

THE WEEKLY OREGON STATESMAN

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The Statesman has been established for nearly fifty-two years, and it has some subscribers who have received it nearly that long, and many who have read it for a generation.

CIRCULATION (SWORN) OVER 4000



That attack of the Democratic party upon the trusts is yet in embryo.

Editor Pulitzer never wrote a better article than Parker's letter of acceptance.

The eighth wonder of the world has been developed. It was considered as simply a living sphinx until recently.

Judge Parker was evidently afraid that some of his gold Democratic friends would not believe that he meant it when he said he was in favor of the gold standard.

Salem's first public drinking fountain brilliantly lighted at night by two handsome electric globes, is an ornament by day or night.

In all this broad land there is no country that will for a moment compare with Oregon in all things that go toward constituting a grand commonwealth.

If Roosevelt had some of the patriotism of Lincoln, then the Republicans might reasonably ask support for him, say our brothers, the Democrats.

The Portland Journal finds endless difficulty in explaining to its readers that they are being robbed under the Dingley law when the proceeds of practically every article the farmer has to sell will buy about twice as much of nearly, if not quite, every article of manufacture in the United States.

Poorly? For two years I suffered terribly from dyspepsia, with great depression, and was always feeling poorly. I then tried Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and was soon a new man.

IMAGINARY GRIEVANCES.

We are quite willing to admit that as furnishing an interesting study of that abnormal condition of mind where an imagination produces all sorts of grievances at will, the editorial page of the Portland Journal from day to day, furnishes the amplest material.

That paper "has it in" for that class of people whom it is pleased to call "stand patters." By this is meant those who are of the opinion that times are better, much better, than they were before the Dingley law was passed.

And there are those, who, believing there can be no mistake about this, have rejoiced over the improved condition of the country. They are called "stand patters."

There seem to be millions of people who remember that all kinds of business during the four years when the Democratic tariff-revenue-law was in force were distressingly crippled, fore and aft, and that they stood pat in that condition until the life given to business under the Dingley law got things to moving again.

There has been a change. That change has been for the better in every line of business that can be mentioned. We challenge the Journal to mention a single legitimate business in the United States that is not on a better basis, away and beyond, than at any time under the tariff law preceding the present "robber tariff," the Dingley law.

The latest wall of the Journal is contained in its issue of the 22d inst., and after reading its dissertation on the "plutocratic beneficiaries of the robber tariff," the reader will find on its first page, with glaring headlines and in letters of living red, the announcement that new buildings in Portland for 1904 are worth nearly three millions of dollars.

And in the long list of builders which follows not the name of a single "plutocratic robber" can be found!

And if the Journal will search its files for the years '93 to '97 it will be unable to find, all told, such an array of evidence giving proof of phenomenal prosperity. (Come to think of it, however, it had no files during those years, its birth at that time would have been an impossibility. Nothing but the impetus given business in every direction by the Dingley law could have made it possible for the Journal to "but in" to the journalistic field in Portland and hold its head above water.

Under conditions prevailing before the adoption of the Dingley law the Journal might have possibly begun its career, but it could not have stood pat for ten issues.

The evidences of business thrif that shine forth in every issue of the Portland Journal furnish a direct contradiction of every sentence it prints on its editorial page against the Dingley law and the condition of the country under its operation.

So, when that paper inquires "Is partisan editorializing and speech-making conducive to moral strabismus, or is the blindness only mental?" we are constrained, taking its own case as a fair sample, to answer both queries in the affirmative.

ABSOLUTISM.

When the Brooklyn Eagle asserts that "Roosevelt and Odell have raised absolutism to an issue of the first importance in this state," it delivers itself of an opinion altogether unworthy a paper of its acknowledged standing in the United States.

And this suggests the reflection that one of the most astounding things in American politics is the tenacity with which the Democratic party, and especially during the past forty years, assumes to actually believe that the Republicans are bent on a career of destruction of individual rights in this country.

It makes no difference who the Republican candidate is. The ghost arises each four years with the most noticeable regularity, and it is not that it amounts to anything, but that men of sense will periodically fall victims to the assumption and really appear for the length of a campaign, to believe it.

Not an individual in the entire length and breadth of the land can be found who has lost a single privilege that he ever possessed lawfully, or that his father before him was enjoying. But this makes no difference.

He is persuaded that something is about to happen to him through the wicked designs of the blasted Republicans, and though he goes and comes with the same freedom that has always been his and his father's and all his ancestors, yet, somehow, he is persuaded that through the menace of Militarism or Imperialism or Absolutism, he is liable to be swooped down upon at any time by some man who believes in a protective tariff or the gold standard, and placed in a horrid dungeon where for the rest of his days he can but yearn for his wife and children and fondly indulge his recollection of the days that are passed and gone forever.

To be sure, it never has happened. But it certainly will if the Republicans are permitted to ever gain another victory. Of course, when this awful condition comes to pass, the Republicans will be punished the same as others.

or people, and one feature of the enigma is why they will persist in bringing all this disaster upon themselves, merely to see the Democrats suffer! It is really a mystery baffling solution.

However, the reign of Absolutism is upon us. The Brooklyn Eagle says so and it should know. But what a poky Monster Absolutism is. Forty years ago, under the tyrant Lincoln, everything was gone to smash and "constitutional government" was about to be stamped out on this continent. In deed, it was trampled under foot. But Absolutism will probably get us yet.

QUEER DOINGS IN MINNEAPOLIS.

Recent developments in the Minneapolis courts indicate the probability that ex-Mayor A. A. Ames, who has been under indictment for a year or more for grafting while in office in a manner that would shame the worst sinner in the St. Louis municipal government, is to be discharged.

Several of his pals in his infamous career in the city which had so signally honored him are in the penitentiary and others are in hiding, but the arch-conspirator of them all is likely to be set free.

So favorable are the indications of his discharge that he has already announced, so it is said, that he will become a candidate for Congress. Of course, it is not probable that such a scoundrel could be elected, but the insupportable ways of the courts of this city and county are calculated to diminish one's faith in the good sense of the people at large.

The district attorney himself has moved for the dismissal of ten of the indictments against Ames for the reason that "a further prosecution would give a feverish and offensive advertisement to our city." In order to avoid such an undesirable result, the attorney, who was elected for the purpose of sending such birds as Ames to state's prison, proposes to sustain the good name of the city by freeing this acknowledged criminal and turning him loose in the community which he has disgraced and plundered beyond the record of any other similar officer in the West.

It is this juggling with the law, refusing to diligently prosecute and punish criminals, especially among the higher classes, and giving them trial after trial after there can be no doubt of actual guilt, that engenders that spirit of lawlessness, first in small things and then in those of more importance that is breeding trouble in many directions.

A great responsibility rests upon the courts of the country in the matter of meting out justice to criminals rather than yielding to the demands of lawyers for re-hearings and appeals upon the most trivial grounds, that, unfortunately many of them seem not to fully realize.

Several of the convicted Missouri hoodlums are at large, the courts having in one way and another, allowed them to escape through ingeniously constructed loopholes. The whole tendency is in the wrong direction and calls loudly for a change.

THE STEEL RAIL OUTRAGE.

Completely surrendered to the fixed determination to have trouble somewhere, and the opportunities for a growl that will bear examination being few and far between, our Democratic contemporaries frequently resort to the threadbare complaint that American steel rails actually sell cheaper in England than they do in the United States.

A man who, if he should rival Methuselah in the length of his days, would never have occasion to invest in a steel rail, will work himself up to a point of uncontrollable frenzy because he has heard that the price of steel rails in England is lower than here, though manufactured in the United States.

It matters not that passenger and freight rates are cheaper to him than ever before and that the tendency is in that direction right along—he is going to take up the matter of the price of steel rails and make the supporters of the Dingley law explain some things to a subjected and outraged people!

At this time wheat is being shipped by rail from Oregon and Washington to various points in the Mississippi valley and passenger rates were never so low as now. Without the weight of restrictive legislation, competition between rival lines of railway has reduced the cost of transportation all over the United States, but this matters little to the pessimistic shouter for a "tariff-for-revenue" law. He wants a change.

He belongs to that class of people who saw industrial destruction bursting forth from every section of the McKinley law. He was opposed to protection as a species of robbery. He wanted a Democratic tariff law, that would come to the relief of an oppressed country.

And he got it. Evidently he has forgotten the experience which followed. But it would matter little in his case. Trouble is his watchword and a chip on the shoulder his coat of arms. His form of attack just now embraces the steel rail business, and though he will recover, the discouraging feature of his indisposition is that it will be followed by something else equally as bad—probably incurable.

THE WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY.

On Tuesday, the 27th, inst., this pioneer school of the Pacific coast will open its fall term under circumstances more favorable than at any time before for many years. The attendance will be larger and the faculty is better organized than during recent years and the prospect is very gratifying to its many friends everywhere.

Without discussing the causes which have contributed to the embarrassment of the old school, it is sufficient to say that the crisis has been passed and its future will be free from annoyances that have caused many sleepless nights for those who have had the responsibility of its direction and the deep regret of those who have been its well wishers.

For much of this improvement the University and the community are deeply indebted to President Coleman. With a courage that has been unflinching and a perseverance that has been deaf to dispiriting representations, he came into a field that was well nigh desolate and entirely shorn of confident workers. Out of this chaos he has brought order and a financial condition that furnishes some solid ground for future work.

The fact is, President Coleman has even infused enthusiasm on the subject into a community which had none when he came, but which had prospered with the University as well seeing its partial fall from the former enviable position it occupied among the schools in the Northwest.

With the debts of the University all paid and the nucleus of a good endowment already provided, its future looks brighter than for many years. Salem, including all its interests, should be enthusiastic in the support of every effort made in its behalf for there was a time when Salem had no reputation save that which it obtained through being the fortunate possessor of Willamette University.

PARKER'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

Alton B. Parker's letter of acceptance of the Democratic nomination for the Presidency will not prove to be one of those great literary efforts that make men famous, and that are recited and repeated by the growing youth of the land through the ages to come. In fact, it will be remembered as simply a very poor expose of a very weak position in the field of American politics. It is neither interesting, nor convincing, except in one particular, in which it will convince everyone that he represents no great principle except such as has been worn out and trodden under foot as valueless and unworthy.

His attempt to foist doctrines that have had their day, and have proven unsatisfactory, upon the people, will not go. It will not be accepted by the Democrats; it will have no bearing on Republicans.

He takes up the question of "Imperialism" as if there were any seriousness to the idea that this government were in danger of anything of the kind. Mr. Parker and everyone else who talks about Imperialism as indicating any reasonable expectation that either Roosevelt or any other man in the United States believes that the time is coming or liable to come, when the republic would even be in danger, simply talks silly twaddle, that no self-respecting, intelligent man will pay any attention to at all. The talk is the veriest rot, and Parker and everyone else that talks it is satisfied that it is. Then why talk it!

A demagogue can be nothing but a demagogue. His talk of the centralization of the national government is fully in keeping with the talk of his party for forty-five and fifty years ago that would have had no central government, but a government of "every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost."

His demand for reciprocity calls up the natural question if the Democrats were so anxious for reciprocity why did they not vote with such Republicans in Congress as wanted reciprocity a few years ago when those reciprocity treaties were pending?

He states again the old Democratic doctrine of a "Tariff for Revenue Only" as opposed to the Republican doctrine of protection. Yet he admits that it would not be wise to return to the Democratic doctrine suddenly, but that the present system would have to be continued, if we would avoid danger to the financial interests of the country.

He talks again of independence for the Philippines and then says that it could not be granted them now. His platitude "a free people cannot withhold freedom from another people and themselves remain free" sounds pretty far from his opinion on the recent pension regulations he said:

"I have noticed that the commissioners have merely construed the law so as to make the change. So far as I can see, the change is in keeping with the law." Mr. Parker also devotes a great deal of valuable space to a demand for reduced governmental expenditures. But he does not say how we are going to continue enlarging our navy as that other great Democrat, the immortal Holston, proposes, and spend less money; how we are going to proceed with our coast defenses and reduce the present standing army; how we are going to continue extending the rural free delivery and reduce the personnel and the other expenses of the postoffice department; how we are going to keep our rivers and harbors in the best possible shape for navigation and not spend money for river and harbor improvement; how we are going to reclaim the arid lands of the country, in accordance with Mr. Parker's own message to the people, and not pay the expense. If Mr. Parker can tell how, the world will employ him as a schoolmaster.



From the Office Window

"Boys Will Be Boys."

When we stop to consider the incomprehensible antics of the average boy as he struggles from infancy to the age of accountability, we can accept the Darwinian theory of the origin of species without the slightest difficulty.

The thousand and one things the growing and struggling youngster will encounter and overcome, usually with safety, can be accounted for only by the conclusion that the hand of the over-ruling Providence, invisible, perhaps, but omnipresent, intercedes in his favor as he tempts fate practically every time he turns around.

The average boy, a bundle of exhaustless nerves, unlimited curiosity and boundless ambition, is the most interesting animal that graces the earth, it being held that girls, bless them, are not animals. But the boy—and bless him, too—each day of his life takes every risk that confronts him, and if the passing environment does not furnish a sufficient and varied assortment of promising hair-breadth 'scapes, his ready ingenuity at once supplies the deficiency and things assume that pellucid attitude of impending destruction to property and life that places him in the realm of comparative bliss.

Occasionally a boy meets with an injury, but the thousands of fatal accidents he invites every day that do not materialize, form one of the most interesting chapters of our daily lives—as we travel with him.

We belong to a highly civilized race, but the genius boy is obliged to run the gauntlet from as low and discouraging a starting point as were the youngsters who hunted goose eggs with Moses in the lushes 5000 years ago.

Men undoubtedly reach a higher plane of culture, usefulness and accomplishment than formerly, but the boy, evidently, begins where his remotest ancestors did in the early days of goat skin raiment and exclusively pastoral employment.

The truthfulness of these reflections

Editorial Sidelights and Observations on Various People and Things, Picked Up and Scribbled Down at Odd Times.

was proven the other day when a boy in the vicinity of Portland, while riding his bicycle, passed two other boys in the road, one of whom had a rifle. The boy on the wheel took off his hat as he passed the other two and holding it at arm's length, requested the boy with the gun to shoot a hole through it.

"Now, the boy doesn't live—the boy never lived—who would take a banter like that. The boy who would not readily see in such an opportunity the chance of a life-time for strenuous accomplishment, would perhaps never be worth the trouble of raising, anyway. The man who does things in this life is the man who grasps responsibilities on the spur of the moment, and the boy who would accept a challenge to shoot a hole through a companion's hat as he moved rapidly from him on a wheel at a rate of ten miles an hour, has the mettle in him out of which heroes are made.

In this case, the boy unfortunately missed the hat and sent the bullet through the head of his friend on the wheel, killing him instantly, which was, of course, a misfortune, and was no doubt deeply regretted, but chances must be taken in this life if results are to be obtained, an accepted truism that this unskilled marksman seemed to realize.

Did some one say that this unfortunate circumstance will teach boys to be more careful? If so, the response suggests itself, "teach nothing!" Boys are not constructed on that plan. It is in them to do all sorts of absurd and awful things. Perhaps it is necessary to their development, but certain it is that no precedent stops a boy nor any horrible example deters.

It may be true that the most daring and headstrong boy has in him the making of a most efficient and useful man. At any rate, God bless him, he doesn't learn from the experience of others. He fights his own battles from the start and has to learn from his own treadmill many of life's lessons that are never in the application and whose uses are frequently a puzzle to him—and to the rest of us.

And this would be a dreary old world without boys. We find great need for him every day, but when you lazier him to do a thing that you imagine

would bluff him, be prepared for anything that may turn up, for it is as true today as it was thousands of years ago that, no matter what else may happen, boys will be boys.

Marrying by Photograph.

Another evidence that the Japanese are accepting all the requirements of modern civilization is shown by the fact that it is now quite common for aspiring and susceptible male members of that race in this country to send their photographs to Japanese beauties in their Island home who are in the same responsive mood, and if appearances thus exchanged are satisfactory, weddings are arranged and the yearning daughters of the Morning Sun gather their belongings and proceed to hike Americanwards.

There is good ground for surprise that these little brown people should so easily embrace a little scheme like that, but Prince Capri is no respecter of races or colors and here gets the horse laugh on locksmisfit in Japan and Jamaica as easily as a, no doubt, quite as often as at Newport or in the Old Kentucky Home.

In San Francisco last week there arrived one day Miss Kinn Mississauga who had exchanged photographs with Mr. S. Watanabe, a Japanese of Fresno, who, of course, was on hand to meet her. Miss Kinn is 18 years old, and a widow. She was in quest of a second husband, and was pretty, but when she beheld her fiancé, she almost swooned with disappointment, the photograph, the account of the affair says, "having flattered him most monstrously."

But the pretty, rosy cheeked widow from Tokio swallowed her disappointment after the first shock, and accepted her second venture with that composure which sometimes characterizes her white sisters and places them high up in the class of earthly martyrs.

Since, however, all Japs look alike, just where the surprise or disappointment of the ambitious daughter of the Mikado becomes an intelligible part of the circumstance remains a profound mystery.

Legal Blanks, Statesman Job Office. Legal Blanks, Statesman Job Office.

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There is only one way: reduce the wages of the many thousand employes of the government, and thus reduce their purchasing power.

Taken altogether Mr. Parker's letter of acceptance is a very weak and unsatisfying document to his own party, and a source of gratification to his opponents.

CAN GET ANOTHER JOB.

Alton B. Parker of Esopus, has at last accepted the Democratic nomination for the Presidency of the United States. All those who have had any doubt at all about the matter of his acceptance are now in a position to put their doubts at rest and there let them lie until the next time a Democrat is nominated.

While it is true that Mr. Parker gave up a rattling good job in New York as judge of the court of appeals, he will be in shape to enter some one of the larger law firms of New York City and to draw a big salary as the occupant of the "back office" after the election.

It is therefore suggested that the last appealing clause of his letter of acceptance will not necessarily make many votes for him.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

If there ever was any doubt about the popularity of the High School in this city it was forever set at rest yesterday by the very large enrollment, one hundred and twenty-one pupils en-

tering there for the school year. There seems no doubt that the school directors will have to add to the number of teachers in this department.

Another thing that is also evident to everyone is the necessity for more school room. The East and North schools are reported as very badly crowded at present. What will they do unless more room is provided? Must many pupils be denied school privileges or must they be crowded into limited space, thus menacing their health?

Then again the unsightly old buildings, or "rookeries," they are more properly called, that do service as the "central" schools, are a disgrace to the district. When the directors make up the next budget they will have to take these things into consideration, it seems.

SALEM'S GROWING Respectfully Referred to the Supervisor of Streets.

Salem, Or., Sept. 22, 1904. Editor Statesman: If any one is in doubt as to Salem's "GROWTH", just let him take a look at the north-east corner of Commercial and Center streets.

OLD CITIZEN.

SELF-EXPLANATORY

Letter from Chairman F. C. Baker Relating to Seats at Portland.

As a good many will no doubt go to Portland next Saturday to hear Senator Fairbanks, the following letter will be interesting to them:

"Headquarters Republican State Central Committee, Portland, Oregon, 8 p. m. Sept. 23, 1904. Editor Statesman, Salem, Oregon:

My Dear Sir: I am in receipt of letters from Salem people whom I have invited to attend the Senator Fairbanks meeting here in Portland, and some of them are writing to me saying that a number of Salem people will attend that important function, and ask me to reserve seats for them. I wish you would say in the Statesman, and put it in as conspicuous place as you can, that I must know the name before Saturday morning of the speaking of each gentleman who desires me to reserve a seat for him. Saturday morning I must be able to report to the captain of the ushers the exact number of reserved seats. This I intend to do, for if I fail in this, all sorts of confusion will ensue in the Armory that evening.

"Your obedient servant,

"FRANK C. BAKER."

The way the little ones looked in yesterday, Salem will have to provide more school rooms.

STOP THAT COUGH with JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT. An almost infallible remedy for diseases of the Throat and Lungs, known and used the world over for almost a century. GET IT FROM YOUR DRUGGIST.