

Speech of Tom Caton at Dayton.

The Dayton News has the following synopsis of the speech of N. T. Caton, made at Dayton. He favors the annexation of Northern Idaho to Washington, favors a state government, favors the Constitution prepared by the late convention, and says he shall vote for its adoption and is testotally opposed to Walla Walla and Columbia counties going to Oregon:

Mr. Caton placed himself squarely on the platform adopted by the Vancouver Convention; and then discussed the first, second, third and sixth resolutions. He said it had been charged that, some years ago, he made several speeches favoring the annexation of Walla Walla county to Oregon. He said that, being desirous of enjoying the benefits growing out of Statehood, and the tide of emigration not having then set in; and seeing no prospect that Washington Territory would be a State for a long time in the future, he made speeches as above charged. But the very arguments he then used in support of annexation to Oregon are those he now uses against dismemberment. Walla Walla, Columbia and Whitman counties are filling up with a rapidly scarcely equalled in the annals of our nation; and he was, therefore, in favor not only of remaining territorially intact, but of annexing what is known as the "Pan-Handle" of Idaho. He also said he was not only in favor of being admitted as a State, at the earliest moment possible, but in favor of the Constitution framed by the Convention at Walla Walla. It has some defects, some of which were specified; but it has many excellencies, one of which is that of economy; and, taken as a whole, the speaker thought it a good one, and hoped it would be adopted. If, on a fair trial, it shall be found not to work well in some important particulars, it can be abrogated and a new one adopted instead.

Relative to the Northern Pacific Railroad, he favored an extension of time for its completion as affording the best prospects of a speedy connection with the Sound and an outlet for our surplus grain and other products.

He was strongly in favor of the construction of a canal and locks at the Cascades and The Dalles. In fact he claimed to be one of the first to make a move for obtaining an appropriation from Congress for this purpose. In proof of this he caused to be read a memorial to Congress, drawn up by himself while presiding officer of one of the branches of the Territorial Legislature. Said memorial sets forth the great necessity for the construction of these works, in a comprehensive and exhaustive array of facts and figures. After passing both branches of the Legislature Mr. Caton kept close track of it until signed by the governor; and then he placed it in the hands of Mr. M'Fadden with the urgent request that he attend to it immediately on his arrival in Washington. That year Congress granted an appropriation of \$95,000, much of the success being justly due to the memorial aforesaid.

Relative to the Indian question—Mr. C. is in favor of breaking up the tribal relations as far as possible, by arranging that all Indians who wish to hold a tract of land in severalty shall do so—abandoning their wandering habits and tilling the soil like white men. The balance of the Indians he would have consolidated and all placed on one reservation with military control. The present Indian policy had proved an entire failure; and he was in favor of its immediate abandonment, and of adopting the policy indicated briefly above.

Speech of Hon. N. T. Caton at Colfax.

Hon. N. T. Caton, the Democratic nominee for Delegate to Congress, addressed a fair audience at the school house, in Colfax, last Saturday evening, on the approaching political issues. Space will only permit of our publishing some of the main points of Mr. Caton's remarks: He said he always had been, as he is now, opposed to the dismemberment of the Territory—the annexation of Walla Walla and Columbia counties to Oregon, and would oppose it by every honorable means in his power. That he was in favor of an extension of time for the Northern Pacific Railroad, but that he wanted to see the Company begin somewhere, sometime. That he saw defects in the constitution as framed by the Walla Walla Convention, but he trusted to the intelligence and disposition of the people to remedy these defects through their representatives in the legislature after the admission of the Territory, and that he should vote for its adoption. He is strongly in favor of the annexation of Northern Idaho to Washington and the admission of the Territory as early as the wealth and population will justify. He referred to the people of this Territory as being eminently a reading people; that at present large communities were without means

of obtaining their mail, that he, as a private citizen had been successful in obtaining several new mail routes, and said that in case he was elected to Congress, would exert himself to establish routes where it was reasonable to expect them. He wanted to see the obstructions removed from Snake River, making this a public highway, and would labor for this end. His position on the Indian and Chinese question could not be approved by every citizen, no matter to what political party he may be attached. He wanted to see the Indian policy changed; to abolish the reservation system, to compel them to take up land in severalty, and instead of the present Indian agency system to place them under the military, and make it responsible for their acts, thus saving thousands of dollars annually to the government, and bringing about a much more satisfactory and effectual Indian policy. He wanted to see the Burlingame treaty repealed or amended so as to prevent the further immigration of Chinese, but commended none but a legal course to pursue.

His remarks though sometimes quite expressive, were free from all personal, political bitterness, which sometimes is used by speakers, and his fair, candid manner in dealing with his subjects could only gain for him at least the respect of all, whether Democrat or Republican.—Palouse Gazette.

Up the Clearwater

Correspondent of the Bee.

Starting at the Clearwater with the Snake river, I have been fortunate enough to make one of a party who have been prospecting along the first named river a distance of 165 miles from Lewiston, and find the facilities and practicability of the route offer the very best of advantages all the way for the railroad so far as it has been under our observations. The river from the starting point at Lewiston has the advantage of a good farming community to back it. The average grade for the entire distance along the river will not exceed 16 feet to the mile, making the elevation 2,640 feet above Lewiston. Then we are in the Bitter root range within 20 miles of the summit. This elevation will have to be overcome in order to get into the Bitter root river country. At the end of 165 the river forks. One fork running north, the other running almost due east, and coming apparently from the very summit of the divide; rushing down from its source at the mountain top at a rapid rate until it reaches the fork that breaks off to the north, where it flows on regularly to the confluence. By following the east branch, there will be a distance of 20 miles gained, that will not average more than 60 or 70 feet to the mile. Then, in making the descent on the Bitter root river, we have a small stream that flows through a narrow gap between two high peaks that form a natural passage for a roadway, taking its course eastward to the Bitter root river, at a point near Stephenville, Montana. When once on the last named river the road will have a good grade to the Geyser basin, as all of that country can be easily traveled by wagon. The old Clearwater survey, after following the river for a distance of 84 miles to the third fork, followed up the north fork instead of taking the southeast fork, coming out on the Lolo trail, which route was reported unfavorably upon, we believe. Timber along the route abound in great abundance. The stream has an average width of 250 feet; there is some rocky points that extend from 300 yards to one-half mile, which could easily be removed, being soft slate rock in most instances. Farmers here are nearly all through with harvesting and threshing their crops, which are not so good as were expected by many, on account of early dry season. Mt. Idaho is building up fast this Summer. New comers are flocking in and taking up land at an astonishing rate. The cry is, "let them come," we have plenty room for as many more. The health of the country is very good. Indian excitement partly subsided.

The North Pacific Railroad.

The company, financially, are in good condition, the \$34,000,000 of bonds having been turned in for stock in the road. The number of miles of road completed and in operation is 651, of which 515 are at the eastern, and 136 at the western, end. The number of stockholders is 7,006; number of shares, 342,671; and the amount of stock, \$34,167,100. The greatest amount of stock is held in Pennsylvania, namely: nearly \$14,000,000, distributed among 2,500 shareholders. New York comes second, with 2,509 shareholders and \$4,500,000 of stock. Massachusetts furnishes 800 stockholders, representing \$2,000,000. Oregon's quota is 7 stockholders, \$674,700 stock; Washington Territory, 6 stockholders, \$68,100 stock. There are 312 foreign stockholders, representing \$3,500,000 of stock. The stock is held in 36 States and Territories of the Union.—N. P. Times.

State Improvements.

Occasionally a man is found who opposes the adoption of the constitution, or the Territory becoming a State under it, because it forbids the State making internal improvements. Such men, no doubt, would, Oregon-like, be in favor of forming wagon road, swamp land, school lands, and other swindling companies, to cheat the State out of its lands, and run it a few millions in debt, so that they could get a finger in the pie. Our Territory has had enough of that in the University land swindle, and it is just for this very reason that the members of the constitutional convention framed the constitution in this manner. They have seen samples of such schemes both in Oregon and this Territory, and they know too well the character of the leading politicians to give them such an opportunity to rob the State, should they by any chance be in position to take advantage of it. The new State, by reason of its becoming such, expects and will receive aid from the general government for internal improvements: as it would not be able, without squandering its lands and running in debt, to make such internal improvements which are becoming every day more demanded. No one would think for a moment of making them while we are a Territory, nor would the State be better able, until it has a larger population, and has become wealthy of itself. For years after it becomes a State it will need the fostering arm of the government to aid it, as well as now, and will then be able to demand and secure such aid, while now it is only a beggar on the bounty of Congress. It needs improvements in our harbors and rivers, the erection of custom buildings, forts and arsenals for the protection of our coast and commerce, and many other aids from the government which it cannot now get, nor will ever be able to secure until it becomes a State and has the power to demand its just dues.—Olympia Transcript.

It is manifest to every observing mind from the history of the past that Washington can never attain the position to control her own lands, nor her own natural resources, till she assumes the position of Statehood.

Preparing.

A correspondent of the Avalanche writing from Jordan valley, Sept. 7th, says: Mr. Reeder says the Indians at the Post are killing each other to get their hands in for next Summer's campaign; that they go and come in large bodies; and no questions asked. They are all allowed to retain their arms, and to purchase as much ammunition as they wish—it not too openly. The day he left the Post sixty well armed and equipped Piutes went out on a pasear, no one knew their destination, or cared. The settlers around McDermit are apprehensive of a bigger "Injun war" than this year's but think they will hold off until next Spring, when the feed is good. Meanwhile, the "reds" are being well fattened up for a three months' picnic next Summer. In early days it used to be the policy of a paternal government to foster and protect its frontier settlers, but it appears now they are left to the tender mercies of the Indian agents and the redoubtable Howard. And yet this is a government "of the people, for the people, by the people!"

Counterfeit Silver.

Large cities are overrun with counterfeit silver. There is hardly a merchant who has not more or less of it on hand. Some of it is very well executed indeed, but the greater part is very bad. Reports received from different states by the secret service division of the treasury are to the effect that counterfeit silver is also appearing in great quantities in those sections. The indications are that this is the beginning of an evil that may grow to a very disastrous magnitude. Counterfeit silver is much easier executed than the counterfeit greenback, and much easier passed off. One of the half dollar counterfeits is made of a composition with the ring of silver, the exact appearance and brightness, and but a few grains less in weight than the genuine. With all these points in their favor it can readily be seen how comparatively easy it is for the counterfeiters of silver to get their productions on the market.—Ex.

RICH GOLD DISCOVERY.—A letter written by Wm. B. Stevens, formerly of Tumwater, to a gentleman of this place, says that rich gold discoveries have been made on Sultan river, about 20 miles from Snohomish City, and that great excitement prevails among residents all along the Snohomish river. It is said 150 persons have already left for the mines, and the rush, in his opinion, has but begun. The writer says the prospect pays five cents to the pan, and there is plenty of gravel and water. We will doubtless in a few days learn further particulars of this new sensation.—Olympia Standard.

Appeal to Laboring Classes.

The N. P. Times in speaking of the Constitution makes the following appeal: It is to the hardy sons of the plow we must turn to save us from this office-seekers infliction at the November election.

The Palouse Gazette, the organ of the hardy sons of the plow, makes the following reply:

The laboring classes are the very ones who should vote for the adoption of the Constitution, as they may be certain they will never get a chance to vote for one which will protect their interests equal to this, and that is just what ails the Times, which sees in this Constitution no chance for corporations to fill their coffers from the laboring classes. Now we are not after an office, but when the Times effects so much concern for "the hardy sons of the plow" and at the same time the organ of a great corporation, we shall get right up and speak of it.

The Gazette has much the best of it.

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