

Lebanon Express.

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Editor - and - Proprietor.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S EXPERIMENT.

There has been no end of fun poked at South Carolina for the stand she is taking with the liquor question by going into the business, and the temperance people condemn in unmeasured terms the idea of a state setting up whisky shops. It must be confessed that the experiment is a novelty and a marked departure from all ideas heretofore advanced on the subject. But, as an experiment, it may be worth trying, though we confess we have not much faith in it as a satisfactory solution of the problem that has been controlling us for generations. It is an exercise by the state for its authority for regulating the liquor traffic in another direction than absolute prohibition of sale, the plan of which who have enlisted themselves to the warfare against its manifold evils. Prohibition does not always and necessarily prohibit its failure being largely due to the inefficiencies and personal frailties of those charged with enforcement of the laws and the sentiment of the several communities under their jurisdiction. Undoubtedly the same reasons will largely contribute to the success or failure of the South Carolina experiment. Meantime, its outcome will be watched with interest. It is not improbable that some valuable data may be evolved from it. The famous his- toric remark from the governor of South Carolina is more than ever before to be repeated in the Palmetto state within the next year.—Cincinnati Tribune.

A Portland paper hits the moss-back bankers of that city who recently ordered that hereafter no checks or obligations against interior banks will be accepted, except for collection, the following five hit: Over \$3,000,000 of Portland money is today enjoying the sleep that knows no waking in the "wildcat" towns of Puget Sound, instead of being safely and profitably employed in the agricultural and industrial interests of Oregon, which have made Portland a city. What have these dignified pawnbrokers, who have grown rich through no effort of theirs, ever done to advance or build up the great state of Oregon? What right have they to pass judgment upon the builders of the interior? Have they ever done anything either through legislation or by investment to build up the interior industries? The answer is no. They are not built that way. They think that the sun rises on the west bank of the Willamette river and sets on Portland heights, and if they ever express any felling of sympathy for their fellow man it would probably be on account of his misfortune in living outside of that sacred circle. To them there is nothing of value in the vineyard, orchards, forests or gold fields of Southern Oregon, the rich alluvial lands of the Willamette valley or the rolling prairies of Eastern Oregon, all of which are in need of financial air. And as a matter of fact the interior banks are on a better financial footing today than a majority of the more pretentious pawnshops.

There will be more fruit in Southern Oregon than in any other portion of the state this year; in fact, there will be an abundance of nearly every description, and of first-class quality too. This is pre-eminently a fruit country, and sooner or later will take front rank with the leading districts of California in the race for public favor. The time is not far off when Rogue river valley fruit will have a prominent place on the tables of the nabobs of the United States.—Jacksonville Times. That is right. But the whole of Western Oregon can make the same boast, the Southern district excelling, however, in raising of grapes, peaches, etc.

The United States is sufficiently large, rich and varied in production, to have its own financial policy and currency, and not follow and be dictated of London or any other financial center.—Ex.

There is destitution in parts of Kansas, and the wheat crop is a failure in large sections.

The Supreme Court of Minnesota has decided that when a member of an association violates its rules the right of the association to boycott that member is unquestioned.

The banks continue to fail all over the country. The people have lost confidence and they are drawing out their deposits. This is the only cause that can be assigned.

The proposed midwinter fair in California, would help Oregon, and thousands of people would visit our state either on their way to California or on their return. The Northwest should encourage the project as much as possible.

The probabilities are that France will have a war with Siam, and before she gets through with it, may involve England and other nations. A good healthy war that would take in Russia, England, France, China and Siam would have a tendency to make a market for the surplus products of this country and raise the price of wheat, or, at least furnish a market for it. It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good.—Dispatch.

Representative Bland declares the Sherman law will not be repealed unless there is a change act embodied in the act. The silver advocates are aware of the fact that if they let go of the Sherman act and depend upon the passage of a separate law, that it will be vetoed, and they will not take the chances. The administration must find a satisfactory solution and meet the wishes of the silver men before the Sherman act can be repealed.—Ex.

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