

Salem Remembers Timeline 1870 - 1874

1870, February 3 | U.S. Constitution 15th Amendment

This Constitutional Amendment granted Black men the right to vote declaring that the right to vote should not be denied by any state on the basis of race, color, or conditions of working or servitudes. KL

1870, May 14 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The Weekly Enterprise

The Lie Nailed—Let the Liars Hang Their Heads with Shame

Portland, May 12, 1870.

Hon. L. F. Grover—Dear Sir:

Having been informed that my name has been used as authority for the public statement made against you in this canvass, that you, as manager of the Willamette Woolen Manufactory Co., had proposed to negotiate with me for the employment of Chinese operatives in your Mills at Salem, I will state that you have never negotiated or proposed to negotiate with me for the employment of Chinamen in your Mills, and I will further state that you never approached me on said subject, and I have always understood you to be opposed to the employment of Chinese in said Mills.

Truly yours, W. P. Doland

Thus the falsehood, said to be proven in the presence of a Court House full of people, has been put in their teeth by the party himself who they slandered by accusing of being the author. People of Oregon City, what do you say to such willful falsehoods. Believe nothing these men may tell you hereafter unless you have better evidence than their words.

1870, May 21 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The Weekly Enterprise

Mr. Grover vs. Johnson et. al.

In our last issue we published a complete vindication of Hon. L. F. Grover, of the charge made by Jacob and Johnson, of this place, that Mr. Grover had been negotiating for the employment of Chinamen in the Salem Mills by a letter from Mr. W. P. Doland, who positively denies that Mr. Grover had ever negotiated with him for such labor, and also that he had always understood Mr. G. to be opposed to their employment in the Mills at Salem. Now Mr. Johnson, in order to get himself out of a charge of willfully falsifying, procures the affidavit of Mr. Jacob, who declares in substance what he stated at the speaking, and which Mr. Johnson said were facts known to him. When Mr. Grover asked him whether he stated

that he (Grover) had written a letter and was negotiating for Chinamen, he (Johnson) said that he did not understand that he had written a letter, but that Mr. G. had offered to employ them.

The affidavit of Mr. L. E. Pratt is of no force whatever as evidence against Mr. Grover as he represents or not, as we have the statement of Mr. Dolan to the contrary, and also the proof of another gentleman who was present when this conversation should have occurred, who states positively that he had every opportunity of hearing all that was said between the parties, and that the name of Mr. Grover was never mentioned at that interview so it will be seen that we have the testimony of two — one Mr. Jacob charges with telling himself, and another who was present at the time, and who denies in the presence of the Court House full of people that the name of Mr. Grover was mentioned. He will be charitable towards Mr. Jacob, and simply say that he may have allowed his feelings against Mr. Grover to get the better of his judgment, and also that he may be mistaken, while all the circumstances would justify a much stronger assertion.

But in the case of Mr. Johnson we have the pettifogging politician thoroughly displayed. In the first place, he attempted to endorse the statement of Mr. Jacob; when he comes to make the affidavit, he never mentions the name of Mr. Grover, but alleges that the Company were the parties who were desiring to introduce Chinese labor in the Salem Mills. As the Company is not a party to this complaint, we see no reason why it should be brought up for trial. The only person on whom these men desired to fasten the charge they had made has been proved innocent, while they still stand condemned of falsehood by positive denial and the following affidavits, in addition to the above evidence:

Portland, Oregon, May 18, 1870

To the Editor of the Herald:

Dear Sir: referring to the matter of charges brought against Mr. Grover, in relation to the employment of Chinamen in the Salem Woolen Mills. I have, in justice to the parties, to state that the correspondence had in the matter was with Mr. Smith, and not with Mr. Grover, and that the latter had nothing to do with the affair whatever.

And further I would state that from conversations subsequently had with both Mr. Smith and Mr. Grover, on the subject of employing Chinamen in the Mills, I found both these gentlemen strenuously opposed to the introduction of such labor in their establishment.

W. P. DOLAND.

State of Oregon, County of Marion.

I, Daniel Waldo, president of the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company, being duly sworn, state that I have been a member, and for the most of the time Director, of said company ever since its organization in 1856. That said company have never employed a single Chinaman in their works. That said company have never received or made propositions to employ Chinamen in said works, and have never acted upon said subject as a Company. That never, to my knowledge have the members of said Company, or of the board of directors, had any consultation on said subject. We, as a company, have never conferred on said subject, because all the members of said company have been opposed, from the beginning, to the employment of Chinamen as operatives, except myself, and I have not taken any action

in the premises. I know that Mr. Grover has always been opposed to this class of labor in our mills, and has been the man of our company who has been the most decided on the subject.

DANIEL WALDO.

*Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of May, 1870
Seth R. Hammer, Notary Public.*

State of Oregon, County of Multnomah.

I, Joseph Hoyt, being duly sworn, say, that I have been in the employment of the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company at Salem since 1862, and have been the Superintendent in their Mills since about 1863. That the said company have never during my term of service, employed Chinamen in their said mills, have never, to my knowledge, proposed to do so. I further say that I know that Mr. Grover has always been opposed to using Chinese operatives in the Mills, and that I have frequently heard him express his opposition in strong terms when questioned upon the subject.

J. HOYT.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 18th day of May, 1870.
O. F. Bell, Notary Public for Oregon.

State of Oregon, County of Marion.

I, R. C. Kinney, being duly sworn, say, that since I have been a member of the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company, nearly two years, I have never heard anything on the Chinese question except opposition to the employment of Chinamen in the works of the company in casual conversation on the subject, and I have never known any official action concerning the same.

The man who has expressed himself most positively on the subject, has been the present manager, Mr. Grover.

About the time I bought in, I asked Mr. Grover if he intended to use Chinese help in the mill. He said no, and if at any time the company should overrule him, he should resign.

R. C. KINNEY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of May, 1870.
Seth R. Hammer, Notary public.

State of Oregon, County of Marion.

I, Dan H. Murphy, being duly sworn, state that I have been in the employ of the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company as bookkeeper, ever since January, 1861: that I have charge of all the official

correspondence of said company, and have been accustomed to write or copy the official letters of said company; that some time during the incumbency of Mr. J. S. Smith, as agent of said company, I think in the year 1866, a letter was received by him from a Mr. Doland, at Portland, proposing to furnish Chinese operatives for the Salem Woolen Mills. This letter was never answered, to my knowledge through said Woolen Company's office. Whether Mr. Smith answered it in person, I cannot say.

This letter, however, was never referred to, or brought before the Company for its action, and no action was ever had by the company on said subject, within my knowledge. Since Mr. Grover has been agent of the Company, no correspondence has ever been had on this subject with anyone. In answer to casual inquiry on the subject, I have heard Mr. Grover say that so long as he remained a member of the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company, no Chinese operatives should ever be employed in its Mills with his concurrence.

DAN H. MURPHY

Subscribed and sworn to me this 16th of May, 1870.

Seth R. Hammer, Notary Public

1870, May 21 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The Albany Register

Their Record Grover's Chinese Record

Grover having denied at Portland, in his public discussion, that any negotiations had been had for the employment of Chinese in the Salem factory, and pronounced the charge made by Gov. Woods a false, the Oregonian of yesterday (12th), says:

The statement is no "slander" nor was it originated by the Oregonian. We made the statement in the first place on the authority of the managers of the factory at Oregon City, who, from the nature of the business are likely to know. And secondly, we called upon the agent of the Chinese companies in this city, who states that propositions have been made by the Salem factory company to the Chinese, with a view of introducing this class of labor in their establishment. The Chinese consulted their agent about the matter, and expressed a disinclination to go, through fear of receiving violent treatment from mobs at Salem.

During the discussion at Oregon City, Wednesday evening, Gov. Woods repeated the charge, and called on Mr. Jacobs, of Oregon City Mills, who rose and said:

"I have never addressed an audience of this size on political subjects, but as I have been called on to state what I know about the matter in question, I will simply state that some time ago I had a conversation with Mr. Dolan, Democratic Treasurer of Multnomah county, and at that time agent for the Chinese, in which Doland told me that Mr. Grover had written him a letter that he wanted to negotiate for Chinese labor for the woolen Mills at Salem, but that he would delay a final arrangement of the matter until he could see how that kind of labor would work in the mills at Oregon City."

Mr. Jacobs avowed himself willing to make oath to these statements.

Mr. W. C. Johnson also arose and stated that Mr. Doland told him the same thing.

We are informed that Mr. Grover did not find it convenient to take any notice of the statements. Of course Grover had a right to talk of hiring Chinese and hire them, and to work them when hired, but then why did he go and deny it so fiercely.

To fully and completely establish the fact that the manufacturing company of Salem, in which Mr. Grover is the main pillar, have been negotiating for Chinese labor, we publish the following affidavits, taken from the Oregonian of May 14th:

State of Oregon, County of Clackamas County

I, R. Jacob, do solemnly swear that some time in the fall of 1868, and at several times, I had conversations with W. P. Doland, acting agent of the Chinese in Portland. I was managing agent of the Oregon City Woolen Mills. Mr. Doland was extremely anxious to have me take Chinamen in the mill at Oregon City. Among other things he stated in the fall of 1868, in his office over Randall's store, in Portland, that the Salem mill was about to employ Chinese; that he had just receive the letter from Mr. Grover, the agent of the Salem Mills, proposing to take Chinese; that they were waiting for me to do the same, and then they would go in. Mr. Grover said he was only waiting to see the result here, and then he would take them.

R. JACOB.

Subscribed and sworn to before me May 13th, 1870.

F. O. McCown, Notary Public

State of Oregon, County of Clackamas

I, L. E. Pratt, being first duly sworn say: That while I was agent of the O. C. M. F. Co., in the winter of 1865-66, W. P. Doland, the then acting agent of the Chinese in the city of Portland, called me into his place of business (Randall's) in Portland, and proposed to furnish Chinese laborers for the Oregon City factory, and said at the same time he was negotiating with the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company of Salem, to employ Chinese operatives in their factory. He further said, in substance, that we (i.e. the O. C. M. F. Co.) would have to employ them to compete with the Salem company.

L. E. PRATT.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, on the 13th day of May, A. D. 1870.

F. O. McCown, Notary Public, in and for Oregon

State of Oregon, County of Clackamas

I, W. C. Johnson, do solemnly swear that for two years or more before May, 1868, I was one of the directors of the Oregon City Woolen Manufacturing Company; that Mr. W. P. Doland, then acting agent of the Chinese in Portland, ascertained from some source, that I was opposed to the employment of Chinese in said Oregon City Mill at that time; that several times while I was said Director, Mr. Doland called me into Randall's music store, where he was staying, to endeavor to change my mind on the subject.

In these conversations he stated to me more than once that the Salem mills were proposing to take Chinese operatives, and that we must do so, or they would run us out of the market, by making goods cheaper than we could. He further stated that these two companies were afraid of each other upon this matter of employing Chinese, but that they could and ought to agree to both put them in at the same time, and that the Salem Directors and agents were ready for such arrangement.

Whether or not Mr. Doland in his anxiety to secure employment for his clients, misrepresented the managers of the Salem mills is a question I am unable to answer.

W. C. JOHNSON

Subscribed and sworn to before me, May 13th, 1870.

F. O. McCown, Notary Public in and for Oregon.

1870, May 27 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The Albany Register

That Slander Again

Wood's slander against Mr. Grover, that the latter gentleman had at one time made overtures for the employment of Chinese operatives in the Woolen Mills at Salem, has already been successfully refuted. The only evidence that was ever given in favor of the charge was the affidavit of one Jacobs, that he had heard Mr. Doland, the Democratic Treasurer of Multnomah county, say that Mr. Grover had some years ago spoken or written to him (Doland), making a proposition to hire some Chinamen. This affidavit was supplemented by affidavits from L. E. Pratt and W. C. Johnson, that they had heard Mr. Doland say that the Salem company had written to him about employing Chinese, though these latter affidavits do not mention Mr. Grover's name at all. This the Oregonian called "proof" of the charge against Mr. Grover, though Mr. Doland wrote a letter, which we published, denying that Mr. Grover had ever made such a proposition, and stating that he always thought that gentleman to be opposed to the employment of Chinamen.

We could very well rest the case here, but in order to overwhelm these base slanderers, who have been peddling this calumny, we print to-day the affidavits of four as honorable men as there are in all Oregon, men too, who speak from knowledge and not from hearsay, to the effect that neither of the Willamette Woolen Manufacturing Company nor Mr. Grover have ever offered to employ Chinese, and that Mr. Grover has on all occasions opposed their employment in the Company's mills. To these affidavits we append another letter from Mr. Doland, more explicit even than his first one.

We commend this testimony to the attention of all, as a triumphant vindication of Mr. Grover from the foul aspersion cast upon him:

1870, May 28 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The Albany Register

Harding vs. Grover

Take the Statements by L. F. Grover, Democratic candidate for Governor, in his speech here last week, in relation to Chinamen, and his balderdash about paying off the bonded debt in greenbacks, and contrast them with the position taken on these same questions by B. F. Harding, Democratic candidate for State Senator from Marion county. In a recent speech Ben F. Harding said:

The question of Chinese citizenship was not and could not be made an issue in this campaign, and he doubted very much whether it would ever seriously divide the people of this coast. Both parties were alike opposed to it. Besides, he said there was no probability that the Chinaman would ever ask to become a citizen, and if he did he could not under our naturalization laws. Speaking of the late treaty with the Chinese empire, he said the object and end of the treaty, like the former treaties, was to extend and enlarge our commerce with that nation; that it secured to us commercial advantages that we never enjoyed before, and that this nation, and the people of this coast in particular, could not afford to lose the trade and commerce of that great empire. He showed that our principal commerce in the future must be with those Asiatic nations, and from whom we would derive our commercial greatness.

On the question of the payment of the national debt, he said there was no other way of paying that debt except in coin, since the recent decision of the Supreme Court made coin the only legal tender; that we had to pay it dollar for dollar in coin, and that all talk about paying it any other way was twaddle. The repeal of the 14th and 15th Amendments was simply an impossibility, he said. He differed with the Republican party on questions of tariff and the administration of the affairs of this state.

Harding says that all talk of paying the public debt in anything else then coin is twaddle! He shows that the prophecy of Grover, that Chinamen would overrun and prove the destruction of this country in a few years, is about as foolish a piece of election clap-trap as was ever uttered in any canvass. How long has it been since this same Grover was contemplating the employment of Chinamen, to the exclusion of white operatives, in the Salem factory presided over by him? And how comes it that it has only been made apparent since his nomination for Governor, the Chinamen, through the Burlington treaty, were to be the destruction of this Government in a few years? Judged from B. F. Harding's standpoint, Grover is a mere political trickster, unworthy the suffrages of the people of Oregon.



The Oregon School for the Deaf at Mission and Church Streets, 1892.

1870, November | Salem's Deaf Heritage

The Oregon Legislature Assembly established the Deaf and Mute Institute, now known as the Oregon School for the Deaf, to provide a free public education to children who are deaf.

1871, March 3 | U.S. Indian Appropriation Act

Wikipedia states, *"According to the Indian Appropriation Act of March 3, 1871, no longer was any group of Indians in the United States recognized as an independent nation by the federal government. Moreover, Congress directed that all Indians should be treated as individuals and legally designated 'wards' of the federal government. Before this bill was enacted, the federal government signed treaties with different Native American tribes, committing the tribes to land cessations, in exchange for specific lands designated to Indians for exclusive indigenous use as well as annual payments in the form of case, livestock, supplies, and services."*

Payments went to agents who corresponded with the individual tribes in the different territories at the time. They allotted \$5,500 to the "Calapooya, Molallas and Clackamas of Willamette Valley. For second of five installments of the fourth series of annuity for beneficial objects." Allowed for \$4,000 to the Confederated Tribes and bands of Indians in Middle Oregon. It was also declared that the President could from "time to time determine, including insurances and transportation thereof; of instructing in agricultural pursuits; in providing employees, educating children, procuring medicine and medical attendance; care for and support of the aged, sick, and infirm; for the helpless orphans of said Indians; and in any other respect to promote their civilization, comfort, and improvement, \$40,000 for the "Shoshones, and Bannocks, and other Bands of Idaho and Southeastern Oregon." KL

1871, February 10 | Salem's Black Heritage

The State Right Democrat

After Sammy

*After Sammy — Sam. Clarke, editor of the Salem Statesman, got himself into the papers. In last week's Mercury a n****r barber thus goes after our radical friend, Sammy;*

EDITOR MERCURY: Please assert the following: In the Statesman of the 2nd I see a paragraph written by S. A. Clark, reflecting upon my character and stigmatizing me as no better member of society than the young man that has been committed for burglary. I trust to the public to vindicate my character and standing, and if I did vote the Democratic ticket I was never accused of robbing the school fund, or cowed it on the streets of Salem, and if I am a colored man I would never drag my wife and daughter into the slum of politics through the public press. After this, I hope Sam Clark will attend to his own business.

*Thomas de Witt
Salem, Feb. 3rd, 1870, Colored.*

P. S.—I desire to suggest to Mr. Clark in reference to his claim against me of \$7.50 for advertising, that if he will pay me for my professional services heretofore rendered him in the tonsorial art, where and I have many times phrenologized a head that would comfortably fit a No. 5 hat, I will cheerfully pay him any balance that may be owed to him, and give him a chart into the bargain, which will further show some of his prominent traits of character. If said Clark does not publicly retract his insinuation, that I am no better than the thief referred to, I will yet develop some of his bumps that he does not know of.

Thomas de Witt

1871, March 10 | Salem's Blind Heritage

The State Rights Democrat

Mr. McMahon, of Salem

Mr. McMahon, of Salem, has gone hopelessly blind from small-pox.

1871, December 22 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The State Rights Democrat

In Salem There is a Chinese School

In Salem there is a Chinese School in which several can read and write English quite well.

1871, December 23 | Salem's Black Heritage

The Albany Register

The Colored People of Salem

The colored people of Salem intend to celebrate the eighth anniversary of the proclamation of freedom, Jan. 1st.

1872, February 9 | Salem's Black Heritage

The State Rights Democrat

There are 17 Scholars Attending

There are 17 scholars attending the colored school in Salem, taught by Mrs. Ex-Congressman Mallory.

1872, April 5 | Salem's Deaf Heritage | Article Contains Slurs

The Albany Register

Boarding School for Deaf Mutes at Salem

Rev. J.L. Parrish offers to donate a full block, 330 by 370, valued at \$2000, in North Salem, as a site for the deaf and dumb school.

The boarding school for deaf mutes, at Salem, under the charge and direction of Professor Smith, is meeting with flattering success. An exhibition given by the school a few days since, according to the statement, showed marked progress in the attainment of knowledge by those unfortunates.

1872, April 6 | Salem's Black Heritage

Willamette Farmer

School Matters

The voters of School District No. 24 (Salem) held the annual election on Monday last for one Director and Clerk. Paul Crandall was elected Director, and C. P. Stratton was re-elected Clerk. The board now stands, R. Mallory, R. H. Dearborn, and Paul Crandall. A resolution was adopted levying a tax of three and a half mills to be used for carrying on free schools in the district for the ensuing year.

From the Statesman we copy the following summary of the clerks report:

Receipts during the year—Coin, \$7,024.01; currency, \$621.07; total, \$7,655.08.

Expenditures during the year, \$4,952.11; balance on hand—coin, \$2,071.90; currency, \$631.07; total, \$2,702.97.

Amount due and to fall due teachers at the end of the present quarter, \$1300.00. Balance to remain, \$1492.97. Delinquent taxes for the year, \$358.02.

Total number of children in district over four and under 20 years, 1,066.

*The daily average attendance has been as follows: North Salem, 46.58; East Salem, 84.64; Central, 112.32; South Salem, 61.66; **Colored school, 9.81**; total, 315.04.*

1873, February 21 | Salem's Blind Heritage

Oregon City Enterprise

From The Statesman:

From The Statesman: "The Board of School Commissioners have had under consideration for the last two or three days, the matter of the School for the Blind, to be established under the law of the last Legislature. A proposition has been submitted to the Board from Miss Nelly Nesbitt, a blind girl of Salem, to take charge of the school at a certain price per week for the board, care and instruction of each pupil; and we understand that the board of commissioners are disposed to look favorably upon it. Miss Nesbitt is a very competent person to take charge of such a school."

1873, June 27 | Salem's Black Heritage

The State Rights Democrat

Sam Johnson, a Colored Gentleman of Salem

Sam Johnson, a colored gentleman of Salem, fell dead of heart disease last Monday.

1873, July 4 | Salem's Blind Heritage

Oregon City Enterprise

An Exhibition by the Pupils of the School

An exhibition by the pupils of the School for the Blind, at Salem, was given last Wednesday. The exercises commenced with an address by Miss Simpson, the blind teacher, to the members of the Board of Education, expressing in very appropriate terms her gratitude for favors so far shown to her pupils and herself, soliciting the future exertion of the same, and on their and her own behalf, promising their utmost efforts to promote the best interests of the institution.

1873, July 25 | Salem's Blind Heritage

The Albany Register

The Institution for the Education of the Blind

The institution for the education of the blind at Salem, has recently been presented with a case of raised-letter books by Rev. Dr. Morris of Portland. The gift is highly prized both from it being the first donation, and for its intrinsic value.



A Salem family's Chinese cook, c. 1895.

1873, October 4 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The Albany Register

More Letters

More letters threatening incendiarism have been sent to people at Salem who employ Chinese.

1874, September 18 | Salem's Blind Heritage

The State Rights Democrat

The Institute for the Blind

The Institute for the blind at Salem will be opened for the reception of pupils on the 21st. Pupils desiring to attend during the term are urgently requested to be present promptly on that day.