

the offspring of men who feed and fatten at the public crib and tax unmercifully the public for their fidelity to platforms. The consummation of Democratic liberality is found in resolution — and, in nearly those words: *Democrats may freely speak or write their sentiments for and against the adoption of slavery in Oregon*, provided they do not sympathize with black republicanism or abolitionism. Gracious resolution! Some few Democrats did write and some not, *very freely*, but straightway their standing was impaired. This resolution would better express the liberty intended to be given, did it read, *Democrats, beware how you speak against the adoption of slavery in Oregon. The Clique itself could not have spoken freely against the adoption of slavery and stood an upright Democrat.* The fact is that free-state Democrats are so disciplined as to forbid a bold and manly opposition to the adoption of slavery anywhere. The Democratic party has become the home of all pro-slavery men, and they control the liberty of speech on the question of slavery. Where is the Democratic editor or statesman that speaks freely his sentiments in opposition to slavery-extension? Though there is a large free-state vote in the Democratic party, yet their political leaders and their presses are hushed to silence by their connection, or forced to profess that they have no objection to slavery not local; and, if of New England origin, it is required that they frequently denounce Northern fanaticism. This last seems a most lucky artifice to catch votes, and is one of the most silly and successful humbug of politicians.

Disapproving, as I do, of the pretended indifference of the free-state leaders of the Democratic party with regard to the spread of slavery, and of the sentiments of the slavery-extensionists of the party—and of their newly-adopted article of faith, that the Constitution makes all our territory slave territory—and of the expenditure of \$80,000,000 per annum by the General Government—of their action toward Kansas—of their non-payment of our war debt—and believing that neither the Democratic party at home nor that of the nation adheres to its profession or subserves the public interests, and being unwilling to have my political faith a matter of yearly conventional legislation, I thought it my duty to withdraw from the organization, and to hold my political faith subject to my own personal control.

W. A. STARKWEATHER,
UPPER MOLALLA, March 25, 1859.

FROM THE SOUTH.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Enquirer writes:

"I have within a day or two met with a Northern gentleman of intelligence and reputation, who has just returned from a visit to North and South Carolina, who reports a highly favorable state of feeling in the portions of those States he visited. Like tens of thousands at the North, they have come to the conclusion that sectional agitation has been purposely kept up by politicians for mere political effect; and as to the South desire any disruption of it.—This gentleman states that in coming North, the railroad trains met generally had two passenger cars, each about half filled, and usually two or three cars packed full of negroes, going South. I was told the day before by a gentleman from Baltimore, that large numbers of negroes, were going South from Maryland; and at the present rate of emigration, the State would soon divest herself of the whole of her black population.—This is the effect of the high price of cotton, and the consequent high price of negroes; a price altogether above what they are worth to grain growing and stock raising farmers. Let this state of things continue for a few years, and we shall have free States south of Mason and Dixon's line."

THE THIRTY MILLION PROJECT.—The New York Times offers the following explanation of Mr. Sill's scheme:

"An impulse stronger and more immediate than the remote suggestions of political ambition now appears to account for the Congress and agitation.—The bill granting the President control of thirty millions of the public money is a measure of speculation, not of policy. The funds thus placed at the discretion of the chief magistrate, who now stands, as his New York organ confesses, 'almost alone, looking about him in vain for a party, are to be used, not towards the purchase of Cuba, but simply to set on foot a grand scheme for buying up Spanish bonds in Europe at their present rate of depreciation, and raising their market value by forcing the Spanish Government to pay them in full or surrender Cuba as an equivalent. In order to reconcile the public mind of America to this notable transaction, funds will be freely used, and typical applications of a note of silver made with a Presidential prating to the vocal organs of public opinion."

The Homestead Bill, which passed the House of Representatives by a vote 120 to 76, and has yet to be acted upon in the Senate, is highly important in its provisions, which have been somewhat misunderstood. It donates, free of cost to every head of a family or person of legal age, native born, or an alien having declared his intention to become a citizen, one quarter section, or one hundred and sixty acres of vacant, unappropriated land. After five years' residence upon it the lands are finally patented upon the payment of a fee of ten dollars for the issuing of the patent, and the lands thus acquired "shall in no event become liable to the satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted prior to the issuing of the patent thereon." As the public domain has been systematically squandered and plundered for many years, this bill, if passed, will enable every energetic man to leave the overcrowded East and provide a free home for his family, which with proper industry will be inalienable for ever. It is not sound and liberal policy in these provisions, we have not correctly understood the provisions of the bill. It seems to us just the kind of legislation that is wanted to bind the valley of the Mississippi to the Pacific States; to open up the route for a railroad to California, and to populate the Western Territories.—*Louisville Journal.*

It will hardly be believed, but it is, nevertheless, true, that an eloquent took place, a few days ago, at Albany, New York, between a couple of children, aged respectively fourteen and fifteen years.—The young Romeo actually provided himself with a package of arsenic, to commit suicide in case of a discovery, but fortunately the father of the young gentleman overtook him at Utica, got possession of the poison, had the girl locked up, and gave the boy a good cowhiding.

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
OREGON CITY:
SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1859.

To the Republicans of Oregon.

There will be a Convention of the Republicans of Oregon at SALEM, on THURSDAY, the TWENTY-FIRST DAY OF APRIL, 1859, for the purpose of nominating a Delegate or Representative to Congress, and for the purpose of transacting such other business as may come before the Convention.

The Committee suggest that the following appointment be adhered to in electing delegates:—Curry 1, Coon 1, Jackson 4, Josephine 2, Douglas 4, Umpqua 2, Lane 6, Linn 6, Benton 4, Polk 4, Yamhill 4, Marion 7, Clatsop 5, Washington 3, Multnomah 4, Columbia 1, Clatsop 1, Tillamook 1, and Wasco 1.

The Committee also earnestly request that a full and complete organization of the Republicans be perfected in every county at an early day, and that the chairman of each county committee immediately send his name and post-office address to W. C. JOHNSON, Clerk of the Central Committee, at Oregon City.

W. T. MATLOCK,
W. C. JOHNSON,
L. HOLMES,
L. H. WAREFIELD,
W. L. ADAMS,
Rep. Cen. Com.

Jan. 23, 1859.

KIND, VERY.—Upon recommendation, the Committee on Military Affairs in the House will report in favor of paying the Methodist Church twenty thousand dollars for their Dallas mission lands.—*Smith's Letter to the Times.*

Inasmuch as the "Methodist Church" has no legitimate claim to any land in Wasco county, we are surprised, to say the least, that Delazon Smith should lend himself to swindle the Treasury out of twenty thousand dollars.—*Dalles Journal.*

If this is an attempt to 'swindle the Treasury' that 'surprises' you, why are you not equally 'surprised' that your pet Jo Lane was engaged with Delusion in this 'swindling' operation? Now that Delusion has become an outcast from the bushites on account of his having been induced to become Lane's attorney, it would seem that Lane's friends would naturally serve him as they do 'Old Jo'—walk backward and scratch a few leaves and chips over his blunders. But if Jo Lane hasn't determined to shove Delusion overboard, now that he has used him, we are at a loss to know why Lane's special organs are now denouncing Delusion. The Standard devotes considerable space to reading him out of the Lane party. The Standard, which, like the Dalles Journal, is of the thoroughbred Southern extremist stamp of politics, to which Lane has finally attached himself, uses the following language:

"We regret to find that with some sterling Democrats the belief has partly obtained credence that Gen. Lane will use his influence to secure the reelection of Delazon Smith as U. S. Senator, and considerable feeling is manifested in consequence. We do not believe that there is a shadow of foundation for this allegation against our worthy Senator. * * * Delazon believed himself the great man of Oregon, until he got to Washington.—There he found to oppose Gen. Lane was an unsafe operation. At Washington, as elsewhere, Gen. Lane had reputation, Delazon a most plentiful lack of it. He did have notoriety. In case he drew the short term, he would stand little chance for re-election if Gen. Lane's friends steadfastly opposed him. By following the lead of his honorable colleague, the friends of that gentleman in Oregon, might be induced to support him. He must turn in some way to secure a re-election, which was his highest ambition, and as such persons generally do, he turned against the very friends to whom he owed his elevation."

The fact is that Delazon isn't a thoroughbred negro-breeder naturally, but serves because he is paid well for it. If he was hired by a Georgia planter to superintend his plantation affairs, he is just the fellow that would leave the moment his 'pay' stopped coming—a man whose instincts would be suspicious even by his employer as inclining him to strike for the North Star some dark night, before his time was out, provided he had been paid in advance—while Lane would be sure to stay his full time out for which he was 'owing service,' and would probably then beg for a new contract.

Lane has assured the party in Washington city that the Democratic party in Oregon was made of such stuff that it would readily adopt the Charleston platform of 1860, be that just as black and sectional as even Jeff Davis and Stringfellow might want it, and that they would cordially approve of the martyrdom of Douglas, the acquisition of Cuba, and whatever else the fire-eaters demanded provided he said the word. The rabid pro-slavery men nearby to a man are now strong Lane men all over Oregon, while the officials, who are dependent in a great measure upon Lane for their living, have agreed to do the whole bidding of the fire-eaters as made known to them through Lane.

The Democratic elements of Oregon, like those of the Atlantic States, are discordant, jumbled, and chaotic, and no man who has the least political sagacity can fail to see signs of an early dissolution of that party. The great conflict between sectional despotism and human liberty, between aristocracy and the hard-handed Anglo-Saxon yeomanry, that has been preparing for the battle for more than twenty years, is soon to come off, and it needs no prophetic eye to pierce the smoke of the battle-field, and see the flag of victory waving over the teeming and shouting millions of sinewy, armed laborers, that eat their bread by the sweat of their toil, and make the wilderness bud and blossom as the rose. In view of this conflict and in view of the complete and overwhelming overthrow of sectionalism, disunionism, and negro-breeding fanaticism that now stows away its sable worshippers in the black hulk of modern Democracy, our more intelligent and honest laborers are casting about for excuses to desert from the army of fanatics led on by disunionists and their pensioned tools, to join the ranks of the patriotic Republican hosts marshalled under the flag of the Union and treading on ground hallowed by the footprints of Washington and his noble com-

peers, and sacred as the soil that germinated the tree of human liberty that bore the Constitution and Declaration of Independence. The pro-slavery fanatics that expect to range themselves under the lead of Lane, with Hibben in the rear to scourge them on with an Alabama cowhide, are fast being mustered into a squad by the Sentinel, Standard, Times, and Herald, with the Union as an indirect whipper-in, preparatory to being led up, branded, and turned over as the 'property' of Jeff Davis, Stephens, and Faulkner, in consideration of services rendered to Jo Lane by way of putting him in a favorable position to first run his arm into the U. S. Treasury, and then run his nose into the Charleston Convention as a candidate for the Presidency or Vice Presidency. Such is the use that is being made of the rabid pro-slavery element by the organs aforesaid, while such Northern dough-face driven-niggers as are holding office at Lane's recommendation, and such other dough-faces as are hungry expectants, and are impregnated by Lane with the idea that they ought to look to the Government for support, instead of relying upon their own industry, are intimating their willingness to turn traitors to human liberty, denounce the land that gave them birth, and eat just the kind and quality of dirt set before them 'without asking questions,' are occasionally sneaking into the motley herd. The Salem organ, on the other hand, after having cried 'Good Lord, Good Devil,' 'neither slavery nor anti-slavery'—with one leg on the Administration and another on the Douglas side of the fence—with one eye cocked slyly at the South, another squinting approvingly at the North, and with its nose always in the porridge-pot, finds itself at length about to be forced to take position, and having gone too far to rally under the leadership of Lane, has shrewdly counted all the chances of the coming campaign, and has coolly made up its mind to lay the wires for a Douglas campaign, provided Douglas, as is possible, should bolt the Charleston Convention, and then, out of the rains and smoke of the Douglas fizzle, crawl into the Republican party, and, after swearing that it had sympathized with the Republicans for years, prove it by publishing confidential letters it had written to its intimate friends in the spring of 1859.

Such is our prediction concerning the aspects of parties this ninth day of April, 1859, and, without claiming to be a prophet, we submit the case to a candid world, and if it doesn't turn out so, you may say that we haven't carefully 'read the papers,' or else that locofocos are 'mighty uncertain.'

Portland City Election.

At the Portland city election last Monday the Democrats carried every ward by large majorities, excepting the third ward, where the vote was light and close on either side. In this ward our old friend Gen. McCracker, the Democratic candidate, was beaten by Shattuck thirteen votes.

The ticket that was run against the Democratic ticket, we hear was made up of diverse kinds of political material and called the 'Voters' Ticket.' We suppose it ran on the 'Multnomah Platform' as a matter of experiment to try the strength of its planks. The result is just what we should have expected. Here it is:

DEM.	MAYOR.	VOTER.
S J McCormick	428	A P Ankeny 235
N Huber	470	J M Breck 205
Jno McCracken	443	S M Smith 230
Wm Kapus	395	H Kaelitz 242
J H Lapens	413	S R Holcomb 239
Dan Wright	447	Richard Hoyt 220
Councilmen.		
A B Hallock	224	C Hutchins 68
J M Vansycle	212	T Myers 52
J Davidson	199	J S White 63
A D Shelby	156	H Failing 53
M M Lucas	157	E J Northup 64
J C Hawthorne	158	J P Hughes 60
M M McCracker	81	E D Shattuck 94
A C R Shaw	97	S Coffin 80
John Blanchard	86	John Thiesing 77

Roe Hung.

Charles I. Roe, the wife murderer, was hung at Salem last Saturday. His execution was witnessed by a crowd of some fifteen hundred people, several hundred of whom were women. Roe freely confessed his guilt on the scaffold, expressed his penitence, declared his belief that he had been pardoned, exhorted the audience to repentance, and then offered up a fervent prayer to heaven for forgiveness. He desired to die, and not to live, and bore up with his apparent usual strength till the halter was put round his neck, the cap and shroud adjusted, when he became so weak that he sat down in a chair and remained there till the drop fell. He struggled but a few moments, and was a corpse. His spiritual advisers were Revs. Roberts and Waller, who attended the poor man, praying with and exhorting him to the last.

A correspondent, in speaking of the execution, says: "The yelling and carousing on Saturday night did not indicate that the moral (?) example of the day had done much good." The 'moral example' of public executions never did do good. It has a degrading and dazing effect upon public morals everywhere, and is wisely forbidden by the laws of many States.—Rowdyism, fighting, and even murder, are more common upon the disbanding of 'hanging bees' than any other kind of con-

courses, and we wonder why a lady should ever desire to see a man choked to death. If it is necessary to gratify a morbid appetite, a lingering remnant of savagism, by feasting the eyes of such as choose to attend such neck-stretching ceremonies, why not invite in the ladies as spectators every time a leg is to be cut off, or any other bloody surgical operation is to be performed?

ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE.—The horse thieves Vaughn and Marsels, who are confined in the city jail, made an unsuccessful attempt to escape last Friday afternoon. The moment their keeper, Mr. Day, stepped inside of the jail with their supper, they both seized him in such a manner as to pinion his arms, and made an effort to stow him away in one of the iron cells. Mr. Day, not being inclined to go there, resisted to the best of his ability for several minutes, when, getting hold of his revolver in his pocket, the prisoners were suddenly induced by its click in cocking to forego further operations for the present. Mr. Day has since had a pretty good job of blacksmithing done for the gentlemen, and we think they will stay till court sits. This letting prisoners break jail has been quite common in the country, and ought to be stopped. When a man is committed for a serious crime, he ought to be securely fastened by irons, and a failure on the part of the Sheriff to thus secure him, ought to subject that officer to a fine equal to the whole expense of retaking him, provided he escapes.

NOR ODDS.—Every man ought to know that the appearance of a communication in a paper is no positive evidence that the editor endorses everything the article contains. It would be a very illiberal and narrow-minded journalist who would reject everything that didn't agree with his notions. We sometimes print articles differing materially from our own views, without a word of comment, when the errors it contains are not considered by us *vitios*, thinking it will be better to leave the exposure of them to some of our clear-headed correspondents than to notice them ourselves. At other times we pass them over at the special request of the correspondent.

We have received a lengthy communication this week from an intelligent writer for whom we have often published, upon a matter that has never yet been discussed in the Argus. The writer says, in a private note, in speaking of one of his leading ideas,

"The idea may be contrary to your opinion, as it is to that of very many. I don't want you to pick into me if you differ—but anybody else, whatever his abilities, I would like to entertain."

Of course we will accommodate our friend, should we publish his article, by leaving others to point out his errors, if any, on 'capital punishment.' This much for our true relations to 'correspondence.'

By the way, the war on 'woman's rights' is waxing rather warm. The mails are flooding us with enough matter to occupy half our space. The articles are generally too long, entirely so. We wish our correspondents would crowd their articles into two pages of foolscap, and not exceed three, certain. We always prefer to print articles over the true name of the author, to inserting anonymous ones. This isn't always best, however. We prefer to be the judge of the expediency of it, and would like to have our correspondents leave it with us to give or withhold the real name. What we write goes to the world as our own individual production, and why shouldn't that written by others? Most articles are read with five times the interest when signed by the true name of the writer than they are when not thus endorsed, while some, if over the proper name, though in themselves good, would carry little weight with them where the writer was known.

In conclusion, let all inexperienced writers study brevity, which is the soul of wit. Give us ideas instead of words. Pay no attention to 'sound and fury,' so common to florid and verbose writers, but deal in naked ideas and stubborn facts. Cut out every useless adjective, and use a short one in preference to a long one. First make up your mind what you will write about, and then plunge into the subject as you would dive into cold water, without crawling into it through a dozen lines of stiff exordium. After you begin, stick to your text till you have said what you want to say, and then stop, leaving episodes to Homer and perorations to Everett. Use soft words and hard arguments in replying to our correspondents, for they are our friends, and we don't want to hurt their feelings.—Leave all the skinning to be done to us, and we will take their hides off whenever we think it necessary. If we correct your articles, we do it for your benefit, and for the credit of our paper, and you needn't growl about it, and say, 'There, he has spoiled it!' What some of our correspondents consider elegance of diction and eloquence in expression, we call insufferable bombast, and we will neither punish our compositors, torment our readers, nor disgrace our paper, by giving it room. But enough.

A Washington correspondent of the S. F. Bulletin says:

"Smith takes it as a matter of course that the Legislature of Oregon will immediately re-elect him for a full term of six years. If Oregon wants one half her representation in the upper branch of Congress to be a nonentity, she undoubtedly will gratify Mr. Smith's ambition."

No bacon in this market, and there hasn't been for a long time.

News from the East.
By the arrival of the steamer Pacific at Portland on Wednesday night last we have dates from the East, to March 7th.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.—Congress adjourned at noon March 4, after having come well nigh blocking the wheels of government by a blow up on the best Democratic method of raising a revenue. The South overruled Buchanan's effort through Bigler and other Northern Democrats to revise the tariff so as to meet the government expenses. Then there was nothing left but to authorize another loan of twenty millions, to keep the government going.—The Senate passed a bill raising letter and newspaper postage, and authorizing a re-issue of twenty millions of Treasury notes.—The House voted three times during the very last night of its sitting not to involve the Government any farther in debt by agreeing to the Senate's Treasury note bill, but the President and most of his Cabinet entered the Capitol and mesmerized enough Northern Democrats, who had all the time voted against the loan and declared they would do so to the bitter end, to get them to change their vote, and the Treasury note bill was finally agreed to by a vote of 94 to 83, as the only method left to carry on the Government after the South had put its foot on the tariff revision. The Senate, in order to increase the rates of postage, tacked a provision raising postage on letters some 70 per cent., and a still greater increase on papers, upon the post office appropriation bill, but the House sent it back to the Senate, on the ground that it was a bill for raising revenue, which the Constitution provided should originate in the House. The House passed the usual post office appropriation bill, without the obnoxious appendage put to it by the Senate increasing the rates of postage. The Senate became sullen, and refused to take up the bill in time, and the consequence is that Congress adjourned without appropriating anything for supporting the postal department of the Government.

The Homestead Bill, giving every poor white settler 160 acres of land, which failed the House by a vote of 120 to 76, failed to pass the Senate. Upon a motion to take it up in the Senate, every Southern Democrat and six Northern Democrats voted against the motion, while Douglas voted with the Republicans. Lane and Smith found it convenient to be absent. The negro-raising interest had decided not to favor free laborers thus, and our Senators chose to shirk away rather than have their names seen by their constituents as recorded with their Southern masters' against the poor white man's interest.

The agricultural college bill, which appropriated lands to support agricultural colleges in the different States, was vetoed by Buchanan, after having passed the House by 104 to 100 and the Senate by 26 to 22. The South went against it almost unanimously, and Buchanan of course vetoed it. He also vetoed a bill making an appropriation to improve the St. Clair Flats.

Sidell withdrew his Cuban bill from the Senate Feb. 26, after finding it was no go.

NEW SENATE.—A new U. S. Senate was convened by the President in Washington, March 4. The session will last but a few days, and will be devoted to considering treaties, appointments, and Executive business. Eleven of the old Senators having been re-elected, were on hand to take their seats and pocket mileage and pay for the extra session.

Post Master General Brown was said to be dying March 6.

Tragedy in Washington City.

Great excitement was caused in Washington City by the shooting of Philip Barton Key, U. S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, by Daniel E. Sickles, member of Congress from the third district in New York, on Sunday, Feb. 27. Key was killed while standing near the President's house, by means of two Derringer pistols and a revolver in the hands of Sickles, one shot entering the groin, another the right chest, and the third barely grazing the skin. It seems that Key had long been on such intimate terms with Sickles' wife as to arouse the suspicions of other parties, but Sickles himself had never suspected anything criminal up to a short time before the tragical occurrence. An anonymous letter from some friend aroused his suspicions and set him to ferreting out the matter. He soon found that Key had been in the habit of meeting Mrs. Sickles at a room in the negro quarters of the city, which he had rented of a negro some months previous for that purpose. A watch was set, but nothing being discovered, Sickles charged his wife with improper intimacy with Key.—She at first denied it, but upon being informed of facts that had come to the knowledge of her husband, she acknowledged all. Key, not suspecting anything of what was going on in the house, passed along several times in front of it, and waved his handkerchief, his usual signal for a meeting between himself and the guilty woman. Sickles, who was already driven to desperation by the revelations just made to him within, no sooner saw the signals from without than he armed himself, went in pursuit of Key, and upon approaching him, said, "Key, you scoundrel, you have dishonored my house, and you shall die!" and immediately fired the shots that killed Key, who fell, begging Sickles not to kill him, and crying 'Murder!' Sickles immediately gave himself up to the authorities, and was lodged in jail. He was to be tried in a few days, as the Criminal Court

was about to hold its session. The papers mostly justify him, and think he will be cleared, if indeed the grand jury even finds a bill against him. Key was a nephew of Chief Justice Tancy, a man forty-two years old, having a family and a large circle of friends and fashionable relatives. Both Sickles and Key were intimate political friends of Buchanan, frequent visitors at the White House, and with their families were favored guests at Presidential levees, fashionable balls, costly dinners, and splendid soirees, that make up so much of fashionable life in Washington City. A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune says:

"Mr. Sickles married his wife when she was sixteen years of age. He took her to England with him when he was Secretary of Legation at London under Mr. Buchanan; introduced her to the Queen; carried her to the Continent and introduced her into the most fashionable society. Mr. Sickles loved her with great devotion, and lavished all his means upon her. They lived in elegant style here, occupying a house of \$30,000 rent. Mrs. Sickles rode in a splendid carriage with outriders; wore jewels to the value of \$5,000, and seemed to want nothing that she did not have."

The affair has spread a general gloom over fashionable society in Washington, and has added to the already heavy burdens of trouble that lay on the heart of the President.

The Results of the Session of Congress.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—All the general appropriation bills which passed both houses received the President's signature.

The Post Office appropriation and post route bills failed to become laws. The former appropriated about twenty millions. Whether an extra session will be called in consequence of its loss, is a matter for Executive consideration. So far, no reliance can be placed on the rumors to that effect.

Amid the confusion in the clerks' offices, it cannot be definitely ascertained whether any private bills which passed both houses failed to receive the President's signature. The miscellaneous appropriation bill contains the section extending the treasury-note law for two years, and appropriates \$452,000 for the coast survey, which was agreed to with singular unanimity, besides appropriations for the light-house establishment, survey of the public lands, and an appropriation for taking the next census, etc.

The ocean mail steamer bill was killed, but there is appended to the bill to carry into effect the treaty with the Dacotah and Tonawanda Indians appropriations, for complying with existing contracts for carrying the mails via Panama and Tehuantepec, to California.

The President was at the Capitol this morning, attending to his business. The House failed, as has heretofore been the practice, to send the President a message, asking whether there was any further communication to make, and that Congress was ready to adjourn, several gentlemen having objected to the suspension of the roll call on the private bill which was defeated, in order that his courtesy might be extended.

The House has removed every trace of the abolition of the franking privilege and increase of postage. The galleries were densely crowded to witness the closing scenes. Many members leave this afternoon for their homes.

SHAKESPEAREAN READINGS.—Mrs Duret

gave one of her grand drawing-room entertainments to an unusually crowded house in this city last Wednesday night. As a reader she is perhaps sometimes excelled, but as an actress she is seldom equaled. In the tragic sketch of the 'Maniac,' her theatrical talent reaches nearly if not quite the culminating point of perfection. She entertained her audience in almost breathless silence for three hours, and all went home satisfied, so far as we have heard.

YAMHILL TRADE.—The Elk we believe has made her last trip up the Yamhill for the present, and will hereafter make regular trips to Salem. The Hoosier however, is now permanently attached to the Yamhill trade, and will continue to make regular trips to Lafayette and Dayton every Monday and Thursday. This arrangement will accommodate a large section of country around Dayton, Lafayette, and McMinnville, and we hope that the shipping business of that country will be doubled every year to come. Capt. Miller of the Hoosier is noted for his gentlemanly bearing and faithful attendance to business entrusted to his care.

INSTITUTION.—The citizens of Lafayette and vicinity have made up by subscription the sum of \$5000 for the purpose of putting up an Academy building. It is to be made of brick. Lafayette is determined to take a start. Whisky is what has always cursed that place and kept it back, but as a friend informed us this week that there was a chance to defeat 'license,' there this spring, we have some hopes that the place will yet become quite important.

STRANGE—VERY.—We received a note from a subscriber at Washington Bute this week, requesting us to send our bill, and promising us that it should be paid us at the Salem convention. The note contained a stamp with which to pay postage back.—Now that is a specimen of honor, honesty, and fair dealing that we have not often met with from those in arrears, and we cannot forbear mentioning the fact as worthy of imitation. Jesse W. George must be a sound Republican.

THANKS.—We are under obligations to Dr. Steele, Agent of Wells, Fargo & Co., in this city, Mr. Hoyt, of the Express, and to R. E. Ball, of Portland, for late papers.

J. W. Sullivan, of San Francisco, has as usual supplied us with ample files of the latest papers.