THE OREGON SCOUT.

AMOS K. JONES - - EDITOR.

City and County Official Paper.

Thursday, July 25, 1889.

BRAVELY SAID AND WELL.

Ever since the idea that men have rights as men was first conceived, popular liberty has had ceaselessly to defend itself against efforts to overthrow and destroy it.

The instinct of despotic class privilege is always the same; its methods and its instruments change with changing conditions. In our time money is its weapon as in other times the sword of the soldier, the intrigue of the diplomat, the malediction of the priest and the lash of the overseer have been. The subjection of the mass to the will of the class has been the end sought always and is the end sought now.

This is the one fact of consequence in American politics to-day—that class privilege is actively seeking to establish itself in the Republic by agency of money Our one supreme concern at the present should be to prevent the gravely threatening setting up of Plutocracy on the pedestals from which we have cast down our older tyrannies.

The facts lie plainly before him who chooses to open his eyes and look. The senate of the United States has become a millionaires' club. A considerable list of the members of that body could be made, every one of whom is a senator because he had money by the millions, and because of nothing else whatever. Congress has in its seats representatives of railroads, banks, manufactories and other corporate or trust interests under the fiction that they are representatives of the people. They are elected by money to save money for money. The vice-president of the United States is many times a millionaire, who was elected for his place openly and shamelessly to secure the use of his money and the money of his rich friends in the campaign. The office of Postmaster-General was recognized as Mr. Wannamaker's property as if by purchase the moment Mr. Harrison's election was known to have been secured by the corruption fund to which the pious Pennsylvanian had so lavishly contributed.

Every effort to relieve the people of their burden is met and thwarted by the money power, which seeks and sees its advantage in the maintenance of unjust and unequal taxation far in excess of the treasury's need. Examine the situation in any way you will the fact appears that little by little through organized effort and the perversion of our political machinery, a Plutocracy is fastening itself upon the Republic with the intent to sieze for a class the rights and powers that belong to the people.

The Republican party has passed completely under control of the money power. It is the mission of the democratic party to oppose and in the name of the people conquer the old enemy of liberty in its new form.

It is no time for paltering or compromise or for the consideration of what is called "good politics." The only good politics there can be now for the Democratic party is to set and keep itself right as the representative of popular liberty in the contest with Plutocracy for the mastery.—New York World.

THE CANADA THISTLE.

A Canadian farmer expresses himself as follows concerning that obstinate weed pest, the Canada thistle:

Many systems are advocated to destroy the Canada thistle, but after a long series of experiments the following has been found to be effective: Allow the thistles to grow undisturbed until they are almost in full bloom, then hitch three horses to the plow, attach one end of a heavy chain to the plow head, while the other end should be fastened to the double tree in such a position that the drawing chain will draw every thistle completely under. Now work the surface with harrow and molder until sufficient mold is obtained to allow a gang plow to operate; and just here I desire to be very emphatic. Keep the gang plow going; don't allow one thistle to show itself during the season.

Finally, having thus extinguished the enemy, keep him under; and this can best be done by seeding down with clover in the next crop if circumstances are favorable. I would recommend that barley be the next crop to seed with. First, because a better catch is generally obtained; second; the financial results from a crop of barley from land treated as above will probably be more satisfactory than from any other grain. In conclusion, why I recommend the gang plow is simply because deep cultivation is not so much required to exterminate this pest as constant covering; consequently a farmer could run over his fallow twice with his gang for once with his common plow, and during the busy season this is very important.

THE first number of the Summerville Annotator, published by Devine & Huffman, is on our table. It is a neat five column quarto, and in its editorial, local and mechanical departments certainly creditable to the publishers and the town of Summerville. It starts out with a fair advertising patronage and every assurance of success. In fact we predict a brilliant future for this paper. Being the first established in a town which in the very nature of things must soon grow into one of the most important cities in this section of the state, it only requires pluck and energy on the part of its proprietors to make it a permanent and paying business. Such a paper as The Annotator will not lack support in a community that puts up $50,000 for the purpose of securing better railroad facilities. May Summerville and its excellent paper live long and prosper.

THE La Grande Gazette says:

A party of O. R. & N. chiefs is expected to arrive in La Grande this week for the alleged purpose of investigating certain matters pertaining to the railroad situation.

Well, let them investigate. The "situation" is in plain sight.

VOLUME I, No. 1, of The Daily Eaglet, published at Milton, Umatilla county, by Mr. and Mrs. Bowmer, is at hand looking "too cute for anything." It is the offspring of the old Milton Eagle and is quite a vigorous young bird. Long may it fly.

WASHINGTON.

An Interesting Letter From Our Regular Correspondent.

July 12, 1889.

EDITOR OREGON SCOUT:—

The climate of Washington has again shamelessly disgraced us all, the thermometer recklessly plunging into the nineties. With few exceptions, the capital has been during the past week the hottest town in the United States. Those able to go, have made haste to leave the city. The President is numbered among the unfortunate, and will not be able to join his family at Deer Park before next week. The number of ulta-fashionable people in official life that have followed the Harrisons to that charming mountain resort is surprising. Mrs. Commodore this and. Mrs Rear-admiral that are there in full force. The Elkins family carriage is drafted into the service of Mrs. Harrison, and the babies and Rev. Mr. Scott her father, and the schemes that the naughty spoilsmen have concocted to get possession of the President when he goes to Deer Park are deep laid. The seat of government will practically be in the mountains for the next month.

During the Sullivan-Kilrain fight this week the departments were practically deserted by employees and the telegraph bulletin boards became the center of attraction for everyone, high or low. Probably $15,000 changed hands here on the result, though no heavy gambling was done. Authentic news of the fight arrived about five o'clock in the afternoon. The excitement reminded one of that common a few years ago in receiving election returns from the October states. For some reason the White House telegraph operator considerately remained on duty all the evening and his wire being in direct connection with the Western Union line bearing the news of the battle, he could not help receiving the account. Uncle Jerry Rusk innocently meandered over from his lonely quarters at the Ebbitt and Secretary Tracy also found business at the Executive Mansion. Secretary Noble, though the hour was rather unusual for a cabinet meeting in time of peace, somehow happened to drop in, and was shocked to hear that his colleagues were deep in the mysteries of the forty-fourth round. Postmaster-General Wannamaker was there, determined to see what brutes men can make of themselves. In fact the feeling throughout the city was one of intense interest. There was general satisfaction in the result, although Washington is so close to Baltimore that it was favorably influenced by the stories of Kilrain's wonderful staying qualities and thereby lost a neat sum of money.

Commissioner Tanner is tasting the sorrows of official life. The inevitable reaction which follows a too pronounced success has set in, and the commissioner's life is not a happy one. The removal of his private secretary by Secretary Noble has been followed by an order from the Interior department prohibiting the promiscuous making of claims "special." This, in its turn, was followed, during Mr. Tanner's absence on Monday, by the discharge of three members of the medical corps of the Pension Bureau. Commissioner Tanner refuses to acknowledge that his relations with the secretary are strained or that these discharges were intended as a rebuke. One of the discharged employees, a Dr. Carpenter, alleges that he was discharged because he was too liberal in allowing big re-ratings of pensions.

Re-rating, as a system, was discovered by General Black as a very neat means of showing that former administrations had not dealt liberally with the soldier. These re-ratings were, however, not allowed to greatly deplete the treasury by their size and were generally restricted to the doubtful states. They attained their greatest number during the campaign last fall.

Corporal Tanner's accession to power was regarded by a vast number of ex-soldiers as an unalloyed blessing. The cry was "the old flag and appropriations." There was to be enough money for all, and one would have but to ask to receive. In the Pension Bureau itself is a small but powerful clique of pensioners whose members are continually applying for increase. An assistant chief of one of the divisions has applied for increase seven times in the last three years. This clique saw a golden chance to obtain re-ratings and in about the time it takes to tell it, a dozen of the crowd had mysteriously had their claims reconsidered, obtaining thereby from eight or nine hundred to thirty-five hundred dollars each. They literally passed on the merits of each others claims. The game finally attracted the attention of the secretary, with the result described.

The muttered threats heard against the secretary, from a small circle of these people, he does not heed.

J. H. C.

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