

THE BROAD AXE.

Our Mock Democracy—Our Government not a Republic.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3.

TO OUR READERS.

The Broad Axe and the Silver Knight-Watchman will be furnished to all who send us one dollar and six bits from the date the money is received until January 1, 1900.

Rational Spelling.

There has been a movement on foot for a considerable while to introduce a reform in spelling many English words, and reformers generally who have rational ideas in matters of spelling are gradually taking up the matter, and are now dropping (ugh) in many words ending with those letters, as the for through; altho for although; thru for through; thro for thorough; thorly for thoroughly; and many publications are using these simplified spellings, which have the highest sanction of the best scholars of the age.

Newspaper Aristocracy.

There is no other profession in the world that will bring out the true characteristics of man in sharper lines than that of conducting a newspaper. If he is a man of brains, of broad-gauge, true manhood he will show it. In other words the man with a bunch of type at his command will sooner or later demonstrate to the world whether he is "a man or a mouse or a long tailed rat."

Of all the popular delusions with which our people are afflicted, the one most harmful is the idea that ours is a democratic, or republican form of government. True, the founders of the present government, did not intend to give us a pure democratic form of government, as that of ancient Greece, but they made a kind of compromise between the British form of government, and that of Greece, and made what is termed a representative democracy, by which representatives of the people, were endowed with power to make laws for their government.

a democratic or republican government does it? But to come down to what we first intended when we commenced this article. We want especially to call attention of our readers to the system now in vogue in every branch of the public service in Oregon from the chief executive down to the most insignificant office in the county. We only want call attention now to the way the system is worked here in Lane county.

Monthly Talks.

(By Dr. F. Taylor, of the Medical World Philadelphia, Pa.)

REFORMS ABROAD AND AT HOME.

On the Continent, in France, for example, the royalty, the nobility and the priesthood were united by bonds of common interest against the "common herd." The people had not only this triple combination to contend against, but in the event of the hereditary special privileges of these classes being threatened in "one country, they were aided by their "brethren" in adjoining countries. They knew no loyalty or patriotism to a country, but gave their allegiance to their class in any country.

Government Banking.

New York Sun: "News comes from Emporia, Kans., that the president of the First National Bank of that city has committed suicide, after wrecking the bank so badly that not only are its capital and surplus gone, but the depositors will get little or nothing of the \$500,000 owing them. As a consequence of this failure the neighboring Madison bank has been obliged to close its doors.

an one and not according to the evidence. A change of these cases of contested elections and charges of corruption to a purely judicial tribunal, materially aided the ends of justice. A similar change here: transfer of contested election cases from the House itself to a judicial court, would result in much good. But still corruption in the elections in England prevailed in spite of all these efforts. In 1881 a bill was introduced that struck two deadly blows at corruption. First, it limited by means of a fixed scale the amount that might be spent in elections, requiring a strict and full accounting immediately after an election; second, it rendered detection certain if corrupt practices were indulged in. This was effected chiefly by providing that any election procured by fraud or corrupt practices would be void. No man could sit in Parliament if it could be shown that bribery, treating, undue influence, or anything else prohibited by the law, had been indulged in in his behalf, either by himself or by any of his agents. This provision makes each side "the watcher of the other side, and each side must be pure in its own defense. This law went into effect in 1883, and since that time the elections in England have been perhaps purer than those of any other country on the globe, possibly excepting Switzerland, where they have the Initiative and the Referendum. Watch a glorious victory for law! A magical change from the most corrupt to the most pure. This was done during Mr. Gladstone's Premiership, and was one of his greatest achievements. O, for a Gladstone on this side of the Atlantic!

Government Banking.

Only a few weeks ago the Tradesmen's National Bank of this city which the Comptroller of the Currency supposed was perfectly sound, was examined by a committee of the Clearing House and found to be insolvent. Its depositors have not yet been paid a cent, and its stockholders will probably lose the greater part of the money they had invested in its stock. When the Chestnut Street National Bank of Philadelphia failed, a year ago, the discovery was made that it had been insolvent for over a year, that the Comptroller of the Currency knew it. Still, the bank was permitted to continue doing business and to receive deposits, because, as the Comptroller declared, closing its doors might have caused runs on other Philadelphia banks and led to a panic. These are but specimens of occurrences which happen every few days. The failures of national banks are so frequent that they excite no comment and interest nobody but the sufferers by them. As a protection to bank creditors the government management of banks is a delusion, and so would be its protection of bank note holders, if the notes were not secured by bonds. Yet, the bankers and the so-called currency reformers want the government to "go out of the banking business" by turning over the function of issuing circulation notes exclusively to the banks, and let the people look to the banks only for their redemption. Let it rather go out of the banking business by abolishing the whole national bank system, leaving all banking to be supervised by the individual states, and reserving exclusively to itself the sovereign function of issuing circulating notes, which the banks never should have been permitted to usurp. The New York Sun is a gold standard paper of the strictest sect, and yet the working of the present national bank system is such as to force even the Sun to cry out against it. The above is only a partial account of the weekly occurrences of the wreckage of national banks entailing the loss to depositors of millions of money, and breaking up of thousands of our people that might be published. But what's the use.

Read! Read! Get a Bicycle Free.

A Big PRIZE Offered for the Largest List of Subscribers by Feb. 14, 1899.

WE WANT 500 ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIBERS ON OUR LIST by the 14 of February, 1899. And in order to induce our friends to interest themselves in behalf of the Broad Axe, we have concluded to offer as a prize, a brand new, No. 1 Bicycle to the one who will send us the biggest list of subscribers between now and the 14 of February, 1899, provided, however, that as many as ten persons compete for the prize. In order that the ladies may have an equal chance with the gentlemen for the Bicycle we will gladly accept to the Lady a Ladies Wheel if she is the fortunate one who secures the greatest number of names. Note go to work in your localities the coming month, especially through the Christmas Holidays and secure as large a list as possible, and send in your names, once a week at least—always stating that you are competing for the Bicycle. Persons wishing to try for the prize should call or write for sample copies of the paper, and we will supply you. A strict account will be opened with those competing and a credit duly entered of every name sent in by each competitor, so that strict justice shall be awarded the one who wins the prize. The PRIZE will be AWARDED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1899. Read the TERMS CAREFULLY, and remember, that in order to WIN you must comply with all the conditions set forth herein.

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PRICES ARE RIGHT. The public will please take notice that I am still at the OLD STAND PAID on 8th St. Eugene, Ore. with a variety of Goods for Eggs too numerous to mention.

Burg's Variety Store.

Our Great Job Lot Wallpaper sale is still going on. Don't Miss it for you are Saving from 40 to 65c on every Dollar you spend with us. Goods are going fast. 3 Doors West of Postoffice. L. A. OVERTON: 8th St

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Clippings and Comment on Various Subjects.

Cottage Grove Leader: The sentiment of the people is slowly but surely drifting towards consolidation and the further it drifts the smaller becomes the obstacles in its way. Will the Leader please tell us what it means by saying, "the sentiment of the people is drifting towards consolidation?" Upon what is "the sentiment of the people consolidating?" Is it upon expansion, or contraction, imperialism or pure democracy? The answer involves matters of vast importance. Peoples Press: The Broad-Axe, published at Eugene by Amis & Son came to our table last week marked X. The publishers say this paper will be devoted to the advocacy of direct legislation, postal savings banks, the regulation by congress of transportation by public carriers. The ownership of the telegraph lines and the restoration of silver to its constitutional status as a money metal. On that kind of a platform, brother, we extend the right hand of fellowship. Keep the Broad-Axe sharp and send it along.

paper the editor uses language applicable generally to official life everywhere. We quote: Oh, that the high sense of official integrity of Thomas Jefferson and the other fathers of the republic would descend upon the public men of today! Then they would consider it a dishonor upon themselves and the names of their families to receive public money not honestly earned and earned too without their connivance or expediting the manner in which it was obtained. What a beautiful city might not this capital of Oregon be made if men united these principles of personal integrity and public enterprise in their dealings for the people. Express-Advance: J. F. Amis & Son are again publishing the Broad-Axe in Eugene. Mr. Amis is a thorough reformer and a vigorous, able and original writer. We wish him the success he deserves. Gentlemen, we appreciate your compliment, and only wish that we deserved justly your high opinion of us. We feel at home again among the "knights of quills," a jovial, hard worked, poorly fed set who they be. Roseburg Review: Douglas county stands at the head of the roll of Oregon counties in the production of prunes and poultry. Douglas may beat Lane a few prunes, but as to poultry of the hen persuasion we yield to no county in the state, except as to crowing hens. We notice the Express-Advance in the same row of stumps as most of the reform papers in the country where the fusionists succeeded wholly or partially in electing their tickets, is totally ignored in the distribution of public printing. How is this? There is no paper in Linn county more deserving than the Express-Advance. We are pleased to see it announced that our old friend Senator "Billy" Stewart, as we used to call him at Downieville, California, back in the '50s, will retain his seat as U. S. senator from Nevada, which he has so ably and honorably filled.