

The Coast Mail.

MARSHFIELD, OREGON:
Thursday, June 12, 1884

For President,
JAMES G. BLAINE.....of Maine
For Vice President,
JOHN A. LOGAN.....of Illinois
Presidential Electors.....
D. P. THOMPSON
WARREN TRUITT
J. C. LEASURE

In another column we give a portrait and sketch of James G. Blaine, the republican nominee for president. In our next issue we expect to be able to do the same thing for John A. Logan, the nominee for vice president.

The election in Danville, Va., is reported to have passed off quietly. All the white folks voted, but the "niggers" didn't, except 60 who voted the democratic ticket. The whites, of course, voted for the bourbon ticket. A very unanimous and harmonious election, surely!

The chairman of the republican national conventions have been: Henry S. Lane, of Indiana, in 1856; George Ashmun, of Massachusetts, in 1860; William Dennison, of Ohio, in 1864; Gen. Hawley, of Connecticut, in 1868; Thomas Settle, of North Carolina, in 1872; Edward McPherson, of Pennsylvania, in 1876; Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, in 1880, and Gen. John B. Henderson, of Missouri, in 1884.

The Grand Royal Arch chapter of Free and Accepted Masons of the state of Oregon met at Portland last Friday and elected the following officers: Grand high priest, F. N. Shurtliff; deputy grand high priest, Wallace Baldwin; grand king, J. K. Weatherford; grand scribe, R. F. Gibbons; grand secretary, R. P. Earhart; grand treasurer, Chris. Taylor; captain of host, G. W. Humphrey; grand lecturer, S. L. Pope.

As usual, the June Overland Monthly comes to hand full of interesting reading. The Overland is decidedly a Pacific coast publication, and for that reason has a peculiar fascination for all western people. The pioneer days of this coast will furnish material for thrilling narratives for many years to come, and the editors of the Overland know how to write these incidents in a fascinating style. Buy a copy and enjoy good reading.

Last Sunday John Wardle, a cripple, about 75 years old, living three miles north of McMinnville, was shot by Geo. Farris, who is Wardle's stepson and town marshal of McMinnville. Farris' mother and Wardle have lived unhappily for some time. Sunday Farris went to their house and in a family quarrel drew his pistol and shot Wardle through the breast, inflicting what was supposed to be a mortal wound. Farris is under arrest. He has a wife and three children.

Democrats no longer laugh at Ben Butler's presidential aspirations. His nomination by their next national convention would not be half as inconsistent and ridiculous as many things they have done. His defeat would not be as bad as Greeley's, but it would be bad enough, for the southern chivalry would rebel at such a result, and it might be the means of dismembering the solid south. This would be a benefit to the democrats in the end, for they will never win a president until after a change in the south.

Jefferson Davis has been giving to the public his opinions of Lincoln, Grant, Sherman and McClellan. On the whole he thinks better of the northern leaders than might be supposed. The fault-finding with which he qualifies his praise is entirely harmless. On the authority of Gen. Lee, Davis says that Meade was the most skillful general in the union army, and that Lee could understand the movements of all the northern generals easier than he could those of Meade. The drubbing which Meade gave the Confederate chieftain's army when it was still hopeful and powerful evidently inspired Lee with entire respect for his opponent's ability.

A new land reform is being agitated in England, which threatens to deprive English sportsmen of the pleasures of the chase. Its motto is "the game preserves must go." It is urged that if these large preserves be put under cultivation they would furnish employment for thousands of farm laborers, and would make up very largely Great Britain's present deficiency of food supply. It is safe to say that there is but little prospect of this reform being consummated, as the British nobility will oppose it by every means in their power. The ride behind the hounds, the grouse hunts over the moors behind splendid dogs, are pleasures and healthful recreations that John Bull would be very loth to part with.

In accepting Alaska from the Russian government the United States pledged itself that the educational institutions of that province should be maintained. We have not kept this promise. Thus far the government has not given a cent toward the education of the natives of Alaska, though it has contributed annually large sums for the education of the Indians of our western plains. Attention has been called recently to this neglect of Alaska. We have netted since the purchase of the province \$3,000,000 in the rentals of the seal-islands over and above all the government has paid in maintaining its authority in Alaska, and we have returned nothing. The president of the United States, the secretary of the interior and the commissioner of Indian affairs united in recommending to congress that \$50,000 be appropriated for the schools of Alaska. This a parsimonious house of representatives cut down to \$15,000, which the senate appropriations committee, under some unaccountable influence, propose to cut down to \$5000. This parsimony and bad faith was roundly and forcibly denounced by Senator Conger, and we hope will not be approved by the majority of the senate. We owe a duty to the natives of Alaska—the greater now for our past neglect of them. We should at least redeem our pledge to Russia and provide for its schools.

Blaine's book receives in England the recognition which it deserves as a remarkable contribution to American history. The London Times pronounces a most favorable verdict upon it and congratulates the author on the manner in which he is prosecuting his literary labors. The English critic was not prepossessed in its favor, for Blaine's dispatches and correspondence as secretary of state were too incisive and vigorous to please the London press; but he has been impressed with the historical value and genuine literary merits of the work, and accords to it the highest praise for its freedom from partisanship and its dignity and elevation in tone. This is a judgment with which all fair-minded and unprejudiced Americans will be in full accord. Blaine's oration on President Garfield proved that he was the master of a literary style of singular purity and robust vigor. His reminiscences of Twenty Years in Congress are recorded with equal dignity and power. His views of public affairs are at once comprehensive and elevated; his judgments of men and measures are keen and impartial; and his survey of the momentous period in which, as Theodore Winthrop wrote, "history was made hand over hand," reveals statesmanlike qualities of mind. Senator Benton's "Thirty Years" is considered an American political classic of the highest value. Compared with Blaine's work it is very crude literary art.

JAMES G. BLAINE,



THE REPUBLICAN NOMINEE FOR PRESIDENT.

In deference to an overwhelming demand from the republicans in the states loyal to the party, and in defiance of the threats of Carl Schurz and his independent followers, the national republican convention that met at Chicago last week nominated James G. Blaine for the presidency. Gen. John A. Logan of Illinois was nominated for the vice presidency. This is a strong ticket, for it is one which every republican can sincerely support.

Blaine holds a place in the affections of the party that no other living man holds, and this uprising this year in his behalf means that the people intend to elect him and renew the Garfield administration.

In 1876, and again in 1880, Blaine was the choice of the voters of the republican party, but the opposition he encountered from New York deprived him of the nomination. After Garfield's accession to the presidency he rebuked Blaine's enemies in New York by making him secretary of state and appointing Robertson to the custom house, and the people applauded. They now demand Blaine's election to the presidency, which can and if necessary will be effected without the aid of New York.

Blaine's nomination means business on the part of his ardent admirers, who are the pillars of the party. There is nothing doubtful about him or them, and if he is elevated to the chief magistracy of the nation all will expect a genuine republican administration, and none will be disappointed.

There can be but little doubt of Blaine's election. It will need no effort on the part of his friends to carry the Pacific states. The democrats cannot nominate a man that will render any one of these states at all doubtful.

Since the time when young Henry Clay was the most magnetic of speakers and the most charming gentleman in either house of congress, it is safe to say that no man except James G. Blaine has ever dared to rival the reputation of the sage of Ashland. But it was a favorite expression of the late Judge Black of Pennsylvania that Blaine was a greater man and a more effective speaker than Henry Clay ever had been, and surely the judge, as one of the most pronounced of democrats, could hardly have been very partial to the republican leader, who was, par excellence, the radical of radicals, and who was the only republican member of congress during his long term whom the opposing party was never able to match either in power as a debater or in shrewdness as a parliamentarian.

James G. Blaine was born January 31, 1830, at the Indian Hill farm in Washington county, Penn. His father was one of the heaviest landed proprietors in the state, and the son spent several years in early youth at school in Lancaster, Ohio, living in the family of Hon. Thos. Ewing, who was at that time secretary of the treasury and an uncle of the future statesman. In 1848 he entered Washington college at Washington, Pa., and graduated in 1847, at the age of only 17 years.

After his graduation, Blaine taught for some years in the schools of the neighborhood, at the same time making a decided mark as a magazine and newspaper writer. In 1853 he went to Kennebec, Maine, where he had been asked to assume the management of the Kennebec Journal. Shortly afterward he accepted the control of the Portland Advertiser. In 1858 he was elected to the legislature and served there four years. At the beginning of his last term of two years he was chosen speaker and performed the duties of that office to the satisfaction of the law-makers of the pine-tree state. It was during the war of the rebellion, in 1862, that "Blaine of Maine" was first sent to congress. He at once devoted himself to a careful study of the rules of the house, and it was not long before he began to be regarded as one of the best parliamentarians in that body. He was repeatedly re-elected from the same district and in 1869 was made speaker of the house. His rulings were always prompt and accurate and it was not often that his bitterest enemies could find a flaw in his parliamentary armor. He made the finest speech in congress against what was known as the "Ohio idea"

of paying the national debt in greenbacks, which was a product of Pendleton's fertile brain.

There can be no question that at the time when the republican convention was held in 1876, Blaine was the most popular leader in the party. But Proctor Knott's commission of investigation in the house of representatives had taken occasion two days before the convention met to present a report falsely attempting to implicate him in certain improper transactions as speaker, and his manly, outspoken explanation and refutation of the charges only partially removed their effect on the convention, backed as it was by the eloquence of Ingersoll, whose "plumed knight" speech will go down to history as his greatest effort. Blaine received 351 votes in the final vote as against 379 for the Hayes combination, engineered by Roscoe Conkling, who had never forgiven the "Plumed Knight" for his severely vivacious reference to him on the floor of the house as the "turkey gobbler member from New York." Nevertheless, Blaine went into the campaign with the best of feeling toward the republican candidate and worked night and day for his election. It is said, however, that after the election and after the southern policy of the administration had been enunciated, he never went to the white house, feeling that President Hayes had not done his duty by the party which had elected him.

Blaine had been chosen a member of the upper house and had entered upon his duties in 1877. He had voted against the electoral commission bill on the ground that it was unconstitutional. In 1880 he was once more a candidate for the presidential nomination and succeeded in so using the influence which he had, as to defeat the third term scheme and to overthrow the Conkling-Cameron-Logan triumvirate. He did as much as any other one man worker to elect President Garfield, and his appointment as secretary of state was a perfectly natural one. The history of his connection with the president during his brief administration and after the fatal bullet of Guiteau had done its work is too fresh in the public mind to need repetition here. He retired from the cabinet shortly after President Arthur's accession. James G. Blaine is to-day one of the keenest statesmen of America and, although in private life, is regarded as exerting a greater influence than any other leader in the republican party.

What a Record!

Taking its location into consideration, the Boston Herald can generally see as much good in the democratic party as any other independent paper in the country. But even the Herald is completely disgusted with the record of the democratic congress, as will be seen from the following:

"The record of congress is substantially closed. With the republican national convention coming on next week, and the democratic convention to meet a month later, there is little likelihood of any further serious attempt at important legislation at this session. And what a record it is! Nothing done beyond the passage of the appropriation bills, the most important of which are still being boggled over by the two houses. When the present house was elected, and again when it met, the democratic leaders confidently said that the majority would make up a record upon which they would appeal to the country in the presidential election. They frankly acknowledged that the tidal wave in its path brought nothing more than an opportunity to their party."

The above exactly sums up the situation. The democrats had nothing to start with, and they have failed to accomplish anything. In fact had congress not been in session the democrats would be in better condition than they are now, for every move they have made has damaged them. For years the democratic party has appealed to the country on the basis of promises. It has insisted that all would be well if the party could only have a trial. For months the experiment has been going on in Washington in the presence of an observing nation. It would seem that a majority of 60 or 70 in the lower house ought to be enough to give the experimenters a fair chance to show their merits. In fact it has afforded them an opportunity to demonstrate that their promises were fraudulent. It will not do for them to say that a republican senate and president have conspired to spoil their record, for they have sent nothing of importance to the senate for action, and the president has not been invited to consider the advisability of a veto. What one thing has the democratic congress done that can be used as a campaign argument? How many things has it left undone that will condemn it in the coming campaign? The forty-seventh congress gained the record of having accomplished more important legislation than any congress since the war, and yet that congress had an exceedingly small republican majority, and one that was exceedingly doubtful on several important questions. The forty-eighth congress pretended to know the exact wants of the country, but it has not met a single important public question with either ability or unity. Its democratic members will soon adjourn to Chicago to make a platform for the campaign. What will that platform consist of? It will be devoted to subterfuges and attempts to cover up a record at Washington which will not bear public inspection. It will consist of the old jingle about reform and republican frauds. It will be the same old talk about what democracy can do, without any record of having done anything except demonstrate incapacity.

How the News was Received.

Nothing since the announcement of the fall of Richmond and the capture of Lee's has occasioned such a furor on this coast as the announcement of Blaine's nomination at Chicago last Friday. The news was received with unbounded enthusiasm everywhere. At San Francisco the day was one of intense excitement. The bulletin boards in front of the various newspaper offices were surrounded by eager crowds at an early hour, and as the bulletins were announced the numbers grew till it seemed as if the entire male population of the city was on the street, and the crowds everywhere were for Blaine. Each advance in his vote was the signal for a wild burst of applause. When it was bulletined that Logan had requested his supporters to vote for Blaine the enthusiasm became intense, and when at last Blaine's nomination was announced it seemed as if the town had gone mad with satisfaction. Steam whistles, bells, cannon, anvils, everything which could make a noise was set in operation and for an hour the city roared as it has not for years. As soon as it was dark the streets in all directions were illuminated with bonfires, each blazing pile being the center of an excited hurrahing crowd. At 8 o'clock a line of march was formed at the foot of Market street for the pavilion, and by the time the head of the column had reached the building 30,000 men were in line. It seemed as if each particular man was trying to make more noise than anybody else, and the combined result was a carnival of uproar. The great pavilion was jammed, and from the platform presented the most remarkable scene ever witnessed in California. Several bands played national airs in concert for half an hour, when P. R. Cornwall, chairman of the republican state committee, called the meeting to order, and speaking began. One speaker followed another in quick succession, but none were able to make themselves heard. After an hour and a half spent in vain efforts to hear, that part of the audience which occupied the rear of the hall began to file slowly out. At this juncture Ex-Governor George L. Woods of Oregon was introduced, and his first sentence brought the departing crowd back again to the stand. When his three-minute limit had expired, 20,000 voices shouted to go on, and for half an hour he held the throng in eager interest. His speech was the great success of the evening. At its conclusion, the audience filed out, and took up the line of march down Market to Kearny, and then dispersed. The whole line of march was illuminated by bonfires, and seemed a perfect blaze of red, white and blue fireworks. On the whole the demonstration was the most enthusiastic ever seen in the city. Dispatches from the interior indicate that the news of the nomination has been received everywhere with great satisfaction. Many democrats, conspicuously among them Ex-Congressman J. K. Luttrell, openly declare for Blaine, and nobody doubts that California will give the ticket an overwhelming majority.

The congressional committee on expenditures of the department of justice proposes to recommend salaries instead of fees for United States attorneys and marshals. This is all very well, perhaps, if the niggardly disposition was not manifested to make salaries so low that competent men for these important offices will be difficult to find at such compensation.

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