

The Daily Morning Astorian.

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PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES.

WASHINGTON, May 26. General MacVeigh's letter to Brinkley, published the day before the meeting of the New York merchants to endorse Arthur, has been the principal subject of gossip for the past week. The letter was admittedly violent and in the worst of taste, but it so strongly put all the things that the politicians have lately been thinking about, but did not utter, that everybody acknowledges the wind to be completely taken out of the merchants' meeting. Many western congressmen hold the opinion that even if MacVeigh's letter had not intervened to strip the mercantile endorsement of some of its sentimentalities, the fact that the New York business men were attempting to endorse Arthur's nomination would injure that gentleman in the west. They say the western people regard New York business men much as they regard Wall street stock gamblers, and any suggestion from either class has no weight outside of New York.

Estimates of the result at Chicago next week have lately been twisted into every shape by the supporters of Blaine and Arthur, and tables showing strength of candidates in different states, while the various organs of the day. One of the latest is by Congressman Payne, one of Blaine's staunchest supporters. He takes the table by which Arthur is nominated on the first ballot, and shows that the latter's friends only claim for him 25 delegates from Republican and doubtful states, while he receives 52 of the 308 delegates from Democratic states. The method of exposing the president's canvass has created great merriment in congressional circles.

Within the past few days a rumor has been current here that those on the inside have received positive information that Senator Cameron of Pennsylvania, who arrived home Monday, does not intend to oppose Blaine at Chicago, and that lately Senator Cookling has said if he had any friends in the convention they would please him by besting Arthur, even if it do so Blaine is nominated. Cookling is quoted as speaking highly of Blaine. For a long time it has been known that Cookling does not attribute his misfortunes under the Garfield administration to Blaine; those were visited upon him by Garfield himself, and Blaine knew nothing of the New York appointments until they were made. These facts and Blaine's book are supposed to have softened the great New Yorker's heart, and of his two enemies, he regards Arthur with the most contempt.

WASHINGTON, May 26. Representative Collins (Mass.) in conversation this afternoon, said: "It looks to me as if the Democrats will nominate the old ticket at Chicago. The possibility seems to be that not only will the old ticket be nominated, but the platform of 1876 be made the platform of 1884. That platform was drawn up, I understand, by Tilden, Dorsheimer and Manton Marble, and it declared for a tariff only for revenue. If there is going to be a new ticket I fancy that Bayard, or perhaps Cleveland of New York, of whom would make excellent candidates, will be nominated. I do not think there would be any very great sentiment in favor of a radical change in the declarations of the party on the tariff question if the old ticket is to be nominated."

Herbert of Alabama, one of the most enthusiastic revenue reformers on the ways and means committee, said yesterday that the declaration of the platform of 1876 in favor of a tariff for revenue only was a much more sweeping declaration on the subject of revenue reform than he cared to subscribe to, because he believed that a tariff for revenue only would be unsuited to the prevailing business conditions which he did not wish to overthrow. While in favor of a tariff for revenue, he was opposed entirely to free trade.

Senator Jones of Florida says that it appears to him as though there was little doubt of the nomination of the old ticket. In conversation with your correspondent to-day he said that when he was in New York recently he was informed that Tammany would give a hearty support to Tilden if he should be nominated. The Fourteenth street braves are tired of being beaten and will stand by the nominee of the party whoever he may be.

HENDRICKS OPPOSED TO THE "OLD TICKET". WASHINGTON, May 28.—Since Tammany's endorsement of the "old ticket" last week, nothing has been talked of here in Democratic circles but Tilden and Hendricks. Within a few days assurances have been received through Indiana representatives in congress that Hendricks will not consent to run again for vice president, and that if the "old ticket" talk is continued much longer he will formally decline, perhaps even more coolly than in 1880. The statements have not dampened the ardor of the "old ticket" shouters, however, but it has compelled them to reverse their calculations. With Hendricks out of the way a number of candidates for vice president have appeared on the scene. The most prominent of these is William R. Morrison, congressman from Illinois, and author of the defunct Morrison tariff bill. Morrison, it is said, not only would accept the vice-presidential nomination, but some of his friends declare he is working hard to agitate the strong features of a ticket composed of Tilden and Morrison. Besides being strong intellectually, such a ticket would unite on one platform the present discordant elements of the Democracy. Tilden would carry New York, and Morrison the doubtful states of the west. It is generally acknowledged that Morris-

son can and will acceptably fill the place made vacant by Hendricks' probable withdrawal. There seems to be no doubt that Tilden will be favored by the Democratic nomination. State conventions are so generally declaring for him that congressmen who lately desired reform tariff in opposition to his advice are rapidly changing their adhesions. It is now confidently predicted that within a week after the Republican convention adjourns nothing will be heard but Tilden. As one Democrat in the house expressed it this afternoon: "We will nominate Tilden certain, and if he dies before July 5th we will nominate his bones."

A Free-Born Wisconsin Man. A government agent, who was sent to Wisconsin last fall to look up trespass cases on government lands, was out on his travels one day when he met a man slashing away at some choicest timber on one of Uncle Sam's sections.

"Any land for sale around here?" the agent asked. "Well, that might be," was the reply. "I'd like to buy a whole section." "Have you the cash to pay?" "I have." "I might sell you this." "Clear as a whistle, stranger. Gimme \$800 cash, and I'll deed ye the section afore sundown."

The agent coolly unrolled a map, spread it out on a log, and said: "You will see by this map that Uncle Sam owns this section. How, then, can you give me a deed of it?" "See here, stranger," said the chopper, after a long pause, "maybe you is one of them chaps as argues that Uncle Sam is a bigger man than a free-born citizen of old Wisconsin! I'll give ye just three minits to skip!" The agent wanted only two.

A Tough Shark Story. Captain Welfare, master of the bark *Oakland*, which arrived at Port Madison a few days since from San Pedro, tells the following story as a fact: "When in latitude 35 deg. north, longitude 127 deg. west, we captured a female shark that had been following the vessel for some time. This shark measured eleven feet in length, and upon being cut open was found to contain forty-seven young sharks, each about one foot in length, and four live suckers, about ten inches long."—*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*.

Ben Butler, when a member of congress, was sapping and mining one day in an almost forgotten catacomb under the dreary building known as the Capitol at Washington, and he encountered a spectral-looking individual who seemed disposed to escape observation. "Who are you?" queried the investigating congressman. "I am keeper of the General Washington crypt," "But General Washington was buried at Mount Vernon, twenty miles from here." "Nevertheless, younder is his crypt." "Are you paid a salary?" "I have fifteen hundred dollars a year, and I succeeded my father in office." This sent the investigator to the records, who discovered that sixty-five years previously a certain congress, expecting to entomb General Washington under the Capitol, had established a crypt and a keeper of it. Other congresses forgot the subject, but the salary survived, while the "patriotism" of successive secretaries of the treasury forbade inquiry into the subject. Very soon afterward, upon relating his tale to the house—about of languidly drowning "patriotism"—General Butler passed his anti-sinecure bill.

An eastern temperance exchange asks: "Why are we total abstinents?" It can only be accounted for in one or two ways: Either your credit is bad or you don't know any better. Ask something harder.

Mr. Edward Henry, Pine Grove, Schuylkill county, Pa., writes that having had a limb crushed and his right arm paralyzed, he was completely cured by a few applications of St. Jacobs Oil, the great pain-cure.

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