

THE OREGON SCOUT.

AMOS K. JONES EDITOR.

City and County Official Paper.

Thursday, Aug. 15, 1889.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The convention at Olympia have adopted a prohibition article, which will be voted upon separately by the people. It will be a sheer waste of time in taking such a vote.

The Vindicator, published at East Portland, is authority for the statement that a democratic daily, a duplicate of the San Francisco Examiner, is soon to be started in Portland, with Postmaster Roby as editor.

The Pendleton Tribune, republican, actually makes this much of a confession: There seems to be an impression among republican leaders that while Commissioner Black went to one extreme in the matter of pensions, Tanner is liable to overdo the matter in the opposite direction.

E. B. McElroy, superintendent of the state instruction, estimates the population of Oregon at 500,000. This indicates a most remarkable growth within the past two years, but is only an indication of the vast increase that will be found at the end of the next decade.

The Junction City Pilot thinks we are considerably off in favoring Gov. Pennoyer as a candidate for re-election next June, but it does not give any reason why it thinks so. We did not know that the people of Oregon had changed their opinion regarding Gov. Pennoyer, which heretofore has been extremely favorable.

How do the "Blaine Irishmen" relish the spectacle of Russell Harrison dining with Queen Victoria, hobnobbing with the Prince of Wales and "leading to royalty" in general? The "spirited foreign policy" for which they voted consists in large part in "twisting the British lion's tail." What do they think of "Prince Russell" as a tail twister?—Ex.

Joaquin Miller, the poet, is traveling through Oregon writing up the country and its resources for an eastern paper. Joaquin is a great poet and can touch the poetical lyre with a masters' hand, but when he comes to writing of cattle, horses and pigs, and dealing in dry statistical figures, he is out of his element and may be pronounced a failure.

The Salem Statesman, one of the most rabid republican papers in the state, says:

It is a reported there are twenty-one applicants for the position of receiver of the Roseburg land office. This pell mell rush for office has developed into hopeless insanity. It's a disgusting squabble.

All of which is too bad, to be sure, and a state of affairs evidently not anticipated by the Statesman.

"There is not," said Gov. Biggs, of Delaware, the other day, "in the state of Delaware to-day a single penitentiary. If a man beats his wife, or sets fire to a neighbor's barn, or breaks into a house, he isn't shut up with a lot of other criminals, with full time and opportunity to learn all their tricks of devilry that he did not know before. As a preventative of crime the whipping post has a much greater terror than a term in the penitentiary, and I have never known of a man that came back for a second dose. He simply leaves the state. Maybe he goes to New York; I don't know. At any rate he seeks another home, and you may rest assured that if he stays in Delaware he leads a very quiet life. To be sure it is a relic of barbarism, but it is our way."

A SAMPLE OF "PROTECTION."

The Roseburg Review says: "It is estimated that 12,000,000 grain bags will be used in harvesting this year's crop in Oregon."

From this the farmers should learn an important lesson. The material out of which sacks are made is all imported, none being grown in this country. The duty on raw material is 25 per cent., and on the sacks 40 per cent. This adds at least 2 cents to the price of every sack which the farmer buys or uses. This imposes a needless tax of \$40,000 a year on the farmers of this state on that one necessary article alone. Farmers, what do you think of this? This sum would meet the ordinary current expenses of the state for a whole year. And all is done in the name of "protection." Well there may be "protection" in it for somebody, but there is none for the farmer, and we can only pity the farmer who blindly votes to sustain this unjust policy.—Albany Democrat.

THE HUNT RAILROAD.

It may appear to the people throughout the county inasmuch as the subsidy for the extension of the O. & W. T. railroad to this city has been raised, that the consummation of the business is being unnecessarily delayed. This, however, is not the case, and we think when the people of the county hear Mr. Hunt's explanation of the matter, (which they will in a very few days) his reasons will be entirely satisfactory.

As to whether the road will be extended from Walla Walla or Athena we can only conjecture. It will doubtless depend on Walla Walla county being allowed to bond itself. Although the county subsidy section was defeated in the W. T. constitutional convention, friends are at work, and a clause in the shape of an amendment will be pushed forward that will allow four counties, viz: Walla Walla, Columbia, Yakima and Klickitat to bond the county for certain named subsidies; Walla Walla county for \$250,000 for the Hunt railroad. It is believed that this amendment will carry, as the objection to section 7 was that it would privilege any county to bond itself for any purpose, and because the majority of the counties were not in favor of subsidies.

Mr. Hunt will be in Union county, probably not later than the middle of next week, for the purpose of definitely settling the business of the Union county extension. He will ask an extension of the time set for the completion of the road equal to the time he has extended to us for raising the subsidy, which will be about four months. We presume there will be no objections to this by any of the subscribers. In fact it will be altogether better for all concerned to extend the time. Payment of the subsidies will be delayed just that much and as the railroad builders will be longer in the valley, much more money will be left among us than would be if the work was hurried.

THE WRONG APPLICANTS.

The Portland Oregonian, always speaking for the corporations when their rights or interests clash with those of the people, denounces the scheme to allow Walla Walla county to issue bonds in aid of the Hunt railroad, and remarks that "the days of subsidies to railroads are past." Since there is no longer any public domain to give; since the great corporations have obtained all they asked for or can hope for; we are gravely told, when the people merely ask for the privilege of burdening themselves a little—only four per cent of their assessable property, and sanctioned by a two-thirds vote—that it is too late.

If a great corporation had asked the privilege, we suspect it would have been quite in season, and a host of precedents would have been advanced in support of the proposition; but when the farmers and business men and people generally ask the same privilege it is a very bad, dangerous and altogether unreasonable thing.

In other words, constitutions, like many laws, are to be made for corporations, not for the people. Too late! Yes; or too soon, for the people to expect favors which have been bestowed without question or stint at their expense on corporations. Stick to your plows and your taxes, ye presumptuous farmers of Eastern Washington; what right have you to be asking privileges?—E. O.

ONLY OPERATIVES.

A newspaper dispatch says: "The strike in the Connellsville coke region has assumed large proportions. Of the 14,000 operatives, more than 12,000 have quit work. The managers of the strike assert that over 1000 of the remaining operatives will be shut down to-morrow. The National Miners' Progressive Association and the Knights of Labor are not working together in harmony, for the first time in years."

Let's see; we believe this administration was put in power chiefly so that there would be good wages for working-men and good times all around. But then, these 14,000 creatures are only operatives; they are not capitalists.—Ex.

Renews Her Youth.

Mrs. Phoebe Chesley, Peterson, Clay county, Iowa, tells the following remarkable story, the truth of which is vouched for by the residents of the town: "I am 73 years old, have been troubled with kidney complaint and lameness for many years; could not dress myself without help. Now I am free from all pain and soreness, and am able to do all my own housework. I owe my thanks to Electric Bitters for having renewed my youth, and removed completely all disease and pain." Try a bottle, only 50 cents at Brown's drug store, Union, Oregon.

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