Semi-Weekly Herald,

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1891.

W.C. BYRD, - - - - - - - Editor

MANY years practice has given C. A. Snow & Co., solicitors of patents at Washington D. C., unsurpassed success in obtaining patents for all classes of inventions. They make a specialty of rejected cases, and have secnred allowance of many patents that have been previously rejected. Their advertisement in another column will be of interest to inventors, patentees, manufacturers and all who have to do with patents.

IT is impossible and unnecessary to predict the immediate effect of the new party. Like the original greenback and other allied movements it is likely enough to tempt both of the two great parties into bids for its support, or it may become no more than so much political merchandise. But as far as it goes it indicates that the revolution which gave the new Congress to the Democrats has not yet spent its forces and the element which it represents is a factor that must be reckoned in the calculation for 1892.

"IS THE jury system a farce?"

We hear this question on the street every day this term of court. The answer from some is "yes," others "no," and others "I haven't thought anything on the subject."

We have a grand jury composed of seven good, honest and true me This jury is controlled, to a great extent, by the district attorney. The duties of this august body is to examine witnesses brought before them as to whether or not parties who are suspected of breaking some of the ten commondments, are guilty; and if, in their opinion, some of the aforesaid commandments have been trampled upon, they find a true bill. In that case the true bill is examined and passed upon by the judge, and a warrant issued for the immediate arrest of the offender. In meantime we have on hands, for immediate use, thirty or forty men at the county's expense, from which to pick another jury of twelve men, to determine if the grand jury knew what they were doing in finding the bill. Another feature of this jury is that they should be ignorant as a cow. It is better that the men on the jury don't know what a criminal offense is, and when questioned by the legal fraternity, ought to be ignorant of the fact that white is white and that black is black. If such is the case with the jury they are considered competent to do their part in convicting or clearing the prisoner before the bar charged with the offense. The grand jury, now, is lost sight of. The witnesses for and against examined and cross-examined until they are not positively certain which one of the boys they are, finally the counsel for plaintiff and defendant close the case, which conclusion is given to the judge in grand style by one of the lawyers. The judge in turn charges the jury that if so and so is the case, in evidence given, they must find a verdict of guilty, but if the contrary predominates, said twelve men, who should be "know-nothings," must find a verdict of not guilty, virtually deciding the case himself before it goes to the jury.

The tax payer foots the bill "all the same."

HERALD'S WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 22 1891.

The tariff organs are quoting the March statistics to show that exportations have increased materially under the McKinley tariff, as compared with those of March, 1890. Evidently the foreigners, who can buy American plows and things more cheaply than can American farmers, don't stop to think that a cheap plow makes a cheap plowman. Evidently, also, the talk about ship subsidies being essential to an increased export trade has already been discredited out of the mouths of the shriekers themselves.

There is still much talk adout Harrison and Blaine and the nomination prospects. Blaine's many followers say that he was never so popular as he is now, and they complain that Harrison is making use for himself of all the alleged glory the Secretary of State is supposed to be winning. It is hinted that the assurances of Blaine's loyalty, and his refusal of nomination, which Russell Harrison printed in Leslie's were inspired by his father, the President. One thing is certain—if Blaine finds the Republican party doomed, he will support Harrison, but if there are prospects of its returning the President, he will submit to nomination.

Attorney General Miller said yesterday that the circuit court Judges provided for by the last Congress will not be appointed for months vet, but that the five land court es provided for at the same sess, ll be appointed in a few days. e added that he would have a conference with the President in regard to the latter appointments to-morrow.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the dismissal of sixteen omployees and a reduction in the compensation of fifteen employees in the customs service at Boston, making an annual reduction of $25000. These changes are in the collector's and surveyor's department and take effect on the 1st of June.

The opponents of Grover Cleveland complain that he does not express himself on the silver question every day in the week. Mr. Cleveland's opinion on this question are thoroughly understood by both friends and foes, so that their frequent repetition merely to accomodate the latter is wholly unnecessary.

From Van.

VAN May 22, 4891.

Mr. Van Middleworth and wife have just arrived from Burns.

A new school house is in course of construction, about one-half mile from J. H. Anderson's ranch.

A few showers have visited this section in the past two weeks, did not last long enough to do much good.

TO ONE OF THE JURORS.

Jimmy, dear Jimmy, come home to me row.
The clock on the mantle strikes one;
The fat's in the fire, and the calves have got out,
For a woman to "batch" is no fun.

The new churn you sent me, is all right, I guess,
For to use it there's one thing I lack,
And that is, dear James, that you should come home,
And help your poor wife turn the crank.