Yhe 8 aity exstoxiat. ASTORIA. OREGON:
b. C. ireland
sunday ............Febrtaby 2. 1 179
Circuit Court adjourned.
At half past ten o'clock, night before last, the January term of the Circuit court for Clatsop counBellinger, Hon. J. F. Caples, the able district atturney, and members of the Portland bar in attendance, Judge Bcllinger has a pleasant faculty of expediting business, and it will be a source of satisfaction
to the people to know that the Judge was in advance of the attorneys in most cases, and that
every cause wnich could be heard was heard at this four days' session. The 25th of Mareh has been fixed as a time for hearing other causes made up.
We have long been intimately acquainted with Judge Bellinger, in seoing him in the position which in seeng him in the position which
be is now filling with such general acceptability, to all persons with whom he has official contact. On
taking the benci Juage Bellinger was compelled to face a very unpleasant duty-a work which has no precedent, possibly in the whole Criminals of all grades were brought before him, and although in office but a very few weeks, he had penalty of death to impose the penalty of death upon four or thore to the penitentiary on terms extending over the period of life time in some instances and for a
term of years in others. Yet, with the conciousness of doing his whole duty faithfully, he has not per mitted himself to waver in the least from what must be considered the plainest acts of justice.
When the fact becomes gener aily understood among the mur-
dererous and thieving classes which infest the Pacific slope that we have in Oregon Judges like Mr. Bellinger, and a State Penientiary conducted upon Mr. Bush is conduct upon which Mr. Bush is conduct-
ing the Oregon penitentiary, it is very reasonable, supposition, sappose that all classes of semi-bar-
barians will give our state a wide berth. In these matters we are particularly well pleased.

## The Bacle-Pension Bill.

The back-pension bill will cost the treasury from $\$ 20,000,000$ w $350,000,000$. Some of the estimates are as high as $8100,000,000$ far from the mark, and for these reasons: In 1866, the year aiter the conclusion of the war, the whol
number of pensioners on the rolls
was 126,722 , and the whole amoun paid was $\$ 15,605,549$. From that year the yearly rolls and payment
footed up as follows, to and in oluding the year $187 \%$ :


These figures are taken from a speech by Smith of Pennsylvania in the house of representatives on sopied by Smith from the records of the pension bureau. They show that the maximum of pensions wa after the war, and that the number ihad increased $85,22 \%$ in those

12 years. From 1873 to 1877 the list ran down from 238,411 to 232 ,-
104. And 78,920 more were the rolls in $18 \% 7$ than in 1866 . Un der this bill (which is just) at least this many ( 78,920 ) will be entitled this many ( 78,920 ) will be entitled
to back pensions from the present time to the date of the close of the war; or, rather, to the date of the expiration of their term of enlistment. It is tolerably clear from
these premises that it will require very nearly, if not quite, $\$ 100,000$,000 to foot the whole bill for back pensions. The average number entitled to the benefits of the mensure for the entire time from
1866 to 1878 , inclusive, is not below 70,600 , and the average amount drawn by the 232,104 pen$\$ 12 e$. That would give $\$ 8,400$, 000 a year, which for twelve years It Iounts to $\$ 100,800,000$.
It will not be possible for the
government to pay this amount in
one, two, or three years; nor is it
likely to be called for in so short a
time. But if the bill becomes a law, it is easy to see that it will compel congress to devise new nue to meet the necessary increase And the present session of conresponsibility or the greater one leaving a large deficiency to be thes bill without providing for the payment of the just demands in the nature of repudiation, and fat insult to a class whom the bil acknowledges to be among the nacreditors.

Foolish Women
The Porlland Daily Bre. who annoy the jailor and officials at the county jail is both silly and ridiculous,
contempt.
Every day
several sensation loving matrons appear mom crave admittance "just for moment to converse and sympa-
thise with, and snivel over the doomed wretches in the iron cage Shortly before noon to-day a
couple of couple of women, whose appear-
ance would indicate better sense ance would indicate better sense
and more self-respect, entered the sheriffs office and, earnestly besought a short interview with
Brown and Jobnson. They admitted they were no relatives and had no business to transact but
merely desired to show their sympathy for the "peor men who were
so good looking." They said they would willingly. take the places of the condemned and die for, if they would only save them. Each
of the shallow-pated things carried a baby in her arms and had a husband trying to earn them an bon-
est living. When askedif it would not be moetter taste and more thy for Mrs. Joseph whose son wa coldly murdered, the darling and support of her declining years, they
replied, "Oh, no, she bes not been replied, "Oh, no, she hes not been

sentenced to death." Such exceeding folly would be ludicrous at such idiotic display of senti| mentality. |
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