

WEEKLY STATESMAN

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A story is going the rounds to the effect that the promoters of an American charity wrote to Mr. Gladstone asking him to subscribe something. The grand old man wrote a courteous declination to come down. The society immediately put up the letter for sale to the autograph maniacs and got a goodly sum for it in lieu of the expected small subscription. This is a hint to all great people. Give 'em your autograph for charity.

WATERBORN of the Louisville Courier Journal would have the democratic party of this great country blazon upon all its campaign banners, "Give us free trade, or give us death!" The doxyguy Henri should possess his fiery soul in patience yet a little while. Republicans do not deal in the first named medicine, but by the fall of 1888, if nothing happens, their stock of death will be full enough and complete enough to satisfy all the democrats spared by the war.

THE Dakotans are pretty angry because Mr. Cleveland had nothing to say in his message about their admission or their exclusion from the union. The president had evidently forgotten all about the new state that was knocking for admission. From the democratic standpoint however, that no state must ever be admitted that would add to the republican strength in congress and in the electoral college there isn't anything to say that will bear inspection, and hence Mr. Cleveland did the best he knew how by saying nothing.

If a great war in Europe breaks out the United States will not be in condition to occupy the dignified position of "armed neutrality" and will have to slide along on the sea between the belligerents the best she may. It was Mr. Bayard, the present secretary of state, that about three years ago when his republican colleagues in the senate were pleading for a navy, said from his seat: "We give you notice that not a dollar shall be spent in the building of a navy until the government is in the hands of the democratic party." It is singular that the country did not wake up to the fact that Bayard was a consummate ass until the democratic party was actually in power with him pretty nearly on top.

A good deal of a row is being made over Mr. Cleveland's appointment of one Morton of Maine as commissioner of navigation. He is said to know nothing of navigation. This is a common fault of the appointees of this administration. He is said to be the fellow who trumped up the gravestone and other charges against Mr. Blaine. That is hardly worth talking about. He is too small game for a presidential candidate. It is a mistake for the friends of Senator Blaine to cry about the appointment on that account. Mr. Blaine not having been elected on account of some outside squabbles concerning prohibition, etc., his political wisdom now would consist in letting the administration appoint his enemies to office as much as it pleases.

"I HAVE just been reading Henry George's book on the land question," said a thoughtful professional man to a Chicago Journal reporter, "and its vagaries only show how possible it is for a man to be a good writer, an extensive reader and a brilliant thinker, and yet be devoid of good judgment and common sense, and indeed, be a fool. His panacea for the ills of life is a tax on land which shall equal the value of the land. He cannot see that this tax would come out of the tenant, instead of the landlord, just as the present tax does. He can't see that if this should work as he thinks it would, land would be worth nothing to the landlords, and then the tax would be nothing also. He can't see that, if his scheme worked all right, no one would build any houses. He can't see what a field for enterprising appraisers would be opened, if all the land had to be rented from the government, and the rent be fixed, and rival applicants decide between. He can't see what an immense law business the government would have on its hands with its tenants. He doesn't say whether the government would rent by the month, the year or five years, nor how much land one person might rent, nor whether a person might sub-let any of his premises. He doesn't tell how men would become just as rich and powerful through extensive leaseholds as they do now through the ownership of lands. In short, Henry George is a visionary and a fool, and I predict that the labor party will find it out inside of two years."

We wish you, one and all, a happy and prosperous New Year.

TO HOME SEEKERS.

To the resident of the states east of the Rockies, who is subject to the extremes of heat and cold in summer and winter, and who lives in constant dread of the playful caprices of the elements, to the people of the crowded east this state presents an inviting field for immigration. Blessed with a climate that is rarely equaled in any country, and with a soil that returns generous harvests for the pains of well-directed industry, there are yet opportunities open for home-seekers and home-builders and men of small means; and also splendid chances for the profitable investment of capital. It is an axiom, that "crops never fail in Oregon." We want more men of push and enterprise and pluck and prudence and such will be encouraged and do well here. We have enough of the indigent, idle and shiftless, and this should not be construed as an invitation to that class.

If Salem advances as much during the new year as she did in 1886, she will do exceedingly well. She should advance even more.

A HAPPY and prosperous New Year to all!

DON'T write it with a 6 any longer.

TURN over a new leaf for 1887.

SWEAR off.

THE NEW YEAR.

The bells tolled the knell of the departing year of 1886 at midnight, and we greet you now on the first morning of the New Year. As the last year of time is buried in the graveyard of eternity, so let us bury the unpleasant memories of the old year in the cemetery of forgetfulness, and recall only the good deeds, the pleasant scenes, the gracious acts, the kind words, and store them away in the receptacles of our memory, there to reflect upon our minds thoughts of gratitude and satisfaction. Let us also learn lessons from the teachings of past experience, and make the resolutions on this day for a better future, for the exercise of our abilities and talents and resources in a wider scope of usefulness and advancement and progress. Now, standing as it were upon an eminence between the valleys of the past and the future, is an appropriate time to gather new energies from the inspiration of past successes and form them into new ambitions for the future. Standing upon this hypothetical eminence that divides the valley of the past from the valley of the future, we can see the field of opportunities of the past well worked and occupied; but on the other hand the field of the future is new and the opportunities for its development are yet open and ready for the plowshare of enterprise and pluck, and will yield bountiful harvests to the industrious and prudent. In this country there is no aristocracy of opportunities. It is a democracy that recognizes and rewards ability, energy, prudence, and persistence; and it don't ask your pedigree, if you combine these qualities with honesty.

The past year has been an eventful one for Salem and generally a prosperous one for this section. We have grown and advanced. We have extended the arms of our influence and broadened the field of our constituency. We have aroused and awakened the latent energies of our people. We have attained our resources to the instruments of progress, and we have advanced in all the material requisites that go to make up a healthful growth.

About \$325,000 has been put into buildings and improvements in the limits of Salem during the year 1886, and the forces of advancement have not halted. Our population has increased and kept time with the steady tread of progress. All that Salem now needs to insure her rapid growth is the establishment of manufacturing industries in our midst. We have every other requisite for the building up of a great city. Every social advantage may be found here, and Salem is preeminently the residence city of the state. She is the capital city of Oregon, and has the advantage of all the public buildings and institutions of this great and growing state. We cannot afford to yield any of the vantage ground already gained. There is no middle ground of progress. There is no standstill. We must either go on and on in the line of progress or give way to some more enterprising rival. The more we do the more we are able to do. While we are progressing and advancing, let us not halt nor falter, but speed our growth with the added strength already acquired. All Salem wants is the united efforts of her citizens, the concentration of her enterprise. She has her future in her own hands, and she alone will be to blame if she does not grow and develop and increase and extend her influence.

The STATESMAN has been kindly treated by the old year. Its circulation has grown steadily and its business constantly increased. It has made good returns for the untiring industry required in its publication, and starts off the year 1887 with brighter prospects than ever before. It will be the constant endeavor to keep the paper fully abreast the advancement of the times, and to make it all its patronage will permit, with a fixed determination to extend its field.

We wish you, one and all, a happy and prosperous New Year.

TO HOME SEEKERS.

To the resident of the states east of the Rockies, who is subject to the extremes of heat and cold in summer and winter, and who lives in constant dread of the playful caprices of the elements, to the people of the crowded east this state presents an inviting field for immigration. Blessed with a climate that is rarely equaled in any country, and with a soil that returns generous harvests for the pains of well-directed industry, there are yet opportunities open for home-seekers and home-builders and men of small means; and also splendid chances for the profitable investment of capital. It is an axiom, that "crops never fail in Oregon." We want more men of push and enterprise and pluck and prudence and such will be encouraged and do well here. We have enough of the indigent, idle and shiftless, and this should not be construed as an invitation to that class.

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RETROSPECTIVE.

One year ago this morning, January 1st, 1886, the STATESMAN published the following editorial. It will be observed that Salem now has every thing demanded in that article, except the woolen mill. She still wants the woolen mill, with a fruit cannery, and all other manufacturing institutions that can find business here and give employment to labor. Let 1887 be the year for the inauguration of manufacturing enterprises. Read what was said one year ago to-day:

WHAT SALEM WANTS.

Salem wants a woolen mill! not a carding machine! not a carpet loom! not a knitting machine; but a good every-day woolen mill, with all the latest machinery and appliances, and with sufficient capital and competent management to carry on a large business and employ many laborers. We should like for home capital to have the credit of owning all or the controlling interests in such an institution, but we would not object to foreign capital in case those men at home with means do not move in the premises.

Salem wants a bridge across the Willamette. We want the said bridge built by the counties of Marion and Polk, and the city of Salem, with perhaps help from private subscribers. We may not get such a bridge this year, but we will some time in the future. When it is built we want a free bridge, that will unite the two sides of the Willamette river, and practically break the natural barrier that now separates us from the other side.

Salem wants Willson Avenue and Marion Square taken care of, and preserved and improved for unborn generations.

Salem wants a boom! not a wild, untamed, cyclonic boom, with extravagant figures and estimates on everything; but a steady, growing and substantial boom, that will infuse the breath of progress into our very existence, and gradually push us on to a busy bustling manufacturing city, furnishing work to hundreds of contented employes and a living market for all the products of the surrounding country. Salem wants the freedom of the city hereafter denied to the vandal bores that have been a standing menace to householders, and a lasting disgrace to the spirit of progress that should actuate us. Salem wants her cow pasture relegated to the memories of the time when she wore the swaddling clothes of a village.

All these things and many more Salem wants. She wants them soon, and wants them to be consummated or inaugurated with the current year; if not all possible in this year, then in some future year or years.

NOUNS AND VERBS.

The tendency of American newspapers to take unwarrantable liberties with certain nouns is one of the most unsatisfactory features of contemporary journalism. To turn a defenceless noun into an aggressive verb is an act as lawless as it is unpunishable. When a reporter asserts that "John Smith suicided" he makes his meaning clear, but he shocks the nerves of those conservatives who base their English on dictionary precedent. "Interview" used as a verb is another outcome of journalistic independence. But even the two words cited are by no means the most striking illustrations of the tendency referred to. A western paper says that one of its subscribers "Thanksgave" at home. Shades of Noah Webster, what a word! It is on a par with another provincialism which sometimes shocks the nerves in such a sentence as the following: "James X—and his brother Sundayed in town." The list of these vagabond verbs might be indefinitely extended, but the above will suffice.

It seems to be a characteristic of our people to take the shortest road to the goal of their desires. The process of turning nouns into verbs is one of the most effective methods of making one word serve the purpose of two or three. But is elegance to be sacrificed for so petty an object? It is an undoubted fact that the English language is the most flexible now spoken, but there is a point beyond which philological liberties become vulgarities. Let the noun-disturbing journalists of America ponder deeply on this truth, and there may come a time when we shall hear no more of the men who "Thanksgave" or "Sundayed."

As a common country lawyer, a man can sweep out his own office, carry in his coal and wait upon himself like other white men, but transfer him to congress in an unguarded hour, and it costs the people more to hire and pay a step-and-fetch-it for him than the salary of a bank president comes to. Especially is this so with reference to senators. The estimates for clerks, messengers and waiters of all kinds in the senate amount to nearly \$350,000, or about \$4,500 for each senator for being waited upon during the six or eight months congress is in session. Of course these little items count and help to swell the enormous expenses of government; but people who kick are cranks. The estimates for the coming year under "reform" rule tell us that it will cost about \$1,000,000 a day, not including Sundays, to engineer this great country. Figure on your part of it and then squeal if you want to.

On February 1st the Boston navy-yard is to be closed, for the very good reason that there is no necessity for keeping it open. There is no desire to discriminate against Boston in the act, but there is a general feeling that we have a large amount of yard to a very small amount of navy, and that there ought to be a closer fitness of things.

For a nice plate of oysters, in any style, call at Chas. Heinenbrand's.

MR. MANNING'S CERTIFICATES.

Mr. Manning, our new minister to Mexico, has procured and published certificates that he did not get drunk at a breakfast given to him at that capital, and afterward disturb his neighbors by having an attack of delirium tremens.

In a letter accompanying the certificates Mr. Manning explains that it was a midday breakfast of a very serious character. The party at table consisted of only two gentlemen, besides his host and himself, and so far from there having been any hilarity, the conversation throughout was grave and improving. It was about the industrial development of Mexico, and "I gained," says the minister, "a mass of valuable and interesting information that I could not have obtained from books." Wine was drunk, but in moderation. Subsequently he was confined to his room with a cold and pneumonia.

In proof that he did not misbehave himself at the breakfast Mr. Manning produces the certificate of one of his fellow guests, an American, that "he was not in the least under the influence of wine." The chief of the dining room of his hotel "kindly tendered his statement" that the minister "was never under the influence of liquor or wine while here, and drank very little of either." A man who occupied the room next to his at the hotel certifies that he never heard any unusual noise in Mr. Manning's apartment, such as, presumably, would have been made by a victim of delirium tremens. Finally, a physician testifies that the minister suffered from pneumonia aggravated by a cold room.

But is it not strange that a diplomatic representative should find it necessary to procure such certificates?

THE "KEADY LAW."

It seems that the "Keady liquor law" is to be a source of never ending litigation. The bill for the law was first introduced in the house, it will be remembered, when it read, section 1, "that no person shall be permitted to sell spirituous, malt, or vinous liquor in this state in quantities less than one gallon, without having first obtained a license from the county court of the proper county for that purpose." It is now claimed that the records of the senate will show that the bill was amended so as to read "in quantities less than one quart," and that the clerk of the senate was instructed to so inform the house.

It is further claimed, that the clerk of the senate then sent a message to the house, informing that body, that the bill had been amended so as to read "in quantities less than one gallon." Of course this little difference in the message and the clerk's instructions passed without notice—the house "concurring in the senate amendment," and the bill, as originally introduced became a law.

The law is now before the supreme court, in a case appealed from Astoria, and should the supreme court not concur in the decision of the lower court, then Oregon would be plainly without a law regulating the liquor trade.

The matter is worthy the consideration of your legislators, and they should fully understand the matter, and in case the above alleged facts are substantiated, they should make their first duty, the rectifying of this—another "mistake."

ILLINOIS IN THE SENATE.

Gen. Logan will be remembered as participating in two remarkable contests for a seat in the United States senate. The first one, in which, after many ballotings, he was defeated by David Davis, settled the political status of the presidency for four years by giving that office to Mr. Hayes, instead of to Mr. Tilden. The other was the accomplishment of his own election against an adverse majority by the remarkable strategy of choosing a republican by stealth in a strong democratic district of his state. Mr. C. B. Farwell, a capitalist of Chicago, has long desired his seat, and will make much effort to obtain it, with, perhaps, better prospects of success than any one else. Illinois is not so fruitful in able men as she was in the days of Lincoln and Douglas, and since their death Gen. Logan has occupied a position of undisputed political prominence over all others.—Boston Herald.

KANSAS capitalists never tire of building new railroads with an immense amount of capital stock all over the country, on paper. The newest trunk line started is one directly from Duluth to the southern boundary of that state. They make a little in this industry by going around to county seats holding meetings and raising three to five hundred dollars "to pay expenses of a preliminary survey." It is not a great bonanza but it pays tolerable wages to the president and directors who manage to save a few dollars by the strict economy of their preliminary surveys.

MR. PIERRE LORRIARD advocates "a legacy tax" of 10 per cent. on all fortunes over \$200,000, to prevent the transmission of billionnaire fortunes from generation to generation. Something of that kind will have to come sooner or later and the republic will one day be owned by a few families. Then a civil war would grow out of a riot some morning; and, after that chaos came, there would be a relocation and new adjustment of things. But we need not look for the first reform before the legislature meets.

WISE SILENCE.

Everybody pitched savagely into the English Gen. Butler who declined to come in and submit himself to the mercy of the court trying the Campbell divorce suits. The counsel on both sides took a shot at him. The judge on the bench, when he delivered his charge, gave him a broadside, and the jury, after finding everybody else innocent, added to its verdict by way of a rider a loud denunciation of the "meanness of Gen. Butler" for not coming into court and "clearing his skirts."

It looks to the STATESMAN as though Butler was wise to stay out. If he had appeared and sworn that the charge that he had been too intimate with the lady in the case was untrue, he would have been confronted with keyhole witnesses who would have sworn that they saw it all.

He would have been dragged by a lot of cheeky and shrewd lawyers on the other side, who would have demanded his public and private history from the time he was three years old and upward, and who would examine minutely into every little escapade at school or adolescent revelry at the barracks.

A fellow mixed up in an English divorce suit has to stand all these things and there is no protection for him in the suggestion that what he did years and years before he met the co-defendant, has nothing to do with the merits of the case. Nobody would have attached the slightest weight to his denial as that is considered a matter of course among English gentlemen, while if he had not denied it he would have been everlastingly disgraced.

It is evident that the attack on Butler for doing the wisest thing in his power and staying away, is quite silly. He could have done no more good to either party than did the other fifty witnesses or so that appeared. Nobody cared what they said, so it was nasty enough to make a sensation in the papers. The truth or falsity of the testimony was hardly thought of, and the verdict indicates that the jury did not believe anything that a single soul testified to in the course of the proceedings. What was the use of Butler there?

WANTED—A ROAD.

The people of Salem and all this section should encourage the construction of a free wagon road over the Cascade mountains by way of the Minto pass. The support of the people east of the mountains is assured—they are in favor of a free wagon road, to a man. They want a better way to market, and the people of this section should lend their aid to see that they get what they want. A free wagon road over the Cascades would be of great benefit to the people of the bunch-grass region, and it would materially help this section. It would enable our merchants to supply a large custom that is now cut off by these mountains.

The legislature will be asked to make an appropriation to build a road through the Minto pass. The state is now amply able to do this. It will not be in the interest of any particular section, but of all the people on both sides of the mountains. Better use could not be made of twelve to fifteen thousand dollars at this time than in building this road and dedicating it to the free use of the public. Let our members work for this measure. They will have plenty of help from the members east of the mountains.

THE MAYOR'S ADDRESS.

The address of Mayor Ramsey to the city council is an able document. It shows study and reflects the impression of a clear and well trained mind and a level head.

The new mayor makes some very good suggestions, and makes them plain. He also showed himself to be possessed of good executive ability at the first meeting of the council, and the proceedings of that body will hereafter be deprived of the usual tiresomeness of the sessions of such bodies. The council also starts out like it meant business. They have made some good selections for policemen, and the city government is in good and competent hands. The present condition of the city's finances demands an economical and business-like administration, and that is the kind promised us.

"Europe will fight in the spring," say the foreign correspondents. If memory is not at fault, this is something of a chestnut. The spring weather generally succeeds in thawing the martial ardor of the powers. But if they will fight, America will take pleasure and profit in furnishing them with food and other supplies.

A NEW paper in Philadelphia is named the Sock. Its motto should be soc et tu em. It is stocking its copy-book with well knit editorials and will unravel many a tale of sensational news. But though well heeled at the start, these queerly named journals finally get out at the toe.

The state of New Jersey is in trouble. A woman has been sentenced to the state prison, but she is so large that she cannot get into any of the cells. She is camping in the yard, and it is proposed to ask the state to build a prison round her.

WANTED—The legislature to pass a law regulating railroad freight charges, and reducing passenger fares to three cents per mile.

OUR SATURDAY NIGHT.

EDITOR STATESMAN:—The old year of 1886 has slid into the rat-hole of eternity, and now we have a brand New Year born to eternity. The child has been christened 1887, and it belongs to you, all of you. I don't mean any reflection by this. I am speaking figuratively. It is nothing novel for the New Year to come around on January first. It happens that way every year, and it has been its practice for some time. It no doubt was the same when our ancestors were gibbering apes in the forests of Asia, or sponges in the bottom of the deep, deep sea. But this is New Year's day, 1887, and it's our New Year. This is our time and we should make the best of it. Let us all make a preamble and adopt some good resolutions for 1887. If we don't observe the resolutions, we will at least be in the style, and some people think there is a virtue in this. Here's kindest wishes for a Happy New Year to each and all, and many joyous returns of the day.

A gentleman from the country was in Salem a few days since, when the town clock began to strike. He was curious, and asked one of the busy "fly young men" of the city what it meant. "Oh," answered the aforesaid F. Y. M., "that's a chestnut bell. It's just a ringing down one of Ed. Edes' back-number jokes." Mr. Edes is one of the good looking and accommodating deputies of County Clerk Chapman, and the fly young man should be ashamed of himself.

A young man of Salem says he has discovered perpetual motion. It's easy as falling off of a log. He wonders that the asylums are running over with men who have ruined their minds thinking upon such a simple problem. This young man has found one thing that never stops running, that never has to be wound up, and that runs of its own momentum without any assistance whatever—it's a bill. He says he has several living examples of this proposition, and he is reminded of this fact just now, as it is the first of the year.

SALEM'S NEEDS.

Salem needs more manufacturing industries. She wants a woolen mill, a canning establishment, and other manufacturing industries that will give employment to labor, furnish a home market for the products of the soil, and stimulate trade and enterprise generally. There is no doubt that such institutions would help to build up a great city and consequently increase the value of property. They would help the farmer, the tradesman and the laborer, skilled and unskilled. Salem wants (not for herself alone, but for a large section of country) a free wagon road across the Cascades, through the Minto pass, that will give the people of that vast section east of this range of mountains a free outlet to our markets. The legislature should appropriate the money to build this road, and dedicate it to the free use of the public.

Salem wants a branch of the narrow gauge railroad from a point about seven miles east, and she will no doubt get this in the near future. If Salem gets all of these things, which she can do if her citizens unite and pull together for them, not relaxing their efforts until the ends sought are accomplished, she will then get a branch of the Oregon Pacific railroad, she will then have street railways and all the modern paraphernalia of a great city. They will come as a natural sequence of events. They will come with the growth of the city and the establishment of these industries.

The famous district No. 101, of K. of L., which ran the unsuccessful strikes on the Gould lines, has dissolved. Many of the men were reduced to poverty by Martin Iron's ill-advised act. It will be remembered that the strike was caused by the discharge of an unfit employee on another road, which was in the hands of a receiver.

The Christmas business compels the employment of 700 extra men in the London postoffice. In all the post and express offices of the United States the holiday package business this year was larger than ever before. This means rising prosperity.

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE undersigned has filed her final account as executrix of the last will and testament of Herman Rabens, late of Marion county, Oregon, deceased, and that Monday, the 7th day of February, A. D. 1887, at 10 o'clock a. m., has been fixed by the judge of the county court of the state of Oregon for the county of Marion, as the time for the hearing of objections to such final account and the settlement thereof.

MARGARET RABENS, Administratrix

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