

# Oregon Front.

AMOS K. JONES, Editor.  
THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1890.

## A WORD TO THE VOTERS OF UNION COUNTY.

Before another issue of THE SCOUT reaches our readers the election will have taken place, the voice of the people will have been heard, our officials for the next two years will have been selected and matters of local importance which have been a source of discord for some time past, will have been settled. In this free country the people are supreme and when an expression of their will has been made known through the medium of the ballot-box, it should be and generally is, obeyed without a murmur. The right of suffrage, albeit unappreciated and unprized by many, is the most sacred and important trust ever yet given to man. For it, and the liberty it entails, have earth's bravest and best struggled through centuries of pain and oppression, and bought the priceless privilege with their blood. The story of Christ, if true as narrated, offers no greater example of a noble purpose than this. The blood that purchased a chance for some to attain happiness beyond the skies is not more precious than that which has been poured out by patriots to enable their fellow men to enjoy liberty while on earth. The right of suffrage should be held above price and used only with the greatest care. Upon the wise exercise of it depends the stability of this republic which leads in everything tending to advance mankind. If it becomes a thing of barter and sale and its results valueless, what hope is there for the progress of the world? The most humble man when he deposits his ballot in the box adds an impetus to one or the other of the opposing forces that are working for good or evil. That little paper ballot is the basis and source of law and the man who casts it is not himself exempt from its effects. According to the motives which causes it to be dropped in that little box it formulates a code and defines crime giving to the vicious or the good authority to execute its decrees. It has power to build prisons; forge manacles for the limbs of any man, however innocent; make a Siberia of any land; suppress free speech; construct gibbets and and choke the life out of the man who casts it, at the end of a rope. It has power to do this or to prevent this as the case may be. The man who does not appreciate the value and importance of it is a fool. The man who has it for sale is a villain doubly dyed, as dangerous to his fellow men as a venomous reptile. The cunning, brainy rascal, who buys votes is no better than they are. Misleading with his sophistry the feeble intellect of the fool; appealing to the prejudices of the knave; paying with coin for the votes of the reptiles who have them for sale, he is a leper to be avoided and despised by all honest men.

That such men abound, more or less, in various localities cannot be denied. That their manipulations have a tendency to bring these localities into disrepute and causes them to be looked upon with suspicion, is certain. Much as THE SCOUT regrets to say it, such a condition confronts the people of Union county to-day and causes a vague fear in the minds of the taxpayers throughout the county whose financial interests are at stake in the coming election. Their eyes are turned toward La Grande and they fear what will be done there next Monday. Not what will be done by the many honest people of that place but what will be done by the schemers who manipulate things over there. It cannot be said that these fears are groundless. The recent municipal election there is without a parallel for venality, corruption and open fraud and proves that there are ballot-box manipulators there as unscrupulous as it is possible for men to be. It must also be said that the fact that a number of them are not now within the walls of the penitentiary and that the whole disgraceful affair was smoothed over as much as possible "in order that harmony might prevail at the county seat election" is not creditable to the honest people of that place. We are compelled to say that we look upon those men, who are still free, and ready for work next Monday, with a considerable degree of apprehension and advise that the officers of the government aided by the people at large see to it that a fair and honest election is held at that place. We are certain that unless strenuous efforts are made to accomplish this that the result will be anything but satis-

factory. No law-abiding citizen, any where, will object to precautionary measures being taken in his precinct to insure a fair election. That it is the intention of the schemers of La Grande to repeat the disgraceful scenes enacted at the city election there can be no doubt. The Gazette intimates as much and justifies such a course in the following extract which we clip from its last issue:

"In reference to the 'Dago' votes, the plain, unvarnished truth of the matter is this—Union papers made a great ado about what would happen on the first of March. It was publicly and repeatedly reported in the Union papers that at that time Hunt would have 300 men making the dirt fly, and if Union had succeeded in the plans that were mapped out and expected to mature there would not now be a word said about transient voters. The only thing La Grande could do was to check-mate this move as far as possible. Union failed, and now they squeal—that's the whole truth of it in a nut shell."

What does that mean? It means that in order to "check-mate" an imaginary enemy La Grande has imported a horde of "Dagos" to vote on the county seat question and intends to vote them at all hazards, justifying itself on the grounds that Union would have done the same thing, but failed. Every one outside of La Grande knows the falsity of this charge against Union; knows that the Hunt road is being built without reference to the county seat question, and that many of the laborers employed thereon are residents of this county when the same number could have been brought in from other counties had they been desired as voters.

Union, and the friends of Union know now, and have known for months, that if a fair ballot is allowed to be cast by the legal voters who were in Union county on the first day of last March, Union will have a majority of at least five hundred. Knowing this there was no incentive for anything but a fair election. La Grande is also fully cognizant of this fact and its leaders gave up the contest several weeks ago, but as a drowning man will grasp at a straw, they conceived the idea, as their cause was hopeless on a fair ballot, to have a majority of the ballots anyway although they will have to be cast by illegal voters: their idea being that they might have one desperate chance left in a legal contest after the election. To carry out this plan about one hundred men arrived there last Friday and nearly as many more came the next day. These men came ostensibly to work on the branch railroad but in reality to vote for Dave Thompson for governor and La Grande for the county seat. That they will be voted, unless prevented by the proper authorities, is as sure as the day comes around. La Grande knows it has but one chance left and grasps it eagerly.

In anticipation of a legal contest, which we now foresee is sure to come if the plans of La Grande's leaders are successful, we urge the friends of Union in every precinct in the county to see that not one questionable vote is cast either for or against us; then if we are beaten it will be all right.

### THAT INDEMNITY BOND.

Although but little has been said recently concerning the indemnity bond filed by some of the citizens of La Grande, and not one lawyer has had check enough to say that it is a legal document there may be some that will be deceived by it and we again publish, by request, our article on the subject which appeared a week or two ago.

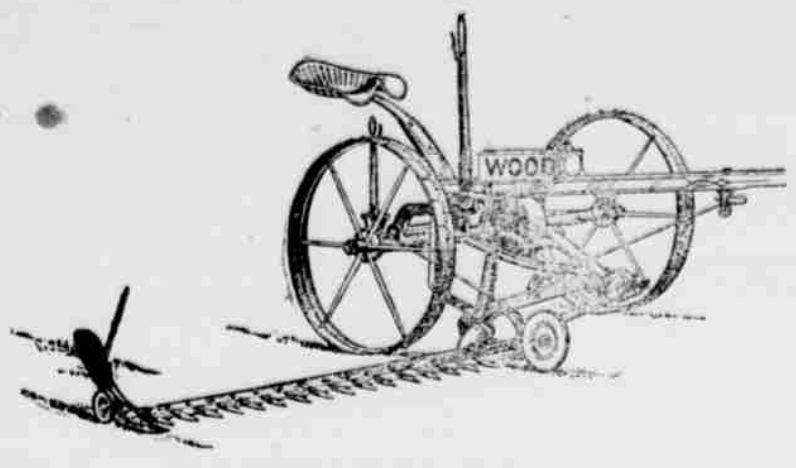
"As might have been expected, La Grande comes forward at this time and files with the county clerk what purports to be an indemnity bond, signed by a number of its citizens, by the terms of which it is agreed that in case of the removal of the county seat to La Grande they will indemnify the taxpayers for the loss of county buildings. The object of this bond is apparent to every one and the securing of this object is the sole and only purpose of its execution. La Grande is sorely in need of votes and this scheme it is hoped by them will influence the taxpayers to support them and cause them as well to lose sight of other considerations which might influence their vote. They seem to believe that if the taxpayer is indemnified against any loss resulting from a removal of the county seat then he is ready to vote with them. This may be true, but we doubt it. But let us see about the validity of an instrument of this kind. Can it be enforced, and if so by whom? This instrument has one high contracting party, and one only, La Grande. It is a well and generally understood rule of law that it takes two to make a contract that is binding. No one can enter into a con-

tract with himself. The editor of THE SCOUT might draw up a contract between himself and John Doe, but not until its terms has been mutually agreed upon is it binding between the contracting parties. In the case of this bond La Grande has agreed with itself upon the terms of a contract purporting to be entered into with the people of the county. The terms of this contract or bond suits La Grande whether they suit anybody else or not, and they have taken the trouble and gone to the expense of filing the instrument with the custodian of all our precious documents of public purport. This instrument has no considerations expressed or is there any passing from one contracting party to the other, and a most excellent reason exists why there is none, for the fact is, there is only one contracting party and it would be an absurdity to talk about a consideration in such a case. It has been a rule of law from time immemorial that most people are well acquainted with, that a contract without a consideration passing is null and void. Such a contract could not be enforced anywhere, not even among heathens. With proper parties, there must be a consideration to make a contract or bond valid, and it must not only be expressed in the instrument but must actually pass in order to make a good contract. Any contract or bond given or entered into which is against public policy, made so by its terms, is void and cannot be enforced. This bond of agreement to indemnify taxpayers is against public policy and cannot be valid. By the terms of this instrument it is calculated to influence votes through the hope of pecuniary gain and is therefore indirectly if not directly an attempt at bribery and an attempt to tamper with the freedom of the elective franchise. Any contract, bond or other contrivance which thus tends to influence votes is void for the reason that it is against public policy. No court anywhere would enforce a contract or bond of this character, and if a taxpayer should go into a court of law or equity and attempt to enforce it, thus tainted with all the elements of bribery he would have no standing in court and would be so rebuked by the judgment of the court that he would be glad to get out empty handed and free from the shackles of the criminal. This bond is void and cannot be enforced, for the reasons above set forth, viz: First, because there is only one contracting party. Second, because there is no consideration, and third, because it is against public policy, either one of which reasons being sufficient to invalidate it. The lawyers of La Grande who drafted this bond and the people there generally know that it is void and cannot be enforced. The making and executing of this contract or bond and everything done in connection therewith is all for buncombe and of such thin, gauzy nature that the intelligent voters cannot fail to see through the whole business. Not a dollar do the people of La Grande purpose putting up for county buildings or to pay for those lost by removal of the county seat. The lies, misrepresentations and frauds which they have been guilty of, reaching back to those perpetrated by them in getting signatures to the petitions for the enabling act, are indelibly impressed upon the minds of the people of this county and humbuggery now is out of the question. Even if this fine bond scheme was perfectly straight and the instrument valid, another proposition arises to stare the taxpayers in the face. It only proposes to make good to the county whatever two disinterested(?) parties shall decide the county buildings at Union to be worth. Simply proposing to put the county even, with no county buildings. Or in other words the county can wipe out so far as buildings are concerned and start in anew on fancy business principles. The taxpayer will then be asked to go down into the depths of his shining and silvery trousers' pocket and dig up \$75,000 or \$100,000 for brand new county buildings such as will for ages anchor the county seat at La Grande. So we can find no great solace in accepting the terms of their little voting incubator. We still have new buildings to erect besides sustaining a certain loss in the appraisal of the property at Union. If La Grande can succeed in humbuggery the county at large into accepting their overtures they can certainly manipulate much easier the appraising of buildings. Beware fellow citizens of this bond scheme which is simply a bait for you to bite at. Your vote is what they are after and will do anything to secure it. They will make all manner of promises and give bonds by the wholesale and any amount so long as they are sure they will not have to comply with their terms. It is expected that

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A. J. HODGES HEADERS,  
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Walter A. Woods single apron, steel frame HARVESTER and BINDER.  
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HAY RAKES, (for one or two horses)  
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We are in the field with a much larger and better stock of goods than ever before, and can show more and greater improvements for the season of 1890 than any other house.

Do not fail to call and see for yourself. FRANK BROS. IMPLEMENT CO., La Grande and Island City.

La Grande will do this because they have no argument to present justifying a removal of the county seat at the present time and must buy votes if possible. Bartering and bribery will be their stock in trade as they cannot hope to win in any other way. Honesty justice and fair dealing are not on their side, and we feel confident that the honest voters and taxpayers of this county will give them a just rebuke the second day of next month.

### A WORD OF CAUTION.

In this as in every other locality where it is known, there are hundreds of persons who are taking Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla. To those who want to say one word. In nine cases out of every ten it is effecting specific cures. But word comes to us occasionally of people who report that it operates too freely upon the bowels. We want to call the attention of those to the fact that they are not following the printed instructions and are taking too much of it. If it acts too freely reduce the dose, never taking any more at any time than causes easy and perfect action. Keep this injunction in mind, and take it regularly for a while and do not indulge in too much greasy food and we will have your testimonial within a fortnight. If taken under these conditions it is an absolute cure for indigestion, dyspepsia, sick headaches, constipation, face eruptions and liver and kidney disorders. It may be asked how it can possibly cure so many ailments. But the reason is clear. All these troubles are the legitimate result of improper liver and kidney action or impaired digestive organs. Its effects upon these functions are as astonishing to the medical fraternity as to the thousands who are daily taking it.

### Boom! Boom! Boom!!!

Be quick if you want a first class bargain in city or country property—(We'll loan you money to buy with.) Now is the time. Get there "Eh." You'll double your money the first month. Call on Wilson & Hackett, managers Union Real Estate Association.

### Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chillsblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale at Brown's drug store.

### New Livery Stable.

I take this method of informing the public that I have rented the livery stable opposite Booth's hotel, and will, about the 25th inst., open the same with a fine line of buggies, buggy teams and saddle horses. Every accommodation will be afforded customers, and a share of the public patronage is solicited.—W. E. BOWKER.

### A Snap.

The best farm in Indian valley; 200 acres; excellent improvements; a home farm; \$2,000 cash. Address: H. F. BURLEIGH & Co. 5-29-31 Elgin Or.

### A Pointer For You.

If you want to make every dollar do full duty, catch on to some of the cheap bargains in farm or city property now offered by Wilson & Hackett, managers Union Real Estate Association.

Everybody admits that the Improved Randolph Steel Frame Header sold by Staver & Walker, is the lightest running east-managed headers on the market. 5-15

### Quick!

Or you lose it. If you want a cheap lot in Union, call quick or you lose it. Call on Wilson & Hackett, managers Union Real Estate Association.

Our best farmers are beginning to find that Staver & Walker sell the best machinery and vehicles, and that their prices are the most reasonable. 5-15-13

### Wanted!

To exchange goods for 30 cords of wood.—Mrs. L. B. Rinehart.

### FOR SALE.

160 ACRES OF TIMBER LAND near Summerville. Both residence and business property in the cities of Union and La Grande, cheaper than the cheapest. 3-29-14. J. R. CRITES.

## 1890. SPRING ANNOUNCEMENT! 1890.

-- Mrs. Rinehart, the Milliner, --

I have just returned from Portland, with the finest stock of Millinery Goods ever brought to town.



My stock comprises all the latest styles of Hats, Feathers, Trimmings, etc. Call and see my new goods.

## Ladies' Furnishing Goods and Fine Shoes.

All of which will be sold at bottom prices.

## NOW ARRIVING!

—The Finest Lot of—  
Mens' Youths' Boys' and Childrens' Clothing.

Spring and Summer Hats,  
—Also the Greatest and Best Assortment of—

## DRESS -- GOODS!

In all the Latest Styles and Qualities,  
AT THE LOWEST PRICES.  
A. LEVY, - - UNION OR

## C. VINCENT,

—DEALER IN—  
BOOTS All Kinds.  
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Latest Styles. SHOES,

Just Received, Direct from the East, a Large Invoice of LADIES' and MISSES' CALFSKIN SHOES, the Best Ever brought to this Market.

—Also a Fine Assortment of—  
GENT'S -- FURNISHING -- GOODS.  
My Prices will suit the times. Drop in and see me.  
C. VINCENT, Main Street, Union, Or.

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