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SATURDAY, FEB. 6, 1904.

No matter how democrats are inclined to look on Grover Cleveland, whether with friendliness or otherwise, there is hardly one among them who would not like to see him come out in favor of the next presidential nominee of the democratic party. No man has ever been so much criticised as the ex-president and remained silent under the strictures, yet his course has been the only one and today finds his former enemies conceding him the place of "first private citizen of the republic." When the ex-president makes a public utterance it receives more widespread attention than that of any other living American. In the South, once relentlessly bitter, this change of feeling shows most plainly and Southerners remember with pleasure the tremendous fighting machine with which Cleveland swept the country. No doubt the shifting, erratic, and flamboyant style of Roosevelt accounts for a good deal of this change of sentiment. The suave McKinley made the republican yoke very easy during his administration and partisanship sank to nearly its lowest level. Senator Tillman once went to see McKinley in a white heat and came back with a smile on his face. -Roosevelt's attempt to lift the negro via the public office route, the corruptness in public life which he has been unable to check and his interference with army traditions in order to exalt a personal friend, have all aroused animosities throughout the country.

Kansas, New York, Oregon and Nebraska have had members or ex-members of congress tried before Federal courts for felonies. Of three tried thus far one was convicted in New York and the two others acquitted on technicalities, their cases not being allowed to go to the jury, so that the moral question of their honesty or dishonesty was left to the constituents who once elected them. The fourth in the toils, Burton of Kansas, is yet to be tried. He has a good technical chance, although everything depends upon the character of the federal judge who presides over the district court where the trial takes place.

Politics are warming up in congress. The fight is taking on the character of a personal attack on Roosevelt. Not since the Blaine-Cleveland campaign has the personal note sounded above other party cries and it is to be hoped that a clean campaign will be conducted. The wear and tear and business depression that usually accompany a bitter campaign are positively detrimental to the country.

In an editorial some time since we stated that the Oregonian was sufficiently known in the East to win its editor a snub at the hands of Senator Hoar who refused to shake hands with him. The Oregonian says we "court notice by eccentricity." Now we feel quite sure that Scott never wanted that shake, we also believe that such public incident never caused the editor of the Oregonian any degree of chagrin, and we positively know

that the Oregonian is not going to set itself the task of convincing the whole country that Senator Hoar's intellect is not sufficiently acute to digest the intellectual fodder which the Oregonian serves up to its patrons. For all of that we would advise the boys who draw pay checks from the old man never to let slip a chance to dig up something to show that Hoar, while a great man, is subject to the eccentricities that usually accompany genius; that these eccentricities are not worthy of notice; that a snub administered by him is never to be taken seriously by any one and must be always construed in the light of a joke, and that a snub from Hoar is really a distinction, don't you know. We are fully convinced from the methods of the Oregonian that Scott believes that it is more blessed to give than receive a snub.

Beware of lieu land scrip. It is becoming cheap, some of it being offered as low as \$3.70 per acre. This decline in value is due to a bill reported by the House public land committee prohibiting the placing of lieu land scrip on land chiefly valuable for timber, and this is also to affect selections already made but which have not been patented. The bill before congress has the approval of the department of the interior and lieu land scrip may soon be only valuable for securing desert land. This is likely to result in some very cheap scrip and will stop the acquisition of timber land by lieu land scrippers. This in turn will increase the value of patented timber land as scrip has kept down timber prices. We advise persons contemplating buying scrip to get soldiers' additional, as that kind is not likely to suffer as will the lieu land.

Our esteemed contemporary the Bend Bulletin is in a frantic state of mind towards us on account of the few ethical comments that this paper has made on its editor's natural proclivities. The Bulletin man shows a marked familiarity with the use of Billingsgate and we are at a loss to know how he came by it. We have always thought that he was some European nobleman incog., but this late exhibition has greatly disconcerted our belief. Well, we can only hope for the best, and withhold our judgment until the next eruption. He may yet be one of nature's noblemen, as he says he is.

"A soft answer turneth away wrath."

Nothing definite has come to light in the past week regarding the loss of \$190 reported by Jim Overton. There has been a good deal of talk but nothing more. The persons mentioned last week as having visited the Overton house on the day the money disappeared were of unquestioned integrity and not the least reflection upon them was intended, but subsequent talk of the matter made unpleasant deductions possible. Mrs. Gile was not there.—Bulletin.

Large manufacturing interests and business men often regret that presidential campaigns come so frequently and that they so engross the public mind that business interests almost come to a standstill. This way of looking at matters is a faulty one. Under our form of government it is desirable that government policies be carefully over hauled and examined and faults discussed. Campaign time is also suited for the proposal and discussion of new suggestions, and on this basis political parties are pitted against each other and

the public hears the pros and cons and decides as to the good qualities of various suggestions. These adjustments of government policies are absolutely necessary in a growing country where developments are likely to grow too much along particular lines and throw the business of the whole country into a panic. This is shown by over-indulgence in borrowing in Jackson's administration, and later by exploitation of railroads, city building, wildcat mines and at present the trust. This latter is a double-facer as a popular enemy. One trust will raise prices and hold up the public in that way, while another trust will be a more public affair, that is, the public can buy stock in it and the promoters take the price and buy something that they like. Thus we have a toy trust that is placed within the reach of everyone and was made for the sole purpose of selling stock. The Standard Oil Company and the ship trust are examples of these two kinds of trusts. Railroads in the 70's were exploited in the same way. The roads built through good territory and while paid were retained by their builders, while roads built where they were sure to be unprofitable for many years were sold to the public. These latter roads were soon in the bankruptcy courts and when they became valuable it always occurred that some railroad magnate had bought up the stock at a very low price and had made the road a part of some system. This, however, does not mean that the small stockholders who retained their stock made money, for earnings usually go for officers' salaries and repairs and not for dividends on stock. The magnate does not declare stock dividends except when he is desirous of selling the road. In older countries political readjustments are not needed so frequently, as changes do not occur so quickly as in a country with large undeveloped resources. In the United States political campaigns do not come too frequently and public attention is engrossed no longer than is necessary for public good.

J. Adam Bede, a new member of congress from Minnesota, has opened the campaign by making a political speech in the House of Representatives. Bede was in the consular service under Cleveland and went through the Gold democrat stage to republicanism. His speech was well received by both parties and he was frequently applauded by both sides of the house. His hit may give him a claim on the senatorship from his state.

Mrs. A. C. Lucas and Mrs. J. A. Rayl were in Prineville from Bend Tuesday on a shopping expedition. They returned home Wednesday.

Editor Schlecht, of the Deschutes Echo, spent the fore part of the week in Prineville on business.

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