

The decision of the supreme court in the Agricultural college case has caused quite a stir all over the state. A few towns, Salem and Albany among the number, would like to have the coming legislature relocate the college, promising to do great things if they can get it. This should not be done, the college should remain where it now is. The people of Corvallis and Benton county have worked long and manfully for its establishment and support; a large amount of money has been expended there, and it would be a gross injustice to move it. The decision referred to gives the title to the college farm to the church, but the college is under state control, and the board of regents has moved for a rehearing, which no doubt will be granted, and the decision reversed. The college should remain on the west side, and we believe it will.

The flunkeyism of the Associated Press in minutely detailing the doings of noted people is often sickening. In the account of the visit of Mr. Morton to Mr. Harrison last week the startling information was telegraphed over the country that they entered the Harrison mansion by the front door, and a column more of equally interesting facts. Now if they had gone in at the back door, or been given quarters in the hay loft, or if the gentlemen had smoked opium instead of cigars, or if Mrs. Harrison had snubbed Mrs. Morton instead of embracing her, or if the company had set up all night, instead of retiring at the usual hour, as we are gravely told they did, these things might have been worth mentioning. "What fools we mortals be"—some of us.—*Monrovia (Cal.) Messenger.*

It is a fact worthy of attention that President-elect Harrison, who daily gave the public his views on current issues before the election, has remained as mum as an oyster for more than a month. Although he has been visited by many of the most prominent men in his party nothing has transpired—to use that word correctly—regarding his intentions either as to men or measures. The air is filled, of course, with rumors, but the fact is that Harrison has proved himself a man who can keep his own counsel, under strong pressure to render him loquacious. But is not the Harrisonian hush becoming rather oppressive?—*N. Y. World.*

In the United States senate on Monday a resolution was passed by a vote of forty-nine to three, concerning the Panama canal. This resolution embodies the Monroe doctrine in the following language: "That the government of the United States will look with serious concern and disapproval upon any connection of European governments with the construction or control of any ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien or across Central America, and must regard any such connection or control as injurious to the just rights and interests of the United States, and a menace to their welfare."

An exchange says a radical defect exists in the wording of our state constitution, whereby, as we are informed it is possible for a person who has lived six months in the state, to become a voter, even though he has not yet become a citizen of the United States, by reason of complete naturalization; such a state of affairs ought not to be allowed to exist for a moment beyond a proper time to correct the matter by appropriate legislation.

The legislators are wending their ways toward the Mecca of Oregon. There is a large amount of legislation needed in this state. Some old laws should be repealed, some amended, and new ones passed. A senator is to be elected, and the prospect now is that that will not take long. As there are only eighteen democrats to be there the republicans will have their own way.

On Monday morning the residence of George Bodalla, at Gilman, near Seattle, was blown up with giant powder by Alfred Schaller. The guilty man was hanged by the neighbors of Bodalla. John and Michael Sherick and Annie Bodalla were killed in the explosion, and other members of the family were injured.

OREGON CONGRESSMEN.

The first delegate to congress was in 1849, the total vote being but 934. The candidates were Samuel Thurston, Columbus Lancaster, Joseph Meek, J. W. Nesmith and J. S. Griffin, the first named being elected. Two years later Joe Lane beat W. H. Wilson and served three terms, John P. Gaines being one of his competitors. In 1858 the contestants were both democrats, L. F. Grover defeating J. K. Kelly, and in 1860, George Sheil was chosen in preference to Dave Logan. So far all had been democrats, but in 1862 the political tide turned and John R. McBride was successful over Aaron E. Wait, his successors, J. H. D. Henderson and Rufus Mallory, both being republicans. And now the tide turns the other way, for in 1868, Joseph Smith went in, over Dave Logan, and in 1870 J. H. Slater beat J. G. Wilson by a bare scratch. Wilson tried it again and succeeded over John Burnett, but died before congress met, and J. W. Nesmith was chosen to succeed him, the opposition being Hiram Smith. Geo. A. LaDow defeated Richard Williams in 1874, but did not live to take his seat, Lafayette Lane being chosen to fill the vacancy. Two years later Richard Williams became congressman, and in 1878 John Whiteaker was sent to Washington, H. K. Hines being the defeated candidate. After that M. C. George served two terms, and Binger Hermann is now on his third term. The vote had increased to 15,020 in 1860; in 1870 it was about 25,000; in 1880 it had gone to over 40,000, and last year it exceeded 60,000.—*Bandon Recorder.*

THE HARRISON CABINET.

The names of three members of General Harrison's cabinet are supposed to be settled upon. These are Blaine for the state department, McKinley for the treasury department, and Wanamaker for the postmaster-generalship. There was some talk for awhile about John Sherman for the state department, but now that it is practically settled that the man of Maine is to have it, McKinley's claims receive consideration. The reasons given for making Mr. Blaine secretary of state are curious. The principal one is, it appears, that if left out of the cabinet he would make trouble for the administration. He is going to reside in Washington, and if not quieted with an appointment to his old place he would become the center of discontent and the nucleus of a party faction. Aside from this terrorism he has influences as "the first man in the party," which must be recognized. A large element of the party may be offended by his being made premier, but a larger element will, it is thought, be gratified by it. So he is to have what he wants. Evidently it has been a puzzle to the president-elect to decide whether leaving Mr. Blaine out of the cabinet would make less trouble than putting him in. The Maine statesman will give to the new administration a certain character. He may find in it colleagues stronger than he, and they may be able to control him. If not we shall have a Blaine regime after all.—*Baltimore Sun.*

The following explanation is given why the year 1900 will not be counted among leap years. The year is 365 days, 5 hours and 42 minutes long; 11 minutes are taken every year to make the year 365 1/4 days long, and every fourth year we have an extra day. This was Julius Caesar's arrangement. Where do those 11 minutes come from? They come from the future and are paid by omitting leap year every 100 years. But if leap year is omitted regularly every hundredth year, in the course of 400 years, it is found that the 11 minutes taken each year will not only have been paid back, but that a whole day will have been given up. So Pope Gregory XII, who improved on Caesar's calendar in 1582, decreed that every centennial year divisible by four should be a leap year after all. So we borrow 11 minutes each year, more than paying our borrowings back by omitting three leap years in three centennial years, and square matters by having a leap year in the fourth centennial year. Pope Gregory's arrangement is so exact, and the borrowing and paying back balance so closely that we borrow more than we pay back to the extent of only one day in 3806 years.—*London Standard.*

Marchison has come to light. His real name is George Osgood, of Pomona, California, and he is proud of his achievement.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, 1888.  
Secretary Whitney is very much pleased at the success which attended the second warlike expedition he has been called on to send out during his administration of the navy department, despatches having been received this week stating that the Haytian government had turned the American steamer, which they recently seized, over to Admiral Luce as soon as he made the demand.

The republicans seem to be a greedy lot. Not satisfied with having just elected a president, some of them have already begun to boom Senator Allison as the candidate for 1892. But probably this premature boom is only intended as a menace to Mr. Harrison, who has, possibly, already begun to indulge in dreams of again being the candidate of his party.

If the canvass for the speakership of the next house continues to spread at the rate it has up to this time, when the fifty-first congress meets every republican representative will be a candidate for speaker. This week has brought out three new candidates, notwithstanding Christmas and the congressional recess. They are Messrs. Lodge, of Massachusetts; Bayne, of Pennsylvania; and Farquhar, of New York.

It is proposed to add a schedule of inquiry to those allowed by the house bill providing for the taking of the eleventh census. The new schedule is to be a complete census of the Confederate soldiers now living, with their terms of service. There is already a provision for returns of Union soldiers. The proposition will be considered at the next meeting of the senate committee on the census.

The Blaine fight is getting to be very interesting to democrats, as it has now reached a stage which makes it certain that it will go right along for the next four years, no matter whether Mr. Blaine goes into Mr. Harrison's cabinet or gets snubbed by the president-elect. Mr. Harrison only has the privilege of deciding whether he will furnish the Blainites with the sinews of war and have them for nominal friends, or turn them out in the cold and have them for open enemies. There is no middle ground to form the basis of a compromise. Democrats are all hoping to see Blaine "turned down" by Harrison, as they recognize the fact that he has it in his power to make Harrison's administration a failure, and the defeat of the republican party in 1892 a certainty, if he chooses to fight, and his friends are stating openly that he proposes war to the knife if he is not made secretary of state.

The hotel at which rooms have been engaged for Mr. Harrison and his family is a favorite one with wealthy Englishmen, and its proprietor is such a snob that whenever he has a member of the English nobility as a guest, which is quite frequent, he always runs up the British flag on the flagstaff of his hotel and keeps it flying as long as they remain. It will be a little awkward for him if an English lord happens to arrive during the time that Mr. Harrison is there. But Harrison is a great admirer of the English nobility, unless he has greatly changed since he was in the senate, and perhaps he would not object to stopping at a hotel which flies the British flag.

If John Wanamaker becomes postmaster-general, as now seems likely, we may expect to see "bar-gain counters" established in every postoffice for the sale of shop worn postal cards and stamps.

Chief Justice Fuller and family have already become great favorites at Washington.

The Southern republicans will have fourteen members of the next house, which will enable them to control its organization, a fact which they have already given notice of; they intend to work for all its worth in the share of patronage. They will demand a liberal share of the clerk, sergeant-at-arms, door-keeper and postmaster. They have as yet not intimated how many of these officers they consider a liberal share, but the fact that they will demand any of them has already created considerable uneasiness among republican aspirants from other sections.

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