The Oregon Statesman.

MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 25, 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 12TH 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, 8; 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 H. MOORES, Chairman.

A. G. HOVEY, Secretary.

Salem, Jan. 6, 1864. td—45

THE NEWS.

We have several items of interest from the East this week. Dispatches from Texas state that nearly all the rebel forces of the Southwest are concentrating in central Texas to resist federal operations on the coast. It is gratifying to know, however, that the rebel armies there are rapidly declining in strength. The west of the Mississippi will be ere long abandoned by the guerrillas. Gen. Gillmore is still giving the Charlestonians glory, and with better effect apparently than heretofore. He has succeeded in burning many portions of the city. The traitors there are finding it not so amusing as they affected, some time ago. The city will be reduced, certainly. A very important proposition has been made to our Government by rebel commanders, to sell us the available cotton along our lines. It is represented that very large amounts of it can be procured if the proposition should be acceded to. The proper authorities have the matter under consideration. There is the best of reason for believing that Union State organizations will soon be effected in Arkansas and Louisiana. There is a rapidly growing feeling in North Carolina in favor of a separate sovereignty. The people prefer the Union to the Confederacy. New Hampshire and Pennsylvania have expressed a preference for Lincoln for the next Presidency. Gov. Parker of New Jersey, in his message, urges the senseless policy of conciliation and compromise with the rebels. The Kansas legislature is anti-Lane. Another rebel conspiracy from Canada is on the tapis.—The rebels are reinforcing Longstreet. Gen. Foster is prepared to meet him. The city of New York has the nice little sum of $55,000 to pay for damages by Gov. Seymour's rioters of last July. The copperhead national convention is called at Chicago, July 4th. Richmond would be a more appropriate place.—The National Union Committee is to meet at New York, Feb. 2d. Gen. Lee's army is being increased by conscripts. The commutation price has been fixed at $400, in the Senate. The conscription act, as it now stands, provides that upon the payment of $400, drafted men are exempt until every other man in the district has been drafted, when they are again liable. Senator Conness is urging amendments to the Homestead law. Nature of amendments not stated. Gen. Butler will remove his headquarters to Norfolk. Gen Stoneman has gone West to report to Gen. Grant. Revenue receipts for six months amount to $48,000,000. All apprehensions from rebels in the Shenandoah valley have been dissipated. The copperhead members of Congress have resolved that officers and sailors in the army and navy should be paid in gold. An apparent piece of demagogueism. They have also resolved that the President's proclamation of Dec. 3d is inexpedient, revolutionary, and unconstitutional. This was expected. All efforts to restore the Union elicit the same opinion from them.

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE.—Some people would think McClellan would have the inside track for President with the Siskiyou democracy; but it is not so—that distinguished foreigner of Canada, Mr Vallandigham, has the best show. The choice would be between him and Jeff Davis.—*Yreka Journal.*

The same down this way, among the original copperheads. The coppertails are, however, as a little bit of policy, allowed to believe for the present that McClellan is the man. They will be undeceived, unless Mac should write a more out and out letter in favor of the copperhead gang. Such a letter as Vallandigham wrote the rebel Colonel Inshall, would give McClellan a splendid start for the copperhead nomination.

☞ A common pitcher and washbowl, the former a little cracked, sold at auction in Richmond for $38.—*Exchange.*

The Conthieveracy, a good deal "busted," will be offered before long for less than that many cents.

☞ Calico is eight dollars a yard in Mobile.—*Ex.*

Worth just about as much as conthieverate currency.

☞ New boots are one hundred dollars a pair in Richmond.—*Ex.*

Well, what boots it? They are only rebels who are obliged to pay that price.

☞ A week or two ago, an account was published of a large and enthusiastic democratic meeting at Albany. A correspondent from that place writes that if a meeting was held at all, it must have been very private and very small, as several persons who intended to be present were unable to find any meeting.—Most of the "large and enthusiastic" copperhead assemblages are very similar—contemptibly small in fact, but "large and enthusiastic" in the papers.

☞ The North and the South, for many years estranged by artful misrepresentations of demagogues and politicians, are now getting acquainted with each other again, and in such a manner as will eventually make the acquaintance an enduring one. The process is what is called in the West "a knock down." On further acquaintance, we think the South will find us something more than peddlers and manufacturers of nutmegs, and like us all the better for the sound thrashing we shall give them.

CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT.—This court organized Jan. 2d. Judge Sanderson drew the short term, and is therefore Chief Justice. Curry drew the four years' term; Sawyer, six years; Rhoads, eight years; Shafter, ten years.

☞ Ohio has done much in the pork line before.—[illegible] never cured a meaner ham than that of last fall. [illegible]'t Vallandigham well cured!—*Exchange.*

[illegible]o; he was pretty well smoked, but not [illegible]d. No ham so badly tainted as he, was [illegible]ever cured.

☞ Drum & Martin, of Jacksonville, Oregon, have [illegible] of Glenn & Wilson, of Sacramento, a Mal[illegible] *Intelligencer* says Jack "salted his [illegible]cas."—*Exchange.*

☞ [illegible]ry properly acknowl-

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.

Senator Sumner will soon introduce a bill to remove the restrictions in the matter of the forfeiture of rebel estates for life, only leaving provisions for the future to be made as provided by the Constitution. This bill will confirm Judge Underwood's decision, that the Government has a right to sell in fee simple.

It is thought that the House Committee on Military Affairs will not recommend conferring the title of Lieut. General on Gen. Grant.

McDougall to-day introduced a resolution declaring the occupation of Mexico by France an act unfriendly to this Government, and demanding the withdrawal of the French troops by the 15th of March, on pain of a declaration of war. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, the chairman of which is strongly opposed to the resolution.

The bill of Senator Lane, of Kansas, to set apart a portion of the State of Texas for the use of persons of African descent, assigns them the region between the Colorado and the Rio Grande in Texas, in which they will be allowed the privilege of the Homestead law. The officer in charge of emigration, hereafter to be appointed by the President, is charged with the execution of the act, and appropriations heretofore made for colonization purposes are placed in the hands of the President to carry the provisions into effect.

It is believed that the House Committee on Elections will report against the cases of the gentlemen claiming seats from Eastern Virginia.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.

The military committees of both Houses met yesterday to confer upon the Conscription bill. The House Committee unanimously recommended the commutation clause, so did Senator Wilson. Other Senators opposed it.

The impression prevails that Senator Davis, of Ky., will not be expelled. His course is disapproved by the Senate.

A special dispatch to the N. Y. *Post* says the House will insist that the price of commutation under the Enrollment Act, shall not be over $300.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.

The Senate took up the Enrollment bill.

Mr. Sherman's amendment came up, which strikes out section four of the original bill, and provides that persons furnishing substitutes shall be liable to the draft on future calls, and raises the commutation to $500.

Mr. Howard's motion retaining the $300 clause of the old bill, was adopted by 23 to 14; in lieu of Sherman's amendment.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.

In the Senate to-day the Committee of the Whole proceeded to the consideration of the Enrollment bill.

Senator Doolittle proposed an amendment prohibiting enlisted men from serving as substitutes, except in regiments from the State where they first enlisted. Adopted.

Leave was granted to withdraw the amendment allowing volunteers to furnish substitutes.

Yesterday, in Committee of the Whole, Senator Nesmith moved that the Senate rescind its action of yesterday in relation to the $300 commutation clause. The proposition was rejected.

Senator Doolittle moved to amend by making persons who have resided in the United States one year, and who have voted, citizens. Adopted.

Senator Sherman renewed the amendment to substitute $500 instead of $300 as the maximum for commutation.

Several other amendments were offered, but without taking any action the Senate adjourned.

The Committee on Reconstruction in rebel States will very soon report a bill.

Conness introduced a bill amendatory of the Homestead Law and for other purposes. He also presented a resolution of inquiry as to the failure of the Overland Mail to California for the last two months.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.

The Conscription Act, as it now stands, provides that a drafted man who pays four hundred dollars is exempt until every other man in his district is drafted, when he is again liable. Both classes are consolidated. The exemptions of the only son of a widow, father of motherless children, etc., are stricken out.—The bill is now acceptable to the House Military Committee.

EASTERN NEWS.

BY TELEGRAPH VIA YREKA.

Fight with Mosby's Guerrillas.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.

A dispatch to the *Herald* dated Headquarters, Department of West Virginia, Jan. 10, says Maj Cole, in command of a battalion of Maryland cavalry, encamped in Loudon co., was attacked at 4 o'clock to-day by the guerilla Mosby, whose force was 400. After a gallant fight for an hour, Mosby was repulsed, leaving his killed and wounded on the field, among the dead being four rebel commissioned officers. Our loss is 2 killed, 11 wounded—among the latter were Capt. Vernon, severely, and Lieut. Rivers, slightly. Gen. Sullivan has a force of cavalry in pursuit.

Copperhead Caucus.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.

The democratic and conservative members of Congress met yesterday in the Capitol, John L. Dawson of Pa. in the chair. The meeting unanimously adopted the following resolutions, offered by James Brooks of New York:

Whereas, gold or silver is paid to our ministers, consuls, and embassadors, representatives to nations in foreign countries, and gold and silver are received from people at custom-houses in payment of duties, and whereas, people are taxed to pay capitalists their interest in specie, on their investments in the national debt, therefore,

Resolved, That officers and sailors in the army and navy should be paid gold and silver, or their equivalent.

Resolved, That the chairman of this meeting be instructed to prepare amendments to the army and navy bills to this effect.

The following resolution from the committee appointed to consult upon political matters likely to come before Congress, was likewise adopted:

Resolved, That the President's proclamation of Dec. 3d, 1863, is inexpedient, revolutionary, and unconstitutional, and therefore disapproved.

Rebels Threaten Cumberland, Md.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.

A Cumberland, Md., special dispatch, dated Jan. 8th, to the *Herald*, says the garrison at Petersburg, Western Virginia, was surrounded to-day. Fitz Hugh Lee and Boozer are moving between New Creek and Petersburg. The enemy drove our pickets out of Burlington to-day. Cumberland, Md., is threatened. Much excitement prevails here to-night. It seems probable that we will be attacked here about to morrow morning. The enemy yesterday captured a train of 35 wagons. The rebels are reported moving their main columns. Imboden has been attacked at Winchester and driven back. So far every thing is in our favor. It has been snowing heavily all day.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 9.

Reliable information from Cumberland this morning says no rebels are in vicinity of Cumberland, they have also retreated from vicinity of Petersburg, and gone in the direction of Staunton. Quiet along whole line of Baltimore & Ohio railroad.

Fighting Anticipated in Texas.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 3.

Information reached here from three or four different directions, that all the rebel troops which have been operating in Western Louisiana, and on the banks of the Mississippi, and in fact, the whole force of the enemy are gathering in central Texas, and uniting to form one large army to attack our new acquisitions on the coast of Texas. They will number at least 20,000, and most ample preparations have been made to meet this force as well as possible, with the number of troops in the department. The 16th corps still remains at New Iberia. Nearly every regiment has re-enlisted.

Matters in East Tennessee.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.

A letter from East Tennessee, dated Dec. 28, says our forces have been driven back from Bean Station by Longstreet(?) Our losses in 4 days' skirmishing reached about 200, besides a few wagons. Rebel prisoners state that Longstreet has been ordered to take Knoxville at all hazards.—Longstreet has 40,000 men. Foster is at Knoxville, and Gen. Peck commands in the field.

Rebel Operations Prevented.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.

It is believed that the rebels will not be able to accomplish anything at present in the Shenandoah Valley, owing to the inclement weather and the condition of the streams. The Shenandoah river is impassable, owing to the floating ice.—The movements of our forces have been such as to preclude the possibility of bridge building by the enemy. It is not expected that the rebel Gen. Early will remain in that section after the present month.

New Hampshire Copperhead Convention.

CONCORD, N. H., Jan. 8.

The New Hampshire Democratic State Convention met to-day. The attendance was quite large, and the proceedings were harmonious.—Resolutions generally condemnatory of the policy of the Administration were adopted.

From New Orleans—The City Flooded.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.

The steamer Yazoo, from New Orleans Dec. 31, has arrived. Another expedition left there Dec. 20th. Its strength and destination were unknown. It was surmised that it was intended eventually for Mobile.

It had rained three days terrifically. On Sunday morning, Dec. 27, the city was submerged from one to two feet. This lasted near the river for several hours. The streets are still under water back toward the swamps.

There is no army news—nothing new from Texas. Guerrilla firing had entirely ceased on the Mississippi.

New Hampshire for Lincoln.

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.

The Union State Convention of New Hampshire met at Concord, Jan 6th. Gov. Gilmore was re-nominated by acclamation. Resolutions sustaining the Administration and urging a vigorous prosecution of the war, also declaring Abraham Lincoln the people's choice for re-election to the Presidency, were unanimously adopted.

Siege of Charleston.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.

The steamship Fulton, from Port Royal, Jan. 8th, has arrived. The siege of Charleston is progressing. Twenty shells were thrown into the city on Thursday. The result is not known.

OUR DAILY MAILS.

It has been feared for a year past that when the present contract of the California Stage Company should expire, our daily mails would be at an end. It now seems that the Department has concluded to re-let the line in sections, one from Portland to Corvallis, another from Corvallis to Oakland, &c. We are informed that the Department has been induced to this by representations that the contracts could be more advantageously let thus, and that the people of Oregon considered the California Stage Company's contract an unfair monopoly. We are not aware whence such representations have come, but we are satisfied that they never came from anybody friendly to a regular and quick mail carriage. So far from there being any jealousy of the people against the Stage Company, the Company is quite generally looked upon as of vast advantage to the country, and really an "institution" that we could ill spare. Aside from the injustice done the Company by refusing them a second contract at remunerative rates, we are confident that the people of Oregon will be greatly disappointed with any arrangement that does not transport the mails as often and as rapidly as it has been done for the last three years.

The proposed future schedule time is now advertised, from Oakland to Corvallis thirty-six hours, a distance of ninety miles; from Corvallis to Portland, one hundred and seven miles, sixty hours. At the above rates of travel, the distance from Portland to Sacramento city will be made in about thirteen days. It is now made, when the roads are at the very worst, in twelve days, and during the summer months it has always been done in seven. If the contracts are let upon that schedule time, we might as well have no overland mail from Sacramento. The steamers will more than three-fourths of the time be ahead of the mails.—The people ought to remonstrate earnestly and at once against any such crippling of their mail facilities.

It will cost the Department more money to transport the mails as now proposed, than in one entire contract, and the liability to failure on the part of contractors will be a hundred-fold greater. If thus let, it won't be a year till the line will fail to connect, by the failure of some one of the many contractors. We have experienced heretofore the aggravations of such things, and have no desire to have them repeated. The entire route should be let to a responsible bidder at such a price as will enable him to fulfill his contract. We believe that, considering our own wants, the duty of the Post Office Department to supply them, and the acknowledged ability of the Stage Company to perform its engagements, no better arrangement can be made than to let the contract to the Company at a fair paying price. If anybody else will take the entire route, all right; but the Company can do it thousands of dollars cheaper than anybody else, on account of having the road already stocked, stations and buildings erected, and having a thorough acquaintance with all the advantages and disadvantages incident to the country to be supplied. Economy would certainly dictate liberality on the side of the Department, if by it a responsible carrier can be procured. It will be cheaper to pay a liberal price for the whole route, than to pay a number of big prices to start the several sections, and then more big sums to patch up failures.

The overland mail from Sacramento is just as indispensable to all this northern country as is any line in the United States. All our communication with the Atlantic States goes and comes by it. Of the 150,000 people supplied by it, none are less entitled to such facilities than the same number anywhere else. By what rule of even-handed justice can the Department furnish an overland mail to California with regularity and *speed*, and deny one to us? Thirteen days from Sacramento to Portland is worse than going back to a weekly mail by steamer, four days from San Francisco. We would infinitely prefer the latter.

But we believe the Department will not inflict any such a "slow coach" upon us, if prompt and truthful representations are made to it by our people.

A SINGULAR FACT.—In a recent letter, Hon. Robt. J. Walker, late of Mississippi and Ex-Secretary of the Treasury, makes the following statement, which will astonish a great many persons: "From long residence in the South, and from having traversed every Southern State, I know it to be true that cotton is raised there most extensively and profitably by non-slaveholders, and upon farms using exclusively white labor. In Texas especially, this is a great truth."

☞ There are now twenty four vessels blockading the port of Wilmington, N. C., where so many blockade runners have heretofore got in and out.

☞ At the annual election of directors and officers for the California Stage Company, Jas. Haworth, F. S. Stevens, A. G. Richardson, W. Montgomery and John Andrews, were elected Directors; James Haworth was elected President; F. S. Stevens, Vice President; A. G. Richardson, General Superintendent; H. A. Charles, Secretary.

☞ Attorney General McCullough has commenced suit against the bondsmen of G. R. Warren, late State Controller of California, for the sum of $12,217, in which amount he is defaulter on account of settlement for stamps.—*Shasta Courier.*

☞ An aged spinster was wont to console herself for her disappointments in the matrimonial line by the following reflection—"If she had been married, and had had a baby, and the poor thing had crawled into the oven and burnt itself to death, what a horrible thing it would have been."

SYNOPSIS OF POSTMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.

The Postmaster General reports that during the last fiscal year the financial condition of his Department has been one of unusual prosperity. The revenue has nearly equaled the expenditures the latter amounting to $11,314,296 84, and the former to $11,163,789 59.—There is good reason to believe that the Department will be self-sustaining in a brief period of time.

The whole number of Post Offices existing on the 30th of June, 1863, was 29 047, being an increase on the preceding year of 172; 830 offices have been established and 658 have been discontinued.

The number of special agents on June 30, 1863, was 16, with an aggregate salary of $26,500; and 87 route agents at an aggregate salary of $89,260; also, 45 local agents, at $27,824, baggage masters in charge of express mails had received $7,440.

The total cost of transatlantic mail steamship service was $33,184. This price covered one hundred and thirty two round trips to various European ports.

The Postmaster General regrets to state that no progress has been made in negotiations for a new postal convention with Prussia, embracing the States comprising the German Austrian Postal Union, on account of some obstacle presented by Austria in regard to territorial transit charges.

He renews his recommendation of March 3, 1862, to the Postal Committees in Congress, that all private ships departing from the United States for foreign ports should be required, as a condition of clearance, to convey mails on such terms as may be allowed by Congress.

During the year the increased length of routes has been 5585 miles; but the annual cost of mail transportation has decreased $113,258, or about twoper cent.

The value of stamps issued to Postmasters during the year is $9,683,382; stamped letter envelopes, $634,821; and stamped newspaper wrappers, $20,545. The total value of these sold to the public was $9,624,529, being an excess over the previous year of $2,714,397.

The Postmaster General renews his last year's recommendation to Congress to authorize him to adjust and allow the claims of Postmasters who have sustained losses of stamps and stamped envelopes by reason of the occupation and robbery of their offices by bodies of armed men.

These claims thus far presented amount to about $6,000. He calls attention also to the fact that these Postmasters have suffered greatly in the loss of private property.

He requests additional legislation in regard to Post Office thefts, and recommends that the stealing of letters and stamps be made a penal offense.

The Dead Letter Office.

There has been a continued increase of letters, containing money and other valuables.—The number of dead letters covering deeds, bills of exchange, drafts and other valuable papers, received, registered and returned for delivery to the writers, was 8,322, with an aggregate nominal value of $1,544,277; of these 7,559 were delivered to the owners.

Letters registered and mailed containing money numbered 18,219. Of these 15,058, containing $63,827, were finally delivered.

Sixteen thousand seven hundred and sixty-three letters of less value were received, nearly 10,000 of which contained daguerreotypes, and 8,273 were restored to their writers or owners.

The Postmaster General recommends that a postal order money system be established to facilitate the transmission of small sums through the mails; which he is confident would prove not only a great convenience to soldiers and citizens, but almost entirely obviate the loss of this class of remittances.

In regard to letters addressed to points in the rebellious States, the Postmaster General says: "By reason of the continued suspension of regular postal communication with sections of the country under insurrectionary control, a considerable number of letters, amounting in the aggregate to 24,314, found their way by various channels to the Dead Letter Office. Of this number 3,312 were foreign, and were returned to the countries where they originated. Those originating in the loyal States were turned over to the military authorities, and, after examination, most of them sent by flag of truce to their destination."

The Postmaster General has instructed Postmasters to forward to the Dead Letter Office, except in special cases, all letters remaining unclaimed one month after being advertised, instead of two months, as formerly.

In conclusion he asks the consideration of Congress of the revised code of laws submitted by him at the last session, which is mainly a digest of existing postal laws.

EX-PRESIDENT BUCHANAN.—The Lebanon (Pa.) *Courier* says:

"Mr. Buchanan receives very little respect from the American people, most of whom seem to take grim satisfaction in putting some insult upon him. On the $5 notes of the Pottstown Bank is a likeness of the Ex-President, but you scarcely see one on which the likeness is not made to represent something or to express an idea not complimentary to the original. We saw one the other day to which horns have been added, and other additions made to give it the appearance of Old Nick; and we must say that the likeness is capable of being made to represent to perfection our educated idea of the individual with the cloven foot."

The old Pub. fame is only getting a slight foretaste of the blighting curse that is yet to be visited upon all who helped or winked at the inauguration of the rebellion. He can no more escape the judgment than he can the fact of his guilt. The remainder of his days must be spent amid the reproaches of his fellow men and the stings of remorse. His gray hairs will go down in sorrow to the grave. He had better been dead before he was President than to have lived to receive the buffetings of an outraged and betrayed people, for a crime that can neither be forgiven or forgotten. He spent his Presidency in debauching the power of the Government. He must now, while he lives, endure the scoffs and contempt of all who love their country.

FROM OLYMPIA.

Election of Territorial Officers.

The Overland *Press* announces the election by a joint convention of the Council and House of Representatives, on the 9th inst., of B. Barnes, Treasurer; Urban E. Hicks, Auditor and J. P. Judson, Librarian. Several of the Union members had previously held a caucus and nominated D. R. Bigelow for Treasurer; A. W. Moore for Auditor, and S. N. Woodruff for Librarian.

☞ Counterfeit silver coin is in circulation in San Francisco, and is believed to be manufactured there.

SANITARY RECEIPTS.—From Silverton, Marion county: Davenport & Wolfard, $20; Al Coolidge, $20; P. A. Davis, $10; L. U. Leonard, $10; W. H. Lewis, $5; S. O. Hutton, $10; H. D. Mount, $5; John P. Hutton, $5; G. W. Robinson, $5; J. W. Davenport, $5; Samuel Rowan, $5; H. J. Burson, $5; A. G. Hutton, $10; F. M. Cox, $5; Solomon Smith, $5; Joel Fuller, $5; L. S. Davis, $5; E. Wolfard, $5. The above subscriptions are in legal tenders. The following are in coin:—Jas. Cooper, $3; E. Shortess, $2; M. Brown, $2; W. C. Holmes, $2 50; Total, $135 legal tenders; $9 50, coin—$144 50.

J. H. MOORES,
Treas. Salem San. Aid Society.

STIRRED THEM UP.—Judge Williams has recently addressed the people at Eugene City and Albany on the great issue of the day—the perpetuation of the Union. We are informed by Union men who heard him that his speeches were effective and well received. Judging from the clamor set up by the rebel newspapers of those towns, the Judge must have stirred up the copperhead dens very thoroughly. They always hiss when they are hurt.

CONCHOLOGY.—The rebels at Charleston, about these days, can sing the popular song, "We gather shells."

... Doct. Charles G. Bryant, late of San Francisco, has been appointed U. S. Vice Consul at Guaymas.

TO BE REALIZED.

Candidates and political managers have always been in the habit of declaring at every general election, "This is the most important election ever held—the constitution is in danger—the country is drifting to ruin," etc., etc. The cry of "wolf, wolf," has been so often raised that even the most watchful guards have fallen asleep at their posts in the midst of the most fearful alarms. The people have been so often called out when no wolf was about that it is not at all wonderful that at last they should get tired of false alarms and fold their hands for a little more slumber.

This state of things had nearly been, indeed the ruin of the country when the beast of rebellion, with demoniac howls, assailed the Union fold. The enemy had so artfully intermixed his own emissaries among those who ostensibly guarded the constitution and administered the laws, that for months it was almost impossible to tell whether the government was most in the hands of loyalists or traitors.—Nothing but the most thorough rousing of the loyal masses prevented the Union from utter disintegration during the first few months of the struggle. Happily, the people had already decided a very important election by the choice of one of two true men against a very Judas Iscariot, and had placed an honest man in the seat lately defiled by treason's faithful ally, James Buchanan. The struggle has been fierce and sanguinary, and though the point of greatest danger has apparently been passed, the way is yet beset with peril and difficulty. The administration of the government has been well nigh rescued from the hands of those who upon opportunity, would surrender it to traitors and the military power of the nation has been visited avengingly upon a large proportion of the rebellious territory. The way to victory is open, if the people remain true.

The question—the great question of 1864—submitted to the people's decision is, "shall the government remain in the hands of loyalists or be again turned over to the traitors who before invited and connived at the schemes of treason?" The decision at the ballot-box will crush the rebellion and restore the Union, or it will crush the Union and set up the Confederacy. The elections of 1864 *are of a verity the most important ever held* in the United States. There is no demagogue's cry; it is not the cry of political sensation. Every man who loves his country, from the highest in dignity to the humblest in private station, feels the truth of it. No loyal man can escape the conviction, nor will he desire to.

The decision of the people will be right unless designing men succeed in misleading and deceiving them. The great common heart of the American people beats responsive to the sentiments of patriotism and love of country. But there are bad men who never experience a higher emotion than love of self and lust of power. They will urge false issues and misrepresent the true ones. They are wolves in disguise who seek first to betray and then to destroy. The importance of the ensuing elections demands that every true Union man shall stand upon his guard and be not taken in surprise or mistake. Know whom you trust.

They who attack the the Union forces with arms and hatred finding vent in denunciation, are known enemies and can be met at any point where they may choose to assault. The contest with them will be not doubtful unless our strength be divided by factionists.—The first care of the friends of the Union *must* be that they stand united. The danger is common; the defence and the victory must be in common. They who counsel divisions and dissensions among you should be watched with the eye of suspicion, lest they divide and defeat your strength and cheat you of a victory you deserve. There is no need of plots and wire pulling, for the work in hand is honest and straightforward. Honest and straightforward effort will best serve the purposes of the Union organization. Strategy without hard fighting could never crush the rebellion.—Neither will similar devices win the battle at the ballot box, for they will only serve to create distrust and distraction where unity and heartiness of purpose should prevail. Let all Union men remember that *the most important elections ever held* are near at hand and that each one is to bear an important part in them. Votes in 1864 are not so much to decide whether A, B, or C is to be elected to this or that office, but whether the Union shall be preserved and perpetuated.

☞ The Copperhead press have been talking about the necessity of Halleck's removal for a long time, but as soon as the Loyal Union League requests it, they are against it.—*Yreka Journal.*

That is no more remarkable than their varied relations to McClellan. The copperheads never said a good word for McClellan while it was supposed he was likely to hurt the rebellion. If he should be now reinstated in command, and should begin to squelch the Confederate concern, the copperheads would drop him like a hot potato. He wouldn't have the ghost of a chance for *their* nomination.

☞ Ex-Col. Steinberger lets himself gently down from his high military position to that of a private citizen, by speaking of being "relieved from command." He was dismissed the service—if anybody was "relieved," it must have been his men, over whom it is charged he was a petty tyrant. The loyal men of the country, too, are "relieved" at the dismissal of a copperhead Colonel.

☞ ORDERED TO THIS COAST.—The S. F. *Bulletin* states it has information that the new iron ship Wateree, of ten guns, has been ordered to the Pacific coast, and that some others of the same class will soon follow. One vessel is to be kept in San Francisco harbor.

☞ The Walla Walla *Statesman* says that "quartz on the brain" is a prevalent disease in that region. "Copper on the brain" is very prevalent here in democratic circles. The afflicted persons are called copperheads. Those who haven't brains enough for the copper to fasten to, are affected in a different way, and are called *coppertails*.

☞ A very smart preacher of the secession persuasion lately preached in Richmond as a sermon in which he assumed: "The Northern States of America as the most likely location of the lake of fire and brimstone." Don't the fellow know that Charleston is the only place where "hell fire" has broken out!

FUNNY.—The Marysville *Express* defending the loyalty of Gen. Wright! For the honor and reputation of Gen. Wright, we hope the *Express* will take this back. Don't send the old soldier down to his grave with the blistering and festering praise from a copperhead's tongue. Respect the old man's gray hairs, if not his profession.—*Appeal.*

Hold on a bit. Gen. Wright will probably soon be ordered where he will hurt the rebellion.—The *Express* will then eat every word it has ever said in the General's favor.

....The "loyal" Copperheads of Sidney, Tremont county, Iowa, lately blew up with powder the county Court House.

Domestic Items.

....The troops at Vancouver have been paid off to January 1st.

....The Portland *Gazette*, a very sorry little daily from its birth, after living a precarious life of a few weeks, upon the sustenance of diluted copperasake milk, winked out a few days ago.

....The council of the Legislative assembly of Washington Territory has resolved that it will not entertain any more applications for divorce. A move in the right direction.

....The interest of W. R. Page in the *Portland Daily Union* has been purchased by W. L. Hill, who takes charge of the editorial department hereafter.

....Mrs. Julia Dean Hayne is expected at Portland soon, where she has another engagement at the Willamette theater.

....The Puget Sound *Herald* says, that unusually cold weather has been experienced on the Sound this month.

....A man named Casey was last week brought down from the Dalles, sentenced to one year in the penitentiary, for stealing a carpet bag.

....The *Mountaineer* says the young ladies of the Dalles gave a leap year ball for the benefit of the Sanitary fund, at which the sum of $38 was realized.

....A letter from the Dalles says that during the late cold weather over a foot of snow fell.

....Saddle trains are soon to be started again between the Dalles and the mining country.

....The army paymaster arrived at Fort Lapwai, January 1st, for the purpose of paying off the troops stationed there.

....An insane man named Neeves was taken to the asylum from Portland last week.

....Travel to the Northern mines has opened for the season.

....Major Rugerell has been ordered from Ft. Colville to Walla Walla, where he takes command.

....A young man named John Harrison was up before Justice Boon last Tuesday, on a charge of assaulting and beating a woman, the wife of John Tice.—The chivalric conduct charged was proven to the satisfaction of the jury, whereupon the Justice fined the young man $100 and costs, which amounted to about $28. Rather an expensive luxury for a young man just starting out in the world.

....Our Salem correspondent will excuse us for not publishing his correspondence. We have inquired into the matter here and assure him that the detention of letters complained of did not occur in this office.—They were forwarded at the proper time from this place and consequently the detention must have occurred at some of the way offices.—*Times.*

The *Times* has been certainly deceived somewhat about delay of letters at Portland. During week before last and for some time previous to that, it often occurred that one day no package at all would arrive from Portland. On the next day, the package would contain letters postmarked both days, showing that the letters of the 15th, for instance, had been detained one day and sent with those of the 16th. The fault was with the office, most certainly, for the letters bore the post stamp of the day before they were mailed. We *know* of several such detentions, and one or two instances where the delay put parties to great inconvenience. The Portland post office has for some time been not remarkable for care and regularity in its business conduct.

....The *Yreka Journal* says the California and Oregon telegraph is progressing finely toward Portland and no doubt will be in operation by the first of February. The wires are being extended to Jacksonville, and are also being put up between Roseburg and Eugene City. The company also intend continuing the line next summer from Portland to Victoria.

....The interruptions to telegraphic news, are, we hope, at an end. The line below Yreka has been put in perfect working order and the Superintendent is confident that no breaks of consequence will occur again.

....The coolest thing we know of is for a downright copperhead paper in this country to boast that it has a *large* circulation which is rapidly growing *larger*. The editor might just as well tell us he is *loyal*. Nobody would believe either.

....J. E. Butcher, of Albany, is ambitious of greenback notoriety—we give him a chance—owed us $3 coin—paid us $3 in legal tender—we took it—glad to get it—scratched his name off the book—scratched it down here—Butcher, farewell.

....The roads in every direction are represented as in a horrible condition. They seldom get worse.

....A son of Thos. Cress of Salem, was pretty badly hurt last Thursday by a horse which kicked him on the forehead, knocking out two or three teeth and making a couple of bad flesh wounds.

....We learn that a young man was drowned in the Santiam river about ten days ago, while attempting to cross, with another, in a boat. The body was recovered last Wednesday. The name of the deceased was Connoyer; he was with a party descending Snake river some two years since, all of whom but Connoyer were drowned. The body was found about ten miles below where the casualty occurred. The other man, whose name is Smith, very narrowly escaped with his life.

....During the month of Dec. last, the O. S. N. Co. employed on their line of road and at the Dalles and Celilo, 212 men. The disbursements for the same month amounted to $30,946.

....The Enterprise returned here on Friday evening from a trip to Eugene City, having on board a fair freight list. She made the run from Eugene to this place in 12 hours, and took on about 50 tons of freight during the trip.

....S. M. Parsons has been appointed a 2d Lieutenant of the Oregon cavalry.

....The Portland papers announce the resignation of Dr. Wilson Bowlby, Surgeon of Enrollment. No resignation or notice of one has reached the Provost Marshal's office, through which it should formally pass. The Doctor has long talked of resigning but probably has not done so yet.

Since the above was put in type, we learn positively that Dr. Bowlby has not resigned, and probably will not.

....At a party given by Henry Allen in the Waldo Hills, on the 8th of January, $25 dollars were contributed to the Sanitary cause.

....An address will be delivered before the Sanitary Aid Society by Capt. Keeler, next Monday evening. Capt. K. has seen two years of actual service in the army and has therefore personal knowledge of a soldiers life, its sunny and its dark side. He can testify, too, of the operations of the Sanitary commission—how the money is applied, and how many blessings in return are daily and hourly showered upon their generous fellow countrymen at home. His incidents of the battle-field, the camp and the march are highly interesting.

....The Soldiers' Aid entertainment at Moores' Hall on the 23d inst. raised over $30, clear of expenses, for the Sanitary fund. For an amateur arrangement the entertainment was a splendid success. Too much credit cannot be given the managers for their indefatigable efforts in behalf of our suffering soldiers.

....Mr. Terry recently had a difficulty at Centreville, Idaho, about a claim, during which he shot one of the men engaged in the controversy. It is supposed the man will die.

....The *Oregonian* learns that orders have been received for the consolidation of the Washington Territory regiment into five companies. All officers not required for the commands of those companies are to be discharged.

....Both of the ferry boats at Jefferson and Santiam City were carried away last week by high water. The latter broke away while the stage going south was crossing, and floating about two miles down stream, lodged on the head of an island. A southern mail was got through, however, last night.

....A Sanitary Aid Society was organized at Milwaukie, January 6th, with T. Talbott President and Treasurer. Other appropriate officers were elected, and a committee appointed to procure subscriptions.

Another was organized at Oregon City, Jan. 9th, with W. W. Buck, President, and J. L. Barlow, Treasurer. A liberal contribution was made at the organization. God speed the good Samaritans!

....The citizens of Belpassi and neighborhood are preparing to celebrate Washington's birth day by a grand festival—the proceeds to be donated to the sanitary commission.

....The Messrs. Northcutt a few days since left at our office a mammoth cigar manufactured of tobacco raised by them about three miles north of Salem. The quality of the tobacco shows that its culture can be made a success in situations secure from frost.

Mr. Edward Simmons has furnished us at two or three times with Oregon twist, which only needs "doctoring" or preparation, to make it superior to any imported tobacco. Considerable quantities of it were raised in this county last season.

....Mr. William Grubbs, of King's valley, was killed during the evening of last Monday, by a Mr. Robinson. The two had been at work together during the day and had spent the evening at Grubbs' home with the father of the murdered man, and and a Mr. Long, all engaged in an animated discussion concerning the war. At the close of the discussion, the younger Grubbs and Mr. Robinson got into what was at first apparently a friendly scuffle, but which finally grew to be angry and the other men separated them. Grubbs then said he was cut. Upon examination, one cut was found in the abdomen and another in the thigh. The latter had severed an artery, from which the flow of blood resulted in death in about half an hour. Mr. Robinson previous to the scuffle, had a knife in his hand with which he was whittling, but during the scuffle, neither of the witnesses saw any knife, or suspected him guilty. Robinson had an examination and was bound to answer in the sum of $1,000.

☞ We hear that some of the Douglas war democrats are laboring assiduously to get into the secesh-sympathizing-copperhead fraternity on a war footing. O'Meara spurns