

Weston



Leader

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VOL. 2,

WESTON, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1880.

NO. 45

WESTON WEEKLY LEADER
W. T. WILLIAMSON, G. P. M'COLL
WILLIAMSON & M'COLL, Publishers.
ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING,
AT
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Best Meals for the Money in Walla Walla.
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For the LEADER.
Hundreds of thousands will greet him,
And make him the chief of our nation!
Nor can all their legions unseat him—
Confuse him, or alter his station!
On, on to the battle! He leads,
Cap in hand, he waves over their heads,
Kind adieus—such as Garfield, most dread!

SEEKING LIGHT.
WESTON, Or., Oct. 5th, 1880.
Editors Leader:

GENTLEMEN—If not encroaching upon your valuable time would you do me, and probably many others the favor to inform me through the columns of your esteemed paper, why you are a Democrat? I am a young man with my political proclivities not yet cast, and my mind is unbiased. If I have been correctly informed, you arrived in this country after your mind had reached maturity. Your ancestors were not adherents of either political party in this Presidential election, and consequently you should have been free from all political influences. Your honesty and intelligence I admire and your opinion I would esteem.

Respectfully,
NOVIE.

WHY WE ARE DEMOCRATIC.

There are only two political parties, properly speaking, in this country. He who participates in politics is either a Democrat or a Republican. It is presumable that each individual has a sufficient reason for his political preference. The democratic party dates back to the days of Jefferson, while the Republican party does not extend much beyond the Lincoln administration. The fundamental principles of democracy are the same to-day that they were in the time of Jefferson; constitutional State's rights, tariff for revenue only, honest money and economical government. These we cordially endorse. They have been productive of good. Under democratic rule the country has experienced its greatest prosperity; acquired all its territory, excepting Alaska, and fought all its foreign wars successfully.

From the time of the Missouri Compromise, (1820) the question of slavery agitated the public mind. It was never a party issue, but was purely a sectional one. It ran through different phases until the various Compromises were swept away by Douglas' famous Kansas-Nebraska Bill, which became law in 1854. Towards the close of Pierce's administration, the Whig party died. All opposed to slavery were swallowed up in the republican party. Fremont, its candidate received the vote of only eleven States, and Buchanan was elected. Now began the breaking up of the democratic ranks. Slavery was the all-absorbing question. A great many of the old line Whigs joined the democrats and a great many democrats went into the republican party. The old party lines were obliterated. Minor issues were thrown aside. The question of slavery was uppermost in every mind. The one and only grand distinctive feature of the republican party was its opposition to the extension of slavery. Every reader of his country's history knows that the platform upon which good Abe Lincoln was elected president was largely democratic in principle, and that nearly every plank of it was suggested by democrats like Lyman Trumbull. The truth is that a great portion of the republican party at that time were democrats, who were opposed to slavery. It was now a contest between the Whigs and democrats of the north, and the Whigs and democrats of the south. The north won, and the south seceded. A majority at the south and a great many at the north believed it had a right to do so. This belief was not confined to what formerly constituted the democratic party, (the strongly republican N. Y. Tribune for instance) nor did it find universal favor with that party. But the war decided these questions forever. Slavery and Secession are dead, and lie buried deep in the ashes of confederate hopes. No breeze from the Sunny South can ever fan them into life again. But the war could not have been carried to such a successful termination without the aid of the democracy. Thousands of them who had not allied themselves to the republican party now rushed to the rescue of the Union. It is an undeni-

able fact that those states which gave Lincoln the smallest vote, furnished more men in proportion to their population than did the states that were strongly republican. Let us examine this more closely. The entire vote for Lincoln was 1,820,426. The 29 states which give this vote contributed 2,731,744 Union soldiers. Then at least 917,094 of them must have been democrats. But this number would imply that all the Lincoln votes joined the army, which is simply preposterous. The rebel state of Missouri gave Lincoln 17,028 votes, and furnished 199,111 Union soldiers. Missouri contributed 17,028 republican soldiers and 182,083 democratic soldiers to the cause of the Union—more than ten to one. And yet the republicans crushed the rebellion. Shame! Then look at the array of democratic names who led the federal forces: General Hancock, Thomas, McClellan, Rosecrans, Hooker, Sigum, Seigel, Palmer, Morgan, Ewing, Terry, Farnsworth, Schofield, Bouek, Bragg, Stoneman, Corse, McClernand, Steadman, Steele and many others, making an overwhelming majority of democratic officers. This does not seem as if the democrats were disloyal. Even the Emancipation Bill could not have passed but for democratic votes and then it had a majority of only three.

But the war was over, and slavery and secession were both dead. The republican party had the name of subduing the rebellion, and it laid the flattering unction to its soul without a quail of conscience. On this tidal wave of popularity Gen. Grant was borne to the White House. Now was the golden opportunity of the republican party to rise superior to sectional strife and personal aggrandizement, and become a national party. But the timely counsels of the very men who made the party were entirely disregarded, and mere politicians shaped its destiny. Such men as Sumner, Chase, Trumbull, Greeley, Palmer, Bristol and Doolittle, together with the wise measures they advocated, were thrown into the shade of neglect. But the men who did nothing for the party, but reap the reward of its greatness—Blaine, Conkling, Cameron, Logan (who desired a rebel commission, and did not flop over until 1863), Garfield, Belknap, Robeson, Schenk, Sheppard and others of that class, now ruled the land. This looked suspicious, and set serious men to thinking. About the only claim the party could now make to popular support was that it crushed the rebellion, and we have seen whether it did that. The republican party under Grant was as unlike the republican party that elected Lincoln as well could be. It retained the name but had discarded the principles. Let us compare them briefly. Here is an extract from the Lincoln platform: "That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of states, and especially the right of each state to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgement exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfect and endurance of our political fabric depend." This was good democratic doctrine in the days of Jefferson. It is good democratic doctrine to-day. It was republican doctrine in 1860. During Grant's administration it was repudiated. The party with steady strides marched towards imperialism. The judicial rights of states were set at naught in at least two instances. Another extract from that same platform is as follows: "We denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any state or territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest of crimes." This is now and always has been good democratic doctrine. It was republican in 1860. But how sadly that party repudiated it when Grant sent the troops to Louisiana. Just one more extract from the Lincoln platform: "That we are in favor of restoring the action of the federal government to the principles of Washington and Jefferson."

* and that a return to rigid economy and accountability is indispensable." This too has the true democratic ring. But no one, however partisan, will for a moment claim that the republican party is in harmony with the principles of Jefferson; it ignores state's rights, opposes free trade, has an uncertain financial

policy and is the most extravagant party this country has ever suffered from. Thus we see that it has utterly disregarded the principles laid down by its founders, and repudiated the doctrines that gave it strength.

It was at this time we were obliged to form our political opinion. We found that the republican party had violated every pledge (omitting the dead issues of slavery and secession), that it had made to the people in 1860; we found it fostering sectional animosities for political purposes; we found the whole land ringing with democratic and republican charges of fraud of all dimensions, in high places, and the administration unwilling to punish corruption in the party; we found it the friend of cliques and rings in every department of the government. On the other hand the democracy still adheres to the principles of Jefferson, that have made this union prosperous at home and respected abroad. It still stands by the declarations it made in the Lincoln platform, which the republicans once advocated but which in the flush and plentitude of their power they ignored and abandoned. These are the chief reasons why we are democratic.

THE U. S. LAND LAWS.

What the Settler is Required to do to Acquire Government Land.

SOLDIER'S HOMESTEAD.

A soldier who served in the war of the rebellion on the Union side has a right to take a lien upon 160 acres for six months on the payment of three dollars. The land may be secured for him on a written application sent by mail or by an attorney holding written authority from the soldier. At the expiration of six months the soldier must personally make a regular filing and thereafter is governed by the same laws as the civilian, excepting that he is allowed to deduct the time of his service in the army from the required five years' residence, provided always, that he lives at least one year on the land. The soldier in filing his homestead claim should inform the Register that he wishes to deduct the time of his service in the army from the five years' residence. In case of the death of the soldier, his widow, if unmarried, will be entitled to all the privileges of the soldier. In case of the death or marriage of the widow, the minor children of the soldier, by a guardian duly appointed and officially accredited at the department of the Interior, may be entitled to all the privileges to which the father would have been entitled. The government does not require residence of the guardian or children—simply cultivation of the land.

Hancock and English Club at Milton.

We had quite a ripple on our political surface here this afternoon. As previously announced, Col. Fulton, and Dr. Williamson appeared promptly upon the tapis at 2 p. m. on the 6th inst. Meeting organized by the selection of N. Pierce as temporary Chairman. On motion your correspondent was chosen Secretary. J. H. Lamson was then elected permanent President of the Club, when Mr. Fulton being introduced, made quite a telling speech in the interest of the party now supporting Hancock for President. Taking up and threading a line of argument that challenges successful contradiction, reviewing in brief the many disqualifications of Garfield for the Presidency, etc. He was followed in a very appropriate, and eloquent address from Dr. Williamson, of the "LEADER," who also based his remarks upon authority which has ever yet, and ever will fail to dispute the testimony it has given to the world, of misrule in office. After the speaking the following named persons signified their identity with the Hancock and English Club, by enrolling their names as members.
James Ireland,
W S Frazier,
T C Taylor,
J J Morie,
J T Moss,
S P Whitley,
Gen D'Haren,
F Newlin,
W A Rash,
U Garred,
E L Morrison,
Jason Wyatt,
D H Williams,
N Pierce,
J M Fagg,
Geo Edwards,
A M Elam,
W P Palmer,
A G P Wardle,
S F Herrington,
P Comstock,
M S Patterson.

There will no doubt be many accessions to our number when we again meet to properly organize. Time of meetings fixed upon Wednesday evenings. Our citizens here, of all parties, do their work quietly, making no undue demonstrations, and what they undertake in that direction will be done surely.
W. P. PALMER,
Secretary.

Oh, yes! You can rely on Webfoot oil at all times, night or day, as a sure cure for cramp or spasm. Ask for it at McColl & Miller's.

THEURLOW WEED ON INGERSOLL.

The following letter from Mr. Weed appears in the New York Herald:

Men entertaining infidel opinions for the last twenty or more years, and until the appearance of Robert G. Ingersoll, have seldom obtruded themselves upon the public. There is nothing in the manner or matter of modern divines either to provoke or invite antagonism. Clergymen do not, as formerly, dwell and linger upon the dark features of theology. Nothing is now heard of the fate of "infants nota span long." The ministry of our day is a ministry of peace, charity and good will. This generation learns to love and serve rather than to dread and distrust our Creator and Saviour: What ever grounds existed formerly to tempt scoffers and revilers, the religion of our time disarms and silences unprejudiced criticism.

Colonel Ingersoll, whom I know, has the reputation of being a gentleman of education, with a well stored mind and attractive personal manners, who speaks fluently and eloquently. A man thus gifted can do much good, but much more evil, according to the principles espoused and the lines of conduct marked out for himself. Colonel Ingersoll, it seems, upon the entrance into active life, chose the left instead of the right pathway, and becomes a reviler of, instead of a believer in, a religion which has been making the world wiser, better and happier for almost nineteen centuries. Without questioning Colonel Ingersoll's sincerity or impugning his motives, I am persuaded that if half the time expended in fortifying himself with arguments had been devoted to an intelligent and impartial consideration of the evidences establishing its truth, the country would have had instead of a reviler a gifted follower of Him, whose missions, labors and character, viewed from a worldly standpoint, inspire admiration, affection and gratitude. Is it not, therefore, painful to see men richly endowed perverting their gifts, misusing their talents in presumptuous revilings and ribald jesting against a Creator and a Saviour from whom every earthly bounty and blessing emanates?

No act of the Saviour's life and no word He ever uttered has been or can be construed or tortured into hostility to the welfare and happiness of every member of the human family. Human laws are founded upon the Divine law. All that concerns our happiness here and hopes of happiness hereafter is derived from the Scriptures. On the other hand, what has infidelity done for us? Who profits by its teachings? After depriving its followers of their belief in a future, how does it compensate them?—What does it offer in exchange for a life of immortality? If, for example, Colonel Ingersoll should be summoned to the bedside of a dying friend or relative, what words of comfort could he offer? Of what service could he be to that stricken friend? Would he aggravate the sufferings of one whose last hours needed soothing by telling him there was nothing but the cold, dark grave awaiting him?

This cruel theory is repelled not only by revelation but by the laws of Nature. Nature is instinct with evidences and confirmations of the truth of revelation. The vegetable and floral world only die to live again. The products of the earth live and die annually. The buried acorn reproduces the living oak. And yet infidelity insists that man, the image of the Creator, wonderfully endowed and gifted, under whose auspices the world has been enlightened, elevated and adorned, is after a brief existence to be as though he never had been. Contrast the labor of Voltaire and Paine with those of John Wesley. Can it be said with truth that the former two made any one better or happier? Hundreds of thousands of the followers of John Wesley have lived and died and other hundreds of thousands survive, rejoicing in their conversion from a sinful to a Christian life. The memory of Wesley is everywhere cherished by the good and the pure, while Voltaire and Paine are only remembered for the evil rather than for good they did.

Use Oriental Hair Tonic for preserving the hair.