

THE HATCHET.

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Established for the dissemination of Washington county news, the elevation of humanity and the money we can make.
Items of general interest gratefully received.
Editor's hobbies and opinions on this page, all the rest facts—impartial and uncolored.
Editor is at home in his sanctum, HATCHET Building, Forest Grove, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m. of each week-day and always glad to talk and be talked to.

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AUSTIN CRAIG, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

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THEREBY HANGS A TALE.

The telegraph dispatch which last week announced the arrival of a new Chinese Consul General for San Francisco meant happiness to many a celestial there. The explanation is a story running back some time.

The Chinese government, after a fashion similar to the old Scotch way, is made up of clans of related families ruled by the elders to whom are added those who have proven themselves scholars in the exhaustive official examinations. These bodies manage the affairs of every member of their families, collect and save all money due them, direct the business of their households and are their guardians in every way. Naturally when the first Chinese left home for this country, unused to and incapable of thinking and acting for themselves, it became necessary to make some provision for their guardianship and so the "First Company" was organized, acting as parent to these children of the East. As their company increased by rapid immigration other bodies were formed on the same principle until the "Six Companies" existed. Then came the Chinese societies, among them the Sam Yup and the Sec Yup.

These two later societies have been rivals and very good haters they are too. Of the Sam Yups, Little Pete, until recently, was the leading spirit and he controlled the courts of California. Owing by bribes the juries and with a whole regiment of witnesses ready to swear as he wished his favor had to be purchased by whoever hoped to succeed at law. Upon the rival See Yups especially was his hand heavy until the tax became so burdensome that they revolted. In vain was the consul appealed to, equally unsuccessful were petitions to the minister at Washington. Only one other resource was open and so one night while the Mongolian magnate was in a barber shop and in a feeling of false security had dismissed his two stalwart body guards, the See Yups rushed in and murdered him. To no purpose were the efforts to find the murderers for though many were arrested all were released, it being impossible to show they were connected with the crime.

After the murder of Little Pete the societies boycotted each other until the consul grew tired of the strained relations in Chinatown and ordered the affair stopped. The See Yups grudgingly obeyed and gave the official so much trouble that he finally wrote to China accusing ten of their leading men of being rebels, and full of treason plotting the overthrow of the emperor and collecting arms for the purpose. The answer was an invitation from the emperor, for the accused to come right home two to have their heads chopped off and the eight others to go to prison for life. Pending their return the authorities amused themselves by making it interesting for the relatives at home who would have to pay the penalty if their American

connections did not come back.

The See Yups in their dilemma asked the minister to intercede for them on his return to China, claiming the consul was in league with their enemies and had made these false accusations to oblige the other society. That their prayer prevailed and their charges proved founded seems to be evidenced by the change of representatives at San Francisco and now there is rejoicing in one part of the yellow-skinned colony there.

Outside Chinamen may not be overjoyed at their restoration of harmony for while warring among themselves those highbinders have left in peace the rest of the community but now will return with renewed vigor to terrorizing the coolies. All of which is read between the lines of a ten-word item tucked away in an obscure corner of a daily newspaper.

CITY FINANCES.

The passage of ordinance 93, the license ordinance, has aroused considerable opposition and that the necessity for this measure may be understood figures showing the city's present financial condition and its probable future are here given. These estimates have been carefully made and are thoroughly reliable.

Estimates for the year from Jan. 22, 1897, to Jan. 22, 1898:

From Lights	\$500 00
From Water	500 00
From Taxes	1700 00
For Engineer	\$ 500 00
For Marshal etc.	300 00
For Wood	900 00
For Incidentals	600 00
For Incidents	501 00
For Bond Interest	1620 00
	\$5981 00
	\$5100 00

Balance to apply on outstanding warrants \$1119.

The receipts from light and water will fall short of these estimates by \$800 and the disbursements exceed by \$600, making \$1400 difference on the wrong side of the above account, using up the estimated \$1119 balance and leaving a real deficit of \$281 for the current year. The city's indebtedness at the beginning of this year (Jan. 22, 1897) was \$4200 so the close would, unless revenue came from another source not reckoned upon, see \$4,481 in outstanding warrants.

Estimates for year from Jan. 22, 1898 to Jan. 22, 1899:

From Water and Lights	\$2500 00
Taxes	2500 00
For Engineer	\$ 850 00
For Marshal, etc.	300 00
For Wood	900 00
For Incidentals	600 00
Interest on Bonds	1620 00
Sinking Fund	1620 00
Interest on Warrants	320 00
	\$6270 00
	\$5300 00

Thus there would be a deficiency of \$970 to add to the previous warrant debt of \$4481 or a total of \$5451 debt at the end of next year. But the city has already as large a debt as the charter allows it to contract. The 10-mill limit has been calculated on above and still there is not enough income. Only one thing is there for the council to do and this is to raise money in the other way provided for in the charter, by licensing, which according to the present scheme will raise about \$500. As to the sinking fund, it is hardly necessary to worry over it for so long as the interest is promptly met the bondholders will not be likely to crowd the city on the other feature. Meantime the license seems a necessity and will be accepted as such if enforced without distinction so that the legitimate business men may derive some protection from it.

That Washington county needs a new jail is too generally admitted to need mentioning, the county court seems inclined to that belief, everyone who sees it knows it, the grand jurie for years have urged it, the jail breaks, also extending back for years have demonstrated the fact beyond a reasonable doubt, and the escaping criminals have paused in their flight to drop a few lines to the same effect. As to the plan there is not the same unanimity. For the county at large it may be safely stated that a palatial jail is not wanted, any old thing that will safely keep those put in its custody will be perfectly satisfactory. Pauly steel cages will do that and a simple brick en-

closure with a roof is all that is else necessary. Such a prison would be as safe as any and can be put in for about \$4000. For a house to keep the jailer in there is no warrant, no more reason why the deputy sheriff should be furnished a home than there was for that populist county in Washington whose officials were boarded and lodged at public expense. The practice is objectionable and has only precedent, a very poor reason, for its excuse. So long as the home was only fit for a dog kennel no one objected but the building of a residence is a different matter. Rumor has it that the steel cages have already been decided upon and this action of the county court will be generally applauded. To follow out the wishes of the great majority it only remains for them to build as simple and inexpensive a structure as will safely contain this new furniture.

That early Assyrian protectionist who went down to take the Isrealitish water cure but protested that the rivers of his own Damascus were better than all the waters outside, was very different from the common council of the city of Forest Grove. Here though our home lawyers are taxed to support the city government it is an outside attorney that is preferred to them to draw the very ordinance which lays the burden upon them.

"Last summer one of our grand-children was sick with a severe bowel trouble," says Mrs. E. G. Gregory, of Fredericktown, Mo. "Our doctor's remedy had failed, then we tried Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which gave very speedy relief." For sale by J. C. Clark, druggist.

The New Tariff Law.

Which has just been signed by the president, may be appropriately considered an Industrial Declaration of Independence. An official text of the law has just been published by the American Protective Tariff League, and should be carefully examined by every citizen. Protectionists ought to have a few copies of this law for distribution. Five copies will be sent to any address for ten cents. Ask for Document No. 30 and address W. F. Wakeman, Gen'l Sec'y, 135 West 23d Street, New York.

You may hunt the world over and you will not find another medicine equal to Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy for bowel complaints. It is pleasant, safe and reliable. For sale by J. C. Clark.

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March 8, 1897. *Samuel Pitcher*

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