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By J. W. SMITH.

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Athena, Oregon, July 14th, 1893.

EXTRA SESSIONS.

Many of our exchanges especially those of the republican faith have been upbraiding President Cleveland because he did not call an extra session of congress early in the summer. We do not think Mr. Cleveland has been peculiar in conservatism about calling an extra session of congress.

When Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated, March 4th, 1861, the country was on the verge of a civil war. There was a fear of an extra session of congress to be called to meet as early as the first week in April. The president was fearfully abused because he did not follow his inaugural address with a proclamation to assemble the houses within thirty days. He paid no heed to the racket. He consulted the wisest of the statesmen around him, the ablest financiers of the country; felt the pulse of the intelligent public, with that most delicate touch for which he is now famous, and patiently waited for the members to get the cobwebs out of their heads; that had been woven by the spider of panic and compromise. Though he faced an empty treasury and the credit of the government was so low that London asked an interest of 12 per cent on short loans; though the Confederacy had been organized at Montgomery; though state after state seceded; troops were called out; armies were organized; the first Bull Run was fought; many fights in the West occurred; there was a vigorous campaign in West Virginia; and yet congress was not assembled until Aug 6th. When the houses met they were ready for the serious business situation presented. They would not meet in April; would not meet in the way, an indication to the natural march of events.

Cleveland has this distinguished precedent; and Cleveland was not committed to any date for the meeting until he called for it. On June he stated to a reporter, that it was his purpose to call an extra session of congress, "not earlier than the 1st. Nov. nor later than the 15th of September. unless expected contingencies should necessitate an earlier meeting." Those who digest and assimilate the force of the last eight words in the above quotation, will see that the noisy newspapers and other clamorers, have had no weight in the matter. The "unexpected contingency" arose, when the Indian council stopped free silver coinage in that empire; the date was changed to meet the contingencies, and the session called.

WHAT CONGRESS SHOULD DO.

Congress will meet Monday, Aug 7. That will be four months before the house would assemble, by force of the law, the latter date being December 4.

Now, if Congress will elect a speaker and other officers, organize the committees, pass a bill repealing the silver purchase law, and go home, giving the country and themselves say three months to observe the effect of the repeal; time to study out further legislation of a financial kind, it seems to us congress will, so far, do the wise thing. Such a course would commit no member or party to any particular line of financial policy, in the long session to begin in December. It would present a test of the theory that the purchase law is the principal aggravating cause of the present condition of financial confusion, fright, suspicion and failure. If confidence came promptly, as a result of the repeal, congress would be in a position to proceed with

the remedies than it can be now. If the repeal had no appreciable effect, or an adverse one, that would provide "pointers" for the trial of some other expedient. One thing at a time; and the one thing the county is demanding of congress, is the stoppage of silver purchase. The belief among financiers and business men is universal, that these purchases are "inching" us toward the silver standard, the adjustment to which would be through a crash, besides which the existing pinch is serenity and phenomenal prosperity. This belief is just as good as a fact, so far as the effect it has is to be taken account of; no matter if the belief be the merest moonshine madness.

The expunging of the law would speedily show whether the unanimous voice of the business and financial classes were the voice of wisdom or the chatter of folly. Three months will be ample time for a trial of the effect of such action as the President is certain to recommend; and we hope his recommendation will be followed.

Congress should do its extra session do, in twenty working days, and adjourn not later than September 1st.

IN 1873.

A number of republican newspapers, and especially the Pendleton Tribune, are trying very hard to make it appear that the democratic party is responsible for the present financial disturbance.

In 1872 the republican party achieved its most signal victory, had nearly a round million majority of the popular vote. In a total electoral vote of 346 they had 286 or more than three fourths of the whole. Pursuant to this triumph Gen. Grant was inaugurated president March 4, 1873. Within three months of his inauguration, signs of commercial weakening began to appear at all the centres of trade and industry. Nine months from the day he took the oath of office the country was in the midst of the wildest panic it had ever experienced; 1836-44 wasn't a marker; 1857 was completely eclipsed. The pinch that panic brought went on pinching for nearly five years. All that time the people were blessed with republican rule. Considering the facts of that case isn't it rather absurd to charge the present pinch, which began under a republican administration, to a change of party control?

THE "BUZZARD" SQUAWKS.

Hull, of the Milton Eagle (not the Hull, we presume, of old Ironsides or even of Detroit and table-cloth fame) takes a quill from the wing of his noble bird. —The Eagle—points it with brimstone fired with witticism; and, giving free scope to that commendable qualification which he says so admirably adapts us for a journalistic career, proceeds to give us a complete and gratuitous "write up," closing with the free advice to "wipe our chin," because we, supposing he made "turning over" a speciality, thought he was on the eve of performing the acrobatic feat of "flopping his mighty wings on the other side of the political fence, and advised him to "go slow." We being inexperienced wanted to see how the thing was done.

Well, brother, before you again undertake such a "write up" of us, call and we will give you some data concerning ourselves, which will possibly prevent you from having to make such liberal use of that "cheerful disposition" to which you allude.

We will state, however, should future occasion require, you may know, that we are personally acquainted with Mr. Powers; we are not a "recent arrival from the effete East;" our name is not "John," and we are not of "Pocahontas fame."

Now, Hull, "let us kindly advise you in all sincerity," before you attempt biography again just pin your ears back and step into a hole and then plug the hole.

A SILLY THREAT.

The silver miners, it is said, threaten to revolt against the government of the United States. Bless their souls, they are too little to create more than a good-sized riot at the worst. The population

of the leading silver states, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and Nevada is only about 4,885,000. These states have about one thirty-second of the country's population. Besides their people are not all fools; not all, by a long shot, are interested, directly, in silver mines. And if the whole of them, every able bodied man, were willing and anxious to rebel, they could not raise as many men for war as could several single states to meet them. They have about one-half the population of Illinois or Ohio; less than one-third as many as New York, and about one-third as many as Pennsylvania. Those miners are objects of sympathy in their situation of idleness and loss; but they are no more entitled to commiseration than many other single industries, that have lost dollars where the silver people have lost pennies, since the pinch began. It is estimated that the egg product of the United States is five times as valuable as the silver product. Cotton, corn, wheat, hay, iron, coal—these singly out-value the silver from three to thirty times over. The closing of the Indian mints to coinage on private accounts, has hit them a hard blow, and they ought to have sense enough to understand that, for this, no American party or class is in any degree responsible.

HELIX ITEMS.

HELIX, June 12.—Farmers are busy preparing to reap their bountiful harvest which will be ready in two or three weeks. The country is overrun with men hunting for work.

Dr. Fuller has decided to locate with us.

C. A. Davis and family with Willie and Jimmie Isaac started for the river with a load of fishing tackle this morning. The trout have our sympathy.

Two of Ike and Bona Atkinson's brothers are here from Seattle. The boys have been with us before and we are glad to see them again.

David Gordon was in from the lower Juniper country yesterday and purchased a header from the W. C. F. Co. Mr. Gordon says wheat looks well in his neighborhood.

George V. Hamilton and J. D. Israel are in town today, they say the wheat prospect throughout the country is very good.

ADAMS NOTES.

July 13th 1893.—Mrs. William McBride, returned Friday evening from a two weeks visit with relatives in Walla Walla, Dayton and Stevedore.

Mrs. John Proffitt arrived from Centralia Wash., last week. Mr. Proffitt having decided to locate here permanently.

L. M. Watrus went to the county seat Sunday, he being the defendant in a land contest case before the court there.

Farmer John Adams and wife, were passengers on Sunday evening's No. 6 for Portland. Mr. Adams having been subpoenaed as a Federal court juror.

Hamilton & Rourke as well as Killen & Taylor have a force of men engaged in repairing their wheat platforms and warehouse preparatory to the handling of the immense wheat crops which will soon be ready to move.

A well dressed stranger by the name of Wilson, lately from the east, in attempting to board Saturday night's local at this place intending to beat his way to Walla Walla, missed his calculations and fell between the cars of the train, thereby sustaining a painful injury to his left foot, which later on was amputated by surgeons of Walla Walla. The train crew picked him up and took him there as a matter of humanity.

Although the weather the past few days has been favorable as regards crops, a good rain would, we think, go further toward "restoring confidence" in this neck of the woods, than any expected results in the matter of financial legislation to be brought about under the orders of "His Hog Island Majesty."

Geo. Hamilton and F. F. Rourke were here this week looking after their interests in the way of warehouse and platform facilities. They report grain prospects good, in the country adjacent to their warehouses and will no doubt do a large business this fall.

The Canyon City News tells of a Fourth of July celebration in that town along in the '60's, when John C. Luce arose to read the Declaration of Independence, and read in a rich, dark brown voice nearly half of the constitution of the United States before Hon. W. Lair Hill pulled the tail of John's coat and found the right page for him.

ATHENA PRESS

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THE GRANGE STORE

Ladies

Our new stock of Dress Goods has arrived from New York, and we will be pleased to show them. Among the dress goods will be the latest patterns in Pointelles, Grendines, Satens, Chambrays Cashmeres, Sublime, Summer Suitings, etc etc.

LATEST NOVELTIES IN TRIMMINGS TO MATCH

Chiffon and Oriental laces, embroideries, Hamburg edgings, fancy Ties, Gloves mitts, Handkerchiefs, etc. Entirely new and complete line of Ribbons, unique in design and very pretty. Underwear and Hosiery in all grades, and remember that we

HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE LARGEST INVOICE

of Ladies, Gents, Misses, Boy's and Children's Shoes ever brought to the city. They comprise the latest styles and for neatness and elegance cannot be beat, and will be sold at hard times

Prices.

We would respectfully ask your inspection of these goods, knowing you will be pleased, and it will be a pleasure for us to show them to you.

BERGEVIN BROS.,

Athena Oregon



C. M. HENDERSON & CO. RED SCHOOLHOUSE SHOES.

We are happy little children, and we love our pleasant school. We love our gentle teacher and obey his 12-inch rule.

Bad Roads

Makes trade slow, but we offer such RARE INDUCEMENTS to Customers who venture forth, that they come to town in spite of

A Foot Pace.

Whenever they are in town they find just what they want and are able to make

Deals That Pay.

Do not neglect the CHANCE, but take ADVANTAGE of our OFFER.

C. W. Hollis,

ATHENA, OREGON.

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