

THE OREGON SCOUT.

AMOS K. JONES EDITOR.

City and County Official Paper.

Friday, February 10, 1888.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There are seven democratic aspirants for the office of sheriff in Baker county.

Eastern Oregon has a number of would be congressmen—all of the legal profession.

The county Democratic Central Committee will meet in this city next Wednesday.

The prohibitionists are marshaling their forces for the coming presidential contest.

The Supreme court of Washington Territory has decided that the local option law is unconstitutional.

The La Grande Journal has cast off its outside skin as it were, and comes forth fresh, and looking prosperous.

The U. S. Senate has passed a bill authorizing Dalles City to construct a bridge across the Columbia river from Oregon to Washington Territory.

We acknowledge the receipt of a neat and attractive almanac for the year 1888, issued by M. D. Abbott of the Baker City daily and weekly Revelle.

Dispatches to the daily press report over 1000 deaths from freezing in Dakota during the recent cold snap. Oregon may look for a large immigration the coming season.

The Wallowa county papers are full of articles as to the best location for the county seat. The controversy has not become personal yet, Joseph, Enterprise and Lostine are striving for the prize.

Ye who hanker after honor and the emoluments of office, rise up and let your voices be heard in the land through the medium of the newspapers. He that tootheth not his own bugle will never get there Elijah.

The bridge on the Wallowa river between this and Wallowa county, is said to be in a dilapidated and dangerous condition. Union and Wallowa counties should combine and build a good and substantial bridge at that place.

Shirts are being exported from this country, and the women of New York who make them get thirty-five cents a dozen for doing it. Wouldn't it be well for Great Britain to adopt a protective tariff against the pauper labor of New York?

As will be seen, a call has been made for a meeting of the citizens, tomorrow evening, at the court house, for the purpose of organizing a Board of Trade in this city. This is a move in the right direction. Let everyone interested in the welfare of the town be present.

W. M. Ramsey, an attorney of Salem, has located in Pendleton. We are told he will be a candidate for judge of this district. Doubtless he thinks we have no timber here suitable for the purpose, and wishes to obviate the difficulty, which is very kind of him to be sure.

A strange embassy is in London on a strange errand. It is sent by Queen Zambé of Amatongland, Africa, asking that her people be protected against civilization. Her Majesty is quite right. Some of the "civilization" that is dished out to the poor heathen nowadays they would be better off without.

Hermann is now posing in Congress as the special representative of the lumber monopolists of Puget Sound and the Columbia river. He labors to promote the profit of a few scores of lumber men at the expense of two hundred thousand people, mostly farmers, who have to buy lumber. Verily the farmer is destined to be the drawer of water and hewer of wood for all the "protected" people of the country.

The Sentry thinks the office should seek the man not the man the office. A good theory that, but seldom practiced. The difficulty is when the convention meets it too often puts men on the ticket, because they and their peccol friends ask it, and never stop to consider their fitness or unfitness for the office. A man may be a good man but unfit for the office he seeks. He might make a good sheriff but of a good clerk, and vice versa.

No man is fit to be a member of the legislature who is not a subscriber and careful reader of every newspaper published in his county. In no other way can he familiarize himself with the wishes and requirements of his constituents, and serve them intelligently.

Oregon will have a prominent part to play in the next Presidential campaign. Our State election occurring in June, will be the first gun. The democrats are loading their barrel of this gun for bear, but unless great care is taken when she is fired, there will be a double-gearred, duplex, back-action movement about it that will kick somebody's jaw off. Be careful.

If you want a wide-awake journal, brimful of pointed and spicy articles, subscribe for THE SCOUT during the coming campaign. We have secured at a great expense, a special artist who will depict the various candidates and incidents of the campaign as they are presented. Next will be nowhere. If you are not too narrow-contracted to enjoy a great deal of fun, subscribe now.

Among the injustices and evils of the protective tariff, says the Jacksonville Times, are class legislation and that what it takes from the many it gives to the few. It robs many Peters to pay Paul what was never due. It leads to evil competition, to congestion, strikes, lockouts, monopoly trusts, pools and combinations, and artificially ensnares capital and labor in a minimum of productive efforts and results.

It would seem that our literature could be enriched by a compilation of the traditional history of the northwest. The field is prolific in material. The many traditions extant among the Indians left, the monuments telling of the earliest advent of white men, and wrecks of unknown ships, which were manned by adventurers in the misty past, if recorded, would make a volume of absorbing interest. Where is the man for the work?

Malheur county has a post-master who, having been removed, refuses to give up the office to his successor—Mose Durkheimer, on the ground that Mose is a "farmer" and not a citizen of this great republic. If Mose mozes around there much we imagine he will get himself filled full of buck-shot. The postmaster-general and Cleveland, also want to look out how they back up against an Oregon P. M. It won't do to monkey with one of us too much.

The SCOUT being an independent paper will at all times freely express its opinion on every question affecting the public welfare, and as we are aware that its ideas may at times conflict with those of many of its readers, we will say for the benefit of these that our columns are open, and anyone desiring to express a contrary opinion is invited to do so. We desire to be perfectly fair and impartial at all times. A discussion of any subject, when conducted with good feeling, cannot but be beneficial to all concerned.

Frank M. Pixley, of the San Francisco Argonaut, who is without doubt the greatest American editor of the present time, is making relentless war on the Roman Catholic Church, which he considers the most powerful enemy the friends of human progress have to contend with. He is not an opponent to be despised. Aside from its unequalled editorials, the Argonaut is a reflex of the most advanced thought in science, the best in literature and art, and the highest phase of our social culture. It is a publication that should be in every family, and we advise our readers to subscribe for it.

Our contemporary, the La Grande Journal thinks that the Democratic Central Committee should pay no attention to our suggestions as to the best time and manner of holding the conventions in this county, because we are conducting an independent paper. THE SCOUT as the mouthpiece of seven-tenths of the people of Union county, and the majority of both political parties, will continue to give advice, to the best of its ability, on all proper occasions. If the parties to whom this advice is given think it good, they will doubtless record it due consideration. If, on the contrary, they think it irrelevant and worthless, they will treat it accordingly. THE SCOUT occupies a somewhat wider field, and endeavors to fill a higher plane than its esteemed contemporary, and as the motives that actuate the two are not identical, we hardly think our brother can tell us anything concerning our business that we don't know. However his strictures will be taken in good part and given all the attention they are worth.

We understand that some of the Umatilla county divisionists suggest the propriety of annexing a portion of Union county, in order to give the proposed county of Lee a sufficient amount of territory. Just let up on that if you please. It seems that we are surrounded by a lot of suckers who, if let alone, would reduce Union county to the size of a duck pond. Union is a good county, and since the cutting off of Wallowa, just the right size. We have no territory to give away.

The board of commissioners of Baker county are considering the advisability of the establishment of a poor farm on which the pauper element could be supported. It would seem that such a farm could be made self-sustaining, and would be a better way than the contract system, but Umatilla county did not find it so. The keeping of the poor on a farm was tried in that county for awhile and abandoned. Our Union county commissioners have had the same matter under advisement, but as to what conclusion they have arrived at we are not informed.

We will again state to correspondents that their names must be attached to every article sent us for publication, if they expect to see it appear in the paper. It is not that we desire them for publication, but for the benefit and protection of the publisher. Otherwise their articles will find their way into the waste-basket. This is an old custom and one that can do no harm. Occasionally we receive a well-written communication, and would gladly publish the same, but for the fact that there is no name attached, and we cannot tell to whom the credit belongs.

It is difficult to invalidate a patent to land issued to the railroad company or anyone else, and those interested in mineral lands should therefore read the following excerpt from a letter written by Secretary Lamar to Commissioner Sparks, bearing date of October 21, 1886. The statutory exception of mineral lands from the grant to the railroad companies is construed to include only lands known to contain valuable minerals prior to the issuance of the patent. The railroad company will therefore get a patent to all lands to which it is entitled, including mineral land, unless the government is apprised of their character.

Some of our Southern Oregon exchanges suggest the formation of a new State out of Southern Oregon and Northern California. They reason that no country can be speedily or fully developed while separated by long distances and mountain ranges from its seat of government, or when from its peculiar situation it must always occupy a subordinate relation to other parts of the State to which it belongs. Such is undoubtedly the case, but if our friends in that section will possess their souls in patience for awhile time will remedy the evil. The Star of Empire is moving westward with resistless force, and in a less number of years than many imagine, there will be three or four States in the area now known as Oregon.

The January number of The West Shore, though somewhat delayed in publication by reason of its change of form and increase of size, has reached us, accompanied by an elegant oleograph in nine colors. This is a splendid marine view, showing a large ocean steamer crossing out to sea from the mouth of the Columbia river. The engraving is richly colored and full of life. It is printed on heavy plate paper and is worthy of a good frame. The magazine itself is a specially fine one, having numerous illustrations tinted in the pages amid the reading matter. As usual, it is full of information about the great northwest. Published by L. Samuel, Portland, Oregon, at \$2.50 per year. The January number and oleograph sent postage free to any address for 50 cents.

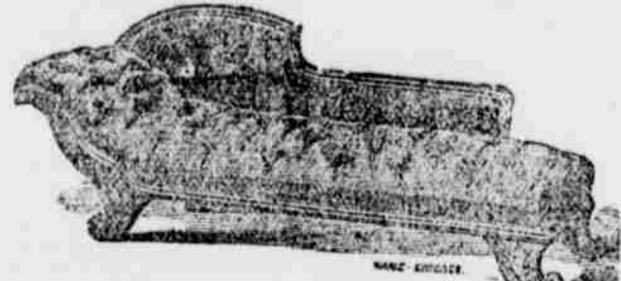
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