

Weston



Leader

VOL. 2, WESTON, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1880. NO. 38.

WESTON WEEKLY LEADER
W. T. WILLIAMSON, G. F. MC'OLL
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All calls promptly attended.

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Office—Paine Bros' New Brick Block, up
stairs.

MANCOK TO SHERMAN.
The Famous Letter of the General's Writ-
ten in 1849, in Full—A Letter of Superior
State-manship and Pure Patriotism.
CARONDELET P. O.
St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 28, 1876.
MY DEAR GENERAL: Your favor of the
4th instant reached me in New York
on the 5th, the day before I left for the
West. I intended to reply to it before
leaving, but cares incident to departure
interfered. Then again, since my ar-
rival here I have been so occupied with
personal affairs of a business nature that
I have deferred writing from day to day
until this moment, and now I find my-
self in debt to you another letter in ac-
knowledge of your favor of the 17th
received a few days since.
I have concluded to leave here on the
29th (to-morrow) P. M., so that I may
be expected in New York on the 31st
instant. It has been cold and dreary
since my arrival here. I have worked
"like a Turk" (I presume that means
hard work) in the country, in making
fences, cutting down trees, repairing
buildings, etc., and am at last able to
say that St. Louis is the coldest place in
Winter, as it is the hottest in Summer,
of any that I have encountered in a
temperate zone. I have known St.
Louis in December to have gentle weather
throughout the month; this Decem-
ber it has been frigid, and the river has
been frozen more solid than I have ever
known it.

When I heard the rumor that I was
ordered to the Pacific Coast I thought it
probably true, considering the past dis-
cussion on that subject. The possibili-
ties seemed to me to point that way.
Had it been true, I should, of course,
have presented no complaint nor made
resistance of any kind. I would have
gone quietly if not prepared to go
promptly. I certainly would have been
relieved from any responsibilities and
anxieties concerning
PRESIDENTIAL MATTERS,
Which may fall to those near the throne
or in authority within the next four
months, as well as from other incidents
or matters which I could not control,
and the action concerning which I could
not approve. I was not exactly pre-
pared to go the Pacific, however, and I
therefore felt relieved when I received
your note informing me that there was
no truth in the rumors.
Then, I did not wish to appear to be
escaping from responsibilities and possi-
ble dangers which may cluster around
military commanders in the East, espe-
cially in the critical period fast ap-
proaching. All's well that ends well.
The whole matter of the Presidency
seems to me to be simple and to admit
of a peaceful solution. The machinery
for such a contingency as threatens to
present itself, has been all carefully pre-
pared. It only requires lubrication,
owing to disuse. The army should have
nothing to do with the selection or in-
auguration of President. The people
elect the President. The Congress in a
joint session declares who he is. We
of the army have only to obey his man-
dates, and are protected in so doing only
so far as they may be lawful. Our com-
missions express that.
I LIKE JEFFERSON'S WAY
Of inauguration; it suits our system.
He rode alone on horseback to the Cap-
itol (I fear it was the "old Capitol"),
tied his horse to a rail fence, entered
and was duly sworn, then rode to the
Executive Mansion and took possession.

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I will deliver goods to and from any part of
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Will carry freight to and from
BLUE MOUNTAIN STATION.
All orders left with Sailing & Base, J. E. Jones
at Weston, or Cook & Irvine, Centerville,
will receive my prompt attention.
Freight bills left at my office paid in advance.
1880

authority, for there is the station of the
General-in-Chief.
NO HOLD-OVER PRESIDENCY.
On the principle that a regularly
elected President's term of office expires
with the 3d of March (of which I have
not the slightest doubt), and which the
laws bearing on the subject uniformly
recognize, and in consideration that the
possibility that the lawfully elected
President may not appear until the 5th
of March, a great deal of responsibility
may necessarily fall upon you. You
hold over! You will have power and
prestige to support you. The Secretary
of War, too, probably holds over; but
if no President appears he may not be
able to exercise functions in the name of
a President—for his proper acts are
those of a known superior—a lawful
President. You act on your own res-
ponsibility, and by virtue of a commis-
sion only restricted by the law. The
Secretary of war is the mouthpiece of a
President. You are not. If neither
candidate has a constitutional majority
of the Electoral College, or the Senate
and House on the occasion of the count,
do not unite in declaring some persons
legally elected by the people, there is
lawful machinery already provided to
meet that contingency and decide the
question peacefully. It has not been re-
cently used, no occasion presenting it-
self, but our forefathers provided it. It
has been exercised, and has been rec-
ognized and submitted to as lawful on ev-
ery hand.
That machinery would probably elect
Mr. Hilden President and Mr. Wheeler
Vice-President. That would be right
enough, for the law provides that in a
failure to elect duly by the people the
House shall immediately elect the Pres-
ident and the Senate the Vice-Presi-
dent. Some tribunal must decide
whether the people have elected a Presi-
dent. I presume, of course, that it is
in the joint affirmative action of the
House and the Senate, or why are they
present to witness the count if not to
see that it is fair and just? If a failure
to agree arises between the two bodies
there can be no lawful affirmative deci-
sion that the people have elected a Presi-
dent, and the House must then proceed
to elect, not the Senate. The Senate elects
Vice-Presidents, not Presidents. Doubt-
less in case of a failure by the House to
elect a President by the 4th of March,
the President of the Senate (if there be
one) would be the legitimate person to
exercise Presidential authority for the
time being or until the appearance of
the lawful President, or for the time laid
down by the Constitution. Such courses
would be peaceful, and I have a firm be-
lief, lawful.

I have no doubt Governor Hayes
would make an excellent President. I
have met him and know of him. For a
brief period he served under my com-
mand, but as the matter stands I can't
see any likelihood of his being duly de-
clared elected by the people unless the
Senate and House come to be in accord
as to that fact, and the House would
of course not otherwise elect him. What
the people want is a peaceful determi-
nation of this matter, as fair a determina-
tion as possible, and a lawful one. No
other administration could stand the
test. The country if not plunged into
revolution would become poorer day by
day, business would languish, and our
bonds would come home to find a depre-
ciated market.
I was
**NOT IN FAVOR OF THE MILITARY ACTION
IN SOUTH CAROLINA RECENTLY.**
And if General Ruger had telegraphed
to me or asked for advice, I would have
advised him not under any circumstances
to himself or his troops to determine
who were the lawful members of the
State Legislature. I could not have
given him better advice than to refer
him to the special message of the Presi-
dent in the case of Louisiana's some time
before.
But in South Carolina he had had the
question settled by a decision of the
Supreme Court of the State—the high-
est tribunal which had acted on the
question—so that this line of duty
seemed to be clearer than in the Louisi-
ana case. If the Federal Court had in-

terfered and overruled the decision of
the Supreme Court there might have
been a doubt certainly, but the Federal
Court only interfered to complicate—
not to decide or overrule.
Anyhow it is no business of the army
to enter upon such questions, and even
if it might be so in any event, if the
civil authority is supreme, as the Con-
stitution declares it to be, the South
Carolina case was one in which they
had a plain duty.
**HAD GENERAL RUGER ASKED ME FOR
ADVICE.**
And if I had given it, I should of course
have notified you of my action imme-
diately, so that it could have been promp-
tly overruled if it should have been
deemed advisable by you or other superi-
or authority. Gen. Ruger did not
ask for my advice, and I inferred from
that and other facts that he did not de-
sire it, or that, being in direct commu-
nication with my military superiors at
the seat of government, who were near-
er to him in time and distance than I
was—he deemed it necessary. As Gen.
Ruger had the ultimate responsibility of
action and had really the great danger
to confront in the final action in the
matter, I did not venture to embarrass
him with suggestions. He was a de-
partment commander, and the lawful
head of the military administration with-
in the limits of the department; but be-
sides, I knew he had been called to
Washington for consultation before tak-
ing command. I knew that he was in
direct communication with my superiors
in authority in reference to the delicate
subjects presented for his consideration,
or had ideas of his own which he be-
lieved to be sufficiently in accord with
the views of our common superiors to en-
able him to act intelligently according
to his judgment and without suggestions
from those not on the spot and not as
fully acquainted with the facts as him-
self. He desired, too, to be free to act,
as he had the eventual greater responsi-
bility, and so the matter was governed
as between him and myself.
THE ARMY AND THE LAW.
As I have been writing thus freely to
you, I may still further embarrass my-
self by stating that I have not thought
it lawful or wise to use federal troops in
such matters as have transpired west
of the Mississippi within the last few
months, save so far as they may be
brought into action under the article of
the Constitution, which contemplates
meeting armed resistance or invasion of
a State more powerful than the State au-
thorities can subdue by the ordinary
processes, and then only when requested
by the Legislature, or if it could not be
convened in season, by the Governor;
and when the President of the United
States intervenes in that manner it is a
state of war, not peace.
The army is laboring under disadvantages,
and has been used unlawfully at times in
the judgment of the people (as mine certainly,
and we have lost a great deal of the kindly
feeling which the community at large once
felt for us. "It is time to stop and unload."
Officers in command of troops often find it
difficult to act wisely and safely when superi-
ors in authority have different views of
the law from theirs, and when legislation has
sanctioned action seemingly in conflict with
the fundamental law, and they generally de-
fer to the known judgment of their superi-
ors. Yet the superior officers of the army
are so regarded in such great crisis, and are
held to such responsibility, especially those at
or near the head of it, that it is necessary on
such momentous occasions to dare to deter-
mine for themselves what is lawful and what is
not lawful under our system, if the military
authorities should be invoked, as might possi-
bly be the case in such exceptional times
when there existed such divergent views as
to the correct result. The army will suffer
from its past action if it has acted wrongfully.
Our regular army has little hold upon the af-
fections of the people to-day, and its superior
officers should certainly, as far as lies in their
power, legally, and with righteous intent aid
to defend the right, which to us is the law,
and the institution which they represent. It
is a well meaning institution, and it would
be well if it should have an opportunity to be
recognized as a bulwark in support of the
rights of the people and of the law.
I am truly yours,
W. S. MANCOK,
To Gen. W. T. Sherman, commanding army
of the United States, Washington, D. C.

FROM CONEY ISLAND.
Our Washington Correspondent on His
Travel—His Experience at Coney Island—
Marvellous Growth of a New York sum-
mer resort—Class Crowder, son of
Hotel Waiters the Mage.
HOTEL BRINGTON,
CONEY ISLAND, Aug. 7, 1880.
It matters not to me what people may
say of the wonders that have astonished
the world for the past fifty years, all I
assert is just this, the wonders of the 19th
Century is Coney Island. It is not many
years ago since a ride over the shell road
behind a fast stepper which would be
likely to excite some ambitious youth in-
to a lively brush, winding up with some
claims at Coney Island, and a light beverage
on the way home at Cincinair or Van
Brunt's, was all the inducement that
was held out by Coney Islanders. What
do we see to-day, instead of a solitary
hotel of a very inferior order both of
architecture and appointments we find a
city, where every comfort as well as dis-
comforts can be found at prices to suit.
Magnificent structures which vie with
metropolitan grandeur in external ap-
pearances, and which can furnish a meal
equal to Delmonico at cheaper figures.
The rain of the past two or three days
has been a serious drawback to the en-
joyments of such visitors as have found
it convenient to stay several consecutive
days, but the opening of the week was
delightful. Such a sight as Coney Island
presented on Sunday last cannot be
equalled in any opinion on the face of
of the earth. It was estimated that at
least, 100,000 people passed the day in
the enjoyment of the sea-breeze and in
bathing, eating, walking on the sand,
inspecting the great iron pier, and peer-
ing over sea and land from the lofty ob-
servatory. With this vast crowd there
was a peaceful status that was not mar-
red by a single unpleasant event. Coney
Island is somewhat curiously constructed
as regards the accommodation for the var-
ious classes of people that patronize it.
The west end of the sandy shore is
known as Nortons, and to this place in
former years came the steamboat to laden
with the boys who wanted to give their
girls an airing and clean shower. At
the present time but comparative few
people find their way to this locality
owing in the main to the convenience of
the railroad depots to the portion of the
Island farther to the east. Next comes
West Brighton where is situated Cable's
Hotel, the Sea beach palace, formerly the
government building at the Centennial
Exhibition, the great iron pier 1000
feet long and the observatory 300 feet
high. Still further to the east is Brighton
Beach where our host Egin of the
Gilsey House, N. Y. and Willards Hotel,
Washington reigns supreme. Then comes
Manhattan Beach which has been made
notorious by its ostracism of the Jewish
fraternity, and the Oriental Hotel a new
and handsome structure. Between these
mammoth institutions are hundreds of
minor ones which may be designated un-
der the general title of Hotel de Clam,
as that is the principal esculent which
they present to the vivacious public.
There was an exhibition of sea lions some
little time ago, but their majesties were
not satisfied with the accommodations
and so they sought more congenial climes
much to the sorrow of the proprietor as
well as depletion of his treasury. One
would suppose to witness the efforts of a
large number of the visitors who through
the restaurants that they had been de-
prived of their rations as long as the
great American faster Dr. Tanner.
The scramble is first to get a table and some
chairs; these secured the bill of fare is
scrutinized until they really do not know
what to order, and it is finally deter-
mined to call a waiter. Ah, here's the rub,
Vociferous appeals are made on every
side to the individual who generally an-
swers to the name of John whether it is
his name or not. "Few minutes sir,"
is all that can be got, or a "right away"
is obtained. Finally it occurs to one of
the party that a quarter will work won-
der, and so it does.
All I have to say to my readers is
just to visit Coney Island and your joy
will be complete provided you are not
over fatigued or too particular.

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