

INTERESTING SUIT FOR INTEREST ON STATE FUNDS

Testimony of Witnesses Who Were Not Anxious to Talk Heard Before Judge Boise

If the Funds on Deposit by State Treasurer Metschan Belonged to the State He Will Get no Interest.

If Mr. Metschan is Entitled to the Interest There Will Have to be an Assessment on the Stockholders.

The Tale of the Books.

At the hearing before Judge Boise, on the objection of Theo. Noel, a depositor in the Williams & England banking firm of Salem, to the payment of interest on certain deposits of Phil Metschan and others, on the ground that they were state funds deposited in violation of law, a few matters were made very plain.

The examination of witnesses consumed most of the afternoon and was not a serious matter. The witnesses were many of them quite reluctant to testify. They were more than unwilling witnesses and were strangely forgetful, especially as to facts that had any definite bearing on the case. General Odell told a very straightforward story and seemed to have nothing to conceal. None of the witnesses seemed to seriously deny that the Metschan funds were other than state funds, and an air of jollity and persiflage characterized most of their efforts at concealing their real sentiments.

The great folios of the bank were stacked up in front of Judge Boise on the tables and bore their own silent testimony within their covers with due gravity. Receiver W. T. Slater who has been over the records of the bank until he knows them by heart was tempted at several points to refresh the failing memories of the witnesses as they gently slid around the main events as easily as possible. Mr. B. F. Giltner for instance told the court he could only remember some of the main features of being a depositor. But the books tell quite a plain tale of the deposit of \$25,000 of state funds, from the time the money was turned over by State Treasurer Geo. Webb to his successor.

The bank closed the 14th of November 1895, three little items as certificates of deposit appearing on the bank register of \$63.08, \$170.77, and \$53, made out to three Hirsch children. The next last entries of certificates of deposit are in one hand writing, as follows:

Nov. 8, 1895, E. C. Giltner, \$ 6.00
Nov. 8, 1895, B. F. Giltner, 5.00
Nov. 8, 1895, L. K. Adams, 7.00
Nov. 8, 1895, F. K. Lovell, 3.00
Nov. 8, 1895, L. A. McNary, 4.00

Total, \$25,000

All other items are small sums on this page. On the preceding page are four entries of certificates of deposit as follows:

June 29, 1895, Phil Metschan, \$ 2.00
June 29, 1895, Phil Metschan, 12.00
June 29, 1895, Phil Metschan, 6.00
June 29, 1895, Phil Metschan, 6.00

Total, \$25,000

The books show these cancelled on the date the above were issued. Again, they appear:

Jan. 13, 1892, Phil Metschan, \$ 2.00
March 29, 1892, Phil Metschan, 12.00
March 29, 1892, Phil Metschan, 6.00
Oct. 4, 1892, Geo. W. Williams, 6.00

Total, \$25,000

The above were cancelled June 29, 1895, on the date last above, when they were all re-issued to Phil Metschan state treasurer.

The above item of \$5,000 on March 29 not having ditto marks under "state treasurer" is being contested, on the theory that the item was an individual entry, a very slender thread to hang an excuse upon that these were not state funds. In several places the ditto marks are omitted under the words "state treasurer" where these certificates are entered in a bunch.

To go one step farther back in the certificates issued Mar. 29, and Jan. 13, 1892, it appears from the same volume that on April 1, 1892 a \$5,000 certificate made out to Phil Metschan was canceled and also one of \$12,000 which had been issued to Geo. Webb, state treasurer Jan. 9, 1891, the day Mr. Webb rendered the office to Mr. Metschan. The evidence showed that this certificate was transferred and assigned to Mr. Metschan as State Treasurer. State Treasurer Webb had the \$12,000 in the bank subject to check, and it was converted into a certificate by the bank at the instance of State Treasurer Metschan. This proves that these were state funds and that the entries under different names were only disguises of the same transaction.

The books show that the bank paid Metschan interest on these funds as follows:

Mar. 29, 1892, \$1020
Oct. 25, 1892, \$ 722

Total, \$1742

The bank was paying about four percent interest on this money belonging to the State, and Mr. Metschan is suing for six percent on the whole. His claims are as follows:

Certificates of deposit, \$25,000 00
In his own name, 789 73
As treasurer of State, 8,013 60

Total, \$33,793 33

It is claimed by some that the above item of \$789.73 is really interest that was due Mr. Metschan on his arrangement with the bank when it closed.

Following marginal figures are entered opposite the Metschan certificates but were not offered in evidence:

Mar. 29, 1892, \$ 1,324 00
Jan. 13, 1892, 557 87
Oct. 4, 1892, 246 00
Total, \$2,127 87

If the above items are interest, though there is nothing in evidence to show that they are, except that interest is marked in the margin of some other sums left on deposit by other persons then with interest due for the total interest received and claimed by Mr. Metschan is about \$12,000.

Story of Witnesses.

Those having claims against the bank—E. C. Giltner, B. F. Giltner, F. K. Lovell and L. K. Adams—testified that the funds were all state moneys deposited by them to accommodate Metschan. Mr. Giltner stated that the deposits were divided among many so as to avoid publicity.

State Treasurer C. S. Moore testified that the affairs of the office were all correct at the time—assumed their charge as successors to Mr. Metschan.

The testimony of the receiver, W. T. Slater, was principally to the effect of the manner of turning the moneys of the State treasury over to Mr. Metschan at the opening of his term of office. Mr. Slater was the chief assistant of the preceding treasurer, Geo. Webb. He said that the sum of \$12,000 was on deposit in the Williams & England bank, subject to check. In turning this over, Mr. Metschan said he would receive it in a certificate of deposit from the same bank. This request was complied with. This certificate of deposit was searched for Monday but could not be found among the papers.

General Odell's Statement.

Mr. McMahon asked that the complaint against W. H. Odell be dismissed. This was overruled by the court, who expressed the opinion that all had better be heard together. General Odell went on the stand and repeated the statements set out in the pleadings, showing that the checks and drafts he left with Williams & England were there for collection only, and never deposited by him as an account. He employed the bank to collect the money. When the bank failed, on the first of the month following, he borrowed enough to make good all the money due the state. It was not a personal matter with him until the bank failed. Then he was personally liable and made good every dollar. He derived no interest from the deposit whatever.

Other witnesses were: Otto Wilson, book-keeper in the bank, and George H. Williams, manager and part owner of the bank.

Further action will be taken in the case next Saturday morning.

stands is not clear. Matters will soon develop, perhaps. Many a good game is lost in the face of a shrewd foe like "Joe" Simon. If the Clatsop statesman is wise, he will keep a sharp eye on both "Joe" and Harvey.

DISREGARDED ADVICE

Governor Geer to the Last Legislature.

I leave the solution of this question with you, gentlemen, where it belongs, with advice to steer clear of the breakers, which have often in the past wrecked the best legislative intentions.

In all countries, under conditions and at all times there is a large class of people who are compelled by the stress of circumstances to labor incessantly to provide themselves with the necessities of life. These are known as the common people, and it is upon them that the burden of government largely falls, and it is upon their prosperity that the prosperity eventually of all other classes depends. You should bear them in mind while answering to every roll call.

Some having claims against the bank—E. C. Giltner, B. F. Giltner, F. K. Lovell and L. K. Adams—testified that the funds were all state moneys deposited by them to accommodate Metschan. Mr. Giltner stated that the deposits were divided among many so as to avoid publicity.

State Treasurer C. S. Moore testified that the affairs of the office were all correct at the time—assumed their charge as successors to Mr. Metschan.

The testimony of the receiver, W. T. Slater, was principally to the effect of the manner of turning the moneys of the State treasury over to Mr. Metschan at the opening of his term of office. Mr. Slater was the chief assistant of the preceding treasurer, Geo. Webb. He said that the sum of \$12,000 was on deposit in the Williams & England bank, subject to check. In turning this over, Mr. Metschan said he would receive it in a certificate of deposit from the same bank. This request was complied with. This certificate of deposit was searched for Monday but could not be found among the papers.

General Odell's Statement.

Mr. McMahon asked that the complaint against W. H. Odell be dismissed. This was overruled by the court, who expressed the opinion that all had better be heard together. General Odell went on the stand and repeated the statements set out in the pleadings, showing that the checks and drafts he left with Williams & England were there for collection only, and never deposited by him as an account. He employed the bank to collect the money. When the bank failed, on the first of the month following, he borrowed enough to make good all the money due the state. It was not a personal matter with him until the bank failed. Then he was personally liable and made good every dollar. He derived no interest from the deposit whatever.

Other witnesses were: Otto Wilson, book-keeper in the bank, and George H. Williams, manager and part owner of the bank.

Further action will be taken in the case next Saturday morning.

State Treasurer C. S. Moore testified that the affairs of the office were all correct at the time—assumed their charge as successors to Mr. Metschan.

The testimony of the receiver, W. T. Slater, was principally to the effect of the manner of turning the moneys of the State treasury over to Mr. Metschan at the opening of his term of office. Mr. Slater was the chief assistant of the preceding treasurer, Geo. Webb. He said that the sum of \$12,000 was on deposit in the Williams & England bank, subject to check. In turning this over, Mr. Metschan said he would receive it in a certificate of deposit from the same bank. This request was complied with. This certificate of deposit was searched for Monday but could not be found among the papers.

General Odell's Statement.

Mr. McMahon asked that the complaint against W. H. Odell be dismissed. This was overruled by the court, who expressed the opinion that all had better be heard together. General Odell went on the stand and repeated the statements set out in the pleadings, showing that the checks and drafts he left with Williams & England were there for collection only, and never deposited by him as an account. He employed the bank to collect the money. When the bank failed, on the first of the month following, he borrowed enough to make good all the money due the state. It was not a personal matter with him until the bank failed. Then he was personally liable and made good every dollar. He derived no interest from the deposit whatever.

Other witnesses were: Otto Wilson, book-keeper in the bank, and George H. Williams, manager and part owner of the bank.

Further action will be taken in the case next Saturday morning.

State Treasurer C. S. Moore testified that the affairs of the office were all correct at the time—assumed their charge as successors to Mr. Metschan.

The testimony of the receiver, W. T. Slater, was principally to the effect of the manner of turning the moneys of the State treasury over to Mr. Metschan at the opening of his term of office. Mr. Slater was the chief assistant of the preceding treasurer, Geo. Webb. He said that the sum of \$12,000 was on deposit in the Williams & England bank, subject to check. In turning this over, Mr. Metschan said he would receive it in a certificate of deposit from the same bank. This request was complied with. This certificate of deposit was searched for Monday but could not be found among the papers.

General Odell's Statement.

Mr. McMahon asked that the complaint against W. H. Odell be dismissed. This was overruled by the court, who expressed the opinion that all had better be heard together. General Odell went on the stand and repeated the statements set out in the pleadings, showing that the checks and drafts he left with Williams & England were there for collection only, and never deposited by him as an account. He employed the bank to collect the money. When the bank failed, on the first of the month following, he borrowed enough to make good all the money due the state. It was not a personal matter with him until the bank failed. Then he was personally liable and made good every dollar. He derived no interest from the deposit whatever.

Other witnesses were: Otto Wilson, book-keeper in the bank, and George H. Williams, manager and part owner of the bank.

Further action will be taken in the case next Saturday morning.

State Treasurer C. S. Moore testified that the affairs of the office were all correct at the time—assumed their charge as successors to Mr. Metschan.

The testimony of the receiver, W. T. Slater, was principally to the effect of the manner of turning the moneys of the State treasury over to Mr. Metschan at the opening of his term of office. Mr. Slater was the chief assistant of the preceding treasurer, Geo. Webb. He said that the sum of \$12,000 was on deposit in the Williams & England bank, subject to check. In turning this over, Mr. Metschan said he would receive it in a certificate of deposit from the same bank. This request was complied with. This certificate of deposit was searched for Monday but could not be found among the papers.

General Odell's Statement.

Mr. McMahon asked that the complaint against W. H. Odell be dismissed. This was overruled by the court, who expressed the opinion that all had better be heard together. General Odell went on the stand and repeated the statements set out in the pleadings, showing that the checks and drafts he left with Williams & England were there for collection only, and never deposited by him as an account. He employed the bank to collect the money. When the bank failed, on the first of the month following, he borrowed enough to make good all the money due the state. It was not a personal matter with him until the bank failed. Then he was personally liable and made good every dollar. He derived no interest from the deposit whatever.

NOW BROTHER SWANK

The Aumsville Political Sage Weeps.

Because Politicians are Setting up Beer, Cigars, etc.

Ed. JOURNAL.—Myself and many others with whom I come in reverential political contact, express themselves as being well pleased with the efforts you are putting forth to arouse the tax payers and voters to a realization of the intrigues practiced by professional politicians.

For twelve years to my certain knowledge these professional would-be Saviors have planned, resorted, specified, and promised in most emphatic terms, that they would, the next time if elected, curtail expenses and reduce taxation.

But behold what experience and the records teach!

Each succeeding legislative record shows an increase of burdens for the

grams from Rear-Admiral Rogers at Cavite, concerning the march of the marines across Samar:

"Details of Waller's expedition across Samar not yet received. Much credit is due Shoemaker for service rendered in connection with the rescued detachment at Lanang. Marines in Samar will be relieved in about 10 days."

The second dispatch reads:

"Following casualties occurred in Captain Porter's command while attending to march from Lanang to Roser, Samar: Lieutenant A. S. Willis, slightly wounded in chest and suffering from eczema; Corporal W. Slattery, Privates J. McDay, E. Witzell, J. W. Hackler, W. D. Smith, R. D. Demond, J. Egan, T. J. Correy, condition serious from weeping eczema; Privates P. J. Connell, T. Sanjole, G. M. Foster, T. Bredt, J. Woods, F. G. Brown, T. Murray, M. Bassett, L. A. Bailey and J. Barone, missing; hope abandoned."

Lieutenant William R. Shoemaker, who is commended in Admiral Rodgers' first dispatch, commands the gunboat Arayat, and has figured with distinction in a number of engagements in the islands. "Weeping eczema" is a form of that skin disease in which the encrusts of cuticle break and the sores "run." Previous reports from Admiral Rodgers have shown that the marines suffered great hardships from exposure in their march through the rough country of the island.

affairs successfully and judiciously. To be niggardly in handling state affairs is the worst evil that could befall any commonwealth.

The Theory That It Makes No Difference.

The editor of the Eugene Journal, who has been there, says the matter of salaries and fees of state officials is not the serious one with Oregon. The difference would not change the total of receipts and expenses much. The great items are the grafts voted by the state legislature, and it is an interesting fact that when Brother Heller was in the legislature he voted for all of them—Albany Democrat.

[The above is of interest because it shows the readiness of some people to fall in with an error. The Albany Democrat was of the opposite opinion when the editor of the JOURNAL was in the legislature. It then said we fought the grafts and the expense for clerks in the House that session was only about \$3500, while the Senate the same session with only half the members spent \$8500. This shows what might be done. The state revenues required the year following the legislature of 1895, (when the Democrats say we voted for all the grafts,) was only half what is required this year. The test of the pudding is in chewing the string. But no one wants to discuss ancient history. The question is what can be done to check legislative extravagance that shall prove effective? If the Democrat will help accomplish that it can call us names and say we voted for grafts to its heart's content. The Eugene editor is mistaken in saying the amount paid the state officials in fees, salaries and perquisites makes no difference. If they did not get such large appropriations and if the fees were put in the treasury, there would be a difference of at least fifty thousand dollars a year as the figures show and they are not disputed. To hold their own grafts state officials would not have to stand in with all the others grafts in the state and the legislature would be on a business footing. The coincidence of the combined graft would not be such a particularly big terror to the taxpayer as it is now when he sends up prayers to heaven that the legislature may come speedily to an end, when it is in session.]—Ed. J.

Strictly On a Business Basis.

Eugene Daily Register.

We believe our state offices should be conducted on a strictly business basis, and that means at the least possible expense consistent with able and efficient services. The present emoluments of state officials are fixed by the constitution, supplemented by legislative enactment. If state government is costing us more than it should, we have a safe and speedy remedy at the hands of the legislature which should consider itself morally bound to adjust the matter. This is a proposition however, on which we should make haste slowly. We are not in favor of cutting off one single cent of state expenses if the amounts appropriated are actually needed in carrying on our

loul voter and tax payer

Mind you I don't blame the politician half so much as I do the fool dog that licks the hand that smites him. The toilers and producers of wealth are in the majority, ten to one, or sixteen to one if you please, and if they had sense enough to concentrate their efforts for equality, freedom and justice, they could establish conditions that would lighten the burdens of taxation, and secure for themselves the remuneration to which they are justly entitled.

Just now the same old political wheel horses, as they are proud to be called, are canvassing the state and counties, flapping conditions that events may be shaping to give nominations for the legislative offices that are to be divided up among themselves.

I am a granger and possibly may have mistaken the offices for political wheel horses, for it is one of the cardinal principles of the Grange to so purify politics that the office would seek the man, instead of the man the office.

The Grange has now been in existence about thirty years. It seems as though some of the fruits and principles of reform planted by the Grange ought to be maturing in tangible form by this time. Nevertheless the things I see oscillating in different parts of Marion county were pedestaled on two pillars and hoisted into each other's ears, just like the old political wheel-horses did, a long time ago when I was not quite as old as I am now.

Surely these things could not have been officers for they were not so timid as new-born babes usually are and the things partook and distributed cigars, whiskey, beer, and smiling countenances.

Whatever the nature of the animals may be, that are manœuvring through the State of Oregon don't stop the vibrating thought waves produced by the editorials in the fearless outspoken JOURNAL.

D. E. SWANE,
Aumsville, Jan. 26.

St John Dix Will Settle

WHATCOM, Jan. 31.—St. John Dix, who was arrested in London for wrecking the Scandinavian-American Bank, here announces from his prison cell here that arrangements will be made to pay the depositors of the bank in full. He hopes to secure an acquittal by proving that the bank was insolvent when he bought it.

The Marines Suffer Greatly

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—Secretary Lang today received the following cable-

SUSTAINS JOURNAL'S FIGHT

But Has Kicks On Other Lines.

A Howler Who Wants to Reform Everything at Once.

EDITOR JOURNAL.—I am with you in your fight against the fee system. I believe that there is only one proper way to pay our State officials, and that is by paying them a fixed salary, and covering the fees into the State treasury. I suppose we must credit you with sincerity in making this fight, but sometimes I have some doubts about it. Why do you claim the honor of being the originator of this plan. You speak of it as "our plan," when the fact is the idea is a very old one. For years and years I have heard people protesting against allowing our State officials to pocket the fees which came into their offices. The committee of one hundred advocated this very "plan which you claim as your own. The Oregon Independent for the past six or seven years has been pounding away on the same lines. But nothing ever came of it, for the simple reason that it did not suit the politicians. I am free to admit, however, that you have gone into the matter more fully than any one who has preceded you. You have presented your readers with more figures and perhaps ventilated the subject more thoroughly than any one who has as yet written on the subject. For this you deserve great credit.

Now while you are exposing the corruption and rottenness of our legislatures, and telling the voters what they should do to be saved from endless taxation, why do you not have something to say regarding the nepotism which prevails among our public men. Just look at our Senators and representatives. There has not been a session of the legislature at senators and assembly men have not been guilty of this shameful and iniquitous practice. And there is nothing in politics more demoralizing. I have known our representatives to appoint their wives, sisters, daughters and sons to clerkships both in the senate and in the house. If it were not for this ungodly and beggarly practice, the clerkship evil would never have amounted to such an octopus as it has become. These relatives are given positions regardless of their qualifications, and the results are patent in such cases as that of George W. Davis, when the clerks reported everything correct while he was a delinquent to the tune of \$32,000. No high-toned man would be guilty of putting his wife, sister, or child in a public position in a department wherein he himself was an actor. And yet you have not a word to say against this infamous practice. You keep harping away at the salary question as if that were the only grievance of which the people have to complain. Why is this? What are you afraid of? I know a senator, and he does not live a thousand miles from Salem either, who had five of his nearest relatives—two of them his own children—appointed to clerkships while he was in office. Is that right? If he had these things to dispose of, why did he not think of some of the poor boys and girls—the children of some of the people who voted for him? Why? Because he was too selfish to consider them. He wanted to hog the whole cheese himself while he had the opportunity. This gentleman may have to solicit our suffrages again and if he does he will hear of these things.

I have also to find fault with you for handing guilty public officers too gingerly. When a man is guilty of an intentional wrong why not handle him without gloves? Why be measly-mouthed with a culprit? I do not mean by this to call him ugly names, or to denounce him without mercy, or to accuse him of other things of which he is not guilty. But I do believe in calling a spade a spade. In dealing with men or bodies who have not acted right, you remind me of a bully I once saw. He would give his antagonist a most unmerciful blow or a slap on the face, and then apologize to him for having done so. You accuse a legislature of having been recklessly extravagant in one sentence and in the next you say it has been no worse than its predecessor.

I notice that you are down on the Scalp bounty bill, as every honest man should be. Senator Williamson is the author of that bill which is one of the worst grafts ever enacted in the State. But while condemning the bill, you have nothing but honeyed words for its author! Now, that is not the way to handle men who introduce such injurious measures.

I hope you will pardon me for this plain speaking. While I admire many of the positions you take on public questions, yet I am convinced that you are leaving many things undone that should be attended to. Yours etc,
Mc Duff.

Marion County Jan. 26, 1901.

PERSONS WHO MAY REGISTER

Rules Adopted in the Principal County.

In view of the fact that so many questions have arisen concerning the right of certain people to register, the clerk of Multnomah county has submitted a

number of them to the District Attorney, and in conformity with an opinion received from Mr. Chamberlain, has adopted the following rules:

None but an elector is entitled to register. This means a person who is an elector at the time he applies for registration. For example, numerous young men who will soon become of age have been denied, owing to the fact that they are not now electors. There are also persons who have declared their intentions, and who will be voters next election. The constitution provides that they can vote one year after having taken out first papers, but the year has not passed. They cannot register.

Then there are recent arrivals, who have not lived here the six months required by law to gain a residence. These, also, cannot now register. Registration closes on May 15. If the time limit has expired by that time, or prior thereto, they can return and register, otherwise they must vote on affidavit made when they are electors, which, when signed by six freeholders, will give them the right to exercise the elective franchise.

Naturalized citizens must produce their citizenship papers, or proof of the loss of the same. All aliens must produce declaration of intention papers, or proof of loss of same. Where electors were unable to produce a copy of declaration or naturalization papers and were allowed to register in 1900, no further attempt to secure lost papers will be insisted upon; but those who have not registered heretofore and who have lost papers must first use reasonable effort to secure copies of the same, but an affidavit will be required in all cases.

Any person claiming citizenship by virtue of his father's citizenship before he became of age, is not required to produce his father's citizenship papers. Mr. Swetland has caused to be printed large notices of requirements of electors, as follows:

1. The place shall be considered and held to be the residence of a person in which his habitation is fixed, and to which, whenever he is absent, he has the intention of returning.

2. A person shall not be considered or held to have lost his residence who shall leave his home and go into another state or territory or county of this state for a temporary purpose only.

3. A person shall not be considered or held to have gained a residence in any county of this state into which he shall come for temporary purposes only, without the intention of making said county his home, but with the intention of leaving the same when he shall have accomplished the business that brought him into it.

4. If a person remove to any other state, or to any of the territories, with the intention of making it his permanent home, he shall be considered and held to have lost his residence in this state.

5. The place where a married man's family resides shall be considered and held to be his residence.

6. The place where an unmarried man sleeps shall be considered and held to be his residence.

7. If a person shall go from this state into any other state or territory and there exercise the right of suffrage, he shall be considered and held to have lost his residence in this state.

8. All qualified electors shall vote in the election precinct in the county where they may reside for county officers, and in any county in the state for state officers, or in any county of a Congressional district in which such electors may reside or members of Congress.

The following regulation notice to electors meets the eye in boldface type in the office:

Any person who shall willfully or fraudulently register more than once or register under any but his true name, or attempt to vote by impersonating another who has registered, contrary to the provisions of his act or knowingly register in any precinct where he is not a resident at the time of registering, upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than one year nor more than three years, or by a fine not less than \$100 or more than \$2000, or both such fine and imprisonment.

Any person who shall falsely swear to any affidavit required by this act shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and upon conviction thereof be punished accordingly.

This is an extract from the registration law. The work of each day is compared by the deputies, and every effort is being made to see that no errors are made.

Electors are urged to register as soon as possible, and not to delay and create a rush. After primary day has been announced, increased interest will probably result. All electors must register. Previous registrations are now void.

Theory of Condor's Fate

SEATTLE, Jan. 31.—Great excitement has been caused in local marine circles by the theory of collision between the Condor and Mattewan, advanced by Captain Handorf, of the Cape Flattery lightship, and every circumstance tending to throw light on the fate of the two vessels is now cited in support of a deduction that appears most tangible.

The steamers sailed from Lady Smith and Victoria, B. C., respectively on December 3, and passed through the Straits within a half hour of one another. The course of the Mattewan bound for San Francisco and the Condor for Honolulu would have been exactly the same for at least 20 miles after leaving Flat Flattery.

Will Avoid Strike Evil

Changes in the Party Alignment.

From the Astoria News, Rep.

There seems to be quite a mixture in the political situation in Oregon. Governor Geer was the ally of Corbett, Scott and Simon heretofore.

There seems to be a defection, somehow.

Moody was once in alliance with the same parties and had the support of Senator Fulton. The Mitchell wing was allied elsewhere. New alliances seem now to be in the air.

The close observer notes that William Scott for congress is at a premium in Scott-Mitchell-Fulton camps, Geer does not seem to be sitting at the same table with Scott, and Henry W. Corbett seems to be an unknown quantity.

Danbar has now a clear field for Secretary of State as a result of the new alignments. Some of the press are asserting that the senatorial issue is between Simon and Fulton. They seem to assume that both Mitchell and Harvey Scott are supporting the Clatsop statesman.

Yet, there are indications that, when Scott came to sit at Mitchell's table, he was "scrubbing" Senator Fulton off the end of the bench. Little things indicate that the "dishonest incubus" has a purpose to become successor to Senator Joseph Simon. His picture has been sent around to his newspaper supporters, half-tone cuts, that resemble Bismarck.

Just what is the situation is not clear. But "Little Joe" is busy putting up his fences and "tending to business." He snoped in the Multnomah situation a couple of days ago when he got all the judges and clerks of the primary elections.

Simon, Geer and Moody seem to be in coalition.

Just how the remainder of the field

last of the stage drivers

WICHITA, Kan., Jan. 31.—Byron Terrell, the last of the famous stage drivers of Kansas, died at Genda Springs yesterday. He drove stages before there was a mile of railroad in the state. He drove Horace Greeley, Jim Lane, General Sherman, John Brown, nearly all of the Territorial Governors, and Henry M. Stanley, the African explorer. He was well known in Arizona, where he accumulated a fortune. At a stage tournament in Denver he won a prize over all the crack drivers of the West by cutting the figure 8 in the smallest space.

ENGINEER'S TRIAL

Whisker, the engineer of the train that ran into the local in the recent New York tunnel horror, will shortly be placed on trial. Although the company will employ counsel to defend him, it is expected that the officials will try to make him the scapegoat.

PERSONS WHO MAY REGISTER

Rules Adopted in the Principal County.

In view of the fact that so many questions have arisen concerning the right of certain people to register, the clerk of Multnomah county has submitted a

number of them to the District Attorney, and in conformity with an opinion received from Mr. Chamberlain, has adopted the following rules:

None but an elector is entitled to register. This means a person who is an elector at the time he applies for registration. For example, numerous young men who will soon become of age have been denied, owing to the fact that they are not now electors. There are also persons who have declared their intentions, and who will be voters next election. The constitution provides that they can vote one year after having taken out first papers, but the year has not passed. They cannot register.

Then there are recent arrivals, who have not lived here the six months required by law to gain a residence. These, also, cannot now register. Registration closes on May 15. If the time limit has expired by that time, or prior thereto, they can return and register, otherwise they must vote on affidavit made when they are electors, which, when signed by six freeholders, will give them the right to exercise the elective franchise.

Naturalized citizens must produce their citizenship papers, or proof of the loss of the same. All aliens must produce declaration of intention papers, or proof of loss of same. Where electors were unable to produce a copy of declaration or naturalization papers and were allowed to register in 1900, no further attempt to secure lost papers will be insisted upon; but those who have not registered heretofore and who have lost papers must first use reasonable effort to secure copies of the same, but an affidavit will be required in all cases.

Any person claiming citizenship by virtue of his father's citizenship before he became of age, is not required to produce his father's citizenship papers. Mr. Swetland has caused to be printed large notices of requirements of electors, as follows:

1. The place shall be considered and held to be the residence of a person in which his habitation is fixed, and to which, whenever he is absent, he has the intention of returning.

2. A person shall not be considered or held to have lost his residence who shall leave his home and go into another state or territory or county of this state for a temporary purpose only.

3. A person shall not be considered or held to have gained a residence in any county of this state into which he shall come for temporary purposes only, without the intention of making said county his home, but with the intention of leaving the same when he shall have accomplished the business that brought him into it.

4. If a person remove to any other state, or to any of the territories, with the intention of making it his permanent home, he shall be considered and held to have lost his residence in this state.

5. The place where a married man's family resides shall be considered and held to be his residence.

6. The place where an unmarried man sleeps shall be considered and held to be his residence.

7. If a person shall go from this state into any other state or territory and there exercise the right of suffrage, he shall be considered and held to have lost his residence in this state.

8. All qualified electors shall vote in the election precinct in the county where they may reside for county officers, and in any county in the state for state officers, or in any county of a Congressional district in which such electors may reside or members of Congress.

The following regulation notice to electors meets the eye in boldface type in the office:

Any person who shall willfully or fraudulently register more than once or register under any but his true name, or attempt to vote by impersonating another who has registered, contrary to the provisions of his act or knowingly register in any precinct where he is not a resident at the time of registering, upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than one year nor more than three years, or by a fine not less than \$100 or more than \$2000, or both such fine and imprisonment.

Any person who shall falsely swear to any affidavit required by this act shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and upon conviction thereof be punished accordingly.

This is an extract from the registration law. The work of each