The Oregon Statesman.

MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 11, 1864.

Union State Convention.

The Union voters of the various counties of the State of Oregon, who are in favor of the continued and vigorous prosecution of the present war to the complete and final suppression of rebellion and extinction of treason, and in favor of hearty and efficient support of the authorities of the General Government in their efforts to protect and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States, and preserve and perpetuate the Union, and who are willing to combine for the election of men of like principles to all offices in this State, are respectfully and earnestly invited to hold conventions according to usual custom for the election of delegates to a State Union Convention to be held at ALBANY, in Linn county, on the 30TH DAY OF MARCH, A. D. 1864, for the purpose of nominating candidates for Representative in Congress and State Printer, electing delegates to the National Union Convention, and providing for the selection of candidates for Presidential Electors, and transacting such other business as the Convention shall deem proper.

We respectfully recommend the holding of County Conventions on the 19TH DAY OF MARCH, A. D. 1864.

We also respectfully recommend the holding of conventions of delegates from the various districts at the time and place of holding the State Convention for the nomination of candidates for Supreme Judges and Prosecuting Attorneys in the several districts where vacancies shall exist.

The several counties will be entitled to delegates in the State Convention as follows: Benton, 5; Clackamas, 9; Clatsop, 1; Columbia, 1; Coos, 1; Curry, 1; Douglas, 8; Jackson, 10; Josephine, 5; Lane, 8; Linn, 12; Marion, 12; Multnomah, 6; Polk, 5; Tillamook, 1; Wasco, 10; Washington, 4; Yamhill, 6; Umatilla, 2; Baker, 3.—Total, 112.

By order of the State Central Union Committee,

JOHN R. MOORES, Chairman.

A. G. HOVEY, Secretary.

Salem, Jan. 6, 1864. td—45

Prospectus of the Oregon Statesman.

In a little less than two months the OREGON STATESMAN will enter upon its 14th volume. The 7th day of March will be our New Year's day, when we shall enter upon the most interesting period of our journal's history. During the year, it is believed, will occur one of the most momentous crises of our National life—the termination of the Rebellion and the settlement of the questions out of which it originated. We are aware of the grave responsibilities that rest upon a public journal during the discussions of such a period, and, with all the help of a sincere determination to do our part well, we assume them, and pledge ourselves to the performance of everything which duty points out, according to our best abilities.

THE STATESMAN will be devoted to the earnest advocacy of a vigorous prosecution of the war to the complete suppression of the Rebellion and the extinction of treason. We recognize the obligation resting upon every good citizen to render a generous and effective support to the constitutional authorities, most especially during a time like the present, when the withholding of such support must result in the sudden destruction of the Government. Above all other temporal considerations, we look upon the preservation of a good and free government, as the one PARAMOUNT; and to this end would we devote every energy and every institution of the country. In our judgment, no republican government in America is consistent with the idea of disunion, either now or hereafter. The subjugation of the Rebellion is then a consummation demanded by every beneficent interest of the age. Every measure calculated to accomplish that end, will receive our hearty support. Every measure looking to peace or accommodation of our national difficulties, which stops short of the extermination of treason and the permanent re-establishment of constitutional authority over all the territory of the United States, will receive our earnest opposition. We repudiate and hold in scorn that pretended loyalty which in profession pledges fealty to the support of the Government, but in practice renders the constituted authorities, through whom alone the functions of the Government can be exercised, powerless to preserve it. No man truly supports the Government in a crisis like the present unless he lend it the aid of his arm, if needed, and his sympathy and encouragement always. Holding these views, we cheerfully acquiesce in the measures of the Administration for the maintenance of the Union, till such time as better plans are proposed. Meantime, we are for earnest, vigorous war, so long as traitors render it necessary, and then for peace as soon as it can be honorably and permanently had.

THE STATESMAN will contain each week all the war, congressional, and foreign news despatched over the overland telegraph line; the news of general interest from each of our neighboring States and Territories; a full summary of the domestic intelligence of this State; correspondence from the mines of Oregon and Idaho; local and political correspondence; miscellaneous selections of political and literary articles and poetry; market reports; and such other matter as will be of present interest to our readers. It will be our special care to publish a live newspaper.

THE STATESMAN is published every Monday, by the OREGON PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY (incorporated under the laws of this State), on the following terms: Per year for single copy, if paid in advance, $5.00; where payment is delayed six months, $4.00; if payment is delayed till the expiration of the year, $5.00. Legal advertisements, per square of twelve lines or less, $6.00 for first insertion, and $1.00 for each subsequent insertion. These rates are payable in all cases in coin or its equivalent. Where legal tender notes are offered, the rates will be enough higher to make the payment equal to gold value. For delays of more than three months in payments for advertising, the highest legal rate of interest will be charged. Commercial advertisements will be published at liberal rates.

J. W. P. HUNTINGTON,
RUFUS MALLORY,
D. W. CRAIG,
C. P. CRANDALL,
C. N. TERRY, } Directors.

SALEM, Jan. 11, 1864. 45tf

THE UNION STATE CONVENTION.

The Union State Convention for the State of Oregon is to be held on Wednesday, the 30th day of March next, at Albany. The call of the Committee will be found at the head of our first editorial column. The campaign for the year 1864 may now be considered opened. The part which Oregon must play in the great political struggles of the year may be neither inconsiderable nor unimportant. Her political destiny is inseparably connected with her sister loyal States, and whatever betides either must in some degree also affect the others. The decision which the voters of Oregon shall make next summer will be a ripple upon the great sea of politics which will be sensibly seen and felt to its extreme verges. No State now approaches the great tribunal of the ballot-box, unwatched by friends and foes of the government, nor unaccompanied by their widely different anxieties. Were Oregon only half her present dimensions and population she would be an object of deep interest to both loyalists and traitors, who handle the destinies of States powerful enough for empires. Whether we will or no, we must play our part, bear our responsibilities and occupy our position in the living history which is being made up of this rebellion. Our attitude toward the government may be that of a friend or of an enemy. If we assume the first, we shall be hailed with acclamations by every loyal voice in the nation; if the latter, every traitor who is working and looking for the downfall of the Union, will stretch out to us the right hand of fellowship and claim us as co-workers in treason.

The issue is between the Union men who favor the continued and vigorous prosecution of the war to the complete overthrow of the rebellion and the extinction of treason, and the falsely called "democrats" who either oppose the war upon any and all terms or would so embarrass the authorities of the government as to neutralize every effort for such a termination of the war as would guarantee the future integrity of the Union. The issue is a plain one and the contestants are as clearly identified with one side or the other of the issue as though the demon of treason had placed a broad and bloody hand upon each of his followers and left untouched the friends of the Union. Loyal men give a hearty and efficient support to the authorities of the government in their efforts to protect the constitution and laws of the United States and to preserve and perpetuate the Union. They are willing to lay aside partisan wranglings, prejudices and minor differences of opinion and to combine their efforts and offer their lives, fortunes and sacred honor for the preservation of their common country, the flag and the Union. All others are enemies to the government.

If the Union men desire to preserve to the State the loyal reputation she has thus far preserved, they will work with vigilance every day till the last vote is recorded on the 6th day of June, to defeat the cheating devices of rebels working through their ally, copperheadism. If they are careless in this work, they are also careless whether Oregon shall be found one of the supporting pillars of the government. We have a foe to meet, strong in passion, strong in its unscrupulous disregard of honor, and strong in its fecundity of deception, trickery and fraud. But we ought to meet it all the more bravely and determinedly, because it is also the foe of the Union. In the political struggle of 1864 we must not forget that the cause of the Union is our cause, and that in whatever degree we fail to strengthen the hands of those who are chosen to administer the government we also fail to protect ourselves. We cannot separate our own peace, prosperity and enjoyment of political rights, from the weal or woe of the Union. We are thus, even in our local elections, obliged to bear responsibilities more or less national in character. Thus when we have recorded a vote for the Union cause in Oregon, we have also set down a pledge for the perpetuity of the Union.

In this view of our duty, it is impossible for any true Union man to be indifferent to our local elections. Every true friend of the government will bestir himself to see that unconditional Union men are selected to bear our banners through the coming campaign and then to see that they are triumphantly elected. A bare election will be almost equivalent to defeat.—We want rousing majorities. We want the coppery reptile skinned and flayed till his poisonous fangs shall be dust; till the glitter of his treacherous eye shall fade into the blank stare of eternal death; till his head shall be laid down in the lowest stagnant corner of the sepulcher of infamy, there to rot in its own venom.

The Union strength of Oregon is sufficient for this, if it be rightly directed. We appeal to the patriotism of all to lay aside whatever of jealousy, prejudice, revenge or ambition they may each have and to devote themselves from this day to the work of extirpating the seeds of treason so plentifully sown in our midst by bad men. We may be pardoned for suggesting that the Union element of the State now lacks organization. The copperheads are using all the whips and spurs of party drill; they have clubs, open and secret, in all parts of the State where they have enough members to form one; they unquestionably have many lodges of the Golden Circle; they hold meetings, public and private, where they disseminate vile lies, false teachings and rankling passion; they are working with the industry which only the hatred of traitors toward a good government can stimulate, and they will take quick advantage of any apathy or carelessness which Union men may manifest. To counteract and beat their most thorough organization, we need only a corresponding activity and vigilance on the part of Union men. The Union county committees should at once see that their conventions are called at a proper day and that every necessary effort is made to have them represent the entire Union strength of their counties. Every Union man should attend his precinct primary convention. There should be in every precinct a Union club or league devoted to the dissemination of such matter as will effectually unmask the insidious designs of copperheadism and present the true issue—National life or death—to every voter. Every man who can speak, should let his voice be heard for the Union. The efforts of clubs and Union workers should be made in the most perfect concert possible. If the friends of the Union will do this, we have no hesitancy in saying that our triumph at the next election will be the most overwhelming blow ever given the copperheads on this coast.

MEETING OF UNION STATE COMMITTEE.

Pursuant to notice, the Union State Central Committee met at Salem January 6, 1864.

John R. Moores, Esq., of Marion county, Chairman, called the Committee to order.

On motion of Mr. Pengra of Lane, Mr. Hovey of Benton was chosen Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Huntington of Douglas, a committee on credentials was appointed, viz: Messrs. Huntington, Pengra, and Monteith.

The committee reported, after examination, that the following named counties were represented by the persons stated:

Jackson—E. F. Russell, by W. C. Johnson, proxy;
Douglas—G. E. Briggs, by J. W. P. Huntington, proxy;
Coos—T. D. Winchester, by R. P. Boise, proxy;
Lane—B. J. Pengra;
Benton—A. G. Hovey;
Umpqua—W. H. Wilson, by W. H. Rector, proxy;
Linn—Thomas Monteith;
Marion—John H. Moores;
Polk—Isaac M. Butler;
Yamhill—Geo. H. Steward, by J. H. Moores, proxy;
Clackamas—D. P. Thompson;
Multnomah—T. H. Pearne;
Wasco—Wm. Logan, by Geo. H. Williams, proxy;
Columbia—John W. Watts;
Clatsop—James Taylor, by Thos. Monteith, proxy;
Tillamook—C. H. Davidson.

And that the following counties were unrepresented, to wit: Josephine, Curry, Umatilla, Baker, and Washington.

The report was adopted.

On motion of Judge Williams, a committee of three was appointed to report the order of business. The Chair named Messrs. Williams, Boise and Johnson.

Adjourned until 1 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON.

Committee on order of business made the following report, which was adopted:

The committee report the following order of business:

1st. Time of holding State convention.
2d. Place for the same.
3d. Basis of apportionment for delegates in State convention.
4th. Ratio of representation in the same.
5th. Subject of call for State convention, and designation of nominations to be made and business to be transacted.
6th. Miscellaneous business.

GEO. H. WILLIAMS,
R. P. BOISE,
W. C. JOHNSON,
Committee.

On motion of Mr. Pengra, it was voted that the time for holding the State convention be fixed on the 30th day of March, 1864.

On motion of Mr. Rector, it was unanimously resolved that the convention be held at Albany, Linn county.

Mr. Pearne offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the popular vote of the State at the last general election be made the basis of representation in the coming Union State convention.

On motion, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the ratio of representation in the State Convention be, one delegate for every 100 votes cast, in each county, at the last general election, and one additional delegate for every fraction of fifty votes or upwards, and that Baker county be entitled to three delegates, Umatilla two, and Tillamook one.

On motion of Mr. Pearne, a committee of three was appointed, to make a computation of delegates to which each county is entitled, under the apportionment. Chair named Mr. Pearne, Mr. Monteith and Mr. Butler.

On motion of Mr. Huntington, a committee of three was appointed to prepare and report a call for the State Convention. Chair named Messrs. Huntington, Williams and Boise.

Adjourned to 7 o'clock, P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

Committee on apportionment of delegates to counties made their report, which was adopted, and ordered to be embraced in call for State Convention.

The committee on call for State Convention reported a draft, which was adopted, and ordered to be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and furnished to the Union papers of the State, with the minutes of these proceedings for publication.

On motion, adjourned *sine die*.

JOHN H. MOORES, Chairman.
A. G. HOVEY, Secretary.

EASTERN NEWS.

Bounties to Recruits.

ST. LOUIS, Dec 28.

The following important telegram has been received from the Secretary of war, by John B. Gray, Adjutant General of Missouri: Your dispatch of the 25th is just received. A bounty of $300 will be paid to recruits who enlist before the 5th of January, in any new regiment authorized by the War Department.

The Position in Virginia—Skirmishing.

NEW YORK, Dec 28.

The *Times'* dispatch from Washington says, officers from the front to-night say a small rebel cavalry force hold the north bank of the Rapidan at Raccoon Ford. Our forces occupy Cedar Mountain. There was a little skirmishing on Saturday, occasioned, it is supposed, by our army extending its picket lines on our right. The rebel army has gone into winter quarters between Gordonsville and Orange Court house.

Military Changes.

Gen. Rufus Ingalls, Chief Quartermaster, and Col. Clark, Chief Commissary, of the army of the Potomac, were to day relieved. Gen. Ingall's successor has not yet been announced. Colonel Clark is ordered to New York, and Major Wilson takes his place.

The exigencies of the service require many more officers for the colored regiments, principally line officers. Gen. Casey's Board is hard at work examining candidates, but is unable to supply the demand. Sixty Captains and Lieutenants are wanted immediately; 150 would be received in the next two weeks if they could be obtained.

Frauds Exposed in the Quartermaster's Department.

Of 800 horses sent to Gen. Butler's Department, 700 were condemned as worthless. The investigations into the affairs of the Quartermaster's department at Alexandria, are still progressing, and the Old Capitol receives almost daily some of the parties implicated in the recent frauds, the contractors coming in for a full share of the penalties.

Chief Justice Taney Dying.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.

The *Tribune's* Washington telegram says: Chief Justice Taney is lying at the point of death.

It is said that in the States (such as Wisconsin and Michigan) in which the first draft is not completed, the government will hardly secure any of the drafted men, as commutation money is almost universally paid.

Attack on Savannah Abandoned.

The expedition planned by Gen. Gilmore for attacking Savannah was abandoned in consequence of the return of the rebel troops who had been sent to Braggs assistance. Several expeditions are on foot from which good results are anticipated. It is stated that Quartermaster General Meigs is to be reinstated in his office here.

Gen. Hooker Ordered to Washington.

The *World's* dispatch says: It is rumored to day that Hooker has been suddenly ordered to Washington.

The Monitors at Charleston.

A Charleston letter to the Baltimore *American*, dated in the fleet the 27th, says: "As I intimated in my last, we have sailed down here into the expiration of a month or two more of inactivity. The strike among the engineers at the North delayed the completion of the monitors, and deprived our iron clad fleet of the reinforcements which were expected here more than a month ago, has been the primary cause of delay. The disaster to the Weehawken, and the coming of the winter season with its constant storms, have still further enforced this delay. Two months hence spring will be advanced here, and with our iron clad force increased by three or four monitors, we will be prepared to take advantage of the most healthful and pleasant part of the season. Let us hope that if Grant does not steal a march on us by one of his famous rear attacks, Charleston will then fall.

In the meantime, if we cannot look for immediate and decisive results here, no greater disaster need be apprehended. Gen. Gilmore's position is impregnable. The monitor Lehigh, by the time this reaches you, will have completed the repairs rendered necessary by the hammering she received while aground.—The Patapsco has almost completed her repairs, and will shortly relieve the Nantucket at Warsaw Sound. Both the Patapsco and Lehigh have been provided with extra deck plates that will add to invulnerability."

European Intelligence.

Dates to 16th December.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28th.

The steamer Olympus, with Liverpool dates to the 16th, has arrived.

The Richmond correspondent of the London *Times* admits that the blockade has now, for the first time, made access to the rebel ports really dangerous and difficult. A correspondent of the same journal, with the rebel army in Tennessee, admits the crisis is approaching to test the South, and pays a high tribute to the magnitude of Northern faith and self reliance, as contrasted with the lukewarmness of the Southern masses.

The replies of the Germanic Confederation and Denmark and Greece, in regard to the Congress are published. All accepted. It is reported that Austria has sent a note definitely declining the invitation. It is stated that Drouyn de L'Huys has sent a circular to the French diplomatic agents relative to the Congress, stating that the refusal of England has frustrated the combination, but that France is ready to come to an understanding with the governments, and is willing to debate pacifically among themselves those questions liable to lead to complications.

Warrants out for the Arrest of Traitors in Halifax.

BOSTON, Dec. 26

The officers of the gunboat Acaya report that when they left Halifax, warrants were out for 8 of the pirates, all of whom have been in the city for several days, but it was doubtful if any arrest would be made, as the police were in the interests of the rebels, and the people utterly opposed to such seizures.

English Bark Circassian seized at New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.

The English bark Circassian was seized here yesterday under suspicious circumstances, and some arrests made.

The iron clad Decatur was successfully launched this morning.

The navigation of the Mississippi is less interrupted. The gunboats are keeping a sharp lookout.

An officer from Texas states that General Washburne has started for San Antonio, which will soon be in our possession whence our troops will concentrate for overthrow of rebels under Maj. Rean.

Acapulco and San Blas to be Blockaded by the French.

Information has been sent to the State Department, to the effect that orders have been sent by the government of France, to the commander-in chief of the naval force in the Pacific, to blockade the ports of Acapulco and San Blas, but through a special act of liberality, on the part of the Emperor of the French the American steamers which constitute the line between San Francisco and Panama, shall continue to run their boats into Acapulco, with stock of coal for their own use, but they shall not receive or land any merchandise.

Troops Re-Enlisting.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.

It is said that the whole of Gen Kilpatrick's cavalry division has re-enlisted for the war.—Most of the New England regiments have re-enlisted, or signified their intention to do so.—Four Indiana regiments will re enlist.

Official Interview between Russia and the United States.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.

In accordance with instructions received from the Emperor of Russia, his Minister had an audience with the President this morning, for the purpose of expressing the thanks of the Imperial government for the kind reception given to the vessels of the Russian Navy, and their officers and crews in the United States.

Exchange of Prisoners—Draft.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.

Not a little disappointment is felt in the failure to effect an exchange of prisoners. Gen. Butler telegraphed to the President that he was quite sanguine of completing arrangements for exchange. The whole matter is now blocked. The rebels still permit private donations of provisions, but will receive nothing from the government in that line.

The *Times'* special dispatch dated 29th, says: The War Department has under consideration important questions relating to the draft and the result will shortly be given to the public. The enforcement of the draft will not be later than the middle of January.

The Chesapeake Affair.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.

Lord Lyons had an interview with Stanton. The Chesapeake affair is likely to prove troublesome.

Position of the Armies.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF POTOMAC, Dec. 30.

Culpepper and vicinity is now occupied by a strong force of infantry with a battery.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.

The *Herald's* dispatch says Maj M. S. Gordon, truce officer between Fortress Monroe and City Point arrived here this evening by special train from Indianapolis, with important dispatches for government. The Confederate army in West Tennessee has gone into winter quarters.

Domestic Items.

....Messrs. Forsythe, Patterson & Co., have introduced here a portable steam saw-mill of 20-horse power, from the works of H. & F. Blandy, Zanesville, Ohio, which they have just got in running order, on the bank of the river, near where DuRelle's mill stood. We have one of Blandy's circulars containing a great number of certificates in relation to the cutting capacity of their mills. The 20 horse powers have been made to cut considerably over one thousand feet of inch lumber per hour—and the boards are extremely smooth. Their cost, complete, is about $2,500. The freight and other expenses of putting it in complete running order here, makes the cost not far from $3,000. The entire works can be loaded and transported on two heavy wagons. It is the most perfect thing of the kind we ever saw. The mill of Forsythe, Patterson & Co., will fill a very great want in this region. For the last two or three years it has been impossible for the mills here to supply the demand for lumber.

....S. A. Smith has been appointed postmaster at Peoria, Linn county, in place of H. R. Holmes, resigned.

....A man named Kitternier shot John J. Hess at Sauvie's Island on the 2d inst., lodging twenty-two shots in his body. Domestic troubles at the bottom of the affair.

....The Oregon took from Portland, on her last trip, nearly a quarter of a million in gold dust. Victoria shipped only about $70,000.

....The cold weather of last week furnished the means of a vast deal of fun for the boys who love skating. The treacherous skates made many a bump not laid down on any phrenological chart.

....A new Division of the Sons of Temperance was instituted at Independence, Polk county, on the 4th inst., and Israel Hedge was elected W. P. and J. L. Laughlin R. S.

....The steamer Pacific arrived at St. Helens, last Tuesday, but was unable to proceed further on account of ice which had blocked up a narrow place in the river. The river steamers plying between Portland and Cascades were also unable to make their trips.

....The Portland Turn Verians have elected for the ensuing year: F. S. Ostheim, President; Isaac Weil, Secretary; L. Waterman, Treasurer; E. Zeitfax, Turn Leader; S. Waterman, Assistant do.; Chas. King, Steward; Salomon Gunz-Sing Leader.

....Oats are quoted at Portland at 60a70 cents per bushel; Wheat at 75a$1 00; Flour, $5 50a$6 00; Pork, 15 cts.; Butter, 38a50 cts.; Apples, winter, 50a75 cts.; Potatoes, 50a75 cts.

....Warren Lodge No. 10 of Masons, Jackson county, has installed the following officers for the following year: Alexander Martin, W. M.; E. C. Sessions, S. W.; N. Langell, J. W.; Henry Judge, Tr.; Hermann Bloom, Secretary; James Sutton, S. D.; Joseph Satterfield, J. D.; R. S. Dunlap, Tyler.

....Mr. D. C. Dunlap informs us that, on Thursday last, Mr Michael Eriry, an old settler on Rogue river, near Sam's creek, was thrown from a horse and instantly killed.—*Sentinel.*

....Second Lieutenant D. C. Underwood of Co "C", has been promoted to the 1st Lieutenancy.—*Ibid.*

....Makenze Packard a private in Co. "C" was frozen to death on the 15th ult. He and another soldier lost their way on the prairie during a heavy, blinding snow storm and Packard became exhausted and laid down. The other got in and gave information. Packard was not found till next morning and then life was so nearly extinct that he died while being conveyed to the fort.

....Samuel Allen of this county last week killed a hog twenty-six months old which weighed, after only four months' feeding, 550 lbs. exclusive of the entrail fat. The hog was good pork but not excessively fat. He measured around the hock 17½ inches, and around the fore arm 14 inches; was six feet from snout to the root of the tail, had good action is traveling and could climb a fence or do most anything else his hogship chose to do—but he couldn't read and therin he differed from Jeremy's "learned pig."

....Major Lugenbeel left on the Pacific last week for the East, in pursuance, we presume, of orders.

....P. W. Stow, A. J. Stow and James Stow, says the Jacksonville *Intelligencer*, have been arrested and held to bail in the sum of four hundred dollars each, for their appearance at the February term of the Circuit Court, for this county to answer a charge of assault with intent to murder J. W. Collins at class-meeting on the 27th ult. Collins is the son-in-law of P. W., and brother-in-law of A. J. and James Stow.

....The *Times* of the 8th says: Yesterday morning the earth was clothed in a mantle of snow several inches deep. * * * Several individuals commenced sawing and taking out ice yesterday. * * * The Pacific sailed from St. Helens yesterday morning at 4 o'clock. The steamer Express took down 30 passengers and about 1,500 boxes of apples. But for fear of being frozen in the river, the Pacific would have been heavily laden.

....The up country express from Portland has to go now overland in consequence of the closing of the river by ice.

SANITARY.—The Ladies' Oregon Sanitary Aid Society acknowledge the following contributions: From the Congregational Church (Portland), $45 95, Mr. Brooks, $5; Mr. Fraser,* $15; Mr. Joyer,* $1; Mr. Schuyler,* $5; Mr. Burrage,* $4; Mr. Corbett, *50; Mrs. F DeWitt, 50 cents—$125 45. Acknowledged December 3, 1863, $3,546 90. Total—$3,673 35.

Mrs. A. C. GIBBS, Sec'y.

Portland, Jan. 7th, 1864.

*Monthly contributions: †three months.

....The citizens of Portland sometime since appointed a committee to draft a memorial to Congress on the subject of a branch Pacific rail road to Oregon. The Committee has reported a memorial which we find published in the *Oregonian*. It sets forth that the district of Oregon and Idaho is unequalled in its mineral richness; that much of it is adapted to agricultural pursuits; that its population is increasing rapidly; that the greatest and richest portions are east of the Cascade mountains and without water communication, except by the uncertain one of the Columbia river, and that these facts alone establish the necessity of the branch. Attention of Congress is called, also, to the proposed road from Sacramento to Portland and the memorialists ask for its construction.

....A Masonic Lodge has been established at Bannock City called "Idaho Lodge." Dr. J. A. Raymond, W.M.; Henry Allen, S. W.; John Baker, J. W.

THE MAILS.—The Rival was the only boat which arrived with a mail yesterday. The Vancouver did not make her appearance at all. The Hunt did not start for the Cascades, as it was known that the passage of the Columbia could not be effected. The John H. Couch, with the Puget Sound mails, left in the morning, but it is doubtful whether she got as far as the Cowlitz, on account of the blockade.—*Oregonian, 9th.*

....Snow fell fell here last week to the depth of about one inch. The weather has been freezing for several days and the *slipping* is tolerably fair. We learn that more snow fell in the northern part of the State.

.... The Portland *Gazette* says, we understand the passengers of the steamship Pacific had a disturbance with the officers.

MAN OVERBOARD.—Last evening, some hours after dark, the men on board of one of the steamers lying at the wharf near the foot of Alder street heard a heavy splash in the water, and subsequently strangled groans as from a dying man. Hurrying to the spot as quickly as possible, they could see no traces of the victim, but fresh tracks in the snow were plainly visible, as though somebody had walked accidentally overboard.—*Portland Union.*

....Ichabod Henkle, Charles Allen, B. R. Biddle, A. Newton, T. B. Odeneal, W. Patterson and S. Robinett are the Directors of the Corvallis and Yaquina wagon road.

....The *Democrat* complains of irregularities in the mails. Nothing the matter with postmaster, of course.

....Mr. John Kykendall of Umpqua killed a grey eagle a few days since which beats Mr. Fryer's. It measured from tip to tip of wings 7 feet 9½ inches; from tip of bill to tip of tail 5 feet 5½ inches; middle and hind claws, 5 inches. When killed, he was "spreading himself" among the sheep. It is supposed he would eventually have spread from pole to pole.

FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Quartz Discoveries.

The Victoria *Colonist*, of Dec. 28th, has the following items:

Some very encouraging assays of gold and silver bearing quartz from ledges on Gold Stream, were made last week by Messrs. S. Gumbinner & Co.

We were shown on Saturday last, a piece of quartz from Gold Stream, in which numerous specks of gold were plainly visible. The discoverers of the vein intend examining it thoughly and will bring in more and larger specimens for testing.

Shipments of Iron and Coal.

The ship Rosedale anchored in Royal Roads on Friday, having made the run down from Nanaimo in the short space of ten hours. The Rosedale has 600 tons of coal and 100 tons of iron on board for San Francisco. She lay nine days outside of Nanaimo harbor waiting for a wind. The weather had been very wet. Incessant rain for three weeks.

HOW THEY TAKE IT IN CHARLESTON.—A correspondent of the Augusta, Ga., *Sentinel*, writes from Charleston:

Yankee gunners keep up their practice at Sumter, and day and night punch and hammer away without accomplishing anything. The Confederate flag, despite their efforts, waves above the ruins. When the siege is raised, if a live Yankee is allowed to get to Sumter he'll make his fortune—picking up old brass and iron. Yesterday morning the iron clads tried Moultrie, but soon got sick and quit. The bombardment was furious for a while, but after exhausting much ammunition and some time doing nothing, the monitors skedaddled. About twenty-five 100-pound Parrot shells were flung into the city to-day. Gilmore scattered them promiscuously in the lower part of the city and it really seemed from the way in which he pitched them about that he was trying to hit somebody. The City Hall building had a hole punched in one corner and some of the marble cornice knocked away. One struck the telegraph office and the operators cut stick. One smashed through the roof of a house in Queen street, and several falling in this neighborhood, the frightened denizens "vamosed to the tune of double quick." Several fell in the vicinity of Broad street and East bay, tearing up the streets, smashing window panes, and kicking up the mischief generally. One went crashing through the Mechanics and Planters bank; and it is evident, I think, that Gilmore was after making a deposit. Whether he will be regularly "booked," and his currency taken "at par" is more than I can say. Several counting rooms on the wharves were slightly smashed; but during the entire shelling, which lasted from 64 to 1 o'clock, no one was hurt.

TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION—GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

The extensive copper mine in Ohio and Pennsylvania, belonging to Vallandigham, Woodward & Co., was the scene of great disaster on Tuesday, October 13th. A train had been carefully laid throughout the entire mines, for the purpose of opening a number of rich veins. The greatest skill was exercised in making the preparations, and the ablest engineers from different parts of the country were employed in conducting the enterprise. The shock produced by the explosion was much more severe than was anticipated, and was felt very sensibly in every State in the Union. Many thousands of the miners were buried in the debris, and the proprietors and board of directors, who were present to witness the grand affair, were all of them killed. The explosive material used was public indignation, and its force, being so much greater than was expected, large openings were made in every part of the mine.—The board of directors, at that time, standing in a distant locality, in a place said to be perfectly secure from harm, but the tremendous force of the explosion opened a large fissure underneath their feet, and they were swallowed up immediately. Judge Woodward was at that time leaning on the arm of Major General Geo. B. McClellan, who was present by special invitation. Both were instantly killed. It is a singular fact that Abraham Lincoln came very near meeting a similar fate about a year ago, while leaning on the arm of the same general for support. A letter written by McClellan, supposed to have been blown from his pocket, was picked up in an almost perfect state of preservation. These copper works were the most extensive in the country. The stock is owned by citizens of every State, and the board of directors was composed of the leading men from all parts of the country. C. L. Vallandigham, Fernando and Ben. Wood, F. Pierce, Horatio Seymour, James Brooks, T. H. Seymour, Isaac Toucey, J. Davis, A. H. Stephens and their co-rebels, were among the heaviest owners. There were also some very large stockholders in England and France, although Messrs. Mason and Slidell, the agents of the company, have not been so successful as was expected in their operations abroad. A careful examination of the debris proves the bed of copper not to have been so deep as was anticipated. This disaster will ruin the company, as it is not expected they will undertake to work the mine again, the yield of copper by the development of this blast not being sufficient to warrant the expense.—*Bridgeport Standard.*

I. O. O. F.—Chemeketa Lodge, No. 1, I. O.O.F., installed its officers for the ensuing term, Jan. 6th, as follows: Samuel E. May, N.G.; Chester N. Terry, V.G.; C. P. Crandall, Sec'y; Daniel Strang, Treas.; W. S. Barker, Per. Sec'y; E. N. Cooke, R.S.N.G.; Wm. M. Laughead, L.S.N.G.; Jas. T. Wortley, R.S.V.G.; L. S. Skiff, L.S.V.G.; T. H. Reynolds, W.; Geo. H. Chance, C.; J. H. Haas, I.G.; A. B. Shoemaker, O.G.; Wm. England, R.S.S., and Jos. A. Baker, L.S.S.—S. E. May, C. N. Terry and Isaac R. Moores, were elected Trustees.

MILITARY MATTERS AGAIN.—A letter from Washington, dated Dec. 2d, states that General Alvord is not to be relieved, as was a short time since rumored. Steinberger is mustered out of the service, and Maj. Lugenbeel is ordered East and promoted. All other talked of changes are postponed. Leander Holmes is appointed Commissioner of Enrollment, and Dr. Warren Surgeon of Enrollment for Washington Territory. Dr. Warren died, at Salem, a few days before his appointment was made in Washington.

☞ Brig. Gen. Jno. S. Mason, Assistant Provost Marshal General for California, arrived at San Francisco, per the steamer Constitution.

☞ A man named Thompson, from Oregon, was found drowned in the Bay, at San Francisco, on the 29th of December.

☞ The Richmond papers quote bacon at $9.25 per pound and beef at 75a85 cents per pound, and yet claim that those articles are abundant. Probably.

☞ San Francisco had another shock of an earthquake, Dec. 30th.

☞ Eastern dispatch to San Francisco quoted gold on the 30th at 151½ and on the 31st at 152½.

☞ The latest news from Chief Justice Taney represent him as better.

☞ Union sentiment is represented as still gaining ground in Arkansas. Hundreds of volunteers are enrolling themselves among federal forces.

☞ Tennessee rebel soldiers are still deserting from Dalton, Georgia, in squads of from 20 to 30, and going into the federal forces.

☞ The English press speak of Grant's victory near Chattanoogan as the most nearly decision of the war.

OVERLOOKED.—It has just been discovered that a man is in the Maryland State Prison whose term expired twelve years ago. He has served nineteen years on a sentence of a little less than seven years.

☞ The *Golden Era* of San Francisco is publishing a story called "The Trail of the Serpent, or Three Times Dead." By the title, it should be the history of the copperheads.

☞ It is a consolation to know that though not many copperheads will be killed in this war, a good many of them will be driven to commit suicide when it is all over.

☞ A "colored" item from an English paper runs thus: "Jefferson Y. Toombs, the mulatto who recently challenged Senator Pugh, of Ohio, to test the truth of his boasts as to the fighting superiority of white Democrats over negroes by a personal contest, selecting his own weapons, is a son of Brigadier General Robert Toombs—formerly United States Senator Toombs, of Georgia—by a female slave. His paternity is distinguishedly honorable, but his color is unconstutional."

☞ All notices of marriages or deaths sent to us for publication must have a responsible name attached, or they will not appear in our columns.

MARRIED.

At the residence of William Barlow, Esq., in Oregon City, Dec. 31, 1863, by Rev. C. C. Stratton, Mr. Thomas M. Miller and Miss Marion W. Allen.

At the residence of the bride's father, Polk county, by G. B. Savery, J. P., Dec. 31, Mr. R. H. Tyson and Miss Emily H. Haswod.

Dec. 30, 1863, by Rev. Jas. B. Short, Samuel P. Reed and Miss Adelphia J. Turner, all of Yamhill county.

Jan. 7, 1863, at the residence of Mr. Colbert, in Brownsville, by Rev. T. B. Sanderson, Mr. John Davis and Miss Maria Laphan.

In Jackson county, Dec. 17th, by J. C. Tolman, County Judge, Geo. W. Fordyce and Miss Ann Mickleson.

In Kerbyville, Dec. 29, by Squire Buck, Thomas Lewellen, of Kerbyville, and Miss Harriet M. Northcut, of Salem.

Near Jacksonville, Dec. 31, by Rev. M. A. Williams, Felix K. Kilgore and Miss Martha Ann Swingle.

At the residence of James Smith, Jan. 7, by Rev. J. W. Stahl, John Fudge, of Walla Walla county, W.T., and Miss Cordelia C. Smith, of Polk county, Oregon.

In Lane co., by Sam'l Looney, J.P., A. J. Kirkland and Miss Jemima Harer.

In Linn co., Dec. 31, by Eld. P. Mulkey, Dr. E. Watson and Miss Harriet Purlina Deadmond.

At Corvallis, Jan. 5, by Rev. I. D. Driver, Col. John Kelsay and Miss Cornelia Conitner.

At Corvallis, Dec. 24, by Rev. I. D. Driver, Geo. Milican and Miss Sussii Ritchie.

At the residence of Father Gribble, Clackamas co., John Offield and Amanda Jane Vance, step-daughter of Wm. Russell.

Dec. 24, by Rev. E. R. Geary, J. W. A. Bellew and Miss L. C. Dennison, all of Linn county.

DIED.

In Salem, Jan. 6, 1864, Enoch H. Boon, son of J. D. and M. J. Boon, of scarlet fever, aged 8 years, 8 months, 21 days.

Hush, mortals, hush, dry up your tears,
Nor for my absence mourn,
Nor vainly blame my Maker's ways,
Nor wish me to return. COM.

In Marion county, Dec. 24, 1863, Amos M. Davis, aged 31 years, 8 months, and 20 days.

Near Salem, Jan. 1, Adrienne, youngest daughter of Thos. and Jane Rector, aged 2 years, 3 months, and 9 days. Mt. Republican please copy.

In Josephine county, Dec. 17, 1863, Elvirah, daughter of Daniel and Mary Jenkins, aged 2 years and 11 months.

In Eugene City, Jan. 7, Emice Rebecca, wife of Jos. Kline, aged 30 years and 8 months.

In Linn co., Jan. 5, of typhoid fever, Margaret Schooling, aged 23 years, 9 months, and 19 days.

Jan. 7, of scarlet fever, Serepta Larinda, daughter of Milton and Valinda Hudson, aged 3 years and 6 months.

In Albany, Jan. 2, Clara Maria, daughter of Jacob and Joanna C. Sprenger, aged 2 years, 2 months, and 6 days.

Dec. 31, Martha Ann, daughter of Henry H. and Isabel C. Kirk, aged 6 years and 7 months.

Dec. 8, George Noe, son of John and Marinda R. Pearl.

Dec. 27,