

THE ENTERPRISE.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, JAN. 28, 1876

The Army Reduction.

We were surprised to see a paper like the Standard defending the proposed reduction of the army. Had that weekly been published in an Eastern city, there might have been some slight excuse; but out here on the extreme Western frontier, where troops are a necessity, we are at a loss to account for such a course.

If the Standard favors the bill because it wishes retrenchment, we consider its logic most decidedly of the "penny wise, and pound foolish" order. It will be almost unnecessary to point out that if our border and backwoods settlers are not protected, no new country will be "opened up," farms already located will be abandoned, to say nothing of the depredations that will come from the gangs of cattle thieves infesting the Mexican border, and the absolute disgrace reflected on a government which is too despicably mean to protect the lives of "those pioneers—the bone and sinew of the country, who create States from deserts."

Under the above caption the Hillsboro Independent, thus forcibly expresses our sentiments: As it is the business of a county paper, as we have often explained, to represent the local interests of the people of this county, we will publish, as we always have, short, pointed articles on politics, business enterprises, schools or news in the county.

But if we are independent in politics we are not, and do not propose to be neutral. Decidedly not. While we shall not in the future fight under the banner of any of the political parties, we hold a free lance and shall hunt it where and when we please.

The bill asking of Congress the appropriation of \$1,500,000 in aid of the Centennial celebration passed the House on the 25th by a vote of 146 yeas to 130 nays.

To READERS.—We wish to say to our "readers"—in contradistinction to "subscribers"—that the ENTERPRISE is not a political paper; and we are desirous of impressing the fact that Republicans, Democrats, and Independents are all equally welcome to our subscription list, and are all equally the dictators of our course.

A GOOD MOVE.—A special dispatch to the New York Sun says Speaker Kerr proposes to shut the doors of the House lobby against the horde of lobbyists who have infested the corridors and halls of Congress for many years.

The facile pen of ex-Governor Curry is now used in the editorial behalf of the Evening Journal. As the Oregonian unwittingly says, "he has our best wishes for success in his present vocation."

What Are the Political Issues?

There is a deal of loud blarney coming from party leaders, calling on their constituencies to cling to their old principles and fight the battles on the issues before the people. Which are those issues? Before the election in Ohio, one might have been the currency question, but the defeat of the Democrats in that State has forever settled that issue; Democrats and Republicans alike, being now on the side of hard money.

Oregon Independents.

The New York Tribune, speaking of the coming presidential election inquires: "Is it by any means impossible that an Independent ticket could be nominated which would carry New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Connecticut, California, or Oregon?" We cannot speak for all the States mentioned but feel pretty positive that it would be decidedly impossible for an Independent Presidential candidate to carry this State.

To Correspondents

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The Electoral Districts bill, as originally passed by the French Assembly, gave Paris twenty-five delegates and Lyons eight. It has now been so amended as to make these figures twenty and six, respectively.

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George H. Pendleton is making a "presidential pilgrimage" through the Southern States. No use, Southerners don't want the "rag-bag" any more than we do.

Correspondence From Oswego-Iron Works.

Oswego holds a position, in this your county, and as a town, is of some importance. It contains about 100 inhabitants, most of whom are employed in and about the Iron Works. It has a fine view overlooking the Willamette and is connected both with Portland and Oregon City by the steamers plying backwards and forwards.

Near it are situated the iron ore beds, both of which are of value. One is owned by Mr. Patton, the other by the Company. The town is composed of dwelling houses, the M. E. Church, a couple of stores, a blacksmith shop, the usual saloon, and the buildings belonging to the Iron Works.

These consists of immense sheds containing coal and iron ore, the blast room and the "furnace."

The "furnace" is a two story building built on the side of a hill. The iron ore is brought into a long low building connected with the furnace. Here it is pulverized by means of a rock crusher run by steam. It is then placed in a cart arranged on an iron railway and transported to the furnace.

The furnace is of a hollow cylinder shape about a hundred feet in length and three feet in diameter at the top but gradually widening toward the bottom, where there is an opening through which the iron ore can run out. Into this the ore is poured. Upon it is thrown a layer of coal, then one of limestone and so on until the furnace is nearly full. These layers are renewed at stated periods. The limestone is used to keep the iron and coal separated. The heat is kept at about 1000°.

Every twelve hours the month of the furnace which is stopped up with clay is opened, the slag removed, and the melted ore allowed to run into the moulds prepared for it in the sand with which the bottom of the lower floor is covered.

These moulds are formed by having wooden frames of the size required pressed on the moist sand and then removed. Their shape is then left in the sand. The ore then runs into them and fills them out. It is a beautiful sight to see the molten iron rush from the mouth of the furnace in red hot streams—here taking the form of a glowing lake, there a fiery river so dazzling that one can scarcely gaze upon it.

The hotter the fire the more refined the iron. About four different grades are made, these depending both on the heat and the kind of ore used. From ten to twelve tons are made per day.

During the fall a new furnace was made of fire-proof brick. Its power is much greater than that of the old one. New air pipes have also been added. A short distance from the furnace is a building called the blast house, which contains the machinery used in pressing the air into these pipes. It is very powerful. The air ascends into the furnace, is there heated and descends down below where it is used for the purpose of increasing the heat.

Messrs. Seely and Crichton are the principal employees—the one being the overseer, the other the book keeper of the Iron Works, both of whom are said to be in every way competent.

The Iron Works give employment to from twenty to twenty-five men in its various departments. It is now in good working operation. There is no doubt but that this place will become at some near future one of the great sources of wealth to Clackamas county.

CONGRESSIONAL HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Steel offered a resolution directing the committee on appropriation to inquire into the expediency of making any appropriation for the support of the Sioux Indians, and also into the right to exclude white men from the Black Hills; adopted.

Wadell offered a resolution requesting the President to communicate to the House any communication which may have passed between the government of the United States and any European government, besides Spain, in regard to Cuba; adopted.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Wood, of New York, in the Chair, on the Centennial appropriation bill.

Lawrence spoke in favor of the bill, and replied to the constitutional objection urged against it. He supported the bill on the following grounds: First, Congress was committed to it by past legislation. Second, because it would increase the general welfare by encouraging commerce and intercourse. Third, because it would create a demand for American products, and would give employment to labor. Fourth, it would aid in restoring prosperity. Fifth, it would promote good will among our own people and among foreign nations, and that it would be worth many times over \$1,500,000, and a good investment and would bring back more than it cost.

The afternoon debate was further continued by Teese, Jones of Kentucky, Money, Lapham, Dunn, Monroe and Kasson in favor of the bill, and by Baker of Indiana, Caldwell, Savage and Holman against it.

In the course of Holman's speech he alluded to a remark of Tucker in his speech a few days ago, to the effect that this was not a nation, and said that if there had been anything settled beyond recall in the progress of the century, it was that the sovereignty of the people, not the sovereignty of the Government rested.

He appealed to the gentlemen not to characterize the opening of the new century by a subsidy, and he read a letter from a Philadelphia gentleman speaking of the Centennial board as a ring, and saying that the passage of a bill would damage, rather than help the exhibition.

Randall gave indignant contradiction to the statements in the letter, and said a purer set of men than the members of the Centennial board never managed any enterprise.

Kelley—And I say amen to every word my colleague has said. Holman—I do not know anything about the truth or falsity of the statements in the letter.

Randall—I know all about it. Holman—I mean I know the gentleman who wrote the letter is the peer of my friends from Pennsylvania, and is a man whose honor cannot be called in question.

Randall—When we learn his name we will know whether he is our peer or not. Clymer (to Holman)—Was not the writer of the letter a disappointed applicant for the superintendency of the horticultural department of the exhibition, and was not that the motive of his letter?

Holman—I am very certain he was not an applicant for any office. Randall—Was he an applicant for an office, or an opportunity to draw a salary?

Holman—I am not aware of his having been an applicant for any office, and if the gentlemen expect to carry their bill by denouncing a man who cannot be vouchsafed for as very honorable a man they are very much mistaken.

Randall—This gentleman has sent a letter here denouncing an entire community, and if we expose his motive it is nothing more than he had a right to expect.

to provide means of cheap transportation on inland waters. By Holton, to abolish the tax on spirits distilled from fruits.

By Cronze, of Nebraska, declaring all funds heretofore granted certain railroad companies, subject to State taxation; also to reduce passenger rates over the railroad bridge at Omaha.

By Jacobs—For the restoration to the public domain of lands in Washington Territory to the Northern Pacific Railroad.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The time was chiefly taken up with arguing on Buckner's report on the District of Columbia.

Banning offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for information as to the pay and allowances of army officers stationed at Washington since March, 1869; adopted.

Whitehouse offered a resolution instructing the committee on civil service reform to inquire into any abuses or frauds which may exist in the administration and execution of the existing laws affecting any branch of the public service. Adjourned.

Jan. 25.—Jencks from the committee on invalid pensions, reported a bill supplementary to the pension act, providing that, except in case of permanent specific disabilities, no increase of pensions shall be allowed to commence prior to the date of the examining surgeon's certificate.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Wood of New York in the chair, on the Centennial appropriation bill, which after much debate was passed—the vote standing 116 yeas to 130 nays. A Journal.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Senator Jones made his first appearance today. Bills were introduced and referred as follows: By Mitchell to establish and maintain a post route in the State of Oregon and Idaho Territory.

Conkling from judiciary committee reported with amendments the Senate bill, fixing the time for holding the circuit court of the United States for the districts of California, Oregon and Nevada; passed.

Cockrell from the committee on military affairs reported favorably on the Senate bill for holding the military road running from Astoria to Salem, in that State, to the several counties through which it passes; placed on the calendar. Kelly's bill to extend the time for the construction of the N. P. R. R. was also placed on the calendar.

Thurman's bill to provide for a commission on the subject of the alcoholic liquor traffic called forth objections from Senators Bayard and Boggs on the ground that States should legislate on such matters. After an amendment by Bayard had been defeated, the Senate adjourned.

Jan. 25.—Sargent presented a petition that the women of the District of Columbia be allowed to vote; referred.

From the committee on public lands, reported favorably on the Senate bill granting 640 acres of land to the widow and heirs of James Sinclair, deceased; passed.

Cockrell's bill, donating the military road running from Astoria to Salem to the counties through which it passes, was passed.

W. W. Lawson, chairman of the San Francisco board of exchange, is suffering from a severe paralytic stroke.

BOSTON, Jan. 21.—The house of Jordan, Clark & Co., Summer street, one of the leading wholesale clothing firms here, has suspended, owing to the falsification of their books by their confidential book keeper, Frank Sanford. The defaulter sent his wife and children to California some weeks ago, and has left in company with another woman.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 22.—This morning the Marietta and Cincinnati freight train was crossing the iron bridge over Spring creek avenue in this city, when the bridge gave way. Five cars, overloaded with shelled corn are said to have caused the wreck. The falling cars pulled the engine down with them, killing Contry, the engineer, Frank Lemmon, the fireman, and a brakeman. Two men who were driving along the avenue at the time, were caught in the wreck, one suffering a broken leg, the other a broken shoulder. The bridge was a double track and is a total wreck.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 22.—Geo. H. Pendleton was appointed to succeed at the Pulaski house to-night, and from the balcony of the hotel addressed a large assemblage of citizens.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 22.—Ex-Governor Francis Thomas, of Maryland, Minister to Peru, was struck by the engine and instantly killed, while walking upon the railroad track near his home in Gerritt Co.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Senator Sherman was chosen chairman, and Representative Fort secretary, of the Republican caucus this evening. On motion of Senator Edmunds, a committee was appointed to select suitable names, one from each State and Territory, to compose a Union Republican Congressional committee, the selections to be made after consultation with the Republican delegation from each State and Territory.

Senator Mitchell's resolution instructing the judiciary committee to report whether a corporation may be thrown into compulsory bankruptcy on the petition of a single creditor, is aimed at Judge Jones's decision that the Oregon Bulletin Company should be forced into bankruptcy by one creditor claiming \$200. Mitchell wants the judiciary committee to make a declaration covering this decision, which he denounces as absurdly contrary to the provisions of the law.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—The Brentwood Coal Company has gone into bankruptcy. One claim against it is for \$284,000.

ST. JOHNSBURY, Vt., Jan. 22.—The scale shop of E. and T. Fairbanks & Co., at this place, was burned last evening. The loss is covered by insurance. The shop will be rebuilt at once.

CHICAGO, Jan. 22.—George Henry Jacobs was executed at Joliet, yesterday, for the murder of his wife, May 26, 1875.

The trial of W. W. McKee, which commenced at St. Louis yesterday, upon an indictment charging him with conspiracy to defraud the government, proves to be one of the most interesting of the St. Louis whisky fraud cases. District Attorney Dyer expresses confidence in his ability to sustain the indictment and obtain a conviction.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—The wife of Sir Hugh MacKenzie, of Montreal, and Fred H. Brydges, son of the superintendent of the Grand Trunk Railroad, of Canada, were arrested here, having, it is alleged, eloped. The police justices committed them from arrest, and Mrs. MacKenzie returned to Montreal. She had two infant children with her in her so-called flight.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Heretofore officers making a tour of inspection of the army to tighten the military committee out of the contemplated sweeping reduction. As soon as the project for cutting down the army was made known, every channel by which influence could be brought to bear was filled with petitions and hints to stay Congress from action.

The Senate committee on railroads to-day agreed to recommend the passage of a bill to extend the time for completing the N. P. R. R. with amendments limiting the extension of time for the making of the period of 8 years, instead of 19. The section proposing to repeal the law requiring the company to pay the costs of surveying and conveying, will be omitted from the bill as reported.

It is not probable that the President will transmit his correspondence in regard to Cuba as called for by the House on Saturday.

CHICAGO, Jan. 24.—The Chicago Times Washington special says the necessary legislation for carrying into effect the reciprocity treaty with the Hawaiian Islands, now under consideration in ways and means committee, meets with favor from several members of the committee, though the latter has not taken any formal action in regard to it.

The Tribune's Washington special says General Benjamin's bill for the reduction of army expenses will probably be completed and introduced to-day. It effects a saving of about \$600,000 in the matter of pay, quarters and forage. These reductions, however, do not apply to officers serving with troops in the field. In the case of general officers all commutations of quarters, rations and fuel are cut off and each officer is left with his pay proper.

BOSTON, Jan. 25.—E. D. Winslow, a well known journalist, has committed forgeries in this city to the amount of \$250,000, and decamped.

Foreign. PARIS, Jan. 22.—Ex-President Thiers will contest the deputyship of the Ninth Arrondissement. The reports of the formation of a French squadron in the Mediterranean and a collection of military stores at Nancy are denied.

The Senatorial delegates have unanimously agreed to support the candidatures of Victor Hugo and Louis Blanc.

The Times' special reviewing Gambetta's speech, delivered in private at Aix, says the speech will force itself on the attention of all France. It is essentially an appeal for conciliation and the programme of moderate Republicans. In the speech, which is very long, Gambetta says: "We do not want monopoly. We are too anxious to repair the losses of France to exclude any Frenchman from the task of raising up the country. It is essential, however, enter the republic honestly."

MADRID, Jan. 22.—Reports from elections in this city for members of the Cortes, indicate that the royalists have succeeded in five of the districts.

The Carlists bombarded San Sebastian on Thursday, and some of the inhabitants were killed.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The International Society of Workmen, at Noisy, in Belgium, are demanding bread without payment.

M. Rubenstein, the pianist, is threatened with total blindness. A Berlin special says Bismarck is confined to his room with neuritis.

PARIS, Jan. 25.—The categorical denial is given to the recent rumors that France is increasing her armaments.

PARIS, Jan. 24.—The Bonapartist Association has issued a manifesto announcing that they will support MacMahon until the expiration of his term. They will then demand that an appeal to the people shall be made for determining the future form of Government for France.

BERLIN, Jan. 24.—The Spanish diplomatic representatives at the various courts have verbally informed the Governments that after the defeat of the Carlists, which is expected in a short time, Spain hopes to be enabled to quell the Cuban insurrection through the increase of reinforcements. No foreign complications are anticipated, because the United States has distinctly repudiated the idea of annexing Cuba.

MADRID, Jan. 24.—Senator Castelar has been elected deputy to the Cortes from Barcelona.

VIENNA, Jan. 24.—The Neue Presse represents that the insurgents in Turkey apprehend, as the natural sequel of the presentation of Andrassy's note, that the Imperial Powers will forcibly intervene to compel them to lay down their arms. They are, consequently, redoubling their efforts in order to improve their position, and a brisk renewal of fighting is expected.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The Daily Telegraph's Paris dispatch says the committee appointed to examine works of French artists for exhibition in Philadelphia, have completed their labors. They have selected 670 pictures including "The Declaration of Independence," and "The Surrender of Yorktown," by Arnold Dumaresq; "Old and New California," by Bartoldi; a portrait of Washington, by Princenton, and several works by Adam Blane of Brest, Alfred, and Aitinger, besides 100 pieces of sculpture and 60 engravings and designs.

PARIS, Jan. 25.—The official journal of the bill for a grant in aid of the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, passed the first and second reading.

HAVANA, Jan. 25.—Advices from the city of Mexico to the 15th state that 400 soldiers have been sent to reinforce the Mexican troops on the Rio Grande.

In storms around San Domingo early in January many vessels and several lives were lost.

TERRITORIAL NEWS ITEMS.

Over five feet of snow at Silver City, Idaho.

Capt. Mier's small steamer has been launched at St. Helena and taken to Peking for the finishing touches.

Citizens of Seattle are trying to get up a Centennial celebration at that place.

The Washington Standard says one of the deck houses of the lost steamer Pacific recently drifted ashore at Port Angeles. The words "Captain's Room" were painted on the door, which portion was cut out and taken to Victoria to be exhibited as a relic of the sad disaster.

The oyster beds in Shoalwater Bay have been much injured by the rough weather. The heavy seas in some instances piled them in immense heaps, and in others buried them deep in sand.

At Canyon City, snow is plentiful and wild scarce. Pleasant. The Territories want the offices now in the gift of the President made elective.