

# THE FRONTIER.

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KING & CRONIN, EDITORS.

## THE SKIRVING CASE.

Now that the testimony is all in the hands of the jury and it is probable that a verdict will be rendered before this issue will be out, we presume it will not be out of order for THE FRONTIER to express its views upon this case.

Our readers are all familiar with the fact that this paper generally has views upon questions of public moment, and having views, is never backward about coming forward with them.

It is generally our custom to criticize the action of this board, not because we have anything against the board in particular, but because they seldom do anything for which they are not censurable.

In this instance we think they were wrong for even entertaining this case for a moment. The charges preferred were not of sufficient magnitude to justify ouster if they were all proven. And then again the complaining witness should have been required to give a bond for the costs, in case his allegations were not supported by the facts, as we now find they are not.

It is the worst kind of imposition upon the tax payers of this county for the board to set here for a week hearing frivolous charges preferred by a partisan-blind tool who probably never saw the inside of the office he alleges is corruptly administered. Of course he is not entirely to blame, as he has been urged on by the old gang commanded by Boss Harrington, who last fall said there "would be trouble" if this officer dared defy his mandate and assert his rights as a free born American citizen.

This case was not instituted because these populists feared (or cared) that the office was not administered according to Hoyle or law. It is a matter that the county is not interested in to any great extent. The fees do not go to the county and the county has nothing to lose or gain by the manner in which it is conducted. The people who have business before the clerk are the ones who should do the kicking and there is not the slightest doubt but that we would have heard from them long ago if things were not progressing in the proper channel. The fact that this office is held by a republican is what hurts those fellows and they have planned many kinds of schemes to get possession. Notwithstanding that an army of the faithful are now employed in the court-house, other brothers are still out in the wet and some place must be prepared for them, and that quickly, lest they drown. This is the true cause of their proceedings and not the allegations made in the complaint.

Gentlemen, when a man cannot draw a breath of this glorious Holt county air without first consulting this piratical gang of star-chamberists it is time to pause for just a moment and ask some body in what direction we are drifting.

We are told that John Trommer-shauser has again assumed control of the Ewing Democrat.

THE Jew logically proclaims that because it only costs 23 cents to produce a gold dollar therefore is only worth 22 cents. Great head has that man Gutzman.

THE free traders are getting their breath back and are beginning the hopeless task of trying to explain the result in Pennsylvania without condemning free trade.

"WHERE," asks the mush-pated Jew, "has there been any ill-advised and losing litigation?" Egad! My duke, when and where has Holt county, up to the present term of court, ever won a law suit?

EX-SPEAKER REED summed up the entire situation in the house when he said: "If the majority party here would accord to members their constitutional right to transact business in accordance with the constitution we should cease to have trouble."

HARRINGTON has dubbed Crawford "the watchdog of the treasury." The title is good and has been well earned. He sleeps beside it with about the same fervor and from the same motives that the common ordinary dog eyes a nice ham joint. He wants it all himself.

GUTZMAN denies that the supervisor system costs over \$50,000 more per year than that of the commissioner, but he doesn't produce any figures in support of his denial. The records show that the first four years of supervisor rule average over \$50,000 more per year than the last four years of commissioner rule. There's no getting around this statement.

GUTZMAN would have his readers believe that it is necessary to call a grand jury before a man may be arrested for larceny. It may be that the Jew's readers are a set of blank chumps, and then again it may not be. That he has any readers, however, is an indication that they are non compos mentis.

THE democrats in congress have lately been classified by democrats as jackasses, fools, incompetent demagogues and anarchists. While not endorsing the entire quartet of epithets, truth compels us to acknowledge that it would not be difficult to produce evidence that would convict on the first three counts.

THE Jew is an ignoble pettifogger. He compares Mr. Bethea's force of clerks to that employed by Mr. Butler in 1892. Why did he not make comparison with the force employed in '93? The amount of work in this office grows less with each succeeding year and the amount of help should (and has up to the present administration) decreased in a corresponding ratio.

AND now it is whispered about the state that Custer county's pop treasurer has gone wrong: that the dollars in his vault are many thousand less than indicated upon his balance sheet. Congressman Kem is said to have borrowed some \$20,000 from him. Again we say that the ways of the independents are not in a direction opposite to those accredited to the republicans and democrats.

MR. CLEVELAND is said to have left Washington thoroughly disgusted with congress. From the best obtainable information congress has been disgusted with Mr. Cleveland for quite a while, and the people with both. It might be advantageous to the country for Mr. Cleveland to extend that hunting trip indefinitely; maybe congress can do better alone. It cannot do worse than it has done under his manipulation.

MR. VANDERVOORT must have had the Holt county populists in his mind when he said: "One of the greatest obstacles the people's party has to contend with is not the name, nor the platform, but the band of the eye-rolling Pharisees who stand on the pinnacle of the roof and thank God they have been in the movement for these many years. They bar the door to recruits, create dissension, advocate schemes that drive away the masses and soar when their sores will let them from one hobby to another in a way calculated to paralyze progress."

Why did the Sun withdraw its bid for printing the delinquent tax list? Ho, ho!—Graphic.

Gregg Roll says there is a combination. A combination between Kautzman and McHugh! My! now birds of a feather will flock together. We are reminded by this that last year THE FRONTIER asked permission to withdraw a bid but met with the reply that anything once filed with the board at once became public property and a part of the records of Holt county, and consequently could not be withdrawn. And still further: We published four columns of proceedings under an arbitrary ruling of the board, and this year the Sun prints but two. Is it possible that a paper must be a perfect tool to get fair play before this board? In a matter of business why should the sups. have any pets? The county of Holt loses money by this paternalism.

It has now leaked out that when the settlement committee asked to count the public funds Treasurer Mullen went down to one of the banks and brought up \$11,000. After that had been counted he asked "if that was enough," and was answered in the negative by the committee, to which he replied that he would take the \$11,000 back and get some more. In about an hour he informed the committee that he had some more money, and they went in and counted \$11,000 a second time, and again Mullen asked, "Is that enough?" and again received the answer that it was not; and again he took away the \$11,000 and again brought back more money which was again counted, making three different lots of money that they counted, or more likely, making one lot that they counted three times. Shipping tags were hanging about this cash in great profusion, which unusual circumstance was remarked by the committee and explained by Mullen, who said that it was shipped in for this purpose as the banks did not have it on hand. A like circumstance was thought sufficient grounds for impeachment when Barrett Scott was treasurer.

HEIGH HO! what's this? A Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record, a journal of cuckooish tendency, and, except to his Hawaiian polley, always laudatory of the administration of President Cleveland, tells sad stories concerning the demoralization of official life. Nor does he deal in generalities; he makes his charges specific. He says, for example, that Josiah Quincy, the eminently good Josiah, has secured a government contract for his friends, with a share of the profit for himself. That Secretary Carlisle's coachman, footman and house servants are placed on the treasury pay rolls. That the very clothes they wear have been purchased by public money. That the stylish covered landau in which the secretary's wife drives when on her rounds of fashion in foul weather and the open victoria in which she rides when it is

fair have been bought with funds that properly belong to the United States. That the fine Kentucky steed driven by the secretary's son has been bought by the same means and is maintained at the public cost. And Hoke Smith has glued his colored cook's husband to the pay rolls while on the other hand he has been chopping off pensioners to even up matters.—Fremont Tribune.

## INDEPENDENT STEALS.

At every meeting of the board of supervisors they steal from the county \$186, by charging for the day before the board meets and the day after it adjourns.

By awarding the printing of the tax list to the Independent they have stolen over \$1,500 from the people of the county.

By employing more help in the treasurer's office than is necessary and more than was employed under a republican administration, they are wrongfully spending the people's money.

By employing more help in the clerk's office than is necessary and more than was employed under a republican administration, they are robbing the tax payers.

By allowing the sheriff two deputies when he should do all of the work himself, they are heaping additional burdens upon the public.

By recklessly plunging the county into ill-advised and losing litigation that are increasing taxes.

Employing John Morrow for a year at \$2.50 per day as assistant expert, which was clearly a violation of our statute.

By calling a grand jury last fall they heaped thousands of dollars of additional debt upon the county, and the benefits derived were absolutely nothing.

Being the plurality party they are responsible for the continuance of the supervisor system, which costs the county over \$50,000 more every year than that of the commissioner.

Before election Joss Mullen promised that all the help he would ask would be one deputy and one clerk. Therefore, all the help he employs above that number is a steal, according to the words of his own mouth.

Awarding the contract for publishing the proceedings to both the Sun and the Independent is a steal that will amount to considerable.

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