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WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1848.

(NO. 2.)

HISTORICAL INCIDENTS ABOUT OREGON.

NO. 2.

In the year 1834, the Rev. Messrs. Jason and Daniel Lee, accompanied by Messrs. Walker and Edwards, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, sent by their church, arrived at Vancouver in company with Mr. Wyeth.—They came with the intention of establishing themselves in the Flathead country—but the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company represented to them that that section of country was so overrun with hostile tribes that it would be exposing themselves to inevitable destruction—that to do real and substantial good to the Indians could only be effected by establishing a religious influence in this country—and, as the Willamet was the first place where a permanent settlement would be formed, (a few settlers had located there at that period,) they should establish themselves there if they wished effectually to secure these laudable objects.—They accordingly settled in this valley, and it is due to them to say, that these first missionaries devoted themselves most zealously to their sacred calling, and exerted a most salutary influence, by their precept and example, over the whites and Indians.

As importing provisions from Europe to the Columbia was found to be more expensive than the trade could afford, the Hudson's Bay Company, in 1824 and '25, removed their establishment from Fort George (Astoria) to Vancouver, where they began to farm. But the only seed they had were potatoes and peas—of the latter, only half a pint of the early kind, which were planted with great care and attention of course. In the fall, they received a bushel of red wheat—the same quantity of peas, and of Indian corn, (which the Governor, Sir George Simpson, sent them from Red river, in the vicinity of lake Winnipeg,) with which they began their farming operations in 1826. But though the peas cooked well, still, as they were brown, the people did not like them. On that account, the officers husbanded the early pea so as to increase their stock. But in 1828, by some mistake, they were issued to the trapping parties, unknown to the officer in charge, who found in the bin only a few that had got in between the boards; with these he began again, and from this is sprung the stock of early white field peas in this country. In regard to the red bearded wheat, it may be interesting to know that it was introduced into the Indian country by the late Mr. Alexander McKay, father of Capt. Thomas McKay. The late Mr. McKay in 1808, received at his place, Fort Alexander, at the mouth of the river Winnipeg, some beaver traps, packed with straw, in a case, in which he found two grains of red bearded wheat, which he planted in his garden—and from these two grains of red bearded wheat, are come all the red wheat in the Hudson's Bay territories and Oregon.

A.

Our correspondents must bear in mind the small size of our sheet, and shape their communications accordingly. The more they condense thought and expression—keeping the idea always perspicuous, however—the more effective will be their compositions.

Some Stanzas that have been handed us about the tragical occurrence at Wailatpu, are susceptible of improvement.

FORT LEE, April 1, 1848.

DEAR SIR—Believing that it is best to keep you advised of all important facts connected with the army, I have thought proper to give a few items, as I have a chance to send you by Capt. Smith.

We have ascertained that JESSE GAGE, R. JINKINS and WILLIAM SIMMONS, have left here without leave. Send the boys back if you can, and save them from disgrace.

We have 190 men here, and there are about 160 at Fort Waters. There are 55 horses wanting. We expect to get about 25 from the Indians, for cattle they have killed. They are making arrangements to get away without giving up stolen property. Proper measures will be taken to get the property. The Commissioners would do well to send a copy of their treaty.

It is needless to ask you to exert yourself in our common cause. I know you are already in it, soul and body. I intend to remain in the service as long as I think I am of any service—if I get nothing but horse meat to subsist upon.

I have heard that the war is growing unpopular.—Write to me if it is, and let me know who it is that dares to raise his voice against so just a cause.

We will send you a report about the time we leave here. Heavens! That word LEAVE! It unnerves me.—LEAVE!! when? how? without ammunition? Think of it. I pledged my honor to the bravest and best of men—some of them wounded, who fell by my side, executing my orders. For Heaven's sake—for your country's sake—hurry on the ammunition.

If ammunition is not here soon, I shall come down and spend my last shilling for powder and lead, and take it to them—for to them I will go or die in the attempt. Every day—nay, every hour—is big with danger to the men at Fort Waters. Oh heavens! the very thought of it sickens me. I can't write—farewell. I am your sincere friend and humble servant.

GEN. A. L. LOVEJOY.

H. J. G. MAXON.

FOREIGN ITEMS.—From European dates of August last, we condense the following intelligence, that may not be without interest:

Great excitement was prevailing in Italy. The Pope, Pius IX, had granted free municipal institutions to his dominions—had disbanded his guards and instituted a species of National Guard in their place. He had also granted an amnesty for all past political offences.—These, with the commission of other liberal acts, had caused the displeasure of Austria, who, in consequence had taken possession of Ferrara. The Pope in his liberal measures, had received strong support from the Government of England, and the people of France.—An understanding is reported to exist between the Governments of France and Austria, in regard to late developments—that France will not interfere with Austria in the settlement of the Italian affairs, nor Austria with France in regard to Spain.

The Queen of Spain has separated from her husband, (having been married a whole year,) and is anxious for a divorce. Her marriage is said to have been brought about by the intrigue of Louis Phillippe—that the Queen was forced into it, against her will, by her mother Christina, the Queen Dowager.

Carroll McTavish, a great grand-son of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, an American by birth, though of English parentage, has been elected to Parliament as a repeal member for Ireland.