HARTMAN DON'T SUIT

HIS REMOVAL AS RECEIVER OF N. W. L. & T. Co. REQUESTED.

The Bank's Depositors Argue Their Case Before Judge Stearns—News of the Courts.

A petition for the removal of J. L. Hartman, as receiver of the Northwest Loan & Trust Company, was argued before Judge Stearns yesterday, and was taken under advisement. The petition was filed by stockholders and creditors of the Northwest Loan & Trust Company, 102 in number. Among the signers are the following named: Russell, Macleod & Blyth, Gustaf Wilson, Hobkirk & McKenzie, T. H. Harlow, A. T. Webb, Charlotte Greene and John Clark. Grounds for the removal of Mr. Hartman from the receivership are thus stated in the petition:

"That J. L. Hartman was secretary and manager of said bank for a long time prior to its closing, and the embarrassed condition of its affairs has been occasioned by the negligent management of its affairs by those in charge thereof.

"That facts have come to the knowledge of petitioners since the appointment of J. L. Hartman, as receiver, which show that J. L. Hartman was in a large measure responsible for the condition of the affairs which brought about the closing of the bank, and that he was totally unfit for the position he then occupied, and is not competent to be receiver."

J. L. Hartman, as receiver, is charged by the petitioners with prolonging the settlement of the business now in his hands, and the assets are said to be in danger of being frittered away. The court is asked to name a person in place of J. L. Hartman who is entirely unprejudiced, and who was in no way connected with the former management of the business of the bank.

During the argument yesterday, Mr. J. Couch Flanders, on behalf of the petitioners, claimed that the Northwest Loan & Trust Company was in an insolvent condition, and much of its assets were of a dubious kind. Of the assets, there was $140,000 stock of the Oregon National bank, placed there by D. F. Sherman and George B. Markle, which was of very uncertain value. It is claimed, said Mr. Flanders, that this stock is owned by the Northwest Loan & Trust Company, but there is nothing going to show that the board of directors ever authorized its purchase. They wanted a new receiver, who would ascertain the ownership of this stock, and fasten it upon these persons and place the liability with them, if there it belonged, so the Northwest Loan & Trust Company could recover what was due to them from it. The stock was probably now not worth anything.

Mr. Flanders also stated that the securities of the Portland Consolidated Street Railroad Company, in the hands of the Northwest Loan & Trust Company, now that the Portland Consolidated Street Railroad Company was in the hands of a receiver, were not worth much. The first bondholders of the railroad company came in for a preference. On the realization, or not, on this Oregon National bank stock, placed by Sherman and Markle, and the Portland Consolidated Street Railroad Company's securities, there would be a difference of 50 per cent in what the depositors would receive. Consequently, it was an important matter to fasten the liability and ownership of this bank stock, and ascertain if it was held by the bank as security.

Mr. O. F. Paxton, on behalf of the Northwest Loan & Trust Company, explained that the bank owned this stock, but that no money had been taken out of the bank to pay for it. One lot of stock had simply been exchanged from another—Trust Company's stock for Oregon National. If the stock was worth anything at all, it would not make any difference as to what the depositors would recover.

There was no evidence of want of diligence on the part of J. L. Hartman, as receiver, Mr. Paxton contended. He had successfully managed the receivership for a year and a half, and during these hard times has collected $190,000, which is a good showing. The only claim against Mr. Hartman is that he was formerly connected with the bank. This was no reason why he should be removed, and some one less familiar with its affairs and what is required, appointed. All of the acts of J. L. Hartman, as receiver, Mr. Paxton said, were open for inspection, and he should be retained in his present position, which was being filled for the very best interests of all concerned.

The court will render a decision in the near future, after an examination of authorities submitted to show whether or not, on the grounds charged, the removal of J. L. Hartman at this time is warranted and legally proper.

PROBATE MATTERS.

Wills of F. H. Ramsey and James Turk—Valuable Estates Divided.

The will of F. H. Ramsey, who was burned to death in his cabin, near the mouth of the Willamette river, recently, has been filed for probate. The estate is valued at $78,424 71. A. W. Lambert is named as executor, without bonds. The estate is devised as follows: To Oliver P. Ramsey, son of his brother, John Ramsey, $2000; George Ramsey, a nephew, $3000; John Ramsey, his brother, two lots in Centralia, Wash.; Conrad Rindlaub, $2000; Irijah Byars, $2000; Sisters of Charity of Providence, St. Vincent's hospital, $2000; A. W. Lambert, 10 acres of land, S. 7, T. 1 N., R. 1 E., Multnomah county. In case the land were sold before his death, the will provided a behest of $5000 in cash to A. W. Lambert, for the services to be rendered by him as executor.

The rest and residue of the property is to be converted into cash by the executor, and divided among the heirs-at-law, as follows: John Ramsey, Centralia; George Ramsey, Scappoose; Oliver P. Ramsey, Portland; Florence Grubbs Starr, Richmond, Ind.; U. M. Grubbs, Richmond, Ind.; Georgie Grubbs, Palmstone; Greely Grubbs, Richmond, Ind.; John Temples, Denver, Col.; Le Oatie Grubbs, Harry Temple, Tyro, Kan.; Effie Stevenson, Kansas City; Charley Temple, Otto Temple and James S. Ramsey, Vacaville, Cal.; David Ramsey, Vacaville, Cal.; Mrs. Jennie Bowie, Portland; Joseph Ramsey, Gonzales, Cal.; Harry Ramsey, Redwood City, Cal.; Maggie Ramsey, Selma, Cal.; Mrs. Josephine Oliver, Portland. Where the place of residence of heirs is not given, it is stated that it is unknown.

The will of James Turk was yesterday admitted to probate. Testator devises to his wife, Elizabeth Turk, the Garfield hotel, in this city, and the two lots upon which it stands. To his son, Frank Turk, is bequeathed a farm in Multnomah county, above Troutdale. To his son Charles Turk, half block in Grant's Pass. His personal property and money is to be used in paying debts of the estate, and in case this is not sufficient for such purpose, Frank Turk and Elizabeth Turk are to pay the balance of debts, share and share alike.

The estimate value of the property of the estate is $30,000. Elizabeth Turk and Frank Turk are appointed executors, without bonds.

THOSE JURORS' FEES.

Question as to the Per Diem Rate to Be Submitted to the Courts.

The question of the payment of $4 per diem to jurors in the Kelly and Steeves trials may be submitted to the judges of the state circuit court for their opinion as to its propriety. The bill for the jurors in the Kelly trial amounts to $422, and in the Steeves trial to $900. While the law says jurors' fees shall be $2 per day, it has been customary for years to allow jurors in murder trials, where they are kept night and day in close confinement, $4 a day. This was done in the Kelly trial, and the Committee of One Hundred objected to the payment, and have interviewed Circuit Court Clerk D. J. Moore and the county judge upon the subject. Clerk Moore has allowed $4 per day in these cases, by order of Judge Stephens. By reason of the objection to the payment of $4 in these trials, the county court has not yet finally decided if it will audit the fees at this rate per diem. Judge Northup does not care to discuss the question as to whether the law or custom should be followed, and merely states that the matter is under consideration. A decision by the circuit court judges will be more satisfactory to the different county officials, than any other disposal of the case.

STEEVES STILL IN JAIL.

His Attorneys Have Made No Further Effort to Secure Bonds for Him.

X. N. Steeves is still in jail, not having yet furnished bonds. Judge Stephens left town yesterday, to be away for a day or two, but this did not operate against the release of Steeves, as any one of the other circuit judges is empowered to order his discharge on the filing of a bond for $10,000, approved by District Attorney Hume. Steeves' lawyers have not yet had time to perfect a satisfactory surety for their client.

Yesterday, when asked if W. O. Allen and L. P. W. Quimby, the former bondsmen who signed for Steeves, would not be accepted should they present themselves, District Attorney Hume was non-committal. He remarked that he was not looking for bondsmen for Steeves, and that no bond had yet been submitted, and when a bond was filed with him, he would examine the persons who subscribed to it with a view of passing upon their sufficiency, and if found to be all right, it would be taken. A good bond was all that was asked, and any proper persons who could justly qualify were all the law demanded.

A DAMAGED PAINTING.

Friction Between Emma G. White and World's Fair Commission.

Emma G. White has filed suit in the state circuit court against the executive committee of the Oregon world's fair commission, consisting of George T. Myers, W. F. Mattock and George W. McBride. For cause of action Emma G. White states that she entrusted the committee with a ceramic picture, entitled, "The Christian Martyr," for exhibition at the world's fair. The picture is of the alleged value of $1000. It is complained that the frame to the picture was broken and damaged to the value of $40, and that the picture was scratched, causing a damage of $600; wherefore, plaintiff asks that the commission be made to reimburse her in the sum of $640.

Was Not Usury.

Judge Stearns yesterday, in the case of H. W. Viets vs. H. W. Shurtz and Josephine Shurtz, rendered findings in favor of the plaintiff. Viets sued to foreclose a mortgage of $500 on lot 1, block 45, part of lot 2, block 45; also portions of lots 13 and 14, block 25, Fulton Park.

Shurtz secured the loan of $500 through Hathaway & Thompson, and paid $25 per month interest. Shurtz endeavored to have the court apply this $25 per month upon the principal of his note, on the ground of usury. Hathaway & Thompson claimed that they paid Viets only legal interest of 10 per cent for his money, and that the difference between this 10 per cent per annum and the $25 a month received by them was brokerage, which they charged Shurtz for obtaining the money for him.

The court, upon this showing, denied the claim of usury made by Shurtz, and refused to order the $25 per month paid, applied upon the principal.

Heavy Failure in Hardware.

Yesterday, O. B. Stubbs, hardware merchant, made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors to A. Blumenthal. The assets are $17,842 18, divided as follows: Stock of goods, $15,000; store fixtures, $800; book accounts, $1897 96. Liabilities, $19,619 98. The principal items are: Corbett, Failing & Robertson, $1227 15; Oregon National bank, $2330 70; R. Williams, $5000; G. A. Taylor, $1500; Sargent & Co., $2103 12; United States National bank, $985; Yale & Tower Manufacturing Company, $1340 90. The other amounts due range from $5 to $300.

Court Notes.

Joseph P. Menefee, Robert E. Menefee and Harris H. Hawley were yesterday appointed appraisers of the estate of Samuel H. Tucker, deceased.

Licenses to wed were issued yesterday for Ulrich Jossi, 34, and Augusta Baldrosch, 18; Isaac Rosen, 26, and Christina Lindahl, 27; W. D. Jesse, 23, and Emma Callavan, 19.

The bond of F. J. Alexander Mayer, administrator of the estate of George Herrall, deceased, was yesterday approved by the county court. The partnership estate of George Herrall, in the firm of Herrall & Zimmerman, is appraised at $34,263 08.

Judge Shattuck will, today, render decisions in the following cases: Latourelle Falls Company vs. Brower & Thompson; Friedlander vs. Olds & King; St. David's Guild vs. Wood, et al.; Maud Allen vs. World's Fair Commission; Vulcan Iron Works vs. Tatum & Bowen.

Jack McGee, a hack-driver, indicted for striking Joseph Moore with a shovel, arrested Thursday on a bench warrant, was yesterday released by Judge Stephens on $50 cash bail. The trouble between McGee and Moore occurred at the St. Charles hotel several days ago. Moore is a restaurant keeper.

Mrs. M. J. Wilson and L. Dammasch have been ordered to appear before the county court on January 22, to tell why they withhold from the administrator certain property of the estate of J. J. Wystryk, deceased. Mr. Dammasch is said to have an accident insurance policy, and Mrs. Wilson a gold watch belonging to the estate.

SHIPPING MEN LAUGH.

Think the Wording of the New Harbor Ordinance Very Funny.

Shipping men are amused at the wording of the new harbor-master ordinance, printed copies of which have been circulated among the pilots, stevedores and others along the river front. The ordinance was evidently drawn up by some one not very well acquainted with ships or nautical language. The meaning, however, is generally clear, though it might have been better expressed. Shipmasters are advised that when their vessel is lying at a dock, "the off-shore anchor must be suspended ready for dropping." "Suspended" is a very good word, but its use in this connection caused great hilarity among the skippers. Then, again, the ordinance says that "lower yards must be braced sharp on the inshore braces." This is a matter which must be regulated according to circumstances. To prevent mud, sand or gravel from falling into the river from a ship discharging ballast, the law provides that a "canvas chute" be erected between the vessel and dock, but does not specify whether the ballast be sent through the chute or dumped from a bucket.

Perhaps the most remarkable statement of all, and one which created the greatest merriment, is in the section relating to anchoring in the stream, in which the captain is instructed to moor his vessel with the "bow forward." Harbor-Master Fitch denies having had any hand in the drawing up of the ordinance.

TO BE CITY ENGINEER

WHAT IT IS TO BE A HARD-WORKED PUBLIC SERVANT.

One Who Has Held the Situation Gives a Graphic Description of Its Duties.

The life of a city engineer is not what it is cracked up to be. So says a gentleman who has filled that important position, and knows whereof he speaks, and to an Oregonian representative yesterday he outlined the daily routine of the office. The recital was full of pathos, but is at the same time amusing and instructive, and, as the engineer himself said, may be of interest to city engineers in particular, and other engineers and the public in general.

"When a city engineer has been duly appointed," he said, "he should remember that he not only has special duties, but that the public assumes that his time, and a part of his salary, is on call. After certain formalities are through, an order will come to you to prepare a sewer plan and estimates for the meeting tomorrow. Mr. Euclid, your chief assistant, being busy with a bridge plan, you conclude to work up the sewer plan yourself. You get the contour map and grade book, and begin work. Drainage area, so much, grade so and so, residence district, gravel streets, rainfall. The office boy announces Mr. S., who comes in, puts his feet on your desk, and says that out in his ward a bridge has a hole in it big enough to drop a carriage through, the sewer is caved in and there is a hole in front of his house big as a cellar.

"Tonight your deputy will report that the bridge has one loose plank, the sewer is not caved in and the hole is a mere rut. You turn to the sewer map and Kutler's formula, and just as you find 'C,' Mrs. X., the senator's wife, enters. She will say, 'Mr. Engineer, it is more blessed to give than to receive. I am the president of a society organized to compel the women of Tahiti to wear clothes, and we need some financial aid. Cannot you give us $5? Senator X. is a friend of yours, so away go your $5, and Mrs. X.'

"Just as you get the size of the first block of sewer, Mr. R., of the twenty-fourth ward, comes in. 'Mr. Engineer,' he says, 'there is a family out near me living in a house right in the street, and they have got to git.' When the deputies make their evening reports you will learn that the house is a bit of a shanty in an unimproved street, occupied by a sick man, with seven children and a wife, trying to make a living by washing. Put them out? No! You send out a load of wood, two sacks of flour, some bacon and the city physician. Seven dollars gone.

"It is lunch time now, but you don't lunch. The central committee has called, and they talk, talk, talk, and finally ask for $125 to pay for flags and carriages. By that time the afternoon grind commences. As soon as you can escape, you take a stroll through the office. One draughtsman doesn't quite understand your plan for a sewer outfall, another wants to know if a brace shall be of Z-bars or laced channels, another wants your formula for concrete. As you pass you explain to this one, and that one. When you return to your office you find awaiting you several taxpayers, and the board of public works, who request, for the meeting tomorrow, a complete report on all the garbage destructors ever invented, with cost and capacity of each; also a report on all the different pavements ever built in Europe or America, with plans, cost and durability of each, and the proper width of wagon tire, and the tonnage that wore out the pavements; also a special report on brick pavements.

"They will also inform you that expenses must be cut down, and you must discharge Mr. Euclid. As Euclid is the only man you have who can make any of the important computations, you protest; but Euclid must go. By this time it is evening, and the deputies bring in their reports. You go to work on them at once, getting out your orders for the repair gangs in the morning. Six o'clock, and with disheveled hair and glaring eyes you rush out of the office for home. At the gate you look back to see if a crowd is after you. You hurry into the house to kiss your wife, when the girl blandly informs you that three men are in the parlor waiting for you. Of course, you go at once. One is interested in paving brick, and he tells you all about the chemical composition of brick, and generally about tension, compression, abrasion, etc. He weakens presently. The next man has the best plant on earth for iron bridge-piers, and tells all about pigments, oil and driers, oxygen and carbon, asphaltum and bitumen, turpentine, etc. His voice fails. The third has a patent bridge, and he talks about modulus of rupture, moments of resistance, tension and compression, strength of materials, etc. He breaks down, presently, and you go in to dinner. It is cold. A mouthful or two, and you start in for a quiet hour with that sewer map.

"Your wife hands you a piece of ribbon with: 'My dear, please bring me 1¾ yards, green, four shades lighter than the sample, and exchange these shoes for a pair a little narrower, and get a paper of safety pins.' Finally, after meeting seven men who want places, you get to work on your sewer plan. But your sin has found you out. They have seen the light in your transom. A lot of contractors want to see the next bridge plan. Others want to know about the sewer, and a leading citizen drops in, who will tell you that he heard from a man who heard a practical sewer man say that the bottom of Tanner-creek sewer was dropping out, and the grade of Holladay-avenue sewer is altogether too flat, and that no sewer should have a less grade than four feet in a hundred, and that one ring of brick is enough for any sewer, and that egg-shaped sewers are all the go East, and he supposes that is the reason sewers smell like rotten eggs, and that iron and steel crystallizes, and wants to know why they act that way, and if the crystals are worth anything and can be made into shirt-studs, and if not, why not? You mildly suggest that the main braces of Burnside-street bridge would make good hairpins, if properly crystallized. Just here a messenger comes up to tell you that Madison-street bridge is broken, and there is a howling mob at either end swearing like pirates. Just as you have sent the necessary orders, a man tells you that an English ship has got across the right of way of the Albina ferry, and the ferry captain wants to know if there is any law permitting him to blow her up. A councilman drops in and wants you to help him get up an ordinance prohibiting the importation into the city of any but peeled bananas, and that the plumbing inspector is shamefully neglecting his business, as he saw with his own eyes 17 cases of rotten plums up on Front street, and there's no use of a weigher and gauger, for the street-cleaning department can take care of the ways, and the railroads will do as they please about their gauges, anyhow.

"At 11:30 P. M. you start for home. At the foot of the stairs you meet a member of the board of public works, who wants to know if that sewer plan is ready. At the next corner you meet another member returning from a banquet. He says, 'Mr. E——, is that sewer plan done?' As you pass under an electric light you hear a voice from a carriage rolling by, 'Say, Mr. Shengineer, got that sh—shewer plan done?'

"You will ride, for you are tired, and just as you get to the car stand the last car is disappearing in the gloom. You feel like lying down on the sidewalk, but you go on home and softly get into bed, so as not to waken Mrs. E——. Not much you don't. Just as you get settled she will say, 'John, did you get that sewer plan done?'

"Scores of hands will appear all about you, all reaching for you, some for your scalp, more for your purse; some of them hard and horny, and smell of the stable; some thin and blue, and smell of whisky; some plump and beringed. Around among the hands will appear faces and mouths and eyes. You will see the downcast eyes of the sweet-faced Sister of Charity and the brazen eyes and brawling mouth of the ward politician. Next, perhaps, the dimpled body of the poor, naked Tahiti woman. Some of the mouths will say, 'Please give'; others will say, 'Your salary is $300 per month—we worked for you at election—we want money, and we'll have it or your scalp.' Flitting about you will see the sewer map and Kutler formula, and there will appear subscription lists for the W. C. T. U. and Y. M. C. A. and the city board of charities. You will see the members of the board of public works, with their backs to you. They are busy piling up work for you for the next meeting. Over all the chaos you will see a huge mouth, extending from Giles' lake to Fulton Park. It is the mouth of the public. Attached to one corner of it will be a long finger, pointing right at you, and out of the mouth will come: 'Liar!' 'Thief!' 'Robber of the public crib!' 'Got his hand in the public purse!' 'Takes commission from contractors!' 'Grinds the poor; cuts down wages; extravagance! Put him out.'

"Do not be discouraged, Mr. Engineer. When you die, while the engineering societies are dropping tears and things on your grave, this same mouth will place you in the saints' calendar and say he builded better than he knew. Suddenly you will be awakened by a scream. Be not alarmed; it is only a rooster singing his welcome to the morning light. Get up; your dream was true yesterday; it will be true today."

HIGH SCHOOL BOOKS.

Supplemental List Selected by the School Directors.

There was a full attendance at the meeting of the board of school directors last evening. The committee appointed to select supplemental books for the high school submitted the following list, which they had agreed upon, and which had been approved by the principal of the high school. Where no change is recommended, the books now in use were readopted, and the report, including all changes recommended, was adopted:

Physics—Gage's (now in use), Avery's recommended; same manual.
Chemistry—Williams.
Algebra—Milne.
Geometry—Stewart (books in use).
Trigonometry—Schuyler.
Bookkeeping—Bryant & Stratton's, recommended.
English history—Lancaster.
Higher algebra—Olney.
Higher lessons in English—Reed & Kellogg's (now in use), Maxwell's recommended, same as state board.
Physiology—Tracy.
Rhetoric—Kellogg's (now in use), Hill's recommended.
English literature—Kellogg's (now in use), Shaw's recommended.
General history—Barnes.
Our government—Macy's (now in use), Martin's recommended.
American history—Ridpath's.
Drawing—Thompson's.
First year in Latin—Harkness.
Latin grammar—Harkness.
Caesar (second year)—Arrowsmith & Whichet (now in use), Harper's recommended.
Cicero—Harkness.
Virgil—Harper's.
Prose composition—Daniel's.
German—Deutsche Colloquial Reader; Joynes-Meissner German Grammar (shorter course); Boisen's Prose, Harris' Composition, Novelettes Bibliothek, Schiller's Tell, Marie Stuart.

A proposition to lease the board the lower room of the engine-house at Woodlawn, in anticipation of another class being opened there at the beginning of next term, was laid over till next meeting, and Mr. Miller was instructed to look into the matter in case another room should be needed.

The list of supplemental books for reading in the high school, selected last year, was readopted. It is customary to select a list from which a choice can be made, but probably some of them will never be used.

Mr. Roby, of the committee appointed to apply for quarters for the board in the new city hall, reported that the commission had been interviewed, and a formal request for rooms forwarded, and that it had been suggested that the rooms in the northwest corner on the second floor, above the basement, would be most suitable. The prospects were favorable for rooms being furnished the board, but the matter had not yet been definitely settled. The committee was granted further time.

The matter of leasing rooms to accommodate the overflow from Williams-avenue school, was discussed at some length. It was decided that this was absolutely necessary, as many of the rooms in the present building were badly overcrowded. It was finally agreed to accept a proposition to lease two rooms in the Manley building, at a rental of $100 for five months. The supply committee was directed to attend to seating and furnishing the rooms.

Superintendent Pratt said that as Maxwell's series of grammars, etc had been adopted by the state, he would like to have them introduced into the schools here at the beginning of next term. Some of them were in use in the schools, and to introduce them next term instead of waiting till next fall would be in the interest of economy, as exchanges of books could now be made on favorable terms. On motion, the permission asked for was granted.

The matter of procuring some one to deliver an address at the graduating exercises on the evening of February 8 was discussed at some length. There was a sentiment opposed to having a preacher or a teacher, but no one could be thought of who would be likely to accept, so the matter was referred to Chairman Thompson and Superintendent Pratt.

Chairman Thompson called attention to the fact that the annual meeting of taxpayers of this school district would be held January 28, when reports must be ready to be submitted, and suggested that the directors make notes of what they thought would be needed next year in the way of buildings, etc. The books of the board must be closed at once, and be placed in the hands of the examining board. The clerk was directed to arrange for a place for holding the meeting, the courthouse if possible.

Clerk Allen called attention to a number of old tax rolls, on which there is still considerable money coming. In order to preserve them, they should be bound, and some of them should be rewritten. He was directed to ascertain the cost of the work required and report at the next meeting.

Suits Pending in United States Courts

In the United States circuit yesterday, the argument was made in the cases of the Bank of California and Beall, receiver of the Linn County National bank, vs. J. L. Cowan et al., and the matter was taken under advisement by the court. In the case of the German Savings & Loan Society vs. Van B. DeLashmutt, the exceptions to the bill of complaint were argued and submitted. In the case of the Northern Counties Trust Company vs. McCowan a decree pro confesso was granted.

THE CITY AND COUNTY

WORK BEFORE THE MULTNOMAH LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION.

Reforms in Which Public Sentiment Is Interested and Which Will Be Looked Forward to.

While the Multnomah delegation has a good deal of importan work on its hands concerning the city charter, which, it is quite generally understood, will be amended or substantially re-enacted with amendments, some of the most important duties they will be charged with are in connection with the county government. The Oregonian has for a long time pointed out the propriety of putting the district attorney's office on a salary basis, the same as was done last session with sheriffs and clerks generally throughout the state. For the first time in the history of the county, public sentiment seems to be awakened to the importance of this reform. The financial difficulties of the country have brought home to the people the burdens of government, and they look to the legislature to relieve them wherever relief can be found.

The district attorney received from Multnomah county during the year ending July, 1894, as follows:

Fees in criminal cases	$15,880
From divorce cases ($10 in each case)	2,000
From the state of Oregon (salary)	500
Total	$18,380

What should be done is for the district attorney to be put on a salary of $3500 or $4000 a year. He might be allowed two deputies at salaries something like $1200 or $1500, all to be allowed no fees or additional compensation whatsoever.

The county assessor is now receiving a salary of $6000 a year, and some of the delegation are known to believe that half that sum would be about the correct thing. Whatever clerical help he needs can be provided by the county court, which would fix their compensation also. It is also contemplated that the coroner, who earned last year in fees $1194 95, be put on a salary of $1000, with no fees.

A bill will be introduced creating the office of county auditor for Multnomah county. As is well known, Captain W. H. Pope has for some time been acting in some such capacity. The county court, Judge Northup, and Judge Moreland before him, wanted the authority of law for the office, with a definition of its powers and duties.

Another effort will be made this session to curtail the power and emoluments of justices of the peace and constables in Multnomah county. Of course, they will muster a strong lobby again to resist the enactment of any restriction. The justice meted out to the poor man is one of the greatest forces in municipal government, and shrewd students have viewed the maladministration of justice courts as one of the gravest menaces to the peace of American cities. It is here, more than anywhere else, that the masses get their ideas of what the government means to them; and if it appears to them venial, the creature and the minion of money-making partisan politics, there will be very little respect for law and order among the common people. This is one reason why the reform of our justice courts is of prime importance. The fee system has held itself on to these departments longer than others because more securely fastened and because of the stubborn and organized resistance encountered every session by reformatory efforts. Some idea of the strength of the justice and constable regime is indicated by the amount of their fees, a large portion of which are impossible of ascertaining. During the six months ending July, 1894, Multnomah paid its justices and constables $4541 60; that is, approximately $9000 a year. Jurors in the justice courts, approximately $220; witnesses, $1036. It should also be stated that the justice courts have received in this $9000 only the excess over the fines they collect. When a fine is imposed, upon trial, it is applied to the costs, and the remainder of the costs or fees the county has to make up. In addition to this, they receive the fees paid by civil litigants and the incurred costs of prosecutions begun but dismissed by consent at the cost of the prosecuting witness before coming to trial. These fees the county has no means of knowing about, so their total is unknown. The way to meet this situation of course is to put the justices on a salary of, say $1500, and the constables on salaries of $1200 to $1500. The county court can allow $360 a year, or such a matter, for office rent, if necessary.

A measure will be introduced providing for feeding the county prisoners by contract let to the lowest bidder, as is done in the case of city prisoners, and for reducing in some way the expense of conveying convicts and insane patients to Salem. Fees for this latter service are paid by the state to the sheriff, and are multiplied in great excess in counties like Multnomah. It should be done by deputies on a salary, without fees, whose necessary traveling expenses should be allowed by the county court.

Concerning the board of prisoners, it appears that the sheriff gets 42.85 cents a day for furnishing his prisoners two meals a day, while the poor farm furnishes three meals a day to its charges at a cost of 22.03 cents. Besides, all the sheriff is "out" is his provisions and the cost of his cook and jailer. The county furnishes him fuel, lights, blankets and cooking utensils. The county farm pays its own help, superintendent, matron, clothing (which the sheriff does not), and the cost of maintenance is only $7 35 per month, as against $12 85 paid to the sheriff.

BROKE HER SHAFT.

Steamer California Towed Back to San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—The steamer State of California, which left here Wednesday for Astoria, arrived here tonight, towed by steamer Columbia, of Astoria. The California broke her shaft yesterday and was unable to proceed on her course north. The Columbia, coming along, brought her back here.

The California was about 20 miles northwest of Trinidad January 10 when the thrust-bar of the shaft broke. The damage was repaired to some extent, and the ship steamed along at the rate of three knots an hour. Finally the Columbia was sighted, and the California signaled for assistance. The Columbia responded, and towed the disabled steamer into port without mishap. The California was at the time in no imminent danger, and her passengers were all well. They will probably be transferred to the Columbia, which sails for the North Monday.

A Line to Mexico.

There are prospects of the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company's steamboat business being extended to Mexico, says the Tacoma Ledger. Commodore Irving is at present negotiating with a number of Puget sound merchants, and expects within a fortnight to know definitely whether or not the scheme will be carried out. The chief consideration is whether sufficient outgoing cargo can be obtained to warrant this extended service. Fruit and coffee could be secured for at least a good portion of the return freight, and it is believed that eventually a good business could be worked up. For many years San Francisco has had control of this trade almost exclusively. If Captain Irving's plans are successful, the steamship Danube, of the Canadian Pacific Navigation fleet will be placed on the route. She will touch at Puget sound ports, and will sail as far south as Acapulco.

For Failing to Aid Fellow-Seamen.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—Captain J. G. Baker, commander of the American ship Kenilworth, was held to answer in bonds of $200 by Commissioner Heacock today for failing to render assistance to the American ship Flora A. Sawyer, with which his vessel collided in the Atlantic May 19. The complaint alleges that Captain Baker declined to give the name of his vessel, or her port of register, and that he left the scene of the disaster before he discovered whether assistance was needed. Captain Baker waived examination, and promptly gave bonds.

Outward Bound.

The Red Rock left down for Astoria yesterday afternoon in charge of Pilot Archie Pease. The Thallata finished her wheat cargo at Ainsworth dock, and will start down this morning, in care of Pilot W. H. Pope. Captain Pope returned yesterday, having taken down the big ship Breidablik. The run was made in good time, a day and a half. The ship drew 22½ feet, and the pilot says he found plenty of water, all the way. The Breidablik's cargo, 3800 tons, was one of the largest taken out this season.

The Manzanita's Work.

The lighthouse tender Manzanita is attending to light signals and fog stations on Puget sound. On going around from Astoria, the tender was storm-bound two days at Neah bay, and one day at Victoria. The weather during these three days was very severe. The officers of the vessel report that they found everything in excellent condition. Before leaving the Sound the Manzanita will establish a new post light at Orchard point, situated near the Port Orchard drydock.

The Tacoma's Cargo.

TACOMA, Jan. 11—The Northern Pacific steamship Tacoma arrived tonight from the Orient. Her cargo includes 1220 bales of raw and 66 cases of manufactured silk, worth over $400,000, which will be sent to New York tomorrow on passenger time.

Ship Nesmith at Bermuda.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The ship James Nesmith, previously reported, has put into Bermuda, and proceeds in about 60 days. The damage to her is not serious.

Marine Notes.

The Brocadale and Auchencairn, at Victoria dock, loaded wheat yesterday.

The Glenlui shifted from Irving dock to the elevator yesterday, and loaded The City of Hankow, at Montgomery dock, Clackmannanshire, at Shaver's dock and Harland at Greenwich dock, discharged ballast yesterday.
wheat. The Donna Francesca moved from the Southern Pacific dock to Greenwich dock, where she loads wheat today. The Standard came up from the bunkers to Columbia dock, and will load wheat Monday, being under engagement to Balfour, Guthrie & Co.

Domestic and Foreign Ports.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Arrived—Elbe, from Bremen and Southampton. Arrived out—Ems, at Southampton, and proceeded to Bremen; Etruria at Queenstown. Sailed for New York—Anchoria, from Moville.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—Freights—Afon Alaw, 1947 tons, Hyderbad, 2110 tons, Kibrannal, 1572 tons, Silberhorn, 1822 tons, and William Law, 1885 tons, wheat to Cork, 27s 6d; B. P. Cheney, 1250 tons, coal from Seattle for this port; Elwell, 1388 tons, coal from Nanaimo for this port; Occidental, 1470 tons, now at Departure bay, coal thence to this port; Queen, 264 tons, assorted cargo for Honolulu.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—Cleared—Bark Rufus K. Wood, for Nanaimo. Departed—Ship Elwell, for Nanaimo; schooner Charles Hanson, for Gray's harbor; schooner Ivy, for Willapa bay; schooner Daisy Rowe, for Coos bay; schooner Ottilia Fjord, for Gray's harbor; schooner Orient, for Coos bay; schooner La Gironde, for Willapa bay; U. S. S. Mohican, for Puget sound; schooner San Buenaventura, for Gray's harbor.

AMUSEMENTS.

Mr. Keene's Week.

There are those in all communities who attend the theater by "fits and starts." "Give us something good and we will go," they say to the sad-eyed manager, mourning over empty benches. Here, then, is the opportunity. Keene is coming with a repertoire impossible of improvement and a company bearing the stamp of golden opinions from the press of every city between this and the Atlantic. Portland, however, is always generous in her memories of those she likes in every walk, and Thomas Keene, tragedian, is prominent among them. On Monday night he opens in "Hamlet," 'the most scholarly and one of the greatest of Shakespeare's creations. "Hamlet" has been a life study with Keene, and it is among his finest renditions. "Richard the Third," "Othello," "The Merchant of Venice" and Bulwer's "Richelieu" follow, forming an incomparable quintet. Mr. Keene's company is very highly spoken of, including Edwin Arden, his manager, and leading support, with Mr. Frank Hennig, Carl Ahrendt, Munro Lawrence, Beamann and Downs, and Mrs. Baker, the mother of the stage, who has supported the greatest in the profession for half a century.

At Cordray's Theater.

That "The Clemenceau Case" is a grand success, as presented by the Riggs company, was attested by a still larger house last evening than on the opening night. The company fully sustained the reputation made the opening night, and the performance was enhanced by several changes in the third act. The piece will run tonight and for Sunday evening. At the regular Saturday matinee, "That Precious Baby" will be given for the benefit of the ladies and children who were unable to attend the first three nights of the week, when it made such a great hit. Master Ralph will render his dancing specialty, and the same baby that played the part during the week will again be in the cast.

The "Tar and Tartar."

The Pyke opera company will present next week at Cordray's theater the comic opera success, "Tar and Tartar," the book written by Harry B. Smith, author of "Robin Hood" and "Rob Roy," and the music composed by Adam Itzel, jr., of Baltimore. This opera has been the feature of the company's repertoire on their Sound tour, and, wherever presented, was redemanded. The cast includes Al Leech, Francis Gaillard, W. H. West, H. R. Hanlon, Arthur Boyce, W. A. Niles, Fannie Liddiard, Laura Millard, Louise Manfred and Cora Lincoln. The opera is an Oriental fantasie, founded on one of the most charming stories of the "Arabian Nights," and the music fits the libretto to a nicety. The opera brims over with humorous situations, laughable localisms, graceful dances, lovely melodies and artistic marches. The costumes and scenery have all been imported from New York. The finale of the opera is the "Transcription of National Airs," the harmonization and orchestration of which raised Mr. Itzel to a high place among American composers. So great was the success of "Tar and Tartar" in Tacoma, Seattle and Victoria that return dates on guarantees are demanded by the managers, so that the appearances of the Pyke opera company on their return visit to this city will be few.