

Oregon Spectator.

"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way."

Vol. II. Oregon City, (Oregon Ter.) Thursday, February 14, 1847. No. 2.

AN ACT making Appropriations for the year 1847.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the sum of twenty-seven dollars and eighty-eight cents be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the relief of Frederick Prigg, for services rendered from June 26th, 1846, up to December 12th, 1846, as Secretary of the Territory.

§ 2. That the sum of thirty-four dollars and twenty-five cents is hereby appropriated for the relief of A. L. Lovejoy, for services as prosecuting attorney, from December 30th, 1844, up to October 7th, 1846.

§ 3. That the sum of sixty dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the relief of J. W. Nesmith, for services as circuit and probate Judge, up to August 9th, 1845.

§ 4. That the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to the estate of John E. Long, for services as Secretary of State, revising laws, &c.

§ 5. That the sum of one hundred dollars is hereby appropriated for the relief of S. W. Moss, as assessor for the year 1845.

§ 6. That the sum of one hundred and sixteen dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the relief of the Post Office Department.

§ 7. That the sum of one hundred and forty dollars and ninety four cents be, and the same is hereby appropriated to pay the Hudson's Bay Company, as per Treasurer's account.

§ 8. That the sum of four hundred and ninety four dollars and eighty two cents be, and the same is hereby appropriated to unpaid officers of last quarter.

§ 9. That the sum of one thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to pay the Legislature up to the 19th December, 1846.

§ 10. That the sum of fifteen hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the pay of the Judiciary Department.

§ 11. That the sum of three hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the payment of the Executive Department.

§ 12. That the sum of two hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the pay of the Indian Department.

§ 13. That the sum of one hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for contingent expenses.

§ 14. That the sum of thirty-two dollars and twelve cents be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the pay of H. M. Knighton, for repairs done upon the Jail.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.
APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT to regulate the Revenue of Oregon Territory.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the revenue law, for the purpose of assessing and collecting the revenue of this Territory, for the years eighteen hundred and forty-five and forty-six, shall be the revenue law for the years eighteen hundred and forty-seven and forty-eight. The assessment and collections shall be made and done in accordance with the provisions of said law.

§ 2. This act to take effect, and be in force from and after its passage.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.
APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT defining the northern boundary line of Yamhill county.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the northern boundary line of Yamhill county, shall commence at a point on the northwest bank of the Willamette river, opposite the mouth of Pudding river, and run thence in a northwest direction on the top of the main ridge, dividing the waters of the Tualatin river from the waters which flow into Chehalis valley, and thence along on the dividing ridge near Jesse Caton's, in a straight line to the top of the dividing ridge between the waters of the rivers of Yamhill and Tualatin, to the top of the mountain between said rivers, thence west to the Pacific Ocean.

§ 2. That all laws heretofore enacted for the purpose of establishing the northern

boundary line of Yamhill county be, and the same are hereby repeated.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 11th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT entitled an Act to locate and establish the County Seat of Yamhill county.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the County Seat of Yamhill county be, and the same is hereby located and established at or near the falls of the Yamhill river, on the north side of said river, where the town of Lafayette is now laid off.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT legalizing the acts of the County Court of Clatsop county.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the acts of the County Court of Clatsop county be, and the same are hereby legalized.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT for the relief of John R. Jackson, Collector and Assessor of Taxes, for Lewis and Vancouver counties.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That John R. Jackson be, and he is hereby granted, till the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, to pay into the Territorial treasury, the taxes for Lewis and Vancouver counties, for the years one thousand eight hundred and forty-five and forty-six.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 15th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT entitled an Act for the relief of Andrew Hembree.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the sum of two hundred and twenty-six dollars and seventy-five cents be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Territorial treasury, for the payment of the balance due Andrew Hembree for his services in taking charge of, and boarding and clothing Eli Smith, an insane person and a pauper.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT to divorce Nathaniel W. Colwell and Sarah Ann Colwell, his wife.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the marriage contract, or bonds of matrimony now in existence between Nathaniel W. Colwell and his wife Sarah Ann, be, and the same is hereby dissolved.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 17th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT to divorce Elizabeth Gillihan from her husband, Martin Gillihan.

§ 1. Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That Elizabeth Gillihan be, and she is hereby divorced from her husband Martin Gillihan.

§ This act to take effect, and be in force from and after its passage.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

RESOLUTION concerning the location of the Seat of Government.

RESOLVED,
That the present Legislature deem it in-

expedient to locate the seat of government at the present time. Notwithstanding the Legislature feel disposed to decline locating the seat of government, they feel authorized in saying to persons offering donations, that their liberal proposals entitle them to the respect and credit of the Legislature and citizens of Oregon Territory.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 10th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

RESOLUTION instructing the Secretary of the Territory to add the title and enacting clause to all the bills.

RESOLVED,
That the Secretary of the Territory be instructed to add the title and enacting clause to all bills where the same have been omitted by this House.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

AN ACT requiring all laws not otherwise provided for, to take effect from and after their passage.

§ 1. That all acts passed at this session of the Legislature, where not otherwise provided for, shall take effect, and be in force from and after their passage.

Attest, A. L. LOVEJOY, Speaker.
N. HUBER, Clerk.

APPROVED, Oregon City, 19th Dec. 1846.
GEO. ABERNETHY.

The Monster Railroad.

Mr. Whitney, the projector of the great railway from the lakes to the Pacific, judiciously keeps the public advised of his movements by circulars to the journals. The following is a letter from him:—

St. Louis, 20th Sept. 1845.

We arrived here last evening in the steamer John Golong, from Fort Leavenworth, all well. My last was dated at Prairie du Chien, about the first of July, at which place I expected a guide to go with us to the Missouri—was disappointed, then expected one at Fort Atkinson, 50 miles west, where I was again disappointed; the man who was said to be the only suitable guide, seemed to have doubts and fears of his ability, and would not go. Col. Wilson, of the army at Prairie du Chien, and Maj. Dearborn, at Fort Atkinson, I found very civil, highly intelligent, and ready to render any aid in their power—they gave much valuable information, which I found useful, and for which I feel myself under great obligation.

Thus situated without a guide and with but one laboring man with us, I felt a heavy responsibility, and no small reluctance in leading the young gentlemen with me into probable dangers and sure hardships and fatigues; but they to a man said "go on, we will follow you, we cannot turn back," and they have fully redeemed their pledge, for they have gone through many hardships, much fatigue and hard labor, hunger and thirst. I cannot say too much of them, nor can too much praise be awarded them for labor and conduct. Unused to any labor before, I feared it would be hard upon them, but they never flinched, they were ready to wade through mud, water and grass to their necks, with their provisions on their heads, swim rivers, to fell trees for bridges, and other fatigues necessary for the accomplishment of our object.

Before leaving fort Atkinson, I fixed on a route I would like to follow to the Missouri. I took my compass in hand, and made for it. I came to it on the Missouri, within 5 miles from the point started for. By Burr's map of Wisconsin, embracing Iowa, &c. (which I found more correct than any I had seen) we crossed the Turkey river at Fort Atkinson, in north lat. 43, and about 16; thence we crossed the different branches of the Cedars in about same lat. to Clear Lake, in

west longitude 93 and about 25; thence northwesterly till we came to a branch of the St. Peter, running southeasterly; my object in this was to find a dividing ridge between the Cedars which run north and those running southerly.

I will remark that we did not find the Cedars or the St. Peter's branch to correspond with Burr's, or any map I have seen—thence due west to the Des Moines, in lat. 43 20, and west lon. about 95, which river we crossed by felling trees for a bridge; thence due west to a number of small beautiful lakes, which form the head waters of Little Sioux, emptying into the Missouri; thence across Floyd's river; thence due west across the branches of the Calumet, and then the Calumet, then the White-stone or Vermilion; then Jacques river, thence to the great, the grand Missouri, fifteen miles below the great bend, making a distance from the Mississippi to the Missouri, of more than five hundred miles, over the finest country upon the globe, capable of sustaining more than three times the population of the same space in any other part of the globe—no swamps, no marshes, no flooding rivers, except in the vicinity of Wabisiwias, and that only a small distance, and undoubtedly the most healthy country in the world.

I have never found an atmosphere so pure; the surface is generally rolling to an almost level, always, however, enough undulating to let off the water. While on this subject, I will remark that some of the rivers west of the lakes are natural rivers, but have formed themselves and their beds by the constant wash of this vast and almost level prairie, but more of this hereafter. The soil of this vast country is also as rich as it can be. In the whole distance, I did not see one half acre of useless bad land. All required of the farmer will be to plow, plant and gather his crops.

As far as to the Cedars are considerable tracts of good timber, but beyond, none to the Missouri, and then very little till nearly down to Fort Leavenworth, and there only about three miles wide, and sometimes none on the river, but coal is abundant, and the growth of timber so natural, that without fires (which now spread over the whole prairies yearly, consuming every thing,) in 15 years the whole from river to river, would be one dense forest. In my last, I informed you, that there are no difficult streams to cross from the lake to the Mississippi, and that stream can be bridged in the vicinity of, and above Prairie du Chien, without difficulty, but not below—from the Mississippi to the Missouri they can be bridged easily, with little comparative expense; first rate material being abundant in the bluffs which form their banks.

The Missouri is a very difficult stream to bridge or to navigate—its waters rapid, many places shoal, 18 to 22 inches, its bed quicksand, and channel constantly changing, its bottoms between the bluffs, below where the Calumet enters in, are from 4 to 5 miles wide, all quicksand in layers or strata of from 1 to 3 feet, and between each the water constantly working out, which, with the arm of the main stream, causes the banks to tumble in constantly, and often making a new channel from one side of the bottom to the other, rendering it impossible to bridge any where below the entrance of the Calumet, but above which are two places of rock bottom, and one of gravel, where too, the bottom land from bluff to bluff is very narrow, and a bridge may be erected without difficulty, and with safety.

Thus from my picture you see I have found all I desired, and far more than I expected when I set out. If I can get the grant of lands I ask for, I can build the road. I now have not a doubt, or a fear; if Congress will grant me the lands, in a very few months the work shall be commenced, and far sooner than I have dared to hope, it will be completed—when we shall have the whole world tributary to us—when the whole commerce of the vast world will be tumbled into our lap—when this vast and now useless waste and wilderness (and if ever must be so, without this road,) shall become, not only the thoroughfare of the vast world, but its garden, feeding, clothing, comforting, and enlightening millions, who are now starving, homeless, naked, ignorant and oppressed: and who can oppose such a work? I have not exaggerated the results to be derived from it. If you or any other intelligent man will sit down calmly and deliberately, and look over this subject, you will, you must