

THE ENTERPRISE.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, APRIL 14, 1876.

Wire-Pulling Our Course.

The *World*, though professedly a Democratic organ, argued recently that it is a very disconsolate view of things to look for any improvement in politics to a more active intervention of the people in public affairs. It is the people themselves, it insists, that first need to be reformed. "What hopes is there for us," the *World* asks, "who have infused into the Government all the popular elements of the country?" We answer that we have nominally done so, but not practically. The people in this country have become a body which registers the degrees of one or other of the traditional parties, controlled by small knots of managers called general committees. Indirectly their opinions have some influence upon this directing centre, but directly none. They are just as much in the hands of the managers as ever were the French peasantry under the *prefects* of Louis Napoleon. In other words the "popular element" is simply the stalking horse behind which those cunning fowlers, the politicians, hide themselves while they are bringing down their game, that is the offices and emoluments. The trouble with us here in Oregon is that we give up everything to the hands of the political tricksters, and individual citizen feels his personal responsibility. The people, as a whole, have little control of their own business. The "machinery" of the parties has taken it out of their hands. It is that machinery which supplies our entire civil service from President down to page. Public offices have become by means of it rewards for partisan services, and are no longer regarded as public trusts. They are filled with the servicable instruments of members of Congress, and not with men of capacity and integrity. Men of capacity and integrity, indeed, unless they consent to cooperate with this "machinery" they are disfranchised. They must bow the knee as the *World* does to the idol of party, no matter what that idol may determine, or stand out solitary and alone in the cold. Now, this despotism, as we conceive, may be broken in two ways. The intelligent and conscientious men within the several parties may protest against it as if feebly done by the Independent organizations throughout this State, thereby compelling the politicians to mend their ways; or intelligent and conscientious men may break off from the old parties refusing to approve their course, and proceed to a new organization; but not such as we have in Oregon, which is simply brought into existence by the two great parties for strategic purposes. In either of the above cited cases the result would be a larger "infusion of the popular element" into the active management of affairs and a great gain for the nation. The outlook may be dark, but it is therefore by no means utterly hopeless. The old parties are disintegrating—slowly, it may be; too slowly for the needs of the next canvass—yet with undeniable certainty. As for ourselves, we would not be surprised to see, even before the next general election, men who agree in the desire for an honest administration and honest money united. Let any of the old hacks be nominated by either convention, and there will be a stampede to the other side most edifying to behold.

A Way to Resum.

The report from San Francisco that the government is bargaining for a direct purchase of the products of the principal mines of Nevada and California, with a view to securing specie for the payment of its paper currency, is not an unreasonable one. One of the terrors which the resumption act has had for opponents of "hard money" has been "the frightful disturbance of the money markets of the world," which, it has been predicted, would be caused by any attempt on the part of the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase gold in Europe by the issue of bonds, as permitted by the act. But if the owners of these mines are willing to sell their products directly to the government in exchange for bonds, Europe will not be drained of her gold, and our government will secure what it requires without the intervention of syndicates or the increase of our foreign debt.

We hope the farmers of Clackamas county will improve every day of the balance of this month in planting and sowing grain. Don't let the politicians impress you that the county will go to the dogs unless you attend their primaries and their conventions, but be sure the county will be saved if you but plant every acre you have in some one or other of the cereals. Clackamas county ought to raise for sale 200,000 bushels of wheat instead of 50,000, one hundred thousand bushels of oats instead of twenty thousand, and other cereals in the same proportion. We have the best county in the State for varied industries, and the wheat crop will be inevitably short in the flat lands of the upper valley, owing to the lateness of the season. This is your opportunity.

The Chinese Question.

In our last issue we called attention to the determined action resolved upon by Californians for the prevention of what might be aptly called Chinese swarming. At a large and enthusiastic meeting held in Union Hall, San Francisco, on the evening of the 5th, resolutions were unanimously adopted that no violence should be done to the Chinese already within the borders of our sister State, but that everything within the reach of the law should be strained to stop their wholesale influx. Congressmen from this coast have already introduced bills aiming at the modification of the Burlingame treaty; but the question arises in our mind, since the Supreme Court has annulled the different State laws framed for the purpose of counteracting this evil, what shall be done in case Congress turns a deaf ear to the petitions from the Pacific? It is better that we be ready for the worst, than we carry out the Latin saying, "in time of peace prepare for war;" for we ought to be so situated that in case Congress ignores the bills of our Representatives that we should have something upon which to fall back, that we should have a last resort.

We deprecate violent measures—the choking off of Chinese, but are under the impression that laws might be passed so objectionable to the Chinese, and be yet within the range of constitutionality that they would cease of their own accord to flock to a land where they are so decidedly unwelcome. For instance, strict sanitary laws might be passed regulating the number of inmates of tenement houses of certain dimensions; also, strict laws in respect to their sleeping apartments, their use of opium, their drainage, food and ventilation. Legislation might stop the importation of Chinese courtesans and forbid the moving of dead bodies out of the State, which would highly insult the dignity of the "moon-eyes" by belittling the teachings of Confucius. Finally, a law to cut off the hair of all persons convicted of petty larceny and greater crimes would be a home thrust that would help more to keep Chinamen where they belong than a thousand acts of Congress, that at their highest, only aim to modify an obnoxious treaty. There is something in this, and we respectfully commend it to the attention of our legislative aspirants.

A Professor on Resumption.

Professor Seeley, of Massachusetts, who made a short and eminently sensible speech on the amnesty bill not long since, gave his views on the currency question lately, and as far as we can gather from the condensed report sent over the wires, his remarks contained much more of practical wisdom, and less of either partisan, fustian or scholastic theorizing than most of the speeches on that subject thus far delivered. He emphasized the importance of placing the currency on a substantial basis, and favored the resumption of specie payments, but freely admitted that the question how to accomplish it presented a grave difficulty. There were only three possible ways, he thought, and only one which would be sure to succeed. That one was to make the currency exchangeable for government gold bonds. The two other ways, to wit: an accumulation of gold coin, and the retiring of greenbacks out of the government surplus, he condemned. He thought the amassing of gold would bring about financial disasters all over the world, and that there was not surplus enough to make the other plan successful.

If he means that the one sure and safe way to specie payments is the making of the greenbacks interchangeable or interchangeable with a gold bond, bearing a law rate of interest in gold, he is right and sound, according to our theorizing. If he means to fund the greenbacks in a high interest-bearing gold bond, and destroy the notes as quickly as taken in, he is as wrong as he well could be, for that would be the worst form of contraction, and would so aggravate the paralysis of industry that resumption would be indefinitely postponed. Professor Seeley, we cannot suppose, would endorse such a dangerous scheme, and we infer that his idea is to bring greenbacks to par without contracting their volume by making them convertible into bonds and reconvertible.

The Greenback Party.

In Connecticut, in the late election, the "Greenback" party had the audacity to take the field. Some time since their convention met and their chief resolutions were a demand for "interconvertible bonds," the repeal of the resumption act of 1875, the acceptance of Treasury notes for all public dues, including customs, and "for the purchase of Government bonds at par in gold coin." After all this useless formula and flourish of trumpets the party (?) polled 2,000 votes. A severer blow to the "rag baby" has never been given than this feeble effort of the loud-voiced inflationists to make a fight. From the column editorials deprecating resumption we feared that, perhaps, there was a current of public feeling running in that direction, but now the mask is removed, the skeleton unearthed, and resumption has nothing to fear.

Belknap Impeachment.

On the 16th of the present month ex-Secretary of War Belknap will be arraigned before the bar of the Senate and impeached with high crimes and misdemeanors. Our knowledge of impeachments is limited to the trial of Warren Hastings before the British Parliament and the ordeal through which Andrew Johnson went before the limited States Senate and from this not over extensive reading it, seems to us that after a Cabinet officer has ceased to be one of the executive, after he has resigned, that articles of impeachment are as inconsistent as the prosecution of a man for breach of promise when he has married the plaintiff *in lite*. If Belknap be guilty of crime, let his case be taken before the "Court of Quarter Sessions," and tried like any other criminal, but do not impeach him when the mere act of his resigning has rendered him unimpeachable. We well recollect that at the time when Andrew Johnson was ordered to appear before the Senate that Democrats and Democratic papers inquired, "Why doesn't he resign, and thus defeat this move of the Radical Senate?" While we do not wish to have our language construed into a defence of Belknap, nor with any desire to air knowledge of the law which we do not possess, we cannot help stating our inability to see why sauce for the goose should not be sauce for the gander.

Another Wreck.

The wreck of the Caroline Medan, on Yaquina Bay Bar, on the 5th inst., is, we believe, the third or fourth of its kind for the present season, and furnishes a very strong argument against the efforts that are being made by the citizens of Benton county to connect themselves with the said outfit to the sea, by a narrow gauge railroad from Corvallis, and this will doubtless put a quietus on the movement altogether.

From the government survey made of the said bar years ago, it is concluded that there is not over 16 feet of water there at high tide, which should at once disprove the hallucinations indulged in by those of the above named county, who fondly hope to see the navies of the world lying at anchor in her pent-up harbor, waiting for cargoes of pork, socks and butter from the interior, while the sailors desert themselves with the rural excursionists who annually visit there to catch oysters and crabs. If Benton county has \$200,000 to contribute in the way of a bonus to enterprise, she had best direct it in the establishment of woolen mills, flax factories, and a moderate expenditure on the Willamette, to enable them to be sars of the advancement of their material prosperity, rather than to dissipate it on a chimera which would turn to torment its instigators. They cannot make a whitie out of a Hogg's tail.

A. T. Stewart.

Alexander T. Stewart, the New York dry goods merchant, died at his residence in that city on the 10th inst. He has dominated the dry goods market for years, and was the acknowledged chief of all his competitors. He was born in the county of Tyrone, Ireland, in 1795, and arrived in New York in 1819, in destitute circumstances. He taught school for some three years succeeding his arrival, and in 1823 he established himself in the retail dry goods business on a capital of less than \$1,500, the proceeds of a small legacy left by a relative and his saving from school teaching. His course since has been an uninterrupted one of material prosperity, and his estate is variously estimated at from ten to twenty millions.

He never intermingled conspicuously in political strife, but was appointed by Grant his first Secretary of the Treasury, a nomination Stewart was obliged to decline, owing to the construction of our laws which made it inadmissible for an importer to occupy that office. His career furnishes another stimulus to the poor and humble of our land, that the avenues of prosperity are open to those who diligently toil, and frugally live.

Dana's Rejection.

The refusal on the part of the Senate to confirm the appointment of Mr. Dana is a real "straining at a gnat" on the part of the executive advisory body, which in time past has confirmed some very extraordinary nominations. The sum of the charges against Mr. Dana is that he has been involved in a technical copyright difficulty. Nobody doubts his personal honesty, his high character, or his eminent fitness for the mission to the Court of St. James. The Senate's jealousy of the country's good name is a late coming sentiment which might have been born sooner with advantage to all of us.

It is said Mrs. Belknap wears a No. 1½ shoe, but it would take a good deal to cover her tracks now.

Joe Newcomb, confined in the Korbville jail, attempted to escape from that institution recently, by going out of a hole through which the stovepipe passed. But the opening proved too small and he stuck fast, when Gen. Taylor, the jailer, and T. G. Patterson came to his relief and pulled him back.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The Senate, on motion of Sherman, took up the House bill providing for the deficiency in the printing and engraving bureau of the Treasury Department, and for the issue of silver coin of the United States in place of fractional currency. Sherman explained the provisions of the bill and the amendments proposed by the Senate finance committee at length. After discussion, Sherman withdrew the committee's amendment, to add two new sections, and the bill was passed and it came from the House, with the House's third section omitted. The bill as passed simply makes up the deficiency in the appropriation for printing U. S. notes, and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue silver coin in redemption of all outstanding fractional currency.

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TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Eastern.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The cause of Dana's rejection was not the charge of literary piracy, or resentment of his (Duntwell's) letter. He would have been confirmed despite these, except for the consideration of the letter under the circumstances indicated the want of good temper essential to a successful diplomat.

The Pacific coast Congressmen are preparing to make a vigorous effort to amend the bill on the subject of the San Francisco and Carson mints. Director Linderman has furnished a letter from Superintendent LaGrange, in which it is shown that the proposed reduction of force and salaries would be taking from the Government an amount of \$1,000,000 for contingent expenses is not half enough to furnish materials and perform the work required by law which must be done during the coming year. LaGrange does not object to his reduction of his salary; but asserts that the effect of the proposed reduction of the pay of the mint employes will be to drive them into private employment at higher compensation, and that to replace them by experienced men would be equivalent to taking from the Government an amount of \$1,000,000 over the wage more than twenty times the equivalent of the difference of wages. This letter has been ordered printed.

COLUMBUS, April 9.—Secretary Kippart, of the State Board of agriculture, advised his directors of this city of Ohio, go to show that the recent bad weather has had its expected result as far as fruit is concerned. Very few peaches will live, especially in the northern counties, so that there will be no more than one-cub of crop. Pear trees have not suffered so much, and half a crop may be expected.

BOSTON, April 8.—The wife of Benjamin F. Butler died this morning of cancer in the throat, in the Massachusetts general hospital in this city, where she had been taken to have an operation performed. She was about 55 years old.

CHICAGO, April 8.—Cambles, the Board of Trade operator, who was supposed to have gone to California, and defaulted on long wheat contracts, returned last night, and stated that he would settle up his accounts with as little loss to his creditors as possible.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The proposition to transfer Maj. Gen. Schofield to West Point and make him superintendent of that institution is discussed at army headquarters. It is felt that the higher rank officers should be there, because of the dignity of the station and the necessity of extending courtesies to visiting magnates.

The committee on election to-day decided by a strict party vote to give the seat now occupied by Farwell from the third district of Illinois to the contestant.

Pacific Coast.

VICTORIA, April 8.—The announcement that Beaver Rock would be blasted at 4 o'clock to-day and caused crowds of people to gather in every available spot to witness it. Promptly at the time the man in charge applied his battery, which was immediately followed by a dull heavy report and a large body of water thrown forty or fifty feet into the air. The blast is said to have been a perfect success and that where was formerly twelve feet of water there will now be thirty.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 9.—In the running and trotting races between Golden Gate and Goldsmith Made, the latter won in 2:19. Gato's time was 2:22.

The Pacific mail steamer China has been attached at the instance of the Panama Railroad Co. Interesting developments are expected if the trial comes off.

CAMP GRANT, Arizona, April 10.—Mr. Ochoa came in last night, and reports the capture of a number of Indians of two station keepers, Rogers and Spence, at Sulphur Springs, twenty-six miles from Camp Bowie. About 18 of these Indians left the reservation and went in the direction of San Pedro and Tres Almas, claiming to be proscribes, Agent Jofers and Agent Henley, with company A, 6th cavalry, have gone in pursuit. Capt. Madden, with his company, has gone to Tres Almas. The renegade Indians are under the leadership of Deleagador Eskengali, who are both missing from the reservation, and it is presumed they have gone towards Sonora; but little trouble is anticipated.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 10.—The action of the merchant in regard to trade dollars is causing a marked "appreciation" in silver coin. Silver half dollars are quoted by brokers at 63½¢ (77½¢ per cent. discount). The amount of subsidiary silver coin in circulation in the city has been greatly reduced of late, owing to the lock-up process of bank depositors, who are unwilling to sell, except at a profit. In the business portion of the city trade dollars are refused as a general thing, while other silver coin is freely accepted.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 11.—The value of the Virginia and British coins to be sold at auction at an early day. Her turf came in, the tendons of her fore legs being strained beyond cure.

SUMMARY OF STATE NEWS.

Corvallis is being resurveyed. Linn county has 74 school houses. Portland has 40 Smiths, 24 Browns and 15 Johnsons. 3,425 acres have been sown in grain in Yoncola valley. The farmers of Douglas county are done seeding for the season. \$18,000 is the amount of unliquidated tax in Multnomah county. \$1,500 has been voted to build new school house at Canyonville. The road from Nehalem to Astoria is blocked up with fallen timber. Fare will be reduced on the railroads from the 1st to the 11th of July. Cuyotes are making themselves fresh in Polk county. The Salem Oil Mills have closed down on night work, on account of scarcity of stock. Charles Christie, living south of Portland, fell from a wagon on Saturday and broke his leg. Mart. Brown will go to the Centennial Jubilee at Portland. Gov. Grover has appointed P. W. Gillet a notary public for Multnomah county. Very little planting has been done in Jackson county. The daily Astorian is expected to make its appearance about the 1st of May. There are 1,175 signatures to an anti-Chinese petition in a store in Portland. A Corvallis saloon keeper named Hittington died suddenly last week. The Astorian says it is rumored that the O. S. W. Co. is having built in the East a 1,300 ton ship, designed for the Oregon grain trade.

Matt. Bledsoe, a well known character in this State, was shot and killed in a saloon a few weeks ago, in Arizona. According to the *Journal*, Lafayette has female pugilists, and they are on it, too. Morse, the manager of the Fanny Marston troupe, has been in Limbo again at Sacramento, for not settling bills. The Northern Pacific Coal Mining Company, of Coos county will most likely be forced into bankruptcy by its creditors in California. The ladies of Albany have raised \$50 to buy a banner for Linn Engine Co. No. 2, of that city. The April number of the *Evening Monthly* comes to hand, filled with matter of interest to all.

The Salem *Mercury* is going to publish a black list of its subscribers who have stopped their paper and failed to pay for it. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Barnhart, of Butteville, celebrated their golden wedding on the 25th ult. The propeller, Jane West, which sunk at Astoria on the night of the 24, was raised on the 31 Inst., not much damaged. One of the contracting parties having the mumps prevented a marriage in Yamhill county last week. The remains of a man, supposed to be one of the victims of the recent Tillamook disaster, was found on the beach at Fort Stevens, last week. The residence of Mr. J. H. Mosier, 14 miles below the Dalles, was destroyed by fire last week. Loss \$2,000. Four valuable horses were crippled in Yamhill county last week, by falling on harrows. The citizens of Eugene City wore out on the 1st of April, throwing pebbles at a decoy grouse, sitting on a lotusop.

The civil docket for the May term of court in Coos county is the largest ever had there. Salmon fisheries on the Columbia will be in full blast by the middle of the month. No interest is taken in school matters over at Coos Bay. The *News* says the people take more interest in a dog fight. Gov. Grover has accepted an invitation to be present at the Centennial Jubilee at Portland on the Fourth of July. The steamer Messenger was burned at Coos Bay last week. She burned down to her main deck, but her boiler and engines are uninjured. Loss \$3,500. Four entries have been made for the post stakes for running two-year-olds at the State fair for 1876, and one for the trotting premium. The premiums offered for these races are \$500, and open only for colts and fillies bred in Oregon. The entries for these premiums close May 1st. There is a Scotsman near Lebanon who speaks twelve different languages fluently. He gets his living by peddling butter, eggs and vegetables. A bridge builder, of California, will be in Salem in the course of a few weeks, and make the citizens of Marion and Polk counties a proposition to build a bridge across the Willamette river at Salem.

Mr. Golden, who lives near the mouth of Looking Glass, Douglas county, proposes to engage extensively in the culture of broom-corn, the coming season. His crop is already engaged at \$100 per ton. The *Messenger*, Polk county, says everything in the shape of horse flesh is now called into requisition for the purpose of turning over the tarry sod. Many an acre ought to be sown between this and May 1st. Jeremiah Barklow, a mill hand, was accidentally killed at Coquille, on the 27th ult. He was hauling logs up the slip when the dogs flew out and struck him on the head, causing death in a few hours. Mr. P. T. Hosford, of Polk county, had his horse stolen at Zena while attending a temperance lecture last Thursday evening. The State Board of Education has granted a State life diploma to Mr. Syl. C. Simpson, entitling him to teach in any public school in the State during his life, unless revoked for immoral or other unprofessional conduct.