

OREGON FREE PRESS.

"Here shall the Press the people's rights maintain,
Unawed by influence, and unbribed by gain."

GEO. L. CURRY, Editor and Proprietor.

OREGON CITY, SATURDAY JUNE 3, 1848.

THE ELECTION.—On Monday next the citizens of this Territory are called upon to go forward to the polls and select their representatives and county officers, and to approve or disapprove of the proposed amendments to the Organic Law. No man should hesitate to perform this important duty. His single vote may be of great consequence, and it is as much due to his fellow-citizens as it is to himself, that he should exercise his right of suffrage. Ought not the formation of the government to be as much a matter of mutual interest as is its support? Let no one, then, who has the right, neglect to vote—and, in doing so, each voter should feel the importance and responsibility of his act.

In some of the counties the contest will be quite animated, notwithstanding which, we do not doubt but that good order will every where prevail, as it most certainly should. We intend to give our readers the result of this convocation of the sovereigns, as fully and as promptly as we can get the returns.

EXONERATION OF MR. REEVE.—By reference to our first page it will be seen that the Board of Commissioners on "Pilots and Pilotage," have fully exonerated Mr. Reeve, the Bar Pilot, from all blame in reference to the loss of the Vancouver. We have been informed that the merchants contemplate making a loan to Mr. Reeve, of sufficient means wherewith to procure a suitable boat, or boats. One thousand dollars, it is judged, will do this. It is certainly most important that the pilot should have facilities for the discharge of his duty promptly and faithfully.

Mr. Reeve bears honorable testimony as to the excellent conduct of the crew of the Vancouver throughout the time of peril. Every command was obeyed with alacrity and good order.

THE WEATHER.—It rains shockingly—and it has been doing nothing else for some time past, and seems inclined to do nothing more for some time to come. The crops want sunshine, and we all want sunshine—the Commissary General in particular, because he is earnestly desirous of keeping the Mount Hood road unobstructed by snow, that cattle may be driven up to the Dalles for the use of the army. He fears that so much snow has already fallen in the mountains, as to prevent the party getting through, that started a week ago with cattle. We'll take any quantity of rain next winter for sunshine now—there, Mr. Clerk of the weather, now, pray, do!

THE "MT. HELEN."—This is the name of Mr. Truesdell's Horse Boat, which is intended to run between this City and the mouth of the Columbia, and we have no doubt she will greatly facilitate the transportation of freight. She has made several successful experimental trips, and we saw her the other day leave here for Portland with "a full head of steam on," and loaded with thirty thousand feet of lumber.

ELECTION RETURNS.—Our friends in the several counties will oblige us much in forwarding to us, with as much despatch as possible, the correct returns of the election in their various precincts.

IMPROVEMENTS.—We observe that there is a good deal of building going on in and about town, which affords employment to a considerable number of workmen. When finished, these buildings will add much to the appearance of the City. In fact, operations of this character must always produce a beneficial result, especially in a new country or settlement. They may be considered in the light of public improvements, which, while they enhance the interests of a place, tend also to develop and advance its social influence. We notice a large building in the course of erection on Water street, intended for the store-house of Messrs. Campbell and Smith, a new firm which will shortly commence operations in the mercantile line. The edifice is quite an improvement upon others of its kind in this far-off quarter of the globe, combining, as it does, conveniences and facilities for doing business, with its good looks.

We were down about "Clackamas City," as it is styled, the other day, and were quite surprised at the extent and nature of the improvements, which we found in progress there. Messrs. Cutting and Smith have already raised a strong and excellent frame for a saw-mill, and in the course of a couple of months expect to be making lumber. The race to their mill has been formed by nature, saving them immense labor and expense, in the matter of excavation alone; and with trifling artificial help it can be rendered most excellent and available. A little below, on the bank of the Clackamas, we came upon another enterprise which is rapidly going forward under the supervision of the proprietor, Mr. D. C. Ingle. This enterprise consists in the application of water power, as a labor saving means, in the prosecution of several of the useful arts—in the business of the foundry, to furnish wind for the fire of the furnace in blasting—in blacksmithing, to drive the trip-hammer and blow the bellows—and finally, to afford motive power to the lathe and the saw-mill. Mr. Ingle has already succeeded in a portion of his undertaking, in which notwithstanding he is making some further improvement. He is likewise engaged in getting out the timbers for the frame of his saw-mill, which is to be on the river side, immediately below where his foundry and blacksmith shop is situated.

Success, we say, to these and all other industrious and enterprising men, who are actively concerned in the great work of developing the real worth of Oregon—in rendering her numerous streams and dense forests of the highest utility to man.

FOURTH OF JULY.—In a few weeks, the great holiday of the nation—the anniversary of American Independence—will be with us for commemoration—and of all the glorious days in the world's history, it is the worthiest of man's celebration. Abler pens than ours have written of the great moral effect of that day's work—that labor of love for the nations—for all humanity. Let some measures be taken for its appropriate celebration in this City; for this day, with Americans, wherever they may be, can never pass unregarded. On the last "Fourth" most of our citizens joined with those of Portland in their celebration. Now, they should unite with us in commemorating the "day of days."

DECLINATION.—Mr. Absalom Cornelius, of the Molalla settlement, requests us to state that he declines being a candidate for the office of Justice of the Peace. Mr. Daniel Gruell is a candidate for that office in the precinct mentioned. We have also heard the name of Wm. E. Larkins, of the Molalla, as a candidate for the same office.