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DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY,

—BY THE—

East Oregonian Publishing Company,

—AT—

PENDLETON. — OREGON.

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EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

A Few Observations About Politics, Tariff, and Our Esteemed Contemporaries.

BALTIMORE, N. Y., June 22.

It is with feelings of mingled vexation, contempt, amusement and sorrow that any honest, well-informed man may read, it seems to me, the comments, criticisms and cock-a-doodle-doings of such organs as the New York Tribune and the Portland Oregonian, both of which I read daily. The comments are those of brutal bullies; the criticisms are built out of lies; the crowing is the rejoicing of tyrants over the defeat of the people in a single, insignificant skirmish. The Union forces lost the first battle of Bull Run, but the Union armies were not irretrievably defeated, nevertheless. Oregon has gone for "protection," th' y claim be it so, then; and grant, too, that all other Northern States, and whatsothern States you will, will go the same way; that does not decide this controversy. One victory for the wrong will not make it right. And these self-politicians; these infinitely contemptible newspaper vandals who are purposely deceiving the people to their ruin for the sake of plunderer's pay and for the eternal hatred of every man who does not vote the Republican ticket—these men, some say, will surely reap the harvest of their sowing. I do not censure a man for disagreeing with me in politics, or on any question of political economy. I respect an honest opinion and an honest vote, whether the same as my own or otherwise. But I despise the daily dinner of wilful falsehoods which is set before public credulity and ignorance. The crime is in the willfulness of the deception. If the Oregonian honestly believed in protection its utterances would deserve respect. Believing as it does, in just what the Democratic party is attempting to do, it merits only reproach. It feeds its readers poison daily, well knowing the deadly nature of the dose. It would sacrifice the Republic to-day to save a party—the party of privileged classes. Out of the fairly criminal position, politically, which it occupies, it will skulk, when close hunted, by repeating: "take the tax off sugar." This is all it can say. Never yet has it had the common honesty to tell its readers that the Mills bill proposes to take the tax off sugar to the extent of over twelve million dollars. Never yet has it had the common honesty to tell its readers that the sugar tax 85 per cent. goes into the Treasury, while of the taxes on other necessities, only about 20 or 25 per cent. reach the treasury of the government. But the Oregonian has the South and every State and locality which casts a Democratic majority, with such an intense and undying hatred, that it would leave no tax on sugar merely for the diabolical purpose of angering and oppressing one or two of the Southern States.

These papers have never had the common honesty to tell the people that while the Mills bill may be objectionable, it is merely a step—and not a large one—in the direction of tariff reform and tax-reduction which the Republican party has repeatedly promised to accomplish without any intention of keeping its promises.

They have not the common honesty to tell their readers that the President in his message, which is practically the tariff plank of the Democratic party, distinctly disclaims and disavows any intention of enacting any "free trade" legislation, but only proposes to reduce the war tariff to such a scale as will provide only a sufficient revenue to meet the necessary expenses of the government, and prevent the accumulation of a great surplus revenue in the treasury; and that it is proposed to make this reduction in such a manner as to most ease the burdens of the poorer classes of people.

They have not had the common honesty to even quote the irrefutable argument of the majority of the committee on Ways and Means, showing the benefits to accrue to the wool growers themselves as well as to the consumers, by putting wool on the free list along with other raw materials, where it belongs.

In these and many other particulars the Republican organs and orators show that they dare not "tell the truth"; they dare not fully and fairly present the issue; they dare not allow the facts and arguments to come before the people; for well they know, that when the facts are known, when the truth is laid bare, and when the great idol of protection has been seen in his true colors and character, there will no longer be hope of place or power for the plunderers of the people. As is well understood by men who have read history and know anything of men, it is not this year's unnecessary, and therefore unjust, taxation, that we so much oppose, nor next year's, nor that of several years. The burdens laid upon

the people by the protective system are of themselves grievous, if long continued; but this is only the least part of the evil, only the beginning of a train of evils, each succeeding one of which must be greater and more deplorable than its predecessors. The surplus, as it increases, will surely lead to such extravagance and public corruption as have never yet been witnessed. This is not only a natural result, but it is a result furnished by history over and over again. An immense surplus in the treasury, coming from whatever source, is a temptation and a peril; but such a surplus gathered by the proceeds of unnecessary and unequal taxation is a crime, which if continued, must be dearly expiated some day.

Just so surely as this system is kept up, as it will be if the Republican party comes into power again, will there be an awakening of the people some day, and what by peaceable and easy means they can accomplish now they will then attempt with force and anger; with bullet and shell; and long and savage the conflict is likely to be, for already the protected classes are powerful beyond computation or imagination.

The ignorance existing upon this subject is truly amazing. I talked yesterday with a man above average intelligence. Years ago he was a Republican, but late year he had voted with the Prohibition party. He said that now he thought he would have to go back to the Republicans, on account of the "tariff question." "Well, why?" I asked; "what objection have you to the Democratic position on the tariff question?" He recited the usual clap-trap nonsense—"destruction of American industry"—and competition with foreign "pauper labor." I asked him if he could give me an intelligent rational reason for the conclusion that high taxation helped American industry or caused high wages. "Well, it kept out foreign goods, and enabled our manufacturing establishments to run all the trade and give employment to our labor." I proceeded to ask a few questions, I found the man knew absolutely nothing of what he was talking about. He did not know what or how much we exported or imported. He did not know the comparative price of labor in this and foreign countries, nor in former years as compared with this. He did not know, or at least had not thought, that a "home market" or the attempts to make one, have done more than all other causes combined to destroy the market for American labor. He did not know, or had not reflected that the ever-accursed protection system taxes him for everything, in the name of American labor, and imports foreign labor free by the thousands per week. He had not thought that if it be true, as even the protectionists affirm, that manufacturers are sure to become wealthy, it is the height of political infamy to tax consumers to give them special advantages. In fact he had thought of nothing. He had simply swallowed the bait and was hooked into the Republican party. I didn't want to talk politics or "the tariff," I wanted to forget all about them for a few days. But I could not resist the temptation to do a little missionary work; and before I left this man a little light had begun to dawn upon him, and the light had revealed to him the outermost shadows of the monster that is sapping the life-blood of the country, shrewdly misnamed "protection."

I notice that our esteemed Republican contemporaries are beginning early with their usual campaign compliments. Mr. Cleveland, I understand, is a "fore-quarter of beef," a "beer guzzler," a "libertine," a "wife-beater," etc., etc. Mr. Thurman, whom, since they supposed he had retired from politics, they have commended in the highest terms, is a drunkard, a copperhead, an imbecile, etc., etc. I really think these things are not worth a reply by any Democratic paper or any Democrat. The vileness and the villainy manifested by such language concerning brave, faithful and true public servants and American citizens whom their country have highly honored, can, it seems to me, only react upon the vile and villainous men who are sold to the public plunderers for a price, and like the venal creatures they are, know no better way to earn their pay.

At this writing I know nothing of the situation at Chicago. So far it has been chaos. They took along old John C. Fremont and Fred Douglas to inspire a little enthusiasm, but the men who are running the convention won't enthuse very much. They wouldn't walk across the street to save either Fremont or Douglas from the gibbet or the stake. If there was any plunder that might be grabbed in the meantime, they are there on business. It is the business of Vanderbilt, who said "The public be damned." It is the business of Gould, who will pay a quarter of a million into the Republican campaign fund. It is the business of Stanford, who has robbed the American people of a hundred million, and who, if he had his deserts, would be in a felon's cell for life. It is the business of Alger, who has made five million dollars out of the home-builders of Michigan and adjoining States, because he was "protected" and they were not. He believes with Dohip, that putting lumber on the free list would "ruin the lumber industry." He means that then he could not clear a quarter or half a million dollars a year—legal plunder fleeced from the pockets of the poor people of half a dozen states by the infamously unjust protection laws. It is the business of Sherman, the author of fraud and perjury, and the acknowledged tool and agent, yea, partner, of the gold-gamblers of Wall street. It is the business of Steve Elkins and Tom Platt, and a horde of such fellows, who are known the country over as sharp rascals without an honest thought or patriotic purpose in their natures. It is the business of the corporations, the trusts, the banks, the monopolists and millionaires everywhere. But it is not the business of the people.

J. P. W.

W. D. FLETCHER,
WATCHMAKER & JEWELER.

Bank building, Court street, Pendleton, Oregon.

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chandise

FULL KIDS

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STOCK.

Pianos, Organs, and all kinds of musical instruments sold on the installment plan.

S. JACOBS OIL FOR RHEUMATISM.

HON. S. CROSBY, Hawaiian Consul,
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"St. Jacobs Oil cured me of painful
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with satisfactory results."

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ju 11m dsw Pendleton, Oregon.

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Before making your contract for next winter's supply of wood, consult Charles Frazier the wood doctor, and obtain the lowest prices for the best mountain wood.

LARGE QUANTITY ON HAND.

Charles Frazier,

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LUMBER!

At Wholesale Prices.

Cascade Mills Lumber Mfg Co.

Yard and Office at the Railroad
Depot. ju 11m dsw 1m

FOR SALE

On and after this date, as administrator of
the estate of the late William Ross, I offer
for sale the live stock owned by the de-
ceased, consisting of

Thoroughbred Hereford Bulls.

Short-horn Cattle, Grade Cattle,
and General Stock Cattle.

Thoroughbred Spanish Merino
Bucks and Ewes, Registered.

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Also a large number of Horses and a quan-
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For particulars, call on or address

R. C. THOMPSON,
Administrator.

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Livery, Feed, and Sale Stable,

J. B. KEENEY & CO., Proprs.

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Equipped in First-
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SAMPLE ROOMS FOR COMMERCIAL MEN.

Free Coach to and from Trains.

First National Bank,

—OF PENDLETON—

LEVI ANKENY, President. JACOB FRAZER, Vice-President.

Sam P. Sturgis, Cashier.

Transact a general banking business.

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—On all parts of the world—

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Collections Made at all Points on
Reasonable terms.

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R. F. BEALE,
Marble and Stone
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For designs and prices consult Jesse Fallin,
Main street, Pendleton. Estimates
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PURE MEDICINES,
CHOICE PERFUMES,
Requisites of the Toilet.

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Opposite Villard House.

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The Truck Man

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WEB STREET — PENDLETON

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every time.

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in November for

ONLY ONE DOLLAR!

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HOWELL & CO.

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CHEAP

Groceries, Vegetables, Fresh Fish

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D. KEMLER'S Grocery Store, on Main Street

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS OFFERED FOR CASH.

Fine Spices, Fine Coffee, Fine Tea, and Everything Fine that a First-class
Grocery should contain.

Call on me if you want Groceries cheap.

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STOCKHOLDER'S MEETING.

Due notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Oregon Building & Loan Association will be held at the office of the Oregon Building & Loan Association, in Pendleton, Umatilla county, Oregon, at 7 o'clock