

WHERE WE DRAW THE LINE.

We hope the patrons of this paper will excuse all the typographical and grammatical errors, and also the lack of original editorials for the editor is out of town, and when it comes to writing editorials when the editor isn't home, that's where we draw the line.

EXPERIENCE DOES NOT COUNT.

W. H. Spaulgh has a long article in the Florence West opposing a union of silver and reform forces. Mr. Spaulgh is an irreconcilable and will not recognize the plain business proposition that is the only means by which Oregon can be represented in congress by men who will oppose the schemes of single gold standard leaders in a union of the silver forces.

Mr. Spaulgh's abuse of the democratic party is unjust and uncalled for. That party sent Mr. Clevins and to the rear as a traitor to its cause. Every vote it has cast in congress as a party for years has been against monopoly and class legislation as exemplified in tariff and financial measures. It was only last week that the democratic vote of the senate, save one, was cast in union with the few populists and silver republican votes, and prevented the retirement of greenbacks with replacement by gold bonds.

But experience does not count with Mr. Spaulgh. He is anxious to again take the middle-of-the-road with certain defeat staring him in the face. He would rather see the principles he professes trampled in the dust than witness their triumphant vindication through a union of kindred forces.

But Mr. Spaulgh's opinions stand for little. The practical unanimity with which the populist state central committee endorsed the idea of union by sending it to the voters for final acceptance or rejection may be taken as an indication of the result of the test vote.

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CORBETT, who was appointed by Gov. Lord to represent Oregon in the U. S. senate has been rejected by that body, and as far as we are concerned we are glad of it. Mr. Corbett is a good man when in the right place, (at home) but is decidedly out of place when it comes to representing Oregon in the U. S. senate. We want a man who is both physically and mentally able, and competent in every respect to represent this great and glorious state of ours.

A severe blizzard visited the Atlantic coast the first of the month, and it is to be hoped if a cold wave is to visit us it will come soon that it may not injure our early blooming fruit. So far our winter has been very mild, having had only one rainfall sufficiently heavy to fill the streams enough to float logs in the upper river and its tributaries.

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The dispatch of the battle-ship Maine to Havana is interpreted as one of the many indications that a war cloud may at no very distant date darken our political sky. Nor is this popular suspicion unreasonable, for the recent speech of Representative Hitt was significant by its admission that the Cuban situation was one of increasing gravity. Mr. Hitt is at the head of the house committee on foreign affairs; he enjoys the president's full confidence, and his affirmation that Mr. McKinley would "not disappoint the expectations of his countrymen" can fairly mean only one thing, viz., that the president contemplates forcible intervention if need be, in Cuban affairs. Among other things, Mr. Hitt said that the president had "informed the Sagasta government that the war must cease and proposals for settlement be made within a reasonable time." This is nothing short of a threat of forcible intervention. Mr. Hitt begged congress to be "patient and ready to support the president if he takes the step which the honor and interests of our country may demand." In another passage Mr. Hitt confessed the failure of Cuban autonomy, which he said had been extorted from Spain by President McKinley, and said that the "Spanish authority in Havana was tottering between armed forces without and tumultuous riot within."

Mr. Hitt's argument against granting belligerent rights to the Cubans was placed by him on the ground that under the present conditions it was possible for "good men, sympathizing with Cuba's cause," to make their way to the island, "supplies, guns and ammunition were going from the United States," and every pound of powder fired in the cause of Cuba's freedom had come from this country." This speech is so full of the threat of forcible intervention, both expressed and implied, that it will be accepted as equivalent to a notice that the United States will at no distant date declare that Spain's scheme of autonomy having utterly failed after fair trial, it has become the duty of our government to interfere and restore the reign of peace, order and civilization to the devastated soil and starving people of Cuba. This intervention by the United States will, of course, be savagely resisted by Spain, unless she feels hopeless to continue the struggle; but it is not likely that intervention on our part would be other than warmly approved by the whole civilization of Europe.

Our government, both under Cleveland and McKinley, has been so zealous and vigilant in the discharge of its real and assumed neutral obligations to Spain that practically the United States has been the ally of Spain in her efforts to conquer by cruel methods of warfare, a disreputable peace. It is true that President Grant refused to acknowledge the belligerent rights of the Cubans, but the facts and the law were against him, and he violated the precedents set by President Monroe, who under similar circumstances not only granted Spain's revolted South American colonists belligerent rights, but acknowledged their independence. Presidents Cleveland and McKinley have both seen fit to follow the precedent of President Grant and to ignore the precedent of President Monroe; but, while Grant was wrong in his law and facts, he was more excusable for his denial of belligerent rights than we are today, for the Cuban revolt of ten years' duration from 1868 to 1879 had not destroyed much

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property or materially disturbed our commerce with the island, since we continued to gather from it some \$100,000,000 per annum; but in the present war 100,000 Spanish soldiers have perished within three years; the population of the island has been reduced from 1,500,000 to 1,000,000 since the rebellion broke out and our commerce with Cuba has been reduced to nothing and we are sending food to its starving people.

REMINISCENCES OF FLORENCE.

By JEDUTHAN.

Away back in the 70's, Florence was a sand hill; strewn with clam shells and fish bones of the unfortunate inhabitants of the blue waters and black mud of the Siuslaw.

Then the dusky men and maidens plied their canoes along the river or sported in its waters with only nature's close-fitting dress for a bathing suit. Then Siuslaw was rich in game and its waters as now were teeming with fish. The white man learned of its wealth and the undisputed possession of the Indian was over. His pale faced brother came to be his neighbor. One by one little shanties were to be seen on the sand hills where Florence now stands. A cannery was erected, afterwards a small store. The population was increasing. They missed their mail, until a sturdy man undertook to Barrett up the beach. For twenty years or more this same old man has passed and repassed on his tiresome journeys, between the Umpqua and Siuslaw. Ever faithful through storm and shine, in all the years he has journeyed to and fro, but few days have found the weather severe enough to make it necessary for him to lose a trip.

In time the valley lands were taken and little farms began to dot the river's shores. Then a trail wound its way up the creek beds and over hills to Eugene. Another mail route was established and for a number of years, a young girl wended her lonely way through fifty miles of forest and farmland to that town.

Time passed on, Florence was spreading slowly and they were beginning to have a somewhat longer bill of fare. The days of salmon and potatoes were over. Lard and butter were gradually taking the place of "bear oil". Other fruits were usurping the huckleberries, and a Pickle might sometimes be had.

Hordes of people were seen on the streets. Opposition stores and hotels appeared. Soon Alleys as well as streets were added to the town, and Florence's first newspaper dropped into the homes of the people.

Years rolled on, whole avenues have been added, and today, a Mayor Wilson rules the city.

A neat little church stands on the hill. Most of the logs have been removed from the town site, but the Knots have been kept. It is known they will Foster virtue.

There are other Hills than sand hills here now, Howe it happened we cannot say.

Though a growing city, Florence still has its attractions for the birds and denizens of the woods. Many trees are left standing and there are some Bushes growing in the city.

Crows visit us in large numbers and a few years since, the Martins twittered in the little school house. Only yesterday a Mother Cary's chicken was seen walking down Madison avenue, and he did not appear in the least frightened.

Coots frequent the out skirts of the town while Foxes live in the very heart of the city. Though they are harmless as they have been seen feeding turkeys and though Haring have often been seen near them they never offer to eat them.

The climate of Florence is delightful but a lady should wear a veil or a bonnet in March or she may Tanner face.

The bracing air is excellent for one with a Lung trouble and aids the gastric juices and Kyle, thus avoiding dyspepsia.

True Florence has draw backs which may cause some to be drawn away if they know of Klondike.

There is some Rath in the city. You can not play with fire even in water without it Burns, so one had better get Ready and stagger home before the trouble begins.

We have a hard man keeping hotel, while he seems to be about Wright he has a heart of Flint.

Some are hoping the Weatherson will change as since the rains there has been a small Flood in the post office.

But enough of Florence for this time, perhaps our Glenada friend can furnish us with a sketch of that city next week.

FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

WASH., D. C., Jan. 31st, 1898.

The president and the leaders of the several parties in congress are just now engaged in playing the old and fascinating game of politics. The silver men have been making their plays with the object of making the congressional campaign a square fight between silver and gold, and for a time the administration appeared to be willing to aid them in bringing that result about. But there has been a change, and now the administration has made plain its purpose of sticking to the international bimetallic plank of the St. Louis platform, at the same time declaring its intention to maintain the present gold standard until international bimetallicism is secured. Of course the silver men say that this is merely an attempt to befuddle the issue. The senate which is controlled by silver men, fired its first broadside when it adopted the Teller resolution. It was at first intended that this resolution should be quietly smothered in the house, but upon consideration, the republican leaders decided that as an offset to the action of the senate, the resolution must be defeated by a vote of the house, and that action was taken today. The silver republican senators have decided that the country must have some explanation of their support of the Teller resolution, and they will be given through speeches on the senate floor. So a fresh flood of financial oratory may be expected, as it is not likely that the other will allow the talking to be monopolized by the explainers.

The Cuban situation in congress was eased for the time to a marked extent by the sending of that warship to Havana, but the advocates of the action are getting restless again under the numerous reports that the warship was merely a trick to gain further time, and they may start some sort of movement any day.

There is a disposition on the part of a considerable number of senators who strongly favor some positive action on the part of this government in behalf of Cuba, not to allow a vote to be taken on the treaty for the annexation of Hawaii until the administration has made a plainer showing of its Cuban policy. Nothing positive has been agreed upon, but it is significant that the senators are agitating the matter and are in political accord with President McKinley and in favor of the annexation of Hawaii, but are impatient at the slowness with which the administration's Cuban policy is developing, and anxious to hurry it up a little. An intimation of their feeling has been given the president. The senate has so often shown its sympathy for Cuba that there is little doubt of the success of a motion to postpone indefinitely the consideration of the Hawaiian treaty, if it were made in connection with a statement that it was done to help Cuba.

President Dole, of Hawaii has now been in Washington nearly a week, the guest of the nation. On every side he is praised for the discreet manner in which he is conducting himself, as well as for his modest and unassuming ways. Although he is naturally deeply interested in seeing the annexation treaty ratified, he asks no questions of the senators who call on him; contenting himself with giving full information in reply to questions asked him. He shows wisdom, for the least bit of officiousness on his part in behalf of annexation would be exploited by the anti's as offensive meddlesomeness.

The moral cowardice display by some senators in the votes upon several amendments to the Teller resolution, declaring bonds payable in silver at the option of the government, which adopted by a majority of fifteen, was not calculated to increase the esteem felt for them by their constituents. Although to vote against the Teller resolution was in effect to endorse the present policy of paying bonds in gold, there were only twenty-four senators willing to go on record as voting for the Lodge substitute, which specifically stated that all bonds should be paid in gold or its equivalent, while thirty-two voted against the Teller resolution. Can anybody blame the constituents of the six senators who voted against the Teller resolution and either declined to vote or voted against the Lodge substitute for calling them financial hair-splitters. The congressional record, containing the votes in detail on the Teller resolution and the amendments offered thereto is likely to be carefully studied in more than one state, and to make trouble for more than one senator.

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(ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.)

Words hurt more than blows and heal more than balsams.

Heaven will permit no man to secure happiness by crime.

Behavior is a mirror in which every one displays his image.

Men do less than they ought, unless they do all that they can.

No man without intense faith in something can ever be in earnest.

Politeness has been well defined as benevolence in small things.

The secret of making one's self tiresome is not to know when to stop.

The rays of happiness, like those of light, are colorless when unbroken.

No amount of regret can make amends for one's life opportunities misused.

To persevere in one's duty and to be silent is the best answer to calumny.

What do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult for each other?

He who boldly bears calamity is more valiant than he who dares to die.

Every duty which we omit obscures some truth that we should have known.

The greatest evil of modern education is the evil which it inflicts on health.

Fretfulness of temper will generally characterize those who are negligent of order.

Honesty is one point of eloquence. We persuade others by being in earnest ourselves.

ALPHA CLIPPINGS.

BY EVEN CHANGE.

Feb. 7th, 1898.

C. A. Potter has the only fountain in Lane county. The people of Alpha believe in improving their homes.

Miss Bertha Haight is spending a week down the valley visiting the Misses Elinor Hale and Clara Tabor.

E. C. Potter has been appointed road supervisor for our district. We hope he will carry on the good work as in the past of putting our roads in good condition.

We are sorry to lose some of our neighbors. George Peil and family have moved out to Noti to take care of Mrs. Peil's mother and father who are getting old.

Some of our young bachelors whose faces are as yet not ornamented with the regulation military mustache but have fair prospects of becoming so soon are doomed, if we understand the suppressed mutterings of some of the fairer sex, unavoidably over heard, to get eye openers on St. Valentine's day that will yet remind them of their younger boyhood days, when they went to town circus day to gaze at the elephant.

Several people here are talking of putting in irrigating wheels to pump water from Deadwood to water their gardens, orchards and meadows which will consist of a 20 foot under-shot wheel with a bucket attached to each spoke which empties into a flume at the top and will carry the water to a large pond or reservoir located above the common level so that the land can be flooded at once. Enabling them to raise two crops of clover hay and keep green pasture land through the dry season.

A bridge is much needed at the mouth of Deadwood as there has been 5 horses drowned in crossing. Several years ago while Joe Wisman was running the Eugene-Mapleton stage route he had 4 of his stage horses drowned and narrowly escaped himself by being caught by his brother in a canoe after he had floated down Lake creek. About two weeks ago while crossing with a wagon Charlie Pope had his horse drowned and came very near losing two.

Alpha is to have a daily mail service after July 1st. Then our letters and papers will not be stale. If we once get used to a daily service we will wonder how anyone can read old papers that are a week behind. We are informed that the present contractor who is an eastern man and has perhaps never been in Oregon, is to receive \$180, and is trying to sub-let it to local parties. The distance is 17 miles of mountain road, with Deadwood creek to cross twice a day which at times is unfordable for a week at a time.

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