

EVENING CAPITAL JOURNAL

PUBLISHED
EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY.
BY THE
Capital Journal Publishing Company,
INCORPORATED
JAS. R. SHEPARD, Business Manager.

Office, 112 Court Street, Opera House Block.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION
DAILY.
One year, by mail, \$3.00
Six months, by mail, 1.75
Three months, by mail, 1.00
Per week delivered by carrier, 15

WEEKLY.
One year, \$1.00
Six months, .60
Three months, .35
Per week delivered by carrier, 10

Advertisements are authorized to receive subscriptions.

Mr. T. H. Fortz is our duly authorized traveling agent.

Entered as second-class matter at the Salem, Oregon, Postoffice, March 8, 1888.

MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1888.

THE PROHIBITION PLATFORM.

The prohibitionists met to the number of 1,000 and upwards in national convention, in Indianapolis, last Thursday, and during a two days' session completed their business and adjourned. It was supposed that the question of suffrage would stir up some discord, and its consideration produced a lively debate; but it was squarely met in the platform adopted, and the third party stands committed to female suffrage. "The right of suffrage," they declare, "rests on no mere circumstance of race, color, sex or nationality." It has been held by the courts that the electoral suffrage is not a right, because it can be restricted by the lawmaking power on any educational or property qualification that may be deemed expedient; and this resolution, after declaring the right of women, Chinese or any other alien race to vote, provides for "such educational basis" as may be wise. There is an inconsistency in this. If the suffrage is a right—an inherent right—to man and woman alike, what authority can the lawmaking power (state or national) plead, to limit this sacred heritage by imposing an educational limitation? There is a lack of consideration manifest in this.

Of course there is a land monopoly plank. "The monopoly in land," the platform declares, "is a wrong to the people, and public land should be reserved to actual settlers." This comes rather late in the day, and might be scouted by the irreverent as a political chestnut. During the war, when it was uncertain whether the government would survive to administer the public domain, the republicans who remained in congress, (the southern democrats having retired with effusive fanfare) made profuse and prodigious grants to every railroad and other corporation that applied, and public sentiment seemed to approve the bounty. But the country survived the strain, and the credit mobiler and other frauds that grew out of this land partition, gave the country such a distaste for the practice, that the reverse swing of the pendulum has been reached, and now a grant of land to the most meritorious enterprise, no member of congress would have the hardihood to advocate Cleveland's late secretary of the interior, L. Q. C. Lamar, brought rebel rancor and the most flagrant nepotism into the department, but he got after the greedy land subsidists with immense energy, and millions of acres of unearned railroad grants were restored to the public domain during his incumbency.

On the liquor question these cold water apostles are extravagant as ever. The first plank of their platform consists of this bold declaration:

That the manufacture, importation, exportation, transportation and sale of alcoholic beverages shall be made public crimes and punished as such.

They demand that such prohibition be secured through amendments to our national and state constitutions enforced by proper laws. Any form of license or regulation of the liquor traffic is pronounced contrary to good government, hence they favor the immediate abolition of all internal taxes, "whereby our national government," to use their suavorable logic, "is deriving support from our greatest national vice."

Extremes meet. The policy of the high tariff men and these cold water iconoclasts is not irreconcilable. Judge Kelly, of Pennsylvania, the high priest of our protective system, wants the tax on whisky and tobacco abolished in order that the present tariff on imported goods, may be retained to support the government; and the third party, act-

ing through its delegates, also wants free whisky, and all police control removed, that the people may be driven to prohibition in self defense. This is the "Thorough" policy of Lord Stratford during the reign of Charles I., which brought that minister and his sovereign to the block and overturned the monarchy. Common sense and the past centuries admonish gradual reform, as the sentiment of a people must be educated to a change; but these zenlts would throw down every restriction, and deluge the country with a saturnalia of debauch, in the belief that the preservative forces of society will free themselves of the evil. This is too adventurous to be classed with practical politics.

There is an anchor thrown out which may save this inchoate party from drifting on the rocks. These intemperate temperance people are willing to strengthen themselves by forming alliances. In their lucid intervals they will give heed to a doubt whether cold water has sufficient purifying power to wash away the sins of the world. Therefore they suggest, in dulcet tones, that the extirpation of the saloon from our midst will relieve labor of so many of its present ills, that it would be wise for the workman and his employer alike to pool issues, "and unite with us for the accomplishment thereof."

This invitation comes from preachers and moral reformers, but it contains the dangerous enchantment of Circé. The practical, every day world is not willing to throw away what good it has already obtained, on the illusory promise that society is to be transformed in a day. That too closely resembles the dog and the shadow. It is bidding for the millennium, and this Saints' rest may not be at hand.

Beside all the above reforms, the surplus in the treasury is to be reduced, the present burden of taxation removed, civil service appointments made on merit and fitness, trusts and capitalized pools rendered unlawful, the Sabbath preserved and defended as a civil institution, and arbitration introduced for the settlement of labor disputes.

These enterprising reformers have set out to poll one million votes next November, and they have made a liberal bid for that amount of support. If they had only contracted to give every prohibition voter forty acres of land and a grey mule, they might reach the limit they have designated.

AN exchange says: "Several enthusiastic Boston gentlemen have invented a new method of using the surplus in the United States treasury. They propose to abolish usury of interest by having the government establish depositories of money at all necessary points to loan money without interest to all who can give security." This we have before adumbrated as a greenback proposition, although a well informed correspondent, Mr. J. P. Robertson, disclaims it on behalf of that party. The proposition to make the government the creditor of the borrowing class strikes our judgment favorably, and it would be highly profitable to have an expert discussion of this subject. Our western farmers must be relieved of their present crushing burden of interest, or a terrible calamity will come over the country.

The county candidates wound up their funeral procession on Saturday evening with a variety of touching appeals. Quite a number of mourners were on the stage and bystanders were plenty to witness their grief. The corpse was not present, as it had been unfortunately mislaid, but it will be on exhibition this evening, clad in the habiliments of the tomb. This is a time that tries men's souls—the rejected candidate's that is.

A DISPATCH on Friday reported Jay Gould seriously ill; on Saturday this was denied and his sound health vouched for. To-day he is again sick—dangerously so; his brain and stomach affected and insomnia racking his system. As no one has any tears to shed for this plutocrat, his sickness, if that be his condition, will not fall on the public ear as afflictive.

THE Philadelphia News, speaking of Jay Gould in connection with the Blaine movement, calls the man of duceats, "the wrecker of railroads, the corsair of finance, the pirate of politics, the villain of Wall street." The friendship of such a man could little help a candidate into the white house.

The Postmaster General has extended the mail service from Galesville, in Douglas county, Oregon, to the gold mining region of Starve Out.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

It Passes off Quietly. It Looks Like a Republican Victory. A Full Vote Cast.

All things have an end, and so did the most interesting political campaign seen in Oregon for some time, come to its close to-day. The day opened pleasant after the recent rains, and it was evident from the time the polls opened, that a large vote would be cast. Of course one thing that lent additional interest to the campaign was the fact that the election held to-day was to be the opening gun of a presidential campaign. As Oregon went to-day, so will one or the other of the two great political parties feel more jubilant and aggressive in the presidential fight.

It was quite easily to be seen that all three parties, if the prohibitionists will insist on being called a party, intended to make it a fight to the finish, and this, at an early hour, caused republicans, especially, to drop the pencil, and begin "smiling 'em in straight" without any other marks on their tickets than were placed there by the printer.

The recent rains were favorable to the republicans in more than one way. It put all the farmers in good humor, and a man is more apt to vote right when he is feeling that way, than when his prospects are poorer, and the voters of that class certainly turned out en masse, and nearly all who ever felt the least bit like republicans voted a straight ticket that counted one for each republican nominee. The democrats and the prohibitionists each worked like tigers in the interest of their common cause, the defeat of the republican party, and one rather interesting sight at the polls at South Salem, was the chairman of the state democratic central committee, and an "earnest leader in the prohibition party" in close communion.

Of course this paper went to press too early to get the entire vote of the city, it not having yet been cast. At 2 p. m., however, South Salem precinct had cast 157 votes. Total vote in 1886, 272. It was said that the vote was fully up to that of previous years; and the report was that very little scratching was being done except among the democrats, and prohibitionists.

At 2:15 p. m., 255 votes had been cast in Salem precinct, where only 380 were cast, all told, two years ago. That is distinctively a town precinct, however, and it is likely voting was early there. Here the same report in regard to the use of the pencil was heard, and in fact, at every one of the four voting places of Salem, it was said that "never were so many unscratched republican tickets cast."

At East Salem, where 603 votes were cast in '86, at 2:30 p. m. 451 votes had been deposited in the box. In North Salem, the democrats are working like tigers, but the republicans appear to be holding their level. There is said to be a considerable falling off in the prohibition vote of that precinct too. At 2:50 p. m., 215 votes had been cast; in 1886 the vote was 294.

Taken all in all, through the city it looks very much as though the republicans would have even a little more than their usual majorities. Fears were entertained by some that the republican nominee for school superintendent was running behind, but they were not born by any majority of the workers at the polls.

The election up to the hour of our going to press has been very quiet—no rows, no disturbances. The JOURNAL begs to say: "It looks like a republican victory."

MR. HERMANN says he is asked by many political friends as to his chances for re-election, and his answer is, "I have the fullest confidence that the result will be favorable." His faithful and efficient services merit his continuance in office, and we look to see the election returns agree with his deservings.

The Verdict Unanimous.

W. D. Sult, Druggist, Bippus, Ind., testifies: "I can recommend Electric Bitters as the very best remedy. Every bottle sold has given relief in every case. One man took six bottles, and was cured of Rheumatism of 10 years' standing." Abraham Hare, druggist, Bellville, Ohio, affirms: "The best selling medicine I have ever handled in my 20 years' experience, is Electric Bitters." Thousands of others have added their testimony, so that the verdict is unanimous that Electric Bitters does cure all diseases of the Liver, Kidneys or blood. Only a half dollar a bottle at Dr. H. W. Cox's Drug Store.

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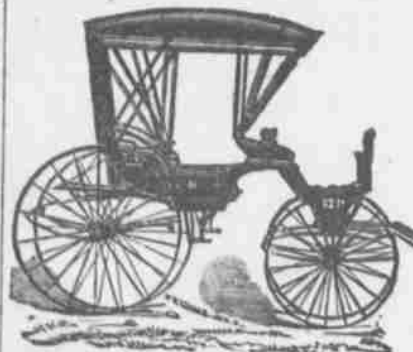
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