

HILLSBORO INDEPENDENT.

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D. M. C. GAULT, Editor.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1896.

For what purpose did Hon. Joseph Simon closet himself with Hon. Jonathan Bourn last week?

The dignity tariff bill passed by the Senate and republicans are powerless. It even begins to be feared that no legislation can be passed by the next Congress. The "fusions" seem determined to wreck the country.

The general arbitration treaty between England and the United States has been concluded by the Commissions and is now ready for the Senate. As it may not apply where a question of National honor is in question, no harm is liable to result.

Senator Mitchell has introduced a concurrent resolution directing the secretary of the interior to set apart Clackamas river and contiguous government lands to such an extent and in such quantities as by him may be deemed advisable, as natural spawning grounds for salmon and for the use of salmon hatcheries.

The county treasurer printed his report a few weeks ago, but at the request of the INDEPENDENT he is preparing another report which will be ready next week. The experts' report to the grand jury found the money all right, but criticized the method of keeping the books. The revised report above mentioned will show the method, be it objectionable or otherwise.

It is wonderful how well posted Chairman Starr of the demo-populist party is touching the plans of the republican members of the legislature. He asserts that there are 19 members who will not vote for Senator Mitchell. How did those 19 come to open their hearts to Starr and close them to their party friends? A more reasonable view is that Starr does not know whereof he speaks. He simply has a hole in his hat.

It is reported that Mr. W. A. Wetzel, of Multnomah county, is an applicant for the position of reading clerk in the house of representatives during the session that is soon to be held. Knowing his powers of voice and the perfect control which he has over it, a cordial endorsement of his candidacy can be made. Socially, Mr. Wetzel is as fit for the place as he is professionally, and the house cannot do better than appoint him.

What does Attorney Lord mean by saying the jury in the Steeves case should have been kept together? Does he desire to intimate that the men composing that panel are base enough to accept a bribe? True, the attorney in the bitterness of his defeat may say what later on he would wish had remained unsaid, but he should now and hereafter remember that the verdict of juries is on oath, while the assertions of attorneys are not.

Late reports from Venezuela leads to the belief that our protegee is not fully satisfied with the settlement which we have made for her with England, but just what objection is entertained has not been made public. It is more than probable though that it is the 50 years statute of limitations. As like as not some lone Englishman, an outlaw possibly, has settled on Venezuelan territory more than 50 years ago, and the South American Republic hesitates before allowing that circumstance to give color of title for English occupancy. If true it is a species of stealing that ought not to be encouraged.

The Oregonian states that "Senator Mitchell has spoken and voted for free coinage in the Senate upon every opportunity." Now that is not true. At the only time when the question was up, when the divided line was drawn—the Finance committee's report on the Dingley tariff bill—Senator Mitchell voted with his party. What a man will do is best disclosed at those supreme moments when a choice must be made. The vote on the senate substitute to the Dingley bill was one of those occasions. Senator Mitchell voted with his party while Teller voted against it. No other opportunity to vote has been presented—but later he has spoken in support of McKinley's candidacy and defended the St. Louis platform. Those are official acts. What more can a man do?

Prof. Bryan of the Washington Agricultural College talking on the beet sugar industry says: "We feel that our work is complete." "We have made 3000 analysis, and are now prepared to give data in detail to all persons who are interested in the manufacture of beet sugar. It now rests with the commercial world to take up the problem and carry it to a successful conclusion. It is evidently a good time for the commercial world to undertake the problem. It is believed that under the new administration there will be either a bounty or a protective tariff to save the sugar producer." We of Oregon are justified in asserting that the conditions true of Washington are also applicable to our own state. The analysis made at our own experimental station at Corvallis are practically identical with those made at Pullman.

CUBAN INDEPENDENCE.

Last Friday the senate foreign relations committee agreed to report this resolution:

Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that the independence of the Republic of Cuba be, and the same is hereby acknowledged, by the United States of America.

Section 2. That the United States will use its friendly offices with the government of Spain to bring to a close the war between Spain and Cuba.

The report was made on Monday and the consideration of the resolution laid over till after the holiday recess. The administration opposes the resolution for the reason there is no government to recognize. All that the insurgents have is an army, and even that is not well organized. There is no executive, no legislature, no courts. It is further said that the passage of the resolution will involve this country in a war with Spain.

Now then. If we are in the right, let us go forward even to the engaging in a war and to the injury of business, but it really seems to the INDEPENDENT that we have no plums in the pie, unless it be in the name of civilization it is our duty to stop the inhuman strife now waging in Cuba. If, though, those butchers murder American citizens, it is proper for us to sharply call them to account. We may properly desire the independence of Cuba and rejoice when a republic is formed, but it does seem previous for us to acknowledge a government, and then go on the island to establish one.

AWAY FROM HOME.

On the 8th inst. passage was taken on the O. R. & N. Comany's good ship Columbia with San Francisco as the destination. The run to Astoria is made in the night so as to have daylight for crossing the bar. At Astoria threatening weather was reported and the careful commander delayed his sailing till 11 o'clock. The bar was reported to be rough. When it was reached, mountain waves were found sure enough, but no breakers, indeed since the jetty has been completed no waves break in the channel at the entrance to the Columbia river. Four waves larger than the others came on deck and washed the dust of departing Oregonians from their feet. Those luckless web feet went below and changed the wet garments for dry ones. The trip was a rough one, and all save seven men of the passengers were sea-sick. Friday at one o'clock p. m. all stepped on firm land again in San Francisco. It was raining.

Continuing the journey, passage was taken on an inland craft to Stockton, 100 miles east of San Francisco. Sharp competition is maintained by the boats between those points, and the fare is 25 cents, with 50 cents for a stateroom and 50 cents for supper which is served at 7 o'clock p. m. Passengers awake at Stockton, a city of 20,000 people built on a plain at the head of navigation on the San Joaquin river. An idler along the water front soon discovers the industry that supports the city. "Grain Commission Merchants," "Wheat Bought and Sold," "Dealers in Produce" are the signs displayed for blocks. Samples trays of wheat, barley and sometimes oats are seen in show windows. The San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad has its present northern terminus at Stockton. This is a new road built this year and has only within the past few weeks commenced to carry general freight. Passenger trains have not yet been put on, though last week excursion trains were run to accommodate visitors who desired to attend the orange fair opened at Fresno. The road is built south to Fresno, a distance of 110 miles. The roadbed is good for a new road, running on a tangent with but few cuts and fewer hills. The rails are of steel and the rolling stock from the Baldwin works and the Pullman car shops. Rails, ties and rolling stock to build, equip and operate another 100 miles has already been bought and paid for, and is now at Fresno ready to be used in extending the road southward when the right of way shall have been secured. The Speckles interest is undisturbed to be back of the enterprise and nothing short of an Eastern connection will satisfy the promoters. An entrance into San Francisco has been secured, so that when the Southern and Eastern terminals is satisfactorily arranged, the break between Stockton and the bay will be closed.

The San Joaquin Valley is a wonderful country. Including the Tulare Lake country, there is a plain 200 miles long and from 70 to 90 broad, level as a floor—one vast plain unbroken by hill, though threaded by the San Joaquin river and its tributaries—streams flowing through the prairie and fringed only by a few stunted willows. It is a treeless plain save when dissatisfied man has defiled nature and planted a few shade trees which he keeps alive by irrigation.

The "Valley" road, as it is called, runs on the east side of the plain within ten to fifteen miles from the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Looking to the westward, far away the dark blue outline of the coast range can be seen, if the day is clear.

It passes from San Joaquin county into Stanislaus, through Merced and Madera and Fresno and Kings and Tulare into Kern. What divides the counties? A line, a scratch in

the sand or a mark on the map. What a population might be supported on this vast area! There is much waste land, though—sand deserts or alkali flats. The sand can be reclaimed and made fruitful by irrigation and that is what is now engaging the attention of the authorities. There is probably not water enough for the whole valley, but there is enough for thousands of square miles that now are barren. There are three classes of land in the valley—the sandy section, the black adobe and the alkali. The two latter are little benefited by the application of water, but the sand quickly responds to the first drenching.

It is only just now that the rich resources of the San Joaquin are about to be tapped. Two or three years ago the "White Irrigation law" was enacted by the state legislature. This permits the organization of irrigation districts something like our drainage districts, only that it authorizes the district to issue 20-year bonds at the rate of \$20 per acre for all the land in the district. The money realized from the sale of these bonds is used in digging ditches, main and lateral, that will furnish water for the land. The irrigation district or the public, which ever one chooses to call it, owns the water right, and when once installed, there is no further expense except perhaps a small tax for repairs. The law law questioned, and the state courts held it to be unconstitutional, but the supreme court of the United States has recently reversed the decision of the state courts so that now irrigation bonds are good investments, being equivalent to first mortgages on the real estate within the irrigation district, and if the money realized from the sale of bonds is judiciously used, the sandy waste places of San Joaquin Valley will blossom into semi-tropical luxurians. It will be a splendid thing for the country, but will probably be bankrupted to many of the present land owners. The law as it now stands puts a mortgage of \$20 per acre upon every foot of realty in the district, whether the owner needs water or not. Some relief may be afforded by amendments to the law, but at best it is bound to be a great promoter of populism.

The transportation outlet of this great region is by two lines of railroad extending through the plain and owned by the Southern Pacific Company, and the Valley road above mentioned, owned by the Speckles interest. The responsibility of the company may be realized when it is called to mind that the Oriental steamship line to Japan and China is controlled by those people. The San Joaquin river is not regularly navigable above Stockton, though a boat on one occasion went as far as Fresno, but it never returned, because the water fell and left it on dry land. Tulare sometimes discharges into the San Joaquin, but the flood must be great before that occurs. At all other times, the lake has no outlet, though it is fed by Kings and Kern rivers. San Joaquin river above Stockton is but little if any larger than our Tualatin below the mouth of Dairy creek, and the Merced river, a branch, is a small affair like Gales Creek here. The length of these streams are considerable, and if in Oregon, would mean waterways that carry great volumes, but it must be kept in mind that the country they drain is not one burdened by a great rainfall. There are no lateral branches flowing from the coast range on the west side. All come from the Sierra Nevada mountains on the east. The plain next the coast range is almost a desert except perhaps for a month or six weeks in the early spring when it is used for a sheep run. The land is fertile enough, and if water can be got to it, there is a great future for the section which is now worthless. Mention of the industries must be deferred till another time.

A GLANCE AT THE LAST ELECTION.

To the Editor: In political contests, especially of such importance as the one just concluded, when one of the contestants has suffered such a party on the 2nd of November, it has not been unusual to hear, among the walls of the defeated, attempts to explain the cause of their defeat. The victors only too happy to have secured the rout of the enemy are expected to spend their almost exhausted energy in congratulations at the happy termination of the bitter struggle.

The political contest in Oregon during the past year has been peculiar in more ways than one. Two important elections occurring within a period of six months, one of which by unfortunate selfish divisions in its ranks, brought the republican party to the verge of destruction; the other carried it to a successful issue by an elimination of all distributing factional elements, and fighting to a glorious finish on the issues that divide the republican and democratic parties of the United States.

The result of the Presidential contest is an indication that a large majority of the voters of the United States recognizes the republican as being the only political party standing upon that foundation laid by the Fathers of the republic, and the only one that can be relied on to sustain the honor and integrity of this great nation. The history of its efforts in this country shows that it has never failed to stand in the front when the liberty of the people has been endangered; and prosperity to all has been the result of its management of the affairs of the nation. The contest not only in Oregon but

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In every state of the Union was wisely fought. Republicans stood on the republican platform; refused to allow open enemies or pretended friends to select the lighting ground and when the contest was completed the result is an overwhelming endorsement of every plank of the St. Louis platform. It is not too much to say that the refusal of the republican leaders to make the contest on the money question alone saved the country from democratic control for an unlimited term. The democratic leaders, in close sympathy with their flat money allies, had since the resumption of open payment been spreading broadcast financial heresies that had taken deep root in the minds of the voters in the United States and which, under the plausible theory of unlimited free coinage of silver required more time to eradicate than could be found between the Chicago Convention, and the Presidential election. Many republicans who had been momentarily misled by these plausible arguments, when the questions of sacrificing long tried republican principles for untold theories, and promises of reform, made by a party that never reformed, hesitated no longer, but marched to victory under the standard of protection, sound money, and respect for the courts, in opposition to free trade, flat money, free coinage at 16 to 1, and Atgeldt anarchy which is simply democratic state rights carried to its legitimate conclusion.

While giving full credit to the many democrats who severed their connection with a party that no longer deserved their support, and manfully cast their votes for McKinley and Hobart, justice to the facts of political history in the late canvass must give no unimportant part of the credit for the overwhelming vote for the republican nominees to that class of voters who had been temporarily alienated from the Grand Old Party but fell into line in the Presidential election. The vote, especially in Oregon shows the truth of this statement. The gain in November over the June election is in the republican counties. The counties usually democratic were still in line and in support of the Chicago democratic platform with its inconsistencies. Consistent in nothing but its endorsement of the time honored principles of the democratic party prominent among which we found as usual hatred republicanism.

The result in November was a republican victory and a democratic

defeat nothing more and nothing less.

THE R. R. COMMISSION.

"The repeal of the law creating the railroad commission should be the first work of the legislature at the coming session. In its stead a maximum rate bill should be passed, or the law proposed by Hon. H. V. Gates, of Hillsboro, two years ago. Mr. Gates' bill proposed that the commission consist of three members to be elected by the people, their salaries and expense of maintaining said commission to be derived from a tax on the railroad property within the state. This bill passed the house two years ago but could never be gotten out of the committee in the senate because Joe Simon, the patron and friend of corporate influence, would not permit it to be brought out, for it would have passed the senate as easily as it did the house."

This it from the Hesperian Gazette and shows the drift of public sentiment, in some directions. There ought to be some changes in legislation touching transportation problem, but the legislature must move with caution. If a flat repeal of the present law is made there stands nothing between the railroads and the people. The Gates bill had merit and seems to be fair to both interests. It was cheerfully accepted by a part of the railroads, antagonized by others. The transportation companies will have to make a wise decision, or they will have to work under a maximum freight law. They remember how it was six years ago when the present law was enacted.

SHERIFF'S SALE ON FORECLOSURE.

By virtue of an execution, decree and order of sale, issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Washington County, in favor of Simon Harrison and against Geo. T. Ledford and Mary Ledford for the sum of \$100.00, and for the further sum of \$207.33 U. S. gold coin with interest thereon at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from the 21 day of July 1894, and the further sum of \$37.00 U. S. gold coin with interest thereon at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from the 31 day of March 1896 and for the costs and expenses of sale and of said writ.

Now, therefore, by virtue and in pursuance of said judgment decree and order of sale, I will on Monday the 25th day of January 1897, at the south door of the Court House in Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real property, to-wit:

Lots four (4) five (5) and six (6) in block numbered eight (8) in and of Simmons addition to the town of Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon. All situate in Washington County, Oregon, to satisfy the heretofore named sums, and for the costs and expenses of said sale. Said property will be sold subject to redemption as per statute of Oregon.

Witness my hand this 25th day of December 1896.

W. D. BRADFORD, Sheriff of Washington County, Oregon.

By E. B. Rappaport, Deputy, Judge & Greener.

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"I suffered with bronchitis for nearly five years. My physician prescribed for me without producing favorable results, and finally advised me to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I have taken six bottles of this medicine, and am now as well as ever."

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This testimonial will be found in full in Ayer's "Curebook" with a hundred others. Free. Address J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

Notice of Assignment.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT N. W. E. Beauchamp, and Alice M. Beauchamp of Washington County, Oregon, have made an assignment to me of all their property, real and personal for the benefit of all their creditors in proportion to the amount of their respective claims. That I have filed such assignment in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Washington County, and have duly qualified and entered upon the discharge of my duties as such assignee.

All persons, therefore, having claims against the said N. W. E. Beauchamp and Alice Beauchamp, or either of them, are hereby notified to present such claims under oath, to me at the law office of Geo. H. Hagley, in Hillsboro, Oregon, or at my office within three months of the date herein.

Dated at Hillsboro this 15th day of December, 1896.

W. W. BARRETT, Assignee of W. E. Beauchamp and Alice M. Beauchamp.

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80 ACRES OF LAND, FOR \$1800. ALL fenced, six miles South of Hillsboro in acres under cultivation, 22 acres washed running water, good orchard, house, cellar, barn, granary, hen-house, woodshed, good well and water. Address, William Lower, Ventura, Ventura County, California.

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