

The Headlight.

Published every Friday morning.

LAMB & JONES, EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

We cannot see the consistency of the unreasonable attacks made on Hon. J. W. Maxwell by our opponent. The letter from Hon. J. T. Apperson, which it publishes, clearly exonerates him from using his influence against it at the Land Office, and in fact gives him credit for assisting that paper in the beginning. Mr. Maxwell is too well and favorably known for this abuse to have any effect against him, and as he is seeking no office, we can not see the object of the abuse. Mr. Maxwell made an excellent reputation as a legislator, and has done more good solid work for this county than any other one man. The money brought into this county by the road appropriation and the beneficial effects of the road are appreciated by the people. Now, he is not asking any favors, not even credit which he deserves, and has never taken the trouble to make public denials of the foolish charges against him. We shall put this matter before the people in a proper light more fully in the future.

We shall support the nominees of the Republican convention, even though the ticket does not conform to our ideas in every respect. The watchtower has not promised so much. Will it do it? We have some respect for the wishes of a majority of the convention, we do not believe the watchtower backers will abide by the decision of the convention, at least many of them boast that they will not unless they defeat R. R. Hays.

There have been some objections to the manner in which the Republican primaries are to be held in this precinct; also, the power of the county central committee to appoint the judges and clerks of primary election has been questioned. However, this plan is in exact accordance with the action of the republican central committee in Multnomah county. The plan is all right, and is the fairest test possible.

SOME QUERIES.

Why did the editor of the watchtower testify under oath that he is not a practical printer?—Why did E. W. Mills want the road located via Johnson's? Did this have any bearing on the Trask river bridge?—Is E. W. Mills a candidate for County Judge? If so, will he sit down on Trask river bridge?—Was there an effort made to get A. L. Alderman to "stand in" with Mr. Mills to locate the road via Johnson's? Was Mr. Mills a party to this?—Did Mr. Mills charge Tillamook county more than the law allowed him as commissioner, on state appropriation? Did the County Court allow his bill? Did he present another bill, accepting a smaller sum for his services?—Why did Mr. Mills charge the county \$90, when the other commissioners charged \$37 and \$45 respectively?—Why was the watchtower kept alive?—Why does one of the watchtower's bondsmen say he will drop it as soon as he is clear of the attachment suits against said paper?—Why do candidates attend the meetings of the watchtower ring, and then claim they are not members and do not endorse said ring?—What was done with the money raised at Mr. Quick's on Thursday, Feb. 20th? What expenses had been or would be incurred, making it necessary to raise this money? Who that is now a candidate for office paid money to the secretary of that meeting?—How many are enrolled as members in good standing of your anti-Hays meetings?—Why doesn't the watchtower give the names of the officers and members of the "mugwump ring" and state the objects of its existence?—Why does the watchtower try to make it appear that R. R. Hays is an anti-Mitchell man? Does it expect to secure any greater patronage from the Land Office on this account?

THE KICKER CAUCUS.

A few disgruntled Republicans met at the residence of James Quick, on Hoquartion prairie, on Feb. 20th last, M. W. Harrison the regularly elected chairman, presiding, J. W. Morton, Secretary. Among those present were L. J. Johnson, Cato Sullivan, — Dougherty, (this composed the watchtower crew.) Green Chance, Frank Wheeler and others were present. A great deal of talk was indulged in and money was raised to pay expenses. Nearly every one present contributing more or less toward a campaign fund, ostensibly to fight the court house ring, but in reality to fight Hays for Clerk and to gain support for the watchtower, men were admitted to this

and other meetings on the supposition that they were against Hays for Clerk, showing only too plainly that the watchtower has had but one object since it secured bonds on its attachment suits, and that object was to defeat Hays and Maxwell. The attempt was made to organize branch meetings in all of the precincts in the county, but this scheme has signally failed; 'tis true they have succeeded in having a few men from North and South attend their supposed secret meetings, but the effect upon these men has not been good for the kickers.

Small numbers have attended meetings at the house of Eli Goodspeed, and also at the watchtower office, and another meeting is to be held on Friday, March 21st, for the purpose of fixing up the primaries. We could go into further details in regard to these meetings if we so desired, but we work in the interest of the republican party solely and do not wish to widen any breach, well knowing that nearly all who have attended these meetings will prove good true republicans when they come to cast their vote next June.

This is no sensational statement but is actual facts as heard and witnessed by our informant who was personally present.

ANOTHER OPEN LETTER.

The unreasonable and unjust charges made against me by the watchtower, are unworthy of answer. While it is true a few men are opposing me at present, who supported me before, many more opposed me in the last campaign will support me now, but, of course, if the watchtower is the exponent of the principles of the Republican party of Tillamook county, I shall not receive the nomination. Still I do not believe the majority of either Republican or Democratic party endorse the course pursued by the watchtower. Instead of being a Republican newspaper, it is simply an anti-Hays sheet, which fails to publish the names of the parties who compose the "Court-house Ring," from the fact that no such ring exists.

I did not sign the petition for a bridge at Johnson's ford on Trask river, because there was one bridge already over said river, and if the county was able to build another, it should be built over one of the many streams in the county which are not bridged at all; for above reasons I did not sign the petition even when assured it was "popular."

No one has doubted that schools were taught in Tillamook county before I came here. Did any member of the watchtower force attend them or any other? The appearance of the "tower" doesn't warrant the supposition that they had attended school.

If the watchtower is backed by so many Republicans, why is it necessary for it to exclude newspaper matter and get up an anti-Hays paper? Why does the watchtower crawl behind James Quick, when it wishes to make an assertion? Mr. Quick is an old pioneer, and a man who is respected wherever known. I do not doubt his Republicanism, but I do differ with his judgement in lending his support to the newspaper monstrosity known as the western watchtower. Under the heading "Is it good policy?" the watchtower gives me credit for being qualified and for attending to my official business. I am very sorry I can not return the compliment. I am certain that they are paid for their work, the same as the men who are hired to canvass the county against me.

There is no more truth in the statement that "a vote for Hays is a vote to oust John H. Mitchell," than there is consistency in the Watchtower. I do not know a man in the county who is opposed to the re-election of Hon. John H. Mitchell; and if there is, it has no bearing on the case in hand.

The Watchtower claims the right to have and to express opinions on public matters, but censures me for exercising the same right.

The letter in the Watchtower from Hon. J. T. Apperson gives me a grateful surprise, in that while simply telling the truth, it exonerates Mr. Maxwell and myself, of the charge of causing the loss to it of the land office business.

As to who wrote to Palmer & Rey—tell his name. I do not know who wrote to them.

In regard to the affidavit of Dr. E. W. Mills:—Mr. Harris being often absent from his office, I had access to said office, of which Mr. Harris was well aware at the time. Mr. Harris often borrowed from the office of the County Clerk, the assessment roll, copies of statutes etc. etc.; he not always returning these articles, I had either to enter his office and get them, or be seriously inconvenienced in the transaction of the business. As to

the truth of the statement which I made to Mr. Mills, I refer to the settlement of Mr. Harris with the County Court, May 29, 1889. The Court found him at that time \$1,700.00 short. The tax roll, as Mr. Harris will testify was often left in my office for days, furthermore said tax roll is a public document, to which any person has a right to have access.

As to the affidavit of W. B. Smith:—The County Court ordered the Sheriff to assess all lands to which title had been acquired, up to date of the tax warrant. I assisted Mr. Harris to make the list as I have always assisted any one who called upon me. This list included three claims of my own, one of them, my timber claim, on which I made proof Dec. 18, only two days before Mr. Smith made his proof. The taxes on these claims \$39.00 I have paid.

The taxes on this assessment amounting to about \$3,000 (nearly all of which will be paid by non-residents.) the Watchtower backed by Affidavit Smith, does not want the County Treasury to receive. Queer People!

R. R. HAYS.

EDITORIAL BRIEFS.

Investigate thoroughly the foolish charges made by the kickers and see what there is in them.

A few more affidavits like the kickers had last week, and they will make Mr. Hays' election doubly sure.

There are not enough disgruntled Republicans to overcome the regular majority, even in the awful event of Mr. Hays' nomination.

Will the people allow the mugwump ring to defeat R. R. Hays when the only charges brought against him are his efficiency and strict attention to business?

Mr. Hays fee books are and always have been in his office open for inspection. Where are the fee books of his predecessors? They are not in the Clerk's office.

When you hear Mr. Hays charged with the responsibility of high or unjust taxes, remember that he does not fix the rates but just simply records the action of those who do.

In any comments that we see fit to make upon any man's candidacy for any office, we do not wish to be understood as dictating, but merely give our opinion for what it is worth.

From the collick look and general belly-aching and backbiting of the Western Watchtower, published at Tillamook, we look for its early demise.—Yamhill Reporter.

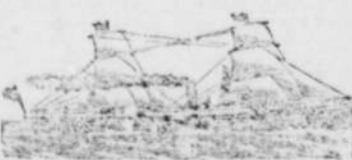
Watchtower please don't copy.

The people of this County feel perfectly safe when their business is in the hands of our present County Clerk. There is no danger of a shortage in his accounts. He courts investigation of his books, and they are kept in such good shape that investigation is easily made.

Beware of the so-called "election surprises" and charges that will be sprung at a late hour, too late for refutation, on the day of primaries. It is cowardly to spring charges when it is thought there will be no chance to make answer. If a statement will not bear investigation, it cannot be relied upon.

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Call and see me when in the city. I have, also

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I am bound to keep things moving. I not to make room for spring stock; but for stock that have constantly on the road. I shall sell at the margin possible.

I have come to stay and realize that I am ent on the people for support. You will find can make a better bargain with King than a merchant in the County.

NO TROUBLE TO SHOW GOODS. Ask for what you and if we haven't got it, we will procure it for you. YOU WILL BE TREATED WITH POLITENES AND R

W. C. KING.

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