The Oregon Statesman.

MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 8, 1864.

FOR PRESIDENT
ABRAHAM LINCOLN, of Illinois.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,
ANDREW JOHNSON, of Tennessee.

San Francisco Agency.—L. P. Fisher, 629 Washington street, San Francisco, Cal., is the authorized agent for the STATESMAN, and will transact all business for our office at that place.

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FROM THE EAST.

Renewed activity in Virginia relieves the uneasy feeling of suspense which has been felt so long. Grant, surprising Petersburg with a volcano under one of its principal forts, is at the same time threatening Richmond with a large force. He well maintains his reputation for reticence and originality. He confounds the enemy, while he puzzles the public, but all the time seems to retain what he has taken, and continually grasps for more.

If any other general were in command, we might venture to predict something of the future movements of the army, but with Grant at the head, we cannot guess whether he means to assail Richmond, assault the fortified hights opposite Petersburg (these forts on the south side of the Appomattox are stronger and more important than the town itself) or to merely alarm the enemy while he continues to wear him out by waiting and harassing him. The reported news by Wade is not worthy of much credit, for it is by no means at all probable that Grant made the Ohio senator or anybody else, the confident of his plans. The drouth is a probable explanation enough of the delay however.

A second raid across Maryland and into Pennsylvania, does not thus far appear to have resulted in any important depredation except the burning of Chambersburg. It is now plain that the object of these raids is not so much the booty they get, or the alarm they create, as it is to cover the Shenandoah valley while the large grain crops of that fertile region are secured. Lee's army is mainly dependent upon this source of supply for breadstuffs, now that his railroad communications in other directions have been so badly interrupted. A large rebel force is now there, threshing wheat, it is said.

From the army of the Cumberland our news has been continuously good, with the exception of the despatch yesterday in reference to the destruction of a cavalry detachment under Gen. Stoneman. General McCook, who is reported killed, was a West Point graduate and one of the most valuable officers in the service. The raid appears to have inflicted heavy damage upon the enemy before it met with the disaster. Rousseau's expedition is doing good service, and the communications of Atlanta are now so severed that its fall is certain.

LATER.—The particulars of the assault upon the works at Petersburg after the blowing up of the fort, show that the repulse was terribly disastrous to the Union forces.

Gen. McCook's command, although defeated with loss, is not annihilated, nor is McCook killed. He had returned with over half his men, and more will probably come in. The damage he inflicted upon the enemy must be very disastrous to them at this juncture. The The rebel Gen. Rains, who defeated McCook, was in command of Fort Dalles during the Indian war of 1855-6.

DONATION CLAIMS IN OREGON AND WASHINGTON.—The following bill was introduced by Mr. Harding, and passed Congress during the last session. It is one of considerable interest to Donation claimants, and explains itself:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whenever it shall appear that two donation settlers in the State of Oregon or Washington Territory shall hold their conterminous improvements in such a manner as may require a half quarter section to be divided into two equal parts by a line north and south or east and west, it shall and may be lawful for the Commissioner of the General Land Office to issue patents recognizing for each claimant such subdivisions: this enactment to include cases existing at the date of this act, where the claim may be proved and established according to law.

THE NORTHERN MINES.—The following extract is evidence that our California neighbors are beginning to realize that the mines on the waters of the Columbia are not altogether the humbug they have been want to suppose:

HEAVIEST DEPOSITS EVER MADE.—Yesterday no less than 141 deposits of gold, for coinage, were made at the United States Branch Mint in San Francisco, the aggregate amount of the precious metal being 14,000 ounces, worth little, if any, less than $250,000. All this dust came from Idaho or Washington Territory, and was brought down on the Pacific on Friday evening. This is the largest number of depositors at our Branch Mint in any one day since its establishment.—*S. F. Alta, July 28th.*

THE SALT LAKE AND IDAHO MAIL ROUTE.—The Salt Lake *Telegraph*, of July 21st, says:

We were pleased to notice the return yesterday of James E. Bromley, Superintendent of the Salt Lake and Boise mail route. He got in here yesterday morning from Fort Hall in 37 hours, and returns again to the route in a few days. It will be gratifying to the people all along that new country to learn that Mr. Holladay's agents authorize us to state that the tri-weekly United States mail service between this and the Dalles, Oregon, commences positively next Wednesday. On the same day the tri-weekly United States mail service also commences for Virginia, Montana.

NO CHANGE IN THE POST OFFICE.—The reported removal of Mr. Hamilton and appointment of Mr. Hirsch, turns out to be a hoax. Mr. Hirsch telegraphs from New York, in reply to an enquiry, that he knows nothing of it, and that the people of Salem ought to know that he wouldn't have the place. Mr. Pearne writes that he first heard of the report in San Francisco upon his return and that he knows nothing with certainty about it. How such a report could have originated in San Francisco we cannot imagine.

PRECAUTIONARY.—We notice that since the late fire in Salem, the different localities in the upper country are almost unanimously moving towards the adoption of a preventive measure against the spread of a conflagration, should such a misfortune occur.—*Oregonian.*

We don't hear of any "precautionary measures" here. Half the town must burn up before some people will awake from their apathy.

SANITARY.—An enthusiastic Sanitary meeting was held at the Presbyterian church in Albany, on Thursday evening, August 4th, under the supervision of the Linn County Sanitary Aid Society. Speeches were made by Prof's E. P. Henderson, Nichols, E. Cartwright, L. J. Powell, President Marsh and P. S. Knight. The collection amounted to over fifty dollars in coin.

MISTAKE.—The report going the rounds of the papers, that the pirate Semmes has a sister living at Oregon City is untrue. We believe he has some relatives there, but no sister.

RETURNED.—The family of Joseph Holman returned to this place on Thursday the 4th inst, after an absence in the East of nearly four years.

THE GREAT CONSPIRACY.

The telegraph brings us intelligence which, though rather crude and unsatisfactory, is of a very startling character. That there are numbers of men at the North who sympathize with the Southern leaders has long been an established fact, yet the great mass of our people have been loth to believe that there was any considerable number in actual co-operation with them, in organizing plans secret and open for the destruction of our Government. Recent developments show, if we may believe our dispatches, that such a party has existed, that secret plans have been concocted, and we have been standing on the verge of a smoldering volcano that was gathering its secret fires to hurl us to destruction. The fire-sides of our loyal people have been compassed round by secret foes—hissing serpents have been hidden beneath our hearth-stones, waiting for their "great commanders" to call them forth—men whose souls were steeped in treason have claimed the protection of our laws, prated about the Constitution, and, with the air of hypocrites, cried "Peace!" while the foulest murder was rankling in their hearts, and the secret dagger resting beneath their cloaks thirsting for the life-blood of its victim. The plots of Catiline have been re-enacted on the most stupendous scale the world has ever witnessed. The dark lantern has been used.—Secret conclaves have been held. Fiends in human form have met at midnight, in dingy and dim-lighted halls, whose hearts were filled with hellish purposes, whose souls were gloating over the bloody carnival they saw approaching. But these infernal schemes have been discovered, and, it is hoped, frustrated. Like the rebels that plotted ruin in Heaven, they have overrated both their strength and their prowess. The watchful eye of sleepless vigilance has been upon them; their darkest dens have been uncovered; their most secret plots laid bare, and they stand before the country, whose destruction they have plotted, marked for the punishment they so richly merit. One of their organs in this State announces with a sneer that the discovery of this plot "has been made the *pretense* for the arrest of a number of PROMINENT citizens." This sneer is perhaps intended to cover up the chagrin and disappointment that organ feels because those hell-born schemes were not successful. *Prominent* citizens! Cataline was a *prominent* citizen of Rome; Arnold was a *prominent* officer in the American army; Vallandigham was a *prominent* leader in the "democratic" party; the *Arena would like to be to be* the *prominent* organ of the copperheads. It now appears that Vallandigham is *prominent* in the midnight assassin order, and we suppose his organs in Oregon will be about as prominent in defending him as the puppy that sneaks behind and barks while the dog is baying at the game.

The gallows on which Haman was hung was not half as high as these prominent villains deserve. They should be hung so high that the world could see them pay the debt of their infamy, and those who love liberty in every land could laugh at their calamity, and mock when their fear came. For three years their schemes have been maturing, yet when Union men have raised the alarm, and called on the people to be vigilant, they have laughed to scorn, and attempted to keep down apprehension by denying the existence of secret treasonable orders. They have denounced the Union Leagues, and preached against secret political orders, while their lips were yet warm with the secret oaths they had taken to destroy their country's peace. They have shed crocodile tears over the graves of fallen patriots, and whined and whimpered about the widows and orphans the war has made, while they were preparing in secret the torch of the incendiary, thirsting for the blood of peaceful citizens, and maturing schemes that were to inaugurate a bloody reign of anarchy and confusion. And we would say to Union men in this part of our country, that, while we do not apprehend serious danger, it is proper that we be watchful, for some of these banded schemers are at our very doors.

ULTIMATE SUCCESS CERTAIN.

We frequently hear expressions of disappointment from Union men, and words of exultation from copperheads, on account of the apparently slow and indecisive movements of the Federal armies. In suppressing this rebellion, it is doubtless true that we do not duly appreciate the magnitude of the work to be done, or the difficulties in the way. We are from habit inclined to be impatient. To be in hot haste—to have things done in a hurry—to become rich or powerful or famous in a day, are characteristic aspirations of our people. It is comparatively easy to perform a brilliant exploit—to make a reckless dash or a destructive raid—but the permanent advancement of the Union cause, through the operations of war, must be the result of slow and steady steps.—Invariable success cannot be reasonably expected. War is necessarily full of vicissitudes. Temporary reverses may occur, without any permanent or serious injury to the right cause. To determine as to the true condition of things, it is not proper to decide upon the fate of a single battle, the result of a single campaign, or the action of one army, but upon a survey of the whole field, and all that has been done and accomplished.

Are not our prospects for putting down this rebellion as good as were the prospects our fathers had of achieving Independence at the end of the first three years of the Revolution? There were times in that war when every reasonable chance of success seemed to be gone, when thick clouds and darkness enveloped the patriot cause, but, confident in the early triumph of the right, our fathers fought on, and finally came out victorious. They conquered, because they were not disheartened by defeat or adversity, and because they were determined to achieve success. Inflexible resolution will overcome all obstacles. Like faith, it will remove mountains. It will put down this rebellion, though fearful accidents may befall the prosecution of the war. We must be like the Roman Brutus, "terrible in constant resolution." We have the means to succeed in this war, if we duly apply them. If the fortunes of battle merely remain even, we will ultimately conquer by wearing out the insurgents. If we are firm and steady, time alone will do the work. "The mills of the gods grind slow, but strong." Great events are transpiring.—We are acting history. Let us be patient as well as zealous, clinging to our cause with an unfaltering belief that the eternal principles of right will be maintained with glorious triumph.

THIEVES.—The *Oregonian* says several gangs of thieves have come down to Portland from the upper country lately. We hope the Portlanders will hold out sufficient inducements to them to stay there, to prevent any of them coming up this way, even if the hospitalities of the city jail have to be extended to them.

THE IMPORTED VOTERS INTO POLK.

The last number of the *Arena* contains an article of a column and a half upon this subject. Without noticing the considerable part of the article which is not exactly relevant to the point in issue, or the insinuations which are not tangible enough to merit denial, we proceed to reply to such allegations as seem to demand it.

The week previous the same paper made two charges; one of which was:

"Yet, all this time, members of the party of the *Statesman* were guilty of importing votes into Polk county. * * * We believe and are prepared to prove, that about the same time, sundry parties in this town were engaged in the same dirty business of employing persons to go into Polk county to vote the Union ticket."

Referring to our rejoinder to the article of which the above is an extract, it now says:

"That declaration contains a grave charge. It is intended to be emphatic, without any equivocation whatever; and yet the *Statesman* has passed it over in silence, has not denied it, will not deny it, *dares* not deny it."

Now what are the facts? Our last article did not, it is true, deny this charge with all the nice particularity which is necessary in an answer to a legal complaint, but its whole tenor and spirit was such that no person who read it with candid desire to ascertain our meaning, could have mistaken our intent to dispute the assertion. We should probably have been more explicit, had we not previously, in the *Statesman*, several times *positively denied* the same charge. We had, indeed, alluded to the matter so often that the *Arena* complained that we "poured out" our denunciations "with marvelous profusion." It could not have failed to know that we had *repeatedly* said that no men were imported into Polk to vote the Union ticket. With what fairness then can it now say that the *Statesman* "has not denied it, will not deny it, *dares* not deny it"?

The other charge was that:

"We believe it to be true, literally true—and the evidence will be forthcoming if necessary—that parties connected with the editorial department of the *Statesman*, were cognizant of and were not discouraging such importation."

This was a *new* slander, one that had never been uttered before. We were therefore more particular to be explicit in asserting its falsity. Now our candid neighbor says this is *not* a positive charge, but a mere assertion of *its belief*. We are not nice enough to see the difference. In the one case it "believes" and "is prepared to prove." This is a "*charge*." In the other case it "believes" and "the evidence will be forthcoming." This is *not* a "charge." If this is not mere pettifogging, by what rule is the discrimination made?

The *Arena* admits that "Democrats" were engaged in the importations. The controversy now appears, therefore, to have narrowed down to two questions. *First*, whether the Democratic *party* is justly responsible for these frauds? and *second* whether or not any *Union men* were engaged in similar ones? To the first we shall not now refer. To the second we trust that our denial is now sufficiently explicit to satisfy even the cautious *Arena*.

If our cotemporary is as earnest as it pretends, in its desire to expose *all* who have been engaged in this "dirty, damnable business," why does it not accept our offer of publishing the names of "all the imported stock" with the evidence? We made that proposition two months ago, in a spirit of fairness, with no other desire than to get the truth and the whole truth before the public. We cannot perceive any reason why it should have been declined by the democratic papers unless they desired to shield their friends from just obloquy. We have no such desire, and we assure the *Arena* that if it can, as it asserts, fix upon any Union men by fair evidence, complicity in importing votes to Polk or any other county, we shall take good care that the readers of the *Statesman* know who the individuals are, it matters not what paper or what department they may be connected with.

THE UNION PARTY.

When the Baltimore Convention assembled Dr. Breckridge of Kentucky was chosen temporary Chairman, and upon taking his seat delivered an excellent and patriotic address, in the course of which he said:

"As a Union party I will follow you to the ends of the earth and to the gates of death, (applause) but as an abolition party, as a republican party, as a whig party, as a democratic party, as an American party—will not follow you one foot."

Ex-Governor Dennison of Ohio, upon assuming the Chair as permanent President of the Convention, among other things, said:

"In no sense do we meet as members or representatives of either of the old political parties which bound the people, or as the champions of any principal or doctrine peculiar to either."

These sentiments were applauded by the Convention and show that it is every where understood that there are but two political parties at this time in this country. One a Union and the other a Secession or Copperhead party.

Old political issues and party organizations have ceased to exist, the war has produced new questions, and it is in reference to these questions that parties are now organized and acting. It has been claimed by some that old party distinctions and appellations are kept up in the States, but the proceedings of the Baltimore Convention show that this is not true so far as the Union men of the country are concerned. The copperheads are trying, it is true, to cover up their complicity with treason by claiming the name of Democracy, but those who are for the Union ignore all party antecedents and party names and recognize all as members of the Union party who stand squarely and fairly upon the platform and support the nominees of the Baltimore Convention. This is the wise policy that has been adopted by President Lincoln, and this is the position taken by the representatives of the Union party in the late National Convention. The Government has a great burden to bear in the prosecution of this war.—The Government depends for its strength and power upon the popular support. No dead issues or questions should be brought forward to distract the Union forces, but leaving "the dead past to bury its dead," all who are for the Union should stand together and earnestly strive to lay aside all considerations of an incidental nature that might tend to divide and weaken them. There is little difficulty at this time in telling the difference between a Union man and a Copperhead. That decision is not to be made by what a man has or has not been, but by what he is at this time. Few men fail now to indicate on which side of the struggle in the country their sympathies are, and if their sympathies are with the Union cause, their words and acts will be decided and fervid in favor of all expedients consistent with the dictates of humanity for the suppression of this wicked rebellion. Copperheads show their feelings in different ways, and crafty as some of them try to be in concealing their real views, their "murder will out."

It should be the policy of all Union men to build up and strengthen the Union organization. Every effort to create discord in the Union party for selfish or personal ends should be discountenanced, and all true men should and will try to make the Union party predominant and powerful enough to carry the country through its present terrible ordeal to a complete victory over rebellion and disunion.

☞ Read the new advertisements on this page.

SANTIAM CORRESPONDENCE.

QUARTZVILLE, July 29, 1864.

ED. STATESMAN: Since my last letter I have climbed Gold Mountain four several times, and one thunder storm has occurred, the latter circumstance without moisture, the former with a plenty of it. Several "sensations" have also occurred, but I am happy to say, without fatal results. As usually happens in new mining camps, somebody is striking something almost every day. The Mexicans, of whom I spoke before, have returned from their prospecting tour, having discovered silver lodes which they pronounce *bueno*. They are situated several miles north of here on a branch of Canal Fork. Meantime, Capt. Keeler, assisted and instigated thereto by several respectable gentlemen of the mining persuasion, and a lunatic doctor (I don't mean the Doctor was a lunatic,) went on to a mount and discovered a bran new lead, which, in honor of the Captain's name, was called the "Keeler lode." It pans out a beautiful prospect. Before it was twenty-four hours old it was claimed as far north as Whidby's Island, and south to the end of time. The owners are almost without exception, captains, doctors, judges, ministers and luminaries, and it is proposed to incorporate on a high-toned grade, without regard to expense. Long may they wave.

Quartzville has been in something of a ferment to-day in consequence of the arrival of a couple of gentlemen from California, who are looking around for chances. It is understood to-night that they are well enough satisfied with the appearance of things, to bring in a quartz-mill for doing custom work, as soon as they have any reasonable assurance of a road or roads from the main body of lodes to the mouth of Canal Fork, which place they think the most favorable location for a mill. The distance from Gold Hill is four miles; from Quartz Mountain, a little further; from Happy Camp, from three to five miles. There are splendid water powers on Canal Fork. Water is scarce at Quartzville, the entire town at present being supplied from a single spring. From six to ten inches can be brought in during the dry at season from a gulch, which puts in a little more than a quarter of a mile above, the water of which sinks before it gets this far. It must be brought in a flume. At the opposite or southern base of Gold Hill the South Fork of Santiam divides this district from Happy Camp. It is a fine stream, and barring the risk of floods, would furnish any number of water powers.

The road commissioners, sent up by the Union, Santiam, and Oregon companies, have not yet returned from the Meadows trail, and I regret that, therefore, I am unable to chronicle any of their wanderings and findings.

I see by a late copy of the *Statesman* that gold, visible to the naked eye, has been found in the Eureka tunnel. The man who has been at work in the tunnel came to his primal knowledge of that gratifying fact from your statement. They have, however, found first-rate silver indications, and that is what they are mining for. Such statements as the one in question, (which I suppose was imposed upon you,) may serve to sell a few little strips of paper, but in the end do nobody any good. The Eureka is believed, by good judges, to be a good thing, but not for "gold, visible to the naked eye."

A remarkable phenomenon exists here—the largest shareholders in any given claim invariably find more gold in the rock than the smaller ones. The balance of certificates changes hands, and *presto*, the gift of seeing gold with the naked eye—from which our philosopher-man concludes that mining stocks are a blessing in the way of "helps to see." But specimens are taken out of the Bull and the Calf, in which any man with nary a stock, can see the gold.

There are more men at *work* in the mines than at any former time. The Union, Santiam, Oregon, and Lone Star companies, and several individuals are making thorough prospects on Gold Hill. The Eureka Silver mining Co., and the Pacific Copper mining Co. have working parties in Happy Camp district. It is understood here that some valuable, hard work shall be necessary to hold claims; and many who have hitherto been merely waiting for the mountain to come to them, have lately concluded to go to the mountain. There is considerable inquiry for hands to work; wages, about two dollars and grub, or three dollars without grub—that is to say the miner grubs himself. A blacksmith is much wanted, also, several families with grown up girls, or something of that sort, to put society in good shape. There is but one woman here, and though she is a very estimable one, it can't be expected she can constitute an entire sewing society. It's impossible. Neither is it possible to say all my say in one short letter, and, as you probably want to go to press, and I certainly want to go to bed, this epistle ends right here, with an affectionate *adios*.

As I said before, Yours respectfully,
AMATEUR S. WINDLER.

OREGON CITY CORRESPONDENCE.

OREGON CITY, July 29, 1864.

ED. STATESMAN: A slight attack of *Cacoethes Scribendi*, combined with a sense of duty to the public, must be my only apology for what perhaps needs none.

Plunging at once *in medias res*. Salem no doubt feels proud that the location question has been so happily settled, and the war hatchet—biennially drawn in a contest for the seat of government—buried out of sight.

But what a visitation your beautiful city has fallen a victim to, in the shape of the *Arena*.—Suitably named, if names have any significance—the arena—a ring strewn with sand, to hide the blood they shed; where brutes on two or four legs meet with hideous notery, in an exhibition of the worst passions which disgrace humanity. The audience of course composed of soulless creatures who, alone, could find pleasure in viewing such a spectacle and in urging on the beings who glory in the publicity of infamy which the arena affords.

Shame on the taste which leads a journal of to-day to fill the place of argument by a fertile, if not adroit use of coarse invective and Billingsgate worthy alone of a Five Points pauper.

Shame on the editor whose ability consists in his abundant power of self-degradation, by descending into the cess-pools of intellectual corruption in search of foul, rank venom with which to slime his adversaries.

Pity for the morals of a community which in this day of advancement, of light and knowledge, furnish any considerable numbers who tolerate, and by their patronage approve, the low, base slang which is flowing from the *Arena* against honest, honorable men.

The cheek of virtue is brought to blush, and a virtuous public is put to the test of enduring a return of newspaper literature, to a style, which, mildly speaking, would shame the devil. It lays with the Oregon public, to rebuke an attempt to lower the standard of the press and to bring our newspaper name into a stench from which it has but lately recovered.

Editors now-a-days should be taught at least the elements of decency, though good manners be out of their reach.

But enough of so disreputable a subject. It is to be hoped that the *Statesman* will maintain its present able and dignified tone, and also—though the hope is perhaps rather vain—that the tories in our present national difficulties will use their influence in every possible way to bring the *Arena* up to the nearest approach to decency which the case will admit.

The proposition: "Show me what papers a people read, and I will show you what people they be," has both sense and philosophy in it; and I presume it is generally the case, as I know it is in our community, that only confirmed friends of the rebellion, and of treason in arms, dishonor themselves by taking the *Arena*. Loyal hearts, that thrill to the grand idea of national unity—hearts that throb with the sore stress and strain of this crisis in our history, but whose every beat is true to our country, in the hour of trial and danger, can find no word or utterance in the columns of the *Arena*, which could be strained to favor the cause of Union and Liberty. Plenty of comfort to Davis, and the mobocrats North and South, who set law and order at defiance, and who are engaged with Satanic energy in an attempt to destroy the fabric of our civil government. Comfort to rebels in arms at the South, who have at least the virtue of courage to fight for a bad cause, and equal comfort for sneaking traitors at the North, who with every disposition to imitate Arnold, in a weak way, suitable to their capacity, yet lack the only feature which could redeem them from the charge of being contemptible cowards, as well as traitors, and who dare not do what would be consistent with their sentiments, by going South of Mason and Dixon's line to battle for disunion.

I had intended to give you some local items, which must be deferred until some more convenient opportunity, if the fates so order.

Yours, for the Union, CLACKAMAS.

HON. J. R. M'BRIDE.

The following notice of this gentleman we copy from the Washington correspondence of the Sacramento *Union*. The date of the correspondence is July 7th:

A DESERVED COMPLIMENT.—The Washington *Chronicle* of this morning contained the following well deserved notice of the Representative from the present Congress from Oregon:

"Oregon, the most distant State of our great republic, has elected the only Representative to the Thirty-ninth Congress who is yet chosen, and it is a hopeful omen for the future that the member elected is a staunch supporter of the Government and of the Union. Believing as we do that a State fails to acquire its legitimate influence in the National Legislature by a frequent change of its representation in Congress, we would have been glad for the sake of our young sister State on the distant Pacific if the present worthy member from Oregon, J. R. McBride, had been again returned to Congress, though we mean, of course, no disparagement to the new member, who is a stranger here. But we are glad to learn from our Pacific exchanges that there is a probability that McBride will be elected to fill the seat in the Senate to be vacant on the 4th of March, 1865, by the expiration of the term of B. F. Harding. McBride is an able and thoroughly loyal man; his voice and vote are always on the side of the Government, the Union, liberty and the right. He will, if elected, be as efficient a Senator as he has been faithful as a legislator in the lower branch of Congress.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

This association closed its session yesterday. We were not permitted to be present during all the session, but are pleased to chronicle the fact that it was nearer a success than any previous one. A large number of teachers and others interested in the cause of popular education were present from different parts of the State, and all were there evidently for the purpose of working for a permanent establishment of this association, and for the general interest of the educational movement. All seemed to be alive to the fact that, as a State, we are hardly up to the standard of the age in systematic plans for the education of the young, and that the time had come when those interested in the matter should inaugurate movements for the establishment of a more perfect common school system. Not only teachers of the common schools were present, but also many Professors of the different academies, and members from the faculties of our first class institutions.

Resolutions were passed and measures set on foot looking to a complete revision of our school law during the coming session of the Legislature, and many other questions were brought out and discussed which it is hoped will work wholesome reforms.

Of the evening lectures we only heard one, that of President Marsh, which was written and delivered in his usual pointed and appropriate style. Entire unanimity prevailed, although there was a considerable amount of good-natured and friendly discussion on nearly all the topics that were introduced.

Taken altogether it was a pleasant and, we trust, profitable gathering, and the people of Albany are entitled to credit for the manner in which they entertained the comers from a distance, and also for their regular and general attendance at all the meetings of the association.

We shall publish a full report of the proceedings next week.

THINGS AT ALBANY.—In our late trip to Albany we saw several things worthy of note.—Among other things we saw a finely situated and pleasant town, containing many neat and tasty dwellings and a goodly number of friendly and hospitable people. The town seems to be rapidly improving, as we saw quite a number of dwellings in process of erection, and were informed that the two saw mills situated there were unable to supply the demand for lumber. The most notable improvement is the brick court house, which is approaching completion. We do not hesitate to say that we believe this, when finished, will be the best building of the kind in the State. It is built of brick, with cornice and roof finished in good style, and will cost, we understand, over twenty thousand dollars. The only objectionable feature in the town, we think, is the narrowness of the streets, and this difficulty will be more apparent as the population increases. On the whole we think Albany is as prosperous a place as one could expect to find so near to Salem.

THE ARENA UPON B. F. WHITSON.—The *Arena* has twice said of the newly appointed Commissioner of Enrollment, that, "for years he has been a republican amalgamationist and Abolitionist, and many an audience in Polk county has been disgusted with his oft repeated declaration that he would as soon his daughters would marry negroes as white men!" Our own acquaintance with Mr. Whitson is very recent and slight. We have, however, the assurance of some very respectable citizens of Polk—neighbors of Mr. W.,—that the above is a foul slander, that he has never advocated amalgamation or made any such disgusting declaration as is asserted. He is an *anti slavery* man and always has been—is a gentleman very competent for the place to which he has been appointed, and his character is far beyond the reach of the malignant assaults of the *Arena*. It is also due to Mr. Whitson to say that he never sought the appointment, nor did any friend of his, for him. It was conferred upon him unsolicited and very unexpectedly.

SWINISH.—On going into a hotel at Albany the other day and calling for supper, we were somewhat amused and considerably disgusted at hearing the following conversation between a gentleman and another specimen of humanity:

Gentleman: "What is the occasion of so many people coming into town?"

The other Specimen: "O, I don't know, its a lot of spouting school teachers, I believe, come here to bum!"

This was spoken with such an air of vulgar contempt, that our sensibilities were somewhat shocked, and we looked up to see if a "bomb" had busted, but finally concluded that it was simply a squash or a cabbage head. And we thought that "specimen" ought to be examined by Professor Agassiz for the purpose of testing his right to be classed with the *genus homo*.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR SURVEYS.—Congress at its last session appropriated $20,000 for surveying the public lands in Oregon, and a like sum for Washington Territory, and provided in each case that the Commissioner of the Land Office might in his discretion allow a sum not to exceed $2 per mile in addition to the rate fixed by law.

☞ There are many complaints of attempts to pass off bogus gold dust in the upper country. The imitation appears perfect enough to deceive persons who ought to be good judges of the *oro*. No wonder, in an age when copperheadism can be palmed off for true democracy, we might expect any kind of imposition to be successful.

☞ The Virginia City *Enterprise* is opposed to the organization of a State government for Nevada, on the ground that the country is too poor to afford it. That's pretty heavy for a region where they take out silver by the wagon load.

AFFRAY.—Two men, named Wilson and Miller, got into a fight at a dance-house in Idaho City. Miller was stabbed in the side and Wilson shot in the thigh and shoulder. There are strong hopes that both will die.

☞ The Baltimore Convention appointed Judge E. D. Shattuck member of the National Union Committee, for Oregon.

☞ The mining camps at Florence and Warren's are almost deserted, but the few who have remained are doing well.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Special Dispatches to the Oregon Statesman.

The following additional dispatch relative to the explosion of the mine and the assault on the rebel works at Petersburg, is given:

The firing which then opened was kept up without intermission for an hour and a half, when it slackened somewhat. The result of the explosion of the mine was the almost total annihilation of one rebel regiment and the burying of three guns. The 9th corps pushed the advantage thus gained by suddenness of assault, the advance taking possession of the works through the gap made by the explosion, driving the enemy to the second line of works which crown the hill-tops east of town. Nineteen or twenty of the rebels buried by the explosion were dug out alive, but badly bruised. The mine was 400 feet long, constructed with two galleries diverging from the main passage, making three chambers, in which a train of powder 15 inches wide and 8 deep was laid.—The effect of the explosion was disastrous. The enemy's artillery feebly replied. But few minutes elapsed before the rebel lines were entirely shut out from view by smoke, our gunners being only guided in their work by having obtained the proper range before. Many shells from the 18th corps must have struck far into the streets of Petersburg, for from that direction heavy columns of black smoke arose soon after the firing began, which was evidently from the burning of buildings.

After the rebel lines were pierced, they made a hurried movement by the left, and suffered greatly from our enfilading fire.

Ledlie's division of the 18th corps led the attack, the 14th N. Y. heavy artillery having the advance. About 100 prisoners have been brought to Burnside's headquarters. The cannonading is still very heavy, the rebels holding the position obstinately. Our infantry have received orders to advance immediately.

BALTIMORE, Aug. 1.—A letter from Fortress Monroe says later advices from the front show that we are unable to hold all the ground gained in the assault on Saturday, it being mostly commanded by an inner line, and the works taken by our troops were recaptured.—We took 600 prisoners in the assault. The loss on both sides, from 4000 to 5300.

A dispatch to the *World* from Frederick, Md., July 31, says no rebel infantry have crossed the Potomac. Three regiments of cavalry with five pieces of artillery penetrated Pennsylvania as far as Chambersburg. Our cavalry under Col. Lowel hold possession of South Mountain, and Boonsboro. They say the enemy have recrossed the Potomac, and that there is no force of rebels now in Maryland. Reports from Emmettsburg and Gettysburg represent that a panic exists there and throughout that country, the people believing the rebel are approaching in force.

This morning trains came from Frederick as usual, bringing report of great excitement prevailing there on account of Hunter's order for the expulsion of all rebel sympathizers beyond our lines.

Trains from Sandy Hook arrived this morning; there are no rebels on the road.

The *Herald's* Washington special says that strong efforts are being made by Republican politicians to induce the Administration to give McClellan command of the defences of Washton. Henry J. Raymond is here to urge the matter on the President.

Yesterday's telegram quotes gold at 273.

HEAD QUARTERS, ARMY OF POTOMAC, July 31.—The exact loss in yesterday's battle is not officially known, but it is believed it will reach 2500, exclusive of missing. Gen. Butler sent a flag of truce to-day, but it was peremptorily refused by rebel officers, who also refused to exchange newspapers.

HARRISBURG, Aug. 1.—Gov. Curtin issued a proclamation to day calling upon the Legislature to meet on Tuesday, August 9th, to devise means of making the military powers of the militia available for State defense.

Positive information was received here today that the rebels were retiring from the direction of Bedford Springs out of the State. Gen. Couch is to-day in the western part of the State making a reconnoisance of the defenses of Monongehala and other points.

NEW YORK, August 1.—Steamer City of Hudson, Capt. Martin, left Fortress Monroe yesterday evening. Capt. M. reports that President Lincoln and Gen. Grant were in consultation there when he left. The *Commercial's* special correspondent from Washington, says:

"Official dispatches received here from before Atlanta, state that the rebels assaulted Sherman's line vigorously last Wednesday, (the 27th,) and were repulsed disastrously. Sherman's killed and wounded number 600. He buried 600 rebels. Hood's loss is 4,000. Gentlemen who spent yesterday with Grant report him in good spirits, and confident of ultimate success."

CINCINNATI, August 2.—A band of rebels under Webster, made a raid into the southern part of Kenton county, (Ohio,) yesterday, and arrested the officers of election at two precincts, and destroyed the poll-books. General Howard has been relieved from command of the 20th corps, at his own request, and has gone North. Gen. David L. Stanley succeeds to Howard's command.

CHICAGO, July 30.—We condense the following from a dispatch sent from Baltimore at midnight: "The restrictions on the publication of news are removed, except so far as relative to movements of Federal troops. A Harper's Ferry telegram says there is an invasion going forward, but it is not an invasion of Maryland. Harper's Ferry is once again the scene of active military operations. This much I can say without imparting information to the enemy, for before this is published they will know that before Maryland can be invaded again the question to be decided is, who shall be master of the Shenandoah Valley. The military authorities have pushed forward their counter movements against the schemes of the enemy, and it is very doubtful whether anything serious will occur, unless our movements have been sufficiently rapid to surprise the rebels. As it heretofore has been, probably it will be now. If they deem it expedient to avoid battles, there will be a race for Staunton, or some of the gaps, in which the rebels have the advantage, both in start and distance. One point to be considered, and upon that may depend the whole matter, is this: If the crops of the Shenandoah Valley are necessary to the rebel army, they will stand fight. It is undoubtedly a fact that these crops have for a long time furnished, to a considerable extent, the subsistence of the army at Richmond.

NEW YORK, July 30.—There is no longer any reason for keeping secret the fact that Grant's last movement against Richmond is expected by himself and his friends, to result in something far more decisive than anything yet undertaken against the rebel capital. Senator Wade of Ohio some three weeks since paid a visit to the Army of the Potomac. The Senator was feeling very blue at what he supposed a failure of the campaign against Richmond. Grant told him that the long delay before Petersburg was due solely to the drought, which rendered it impossible to move his men and animals from where fresh water could be procured. Grant told Wade that just as soon as a sufficient quantity of rain fell to insure a supply of water and lay the intolerable dust in the roads, he would make a movement which would fully satisfy the expectations of the country.

It will be remembered that rains have fallen in the vicinity of Richmond, and Grant, true to his promise to Wade, is now on the march to the rebel capital, this time on the north bank of the James river. Nothwithstanding the withdrawal of the 6th corps, very large reinforcements have been sent to Grant's army from various quarters, including the 19th corps, which recently came up from the Mississippi river. Officials here have the utmost confidence.

Private dispatches quote gold in New York on the 29th inst., at 251@253; and on the 30th at 255.

AN INMATE AT LAST.—A man named William N. Johnson, a German, was lodged in the county jail last night in default of $500 bonds, having been tried on a charge of grand larceny before Justice Taylor, of St. Louis. The alleged crime is the stealing of a mare belonging to one Paul Harpole, of French Prairie, valued at $130.—Johnson is a married man.

The Imported Voters into Polk Co.

State of Oregon, } ss.
County of Marion, }

J. A. RILEY, being duly sworn, says that the annexed letter was given to him by W. H. Wilkinds, of Salem, in said State, to be delivered to Goff, Hayden, or Whitley, and that he did deliver it to Ben Hayden, and the said Hayden opened said letter and read it, and returned it to deponent with the request that deponent should deliver it to Whitley, which he did not, but retained it in his (deponent's) possession.

JAMES A. RILEY.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of August, 1864. Witness my hand and official seal.

[L.S.] CHESTER N. TERRY, Notary Public.

1w22pd

SALEM, Aug 3d 1864

Messrs Goff Whitley & Hades

Gents

Mr. Riley complains that the money he paid out to handes at Goffs has bin charged to him I told Mr Riley if he would take one or two hands to Goff that you would see that they got there pay he says he paid out 48$ to two men that was at Goffs Whitley told me he had paid Goff 40$ to pay som men at his House now this money should be maid up to Riley in some way and it must be I should think it was time this thing was setld up if it ever is a going to be it I have got to *pay it all I would like to no it* I have *all-ready* paid out $186 100-00 and I think that is a nuff for me to pay if you dont want this none all over the country you had better setle it up for I have paid out the last sent I am a going to

Dr. J. H. Chitwood,

WOULD take this method of informing his friends in Polk county, with all others who may choose to give him a call, that he has removed to Salem, where he can be found at all hours, except when professionally engaged, at his residence, on High street, one block south of Jones & Reed's Factory.

Salem, Aug. 3, 1864. d13&w23tf

For Sale,

LEGAL TENDERS, in sums to suit.
GOLDSMITH BROS.,
1m23 93 Front street, Portland.

Hides Wanted,

AT the DALLAS TANNERY.
Aug. 8, 1864. 1y23paid.

J. H. STARR,
COMMERCIAL STREET, SALEM.
KEEPS ON HAND
PARLOR AND COOK STOVES,
IRON AND ZINC,
Lead Pipe and Brass Kettles,
And Tin-Ware of all Kinds.

The latest styles of Cook and Parlor Stoves always in store, and everything in my line, for sale as cheap as can be had in the Willamette Valley.

July 30, 1864. 6m23

PIONEER STABLE.
C. H. DRAY,

AT the old stable, rear of Holman's block, keeps always on hand, *FEED FOR HORSES