

# THE EVENING NEWS.

Friday, Oct. 16, 1874.

## The Grand Jury.

After the exercise of a great deal of inquiry, and the arrangement and use of the Carey Catechism, a grand jury was impaneled in the Third District Court last week, and, before it had been seated to their room to shoot off salutes. Their first shot was an indictment against the attorney general, who, it is said, had to give up his office of \$10,000 required by the presiding judge, was committed and confined to the penitentiary.

It is a serious question whether or not the attorney general is guilty of having a valid indictment. It seems to us not at all improbable that every indictment is liable to be quashed and that two or three of the honest men who preside in the Third District Courts.

H. H. Mordecai directed that the Grand Jury should be composed of twenty-three citizens, and that they were to be impaneled under the "Poland" bill, which was authorized to do so. The "Poland" bill, under which the jury was impaneled, shows how the laws are to be drawn, but the question is, are they to be drawn as the Estey Organs.

In order, then, to determine the number necessary to constitute a grand jury, we must look back on the old statutes, which stand in force so far as they do not conflict with the provisions of the above-named bill. By the Act approved Feb. 13, 1870, it is provided that eighteen jurors shall be impaneled, and that a special provision is made in the bill under which no less than twelve jurors, even if Congress had so directed, could be impaneled.

It may be argued that the present grand jury is not the present grand jury, and all the indictments framed by it as invalid and without force.

It may be asked what object had the Jurors in mind when they numbered twenty-three? The question may be easily decided when it is understood that it takes twice as many numbers to find a grand jury as it does to find a much easier under the "Poland" bill, and that two grand juries out of twenty-three will out of fifteen, even when the Carey Catechism is made the standard of law, and that the grand jury to be impaneled is the indictment of "Mormons."

There is another query in connection with this important subject. If twenty-three is the proper number to be impaneled, Grand Jury Law can scarcely be said to be valid ifment. Col. T. E. Ricks, one of the panel, is committed to the penitentiary for two years to answer the roll call, and attend to business. Twelve of the whole number are agreed to be valid, and two or three out of part of a jury find a bill, which will stand the test of legal scrutiny.

Viewing the foregoing according to what light we have on the matter, we are of the opinion that the present Grand Jury is another of the Mormon trials, and that all the acts of that body will be of no value whatever than the decisions of the House of Representatives. It has evaporated into thin air, and which drew upon him the ridicule and contempt of the whole bar of the United States—Ogden Junction.

## NEWS NOTES.

Forney writes that no public money is ever stolen in France.

According to the latest reports from Col. Forney, "England is about to take hold earnestly of the Centennial matter and we may expect to see the news of vigorous and practical action."

Congressman Cain, colored, of South Carolina, says: "The war of races I regard as a mere chimera, feared by white and colored people only in proportion to their ignorance."

Senator Conkling told the delegates to the New York Republican Convention that President Grant "wishes the Boston Globe," but is Conkling sure he knows?

Poland and Frelinghuysen are still trying to explain their connection with the press gag law. Evidently the old Congressional rams imagine that by holding in their horns they may lead the people to believe that they are lambs.

Courier-Journal.

Attorney General Williams has not been in a proper state of mind since he cut that ridiculous figure as the President's nominee for Circuit Judge, but why he should distribute his hot temper over the South, which has nothing to do with either his incompetency or his failure, is a little singular.

A fact which is getting to be generally recognized is that we have too many offices, too expensive a staff, and too high taxes. The worst of it is that half of the office-holders are there only because it is a harsh phrase, but the facts justify it. We must clean out the Augus stable, punish dishonest officials and reduce expenses. Will the Finance Committee go on in their good work?—S. F. Chronicle.

The Directors of the Pueblo & Salt Lake Railroad Company have held several important meetings recently. On Monday last M. D. Thatcher was elected President, O. H. P. Baxter Vice-President, A. Bradford and James Rice were elected Directors, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignations of W. C. Thatch and M. A. Shaffenburg, and William F. Stone was elected solicitor with L. C. Thatcher, in place of Hugo Butler.—Pueblo (Colo.) People, Oct. 10.

Some of Postmaster Jewell's associates in the Cabinet have a strong belief that he will not be able to sustain himself in the ruling, excluding all claim agents from the office, and that he will have to back down on account of its sweeping character. A further examination shows that the order will exclude two, if not three former postmaster generals, five or six assistant postmaster generals, and a number of prominent lawyers, who act as agents for railroad companies in their business before the several departments.—Washington Correspondence of Cincinnati Times.

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