The New Northwest.

FRIDAY.....DECEMBER 8, 1871.

A CAMPAIGN OF "MASTERLY INACTIVITY."

Our county officials and the daily press of Portland have evidently resolved upon a campaign of "masterly inactivity" in regard to the startling disclosures made in reference to the administration of the financial affairs of Multnomah county. This course is evidently inspired by a delusive hope that the whole thing will blow over, only affording gossip for a "nine days' wonder." But the people do not so view the matter. Every copy that could possibly be spared of the last issue of the NEW NORTHWEST was speedily sold. To meet the demand for the circulation of the statements contained therein we have consented to re-publish the Grand Jury Report and our comments thereon, and *One Thousand extra copies* have already been bargained for by prominent citizens of Portland.

We also present to-day some additional facts, which still further show the utter incompetency or manifest dishonesty of our county officials;—let the people judge which.

Query: What is it that hushes the daily press of Portland so effectually at this juncture of affairs? Is it—cash?

MORE FIGURES FOR THE RING.

In our last issue we presented some statements showing how our county affairs had been manipulated. The members of the Ring have not yet "risen to explain," and as we suppose they would like to make a "clean breast of it" all at once, we herewith present a few additional figures for their consideration.

The county expenses for 1870, as shown by the Grand Jury Report, amounted in the aggregate to $54,-592 24. This amount, however, includes the payment of a judgment for $4,-863 76 obtained against Multnomah county in the District Court for damages to a child of Mr. McCalla, incurred by the child falling through a county bridge, which should be deducted from the current expenses of the year, thereby increasing the difference in the expenditures for the years 1870-71 to the amount of that judgment. During the last fiscal year this county had no extraordinary expenses of any kind to pay. Deducting the amount of this judgment from the aggregate expenditures for 1870, and we have $49,728 48 as the sum required to defray the current county expenses, against $54,475 32½ for 1871—showing an actual increase in the cost of conducting the county administration of $13,746 83½ during a single year, instead of $8,883 07½, as formerly stated. Considering their opportunities, the foregoing shows that our county officers are equal to even Tammany in manipulating finances.

Last week a few items of expense for 1871 were given, contrasted with the same items for the previous year, and the increase shown. The article containing them is again published, and will be found immediately following. Here are some more figures:

Expenditures for 1870.	Ex. for 1871.	Increase.
Roads and bridges $720 28	$2,264 14	$1,543 76
Clerk and water in Court House..... 827 00	956 40	129 40
School Supt'..... 214 50	441 82	227 32
Expense County Commissioners.. 191 00	399 00	208 00
Rewards for arts for crime and capture 409 00	1,119 91	1,110 91

Who will longer doubt the economy(!) of our county administration?

(Re-published from last week's issue by request.)

HAVE WE A "TAMMANY RING" AMONG US?

We anticipate that the Grand Jury Report, published elsewhere, will be of some interest to our tax-paying readers residing in Multnomah county. The daily papers of Portland, without an exception, published the report in such a garbled and mutilated shape as to almost entirely obscure and hide from public view the topics considered therein, and a woman's paper is the only one that dares to sound a note of warning or put forth a word of blame. That the *Bulletin* and *Oregonian* should be so horrified over the Tammany frauds as to have no time to devote to home affairs is, under the circumstances, perfectly natural; but that the *Herald*, which has been so lustily and persistently engaged in showing up the extravagance of the General Government, should allow the remissness in office of Republican officials occurring under its very nose to go unrebuked, is unaccountable. But these are days of strange political degeneracy.

The Grand Jury Report shows that the expenditures of Multnomah county for the fiscal year are near $9,000 in excess of those for 1870; or, to be exact, the sum of $45,592 24 sufficed for 1870, against $54,475 32½ for 1871—an increase of $8,883 07½. It cannot reasonably be claimed that the influx of population or growth of crime accounts for this greatly increased expense. Indeed, it can be very readily accounted for otherwise. The Report before referred to shows that $2,600 have been allowed the County Clerk and Sheriff—$600 to the former officer and $1,200 to the latter—in a manner not contemplated by law. So here is the snug little sum of $2,100 of the people's money surreptitiously appropriated by our lucre-loving public servants accounted for at a single dash of the pen. Were the salaries of Clerk and Sheriff of Multnomah meager there might be a shadow of excuse for such questionable transactions; but on the contrary it is notorious that both these offices have almost princely incomes. Partisan malice could have had nothing to do with the Report, as a majority of the members of the Grand Jury were Republicans.

But, leaving the Report, we pass on to the consideration of a few items for the purpose of showing the manner in which this increased expense was contracted, and this can be done in no better way than by comparing some of the expenditures for 1871 with those of similar character for the previous year. And right here it may be appropriately remarked—without, however, any desire to throw discredit on the former county officials—that it has never been charged that the expenditures for 1870 were too rigidly economical or stinted. The following table calls for a careful perusal by all interested in Multnomah county finances:

Expenditures for 1870.	Ex. for 1871.	Increase.
Keep'g prisoners $4,038 87	$ 6,676 61	$2,638 04
Keeping paupers. 5,101 74	7,469 92	2,368 18
Stationery..... 299 31	573 06	626 75
Circuit Court..... 9,605 00	15,352 32	5,747 32
Militia 678 07	1,203 13	525 06
Fuel for Ct. House 279 12	567 92	288 80

Have we a Tammany Ring among us? The above certainly looks as though we had. Some surprise has been manifested that the County Clerk did not publish the usual financial exhibit this year. Is it not now plain to all why such financial exhibit was not published?

But further comment upon the reckless extravagance noted is needless. Figures are stubborn things, as we think the Court House Ring will find to their cost next June. New York City has repudiated its Ring; let the honest people of Portland and Multnomah county combine, irrespective of pasty politics, and *repudiate our Ring*.

The NEW NORTHWEST is the bitter, unrelenting foe of all manner of corruption in office, whether committed by Republicans or Democrats. Oregon is to-day cursed by odious Rings, whose present power was acquired by the diligent use of the lash of party discipline. We shall take especial pride in exposing the "ways that are dark" of these corrupt cliques, and our readers need not be surprised if more exposures follow the one in this issue.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The signs of the times not only indicate matter for the most serious consideration of every reflecting citizen, but plainly foreshadow a general disintegration of the present political parties. The Democratic party, as an effective national organization, passed away with the adjournment of the Charleston Convention. It served its day and generation, with varying devotion to the development of the nation and the progress of civilization, and succumbed to the cancer and curse of pro-slavery corruption, which national progress and the cause of humanity would no longer tolerate or endure.

That a nominal organization of the Democracy has been maintained throughout the Union since 1865 is quite true; but it has been destitute of living principles, and depended for its temporary successes upon the glories of the past, the passions or prejudices of the present, or the bad management of the Republicans. The continuance of such a state of affairs in a party is neither wise nor patriotic. The well-being of the Republic demands opposing parties, with vital organizations and reasonable and patriotic principles. And since the Democracy are no longer able to hold the Republicans to a faithful administration of the Government, or to carry out any reform or policy of their own, it becomes the part of wisdom and patriotism to abandon a name and organization rendered impotent by age and obnoxious by the bad reputation of sympathy with slaveholders and secession. And in such abandonment let no old Democrat imagine that he has parted with the least of his hopes for the political redemption of his country. This is, substantially, the direction of the great mass of the Democracy in the Eastern States, led by such able and well-informed journals as the Missouri *Republican* and Louisville *Courier-Journal*; and this is what we would commend to the serious consideration of the Democrats of Oregon.

On the other hand, what does the continued power and management of the Republican party promise the nation? Is it peace and restoration at the South, or a land "rent with civil feuds?" Is it depreciation of taxes and increase of wages, or the poor growing poorer and the rich richer? Is it to be the monstrous display of the gilded bubble of wealth, and the corrupting influence of shoddy aristocrats rolling in luxury and lording it in high places, or the glorious boon of comfort, competence and education for the laborer and his family? Is it to be the aggrandisement of monster-moneyed corporations, the like of which the world has never seen before, whose centralising tendencies will demand the annulling of State corporation laws, the obliteration of State lines, the subordination of the rights of the citizen to the interests of the corporation and the enslavement of the laborer to the will of the capitalist, or are we to have a fair, square, honest administration of the Government, in the interest of the great commonwealth of honest and unambitious merchants, mechanics, farmers and laborers, wherein the independence of the citizen, the purity of the ballot-box, the integrity of public officers, the freedom of the press and the education of the people shall appear as cardinal principles and secured results? The consolidation and rapid augmentation of the power and influence of railroad and banking corporations within the last decade has become a matter of serious concern to the interests of the great mass of producers, laborers and consumers. Railroad consolidation now regulates the price of the farmer's wheat in Iowa and the laborer's bread in New York, between which two ends of the line the man of wealth appropriates the lion's share of the food.

The numerous "strikes" of miners and mechanics attest the dissatisfaction of labor under the domineering restraints of capital.

The formation of "Rings" to plunder every department of the Government has been and is now more than ever the distinguishing feature of modern politics.

The demand for partisan decisions from Courts of Justice to sustain party policies, thus poisoning Justice at the very fountain, has alarmed every good citizen.

The "Ku Klux," who murder the negroes, and the "Carpet Baggers," who plunder all classes by means of railroad bonds and general jobbery, are the curse of the South and the reproach of the nation. The cry of "Let us have peace" seems a cruel mockery when no reasonable means are used to secure it.

These questions of the hour cannot be set aside, and reflecting citizens are seriously inquiring whether the Republican party can be relied upon to adopt and enforce the necessary reforms. It is no answer to the wholesale plundering of the Southern States by the Carpet-bag Republicans to point to the shameless thievery of Tammany. Bullock may not be as big a thief as "Boss" Tweed, but he is just as bad.

Men and brethren of both political parties, it is painfully evident to us that "honors are easy" with you in the matter of putting away the trifle of a few millions of money pressed out of the hard earnings of the people. Rest assured that the people will reform these abuses. Party names may delude for a season. But the people are honest. They do not expect to hold office. They desire, first of all things, a good, safe, honest, just administration of the laws, and they will, sooner or later, select the men and women who will give such administration, and they will select them without regard to party or sex. We have laws enough. Give us a few honest officers to enforce them, and all will yet be well.

HOW IT IS DONE.

The increased expenditures of Multnomah county are the legitimate result of the manner in which politics have been engineered of late years by those desirous of place, purse or power. The Ring are afraid to trust their chances of success to a fair expression of the people. They therefore enter into combination with the law-breakers, promising protection, etc. Then by systematic manipulation of the primaries they secure a majority of the delegates in the nominating convention, while a minority of the delegates are chosen of the best men in the county in order to blind the unsuspecting and give the affair some color of respectability. *The Roughs are then hired to put the thing through.* The convention that follows is a farce. The respectable members of the convention see that they have been sold, but they are in for it, according to party rules, and quietly though not willingly succumb.

The regular ticket in the field, the Ring apply the lancet to the candidates, and the blood-letting is terrible. Gold is poured out lavishly, and numerous promises of positions with large pay attached are made. The result is that it often costs a candidate more than the fees of his office to secure an election. The temptation to plunder the Treasury *to get even* is too great to be resisted. In fact it is the policy of the Ring to make the people pay for these expensive elections, and not only pay but *suffer*.

But by far the worst feature of the whole programme is that the Roughs who are active and useful in carrying out the plans of the Ring are never to be convicted of crime. They are of course to submit, if caught, to arrest and temporary imprisonment, and go through the *farce of a trial*, which trial costs the county thousands of dollars in fees for the pockets of the officers. The Roughs are acquitted, and the people wonder how it was done. It is all plain to the Ring—it is the necessary working of a complete system of political manipulation. The Ring pocket the proceeds, and the people are made to bear the odium of failure to convict transgressors of law.

How do the honest tax-payers of Multnomah like the picture?

CROWDED OUT.

The editor of this paper has been lately engaged in lecturing with gratifying success at Forest Grove and Portland. A rush of other matter prevents an extended notice of these meetings in this issue. We present to-day the proceedings of the Forest Grove Woman's Political Investigation Association, and will give editorial comments next week.

"THE WOODHULL" AND THE "OREGONIAN."

Our obtuse brother of the *Oregonian* is "not able to see" that our "attempt to reply" to his Woodhull diatribe is even "partially successful." We think a good pair of leather spectacles would materially assist his journalistic eyesight.

It would be a pity, however, to entirely dispel the opinion that he professes to entertain respecting Woodhull, since it evidently is such a great comfort to his chivalric nature to cast mire and dirt at her.

We ask him in all simplicity and earnestness to tell us what Victoria Woodhull is to us? What have we to do with her? And what business is it of ours whether her husband be her "affinity" or not?

Despite his pretended ignorance of her influence ever Congress, we know that she *is* a power among *men*, and that is why our man's rights brethren do so shriek and cry. Our brother has the man's rights rabies *bad*. The symptoms are, first: a feeling of "carnal security," which leads the patient to ignore the progress of the age. This symptom is so very mild that it at first creates but little apprehension. At the second stage of the disease the patient imagines himself in danger, and catches at every crumb of consolation in the way of scandal that his anxious imagination can conjure up. The third and final stage of the malady is accompanied by ravings, more or less severe, which are characterized by inordinate indulgence in dirty expletives—a sort of "breaking out about the mouth," in fact, which is extremely offensive to persons of delicate organization. The friends of a patient who is thus afflicted make due allowance for his vagaries and hold naught against him in malice, no matter how badly he froths at the mouth; and for this reason we shall not make further mention of this patient's use of mire and dirt.

Since he says that Mr. Fay has not become a Republican, we conclude that either we have been misinformed or that he, for the sake of his argument, disowns his ally. If the former, we ask pardon of Mr. Fay for the unintended misrepresentation. If the latter, our brother is not wise.

There is nothing in which a political enemy so delights as to give unsolicited advice. And when our man's rights brethren urge the Woman Suffragists to "halt," it is because they fear and feel that they are pressing hard upon the enemy's lines, and not because they fear that their opponents will overdo a victory to their own overthrow. Then there is nothing which a political opponent *shuns* so much as the advice of enemies. And we, well knowing the feints of political maneuverers, are marching on to victory, regardless of masked batteries and wily ambuscades.

Our brother says he would not support [illegible] has said the same thing about other candidates, but his party *always whipped him in* when the proper time came. Men in party shackles must not boast too loudly lest they do become compelled to take some braggadocio back.

We are as much opposed in practice to corrupt leaders as our brother is in theory. And when we get our proper "sphere" before the world as a voter, he, as well as other men, shall see that we, as well as other women that are interested in the movement, will hold both men and women to a be line of public and private rectitude. At present we are floundering in the sea of politics, in a ship manned by men, and they, and not ourself, are now responsible for the leaders they attempt to place over us.

"JOAQUIN" MILLER.

Wm. Davidson, the enterprising and indefatigable real estate dealer, knows better how to manage his advertisements to make the people read and appreciate them than any other man in the Northwest. An article, headed as above, appeared in the *Herald* of Saturday, Nov. 25, the gist of which is contained in the following:

The poet bearing the above name departed for San Francisco on Thursday evening. He proposes to make a tour of Southern California, Mexico, Central and South America. After completing this tour he will return to England to bring out a new volume of poems on which he is engaged. It will take him eighteen months or two years to complete it. If it should prove as successful as he anticipates, he will return to this city and make it his future home, for he says that in this State his father and mother, relatives and children reside, and he is identified with Oregon. He has given orders to Mr. Davidson to select for him a building site on the high ground in the western portion of the city, where he can have a good panoramic view of the surrounding country, for the reason, as he expressed himself, "I think much of nature and little of men."

No wonder this "poet" *thinks little of men*, if he considers himself as an average specimen.

Again, the *Herald* pompously asserts that while in this city not one unmanly word against his wife escaped the poet's lips! What self-abnegation! What superhuman self-sacrifice! Could human philanthropy any farther go? What if this model man did deny the paternity of one of his children and does to-day deny it, thereby traducing the character of one of the most virtuous and self-sacrificing wives and mothers we have ever known?—a woman who never utters a word of reproach or blame against this sleek-tongued sham, and who protests with wifely delicacy against the publication of his acts of injustice, choosing rather to suffer in silence, and thereby deters the NEW NORTHWEST from giving out much evidence which the world has need of to prove his real character?

The *Herald* further says that Miller "would have gone to hear her (Mrs. Miller) lecture but for fear his presence would disconcert her. This expression certainly displays delicacy of feeling." Sham and nonsense! He did not want to witness her triumph and pay half a dollar at the door. He feared the courageous attempt to lecture in Portland himself as he had promised, because he was intuitive enough to perceive that his glory would pale by the contrast; so he gave up his anticipated "triumph," and besought Mrs. Miller so long and earnestly to desist from a future attempt to lecture in Portland that she yielded to his selfish "delicacy" and allowed him to pompously when in public, and assiduously when in private, close her mouth as a sealed book.

The *Herald* also "sympathizes with a man in his position, because his tongue and pen are bound and he cannot utter a word to defend himself without a sacrifice of dignity." *Dignity*, indeed! "Dignity" and "courtesy" are the shields behind which men entrench themselves when they are publicly baffled and when they cannot prove aught in their own defense, because there is nothing in their favor to tell.

But this literary rocket has come and exploded and gone; and while we hope our friend Wm. Davidson may continue his sale of handsome homesteads, we fear that "Joaquin's" beautiful location will forever remain a myth and a delusion.

SUFFRAGE AND CITIZENSHIP.

We are pleased to note in Wednesday morning's issue of the *Oregonian* a return to esthetic attempt to argument. We had feared that the "Oregon style" would become chronic with the editor, judging from his recent severe attack of *rabies*, of which we are reluctantly compelled to speak elsewhere. But now that he is convalescent, we propose to review his latest logic, which, we must confess, we need leather spectacles to enable us to clearly see. First, he says, "Citizenship is one thing and suffrage is another." That is where Webster and himself hold different opinions and, with all due reference to the decision of the latter, he must pardon us if we adhere to that of the former. Webster says that "Citizen, in the *United States*, is a person, native or naturalized, who has the privilege of *exercising the elective franchise*, and of purchasing and holding real estate." Of course, in a *general sense*, citizens are spoken of as inhabitants, dwellers in any particular city, town or place, and so on; but the sense of the citizenship to which we allude is distinctly set forth in Webster's definition of the word as it applies in the *United States*.

Again, the Constitution of the United States, Article 1, Section 14, says: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States are citizens of the United States, and of the State wherein they may reside." "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States * * nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Again, Article 1, Section 1, of the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution, says: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

Moreover, the States are expressly deprived of the power to make or enforce any law which shall abridge the rights of citizens. The State of Oregon has ratified these Amendments to the Constitution; therefore they are to-day a law in this State as forcible, emphatic and binding as any law of Congress can be made.

As an evidence that our brother has received a glimmer of Constitutional light upon the suffrage issue, we are pleased to note the following:

But we do not read anywhere that it, [the Constitution] prohibits the United States or any State from denying the right of citizens to vote on account of age or sex, or for want of intelligence or property. Once the States had power to limit the suffrage by distinctions of race, color, sex, property, intelligence, etc.; they now have that power in respect only to the last named distinctions, and can no longer shut out citizens from the ballot box on account of race or color.

The readers will perceive that our friend here led himself to the verge of a clause that would have spoiled the looks of his argument if he had gone a step farther and added the closing phrase, "previous condition of servitude." This reminds us very forcibly of his well-known devices to rid his party in this State from the supposed odium of negro suffrage, during the days when it was not considered safe, as a party measure, to insist upon that principle openly. We are gratified that he concedes thus much, and the day is not far distant when he will want all women to forget that he did not aid them in their struggle to possess the ballot in the days of their political vassalage.

"RING" DEFEAT.

The recent election for Chief Engineer of the Fire Department in this city produced quite a contest for the position, and which resulted in the defeat of the favorite of a certain "Ring" which has presumed to "fix" things for the Republicans hereabouts. The successful man was put forward by the Portland Water Co. (by no means a popular institution in this city) and the growing opposition to "Ring" domination may be calculated from the defeat of the "Ring" candidate.

The people are getting their eyes open. The combination between county and Federal office-holders has been defeated, and their power is rapidly departing. Be warned in time, gentlemen. It is not a good plan to assume the whole direction of political affairs to yourselves in these parts.

Jean Ingelow has written a new series of her Stories Told to a Child.

A French dress-maker regards herself as an artist.

ACCOUNTED FOR.

In the December 1st number of the NEW NORTHWEST the question is asked, "Have we a 'Tammany Ring' among us?" and the comments following that question, although showing largely increased expenditures and disbursements in your county affairs, yet offer no word of explanation as to how the matter was brought about. Now, I think I can explain how the whole thing was done, and 'twas "thusly:" The *Bulletin* is owned by the same party that owns and controls the "Court House Ring," and the "Court House Ring" owns and controls the *Oregonian*; hence those two papers are in the same interest. Now for the *Herald*: You must understand that the "Oro Fino Gentlemen" went into partnership with the "Court House Ring," and those "Oro Fino Gentlemen" now control the *Herald*, and thus you see there are two rings; and one of these has a ring within a ring, and of course it costs more to run *two* rings than it used to cost to run *one*. I understand that it is contemplated to oil the "machine" next year with "Dog Oil," which will of necessity increase muchly the expenditures over and above the present two ring arrangement. Do you see?

Yours truly,

ANTI-RINGER.

SALEM, December 6th, 1871.

We are not sufficiently versed in slang phrases to understand what our correspondent means by "Dog Oil," as applied to political mismanagement. Will somebody enlighten us?

THE LAST DODGE OF THE VANQUISHED.

So long as the Tammany Ring divided with the New York *Times*, that paper was dumb as an oyster as to Tammany shortcomings, but its supplies cut off, it railed at a terrible rate. We cannot bring ourselves to believe that the *Herald* is in partnership with the Multnomah county thieving ring. Why did it garble this report?—*Salem Mercury.*

You are at liberty to believe just what you please; your beliefs or your misbeliefs are quite indifferent to us; but it is quite clear you do not believe in acting like a gentleman.—*Portland Herald.*

Now it does seem to us that Brother Ike ought to have by this time outgrown the "Oregon style" of argument. When he cannot disprove the spirited accusations or implications of his courteous contemporaries, he gets into a furious passion, settles himself behind his stomach, shakes his head and vociferates, "You are no gentleman!" or, "You are no lady!" Brother Ike, the people of Oregon are not verdant enough to be blinded by such dodges. Democrats, Republicans and women are alike resolved to search out political rings and show them up before the people, such tirades as yours to the contrary notwithstanding.

PLAGAIRISM.

Our brother of the *Christian Messenger*, whose pardon we solicit for having inadvertantly pronounced him *Rev.*, has committed an act of plagiarism, for which we hold him strictly accountable. "He has crassly parodied our own pet words." Here is a sentence as it appeared in the NEW NORTHWEST, relative to an accusation of plagairism made against us by this brother, in reference to a poem of which he disputed our credit of authorship. Said we:

The poem may or may not be Julia Ward Howe's, but, if it is not, the literary world has been most successfully humbugged.

And this is how our brother quotes it. Says he:

We accept the explanation in the Meredith-Howe case, made in the NEW NORTHWEST, "that it may or may not be Julia Ward Howe's * * * it was clipped from the newspapers, after being published in the same identical style for a number of years."

The fact that the sentence succeeding the asterisks was used by us in the same article with a different connection does not exonerate our friend from the grave charge of intentional plagairism.

WONDERS NEVER CEASE.

The Salem *Mercury* has made a great discovery. Its editor has found that the villain Foster has received partial punishment for his heinous offence, and then exultantly asks: "Who ever heard of a woman being arraigned for seducing a man, and might not Foster have been seduced?" We're looking for this man's rights champion to demand a new hearing for this case with Foster as plaintiff. Who but Upton would have thought of it?

Tammany in Portland.

The Grand Jury of Multnomah county recently made a report to the Circuit Court of that county implicating the Sheriff and County Clerk in acts of official malfeasance whereby the tax-payers were defrauded out of thousands of dollars; and the most unaccountable phase of the whole affair is, that all the Portland dailies suppressed the portion of the said report reflecting on this official delinquency. We can readily enough understand why the *Bulletin* and *Oregonian* shirked their plain duty in the matter, but why the *Herald* did so is not apparent. But for the NEW NORTHWEST the report had probably lain unseen in a pigeon hole for years. So long as the Tammany ring divided with the New York *Times*, that paper was dumb as an oyster as to Tammany shortcomings; but its supplies cut off, it railed at a terrible rate. We cannot bring ourself to believe that the *Herald* is in partnership with the Multnomah county thieving ring. Why did it garble this report?—*Salem Mercury.*

A young lady in Wyoming, Va., whose aged parents were worth a quarter of a million before the war, lost everything by it in adversity, has supported them for the last three years by working in the fields by the day, and has so much pride withal that she will not accept a cent of charity.

Olive Logan, who lectures this season on "The Nice Young Man," also touches upon the characters of the well-mannered, the ill-mannered, the funny, the stupid, the witty, the cheerful, the selfish, the musical, the solemn, and the ideal young man, and the young man who wears clothes.

REPORT OF THE GRAND JURY OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY.

To W. W. Upton, Judge of the Circuit Court for Multnomah county:

The Grand Jury for the November term of the Circuit Court for Multnomah county begs leave to submit the following report:

In obedience to its duty it has visited the jail poorhouse and hospitals within the county, and made examination in regard to their condition and the condition of their inmates. It has also made some examination in regard to the nature and extent of the expenditures of the county.

The Grand Jury has had a case of grievous hardship presented to it which it deems a duty to report. Some time during last August a young man was gagged by two men in this city and robbed of all his money, as well as both his boots. The two persons were arrested, subjected to a preliminary examination and imprisoned to await the action of this Grand Jury in regard to their offense. The person robbed, being the principal witness and not being able to procure bail, was also placed in the county jail as a witness. Upon investigation the Grand Jury ascertained that he had been placed in the same ward with persons imprisoned for crime, one of whom was a Chinaman covered with vermin, from whom he himself became covered therewith, and that in addition thereto he was subjected to such unsatisfactory diet that he often suffered from absolute hunger. This is a hardship upon persons guilty of no crime or laboring under no imputation of crime, which is grievous and unjustifiable. It is bad enough to be robbed of money and boots, without being covered with vermin and gnawed by hunger, and provision should be made so that witnesses unable to give bail for their appearance before the next term of court should not be compelled to associate with criminals.

Upon examination of the county jail the Grand Jury find it in an overcrowded condition, there having been confined at the opening of this term thirty-one persons.

As the county jail is properly no place for persons sentenced for crime, but a place for the safe keeping of persons awaiting trial, the Grand Jury would suggest that the county should procure separate quarters for persons convicted of any criminal offense against the laws of the State less than felony, when they shall be compelled to work and pay their expenses, instead of being a burden upon the tax-payers of the county. Without much outlay a portion of the county farm could be endowed for the safe keeping of such criminals, our county jail relieved of its overburdened condition, and an onerous tax removed from the tax-payers by thus compelling such criminals not only to pay the expenses of their incarceration, but also compelling them, in course of time, to bring some income into the county treasury.

The county poorhouse and hospital was found kept in quite a satisfactory condition. There are at present twenty-five inmates. The Grand Jury also visited the State Insane Asylum, the neat and perfect condition of which is and has long been a matter of pride to the State. There are at present one hundred and fifty-six patients confined therein. The city jail was also visited, but was not deemed worthy any mention in this report.

Upon examination of the books of the county the Grand Jury find that the total expenditure of the county for the fiscal year, ending July 6, 1871, was $54,475 32½ against $45,592 24 for the previous year, among the items of which we find the sum of $6,056 61 for the keeping of prisoners and $7,469 92 on account of paupers.

It also finds that the sum of $1,500 per year is given to the Sheriff for extra expenses on account of jailor and janitor, and $600 per year is given to the County Clerk for keeping the books of the county, both of which expenditures this body cannot but believe as profligate and unwarranted. The law stipulates the fees of both these officers, which are amply sufficient without the extra compensation. Especially is this true in regard to the office of Sheriff of this county, the legal emoluments of which are so very great as to constitute the struggle for the possession of it a fruitful source of trickery and corruption. Such being the case it cannot but be deemed as both impolitic and unjust to the tax-payers of this county to further burden them by granting to the Sheriff such extra and unwarranted amount as that above specified.

The Grand Jury has had thirty-three cases before it, from which it has reported fourteen true bills.

SYLVESTER PENNOYER, Foreman.

LETTER FROM OLYMPIA.

Mrs. A. J. Duniway—Madam:—Our county association continues to meet every Saturday evening. We continue to gain strength from among our best men and women.

The House failed, by a small vote, to pass the "W. S. Memorial." One more effort will be made, but no chance exists to bring success, from the character of the elements now in mass at the Capital. Bargain and Sale, Truck and Dicker are the order of the day. The demoralization, even of good men, is fearful. Thus it is that we suffer from the weakness and folly of our political acting.

Garfielde, who so softly denied only a few days ago any wish or hope of renomination, has raised—or his friends have—a few thousands to run a three or four months' organ on. Report "says" a daily and weekly will blaze across the political firmament until after June, then set in darkness—like all the rest of G's personal organs.

Terminus fever raging hotter than ever. Real estate going up very fast. A committee of ladies proposes to interview J. C. Kimball about a lecture on Woman Suffrage soon, as rumor has it. He is going East soon. A.

OLYMPIA, W. T.