

PORTLAND POINTS.

The Haskell-McGinn Row—Elijah Smith and His Fast Train—The E. O. Man Interviews Him.

PORTLAND, June 17.

Rev. Ezra Haskell, a well-known pastor of this city, was assaulted and struck several times in the face last Tuesday evening by Henry E. McGinn. Mr. McGinn has just been elected to a second term as prosecuting attorney of this district. Last Monday night Mr. Haskell delivered a lecture at the Pavilion in this city. The corrupt political condition of the city and the backwardness of the municipal authorities in enforcing the law was discussed. During the course of his remarks Mr. Haskell declared that McGinn resorted to bribery on last election day. Mr. Haskell happened along while McGinn and some friends were speaking of this matter, last Tuesday, on the corner of Washington and Third streets. McGinn stopped Haskell and said: "Mr. Haskell, you told a damned, dirty lie about me the other night. There is no truth in the things you say about me." Haskell replied: "You can indict me for libel if you want to."

Then McGinn said: "You know very well I can't use the machinery of my office in my own personal defense, but I'll spit in your face."

He then struck Haskell several times in the face. Haskell made no attempt at defense, but got out of the way as quickly as possible. Next day Haskell had McGinn arrested for assault. Yesterday the case came up in the police court and, much to the surprise of all, McGinn entered a plea of not guilty, and had the case continued till Tuesday next.

Mr. Haskell feels that he has suffered an outrage that is extremely humiliating to himself and a deep disgrace to the city. He says that when he charged McGinn with bribery it was not mere presumption, but that it was based on perfectly reliable information, and that he was ready, willing and anxious to prove what he had charged, and that now he is determined that the matter shall go before the United States and State grand juries. There is a question as to which jury will have jurisdiction. If the evidence shows an offense against the State, it is quite likely the matter will never come to trial; but if a crime against the United States has been committed, and an indictment is found by the United States grand jury, some interesting developments may be looked for. Mr. McGinn has hosts of friends in this city who very much regret that he should have allowed his temper to get the best of his judgment. It is hoped and believed that the serious charges made against him are groundless, and that a thorough investigation will result in a clear vindication.

Elijah Smith, president of the O. R. & N. Co., arrived here in his private car per special train yesterday. He made the trip from New York to Portland in 83 hours, the quickest trip ever made across the continent. Accompanying Mr. Smith were E. S. Hooley, a stock broker of New York, T. H. Morrison, a dispatcher, porter and cook. Morrison says the speed of the train made the cook so "sensible" he couldn't prepare meals, and that they were nearly starved when they reached Portland. The colored porter turned as white as a sheet on several occasions and the dispatcher was scared half to death. They came by regular train to Chicago, and from there West as a special. The first 130 miles this side of Cheyenne, although in the night and over the mountains, was made in 150 minutes. A number of runs were made at the rate of a mile in 50 seconds. From Granger to Huntington the distance is 51 miles. This run was made in 50 minutes. Holy smoke! but isn't that flying? Another run of 56 miles was made in 60 minutes. [Excuse me.] They had 18 "relays" of engines between Chicago and Portland. The E. O. man found Mr. Smith seated at the dinner table at the Esmond about nine last night. He is a stout man, rather below medium height, inclined to be corpulent, is a perfect picture of health and looks as rugged as a bear. He wears bushy "burnsides," a mustache and his complexion might lead one to believe that he had been herding sheep all summer, but he hasn't.

Dinner finished, he picked his teeth just the same as though he were an ordinary human being, gathered up his meal check, examined it to see if the charges were correct, took it to the counter and paid the amount indicated thereon, as per instructions printed at the bottom, put on his hat (ordinary \$3.50) and came into the bar-room, where W. H. Holcomb, Cy Dolph and H. W. Corbett were laying for him. Cy got in ahead of the rest and escorted Elijah to the walk in front of the hotel, where they sat down, put their heads together and conversed in a low tone of voice for about ten minutes, when Cy said good night and rose to go. Corbett then made a dive for Smith, but before Smith could grasp the extended hand he found himself confronted by the E. O. reporter, and the next thing I knew Elijah Smith was shaking my hand as cordially as though I was going to vote all my O. R. & N. stock to re-elect him president of that company.

The information given me by Mr. Smith in the interview that follows is strictly confidential, and it was only after I had made a sacred promise of secrecy that I could get a word from him:

"Mr. Smith, what brought you out here in such a hurry?" said I.

"Nothing in particular. I always travel in a hurry."

"Then you made a trip of three thousand miles in 83 hours for 'nothing in particular' did you?"

"I haven't time to talk to-night."

"How long are you going to stay here?"

"I don't know."

"Are you going over on the Sound?"

"I don't know, I'm sure."

"You made the quickest trip across the continent on record, did you not?"

interesting significance to the people of Oregon? "Not in the least," and Corbett dragged him away. An O. R. & N. stockholders' meeting and election of officers is to be held here Monday, which probably accounts for Mr. Smith's presence. TUNE LANKS.

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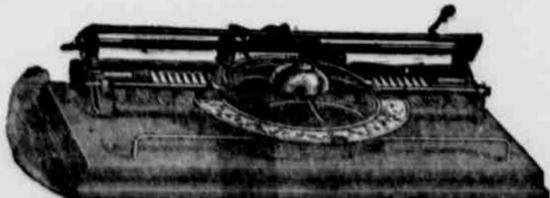
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