

Albany Register.

U. S. Official Paper for Oregon.

SATURDAY, DEC. 12, 1873.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

President Grant, on the 10th, in conversation with a number of individuals, expressed it as his firm belief that the difficulty between Spain and the United States would be settled satisfactorily without a fight.

A statement is going the rounds that the rate of taxation in California amounts to the enormous sum of \$13 75 per capita for every man, woman and child in the State.

The price of composition in the Chicago print-shops is about to be reduced from 35 to 45c per thousand. The price has been reduced in a number of the large cities.

According to the News there has been built during the past few years at Coos Bay, twenty-five sailing vessels, having a total capacity of fifty thousand tons. The vessels built at Coos Bay will rank with any of their class in the world or elsewhere.

It is reported in Cuba that if the *Virginius* is given up all the officers of the *Torpedo* (Spanish) will resign all grades, honors and decorations, and retire from the service, and that many officers of other war vessels will do the same.

The Attorney-General of Illinois has brought suit against the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company to recover damages amounting to \$100,000 for unjust discrimination in fares and freight tariffs. The suit involves the constitutionality of the new railroad law, and the railroad companies are using their best endeavors to obtain a decision adverse to the State, of course.

Bill Arp settles the subject of taxation with a single pen full of ink. He says: "I'd tax a man nothing on an income of 5 thousand dollars and under. I'd tax 10 per cent. on all between 5 and 10 thousand; twenty per cent. on all between 10 and 20 thousand, and so on, doubling up to 50 thousand. About that, I'd take it all, every dollar. I tell you that will get em."

The people of Philadelphia are already excited over the election of Mayor, which occurs in 1874, as the party honored at that time by an election will hold the office until 1877—during the celebration of the nation's one hundredth birthday. Col. John W. Forney is the prominent candidate at present. He is one of her most prominent citizens; has been identified with the interests of the city for many years, and would fill the office with credit to the city during the trying times of 1874.

From Paris, France, we learn that on the evening of the 10th, after long deliberation, the judges declared Marshal Bazaine guilty of the charge of capitulation of Metz and of the army in the open field, and unanimously condemned him to death, and to be degraded from rank previous to execution. After judgment was rendered all the members of the Court signed an appeal for mercy which the Duc d'Anville immediately conveyed in person to President McMahon. Bazaine was greatly agitated when the decision of the Court was rendered, but refused to avail himself of the right to appeal.

The Supreme Court has affirmed the decision of the Iowa Court in regard to railroad freights in that State. The decision was to the effect that the law of the State of Iowa regulating railroad freight was valid as within the power of the State to protect the people from imposition.

Give us an Ohio man for felicitous expression. A 19 year man drew up a programme for a children's concert, in which he says: "These concert by these children, can be attended by persons of the most fictitious tastes."

Rev. Thos. Condon, of Forest Grove, State Geologist, is giving a series of lectures on the science of Geology, in Portland. These lectures are of the greatest interest, and of course are attracting full houses.

"Much Hated."

The journals of Oregon just now are discussing the removal of A. C. Gibbs from the office of United States District Attorney, and the appointment of Hon. Rufus Mallory, of Salem, to that office. It would seem from the facts disclosed in the proceedings, that Mr. Gibbs owes his removal from office to disobedience of the orders of his superior. It is charged that at a recent session of the United States District Court for Oregon, the Grand Jury failed to meet the demands of the Judge and Attorney in the matter of finding indictments against parties for illegal voting, said Jury only finding one bill, against Bruce, who was tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary therefor soon after the Grand Jury was discharged. Gibbs made application for a order to summon a new Jury, with the statement that the Jury just discharged had ignored bills in cases where the evidence showed that crime had been committed. Upon this application the Judge amended a rule of his own court to suit the usual proceedings, and issued an order for a venire for a new Jury, prescribing that the jurors should be selected from Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties only. Hitherto the Board for the selection of persons from whom a panel should be chosen has consisted of the U. S. Marshal and Clerk of the U. S. District Court, but on this occasion the Register in Bankruptcy was added to the Board—an officer whose appointment depends on the nomination of said Judge. It was an extraordinary as well as unusual proceeding, largely favoring the expenses of the court—for what? The U. S. Marshal had previously been informed that the appropriation for the Department of Justice had already been expended, and that expenses must be reduced, and yet this sapient Judge abetted this District Attorney in largely increasing them. This state of affairs coming to the knowledge of the Attorney General, he at once telegraphed to Gibbs as follows:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27, 1873.

To A. C. Gibbs, Esq., U. S. Attorney, Portland, Oregon—I am advised that you have obtained an order for a new Grand Jury at this term of the court to be summoned in an unusual manner. You are instructed to move to rescind such order greatly increasing the expenses of the term. I am satisfied the regular Grand Jury can do the business of the court. Take no action before such jury until you have reported to me the necessity for this extraordinary proceeding and expense.

GEO. H. WILLIAMS,
Attorney General.

Some four days after receiving the above telegram, Gibbs telegraphed an insolent reply to the Attorney General, charging that an alarming system of frauds had been inaugurated at the last State election; that the Jury just dismissed had ignored bills by a bare majority where guilt was clearly proven (virtually accusing the jurymen of perjury) and other charges equally as unreturnable. And then in total disregard of instructions, the District Attorney proceeded just as if he had received no instructions, but had a contract to run the Government to suit his own sweet will. And this is how Gibbs busted his snuff. Selah.

A dispatch from Boston reports Prof. Agassiz seriously ill, and that there is serious danger of total paralysis of his muscular system.

At Sucker Flat, Cal., on the 9th, 150 kegs of powder, weighing 11,000 pounds, was exploded in Blue Point, preparing 40,000 cubic yards of gravel for washing by one "blow out."

The marriage tie in England brings about singular results. Of fourteen persons living in England during the last year, ten were wife murderers.

U. S. District Attorney Gibbs has been removed and ex-Congressman Mallory appointed to fill the vacancy. Well enough.

A dispensation has been granted for a Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry at La Grande, Union county.

Senator Cookling of New York has introduced a bill providing for conveying into the Treasury all "back pay" returned, and prohibiting payment of such sums as are yet unpaid for.

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Albany, Oct. 17, 1873-61

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Albany, Oregon-1873

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