THE ORECON SCOUT. AMOS K. JONES . EDITOR. City and County Official Paper. Friday, November25, 1887.

THE COUNTIES COMPROMISE

The sult pending between this and Wallows county, over financial diffi-culties consequent on the divis on, has been compromised. The officials of Wallowa county proposed to pay the costs that have accrued, and settle according to the terms suggested by the board appainted by the legislature to adjust the matter, Union county to pay its own attorneys. We do not know how this settlement will suit our people, but think, probably, it is the best thing that could have been done. The interests of Union and Wallowa, socially, financially and positically, are closely allied, and we think that good feeling should exist between the two counties at ail times. We believe that the settlement suggested by the board in the first place and agreed to by this county. was liberal in the extreme toward Wallowa, and the action of the Wallowa people proves that they look at it in that way now. Probably a strict adherence to justice would have demanded that the attorney fees of this county be paid by them, as they were entirely responsible for its incurrence. Nevertheless we hope that all will be satisfied, and that peace and amity will, henceforth prevail.

## RESIGNATION OF SPARKS.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office has resigned. The thieves, land grabbers and railroad monopolists have succeeded, and the principal bulwark that impeded them has been removed. The inflexible honesty of Sparks has worked his downfall, What a sad commentary upon the times.

For the last twenty years the most outrageous frauds have been perpetrated against the government by organized syndicates of thieves, and but little effort has been made to check their progress till Sparks tried it, and he has tailed. A taint idea of the magnitude of these transactions may be gained by a perusal of Sparks' recent annual report to the Secretary of the Interior. He says: ...Of fraudulent land entries, as a

result of the year's investigation. 2,312 entries, covering about 370,000 acres, were held for cancellation, and 1153 entries, covering about 180,000 acres, were cancelled for fraud. This subject is pursued at some length. He says such a record of crime and bold, reckless and gigantic schemes to rob the government of its land, is rarely to be found. They have been discovered and exposed in every state and territory containing public lands, and the commissioner thinks he can truthfully say that in every land district and county which a special agent has visited, men of intelligence and high standing in the community, in many instances millionaires, were leaders in these unlawful transactions. Over 5000 cases have been discovered wherein perjuty, or subordination of perjury was committed. In a majority of eases the officers before whom proofs or other papers were executed, state and territorial officers not directly responsible to the land department. were cognizant of the fraud, or could have become so by ordinary dilligence. While the area of fraudulent entries is gradualy becoming circumscribed there still remains much to do; an entire or general cessation of fraud cannot be expected, so long as the facilities offered for its perpetration by the existing laws are so great, and the means provided for their prevention so small. Upward of 10,000 nnexamined cases are now on the files in which fraud has been charged or indicated. One thousand and eleven cases of timber depredation or trespass were reported on during the year, involv-ing in timber and products \$6,146 635 recoverable to the United States. The amount actually recovered is \$128.642.'' No sensible and honest man will deny that the above report sets forth the matter exactly as it exists to-day. To-morrow it will have a different aspect. Unpleasant facts will not come to the front any more. Some "good and suitable num" will in all probability be chosen to succeed Sparks, who will give satistaction-to the land grabbers, robbers and capitalists. The people will be taught to believe that he is a very nice and agreeable man indeed, and everything will flourish right along. The average American vahoo is about as big a fool as exists on the earth.

The East Portland Vindicator has changed its form from four to eight onges and is otherwise improved. It is an excellent paper.

The Macon Telegraph declares itself in favor of inaugurating a relantless war on the harmless crank and the bogus bomb. The list could be enlarged greatly with propriety.

A line of railroad is said to have just been completed in Sweden beand the Artic circle to an iron mine in that locality. Pretty soon the iron horse will be climbing the north pole.

Among the distinguished American citizens now in furope may be men-tioned Buffalo Bill, James G. Blaine, Jake Kilrain. Jay Gould and John L. Sullivan. They form a charming quintet, and if they do not bring back all there is in sight it will be funny.

One of our exchanges publishes this very sensible paragraph: "No paper can be published without home patronage, and every man is interested in keeping up a paper. If a rail-road or factory is wanted, the newspapers are expected to work for it. If a public meeting is wanted for any purpose, the paper is called on for a free notice. If the charitable societies have a supper or sociable of any kind. the newspaper is always expected to give all the necessary notice and then puff it after it is over. The newspapers must puff the schools and do everything else to advance the interests of the business men of the place, and give them a handsome notice when they go to heaven. And yet some of them do nothing to keep up a paper.





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We desire to inform our patrons and the public generally, that in addition to our regular and complete stock of GROCERIES, GLASSWARE, GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, VARIETY GOODS, JEWELRY, etc., We have just received an immense invoice of Unique Holiday Goods, in Endless Variety. Selected Personally, For the Trade of This Valley, and of Styles Entirely New Here, consisting in part of





## EDITORIAL NOTES.

A heap of wisdom is crowded into ten words by the Davenport, Iowa, Gazette, when it says, "Partisan judges are not wanted any more than partisan juries."

The postoffice department has lately decided that postal cards uncalled for shall be returned to the writer, also advertised letters shall be held but two weeks instead of four, before be-ing sout to the dead letter office at Washington.

Herr Most, the Anarchist, on account of his utterances at a recent meeting, was arrested and is again behind the prison bars. The time has come when these vipers should be stamped out of existence, and the officers seem to be doing their duty well.

The commuted anarchists have been put to work-Schwab in the prison kitchen, where he will peel potators. chop the hash and otherwise assist in preparing the convicts' food, and Fielden in the stone department. They archiow engaged in something useful for once in their lives.