

THE INDEPENDENT.

Thursday August 3, 1876.

Assessment--A Guard For the Poor and Honest.

If the suggestions in regard to assessing property made by a writer in the Oregonian, whose letter we publish elsewhere, were put into force by legislative enactment they would improve the present mode materially.

Under the present system the poor man whose little all comes directly under the eye of the assessor is taxed all it is worth while the rich, dishonest men in hundreds of ways evade the law and escape paying their just share of the burden of running the State Government.

But the writer does not go to the bottom of the question. He does not tell us how to make assessors assess property at its own true value. If John Jones owns land that is worth \$30 or \$40 per acre it should not be assessed at \$10 or \$15 as has been the custom this country and the rest of the State, while on the other hand if John Smith has a mortgage on the same land it is taxed at its face.

But this is not all. We need a system of equalizing taxes throughout the State, so that one county shall not have to pay a higher rate of tax than another, as is often the case in the present irregular and foolish system of leaving the whole question of taxation to the county assessors. Under such a system, if it can be called a system, of course each assessor would naturally put down the rate of taxation as low as possible in his own county in order to save it from paying more than its share of tax into the State Treasury.

The California Grangers Against the Shipping and Commercial Rings.

The California farmers have determined to take a stand against the shipping rings and middlemen in that State. We say, hurrah for the farmers and hope they will force the monopolists to the wall.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 27.—The Grangers from the interior finished their business yesterday and adjourned. Their meeting was secret and the proceedings were not made public but enough has been divulged to enable a positive statement to be made that farmers will ship their own wheat. No trouble is anticipated in obtaining all the vessels they may need.

Some may say, and the rich will doubtless so urge, that this is espionage and inquisition. I would ask what is a tax-gatherer's position but an inquisitorial one? The assessor comes to a man of moderate means, and he is enabled by the man's surroundings and his knowledge of him to place down every item of his assets and of indebtedness. Is it not just and fair, that he shall be empowered with authority to look just as closely and minutely into the affairs of the capitalist, who so far has managed to weave an Ariadne web about an assessor, and entangle and obstruct him in his inquiry in this direction? There can be but one an-

wheat to dispose of. It may be stated that the present condition of the market for grain vessels favor this stand of the farmers' price per ton which declined in a marked degree a couple of months ago. At that time vessels were chartered to arrive at \$3 50@£3 10s per ton. Yesterday a reporter was informed on good authority that a first-class British ship was taken at £2 10s, which was chartered early in the season at £3. It is reported that at the convention there are 120 delegates, who represent over \$3,000,000 in capital and some two hundred tons of wheat.

About the Assessment Law.

A correspondent of the Oregonian makes the following excellent suggestions concerning the assessment law in this State which we publish for the re-perusal of the law-makers just elected in this county.

"Before the Legislature sits, and while the plans and ideas of legislation are in their formative state, I would beg brief space to make a suggestion with reference to the matter of assessment for taxes and the laws relating thereto, which will very considerably occupy the attention of the members at the next session. While it is to be admitted that the present assessment law is a botch and abortive, and gives much opportunity for injustice and fraud—being suggestive of the blind leading the blind—still I believe a few amendments to it, with inquisitorial authority delegated to the assessor, will make it quite as effectual as is necessary to secure a just and exact assessment of all properties, both real and personal within the State.

Blanks should be furnished all taxable persons, banks, institutions of deposit and corporations, on which they must be required to enter in detail, at a uniformly given time, all real estate by sub-divisions, all notes and other evidences of indebtedness naming the payer and payee, and all other items of taxable property in detail. Indebtedness must be rendered as minutely. If the person owes money, whom do you owe it to, and in what amount, and where does the person whom you owe reside?"

This system of assessment is full of checks and balances and serves to restrain the propensity for loose statements, now in vogue in giving in gross items of assets and indebtedness. This statement must be sworn and subscribed to before a person duly qualified to take an oath, and any material misstatement found to exist in the exhibit shall make liable the offender in exemplary fine and punishment. Under this plan, where a party reports that he owes parties outside the county, it shall be the duty of the assessor to notify the assessor of the said other county to see whether the person so reported upon has included the said item of assets in his statement. The desire of the debtor to establish his indebtedness will be the great promoter of exactness in this particular, and I am confident a law giving an assessor inquisitorial authority will add twenty-five million dollars to the tax roll of the State.

Wanted--A Man.

God give us men! a time like this demands strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands. Men whom the lust of office does not kill; Men whom the spoil of office cannot buy; Men who have honor; men who will not lie; Men who can stand before the demagogue; And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking.

Tallmen crowned, who live above the fog. In public duty and private thinking; For while the rabble with their thumb-worm creeds, Their large profession and little deeds, Mingle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps, Wrong rules the land; and waiting Justice sleeps.

[Dr. J. G. HOLLAND.]

A German writer tells us--just as if everybody didn't know it as well as he does--that when "benzoinaphthylamid is treated with nitric acid, two isomeric monitrobenzoinaphthylamid are formed one yielding mononitrobenzoinaphthylamid and the other dinitrobenzoinaphthylamid." Parents should impress this fact upon the minds of their children from the first thing, and we presume that most of them do, so that they may know that nitric acid is not a thing to be fooled with.

WHEAT has declined 25 cents on the bushel in Chicago, owing to the glut in foreign markets and the fine crop prospect in England and France. What sells at 73¢ in Chicago now against \$1.05 or \$1.06 at the first of the month.

Later dispatches state that wheat has advanced to 83 cents a bushel.

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swear to this, and subterfuge and evasion will not turn aside the force of this conclusion. The assessor must be empowered in law to delve as deeply into the coffers of the rich as of the leathern purses of the poor. "The tithes-gath'r must have know'g of the tithes"--but our present assessment law stops on the threshold of its authority, and while the assessor often smells game ahead, he "cannot enter in" pursuit of it for want of a few words delegating the authority. I submit, Mr. Editor and legislators, should it not be given him?"

Feeling confident none but those having ulterior designs, in contrary to an equal and exact assessment can oppose it, I ask the judgment of the people thereon.

Glencoe: July 23, 1876.

Business at this place is lively. The old store firm known as Fowler & Co., is changed to Fowler & Schenk. S. Harris and W. R. Parker are kept busy at repairing agricultural machinery.

The hay harvest is just done. Fall and early sown spring grain are first ripening and the reapers have begun to gather the crop.

Mr. William Frakes of this place has cut two acres of the Beaverdam or Cosgrove white winter wheat. The straw is very long, the heads large and the grains large and white. Farmers who are troubled with short straw should try this variety.

Mr. Samuel Elliott of this place has nearly completed a large brick kiln.

Blackberrying is all the rage now. Mr. Dick Johnson of this place is now in Portland very sick.

The Columbia Academy closed last week.

DANDY JIM.

Mountain Side. July 26, 1876.

Hay harvest is about over with a full average yield and farmers have commenced harvesting their winter wheat which promises a fair crop. Spring grain looks well.

Some dogs got among Mr. Brooks' sheep last Sunday night and killed 8 and wounded 14 others. The dogs were tracked to their homes, and in presence of their owners were sent to that land where they will find no more good sheep to kill. One dog however belonging to a couple lately married by Judge Archbold, had the case of their "dogg" tried and after much controversy on the part of his better half, the cur was condemned and shot to death.

Several bears have been seen in this neighborhood recently.

Mr. J. D. Rowell had a fierce attack of the colic on Tuesday night but having plenty of good nurses and medicine, (and good grub next day) he is able to locomote right end up now.

Mr. Stinwood will have his grist mill ready to run in two weeks.

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ETHAN ALLEN, chairman of the committee calling a Liberal Republican convention has annulled the call and heartily endorses Hayes and Wheeler.

THE SIOUX CAMPAIGN.

Gen. Crook Reported Defeated With Terrible Slaughter.

CHICAGO, July 28.—Specials received here are of a similar tenor with that from St. Louis about Crook's battle; nothing official or confirmatory is received and the account is probably bogus. The St. Louis Globe Democrat has a special from Leavenworth which gives what seems an exaggerated account of Crook's battle with the Sioux on Goose Creek. The dispatch says A. T. Fay, post trader at Camp Sheridan, arrived at Sydney, Neb., and reported the arrival of Lane Deer at Camp Sheridan last Wednesday, a friendly Chief, who brought information that Crook had suffered a terrible defeat at the hands of the Sioux on Goose Creek, but the date of the battle is not mentioned. The account states that Crook lost nearly 300 soldiers and was driven across the creek under a terrible fire from the Indians, and that the fight was more of a slaughter than a battle. It is further stated that the Indians are greatly elated over the victory and intend after driving the miners from the Black Hills, to clean out all the agencies in the northern country, and all stations along the Pacific railroad. The dispatch is so worded that it cannot be stated whether this is an account of the old battle or one recently. It is therefore given for what it is worth.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—A letter from South Carolina says two companies of the regular garrison left Columbia for Aiken, opposite Hamburg, on the 21st, and will remain there all summer. This is done in obedience to orders from the War Department. Two companies have been ordered to Hamburg.

CINCINNATI, July 25.—This morning several hundred unemployed workmen assembled on Fountain Square in pursuance of a call in yesterday's papers. After listening to speeches from Samuel Cary and others upon the deplorable condition of workingmen, &c, they proceeded in procession to the city buildings to demand of the mayor bread or blood. After hours waiting and discussing the crowd dispersed. The mayor had placed a standing guard of police around the building.

CHEYENNE, July 19.—General Merritt, having marched nearly 100 miles in 36 hours, successfully intercepted the 800 Cheyennes, who had left the agency, and drove them back to that place. The Indians being advised by runners of the approach of the cavalry, broke into small bands and scattered like sheep. Their vigilance and the jaded condition of Merritt's animals after his march, enabled them to regain their peaceful agency home with no casualties save one killed by the scout Scooby.

ST. PAUL, MINN., July 28.—Grasshoppers have overrun the western part of this State, and many farmers have lost every thing in the shape of crops. The damage done by them however so far is not wide spread, and crops outside of the section alluded to has not suffered much.

DETROIT, July 29.—In many wheat fields in this section the reaper was put to work this week and abandoned, the grain not being worth harvesting. Farmers must rely on their old crops, or buy grain for bread. Not one in ten will raise enough for family use. This condition of the extends through Delaware, and Jackson counties and is the worst failure known in several years. Floods chinch bugs and and Hessian flies have done their work completely.

LIVERPOOL, July 28.—A leading grain circular says the supplies of England wheat the past week have been rather larger. The tendency of prices continue in favor of buyers, who have restricted their purchase to supply immediate requirements. Prices generally have been somewhat lower than last week.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 29.—The rapid increase of smallpox is causing considerable uneasiness in the city and there seems but one opinion, that serious developments of the pestilence may be expected. During the past week 94 new cases were reported and 19 deaths and it is believed that many cases exist that have never been reported. No part of the city is free from the disease, the best as well as the worse localities having furnished cases.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 29.—A dispatch from Prince Nikata says the Turks under Moukhtar Pasha attacked us early to day at Urbiza. A severe engagement ensued and fighting is still proceeding. We have broken through the Turkish lines. Osman Pasha was captured and brought here alive. We have taken many prisoners.

The World's Washington special says: The report of the special committee on Louisiana affairs promises to be an important one. It will probably be the only report, so far

as known, which will be brought into the House to openly and directly ensure the President. The committee find that the New Orleans custom house has been corruptly managed by Coll. Casey, the President's brother-in-law; that these abuses were found to be so glaring two years ago, by investigation, that the removal of Casey was recommended, and that under the pressure then made he did tender his resignation which the President refused to accept, and hereby declined to interfere with the terrible maladministration of affairs, which has continued to grow worse both in Federal and State matters.

NEW YORK, July 27.—During the past week 457 deaths have occurred in this city; in Brooklyn the number was 126 less than during the previous week. The births in this city number 416.

CHICAGO, July 28.—The Evening Telegraph's special says: "It is believed at army headquarters that the force of Crook and Gibbon are not over 80 miles apart, and can readily be brought within supporting distance. Crook feels that he is going to have a hard time fighting, but intends to make it decisive. It is said there are at least 6,000 warriors in the field under Sitting Bull. It is feared that the Sioux may have received accessions from the Sioux in the British provinces, which might swell the hostile force to 10,000. The Sioux if driven to the wall by the troops, will go north and take refuge in the British provinces."

STATE AND TERRITORIAL.

OFFICIAL returns made to the bureau of statistics show that during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1876, there arrived in the United States 22,572 Chinese immigrants, of whom only 250 were females. During the corresponding period of 1875 the total immigration to the United States from China was 16,437 of whom 82 were females.

The Oregon City Enterprise says: "Hon. Henry Warren of Yamhill county was in town last week, interviewing the boat-builders in regard to constructing a boat to run on the Yamhill river. Mr. Warren says the farmers of Yamhill mean business, and will not submit to the present extortionate rates of the W. R. T. & L. Co., and that they intend to have a boat as soon as possible."

Farmers say the wheat crop of Utah will average about twenty-five bushels to the acre. The grain is very plump and solid, and will make superior flour.

The Unitarian church at Olympia will cost about \$2,500 when completed.

A Yamhill county farmer threshed his oats last week.

LOOK HERE !!

If you want anything in the Grocery line, from a barrel of Sugar down to a Nut Meg; LOOK HERE!

W. D. PITTINGER. Terms--CASH.

Lower Than Ever!

HAVING TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF the unsettled condition of the Eastern and California Money Markets, I have Purchased for Cash the Largest Stock of Watches, Jewelry & Silverware

Ever brought to Oregon, and am now enabled to offer them at Retail at former WHOLESALE PRICE.

No plated Jewelry of any kind is kept in my establishment. Every article is warranted as represented. I also have the agency of the unrivalled Diamond Spectacles.

To those intending to send East for Watches, I would say if they will let me know the name and price of the watch they intend to send for, I will furnish the watch or the same price.

By all means give me a call before going or sending elsewhere.

B. L. STONE. 103 Front-st., Portland, Oregon.

F. A. BAILEY. Main St., Hillsboro, DEALER IN DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, PAINTS, OILS, BRUSHES, SOAPS, PERFUMERY AND TOILET ARTICLES.

Pure Wines & Liquors for MEDICINAL USE. AS I AM DETERMINED NOT TO BE undersold by any house on the Pacific Coast!

Best Coal Oil, 33cts per gallon. Best Lincseed Oil, 95c to \$1 per gallon. Best Castor Oil, \$1.55 per gallon.

Best Atlantic Lead, 12cts per lb. Blue Vitriol, 15cts per lb. Fine Castile Soap, 18c per lb.

Best Furnishes, Zinc and Chemical Averbill Paints, together with every other article kept in a first-class drug store, all ranging in prices as above marked.

CASH! CASH! J. L. THOMAS has charge of the prescription department. Prescriptions carefully compounded at all hours.

FOR SALE! The Following Valuable FARMING LANDS For Sale:

320 Acres 1 1/2 miles north of Hillsboro, 1 1/2 acres in cultivation. 620 Acres 3 1/2 miles west of Dilley Station, 200 acres in cultivation.

Also Agent for WHEELER'S No. 6 REAPER & MOWER COMBINED McCORMICK'S REAPER & MOWER; COATS' BAY RAKE--AT

DILLEY STATION. Parties desirous of buying will please enquire of A. C. HALL at DILLEY, or of W. G. SCOTT, Dilley, Washington Co., Oregon, May 21th, 1876.

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LAND FOR SALE!

THE UNDERSIGNED HAS FOR SALE several Farms and a large amount of first class, unimproved land, lying in Washington County, Oregon.

Immigrants and others desiring to purchase would do well to give me a call.

Now is the time to secure comfortable homes on easy terms.

THOS. D. HUMPHREYS. Hillsboro, June 29th, 1876. jyl1-tf

OREGON Furniture Man' Co.

Successors to EMIL LOWENSTEIN & Co. AND HURGEN & SHINDLER. Manufacturers and Importers, Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Furniture, Bedding, Carpets, Paper-Hangings, Oil-Cloths, Mirrors, etc. etc.

WE CALL THE ATTENTION OF THE public to the fact that we have our summer stock of furniture, also carpets, oil-cloth and wall-paper which we offer at greatly reduced prices. To the Grangers we would say buy furniture of this house made from our Oregon ash, maple and alder. We do not keep Pine and Redwood furniture made in California. And if you want a first rate Spring bed, Wood, Hair, or Pulu mat ass, everything at this establishment is cheap and fresh, and a pound of second-hand material used. The Oregon Furniture Manufacturing Company is managed by men who have spent the best part of their lives in building up the furniture business in Oregon and we wish to know the wants of the furniture trade. See and price our goods. We warrant satisfaction.

Professional Cards. F. A. BAILEY, M. D. Physician, Surgeon and Accoucher. HILLSBORO, OREGON

WILSON BOWLBY, M. D. Physician and Surgeon, FOREST GROVE, OREGON.

T. B. HANDLEY, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW. OFFICE--In the Court House, Hillsboro, Oregon. n13-tf

C. A. BALL, BALEIGH STOTT, BALL & STOTT, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, PATENTS OBTAINED. No. 6 De-lam's Block, PORTLAND, OREGON. n8 1y

JOHN GATLIN, CATTIN & KILLEN, ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELOR AT LAW. Dekum's Building, First Street, PORTLAND, OREGON.

THOMAS H. TONGUE, Attorney-at-Law, Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon.

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