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Considering the matter strictly in the light of fitness no better appointment has been made by the present administration than that of ex-Congressman Benjamin Rutterworth to be Commissioner of Patents, although some republicans might object because Ben's endorsement of the St. Louis platform was far from enthusiastic, if we remember aright; and he made a speech against the McKinley bill in the House, but afterwards voted for it.

Fourteen saloons have closed in Portland this month, says the Oregonian, and others have a hard time to pay their license. Thus is the single gold standard doing a great temperance work—by making money so scarce that a majority of the people cannot afford to pay for liquor—Ex.

One million men have gone to work since McKinley was elected—working for federal offices.

It looks as though it were the friends, and not the opponents of the arbitration treaty, who are afraid of a vote in the Senate.

Cecil Rhodes and Bourke Cockran have been rubbing elbows in Rome but the Italian government still stands.

The secretary of state has appropriated among the counties the five per cent received from sales of government lands within the state during the past year. The total amount distributed was \$1382.10. Last year it was more than \$5000.

The semi annual statement of the financial condition of Baker county shows that the net county indebtedness has been reduced \$15,954.32 in just six months.

Canyon creek reached the high water mark of last May during the week, and the new levee was taxed to its utmost capacity. The county road suffered considerably, and two of the bridges above town went down with the flood. By great exertion the citizens prevented any very serious damage in town, although Sheriff Livingston and Mrs. Adamson each abandoned their residences for higher ground during the height of the flood.—News.

Hepner Gazette: A. W. Patterson, who has been connected with the Gazette for the past six years, departed for Indianapolis, Ind., on last evening's train. He visit his parents, whom he has not seen since coming to the West, and other relatives and friends. This fall he will enter a law school where he will remain till he completes the course. Alvah will continue to take an active interest in newspaper work, however, and may return to Oregon at some future date, though he is undecided at present as to location.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple thing to patent? Protect your ideas; they may bring you wealth. Write JOHN WEDDERBURN & CO., Patent Attorneys, Washington, D. C., for their \$1.00 price offer and list of two hundred inventions wanted.