

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

Great stress is being laid on the fact that the newly elected president is a civil service reformer, and that he will pursue a course in accordance with that doctrine; hence, there will be no removals from minor offices without just cause for such removals. So far, so good; but, we may ask in consideration of the present aspect of political affairs, what constitutes a just cause? If we are approaching that period when public servants will be retained in office irrespective of party affiliations, then, the good citizens of all parties—the element that stands in support of permanent progress, will have cause to rejoice in the dawn of a brighter and purer era in politics. The day of the political office seeker will be no more, and the servants of the government, who retain their positions by virtue of merit, will add to the stability of the administration the invaluable qualification of large experience. It would be better for us all if civil service reform could be realized, instead of being the snare that we now behold. There are many branches of the service in which the retaining of men for life, or during good behavior, would be a decided improvement, notably, judges, pilots, postmasters, light house keepers, and the crews of life-saving stations. The greater the experience of such men, the more imperative it becomes to retain them, and they should not be removed without good cause.

There is nothing in our history, so highly, so glaringly contemptible as a partisan judge. We possess them in every grade, from the highest to the lowest, where they have been bought and sold like hogs. No other simile could be more appropriate to their condition; as the hog is the most fitting emblem of their voracious and disgusting complaint. The remedy that will obliterate this obnoxious ulcer, cannot be applied too soon. Then, we may obtain impartial decisions; then, justice will have an opportunity to triumph over the beggarly fraud of politics; then the intelligent world will accord us that position of enlightenment, that virtuous regard for human rights which we claim now, but do not possess.

The installation of new pilots which takes place with a change in state administrations is another crying evil. The efficiency of pilots depends upon their experience, and the only reform necessary, is to retain competent men during life. We have witnessed the folly of removing competent men in San Francisco, after an election, and substituting the ruff of the wharves, men who could pull a boat and act as bouncers and obstructionists at the polls, but, who possessed no qualification or experience as pilots, beyond that obtained in ferrying passengers to and from the vessels in the harbor in a small boat.

Civil service reform in the positions above stated, would be an enduring monument of our progress, and add to the welfare and security of our people. In obtaining the beneficial legislation necessary to that end, we may be disappointed, at an early date, but, if we ever hope to obtain relief from the burdens that are now imposed upon us by the frequent changes of judges and others, we must agitate the question of appointing the incumbents for life, or during good behavior. When the office-holders are placed in that position one great evil which affects our elections, will have been removed—the assessment for electioneering purposes. An office-holder will cast his vote, then, without fear or favor, and he will be forever relieved from the abominable practice of contributing from his hard-earned salary to further the election of any person.

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FILLIBUSTERING.

The old ghost of the fillibuster has not yet vanished, as may be seen from the following, clipped from a newspaper in New Orleans: The Beacon, in a double-headed leader, speaking of American policy and the Nicaraguan treaty, says: "The country is ripe for an entirely new departure—one worthy of our great nation and one that will stamp itself upon the whole history of North America. We must adopt a policy of acquisition and territorial aggrandizement to the southward. It need not be accomplished by armed invasion or inaugurated in blood. The Nicaraguan treaty is the entering wedge. Let us drive that home, and by investing \$100,000,000 in a ship canal there, secure the country. American enterprise will soon annex the whole of Central America from that base line. Sectional discord is happily ceased, and the south is primarily and deeply interested in turning the tendency of enterprise and the march of empire southward, and her statesmen, by at once championing a bold and brilliant policy in that direction, will open up a new era for the entire country, and map out a safe and short road to prosperity and continued national growth. The issue is tranquility at home, will add to the glory of our great republic."

The extent of territory now under the flag of the United States is amply sufficient for all purposes. To extend it further is but to weaken it. No doubt, the Anglo Saxon race will, finally, rule over this continent, but there is nothing to warrant the most fertile imagination in claiming that it will do so in a consolidated form—under one government and one flag. The further we extend our domain, the more vulnerable points we offer to both the foreign as well as the domestic enemy. To say that a powerful and bloody war was carried on for the purpose of dividing the present territory, and that we may govern the whole or a great part of this continent without frequent disturbances of a similar nature, is to surpass all bounds of reason—all the dreams of the ideal Utopia. The race may flourish, and republics may prosper and achieve greater perfection, but this continent though destined to be subject to the dominion of that race, will never remain as a happy family congregated in one house, with one governing head. The enormous extent of territory precludes the possibility of the scheme, and foreshadows its futility and impracticability.

What is Love?

This question admits of an innumerable array of answers. Poets have been sung in praise of it; the mailed knight of former days fought to the death in honor of it, and there are few to deny its power and influence, where it is accompanied with sincerity—where it surmounts all obstacles and remains firm through pain, poverty and the ever recurring ills that flesh is heir to, it never fails in engendering in those who witness it the highest meed of praise. But, there are other phases which it offers to our gaze, and which deserve consideration, as showing that, "all is not gold that glitters."

Love is a mystery—an intoxication of the senses. There is nothing realistic or tangible in connection with it. It comes like the thunderbolt and disappears like the lightning's flash. It may be engendered, and is, in untold cases, in a mind that is pure and unfeigned, for that which is foul and loathsome. To be smitten with it, is to throw off all restraint—all advice—all the safeguards that prompt us to journey within the bounds of reason, and to accept the inevitable with open arms.

"Some one to love in this wide world of sorrow," says the poet. It is not a difficult search. There are none so vile, so worthless and despicable, but some one can be found—some affinity, who will ignore their errors and love them for their misfortunes. "Love is blind." There cannot be a doubt as to the truth of the assertion.

"Vice is a subject of such frightful men, That to be shamed, needs only to be seen. But seen too oft, familiar with its face, We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

Deep currents.

Thirty years' experience, a number of which have been passed on rapid rivers, warrant us in saying that the currents at the bottom are less rapid than those on the top. Three years which we passed at Yaquina bay, in the oyster business, but went to further prove this fact. We can take a pair of oyster tongs, sixteen feet long, place them on the bottom and work them up stream against a strong ebb tide. The finding of drowned persons in streams affected by ocean tides, near the spot where they have been drowned, is another proof. We could cite a number of cases to prove this, and that the influx of the tide has more effect on the bottom, during the first hour of the flood tide than it has during the ebb. Bill Noble, who was drowned, or killed and thrown overboard at the end of the Bay City wharf, on the Isthmus slough, Coos bay, and where there is a swift ebb, came up a few hundred yards above the spot where the end of the wharf stands. Edwin Sadler, drowned in South slough, in a very rapid current at ebb tide, was carried slowly along the bottom until the prevailing force of the deep influx took the body, and it was found on the opposite side, and above Empire City about one mile.

In a recent case on this river the same features were observed, the body being found close to the spot where it entered the water. The body of a drowned person stands upright where there is water deep enough to keep it in that position. Nine Italians were drowned at the end of a reef at Panamint, by the capsizing of a boat. There is 22 feet rise and fall of the tide at that place, consequently, it runs swift. In watching the spot until the tide fell, we found them all together, standing on their feet, and they were pulled up by the hair of their heads. Now, if a body would lie flat, and taking into consideration the superabundant pressure of water to keep it down, it becomes evident that it would not move at all. We cite these cases to show that the tide which has but slight effect on a body standing upright on the bottom, can have no effect on rock. The "breakwater" critics always miss the mark, and give us repeated proofs of their incompetence to deal with the subject. If they had stated that the heavy sea caused by the southwest gales, and which beats with great force on Rocky Point, had a bad effect on the work, there would be some reason in their complaint; but, as the case now stands, all the effect that the tide has on Coos bay, is to cut the sand spit and demoralize the critics.

Lafayette.

A contemporary in speaking of the appropriation by the senate of the United States, of \$50,000 for erection of a monument to the French patriot, the Marquis De Lafayette, says: The surrender of Lord Cornwallis and his army to General Washington, which took place at Yorktown, Virginia, virtually ended the Revolutionary war. The centennial of this surrender was celebrated on the 19th of October 1881. The continental forces amounted to 16,000 men, of whom 7000 were French. Lafayette was there with a fleet of vessels and rendered invaluable services in bringing about the surrender.

Instead of being a soldier, this would imply that Lafayette was a naval officer. The truth is that he had nothing to do with the management of the French fleet, further than the effect of a voice in general council as to the best position of that fleet as an auxiliary to the land forces. Lafayette was a General in the Revolutionary war, and a fast friend of the colonies. His memory is well deserving of the American people, and the monument to his fame will be an appropriate tribute.

Old Oregonians predict that the present winter will be like that of 1862, when it set in early and lasted until the middle of March. If that theory should prove to be the correct one, we will have an abundance of rain and but little frost in this section.

Work for the Legislature.

The next legislature will have several bills of great interest to the people, before it. One is the substitution of precinct assessors instead of the present method of assessment by the county assessor. Another, is to provide for county district attorneys. This bill passed the lower house at the last session of the legislature, but failed in the senate. The next is the mortgage tax law. It appears that the burden of this law is distributed unequally. The papers of the interior are much exercised over the matter, but, there is nothing laudible in their arguments, more particularly is this the case where the papers are edited by lawyers. It brings to mind, the old story about a father's advice to his son, on entering the legal profession. After expatiating on the majesty of the law and the grandeur of justice, the son asked him this question: "But, father, suppose that I have neither law nor justice on my side, what then?" "Talk all round it, my boy, talk all round it." If a person borrows money on property, from parties within the State, the indebtedness is deducted; but, if the money be borrowed from parties residing outside of the State, the property is assessed at its full value. We are not lawyers, consequently, unable to give a legal opinion on this matter, but, a common sense view of the case impels us to the opinion that, the State has no right to dictate to its citizens where they shall borrow money. Nor has it any right to discriminate—casting burdens on one portion of its citizens and exempting another. If the outsider invests money in land, the land is taxed. If he invests it in mortgages, it should be taxed, also. No discrimination should be permitted with reference to the debtors. Impartiality ought to be the rule, and if one debtor is exempted for the amount of the indebtedness, all should be exempt. Exempt laws are an evil, and they should be repealed, or amended in such manner as would serve to make them equitable.

A Misguided Youth.

Mr. Editor: If you have been a seaman in former years, you might favor me with a few words of advice, as I intend to go into that business. Are the seamen fed well, and are they allowed every facility, fire, etc. to dry their clothes when wet? Answer and oblige—A farmer boy.

Our correspondent is greener than a cucumber. Do not go to sea, my boy, if you expect good feed and a place to dry your clothes. If you do, you will be disagreeably disappointed. When a sailor's clothes are all wet, he has to pull them off and put them on again; wet or not, he must wait for fine weather in which to dry them. Coasters receive fair food; but, deep sea ships, owing to the efforts to sail them cheaply, supply but poor food for the seamen. Again, the length of the voyage must be taken into consideration, precluding the possibility of keeping fresh meat or vegetables. Our advice is that you abandon the idea. Seamen are numerous, and they arrive in this country from Europe, by thousands, annually. A further request is made, asking if the ship is steered by the bar-nacle? No. When the wind is fair the ship is steered by the compass which is placed in a box called the binnacle. In contrary winds the ship is steered by the sails, as close to the wind as she will lie. The barnacles grow on the bottom of the vessel, and on the backs of the sailors, which causes them to be so rough. Come and see us and we will show you ours. Stick to the farm, where you now are, and you may take our word for it that, plowing the land is better than plowing the ocean, and it affords a more secure position for the feet. Stay with it and subscribe for the Coos bay papers, in which, occasionally, you will observe one of the editors engaged in a soothing effort to scrape us down the back, for the purpose of removing the barnacles—tickling the cuticle and causing us to kick with convulsive gratification.

NEW GOODS AND GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES STILL AT MOWAN'S THE PIONEER HAT AND FUR MAN, Coquille City.

Notice. We have the selling of a farm of 100 acres with a splendid orchard, good water, a good house. The farm yielded 50 tons of Timothy hay last season. J. H. Hunt, in this city, by day last season. The farm will be sold cheap, and the following go with the place: 70 head of sheep, a lot of hogs 1 yoke of cattle, chains, etc., a lot of coos, yearlings and the household furniture which is new and good.

FURNITURE STORE, W. Mark, Prop., Marysville, Cal. Dealer in Furnitures, Doors, Glass and Picture Frames, etc., and Agent for White's Sewing Machines.

NEW HACK LINE! Connecting—With Steamers "Ceres" and "Little Annie" at the terminals of their upper river route, carrying passengers and freight to and from Myrtle Point. G. A. BROWN, Proprietor.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION. Notice is hereby given that the copartnership heretofore existing between A. H. Nessler and J. H. Hunt, in this city, by mutual consent, dissolved. All bills due the firm are payable to him. Signed at Coquille City, A. H. Nessler, Oregon Dec. 10, 1884. J. H. Hunt.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon. Dec. 11, 1884. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the judge or clerk of Coos county, Oregon, at 10 o'clock on Wednesday Jan. 22, 1885, viz: O. J. Free, Preemption D. S. No. 1159 for the lots 10, 11, 13, and 15, Sec. 11 T. 21 S. R. 12 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of said land, viz: J. Fincham, John Morris, all of Myrtle Point, John Nall, John Baker, Oregon. Wm. F. Benjamin, Register.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION. Land Office at Roseburg, Oregon. November 23, 1884. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the judge or clerk of Coos county, Oregon, on Friday, January 15, 1885, viz: Eugene Lee, who was located on D. R. No. 422, for the S. E. corner of N. E. quarter, N. E. quarter of Section 2 of Township 3, N. W. quarter of Section 2, and the W. corner of N. W. quarter of Section 2, Township 3, R. 12 west. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon, and cultivation of said land, viz: Walter S. Wheeler, Edward Shearer, of Roseburg, Oregon; and George Callender and Edmund Gardner of Coquille City, Oregon. Wm. F. Benjamin, Register.

Land for Sale 1101

Persons wishing to buy farms, wild land or town lots improved or unimproved, will do well to call on O. C. Harrington, "City and State Store," Coquille City, before he has had time to sell them. He has in his hands a large variety of real estate, and can furnish buyers with land, any quantity, from a quarter section, down to a half lot in town, consisting in part of the following: 1200 acres, good, large dwelling, convenient barn, fine young orchard, good out houses, 20 acres under fence, 15 in grass and 15 in low land. There are upwards of 50000 cubic feet of fir and cedar timber on the land which is of easy access to the river. 100 acres, 100 in the bottom, 25 improved; new frame dwelling, good orchard, barn, fine spring, and 10 head of cattle, 2 hogs, 3 sheep, 1 horse and 20 tons of hay. Fine timber on top. 27 acres, all bottom, 6 cleared, 20 improved; good house, barn and orchard, also good fences, etc., adjoining Coquille City. 24 acres, all bottom, 6 cleared, all good (able) lands; house, barn, out-houses, orchard, etc., 1/2 mile from Coquille City. One suburban lot, containing 17 acres, most excellent, 100 fruit trees 2 years old; very desirable for a family residence, being 1/2 a mile from Coquille City.

POST OFFICE Store, C. ANDREWS PROPRIETOR, CONSTANTLY Keeps An assortment of Boots and shoes, Hats and caps, Stationery, Inks, Dry goods and Clothing Ladies, Gents and Childrens General furnishing goods; also groceries, Canned goods, Cigars, tobacco and candies. He pays the highest price for country produce vln23