

WILLIAMSON & COOK, Editors.

"Blalock precinct which would have carried much of the division ticket at the last election, but for such machinations, was effected from voting by unfair influences."

"If we fail to obtain it (division) the blame must rest on intrigue emanating from the present county seat, whence has issued all the opposition hitherto."—LEADER, Sept. 25th.

"Such an accusation as to 'intrigue' or 'opposition' to the division of Umatilla County, on the part of the citizens living in and near the 'county seat,' we characterize as a willful and malicious falsehood written with a full knowledge of all the circumstances."

Very well, E. O., we believe the poll-books were stolen by interested parties who were aware that Blalock precinct would support division of Umatilla county.

Then on the 16th a Mr. Cox, junior editor of the E. O. appeared in a letter "To the public" in said journal, claiming that he was the man described.

"L. B. COX: Dear Sir:—In reference to the article published in the WESTON LEADER, Oct. 9th, I think the gentlemen are very much mistaken, as I never met or saw Mr. Cox until date."

Witness, A. W. NYE. Y. C. BLALOCK.

In a communication subsequently received, Mr. Blalock says: "You may change my statement a little with regard to the man spoken of on the day of election."

"The reader will observe Y. C. B. says, 'I never made the statement as per LEADER to any one.' That is the statement of LEADER as Cox represented it."

"Are you sure?", and then they got him to write his negative answer. He said, last Tuesday, that he could not swear that Cox was the man at Blalock precinct a few days before election, or that he was not.

Mr. Colby I was unable to see but enclosed the article from the LEADER, requesting a reply by mail which has been received and is as follows:

BLALOCK MT., Oct. 12th, 1880. L. B. COX: Dear Sir:—Yours of the 10th inst. is before me. Have also read the article referred to in the LEADER. I beg to say I have no knowledge of ever meeting or seeing you.

His third sentence is remarkable. How could he know he never saw Mr. Cox? He might often have seen him without knowing his name.

This Mr. Cox having gotten this much evidence to suit him, here bursts into a low, vicious tirade against the editors of this paper.

"Don't Cox wind you up? Will you continue to issue the LEAD, or subside? You must be awful men, both of you."

You do right, Mr. Cox, not to "notice or recognize" them, for they are bad men. True, they did not steal the poll-books, but perhaps they will two years hence.

"They manufacture a falsehood out of the whole cloth"—"They forge the name of innocent third persons to their false and slanderous accusations"

"This mendacious couple"—"they malign and vilify the character of any and every one opposed to themselves"

"it may be considered as the proper course to pursue in Canada"

"Coming into Umatilla County with no testimonials of character, as I can learn"

"When they attempt to smirch my character and destroy my standing among the people of Oregon they must present a stronger case than that they have made out."

I might well bring against them an action of slander—I scorn to do it; I might call them to a personal accountability, but by so doing I should consider that I was placing myself on their own base level.

I renounce all communications by written or spoken word with them, and shall for the future treat them with that silent contempt they deserve at the hands of every gentleman."

The reader may wonder, why this shower of vile epithets? Probably first to divert attention from himself, and secondly, the E. O. would dearly love to bring the standing of the LEADER down to its own.

The people of this county may remember the nasty language it used to us before, because of correspondence in LEADER reflecting on Dr. La Dow (and which was afterwards reasserted in the Independent, without contradiction), which upon receiving his statement, we apologized for.

The names of the authors of the letter concerning T. J. Lucy were published with it. And now when Mr. Cox thought he had his case fixed, his spite simply overflowed.

Thus he has overbalanced himself. The "speech" at Umatilla and what he "contributed to the defeat of Dr. Williamson" as causes for our action, is too ludicrous to require serious answer.

Then the absurd insinuation thrown out by this Mr. Cox that Berry, Pierce and a third person, "leaders of the division party in Milton precinct," stole the poll-books, reflects no credit on Mr. Cox.

Mr. Colby said the precinct favored division, Dr. Blalock has always said it, and when Mr. Cox asked Y. C. Blalock if he did not think some of the Milton boys stole the books, he "almost laughed in his face" and told him "of course not, for it was strong for division;"

and besides that, everybody believed it was a solid Division precinct. That was a grossly stupid statement for Mr. Cox. The statement we published on the 9th and for which this Mr. Cox has assailed us as above is in every respect correct, as the following affidavits satisfactorily establish.

I, Y. C. Blalock, being first duly sworn, do depose and say that the statements made by me to L. B. Cox, were made before I had read or understood the article published in the LEADER.

Having since read it, I now say the statements as made by the LEADER, are true, and I made them to father by telephone, when asked by him why we did not hold an election at Blalock precinct.

Further, the LEADER did not say I had met Mr. Cox, while I was given to understand by him that I had said he was seen by me at the mill before election. The man described by the LEADER, was the man at the mill two or three days before election; and the man there on election day was a different person altogether.

I think Mr. Cox has gotten the two badly mixed. I may have conveyed the meaning he published, by my letter, but did not intend to.

TO THE PEOPLE OF OREGON, THE U. S. AND WHEREVER L. B. COX IS KNOWN.

Editors Leader:

Don't Cox wind you up? Will you continue to issue the LEAD, or subside? You must be awful men, both of you."

You do right, Mr. Cox, not to "notice or recognize" them, for they are bad men. True, they did not steal the poll-books, but perhaps they will two years hence.

Then "they have no testimonials of character, that you know of," while you brought papers from Virginia to prove you had any "character."

But, be easy on those unfortunate ones whose actions are their only character, having overlooked the documents. And by all means frame your papers and hang them up, for one is liable to need them any time.

You did right of course, but were you not a little "fresh" in calling them "consummate liars," before they had a chance to put in their defence?

I'm no lawyer, but back in Missouri they always heard both sides before giving the verdict, especially when the one man got the evidence and acted as judge and jury.

You are a lawyer, and can perhaps back up your position easier with law than common sense—have more of it seemingly. If they should prove correct, where can you run to?

The New York Sun knows you for they published your political letter from "L. Berkeley Cox, a leading and influential citizen of Umatilla county, Oregon," just as you said. Go to Alaska.

Didn't you grind them about being "foreign-born"? That was a premeditated act of villainy of theirs. How nice it would be if foreigners had never come to our shores!

What an innocent time you would have had with the native born, if those wicked foreigners had never come, say two hundred years ago! But in Canada they actually train children to be villains, and then export them to worry native-born people.

You gently refer to where "they attempt to smirch my character and destroy my standing among the people of Oregon."

Pshaw! they can't do it, it's too heavy a job. They might smirch your "character" for you know you have it only on paper, but they cannot "destroy your standing."

Not much: leave you alone for that! All strangers have a good "standing" at first; so had you, going into the East Oregonian did not help you very much, but from present appearances you are getting even with that sheet.

Just keep on in your present course and it will be utterly impossible for anyone to destroy your good standing.

That was a noble and dignified sentiment you uttered, "I renounce all communication by written or spoken word with them."

The very time to do it. If you had waited for their reply, they might have knocked the "stuff" out of you. And again, "for the future treat them with that silent contempt they deserve at the hands of every gentleman."

Beautiful! just the same as if you were a gentleman. That "silent contempt" is such a sublime method of crawling into a hole. You are clever, very.

Who would have thought you could get in such a majestic shot at Pierce and Berry? They probably first got wind of the books in Washington Ty., and then tried to run them down for two weary days and nights.

The golden rule of successful trading is to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market. Under a republican administration, farmers in the United States are compelled to reverse this rule.

It is owing to the high tariff upon all the necessities of life which they are obliged to buy. Here are a few of the most important articles with the *Advalorem* Import Duty paid on them, according to the kind:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Percentage. Items include Woolen Manufactures, Cotton, Linnam, Silk, Iron and Steel, Leather, Crockery and Earthenware, Tin Plate and Ware, Hemp and Jute fabrics, Window Glass.

The import duty on diamonds, which farmers do not use extensively, is only 10 per cent but on cleaned rice it is 93 per cent. This import duty is levied on no less than 1650 articles.

The heaviest rates are imposed on articles of general and necessary consumption by the people. The duties above given were those collected in 1878.

Now let us see what it cost the farmers. The census of 1870 put the number of agriculturists at 5,922,000. It is safe then to conclude that this number had been increased to 7,000,000 in 1878.

Each family would average at least \$200 annually spent in buying such goods as are subject to import duty. This would make an aggregate of \$1,400,000,000 for one year. The average duty on imported goods in 1878 was 42 1/2 per cent.

To be on the safe side we will call it 40 per cent. It is a simple mathematical problem then that the farmers paid the enormous sum of \$400,000,000 for the sole benefit of the American manufacturers.

This is an indirect tax which the republican idea of protective tariff imposes yearly upon the people; and of which Gen. Jas. A. Garfield is so ardent an admirer and so earnest a supporter, as his votes in Congress abundantly prove.

As we have seen the duty on woollen goods is from 64 to 77 per cent (average 66 per cent). Therefore for every \$20 spent for woollen goods we throw away \$8.

On every \$9 spent in cotton and linen goods we waste \$3. And so on through the whole category. Railway iron cost from 30 to 50 per cent more in America than it could be bought for if there was no duty on it.

This increases the cost of building railroads; but the Companies make up this additional expense by increased rates of freight, for which the farmer has to pay.

And yet the political party that upholds this system of high tariff, loudly and constantly proclaims itself to be the friend of the laboring classes. It is their friend by extra tax; from them yearly the modest amount of \$400,000,000.

But what becomes of this \$400,000,000 which the farmers pay annually over and above what they ought to pay on goods subject to import duty?

The amount of Custom revenue derived from duties on foreign goods imported in 1878 was \$130,000,000. The agriculturists being about one half the population contributed about \$60,000,000.

But we have seen that they paid \$400,000,000, and yet only \$60,000,000 of it went to the legitimate purpose of national revenue. What became of the remaining \$340,000,000?

The government never received any benefit from it. Did it cost \$340,000,000 to collect \$400,000,000? Their figures show at a glance the grand beauties of protective tariff, and how the poor man is made poorer, and the rich manufacturer made richer by its operation.

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