

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION.

A Republican State Convention for the State of Oregon will be held at the city of Portland at 11 A. M. of Wednesday the 20th day of March, 1872, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Member of Congress, six delegates to the National Republican Convention to be held at Philadelphia, June 5th, 1872, three Presidential Electors, and for the transaction of such other business as may be thought proper.

The several counties will be entitled to delegates in the Convention as follows:

Table listing delegates from various counties: Baker, Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Coos, Curry, Columbia, Douglas, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Lincoln, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Union, Washington, Wasco, Yamhill.

The State Central Committee recommends that the several counties hold their primary election on Saturday, March 2d, and their county conventions for selection of delegates to the State Convention, on Saturday March 9th 1872.

T. B. ODENEAL, Chairman State Central Committee. C. P. CRANDALL, Secretary SALEM, Feb. 1. 1872.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTIONS.

As recommended by the Republican State Central Committee, the Republican voters of Polk county will hold their Primary Meetings at the place of voting in their respective Precincts, on Saturday, the 2d day of March, 1872, at two o'clock, P. M., to elect Delegates to the County Convention, to be held at Dallas, at eleven o'clock, A. M., on Saturday, March 9th, 1872, to elect eleven Delegates to the State Convention, and transact any other business that may be recommended by the Central Committee of the county. The several precincts are entitled to send Delegates as follows:

Table listing delegates from precincts: Bethel, Buena Vista, Douglas, Jackson, Luckiamute, Salt Lake, Bridgeport, Dallas, Eola, La Creole, Monmouth.

The members of the County Central Committee will meet promptly at my office, at 10 A. M., Saturday, March 9, 1872. J. L. COLLINS, Chairman

Power of Culture.

The power of culture is clearly evidenced in all comparisons between civilized and uncivilized nations. Every school house in the land is a monument of our belief in the power of culture. The advantages of culture whether in plants, animals or men, is admitted by the pains taken in the cultivation of each. The improved stock has an advantage over the wild; the improved plant over that of the spontaneous and uncultivated growth, and the cultured mind has a decided and apparent advantage over that of the savage. It is impossible to deny that good parentage—that is, descent from virtuous and intelligent ancestors—creates a great presumption in favor of the future virtue and intelligence of offspring. Every home may be likened to a garden, every child to a plant, and every parent to a gardener. The human intellect is the tenderest and most precious plant which could possibly be entrusted to the keeping of any one, and yet how frequently do we see parents attend closely to every want of their plants or their cattle, while the far more valuable plant, the mind and heart of the child, is left uneducated, or permitted to "come up" as best it may. This is not caused so much by criminal recklessness, as from carelessness, ignorance or pre-occupation. Next to home culture comes the influence of the school-room. Here, where we should see everything to attract and nothing to repel, how often do we see the opposite. Where the mind should be taught to drink deep at the fountain of science, how often do we see them skimming over the surface, scarcely thinking or realizing that the purest pearls lie where they can be reached only by the greatest toil. Those who would preserve their children from even the least contact with dirt at home, will send them to school where the house has not been swept for a month, and where the least rustic raises a dust which, to the nostrils of fine organizations, protected from

everything of the kind at home, is unpleasant and injurious. This ought not to be so. The rasy, romping boys and girls of to-day will soon be grown to men and women. The manners, customs and habits which they are now forming are going to last them through life. How important it is, then, that all the comforts and conveniences, both for culture and advancement, be placed at their disposal, that we may rear a generation that shall be celebrated for culture and refinement—one that will reward us for all the pains taken in their advancement, by the high point of moral and intellectual eminence they may attain, and the virtues they may possess.

DRAINING.

This subject is being agitated somewhat in the columns of the Farmer, and is no doubt one of vital interest to the agriculturist. The first question to be answered in connection with this, as with any other matter, is, "Will it pay?" If it will not there is no use making any application of it. If it will, all of course will be interested. The farmer, who accumulates his gains by hard labor, is no exception to the rule. This being a permanent investment, the question will not be, will it pay in one or two years, but will it eventually pay the principle invested, with a fair return in interest? We have known instances where a piece of ground would produce a crop of wheat which averaged twenty bushels to the acre, without any extra fertilizing, caused to increase its yield from six to ten bushels per acre by draining.

Many reports might be given to show the returns from this system, but we will not now stop to enumerate them, but will give some of the advantages to be derived from it. One great advantage, particularly in our rainy climate, is, the ground may be worked at any time when properly drained; whereas, if not drained seeding is frequently delayed until too late for crops to mature. Draining prevents very effectually all injury from drouth, for the reason that the land does not become soaked and muddy, but keeps mellow and does not bake, or form a hard crust over the surface. We would like to enter into details on this subject, but our space will not permit and we will give a brief mention of a few of the advantages of underdraining. These, we hope, will suggest a train of thoughts to the farmer, and also induce some of our friends to take up this question and show the probable cost of underdraining where a system of tiling is introduced. Underdraining dispenses with open ditches and deep dead furrows, it lengthens the season for labor, and vegetation; it prevents the cracking of stiff clay soil; also assists in pulverization; it admits of thorough admixture of manures; it prevents absorption of fertilizing substances from the air; supplies air to the roots; it warms the soil by the heat passing downward; it renders the soil more friable; it prevents it heaving with frost; it admits of the easy eradication of weeds; it admits of the passage of heavy-draught vehicles without injury, and one advantage, greatly needed in this country is it admits of the pasturage of animals in winter without injury to the soil or the grass. These are a few of the many advantages offered. We stop here, hoping to hear from some friend who has studied up this question more thoroughly.

QUITE A COMPLIMENT.—A member of the English House of Commons, after referring to the "Alabama" question, as one of the most important that England had been called to pass upon for a century, spoke of the English as "novices" when compared to the Commission of Americans. He said: "The American Commission had served their country well and achieved a triumph."

DIFFICULTIES OF OVERLAND TRAVEL.—Reports from Corinne state that passengers on the Trans-continental road are, in many instances, suffering for want of proper food. Trains have been 21, 22 and 24 days in getting through. Indignation meetings of passengers have been held, alleging that they were not properly provided for.

Messrs. O. Humason, Victor Trivett, A. Zieber, O. W. Weaver and O. S. Savage, were elected directors of the Dallas Military Road Company, on the 5 inst.

THE ARKANSAS AFFAIR.

Our version of the Chicot, Arkansas, affair seems to have concerned our neighbor of the Salem Mercury considerably. We published a statement of facts taken from the Hot Springs (Arkansas) Courier, published in the same State, and near the scene of the transaction, and which, from what we know of Mr. Allard, the publisher, we believe to be correct. We also have the statements of Little Rock papers to the same effect. Our object in this was not to justify the act of lynching, or in any illegal manner disposing of any one, be they black or white, for we deprecate this as much as any one. Our object was to refute the statement of the Mercury that the affair grew out of a political difficulty. The affair as represented by all the Arkansas papers we have seen (and we take several of both political shades) grew out of a dispute concerning railroads, and was not as our learned contemporary would make out, a political difficulty at all. With all due deference to our neighbor's knowledge as claimed by himself, yet it appears to us as needless to go into Tennessee to hunt up papers to quote as authority on matters in Arkansas. As well might he go to California papers for information concerning Oregon. Why did he not go farther South and get his information from more rabid papers, which would have shown this affair up in startling colors? If the Mercury is so hard up for political capital as to be compelled to distort and misrepresent passing events in order for political effect, it had better quit talking politics and devote its talents to something else. The idea of quoting, as positive proof, accounts of passing events from papers in another State, or what with propriety might be termed foreign papers, is ridiculous in the extreme. There is enough evil, corruption, crime and fraud, committed for political effect, without endeavoring to make political capital of that which has no connection whatever with political transactions.

WILLING TO LEARN.—That valiant member of the "King's body guard," the new quill-driver of the Salem Mercury and ex-officio member of the Governor's suite, says, rather "sarkastically," that he is willing to learn of us. We protest against assuming any such responsibility. The old adage of "casting pearls before," etc., comes up to our mind, and we fail to see any good to result from it. His "larnin'" is good enough for his place and pay, and as servants are only allowed the scraps from their master's table, we fear if he was elevated up to the proper point, he would be unfit for his royal master's use, and would lose his position.

All Around.

Hon. J. W. Grimes, of Burlington Iowa, died at his residence in that city Feb. 7.

The San Francisco branch mint coined \$846,750, during the month of January.

Christian Lein shot himself by the grave of his wife in San Francisco, one day last week.

One hundred and twenty-one and three fourths miles of sidewalk were destroyed by the Chicago fire.

Mrs. Laura De Force Gordon is in Washington. She is called "the youth full Stanton of the Pacific Coast."

The Legislature of New York, has rescinded the action of the Legislature of 1871 in withdrawing the ratification of the fifteenth Amendment.

Martin John Spaulding, Primate of the Catholic Church, in the United States and Archbishop of the Baltimore Diocese, died in Baltimore February 7th.

Paris now publishes a journal expressly for visitors, on the supposition that the reader never tires and retires, and that the day consists of forty eight hours.

Much su prise and regret was expressed at Salt Lake when it was learned that Mr. De Long and the Japanese Embassy visited Brigham Young, at the time a prisoner charged with murder.

In Davenport, Iowa, Justice Peters is the champion martyr of the State. He has been Justice for seven years, and has united 998 couples, and is devoutly praying for two more to make the round thousand complete.

It is rumored that M. Henri Rochefort will be confined in the island of Saint Marguerite, on the Coast of Provence, and that he is to occupy the cell in which the famous Man in the Iron Mask was imprisoned for several years.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SALT CREEK, Oregon, Feb. 13, 1872.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN.

Many are the topics now being agitated in our National and State governments, consequently those wonderful throes of excitement and agitation, that some think will prove deleterious to our institutions. I am of those who believe in the widest range of thought, and that without agitation and a thorough sifting, no great reform was ever wrought in the world. I have no sympathy with conservative foggyisms that are always quaking in their boots and crying, don't, don't; for God's sake! You will make somebody mad! If men are disposed to get wad at their fellow-man for a free expression of thought, made in a logical and gentlemanly style, the madder they get the better, as it will be the means by which they will be brought in direct conflict with true principles, and thereby made to see their own untenable positions. My intention for the present is to agitate the question of education in our State. By referring to the Constitution of Oregon, under which we were admitted into the Union, Feb. 14th, 1859, it will be found to read as follows:

ART. 8, § 3.—The Legislative Assembly shall provide by law for the establishment of a uniform and general system of common schools.

It will be seen by the above section that the framers of our Constitution did not tie the hands of our Legislature. Our law makers under the provisions of this section, are warranted in the adoption of as liberal a system as any of those in the New England States. Or I might even go farther and say, that the section alluded to, would warrant as thorough a system as that of the government of Prussia, which is said to have the best known school system in the world. Some will be ready to say, "Horror of horrors, is it coming to this that we must be forced to send our children to school?" I say, yes. Levy an ad valorem tax on all the property in the State, sufficient at least to keep a nine months school each year in every district. Then say, here are ample provisions made by the State for the education of all; the high, the low, the rich, the poor; remembering that "knowledge is power" and that an enlightened and virtuous people can never be enslaved. Come, then, I say to all, come and partake of the crystal fountains of knowledge, that we may be able to inscribe our names higher on the page of fame, as a wise and good people. Where ample means are provided by a State or Government for the education of its citizens, all should be compelled (at least all of sound mind) to attend and acquire a knowledge by which they may be able to read, reason and arrive at conclusions for themselves, without being made tools and puppets of by designing, lucre-loving scoundrels. Experience teaches that it is much cheaper in the end to have every child in a State or Government educated at the public expense, not only in the sciences, but in the different branches of manual labor, than to go on with our present system—letting them grow up in idleness and ignorance, and falling a prey to intemperance, dissipation, and debauchery of all kinds, which finally terminates on the scaffold, in the penitentiaries, asylums, and almshouses. Our present school-system is not up to the day and times in which we live. Therefore, let us have a reform immediately. Let us say to those who aspire to represent us in our next Legislature: "Gentlemen, define your position upon public instruction and education," and if they define so as not to be clearly in favor of a good and thorough system, say to them, "Stay at home until you can come up to the standard of the wants of the people; we seek not such to represent us." I have made it a business to converse with many persons in this State, during the last two years, having various and widely different ideas, religious and political, and a large majority of them are agreed upon this all important subject of a thorough system of free schools. Then let each and every party that may have candidates in the field, see that they are pledged to this all important reform. When once inaugurated, we may rest assured that our foundation is not on the sand that may be swept away by the storms of political adversity, but we as a people have dug deep and are founded on a solid rock, which is steadfast and immovable. I know there are some who will say, "It is not fair for us to contribute to the education of other people's children. We have labored and given ours a fair education, let others do the same." So might the poor man, with his dozen sons, say to his wealthy neighbor, when his property is likely to be arrested by highwaymen or a public enemy, "Defend your own property, we have nothing at stake." But that kind of logic will not do. The principles of our Government are based upon a different hypothesis—that of mutual assistance, aid and support, according to our ability. Let us hear from others on this subject. Set the ball in motion. No. M. DODSON.

The little Kingdom of Sweden is making preparations to send out a new polar expedition next spring. Trips to the Arctic regions are becoming all the style.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

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F. H. TYSON,

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TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY SIX Acres of Land one Mile North of Eola, Polk County, good House, good Double Barn, and other Buildings. All under fence, with fine Orchard, and in high state of cultivation.

A HOUSE AND LOT IN CENTRAL SALEM, near the two Central School Houses. The House contains Eight Rooms, all Plastered, with Hard Finish, Barn, Wood House, and all conveniences to make it desirable.

A FARM OF 160 ACRES, 25 ACRES IN cultivation, 10 acres of fall wheat, 5 acres of meadow, good orchard, and well supplied with water. Situated three miles southwest of Simpson's bridge on Big Luckiamute. For sale at a bargain if sold soon.

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A GOOD STOCK FARM, CONTAINING 480 Acres, good House, two Barns, Orchard, &c., situated on Upper Salt Creek, 7 miles from Dallas.

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THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ACRES of land, 200 acres under fence, 25 acres cultivated, good log barn, with lumber for home use, good Orchard, living water near all the year round, 3 miles south-west of Simpson's Bridge, Big Luckiamute.

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