

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3, 1881
J. F. HALLORAN, Editor.

The Jury System.

THE present discussion going on relative to the absurdity of any attempt to get an "unprejudiced" and at the same time an "intelligent" jury in the Guiteau case, brings up the manifold objections to and imperfections of our present system of trial by jury.

The defects of the jury system are obvious. It is compulsory work; and work of that nature is always irksome; a man taken from his business, his family, etc., and shut up with the rest of them to listen to arguments in which he can have no possible concern and decide upon points that are generally befogging to his intellect and foreign to his line of thought.

Measured by the general limit of restrictions an ideal juror has no passion, no prejudice, no bias, no knowledge of facts or occurrences; is passive, inert and plastic; has no opinion—in general—is not only behind the age but is in the rear of all ages and is either a fossil or a pulp.

be devised to supplant and adequately supply the present system? To discuss this would transcend the limits of a newspaper article.

Thanksgiving Proclamation.

The following is President Arthur's Thanksgiving Proclamation as telegraphed from Washington, under date of 7th inst:

It has long been the pious custom of our people with the closing of the year to look back upon the blessings brought to them in the changing course of seasons, and to return solemn thanks to the all giving source from whom they flow, and although at this period, when the falling leaf admonishes us that the time of our sacred duty is at hand, our nation lies in the shadow of a great bereavement, the mourning which has filled our hearts finds its sorrowful expression toward the God before whom we but lately bowed in grief and supplication, yet the countless benefits which have been showered upon us during the past twelve months call for our fervent gratitude and make it fitting that we should rejoice with thankful hearts that the Lord in his mercy has most signally favored our country and people.

By the president: JAS. G. BLAINE, Sec'y of State.

The census returns show that the Southern cotton mills make finer goods on the average than those of New England, earning eleven cents a yard for the goods turned out by them, whereas the New England mills get only eight and a half cents.

NEW TO-DAY.

AUCTION.

OFFICE ACTING ASST. QUARTERMASTER, Fort Stevens, Oregon, November 1, 1881.

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