

THE ENTERPRISE.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, MAY 26, 1876.

Democratic Investigations and Republican Candidates.

It is a stormy path which Presidential candidates have to trace these days. Though "as chaste as ice and as pure as snow," yet shall they "not escape calumny." But most, not all however, fall short of that ideal purity which Hamlet referred to in his homily to Ophelia. By going back far enough their enemies seem to find some slip or flaw in their record, a highly embellished account of which doesn't read well in an era like the present, when reform is being made the test of both parties and men. But politicians like Morton and Blaine who have been in training so long for the Presidential course, should have avoided crooked, or seemingly crooked, acts as credulously as a pugilist avoids over-indulgence in eating or drinking when training for a fight. Not only should they, from the moment they began to cherish this fatal ambition, have assumed a virtue though they had it not, but they should also have thoroughly covered up the tracks of all former lapses by conciliating the custodians of awkward secrets. Perhaps they have, but both are being compelled to do a deal of explaining. Morton has been dimly discernible in the background of the whisky ring investigations, and there is a prevalent impression that it has required extraordinary exertions to prevent positive evidence coming out showing that he received large amounts of money from the ring, ostensibly for political purposes. But lately the doughty showman of the ensanguined linen was charged with failing to account properly for the moneys handled by him as Governor of Indiana during the war. That is going back a long way to obtain matter with which to confound a candidate, but we must give Morton credit for being prompt and energetic in his denials and that he has cleared himself. Blaine comes up to the investigation scratch slowly, and not "smiling," to use a P. R. expression. His answer to the Harrison charges, when it came, seemed pretty conclusive, but he did not manifest a consuming desire to have the House institute a searching inquiry. There are indications now however that the House will get to the bedrock of the matter as an investigation is on foot at the present writing. Mr. Blaine is certain to have an opportunity to vindicate himself before this investigation committee, if he can, and it is not worth while to speculate as to the result. It will be well for the Republican party if the Democrats shall bring forward all their damaging revelations promptly so as to kill off the vulnerable candidates before the Cincinnati Convention entrusts any of them with the leadership in the national contest. They might inflict a cruel and perhaps ruinous blow by withholding their worst facts until after the nomination has been made, and then exploding a mine directly under a nominee. Let the Republicans thank the Democrats for their timely investigations.

The Obstinate Witness.

The decision of Judge Carter in the Kilbourn case will be a disappointment to sanguine Democrats who looked for a revelation of secrets from the accounts of the Real Estate Ring, and will perhaps have a serious effect upon other investigations now pending. But the power of both houses to enforce answers to the questions of their investigation committees has been ill-defined, and while in some cases it has proved insufficient to sustain the dignity of Congress, in others there has been a tendency to push it to dangerous lengths. It was time to have it accurately laid down and circumscribed. The law, as is now judicially interpreted, deprives Congress of the right to imprison for refusal to answer pertinent questions, and leaves the inflictions of punishment to the courts of law, making it the business of the courts to decide what a pertinent question is, and limiting the penalties to a moderate fine and a moderate term of imprisonment. Witnesses in important cases may be encouraged in obstinacy by this restriction of the punishment, but it is better that investigations should sometimes fail than that the personal liberty of the citizens should be at the discretion of a non-judicial assemblage inflamed with the passions of partisanship.

Crop Prospects.

Notwithstanding the fears entertained by many of our oldest farmers in the early part of the season that this would be a poor year for grain, on account of the late plowing and seeding, reports now come in from all parts of the State that as much—and in many cases more—wheat has been sown this spring as ever before, and that the crops universally give promise of a large harvest. From the Reporter we learn that some wheat in Yamhill county is already four feet high, which in itself is enough to dispel any ideas of a famine from a backward season. The crop prospects now are that we will have enough surplus grain next fall to feed all Great Britain.

Sunday and the Centennial.

By recent telegrams from Philadelphia we learn that there is a strong probability that the exhibition will be closed on Sundays, and we hope the Centennial Commission will adhere to this sensible resolution. It may be said in favor of keeping open this exhibition on Sundays that the admission fees which might be collected from Sunday visitors will be needed to meet the cost of the undertaking, which is perhaps true; and further that many working people, whose occupations require their exclusive attention on week days, will find it difficult to visit the Exhibition at all unless it be kept open on Sundays. On the other hand it is no doubt a fact that the moral sense of a large majority of the better citizens of the Republic would be shocked if the Exhibition should be kept open on "the day of rest," and furthermore we should thereby place ourselves in the position of setting up a poor imitation of the European Sunday on the soil of the Republic, where the seventh day of the week is not a gala day nor merely a day of rest, but distinctly a day of religious worship. No financial or social considerations should be allowed to outweigh these reasons for preserving Sunday as a day of rest in Philadelphia during the Centennial, the same as now in Oregon City. If there is a deficit in the funds of the Exhibition it can be made good in some better way than this, and we have no doubt that the mechanics and manual laborers of the country will be able to make arrangements to visit Fairmount Park on a week day; printers can always find "subs," why can't other workmen? At all events we have a few things in our social arrangements to show to our foreign visitors more characteristic than our Sunday, and we ought to take a national pride in exhibiting it in its purity as a day of rest and religious observance.

The Senate and Belknap.

The argument has already commenced, and by our next issue will probably have been finished, on the question of the Senate's jurisdiction in the Belknap case. Nobody cares especially what becomes of Belknap individually, but the Senate, which ever way it decides, will make a precedent, the consequences of which cannot be foreseen. It may be regarded now as an open question in this country. According to English precedent it is, but the circumstances here are somewhat different and the judgment of the Senate now will determine the question in this country. Nor can the importance of the question be overlooked. If the Senate dismiss this complaint it will leave Congress no way to reach a corrupt official who may have retired or been allowed to resign before the discovery of his malfeasance, no way of ascertaining his guilt and passing a formal judgment upon him. On the other hand, if the Senate determine to try Belknap, it will open the way to impeachment of any retired official, no matter how long he may have been out of office—since two hours, in such a case, is as good as two years, or twenty—and not only the United States Senate, but the Senate of every State may have its hands full, trying the innumerable host who have gone out under fire in recent years. The question is thus a very serious one, and the Senate will need to bring to its consideration all the learning, the thought and the logical judgment of which it is possessed.

Second the Motion!

The Albany Democrat makes a suggestion to the different newspapers of Oregon, outside of Portland, that they suspend publication during Centennial week in order to attend the big celebration at Portland, and wants all those in favor to signify the same by saying "aye." Put the ENTERPRISE down for two "ayes," and not black ones either. We think the "scheme" a good one, and feel satisfied that our patrons will not begrudge the over-worked printer one little holiday. To farmers and others who are at liberty to enjoy "God's free air," this suggestion of the Democrat's may appear rather un-called for, but to the printer, who stands tied to the "case" day in and day out, any proposition that will give him a free foot, if only for a few hours, is invariably hailed with enthusiasm and pleasure. The ENTERPRISE seconds the Democrat's motion.

BELKNAP'S IMPEACHMENT.— Dispatches of the 23d indicate that the Senate will decide against jurisdiction in the Belknap impeachment case. Many Democratic Senators will vote against this jurisdiction. Secretary Chandler gave out that if the Senate decided in favor of jurisdiction he would take immediate steps toward the impeachment of Thompson, who was Buchanan's Secretary of the Interior and who got away with some \$700,000 of the public money for which he has never accounted. The probability of similar proceedings against Thompson may not be without weight with Democratic Senators in making up their decision in the Belknap case. Senator Edmunds appears to lead in favor of jurisdiction, and Conkling in opposition. Senator Mitchell made an argument in favor of jurisdiction.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 1, 76.

During the opening scenes of the Belknap impeachment trial the attendance of spectators was not very large nor the interest manifested, as evidenced by public opinion, very encouraging for those engaged in its prosecution. Friday last, however, proved an exception to the seemingly general rule, and long before the hour for calling the Senate to order had arrived the galleries were filled with a vast throng of eager sight-seers, assembled to listen to the anxiously expected arguments for a defense, which Dame Rumor had decreed should be the special order of business for that day. Accordingly actuated by this common notion, your correspondent found his footsteps led irresistibly thither and after a few mishaps "rove to" in one of the galleries aforesaid, prepared to enjoy and to do justice to the forthcoming proceedings.

It is seldom that a more picturesque scene was to be witnessed in the Chamber than that which saluted the visitor's eye on this pleasant April morning. The ladies' gallery on the south side of the room was packed closely with the beauty and fashion of the Capital, and the bright colors of their toilets formed a brilliant setting to the sober and rather sombre appearance of the Senate floor. The other galleries were mostly occupied by gentlemen, with here and there a sprinkling of the "softer sex," thus forming a tout ensemble which was both pleasing to the eye and suggestive to the mind of the thoughtful spectator.

The Senators were nearly all in attendance at an early hour, and presidential candidates (in future well represented. Roscoe Conkling's tall and well-built form first waltzed into our field of vision. His sunny curls hung in ringlets about his fair face, and a sandy mustache and beard completed the picture. He has a jaunty way about him, dear to the feminine heart, and when he speaks a bewitching frown, accompanied by a graceful wave of the hand, magnetizes the fair occupants of the ladies' gallery and renders him their cynosure upon the floor. Near him rested the stern featured Morton of Indiana, whose whole countenance and bearing betoken the presence of a giant will and tenacity of purpose which bid defiance to opposition and scorn to defeat. Bayard's tall form reclined on a convenient settee, while near him stood Senator Thurman of Ohio, whose caustic wit is only excelled by his good humor. Surrounded by a mass of uncombed gray hair and beard, is a face which at first glance would appear repulsive were it not for the good natured cast of features and known mental power of its possessor. The remaining Senators occupied their customary desks and busied themselves generally, until the Sergeant-at-Arms made his customary proclamation, and the body became for the once a high court of impeachment.

The defendant, his counsel, and the managers on the part of the House having entered, the dignified Mr. Lord, of the latter, arose and amid a deep silence proceeded slowly and with seeming difficulty to read a paper stating that the question of jurisdiction would soon be open for discussion, but first requested the filing of an answer by the defense to the charges and specifications as now before the court.

Upon the conclusion of the Senior Manager's somewhat labored effort, Mat. Carpenter, of the counsel for the defense, rose and began with polished and graceful diction to review the case, concluding, much to the surprise of all present, by moving the postponement of all further proceedings until December next. This strange request was totally unexpected, and the Speaker's closing words were lost in the buzz of whispered astonishment which ensued.

Profiting by this forcible inauguration, Judge Black came to the front, and for more than an hour treated the audience to an argument delivered in the great advocate's happiest strain. But cogent and impressive as were the reasons urged for the delay, it was evident that the remarks fell on unheeding ears. The attempt to convince the Senate as a body that it was unable under existing excitement to give the defendant a fair and impartial trial, was, of course, a hopeless one; and accordingly the adverse action of that body upon the motion was received with almost universal satisfaction, and met with the warm approval of all who were friends of justice and enemies to subterfuge and chicanery.

Aside from the Belknap trial nothing of a startling nature has occurred to vary the monotony of every-day life in Washington. Legislative matters have been reasonably active. The bill transferring the care of the Indians to the War Department has passed the House of Representatives, and it remains to be seen whether the Senate will confirm its action. On the score of economy and integrity it is contended that the appropriation intended for the benefit of the red man will be more honestly disbursed; and that the reputation of a military officer, upon the preservation of which his livelihood depends, will form a guaranty for the faithful performance of this trust which has of late been as often disregarded. Advocates of the peace policy, of course, antagonize the transfer under the false impression that it will necessitate warlike operations—a by no means necessary consequence. On the contrary, the humanizing and christianizing influence inaugurated by the peace commission can all the more effectually be applied under the new system, and the transaction in its form that long sought for solution of our vexed Indian problem, while the experiment, at least, can be no worse than the continuation of the plan now in vogue.

Re concluding, one word as to a wonderful exhibition gain frontier spirit, which the representative of the Extramaris was fortunate enough to witness a few days since, and which bespeaks a brilliant opening for our second century of invention and progress. Obedient to instructions, between two and three hundred persons assembled at the Navy Yard some morning last week, to witness the exhibition performances of a new engine of marine warfare known as the "Lay Torpedo." Repairing to the water's edge, where seats had been arranged for the visitors, we found the object of our interest, probably 16 feet long, resting upon the broad bosom of the Potomac, and connected with an old hulk on the shore by two insulated telegraph wires. While watching and waiting, engaged in the vain attempt to ascertain the object some idea of its mission on earth, we perceived a faint movement as if of returning life and soon the gigantic cigar started off noiselessly down the river, leaving us behind at the rate of twelve knots per hour. Something like a mile distant, it gracefully turned in its course, evidently following a perfect guidance, partly retraced its track, left its path so as to approach within a safe distance of the hulk and then seemingly exploded with terrific effort, throwing up the water in immense volumes. A few moments later, our mysterious engine of warfare soon emerged and resumed its wonted place of rest, while the astonished spectators sought headquarters for information. Of the secret of its machinery, little is known. It can be controlled in the water by means of a magnetic guide accurately as a horse, sent to the distance of three or four miles, and exploded at any moment. The motor is said to be carbonic acid gas, while the guidance and regulation of the machinery and the final explosion are effected by an ordinary electric battery.

The effect of such an invention upon naval warfare can be better imagined than described. The terrible Bremerhaven explosion with its frightful destruction of life and property would be a mere trifling affair if it were not for the fact that the torpedo-boat is capable of carrying from two to three hundred pounds of the same powerful explosive.

Should this new engine prove what is promised—and judging by its first exhibition one can scarcely doubt the fact—it will revolutionize maritime warfare would be completely revolutionized; our harbors would be made imapproachable in time of war; the enormous outlays for sea coast defense would become things of the past, and peace might flow from the possession of power. R. M. D.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.
WASHINGTON, May 20.—Bills were introduced and referred as follows: By Kelly, of Oregon, for the relief of certain claimants under the donation land law of Oregon, approved Sept. 23, 1850; referred to the committee on public lands. By Mitchell, of Oregon, to establish post-routes from Astoria to Fort Clatsop, and from Silver Lake to Pineville, Or.; referred to the committee on post-office and post roads.

Patterson presented the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of commerce, remonstrating against the removal of the duty on rice, as provided for in the Hawaiian treaty; referred to the committee on finance.

Mitchell, of Oregon, called up the Senate bill for the relief of M. B. Tyler and E. H. Luckett, with the message of the President, and the same. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the persons named \$174, money wrongfully collected in the second district of Kentucky, as tax for keeper of bonded warehouse. The question being "Shall the bill pass?" the yeas standing the objections of the President?" it was determined in the affirmative. Ayes 49, nays none.

The Senate went into secret session on the question of jurisdiction in the impeachment matter. The House took the floor and spoke in opposition to the Senate taking jurisdiction in the case.

At 5:55 P. M., before reaching any decision, the doors were reopened, and the Senate adjourned until Monday.

Sherman presented the petition of A. M. Clapp, Congressional printer, to the effect that he is an officer of the Senate; that great injustice has been done him by the committee on printing in the House of Representatives; that the books of his office are detained from him by that committee; and that no opportunity was given him for an explanation of the charges before that committee. Sherman moved that it be referred to the committee on privileges and elections, with instructions to inquire into the truth of the allegations. So referred.

When the Senate resumed the consideration of the articles of impeachment, Barnum, the new Senator from Connecticut, was sworn in as a member of the court. The discussion on the question of jurisdiction was continued, and Mitchell made a lengthy argument in favor of it. He was followed by Logan in opposition.

HOUSE.
May 20.—The House passed a resolution offered by Hon. of Massachusetts, requiring corporations or persons having claims or business before House committees, and who are represented by counsel or other persons, to file with the clerk of the House evidence showing that such persons have authority to represent them. This is a direct blow at lobbyists, and will save the members from being annoyed by them.

The House whether he has received any official information with regard to violence and danger menacing American citizens in Ottoman provinces, and whether any steps had been taken for the protection of such Americans, and requesting him to take measures to insure such protection to American citizens; adopted.

Page offered a resolution, which was tabled by a party vote, declaring that the power to elect a President had never been delegated to the House of Representatives.

A resolution was adopted dismissing Fitzhugh, doorkeeper, and transferring the duties of doorkeeper to the sergeant-at-arms until further orders.

The House went into committee of the whole on the appropriation bill.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.
Eastern.
BOSTON, May 20.—Hon. Newton Morse, of Nantucket, successor of the former Winslow, from the south senatorial district of Massachusetts, has fled, having appropriated \$30,000 of the town funds of Nantucket. He is said to have squandered large sums at Faro.

Owen Marlowe, the well-known actor is dead.

NEW YORK, May 21.—Charles Francis Adams has been selected by the centennial committee of this city for orator on the Fourth of July, 1876.

PHILADELPHIA, May 21.—The number of paying visitors at the Centennial yesterday was 17,000. A mass meeting in favor of opening the exhibition grounds on Sunday will be held to night.

The weather continues warm and pleasant. The visitors at the exhibition are estimated at 20,000 to 30,000. Large quantities of goods were brought in this morning, and several car loads, chiefly for Agricultural Hall. A portion of the goods in the furniture department were opened yesterday among them Mosiacs from the ruins of Carthage.

LOUISVILLE, May 21.—A Williamsburg special to the Courier Journal reports a serious railroad accident at Hinkston station, on the Marysville and Lexington road. A long span bridge gave way under the weight of the north bound train. The engineer discovered the bridge crumbling when one-fourth over. He attempted to return, but being unable turned on a full head of steam and succeeded in getting nearly over, when the engine and cars fell into the water below, the bridge tumbling on it, and thirty passengers were more or less injured.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—It is probable the report of the committee on Finance, and the efforts of the members. The Republicans are willing to censure Schenck severely and the Democrats do not accuse him of corrupt intentions.

Piper's earnest speech on the Chinese question has added to the impression upon Congress made by Schenck's efforts. He was especially effective in showing the helplessness of the California State authority to protect their people against the debasing and destructive evils, nominally imposed by imported coolies and criminals, and that there is no effectual remedy except by the modification of the Burlingame treaty.

It is reported that the sub-committee of Ways and Means investigation of the Alaska Commercial Company will report, sustaining the company and recommending that the contract be renewed, and also, that the Republicans will be contested in the full committee.

NEW YORK, May 20.—Jos. B. Stewart publishes a statement repeating his denial that Bland was ever in his office in Washington, or ever signed any Union Pacific bonds through him, or that he (Stewart) had ever any business transactions with Blaine of any kind whatever. He says Biddle's statements in regard to the matters are doubtless made in good faith, but that there is no object in Biddle referring to them (Stewart, and Hon. Geo. W. Chase, of New York).

Parker the California rider, is rapidly recovering his sight and is anxious to make another trial of endurance. He and the owner of the mustangs, is arranging for another match, which will probably come off some time next week.

Daniel Drew has been suffering from dysentery for some time past, and his physicians say his recovery probably will be completed in a few days, owing to extreme old age.

WASHINGTON, May 22.—The President sent to the Senate nominations of Pierrepont for Minister to England, John Taft for attorney general, and McDonald Cameron, son of Simon Cameron, for Secretary of War.

The nomination of Don Cameron for Secretary of War will be regarded as the selling price of Pennsylvania's vote for Conkling at the Cincinnati convention.

The President also sent to the Senate the following nominations: John P. Hoyt, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Arizona; John Pratt to be Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico; John J. Redick to be Associate Justice of the supreme court of New Mexico; James R. Hayden, Collector and Internal Revenue for Washington Territory.

The Senate in executive session confirmed the nominations of Pierrepont, Taft and Cameron.

SUMMARY OF STATE NEWS.

Cherries in the Portland market. Gov. Grover orates at Junction on the 27th.
Portland is afflicted with pick-pockets.
Only four candidates for sheriff in Jackson county.
J. W. Hill, of Lane county, has 1,500 acres of wheat in.
Magniere's minstrels of San Francisco will be in Portland next week.
500 head of steers were driven out of La Grande last week for Cheyenne.

The contract for a new school house at McMinnville has been let to Mr. Staples at \$2,675.
The editor of the Oregon Review has the mumps, but says he hasn't got it like some people have it.
Mr. Horne, of Jackson county, lost his team while fording Illinois river near Kerbyville last week.
Two young lads of Salem have been playing William Tell, and one of them has another hole in his nasal organ.
Joseph Mitchell, of Josephine county, having been adjudged insane was committed to the Insane Asylum last Friday.

E. C. Riggs, of Salem, has been arrested for forgery, and held in the sum of \$800 to await the action of the grand jury.
A Mr. Stanley, from Cape Guadalupe, Mo., is to take editorial charge of the Moomouth Messenger. He has our best wishes.
An ex-night watchman of Eugene and the editor of the Journal are getting on their muscles. We'll go our pile on the editor.

The new steam tug being constructed by Simpson Bros. at Knappa will be placed in service at the mouth of the Umpqua.
The losses of the insurance companies by the burning of the Salem woolen mills have been adjusted. The total amounts to \$59,720 23.
Mrs. Sarah Prentice, of Lafayette, fell into a kettle of boiling water the other day, and scalded her arms so as to cause the flesh to come off with the clothes.

Nelson B. Huse, heretofore asked for, was living at Yaquina Bay last summer, and is probably there now. Direct letter to Newport, or Toledo, Benton county, Oregon.
Work has been commenced on the bridge across the Willamette at Eugene City. It will be a Smith patent truss and will have a clear span of 240 feet between spans.
Livestock at Dallas are running a lively opposition. One of them took a passenger to McMinnville the other day free of charge and paid his hotel bill for all the privilege of carrying him.

Information of Willard Mitchell's death, He, between the age of 50 and 60 years, and is supposed to be living in Eastern Oregon. His wife, Nancy E. Mitchell, of Athens, Ill., is anxious to learn from him.
The total expense of schools to the people of Wasco county for the year, including three new school houses, was \$8,123 48, and the surplus funds in the hands of district clerk on the 1st of March was \$2,140 63.

W. S. Newbury and Le P. A. Shaw, nominees on the Republican ticket for Multnomah county for Representatives, have declined, and the county committee nominated Hon. J. M. Scott and Hon. W. W. Cornell to fill such vacancies.
Maria Mathews, an inmate of the insane asylum at East Portland escaped from that institution on the night of the 18th, and committed suicide by drowning in the asylum pond. The deceased was a widow from Lane county, and had been an inmate of the asylum since the 15th of February.

We are informed that the Oregon and California Railroad Company will issue an early day a new freight tariff on the line for next season's crop. It is generally understood that the new schedule will show the maximum tariff, but not the minimum.—Roseburg Plaindealer, 20th instant.

The following is the democratic ticket of Josephine county: For State Senator, Dr. L. Green; Representative, W. W. Fuller, Commissioners, J. E. Seyferth, John Wells; County Clerk, Chas. Hughes; Sheriff, T. G. Patterson; Treasurer, Wm. Nance; Assessor, Jas. Lewis; School Superintendent, J. M. Smith; Surveyor, Wm. Sandlers; Coroner, G. S. Mathewson.

S. B. Catterlin, who has just arrived from Tillamook, brings some rather startling intelligence, the death-bed confession of one Chas. Bean, who died on his ranch, about two miles below the toll-gate on Trask river road, in that county, six weeks ago. To his partner, who with him was keeping a hachet on the place, he confessed the murder of several parties, as well as to being an accomplice in many robberies. He acknowledges killing a man, wife and child on the plains several years ago, and also to having a hand in the Howard murder, in Tillamook, a few years since. At his request, the hearthstone of the fireplace was removed and a large bunch of keys destroyed. A valuable breech-loading rifle was exhumed from his garden plot, by his direction, which he desired thrown into the river. He says himself that a lot of valuable goods were secreted on a mountain near his house, supposed to be the contents of Hatcher's store, which was rifled a few months since. He has always been a suspicious character, and during the few years there has been a close watch, but no evidence could be established against him. His story is credited by his neighbors, and his death is a relief to the peaceably inclined citizens of that county. More developments are promised in a few days.