



"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, SEPTEMBER 13, 1862.

**Whitaker's LAST KICK.**—The message which John Whitaker delivered to the Legislature last Wednesday was characteristic of the man—weak and intensely unreasonable. That it was original—the production wholly of the Missouri fiddler—no man will doubt. Its fitnessness on matters that every one understands, its wishy-washy style, its repeated violence to the King's English, and its intense sympathy with rebellion, are attributes that would very properly compose a message to a Legislature in Dahomey, or make a capital "democratic platform" for the Long Tomers, or for Lane's political friends who wear dirty shirts and spell the name of the Deity with a small *g*. We were present in the Senate chamber during the reading of it, and felt thankful as did every loyal man in the house, that it was the last throw of a proslavery us, who had been elevated from his natural dognoll to a high position by political demagogues.

Not being able to print the message this week, we can but notice some of its prominent features. The Governor starts off by feebly alluding to the floods and cold weather of last winter which destroyed property and life. He estimates the loss of the "horned cattle," at "full one half" and thinks "one third of horses mules and logs perished from the same causes." The Governor very truly tells us it is a loss we shall feel for years, but braces us up under it with the philosophical conclusion that "still it might have been worse; had it rained for two weeks, and continued warm as it was the whole valley of the Willamette would have been covered with water from mountain to mountain where the whole country must have been desolated and in a measure depopulated." He urges the payment of \$108,525 expenses incurred by A. P. Dennison recruiting office to raise a company of mounted volunteers called for by Col. Wright Sept. 12th 1861 which company was disbanded after being raised. There have been approved 148 applications for land underact of Legislature Oct 19th 1860 amounting to 21,687 acres. The Commissioner of the General Land Office has notified him that "the act of the Legislature is in conflict with the laws of the United States." He apprehends that there is danger of those lands being thrown into market and sold in October under the President's late proclamation. The lands and salt springs granted to the State by the act admitting the State into the Union have not been selected, for want of proper instructions from the Department. The swamp and overflowed lands granted to the State by acts of Congress of September 23rd, 1850, and March 12th, 1861, have not been selected. "Our penitentiary and the manner in which its affairs are administered are a disgrace to the State." The buildings should be improved, and if the leasing system is still adhered to, an officer should be appointed as a general Superintendent over the establishment.

Thirteen convicts have been pardoned out of the Penitentiary since the last session of the Legislature, and one prisoner discharged from jail in Portland.

The Auditor's report embracing the last two years ending Sept. 8, 1862, represent the State funds as follows:

Received for taxes \$61,598.04

All other sources 192.66

Gross receipts \$91,788.64

Remaining in the Treasury \$3,500.01

This added to gross receipts makes \$95,687.65

Disbursements for same period \$55,372.39

Balance in the Treasury Sept. 7th, 1862 \$46,314.66

It is thus shown that a tax of two mills on the dollar raises more revenue than is needed to meet the current expenses.

John thinks it is no use to give an opinion about the policy of the President in the present war, but says no true friend of his country will bow in silent submission to his country's rule. He charges that the character of our liberties is being entirely subverted.

Civil and political rights enjoyed by other civilized people are denied. We are being stripped of our property, our families outraged and degraded beneath the level of an inferior race. The negroes are enjoying new and exclusive privileges at the hands of those who have desolated our country, abolished our institutions, rights and freedom, and threaten all with death or imprisonment who will not silently acquiesce in their feast of blood and carnage!

The "real Union men" [secess] long since warned Lincoln that he couldn't fit the South without trampling on the Constitution.

Now we are told that ruinous taxation is a "military necessity." Good and true men warned Lincoln not to bring these horrors on us. Now we have all got to help pay the tax, secessers and all, and as

no partiality is shown in collecting taxes, it is but reasonable to infer that no partiality will be shown when it comes to drafting. All this is the fruit of sectionalism and fanaticism, and few if any can now be found who will assert that the war was ever intended to restore the Union. The proud title "American citizen" is now coupled with all the crimes known to civilized people.

Here John continues in the same strain through five or six pages, and winds up by begging the Legislature to pass a law to keep negroes out of the State. We offer just now but a sample or two of John's grammar, which is in good keeping with the sentiments of his message. "Our own State has been visited by scourges which though relieved from the horrors of civil war has resulted in the loss of immense quantities of property," &c. "Our Penitentiary and the minister in which its affairs are administered is not a terror to the evil doers." "The whole valley of the Willamette."

But we forbear quoting further from Fiddling John, who will never more trouble the world with a message, as everybody will be glad to learn.

**THE INAGURAL.**—Gov. Gillet's inaugural was listened to with intense interest by the very large concourse which met to hear it in Salem last Wednesday. It was short but appropriate and good. Every line of it had the unmistakable ring of the true Union metal. It was quite refreshing after having been bored with Whitaker's message.

**PAXON BROWNELOW'S BOOK.**—Among late sensation books there is not one that is likely to gain more credulity or more general patronage from the masses, than Paxon BrowneLOW's sketches of the rise, progress, and decline of the great Secession, with a narrative of the personal adventures and persecutions of the author in rebellion. A Virginian by birth, and a slave-holder in a section over which the stormy tide of secession swept with terrible violence, his voice has been ever heard above the roar of the tempest in an honest and straightforward assertion of love and frailty to the old Union.

Undeceived by the sophistry of secession, as measured by its threats, BrowneLOW has been a constant and inflexible Unionist. His sense of duty both as a statesman and a Christian condemned to this common end, and he has favored his sincerity by the glory of a patient endurance of persecution for righteousness' sake. BrowneLOW is a self-educated man, thoroughly earnest in word and work, and though he is sometimes rough, his directness and force are well excused by the occasion and cause.

After alluding to the sacrifices he had endured, in the loss of his estate and liberty, imprisoned with the near prospect of a death on the gallows, he says:

"It was no time for dalliance with polished sentences or enticing words, for an imminent necessity—like the "burden" of the old Hebrew prophets was upon us, and the curse of our Lord and Law could best be served by the sturdy rhetoric of defiance and the unmerciful logic of facts.—The traitors deserved a sword-thrust, and merited the strongest epithets I have applied."

His appeal is to history, and to time which sets all things even, for vindication, and he will be abundantly justified. When BrowneLOW said that if he ever concluded to go to Hell he would take some more direct and more honorable route than by way of the Southern Confederacy—he well knew what he felt, and what we do not feel disposed to criticize. In his preface, he says:

"I have prepared this work from the single stand-point of uncompromising devotion to the America Union as established by our fathers, and unmitigated hostility to the armed rebels who are seeking its destruction. My ancestors fought in my defense, and while their blood flows in my veins, I shall instinctively recoil from harboring away the glory of its past, and the proletry of its future, for the stained record of that vile thing begotten by fraud, crime, and bad ambition, christened a Southern Confederacy. I cannot exchange historic renown for disgrace, national honor for infamy—however splendid over the tribe may be, or how violent may be the punishment."

One thing I notice in the expenditures of Marion County last year wherein our County might profitably follow. That is in the erection of a fire-proof vault for our County Records. It may be urged that we should get a Court House first, and vault afterwards. But that papers of so much value as those in the Register's Office, and in the Register's Office as well, which concerns the entire State, should be trusted so long in flimsy wooden boxes, when their loss by fire would result in so great public inconvenience, is careless at least, and may lead to much trouble.

### LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

SALEM, Monday, Sept. 8, 1862.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Oregon, the members elect of the Legislative body, acting for the State of Oregon, met at the Capitol in Salem on Monday, 10 A. M., September 8th, 1862.

**SENATE.**—Being duly called to order, on motion Dr. W. Bowby was elected President pro tempore, and ——, Secretary pro tempore.

On motion, Messrs. Cull, Hovey and Humason were appointed committee on credentials.

On motion, adjourned till 2 o'clock P.M.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**—The committee reported the following named gentlemen as entitled to seats on the floor of the Senate:

A. G. Bowby, from Benton county; B. Cull and D. W. Ballard, from Linn; J. W. Grim and Wm. Greenwood, from Marion; W. Bowby, from Washington, Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook; C. E. Crisman, from Lane; J. H. Mitchell, from Multnomah; J. W. Drew, from Coos, Curry and Umpqua; Jacob Wagener from Jackson. The members holding over, are J. K. Kelly, from Clackamas and Wasco; J. R. McBride, from Yamhill; Wm. Taylor from Polk; James Monroe, from Lane, Solomon Fitzgerald, from Douglas; D. S. Holton from Josephine.

The report of committee was adopted.

Upon swearing the oath of office was administered to the new members by C. N. Terry, acting Secretary of State.

A permanent organization was effected by the election of the following officers:

Dr. W. Bowby, President; Mr. Clark, Chief Clerk; W. B. Daniels, Assistant Clerk; — Baker, Sergeant-at-Arms; W. Chapman, Enrolling Clerk; D. M. Fields, Doorkeeper.

On motion, the clerk was instructed to inform the House that the Senate had permanently organized, and ready for business.

Adjourned until tomorrow, 10 A. M.

**HOUSe.**—The House of Representatives of the State of Oregon convened and was called to order at 10 o'clock, the 8th of Sept. 1862.

The Chief Clerk of the previous session, T. Mc. F. Patton, called the House to order.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed on credentials. The said committee was composed of the following persons:

Humason, of Wasco; Moore, of Marion; Gillette, of Clatsop; Applegate, of Jackson; Dufur of Multnomah.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock P.M.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**—The committee on credentials reported the following members as entitled to seats:

L. Applegate, J. D. Haines and S. D. Van Dorn, of Jackson county; J. D. Fay, of Josephine; R. Mallory and James Watson, of Douglas; Wm. H. Wilson, of Umatilla; A. Stevens, of Coos and Curry; V. S. McClure, A. A. Hemingway and M. Wilkins, of Lane; A. M. William and C. P. Blair, of Benton; H. M. Brown, John Smith, Wm. McCoy and H. A. McCally, of Linn; I. R. Moore, J. Eagle, C. A. Reed and John Minto, of Marion; B. Simpson, G. W. Richardson, of Polk; Joel Palmer and Jno. Cummings, of Yamhill; B. Whiger, of Washington; F. A. Collard, M. Ratney and J. T. Kerns, of Clackamas; A. J. Dufur and P. Wasserman, of Multnomah; P. W. Gillette, of Clatsop and Tillamook; O. Humason, of Wasco.

The report was unanimously adopted.

The House now proceeded to the election of permanent officers.

Palmer, Mallory, Brown and Moore were put in nomination for Speaker of the House. Palmer was elected.

Mallory, Brown and Moore were appointed a committee to conduct the Speaker to the chair.

Mr. Palmer said: "Many of you, gentlemen, have doubtless voted for me supposing that I was well versed in the laws and rules of legislation. I am sorry that my qualifications are not better than they are. I require your assistance, patience and co-operation. We have matters of grave importance before us, and it is to be hoped that we will maintain a feeling of friendship and harmony, and suppress as much as possible, all feelings of partisanship and sectional prejudice, and hurry on with our work and get home to our affairs. The times demand that we should be harmonious—the people expect it. I think you for the honor conferred upon me."

More About.

**THE SANITARY COMMISSION FUND.**—In the present tremendous struggle while the nation has found its energies taxed to the utmost, in raising and maintaining arms, that unbought liberality has been displayed, and blood and treasure poured out lavishly by the willing patriotism of the people, it has been prided by painful experience that further effort is needed in a direction which appeals to the best feelings of every lover of his country in an unmistakable way. The Sanitary Commission, composed of honorable high-minded men, have appealed to the loyal men and women of the nation on behalf of sick and wounded soldiers who have been stricken down on the battle fields of the Union, and whose cry has gone out to those who enjoy ease and peace at home, for help and succor on account of a common brotherhood and a common cause. It is not asked that any man shall impoverish himself, but that all in some proportion to their means shall testify sympathy in a practical way for the suffering soldiers who are and have been fighting our battles. Is any man so unpatriotic he will not or so poor he cannot give something in so good a cause? Let all true Union men, in town and country respond, where philanthropy no less than genuine patriotism demand that we should do something for a cause in which our brothers in the East are doing so much.

The rules of the previous session were adopted.

Dufur, Reed and Watson were appointed a committee to wait upon the Governor.

Adjourned until 10 o'clock, to-morrow.

**HOUSe.**—Sept. 9th, 1862.—The Speaker explained that the law required the members not only to take the oath prescribed, but shall also subscribe the same, which oath was read by the Speaker to the House. This oath he said shall be filed with the Secretary of State. The roll was therefore called and the members came forward by counties and subscribed the oath.

A message was received from the Senate, giving notice of the concurrence of that body in the Joint Committee to wait upon the Governor.

The Committee on the part of the Senate was McBride, Drew and Cull.

The Standing Committees were announced as follows:

**On Elections**—Stevenson, Haines, and Eagle.

**Ways and Means**—Brown, Reed and Gillette.

**Education**—Richardson, Mallory, and Gillette.

**Judiciary**—Mallory, Humason, Commins, Moore and Stevens.

Claims—Simpson, Smith and Haines.

**Military Affairs**—Applegate, Wilson and Henshaw.

**Roads and Highways**—Dufur, Minto and Wilkins.

**Engrossed Bills**—Blair and Stevens.

**Enrolled Bills**—Commins, Reed and Fay.

**Indian Affairs**—Simpson, Watson and Humason.

**Printing**—Humason, Convers and McCully.

**Corporations**—Collard, Van Dyke and Witham.

**Commerce**—Wasserman, Gillette and Moore.

**Counties**—McCoy, Ratney, and McClellan.

An order was made for as many as six newspapers; each member closing what papers he desired.

Humason, of Wasco, offered a petition from the people of the Powder River country, asking for the organization of the County of Baker. The petition was signed by about five hundred men—citizens of the United States, and residents of that section of country. Mr. Humason asked for its reference to a special committee; and it was so referred.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**—Humason, of Wasco, presented a petition from the people of the city of Auburn, Wasco county, asking for an act of incorporation for the city of Auburn. It was referred.

Humason presented a petition from the people of Powder River country, asking for an act chartering a company to construct a wagon road, build bridges, &c., giving the said corporation power to collect tolls, regulate the rates of the same.

Mallory, of Douglas, offered a resolution to go into joint ballot for the election of United States Senator, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Senator Baker, appointing next Friday. It was adopted.

Smith, of Linn, moved a resolution to canvass the vote for the Governor to-morrow.

Fay, of Josephine, moved a resolution to appoint a committee of three to invite the presence of the Senate in the Legislative hall and declare the vote for Governor.—Adopted.

Dufur, moved the reconsideration of the resolution appointing Friday as the day on which to elect Senator; and offered to insert by appointment next Thursday. He desired to save time. This subject was of so much importance, that it was necessary to be disposed of as soon as possible, so we could get properly at other business with undivided attention.

Collard, of Clackamas, desired to put off the election for a few days.

Simpson of Polk, was in favor of getting through with this matter. He held that members had their minds already made up. No reason why we should not dispatch this business as soon as possible.

Collard agreed that the election of Senator was a matter of very great importance and for that very reason he thought it best not to act prematurely, but be deliberate and take time to it. The Senator would do as much good elected four or five days from now as if elected to-morrow. He was very well excited. The question did not distract him at all. And the people of Wasco have sent a representative here and ask me to give him a seat. Let us not be hasty and eat him off from a chance to vote on so important a matter.

The ballot was unanimously adopted.

The House now proceeded to the election of permanent officers.

Palmer, Mallory, Brown and Moore were put in nomination for Speaker of the House. Palmer was elected.

Mallory, Brown and Moore were appointed a committee to conduct the Speaker to the chair.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

A message from the Senate was received, giving notice of the concurrence of that body in the appointment of Thursday, 10 o'clock, as the time to elect U. S. Senator.