital interests as politics comprehends. Any mistake will be fatal. Blaine is the favorite of many, but the independent voter will not forget his "bossism" and his tricks of the trade. Of the half-dozen who are prominent among Republicans, scarce one, save Geo. F. Edmunds, comes clean-handed. He pursues his Senatorial career with supreme indifference to any prospect that the Presidency awaits him. The

world waits with almost impatience to see whether the lesson has been fully learned and political parties will nominate men who are without reproach.

WHAT BIENNIAL MEANS.

We have inquired at the State House concerning the prospect of holding the next legislative session in September or January, and learned from Gov. Moody's private secretary that he seems to think the new law will "hold water," and the session will commence in January, as provided by recent statute. "Biennial sessions," as prescribed in the State constitution, should receive a liberal construction. To make a winter session come within the views of some strict constructionists, the sessions must come within two years of the date of the last regular meeting, and to accomplish it the session should have been appointed to meet last January. That would have been an interval of fifteen months between sessions. Some hypercritical philosopher suggests that the Governor call an extra session, which will bridge over the interregnum and bring the biennial idea into actual practice. Let us see how the State was organized: The State constitution was adopted September 18, 1857, and provided that the Legislature should be "held biennially, commencing the second Monday in September, 1858," but the "act of Congress admitting the State of Oregon into the Union" was passed February 14, 1859. The constitution says "the second Monday of September, 1858, and on the same day every two years thereafter." This brought the first Legislature together in 1860; the last one met in 1882, and answered for two years from February, 1881, to February, 1883. The State was admitted February 14, 1859, and the biennial of the first session included the first two years. The biennial of the present time ends February 14, 1885, so the letter of the law is complied with if the session commences in January 1885. There is no especial importance attaching to the matter. The constitution says the time of meeting may be changed by law and the last Legislature passed the law for it. The reason why early fall was chosen was to favor farmers. They could not come in spring or summer, and in winter the means of communication with Southern and Eastern Oregon were very uncertain. The liability of the Columbia to freeze and close navigation was the reason why the fall season was chosen for the sessions to be held. That is a reason no longer. It is a hardship for farmers and all others to lose six weeks in September and October, a time when there is much work to be done. It is important to change to January and it is to be hoped that no mere quibble will be allowed to rise and interfere with the best good of the State.

NATURE'S OWN PROFESSION.

It is very proper to ask of ourselves: What is the natural destiny and duty of man? The first man cultivated a garden, and his two sons divided their duty. One tilled the earth, and the other had his flocks and herds. The earth was made for man's home, and he was placed here to study and develop its resources. The world, with its civilization, as we see it to-day, proceeds from the crude beginning that we read of in Genesis. Man became a tiller of the soil. All that man is beyond that is still dependent upon it. The most honorable possession a man can have is to own the soil. That remains and produces when money shall have taken to itself wings and flown away. To own and till the soil is hard labor, and yet it is the most satisfactory work that man can do. He plants the seed and grows the harvest. The world depends upon the farm. Fashion and pride would quickly find their level, if no products came from the farm. The lawyer and physician have their work to do, and the mechanic in his workshop is a necessity; but the prime worker of all is the man who turns the furrow and gathers the harvest. He is the foundation that civilization builds on, the architect whose plans none can discard. He is, of all classes, nearest to the Creator, and most closely allied to His works. He has most to learn of nature, and spends his life studying the laws that govern production and increase. For him the orchards blossom and fruit, and for him rich stores fill the bin from the harvest field.

We should dignify our calling, and make much of our advantages we possess. The world will not grudge us all we need to accomplish the best results. The world is only a home for farmers, and more than half its people occupy the farm. There is much that is worth knowing about the soils we cultivate and the seeds we plant. It is time the

Legislature of the country sought out ways and means to encourage production from the soil. It should be the rule and not the exception that farmers are called to fill positions of trust and honor, instead of their standing back to permit lawyers and professional politicians rule the land. We would do nothing to lessen the innate dignity of his calling, or that would tend to make him a chronic place hunter, but we would insist that the farmer shall be chief among citizens and most influential.

How, then, shall we accomplish this revolution in the world? for it will be a social and political revolution when the farmer shall lead instead of follow. Education is the great need—education for the farm. You can make lawyers and doctors and merchants of your sons, and give them education for those pursuits, but that education will be wasted if he stays on the farm. He needs to be educated to stay where he is, and the learning of nature's secrets is no trifling matter. The department of agriculture must be elevated and enlarged in sphere to include education for the farm and all the uses of the farm. This does not require the ancient or modern languages, or the whole range of mathematics and the exact sciences. It requires, however, a broad field for scientific and experimental investigation. The wide world offers many questions for solution. The literature of the farm need not be narrow or tame, either. It should include all nature, and give premiums rich and rare for successful endeavor. The farmer should be a well read man in all departments of life work. The ownership of land carries with it important questions to answer and great duties to fulfill. The farmer should be well informed as a citizen, well qualified as a man, versed in common law principles, in philosophy, as a ground work for his especial career. He should be especially qualified concerning matters relating to soils and production. The bureau of agriculture should have in its charge institutions of learning of a high order, organized for the education of the farmers. The public schools should qualify their pupils for these colleges; our system of schools must comprehend all that is necessary for the education and elevation of our class. It is not only necessary that farmers should take rank and hold positions as a matter of right, but they should, in so doing, be recognized as farmers, and honored as such. It is not the individual we care to see honored, but the class. The representative of his class should be put forward by his fellows and honored by them. The time cannot be far off when farmers shall be available candidates for the highest offices the people can bestow. It is time that in relation to Legislatures and Congress, the public put up this sign: "No Lawyer Need Apply."

The Nooksack Valley. A visit to the Valley of the Nooksack, remarks the Whatcom Reveille, must impress one with an idea of the grand future in store for Whatcom county. The forest is yielding to the axe of the sturdy rancher, and slowly but surely the garden, the meadow and the field are widening. Here, there, and everywhere clearings are being made, and houses loom up. Acre by acre the farmer is increasing his fertile farm, and so the country is developing at least as rapidly as the towns. One good feature is that most of the land is held by actual settlers, who are not afraid of work. There are already some of the finest farms imaginable in the Nooksack valley, and every year valuable improvements are being made.

Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer is a certain remedy for removing dandruff, making the scalp white and clean, and restoring gray hair to its youthful color. It imparts a fine gloss and freshness to the hair, and is highly recommended by physicians, clergymen and scientists as a preparation accomplishing wonderful results.

DRY GOODS. Our Weekly Arrivals. NOVLETIES. SPRING & SUMMER GOODS. Will not fail to please the most fastidious. OLDS & KING, 186 First Street, PORTLAND, OR. The greatest care taken in filling Orders by mail.