

Open letter to Harvey W Scott
Editor in Chief of The Oregonian

Nearly 50

Years ago ^{we} you and I were
students together in Swanton
Academy and Pacific University
Forest Grove Oregon.

I give you credit for greater mental
powers, but in some things I had
the advantage.

My home was near the College
buildings and my parents were
very anxious I should be a College
graduate and study for the Ministry
and though in but moderate circum-
stances and with other sons and
a daughter to ^{be} have educated, ~~it~~
were willing to give me the best
opportunities, so I was ~~thus~~ ^{thus} ~~sent~~ ^{sent} ~~home~~
If you were wiser than I was
I for in the spring of 1854

When just ready to enter the
regular college course, I foolishly
gave it up and settled down to be an
Oregon farmer, ^{following my own way of life} it being my ambition
to excel in that direction.
Even along this line I can now see
how a thorough college course
would have been incalculable benefit -
to me for in the place of being an
ordinary plodding farmer I might
be in the higher ranks of
scientific farming able to do
with more confidence and clearness to discuss on this
better for myself and to advise others.
You were compelled to "carve your own
fortune" and I admired your pluck
and perseverance never more than
when in the summer of 1863 you
spent a few days with us at our

Cabin home on the upper waters of
Burch creek Umatilla Co. this state,
as you were returning to the
Willamette Valley, after having
spent several months in the Idaho
mines whipsawing lumber, in order
to get means to pursue your studies,
When these were completed you
graduated with high honors and
the first ^{to} graduate from Pacific
University, Rev. H. W. ~~Smith~~ ^{Stambaugh} ~~Harve~~ ^{Allyman}
I might have been with you
had I held on as you did.
Studying law under our ^{beloved} former
teacher and ^{the} principal of Tualatin
Academy, the late lamented Hon. Judge
C. L. Shattuck, you prepared yourself
for a journalistic career.

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Academy, the late lamented John Jones
to Dr. Shattuck, you prepared yourself
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Why man
I wish our publication
could keep drawing to such
large numbers as you did
I wish our time was more
valuable

When just ready to enter the
regular college course, foolishly
gave it up and ^{before my marriage} settled down to be an
Oregon farmer, it being my ambition
to excel in that direction.
Even along this line I can now see
how a ~~throughout~~ college course
would ^{have} been incalculable benefit -
to me for in the place of being an
ordinary plodding farmer I might
be in the higher ranks of
scientific farming able to do
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You were compelled to "carve your own
fortune", and I admired your pluck
and perseverance never more so than
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Through all these years I have
watched your upward career with
interest, often contrasting your successes
with my failures, but always
pleased ^{glad} to see you rise to eminence.
Pleased when you have assailed
the wrong with your powerful pen
saddened when the same was
used against what I deemed ~~was~~
necessary to promote righteousness,
temperance and a happiness;
in no instance more so than
when you have shown sympathy
for the liquor traffic.

The Oregonian under your editorial
management is held largely responsible
by the temperance advocates for the
defeat of the Prohibitory amendment.

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to our constitution in 1857, and now we find it opposing the Local Option Bill.

When we take in ^{to consideration} ~~in mind~~ the great change in public sentiment concerning the liquor traffic from ^{what it} ~~that of~~ seventeen years ago and that local option is not so drastic a measure as absolute prohibition, we have good reason to believe what the Oregonian

says regarding this bill will not have the same effect - as to arguments in 1857. ^{there is no fact upon which any party} You know as well as ~~the law~~ ^{we do}

The temperance question is not now confined to the moral and philanthropic only but has reached the commercial ^{stage} ^{of our} ^{country} also.

Taking that of the railroad's, as one

instance we find that out of about
1,200,000 railroad employes ^{in the United States} nearly
800,000 are under absolute prohibition
being forbidden to drink liquors either
on or off duty, and not to frequent
gambling houses or haunts of vice.
On every hand there is a fierce tide
setting in against the licensed
saloon, and it will find vent for
itself at the ballot box, in increasing
force and numbers.

I am sorry to know that some of my
brothers of the Cabins of the ^{our own} Native Sons
are among the leading liquor dealers,
and are opposing local option.
Loyal to them in other things I cannot
be in this, and here we must be
antagonists.

It is needless to say that we learn by experience.

This in our lives has taught us many valuable lessons.

We have grown wiser with advancing years.

You have learned wisdom mainly ^{perhaps} from life's successes, I from its failures.

The ideal wisdom is given in the scripture which says

"But the wisdom that is from above is first-
pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be
entreated full of mercy and good fruits
without partiality and without hypocrisy"

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This kind I have earnestly desired
and sought after.

Whether I possessed in a larger
degree than yourself must be
decided by other tribunals than
our own hearts.

Guided by its command I
could not but oppose the liquor
traffic as the greatest enemy to
the home the church, the
state, and nation.

I know not what strong drink was
in the earliest years of my
boyhood ^{and} not until after the
Whitman massacre ^{in 1847} that broke
up the missionary work among them
the ^{at our several stations} ~~Spokane~~ ^{missionaries and other bodies} and my parents
found a home in Oregon City.

in 1848 ^{and} 49, did know of such an
evil.

What I saw in those years
of its effects, made me ^{its} life long
enemy.

In 1857 before I was 19 years of
age I joined ^{at First Lane St} with the temperance
society known as "The Temple of Honor."
The only one organized in Berlin.
Like the Odd Fellows and
Kindred organizations its
membership was composed of men
only ^{but} with a lodge for women
like ^{tot} the Rebecca degree or Eastern
Star.

Mainly ^{of} the Temple of Honor
saw the ^{other gave to women the same rights and} "Good Templars," ^{most of which}
of this ^{order} I soon became a ^{of the} ^{men}

member and an active worker,
so I very naturally fell into line
in later years with the
Prohibition Party.

In my later boyhood I was told
that the Democratic Party was the
whiskey party, and for a time I believed
it, hence it was easy to follow the
example of my father and vote
the Republican ticket.

The first ballot I cast was in
Washington County this State in
June 1860 ~~when~~ my vote helped
to elect John Adison's Gibbs
known to history as Oregon's first
Governor.

I twice voted for Lincoln and
am a Lincoln Republican yet

and family believe were ~~and~~ ^{they} ~~in~~ ^{al} ~~the~~
would be a prohibitionist.

When the call was made for
volunteers in the fall of 1864.

I was the first to enlist in
Washington Co.

Was mustered in as 1st Lieut Co B
1st Reg Infy. at Salem Dec 26 1864.

What I saw of drinking ^{whiskey} in the army
only intensified my hatred for
intoxicating liquors.

Being mustered out July 23 1866. I
returned to civil life and took up
the fight for temperance under
the good Templar banner.

Under its teaching I had unlearned
the lesson ^{I had been taught regarding the} ~~that the~~ Democratic party
was any more or of whiskey than
was the Republican so that by
1870 I scratched my ticket.

preferring to vote for a Temperance
Democrat in preference ^{rather than} a Whiskey
Republican.

This practice I kept up; at one time in
the 50th voting for a Democratic
nominee for Governor.

I seemed to inherit a missionary
spirit, so when called in 1877 to
the Indian Service at Warm Springs
Agency under ^{that noble man} Captain John Smith
who for about 15 years was Indian
Agent, I gladly helped him and
others that succeeded him, in the
missionary work. Though done by
a church denomination to which
I did not belong, ^{is pagical. I improved every} the Indians love for ^{the} Bible.
During the 15 years of my sojourn
at that Agency, most of the time ^{20 years} ^{the} ^{against}

employed in the Government-
service, either as Class Teacher
or as in the last three years, as
Supt of the Agency Boarding School
I kept constantly in mind the

conscience of my father's and
I could not do wrong with her virtues ^{and} ^{and} ^{and}
especially of my heroic mother.

I tried then and during these later
years to make amends as much
as possible for the disappointment I
brought to them in ^{not following their wishes} ~~abandoning~~ the
College course and the

For many years I have studied
the liquor problem, looking at it
in all its phases, calmly and
as dispassionately
as possible impartially as possible

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the liquor problem, looking at it
in all its phases, calmly and
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and before prohibition as
set forth in our party platform
is the only certain and practical
solution of this far-reaching question.
Moral suasion has not done
it. License high or low has
not, and cannot do it.

As I look back through the
years, I call to mind many
of ^{a number of} the men of high attainments
heroes of the pioneer days
and otherwise of excellent character
whose minds became clouded
and who went down to ^{an early death} ~~an untimely~~
graves through strong drink
So have fallen some of my comrades
in arms and also school mates
some yours as well as mine.

I would gladly avenge their death
^{upon} ~~my~~ this cruel monster, and shall
continue to battle against him
as long as life lasts, though I
^{hope} ~~expect~~ to see National prohibition
secure before I die.

In 1887 I voted in Brook Co for
the Constitutional prohibition
amendment.

It seemed strange to see that
County and Linn both largely
democratic give a majority for the
amendment, Linn giving over
900, while the adjoining County
of Marion, largely Republican
gave about 800 against it.

The then Republican leaders
can tell better than I why

It was so.

I have been to the masses but will not give them now only wondering when I see some ^{leading} ~~Republican~~ ^{Republican} papers and favouring the Social Oblivion Law, while some ^{leading} Republican are opposing it. whether or no there are threat that they ^{expand} ^{tolerance} paralyzed the last-named party, again brings it into submission.

When I left the Indian service in 1892, I all the more gladly found a home in Linn County, because of its magnificent record regarding prohibition. I have for ^{six} successive ^{years} ^{this year being the last} ^{annual} ^{campaigns} ^{in the region} ^{I have been} ^{appointed} at the hands of the Linn Co Prohibition Party, for some high

office, willingly accepting the
nomination, ~~and~~ ^{although} knowing I was
going down to certain defeat, ^{which}
by standing by either of the old
parties I would most-certainly have
been elected to honorable, ^{as well as} also
lucrative positions.

Joining the Patrons of Husbandry
in 1873, I gladly rejoined them
in this Co. and for 12 years have
found the greatest of pleasure and
satisfaction in being an earnest-
worker in this grand order.
Proud I am to know that so
many of our granges at this crisis
favor local option.

It is always a pleasure to work for the up-
lifting of humanity and in this case to help
my fellow farmers to brighter and more prosperous lives.

Much ^{of what} I have written ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{not} ~~not~~ ^{personally} knowing ^{but} to give it to refresh
memory and for helpfulness to others.

We have both crested the summit of life's
mountains and are slowly traveling on
down toward ~~the~~ ^{that} boundless sea whose
surges we can ^{now} almost hear.

Soon our names will pass into history
Yours as a great-Oregon Journalist, mine
as ^{our} best-native white born son.

Though far from being great-I would love
to have the thought as I approach the end
that I was leaving

"Foot-prints on the sands of time
Foot-prints that perhaps another
Sailing o'er life's solemn main
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother
Seeing may take heart again?"

May this pleasant-thought-also be yours.