

THE ENTERPRISE.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, AUGUST 1, 1878.

To the Members of the Democratic State Central Committee.

OREGON CITY, July 16, 1878.

In consequence of a vacancy in the Chairmanship of the Democratic State Central Committee, the undersigned a member of that Committee for Clackamas county, would respectfully suggest that the members of said Committee meet at the city of Portland on Saturday, August 10th, 1878, for the purpose of making arrangements for the approaching special election for member of Congress and the transaction of such other business as may be necessary.

It is recommended that all vacancies in the Committee be filled by the respective County Committees, in order that a full attendance may be present.

W. L. WHITE.

The Duty of Democrats and the Central Committee.

On Saturday, the 9th inst, a meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee will be held at Portland, for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements for a State Convention. While we do not propose to dictate to that body what should be its course of action, it is our purpose to state plainly the only course which in our opinion will give general satisfaction to our party, and secure that harmony so essential to our success. The committee should call a convention at as early a date as will enable the various county committees to issue their call for County Conventions. The representation in the State Convention should be based on the Democratic vote cast for Hon. John Burnett, the last Democratic candidate for Congress. This done, Democratic voters should take the matter in hand and attend the primaries and county conventions, and prevent by all means in their power ambitious and unscrupulous politicians from controlling the representations in the State Convention, so that there will be no danger of a man getting the nomination who cannot receive the entire and enthusiastic support of the masses of the party. It is true that our farmers will be busy in their harvest fields. But they should remember that they owe a duty to their State and party which should not be neglected, and allow nothing to prevent them from discharging that duty. If the initiatory steps are taken in the proper manner, we shall have a candidate presented for the suffrage of the people who can carry every vote of the party. But should the people neglect their duty at the primaries, politicians may get control of the Convention, and select a man who is not the choice of the people. In such an event, our success will be sadly impaired, and defeat will await us at the polls.

The man who receives the nomination should be in full harmony with the principles of the Democratic party; he should be free from the slightest suspicion of corruption; he should be a known opponent to the interests of monopolies, and should have a record as a partisan which will command every Democratic vote in the State. Such a man will not only receive the unanimous vote of the Democracy, but also the votes of hundreds of honest and liberal Republicans who appreciate the utter rottenness and corruption of the Radical party. But should our Convention place a man in nomination for the sake of catering to one or the other factions of the Radical party in the State, he will not only fail in getting Republican votes, but lose many votes from his own party. We cannot afford at this crisis to run any risk for the sake of trying experiments. The people know what they want, and if the Democracy will not present a man who can control the votes and respect of our party, we cannot expect any votes from the honest Republicans. The election is one of great importance to our State. We can either secure success by proper nomination, or we can defeat ourselves by injudicious and improper nomination. This should be avoided by all means. No man should be allowed to set up his claim on the party and hazard its prospects of success. Let the delegates be fairly and honestly selected, without the interference of worn-out and cast-off political demagogues, and let them select a standard-bearer who will be a credit to our party, and if elected, will work for the best interests of our State. One course will lead to victory; the other to defeat. Let wisdom and past experience be our guide in future. Let us not have a repetition of past follies. The voters have the matter in their hands, and if they will do their duty, all will be well. If they neglect, all will be lost. Let a man be fairly and honestly nominated, and he will receive the harmonious and enthusiastic support of the party; if he is nominated through corrupt and unfair means, he will be defeated. Democrats, do your duty.

CHANGED HANDS.—The Commercial Reporter of the 29th ult, came to us with the announcement that Messrs. Geo. H. Himes & Company had purchased the concern. These gentlemen are practical printers, and we have every reason to anticipate that the change will be for the better.

Patrons of Husbandry.

On our first page this week will be found the Preamble, Constitution and By-laws of the Patrons of Husbandry, issued by the National Grange. We publish this document for the information of the public so that they may have an idea of the organization which is so rapidly gaining favor among the farmers of the Great West. It is apparent to all, that the course of the party in power has been to advance the interests of capital to the detriment and loss of the farmers, and that necessity has compelled the latter to organize for the purpose of protecting themselves against further oppression by monopolies and capital. That there need be any antagonism between the two, we do not believe, but both should have equal protection by law. While the rich manufacturers are protected by high tariffs, the farmer has no protection and is forced to pay to countless corporations nearly the entire proceeds of his labor for freight on such articles as he may raise on his farm, leaving him but little, if any, surplus for improvement or for the purchasing of other necessities of life he does not produce. Hence our farmers of the West have been kept in comparative slavery for the past ten years to capital, and it being protected and fostered by the strong arm of the law, has no fears of successful competition. During the better and purer days of our republic, capital did not control the nation. The producer was virtually the superior of capital. But this was changed when the hands of powerful corporations, who now oppress our laboring or farming people with excessive taxation and exorbitant freight charges. To counteract this influence the farmers have organized themselves into the Granges for mutual and self-protection. If capital and farming are harmonious and upon equal terms, the latter cannot fail to be profitable and remunerative, and it being the bone and sinew of the country, deserves more fostering than capital, which can always protect itself against aggression.

There is, as usual, a cry raised by the Radical press, that this organization has a political significance, and an attempt is made to discourage persons from becoming members. It must have a political tendency just so far and no farther, that is, the members will not support any man unfriendly to their interests. They would be very foolish to place a man in power whom they knew to be in the interest of those who are opposing them. There is no necessity of any political tendency of this organization if all parties will do justice and right to this large—by far the larger of the two—class of our people. At present capital is protected against all other interests, the mechanic, merchant, farmer, artisan and laborer. These constitute by far the largest portion of our population. There are but few men who may be termed manufacturers or capitalists who have their means employed in transportation. Yet they receive protection and large subsidies by which they grind the farmer and all consumers with their extortions.

The country cannot prosper unless the farmers and other producers prosper. Capital does not create anything. It only purchases that which the producer raises by the sweat of his brow. Suppose we suspend production on our farms for a single year, what would be the condition of capital? It would be powerless and would be forced to seek a market elsewhere. What would the railroads, the steamboats, the bankers and the merchants do without the farmer and his productive labor? There is no class in our country more beneficial than the farming interests. We are a producing community, and as such need more protection for that class than any other. The very moment our farmers are prosperous, and have money in their pockets, all other kinds of business flourish. There is no danger of this farmers' movement becoming oppressive. It does not mean to wage a war upon other industries. It means simply to protect itself against oppression and to foster its own interests which is now languishing in a thousand ways. It means to elevate the farming interests to an equal standing with all other business enterprises. It means the education of the farmers, and will have the tendency to acquaint them with their needs and the most intelligent way of supplying them. As we now understand this matter, these are the general principles and objects of the Patrons of Husbandry, and approving them, we shall give them our best support, believing that when we foster this class of industry, we are serving the best and largest portion of our deserving citizens.

STATE CONVENTION.—The Walla Walla Statesman gives this piece of good advice to the Democratic State Central Committee: "The question of calling a State Convention in Oregon to nominate a candidate for Congress, is raised. The opponents of a Convention suggest that the Democratic State Central Committee name the candidate. A nomination thus brought about carries with it no moral force, and if our friends are wise they will adhere to old time usage."

A Letter from Union County.

UNION COUNTY, OREGON, July 20, 1878.

EDITOR ENTERPRISE: As the question of nominating a man, to take our late Representative's place in Congress, is being very generally discussed in private and through the press, I wish to suggest a few facts, and make some suggestions on that question. We in Eastern Oregon, believe if the Democracy nominate the right man he will be elected, and we believe the Hon. James H. Slater is that man. We believe the wrong man will be defeated and one of the wrong men is J. W. Nesmith. As the contest is likely to be between these two in our convention, let us carefully examine their claims and prospects. It is admitted that both are able men and that both faithfully served their constituents in Congress, but it is also admitted, by men of all parties, that Mr. Slater accomplished more and worked harder than any man ever sent to Congress from this State. On this point he is Nesmith's superior. His antecedents as a Democrat also are ahead of Nesmith's. But the charge is made by Nesmith's friends that Slater took his back pay and therefore not available. If this is a good reason not to nominate him, it is equally, aye, a better reason, why Nesmith should not be nominated. If it was wrong for Slater to take his back pay in '73 much more was it for Nesmith to do so, and he has done so. Mr. Slater's published statement of that transaction fully justifies his action. It will be seen that the committee first, bowed him the usual mileage, but afterwards influenced by partisan feeling, cut it down \$1,200. Mr. Slater voted against the salary bill but took his back pay, and doing so, received only a part of his salary, which he had been defrauded. He has done more and received less than any other Oregon Congressman and his course will be approved by every reasonable man. We recommend the case of Haman and Mordecai to Mr. Nesmith's careful consideration. For these reasons we think Slater should be nominated, rather than Nesmith. The great interest of Eastern Oregon is the Dalles and Lake Railroad. Ben. Holladay is the sworn enemy of that enterprise—no man can get the vote of this people who is friendly to Holladay's schemes, and such is the feeling here. Slater will poll 500 more votes than almost any man in the Willamette, while Nesmith will fall even to get the Democratic vote. As between him and Slater he would fall behind at least 800 votes. The reason is, it is believed here he is a Democratic man. As the Democracy of the valley had the support of the Democrats of Eastern Oregon in their fight over the Lock Bill, and as that has proved great benefit to the Willamette, we have a right to expect their help in our enterprise. We helped them against Holladay then and we need their help now. Will they do their duty and give Eastern Oregon the man of her choice? Will they give us Slater or force Nesmith on us? Let us see whether Nesmith has been with the Democracy in its fight with Holladay or has been with his sympathizers. In our last county convention, every man who voted for the Portland salary bill and other Holladay measures, was defeated in trying to get a nomination. The election came a perfect black streak of Holladay mischief and political damnation swept through Douglas, Lane, Clackamas, Multnomah, Yamhill and Clatsop. Its fall over into Polk, where a portion of the ticket was defeated by Holladay Democrats. In this convention in Polk, Nesmith was urging the nomination of men who voted for this salary bill. He said that if he were in the Legislature he would have done two of the Polk county members did. He did all he could to get the Polk county Democracy committed to Holladay by the renomination of his known friends. He tried to condemn the veto of the Governor and put down every opposer of that infamous bill. The conclusion is, Nesmith as congressman would favor the bill. There is no such a man, and ought not to be elected by the votes of Eastern Oregon Democrats. It is certain, if the Governor of this State was correct and if the party did right in fighting Ben. Holladay (and what good Democrat denies it) then the men who sympathized with Holladay have no right to nominations from the party. That ought to disqualify Nesmith, for what sense is there in discarding the members of the Legislature, who went for Holladay, and now turn round and nominate Nesmith when it is well known he supported those men and opposed the general action of the party. Nesmith's position then on the Holladay question has rendered him an unfit and unavailable candidate for Congress. On this question there is no comparison between Slater and Nesmith. Slater has the full confidence of the party and has been in full sympathy with its action—Nesmith has not its confidence and does not deserve it. If we wish to oppose wrong, we will nominate Slater—if we wish Holladay to sell into our party triumph, we will nominate Nesmith. There is not a comparison between Slater and Nesmith. Slater has the full confidence of the party and has been in full sympathy with its action—Nesmith has not its confidence and does not deserve it. If we wish to oppose wrong, we will nominate Slater—if we wish Holladay to sell into our party triumph, we will nominate Nesmith. There is not a comparison between Slater and Nesmith. Slater has the full confidence of the party and has been in full sympathy with its action—Nesmith has not its confidence and does not deserve it. If we wish to oppose wrong, we will nominate Slater—if we wish Holladay to sell into our party triumph, we will nominate Nesmith. There is not a comparison between Slater and Nesmith. Slater has the full confidence of the party and has been in full sympathy with its action—Nesmith has not its confidence and does not deserve it. 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