

OREGON SENTINEL.

JACKSONVILLE:
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1882.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A bill has passed to a second reading which provides for the appointment of commissioners to collect and compile a code of laws for this State. Hon. B. F. Dowell is named as one the commissioners.

There are in the United States (not counting the territories) 12,870,117 voters. At the Presidential election in 1880 6,204,428 votes were cast. Nearly 30 per cent of the voters failed to respond to their Country's call.

This year has been marked by extraordinary ravages by fire. Up to the first of September 61,000,000 worth of property have been destroyed. Their has also been unusual loss of life and great suffering in consequence.

A new Comet has been discovered. It is of unusual brilliancy and may be plainly seen after sunrise. It is believed to be a return of the great comet discovered by Dr. Gould in South America in February 1880. It is not visible on this Coast.

The Republicans of Maine elected their Governor by a plurality of 8798 and a majority over all of 6938. This result is largely due to the management of Mr. Blane and will greatly increase his chances for the next Presidential nomination.

Is it a pie? It is a pie. Is the pie big? The pie is big. What is in the pie? I give it up. Will the man eat the pie? He will. Does he like the pie? He does not but he will eat it all the same. Will the pie make him sick? Yes the pie will make him sick but he will get well and he will eat no more pie for a long time.

Arabi Pasha has created quite a sensation by declaring that he undertook and prosecuted the late Egyptian war at the special instigation of the Sultan and Khedive. If this is true, it puts a new face upon the complications, and both the Suzerain and the vassal should be made to suffer the extremity which their perfidy so richly serves.

It is reported that John C. New of Indiana who is now assistant secretary of the Treasury is to succeed Judge Folger as secretary in the event of the latter's election as Governor of New York. The New York Tribune has Cleveland as a candidate for Governor of that state. He is a man heretofore unknown to fame, and was nominated in hope of uniting the two great factions of the party. Tammany, however, is not very enthusiastic in his support.

Now that England has ended the unequal contest with Egypt and gained possession and control of the country she is puzzled to know what to do with it. She cannot convert it entirely to her own use as this would invite complications with the other powers which would be much more serious than the late war itself. It is evident from the present attitude that she does not intend that any or all the other powers shall have quite as much power over the affairs of the conquered country as she. It will be interesting to note the diplomatic deceptions that will be displayed in the adjustment of this matter.

The Massachusetts Republican convention which recently assembled at Worcester passed a resolution demanding radical change in the jury law so that law breakers should not be empaneled as jurors in the trial of criminal cases. In this the convention condemned an evil which is not confined to Massachusetts alone. There is, perhaps, no State in the Union in which the course of criminal justice is not more or less interrupted, especially in small crimes, by the influence of that fellow feeling which exists between those who violate the law. The great difficulty however with the present jury system and the one most instrumental in saving criminals from conviction is that provision which, debar a man from serving as a juror because he has interest enough in the affairs of the world to read the news papers and intelligence enough to form an opinion of what he has read. The selection of the average jury in criminal cases, especially noted ones, is a premium on ignorance. Such juries are usually so indifferent to the interest of the community as to strain every point in favor of the accused or too ignorant to understand the case before them. In either event a smart lawyer mixes the evidence, muddles the jury, manufactures a shady doubt out of mock sympathy and misconstrued testimony and slips the halter off the neck of his client. Then the people, looking only at the result, cry out in condemnation of Judges and courts and law and lawyers and juries. In nine cases out of ten their just indignation should be visited upon the heads of illiterate incompetent juries alone.

MORE ABOUT THAT DOUBLE DEALING.

The Jacksonville edition of the Democratic "Times" of last week contained an editorial entitled "An Ungentlemanly Trick." In that editorial the "Times" says we have endeavored to create the impression that it was "double dealing on the court house question." "In fact" it says "the charge is made that only a portion of our readers were furnished in full the article headed Facts and Figures." Two weeks ago we presented a few suggestions in connection with this subject which might have been construed into such a charge. To make the matter specific we now openly charge the Democratic "Times" published and printed in Jacksonville, Jackson county, Oregon, with deliberately attempting in its issue of Sept. 8th to mislead and deceive its readers with reference to its attitude on the court house question in this, to-wit: that in that issue it purposely and designedly omitted from a part of its country edition a portion of the article headed "Facts and Figures." We not only make this charge but what is more to the purpose we are prepared to prove it. The fact of the omission as we have charged is not denied by the "Times." It must then be remembered that that part which was omitted contained the first declaration of an opinion upon the court house question that had ever appeared in the columns of the "Times." It must also be remembered that that opinion did not appear until after this paper had forced the "Times" to declare itself either for or against the court house. And it must not be forgotten that that part of the county—Sam's valley and the Butte creek country—to which papers without this opinion were sent, is the most uncompromising anti-court house part of this county. Now the "Times" says this item was "pied" on the evening of Sept. 7th and could not be re-arranged in time for the mail on the morning of the 8th. In the presence of the fact that it would not have taken the typographical force of the "Times" office fifteen minutes to have re-set the item this excuse is so exceedingly thin as to be invisible to the naked eye. The "Times" claims that the matter was fully explained to the publisher of this paper. The foreman of the "Times" did say that an item had been pied but he did not say what item nor did he or any one connected with the "Times" inform any one connected with this paper that a part of their issue had been sent out with the court house question for ourselves, and despite the clumsy attempts of the "Times" to deceive us. The following week the "Times" published the item but this was not until after the attempted deception had been detected and the editor of the "Times" knew it and his repeated efforts to suppress the matter had proved unsuccessful. The whole course of the "Times" on this court house matter has been hesitating, weak-kneed, vacillating and cowardly. It has become the laughing stock of every man in Jackson county who is acquainted with the facts and who has sense enough to form an opinion and courage enough to express it. It straddled around over the question until it was driven into an expression of opinion and then designedly suppressed that opinion from that part of its issue which reached the most outspoken anti-court house part of the county. When detected in this, it deliberately perverts the facts and insults the intelligence of its readers in an effort to frame a feeble excuse, which, if it were less clumsy, would be contemptible. If it is an "ungentlemanly trick" to strip the mask from so sly and deliberate a fraud as this attempted deception of the "Times" then we are guilty of that charge. We have shown no lack of fairness except that which rises in the imagination of the guilty when the facts of his guilt is presented and we have no hope of profit from this exposure except that which comes from the consciousness of having honestly served the best interests of the community as we understand them. If the "Times" would consult the dictionary more and the arrogant presumptions of ignorance less it would know better than to charge this paper with the use of "billingsgate" in the discussion of this question. In conclusion we have a little piece of advice to whisper to the "Times" on this subject. Don't say any more about the matter. You cannot explain it and you would better let it remain as it is. Consult some of your cool headed Democratic friends and see if they don't repeat this advice to you. We can name a great many whom we know are ashamed and disgusted with your course in this matter and who would be delighted to hear no more about it. This we say for you, and for your party friends. As for ourselves—

"Lay on, Macduff, And damn'd be him that first cries, Hold, enough!"

The total national debt now is principal \$1,870,281,403.03; interest \$11,605,287.39. The debt has been decreased \$29,988,288.76 since June 30th.

GOVERNOR MOODY'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

The inaugural address of Governor Moody is brief, well worded and to the point. He begins by tendering his thanks for the honor of his election and then briefly considers a few of the most prominent questions which demand the attention of the Legislature. The first question to which he refers, is that of the regulation of the fees and salaries of county officers. It will be remembered that a clause was inserted in the platform of each of the political parties in the last campaign, demanding legislation on this subject. Under the present law the compensation of county officers is outrageously disproportionate to the services performed. For instance, in Multnomah county, the offices of clerk and sheriff each pay, something near \$20,000 per year. Such compensation is gross injustice, to say the least. Not only is it wrong to compel the people to pay such extravagant salaries, but such official prizes are fruitful sources of local corruption.

It is not our purpose to call attention to the assessment laws and, endorsing the suggestions of his predecessor, insists that they should be so amended as to render taxation just and uniform, so as to distribute the burdens of government, equally among the different sections of the State. His Excellency rather overdraws the picture when speaking of the common school facilities of our State. He says, that the interest on the irreducible school fund is sufficient to maintain a free school, three months each year, in every school district in the State. The wish was, no doubt, father to the thought, but it must not be forgotten that the interest on this school fund is not sufficient to maintain a three months free school in every district. There are a great many school districts of which this is not true, even at the present beggarly wages now paid to country teachers. While to secure the services of competent instructors for that length of time, is beyond the reach of many more. Neither can a common school education, such as the State should place within the reach of her children, be obtained by the average child attending three months in each year. The free schools should be extended at least twice that time. There is no subject now before this Legislature which more imperatively demands its earnest attention, than that of the improvement of our common schools and the enlargement of the fund for maintaining them.

In reference to the new apportionment to dismiss political considerations and dispose of the matter dispassionately and for the best interests of the State. Good advice, certainly, and it is to be hoped will be well heeded. In reference to railway companies and other corporations, the suggestions are fair and reasonable. He announces the correct solution of the corporation question when he says that they should bear the same burdens, and receive the same protection, as private persons. In the proper adjustment of these relations, by the law, there are many details which should be carefully considered. It is easy to announce the principle, which itself seems self evident, but it is quite another matter to weave it through all the legislation regarding the relation of corporations—and especially railroad companies—to the people of the State. His tribute to the State, though a trifle deep in its coloring, is well said, and in the main, well deserved. On the whole Governor Moody begins his term of office with an address well worthy the Governor of any State in the Union and we confidently look forward to an efficient, economical administration during the next four years.

Once there was a little boy whose name was Jonny. Jonny was a very good sort of a little boy but he had a great weakness for pie. His mother often humored him and would make him nice little pies which Jonny would eat with great relish. But one day when the apples were young and green and full of colic Jonny's mother made a large apple pie and laid it away on the shelf to cool and told him not to eat it as it would make him sick. But Jonny like a great many other boys thought he knew better than his mother and he wanted the pie so he slipped it out and ate it. He enjoyed the pie very much but that night the colic doubled him up and set him roaring with pain. Then the doctor was sent for and as soon as he saw little Jonny he said he must have eaten something green. Then his mother remembered the pie and went to look for it and sure enough it was gone. The doctor gave little Jonny a great deal of nasty bitter medicine but it cured him and little Jonny never liked pie afterwards.

It is reported that the Ford brothers who so foully murdered the notorious outlaw Jesse James, are appearing in eastern cities in a flashy tragedy written especially for them in which the scene of the murder is portrayed. They are greeted by large audiences and are meeting with immense success. Such a display of villainy is a disgrace to the American stage and panders to a morbid desire to see and hear the doings of murderous outlaws which is a sad commentary upon the good sense and intelligence of the age.

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