

THE HATCHET.

Entered at the post-office at Forest Grove, Or. as Second-class mail matter.

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Items of general interest gratefully received. Editor's hobbies and opinions on this page, all the rest facts—impartial and uncolored.

Editor is at home in his sanctum, HATCHET Building, Forest Grove, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. of each week day and always glad to talk and be talked to.

ISSUED EVERY WEEK IN THE YEAR ON THURSDAY FROM THE HATCHET PRINTERY.

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AUSTIN CRAIG, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

READABLE .. FIGHT
RELIABLE .. PAGES
REPUBLICAN .. WEEKLY

THE PERILS TO CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

The permanence of no civilization and of no people is absolutely guaranteed by either forms of government, by social institutions or by conditions of race and territory.

While our form of government is no longer an experiment, nor is it on probation, yet unless there be in our people a re-energizing life of care and watchfulness, then indeed will we forfeit that liberty which is the only reward for eternal vigilance. Unless there be within our people a determined spirit working in and through our political forms towards ever higher and nobler conditions of our race, and making the strength of justice, and not robbery and usurpation, the foundation and motive of political action, then nothing can guarantee the safety of our government or keep it hale and powerful with the growth of centuries.

The indispensable condition of continued stability for our republic is the growth of a devoted love cherished for our government and country, an intelligent appreciation of our liberty as embodied in the constitution and enforced and protected by a faithful administration of the laws.

The mandates of our courts must be of such exalted character and so fortified by justice that they will receive the sanction of all the people. The legislative and executive powers of our government must be wielded absolutely within their constitutional spheres if the perpetuity of the state is to be long maintained.

Our strength in territorial extent, our strength in the vast natural resources of this country, without the strength of ruggedly honest capable men and noble women will only add to the proportions of that colossal ruin which must as inevitably follow the extinguished vestal fires on the altar of our country and in the hearts of our people as night follows the setting sun.

In vain will that man claim the tribute of honor which is inseparably connected with the lives of exalted statesmen while he seeks to contribute to the political strength of demagogues who would subvert the pillars of constitutional government which are the indispensable supports to our political liberty, the only foundation of that government which the wisdom of the statesman, the courage of the soldier and the eloquence of the orator will dare to advocate, defend or attempt to maintain in a state whose people are patriotic, intelligent and vigilant.

It is only in a country inhabited by a people without intelligence, even without a high degree of intelligence, where the millionaire demagogue, the most despicable of all tyrants, can rule. In this state his political methods cannot succeed for our people will be active, thinking, resolute, and conscious of their rights and strength, they will distinguish themselves by their own intelligent leadership back to constitutional methods of the administration of our government, they will do all this and more, or finally perish.

We do not expect to see this government perish, but we do expect to see the irrepressible conflict go on, pulsating with all the vigor of a people's heart whose integrity and whose sturdy independence of character will compel ambitious millionaires, as well as the commoner of the state, to respect the law of subordination and obedience to the constitutional methods of selecting representatives to every department of the government.

A subsidized metropolitan press may continue to advocate the claims of millionaires for recognition, but until they can furnish evidence of higher qualifications for exalted trusts than the amount of dirt they have accumulated, by whatsoever questionable or unquestionable methods, they will be turned down.

They will be turned down one by one until their reverent submission to our constitution and laws shall command the respect of our people, if not their admiration. Nor will the quality of liberality, which we so much commend in all men but which very rarely gives distinction and nobility to the character of millionaires, avail in any case where his contributions are in any sense the price for services rendered by a lobby at the capitol of the state to overthrow the constitutional method of choosing representatives of a people. Neither will any Christian institution which pretends to advocate the precepts and axioms of that Christian code stamped with divine authority, nor will any cultivated person of moral refinement having knowledge of the law of cause and effect, stoop to receive such munificence under circumstances which so point the finger of suspicion at the base motives for a contribution for the services of a lobby which attempted to thwart the expressed wishes of our people, and must in the nature of things constitute the bottom fact in a history of these undertakers of political evils of the deepest-dyed blackness, a history founded upon the facts of the basest system of bribery on earth, meaner than that treachery which was rewarded with thirty pieces of silver but which broke not the oath of a Roman governor nor forswore the allegiance of a legislature to the state, nor threatened to overthrow constitutional liberty and disgrace a people in a great senate with a representative destitute of every qualification, except ambition, to commend him to the consideration of his state for the meanest office within the gift of his people.

The character of these perils to constitutional government, though intended by their authors to be subtle and invisible to the people, as occult and secret as the conspiracy of Cataline, will classify them as among those imminent dangers which have wrought out the absolute ruin of the greatest republics of antiquity, and which will, if not stamped out, overthrow the greatest republic of modern times.

If our state is to perpetuate self government there must be a renewal of that old spirit of the Anglo-Saxon race fostering those heroic sentiments and divine resolutions which were formulated by their descendants in the declaration of our independence, making the consent of the governed the only authority of law on earth, which distinguished our ancestors as freemen from the slaves to our modern demagogues and corrupt millionaires.

There must be a rational public sentiment and opinion which stamps the crime of bribery and political corruption with the seal of condemnation upon the brow of every political aristocrat who demands a seat in the United States senate as a concession to, and as a symbol of, the impersonation and enfranchisement of his great wealth before which legislatures have bowed their necks to the very dust, governors have violated their oaths of office and constitutions have been rendered null and void.

These are perils to constitutional government which the wisdom of its statesmen and the bravery of its generals will struggle in vain to overcome unless there be within

the hearts of our people that dauntless, deathless love for constitutional liberty which has inspired the tongue of eloquence in all ages and given to the warrior a heart and arm of steel for its vindication and defense.

The audacious attempt to build up a political aristocracy in the United States senate, upon the ruins of state constitutions, by several of the states in this Union is a peril that has awakened public conscience, public judgment, and kindled in the heart of our people a fire which cannot be quenched until such flagitious wickedness is stamped out and our constitutional methods of representation in the United States have been restored and obeyed.

The full history of these perils include the revelation of facts of the vilest character but as vile hath been the conduct and folly of their perpetrators, nor can they gain immunity from their political crimes by the sophistical plea that they are honest men and mean no evil to the state if they be mistaken. Because our arraignment touches their aristocratic sensitiveness and disturbs their equipoise and purpose it does not follow that our constitution has not been violated in its apprehensive part, nor can any excuse, by whomsoever urged, for their good intentions restore the sovereign authority of our organic law, for their acts have been flagrant, willful and should have been inflicted upon constitutional liberty only over the dead body of a faithful and devoted governor, heroic in his defense of their commonwealth whose security and safety is guarded round like a walled city with his solemn oath and obligation to defend its honor, its constitution and its laws.

A LETTER TO THE W. R. C.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS OF THE STATE OF OREGON.

The willful and shameless slanders of Harve Scott, the editor of The Oregonian, heaped upon American women, the widows of our nation's defenders, have forfeited his right to the respectful consideration of all respectable people and entitled him only to that treatment which he has shown to those whom he has openly dishonored year after year.

He is therefore denounced as an outlaw who on occasions without number has assailed in the most opprobrious and offensive epithets the Grand Army of the Republic and all pension laws of the United States, and more especially those mentioned in his cowardly assault upon the memory of the author of the ever-beautiful Memorial Day, his assault upon the memory of the late John A. Logan, of October 3rd, 1897.

Not satisfied with the havoc aimed at the fame of General Logan who was the idol of our nation and her volunteers in the late Civil War, and upon whom they could confidently rely in the United States senate for eighteen years to defend the rights of the disabled soldier, his widow and orphan, this same traducer of the character of patriots has in his editorial of October 9th, 1897, disgraced American journalism with his conspicuous falsehoods and slanders of American women the widows of soldiers of all wars, but more especially does he assail that provision of our pension law which has honored the venerable name of widow of a Revolutionary soldier with the national recognition of her services in the care and companionship of one of the founders of this Republic. What unspeakable depravity must be the moral condition of that wretch who can address the public in such scandalous statements as emblazon the columns of his copperhead journal on Oct. 3d and 9th!

His subtle and crafty admission of the right of an invalid soldier to a pension is only a mask for his hypocrisy which covers his purpose, as he says at an unguarded moment, Oct. 3, to wipe out all pension laws passed by the eloquent

appeals for justice by Senator Logan, to whom we are indebted more than to all other men living or dead for what consideration our soldiers, their widows and orphans have thus far received. It is for this occult reason that Harve Scott has assailed the memory of that hero whom the nation honors above all other volunteer soldiers of the late Civil War.

Where it not sacrilegious to suffer the vulgar and profane gaze of such a monster as Harve Scott to look upon the wounded heroes of the nation, I would that he might behold in solemn silence while the infirm, the widows and the orphans pass before him in grand review; an army whose rank and file he has assailed, like some predatory fiend, with his cruel invectives of reproach; an army, greater than any standing army in the world, whose history of misery and woe can be written in no language as language must ever fail to paint the deep agony of broken hearts that followed thousands of soldier husbands to the grave which utter, back no comforting word to her appealing lips for recognition from the dead hero-husband at her feet. These scenes which baffle all description should have been witnessed him, as we have witnessed them, they would have blinded his vision with tears and melted his heart of stone were he not the brute who has with impious barbarity torn their wounds asunder, mocked their agony, derided their helpless condition, and slandered the name, fame and public services of the greatest volunteer soldier of the late Civil War.

The members of our Relief Corps have seen that mighty army and numbered them one by one as they were borne back through the battle smoke from Shiloh's bloody field, from the blood-drenched forts around a confederate capitol, from Kenisaw dark in its glory, and from Lookout Mountain where our husbands and sons fell fighting above the clouds. These too were returned to our care in thousands of hospitals during the late Civil War, a war which made the home of every loyal woman of the North a hospital and scene of mourning in which the goddess of melancholy grief set visibly at every hearth stone.

Who of us has not heard the voice of the orphan, borne upon sweet breath of heaven from the lips of the morning of life, asking for the return of that father who will never return but who fell upon the battlefield at the meridian of his manly splendor, like the brightness of the sun entering into midnight darkness, a total eclipse at noonday?

What cruelty unspeakable, ineffable, is Harve Scott's assault upon the pension laws of a government redeemed with the blood of orphan's sires and which the widow rescued from ruin and spoliation by her sacrifices greater than the loss of a kingdom, nay the life of her princely king hath she given as a ransom for the Union of the states. And now shall Harve Scott strike and spare not, shall the cloven feet of that demon trample upon her now or hereafter when she has nursed with tenderest care the hero who like fabled knight gave blow for blow, the champion of liberty and law and the Union of the states? Around the brow of that man who shall betray the soldier's widow to poverty and to want shall shine lurid light in flame that shall consume, and the day is coming when around the name of her who has been faithful in her ministrations of care for him that bore the burdens of a nation in all ages, and around the names of all who have been faithful to the sacred cause of liberty, there will be hung garlands and they shall be clothed with honor.

Therefore, sisters, let us appeal to our congressional delegation to stand like a wall of noble men between that man of The Oregonian and the vested rights of all soldiers' widows as now, and hereafter to be more abundantly provided for by pension laws of the greatest republic of ancient or

modern times.
Yours in F. C. and L.,
MRS. D. PRATHER,
Member of J. B. Matthews W. R. C.
Dated Oct 20, 1897.
[The husband of Mrs. D. Prather was killed at the great battle of Shiloh leaving her a widow with the care of five children.—Ed.]

THE PASSING OF GEER.

How transitory are political honors, is proven in the case of Mr. Geer, who but a short time since was one of the most influential leaders in the republican party of Oregon, but in a fatal moment he allowed himself to be influenced into committing political hara kari, as was the custom in ancient times in Japan when a man had so disgraced himself as to be out of fellowship with his fellow men.

If Mr. Geer had been allowed to act upon his own volition he would have accepted what is one of the best appointive offices in the state, and thus put himself into a position where honor and promotion would have been his without effort or hindrance. But he wavered in his decision and allowed men, known to have been his former enemies and enemies of the men who were his true friends, to influence him, under the guise of a friendship that he should have known was false, to sever his relations with the men who had proved true friends to him and had been the only ones who had been willing to give the recognition and reward that this position in the party warranted.

In his own county his course has met with such disapproval that the six republican papers of Marion county condemn his action, his only supporter in that county among the newspapers being the free-silver Capital Journal which until recently has been denouncing Mr. Geer as a gold bug who should be driven out of the county as an enemy of all mankind. The newspapers and men of Portland who were so solicitous about his honor were all either populists, free-silver, or were spoilsmen who, not being able to control the party, sought this opportunity to destroy it.

The party will survive and be the stronger for this ordeal, but it will leave Mr. Geer a political wreck and time will prove it, when the shades of oblivion will have drawn about him and his name be forgotten and he will be known no more as a man whom his party was once proud to recognize and to honor. But such is the way of the man who gives heed to false friends.—Oregon City Enterprise.

SCOTT AND THE OREGONIAN IN OTHER EYES.

The Oregonian is a wonderful newspaper in very many ways. It is conducted by a strong and naturally generous intellect; its grasp for most subjects is broad and true and patriotic; behind all is a dominating force which in a little while becomes impatient of opposition, and the idea that it is ever wrong has never for one moment been considered in the Oregonian office. This makes it often Bourbonish in its methods; if it ever learns anything new on any subject which it has considered and reached a conclusion upon, the new light comes against its own will. The first editorials in it were written by the light of candles or old fashioned coal-oil lamps. How it ever adopted gas or accepted the electric light is a wonder to its friends, an astonishment to its enemies. It today symbolizes the evolution from savagery to enlightenment.

A story is told of an Indian who when a little child was taken East and educated. Moreover, he was converted, joined the church and was the delight of his Christian brother and sister workers. At last he married a demure and devout little Christian lady, and they, after much consideration, determined to go West and devote their lives to the cause of the Master by missionary labor among the red men of the plains. They settled in an Indian village and began their work. A rude church was erected and regular services held, and every thing seemed auspicious of good results. But a holiday

came around and a war declared by the chief. The dance was at its height the minister, through curiosity to see the strange spectacle looked on for a few minutes suddenly, tossed his hat in tore off all his garments except shoes and drawers, seized a hawk and with a whoop joy charmed circle. Late that the young wife found him at Indian poker and it transpired the stake was the little on the little new church.

One sometimes thinks of reading the Oregonian. A of hereditary savagery breathes swear words might have to the lips of some ancestor in a tight place on the pl might have been removed with impenitent mules or and it sometimes refers sne to an advance that has already made, as one of the old '47 pioneers might have sneered engineer's exact statements feasibility of connecting Oregon rail with the Eastern states Lake Tribune

CHIPS.

Prominent among the advertisements in the "New Age", Portland's Afro-American weekly, are things which "make curly hair straight. Too bad the scalps of dusky belles cannot be transplanted changed since people are not with the heads the Almighty gave. Then hair curlers and hair straighteners would no longer be needed.

Eating onions insures a good complexion, at least the queens of Paris for years have been garlic eaters.

The Ashland Town Talk says: "The dead robber, was about 35 years of age. * * * He is said to have been sober, industrious man." He was industrious for he held up a stage in the same place twice months, and when the attempt was made to arrest him answered shot killing one deputy sheriff and seriously wounding another before he was captured.

Coll facts have smashed another honored story, the one so boasted by young Norval about his father's sheep on the Grampan hill. Wind is so violent there that times it has brought to a standstill travelling from Perth to the north. Gentle swain would have had his flock chained down to keep long.

Justice Field had a more object for not resigning earlier on the Supreme bench than the desire to have served the longest term. He wanted his successor to be a republican and his resignation bears month after the new administration into power.

VARSAITY ITEMS.

Miss Elizabeth Tongue returned day from a short visit to Roseburg. H. A. Rands, formerly a freshman at P. U. and an editor of the Index, is a student in Cornell, at Ithaca, N. Y., where, it will be remembered, Whittlesly now is engaged. Mr. Thad. Sweek will represent the meeting of the Inter-Collegiate Debating Society, to be held at Astoria. A schedule of debates will then be out and the Philo's and Gamma's have opportunity to display their talents.

There is some talk of P. U. entering the Inter-Collegiate Football Association and securing the championship pennant. By all means let it; there is material in school football and diligent practice is needed.

The Philomatheans will give a program at their meeting day afternoon. Recitation, Miss Porter; Duet, Misses Garrison and Debate.—Resolved that the English should have more prominence in the college curriculum. Affirmative, Miss Wilkinson; Negative, Miss Shupp.

The Glee Club has reorganized. Miss Shupp as leader and general manager. A large number of the students have become members as things may be expected. It is now for the Index to resume its work among the other organizations and feel its loss keenly and it is hoped that the first number may soon put in an appearance.

There is no doubt concerning the prosperity of Gamma Sigma Society. At last meeting, unbounded enthusiasm prevailed and at times the vast assembly was moved to tears as some of the orators depicted the awful conditions of our neighbors of Hawaii. Next Monday the question debated will be "Does the increase wealth of a nation depend on morality?" Affirmative, C. Palmer; Negative, R. Wilcox, Jr.

Rheumatism, which is caused by acid in the blood, is cured by Ayer's Sarsaparilla. External treatment is of no avail. Until the blood is thoroughly cleansed of all impurities, less to expect the cure of any case cured of others will cure you.