

The items published in its last issue a short editorial saying: "There was no dark secret about the meeting of the Democratic Central Committee, because the Miller, Grace & Roberts combination signified their intention to rule or ruin."

The meaning of this paragraph, as we understand it, is that the so-called combination preferred in order to declare the intention that the meeting should be an open one and so arranged that it should be. Now we most emphatically deny that any such combination had the control of the meeting for the purpose stated. The meeting was held with open doors; some favored such a meeting and some of the committee objected, but finally the chair was declared in favor of an open meeting.

There was a discussion, and nothing more; for we did not understand it to amount to a contest upon the apportionment of the new precincts, and especially how the old precinct, Burns, and the new one, Poison Creek, which was taken from Burns, should be apportioned. This debate under the existing relations, was perfectly natural and expected. The Burns committee men contended for what he considered justice to his precinct.

The matter was settled amicably and we think satisfactory to all present. Burns and Poison Creek precincts being allowed 10 delegates when according to the congressional vote cast in Burns precinct at the last general election the precinct (Burns) comprising the territory now in both, the apportionment would have been 9, now for the same territory we have 10, a gain of one. Though we were engaged in such discussion we are all Democrats and we hope true to democracy and democratic principles which will be shown when it comes to fighting for the cause after the nominations are made for our county officers, and we would stand shoulder to shoulder and do their duty and a triumphant victory will be the ultimate result.

"KICKERS"

ARE just as easy found as a supply of "measles" are by the unscrupulous who have never been supplied with that necessary article in their make up. Even in the matter of giving evidence in the county seat contest the witnesses cannot please the "kickers" let them try ever so hard. If straight up facts are given and the tone of the witness is such that there is no denying the testimony to be anything but facts, the "kicker" is ready to exclaim "that fellow is a saint he's got no business here on 'ye earth' Heaven is his home." Did you ever hear of the man who tried to please everybody? If you kind readers did not we shouldn't take the pains and trouble to rehearse that little episode for your special benefit, but will say of that man that he was a "damp f---," and they ain't all dead either.

An editor who tries to tell the truth—though there isn't many that knows how—those persons he considers his best friends and "stand-

bys" will "kick" him without mercy. We guess newspaper men were born to be kicked and go down to their graves with the great big tears of a few friends to moisten their departure for Heaven—because all editors go to Heaven—and the curses of a multitude of enemies, who compose the army of "kickers" and whose ideas never reach high enough to appreciate an honest truthful man like the editor.

Evidence Given in the Contest Case

L. M. BROWN.—Testified that his residence has been in Burns Oregon for over seven years; was in Burns on the day of election, 2d day of June 1890; that the ropes, that were stretched in front of the polling place, were stretched for the purpose of protecting the trees and grasses planted on the premises, and that he requested W. W. Johnson and Henry Obertman to see that no one injured any of the trees, shrubbery or grasses within the lot.

DANIEL VARIAN.—Testified that his residence was in Burns precinct; was acquainted with J. W. Norton, who resided in the town of Harney for three or four years prior to the election; Mr. Norton came to his place and tried to induce him to vote for Harney by offering him property in that town to the amount of two lots if witness, his father, brother and another man would vote for the town of Harney for permanent county seat. Witness' father being present at the time of the conversation.

R. J. IVERS.—Testified that he had resided in Saddle Butte precinct since October 17. Resided in Embury precinct nearly four years prior to that day; was in Embury precinct on the day of the election June 2d 1890; Fredrick Haines conveyed the ballot boxes of that precinct to the county clerk of Harney county; said Haines was a strong supporter of the cause of Harney on that day, that said Haines did not see the face of all the ballots of said precinct at that place. Did not say that he (Ivers) would have stuffed the ballot boxes for Burns if he had the opportunity. Did not do a considerable amount of talking in the behalf of Burns for permanent county seat, but attended strictly to his duty as a judge of said election; that he did not see or remember of hearing of a ticket with Burns yes, and Harney no, upon it. As near as he could judge, Fred Haines was not nearer the ballot boxes, during the time the count was being made, than sixteen or eighteen feet.

JOHN SWETZER.—Testified that he was in Burns, June 2, 1890 at the election; that was one of the judges of election; that he was acquainted with C. F. McKinney and saw him, on day of election, mostly near the rope in front of the building where the election was held; he heard McKinney challenge votes and the judges respected such challenges and put the necessary questions to applicant regarding qualifications as to a voter, and acted in accordance with the fact elicited. McKinney was not prevented by the judges from coming up to the polls; that McKinney was present nearly all the time consumed in counting the votes; that the judges first hesitated to decide favorable to his presence, but after examining the law in relation thereto admitted Mr. McKinney; that

Fred Campbell, nor any other person, was allowed to vote after telling the judge he had not been in the county no part of 90 days. He saw no unfair or illegal proceedings at the polls, and that he had nothing to do with stretching the rope in front.

T. J. HALEY.—Testified that his residence is in Harney City Ore. he was in Burns at the time of the election, June 2d, 1890; came to Burns on the 22 or 23 of May; voted in town of Burns, in Burns precinct, and voted for Burns for permanent county seat; had a dwelling house and furniture in the town of Harney at the time he was stopping in Burns.

JOHN E. ROBERTS.—Testified that he voted in Curry precinct for the town of Harney; that he had been a resident of Harney since July 1, 1889.

EWING T. HALEY.—Testified that his permanent home was in Burns precinct and that he voted in Harney for Harney for county seat.

P. F. STINGER.—Testified that his residence was in Burns, and he was in Burns on the 2d day of June, 1890; was acquainted with Porter Cornelison and that Cornelison was driving stage for him on the Burns-Vale stage line. He was permanently employed by Mr. S. at the time of the June election, 1890; Mr. S.'s family resided in Burns at the time of the election.

G. HEDSPETH.—Testified that he has resided near Burns for a period of four or five years; was in Burns on day of election, June 2d, 1890; saw M. F. Williams on that day, had a conversation with said Williams and asked him how he was going to vote for county seat. Mr. W. said he was going to vote for Harney, and that he never told said Williams that he would move his house for if he would vote for Burns; was acquainted with and saw Charles Nelson on that day; saw and heard M. Fitzgerald, and he believed Mr. McKinney talking to him about voting for county seat. Mr. F. was trying to persuade him to vote for Harney; did not see any one drag Mr. N. to the polls; heard Capt. Kelley request Mr. N. to go and vote, if he desired, as the polls would soon be closed; never saw Capt. Kelley drag Mr. N. to the polls, my recollection is that Mr. N. walked to the polls himself; did not pull out any knife on said occasion.

C. H. MCPHETERS.—Testified that his residence was at Central Point, Oregon, but was a resident of Burns at the time of last election and was one of the Judges of election at that time; was acquainted with C. F. McKinney and that he (McKinney) was one of the parties admitted to challenge votes, and that when a vote was challenged the usual questions were put by the judges regarding qualifications; he remembered the two Lows, father and son, and asked the son if he wasn't under age, he answered he was 21, which statement was verified by his father; he testified that Ed Brisk approached the polls but did not vote; but nothing unfair or illegal transpired at the polls that he was aware of, and that McKinney was admitted into the room during the count of votes, except a few at the beginning, probably a half a dozen.

R. C. GEER

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