

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON: THURSDAY NOV. 17, 1881. J. F. HALLORAN, Editor.

Speaker of the House.

The next great whirl in the national game of politics will be to see who can gain the speakership of the house of Representatives for the Forty-seventh Congress. It is universally conceded that he will be a Republican, Frye, Conger, Hale, and in fact Garfield, all leaders in the last House having been elected to the Senate, leaves but few Republican leaders for the coming session. It may therefore be styled a scrub race. The latest reliable calculations give Republicans 146 votes, the Democrats 137, the Greenbackers 9, and 1 Independent; 4 of the 9 Greenbackers will go into the Republican caucus, and 5 will vote Republican. Hence there being 151 Republicans in caucus the man who can secure 76 Republican votes can sit down in the Speaker's chair and make himself at home for two years, feeling that between him and the Presidency there is but one man (Little David.) In this fight "there is no North nor South" but evidently there is an East and there is a West. The first glance would indicate that of course the great West would win, but the East has the advantage at the start in having but one candidate, Frank Hiscock, of N. Y. He will go into the caucus with the 68 Eastern votes, lacking only 8 to secure the nomination. The South having 13 votes and no candidate, it is claimed will give enough to Hiscock to elect him. Therefore if the West is to gain a sectional success it will have to call a caucus of the friends of the half dozen Western candidates and agree to present only one Western man. Undoubtedly this will be done and either Kansas or Iowa, Dennell, of Minnesota, or Keifar, of Ohio, will be the coming man. Kasson looks the Speaker, and is the Speaker, so far as experience, legislative intelligence, parliamentary knowledge and social popularity goes; but years ago he leaned to the side of free trade and cannot expect the vote of tariff men. Dennell's strength in his strict integrity, plain simple manners, good judgment, honest and fair in every particular. Keifar has but little experience and it is thought the true inwardness of his candidacy is to secure for him a good chairmanship. Hiscock is not strictly a stalwart, but it is said that President Arthur will not in any way take part in the contest.

Dakota.

ONE of the first questions with which the Forty-seventh Congress will deal, will be the admission of Dakota. The admission of a state is generally a question of population. The ratio of representation at the last session of the Forty-sixth Congress was one representative to 133,000 population, though this has been on several occasions set aside, notably in the case of Nevada, which was admitted in October, 1864, with a population of less than 45,000, to give three more electoral votes to the Republican party in the Presidential election which took place in November of that year. The Silver State was admitted, therefore, purely for party reasons, the Republican majority in Congress at that time overruling all opposition. Though Dakota has now 150,000 population, yet her admission assumes the form of a party question, as she would, if admitted, undoubtedly send three Republican members to Congress, thus giving that party a certain majority. It is claimed that Davis will act with the Administration party throughout the session; if so, the admission of Dakota as the thirty ninth state in the American Union is a foregone conclusion.

THE face of "trying" Guiteau is now in progress at Washington.

A Good Example.

ASTORIA, NOV. 16, 1881. EDITOR ASTORIAN: THERE is a sleep which knows no waking. So also there is a Rip Van Winkilian slumber which continueth long but not for ever. The latter often steals upon communities almost unawares and so benumbs the intellectual faculties of its victims that it requires a very sharp and sudden shock to arouse them. From just such a prolonged slumber Portland has lately been aroused, and like a giant refreshed she is making such energetic efforts, in a practical common sense way, to reap the benefit of all her natural advantages, prestige and position that carries the conviction to our mind that in her vocabulary, henceforth, "there is no such word as fail." Witness the determination in future to dredge her river bars herself, instead of trusting to the fickle chances of an inadequate government appropriation. The determination to send a special representative in the person of the indefatigable Dave Thompson, to Washington to watch over its interests and to urge its claims for appropriations before the proper authorities and committees. And last, but not least, its sensible and successful efforts to infuse new life and energy into its local board of trade. Yesterday's Oregonian contains more than one hundred names of prominent business men who have recently applied for membership in that influential but heretofore limited corporation. In reading the names published, one cannot help but wonder that these gentlemen did not ere now recognize it to be their duty and for their interest to become members of the board, but having been so long asleep we suppose they may be excused. I am afraid, Mr. Editor, that Astoria is still enjoying her Rip Van Winkilian siesta, and as she fell asleep before Portland had an existence, her chances of awaking are small. Without some extraordinary effort is made to arouse her we fear she will slumber on to the crack of doom. Can you, Mr. Editor, suggest anything that can be done to awaken this people to a due sense of the growing importance of Astoria as well as of her sister city of Portland? Had we not better organize a board of trade? or shall we let her

A WASHINGTON special says that it is rumored that among the schemes to be brought before congress is one asking for a subsidy in aid of a line of steamers to be established by Villard and others on the Pacific, in competition with the Pacific Mail between California and Panama and with the Pacific Navigation Company between Panama, Callao and Valparaiso.

UNDER California's hoodlum constitution, which was adopted two years ago to "get even" on the monopolists and the capitalists, the state tax is twenty per cent. more than it was under the old constitution. That is the natural outcome of an organic law that virtually makes it a crime to own property.

"PUNISH our leaders at rebellion in states" the motto of the new Portland paper, which has been like a prize conundrum at the head of its editorial column, is solved. The initial letters form the name of the paper. Who are these dreadful leaders that need chastisement? Maybe it's Mahone.

DISCUSSION of Canadian annexation is again revived. These United States are large enough now. There are certain portions of British America that would yield good American citizens, but the majority of the Canadians are not desirable material to make Republicans or Democrats of.

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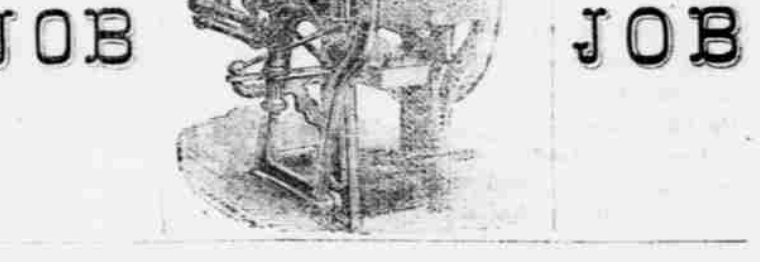
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