

# LIBERAL REPUBLICAN.

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS AND RELIGION.

VOL. 4,

DALLAS, OREGON, SATURDAY, SEPT 13, 1873.

NO 26

## The Liberal Republican

Official Paper for Polk County.

Is Issued Every Saturday Morning, at  
Dallas, Polk County, Oregon.

P. C. SULLIVAN PROPRIETOR.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

SINGLE COPIES—One Year, \$2 00. Six  
Months, \$1 25 Three Months, \$1 00  
For Clubs of ten or more \$1 75 per annum.  
Subscription must be paid strictly in advance

### ADVERTISING RATES.

One square (12 lines or less), first insert, \$2 50  
Each subsequent insertion, 1 00  
A liberal deduction will be made to quar-  
terly and yearly advertisers.

Professional cards will be inserted at \$12 00  
per annum.

Transient advertisements must be paid for  
in advance to insure publication. All other  
advertising bills must be paid quarterly.

Legal tenders taken at their current value.

Blanks and Job Work of every description  
urnished at low rates on short notice.

THE ILLUSTRATED PHRENOLOGICAL  
JOURNAL, is in every respect a First-  
Class Magazine. Its articles are of the highest  
interest to all. It teaches what we are and how  
to make the most of ourselves. The information  
it contains on the Laws of Life and Health  
is well worth the price of the Magazine every  
Family. It is published at \$3 00 a year. By  
special arrangement we are enabled to offer  
the PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL as a Premium for  
a new subscribers to the LIBERAL REPUBLICAN,  
or will furnish the PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL  
and LIBERAL REPUBLICAN together for \$4 00  
We commend the JOURNAL to all who want  
good magazine

### PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

#### P. C. SULLIVAN,

Attorney & Counsellor-At-Law,  
Dallas, Oregon.

Will practice in all the Courts of the State.

#### STYL C. SIMPSON

SIMPSON & STONE,  
Attorneys at Law.

Will practice in all the Courts of the 3d Ju-  
dicial District.

OFFICE—In Executive building opposite  
hemoketa Hotel, Salem, May 1873-1-ye

#### R. P. BOISE

BOISE & WILLIS,  
Attorneys at Law  
SALEM, OREGON.

Will practice in all the courts in the State  
P 15 73 1v

#### JOHN J. DALY,

Att'y & Conseller-at-Law  
DALLAS, OREGON.

Will practice in the Courts of Record and In-  
terior Courts. Collections attended to promptly  
OFFICE—In the Court House.

#### D. SITES, M. D.

D. SITES & GRUBBS,  
Physicians and  
Surgeons,

OFFER THEIR PROFESSIONAL SER-  
vice to the citizens of Dallas and vicin-  
OFFICE—In the Court of Nichols & Hyde's  
Drug Store.

Feb 22 73 if

#### W. H. RUBELL,

DENTIST.  
Office one door North of the Post Office  
DALLAS, OREGON.

Particular attention given to the regulation of  
children's teeth.  
work warranted  
Jan 11 73 if

## PUBLIC AND OFFICIAL MORALITY.

In his celebrated Ohio speech, Morton of Indiana undertook to justify the unparalleled corruptions of the present administration, by the most unmitigated bare faced falsehood ever uttered by the tongue of man; he said:

"The standard of public morals is to-day higher in this country than it has ever been before; that public morals have been improved and elevated during the last twelve years; that it is not that Congress is more corrupt than formerly, but that public opinion demands a higher standard of rectitude on the part of public men than was ever before exacted."

This statement is not only false and solute, but it argues the rotten and dangerous doctrine, that public servants have a right, to be just as corrupt as the general morals and patience of the people will permit, and so long as the sovereigns of the country do not demand a more close adherence to honesty, public men have a license to steal, rob and plunder without limit, just in proportion to the gullibility of the people they represent and serve. Morton also says:

"I have searched history for the past hundred years, and find that public morals to-day are higher than they have been at any date within that time."

This is paying a brilliant tribute to the patriot fathers and mothers of the revolution, but the whole statement is as false as hell itself. The truth is, this old thief has been searching history to find something to allay the constant ravings of a guilty conscience, and cover up his own perjury and crimes. The man who, in our judgement, would for the purpose of covering up his own infamy, publicly state, that the standard of public morals was higher at this time, than at any time, during the existence of the Republic, would disinter his grand-mother, for the purpose of stealing the copper cents that held down her eye-lids. But for a complete answer to Morton's speech on that subject, we prefer to give the comments of the Chicago Tribune as the expression of our sentiments:

"Against this declaration we place solemn records of the Government. Leaving on the transactions of the War,—the fraudulent contracts, the general swindling and rascality practiced in the hour of the national troubles, we will begin with the time when the war closed. It is a matter of record that during the next four years, much of the taxes collected from the people never reached the Government; that the whole Civil Service degenerated into a system of plunder and robbery; that personal gain became, to a great extent, the exclusive motive for seeking office. The Civil Service, including all branches of the revenue collection, became notoriously and confessedly corrupt and dishonest. The constant theme of the Republican party at that time was the depravity which prevailed the administration of the public service. It was true that Andrew Johnson was then President, but he could not make an appointment that did not require the previous approval of the Senate, nor was he allowed to dismiss any officer without the permission of the same body. How has the service been reformed since? Let the reports of the various Investigating Committees answer, as to the unquestioned corrup-

tion of the various Custom-Houses, the Leet and stocking jobbery and extortion and the new Orleans Custom-House affairs. Nor did the exposure stop there. A member from Massachusetts, rising in his place in the House, announced that a gigantic fraud had been matured under the eye and approved by a member of the Cabinet to rob the Treasury of over four hundred thousand dollars, and only waited for its completion the signature of a subordinate officer in the Treasury. To arrest that fraud, he asked the House to pass a law instantly to prohibit the payment of the money; and the House and the Senate, in view of the notorious facts, passed the law. Where is that Cabinet officer now? Has he been dismissed? Has the party been purged of him, or does he not rule as usual over his Department? We need not refer to the Secor frauds in the Navy Department, or the Fort Snelling fraud in the War Department, or to the payment of the money by the officers of the Pacific Railway Company to the head of the Interior Department, to show that, if public morality has been elevated to an unprecedented high standard, it has failed to reach official circles. When in the history of the Government has fraud and corruption been fostered in such high places as of late years; and when in the history of the Government has any man been suspected even with complicity with fraud been permitted to retain his high office as if to brave and defy public opinion.

The revelations of last winter are too fresh to require a statement of them. Let Mr. Morton call over the roll of those detected in and exposed in Credit Mobilier fraud. He will find no obscure names in that list. He will find names conspicuous in the political history of last twelve years, and names identified with the moral regeneration of the country. Where are they now? Has any one of the men implicated respected the high standard of public morals by resigning his office? For over four years they had secretly enjoyed the profits of Oakes Ames' liberal donation of Credit Mobilier, and when it was accidentally exposed did the guilty resign? Did the Senate or the House expel the convicted? When, in the previous history of Congress, was any member accused and convicted of official turpitude, did the body to which he belonged fail to expel him, unless he defied expulsion by resignation? In this case, did not the Senate refuse to act on the case of its own members, and did not the House refuse to expel the most conspicuous of its own actors in the crime?

Mr. Morton, last winter, in person made a report that the purchase of seats in the Senate was a crime of such magnitude that that body should, by a prompt declaration that elections by such means were void, protect the honor of the Senate and the country. He demanded the virtual expulsion of a Senator supposed to have been elected by bribery. Does not Mr. Morton know that there are several other cases where it is charged that elections to the Senate have been obtained by the same means, and does he not know that in the history of the Senate, prior to the last twelve years, no such thing was ever intimated, except in the case of one Senator who, at this time, is a member of the body?

Mr. Morton frankly confesses in his speech that the act of the last Congress giving back pay was of a most "dangerous" character; and that the money taken by the members was a "gift" to themselves for which there was no consideration. How many of the three hundred men in the two houses of Congress have refused the money? Mr. Morton rejoices that there is not now an habitual gambler in Congress; but he is forced to admit

that but very few of the three hundred members of the last Congress have had the decency or honesty to return the \$5,000 of money they won by passing the Back-Pay bill.

The trouble, according to the Indiana Senator, is that the public have such high notions of official honesty that the member of Congress to-day, though equally honest with his predecessors, finds it difficult to keep up with public sentiment. Thus the public sentiment that disapproves of members of Congress sharing in the \$35,000,000 stolen by the Credit Mobilier Company is more exacting than the public sentiment that prevailed from 1789 1861; the same public sentiment complains that the license, sanction and encouragement given by Congress, and the Government Generally, to all manner of frauds and speculations in the Civil Service is not only wrong in itself, but has had a most demoralizing effect upon official integrity in the States and municipalities. At this time there is perhaps ten or fifteen States officers who are defaulters; all over the country there are town city, and county officers who have practiced in municipal affairs the loose morality and defiant irresponsibility which is general in the national service and when Mr. Morton arraigns public sentiment as altogether too high when it insists that all this shall be reformed, and that the country must leave the correction of all these evils to the Republican party, acting through its caucus and its Congressmen, he fails to do justice to the intelligence as well as the integrity of the people at large.

### GRIEVANCE AND REMEDY.

We Yankees are sometimes accused, as a people of a mean thriftiness. Yet our national housekeeping is on a scale of free, not to say profligate, expenditure; and when we want any new article of use or ornament, as a frozen peninsula, let us say, we do not haggle about the price. For example, having been wheedled by smooth tongued peddlers of those wares into the belief that a varied collection of railroads was a kind of furniture which no genteel nation should be without, we have, up to this time, exchanged therefor two hundred and twenty four millions of acres of public lands, not to speak of still costlier guarantees of public credit. And as if it were not enough to have parted with an area three times as large as that of Great Britain, and one day to be of vast value, the canny hucksters of lines yet unbuild haunted Washington all last winter, offering to manufacture their invaluable and indispensable goods for the ruinously small consideration of only one hundred and eighty nine millions of acres more. While the fun of the thing is if one is so good natured as to call it fun, that the trade turns out as bad as one as trades with itinerant vendors commonly do, and government is found to have no rights in the matter which the railroads are bound to respect. For instance, while the Treasury drops the annual manna of two millions of dollars in the desert-path of the bond-holders of the central Pacific, and California adds the honey and quails of a yearly one hundred and five thousand dollars more, that Company grimly closes its eyes on the distresses of the of the general Government and calmly refuses the requisition of the State for its taxes. Moreover, it demands, and plainly means to have, the Government military station of Goat Island for its private uses.

Nor, say unimpeachable witnesses, is the Central Pacific Directory more aggressive in its intent, more unscrupulous in its methods, more sordid in its purposes than other railroad corporations. Wheat and corn, the farmers declare, rate as these hard assessors

determine. Coal to-day, is forty per cent dearer than in August 1872, and is pre-determined to advance ten cents per ton a month during the carrying season, at the arbitrary decree of the close coporation of transportation companies which controls its conveyance. Yet at last year's prices, these seven companies, each and all, declared dividends varying from ten to twenty per cent. If, this year, these gains rise to forty per cent, they will have been paid chiefly by men whose richest earthly dividend is endless labor. The owners of salt-works hint that unless they submit to be "struck," the tariff of freight on their wares is virtually prohibitory. The share-holders of certain mines whisper that the rates on ore, shifted as their votes and influence are valuable or worthless to the railroads. Small hand owners falter, that when they have improved their property along the line of suburban roads, they have no assurance that the management, having acquired new tracts will not shift the route, on some pretext of shortening or straightening it, and make their estates valueless.

We bring no railing accusations against dignitaries. We do not swear to the truth of this indictment. But many sober and judicious men make oath to it, unreservedly. And if it be false, then the railroad league, like Clive, must stand astonished at its own moderation. For the seventy thousand miles of railway in the United States are to-day controlled, if not owned, by fewer than ten companies. And these ten companies are manipulated by fewer than one hundred men. The Pennsylvania Central, for example, operates more than four thousand miles of track, makes leases for a thousand years, guarantees dividends for the same millennium, and reaches out its hundred arms for every new aggrandizement. The New York Central sits, spider-like, in the web of its original charter, and daily catches new flies of weak, or unwary, or mismanaged feeders.

It is hard to say where this menacing monopoly will pause. The people feel themselves so helpless against it, its possible results are so appalling, that we are not surprised at the appeals made to the Government to take control of the railroads. Yet, to our thinking, the petitioners would overturn the dynasty of King Log; to establish the throne of King Stork. With a civil service which lives and moves and has its beings in political considerations, no remedy would lie in such an upheaval. For the present underlying evil is the league between capitalist and politician. While, therefore, we suffered the passive disappointment of finding like the sinner in the old hymn, that "'tis a poor relief we gain to change the place but keep the pain," we should have committed the active error of creating a dangerous precedent. We have not yet overcome our war habit of looking on with approbation while the government assumed extraordinary powers. And the projects of a national university, a national telegraph line, national railways do appeal to the imagination. But, abstractly, government has no more business to meddle with these interests than it has to regulate the price of flour, or the rates on a turnpike. If we give up this principal, our last state will be worse than our first.

But, if government cannot interfere, governors of government can. The remedy of these sufferers lies, as it seems to us, in their own votes. Individually they are poor and weak. Collectively they are rich and strong. If they will combine for their own protection as the railroad oligarchy has combined for its own advancement, they are masters of the situation. It is an easy formula. It is a hard achievement. For these men are bound hand and foot, in many cases, by the companies, and an independent vote is

bought with present loss or ruin. Nevertheless, it is the only way, and the sooner it is followed the better. The unpleasant truth is that the farmers have shirked politics as being too busy to attend to them, while they have gloried in the good and made their talk of bullocks, and forgotten the general good in their selfish seeking of narrow ends; while the railway corporations, not fends nor stones, but men also forgetful of the general good in their selfish seeking of narrow ends, have easily outwitted them. One plain moral of the story is, that no American citizen can afford to palter with the clear duty of casting an intelligent, honest, fearless ballot. The poor farmers, who have despised this obligation, reap a great burden of personal hardships. The rich corporations which have defied it, bribing, selling, buying and stealing votes when ever they found it necessary, reap the greater loss of personal probity. And the great Republic sits shame faced because of these money-changers in their holiest temple, but knows, meanwhile, that the whips are slowly plaiting which shall scourge them forth.—Christain Union.

### COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

It is a fact, conceded by all, that not only in the pulpit, but on the lyceum platform, Henry Ward Beecher is one of the most effective and able speakers in this country. We present the following as the essential points in his lecture on Compulsory Education. Mr. Beecher began by saying:

Thought passed in waves. At one time all Europe was discussing war problems; then politics; again theology. Very many of those matters which once commanded the most thorough research and study were now considered of no account whatever. Now a more important and practical question was attracting universal attention—education occupies the mind of the civilized world—common, rudimentary instruction of the masses, and not the peculiar privileges of the more favored classes—and for this he pleaded. In Great Britain the church question had become subordinate to that of education, and now the query of most importance was, Who shall instruct the children—shall the priest or the people? Plainly it was the duty of the citizen and of government. The priesthood had done good service, but their day had gone, and education had become the duty of the State. In Great Britain it had come to be considered the God-given right of the people, and German influence was being felt all over Europe. The German Empire owed its solidity to its schools. It was the intelligence of the North German soldiery that conquered Austria, and she was learning wisdom from her conqueror. In Italy and Switzerland education has been made compulsory, while France lags behind—is the bottom State—because her masses are ignorant; and may never hope to cope with her neighbors while such is the case.

Governments have long been trying to learn how best to ride the people, and it has proven that the best saddle is intelligence that knowledge implies good citizenship. Education is military force, and our civil conflict was really the Northern school against the Southern plantation. The most intelligent people produce the greatest wealth per capita; our country leading among the nations, and Connecticut among the States. The patent records showed one invention to every 831 people in that State, while in Arkansas only one in 37,000 knew enough to invent anything. Prices are regulated by the amount of brains required in production, and combinations can no more produce uniformity than they can make men look alike. The man who has the most brains receive the best pay, and

Concluded on fourth page.