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WHOLE NO. 406.

The Way of the World.
A youth would marry a maiden,
For fair and fond was she;
But she was rich and he was poor,
And so it might not be.
A lady never could wear
Her mother held it firm—
A gown that came of an India plant,
And not of an India woman,
And so the cruel word was spoken,
And so it was two hearts were broken.

DAYER ON THE WITNESS STAND.—Dryer earned a little unenviable fame in a fruitless attempt to swear the physician who cured his blind eyes, out of his fee. He was also a witness in the Dall riot case at Portland. A correspondent of the San Francisco Bulletin speaks of him as follows:
The case was admitted to the jury in the afternoon of the 27th, and nearly twenty-four hours were consumed, before they returned into court and rendered their verdict. The subject-matter of their disagreement resulted from misunderstanding some of the testimony, which upon their being recalled, easily led them to agree upon a verdict of "not guilty." Some of the jurors, however, remarked that had one of the witnesses who testified against the accused been a reliable man, they would have agreed upon a verdict of "guilty" immediately on going into the jury-room; but the disreputable character of the witness referred to, although unimpeached, caused his testimony to be wholly rejected by the jury. At the examining court he testified that he "was in company with Capt. Dall when the assault was committed," and that he (witness) "was hit on the head with a brick," and that he "was hit in the side with a rock." But on the trial he swore positively that he was not hit on the head with a brick, nor did he have a brick in his hat! The conflicting statements thus made by the witness rendered his testimony unworthy of confidence, and hence its rejection by the jury. Had this testimony been given with that degree of candor and good judgment, which characterizes a good citizen, I have no doubt that the accused would have been found guilty of the charge preferred against them. But, in consequence of a disreputable witness being placed upon the stand to testify, who had the character and reputation of our city as at stake, it must be concluded that an injury has been sustained, which it will require years to amend and place again in its former good repute.

The same correspondent speaks of Gen. Adair, as follows:
The little political world of Oregon is now under the influence of enlightenment by a somewhat angry discussion going on between General John Adair, U. S. Collector at Astoria, the Hon. Mr. Justice Williams of Portland, and A. Bush, Esq., Territorial printer, and editor of the Oregon Statesman, at Salem. Notwithstanding the knowledge which the people may gain from this discussion, I have no doubt but that it will prove deleterious, not only to the Democratic party, but to some of the officials of this Territory, who are dependent upon the present Administration for the honorable position which they now occupy. As regards who may be right, or who may be wrong in this discussion, it is impossible to determine; but I can safely venture an opinion, that some startling facts have been developed, and I fear that President Buchanan will make himself interested in the welfare of some of the parties before the matter meets with a final disposition.
Mr. Bush, it is conceived, occupies a prominent position in the rank and wishes of the Democratic party, and at a recent election he was the regular Democratic nominee for State printer. Mr. Adair, having some personal objection to him, erased his name from the Democratic ticket, thereby violating the most binding obligation of the party, and by so doing, giving aid and comfort to the enemy. In this breach of a Democratic principle he was followed by Mr. Justice Bush as editor of the leading Democratic paper of this territory, conceived it to be his duty to expose Mr. Adair as a bolter and disorganizer of the Democratic party. Mr. Adair took offense at an exposition of facts as they appeared on paper, and for this commenced an attack on Mr. Bush, and also at the same time hurled a missile of vinegar at Judge Williams. The reply of both Judge Williams and Mr. Bush, was plain and decisive, and at the same time firmly adhering to the pure Democratic principle of the party, while Gen. Adair labored hard to prove the validity of his position, and also asserts that he (General Adair) was born between "Ashland and the Hermitage." I am at a loss what the General has reference to in his allusion, unless it is to illustrate his political career for the few years last past. One thing is certain, he has since his appointment to the Collectorship at Astoria, occupied a very favorable position in the eyes of the political parties; for, during each successive Presidential contest, he was, not by residing in a Territory, compelled to declare openly his political sentiments, but wisely withheld them until the contest was over, and when there was no danger of committing an error, which might prove deleterious to his position.

A young woman of the tribe of the Oldtown Indians the other day in the cars, was asked by a roving fellow who would like to marry a white man. "No," was her reply, "because good white men do not want to marry me, and poor scoundrels like you I won't have!" The roving left at the next station.
A woman in New Orleans ran away from her husband, taking with her three children. She left a note for her husband, on his arrival home, to the effect that he needn't concern himself about the children, as none of them were his.

The Salt Mines of Oregon.
BY BAYARD TAYLOR.
After descending 210 feet we saw the first vein of rock salt, in a bed of clay and crumbled sandstone. Thirty feet more and we were in a world of salt. Level galleries branched off from the foot to the staircase; overhead a ceiling of solid salt, under foot a floor of salt, and on either side dark gray walls of salt, sparkling here and there with minute crystals. Lights glimmered ahead, and on turning the corner we came upon a gang of workmen, some hacking away at the solid floor, others treading wheelbarrows full of the precious cubes. Here was the chapel of St. Anthony, the oldest in the mine—a byzantine excavation, supported by columns with altar, crucifix, and life size statues of saints, apparently in black marble, but all as salt as Lot's wife, as I discovered by putting my tongue to the nose of John the Baptist. The humid air of this upper story of the mines has damaged some of the saints. Francis, especially, is running away like a dip candle, all of his head is gone except his chin.
The limbs of Joseph are dropping off as if he had the Norwegian leprosy, and Lawrence had fewer scars than his gridiron could have made, running up and down his back. A Bengal light burned at the altar, brought into sudden life this strange temple, which presently vanished into darkness, as if it had never been seen.
I cannot follow, step by step, our journey of two hours through the labyrinths of this wonderful mine. It is a bewildering maze of galleries, grand halls, staircases and vaulted chambers, where one loses all sense of distance or direction, and drifts along blindly in the wake of his conductor. Everything was solid salt, except where great piers of heavy logs had been built up to support some trifling roof, or vast chasms, left in quarrying, had been bridged across. As we descended to lower regions, the air became more dry and agreeable, and the saline walls more pure and brilliant. One hall, 108 feet in height, resembled a Grecian theater, the traces of block taken out in regular layers representing the seats for the spectators. Out of the single hall 1,000,000 cwt of salt had been taken, or enough to supply the 40,000,000 inhabitants in Austria one year.

Two obelisks of salt commemorated the visit of Francis I and his Empress in another spacious irregular vault, through which we passed by means of a wooden bridge spanning a gully of the crystalline rock. After we had descended to the bottom of this chamber, a boy ran along the bridge above with a burning Bengal light, throwing flashes of blue lustre on the obelisks, on the scarred walls, vast arches, the entrance to deeper halls, and the far roof, fretted with the pinks of the workmen. The effect was magical—wonderful. Even the old Prussian, who had the face of an exchange broker, exclaimed, as he pointed upwards: "It is like a sky full of cloud lamplines!" Presently we entered another and loftier chamber, yawning downward like the mouth of hell, with cavernous openings opening out to the further end. In the tunnels the workmen, half naked, with torches in their hands, wild cries, fireworks, and the firing of guns (which here so reverberate in the imprisoned air that one can feel every note of sound), gave a rough representation of the infernal regions, for the benefit of the crowned heads who visit the mines. The effect must indeed be diabolical. Even we, unexceptionable characters as we were, looked truly unaccountably at our ghostly garments, amid the livid glare of the fireworks.
A little further, we struck upon a lake four fathoms deep, upon which we embarked in a heavy square boat and entered a gloomy tunnel, over the entrance of which was inscribed (in salt letters) "good luck to you." In such a place the motto seemed ironical. "Abandon hope, all ye who enter here," would have been more appropriate. Midway in the tunnel, the halls at either end were suddenly illuminated, and a crash, as of a hundred cannon bellows blowing through the hollow vaults, shook the air and water in such wise that our boat had not ceased trembling when we landed in the further hall. Read Tasso:
"Tremar le spaziorz ante caverna.
E' del ciclo in quel vapore arioso."
If you want to hear the sound of it, a tablet inscribed "heartily welcome!" saluted us on landing. Finally, at the depth of 450 feet, our journey ceased, although we were but half way to the bottom. The remainder is a wilderness of shafts, galleries and smaller chambers, the extent of which we could only conjecture. We then returned through scores of tortuous passages to some vaults where a lot of gnomes, naked to the hips, were busy with pick, mallet and wedge, blocking out and separating the solid pavement.
The process is quite primitive, scarcely differing from that of the ancient Egyptians in quarrying granite. The blocks are first marked out on the surface by a series of grooves. One side is then deepened to the required thickness, and wedges being inserted under the block, it is soon split off. It is then split transversely into pieces of 1 cwt each, in which form it is ready for sale. Those intended for Russia are rounded on the edges and corners until they acquire the shape of large coconuts, for the convenience of transportation into the interior of the country.

The number of workmen employed in the mine is 1500, all of whom belong to the "upper crust"—that is, they live on the outside of the world. They are divided into gangs, and relieve each other every six hours. Each gang carries out, on an average, a little more than 1,000 cwt of salt in that space of time, making the annual yield 4,500,000 cwt! The men we saw were fine, muscular, healthy looking fellows, and the officer, in answer to my questions, stated that their sanitary condition was quite equal to that of the field laborers. Scarcy does not occur among them, and the equality of the temperature of the mines—which stands at 54 deg., of Fahrenheit all the year around—has a favorable effect upon such as are predisposed to diseases of the lungs. He was not aware of any peculiar form of disease induced by the substance in which they work. The wood I may here remark never rot, and where untouched, retains its quality for centuries. The officer explicitly denied the story of men having been born in these mines, and having gone through life without ever mounting to the upper world. So there goes another interesting fiction of our youth.

It requires a stretch of imagination to conceive the extent of this salt bed. As far as explored, its length is two and a half English miles, its breadth a little over a half mile, and its solid depth 690 feet! It commences 200 feet below the surface, and is then uninterrupted to sandstone, such as forms the peaks of the Carpathian mountains. Below this there is no probability that it again re-appears. The general direction is east and west, dipping rapidly at its western extremity, so that it may no doubt be pushed much further in that direction. Notwithstanding the immense amount already quarried—and it will be better understood when I state that the aggregate length of the shafts and galleries amount to four hundred and forty miles—it is estimated that at the present rate of exploration, the known supply cannot be exhausted under 300 years: The tripartite treaty, under the partition of Poland, limits Austria to the full amount—4,500,000 cwt annually—of which she is bound to furnish 30,000 cwt to Prussia, and 800,000 to Russia, leaving 4,000,000 cwt to herself. This sum yields her a net revenue from the mines, of two millions of florins, \$1,000,000, annually. It is not known how the wonderful deposit is more precious than gold itself—was originally discovered. We know that it was worked in the 12th century, and perhaps much earlier. The popular faith has invented several miracles to account for it, giving the merit to favorite saints. One, which is gravely published in "The history of Cracow," states a Polish King, who wooed a princess Elizabeth of Hungary (not the saint of Wartburg) in the tenth century, asked what she would choose as a bridal gift from him. Something that would most benefit his people. The marriage ceremony was performed in a chapel in one of the salt mines of Transylvania. Soon after was transferred to Cracow, Elizabeth went out to Wieliczka, surveyed the ground, and after choosing a spot, commanded the people to dig. In the course of a few days they found a salt crystal, which the Queen caused to be set in her wedding ring, and wore until the day of her death. She must have been a wonderful geologist, for those days. The bed actually follows the Carpathians, appearing at intervals in small deposits, into Transylvania, where there are extensive mines. It is believed, also, that it stretches northward into Russian Poland.

Some years ago the bank of Warsaw expended large sums in boring for salt near the Austrian frontier. There was much excitement and speculation for a time; but although the mineral was found, the cost of quarrying it was too great, and the enterprise was dropped.
NOT A WASHINGTON.—A friend of ours tells the following story of himself: When young, he had read the well known story of George Washington's love of truth, and the father's love of the noble principle of his son, so well manifested on the occasion referred to of his cutting down the cherry tree, acknowledging his transgression, and receiving a full and free pardon, besides praises and caresses, from his father. So Jim, actuated by so noble an example, thought he would try the experiment on his father. He had a hatchet, and cut down some choice fruit trees. He then coolly sat down to await the old man's coming, and as soon as he made his appearance, marched up to him with a very important air, and acknowledged the deed, expecting the next thing on the programme to be in tears, benedictions and embraces from the offended parent. But, sad to relate, instead of this, the old gentleman caught up a hickory, and gave his son an "all-fired laming." Jim was not a Washington.

OLD MAIDS.—The editor of a country paper, having been taken to task by a female correspondent for noticing a receipt to prevent ladies from taking cold, viz: "to keep the mouth shut"—hits back as follows: We could never make ourselves popular with the old maids. Do what we could—squeeze 'em behind the door, which they dearly love—flatter 'em on the sofa—dance with 'em at parties—take 'em to picnic, and treat 'em to ice cream, soda water, "kisses"—in short, attend ever so gallantly to their wants, save making them a direct offer—and the moment our back was turned they would turn to and show their teeth (false ones of course). Well, hope deferred maketh the heart sick, and we never blame 'em.
EDITOR IN THE COUNTRY.—The editor of the Cincinnati Times has been in the country. He says:
The robins sang sweetly from the tree tops; the cattle lowed to each other as they luxuriated among the dew-drops; the fields lay in their gayest robes of emerald; the brooks danced away in joy; the bob-links chattered in the shrubbery; the geese waddled sedately towards their bathing places; the old oaks waved their arms in conscious strength; the hills held up their heads in pride; the world blushed in beauty. Selah!
How touchingly rural!
At a Virginia prayer meeting, the chorister being absent, the presiding elder, whose name was Jeter, called upon one of the deacons and said, reading a hymn,
"Brother Moon,
Will you raise a tune?"
The deacon lifted up his voice, but instead of singing at once, he inquired,
"Brother Jeter,
What's the metre?"
This being satisfactorily answered, Deacon Moon pitched the tune.

Edward Cole committed suicide near St. Peter, Minnesota, under singular circumstances. He took down his gun, when by some accident it went off and killed his wife. He wrote to his son informing him of the circumstance, and telling him what disposition to make of his property. He said that himself and wife had not lived on good terms, and that as the accident might be attributed to design on his part, he would prevent any further trouble by leaving the world.
A FABLE.—"I have something to ask you," said a young eagle to a learned melancholy owl; "may I say there is a bird named Merops, who, when he rises in the air, flies with his tail upwards, head towards the ground; is that true?"
"Certainly not!" answered the owl, "it's a foolish tradition of man. He is himself a Merops; for he would fly to heaven without for a moment losing sight of earth."

Oregon Legislature.
Council, Monday, Dec. 20, A. M.—Mr. WAIT presented the petition of Geo. H. Flanders and others, praying that a charter be granted to Henry D. Green and his associates, to establish a gas manufactory in the city of Portland. Referred to committee on corporations.
Mr. MACK presented a petition of Benjamin Taylor and others, praying for a charter for a wagon road across the Cascade mountains, from Philip Foster's, in Clackamas county, to the Dalles, in Wasco county, for the term of five years. Referred to the committee on corporations.
Mr. CORNELIUS introduced a bill to amend an act relating to estrays. Adj.

Council, Afternoon.—Mr. WAIT introduced the following joint resolution: Resolved, by the Council, and the Representatives: That the interests of the town of Dalles, and the long residence of American citizens in portions of the country east of the Cascade mountains, together with the recent rapid settlement of that country, require the earliest possible extension of the government surveys over that portion of Oregon Territory; and therefore, and for other good reasons, our delegation in Congress is hereby requested to urge a liberal appropriation by Congress, at as early a day as possible, to enable the Surveyor General of Oregon Territory to extend the government surveys over that portion of the Territory lying east of said mountains. The resolution was adopted.
Mr. MCNINCH, from committee on corporations reported a bill to authorize Henry D. Green, to establish a gas manufactory in the city of Portland. The rules were suspended and the bill passed. Adj.

HOUSES, Monday, Dec. 20, A. M.—Mr. CHAPMAN moved to suspend the rules, and take up the unfinished business of Saturday. After debate, Mr. Chapman withdrew his motion, which was immediately rejected by Mr. Dryer. Motion lost—yeas 10; nays 16.
Mr. SLATER called for the unfinished business of Saturday. Ruled out of order. Mr. Slater took an appeal to the House.—The Speaker's decision was sustained—yeas 15; nays 10.
Mr. MCNINCH presented the petition of Lydia Casney for divorce—referred to committee on enrolled bills.
Mr. NEWCOMB, from committee on corporations, reported a bill to incorporate the Williams Creek Water Ditch Company. On motion, the rules were suspended, and bill read a second time by title, and ordered engrossed and read a third time to-morrow.
Mr. CHAPMAN moved to proceed to unfinished business—agreed—yeas 17; nays 8.

The SPEAKER stated that the question pending at the adjournment on Saturday last, was the amendment offered by Mr. Shattuck to Mr. Chapman's substitute to the location bill, to strike out Sec. 2 of the substitute, and insert the following: "That the seat of government shall be removed from Salem, and relocated at —, in the county of —; and that each and every session of the Legislature shall be held at the said place, until a suitable place shall be otherwise provided by law." The question being upon the adoption of the amendment,
Mr. DRYER did not want to see the question submitted without debate. He was in favor of the amendment. From the substitute, he thought there was an evident disposition of the part of certain members of the House to assist in the removal of the seat of government from Salem, and to leave the question of removal and relocation entirely in the discretion of the governor. The section proposed to be struck out, left it entirely to the governor to designate the place for the seat of government; to a man who had no legislative authority, and no connection with this Legislature. In former times, the governor was kicked out of this legislature, sir, and his message ordered to be carried out by the doorkeeper on two clips. That's the way the governor used to be treated, sir. The governor was not the law-making power, and it is not right to place the disposal of this question in his hands. We have no assurance that in case the State is removed to any other place, that we would be admitted into the Union as a State before the adjournment of Congress, he would be inclined to waive the matter for the present; but there was no certainty about our admission, and he was not disposed to proceed further in legislation, on the supposition that we would be admitted. He had no confidence in the influence or ability of two or three gentlemen from this Territory, that their presence at Washington will increase the probability of our admission. Other States have sent men there, asking for the same thing, and they have been sent home again, and it is not certain that ours will be received. Some portions of the Territory are clamorous upon this question of removing the seat of government; let us then accede to their request. In regard to public feeling, gentlemen deny that any exists in regard to this matter; but the vote indicates that it did exist, and public sentiment has increased rather than diminished since that vote was taken. (Mr. Shattuck here branched off into a learned dissertation upon democracy, and the history of the capital question and the Salem clique, evidently colored from the columns of the Oregonian.) The only thing original about it was the style, which was a very slight improvement upon Dryer's corduroy.

Mr. HOLMES thought the subject under consideration had been so far and so often from that it was hardly necessary to refer to it. He would inform the gentleman (Mr. Shattuck) that he was laboring under a mistake in regard to the former history of the capital question; and had evidently been keeping very bad company of late. It was true that at the time the capital was located at Salem, there were no party lines drawn in the Territory, and consequently no political parties—no whigs, no democrats, and, thank God, no know-nothings! He was a member of the Legislative Assembly which located the Capitol, and the University, and the Penitentiary. The little faction to which the gentleman belongs, took issue with the majority upon the location of the seat of government at Salem. Then it was that party lines were first drawn in the Territory. The people took up the matter, and rebuked the political tricksters, with the gentlemen from Multnomah at their head, who were making a fuss about the location of the seat of government at Salem, by re-

turning to the Legislature every member who had voted for the measure. (Mr. Holmes replied at some length to the political portion of Mr. Shattuck's speech.)
Mr. PARKER said, that as members were talking about the Democratic party, he would like to tell what he knew about it. Leave being granted, he proceeded to tell what he knew, which was very little.
Mr. LASSATER thought as the House had to be bored to death by this question, he might as well help bore it. He did not intend to discuss politics at this time. He had had his turn at that; and he now proposed to discuss the merits of the amendment. The gentleman from Clatsop wished to insert Portland in the amendment. He supposed the gentleman from Washington and Multnomah would have inserted it, but that he knew it couldn't be done. He opposed the amendment altogether. He would favor the proposition of the gentleman from Izee, for the reason that it suited him best. He held his seat by favor of the voters of Marion county, and he intended to do the very best he could for the interests of his constituents; and he thought now the best he could do for those interests was to vote for the substitute proposed by the gentleman from Lane. The second section declares that if there is an extra session of the Legislature called by the Governor shall call it here, unless some place shall provide a suitable hall and accommodations for the Legislature for four years, and also furnish transportation for the public property free of charge. This will save expense to my constituents, and also to the young State; and if any place wants the capital bad enough to incur the expense, let them take it. The question is to be submitted to the people in June. That is all my constituents will ask. They did not desire the question disturbed at this time, and I did not disturb it; it was agitated by an unruly member, who threw it as a firebrand into the House, to divide and distract the Democratic party. I will vote for the substitute of the gentleman from Lane, because I believe it is the best thing that can be done for the country at this time, to quiet the agitation on this question.
Speeches were made by other members, which we were unable to report. Mr. Shattuck's amendment was lost—yeas 11; nays 16.
Mr. TYVAULT offered the following amendment: Amend section 1, by inserting after "1851," and before "the following"—"Also an act of the Legislative Assembly relocating and establishing the seat of government at Salem, in the county of Marion, passed the House 7th December, 1855, and passed the Council 12th December, 1855." Adopted—yeas 21; nays 6. Adj.

HOUSE, Tuesday, Dec. 21, A. M.—Mr. CHAPMAN moved the bill relocating the seat of government still pending, to amend section 0, by striking out the words "calling a special session to be held on the first Monday of October, A. D. 1859, in the several precincts of Oregon," and inserting "it shall be submitted to the people at the next general election." Adopted—yeas 18; nays 10.
Mr. DRYER moved the previous question. Agreed to. The question being upon the substitute to the bill, the yeas and nays were called, and resulted as follows:
Yeas—Messrs. Chapman, Crooks, Hannah, Holton, Holmes, Jones, Lassater, McGee, Newcomb, Stevens, Smith of Yamhill, Smith of Polk, Tyvault, Zieher.—14.
Nays—Messrs. Bonham, Bowley, Craner, Dryer, Heide, Jennings, Melucci, Nichols, Parker, Slater, Shattuck, Watson and Mr. Speaker.—18. So the substitute was adopted.
Mr. CHAPMAN moved that the bill be engrossed, and read a third time to-morrow. Mr. Holmes moved to amend by ordering the bill engrossed, and made the special order of the day for Jan. 5th, 1859. Agreed to—yeas 15; nays 13. Adj.

COUNCIL, Tuesday, Dec. 21, A. M.—Bill to amend an act relating to estrays read second time, and referred to committee on ways and means. Adj.
COUNCIL, Afternoon.—On motion of Mr. WAIT, the Council concurred in the House joint resolution, providing for adjournment this evening, until January 3d, was concurred in. Adj.
HOUSE, Tuesday, Dec. 21, A. M.—Mr. CROOKS offered a joint resolution, that when this Legislative Assembly adjourns this evening, it adjourn until Monday, January 3rd, 1859. Adopted.
Mr. HANNAH moved to suspend the rules, and take up the Council Judiciary Bill. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.
Mr. JENNINGS presented the petition of Dr. Geo. Kellogg for divorce. Referred to select committee, consisting of Messrs. Stevens, Jennings and Slater.
Mr. HOLMES presented the petition of R. J. Old for divorce. Referred to Committee on Counties.
Mr. TYVAULT presented the petition of James R. Peters, R. F. Maury and others, for a charter for a water-ditch. Referred to a select committee of three, consisting of Messrs. Tyvault, Chapman and Newcomb.
Mr. ZIEBER presented a petition for the relocation of a part of the Territorial road from Salem to Dayton, by way of Matheny's Ferry. Referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Zieher, Holmes and Jennings.
Mr. MCNINCH, from committee on Enrolled Bills, to whom was referred the petition of Lydia Casney for divorce, reported by bill, granting divorce.
Mr. WATSON moved a reconsideration of the vote, ordering the bill to incorporate Williams Creek Water Ditch Company to be engrossed and read a third time to-day. Lost.
Mr. PARKER introduced a bill to exempt lands of homesteads from attachment and forced sale.
Bills to divorce Mary E. Dennis, to divorce Nancy B. Walling, to divorce Nathan and Fanny Cohen, to relocate Territorial road from Oregon City to Pleasant Hill in Lane county, to incorporate Illinois Valley Wagon Road company, for relief of N. A. Cornoyer, Sheriff of Marion county, to amend an act to regulate the fees of certain officers and other persons, to amend section one, title one, chapter two of Oregon Statutes, to divorce Fillester Lane, to divorce Lucy Smith, to divorce Buel Howard, to divorce Mahala Card, to change Territorial

road from Albany in Linn county to Drift Creek in Marion county, ordered engrossed, and read third time on subsequent day of the session. Bill to incorporate North Umpqua River Bridge company, referred to committee on corporations. Bill for relief of J. H. Lewis, Treasurer of Polk county, referred to committee of the Whole. Bill to legalize informal vote, locating county seat of Curry county, referred to committee on counties. Bill for the relief of Philip Gearhart referred to committee on Claims. Adj.
HOUSE, Afternoon.—Council bill to incorporate Yamhill Water Lock and Transportation company read first time.
Mr. HOLMES moved to reconsider the vote on Mr. Chapman's substitute for the location bill. Mr. Bonham moved to lay the motion on the table. Agreed to.
Bills to incorporate the Williams Creek Water Ditch Company, to extend the charter of the Illinois Valley Wagon Road Company, and to authorize the County Commissioners of Jackson county, to levy a special tax and create a redemption fund to pay the county indebtedness, were passed.
Mr. HANNAH moved to reconsider the bill to charter Willamette Falls Railroad. Agreed to. The bill was then ordered engrossed, and read a third time to-morrow.
Council bill granting a charter to Henry D. Green to establish a gas manufactory in the city of Portland taken up and read first time. Council bill to change practice and fix times of holding courts read. Rules suspended, read second time and referred to committee on Judiciary. Council bill to divorce Miriam Martis, read. Council Joint Resolution, to memorialize Congress for appropriation for surveys east of Cascade Mountains concurred in. Adj.

THE OLDEST MAN IN AMERICA.—The last number of Ballou's Pictorial, contains an interesting description of a colored man named Peter Nassau, a resident of Woodstock, Vermont, who has reached the extraordinary age of one hundred and twenty-six years! This fact has been established by the town clerk of Woodstock, who has taken great pains in order to correctly to trace out Peter's history. When quite young, he came as a gentleman's servant from Martinique, his native place, to Boston, but for many years past, Woodstock has been his home. Peter Nassau is as well known in Vermont as the Green Mountains themselves. He is a thin, spare frame and nearly bald, but his skin is remarkably smooth and un wrinkled. He has no son, but two daughters, both of whom yet live in the village of Woodstock, in which place he is supported. Go, however, where he will, and he is very fond of wandering about, he always finds friends who are glad to give him food and shelter. His eyesight is still good, and his teeth remarkably sound for a man of his age. He converses freely, but unlike most old men, is not garrulous. While he was sitting in the office of the Windsor House, lately, some one asked him how many winter months he expected to see—"Ah!" said Peter, "if this year here was offered to me full of gold, I wouldn't keep it to live my days over again." It is almost certain that Peter Nassau is the oldest living man in America.

RATES OF TAXATION.—The tax rates on \$1,000 in several cities and towns are as follows: Boston \$8.60, Cambridge \$8.10, Roxbury \$8.50, Lawrence \$8.40, New Bedford \$8.40, Lowell \$8.40, Newburyport \$8.30, Salem 7.40, Lynn \$7.1, Waltham \$5.90, Newport, R. I. \$4.30, Portland, Me. \$8.60, Bangor, Me. \$14.30.—A table prepared in the interior department at Washington shows the rates of taxation in 18 States in 1850:—North Carolina pays less tax, per capita, than either of her sisters, it being only fifty-two cents for each individual annually; while the tax of Maine, the highest in the list, amounts to \$3 per head. Next in order after Maine, comes New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. The average rate prevailing in the whole eighteen states is \$1.92.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR, says the Philadelphia Inquirer, visited Philadelphia in early life, and consulted some of the oldest hatters as to the policy of his settling here and establishing himself in business. Considerable attention was given to the matter, but it was determined that the trade was overdone, and that in fact there was no opening. The enterprising stranger immediately directed his footsteps to New York, and in the course of years, as it is well known, became the great millionaire of the commercial metropolis.
Many years ago when a bill for the relief of an aged officer was under consideration in the senate, a member who wished it set aside suggested that it could be well postponed—"Congress sits every year," Mr. Fremont, a Frenchman, a senator from Louisiana, who advocated the bill, pointed energetically to the venerable petitioner, conspicuous in the lobby, and exclaimed—"Yes, Mr. Speaker, Congress sits every year, but death sits every day—Look!"
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