THE ENTERPRISE.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FEB. 20, 1874.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

A Democratic State Convention for the State of Oregon, is hereby called by the Democratic State Central Committee, convened in Portland, Oregon, this, the 22d day of January, A. D., 1874, to meet at the city of Albany, Oregon, on

Wednesday, the 18th day of March, 1874, for the purpose of nominating candidates to be voted for at the general election in June next, for Congress and the various State and District offices then to be filled, and for the transaction of any other business that may properly come before it.

The apportionment of members of said Convention among the counties is based upon the Democratic vote cast for Hon. John Burnett for Congress in 1872, allowing one delegate in said Convention for each one hundred or fraction of fifty, so cast.

The several counties of the State will be entitled to delegates in said Convention as follows:

Baker	5	Linn	12
Benton	6	Lane	9
Clatsop	2	Marion	10
Clackamas	7	Multnomah	12
Columbia	2	Polk	6
Curry	1	Union	3
Coos	3	Umatilla	6
Douglas	9	Tillamook	1
Grant	3	Wasco	5
Josephine	2	Washington	3
Jackson	9	Yamhill	6
Tatal	124		

It is suggested by the Committee that the several counties hold their Primary Conventions on Saturday, the 28th day of February, at 1 o'clock P. M., and their County Conventions on Saturday, the 7th day of March, at the same hour. In those counties where these appointments do not meet the convenience of the Democracy, it is expected that they will make the necessary changes through their County Committee.

W. L. WHITE,
Chairman Dem. State Central Com.
J. J. WALTON, JR., Secretary.

Democratic County Convention.

The Democratic voters of Clackamas county are requested to meet at their usual places of voting, on Saturday, February 28th, 1874, for the purpose of electing delegates to the County Convention, which will be held at Oregon City, March 7th, 1874, at 11 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of selecting seven delegates to attend the State Convention, which will meet at Albany on the 18th day of March next, and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Convention. The various precincts are entitled to delegates in the Convention as follows:

Oregon City	10	Canemah	1
Linn City	1	Cascades	2
Cutting's	3	Harding's	2
Tualatin	1	Lower Molalla	3
Upper Molalla	4	Marnam's	2
Union	1	Canby	2
Pleasant Hill	1	Milwaukie	1
Marshfield	1	Oswego	1
Rock Creek	2	Springwater	3
Beaver Creek	3	Eagle Creek	3
Total	48		

The Committee recommend that the Democracy turn out in full force and attend the primaries.

By order of the Committee.
A. NOLTNER, Chairman.

Primary Conventions.

One week from to-morrow, Saturday, the 28th inst., the Democracy of this county will meet in Primary Convention for the purpose of selecting delegates to attend the County Convention, whose duty it will be to select seven delegates to the State Convention, and to place in nomination a full ticket for county officers. There has heretofore been too much of a disposition on the part of the voters to neglect attending these primary meetings, and in many cases afterwards, find fault because certain men were either elected delegates or placed in nomination. This is wrong. Every voter who has a proper appreciation of his sovereignty, should attend the primary conventions, and there aim to secure, by all honorable means, such delegates as will support the various men he may desire to receive the nomination for this or that position. Here it is that the voter first begins to delegate his authority into the hands of others; and if he delegates this power prudently and wisely, he will have no cause to find fault with the names placed in nomination. Every voter should be as promptly at the primary conventions as he should be at the polls on the day of election. Let the people this year attend the primary conventions, send up to the County Conventions the very best men there are in the precinct, and then we shall have a ticket which will suit and meet the wishes of the people of the county. The selection of delegates to the State Convention is an important trust conferred upon the delegates. It has been customary to select those who "would go," and in many cases not those who were apt to represent the wishes of the people that sent them. This has not been the case so much in this county as it has in others. This is wrong and fruitful of great evil. The delegates should ascertain who is willing to spend the time and money to attend the Convention, and if it is known that they will represent the wishes of the people, select them; and where there is any doubt, elect those who will represent the sentiment of the county. They should be men of experience in such matters, and men who will act in harmony together, as with a divided delegation but little can be accomplished, while with a united vote from a county as large as this, they cannot fail of having great influence. The primaries are the places that the work begins. If the attendance at them is small, the people may rest assured that the ticket nominated will not meet their hearty approval. Men who have an object in view always attend the primaries, and unless the masses attend, the designing ones will secure the delegates and accomplish their ends. Let every Democratic voter be on hand on the 28th inst., as there he virtually votes for the ticket he expects to support in June, select good men to the County Convention, and then abide their action.

The Independent Movement.

At this time we note quite a disposition throughout the State to go into the "Independent business." We have no objection to our Radical friends resorting to this means to undo what they have become powerless to accomplish within their own party organization. But Democrats have had no hand in bringing about the present state of affairs, and consequently have no ground to desert the party which has maintained its integrity and organization under all adverse circumstances for the past twelve years. The Radical party is responsible for all the corruption and extravagance existing in the National Government. This they now cannot correct unless they resort to the "Independent" dodge. Let them do so. In our State affairs there can be no just grounds for Democrats to leave the party which four years ago took the administration of affairs and brought them out of chaos. The Radicals had robbed the school fund, bartered away the school lands, nearly lost to us the University and swamp lands, and had run the State into debt; they had violated every trust that had been imposed upon them. No such charges can be made against the Democratic administration. The Legislature of 1870, which was Democratic, passed a bill to reduce the fees of officers, and elected Colonel Kelly U. S. Senator, besides doing all in its power to secure the rights and interests of the State. The next Legislature, Radical by a large majority, not only restored the former fee bill, but increased the county officials' pay in many instances. They immediatly commenced to divide all the swamp lands among the various rings; elected J. H. Mitchell to the Senate, and created a number of new offices; squandered hundreds of dollars to maintain hangers-on in and about the Legislature, and was most recklessly extravagant with the people's money. This record they know the people will not endorse, hence, they are endeavoring to bring into their disaffected ranks a few Democrats to give their movement repectability and thus pull the wool over the eyes of the people. In counties where this movement is most active, it is generally endorsed and supported by every old broken-down politician who in the past has had his hand in the pockets of the people, and has been set aside, or it is sustained by men who know they are not trusted by either party, and take this step to become leaders of a "great reform party." Democrats should be cautious how they are deceived by these shallow pretences. It is the wolf in another garment. There is nothing which Democrats need reformation in that they cannot get in their organization. There is nothing of which a Democrat need be ashamed in the management of any county which has been in the hands of Democrats for the past two years, and the same may be said of the State. Then why should Democrats join this disaffected element of the Radical party, who claim their organization has become too corrupt for an honest man to remain with it longer? What principle do these would-be reformers advocate that has not been a leading plank in every Democratic platform? There is nothing, and if they are honest in their wish to reform the counties which have been in Radical hands until they have become bankrupt, and desire a change, let them forsake their rotten party and come like men up to the polls and vote for true and honest Democrats. Let Democrats who have any grievances or wrongs to correct come up to *their own primaries* and there correct them by selecting the very best men in the county for every position of trust, profit and honor. It is true, that an occasional Democrat may be found who is willing to go to the reformers; but you will find such a one to be a man who has had his pretensions for office and place repeatedly disregarded. The Democratic party to-day, as of years past, has no reason to be ashamed of its record, and Democrats who are such from principle, and not from selfish and personal interests, need not go into any independent movement to secure the reform Radicals are seeking. Those who have heretofore supported the Radical tickets, whether they were honest or dishonest men upon it, now find that they "sewed to the wind, and now reap the whirlwind." Let no Democrat be deceived with this false cry of the Radicals for reform. The truth is, the men who lead it, in the main, have lost their hold on the organization of both parties, and now cry out reform for the purpose of getting into office, many of whom have been discarded by the people for faithfulness to public trust. The only and true reform for all who desire it, is to come out of the Radical ranks and support the Democratic nominees, who are always pledged to reform, integrity and a faithful discharge of public trust. Nothing more could be asked, and nothing more could or should be desired.

Contrary to our expectations, we have not received our report from the late "Hen Convention," held at Portland. It would not surprise us if our correspondent has been tampered with by the managers of the concern.

Should the Convention Nominate the County Ticket?

It is a matter which should receive the serious consideration of the delegates that may be elected to attend the County Convention, whether it is best, in view of the early date of the Convention, to place in nomination the County ticket. The argument is good that if a man has a proper character to fit him for the office to which he is nominated, it will stand the test of time. This is about all that can be said in favor of such an early nomination. Yet there are many other considerations against an early nomination. It is three months before the election, and the candidates to be elected number fifteen. From the time they are placed in the field until the day of election, they are virtually deprived of following their usual avocations, provided the Convention selects men who have any occupation—and none other should be nominated. We want no professional politicians—and we know of none who are seeking office. Hence you are taking men from their legitimate business for this length of time. It is true that it may be inconvenient for some of the delegates to attend two Conventions, but we have a doubt whether that inconvenience will equal the burdens placed upon the candidates by a three months' campaign. Besides, the State ticket, in our view, and the platform, should be placed in nomination first. As far as we have observed, there is not a call issued in the State to nominate county candidates; in fact, all the various committees have simply called the Conventions for the purpose of nominating delegates to the State Convention. The County Committee of this county were willing to leave the matter to the judgment of the Convention, yet a majority expressed themselves as of the opinion that it were better to postpone the nomination until some future day. Let the delegates selected consider this matter, and see whether it would not be best to defer the selection of county candidates until after the State ticket is in the field. We have no particular choice in this matter, but are of the opinion that postponement will do no harm, while it may prove of great benefit to the success of our ticket. A fair expression from the delegates in the Convention, either way, will meet with our endorsement. They are the proper judges.

THE AUTHOR.—Our Radical friends will remember, when they condemn the present fee-bill, that our old friend Bush. Wilson, the present County Clerk of Benton county, is the author of it, and that it was introduced into the Lower House by that model Radical economist, Jas. Gingles, of the same county. These are both leading Radicals in that county, and both will probably be candidates for office again on the Radical ticket. Bush has been Clerk of Benton county for the last ten years, but we apprehend that his time is about up.

EUGENE CITY.—We took a hasty trip last week to Eugene, being the first time within the past four years that we have visited our old home. We were very agreeably surprised at the marked improvement that has taken place in the city during that time. There have been erected a number of new brick buildings, and some very fine residences. The town presents a good healthy appearance, and, as we heave always predicted, is bound to be one of the leading places in the State.

THE ASTORIAN.—This paper has been changed from a tri-weekly to a weekly, and enlarged to seven columns, with a "patent-outside." We thought it rather unwise to attempt a tri-weekly, and are satisfied that our old friend Ireland would have been financially better off to have commenced with a weekly. He gets up a good local paper and deserves success.

GOOD.—The Portland reporters in the proceedings of the late hen convention at that place, reported that Gov. Grover, in his reply to an invitation to address the convention, expressed sympathy with the movement. The Governor published a card in the *Oregonian* of Wednesday, in which he respectfully denies having expressed any sympathy in the movement. Few sensible men do.

ARRESTED.—Daniel B. Baker, alias "Dick Bent," an escaped convict from the Nevada penitentiary, where he was confined for robbing Wells, Fargo & Co's. Express, under sentence of thirty years, was arrested last week by officer McCoy, and taken back to Nevada. He had resided at Corvallis for about two years, and during that time married at that place.

INTERESTING.—An interesting open letter to Geo. H. Williams, from B. J. Pengra, will be found on our first page. The truth is being verified. Pengra is no better than Williams, but as the two rogues have fallen out the public is getting some of their dark ways brought to light.

TEMPERANCE UNION.—The State Temperance Union met at Salem last Tuesday. The attendance is quite good.

Our Special Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1874.

The Pacific Coast came in for more than its usual share of bills in Congress, during the past fortnight. Senator Mitchell proposed a bill "to ascertain the losses sustained by the citizens of Oregon, by Indian depredations," and another "to create an additional land district in Oregon."

Sargent, of California, introduced two in relation to California matters. In addition to these, four more were introduced, all having in some degree, reference to the Pacific States and Territories, as follows:

Houghton of California introduced a bill providing for "a uniform registry of sea-going vessels, and other maratime matters." This was framed under the suggestion of parties who desire to establish a shipbuilding business at Bellingham Bay, Washington Territory. It is claimed that the French and English Lloyd's discriminate unjustly in favor of iron ships, and that American built wooden ships cannot fairly compete with iron ships, because the registry in the United States is not observed with any respect in Europe. An American ship cannot obtain either passengers or freiget in England until she is registered at the English Lloyds, and there the owners find a disposition to sustain the credit of iron-bottoms in preference to all others. The object of Houghton's bill is to establish an American authority which will be credited in other countries. With this law it is claimed that our ship-builiding interests will be revived and the superiority of wooden vessels be established.

The next bill was that introduced by the same gentleman, from the Committee on Pacific Railroads, providing for "the incorporation of the transcontinental railroad." Connected with this there are several amendments, the first of which prohibits the company from consolidating with any competing railroad from the Mississippi river to San Francisco. Congress reserves the right to regulate the freight and fares whenever the public good demands it. It also makes provision that if the company fails to build the road as rapidly as required they forfeit all the rights granted in the franchise. Mr. Houghton says the true method of preventing monopoly by railroads is to encourage the building of many railroads, but also to provide that if they fail in the least to comply with the conditions of their franchise, their rights shall be forfeited; the latter provision being, in his opinion, the only way to prevent companies from monopolizing the national routes of travel by locating paper railroads. The route chosen for this road is up the Arkansas valley to Colorado, and thence by the most practicable route to San Francisco. It is probable that when this measure comes before the House for consideration, it will meet with much opposition from the Democratic portion of that body, who will take this occasion to set forth a new phrase of the doctrine of State rights. They will endeavor to amend it so as to provide before the act can become operative that the company must first be incorporated by the several different States through which it is to run.

The third bill is one for "the extension of land surveys in Alaska." It appears that at the last session of Congress a bill was passed for the sale of coal lands, and provision was made so that tracts of unsurveyed land should be held by performing a certain amount of work, and continuing the same until surveys were made, when the holders would have the preferred right of entry. A number of speculators, whose headquarters are in San Francisco, succeeded in getting the coal-fields of Alaska included in this act. They have formed companies and dispatched agents to take possession of valuable coal lands in that Territory, and now, in order to perfect their grabs, they ask Congress to extend the surveys over them. Commissioner Drummond has addressed a letter to Senator Mitchell, in opposition to the scheme. There is also a rumor of other combinations to control and monopolize the resources of that Territory, but there is a disposition among members of Congres to investigate all of them, and there will soon be a movement made toward having a commissioner appointed to examine into the whole matter.

Lastly, the Mormon Question, which has engaged the attention of the House Committee on Territories for the past fortnight. There are two bills intended to remedy the evils now existing: One being introduced by General McKee, the chairman of the Committee, and the other by Judge Poland. The latter gentleman's measure is more moderate in its requirements, than the bill first introduced. The right of women to vote has been thoroughly disussed by various gentlemen, among them Mr. Cannon, the present delegate, and Mr. Carey, the district attorney of the Territory. It is now proposed to abandon its further debate and proceed to the discussion of other propositions of the bill.

The Lonisiana trouble is not yet ended. At a Cabinet meeting held recently, it was unanimously decided to send no message, but allow Congress to proceed with the matter, without any suggestion from the President. It is vouched for on good authority P. B. S. Pinchback, the contestant for the vacant Louisiana seat in the Senate, will retire, and thus rid the Senate of its bone of contention.

The Oregon delegation are well at work. Stitzel is a member of the Capitol Police, having obtained the position through the influence of Mitchell. He now is in receipt of a salary of $1,600 per annum. Chapman has as yet accomplished nothing, but has great expectations. Jasper Johnson is a new arrival, and is busily engaged in pushing through the departments some claims obtained while he was in Texas. Report says that so far he has been quite successful.

Jesse Carr, of California, and Jno. Carr, of Arizona are in the city, awaiting the time for the letting of the mail contracts. It is rumored that they intend to obtain control of those mail routes which run north of San Francisco. *Au revoir*,

R. D. M.

Telegraphic News.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Representative Nesmith and Colonel Chapman, of Oregon, had a hearing today before the House Committee on Railroads and Canals, upon the subject of the Portland, Dalles and Salt Lake Railroad, and have strong hopes of obtaining a favorable report.

NEW YORK, February 12.—At a meeting of the Cheap Transportation Company, yesterday, information was given that a people's freight railroad would soon be built across the continent, which would be managed in the interests of the people. After the work is fairly begun it will be completed in three years.

PHILADELPHIA, February 10.—The case containing the bodies of the Siamese Twins was opened to-day. The bodies were not in a good state of preservation, owing to decomposition having already set in when the partial embalment was made at Mount Airy. It is thought, however, that an autopsy will successfully determine the main point of interest.

BOSTON, February 10.—The School Board, by a vote of 67 to 35, refused to reconsider the recent vote against the admission of women to membership.

HARTFORD, February 11.—The Republican State Convention met here to-day, and nominated Henry B. Harison for Governor and J. T. Waite for Lieutenant Governor.

NEW YORK, February 14.—It is proposed to dispense with St. Patrick's Day parade this year, and give the money which it would cost for the relief of the poor.

ATLANTA, February 14.—At Rutledge Ga., last night, L. M. Wood poisoned his three children and then shot himself. His wife had deserted him.

SANDUSKY, O., February 13.—Rush B. Slone, ex-President of the Cincinnati Sandusky and Cleaveland Railroad, was arrested to-day and held in $46,000 bail, on seventeen distinct charges of embezzlement. It is understood that further charges will be made. Civil suits for some $150,000 have already been commenced, and Sloane's property in Chicago, Boston and Sandusky has been levied on.

CHICAGO, February 13.—The First National Gold Bank of Quincy, Illinois, was robbed last night of $100,000 in currency and a large quantity of bonds and other valuable papers. No clue to the robbers.

BOSTON, February 13.—The House of Representatives, this afternoon, voted, 118 to 89, to rescind the Sumner censure resolution. The Senate has done likewise.

WASHINGTON, February 13.—General R. H. Milroy, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Washington Territory, who was suspended from office in November last by Inspector E. C. Kemble, has been fully exonerated from all blame, and was restored to his office to-day by order of the President.

WASHINGTON, February 13.—General Sheridan telegraphed to General Sherman from New York, yesterday, the official reports received by him of the recent murders by the Sioux Indians, and that he would leave for Chicago to-day to superintend any action that might be necessary. General Sherman replied:

"Under the call of the Interior Department, sent to your headquarters at Chicago you will be justified in collecting the most effective force possible, even if you draw cavalry from Fort Riley by rail to Cheyenne, to march to Red Cloud Agency—striking every party of Indians that oppose. Every Indian who has marauded south of the North Platte should be demanded and held as an accomplice in the murder of Lieutenant Robinson. Their ponies must be very poor now, and game must be scarce; so the occasion to give the Sioux a lesson so long merited seems to me favorable. My opinion is that the Sioux should never have an Agency away from the Missouri River.

WASHINGTON, February 16.—The following are the postal changes for the Pacific Coast.

Postmasters appointed—Levi Wilcox, Cornelius, Washington County, Oregon; A. T. Boice, Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon; James A. Masterson, Walla Walla, Washington Territory; S. D. Maxon Vancouver, Clarke County, Washington Territory.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., February 16.—A freight train on the Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad, between 1 and 2 o'clock this morning, ran into a slide near Statesdam station. The engine jumped the track, and eighteen cars were piled upon each other. No one on the train had, as far as could be ascertained, escaped injury. The body of the engineer, Daniel Shannon, was found under the engine considerably burned. The fireman and brakeman were badly scalded and burned. Three others are reported killed. A stove in the caboose set fire to the freight, and nine cars were burned.

BOSTON, February 18.—Wm. Strutevant has been arrested for murder on the night of the 15th instant at Halifax, Massachusetts, of his uncles, Thomas and Simon Strutevant, and Mary Buckley. His overcoat, which he said he lost, was found in the dwelling of the murdered family.

NEW YORK, February 18.—The St. Louis and St. Joseph Railroad was sold for $100,000 to-day. It was bought in the interest of the bondholders by Chas. W. Hassler

PHILADELPHIA, February 18.—Stokely's majority for Mayor is nearly 1,100. Two women are elected School Directors on the Republican ticket. The Democrats gain members of the Common Council in three wards. Colonel McClure said last night that he was cheated out of the election, and a rumor prevails that he will contest it.

NEW YORK, February 18.—The Committee of the Catholic Union are preparing a pilgrimage to Rome by the Catholics of this country. It is proposed to leave not later than the middle of May.

NEW YORK, February 18.—Ex-President Baez, of San Domingo, has gone to Washington.

VANCOUVER REGISTER.—By circular we learn that the Vancouver *Register* will resume publication on the 28th inst., Mr. Washburn being the publisher, and U. E. Hicks, Esq., assuming editorial control. Mr. H. is a thorough newspaper man, and will make the *Register* a live local paper. We wish it success.

Summary of State News Items.

The Brownsville Grange numbers over sixty members.

Albany wheat buyers are offering $1 per bushel for wheat.

A Public Library Association has been formed at Eugene City.

Chickens are selling at $6 per dozen in the market at Baker City.

The average hop yield in Oregon is placed at 2,000 pounds per acre.

Tillamook county is said to be the 'finest place in the world'—for sheep range.

Albany Odd Fellows will probably build a hall during the coming summer.

Another Masonic Lodge will probably be instituted in Albany at an early day.

The Harrisburg Grange has 80 members and applications are still coming in.

The whale skeleton will soon be ready for exhibition in the Oregon Museum.

Wheat $1 per bushel at McMinnville. Eggs 20 cents per doz. at the same place.

Dr. George H. Chance of Salem has recently been granted a patent on a "dental plugger" invented by him.

Lewisville, Polk county, contains two stores, two blacksmith-shops, one harness-shop, and four secret organizations.

Charity Grange No. 2 was recently organized at Condries' Schoolhouse, by J. H. Smith, of Harrisburg, with 44 members.

Some of the citizens of Coos county are planting oyster beds as an experiment, with a view of planting more extensively if successful.

A brace of Salem hoodlums are in jail for an extremely *fowl* proceeding on their part, to-wit: stealing some Shanghai chickens.

There remains in store at Harrisburg, some 60,000 bushels of wheat unsold to shippers, although it has been purchased from the farmers.

The Supreme Court having disposed of all the business before it, has adjourned. A special session has been appointed to be held on the 17th of Aug. next.

At Lebanon, the other day, as Mrs. Samuel Claughton was carrying a stick of wood it slipped from her arms, one end striking the knee-cap and breaking it.

Daniel Clark, Grand Master of the Grangers in Oregon, is one of the Vice Presidents of the Cheap Transportation Convention lately in session at Washington.

It is the general impression that the corpse recently found in Rogue River was that of the missing German, Spidell, who is thought to have been murdered at Jacksonville, last Fall.

County Treasurer Kelty, of Yamhill county, was at Salem last week and paid the State tax for that county, which amounted to $11,254 98. The property tax was $10,380 98. Poll-tax, $873.

The Central Council of the Patrons of Husbandry, for Linn county, at its last regular meeting, held in Albany February 10th, elected L. C. Burkhart as County Agent, in place of J. B. Stamp, resigned.

The Democratic Central Committee for Washington county have issued a call for a County Mass Convention, to be held at Hillsboro, on the 7th day of March, for the purpose of sending delegates to the next State Convention.

The terms of consolidation between the Society of Natural History and the Capital Library Association of Salem, have been agreed upon. The title of the new society will be "The Oregon Scientific and Literary Association.

The total valuation of the taxable property of Jackson county as copied from the Assessors books, is $1,820,399. Total number of polls, at $4 each, $4,244. The total amount of taxes is $37,173 09.

The residence of A. Stowell at Eugene City, with its entire contents, was destroyed by fire on last Thursday evening, during the absence of the family. Loss, about $5,000; insured for $1,600.

We sent by steamship to San Francisco, during the last month, 9,057 sacks, 1,435 packages of wheat; also 3,565 barrels are 1,946 sacks of flour. By sailing vessel 7,000 barrels were taken to the same port.

At a meeting of Grant county farmers the following resolution, among others, was adopted: *Resolved*, That we will neither directly nor indirectly give our support to any professional politician for the purpose of elevating him to any office of honor and trust.

A meeting of the State Horticultural Society will be held in the city of Portland, on the 25th day of February, 1874, for the purpose of arranging a premium list for the next State Fair. The meeting will be held at the office of the Patrons of Husbandry.

The Oregon Pioneer and Historical Society, organized at Astoria a number of years ago, have made arrangements for having a good old-fashioned time, on the occasion of the next annual meeting, which is announced to be held on Saturday, Feb. 21st.

At the last meeting of the Washington county Agricultural Society, R. Imbrie, G. M. Raymond and L. Patterson, Mrs. David Lenox, Mrs. N. Raymond and Mrs. Sarah Patterson were appointed a committee to revise the premium list of 1874. The Committee will meet March 25, 1874, at Hillsboro.

The man Greathouse, who mysteriously disappeared from Silverton, about six weeks ago, and for whose ghastly remains the citizens of that burg have been constantly looking ever since, now writes from California for his clothes and "back pay," and gives as a reason for his abrupt departure that he wished to avoid some "youthful indiscretions."

The *Christian Messenger*, published at Monmouth, by Prof. Campbell, has again made its appearance. It is well edited, full of good reading, and ought to be liberally sustained.

Congressional News.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—A bill reported by Harris, of Mass., to-day, from the Indian Commission, in relation to the Nez Perce Reservation, Idaho, proposes to purchase the 640 acres of land within the Reservation claimed by the American Board of Missions under the Donation Act of 1848, which granted to every mission station throughout the territory at that that time, the same amount of land as to actual settlers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The Army Reduction Bill under consideration of the House Military Committee has been printed for the private use of members of the Committee only. It provides for a sweeping reduction in the army—among others, of five regiments of cavalry, two of artillery, and one of infantry. Officers who may be necessarily affected by the reduction to receive one year's pay when mustered out. Important alterations are also proposed in the selection of officers as Commanding Generals. The bill provides for the appointment of Assistant Surgeons, and Assistant Quartermasters from officers who served in those departments during the war.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Mitchell called up the resolution introduced by him on Dec. 3d, instructing the Committee on Indian Affairs to inquire into the expediency of ascertaining the damages incurred by the citizens of Oregon in consequence of Indian depredations. He said that after a long residence in the West he felt justified in saying that the cry of Indians having been wronged by the Government or citizens was untrue He denied that the people of Oregon had wronged the Modocs in any manner, and quoted from the report of the Indian Commissioners in regard to the Modoc troubles. He said the Commissioners were either ignorant of the facts, or else were guilty of misrepresentation. He next reviewed the Modoc troubles, and argued that the insolant defiance of Captain Jack and his band could not be tolerated. He said that the people of Oregon were opposed to the peace policy of the Government. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The bill for ascertaining the losses by the citizens of Oregon and California in the Modoc troubles, provoked an excited discussion, in which Shanks defended the memory of Captain Jack and his Modocs, and stated that when Gen. Canby was holding his conference with Capt. Jack the military lines were being closed around the Modocs. The bill was opposed by G. F. Hoar, as establishing a dangerous precedent. Garfield said if the bill passed it would open sluices from the Treasury to claims from Ohio and Indiana arising out of the Morgan raids, and from Pennsylvania arising out of losses from Lee's invasion, and there would not be a cent left in the Treasury. Finally, on motion of Garfield, the enacting clause was stricken from the bill in the Committee of the Whole, and the bill was defeated.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—Kendall has introduced a bill compelling railroad companies to obtain patents to their land grants, and thus put them in a position to share local taxation. In case of failure to comply, the lands to revert to the Government.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—In the Senate, to-day, Mitchell introduced a bill authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Willamette river at Salem, Oregon. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

CHICAGO, February 14.—A special to the *Tribune* relating to the information on the moiety system, which the Ways and Means Committee have finally secured, says the members of the Chamber of Commerce and a special agent will be heard next Tuesday. Startling revelations are promised. There is evidence in abundance to show that the informers of Customs officials have made it a business it is to look after Custom House affairs in large mercantile houses by them to see that errors in invoices sufficient to condemn the whole should be allowed to creep in. If anything like a fight is made upon Customs officials it will result in the discovery of frauds such as must end in wholesale reform.

WASHINGTON, February 16.—In the Senate, to-day, Kelly presented a petition of the citizens of Oregon in regard to charges against his colleague, Mitchell, and asking the same to be investigated by the Senate. Kelly said he had been acquainted with Mitchell for twelve years, and knew nothing that would be derogatory to his character. In presenting the charges he desired it to be understood that he said nothing in favor or against him—that matter should be left with the committee. He moved that the subject be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and it was so ordered.

MAIL CONTRACTS AWARDED.—The following are the awards for postal service in Oregon: Portland to Astoria, Oregon Steam Navagation Company, $10,000; Portland to Corvallis, Jesse D. Carr, $8,400; Portland to Salem, C. N. Noblett, $1,495; Portland to Dalles, by steamboat, Zenas F. Moody, $15,535; Astoria to Nestockton, H. C. Weat, $1,560, Corvallis to Newport, J. E. Dixon, $1,425; Port Orford to Gardiner: Hall & Busbay, $1,995; Roseburg to Randolph, Abram Thush, $1,600; Ashland to Lake City, Halton & Garrett, $3,549; The Dalles to Upper Ochoco, Chapman Brothers, $1,790; The Dalles to Boice City, Wm. Delacy, $8,500; Umatilla to Pleasant Grove, and Union to Walla Wal'a, T. B. Church, $2,475 and $1,750, respectively; Pendleton to Scotts', C. C. Huntley, $1,500.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Olympia to Astoria, J. L. Stout, $4,750; Seattle to Sehome, Samuel Coulter, $3,000; Walla Walla to Missoula, Wm. Glover, $19,000; Port Townsend to Sitka, Alaska, S. Garfielde, $28,000.

The *Progressionist*, a good loyal paper, of the Hippel-Mitchell stripe, published at Cornelius, has litigant printing on the brain. By the way, the telegraph informs us that some one has got his postoffice commission. Propably he will now go back on the Radicals. We thought he would be ousted when he published that "independent" leader a few weeks ago. Is that the cause, Bro. Davis?

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