

PORTLAND LETTER.

Talk About Politics with a Portland Politician.

From our Regular Correspondent. PORTLAND, OR., April 6, 1888. Anent the report that was wired from Pendleton that the Multnomah delegation had been caught napping and victimized by "smoothies from up the valley," and that their carelessness would cost the Democrats a thousand votes in Multnomah county, your correspondent, by dint of a brilliantly executed flank movement, succeeded in cornering and finally interviewing a Democrat who has the distinction of being not only a successful lawyer but a scientific politician.

"This year is one of unusual Democratic activity. The party, up to the meeting of the Convention at Pendleton, were in pretty good working trim, according to outward indications. The general idea prevails among workers of the party that a large amount of money will be sent to this State for campaign purposes in June and November. It is the prospect of outside assistance that accounts for the great activity. The principal contest of the Convention, and the only one that developed any feeling, was the fight for chairmanship. The chairman, of course, is the great sack-holder, and zeal for party welfare depends largely upon the contents of the sack. Mr. Killin, who was put forward for this position by the Multnomah delegation, is an ex-Republican, and understands the successful methods heretofore pursued by Republican managers. He is presumed to know where money will do the most good in Portland, and the street and number of that great body of patriots who vote for revenue only. These people who had packed the primaries and labored hard and earnestly to put Mr. Killin to the fore, naturally feel sad to see the sack vanishing into the dim distance. However, I think that time will modify the present feeling so that by election day every Democrat in the State will vote the Democratic ticket. The proposition that the election of Mr. Bush to the chairmanship of the State Central Committee will cost Multnomah county a thousand votes, is preposterous. Mr. Bush is a very careful and successful business man and has been eminently successful in everything that he ever undertook in a political way. If Democratic success is possible in the State of Oregon, it can be as readily achieved under the management of Mr. Bush as under that of any other chairman; and in my opinion it is fortunate for us that he was chosen instead of Mr. Killin."

"You say 'if Democratic success is possible.' Now what is your honest opinion as to the chances of victory for your party in June and November?" "The election two years ago of a Democratic governor in so strong a Republican State as Oregon was a great achievement for our party. It stimulated and gave us new hope, and at the same time had a demoralizing effect on Republicans. It had filled them with grave apprehensions. They now talk enthusiastically about some success in June, but a retrospective glance into their uneasy minds is sure to reveal the ghost of defeat, whose menacing finger points to Democratic victory. We have better reason to hope for success in this State next June than ever before. November will witness one of the hottest contested elections Oregon has ever known. By making protection the issue, the Republicans have got the best of us. The result of such radical changes in the policy of our government as free trade means is so uncertain. We are doing very well under protection, but we are willing to do better. That this desirable condition of things is to be obtained by the adoption of a free trade policy, it devolves upon the Democracy to prove. Its going to be a big job, and it is going to take lots of talk and great work to do it. But if brain, sinew and undying resolution mean anything, Oregon will, on the 6th day of November, 1888, select men who will go to the electoral college pledged to tariff reduction and Democracy, Cleveland and civil service reform. T. B. LANKS.

Echo Items.

To the Editor of the East Oregonian: Echo, Or., April 8, 1888. All is peaceful down the Umatilla. Mims, the boy operator, is here to-day. Mrs. P. G. Tompkins, who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gillette, has returned to her home in Colusa, Cal. Edward Horner and Miss Hattie Stansbury were married here to-day, immediately after services. The wife of John LeComa has left for Monroe, Benton county, to visit friends and relatives there. Hon. Geo. W. Webb, our State Treasurer, familiarly known as "Uncle George," is with us to-day. He went out to his farm, which is about three miles from here. I hear that a brother of James and George Parsons has just arrived from the East. There was a dance at the I. O. O. F. hall last Friday night. Some of the boys got happy and had a high old time. Wm. Bremer and T. H. Harvymann were the participants in a row which occurred at the saloon of Wm. Voss. Bremer wears the champion's belt. Elliot Russ, will take their horses to Heppner in a few days. Fino.

Timmerman Hanged.

Timmerman, the murderer of William Sterling, was publicly hanged at Goldendale Friday. On his legs being strapped together he said he'd "be damned if he'd ever been hobbled before." Those were his last words.

Henry Katz, a prominent merchant of Port Townsend, was drowned Saturday while attempting to board a ship.

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