

Axford Nov 28<sup>th</sup> 1892

Dear Cy

It has been several weeks since your last came to hand, and I have been rather waiting till the cheat came before answering it. It is I guess well enough that you did not send any more as, for one reason or another I did not get but one small patch plowed for it - just about enough to suffice for the one sack. The weather has been quite stormy the past two weeks making high waters but doing very little damage

here. Our local streams do not head back into the mountains so there was no snow to affect them, but the larger streams do and that was the cause of their rising higher than usual. The rainfall from Wednesday night to Saturday morning was eleven inches

but was quite evenly distributed through the time and the streams got to a certain stage and staid there till it quit raining.

Well the election is over with, and while this state and our county has gone as I voted yet the result in the nation is a surprise for I thought it was going to be very close. The figures I have seen do not

as yet show just exactly what changes have taken place, but it looks as though republicans had been deluded into supporting peoples party candidates expecting that an equal proportion of democrats would do the same. Strange that people will never learn <sup>that</sup> the democratic party can never be trusted to do but one thing and that is vote the ticket.

You say you propose to quit the old parties and act with one which will maintain christian principles, and I am tempted to present a few ideas in regard to religious principles in party politics. and I may at some

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future time  
re-laborate them for the Oregonian  
It is an open question as to how  
far it is proper to take religion  
into politics. Our rule in regard  
to it is the declaration of the  
Saviour to "render unto Caesar the  
things which be Caesar's and to  
God the things which be God's".  
We are very apt when Catholics  
are trying to obtain government  
support for their institutions  
to lift our hands in holy horror  
and cry "no sectarianism! no  
connection between church and  
state, and so universal is the  
sentiment against it that but  
few pastors dare to instruct their  
members as to how they should  
vote without insisting that

it be distinctly understood  
that they do so as partisans  
not as pastors or even co-  
religionists; and in view of  
that sentiment I say that no  
party is under any obligation  
to introduce matter into its  
platform, or ask people to  
support its candidates on ac-  
count of any religious belief  
or practice which they may wish  
to prevail as the policy of the  
Nation <sup>that is platform and candidates</sup>. These things belong  
to Caesar". When it comes to  
a personal matter as to what  
is a Christian's duty in politics  
it bears a different aspect,  
his duty in the case is to  
do the utmost he can to insure

that the "Caesar" whose image and superscription the tribute money bears shall be the best obtainable both as regards candidates and the policy which the government should pursue, and then vote for the one which most nearly comes up to his standard and has a reasonable prospect of success. To throw away protection and republican policy merely to emphasize ones preference for prohibition seems to me as foolish as to throw away silver dollars because he preferred gold twenties.

I haven't the least doubt but the liquor <sup>trafficking</sup> is the greatest evil in our country today, but the majority of voters are not

yet so thoroughly convinced of it, as to make any restrictive measures of a national scope attainable and the policy heretofore pursued by the avowed prohibitionists has not been of a nature to bring them any strength. It is not the "wisdom of serpents" to try to gain the favor of a man who is having the best of it in a fight. Do help <sup>ing</sup> the other fellow to lick him, because he don't avow that he is making his fight for your benefit. It would be a deal wiser to help him out and trust to his gratitude and desire to keep your help to get what you want.

That is just the situation  
I believe that more than half  
the republicans of the republican  
states are today fully alive to  
the evils of the liquor traffic  
and would enact restrictive  
laws, and enforce them too  
just as fast as it could be  
done without self destruction  
if the prohibitionists would only  
stand by them and give them a  
reasonable time, but instead  
of that they proclaim it from  
the house tops that they are going  
to break ~~it~~ <sup>their party</sup> down because it is  
not doing what a majority  
of the whole people do not  
want. The democrats have  
time and time again proclaimed

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their hostility to all restrictive  
measures and flourished  
their standard of free whisky  
in campaigns; and while  
of course the republicans have  
worked the saloons more arless  
where they saw prospects of  
help from that source yet it  
has never been made a rallying  
cry for the party; is done on the  
sly and is openly censured  
by the majority of the party  
and in the face of all this the  
prohibitionists will persist in  
helping Cleveland to the  
presidency and democracy  
to control the government.  
Nor does the manner in which  
they do it commend them

them to <sup>outsiders</sup> anyone as being actuated  
simply by an earnest desire  
to abide by their principles. they  
show as much of the "anything  
to beat" policy as any other party  
in fact avow it openly. The  
simple truth is, "the anything  
to beat" policy comes very near  
predominating with the American  
people in all their affairs, the  
element will be found active in  
all parties either in state, church,  
or business, and it is a fruitless  
task to try to combat it until  
evangelizing ideas shall have  
materially reduced its proportions.  
It may be that the republican  
party has had its day and  
the time is ripe for some other

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but I fail to see it yet,  
and have full faith  
that as it has in the past  
been the champion of civil  
rights it will not degrade  
its record but will be found  
standing up for protection in  
its fullest meaning, protecting  
right, honest administration  
of the government, and temper-  
ance among the people. Of course  
I do not advocate constant trimming  
to keep on the winning side, but  
it is not probable that in a nation  
more than two parties of anything  
like equal strength can exist  
together very long and in one  
or the other of these everyone  
should find sufficient causes -

ponderance with his views to  
justify him in acting with it x

I did not get this finished  
in time to send this morning  
so will have to hold it till  
next mail x

We have been having a turn  
of colds but are getting through  
now, and otherwise are  
about as usual x

It is about definitely settled  
that Jerry will go to the  
Grove this winter, and if so  
will probably be up your way  
about the holidays x Elta and  
Ada, if they sailed as expected must  
have been in the storm a few days  
at first x Love to all

Yours  
M. W. Walker