

For the Argus.
Bachelor's Hall.

To Miss Viola.
Will you pardon one unknown to you, who dares the presumption of offering some weak defense, or rather apology, to the just censure you have bestowed upon the bachelor's hall, through the columns of *The Argus*? Yet why need I so fear and tremble in preferring my petition to a lady's generosity, when that of the entire sex is so proverbial; but, unused to their society, and finding them in all my books of poetry so eminently extolled, it is but natural that I should tremble with diffidence, even such as would best the humble peasant that might come to the presence of the most mild and benign sovereign, to pray of him such boon as the king might most willingly grant, and the peasant most gladly receive. Then taking your pardon for granted, I enter upon my defense of Bachelor's Hall without further delay, and shall do this rather by seeking to introduce you into the mysteries of its history, than by knocking you down, as I would have done had you been so kind as to send me a most graphic picture of my home. The warm fence around the yard, while yet the rails are new, lies half in ruins, what by the hissing of unruly hawks, the rooting of pigs, and the frequent clambering over of myself and visitors for want of a gate, the rails which once lay so straight and perpendicular, now form in some places a sort of unsubstantial steps, or lie scattered around in confusion. No clean shorn grass grows a carpet of green velvet before the door: no flowers of varied hue and rich perfume are woven into lacy borders and figures on the green grassy carpet; no tree spreads its welcome shade where the children may romp in the sunny day with letter and swing, or from the boughs of which the birds may sing me a happy family carol; no sweet-brier, clematis and honeysuckles cluster around the windows of my cabin, for there are no windows or other opening save the rough door without post or lintel, and a long narrow opening, where the chinking has been left out between the logs. Within is the steamed hearth, the scattered ashes, the disordered pots and pans, the disarranged bunk, the legless stool, broken table, dirty dishes, junk-bottle candlestick and broken tobacco pipe. Yes, that is my home. There, like Selkirk on his lonely island, "I am monarch of all I survey."

Wheat Market.
Advices from California per last steamer caused something of a decline in the prices of wheat and flour. We notice that buyers are only offering ninety cents for wheat. Flour is held at \$3.50 per hundred. It is only bringing from \$3.50 to \$3.75 in San Francisco.

Temperance in St. Louis.
It will be seen by the notice of the *Puget Sound Courier* that the subject of temperance since Mr. GUNN assumed the entire control of the paper. We are truly gratified to see that the amiable and excellent young gentleman who edits the *Courier* has fallen into ranks with the best and brightest portion of earth's sons and daughters, who are laboring for the elevation and amelioration of the human race. We have long felt a deep interest in Mr. GUNN'S prosperity, knowing as we do his many virtues, and we ardently hope that he will succeed in his present enterprise to the realization of his most sanguine expectations. The friends of temperance in Washington ought to be liberal in their patronage of his paper:

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