

as those at the time of the battle of Bull Run. At Centerville, covering breastworks, were discovered what appeared to be cannon, but, on examination, they proved to be wooden affairs, got up for effect.

A force under Maj. Hatfield, on the 10th, started to go to Fairfax, and within a mile they met the enemy, who retreated before them. At noon they encamped at Fairfax, and discovered that the place had been evacuated the night before, the enemy leaving tents and other property behind in large quantity. Lieut. Alexander, with a detachment, arrived soon after and passed on his way to Cub's Run, three miles above Centerville, and discovered a vast number of tents standing.

A special dispatch to the *North American* reports, that Beauregard has been appointed Commander in Chief of the rebel forces; and that the evacuation of Manassas was at his suggestion. It was further stated that a dispatch to the Richmond *Dispatch* and *Engines* says that the Hampton Legion left Fredericksburg on the 11th, bound South. The lines on the Rappahannock had been burned and abandoned by the rebels.

A fugitive from a village in Orange Co., Va., 30 miles from Gordonsville, says that 40,000 rebel troops were in the town when he left, rushing wildly on, supposing that the Union troops were after them. The whole route by which they passed was strown with muskets, knapsacks, &c.

Numbers of exhausted soldiers lay on the roadside, along which the route had passed.

Gen. McClellan addressed the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac on the 14th. For a long time he had kept them inactive in order that they might be disciplined, armed, and instructed. He had held them back in order that they might give the death blow to the rebellion. Their patience and confidence in their General were worth a dozen victories. The moment for action had now arrived. The time for inaction had passed, and he would bring them face to face with the rebels.

Gen. Wadsworth has assumed the duties of Military Governor, and commander of the defences of Washington.

#### THE BATTLE IN NEW MEXICO.

St. Louis, March 13.—The Republican has a letter from Albuquerque, dated Feb. 23d, giving an account of a battle and a skirmish between the Texas rebels and the Union men under Col. Canby on the morning of the 21st. Two hundred Texan miles, with wagon masters, were captured.

The Texans were on the heights opposite Rio Grande from the Fort, which was destitute of water. Col. Canby had to pass to the water guarded by his battery. He had 2,000 men, and all other outlets were guarded in force. The Texans must either surrender, or cut their way through. Later information states that a military express had just arrived from Fort Craig. The battle commenced at nine o'clock on the morning of the 21st, between a portion of our troops under Col. Roberts, and the enemy, across the Rio Grande, with varied success until noon. Col. Canby then crossed the river, with a battery of six pieces and two howitzers, under Capt. McRae. Towards evening most of the enemy's guns were silenced; they however made a desperate charge on the howitzer battery, defended by Capt. Plumpton's company of regulars, and a portion of Col. Potts' regiment of Mexican Volunteers. The Texans, 600 strong, armed with carbines and revolvers, and a howitzer, charged furiously. After discharging their carbines at close distance, they drew their revolvers and rashed on the battery amid a storm of grape and canister. The Mexican volunteers fled in a panic. Capt. Plumpton's company stood their ground until one half were killed.

Capt. McRae refused to leave his guns and was killed at his post. Kit Carson is in command of a regiment of volunteers deployed as skirmishers, did good service during the action. Our loss is 200 killed and wounded; and the enemy's is believed to be much more.

Capt. Johnson lost a leg. Results of this battle are important, as it will put an end to the filibustering and treasonable prospects of Van Dorn and others, on the south eastern borders of California.

#### THE GREAT BATTLES OF ARKANSAS.

BATTLE OF SUGAR CREEK.—St. Louis, March 11th. A special dispatch from Sugar Creek, where the army was stationed, says:

After a contest of several days we have beaten the enemy at Sugar Creek, below their lines,

consisting of Van Dorn's, Price's, McGaugh's and Frost's commands, were forced to retreat in wild confusion, with the loss of a considerable number of cannon, flour, muskets and ammunition.

Their force is variously estimated at from 25,000 to 30,000. Mr. Gilmore, it is ascertained, is mortally wounded. William M. Lewis, and Reeder, son of the Gov. of Arkansas, McRae, and a number of other prominent men, are prisoners, besides a large number of the rank and file.

Gen. Curtis' official dispatch to Gen. Halleck says: "I was attacked by the enemy, the battle commencing on the 6th inst. on my right. I continued the fight until four o'clock on the morning of the 7th, when I ordered an advance of the cavalry and light artillery and Col. Osterhaus, with orders to attack and break what I supposed would be the reinforced line of the enemy's centre. My movement was progressing when the enemy at eleven in the morning, renewed the attack on my right." The fight continued mainly at these points during the day, the enemy having gained a point hotly contested by Col. Carr, at Cross Timber Hollow, but they were entirely repulsed with the fall of their commander, Gen. McColloch, by our forces under Gen. Davis. The plan of attack on the centre was gallantly carried forward by Col. Osterhaus, sustained by Gen. Davis, and the entire division.

I was compelled by the enemy to retreat on my right, and I then commenced a change of my front forward, so as to face the enemy when they had deployed so as to find them in a strong position. This change had only been partially effected, but was in full progress, when at sunrise, my right and centre renewed the firing along the entire line. My right, under Gen. Sigel, moved close to the place occupied by the enemy, driving them from the heights, and advancing steadily towards the head of Timber Hollow.

Immediately ordered the centre and right wing forward, our right turning the left of the enemy, and cross firing on his centre. This final position exposed the enemy in an area circle, and a charge of infantry extending throughout the whole line, completely routed the whole rebel force, which retreated in great confusion through deep and a most impossible defiles and cross timber.

Our loss is heavy, and the enemy's loss cannot be ascertained, from the fact that the dead are scattered over a large field.

The enemy's force scattered in all directions, but I think the main force returned to Boston Mountain, Gen. Sigel pursuing them towards Keokuk, while my cavalry pursued them towards the mountains, securing the country, and bringing in prisoners.

At the battle in North-western Arkansas, Federal soldiers were found mangled and sniped by the savages.



If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot!

—Gen. Dix.

## The Oregon Argus.

W. L. Adams, Editor.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1862.

Clackamas County Union Convention.

The Union men of Clackamas county who love their country—who are opposed to the dismemberment of our Union for any cause and upon any terms; who believe in suppressing armed rebellion by force of arms; and who are willing to respond to the call made for a Union State Convention, are requested to meet in their several precincts at the usual places of voting, at one o'clock on Saturday the 22d day of March, 1862, and elect delegates to a Union County Convention to be held at the Court House in Oregon City on Saturday the 29th day of March, 1862, for the purpose of electing six delegates to the Union State Convention to be held at Eugene City on the 2d day of April, 1862, and transacting such other business as the convention may deem proper. The prescripts are entitled, upon the basis of the popular vote, to delegates as follows: Oregon City 13; Milwaukie 3; Young's 2; Hardings 2; Springwater 2; Rock Creek 2; Beaver Creek 2; Upper Molalla 3; Lower Molalla 3; Marquam's 3; Lime City 3; Curry 2; Thalain 1; Pleasant Valley 2.

Let no Union man fail to be present at his precinct meeting.

SERGEANT HUELAT, W. C. JOHNSON,

W. CHAPMAN, W. B. BARNETT,

Democratic Co. Comr. W. P. BURNS,

D. W. CARLIS,

Republican Co. Comr.

E. MILWAUKEE, W. C. DEMENT, M. RANDOLPH,

J. W. LOVREY, J. S. VANCE, C. W. NELSON,

J. W. INGALLS, ALDEN H. STEELE, C. O. BOYNTON,

F. A. COLEARD, D. P. THOMPSON, ABEL MATSON,

H. W. EDLY, E. T. T. FISHER, W. W. BUCK,

Owen WADE, I. F. BEALES, A. WARNER,

M. FAULZ, WM. DIEDORFF, JAS. WILSON,

H. E. HAYES, THOM. CHAMPA, WM. WHALEY,

W. A. STARKSWELLER, A. L. LOVEJOY,

W. T. MATLOCK, L. F. COFFEE, Geo. ADAMS,

Abraam Holcomb, Jas. K. BAGNAN.

THE FUTURE OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON.

Those whose curiosity has been excited by reading the journals of Lewis and Clark, or other western explorers, so that they have been induced to glance at the map of our possessions on the Pacific coast, have always, in all countries, been impressed with the belief that at some future period an empire in population and wealth would be founded on this coast, and that the heart of the empire would be located on the Columbia River and its tributaries. This popular impression was, of course the result of a knowledge of the geographical position of this portion of our Pacific possessions, supposing always, in the absence of any knowledge of mineral resources, that the Pacific slope, like that of the Atlantic, would create her wealth from other natural resources—would convert her forests, her fisheries, her facilities for commerce, for manufactures, and the productive capacities of her soil into the elements of national prosperity. The popular impression, which, anterior to the discovery of the gold mines in California, obtained all over the world, as to our future destiny, is about to be realized. That the vast extent of country lying on the Columbia and its tributaries, and washed on the west by the Pacific, has been blessed above any other equal area on this coast, in all the natural advantages common to other countries save in mineral resources, has ever been conceded by the intelligent explorer who has sought to find the paths that lead to the seat of the future Pacific empire. The glitter of California gold fields has up to this period so far outshone our other superior advantages that a vast preponderance of emigration, capital, enterprise, and labor has been attracted to the golden gates of our southern neighbor. The late discovery of gold fields in our own country of as great extent as those of California, and of probable superior richness to them in her palmiest days, is, by an inexorable law, about to transfer much of this capital, enterprise, and labor to our own shores. The discovery of our mines has only facilitated this transfer, which our other superior advantages would have effected in process of time.

The acting Governor of California, whom we find in with on the road leading down the San Joaquin valley, on his way home from an extensive exploration of the mines, in 1848, asked us what our observations on this coast had led us to conclude as to the future relative positions of California and Oregon. We told him that the heart of the future Pacific empire would lie on the waters of the Columbia, for the reason that after the mines, on which was principally based the temporary advantages of California, were measurably exhausted, the superior agricultural and manufacturing advantages of this country would gradually build up a great State, embracing wealth, permanence, and enterprising citizens—Much of the heavy expenditure of capital in building up cities in California, was laid out on sites selected for their advantages as trading posts. The only value attached to property in them was measured exactly by the public faith in the richness and permanence of adjacent gold mines. Whenever the time arrived that these mines should be abandoned, these cities would of course fall into decay. We saw men investing tens of thousands of dollars in flourishing towns growing rapidly up into cities, who we admitted might do well, provided they sold out in a few years, but

who we believed would be poor men if they held on to their property twenty years. We venture to predict that the threatened abandonment of a great portion of the California mines this spring, consequent upon our gold discoveries, has caused much city property in California to depreciate from twenty to fifty per cent. already. If these miners, contrary to the hope of heavy capitalists and extensive property-holders in California, make this country their permanent home, and fail to return to their former fields of operation, many of those towns will be given over to the moles and the bats. This decay will be attended by a corresponding depreciation of real estate generally. San Francisco has grown up to be a great city by being able through her capitalists to control the trade on this coast. Foreign vessels arriving from Hongkong, Liverpool, and other foreign ports, as well as clipper ships laden with American goods from New York and Boston, have gone to San Francisco to discharge, because nine-tenths of the goods were needed in California. We have needed but few goods, and our merchants have generally preferred to buy of California merchants rather than ship directly from New York and other ports. In doing this we have had to pay a heavy tariff by way of profits to the California capitalist, besides the expenses of wharfage, drayage, warehousing, and reshipping. All this expense can be saved by shipping directly to the Columbia River. Oregon, instead of California, will be the heavier consumer hereafter.

There is no more reason why our goods should be first landed at San Francisco, to be reshipped to us, than there is that they should be landed at the mouth of the Umpqua. If our mines prove as rich and extensive as we expect, the great bulk of the goods used on this coast must come into the Columbia River. California can either do as we have been doing, buy what she wants of her neighbor, or continue to import on her own hook. Time will show that the most practicable route for goods to take, even for Caribou, is by the way of the Columbia. It may be relied upon as a fixed fact that the great bulk of goods hereafter to be consumed on this coast will enter the Columbia—and that too on board of vessels direct from the ports of original shipment. Capitalists in San Francisco will, of course, make a terrible struggle to control the trade, and make us buy our goods second-hand of them. It will be a struggle against nature, a violation of the inexorable laws of commerce, that will sooner or later ruin any city here whose merchants concur in such an arrangement. If Portland merchants, governed by a shortsighted policy, should continue to trade with San Francisco, and bring their goods by the ocean steamers, paying the high prices of freight now charged by these steamers in order to meet their enormous expenditures, and paying in addition to this, the profits of original importers at San Francisco, drayage, storage, wharfage, &c., any one can see that Vancouver or some other town on the Columbia River can control the commerce of the country by opening a direct trade with New York and other ports. Will Oregon submit to a tariff of half a million dollars per annum on her goods by way of freight charges on expensive ocean steamers, which run here merely to bring second-hand goods from San Francisco, and carry nothing back, when these goods can be shipped from New York, Boston, and Chicago direct at but little more expense? It will be but a short time till the Willamette Valley will cease to be the Oregon, as the vast area of arable land east of the Cascades will soon be supplying the goldfields with an abundance of provisions. The Willamette Valley must turn its attention to wool-growing and manufactures. The city that expects to succeed must, in our opinion, base her calculations more upon enterprises of this character than upon any future permanent produce trade with the mines. Our produce trade, especially in fruit, will be good for a few years, and then we must find our profits in other pursuits.

PRECINCT MEETING.—Met pursuant to notice, on Saturday March 22d, the Union men of Oregon City Precinct, at the Court House, for the purpose of electing delegates to a Union County Convention to be held in Oregon City March 29. The meeting organized by electing Dr. A. H. Steele Chairman, and J. D. Lovejoy Secretary. After which, the following gentlemen were selected to serve as delegates to the County Convention: D. P. Thompson, W. P. Burns, A. L. Lovejoy, Wm. Dierdorff, J. K. Bingman, Dr. A. H. Steele, Septimus Huelat, W. C. Johnson, W. W. Buck, W. C. Dement, J. E. Beals, A. Warner, A. Holcomb. Meeting adjourned. J. D. Lovejoy Sec.

Direct shipments of goods to the Columbia River will create a necessity for a line of light-draft, fast-running river steamers to run from Astoria to whatever point above the goods are destined, whether Portland, Vancouver, or some future city at or near the Cascades. Such steamers are carrying freight on the Sacramento, a like distance, for one dollar a ton and passengers for fifty cents. The money paid out for river transportation would actually be less than that now expended on our ocean steamers, and the money, instead of being carried out of the country, would all be expended at home. Heavy-draft clipper ships can never go much above Astoria, while even the ocean steamers we are now using are beset with dangers and difficulties and subject to great delays in going to Portland, during a great portion of the year. We entertain no doubt but that the people of Portland have it in their power to control the trade, and make their place the great commercial capital of the future empire on the waters of the Columbia—to make it the depot for merchandise en route to the gold fields, and the center of trade for the manufacturing interests of the Donelson affair, with the capture of the 15,000 rebels was received, (like the Sympathizer they doubted at first,) one old fellow burst out with an affecting attempt at a smile, while an inward groan struggled to get vent—"Well they'll have to board the prisoners anyway."

As an instance of ingenuity in drawing comfort from intelligence unfavorable to their cause, we think the remark made by an undoubted sympathizer in this case, will pass. When the confirmed account of the Donelson affair, with the capture of the 15,000 rebels was received, (like the Sympathizer they doubted at first,) one old fellow burst out with an affecting attempt at a smile, while an inward groan struggled to get vent—"Well they'll have to board the prisoners anyway."

FOREIGN.—London papers of Feb. 28th state that Bright made an energetic speech in condemnation of the outcry incurred by the policy which terminated in the surrender of Mason and Stoddle. Palmerston defended the course of the Cabinet. Russell acknowledged himself satisfied with the operations of the Federal Government in sinking the steamer fleet at Charleston, and said the harbor there could not be obliterated by artificial means. Napoleon agreed with him in this opinion.

Relations between the United States and foreign powers are now said to be entirely free from apprehension of any disturbance whatever. The tone of all correspondence is considered conciliatory. The British as well as the French Ministry are evidently gaining strength with their people by the election of a ticket upon a basis of non-combination sympathy with success.

London letters of March 1st to commercial houses say, on the whole, there is observed quite an impression in England that the struggle will be terminated this spring. American securities are consequently buoyant.

The following are the points of the Morgan bill: It provides for the immediate emancipation of all slaves in the District of Columbia, with compensation limited to an average of \$300, for each slave owned by a loyal master. Proof of value and loyalty to be filed with three Commissioners, within nine months; Commissioners having power to examine slaves as witnesses. There are probably 3,000 slaves in the District, perhaps half belong to masters who will swear themselves loyal.

An interesting and significant article is published in the Richmond *Engineer* of Jan. 27th, as its tone betrays the strait to which the rebels are coming, and the fatality of their cause. The rebels indirectly admit that McClellan has been placing a military cordon around them, which by simultaneous construction as an Anaconda crushes its victim, will, unless it is promptly checked, deprive them of their military, as well as political life.

CAPT. CRATEEN in command of the Tuscarora, is not like other Captains who have pursued rebel steamers. If he catches the Nashville, he will blow her out of the water, and avoid a capture if possible.

The present Duke of Wellington will inherit and enjoy the title of Prince of Waterloo, which Belgium gave to the Iron Duke. So the Belgian Chambers have just decided.

LEWISTON.—Our correspondent M. J. W. writes as follows of this place, Jan. 29.—"Improvements are still being made in Lewiston, but slowly, on account of the difficulty of procuring labor, and all general damages to health, fever, & ague, ulcerate hands, and all general debilities, dyspepsia, headache, the sickness incident to females in delicate health, and every kind of weakness of the digestive organs. For sale by Dr. W. B. MOFFAT, 335 Broadway, New York, and by Medicine Dealers and Druggists generally throughout the country."

SAND'S SARSAPARILLA.—This purely vegetable remedy comprises in itself the properties of an Aconite, a mild cathartic, and a tonic. It quickly removes from the blood, and other fluids of the body, the impurities of unhealthy secretions which engender and feed disease, thus striking at the root of the malady. Although proved, so efficacious it may be taken at all times with perfect safety, as it contains no powerful drastic drug to stimulate the system, or induce poison to run the constitution.

Prepared and sold by A. B. & D. SANDS, 100 Fulton st., New York. Price \$1 per bottle, or six bottles for \$5.

To Read the advertisement in another column sold by Dr. STEELE, Oregon City, and by Druggists generally.

NOTICE.—The Yamhill Industrial Society meets at McMinnville on the first Saturday in April. All the members, and those wishing to become members, are invited to attend, as the officers for the next ensuing year are to be elected at that meeting.

DAVID SMITH.

S. or T.—The semi-annual session of the G. D. of the S. or T. for the State of Oregon will meet at Dallas, Polk county, on Thursday, April 24, 1862, at 10 A.M. A full attendance is desired.

W. R. DUNBAR, G. S.

OREGON CITY MARKET.—Wheat, \$1.00; \$1.25; Flour, \$6.80-\$7.50; Oats, \$1.00; Butter, 37cts.; Eggs, 20c; Beans, 10cts; Apples, 3c; Potatoes, \$1.25.

## DIED:

On Butte Creek, March 23d, at the residence of Joseph P. Eagan, after two months severe suffering, from abscess of the thigh, caused by a wound with a penknife, Lewis Eagan, aged 47 years and 6 months.

In this city