

EVENING CAPITAL JOURNAL.

VOL. 4.

"THE PEOPLE'S PAPER."

SALEM, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 1891.

"TO-DAY'S NEWS TO-DAY."

NO. 46

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HOFFER BROTHERS, - - - Editors.

PUBLISHED DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY.

Canital Journal Publishing Company.
(Incorporated.)
Office, Commercial Street, in P. O. Building
Entered at the postoffice at Salem, Or., as
SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

WHAT IS CLEVELAND'S ATTITUDE ON SILVER—DEMOCRATIC INFORMATION.

Ex-President Grover Cleveland is in the same boat with Governor Penneyer, for once. Both have suffered from unauthorized interviews at the hands of fool friends and indiscreet and unreliable reporters. State Treasurer Stephens, of Missouri, has returned to his domestic territory and been seen on the subject by the Democratic Missouri Republic, which prints the following as the only correct version:

Following is the matter referred to by Colonel Stephens, which was telegraphed The Republic from New York and appeared Tuesday, and which Colonel Stephens says is the only authentic account of the interview that has been published:

Treasurer Stephens * * * called on the ex-President today and was most cordially received. They talked at length on various subjects. Mr. Cleveland was frank with Mr. Stephens, as he is with everybody with whom he comes in contact. Mr. Stephens has always been a Cleveland man and the latter discussed his silver letter freely with the treasurer of Missouri. Mr. Stephens, of course, told Mr. Cleveland that his silver letter was a disappointment to Missouri, and Mr. Cleveland said he could not help it. He admitted, though, that he had not foreseen the direct consequences of the \$2,000,000 and the \$4,500,000 laws in altogether the proper light.

"If you were president, Mr. Cleveland," asked Mr. Stephens, "would you, if your party should pass a free coinage law by a big majority, veto it?"

"I am a private citizen," was the reply, "and," he added, "I will not climb any hills till I come to them."

The Washington Evening Star, a democratic paper, edited with ability and intelligence, prints a statement of Representative Tracy, of New York, who is a warm admirer of Mr. Cleveland, as well as a personal friend. Mr. Tracy said: "He (Mr. Cleveland) has decided convictions in opposition to trying the experiment of free coinage at present and it is better that he frankly made them known when circumstances arose calling for a statement of his views."

On reading this interview Mr. Cleveland wrote to Mr. Tracy stating that the interview correctly represented his attitude.

The Star goes on to say: "Many of those who are in perfect sympathy with Cleveland in all matters, aside from the financial question, believe that it would be very unwise to divide the party and probably defeat it by loading themselves at once with more than they can carry, for if they keep themselves permanently out of power by sentimental politics they will not be in a position to secure free coinage or anything else they may have their hearts on. It is believed that Mr. Cleveland would have worded his silver letter differently if he had had the chance a few hours after he sent it to the Reform Club, but he would have expressed substantially the same sentiment, and if he were placed in the same position today he would occupy the same attitude until the conditions are such as to warrant the belief that free coinage of silver would be safe. Whether these conditions will come about between now and 1892 or 1894 is a thing which time alone can answer."

The JOURNAL is not convinced that Mr. Cleveland is a friend of free silver coinage. The effect of his numerous anti-silver expressions has been to place his party in a very unfavorable light with the farmers. His hedging comes none too soon but will not help.

As perfectly subservient to Wall street interests, Grover Cleveland could not afford to commit his party to a campaign on the silver issue. By modifying his hostility he avoids making his party take issue and forces the fight on the tariff. This is what Wall street and the corporation interests want. The St. Louis Republic, like the Oregonian, wants the fight in 1892 made on the tariff. It prints this as an editorial:

"What the Republic has repeatedly said of the overshadowing importance of the tariff issue is thus endorsed by Colonel Henry Watterson in the interview telegraphed from Galveston:

"I take it for granted that we shall have some silver legislation, but I have no idea that the democratic party can be lured into the perpetration of as great a blunder as the advancement of silver to the first place in the next campaign and the consequent obscuration of the tariff issue. On this last the party has fully come to a perfect agreement."

"We have no doubt that the sense of the party amounts to what Colonel Watterson describes as 'perfect agreement' not to make a leading issue of any currency question while the great issue of taxation remains undecided, though the party has in any wise changed its attitude on the subject of currency reform. It

considers it as one of the most important of many minor issues to be dealt with as the party finds occasion and opportunity, such as it cannot have while the tariff remains as it is at present. This seems to us to be the general opinion among democrats in all sections of the country.

"If any party seeks to make the leading issue of the campaign of 1892 an issue on the currency, it will be a third party. The republicans are committed to the gold standard in connection with the high tariff, but are anxious to evade both issues by a crusade for a second reconstruction of the Southern states.

"The democrats will press the tariff issue and will have opportunities for using their energies to the fullest extent in that direction. A third party may be organized on the currency question, but it is by no means certain that it will be. It must come from the West or nowhere, and Western farmers are becoming more and more convinced that the tariff is of more importance to them than anything else in politics. The probabilities are that the two great parties will open the campaign of 1892 on the lines of 1888, and that on the issue so joined the campaign will be lost and won."

Democrats will, please take notice then, that financial reform is a minor matter, to be dealt with "when the party finds occasion" which it cannot have while the tariff can be made an issue. Financial reform is to be put off till doom's day.

THE STATESMAN'S PATENT FARMER

One of the ablest writers in this county—a student of the North American Review and a well posted national bank financier—is trying to convince the farmers that the entire farmers' movement in politics is a mistake and the result of bad crops more than of any existing systems that have been outgrown by the needs of a great and rapidly developing country.

Nothing is easier than to defend and excuse existing institutions. It requires no enterprise, very little courage, and the one who does it is sure of the applause of a large and influential class, who have profited by, and are very well satisfied with, the present state of affairs. If the apologist for these conditions be a popular politician and wishes to stand in with a conservative administration, so that he can be sure of a federal appointment if at any time he gets laid out by the people, the task becomes all the more easy and pleasant.

The dissection of the Alliance movement is based upon the theory of distress and failure of crops in a portion of western Kansas. It may be well to remind this anonymous farmer that the eastern part of Kansas is as fertile and prosperous as Iowa. It is thickly settled and full of fine cities. The whole state is gridironed with railroads, and banks and money-lending institutions are as thick as the "lice in Egypt." If the farmers made a mistake in settling up the state of Kansas they were not alone. The sagacious monopolies that live off the farmer were also mistaken in going into a region that will produce but "one crop out of five years." But the Alliance has swept the whole state of Kansas. The same is true of Nebraska, the Dakotas, and Iowa has practically been under the control of the Farmers' Alliance for four years. In Minnesota and many of the Southern states the Alliance holds the cards of political control. To the latter fact the gentleman will not object.

We do not propose to go into a controversy with this unknown person, who would resolve all the farmer's demands into a complaint at the fickleness of the seasons, and whose ill would all be removed if they could only have the climate of Oregon. This may be the remedy of a high order of statesmanship but it is not available at present. It is the same kind of treatment of that doctor of the dark ages who always let a little more blood and gave a little more warm water until his patient expired of the disease and treatment combined.

It should be remembered that hard times alone never produce political revolutions. It was not the misery and wailing of the slave that abolished slavery. It was the economic conditions of the nation that made its abolition a necessity of civilization and progress. Fundamental principles of progress proclaimed its freedom. So it is not hard times alone that are behind the farmers' movement. The producer must hunger for something besides bread and butter before he will rebel against existing conditions, as he has over such large areas of the nation, including many regions blessed with good crops, and when farm products have been advancing in prices for over a year.

Financially the farmers' movement demands greater economy in public affairs, a reduction in the expenses of government, and in increase of the circulating medium. The patent farmer is perfectly willing that the alliance farmer shall mortgage all his possessions to the bank and note shaver at high rates. But he is horror-struck at the idea of the same man asking the govern-

ment to make the loan at a low rate of interest. He is afraid the power of the money-lender will be increased by reducing his profit on loans from ten to two per cent. The Shylock will get it faster at 10 per cent than Uncle Sam will at 2 per cent.

Like the eminent Ingalls, Grover Cleveland and other belated and befogged dealers in the ideas of a past age, we may see "farmer" change. We may expect him to flop at the proper time. The simple fact is, all these alleged leaders of public thought are but followers, seeking to adjust themselves to the advancing tides of public sentiment, and only representing public sentiment after the masses have made up their minds and acted at the polls. They follow the agitators whom they decried. Not a step in advance was ever won by the people but over the prostrate forms of their alleged guides and safe-counselors. After the army has gone ahead these camp-followers of politics arise and cry, "Behold! We the people have accomplished a great reform."

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Geo. W. Mercer was shot and killed by Adam York, at Squaw Valley, Cal., Monday.

Louis Bezinah, the light weight pugilist shot at Cincinnati a month ago by P. Dougher in a quarrel over a woman, died Monday.

Several more arrests were made in New York Monday night in the "Jack the Ripper" case, including one man who resembles the description of the murderer.

John Ramsey and D. Thompson quarreled at Verdi, Nev. Ramsey plunged a pocket knife into Thompson's neck, shoulder and side. One wound is serious. Ramsey has been arrested.

The grand jury adjourned, at Waco, Texas, after investigating into the alleged municipal election frauds. Thirty-four indictments were returned against prominent citizens. A sensation is the result.

In the house of commons Monday Sir John Ferguson said that Portugal had not accepted the convention relating to South Africa, but had sent counter proposals, which were now being discussed.

Cape Town dispatches say the British consul at Delagoa bay reports a brutal assault by Portuguese upon the officers of the British South Africa company. The lives of the British residents are reported unsafe.

Meline, president of the French customs committee, of the chamber of deputies, in an interview Monday, said in spite of the free trade attacks, he determined to stick to the protection tariff, which he says will have the support of the chamber of commerce.

A law enacted at the last session of the Oregon legislature requires all notaries public to register their commissions with the county clerk or recorder in the county in which they reside, and unless this is done the commissions will be forfeited. The new law takes effect May 20th.

At Monroes, Mich., Monday, two colored tramps, who were awaiting trial for attempted burglary, made a desperate attempt to secure Turnkey Tehree's keys, and thus escape. The official, in the fight, shot both men. One was killed instantly and the other will die.

The prosecution closed its case in the trial of "Plenty Horses," at Sioux Falls, for the murder of Lieutenant Casey on the 27th. The last witness was one Richards, a half-breed. He positively stated that "Plenty Horses" shot Casey. The defense, in the opening, admitted the killing, but argued the act was committed during war, and that "Plenty Horses'" mind had been fired by the Messiah craze.

Reviewing the construction and improvement work now being done by the Northern Pacific, Principal Assistant Engineer Burke says in a Tacoma interview: "The Western division, which includes everything from Hope, Idaho, west, is now receiving some \$10,000,000 worth of improvements and extensions. The work is scattered over all parts of the division, and includes the Cour d'Alene district, the Spokane yards and depot, the Central Washington extension to Coulee city, the Stampede tunnel, which is being arched with brick, supported by concrete wall, the Seattle improvements, the Lake Washington belt-line work and the Green river and Northern extension, the Gray's harbor and Willapa harbor work and the car shops at Edison, south of this city. Just at present work at Seattle is tied up, owing to litigation, but much remains to be done in that city. The Stampede tunnel work progresses slowly, as the movement of trains interferes. The cost of building the concrete walls and arching the tunnel with brick is about \$75 per foot. Of the two miles of tunnel there are only 600 feet of good tunnel rock—that is, rock that does not have to be arched to support it. The timber must be removed, as its life is exhausted, and rather than put in another timber arch support, the company goes to the greater expense of putting in concrete and brick, which will prove a permanent improvement."

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

Associated Press Report and Digests of all Important News of To-Day.

MISCELLANY.

DESTROYED BY FIRE.

FRANKLIN, Pa., April 29.—Yesterday the Center block and a number of stores were burned. Loss, \$100,000.

KILLED BY A FALLING TREE.

TEHACHAPI, Cal., April 29.—Geo. Griffin, employed by the Summit Lime Company, four miles south of this place, was killed yesterday by a falling tree. He was chopping a tree on the hillside, and when it fell could not get out of its way, and the tree—a huge one—fell across his neck, killing him instantly. The coroner and doctor have left for the scene.

GETTING SCARED.

GOSHEN, Ind., April 29.—The recent terrible accident on the Lake Shore railroad, in which seven postal clerks lost their lives, has spread consternation among the clerks in this division, eleven of them having sent in their resignations. The retirement of these, together with those killed and wounded recently, leaves a badly crippled system.

NEW LAND COMPANY.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 29.—The Baron Hirsch Land and Improvement company, limited, was incorporated with a capital of \$50,000. The object of the corporation is to purchase, lease, improve and sell lands and buildings in the United States, and to construct, maintain, lease and sell dwellings, work-shops and factories. The principal office will be in New York.

DRIVING THE JEWS FROM RUSSIA.

ODESSA, April 29.—Eight hundred Jewish families have been ordered to quit Kieff forthwith. There is much hardship among the poorer classes and the police are exhibiting unusual cruelty. The rigor of the authorities frightens away many entitled to permanent residence. Principals of large Jewish firms here are placing their business in the hands of Russian agents and leaving.

SLAVIN MAKES A MATCH.

NEW YORK, April 29.—Billy Madden says that he had made an agreement with Dick Roche on behalf of the Granite Club, whereby Frank Slavin will meet Jake Kilrain in Hoboken, within six weeks, for a purse of \$10,000. He says he has also arranged that Slavin will meet the winner of the Corbett-Jackson fight in San Francisco. Madden says that the reason that he sent Slavin to meet Sullivan face to face, was because Sullivan would pay no attention to telegrams sent directly to him. He did not say though, that it would be impossible to get an answer from him if a responsible man in Cincinnati or St. Louis had been deputed by wire to get an answer from him. June 16th has been selected as the date of the contest between Kilrain and Slavin.

AFRAID OF THE JEWS.

LONDON, April 29.—The Pall Mall Gazette gives great prominence to a scheme which is said to have been drafted in order to transport Hebrews from Poland and from South-east Europe to an immense tract of uninhabited land in Australia or Brazil. Baron Hirsch is credited with having originated this idea, and is said to have had a long conference in Paris last week with the most able advisers in charitable matters. The baron, according to report, then decided to give \$1,000,000 himself with which to start the project. Full details as to his plan for wholesale Hebrew immigration are not given, but it is understood Baron Hirsch will be supported in this undertaking by other opulent Hebrews. The adoption of this plan, it is asserted, is greatly due to the fact that the United States is closing her ports to destitute persons. This decision comes at an opportune moment for England, for new United States legislation against the immigration of destitute aliens might result in converting the United Kingdom into a dumping ground for all the Hebrew refugees of Europe. They arrive here already at the rate of 17,000 annually.

HERBERT GLADSTONE.

LONDON, April 29.—A subscription is appealed for in behalf of Justin McCarthy, Herbert Gladstone and Lord Arthur Hill, members of parliament, to relieve these gentlemen from the payment of £2500, a liability incurred in connection with the late Irish exhibition, which proves a financial failure. Messrs. McCarthy, Gladstone and Hill endeavored to escape the liability by appealing to the courts, or rather by allowing Coutts & Co., the bankers, to appeal to the courts against them. Judgment was given the bankers. Young Gladstone is very much stirred up over the matter, and is reported to have made some remarks about Ireland that would not help his popularity there. The elder Gladstone, it is said, has not