water for that purpose, and yet are not able to cross the ocean. Here is a quandary, indeed.

The London *Examiner* says the Armstrong gun can't knock an old duck off its nest, and other papers vent even worse abuse upon the head of the devoted inventer. Between the iron-clads that won't sail and cannot cross the ocean, and the "long range" Armstrong guns, the national defenses of England would seem to require a little attention.

If the reader ask how much has all this cost the bold Britons, we answer, only $150,000,000! The scrap-iron trade of England will be enormously valuable a few years from the present time.

France is no better off. The Emperor has a lot of old tubs he calls "ships of the line."—The Normandie, the Couronne, the Gloire, the Magenta and Solferino, are some of the names which dignify these children of the sea. They had a trial trip recently and Neptune was so indignant at the affront put upon him by the presence of such craft, that he tossed them, battered them, beat and bruised them so sorely that they were glad to find refuge in Brest—a French naval station. They were totally unfit for sea-going purposes, as indeed all vessels of that class are.

The iron clad navy of this country is composed at present of monitor vessels of varying tunnage. There will be launched within a few days one of the new ocean monitors—the Dictator; and there is every reason to assert that she will be a success as regards sea-going qualities; speed she will certainly possess. It is not too much to assert that no iron-clad ship can hope to weather a gale as easily as a wooden vessel; the lack of buoyancy or "life," so to speak, and the unwieldiness which attaches in a degree to all of them, militates against obtaining the best qualities of wooden vessels. But it is not unreasonable to declare that with the absence of the extensive overhang forward and aft, the projecting side-armor and favorable models, the two ships, Puritan and Dictator, will carry the flag of the Union in triumph over every obstacle, national and physical. Their well-known qualities for offense and defense—the turrets, heavy armor, guns, and comparatively light draft—render them most formidable adversaries; while the depth to which they are submerged, or, rather, the small portion visible above water, leaves nothing to be attacked that is vulnerable.

So far the monitors have been comparatively uninjured. They have been raised out of the water by torpedoes and have gone on with their duty unharmed; they have resisted showers of shot and shell which would have sunk the whole English and French fleets, if exposed at the same range, and in a few hours have resumed their duty. The Parrott guns have carried further than five miles; they sent tidings of their prowess unto the governments of all Europe belligerently disposed toward us. What is the consequence? Napoleon is complacent; it is said he has seized the French rams building [illegible] rebels; Palmerston and Russell are [illegible] the rebel iron-clads.—[illegible] which makes Parrott guns [illegible] are iron-clads" is [illegible] be placated, to be [illegible] consequently we [illegible] and the rebellion is [illegible] American.

[illegible] **der Murderers.**

[illegible] **Concluded.**

[illegible] Lewiston *Age* the remaining [illegible] testimony, and the result of the [illegible] of the murderers of Magruder.

[illegible] into Lewiston, where they arrived [illegible] o'clock at night, Page says:

[illegible] animals into a yard that once [illegible] James Hays; I remained with the [illegible] Howard and Romain went to look [illegible] if they could find a boat; Howard [illegible] back and said that the stage was going [illegible] to leave very early in the morning, and [illegible] that we would all go down on it; Lower [illegible] said that he had not enough coin to pay the [illegible]; I gave him $50 and he went and engaged [illegible] for us, under assumed names; myself by [illegible] name of Smith, Romain by the name of F. [illegible]erkins, one by the name of Johnson and one [illegible] by the name of Clark; Lower came back [illegible] where they left me under the shed; they took the treasure with them and went to the Hotel de France; they told me that they would pay for my bed, and that I would have nothing to do but to go to bed; I was running around town some time trying to find Bish. Goodrich, to leave the animals with him; at the hour of eleven o'clock, I asked the watchman if he could tell me where Goodrich was; he held the light up to my face and called me Billy Page; he said that he had seen me a timeor two and wondered who I was; he said that Goodrich was in the Luna House; I asked him to go and call him out, he said that he would when he had called his round; he met me at the corner of the Luna House, and went in and told Goodrich that he was wanted; G. came out, and in walking around, I told him that I had four mules and a horse that I wanted to leave with him until spring; he considered the matter over, then said that he was going away from home, but would see that they were taken care of until spring; he and I led the animals up to another corral, and I left them with him [illegible] as they were—with saddles, bridles, blankets, shot gun, leggins, spurs, fry pan, coffee tin cups, and a buffalo robe; we mixed up bread in the mouth of the flour sack; [illegible] came along back with me to the Lu[illegible]; he went in then and I went to the [illegible] France and went to bed with Lower; [illegible] went in, I asked the man if he was sitting up for any one—he said yes, but did not [illegible] who it was; I took a drink of brandy, I asked him to take some too—which he did; when I got to bed I soon got to sleep; when the stage came they called us up; after we got [illegible] and came down stairs, we each took a cock[illegible]; I saw Judge Berry, Mose the express[illegible], McCarty, Beachey, Lon, the watchman, and Goodrich; some were inside and some out of the house; I saw that they took particular notice of us as we passed out of the door; we got into the stage and it started for Walla Walla; we went over to Wallula, and from there to the Dalles; staid one night in Dalles, then went to Portland, and from there to San Francisco; we were in San Francisco two nights before arrested; I stopped one night at Hughes and one night at a private house; Lower stopped with me at this private house on Dupont st.; we were arrested by Capt. Lees of the Police at this house; the other two were at the Lick House; when we were first arrested, we were put up in a private room, and guarded closely; Howard was acquainted with the Captain of Police; there was an arrangement to get out on a writ of habeas corpus; the captain was to have all but one thousand dollars; after this we were all put together, so we could all tell one tale; I was to state that we met five men the second day out, after leaving Mormon ranch; these five men were to have ten mules; I was to state that they made several trades with Magruder on the road; where these men myself and Magruder camped, we lost ten or twelve mules, which Magruder sent me out to look for, and that three of these men caught up with me, and told me that Magruder did not want me any longer, and to [illegible] with them; that one of these men [illegible] pistol to my head and called me a s—n [illegible] and told me to show them the trail; [illegible] were the men that got into the stage [illegible]; that that three days out, at Deep [illegible] these men, (Howard, Romain and Lower) went across by the Mullan Road to Walla [illegible]; that if I would clear them; that they [illegible] me as a witness; they made me [illegible] hand ten times and swear that I [illegible] flinch from this tale; they told me [illegible] when I got to Walla Walla, that I met [illegible] these men there and the other two when [illegible] to Wallula; I inquired what to say if I [illegible]ked who these men were? they told me [illegible] called themselves Willamette wel[illegible]; [illegible] mule, to state that I gave Ma[illegible] my horse for it; Howard had [illegible] to see him, and there had [illegible]d in the Beaver Head coun[illegible]ruder's name on it; that they [illegible] a ferryman at this place, and [illegible] named Blackfoot Bill that they [illegible] the Mullan road; whenever [illegible] presented itself, since we have [illegible] me to stick to the

JONES & EVA[illegible]
Successors to C. M. J[illegible]
SMITH & DAVIS, Portla[illegible]

THE OVERLAND MAIL SERVICE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.

As the time approaches for the next annual letting of the contract for carrying the Overland mails, there are sundry givings out of the Holladay interest, which show that they are about and are ready to avail themselves of their pre-occupation and naturally strong position upon the route to secure the contract for another year. Just at the close of the last session of the Thirty-seventh Congress, Senator Latham procured the passage of a bill allowing the Overland Mail Company to pre-empt the tracts of land upon which their way stations were situated, thus giving them a virtual title to all of the land fit for stations for a greater portion of the distance across the continent.—This and the other improvements upon the road will be very likely to give the Holladay Company a monopoly of the Overland Mail contract, and other bidders will stand but a poor show in competition with them. If the mail arrivals on this side for the past six months are any criterion of the general character of the service overland, it is certain that it is a very poor affair. For instance, to-day I received by Ocean mail a quantity of California dailies to November 21st, and the same mail from the North brought Overland mail matter from Sacramento containing dates from November 17th to November 21st, inclusive, being no earlier than the steamer dates; and it frequently happens that the steamer dates are *ahead* of those of the Overland mail. As for the facilities of travel on the Overland route, I subjoin the following letter from a well-known citizen of Sacramento, written in reply to an application for information:

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16, 1863.

JOHN CONNESS—Dear Sir: With pleasure I impart any information collected during my late overland trip from California. I left Placerville, fifty miles east of Sacramento, on the 26th of October at two o'clock P.M., arriving at Atchison (Kansas), on the Missouri river, on the 16th of November at twelve o'clock M., lacking two hours of being twenty-one days on the trip. The distance is 1,900 miles or thereabouts; the road is one of the finest in the United States, yet our time on the trip was but about *four miles an hour*. Twice I was detained twenty-four hours, each time in consequence of there being no team to make the connection. The stations average a little over fourteen miles apart, there being about one hundred and thirty on the entire route, and I am satisfied the lost time would average one hour at each station, which, with the forty-eight hours of lying by at different stations, would make over seven days thrown away on the trip. From Folsom (Cal.) to Salt Lake, or to Green river, two hundred miles east of Salt Lake, the road is finely stocked with good horses and gentlemanly drivers, who make good time while on the box, and then keep you at the stage stands from one half an hour to an hour and a half. When I arrived at Green river I met with a different and more unpleasant state of things. From there to the South Platte, a distance of nearly four hundred miles, a general system of disorder and vagabondage was prevalent almost the entire length; all of the attaches of the road manifested but little interest in their different spheres of duty. The stock was broken down, and I was informed that scarcely a team had had a particle of hay or grain since last March.

When we were driven to a station the team was turned out in the sage brush, and the herdsman started to hunt up the team which was to convey us to the next station, and I thought myself lucky if he made his reappearance within an hour, as it was not uncommon for him to be absent from one to three hours in that benighted part of the Overland route. It was on this section of the road that a couple of mail bags were lost while I was passing. I heard the driver from whose stage the mail bags were lost charge the Mormons with the theft; but it occurred to me that if the Mormons were more likely to be dishonest than many persons employed on that part of the road I am now describing, they must be a suspicious class of people.

I often heard drivers, and others connected with the road, say that they would not be working for the Overland at small wages if it was not so unhealthy just now in their different homes, the draft was so liable to overtake people." One driver told me he was just out of the rebel army. I could not help asking myself if such men should have so direct a charge of the United States mails. But I will not trouble you with any further details. From the little I learned I am satisfied that in eight months in the year, fifteen days per trip is ample time on this road, and that would not be five and a half miles per hour. This would insure the Pacific coast speedy and regular mail facilities and would make the route a favorite one with the traveling public, which latter consideration is by no means an unimportant one. Recent rich silver discoveries are said to have been made within a short distance of Salt Lake (and I have no reason to doubt it), which, with the rich and extensive gold field of Idaho, north of Salt Lake, will create an immense amount of travel. If the Government makes it a "fast coach," instead of a "slow coach," it will do more in a short time to solve the problem of Mormonism than will a standing army in the midst of that people.

Respectfully yours,
GEO. McDONALD.

This letter, which is indorsed in its statements by one of the representatives in Congress from California, who traveled over the same route last year, has been placed on file at the Post Office Department, and its contents may have some effect, with other evidence now accumulating, in the next letting of Overland mail contracts.

PARDON OF RUBERY.

The following is the President's Proclamation of pardon of Rubery, one of the Chapman pirates:

Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America.

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:—

Whereas, one Alfred Rubery was convicted on or about the 12th day of October, 1863, in the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of California, of engaging in and giving aid and comfort to the existing rebellion against the Government of this country, and sentenced to ten years imprisonment and to pay a fine of $10,000; and whereas, the said Alfred Rubery is of the immature age of twenty years, and of highly respectable parentage; and whereas, the said Alfred Rubery is a subject of Great Britain, and his pardon is desired by John Bright of England;

Now, therefore, be it known that I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, these and divers other considerations me thereunto moving, and especially as a public mark of the esteem held by the United States of America for the high character and steady friendship of the said John Bright, do hereby grant a pardon to the said Alfred Rubery, the same to begin and take effect on the 20th day of January, 1864, on condition that he leave the country within thirty days from and after that date.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the United States be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this 17th day of December, A.D. 1863, and of the Independence of the United States the 88th.

[L. S.] ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:
WM. H. SEWARD, Sec. of State.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY OF THE MESSAGE.

The reputation of President Lincoln for originality is pretty general now, but nobody expected such an original message as that communicated to the first session of the 38th Congress. It has taken everybody completely by surprise; and, I am glad to add, the surprise is an agreeable one, for the message is temperate, wise, statesmanlike, and broad in its proposed treatment of the vexed questions of this hour and of the coming hour. I am not now thrusting individual opinions upon the reader, but am trying to reflect average public sentiment here. It was expected that the President would either ignore reconstruction altogether or give an elaborate and decisive programme therefor.—He has done neither; but has pleased the radicals and satisfied the conservatives by plainly projecting a plan of reconstruction, which is just alike to popular rights, to the cause of liberty, and to the loyal people of all sections of the Union. Nor is this programme a finality as to its detail, for it is generally understood here [in Washington] that the President weaves through the whole a thread of contingency, plainly implying that while its broad, general principles are immovable and abiding, events yet to arise may change materially the plan and theory laid down. It is obvious that we are at sea in this whole matter of reconstruction, and that we must trust to Providence, whose overruling care has thus far led us, for a safe pilotage to the haven of security and rest. The President has been forced, by premature discussions and ill-digested theories of others, to announce what the policy of the Administration will probably be in the premises, and his message, a worthy document in itself, has found its only significance in being the reflection of his views upon this mooted question of reconstruction. As such, then, it gives, probably, more general satisfaction than any message since the days of Washington. As no Administration since Jackson has been able to preserve in both branches of Congress a majority of its own, until now, so no President since that same period, certainly, has succeeded so well in satisfying the various political antagonisms of the times as Abraham Lincoln in his last message; and it is generally remarked that this has not been done by skillful trimming or by a non-committal, evasculate policy; but bold, high, original ground is taken, apparently disregardful of the claims of either of the great factions which profess to own the President and the next Presidency.—*Wash. Cor. Sac. Union.*

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

The dates from Europe are to Jan. 9th.

It is confirmed that Maximilian will visit Paris and reach Mexico before the end of March with the requisite reinforcements.

An address to Napoleon was introduced to the Corps Legislatif on the 4th. It expresses the hope that beneficial results may be derived from the Chinese and Mexican expeditions. It is very pacific in tone toward Russia, and loudly extols the Emperor's scheme of a Congress.

The rebel steamer Florida had completed her repairs at Brest, and is anchored about 200 yards from the Federal steamer Kearsarge. She will sail in February. A French vessel will accompany each at an interval of 24 hours.

The English press is quiet upon American affairs. The *Times* publishes a letter from its secession correspondent at Liverpool, in which the writer admits that the North has made progress, but not in proportion to the cost.

The understanding between Maximilian and Napoleon is said to be excellent, and it is said that capitalists are overwhelming the Duke with offers of money on the simple guarantee of his acceptance of the throne of Mexico.

The Princess of Wales gave birth to a fine boy at Frogmore, on the 8th.

Holstein matters continued to wear a threatening appearance. The greatest activity prevailed in the dockyards of Copenhagen. The king of Denmark has issued a warlike address to the army. He calls on it to uphold the honor of the country. A dispatch from Copenhagen says that 14,000 troops of the reserve have been called out.

The German troops in Holstein show continued activity. An official and general correspondence from Vienna cautions the minor German States against precipitating action with Denmark, and warns them against carrying out the attack.

It is reported that the excitement is increasing throughout Germany and at Vienna. There is a universal belief of active movements in the spring.

Garibaldi has resigned his seat in the Italian Parliament. The resignation was accepted, together with that of other members. Garibaldi disavows the recent proclamation in his name, and says it is a forgery.

The affairs of Poland were without change.

The London *Times* is suspicious of the pacific tone of the Emperor of France, and is of opinion that such a line of conduct is at this time, much more than at any other, favorable to schemes of French ambition. At this particular juncture of affairs, for the Emperor and the Chambers of France to confine themselves to preaching up the merits of peace, is not the readiest way to obtain it. It would be better if France were to employ her whole influence in endeavors to check those suicidal passions which are urging Germany to a war which must before long sweep into its ever widening vortex every power of the European continent.

The *Times* says that with the view of assisting English diplomacy, and for the protection of British interests, the Channel Fleet had been ordered home, and might soon show itself in German waters. The *Times* regards the commencement of the campaign in Schleswig as almost certain within a brief space.

EASTERN NEWS.

Dates to Jan. 26.

The committee on elections has decided against the claims of Segar, of Virginia, and Fields, of Louisiana, for seats in the House.

Four ballots for Senator in the Kentucky legislature took place Jan 23d. All alike, as follows: Guthrie 51, Bell 46, Burham 32, Buckner 5.

The shelling of Charleston continued night and day, at intervals of ten minutes, and the city was gradually crumbling under this incessant bombardment.

Postmaster General Blair's speech at Annapolis, in advocacy of the President's Emancipation Amnesty Proclamation, gives much satisfaction in the House.

On the 25th, Fernando Wood spoke against the Confiscation bill, and in favor of peace.

The House military committee has reduced the commutation clause in the Senate enrollment bill to $300, and refused to exempt Quakers or clergymen.

The Senate committee on commerce has two important measures under consideration. One is the establishment of a line of steamers between California and China, and the other for a line between this country and South America.

The Government is in receipt of information of another contemplated attack by the rebels in Canada on Johnson's Island. The Canadian authorities are considerably agitated about the matter.

A dispatch from Nashville says: A Federal train, with a guard of six companies of the 15th Penn., was captured 28 miles east of Knoville, on the 14th. Col. Palmer's brigade was sent in pursuit, and in a few hours overtook the enemy, recaptured the wagons, and killed and wounded 150 of the rebels.

A bill was introduced in the House authorizing Utah to form a State government.

A dispatch from Nashville says: The excitement concerning Knoxville was totally unfounded. The demonstrations of Longstreet were apparently intended only to recover the forage ground taken by Foster, and the latest information is that he has retreated, and that our troops are in winter quarters. Gen. Foster anticipates no attack, and is able to repel any that Longstreet can make. There is reason to doubt the truth of the report that Lee has reinforced Longstreet.

Efforts toward a reconstruction of the State government are extending along all parts of the counties of Middle Tennessee, but there was little hope of its early return to the Union. The Radicals, with Gov. Johnson at their head, are in favor of calling a convention to form a new constitution on the emancipation principle. East Tennesseeans are reviving the old project of forming a separate State in that section.

Rebel officers continue to come in daily, desiring to take advantage of the amnesty proclamation.

The Richmond papers contain a dispatch announcing the sudden and serious illness of Alex. H. Stephens.

Gen. Gantt will issue an address to the people of Arkansas, urging them to return to their allegiance, declaring that, as slavery is dead, there is nothing left for the South to fight for.

The Senate having passed a resolution requiring its members to take the oath, Senator Bayard will have to take it or resign.

The Emigration Committee will probably recommend sending a commission to northern Europe to facilitate the enormous emigration expected this year.

A dispatch says Gen. Halleck expresses his belief that the last desperate effort will be made by the rebels in the spring to transfer the fighting to Northern soil.

Senator Wilson intends to introduce a bill providing that all lands confiscated in the South be divided into homesteads for the soldiers.

A letter from Folly Island says: Rumors are current of an expedition toward Savannah, but nothing reliable concerning it is known outside of headquarters. All hopes of reaching Charleston this winter have died away among the troops.

Deserters say Lee's army is widely scattered, but they don't believe any portion of it has been sent off. They say forage is difficult to be obtained, and the horses are reduced in numbers and efficiency. A battalion of the 16th New York cavalry made a reconnoissance to Wolf Run and the Occequan, but discovered only a few rebels. The roads are very bad and the mud is deep.

The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Addison R. Flint as Receiver of Public Moneys at Roseburg, Oregon, in place of Geo. E. Briggs, removed.

The P. O. Department is now self-sustaining for the first time in fifteen years.

A statement copied from Eur[illegible] [illegible] Francisco [illegible]

Marshal Forey had obtained a pledge while in this country that the United States would not disturb the new Mexican monarchy, in return for a promise from France with regard to the South, is entirely without foundation. Forey had no communication with the Government whatever.

Maj. Quinlan, of the 1st N. Y. Cavalry, who commanded the scouts just returned from the neighborhood of Woodstock, says bands of men are forming to resist the rebel conscription.

Fitzhugh Lee has gone back to Gordonsville with his command.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 11th advises the public that general orders have been prepared at the Adjutant-General's office, to be issued in a few days, for the immediate conscription of all persons who have ever furnished substitutes, and they will be put in camp of instruction in ten days.

Gen. Getty has been assigned to duty as chief of artillery on Gen. Meade's staff.

Little Rock advices to Jan. 16, say the Arkansas State Convention, which assembled on the 8th, had about completed its labors. A great portion of the State was represented. The article prohibiting slavery was adopted with one dissenting vote. The constitution is to be submitted to the people on the second Monday in March, at which time the State officers and members of the Legislature are to be elected. The action of the convention is universally satisfactory to loyal men. The qualification of voters is that prescribed by the President's proclamation. Loyal citizens say they will be able to poll 20,000 votes for the constitution.

The New Orleans Era gives the statement of a Union refugee just from Mississippi, who says fully one half of the population of that State left at home are strongly Union, and the women especially are bitter against Jeff Davis. Hundreds of men are in the woods to escape conscription.

The same paper has intelligence from Texas through a preacher who resided at Port Lavaca, that there was an overwhelming Union sentiment in Western Texas.

Considerable indignation is felt throughout Minnesota at the course of the British authorities in furnishing the Sioux Indians ammunition, and sending them back upon our soil. It is said Gov. Dallas gave each Indian one pound of powder and lead in proportion.

The Oregon Statesman.

MONDAY MORNING, FEB. 8, 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 R. MOORES, Chairman.
A. G. HOVEY, Secretary.
Salem, Jan. 6, 1864. 1d—45

Polk County Union Convention.

The Union voters of Polk county, 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 and county, are respectfully and earnestly invited to hold precinct meetings in the several precincts to elect delegates to a County Convention to be held at Dallas, on Saturday the 12th day of March, 1864, for the purpose of electing delegates to the State Convention, to nominate candidates for county offices, and to transact such other business as may legitimately be brought before the convention. It is recommended that the precinct meetings be held on the 5th of March. The several precincts are entitled to delegates in the county convention as follows: Dallas 5, Bethel 4, Bridgeport 3, Luckiamute 3, Lane 3, Monmouth 5, Eola 5, Salt Lake 2, Jackson 4, Doughs 4. By order of the County Union Committee.

I. M. BUTLER, Chairman.
THOS. PEARCE, Sec'y.

Yamhill Co. Union Convention.

The Union voters of Yamhill county, Oregon, are hereby notified that there will be a county convention held at Lafayette, in said county, on Saturday, the 12th day of March next, at 12 o'clock, M., of said day, to appoint six delegates to attend the Union State Convention to be held at Albany on the 30th day of March, 1864. It is recommended that precinct meetings be held at the usual places of voting in the several precincts, on Saturday the 5th day of March next, for the purpose of electing delegates to said county convention.

The several precincts will be entitled to delegates in said county convention as follows: Lafayette, 4; Dayton, 4; Willamette, 1; Amity, 3; South Fork 4; McMinnville, 6; No. Fork, 2; East Chehalem, 2; West Chehalem, 2.

G. H. STEWARD.
Mem. Union State Committee for Yamhill Co.

Marion Co. Union Convention.

The Union men of Marion county, Oregon, are respectfully requested to meet in their several precincts on Saturday, the 5th day of March, 1864, for the purpose of selecting delegates to attend the county convention to be held at Salem, in said county, on the 12th day of March, 1864, at which county convention twelve delegates are to be elected to the State convention, and a full county ticket nominated to be supported at the next general election. We recommend the apportionment of delegates from the several precincts as follows: Salem, 12; North Salem, 8; Mill Creek, 9; Silver Creek, 7; La Bish, 5; Fairfield, 5; Northern, 9; Southern, 7; Howell Prairie, 5; Abiqua, 5; Champoeg, 5.

(Signed) J C Peebles, C M Parmenter, L F Pratt, E N Cooke, L Heath, S Headrick, D McCully, Preston Hamilton, Geo A Eden, W Shannon, R C Geer, Cal Geer, D Wolford, A Coshlejr, C M Cartwright, John J Murphy, J Engle, Samuel Brown, T B Allen, H F Jackson, L H Pounsale, J C Cartwright David Simpson, J Lawyer, Paul Darst, A C Keene, Wm M Cose, John W Grim, H L Turner, J D Boon, Willis Dunagan, John Downing, C N Terry.

A DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

The styles of democracy are not very diverse anywhere. Where there is any difference, it is the result of policy—there is something to be gained by wearing a specified character, or by putting it off. In the Southern States it is a positive war party *against* the Union; as a whole it is in the North a positive anti-war party apparently seeking the same end. In particular sections, however, where an anti-war policy would be its certain and speedy ruin the democracy, as in Illinois, is for the war, *but* with an *if*. In New York city and in most of New England, all the loyal democrats long ago dropped the name and joined the Union organizations. In such places, concealments and false pretenses being useless, are seldom attempted, and when the democratic faction speaks, it speaks its sentiment; at least more generally than in the West. The "democracy" of New Hampshire, for instance, resolve:

That the democratic party, always national and never sectional, should, by right, have taken no part in the strife between the Northern and Southern sections of our Federal Union, except to denounce both parties to it.

Here is an open and shameless declaration by the "democracy" in convention assembled, that they have no interest in the struggle inaugurated by thieves, robbers, brigands and cutthroat conspirators against the life of the nation. Let the Union be tumbled into fragments about our ears, the democracy have no interest in it! Let the government be uprooted and turned into the wildest anarchy or despotism, the democracy have no interest in it! And by its national and time-honored professions, should take no part in the strife except to denounce both parties to it—those that strive to save as well as those who seek to destroy!

Having resolved that they ought not to have taken any part in the war, they further practically resolve that they will not take any part in it:

Resolved, That we, proclaiming anew the principles of our party, and standing upon its broad, national platform, protest against the continuance of this unnecessary and unnatural strife.

So it is protested that this strife is unnatural and unnecessary. It was unnatural and unnecessary for the democracy to begin the war, but they having begun it, it was necessary and natural that loyal men should resist the foul treason of the attack. They have been doing it against the protest of the democracy and are continuing to do it. They would have been unworthy the blessings of any government, had they hesitated about a matter of such plain duty and patriotism.

What do they deserve who, after the rebels "unnatural and unnecessary" rebellion, stand before the nation and proclaim that the strife in defense of the Union, the constitution, the laws and freedom, is "unnatural and unnecessary," and that they protest, in the character of a national party against its further continuance!

If there is any one thing settled better than another, it is that the rebels are determined on breaking up the Union of States; that thus far they indignantly spurn the idea of any termination of the war except upon condition of their independence. In view of that fact can it be possible that anybody in the north should persistently urge "compromise" with any other object than to embarrass and defeat the government! This New Hampshire convention of "democrats" urges:

That we unitedly pronounce in favor of immediate peace; a peace, honorable in its object, lasting in its nature, and beneficial in its results; a peace that will again make Americans an united, prosperous and powerful people; and that such a peace can only be the result of mutual forbearance, conciliation and compromise.

As a preliminary measure of compromise, these pinks of democratic patriots propose:

That we unitedly strive to secure a truce between the hostile sections, and the withdrawal of both armies to defensive lines.

Give up all rebel territory subdued, all the progress made in settling the difficulty honorably and go into a "dicker and trade arrangement with cutthroat outlaws, whose necks must escape the halter by an act of mercy that justice would never grant!

That is modern democracy, and the above extracts contain the gist of modern democratic platforms. If any local ones are made of different ingredients, it is only for the purpose of securing political triumphs by a trick where an honest avowal of "democratic" doctrine would invite defeat and disgrace.

DALLES CORRESPONDENCE.

ED. STATESMAN—We had pretty cold weather for about ten days, commencing about the 3d of January. The river froze over and everybody was crazy on the subject of skating; skates brought fabulous prices, but just as everybody got their skates ready and bound to have a "bully" time skating, (to-morrow) down came an avalanche of snow. Then everybody went deranged on the subject of sleigh riding. Sleighs and bells were scarce but belles were plenty and anxious. Just as everybody had got ready with their sleighs, sleds, cutters, jumpers, pungs and dofunnies in general, up comes a puff of wind from the big Willamette and the snow was missed (mist) in brief time—so everybody got disappointed at all points.

I occasionally receive a copy of the *Statesman*, *i. e.*, when it dont go to Walla Walla or Jacksonville, or some other outlandish place, and I must say that I am very well pleased with its manly and truly loyal and patriotic course, as well as with its general news and particularly its domestic items. I shall be happy to contribute to that department frequently. You can just put it down that the weather here is delightful and on the "beautiful summer eminence of an evening," around the Dalles is getting quite green with the new grass. The O. S. N. Co. (Golly, what a name) are getting on to a decline, *i. e.*, extending their railroad, down to the river so as to load the freight direct from their steamers on to the cars. This, no doubt, will greatly facilitate their business.

There is a flourishing Division of the Sons of Temperance here, of which your humble servant is W. P., and J. E. Baker, formerly of Salem, is P. S. We have numerous lady visitors.

Pack trains are coming and going almost daily, and the rush of miners for the upper country has begun. In expectancy of a great rush of travel in the spring, the O. S. N. Co. have nearly completed a staunch new boat, the Yakima, which is to be *the* boat of the upper river. She has a "Texas" on her hurricane deck, which is a novelty for this river. No doubt they will drive a flourishing this business season.

SUNDAY MORNING.

The earth is covered about one inch with snow, but under the bright rays of a clear sun it is fast disappearing.

IMPORTANT TO LAND CLAIMANTS.

We are informed by Mr. Starkweather, Register of the Land Office, Oregon City, that a considerable portion of the land claims in Oregon do not conform to legal subdivisions, and consequently no patents will be issued to such claimants until their claims are amended and made to conform to the requirements of the law, whether they are certificated or not.

These illegalities, as explained to us by Mr. Starkweather, are general all over the State and Washington Territory, and will involve great difficulties if attempted to be changed into legal form. Mr. S. thinks that a fair representation of these difficulties to Congress by the citizens of Oregon and Washington Territory, will secure an act of relief, and prevent a vast amount of trouble to the people interested.

The informality most general is a square forty lying on both sides of a section line, and a long forty one-eighth mile wide and a half mile long, neither of which is admissible. It is easy to see that a change of lines at this time would involve universal embarrassment and considerable loss of land. The attention of those concerned is called to the necessity of petitioning Congress immediately for a law legalizing such claims as they have been made.

☞ "Eolus" came too late for insertion in this issue, but will receive attention next week.

SANITARY.—The Sanitary Fair in Boston closed after a season of seven days. The receipts were far beyond the expectations of the most sanguine among its projectors, the sum being considerably over $100,000. This is something more than $40,000 over the receipts of the great Western Fair at Chicago.

☞ 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.

In San Francisco, Capt. J. C. Ainsworth of Portland and Mrs. Fannie Barber.

At Cascades, 24th ult., Joseph Bailey and Mrs. B.A.Clarey.

In Portland, 30th ult., Edgar Ritchey and C. C. Wilson.

In Washington county, 24th ult., S. M. Hinton and Miss Alody McFee.

At Dallas, 1st, Samuel Pitts and Palmyra A. Mardker.

At Dallas, 1st, James M. Smith and Jane Ladler.

On the 28th ult., I. Davis Brown and Phebe A. Smith, all of Marion county.

In Polk county, William Ford and Miss Lydia K. Hubbard. Jan. 31st, Franklin Rodwell and Miss Elizabeth Perkins, all of Yamhill county.

DIED.

Near Salem, John Force.

On Howell Prairie, Mrs. Mary Coffey, wife of Jas. Coffey, aged about 17 years.

In Salem, 31st, of scarlet fever, Frances Adelaide, daughter of J. C. and Eliza J. Peebles, 6y 7m and 12d.

At Diamond Hill, Linn county, 11th ult., Bennet Putnam, infant son; also, on the 16th, Nancy Isabel, eldest daughter of Jas. and Martha Pierce, aged 12y, 8m., of lung fever.

Innocent in life—purified in death.

In Portland, 12th, Walter Gage, infant son of John H. and Nancy G. Hayden, aged 14 months.

Near Portland, Mr. Jas. Tow, aged about 40 years.

In Portland, 6th, Joseph L. Welbro, only son of Mrs. W. I. Mayfield, aged 3 years and 1 day.

Special Notices.

The Washington Literary Society will celebrate the 22d day of February, at their hall, in Belpasso, by a literary entertainment.

Judge Geo. H. Williams and Rev. T. H. Pearne are expected to deliver addresses. Admission, 50 cents. The proceeds are to be donated to the Sanitary fund. The Astoria Brass Band will be in attendance. 1w49

Posthumous Rumors.—Whose memory so honored as that of the celebrated Prussian physician and philosopher, Christoph Wilhelm Hoeland? Throughout the whole extent of Europe, especially Germany, his name has for years been a familiar household word, and there are but few in our own continent who have not experienced the benefits of his great medical and scientific attainments. His celebrated discovery for the cure of Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Nervous Debility, &c., is a preparation of the greatest merit, and gives the utmost satisfaction in all cases. It is prepared in this country by Dr. C. M. Jackson, Philadelphia, under the name of Hoofland's German Bitters, and can be had of of any druggist or dealer in medicines. 1w49

☞ Have you noticed the embroidery which is rapidly becoming the most popular trimming in use for cloaks, dresses, children's garments, &c.? Undoubtedly, and wondered how such elaborate designs could be executed in so brief a time, and at so cheap a rate. The manner in which it is done, the styles in which it can be executed, and all information necessary can be acquired by calling at any of the Agencies of the

☞ During our visit in Lowell we were shown through the laboratory of our celebrated countryman, Dr. J. C. Ayer. Scarcely could we have believed without proof, what is seen there beyond disputing.

They make a barrel of solid Pills, about 15,000 doses, and three barrels of Cherry Pectoral, 120,000 doses, per diem. To what an inconceivable amount of human suffering does this point! 120,000 doses a day! Fifty millions of doses per year!! What acres and thousands of acres of sick beds does this spread before the imagination! And what sympathies and woes! True, not all of this is taken by the very sick, but, alas, much of it is. This Cherry Drop and this sugared Pill are to be the companion of pain and anguish and stinging sorrow—the inheritance our mother Eve bequeathed to the whole family of man. Here the infant darling has been touched too early by the blight that withers half our race. Its lungs are affected, and only watching and waiting shall tell which way its breath shall turn. This red drop on its table is the talisman on which its life shall hang. There the blossom of the world just bursting into womanhood is stricken also. Affection's most assiduous care avails not; she is still fading away. The wan messenger comes nearer and nearer every week. This little medicament shall go there, their last, perhaps their only hope. The strong man has, planted in his vitals, this same disease. This red drop by his side is helping him wrestle with the inexorable enemy; the wife of his bosom and the cherubs of his heart are waiting in sick sorrow and fear lest the rod on which they lean, in this world, be broken.

O, Doctor! Spare no skill, nor cost, nor toil to give the perishing sick the best that human art can give.—Galveston, Texas, News.

☞ Terrible Disfigurements arise from external diseases, and unless the discomposed blood which causes them to be purged of its poison by the use of Bristol's Sarsaparilla the most potent of all detergents—the sufferers will not only seek relief for themselves in vain, but will also transmit the disorders as an inheritance to their children. Both sexes, at all periods of life, will find this unrivalled vegetable remedy a swift and radical cure for eruptions, sores, ulcers, glandular swellings, rheumatism and almost every disease which disfigures or distorts the outward form, including mercurial complaints. First class druggists universally keep a supply of the article. 1m48

Brown's Bronchial Troches.—These Lozenges are prepared from a highly esteemed recipe for alleviating Bronchial Affections, Asthma, Hoarseness, Coughs, Colds, and Irritation or Soreness of the Throat.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS AND VOCALISTS

Will find them beneficial in clearing the voice before speaking or singing, and relieving the throat after any unusual exertion of the vocal organs, having a peculiar adaptation