

# THE DEMOCRATIC NEWS.

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## The Democratic News.

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Will practice in the Supreme and other Courts of this State.

Particular attention paid to the collection of Claims against the Federal and State Governments, the Entry of Lands under the Pre-emption and Homestead Laws, and to the Entry of Mineral Lodes under the recent Act of Congress.

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Jan. 8th, 1870.

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Will practice in the Supreme and other Courts of this State.

Particular attention paid to the collection of Claims against the Federal and State Governments, the Entry of Lands under the Pre-emption and Homestead Laws, and to the Entry of Mineral Lodes under the recent Act of Congress.

## Oregon Democratic Platform.

The following are the resolutions adopted by the great Democratic Convention at Albany, embodying the principles of the party in this State:

1. That they are unalterably attached to the principles of our Republic as expounded by its founders, and the paramount object of their organization shall ever be to uphold and maintain those principles inviolate.

2. That they hold those political partisans, who, occupying positions of trust, claiming to be representatives of the people, have assumed the authority of Government, and endeavored to concentrate its powers in the hands of an oligarchy, wholly disregarding the will and wishes of their constituents, and insidiously endeavored to disparage, debase and stigmatize the once proud title of American citizenship, as enemies to the best interests of this commonwealth.

3. That the so-called reconstruction measures attempted to be carried out by the present party in power is a nefarious scheme, revolutionary in design, treasonable in execution, one which if acquiesced in as a rightful exercise of authority will establish a most dangerous precedent and imperil the safety and prosperity of our form of government, and that the present Senators in the Congress of the United States from this State in supporting those measures have misrepresented the wishes and outraged the sentiments of the people of Oregon.

4. That the systematic efforts made by that party to extend to the African, the Indian, and the Chinaman all the civil and political rights and privileges enjoyed by the white race, evinces a design on the part of its leaders to destroy the high estimate placed upon that invaluable heritage and render despotism less objectionable and more easy of accomplishment.

5. That the ratification of the recently proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to the benighted negro and Indian, and which opens the door for its enjoyment to the heathenish Chinaman, is irregular, arbitrary and unlawful, and they most earnestly protest against the passage by the United States Congress of the pending act designed to enforce this obnoxious and illegal provision.

6. That they urge and entreat a repeal of the recent treaty concluded between the United States and China which guarantees to the latter nation such extensive privileges and immunities without corresponding benefits to American citizens, and offers to its border of semi-barbarians such favorable inducements to sojourn in upon us, occupying our mineral and agricultural districts, create competition with our laboring masses, establish unequal markets, disorganize our commerce and practices in our laws, discourage and repel the immigration of our own race, degenerate the white population, retard thrift, impede the advancement of education and enlightenment, abstract from our resources and send away our valuable mineral wealth, and demoralize and apostatize our community, and they resolve that a party who will sustain a policy so unwise, ruinous and ruthless as that which upholds such an infamous bargain, is unworthy the support of white men.

7. That in the management of municipal affairs they urge a judicious application of the principles of sound political economy; a laudable encouragement to agricultural, mineral, manufacturing and commercial interests; a just and equitable protection to the laborer and capitalist; and the faithful exercise of a system of rigid retrenchment; that the government should be administered for the people and not against them, in protecting their rights and interests and not in fostering monopolies to prey upon them and despoil them of their substance; that a system of taxation which has for its object the establishment of privileged orders under the Government, either by preferring one class to another or by imposing grievous burthens upon the taxpayers, while conferring favors, exemptions and immunities upon the holders of Government securities deserves no other name than legalized public plunder.

8. That the continual payment of the semi-annual interest on the bonded debt of the United States without abatement, together with other enormous expenses for which the people are taxed, make a burden too intolerable to be borne without an effort to find some speedy means of relief; that the amount of the bonded debt was increased more than two-fold by the venal, illegal and unjustifiable terms of its contraction, and there is neither justice or wisdom in the repeated payment of the principal by the continued payment of the interest; that it is no part of good policy or good government to embarrass the energies of labor and all business enterprise by excessive and oppressive taxation for the exclusive benefit of a combination of untaxed capital, that to relieve the country and to restore prosperity we favor an equitable adjustment of the bonded debt of the United States.

9. That the desire of the present Congress, as manifested by the proceedings, to secure to the wealthy bondholders payment in coin on account of indebtedness growing out of loans to the United States, of Treasury notes when worth less than one-half their coin value, after the holders thereof have received exorbitant interest thereon, and at the same time leaving the pensions due unfortunate soldiers, their wives, children or other dependents to be paid in a depreciated currency, exhibits a spirit of injustice unsurpassed in the history of class legislation and fully demonstrates the existence of a design on the part of the monied aristocracy of the country to influence the establishment of a policy favoring the aggrandizement of the rich at the expense of the poor; a policy which has for its object the aggregation of wealth, opulence and power on the one hand, and misery, poverty and slavery on the other; a policy fitted only to a monarchical form of government.

10. That the Democracy of this State now, as heretofore, are strenuous advocates of a tariff for purposes of revenue only; that the principle of protection for the sake of protection is at war with the diversified interests of the people of the States, and experience has shown its tendency to aggrandize a class in the community at the expense and to the injury of the producing and laboring millions, leaving their industry equally in violation of

the authority of the Constitution, and of the great principles that should govern this people in their intercourse with the family of nations.

11. That we favor the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, rescinding the 14th and 15th amendments.

12. That we are in favor of a liberal policy being pursued by the Legislature of this State, in the bestowal of the land grants to her for the purpose of public improvements.

13. That the Governor and resigning members of the Legislature, in engaging in a conspiracy to overthrow the State government, collect large amounts of coin as revenue, to be drawn from the business and hard earnings of the people, to be idle in the treasury, or to be the subjects of gambling speculations in warrants, bonds and other securities, were guilty of a high crime against the Government of Oregon, rendering them unworthy the respect and confidence of the people, or of being further entrusted with the administration of the government; and while we thus condemn the action of the Governor and resigning members, we unhesitatingly approve and endorse the conduct of the Democratic members in earnestly and faithfully striving to restore and maintain the organization of the Legislature, and provide for the due administration of the laws.

## Organize.

Democrats, we are approaching a campaign as important as any which the history of our country exhibits. Democrats of Oregon, we will be called upon to elect a Legislature that will reject that sum of all infamies; that self set seal of degradation, the hellish Fifteenth Amendment; or by our own acts to sign an acknowledgment, and with our own hands to tie the knot that will bind us hand and foot to be delivered as slaves to Radical tyranny and oppression. The next Legislature of Oregon has much to do. It has, in part, to ruin or save the white race. Again, the coming Legislature will have to choose a successor to Geo. H. Williams in the U. S. Senate for six years. What can men do too much to defeat the re-election of that consummate demagogue and most unscrupulous of all political scamps? Williams has openly set at naught all the laws of consistency and honesty. He has trimmed his sails to suit every wind, no matter from what direction it blew. He has been true in nothing, false in everything.

We have an infamous Governor to rebuke, and hurl from power, with the crushing curse of an outraged people; to damn him forever, preacher thought he be, and Christian (?) though he is. The financial department of the State stands sadly in need of "reconstruction." We need a Secretary who is not quite so expert in attaching the names of other people to papers of financial interest and moment. We need a general cleaning out of Radicals and a general election of Democrats. We have work to do.

Let us be up and doing; let us awake from our lethargy and be working. Organize! Organize!! Organize!!! Let each county and every precinct awake and be alive to business. The enemy is wary and skillful, let us be equally so.

Secret signs call the Leagues, together in midnight conclaves to enlist their deluded recruits. Oath-bound cabals are sworn to use all means, fair and foul, to carry their party to success.

Democrats, we ask not that signs, grips and passwords, bind us together. We ask not that we meet in back rooms with door keepers, tylers and outside and inside guardians. We ask not that dark lanterns and cabalistic signs advertise our meetings. Democracy, thank God, need no such devices.

Let Democrats organize; let them meet together manfully, peacefully and boldly; let them meet, if necessary, under the green shade of trees, or the blue canopy of heaven—let them meet in daylight, with open doors.

Let each and every member of the White Man's League, be known by his fearless and manly advocacy of the glorious principles of our party, and by his outspoken denunciation of wrong, oppression and tyranny, let it come from what source it may.

Let us organize; let us have harmony of thought and concert of action. Let Democratic documents be spread over the State. Let us put it in each man's power to tell the "reason of the faith that is in him."

We have a fight before us. When the day shall come, let us meet the enemy of the laboring white man face to face; let us present a phalanx unbroken, and forces well mentioned and organized. One glorious battle and the victory is ours.

Those principles upon whose bright pinions our dear country was borne to her once proud height of prosperity and glory, and the abandonment of which has brought her to her present grovelling place in the dust of oppression and wrong, must be maintained.—Guard.

OREGON ELECTION.—On to-day the gallant democracy of the State of Oregon meet at Albany to nominate their State ticket. We predict that the selection made by them will prove to be the choice of a majority of the people on the first of June. They are thoroughly and fully prepared to meet the enemy, and we hope to be able to proclaim and inform our readers that a full and complete victory will reward them for their efforts. It is admitted that there are no truer democrats in any State in the Union and we trust that each and every one of them, as soon as the candidates are announced, will feel that he has a special mission to perform and "never tire with well doing" until the corrupt radical party in that State are routed horse, foot, and dragon.—Capital Chronicle.

## Despotism Established.

We present below the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution, together with a copy of the bill introduced for its enforcement. The following is a copy of the

### FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

ART. XV., SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any State, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

SEC. 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

The ratification of this Amendment having been proclaimed, we next arrive at the necessary or appropriate legislation for its enforcement, which is as follows:

"An act to enforce the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to appoint, or cause to be appointed, three Commissioners for each election district of the several Congressional districts of the United States, to enforce the provisions of the Fifteenth amendment to the Constitution. The said Commissioners for such purpose shall have the sole right to decide on the qualifications of all voters who shall offer to vote for members of Congress or electors for President and Vice-President, and the exclusive authority to receive the ballots cast at any such election.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of such Commissioners to certify to the result of the election in their districts respectively, duly sealed, to the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Interior shall certify under his hand and seal the names of the persons who appear to him by the aforesaid returns to be elected members of Congress or electors for President and Vice-President, and the person who shall receive such certificate of election shall hold the office or exercise the authority therein designated, subject to the sixth section of this act.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the United States Marshals in their respective districts to sustain the Commissioners of Election herein provided for in the performance of their duties, and shall detail a sufficient force of deputies to secure order at the election herein provided for; and in the event of the force of any such Marshal proving inadequate, the Marshal shall have the right to call on the nearest commanding officer of troops of the United States to aid such Marshal to preserve order.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to station the troops of the United States, immediately preceding any election herein provided for, at convenient points adjacent to the principal polling places of the several Congressional districts, and in the principal cities a commanding force of such troops shall be encamped in the parks or other suitable places of such cities, at and preceding any election as aforesaid.

SEC. 6. All questions in regard to the regularity and fairness of the election of members of Congress shall be referred by the Secretary of the Interior to the House of Representatives, who shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof; and in like manner all questions relative to the election of electors for President and Vice-President, shall be referred to the President, who shall appoint a committee of not less than three suitable persons to examine and decide all such questions, and whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

SEC. 7. This act shall go into effect when Congress shall, by resolution, duly declare that three-fourths of the States have ratified the proposed Fifteenth Amendment, and have decreed that the Constitution is amended accordingly.

Comment is almost unnecessary, as the features of the bill as well of those presented in the Amendment are plainly visible to the most casual observer.

It has always been the object of the Democracy to warn the people of the usurpation of power by Congress, and no act goes so far to prove the intent of the Legislative Department as the above bill. It is the crowning masterpiece of Radical corruption and treason. The act ignores the right of States in the election of members to Congress and electors for President and Vice-President.

It remains yet to be seen whether the American people will tamely submit to the removal of power from their State Governments to the hands of a few republican partisans. If they possess their original patriotism they will welcome these new fangled instruments of Radical tyranny with sentiments and manifestations commensurate with their distinguished positions, and to keep up with the men at the head of affairs present them with some suitable and appropriate testimonial, such as a nice suit of—tar and feathers, with the request that they return to their masters with the information that the people are yet able to attend to their own affairs.

The San Francisco Examiner in commenting on

this thing of infamy, the off-spring of fiends incarnate, brought forth in that den of corruption of which hell itself is the prototype, says:

The bill, it will be seen, utterly ignores the States in the election of members of Congress and Presidential Electors. Unless the American people are cowards and slaves they will welcome these minions of power, when they attempt to interfere in their elections, "with bloody hands to hospitable graves." That man who does not echo this sentiment from the bottom of his heart can claim no kindred blood with the patriots of our own Revolution, or the martyrs of liberty in any age of the world. In the language of the New York Herald, endorsed by the chief organ of the Administration, "We have in these Amendments a greater revolution in the structure of the Government than that which transferred the American people from the crown of England to their own institution under the original Constitution of the United States."

How has this revolution been accomplished? Certainly not by the consent of the people, for their consent has never been asked or given to any such revolution. It has been carried by usurpation, fraud and force, and is without any binding obligation upon the conscience, or claim upon the obedience, of any law abiding citizen. Like the ties in the States, where neither insurrection nor civil war existed, it is simply an arbitrary usurpation of power under a false pretence, and it is the military rule which superseded the civil authority, right, and it may soon become the duty, of every citizen who values his liberties, to resist any other lawless invasion of his liberties or his property.

If enforced and submitted to, it takes from the citizens of the States the remaining guarantee of self-government, and destroys the last bulwark of their liberties. It places the ballot under the exclusive control of minions of power, with "the sole right to decide on the qualifications of all voters, who shall offer to vote for members of Congress or Electors for President." It provides that all elections for members of Congress and Presidential Electors shall be conducted under military surveillance, and every ballot box surrounded by bayonets, over which the people are to have no control; elections precisely like those which elevated Napoleon the Third to supreme power, and to the same intent, without a single characteristic of an independent ballot cast by a free people. The commissioners who are empowered to control our elections with the "sole right to decide on the qualifications of all voters," are like Stanton's military Courts—"organized to convict." Such elections would be but proofs of our utter subjugation and degradation.

ABOUT THE COMING ELECTION.—The work of colonizing the doubtful counties in the Willamette valley, preparatory for the June election, is being vigorously pushed forward by both political parties of that section of our State. Mr. Hogue, the Superintendent of the Dalles Mint, will probably employ from forty to sixty voters on the building, a large proportion of these being new citizens and ALL of them Republicans. This is going to tell against the Democratic votes of this county. If the Democrats expect to win, they must put forward their very best men, and those too upon whom their party can batonize and who can poll the entire vote of their party.—Bolters and Bed-locks. We give this advice gratis, knowing full well that the democrats are hard at work (as well as the republicans) and that they will not leave a stone unturned to accomplish their success. We learn from the Enterprise that Ben. Holladay is now employing all white men on the Oregon Central Railroad and that he has discharged all the Chinese, and that he is engaged in colonizing Clackamas county for the Republican party. We had always supposed that Holladay was a Democrat, but this only goes to prove how these great men can turn their coats when it is to their INTEREST. This, then, is another thorn in the side of the democratic party. As far as the two political parties are concerned it is "diamond cut diamond" and the Mountaineer don't care much which wins, so that the offices of the county and State are filled with good, honest and capable men.—Dalles Mountaineer.

RECONSTRUCTION.—The telegraph informs us that the majority of the Reconstruction Committee of Congress have determined to reconstruct the State of Tennessee. It matters not that she has never been out of the Union; that she furnished a Vice President to Lincoln, or that she has patiently submitted to every indignity imposed upon her by Brownlow and by Congress. There seems to be some doubt about her submitting to the future usurpations, and so she is to be put under the control of Gen. Terry or some other ass with shoulder straps, until they send more subservient tools to the Senate and the House. We predict that the next subject for this process will be the State of California, as she not only refuses the Fifteenth Amendment, but her people do not recognize greenbacks as money. Let the work go on. It needs a few more cases to thoroughly arouse the people to a sense of their danger.—Plainsdealer.