

Centralization.

Ex-Governor Palmer (Radical,) of Illinois, told some home truths in his valedictory Message. After discussing ably the rights of the general government and of the States, he concludes:

I do not, as may be inferred, attribute unpatriotic purposes to any department of the government of the United States, but I do declare my belief that as the result of the new and dangerous views entertained by many in authority under that government, from vicious and dangerous alterations which our political system has undergone from the ambition of some, the corruptions of others, and by the combinations of all these causes, the harmony of our systems and the authority of the laws and the purity of the government, and the liberties of the people are in danger.

My belief that these causes and dangers exist, has the support of many facts. The Congress of the United States is assuming to itself the entire domain of legislation, and to draw under its control every interest of the country, and to enlarge and extend the jurisdiction of the courts of the United States, and to increase the mere discretionary powers of the President. There are few subjects that are not now claimed to be within the control of the government of the United States, and with the support of the doctrine that the authority of the Federal Government over subjects within the scope of its power is exclusive of that of the States, the day is not far distant when the right of the States to interfere in the control of the subjects of education, elections, management of railways and telegraphs and others of like importance, and their powers to enforce justice in their courts will be denied or greatly abridged.

Portland Postmaster.

From the Bulletin of last Tuesday we learn that Geo. E. Cole has been appointed Postmaster at Portland, and T. G. Young has been re-appointed U. S. Marshall. This would indicate that Mr. Wakefield who was re-appointed and confirmed last December, has been removed. We have our doubts about the new appointee giving such general satisfaction as Mr. Wakefield has during his term. We presume the cause of his removal is, that he worked hard for Corbett, while Cole worked for Mitchell. Not much attention paid to the Civil Service reform in the Oregon appointments.

Commercial Reporter.

This paper, published by Col. Jas. A. Farish, at Portland, does credit to that city. It is full of statistical information in regard to the produce shipments, imports and vessels on their way to and from that port. The paper is invaluable to the merchant, and is calculated to bring Portland into notice abroad as a commercial metropolis. We are glad to see that it is meeting with a liberal support.

To School Clerks.

Under the present school law, the time fixed to apportion the school money is on the 17th inst. (next Monday). The orders will be ready any time after that date, and clerks of the various districts are requested to call at the office of the Superintendent for them as soon as possible after the 17th.

Advance—New Dress.

In order to give us sufficient time required to change our dress for the next issue, this number of the paper is issued in advance of our regular day of publication. We shall be out in full new dress next week, and hope to present such an appearance that our friends will hardly recognize us.

For Sale.

Mr. W. H. Newell advertises the Walla Walla Statesman establishment for sale. Mr. Newell has made the Statesman the best paper published in Washington Territory, and the Democracy of that Territory will seriously miss him should he retire from the business.

PROUSLY INCITED.—The churches in Richmond, Virginia, says an exchange, number forty-seven—four Presbyterian, ten Methodist, eight Episcopalian, three Catholic, seven white and eight colored Baptists—having an aggregate membership of 23,174. A majority of the inhabitants are regular attendants on religious worship, which is more than can be said of any other of its size in the world.

They make in California, a fair quality of printing paper out of straw and tule grass.

A Charlatan Attempt at Reform.

The last Congress passed an act repealing the privilege heretofore extended to newspapers, allowing them to exchange with each other, and sending papers to subscribers to be paid for at the office where delivered. After the 1st of next January, pre-paid postage will be required of publishers on either exchanges or papers sent to regular subscribers, unless it be in the county where the paper is published. This will prove very burdensome to many papers, and will result in destroying the general interest in newspapers heretofore established by the free and liberal exchange lists. There are many of our leading papers that will not exchange with a country weekly and pre-pay postage, and there are many weeklies which will not exchange with each other at such an expense. It is virtually making papers subscribe and pay so much. A country weekly, generally, contains a carefully selected summary of all events which transpire in the different parts of the country. These items and selections are the labor and search of hundreds of papers. There are some papers from which they do not select an item once in six months, yet that paper is as valuable to them as any one on the list, and the one item may be of great importance to the patrons, yet if they are compelled to pay for such an exchange, they cannot afford to take it. Hence it will force every publisher to select such papers as he may actually need, and as few as possible, and pay for them. This will detract greatly from the interest of the paper, as it will necessarily have to be made up from selections of but few, while now it is the embodiment of many. Were it so that publishers could pay at the office of delivery, it would not be so objectionable, but under the present law, it is an outrage and imposition, not only on the publishers, but on the people. The subscribers of a paper were indirectly benefited by this free exchange system, and it was of great benefit to the publishers, while the repeal of the act will work hard on all. The price of subscription in Oregon has been reduced to the very lowest rates at which a respectable paper can be printed, and it is hard for publishers to raise on the subscription rates. Yet under this law, they will be compelled to add the price of postage, besides the labor and inconvenience of pre-paying all their mail matter.

The repeal of the franking privilege is claimed as an evidence of Radical economy. When we take into consideration the stealings perpetrated by this same Congress, the people will be astonished at the ridiculousness of this claim. It is true that this privilege has been most grossly abused in late years. During the last election it was used extensively as a means of circulating Radical electioneering documents, and many of the attacks of the postoffice department were employed at the expense of the Government in mailing and circulating these documents. This was a gross violation of the intent of the law, and some guards should have been thrown around it. But while the press, almost unanimously, demanded a law against such violations, none demanded the repeal of a law which has been so beneficial to the country generally. If Congressmen have to pay for their correspondence, they will find some means by which they will steal enough during their term of office to make them even, and the people will have to foot the bill. It will be no loss to them. The repeal of this act, and the requirement of pre-payment on newspapers from the publishers, is very justly meeting with a general opposition and protest. With subscription rates reduced to the very lowest price, the placing of such a burden upon the shoulders of publishers is not only unjust, but will necessitate an amount of labor and unless expense for which there can be found no possible reason or justification. And of a piece with this, is the kindred plan of requiring postage on exchanges. Both are charlatan and hypocritical exhibitions of pretended zeal of reform, and while they are neither desired or needed, will be productive of great annoyance and of much positive evil. We have no doubt but what this law, which is to take effect on the 1st of January next, will be amended by the next Congress, and it certainly should.

The Willamette Farmer is to have a new power press.

Letter From Chewacan Valley.

From a private letter to us from Chewacan Valley, Jackson county, a section of our State which has been but little noticed, we make the following extracts:

The writer states that the winter up to the 20th ult. had been very pleasant; that there had been but little snow and that stock had done well and was in good condition. The valley is about 70 miles long and about ten in width. It is composed of one-fourth good land; one-fourth marsh and lake, two-fourths sage and waste lands. The marsh and lake lands are dry in the summer and produce an abundance of grass. The valley is easily supplied with timber, not requiring hauling over two to six miles. The valley abounds in plenty of good springs and creeks, supplying good and healthy water. Garden vegetables were raised last year and matured well and equal to any produced in the Willamette Valley. There are at present ten families in the valley, and 65 men, scattered along the whole length of it. The nearest postoffice to any of them is 50 miles and the farthest 110, and our correspondent thinks that our Postal Agent should see that they are better accommodated with both mail facilities and postoffices. He thinks that they should at least have a weekly mail from Hot Springs once a week. Now the settlers have to send out their mail matter and receive it by a private carrier. The mail is carried once every two weeks, and each time there is at least a fifty pound sack full of matter for the valley settlers. We hope the Postal Agent will look into this matter, and make it his special duty to supply these pioneers with such mail facilities as are within his power.

Our correspondent states that the settlers apprehend trouble with the Indians, and unless there are some steps taken to protect settlers, he feels satisfied that a repetition of the Modoc massacre will occur. He states that many of the Indians have left their reservations since the war and they may be seen lurking around in the hills in the neighborhood of the settlers. He and a party of settlers were out in search of stock recently when they came across a band of these savages, who were well armed and appeared to mean mischief. As they approached these Indians, they slunk behind the rocks and probably intended to shoot the settlers had they come within reach of them. They belonged to the Putes and Snakes. Jack's success has emboldened these Indians, and when they were told that they would send soldiers after them if they did not leave the valley, they said "let them come, we can whip the soldiers." Capt. Jack could whip them, and they could too. These Indians all claim to be "Applegate Indians." The writer states that he does not desire to create any excitement, but that they are 30 miles from Camp Warner, and there is no troops at that place, and that it is not convenient for settlers to move their families over the mountains in the winter. We hope the authorities of our State will look into this matter, especially the Indian Superintendent, and return those wandering savages to their reservations before they enact a similar bloody tragedy to that of Link River.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER.—The N. York Tribune, commenting on the "lame ducks" of the Credit Mobilier broadside, says: "One would have supposed that men of influence in the Senate and House could afford to tell the whole truth about the matter so far as it concerned them, leaving the county to judge of the purity of their motives. As things turned out, they might have been their dealings in Credit Mobilier stock one of the issues of the campaign. There would be plenty of obsequious newspapers ready to claim that one of the things indorsed by the people and established by the election of Gen. Grant was the inalienable right of every Congressman to speculate in stocks more or less affected by their votes in the House or Senate. They missed that chance; and what a pitiable show is this which followed!"

FROM THE MODOC WAR.—The following is the latest dispatch from Capt. Jack. Whether he will refuse the terms again we are unable to state:

HEADQUARTERS PEACE COMMISSION, March 7, via YREKA, March 8.—Mary a sister of Captain Jack came in last night and reported that Jack accepted the terms of surrender offered by the Commissioners. General Canby sent word back by her this morning that Captain Jack or some of the chief men of the tribe must be in before tomorrow evening or the troops immediately against them. It is expected that they will come in tomorrow; if not war is inevitable.

A Letter From Baker City.

BAKER CITY, Feb. 28, 1873.

EDITOR OF THE ENTERPRISE:—

Dear Sir: As often as I have seen your paper I do not think I have ever noticed anything in its columns from Baker City; yet it cannot be that Baker is of so little importance as not to be noticed at all by those journals of our State devoted to either literature, science or politics. Although we are not of a very ferocious disposition, and cannot furnish to the world startling incidents of murder, robbery, and the like, but hope to show to that portion of Oregon, which is styled as a civilized country, that there are not one-half the crimes committed in Eastern Oregon as there are among themselves with all their churches, &c. I have been in this place for nearly eighteen months and have seen but one fight during the said time, and that was on election day when some of the boys got hold of some fighting whisky and took a "drap" or two too much; so a couple of the said boys got to amusing themselves by playing "knock-about" one of them came out (a gentleman was a retail liquor dealer) with a bloody nose and a chawed up finger—that happened last Spring; ever since, the town has been very quiet, with the exception of the clattering noise of wagons, &c., which sounds much pleasanter to our merchants than the harsh and profane language of men under the influence of intoxicating drinks.

Perhaps there is no one outside of the editor of the *Bellevue Democrat* capable of letting the world know that such a place as Baker is still in existence; but in answer to such a thought I will refer you to the *Portland Herald*, who says "the great portion of the inhabitants and members of the Literary Society of this town can read without spelling." But if we are not heard from through the columns of all the papers in the State, there are as bright prospects ahead, and as good at hand as any town of its size in Oregon can boast of; rich mines are being developed in its vicinity. Snow is deep on the mountains. Our valley is fast settling up with persons from nearly every State and Territory in the Union, and as a general thing there are favorable signs for good times this year. The young folks of both sexes have about as gay a time as they do in most any other town of this size. We have been having constant sleighing for about six weeks, during which time there has been no less than fifty entertainments. Sleighing is also indulged in to a great extent notwithstanding the frequent rainfalls and upsets they have had. About three or four weeks ago there was a party of seven or eight couple of young ladies and gentlemen who attended a dance about fifteen miles from town, and when the dance broke up they started home very much pleased with the entertainment of the night; but looking around them they found that they were all drunk, or their driver was—I don't know which, for he (the driver) says they were all drunk but him, and they say they were all sober but him, at any rate he captured the sleigh, and I heard a lady say who was along, that they were so mixed up it was a long time and then with difficulty, before she could tell whether she was herself or one of the boys.

The clerical persons of this place seem to have quite a pleasant time, especially the ladies, who meet two or three times a week at some of their respective houses and spend the day. I have never attended any of these meetings (as all gentlemen are from attending, except such as are about on a pair with those "old cocks" that attended the "Hen Convention," (an account of which I saw in your paper, dated Feb. 21st), so I cannot say positively whether they are dinner parties (as they call them), conventions or a regular session of the Legislature, but at any rate they were all sober but him, at any rate he captured the sleigh, and I heard a lady say who was along, that they were so mixed up it was a long time and then with difficulty, before she could tell whether she was herself or one of the boys.

Very Truly Yours,
M. M. MACHRETH,
Money Needed.

The improvements in our paper has necessitated heavy expense on us, and there are many of our patrons who owe us for subscription, advertising and job work. To such we would say that now is the time we would gladly receive all such sums as are due, and we must have it. Don't think because the sum is small that we do not miss it. All our accounts are small, yet they aggregate several hundreds of dollars. When you read this notice, if you owe us anything, take it to mean you, and call and settle.

Woman's Rights in Illinois.

THE WEAKER SEX IN THE BEST POSITION.

From the St. Louis Republican.

The rights of married women under the recent statute of Illinois supposed to be quite formidable, even before the full extent of their departure from the old common law standard was revealed, in the decision of Blodgett. In that State, at least, the tyrant man has taken the whole burden of marriage on his own shoulders and relieved his helpmate from all of its pecuniary responsibilities. If they both own property at the time of marriage, every cent he has becomes liable for her debts, including even those contracted by her before marriage, but not one farthing of her money can be touched for any of his debts. In fact, his property can be taken for her ante-nuptial debts, and she yet retain her own property. What is his hers, and what is hers is hers, sure, and not his at all. She is complete mistress of her own time, can engage in any business she pleases and collect and control her own earnings. And not a cent of these earnings, or of any property she may inherit after marriage, can be taken for the support of her children, her husband, or herself, while the last cent of his earnings and every dollar he may inherit is pledged by law to feed and clothe his wife and children, no matter how poor he may be or how rich they may be. When the wife dies the husband does not get a farthing of the wife's property, though it be worth millions. When the husband dies, and there are children, the widow gets a third of the property, besides a variable specific allowance, and if there are no children, she gets all absolutely. The wife cannot be punished for any crime committed by her at the command of her husband, while he is punished for any crime he may commit by her command, as well as for those she may commit by his command.

These and many other inequalities, all tending to the advantage of the wife, in the matters of divorce, separate maintenance, and civil rights and responsibilities, make a pretty formidable catalogue under the gallant legislation of Illinois. But, as if another feature were needed to break the back of the kneeling Benedict, Judge Blodgett decided, last week, that, under these laws, the wife may enter into partnership with her husband and carry on business with him for her own separate interest, or with any other woman's husband whose way of doing things she may like better. She is mistress of her own time and means, while her "ne'er do well" husband is responsible for the care and maintenance of herself and the children. If she chooses to plead pressing business confining her to her distant counting-room and the society of her business partner the handsome Jones, she may do so, and still retain her children at home, and visit with the night key. His consent to the arrangement is not at all necessary, and the law jealously guards her against his interference, and protects her business secrets from his unwhispered espionage. Her interest in his estate is such that she can overhaul his accounts, and cross-examine him upon every suspicious item of expenditure; but woe to the brute if he dare invade the sacred privacy of her separate business. Such a violation of her lawful rights as a married woman is cause for divorce, all the expenses of which, on both sides, will come out of his pocket.

Never before since Eve became a purveyor of forbidden fruit have her married daughters enjoyed such prerogatives. Why, even her elders born the suffrage martyr, Susan, must regard the ballot box as a hollow mockery, compared to the stern joys of an Illinois mother-in-law legislation.

NEWS FROM ABOARD.—We find the following "news" from Oregon in one of our Eastern exchanges: "The people of Yaquina, Southern Oregon, are greatly alarmed and apprehensive of Indian raids and massacres at Elk City. The women and children were taken on board the steamer Oneta for safety. The men have picketed the town, and are now building a block house. Many families have left the place and gone to Benton county for safety."

All of the above is news extraordinary to our friends in Benton county, wherein this terrible trouble is to have occurred.

AN ERROR.—The *Herald, Oregonian* and *Mercury* copied a premature item from the *Bellevue Democrat* that the county seat of Union county had been removed to the town of Union. The same week the *Democrat* published the item alluded to, the *Sentinel* containing the precise vote and other information necessary to an understanding of the situation, but not a word appeared in the papers alluded to contradicting their former statement. The county seat of Union county is at La Grande, and will probably remain there until the courts have determined the question—and we ask the papers above named to correct the error which they have published. All parties in this county desire the truth and nothing but the truth to be given to the world.—*La Grande Sentinel*.

Something about Boys.

The *Alta* has a very sensible article on the question of "what about our boys," from which we make the following extract, and comment it to the careful consideration of those of our readers who have boys. It says:

"The remedy for the flood of idleness is not in compelling them, after they have grown up in an outdoor school of vice, to learn a trade. It is rather in making his home too pleasant for outside influence to prevail. If parents would teach their children to remain at home from the beginning, and devote a very little time toward their pleasure and comfort, and spend a little money in providing their sons with material for amusement at home, they would not care to go abroad. There is no boy born into the world who does not, before he is five years old exhibit the natural bent of his mind. Let the parents then understand that, and provide him with books or toys, as the case may be. If boys were rightly understood while very small, and their natural inclinations fostered, we should not have to make the great mistake of placing them to learn a trade for which they were utterly unsuited, and at which they would not work. Their choice would be made, and they unconsciously acquire a certain degree of knowledge of what they would like before they were placed as apprentices to something which, when understood, would be distasteful. Every boy ought to have a chance to learn a trade he prefers, and for which he has a natural taste, no matter what the condition of his parents. This remedy is not for the boys of today, who are almost men, but for those of tomorrow who are still under their mother's jurisdiction. A few dollars, more or less, a little more noise about the house, is all the price she has to pay for the future years of happiness with her grown-up boys. With the mother rests the largest share of the responsibility for the character of her children. Home influences, when good, are more powerful than all others. Every woman has it in her power to make home an abode of pure delight to her boys, and to keep them there away from the evils of the street. In that alone rests the solution of the query of 'What shall we do with our boys?'"

Dawes, of Massachusetts, invested in Credit Mobilier stock, but when the corruptions of the concern became a theme of street talk, he drew out. In his testimony before the Committee of Investigation he said:

"I told him [Oakes Ames] that I did not want any such stock; he replied: 'well, you need not take it; I will pay you back your money and ten per cent interest if you prefer.' I told him that I did; he thereupon settled with me in that way, allowing me interest and paying me back the money. In the meantime, and before I went to Pittsfield, he had paid me a dividend once; I do not know how much it was, but I think it was about 35 per cent; whatever it was I allowed him in the settlement, he paying me over the balance only."

The 35 per cent dividend did not strike the honest Dawes as an evidence of a swindle in the concern, and it is quite plain that the only consideration that induced him to disgorge so rich a morsel was the fear of exposure.

ENTERPRISING JOURNALISM.—The *Jacksonville Times* says that the *New York Herald*, it seems, considered the Modoc imbroglio of sufficient importance to justify the expenditure of considerable money to enable it to obtain reliable information on the condition of affairs, and evidently having but little faith in the enterprise and ability of the California reporters, sent out one of its ablest men to give them lessons and show them how to do it. For some time after his arrival Mr. Fox the *Herald* reporter, attracted little attention, but was evidently finding out how the ground lay and preparing for his opportunity which came with the Peace Commission. This notable body, for reasons known only to itself, refused to divulge anything more of what the Indians had to say than suited its convenience. Mr. Fox preferred to get his news direct, and in utter disregard of the authority aforesaid went into the lava beds and had a talk with Jack and his generals, found out all that was worth knowing, and the next day telegraphed it to his paper, to the chagrin of the other reporters, who would like to have done likewise but were timid as to risking their scalps.

The *Albany Register* is anxious to become the defender of the Credit Mobilier thieves. It is the only Radical organ which has thus far even hinted a defense in behalf of the convicted scoundrels. The Committee did find evidence to convict, but there were enough in both houses interested to clear even those who were reported "guilty." The committee itself was nothing but a Radical whitewashing machine. The *Register* is the U. S. official organ for Oregon. That may account for its attempt to shoulder the odium of this cabal of thieves.

Come to Oregon.

An exchange says: "Better come to Oregon, cold climates have nothing to recommend them they are disagreeable every way." Disagreeable every way, just so, but we suppose there is no disagreeable weather in Oregon. O no! six months constant rain and mud and six months droughts constitute the season. No disagreeable weather here! no sir—*Liberal* (Dallas) *Republican*.

The above would be a fitting slur for one of our California exchanges, but what the editor of the *Republican* means by it we are at a loss to conjecture. We have rain in Oregon, and consequently mud, but such a thing as a "drouth" was never known. The climate is warm and agreeable, and if the editor of the *Liberal Republican* can't stand Oregon he is at liberty to leave it. We will take the rain all the time in preference of being frozen to death. A country in which overcoats are not needed; where cattle keep fat out doors in pastures and where grass is green and growing all winter; where there is never a failure in crops, is a good enough country for us, and we propose to stand by it. Such insinuations as the above illy become a paper that professes to be laboring for the interests of Oregon, and her advancement.

Latest From the Modoc War.

YREKA, March 11.—9:45 p. m.—David Horn has just arrived from Fairchild's having left there this morning, and brings the following: Yesterday he went with Steele to the appointed place at the Point of Rocks, on Little Klamath lake, for the purpose of bringing Jack and party to headquarters. After waiting four hours he saw no signs of cavalry and returned. A force of cavalry would reconnoiter the lake to-day and to-morrow to see what had become of the Modocs. Applegate has resigned from the Peace Commission and gone off disgraced. Roseborough and Steele will be in shortly. The whole thing has probably been arranged for some time. Applegate has been in the country since he was a boy, and as soon as he goes into the Pitt River country he will find plenty of horses and cattle.

THE COST.—It is stated that the expenses thus far incurred by the State on account of the Modoc war amounts to \$56,000. This amount the State will have to pay, and then the General Government will have to refund the amount to the State. It will probably be as it has been heretofore with our Indian loving Administration. They will claim that the trouble was made by the mean whites, and poor Lo was badly mistreated, and refuse to pay the bill. Time will tell, as it has in other war claims held by our citizens against our dear old Uncle.

AN APPRENTICE AT JACKSONVILLE.—JACKSONVILLE, March 7.—An Allegation took place this afternoon in front of White's house's store, between John K. Leland and Jas. D. Fay, in which Leland was shot in the left side of the face, the ball passing downward and lodging in the neck. The wound, although dangerous, is not likely to be mortal. Fay was not injured.

Another dispatch of the same date says: To-day Horace L. Ish assaulted J. D. Fay with a knife. Fay drew his pistol and shot Ish a hole in the forehead, and a disarmed Fay, and held him down while Wm. K. Ish, another of the Ish brothers shot at him. A pocket-book in Fay's breast pocket, carried him off. Horace Ish is in a critical condition.

JAMES BROWN a notorious character in Philadelphia, says an exchange, was tried before the Federal Court in that city for the crime of "repeating" and perjury, of which he was convicted, and sentenced to the State Prison for eighteen months. After he had passed three weeks in confinement, President Grant pardoned him, and the good people of the Quaker City are hugely disgusted there at. Brown was serviceable to Hartranft, Cameron and Grant, and of course that was a stand-off against his outrage on the ballot.

NEW FIRM.—In the last issue of the *Mercury* we are informed that Mr. Thompson has sold one-half interest in the establishment to John W. Kelly, Esq. Mr. Kelly has had a great deal of newspaper experience, is a brilliant and spicy writer, and will make the *Mercury*, in conjunction with Mr. Thompson, an excellent paper. Success to them.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE PRIESTS IN IRELAND.—REV. MR. LOFTUS, one of the Galway (Ireland) priests who were indicted by the Crown for the exercise of spiritual intimidation over voters during the Parliamentary election, has been temporarily acquitted in the Court of Queen's Bench. The result of the trial was received with tumultuous applause by the people.

A witty boy, suffering from the application of the birch, said: "Forty rods are said to be a furlong. I know better. Let any body get such a plaguy licking as I've had, and he'll find out that one rod makes an acher!"

Who is He?—The telegraph informs us that the Senate has confirmed A. M. Hugh as U. S. Attorney for the middle district of Oregon. This is the first time we have heard of Mr. Hugh or of the middle district.