

Historical Society  
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# The Deschutes Echo.

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## TRIAL BROUGHT TO A CLOSE.

Jury in the Donkel Murder Case Finds Cleveland Donkel Not Guilty of the Murder of His Father.

After eight hours' deliberation, the jury in the Donkel case brought in a verdict of not guilty at half-past eight o'clock last night and a few minutes later Cleveland Donkel left the courtroom a free man. This ends the most important case before the present term of the circuit court, lasting two and a half days and requiring the services of the district attorney and two assistants for the state and Attorney G. W. Barnes for the defense, all of whom worked with the utmost zeal and energy in the trial which was to decide the guilt or innocence of the accused.

The jury was drawn Wednesday afternoon and in the evening a session of the court was held at which the attorneys outlined the nature of the case and explained to the jury the import of the testimony that both prosecution and defense would introduce. Several witnesses were also examined that evening and Thursday was entirely taken up with the further introduction of the state's evidence. Nearly thirty witnesses had been subpoenaed by the state but a number of them were not called to the witness stand.

At Thursday evening's session Attorney Barnes called the defendant to testify in his own behalf. After a recital of his movements during the week beginning September 6th, the witness was subjected to a rigorous cross-examination by Attorney Brink for the prosecution but no further information was elicited that would weaken his statement as drawn out by his counsel. Miss Iva Donkel, sister of the accused, was also called and her narrative to the jury appeared to have equal weight with that of her brother. The state's attorney did not see fit to cross-examine Miss Donkel. The defendant was recalled for a few minutes yesterday morning by his attorney.

The argument for the state was opened by Attorney Brink who dwelt for more than an hour on the circumstances which as he explained pointed to the defendant's guilt. Attorney Barnes followed in behalf of his client and pointed out in a lucid manner the defects in the chain of circumstances and the unimportance of much of the state's evidence. District Attorney Menefee closed the argument for the state, speaking for nearly two hours.

After reading his instructions and charging the jurors, Judge Bradshaw ordered them to retire to the jury room. It was then just 12:30 o'clock. The fact that the jurors were nearly eight hours in arriving at an agreement shows that a careful examination of all the testimony was made by them. Donkel was discharged by the court within a few minutes after the verdict had been read by the clerk. He will accompany his brother, W. H. Donkel, to the latter's home at the Meadows tomorrow morning.

The fact that Harriman is laying off men and reducing expenses

generally on the six great railroad systems controlled by him may be taken as an indication that Columbia Southern extension at his hands has received its final knockout blow. The same may also be said of the Corvallis & Eastern. Either line might be regarded as subject to his orders, tributary to his systems, and it would not be unreasonable to suppose that further extension of either is not contemplated for a year, at least. It is now up to Portland to build into Central Oregon. Portland built the O. R. & N., and the O. & C., and if it wants seriously to capture the immense trade which is bound to come from this section steps will be made in a very short time to accomplish that end. No further help can be expected of Mr. Harriman, who has troubles of his own to look after.—Prineville Review.

### A Logdriver on the Deschutes.

Theophile St. Michel, an old time Wisconsin logdriver, gave an exhibition of his prowess as a river man last Sunday. A goodly number of spectators, a few with kodaks, were present and report that St. Michel's work was of a high order of excellence. The log was a large one, perfectly smooth, but, as it afterwards proved, somewhat balky. It got away from the bank with considerable rapidity and St. Michel made a long running jump and landed on it. Then the struggle began. Michel was not equipped with driver's boots and the log, taking advantage of this, promptly shot him into the river. Michel at once recovered his position on the log and rode it from the Sisemore hotel down to the Staat's place. The pace set would have made a "buckaroo" dizzy.

### Inspecting the Withdrawn Area.

Forestry Agent Kent is at the Meadows looking over the proposed Warner Mountain reserve. While in town Kent was less reticent than most officials and intimated to several persons that it was doubtful whether any of the withdrawn lands would be placed in a reserve. The land was withdrawn over the veto of the Geological survey, which inquired into the formation of the lands and slope of the country and the water supply, and all conditions being found unfavorable there seems to be no advantage in creating a reserve.

### Will Soon Have Charge.

Watson and Snider will shortly be in possession of the land office at Lakeview. Their appointment went through without delay or red tape and this fact augurs well for the future conduct of the office. Were there the slightest objection to either of these gentlemen the appointments would have been delayed.

### Something Wrong With Him.

A Chinese negro has been discovered who does not care for either watermelon or rice. As he claims to be a native of England, it would be interesting to know how he stands on roast beef.—Burns News.

Remember that W. H. Staats will soon have a complete assortment of Fry's famous remedies.

### Why so Much Delay?

During the last term of school an entertainment was given for the laudable purpose of securing a school library and the handsome sum of \$33.00 obtained. Last week several persons who contributed to that fund asked the editor where the money is and why a library was not on hand at the beginning of school. \$33.00 is not a large sum of money, but in these days of cheap books it would buy a large number of classical books that would furnish reading matter for the scholars and school patrons. Several book companies have issued cloth bound volumes of classical works at from fifteen to twenty-five cents a volume and these volumes are both pretty and well made.

We are told that the money is in the hands of the acting school clerk of this district. The money is in no sense district money and since the officer holding the same has shown no disposition to carry out the desires of the contributors he should at once turn it over to persons who are willing and able to carry out the intentions of the persons who contributed. The money should have been used long ago. There is no excuse for the delay. Had the money been placed in the hands of a person who had the interests of the school and residents of this place at heart it would have been put to use long since.

### Fry's Family Medicines

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Just sixty years ago this month the first considerable migration of citizens to Oregon came in over the plains. A scattering few had come a little earlier. But the immigration of 1843 was the first large body. It numbered between 300 and 1000 persons, of whom perhaps not twenty survive. Mrs. A. L. Lovejoy, who came with that party, still lives in Portland, and Abner Hill, one of its members, survives on his farm in Washington county.—Oregonian.



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