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THE OWOSSO TIMES.

EDMUND O. DEWEY, EDITOR.

OWOSSO, FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1899.

According to reports as to the number of men who visited the county seat Sunday the street car management is under marked obligations to Mayor Hume and the movement for the enforcement of the liquor laws.

Through the efforts of Representative Mason the bill passed two years ago by the legislature attaching to the Oakley, Saginaw Co., school district certain lands in Rush township, has been repealed and the districts in this county established as they were before. Rep. Mason is wide awake to the interests of his constituents.

The taxpayers of the Gaines school district, Genesee county, thinking their school tax to be too heavy, endeavered to reduce the same by attaching parts of districts No. nine in Vernor and one in Burns, a bill to that effect having been introduced in the house of Representatives. Representative Geo. T. Mason was, however, alert to the interests of his constituents, notified them of the proposed law, and as a result a remonstrance signed by every tax payer in the two districts who would be affected by the change was sent to the legislature. A few days after, the com mittee to which the bill was referred, after giving both sides a hearing, decided to "kill" the bill.

Dry Times.

If any one had predicted a few weeks ago that Sunday, April 23, would have been a "dry" day in Owosso, so dry in fact that anyone who persisted in wetting his throat with intoxicating beverages would have to visit our neighboring city, he might not have been laughed at for his assertion but he would have had a hard time convincing people that he knew what he was talking about. And yet that is the way last Sunday was characterized, and apparently justly so, in Owesso.

There still have been no trumpets blown by the Mayor proclaiming a reform admin istration but the quiet way of going at things and putting them in a common sense light is proving its advantages. Last week the Mayor took pains to investigate the matter of the proper closing of the saloons at the hour of night prescribed by law and it is is reported found but one saloon which was closed.

Having satisfied himself as to the actual way things were going the Mayor proceeded to take the next step which was to cause notice to be sent to every saloon keeper on Friday that he should expect every one of them to observe the law regulating the closing of their places of business. No partiality was shown. All were on the same footing. One must close up and draw aside curtains or screens at the same hour that the law prescribed for everyone else. This was perfectly fair, placed no one at a disadvantage, and, properly under stood and obeyed, saves a class of men from working late into the night and on Sunday in response to a demand from thirsty citizens convivially inclined and in response also to the fear that if they didn't break the law and keep open they would lose their customers who would go where they would not have to leave at the prescribed hour. In reality if there is, any class of citizens'who should be pleased at this turn of affairstit is the class made of the saloon keepers themselves and so far as we know there is no respectable owner of a saloon or bar in this city who objects to the enforcement of the closing laws if he can feel sure that he will not be placed at a disadvantage by others who may be allowed to keep open. This last, however, is what the Mayor does not propose to allow as any who knows him might have expected. One dealer, however, yielded to the demands of a thirsty crowd the next night, Saturday, and tempted the tates by keeping his saloon open over time. Monday morning he wast placed under arrest and is now awaiting trial. Whether this was felt to be all that was best to venture before awaiting developments or not, it seems that for some reason the dealers braced up and closed up, front door, side door and back door as well, and thereby made Sunday a dry day in Owosso.

Mayor Hume is to be congratulated on the stand he has taken which not only is praiseworthy because it is an attempt to enforce a law which has long been shamefully disregarded, but better yet by its molete and impartial enforcement no injustice is done to any one and there is no sion for any hard feelings in the

n Burns which recounted the vote on supervisor made one error so glaring that it should not be passed over without notice. One ticket contained a cross in the circle under the heading republican ticket. Crosses were also placed in the squares before the names of both Mr. Ruggles and Mr. Lutz, the candidates for supervisor. In canvassing the vote election night the board did not count this vote for either candidate for supervisor. Mr. Ruggles being declared elected by a majority of one. On the recount the board counted the vote referred to for Mr. Lutz, which was clearly lilegal and would have made the vote for supervisor a tie but for the fact that one ballot was found that did not have the inspector's initials on the back and was thrown out, the board declaring Mr. Ruggles elected by a majority of one. His majority really was two as the vote referred to was counted illegally for Mr. Lutz.

The republican party by its resolution at the Jackson convention, the supreme court of Michigan by its decision on the principles of the Atkinson bill, confirms the position taken by Senator Collingwood and Representative Mason. It is now time for the Argus to beg pardon for the continued and uncalled for insults offered these gentlemen. Rep. Mason is and was for many years before the editor of the Argus was a voter or a resident of .Michigan an honorable and well known resident of this county who had the confidence of the people. He is and has been in favor of equal taxation-honest equal taxation and he desires to vote for a bill that he thought was right-but the governor of Michigan who, we believe, is attempting to force the people of Detroit to pay three times the value of the street railways for the purpose of advancing his own political interest. would not allow a just and right bill to go through and Mr. Mason accepted the enforced substitute. Now the legislature will attempt to tax the railroads justly and Mr. Mason will be found as he always has been -on the right side, and undoubtedly the Argus editor will pursue the myth he is chasing at present.

The Atkinson Bill Unconstitutional.

The expected has happened-the supreme court in an opinion in which all the justices concur, decides that the principles of the Atkinson bill are not in accord with the constitution of Michigan.

The main opinion was written by Justice Hooker and unanimously concurred in, while Justice Montgomery wrote a concurring opinion which was signed by Chief Justice Grant and Justices Long and

The cases were those of Hazen S Pingree vs. the auditor general, and the Tecumseh Telephone compony vs. the auditor general, the questions at issue being precisely the same as those involved in the Atkinson law, the cases being brought, in fact, to determine the legality of the latter law rather than the one of 1881 which pro

vides for the taxing of telephone companies. The legislature of 1881 passed an act for the assessment of telegraph and telephone lines, the provisions of which are that the auditor general, state treasurer and commissioner of the state land office shall assess telegraph and telephone lines at their true cash value, and levy a tax upon said assessment at a rate which shall equal the averlocal, levied throughout the state during the previous year, to be ascertained from the records of the auditor general's office, which tax shall be in lieu of all other taxes.

This tax has since been paid, and the auditor general has treated it as a specific tax and credited the revenue to the educational fund under the constitutional provisions providing that all specific taxes shall constitute a part of the primary school interest fund.

The governor's application was for a nandamus to compel the auditor general to transfer to the general fund, from the primary school fund, all moneys collected under the law of 1881, and now on hand, upon the ground that the tax provided for is not a specific tax. The telephone company's application was for a mandamus compelling the cancellation of its tax for the reason that the tax not being specific, is not levied in conformity with sections 11 to 14 of article 14 of the constitution:

"The legislature shall provide a uniform rule of taxation, except on property paying specific taxes, and taxes shall be levied on such property as shall be prescribed by

"Every law which imposes, continues or revives a tax, shall distinctly state the tax, and the object to which it is to be applied; and it shall not be sufficient to refer to any other law to fix such tax or object."

The Tuscola County Advertiser has the following to say of the choice of Mr. Will D. Kilpatrick as private secretary to Copgressman Jos. W. Fordney: "Congressman Fordney has selected as his secretary Mr. Will D. Kilpatrick, of Owosso, a bright young man, a graduate of Olivet College, and of the law department of the University, and a son of Hon. Wm. M. Kilpatrick, of that city. It is generally believed that the selection is about as good a one as could have been made, and that Mr. Kilpatrick will be a valuable aid to Mr. Fordney in his congressional work."

THE TIMES has for free distribution a few packages of sugar beet seed from the U. S. department of agriculture, sent out by Congressman Fordney. Parties who desire to grow beets can obtain seed by calling.

All the Michigan troops which enlisted for the war a year ago are back except the 31st regiment, the first to be mustered into the U. S. Service, the first to leave the state, and the last to return. This regiment is now, however, in the vicinity of Savannah, and preparations for mustering it out are at last under way.

The Prospects of the Republican Party. Rather more than half of McKinley's term having expired, and the national nominating convention being but little more than a year distant, it is natural that the republican party's chance of securing a second lease of power should be widely discussed. Much, cf course. may happen during the nineteen months which intervene before November, 1900. and the political situation may be materially changed during the interval. It is conceivable, for instance, that the price of wheat might fall to figures that would mean ruin for the farmers, and that the present flourishing condition of our manufactures might be succeeded American workmen sit in idleness. by a period of depression. Assuming, | Protection brings foreign adustries however, that no change decisively affecting the national prosperity and the relative position of parties will oecur, we may attempt to answer the question, Can the republicans look forward to a second triumph at the ballot box? This question will be, naturally, considered from both a positive and a negative point of view. What claims, in other words, have the republicans to a renewal of the people's confidence, and to what extent may make by the well balanced mind. they expect to profit by the mistakes of their political opponents?

The republicans may fairly claim to have fulfilled most of the promises made in the program put forth by their effect of their measures or merely as a coincidence, it is certain that that prosperity is here. In uo twelvemonth since the civil war have so many farm mortgages been paid off as during the year 1898. At no time has the volume of our native manufactures been so great, and marked revival of business in this field has been followed by a general rise of wages. In every department of human labor, work is easily obtained, and well paid. Our export trade has reached dimensions never before exhibited by this or any other country; in this respect, the United States now rank considerably above Great Britain. Neither are our exports now confined, as they used to be, almost exclusively to raw products; we have become large exporters of manufactures, and as regards locomotives and other commodities fashioned of iron or steel, we seem destined to distance all competitors.

We may take for granted that the republicans in 1900 will present a solid front. They will not be split upon the Philippines question, nor upon any other issue. All the republicans who cared more for the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 than for their party allegiance were lost in 1896. There will be no further defection from the republican standard on that score. It is on the other hand, far from certain that the democrats will be equally unanimous. If the free coinage of silver at the ratio named is again made the principal plank in the democratic platform, as we may now assume it will be, we are likely to witness a much larger secession of sound money democrats than took place in 1896. It is a great mistake to suppose that in that year, all the democrats who believe in a gold standard voted either for McKinley or else Palmer. It is probable that the seceders were greatly outnumbered by those sound money democrats who remained reluctantly ia the party ranks, believing that they should be able to defeat in congress any monetary legislation of which they should disapprove. Not a few democratic senators might be named who voted for Bryan but who, had Bryan been elected, would have opposed a bill for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. At present in our eastern states if not throughout the country, the silver plank is much less acceptable than it was when the last democratic national convention put it forward, and should it be placed again in the front of the democratic platform, a large number of democrats, who remained faithful in 1896, are likely to recognize the necessity of destroying it once for all.

As regards the candidates of the republican party, it seems to be settled that the former ticket shall remain unchanged. That Mr. Hobart has made an admirable vice president is universally acknowledged; indeed, we should have to revert to the earlier days of the republie to find his equal among the occupants of the office. -Collier's Weekly.

At least two pulpits in this city are wide awake to the condition of municipal affairs, and Sunday Rev. John Sweet, of the First Methodist church, and Rev. Carey V. Northrop, of the Baptist church, commended in no uncertain terms the stand taken by Mayor Hume in respect to the enforcement of the liquor laws, bespeaking for him at the same time the hearty support and sympathy of all good citizens. The paster of the Baptist church west farther, evidently believing that the Mayor needed the support of a better set of police officers than the present set which he said he understood to be rotten. In both instances the hope and belief was expressed that the Mayor would carry out his plans successfully.

Dr. F. D. Arthur, the eminent specialist and consulting physician of the Detroit Medical and Surgical Institute, who can name and locate a disease without asking a question, will be at Owosso, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 27th, 28th and 19th, and Sunday, 30th. See ad.

A Choice Between Two Systems

A trade paper states that another large industry is coming to this country. The tirm of Alexander Morton & Co , of Darvel, Scotland, a concern well known throughout the world as a manufacturer of carpets and other textiles, has decided to locate at Niagara Falls, and it is stated, has already made arrangements with the Niagara Power Company for the supplying of power and for the purchase of property.

Free trade brings the foreign mode products of pauper labor into the country, and sends American money out of the country to pay for them, while and foreign capital into the country to provide labor for American workmen and keeps American money within the country, to be paid in exchange for American made goods. As Lincoln put it. under free trade we get the goodsso long as our money holds out-and the foreigner gets the money. Under protection we get the goods and the money, too. A choice between the two systems would not seem to be hard to

Farewell Reception.

A very pleasant farewell reception was given to Mr. and Mrs. J. B. E Castre in the Masonic Temple, Friday national convention at St. Louis. They night, by the members of the Owosso declared that their return to power 1 dge No 8, assisted by the chapter would be followed by prosperity, and, and the members of Corunna comwhether it should be regarded as the mandry and the ladies of the Eastern Star. The occasion of the reception being the approaching departure of of Mr. and Mrs. Castree for their former home in England. Purses were presented to Mr. Castree in behalf of the home lodge, the chapter and, the commandry by Van R. Pond, D. A. Barnum, and Hon. Hugh McCurdy, while Mrs. Castree was the recipient while Mrs. Castree was the recipient of a handsome star pin on behalf of Abigail chapter Eastern Star. Speeches were made by a number of members both from this city and Corunna, all testifying to the high regard in which the departing ones were held. Mr. Castree has been one of the most faithful and enthusiastic workers in Masonic circles ever since his arrival in this city some five years ago and every branch of the order will miss his good

The feature of Harper's Weekly for the last few mouths has been a complete and thorough discussion of "Our New Pos-essions" and the opportunities they offer for American industrial enterprise. Franklin Mathews and William Dinwiddle, in their special letter to the Weekly, have given all needful information about Cuba and Puerto Rico. Now begins the long-expected series of articles on Hawaii, by Caspar Whitney, who, on his recent journey around the world, made a thorough study of the people, climate, natural resources, and the commercial possibilities of the Hawalian Islands. It goes without saying that the articles will be valuable, and that they should be read by all Americans who are interested in the first of our new colonies

Board of Supervisors.

ing a special session this week to take action relative to the issuing of the \$10,000 in bonds voted at the spring election for the completion of buildings at the county farm.

At the session Tuesday morning, Supervisor F. G. Morrice, of Bennington, was chosen as temporary chairman. On the first ballot at the afternoon session Mr. Morrice was elected chairman, despite his statement that he was not a candidate and did not desire to fill the chair. He, however, accepted and thanked the supervisors for the honor conferred.

Chairman Morrice appointed the following committees at Wednesday morning's

Rules: Cronk, Cole, Lyman Rolls: Crane, Martin, Shipman. Apportionment: Lyman, Fuller, Rush. Roads and bridges: Munson, Ruggles,

Settlement with treasurer: Euler, Cole, Colby.

Finance: Stanlake, Friesske, Rush. Claims and accounts: Baldwin, Shipman, Munson

Printing: Rush, Laverock, Spalding. Buildings and grounds: Peacock, Baldwin, Euler.

Rejected taxes: White, Lyman, Kirn.

Drains and ditches: Cole, Cronk, Mun-Officers' salaries: Myers, Colby, Crane. Abstracts: Frieseke, Fuller, Euler.

Justice, constables and coroners' counts: Spalding, Laverock, Kirn. Clerk's certificates: Martin, White, Cole Records in clerk's office: Laverock, Pea-

cock, Shipman.

ake, Myers, Crane, Ruggles, Smith. Settlement with Supts. of poor: Parker, Rush, Peacock.

Equalization: Fuller, Frieseke, Stan-

Indigent soldiers: Ruggles. Auditing accounts:

The board approved the plans and specifications for the building at the county received until May 19th, authorized the chairman and county clerk to to sign the bonds, allowed a number of bills and adjourned Thursday afternoon to May 19th.

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farm as drawn by F. Burnett, ordered bids Owosso, National Hotel, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, APRIL 27. 28. 29. AND 30.

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If impossible to see him, write, enclosing stamps for information, etc., to the

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