# The Daily Morning Astorian.

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### OREGON IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

"Old Webfoot" writes the *Oregonian* as follows:

A bill to provide a civil government for the territory of Alaska passed the senate, having been introduced by Senator Harison of Indiana, chairman of the committee on territories, which bill is almost identical with the one introduced by Mr. George in the 47th and 48th congresses. It has passed the house and awaits the signature of the president.

The bill providing for the opening of the Umatilla Indian reservation has been favorably reported by the house committee on Indian affairs and stands near the head of the calender of the house.

The bill for the relief of Mrs. Eliza Boddy on account of Modoc depredations has passed the house and senate and become a law.

The bill for the relief of Col. W. L. White for services performed over twenty years ago as clerk in the land office at Oregon City was favorably reported in the house and a senate bill to the same effect has passed both houses.

The bill for the payment of Alonzo Gesner for survey of public lands stands at the head of the house calendar and will soon be disposed of.

The bill for the relief of M. P. Jones for $24,000 inadvertently deposited over twenty years ago for surveys along the Oregon Central military wagon road was favorably reported by the house committee on public lands, and a senate bill to the same effect has now become a law.

Mr. George introduced a bill to pay Father Schwatka of Salem for the Fort Stevens military reservation at the mouth of the Columbia river—Mr. Schwatka's donation land claim—but the senate having passed a bill first, the house committee approved and reported it favorably, and it has passed the latter body and become a law.

The bill to pay citizens of Oregon, Washington and Idaho who served in the Nez Perce and Bannock Indian wars, and for the pensioning of such as were wounded, and for the payment for horses and arms lost in the service, has been favorably reported by the house committee, and, through a misapprehension of facts, the same bill introduced in the senate by Mr. Slater has been reported adversely. No definite action has as yet been taken by the house committee upon the several bills introduced by Mr. George regarding Indian depredation claims. The matter is under consideration and will probably be reported favorably.

The bill to forfeit the Astoria land grant is now under consideration by the house, and final action will soon be taken thereon. When the bill reported by the committee came up for consideration in the house, Mr. George called attention to a number of serious defects. He proposed five amendments, the most, if not all, of which will probably be accepted by the committee or accepted by the house. Mr. George's object was to perfect the bill so as to forfeit the unearned part and insure reasonable guarantees to innocent purchasers and actual settlers along the line. Through carelessness the bill as reported by the committee virtually confirmed the unearned portion to the Oregon and California Company without building any more of the road.

The bill for the relief of the estate of John Monteith has passed both houses and become a law.

The bill to authorize the Oregon Pacific railroad to build one or more bridges across the Willamette river, near Corvallis, has been reported by the house committee favorably.

The bill appropriating $180,000 for the construction of a new steam launch for revenue marine service in Alaskan waters has been unanimously reported favorably by the house committee on commerce and sent to the regular committee on appropriations, with a request to insert it in the sundry civil bill.

The bill making appropriations for the improvement of the various rivers and harbors in Oregon has been considered by the house committee on rivers and harbors with results as already telegraphed.

The bill to reimburse the states for interest paid on war loans has been favorably reported and is upon the house calendar. Oregon is interested in this bill to the amount of over $300,000.

The bill for the relief of Captain M. C. Wilkinson has been favorably reported by a substitute which is more general in its terms relating to losses to personal property by military officers.

The remainder of the bills introduced by Mr. George are in a favorable state of progress in the various committees to which they have been referred.

### Cobb Apologizes to George.

WASHINGTON, May 28.—When the Oregon Central grant was up before the house the other day, it will be remembered that quite a breeze was created by Cobb, chairman of the committee on public lands, asserting that the Oregon Central company never had a legal existence; that it was organized in fraud and that the supreme court of Oregon had decided that it could not take or hold a land grant. George denied the truth of such assertions, and stated that the legal existence and good faith of the Oregon Central company before the house had never been questioned; that the gentleman was entirely mistaken; that the purported decision read by Cobb related to another Oregon Central, commonly known as the East Side, and that not even the East Side road was a party to the suit referred to, and that he was entirely mistaken in the facts and misleading the house. Cobb reiterated his statements, notwithstanding George's assertions to the contrary, and all parties became quite warm, and some personalities were indulged in. Cobb, however, immediately withdrew his personal allusions, and now has assured George, who has prepared himself with proofs, that he need not further trouble himself; that when the matter comes up again he will make the amende honorable and admit that he was entirely mistaken, and that George's assertions were true.

### A Tribute to the First Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA, VANCOUVER BARRACKS, W. T., May 26, 1884.
[General Orders No. 10.]

The orders of the war department have been received, and are in process of execution, which will remove the first cavalry from this command.

From the date of the battle of San Pasqual, in Southern California, under General Stephen W. Kearney, in 1847, up to the present time, with the exception of four years' service in the army of the Potomac, the record of this regiment has been intimately connected with the history of the growth of civilization in every portion of that great territorial region extending from the forty-ninth parallel on the north to the Mexican boundary on the south, commonly designated as "the Pacific coast."

Its services in the Rogue river war, the Modoc, Nez Perce and Bannack campaigns, and especially in Arizona, where it was the first to break the power of that noted Apache chief, Cochise, and make the settlement of the Indian question in that section possible, is too fresh in the recollection of the present generation to require particularization.

Aside from this better known portion of its record, the earlier settlers of Oregon and Washington territory will recall numberless instances where it has marched, fought, endured and suffered that they might dwell in peace and pursue their avocations without danger.

In the period comprised between the present and its first advent on the coast, when the whole number of white American inhabitants of the region extending from British Columbia to Southern Arizona was probably less than 100 souls, the regiment has been largely instrumental in enabling this vast area to be cultivated into a seat of empire, the happy home of more than a million and a half of intelligent, patriotic American citizens.

The department commander takes pleasure in believing this population will join him and all others in the military service now serving with this command, in bidding it a hearty God speed, and wishing for the "Veteran 1st" in its new sphere of duty as successful a future as its past has been creditable and brilliant.

By order of
BRIGADIER GENERAL MILES.
O. D. GREENE, Ass't Adj't Gen.

### Press Comment on General Grant.

NEW YORK, May 28.—The *Times*, the *Tribune* and the *Herald*, editorially, are silent on the Grant letters. The *Sun* ferociously attacks the general, in a leader headed "Proofs of Guilt." It says: "For the love of money the greatest military reputation of our time has been dimmed and degraded by its possessor. The people look on with shame."

The *World* says: "No American citizen can read the correspondence without deep humiliation and sincere sorrow."

*Herald* reporters state that the New York public is generally opposed to the publication of letters unfavorable to the old soldier's honor.

The general opinion among financiers and business men seemed to be that the whole story has not been told, and very few were found who were willing to have their views appear in print.

Jesse Seligman, the banker, said he did not like to be dragged into publicity, but had no hesitation in saying as publicly as possible that he believed General Grant to be entirely innocent of any wrongful knowledge or intent.

Roscoe Conkling said: "General Grant, like many of us, may have to wait a long time for the truth to come out, but he can afford to wait."

"I am sick at heart," said a prominent bank president. "I am a staunch Democrat, and I have often denounced General Grant's conduct of public affairs, but I believe in the general's personal integrity as I believe in my own father; but unless he has a stronger defense than his counsel make in the statement published this morning, I cannot see how he is guiltless."


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