

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1855.

Agents for the Argus.

J. R. McBRIDE, Lafayette.
C. A. REED, Salem.
MORGAN RUDOLPH, Sublimity.
Wm. BARLOW, Molalla.
H. C. RAYMOND, Forest Grove.
DR. DAVIS, Bloomington.
FRANK W. BROWN, Corvallis.
AMOS HARVEY, Plam Valley.
SOLOMON ALLEN, Astoria.
J. E. LYLE, Dallas.
JOHN McKINNEY, Clatsop.
REV. WILSON BLAIN, Union Point.
L. A. REE, Cincinnati.
H. HARRIS, Cincinnati.
DR. GREEN, Sterlingville, O. T.
JUDGE SNELLING, Yreka, Cal.
JNO. B. PRESTON, Will Co. Ill.
R. A. N. PHELPS, Galesburg, Ill.
WILLIS WARRNER, Camden, Mo.

Law Concerning Newspapers.

17 If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrears are paid.
17 If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the post office, or other place, to which they are sent, they are held responsible until they settle all arrears, should there be any.
17 If subscribers remove to other places, without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.
17 It is not sufficient for a postmaster, when a paper is not taken out of his office, to return one with "not taken out" written on the margin, but he must write a letter to the publisher, giving the name and post-office, and stating that the paper is not taken from the office. Otherwise the postmaster is held responsible.

In the Right Direction.

We see that Mr. Straight has given notice of a bill to locate a Territorial road from Oregon City to Lafayette. And is it possible that we have a prospect of getting a road out from Oregon City on the other side of the river at last? It has always been a matter of wonder to us, that while our enterprising friends at Portland were using every exertion to open up convenient communication with all sections of the country, thereby drawing in the resources of adjacent agricultural sections, and rapidly augmenting their own wealth, that Oregon City has remained entirely inaccessible to large portions of our agricultural community which ought to pour their wealth in upon us, instead of going to Portland with it as they now do. In a word Oregon City has been kept in the back ground, for want of the facilities of land transportation afforded by good roads leading into the heart of the farming country in all directions. This together with other causes has kept this place, great as it is in natural advantages, much in the condition of an old man in the last stages of the consumption. Its old rickety moss covered buildings, dingy for the want of paint, and dilapidated for the want of tenants who own them, with shammy fencing, weaving and bending to the winds of heaven, feebly supported by props to posts long since rotted off, all conspire to give to the place a forlorn appearance, and throw over it an air of stagnant desolation that strikes the passing traveler as the result of something radically wrong in the management of a city possessing such great natural advantages. If something is not done to help us out of our dilemma, we have no idea that five years hence the "chain" embracing the whole city could be sold for twenty dollars an acre. The whole difficulty grows out of a culpable, criminal, and shameful negligence on the part of property owners of their true interests in taking the proper steps to build up the place. To eat, drink, and smoke away their lives, living on the "rents" of a few crazy, shapeless fabrics, taking little thought for the morrow, and satisfied if the farmers can reach the city on some circuitous cow trail filled with logs, and fenced across every two miles, packing a little butter in a bucket on one arm, a few eggs in a basket on the other, with perhaps a sack of potatoes slung across the shoulder, to spend a life surrounded by such circumstances seems to be the highest ambition of some men who have it in their power to put a new aspect upon things in this place in a period of a few years. If any body thinks we have exaggerated the picture of outward circumstances, let him try teaming from Linn City to Chehalis, as we have done, and he will agree that the half has not been told. The great mass of the people in Yamhill and Polk ought to come here with their produce instead of going to Portland, as it is nearer, and a better road could be made with two thirds of the money. We want roads and mail routes leading out from Oregon City in several directions.

We are truly glad that Mr. Straight has taken the matter in hand. That road from this to Lafayette the sole object of your labors, Mr. S., and don't be diverted from your object till you get the road, and have some provision made for having it worked. If you do nothing more during the session you will have accomplished a lasting good for your country. Don't let the Territory spend all its means in "surveying" and marking it out; better follow the old road,

and use the money towards improving it. The Territory ought to lay out these roads leading to the emporiums of trade through the timbered country. The settlers have enough to do in opening their farms; and it is but just that the upper country people for whose benefit they are made should bear a large proportion of the expense of making them. We hope, Mr. Straight, that you will consider yourself particularly "called and sent" to the Legislature to attend to that road, and, like a dog at a root, you will hang on until you get it. We hope that Mr. Hiley, for instance, will make it his special business to get in a petition for a mail route along the same road, leading out to Lafayette every Monday. Mr. Officer might get in a petition for a mail route leading out through Silverton to Sublimity. If you will accomplish these things for your country, you will come home deserving some credit for having done something for your constituents.

Legal Opinion.

We learn from the *Puget Sound Courier* that in the case of Washington Territory *ex vs. Skookum*, (an Indian indicted for the murder of a squaw) which recently came before the court at Port Townsend, Judge Chenoweth discharged the prisoner, upon the ground that the Indian tribes are not individually subject to our laws so long as they maintain their existence as distinct tribes or nations, acknowledging allegiance to their own chiefs, and being subject to their own criminal codes for the punishment of crimes.

This is probably a correct view of the case under our present Indian relations, but we have often thought that there was something shamefully wrong in a state of things which allows these diabolical barbarians to cut their poor captive squaws in a moment immediately before our eyes, as they frequently do in this city, with impunity. There is a system of slavery carried on by these Indians in our midst more shocking, cruel, and diabolical than any we know of now in existence, and men who are shielding large tears over a milder system far distant never think of bothering their heads about relieving the woes of miserable human creatures in our midst, whose wail of woe reaches our ears on almost every night in the week. That it is the business and duty of the whites to teach these lazy, brutal "backs" to adopt a milder treatment of their females, is a proposition which needs no proof.

The Legislature of Washington Territory.
Convened at Olympia Dec. 24. The following persons were found to be entitled to seats in the House—Messrs. Anderson, Baker, Bishop, Buchanan, Caples, Chambers, Clark, Douthitt, Eldridge, Gilliam, Hale, Harris, Howe, Johnson, Jones, McElroy, Morrison, Morrow, Packard, Phillips, Robinson, Walker, Ward, Whipple, and Denny. The members of the Council are, Messrs. Page, Poe, Patterson, Cook, Wallace, Huff, Bigelow, Strickler, and Catlin.

Mr. Denny was elected Speaker of the House, and Rev. J. F. Devore Chaplain. Mr. Catlin was chosen President of the Council. The members of both houses voted themselves each ten copies of the two papers published in the Territory. Pretty decent set of legislators they have over in Washington.

Political Financier.
We see by the Statesman that the brick which was purchased at Corvallis for the University, at a cost of nineteen dollars per thousand, was sold for five dollars, after the University was removed to Jacksonville. The probability is that they have purchased another quantity of brick at Jacksonville by this time, for the same purpose, which will no doubt be soon knocked off under the hammer for a nominal price, as the University is about to be "moved" again. It is an old saying that "a man might as well be burnt out as to move three times." If the "moving" farce should end with a fire, the people would probably be able to make a raise equivalent to the one which was scratched out of the ashes of an office which was once burnt down in this city over a money safe containing junk bottles.

"The mails throughout the Territory have never been so bad a condition, since we have been in Oregon, as now. On some routes they are never carried except by chance. Somebody ought to attend to the matter."—*Corvallis Statesman*.

Now we have always contended that somebody ought to attend to a variety of matters in Oregon. Such, for instance, as consigning to their political graves a clique of politicians who have long been squandering the heavy appropriations made by Congress for our public buildings, for printing our laws, building up a University, and making military roads, besides stagnating the business of the whole Territory and blighting its future prospects by botched up school laws, road laws, probate laws, and many other enactments, conceived in ignorance, and shapen in the Statesman's office; all extorting money from the people for which they never receive a quid pro quo. Would

it not be well for "somebody" to look after that villainous law which requires a person to send you the stray notices, although a copy of your sheet may not be taken in his neighborhood? Also to place the public printing in hands that will execute it? We expect that at the next June election your tone will be entirely changed, and "somebody" (the people) will be told that they needn't mind just now about "attending to" anything but putting in the ticket you have made out for them.

The Weather.

Last Friday night a week the wind suddenly veered into the North, the clouds disappeared, and the cold piercing wind froze the mud up solid, and raised the price of overcoats. On last Tuesday, which was the coldest day we have had, the thermometer stood 9 degrees above zero. Everybody seemed to suffer as much with the cold as they used to in Michigan when the mercury stood at 25 degrees below zero. Most of our citizens thought they had never experienced colder weather in the States. The Columbia is frozen over above the mouth of the Willamette, and the ice is so thick below that it is said the Portland boats are not able to reach Astoria. The cold weather has pretty much stopped all kinds of business. The steamboats find it so difficult to draw out the pipes, whenever they stop a few hours, that some of them have laid up for a change of weather. The most incorrigible old sinners who have hitherto been grumbling at the "mist," are now on their knees praying for rain.

Yesterday morning the mercury sunk two degrees below zero. This was as cold as it has been known in Oregon for the last eight years.

"A Catholic Citizen" in the last *Standard* informs us that he is not a "Sinner" but a "brother of charity." This "brother of charity" is doubtfully pained at our ignorance in supposing that there were any sisters of charity in the French Prairie. We stand corrected, "brother." It was an innocent mistake of ours, certainly. In passing through the French Prairie last winter, we saw some "sisters" that looked to us like objects of charity, but we are not disposed to be dogmatical on the point, if called in question.

How about that "transcript," and your real name, friend? Are you afraid or ashamed to hand them over?

The different writers from the seat of war differ materially as to the number of Indians killed during the four days' engagement with Col. Kelley's command. Some say 50, some 150, some 100, while Kelley puts the number at 75. Of course it was all guess work, in fixing upon the number, as the bodies are generally carried off the field as fast as they fall. The probability is, that Col. Kelley is not under the mark. There is nothing the "allies" before Sebastopol, by digging rifle pits from which to pepper the red skins, is something new in Indian fighting.

Judge Deady passed through Oregon City a few days since on his way to his home in Umpqua. Either the burdens of official duty, or something else, seem to have worn upon him, for he looks a good deal "caveled in." He is notwithstanding as blithe, smiling, and communicative as ever.

The "Picture of the Hospital at Sebastopol" on the outside of this week's paper is a "picture" of the horrors of human misery, by a long to the war trade, which is enough to make the heart sick and the blood curdle in one's veins in contemplating it.

The Last Three of Vililany.
"Now let us tell Mr. Leland what we do not do. We do not mortgage the affections of our female relations, or raise money on the r. hand in advance; and then stand a saw-saw in endeavoring to cheat the lender! Neither do we any one being a usages \$50 gold piece, for the same purpose of being a g. g. g. if we were to mortgage, we might not be competent to do so in a service."—*Corvallis Statesman*.

The also a daily thrust at the character of Leland's wife we find in a letter signed Patrick J. Malone, published to the world in the *Corvallis Statesman* of Dec. 25th. This letter was probably written by Bush and Malone together, and published under the deliberate conviction that the most effective method of killing off a rival democratic (?) editor was to assail the character of his wife.

We are inclined to think that Wiggins was not in the "censor's" chair last week, or such an article would not have been allowed to "go in." It was bad enough for these enactors of the "Territorial" organ to crawl into Leland's store in search of weapons with which to stab him; but what will the community think of the young men, when with unblushing effrontery they imply that they have been under his bed? Or will they contend that they got their information through a "knot hole," and that the act was "highly honorable," as they were "ferreting out traitors and spies"? Ye Statesman supporters, how do you like your "organ"?

To Correspondents.
Mr. Clark complains that he does not get his paper. We are truly sorry, but do not know how to help it. We have sent it regularly to Dallas since he ordered it to be sent to that office. If Mr. C. will take the trouble to be at the office and see the Dallas package opened, he will always see a paper with his name on it. We think it would be a good idea for the neighbors in some localities to throw in and pay for a paper for their Postmaster. There are some Postmasters in Oregon who pretend that they have *The Argus* with perfect hatred, yet we believe that they are determined to have it to read, even if they risk the fires of damnation by borrowing it.

To those correspondents who say, "Please return my communication by mail if not published," we would say that, in order to secure this, it will be necessary to enclose stamps to prepay them. If they are put in the office without being prepaid they will go to Washington City, instead of the proper place; and if you should happen to see them appear in the "Washington Union" you would feel yourselves disgraced.

J. B. R., of Salt creek, is informed that M. W. R.'s name has been entered on our States list.

G. O. B., of Bethel, shall be attended to. There are no terrestrial globes for sale in Oregon, but we will send to San Francisco.

Gen. Palmer versus the Legislature.

A memorial praying Congress to "stay the Superintendent of Indian Affairs from locating certain Indian tribes within the Willamette valley" was recently presented to the House by Mr. Shuck, as chairman of the committee appointed for drafting it. The report called forth a lively debate, in which the conduct of Mr. Palmer was severely criticised as unwise, visionary, and anti-Do-Lane-like. It is but justice to the members to state that none of them called the motives of the Indian Agent in question.

Mr. Sturtevant, who has lately returned from the Dalles, informs us that during the dreadful stormy weather we had here ten days ago, in Middle Oregon they had a cloudless sky and beautiful sunny days.

"We are indebted to the Secretary of the Territory for a copy of the new edition of the Oregon Statutes."—*Standard*.

If we belonged to your political "chain gang" we might have been able to say the same, but as we do not, and as we don't like to be "indicted" for such favors, if the Secretary will forward us a copy we will pay him for it.

Episcopalian School.

We learn from Bishop Scott that he has purchased the Mansion House formerly owned by Mr. Dickman, with the intention of opening in it a boy's boarding school. The Bishop is now corresponding with a gentleman in Washington Territory whom he desires to engage to take charge of the school. The main object of the school will be to afford such opportunities for acquiring a thorough classical, scientific, and theological education, as shall enable young gentlemen to fit themselves for the ministry. The building is located upon a bold bluff of the Willamette, immediately upon the bank of the river, about midway between Oregon City and Portland, and by a little improvement can be made one of the most delightful spots for educating youth, that can be found in Oregon.

"Some correspondents of the *Standard* set up a bulabuloo about the allusion in Col. Neami's report to the transactions of Father Pandory with the Indians. He displays the even face of either direct opposition to the democratic organization, or some head-on and dis-Beating with that organization, which properly finds a home in the *Standard*, by ever saying the thing that the great many such democrats in Oregon as the Count. We can hardly conceive that the author of that communication is a Catholic, or a friend of the Catholic church."—*Corvallis Statesman*.

So it seems that "Catholic Citizen" by his "opposition to the democratic organization," has fully convinced the young man of the Statesman, that he is not a "Catholic or a friend of the Catholic church." That your party had the sympathies of the half-breeds and Priests, we were fully aware—but that their church and your party were identical has never before been admitted by one of your number. Your putting the party or clique, above the Priests, and intimating that the latter should be subject to the former, is rank heresy as understood both at Rome, and in the French Prairie, for which you will no doubt be either excommunicated, or be sentenced to do penance, sitting on a sharp rock.

Strange.

We notice that most of the papers in the States in quoting the account of the "Wiggins massacre," credited it to either the *Oregonian* or *Corvallis Statesman*. One of the Sacramento (Cal.) papers credited it to the latter.

The river is blocked up with ice, so that the ferry boats and steam boats are all laid up. We fear we shall not get off any mail till the weather changes.

The Battle with the Indians North.

BATTLE GROUND, Dec. 15, 1855.

Fried Adams.—Having a leisure moment I hasten to drop you a line. The battle with the Indians lasted from the morning of the 7th, to the evening of the 10th. We had to fight each day from sunrise till dark. An express reached our camp last evening from Gov. Stevens, who is at McKay's, and will be here to day or to-morrow. He has about fifty men with him, and an escort of one hundred Nez Perce Indians. The Nez Perce chief, Looking-glass, is friendly to the whites, and as Gov. Stevens expresses it in his letter, "our enemies are his enemies." You have probably heard that Peep-en-mot-nox was taken prisoner before the fight commenced, and was killed during the battle of the first day. Stock-whitley is mortally wounded, having a ball in his neck, and one in his side. Joes is also seriously wounded. About 100 Indians are supposed to have been either killed immediately or mortally wounded during the four days' fight. The enemy is supposed to be about 900 strong. They have now gone over to the Snake country with their stock, and they say the warriors will soon be back to renew the fight. Below you will find a complete list of the killed and wounded.

Malmomah company, Capt. A. V. Wilson badly wounded, but recovering. Private, E. B. Kelo, J. Fleming, (both dead) P. Duvall, slightly. Waco company, J. Sturtevant and G. W. Smith; both recovering. Marion company, Capt. Bennett killed instantly, by a shot through the head. First Lieut. A. Shepherd slightly wounded. Privates, Ira Allen, and Bluff Miller; badly wounded but recovering. Linn company, Capt. Davis Layton, and Serg. Major Isaac Miller, both severely wounded, but doing well. Lieut. J. Barrows instantly killed. Severely wounded, among the privates were N. Fry, C. Snook, T. J. Payne, E. Crabtree, all doing well. A. M. Addington slightly, H. Crow mortally, (now dead) Benton company, Capt. L. Munson badly wounded, but recovering. Privates, E. P. Van Hazeram killed, John Smith severely wounded. Company K, private, E. G. Evans badly wounded, recovery doubtful.

Please excuse the above short letter, as I write in a hurry, surrounded by almost every imaginable inconvenience that ever harassed a correspondent.

Respectfully yours, B. F. COOPER.

Col. Kelley's Despatch.

On the 8th they did not make their appearance until about 10 o'clock, in the morning, and then in somewhat diminished numbers. As I had sent for H. H. Bennett for companies D and E, and six of them on the 10th, I thought it best to leave the defensive and hold our position, which were the same as on the 8th—until we could get an accession to our force sufficient to enable us to assault their rear, and cut off their retreat. An attack was made during the day upon the companies A and H, in the timberland, and upon B on the hill, both of which were repulsed with great slant by those companies, and with considerable loss to the enemy. Companies F, I, and K, also did great honor to themselves in repelling all approach to their position, although in doing so our men in company F and one in company I were severely wounded. Darkness, as usual closed the combat, by the enemy withdrawing from the field. Owing to the inclemency of the night, the companies on the hill were withdrawn from their several positions, company B, alone foraging its rifle pits which were made by the men of that company for its protection. At early dawn on the next day, the Indians were observed from our camp to be in possession of all points held by us on the hill the preceding day. Upon seeing them, Lieut. McAniff, of company B, gallantly observed that his company had dug those holes, and that after breakfast they would have them again; and well was his declaration fulfilled, for in less than half an hour the enemy was driven from the pits, and fled to an adjoining hill which they had occupied the day before. This position was once assailed. Capt. Conroy, with company K, and a portion of company I, being mounted, gallantly charged the enemy on his right flank, while Lieut. McAniff, with company B, dismounted, rushed up the hill, in the face of a heavy fire, and scattered them in all directions. The y at once fled to return to this battle field no more, and thus ended our long contested fight.

I have already given you a list of the killed and wounded on the first two days of the battle. On the last two days we had only three wounded, whose names you will find subjoined to this report. J. Fleming, of company A, before reported as mortally wounded, has since died. I am happy, however, to say that private Casper Snooks, of company H, reported by me as mortally wounded, is in a fair way to recover. The surgeon informs me that all the wounded in the hospital are now doing well. The loss of the enemy in killed during the four days, I estimate at about 800 men. Thirty-nine dead bodies have already been found by the volunteers, and many were carried off the field by their friends and comrades, so that I think my estimate is about correct. The number of their wounded must, of course, be very great.

In making my report, I cannot say too much in praise of the conduct of the officers of the several companies, and most of the soldiers under their command. They did their duty bravely and well, during those four trying days of battle. To 2d Maj. Chann, who took charge of the companies in the breast by the river, and is due for his bravery and skill. Also, to Assistant Adjutant Monroe Alkoon, for his efficiency and zeal as well in the field as in the camp. And here, while giving to the officers and men of the regiment the praise that is justly due, I cannot omit the name of the Nez

than Olney, although he is not one of the volunteers. Having accompanied me in the capacity of Indian Agent, I requested him to act as my aid on account of his admitted skill in Indian warfare, and to his wisdom in council and daring courage on the field of battle, I am much indebted, and shall ever appreciate his worth. Companies D and E, having arrived from Fort Henrietta on the evening of the 10th, the next morning I followed, with all the available troops, along the Nez Perce trail in pursuit of the Indians. On Mill creek, about twelve miles from here, we passed through their village, numbering one hundred and ninety-six fires, which had been deserted the night before. Much of their provision was scattered by the waste, indicating that they had fled in great haste to the north. We pursued them until it was too dark to follow the tracks of their horses, when we camped on Copay creek. On the 12th we continued the pursuit until we passed some distance beyond the station of Brooks, Noble and Bamford, on the Tschet, when we found the chase was in vain, as many of our horses were completely broken down, and the men on foot. We therefore returned, and arrived in camp on yesterday evening with about one hundred head of cattle, which the Indians left scattered along the trail during their flight.

On the 11th, while in pursuit of the enemy, I received a letter from Narcisse Raymond, by the hands of Tim-tin-met-27, a friendly chief, (which I enclose) asking our protection of the French and friendly Indians under his charge. On the morning of the 12th I despatched Capt. Conroy with his company to their relief. Mr. Olney, who accompanied them, returned to camp this evening, and reports that Capt. Conroy will return to-morrow with Raymond and his people, who feel greatly relieved from their critical situation. Mr. Olney learned from these friendly Indians, what we have long believed, that the Palouses, the Walla-wallas, Umatillas, Cayuses, and Stock Whitley's band of De Shutes Indians, were all engaged in the late battle on the Walla-wallas. These Indians also informed Mr. Olney that after the battle the Palouses, Walla-wallas and Umatillas have gone partly to the Grand Round and partly to the country of the Nez Perces; and Stock Whitley, disgusted with the manner in which the Cayuses fought in the battle, has abandoned them, and gone to the Yakima country to join his forces with those of Kiamaskan. We have now the undisputed possession of the country south of Snake river, and I would suggest the propriety of retaining this position until such time as it can be occupied by the regular troops. The Indians have left much of their stock behind, which will doubtless be lost to us if we go away. The troops here will not be in a situation for some time to go to the Palouse country, as our horses at present are too much jaded to endure the journey, and we will have no boats to cross Snake river, nor timber to make them near this place; but I would suggest the propriety of following the Indians with all possible speed, now that their hopes are blighted and their spirits are broken. Unless this is done they will perhaps rally again.

Today I received a letter from Gov. Stevens, dated yesterday, which I enclose. You will perceive that he is in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war. With his views I fully concur. I must earnestly ask that supplies may be sent forward to us without delay. For the last three days some of the volunteers, except the two companies recently from Fort Henrietta, have had only flour. None is here, and but 2000 lbs. at that post. We are now living on beef and potatoes which are found on creek, and the men are becoming discontented with this mode of living. Clothing for the men is much needed as the winter approaches. To-morrow we must remove to a more suitable point where grain can be obtained in greater abundance or our own horses. A place has been selected about two miles above William's station, and on the main north side of Walla-wall; consequently I will abandon this Fort, named in honor of Capt. Bennett, of Co. F, who now sleeps beneath its stockade, and whose career of usefulness and bravery was here so sadly but nobly closed.

JAS. K. KELLEY, Lieut. Col., &c.

OREGON, Dec. 6, 1855.

Mr. W. L. Adams.—DEAR SIR:—I see in *The Argus* of the 3d of Nov. last, a statement of an affair in this neighborhood, by which the whole neighborhood was frightened out of their senses by the discharge of a pair of revolvers at the house of Mr. Walker; and which represented that the bridge was guarded; also that an old lady, with rheumatism, was wrapped in her night clothes, and hastily removed and laid on the damp earth, &c., &c.

The facts of the case are these. At the hour of midnight the firing commenced, at which time there were ten reports of fire arms, believed by several persons who heard the firing to be somewhere between Walker's and the bridge spoken of. Some half hour or three quarters afterwards the firing commenced again, which was evidently at Walker's, at which time there were ten more reports of fire arms, twenty in all—and at between 12 and 1 o'clock at night. The bridge was not guarded as Mr. B. informed you. He also informed you that the whole neighborhood was alarmed, which is also untrue. Not one third of them heard the firing at all. As regards the old lady's rheumatism, Mr. B.'s informant, if he had any, must be unacquainted in this neighborhood, as none such reside in this part of the country. It is true that some three families left their dwellings for a short space of time. One was one of those which were absent from the house for a very short time. Myself, the Rev. Mr. Henderson, (who was stopping at my house that night) and two other gentlemen, who were stopping some mile and a half from my house, heard the reports. The latter thought them to be at my house, and came to our assistance, supposing we were attacked by Indians. We four went to the campment of some gentlemen who were encamped with their wagons and teams near the bridge, some 250 yards from my house. They had heard the firing. Two of the company then went to Walker's house. They saw no man, but saw Mrs. and Miss Walker.

With the above statement of facts, which I pledge myself to prove if necessary, I leave this Mr. B. to account to an inquisitive community which has done him no harm.

LAWRENCE HALL.

The foregoing communication is published at the urgent request of the writer, although we consider the corrections at this late date of little importance.