The Coast Mail.

MARSHFIELD, OREGON:
Thursday, :::::::: December 11, 1884

Oregon Immigration Board.

Actuated by a desire to aid in the development of the vast material resources of our domain, and believing that these interests will be best subserved by prompt, efficient and practical efforts to induce a class of immigration that will double or quadruple our present agricultural or farming population, the Portland board of trade has organized as an auxiliary, a board of immigration. This board will be carried on under a systematized plan of operations in harmony with the action of the government, state and railway land departments. The headquarters of the board are located in New Market theater block, in Portland, where it is designed to have in a collective and the readiest form everything obtainable in the way of information for intending settlers. This information will embrace a complete and classified record of lands for sale or open for settlement, a file of each of the papers published in this section, an immigrants' scrap-book, containing descriptive articles of each county, specimens of the products grown in each section; in a word, everything in the way of accurate and wholly trustworthy information for the immigrant. As the season advances it is the intention of the board to extend its province to the temporary care of immigrants while en route and in Portland to accompany them to their destinations as far as possible, and in all ways to make them feel that they have fallen amongst friends, until they are finally settled.

This board will, as a part of its operations, issue the usual and necessary amount of printed matter for general distribution. This will be distributed among immigrants en route, at ocean steamship and river landings, at railway stations, hotels, among the farming population in our states, east, west, north and south, as well as in Europe. Added to this there will be personal labor of the secretary and his assistant among immigrants. The main effort of the board will be directed to encourage the incoming of farmers and men of means, rather than to augment our present population of laborers, mechanics or professional men.

This is an effort in the right direction, and one that is not only practical and pregnant with the best of results for this state and the adjoining territories, but it appeals strongly to and is certainly worthy of the support of every citizen of this county. That support ought to be extended, and at once. The board of trade of Portland has shown a very liberal policy in the inauguration of this immigration board, and our county people should not withhold whatever aid they can extend. Agriculture is the basis of all forms of human industry. It gathers about it all the industrial and fine arts; all the varied fruits of human ingenuity. Cities and towns, railways, manufactories, commerce, schools, even the governmental life, all draw their sustenance from agriculture. In the possession of a county offering the potent inducements of an equable climate; a climate that never made an honest enemy, an unmatched soil; splendid timber lands; the best of water in natural streams or in wells; the highest grade of educational institutions; a dominant church interest; convenient and good markets transportation by water and rail; good county roads; bright, active, thrifty towns, we not only need, but should strive to obtain that class of immigration which will open up new farms, establish new industries, and in all ways add to the moral, industrial and financial strength of this community. We need these immigrants. It is not so much the money which they will bring with them, which in the aggregate is a large sum, but the wealth which they and their labor, that we are most interested about.

We hope that our county people will accord to the board every possible help. As the board has undertaken to make a thorough distribution of printed information, we suggest that our merchants and business men club together and issue a well written description of this county or locality, and in pamphlet of circular letter form forward it to headquarters at Portland. This should give the topograpy, climate, temperature, soil, products, domestic animals, railways, markets, capital necessary for new-comers, and a list of the lands sale or open for settlement, with a description of the same. Such a contribution will only be a fair one for our people, and would greatly enhance our interests. If that is thought impracticable, we hope that every citizen who has land for sale, or is willing to sell, will forward that information to the board. Make the description of the land, character of soil, etc., exact location and price, as full as possible. It will greatly assist the secretary of the board if the description of the land is made separate from the letter. Send full name and address. All letters should be addressed to Oregon immigration board, rooms 7 and 8 New Market theater building, Portland, Oregon. As this movement in behalf of immigration is wholly gratuitous on the part of the Portland business men, cosmopolitan or general in the character of the work mapped out, and must necessarily aid all portions of this domain, we cordially indorse it and hope that our readers will aid the effort. Every homestead founded in the state, every acre reclaimed and made productive, every sawmill built, every ton of ore extracted from our hills, every new industry established, is adding to the permanent riches of the commonwealth.

Go and see the Devil-Fish at the Marshfield Golden drug store. *

The Intellectual Test.

There is no doubt that Thos. A. Hendricks, vice-president-elect, is arrogating to himself the management of democratic affairs for the ensuing four years; and there is no reason that he should not, for he is a dyed-in-the-wool democrat of the southern stamp who has been in the harness for more than 40 years. The other night Hendricks made a speech in Brooklyn, right on the native heath of the mugwump civil service reformers. He went right to headquarters to break the news to the supposed owners of Cleveland, the democratic president. Curtis and his friends have evidently been a little over anxious to commit Cleveland to the Eaton civil service reform scheme, and Hendricks plainly informs them of the fact. In his speech he said:

Do you ask me if I am in favor of civil service reform? Of course I am in favor of civil service reform. I am not in favor of a continuation of so many things that we have seen in some years that are past. The people are tired of it and they want a change. Do you desire to know from me what civil service I have confidence in? I am very free to say to you people to-night that I am not particularly confident of success after a schoolmaster's examination, but I will tell you what I have confidence in, as it was in the days of Andrew Jackson. Let a true man come to be president of the United States, and let true men be called around him to aid him in the public service, and let these men resolve that the only test of qualification for office under them shall be honesty and fitness for the service, and you have civil service reform.

"The schoolmaster's examination" is exceedingly distasteful to Hendricks, and he without doubt reflects the sentiments of the rank and file of the democratic party on that subject. If the only hope of the democrats for office was based on a competitive examination their prospects would be forlorn indeed. They did not vote for Cleveland because of a burning desire to give him and his friends fat offices. They expect Cleveland to make places for them, and they do not want any republicans around who are prepared to answer those shoolmaster questions. Hendricks sees the point and he insists that the old doctrine "to the victors belong the spoils" shall be inforced. That is the meaning, and the only meaning to his speech. But Hendricks' desires can only be gratified by the defeat or the utter violation of the laws of the United States. That the vice-president-elect intends to violate the laws, if he can, is evident. Cleveland will be an executive officer. It is not for him to say who is honest or efficient under the civil service laws. As for Hendricks, he will be an exceedingly small factor in the political situation, unless he be allowed to set aside the civil service rules.

But Hendricks' speech indicates the nature of the contest which has already commenced in the democratic party, and nothing but fear of public sentiment will prevent a victory for the Hendricks gang of office seekers. The vice-president-elect knows what it is to hunger for office. He has been in the business all his life, and he now hangs out his sign showing that he will continue in the business. As far as the republican officials under the civil service rules are concerned, they can afford to view the situation calmly. They need have no delicacy about holding on to their positions, for the civil service rules were made while the republican party was in power. If the Hendricks scheme is carried out the democratic party will kill itself forever. If the rules are sustained, republicans will stand quite as good a chance as their democratic rivals.

Unless Hendricks can make his scheme work, the democrats are indeed in a sad plight. It is true Cleveland can see that republican officials are dismissed for alledged cause. But that does not give the offices to democrats. We imagine that our democratic friends have been paying more attention to practical politics than to literary pursuits, facts which they will realize when they come to meet Eaton's school masters. Some enterprising fellow ought to start a school for democratic office seekers, for, if the laws of the land are allowed to stand, our democratic friends will certainly be compelled to show their literary accomplishments. Hendricks now places little confidence in an intellectual test to democracy, but possibly something can be done with night shools.

The Pensions.

About 1,000,000 claims for pensions have been filed since 1861. More than half the whole number, according to the report of the commissioner, 545,130 claims in all, have been allowed. The whole amount disbursed for pensions since 1861 is $678,346,507. The amount paid during the past year was $56,907,507, including the sum paid to new claimants under the arrears of pensions act. Of these new claimants during the past year, 31,307 were paid, but as a large number of persons were dropped from the rolls, the net increase in the number on the pension rolls was only 19,078. The whole number of pensioners is 322,756, of whom about two-thirds are army invalids, the remainder widows, children and relatives, and navy invalids, with a few survivors of the war of 1812 and their widows.

It is an enormous sum that the government has paid in pensions, a sum which no member of the congress by which the first pensions act was enacted would have ventured to contemplate. At that time the government was terribly in debt; its resources were far smaller than they are now; its credit was impaired; its hopes for the future were dim. To-day its surplus revenue is so large that many conceive it to be the most important of all things to cut it down; and yet the taxes have been so reduced that they are scarcely felt by the people at all. There ought to be no feeling of unwillingness to pay fully and liberally all that by any reasonable construction of the law may seem due to pensions claimants. The government is able to pay; the money does not go out of the country, or into the hands of any privileged class, but into immediate circulation; and it goes toward the support of a body of people who deserve far more than the country has given or ever will give them. The marvelous prosperity which we enjoy, and which enables us to pay not only $56,000,000 a year for pensions, but many less meritorious charges, and yet to extinguish the public debt with honorable rapidity, is in great part due, we must not forget, to the services of those who suppressed the rebellion. If there should be a disposition in the next or in any future congress to cut down the sums awarded to the invalids of the union army of their representatives, or to extend like favors to those who have not equally just claims upon the government of the United States, it is to be hoped that men of all parties will be found as ready to resist such a charge as all should be to prevent frauds through the operation of the pension act.

The Future.

The democratic disposition is, after first gloating over the prospects of the spoils, to construe its victory into meaning that the republican party will be deposed from power forever, after next March. The democratic press has gone so far as to ask if the republican party has a future, and with ill-concealed eagerness assumes to answer that its mission is ended. The victory won was won by too narrow a margin for the democracy to lay the flattering unction to their souls that the democratic party has been rehabilitated for all time to come. One defeat does not mean defeat forever, as the experience of the democratic party should inculcate. Its experience, too, should cause it to refrain from exaggerative and superlative interpretation of the victory, so narrowed down that there are but a few thousand votes only between the victors and the vanquished. Let the enemy exult as he may, the republican party has no serious cause for discouragement. The republican party has had a glorious past, and no apprehension need be entertained of its future. Of its achievements it is only necessary to say that they are the grandest ever won by a party within a quarter of a century. The republican party has made more history in the quarter of a century of its supremacy, more history redounding to its glory and the progress of the country, than all other parties combined have done during the entire existence of the nation. The overthrow of the heresy of secession; the establishment of the national idea on a firm basis; the abolition of human slavery; the adoption of a policy that opened the public domain to the masses to make homes; the establishment of the best banking system known to the world; and the creation of a revenue policy which has put the United States at the head of the indnstrial nations of the world, are achievements that a party can be proud of, and for which a people must be thankful. To say that a party capable of the accomplishment of such deeds is dead, or that its mission is ended, is absurd. A party which maintains the idea of national supremacy will live, and come back to power, displace the party holding and making the nation secondary to its party. A party which is united on a revenue policy, and favors the protection of American industry against the combined competition of the world, need not fear that the American people will leave its mission unfulfilled. A party whose name is connected with all that has elevated the masses, ennobled labor and educated the people cannot go to pieces because of one defeat. The party that received a majority in eighteen states where the illiteracy is only 4.56, while the illiteracy of the states voting against it is 25.26 per cent of the population, need not fear that intelligence will not in the end win over ignorance. It is contrary to the nature of things that it should be so. The republican party comes out of the fight stronger and more united than when it went into it It has sloughed off all uncertain conti n gents and all factions have disappeared. It will be the party of opposition, an d will have time to perfect its political organization. Its organization should and will be maintained to watch and defeat democratic recklessness, for the democratic party has never been in power that it has not brought the country into disgrace or financial disaster. The republican party, though defeated, has a more hopeful outlook than the democratic party. We summon the New York Sun, democratic, as a witness of what we say and believe, when it says:

"Thus, while there is no sense in the idea that either of these two parties is going to be broken up at present, the republicans are politically in much the better condition of the two. They are compact and united. There is no difference of opinion or of purpose among them. The discordant elements have gone out and the army which remains is peerless for steadiness and discipline. Their defeat tends to promote and enliven their courage rather than destroy it. Considered merely as a political organization, the republican party is in good fighting order. But, while this is true of the defeated, it is not true of the victorious party. There is no such unity among the democrats. On the question of protection and free-trade, wide differences prevail among them. Between the wing so brilliantly represented by Morrison and Dorsheimer and the wing championed by Randall there exists a degree of antagonism which is all the more dangerous to the party because it is based upon material interests and is animated by antagonism of principle."

The republican party has only to stand by its record, stand by its principles, and victory will come again through the recklessness and dissensions of the democratic party.

Another Jefferson.

The Albany (N. Y.) Argus says it can be said with authority, and it should be distinctly stated, that if the wishes of Cleveland be considered the inauguration will be made simple, brief and as plain as possible, to comport with the known aversion of the president-elect to public display. It is to be expected that many democratic citizens and many democratic organization froms all parts of the country will be present in Washington during the inauguration. Competition among them to act as an escort there to the president-elect is said to be spirited. That competition will decrease when it is announced that Cleveland will proceed to the national capital without an escort, and with as much expedition and privacy as circumstances will permit or his prefurence secure.

I may say that Grover Cleveland is not a passionate admirer of the chronic office seeker. It may be recalled that he has not himself worn out many pairs of soles tramping about the doors of appointing powers, and I venture the observation that he has not the greatest sympathy for shoe leather thus demolished. Some of the most alert and confident aspirants for office at his hands will, twelve months hence, very likely be down on the president for his bad taste or ingratitude for having appointed more deserving and less obtrusive citizens over their heads. There is no truth in the reports current that there is a breach between the president and vice president-elect. Up to to-day Cleveland has not read Hendricks' Brooklyn speech, or any of his utterances, for which the papers are so criticising him. I should say that Cleveland looks upon Hendricks as having any citizen's right to go where he pleases and say what he likes. Cleveland is no more inclined to control Hendricks' tongue and pleasures of imagination than he will be to have Hendricks influence his administration. In the interview between them Cleveland uttered no words of censure of Indiana's methods.

To the World's correspondent Cleveland said: "I tell you candidly there is not a living man, including myself, who is able to say what gentlemen will form the next cabinet."

"Have you not given the matter careful thought as yet?"

"Further than the thought which every man is compelled to bestow upon every important matter to be performed in the future, I have not bestowed upon the question of cabinet appointments any consideration whatever. I cannot help wondering sometimes whether the papers, which are so busy forming my cabinet for me, really believed that I have nothing to do in my present office; that I should spend my time wholly in speculating about what I will do in the office I will hold next. As a matter of fact, I have business connected with the governor's office which, by giving a few hours to it every evening, I hope to finish during my term, and which demands all my attention. I am not engaged in making cabinets at present. My time is continuously broken in upon by visits of people from all parts of the country. I am glad to meet them cordially, but the hints, suggestions, discussions and differences of opinion which they and I are frequently credited with, originate in the brains of newspaper correspondents."

"As for example, your reported interview with Hendricks?"

"Ah, as to that," said the governor, his face clouding as he spoke, "that was not simply false, it was mischievous and malicious. A man could go to sleep and dream of nothing more utterly, wholly false than that."

Political Gossip.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The Times' Albany special of Dec. 4 says: I take the liberty of opening the doors upon a personal interview had with the president-elect. The public, notably that portion of the democratic party aspiring to federal positions or employment, is curious to know what will be the width and celebrity of Cleveland's broom. I have sought to measure and time it. Two things may be accepted as facts, one that Cleveland's hand will hold the stick, and the other that the hand is fully as patriotic as it is partisan. So, while he will give the country a democratic administration, he evidently does not purpose to precipitate an indiscriminate sweeping out of place-holders merely for the party's sake.

"I look upon it that only the first step has been taken," said Governor Cleveland to me, "in reform contemplated by the election. Purity in official station and prosperity for the people are demands upon the incoming administration. The confusion that would follow an immediate turning out of all the present office-holders and clerks of the government is not properly estimated, perhaps, by those who would clamor for such a policy. Reform and not revolution is the need of the republic."

During a conversation of considerable length the remarks of the president-elect were only cumulative evidence of an intention to act upon the principles outlined above. There was nothing of the headstrong man or pretender in his manner, but any amount of conviction and determination. While the character of the interview precludes its publication in detail, there is easily a deduction from it, which is submitted for the benefit of interested parties, that Grover Cleveland will be the people's and not the politicians' man. Gentlemen who make their living by the latter profession will not thrive upon his administration. Men who have demonstrated worthy quantities of citizenship, and a capacity for self support by honest industry, will out-rank your specious wire pullers, rounders and heelers on the file of applications for office.

The governor questioned me concerning a gentleman who has been somewhat effusive in his attentions of late. I characterized him as a plausible and shrew political manager. The crisp "Ah, indeed," response did not sound exactly like a proposition to make the gentleman a member of his cabinet.

A Probable Cabinet Officer.

[From the Philadelphia Dealer.]

We will venture the assertion that Hon. W. B. Vilas of Wisconsin will be selected by president-elect Cleveland as a cabinet officer. He is one of the leading democrats of his state. He was chairman of the convention which nominated Cleveland and was the speaker of the committee that formally notified the New York governor of his nomination. The ability of Vilas for almost any position in the new president's cabinet can hardly be questioned. We believe that he will be offered the secretary ship of war or of the interior. Vilas was a union democrat, and may be objectionable to the solid south, for, having known him in the old Badger state, we believe him to be a thoroughly union gentleman, who would not yield to southern obstinacy. This may possibly deter Cleveland from calling him into his cabinent, though if there is one per cent the amount of honesty and desire for fair government in Cleveland as claimed for him by his followers during the recent campaign, he will appoint no others except men of the loyal pattern of Wm. Vilas.

Some anonymous writer makes a personal attack on Mr. Gray in the last copy of the MAIL. It has come to be the common custom to treat such attacks and their authors with contempt. Usually a man who indulges in that kind of warfare is a cowardly sneak, but of course this one is an exception. He would probably say "I know nothing about it."

The foregoing appeared in the Coos Bay News of yesterday. What the writer of the squib is trying to get at, we do not know, and we do not believe that he himself knows. The name of the editor of this paper appears in it and the editor is responsible for whatever appears in the paper. If there be anything "anonymous" about this, we fail to see it; and we also fail to see why the News should take such a great interest in Mr. Gray, unless he be the "anonymous" editor of that paper, which must be so, if common report be true.