THE INDEPENDENT

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1881.

An Important Matter for the People of Washington County to Decide.

The County Court of Washington county have received a petition of some of our taxpayers praying that the court buy a poor farm for the paupers of the county and put the paupers on it. And the Court has deferred a decision on the matter, preferring to leave its decision to the people, and the Court desire that the people of the county shall sign . the petition and remonstrance that will be circulated for or against the proposition whether or not the county shall buy a poor farm and care for its paupers in that way. The plan favored by the Court we believe is to buy a small farm of forty or fifty acres of plow laud, to a cost still lower the present losing price not to exceed \$2,500, and to let the rent of the farm and the keeping of it by public contract. This plan is better than to hire a superintendent to manage the farm, as this would open an office to be filled every tw. years by favoritism. And the Court shink it a cheaper and better plan than that of letting the keeping of the paupers to the lowest bidder. The latter plan they say will be more expensive than the present one of paid them large subsidies on the keeping the paupers by private individuals.

The cost of keeping the poor of this county for the fiscal year 1879-'80 was \$2,000.27 and for the year ending June 1881, the cost is \$1,-608.13, and Commissioner Buxton informs us that the cost for the present year will be somewhat less. Even if the cost of keeping the

paupers by buying a far a and put-

Sale of the Narrow Gauge Railroads.

The Portland papers contain the information of the sale of the Narrow Gauge Railroads owned by the Scotch Company to Henry Villard, who by this purchase, has complet-

ed his monopoly of all steamboat. steamship and railroad lines in Oregen and Washington, including the Northern Pacific Road.

thirty-nine inches spart, and exactly This is indeed a monster monoporesemble those of the ordinary rail v, being greater even than the Cenroad, the gauge being narrower. tral Pacific monopoly of California; The greatest speed obtained was and the people will have to organize without regard to party to resist the eighteen Euglish miles an hour. greedy demands of these giant cor-Dr. Siemens has proved that, if necessary, far greater speed could porations. be obtained, but this was not allowed

Villard will undoubtedly increase by the German police authorities. the rates of freight at all points in the Willamette valley, in fact we learn that the screws are already turned down a notch or two at all points in this county, thus reducing of wheat.

In selling out the interests of the people the Scotch Company has acted in a very selfish and dishonorable manner. The last Legislature granted to them valuable property and franchises on the sole consider ation of encouraging and establishing competing lines of railroad in the Willamette valley. The people at various points subscribed and

same promise of having a competing their heads out of the car window line of railroad. And now they sell uear Wallula, probably to see why out the whole thing, without even the cars were slacking their sp ed providing for the completion of the come in violent contact with the proroad to Portland through the Southjecting timber of a water tauk, and Eastern part of this county where it. both whre fatally injured. The is already graded. The Scotch Com-Company ought to be prosecuted for pany bas had it announced as a manshaughter for placing such dan-"lease to Villard for 99 years," but gerous obstructions along their track it is a "sell out" in plain English. At least they ought to be made pay and that without any regard to th heavy damages for such culpable inferests of the public. management. There has never been but one man engaged in railroading in Ore-Secretary Windom uas discovered gon who has shown any devosome rotteness in his department. C. L. Pitney castodian of the tion to the interests of the peopleand that man is Joseph Gaston of treasury department, who does the this county. From the first he has buying of every thing needed in the been on the side of the people and treasury, including furniture, caradvocated the railroads more to de- pets, soap, e.c, instead of purchasing velop the country than to make by contract from the lowest bidders, money. For years he opposed Beu, has bought from his friends without Holladay's imposition on the people | making any contracts, paying them of this county, and finally gave up whatever they asked, and paying his position in the company and a them 30 to 50 per cent, higher than good salary to make a fight against the ruling market price, and Pitney Holladay and secure the just rights just been allowed the difference paid of Hillsboro and Forest Grove to in goods for his own use. He station privileges. And after build- has pursued this system of speculaing the Narrow Gauge Road in Yam- tion for six years. A number of bill, and after being sued, involved removals will result. A number of ex-cabinent officers are said to have and broken up by it, he could have profited by Pitney's operations. sold out to Villard and made twenty thousand dollars, he being offered The new liquor law went into that sum to turn the road over to effect in Kansus on May 1st, and the Villard instead of the Scotch Comreports from different sections of pany. But, Mr. Gaston faithfully the state indicate a more general obprotected the interests of the farmservance of it than was expected by ers who had aided to construct the the most sanguine advocate of the road, and turned it over to the measure. In the smaller towns the Scotch Company to be maintained saloous have practically all been as an Iudependent line, and went closed, an exception here and there out without a penny for all his time being reported. In the cities and and trouble and several thousand large viliages t e saloous are all dollars invested. kept open, and lemousde, soda There are not many men who water, pop buttermilk, and other would have sacrificed their own mild beverages sold openly, with a

on Monday last.

Prosecuted.

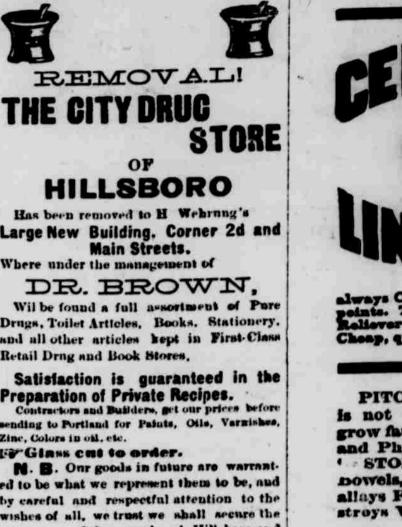
Two passengers, James Walch, a

An Electric Railway. Pleasant for Dursey.

[From the New York World.] The new electric railway running It is not likely that Dorsey knew between Lichterfelde and Cadettenwhen he was writing his impudent letter to the postmaster general that bause, six miles from Berlin, had a such evidence as thet which now successful trial on the 13th inst. reaches us from Oregon would so The trial was made in a simple tram soon be adduced against him. For car, with an electric battery entirely the statements made in the Oregon dispatches are so poritive and so concealed between the wheels. It was connected through the rails which it ran with the principal battery at the station. The rails are

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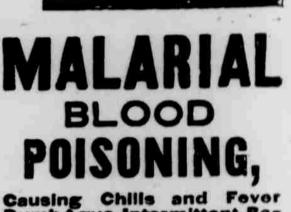


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ting them upon it should be a little more we would prefer it to the present mode of supporting them. The present mode gives some peuple a chance to draw \$20 or \$30 a month from the county treasury to support their kinfolks. There are instances in this county where families have thus been supported entirely by the county. This is both vicious and acaudalous and should not be en couraged by a civilized community. Another reason why we favor hav ing a poor farm is that the county will get the benefit of what work the paupers can do, and better still it would keep the paupers busy in so far as they would be able to work at all. It is not supposed that they would be able to work much, fo then they should not be paupers but many of them can do some light work, and that would be better for them, while it would be better finand cially for the county.

But it won't do to take the rose colored view that the proposed plan of the Court or any other plan will make the keeping of the poor selfsupporting.

The people should examine this question closely before signing patition or remonstrance, for the Court will act on the opinion of the major. ity thus expressed at the July term. See the advertisement of the Court in another place.

Death of Gen. Joel Palmer.

Gen. Joel Palmer died at his home in Dayton Yambill county last Thursday morning. He was one of the early pioneers of the State, having come here in 1845. He was Superintendent of Indian affairs in 1856 and Quartermaster and Commissary General during the Cayuse war. In 18/0 he was the Republican candidate for Governor against Gov. Grover. He was a man much respected by all who knew him. This makes another break in the thin ranks of the Oregon pioneers.

Important Decision.

chances for others, but this man preferred to keep his pledge to the people and maintain a good name rather than "put money in his pock-

Implicit obedience to parents although commendable in the abstract can be carried to an excess and involve a person in serious difficulties, and Young America will do well to notice a case in point. A day laborer in Heilbroun Wurtemberg, who was laid up with a broken leg, was charged with embezzlement, and was summoned to appear before the magistrate. Overwhelmed with the disgrace, perhaps unable to exculpate himself, he ordered his son Last week in Portland the jury in to haug him. The son, who was

the case of Marshall & Co., (the ware- also a day laborer obeyed his fahouseman who held the wheat that ther's w.sb, and carried him to the was damaged by the flood last win- house loft, where he bung him effecter.) against the Bank of British Col- tively from one of the beams. The umbia returned a verlict in favor of Court sentenced the son to impristhe bank. The decision means that onment for three years and nine

little liquor, on the sly. In Leavenworth only mue of the 123 drinking places openly violated the law, and these will be closed by force and the proprietors arrested.

The Mexican republic(?) has just passed a law amen.latory to its Constitution prohibiting any man not a Mexican from becoming a member of the Mexican Congress. Yankee immigration and theprobable introduction of Americon capital and corporations into that country has aroused the jealousy of the decendants of the Montezumas and they purpose to prevent the Americanization of Mexico by precautionary legislatson. It would not be surprising if they would as a next step deny the right to vote to foreignboru citizeus.

Roger's "Birds Eye View" gives the correct spelling of 25,000 words, 20,000 synonyms and 2,000 words of similar pronunciation. It is a curious sheet, but its arrangement makes it extremely valuable for reference. It is a dictionary, grammer and rhet-

