

HILLSBORO INDEPENDENT.

Entered in the postoffice at Hillsboro, Oregon, as second-class matter. Subscription, in advance, per year . . . \$1.50 HILLSBORO PUBLISHING CO., Proprietor. D. M. C. GAULT, Editor. OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21.

The democrats have lost Birmingham, Ala., in a local election. If the republicans of Alabama will keep square on the national platform of the party, remarks an eastern exchange, they will have a companion for the new governor of Tennessee in the next election.

The low price of cotton is the cause of serious alarm to the Egyptian growers. They are unable to pay their taxes, and the price of land in the Delta has fallen off considerably. American planters have but to grow corn, wheat and sugar as well as cotton and they will command the situation.

A linen factory would afford employment for a few of them.—Statesman. Linen factory is only another name for jute mill, but the latter term don't sound so well since Coblenz stole the sacks at Walls Walls, and then committed suicide. But when the prisoner graduates from the "linen factory," will he be equipped for earning a living? Brother Statesman, remember your own sermon on that topic.

The official count in Tennessee gives Evans (Republican) for governor a plurality of 748. Tennessee republican! This calls to mind that Bob Ingersoll believes in the doctrine of an old fashioned brimstone hell. This is true, for more than five hundred people heard him say in a lecture a little while ago, that he would "believe in a hell when Missouri went republican." Missouri is there, and Bob must keep his word.

It would be a movement in the right direction if the state furnished the text books to those not able to purchase them. Thus advised an exchange apparently not knowing that the directors in each district already have that authority. If he means, though, that the state should publish a series, then that is different. The state is in the business of protecting and governing society, and not in the manufacturing business.

The Connecticut supreme court has permitted an appeal by the state in a murder case, where the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty," notwithstanding the constitutional provision that a man may not be put in jeopardy twice for the same offense. The court holds that an error of the lower tribunal in excluding certain evidence which might have changed the result so vitiated its proceedings that the trial stands incomplete, and the constitutional provision, therefore, does not apply. This, it would seem, is a reasonable view to take of the matter. It has always seemed one-sided justice to allow the defense a right of appeal while the state has been barred.

Several papers have recently, and it runs in mind now that one of them is the Salem Statesman, have dogmatically asserted that it is necessary to return Mr. Dolph to the senate, that the passage of the railroad land grant forfeiture bills may be assured. All the while the people have wondered how it could be that a corporation attorney would diligently work and vote measures that are generally understood to be opposed to the interest of his clients, the corporations, and now it is still more difficult to reconcile the foregoing mentioned statement of Mr. Dolph's organs with the news paragraph telegraphed from Washington on Tuesday last, where it is stated Mr. Dolph reported adversely on the passage of the forfeiture bill. When it was possible to favor the bill for himself, why, Mr. Dolph benighted, but after all, the suspicions of the people are shown to be well founded.

Speaking of the several offices to be filled in the coming legislature and the qualifications required, the Salem Statesman of a recent date has this to say in regard to selecting clerk in the house: "In connection with the foregoing, it may be said that one of the important legislative positions to be filled will be that of seating clerk, especially in the house, where a powerful, clear voice is so necessary. There is a candidate spoken of for this place who will likely have little opposition especially should he become known to the members generally. He is George R. Hughes of Forest Grove, youngest son of Hon. Samuel Hughes, a power in Washington county republican politics for 10, these many years. George is said to possess an excellent voice and to be especially adapted to the position; also to be entirely reliable. He is a printer by trade, has had considerable newspaper experience and is up to snuff generally. Washington county is one of the strongholds of republicanism and the Hughes family have done much to keep it so, consequently George has a right to ask the place." Mr. Hughes has decided to be an applicant for the place of reading clerk. His fitness for the position is unquestioned and what the Statesman says of his worth as a citizen and a party man is not a whit overdrawn. Either house can not get a better clerk let it hunt the state over. For the sake of the prompt dispatch of business, the INDEPENDENT hopes the house will install Mr. Hughes.

STILL WANT PATRIOTISM.

Some months ago the statement was made that democrats lacked patriotism and up to this time there is not founded in fact. Indeed, additional evidence is accumulating which goes to prove that what was true then is still true. The senate, now democratic, sees power departing, hence the majority is now willing to sacrifice the interest of the country for party gain. Rather than modify the rules so as to limit the debate of the filibustering few, they sacrifice those laws and that celebrity of legislation that tends to restore confidence in the country. The majority sees that the republicans will be in power soon, hence they will do nothing that has for its object the control of the objectors. Hill with all his faults either from policy or an honest purpose is more patriotic. Tuesday he addressed the senate at length, urging the adoption of rules that would facilitate the transaction of public business. Such rules ought not to be necessary, but they are, where a party shapes all its acts to suit the dictates of a caucus. Thus, individual responsibility is shifted to the party and its caucus. Such things ought not to be, and until men rise above a party clique the country will not best be served.

WATER SYSTEMS.

Lately several of our smaller towns have been studying the question of supplying their respective corporation with a water system. They look at all the plants in operation, and finally select the gravity system as being the one par excellence to be desired. This is true, provided: First, for the proper working of the gravity system there must be an abundant supply of water at all times, and for all emergencies. When a fire is raging, citizens can ill afford to wait for a head of water to accumulate. The supply, too, must be beyond the possibility of contamination. New York City had to buy the whole Croton river basin and remove the barns and other sources of contamination. For Portland, the Cascade reservation was made so as to keep Bull Run in wild canyons. Next the water rights along the lower course of the supply must be taken into the expense account, and finally the pipes conveying the water must be large enough. Milton, Umatilla county, a town not as large as Hillsboro, has a good water supply by the gravity system, but it has the Walls Walls river to draw from and its pipes till near the town limits are a foot in diameter. Pledenton has the Umatilla river, but pumps its water into a reservoir on a hill just outside of the city and thus avoids the necessity of a long pipe line of large dimensions. A paragraph in an exchange mentions the fact that McMinnville is considering the gravity system through a 4-inch pipe five or six miles long. If that is true and the city should lay it, remorse will come with the first great fire. Indeed, friction in that pipe would be so great that there would be no pressure within the city for fire purposes. Newberg, in the same county, has some fine springs within two or three miles of town, but more than a tobacco pipe system is required to deliver the water to a burning building, which is the time when it is most needed.

Our neighbors at Forest Grove should measure their proposed supply creeks carefully, and that, too, in the dry season, to see first, if the supply is there, and second, notice whether there is a likelihood of contamination, and last, see that the pipes are large enough to deliver water through four to six fire nozzles at the same time. At Hillsboro here, we could not get a supply for a gravity system. Hence we resorted to deep wells and the steam pump. And our water rates are no greater than in Portland, where the gravity system is to supply the demand, and the purity of the water is unsurpassed.

The principle is the same as that involved in the attempt to tax mortgages.—Oregonian. The authority quoted seeks to convey the idea that there was a time when mortgages were not taxed, but that an attempt was made to lay such a tax, but failed. In truth, mortgages were never taxed and there was never an attempt made to tax them. But the notes those instruments secure, have, in this state, always been liable to taxation and are now, and the only reason why they ever, in any instance, escaped taxation is because the holders, through fraud and perjury, concealed them from the assessor. The so-called mortgage tax law, which was on our law book for ten years, was a good measure, because it discovered property and compelled note-holders to tell the truth.

Who? but it would take one's breath if Japan should sail her fleet into Yang-tse-kiang river and attack Nanking when she knows that would precipitate the English and Russians upon her. Japan at the request of those powers has not done so before, but is now threatening such a campaign for the reason the Shanghai arsenal is supplying the Chinese with arms. It is an anomaly in war that one belligerent may not attack the enemy when and where there promises to be the greatest advantage.

A lot of Portland water bonds of the face value of \$100,000 sold this week at 11 per cent premium. They were taken by a San Francisco firm.

THE ARMENIAN OUTRAGES.

The United States, after all, will take no part in the investigations of the Armenian outrages. Finding that the limitations imposed by President Cleveland upon the functions of the United States Consul, Jewett, were such as to prevent his joint action with the representatives of the other Powers, the Sultan has withdrawn his invitation to the United States to appoint a commissioner, and consequently Mr. Jewett's appointment lapsed. In deference to the religious sentiment of the country, as voiced by an incredible number of petitions and resolutions of mass meetings and private communications from respectable citizens, the president decided to allow Mr. Jewett to investigate and report upon the actual state of the Christians in Armenia, but in doing so he felt obliged in order to make it plain to the Powers of Europe that he had no intention of intruding upon their domain, to await a request from the Sultan, backed by one of the signatory Powers. As an extra precaution against involving the United States in any European disagreements that might follow the investigation, Mr. Jewett is instructed to make an independent inquiry and report only to the State Department. These last restrictions were apparently unnecessary, for the Sultan, by the withdrawal of his invitation, Mr. Jewett's appointment is cancelled. Turkey evidently wants no investigation, unless she, by a majority of the committee, can control the report. Want of sincerity has always been a characteristic of the Sick Man.

THE CARLISLE PLAN.

The San Francisco Bulletin thus describes the new banking scheme, formulated by the administration: Secretary Carlisle's new scheme of finance seems to be the issue of circulating notes to the amount of \$75 to any bank which deposits \$30 in greenbacks in the treasury. The difference between the \$30 and the \$75 is the repose on the capital stock which may be formed by a few persons giving notes to each other for the amount. Stripped of all the cumbersome details this appears to be what Mr. Carlisle proposes to do for the reconstruction of the banking system of the country. He assumes that his scheme will give greater elasticity to the currency. There cannot be much doubt that it would be elastic in the matter of expansion. The temptation to get \$75 for \$30 would be a great one, especially as the only drag in the operation would be an easily manipulated capital stock. Practically outside of the \$30 deposited (nothing will be required under Mr. Carlisle's proposition to go into the banking business, but a big plate glass window with the legend inscribed thereon in glittering letters: "Prepared to receive deposits." The secretary disclaims the idea that he proposes to let loose the wildcat of banking of the old days once more. But his creation bears a suspicious resemblance to it. Beyond question it is cross roads banking that is not deserving of serious criticism.

The farther we get away from the notion that gold and silver are the only true currency and that paper based thereon can take on no higher form than an order for so much specie, the greater will be the financial troubles and confusion before us. What chance there is for the passage of this project or any of those of cognate character now before the public, no one can tell. But we have in power a party that has lost its head and a congress which for the short period remaining to it may be set down as a bull in a China shop. Having disorganized the industries of the country, the democracy may wind up its wild reign by throwing its finances into disorder. The affliction that it is bringing on us are hard to bear, but there is no help for them until the allotted time expires.

In another column appears a few paragraphs from the American Agriculturist on irrigation schemes, that are worthy of consideration. That veteran has not been thoroughly soaked with water bonds and seems to be almost, if not quite, waterproof. Yet there seems toward the last of the article a place where there may be a seep for moisture. Irrigation schemes, like all other ventures requiring great capital, ought to be private enterprises and while the state ought to have full and complete supervision, it ought not to have ownership therein. The state may properly donate aid to an experiment but may not own stock, expecting revenue therefrom. The only excuse for asking the state to engage in manufacturing or in other ventures of a cognate character is that it can furnish the product to the consumer for less money than a private individual. This is the theory, but it fails in practice.

Our currency is in a shape bad enough now, but if Carlisle's "reasonably safe" plan is adopted no one will know "where he is at." The Alabama legislature is maturing a law that will permit state banks to issue currency on local bonds up to their face value, and to make loans on real estate security. The wild cat and red dog banks of the '50's would not be a circumstance.

The objection to the Bland banking plan is that it does not permit the government to go out of the business. What is now clearly seen to be desirable is that the government shall not be required to keep a reserve fund for the redemption of United States currency.

THE JUDGE'S AMENDMENTS.

If the report of the Oregonian as to the work of the committee of county judges who have met in Portland to determine what legislation is necessary to relieve the strain upon the taxpayers of Oregon is an indication of the measure of their ability to do the work proposed, I am afraid that the proposed relief will be a burden. The proposition that the payment of taxes with county warrants is a "bad system," is the first declaration I have heard that to allow a man to pay the bills he owes you with your paper was objectionable and a loss to him. The pretense that such permission deprecates the value of the warrants is simply nonsense and is not creditable to the intelligence of the ones making the charge. They might with equal reason say that it would depreciate the value of a note of the Hillsboro bank if the cashier refused to accept it in paying a claim in favor of the bank. These county judges must know that the fact that the refusal to take county warrants for even a part of the taxes depreciates their value, and that this fact induces persons to sell their warrants, received by them in many instances for services for the county, at a discount. The intimation that tax collectors under the present law would buy up county warrants at a discount and substitute them for the cash paid in, is scarcely probable with the present law forbidding the purchase by such officers of county warrants at a discount. I am unable to say what the practice is in other counties but I venture the assertion that county officers of Washington county purchase no orders at less than their face value; they may sometimes do so as an accommodation. If this "legislative committee" of county judges know of such action on the part of county officers of their respective counties, they would do well to enforce the law against them if the law is sufficient, and if not sufficient use some of its leisure time in recommending more effective laws to prevent such abuse.

In the matter of assessments, the committee taking warning from the bungling work of the former selected committees, that were in a great measure responsible for the grossly inequitable changes in the assessment laws by the last legislature, has decided not to prepare any legislative bill. If this indicates that a majority of this committee favor the present law with exception hereinafter, the people should congratulate themselves on the fact that it has no right to make laws.

The recommendation of this committee, that the law should be changed so as to "provide for the assessment of all real property in its smallest legal subdivision, irrespective of owners" is so utterly impracticable that the only wonder is that there are five county judges in the state of Oregon who would venture to recommend such change.

If by legal subdivisions is meant the original subdivisions made by the government, these divisions are so divided up in ownership that such a change in the law would be impracticable. If by such expression is meant the different tracts, as owned at the time of the assessment, the law already makes such provisions, and the proper remedy for the failure to comply with it, would be to affix a proper penalty for such failures. The most serious point in this recommendation, aside from its ignoring the inequality of the present law, is the proposition to make the assessment, "irrespective of the owners." If this means anything, it means that the names of owners of real estate shall not appear on the assessment rolls. After the various counties of Oregon, at an expense of thousands of dollars, have provided themselves with present ownership books and maps, that, with a small annual outlay, may be kept up, the whole of this expense must be practically lost to give some theorizing thinkers in matters that they evidently know but little about, an opportunity to engrave upon the Oregon laws, principles that are inapplicable to the circumstances in which we are placed. In all seriousness let us ask how much will it facilitate the collection of taxes on real estate if we pass laws that will make it necessary for a taxpayer to examine every tract on the assessment roll from beginning to end to find the amount of his assessment. Under the present system this property is grouped, or should be if the officer does his duty in alphabetical order, and the trouble of finding the taxes for which each individual is liable is

A thousand dollar bank bill, issued on the securities, capitalized by state banks, permitted by the Carlisle scheme, may always be worth its face, while a two dollar bill may be utterly worthless. In the first instance the interest of the holder is so great that he can afford to invoke the machinery of the courts to make collection, while in the latter case the matter is too trivial for that method. The papalut is protected while the poor man is molested.

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giving the names in alphabetical order reduced to the minimum, and order is the key to the whole matter, so far as convenience is concerned.

How under this proposed plan will the personal property be listed? To the owners? If so, why not the real property? It is really the initiation of the change in taxation proposed by a class who hold that the tax is against the property and not against the owner of it, a theory that in the end looks to the collection of taxes from "tangible" property and the absolute exemption of all the property that the same theorists designate as "intangible." The neglect of the law makers to provide the remedy that will prevent the concealment of this "intangible" property, is one of the crimes connected with Oregon legislation that is crushing the life out of the farmers and owners of small holdings in the towns and cities of the state.

The committee appears to have organized more for the purpose of increasing the cost of carrying on the government than for anything else, if we may judge by its sympathy for the starving office holders of the state. Increase of salaries is the remedy proposed for the hard times under which they are laboring. Nothing proposed to help the farmer, laborer or mechanic, whose income has been by the present financial panic reduced more than one-half. Salaries of state and county officers were fixed in good times and have been for years a sufficient inducement to prompt office seekers to struggle for these positions. No one forced them to accept them. The pay was satisfactory then; now, when the people are ground down by the changes in values and when these officers' salaries will purchase twice as much of the necessities of life as formerly, why should they be increased? If they don't want the positions let them step down and out—the chances are that other persons well qualified may be found to fill their places, even at those starvation salaries. But this committee in the interest of economy are after those persons who in many cases are unwillingly forced to leave their business and homes to give evidence in state cases. Their proposition is that the limit for non-payment of fees shall be extended from two to four miles. Why not provide that officers shall, unless required to travel four miles in the execution of the duties of their offices, be required to perform their duties without charge.

This proposition, however, could hardly be expected from a committee made up of officers. We need not be surprised at the proposed change in the law for sale of property for delinquent taxes. There is nothing in the interest of the collector of taxes, who works on a salary, that would make a levy on the property to be sold desirable. The less he can do for the salary the better for him. The notice to the owner of the property is a small matter. With the law changed as proposed, making the assessment by legal subdivisions "irrespective of owners," it might, however, be some advantage to have notices placed upon the land, as in other cases of sales by order of court. It occurs to be a case of cutting down the work of the officer instead of his pay.

If the services of an assessor's committee or a sheriff's committee can be secured to press their special theories on the incoming legislature, there is a possibility that it will not be an unmixed evil if it shall prevent the whole of the session in the election of a U. S. senator. If the legislature is to be governed by these self-appointed advisers, the only hope of the tax-ridden people is to look to Lord for deliverance.

TAXPAYER.

BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION, I do hereby give notice, issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Washington County, in favor of D. E. Bush and against Geo. McCune, administrator of the estate of Caroline McCune, deceased, and Geo. McCune for the sum of \$125.00, costs, and for the further sum of \$300.00, U. S. gold coin, with interest thereon at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, from the 28th day of November, 1894, and for the costs and expenses of sale and of said writ.

Now, therefore, by virtue and in pursuance of said judgment, decree and order of the court, I will, on Monday, the 15th day of January, 1895, at the south door of the Court House, in Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. of said day, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real property, to-wit:

Situate in Washington County, Oregon, and described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at a stake on the north line of Sec 13 T 33 N 1 W of W 12 22 chains west from the quarter section corner on the north line of said section 13, running thence north 89° 24' east 14.22 chains to a stake; thence south 10° east 3.33 chains to a stake; thence south 89° 24' east 14.22 chains to a stake; thence north 1° 52' east 3.52 chains to place of beginning, containing 5 acres of land together with a right of way out of the Nebel's Ferry road, to satisfy the hereinbefore named sums, and for the costs and expenses of said sale. Said property will be sold subject to redemption as per statute of Oregon.

Witness my hand this 13th day of December, 1894. H. P. FORD, Sheriff of Washington County, Oregon.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the undersigned have filed their final account as executors of the last will and testament of John Loran, deceased, in the county court of the state of Oregon, for Washington County; and that said court has appointed Monday, the 7th day of January, 1895, at 10 o'clock A. M., as the time for hearing objections to such final account and for the settlement thereof.

Annual Meeting. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Hillsboro, Oregon, will be held at their banking house on Tuesday, January 2, 1895, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year, and to transact such other business as may come before said meeting.

NOTICE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT all County Warrants and other claims against the County Treasurer, and interest will cease on and after December 14, 1894. Dated at Hillsboro, Oregon, Dec. 12, 1894. J. W. SAFFINGTON, County Treasurer.

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SHERIFF'S SALE.

BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION, I do hereby give notice, issued out of the circuit court of the state of Oregon, for Washington county, in favor of Melinda Grant and against Charles Grant, for the sum of \$125.00, costs, and for the further sum of \$300.00, U. S. gold coin with interest thereon at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, from the 28th day of November, 1894, and for the costs and expenses of said writ.

Now, therefore, by virtue and in pursuance of said judgment, decree and order of the court, I will, on Monday, the 15th day of January, 1895, at the south door of the Court House, in Hillsboro, Washington county, Oregon, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. of said day, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real property, to-wit: Lying, being and situate in the county of Washington, state of Oregon, and more particularly known and described as the 3 1/2 of N 1/4 and N 1/4 of W 1/2 of sec 17 T 3 N R 4 W containing 160 acres, more or less, hereinafter named sums, and for the costs and expenses of said sale. Said property will be sold subject to redemption as per statute of Oregon.

Witness my hand this 27th day of November, 1894. H. P. FORD, Sheriff of Washington county, Or. By E. C. HOANES, Deputy.

Resolution of co-Partnership.

NOTICE: THE PARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing between A. N. DAVIS and O. W. HEATH, under the firm name of the Hillsboro Lumber Co., has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. O. W. HEATH, retiring. A. N. DAVIS will continue the business, pay all accounts and collect all bills due the firm. A. N. DAVIS, O. W. HEATH, Tigardville, November 17, 1894.

Notice of Final Settlement.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the undersigned has filed his final account as executor of the last will and testament of Melinda Hoover, deceased, in the county court of the state of Oregon for Washington county; and that said court has appointed Monday, the 7th day of January, 1895, at 10 o'clock A. M. as the time for hearing objections to such final account and for the settlement thereof.

L. P. FISHER, newspaper advertising agent, 21 Merchant's Exchange, San Francisco, is our authorized agent. This paper is kept on file in his office.

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