# The Oregon Statesman.

MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 25, 1865.

**The Statesman has a Larger Circulation than any other Paper in the State, and is the Best Medium for Advertisers.**

**The U. S. Laws and Resolutions are published in the Statesman by Authority**


## SALE OF THE MINERAL LANDS.

We regret to see that the members of Congress from the Eastern States are continuing to make themselves ridiculous by suggesting legislation about the mineral lands of the Pacific States—a matter of which they are entirely ignorant. To persons who know nothing of our mines, or of the mineral lands, save the information gained from romancing letter-writers, or the extravagant stories and statements of parties who go to New York to sell "feet," or mining claims, supported as they generally are by rich specimens, which are found once only in a thousand chances, the mineral lands, and the mines of gold and silver of this country, appear as an overflowing and inexhaustible treasury, from which to draw untold millions to build Pacific Railroads, pay the national debt, etc. We wish that all such misguided enthusiasts could spend just one month with the pick and shovel trying to find a paying mine, in any mining district on the coast. Their failure, as fail they most certainly would, would teach them caution in estimating the value of these lands, if it did not convince them of the great risks and uncertainties of the business of gold and silver mining. We have spent considerable time in prospecting for paying or at least promising mines on the public land, and although we are by no means a good miner, yet we think we do know that, of all the land on the Pacific coast considered mineral land, not the one-thousandth acre of it would be accepted as a free gift by any experienced miner, if he was liable to pay taxes on it afterwards. Leaving out the Comstock lode of Nevada, the Poor Man lode of Owyhee, and probably a dozen more paying lodes that we could name, and all the mineral land on the coast will not pay the expenses of surveying it. If members of Congress want to kill "the goose that lays the golden egg," just pass a law offering the public land for sale to the highest bidder, for cash. That will do the business effectually; and then you will never hear of the discovery of any more Poor Man lodes, yielding six and ten thousand dollars per ton of rock in silver, but you will hear of the discovery of a good many *poor men*. But if these lands are not sold at auction to the highest bidder, they will not be sold at all, except such as already contain mines of known value. Nobody would pay the cost of deed for any section of mountain land, if it was not *known* to contain good mines. The mineral lands of the Pacific are entirely worthless, except for the ores of metal which they may possibly contain. War Eagle mountain, of Owyhee, now made famous by the "Poor Man," "Morning Star," and other rich mines, would not produce grass or grain sufficient to support a rabbit. In fact, the mountains on which nearly all the rich mines are located are inhospitable barrens. The mountains upon which the copper mines of Del Norte Co., California, are located, are entirely barren and completely covered with loose rocks. So much for the land itself.

Why is it that the sale of these lands will destroy the further development of our mineral resources? For the benefit of Eastern Congressmen, in dressing-gown and slippers, who never saw either a mine or miner in their lives, we will give the information. It is because the uncertainty of finding paying mines on the public domain forbid that the miner should be compelled to purchase the land before "prospecting" it. ("Prospecting" is not in Webster, but is a miner's word, and signifies exploration, searching, testing, etc., in order to discover a good mine.) Prospecting is invariably carried on by poor men—that is, all the prospecting worthy of the name. They generally carry all they have in their outfit, which consists of picks, shovels, gold-pan, hand-mortar, blankets, cooking utensils, and some flour, bacon and beans. Sometimes they do not have even a pack-mule to assist them, but pack their outfit, from fifty to one hundred and thirty pounds to each man, a long distance, over high mountains and the roughest country imaginable, on their own backs, in order to reach a district of country which they desire to prospect. When they would stop for a week's prospecting, they would have no more idea of section lines than they would of degrees of longitude east from Constantinople. They would probably have an idea that they were on the north fork of some stream they had crossed a week before, and subsequent explorations might show them that they were at least fifty miles from where they supposed they were. After all this toil to reach a new place to try their fortune, weeks of the hardest and most exhausting labor would, in ninety-nine times out of a hundred, be rewarded with a failure; and then, with a few pounds of flour, risking the rifle for meat, and running the gauntlet of savage Indians, these hardy, brave miners would return to the settlements for another little outfit to try their "luck" in another place. And this is the way all our new mining districts have been discovered. This is the way "Washoe" and "Owyhee" were discovered, and it is the only way that the development of the mineral lands can proceed.

When such men discover a mine, *they should have it;* it should be *theirs* as against every other man, and against the money of every other man. After so much hardship, danger and toil to find the mine, they should not be compelled to pay for it, and much less to subject their just and righteous claims to the competition of the capitalist, in any manner.

Neither can any graded price be fixed for lands that do contain mines. It is impossible to estimate the value of a mine. Nothing is so uncertain as a "promising mine." It may be prospectively worth millions to-day, and to-morrow worthless. "Gold Hill," in Jackson county, is a good example. Such a prospect as that mine exhibited at its discovery would sell to-day for a million dollars in New York, and yet that mine did not yield much more than one hundred thousand dollars net profits, and then *failed*.

There is no way to manage the mineral lands but the present way. Let the hardy miners have free and unrestricted liberty to find all the mines they can, get all they can out of them, and then tax the luxuries which the wealth of these rich mines demand.

We are sure that our delegation in Congress will prevent any sale or disposition of the mineral lands in this country. We append the following resolutions, recently adopted by the California Legislature. We are quite sure that our own Legislature would have passed a similar memorial, if it had heard of Sherman's proposed bill. Judge Pyle's memorial against taxation of the mines shows the sentiment of our Legislature to be opposed to any interference with the present arrangement:

WHEREAS, the reported proceedings of Congress at the present session show that a bill has been introduced by the Hon. John Sherman, Senator from Ohio, providing for a survey and sale of the mineral lands of the United States, and

WHEREAS, any change in the policy of the Federal Government in relation to its mineral lands, whereby the right of the citizen to enter upon them will be abridged, or the nature of the tenure by which he occupies them changed, must result in injury to the Government itself, as well as to the citizen engaged in prospecting for and developing the mines; while the small sum derived from their sale will be insufficient to defray the costs of their segregation and sale. The discovery of new mining districts in remote regions, and the development of valuable mines in districts once abandoned, are the legitimate fruits of the liberal policy of the Government in inviting all to seek for its hidden treasures. Should this system be changed, and a fee simple title pass from the Government to the individual, the right of exploration on each separate tract or parcel of land will be confined to the owner of the fee simple title, and will prove a death-blow to enterprise and discovery. Lands once sold will fall into the hands of capitalists, and be placed beyond the reach of the pioneer and prospector, unless he is able and willing to purchase the right to enter upon them; and to those familiar with the practical business of mining, who know that for each valuable district there are at least twenty failures, such restriction must appear a positive prohibition. Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by the Assembly, the Senate concurring, That our Representatives be requested, and our Senators instructed, to use all honorable means to defeat any and all measures having for their object the sale of the mineral lands of the United States.

---

STATE PRINTING.—A committee of the Legislature investigated the delay in the State printing, and made a report, the material part of which may be found in the Legislative reports in this paper. As stated by the Chairman of the Committee when he voted in the House, it is a compromise report. Some of the Committee were in favor of a different report, and were in favor of censuring the Printer. From all we can learn from the investigation, we do not think that Mr. Pittock is to blame, himself. His fault has consisted in reposing confidence in another, who has abused that confidence. If the committee could have properly censured an outside party—the party to blame—they would then have done so. The report of the Committee does not do Mr. Pittock justice. It leaves unexplained that matter of the 800 extra copies. It would have been better for both the Printer and all others interested, to have given Mr. Pittock's explanation. The silence of the committee upon this point leaves room for suspicious presumptions. It is part of our political creed, that it is always better for any party to censure its own members, if they deserve censure in the least, than to permit the opposition to find fault with our neglect to do so.

---

CALIFORNIA AND OREGON RAILROAD.—Some two years ago companies were organized at Marysville, California, and Jacksonville, Oregon, to commence the construction of a railroad from the former place northward to the Columbia river. A bill for the authorization of this road passed Congress last February; but the companies with whom the scheme originated have yet taken no steps toward the construction of the work. The grant by Congress consists of a strip of public land four hundred feet wide on which to locate the road, together with each alternate section of public land not mineral bearing, to the extent of ten sections, or six thousand four hundred acres per mile.—*Oregonian.*

The bill referred to in the above extract was introduced by the Hon. C. Cole, recently elected United States Senator from California; but it did not become a law. It passed the House—was formally reported to the Senate, but did not reach a vote, and died for want of time. We presume that the same, or a similar bill, will be introduced in Congress at the present session.

---

THE SENATOR ELECT FROM CALIFORNIA.—The Legislature of California has done itself great credit in electing the Hon. Cornelius Cole to succeed McDougall in the United States Senate. Mr. Cole is a very able man, although a very modest, unassuming gentleman. He was doubtless the choice of the people and the unambitious, industrious business men of the State. We had occasion to notice him favorably in July last, and our notice was copied by all the papers of that State, showing that there was a great desire to help Cole, when he would not push his claims before the public. While a member of the House in Congress, he prepared for the House the California and Oregon Railroad bill, the China Steam Mail bill, a bill to organize a Government Bureau of Mines on the Pacific coast, and other bills of a similar nature. He is undoubtedly better informed on questions affecting the material interests of his State than any other of her representatives, and this is the kind of men we should send to Congress.

---

### WALLA WALLA ANNEXATION.

IN FOR IT.—O'Meara, or some other copperhead, in the last number of the Confederate organ at Albany, speaking of the Walla Walla annexation scheme, says: "For one, we should certainly favor the measure, and hope it may be accomplished." Does the Salem paper, which also favors the measure, differ with you lately in "anything that it knows of?"—*Eugene Journal.*

"The *Oregon Statesman* is very anxious to have Walla Walla annexed to Oregon. Of course, as its 'conservative party' would be considerably strengthened by the arrangement."—*Oregonian.*

The Committee on Federal Relations recommended the adoption of a memorial to our delegation in Congress to ask the enactment of a law to so change the boundaries of the State of Oregon as to include Walla Walla county, which was within the boundaries of our State at the time the Constitution was adopted.

The memorial was adopted, by a vote of Ayes 30, all Union members; noes 4, Copperheads.—*House proceedings, special session.*

Who is in favor of it now?

---

TAXING THE MINES.—Sometime last summer the *Oregonian* broached the idea that the mines must be taxed. The *Statesman* opposed the matter at the time, and has ever opposed it. In view of the fact that an attempt might be made in Congress to tax the mines, Judge Pyle, the able Senator from Union County, has introduced, and the Legislature has passed, a Joint Memorial to Congress against any tax upon mines more than was put upon gold bars two years ago. We are glad to hear that Senator Pyle has brought the matter up, and secured the unanimous voice of the Legislature against the proposition to tax the mines, or otherwise interfere with the labors of "ye honest miners."

---

ST. HELENS.—A private letter from a gentleman in that neighborhood confirms the reported sale of the St. Helens town site. Mr. Victor, who was up at the Santiam mines a few weeks ago, is the agent in making the purchase; and he is reported to represent a company having a capital of three million dollars. Capt. W. L. Dall and S. J. Hensly, of San Francisco, and Commodore Webb, of New York, are reported to be the principal stockholders of the company. A new line of steamships to the Columbia, stopping at St. Helens, is named as part of the plan to make that town a rival of Portland.

---

☞ The *Tribune* says it suits the purpose of "the State Rights Democracy" to represent the rebellion as an episode in our history, and its suppression, with reference to the future, as of no more importance than the suppression of a Dead Rabbit Riot.

### DIVISION OF THE STATE.

This will doubtless be a question in the next canvass. It is to be generally discussed. The proposition now stands as follows: Give Oregon all west of the Cascade mountains, and lying between California and British Columbia, form a new State or Territory east of the Cascades, out of the territory which would be detached by the Cascade line from Oregon and Washington. It will take time to accomplish it, and by the time the machinery can be set at work, the people east of the mountains may be ready and able for a State organization. We are in favor of the division, and suggest to the people that the question is one to be reasoned about with good feeling and common sense, and not one which should be influenced by politics or sectional prejudice. The interests of the two sections are diverse in many matters, and require legislation suitable to their peculiar circumstances. It is for the best interests of both sections that the question be met and disposed of as becomes men who desire to promote the interests of each other and the general welfare of all. On this subject, the *Mountaineer* has the following:

In the case of the eastern and western sections of Virginia, the growth of bad feeling was traceable to the contrariety of interests, which no ingenuity of legislation could reconcile, and no scheme of public improvements could modify. In Washington Territory, the eastern and western sections are as irreconcilable as two cats tied by the tails and thrown across a pole. The only reason why these jealousies are not more bitter in Oregon is because the eastern section is yet relatively too weak to make itself as disagreeable as it would like to be; and may be there is spirit enough of that moderation in both sections which patiently waits the ripening of an issue without being anxious to help it on or keep it back. In time, however, we shall become very revolutionary on this side of the mountains. The name of Webfoot will be a distasteful one, and we shall deny all responsibility for the "big red apples" of the Willamette Valley. Anything which looks right to the western section will look exactly the contrary to the eastern district, and although it may seem childish, such things always turn out in this way.

It would seem, then, to be but the part of ordinary wisdom for the people of both sections to begin to look into the matter and canvass it thoroughly. All feeling of political prejudice should be laid aside, and reason invoked to decide the time and manner of effecting a separation of the sections. It is none too soon now to commence the investigation of the question.

---

THE GREAT TELEGRAPHIC FIGHT.—For nearly two years, the San Francisco *Flag* has waged a relentless war upon the *Bulletin* and the *Alta*, in order to be let into the "Associated Press Association," so as to get telegraph news at the same time and on the same terms as those papers. Finally the pluck and perseverance of the *Flag* have succeeded, and what is more remarkable, the tables are completely turned. Formerly the *Bulletin* and *Alta* got the dispatches and the *Flag* could not get them; now the *Flag* gets them exclusively, and the *Bulletin* and *Alta* cannot get them, unless they steal or copy them from the *Flag*. How much soever we may disagree with the irrepressible radicalism of the *Flag*, we admire its pluck and perseverance under difficulties, and hope it may now reap a reward for its patient waiting and laborious working.

---

CONVERSIONS.—The *Oregonian* thinks we have been "converted." That reminds us of the experience of a good Methodist brother, who approached a plain-spoken neighbor, not a thousand miles from this place, and in all the sincerity and goodness of his overflowing heart, asked the question, "Are you a Christian?" To which the the plain man responded, "Do you take me to be a d—d heathen?" We sincerely wish the *Oregonian* editor could be converted to some positive belief in politics. He had better be a pagan than an infidel. Don't shimmer around in uncertainties, like a "Sucker" in an ague fit. Swear by Andy Johnson without equivocation.

---

GILLETTE.—The irrepressible P. W. Gillette—everybody in Oregon knows him—a whole-souled, generous fellow—one of "nature's noblemen." We should be glad if all our readers could have heard his speech on the Constitutional Amendment. While it was not lengthy, it was among the best. His mind took up the key note of the discussion, and he sounded it with fearful emphasis. His principal point—that slavery has been a curse to the white man—was carried home to hearts of all present. He showed its degrading and demoralizing effects upon the master, converting him into a tyrant, and destroying and perverting his honor and manhood. Oh, but didn't the *chivalry* catch it. We think we hear that "*C-h-i-v-a-l-r-y*" ringing in the ears of those four Copperheads yet.

---

THE MEXICAN QUESTION.—Late intelligence from Washington states that Louis Napoleon has become very anxious for his protege in Mexico. He has gone so far as to write a personal letter to Secretary Seward begging the United States to recognize Maximilian's empire. But he only applies to hear his doom. Seward refuses to have anything to do with the mushroom empire—tells Napoleon that the Mexican question will soon come to a head—and, worse than all, appoints General Logan Minister to the Republic of Mexico, with instructions to remain with President Juarez, of the Liberal cause.

---

THE PRESIDING OFFICERS.—The present Oregon Legislative Assembly is favored with the ablest presiding officers we have ever known in any State Legislature; and even Speaker Colfax does not decide points of order or administer parliamentary law more readily or correctly than does the Hon. J. H. Mitchell, of the Senate, or Col. I. R. Moores, of the House.

---

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—The telegraph informs us that a bill has been introduced into Congress to incorporate and give aid to "The Southern Pacific Railroad Company," the object of which is to build a railroad from Springfield, Missouri, to San Francisco, passing through New Mexico, Northern Texas, and Arizona.

---

HARD TO PLEASE.—The *Oregonian* complains when we call it a "negro suffrage organ;" and when we fail to call it that, it complains that we do not pay it proper respect. The fault is entirely with itself. Some days it advocates negro suffrage, and other days it opposes that doctrine.

---

CALAMITOUS.—Speaking of the late flood, which has deluged everything along Feather river, the Marysville *Appeal* says, "that while the people of San Francisco are liable to be buried alive by earthquakes, we in the interior are in danger of drowning by the annual floods."

---

JACKSON COUNTY SILVER MINE.—The Jacksonville *Sentinel* says: The discoverers of the silver lead on Jackson creek incorporated this week, under the name of the "Original Fairplay Gold and Silver Mining Company." Incorporators—J. Burnett, T. G. Devlin, E. Smith and J. S. Howard.

### CONGRESSIONAL.

In the House, Mr. Price, of Iowa, offered a resolution, which was refered to the committee on reconstruction, that no State recently in rebellion ought to be entitled to any representation until such State shall by its Legislature or proper authorities adopt the amendment to the Constitution securing the payment of the public debt of the United States and repudiating the rebel debt.

Mr. Smith, of Kentucky, presented the credentials of Mr. Johnson, a member elect from Arkansas. Referred to the select committee on reconstruction.

Mr. Washburn, of Illinois, introduced a bill repealing the act furnishing bounties. Referred to the committee on commerce.

The House tabled Thornton's resolution declaring that the elective franchise exclusively belongs to the regulation of the States.

Mr. Baker, of Illinois, offered a resolution declaring against the class rule, aristocracy and privilege power, and asserting the duty of securing the largest attainable liberty to all persons, irrespective of race or color. Referred to the select committee on reconstruction.

Mr. Norton, of Illinois, offered a resolution, which lies over, calling on the President of the United States to inform the House why Jefferson Davis has not been brought to trial for treason.

Mr. Orthe, of Indiana, moved that the President be called on to inform the House, or furnish the House with any information as to the application of the so-called Mexican Empire to obtain recognition from the United States.

The House concurred in the Senate resolution for the suitable observance of the 12th of February, on account of the death of President Lincoln.

The House passed a bill appropriating $25,000, being a year's salary of President Lincoln.

Wilson, of Iowa, reported a bill extending the right of suffrage to colored citizens in the District of Columbia, which was made the special order for—January.

Stevens of Pennsylvania, made a speech on reconstruction, arguing that the lately rebellious States must come back into the Union as new States, or remain as conquered provinces. The whole subject was in the hands of Congress.

Senate.—The *Commercial's* Washington dispatch says there are indictions that Congress will revoke the city charter of Washington, to make the District of Columbia a Territory, with a delegate in the house.

Mr. Nye presented a bill to adjust the boundary lines between California, Arizona and Utah which was referred to the Committee on Territories.

Mr. Brown presented a bill to authorize the construction of a bridge over the Mississippi river at St. Louis. Referred to the Committee on Post Offices and roads.

Mr. Doolittle introduced a bill in relation to the qualification of jurors and to writs of error in certain cases, which provides that no person shall be held incompetent to act as grand juror by reason of having formed or expressed an opinion upon the matter in question founded upon public rumor, statements of public journals or the common history of the times, provided he be otherwise competent, and it appears to the satisfaction of the court that notwithstanding such an opinion he can and will act impartially. Further provides that in trials for public offences against the United States no person shall be held incompetent to act as juror on account of having formed an opinion as above founded upon like information, if otherwise competent and impartial.

Foote presented the following, which was adopted: The joint committee appointed to consider and report by what token of respect and affection it may be proper to express the deep sensibility of the nation on the event of the decease of the late President Lincoln, have, according to order, had the same under consideration, and in the result of their deliberation, report the following resolutions and recommended their adoption:

*Resolved*, That the melancholy event of the violent and tragic death of Abraham Lincoln, late President of the United States, having occurred during the recess of Congress and the two houses, and desiring to manifest their sensibility on the occasion of that public bereavement, therefore be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that the two Houses of Congress will assemble in the House of Representatives on Monday, the 12th day of Feb. next that being his anniversary birth-day at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, and that in the presence of the two houses there assembled, an address upon the life and character of Abraham Lincoln be pronounced by the Hon. E. M. Stanton and the President of the Senate *pro tem*, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, be requested to invite the President of the United States, the heads of the several departments, judges of the Supreme Court and resentatives of foreign governments near this Government, and such officers of the Army and Navy as have received the thanks of Congress who may then be at the seat of Government to be present on the occasion; and be it further.

*Resolved*, That the President of the United States be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to Mrs. Lincoln and assure her of the profound sympathy of the two houses of Congress for her deep personal affliction and of their sincere condolence for the late national bereavement.

Trumbull introduced a bill in relation to the Court of Claims, repealing the fourteenth section of the act of March 3d, 1853, amending the act to establish a Court of Claims, and allowing appeal to be taken in all cases mentioned in the fifth section of that act any time within ninety days after the passage of this bill, except in cases where amounts found due by said court have been paid at the treasury. Bill referred to committe on judiciary.

A message was received from the Senate, accompanied by a report from that body, proposing appropriate action, consequent upon the death of President Lincoln. The report was unanimously concurred in. Washburn of Illinois, from the Committee appointed to take action on the bill for the relief of Mrs. Lincoln, reported an appropriation of 25,000, less than any amount that may have been paid to Mr. Lincoln or representatives on account of his salary. The bill was passed last night.

Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, reported a bill from the judiciary committee, extending the right of suffrage in the District of Columbia, which enacts that in all laws prescribing the qualification of electors in the District of Columbia, the word white be and the same is hereby stricken out, and after the passage of this act, no person shall be disqualified from voting on account of color. All acts of Congress and all laws of Maryland in force in this District and all ordinances of the corporations of Washington and Georgetown inconsistent with it, are hereby repealed and annulled.

Mr. Eldridge objected to the bill being reported.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, the House suspended the rules for the purpose and it was made the special order for the 10th January next.

Alley, of Mass, offered the following resolution.

*Resolved*, that the House cordially concurs in the views of the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the necessity of the Contraction of the currency with a view to an early resumption of specie payment as the business of the country will permit.

We hereby pledge co-operative action that it may be as speedy as possible. Resolution called, yeas 144, nays 6.

Bailey introduced a bill to enable loyal citizens in those States, whose constitutions were overthrown or subverted by the rebellion to form a constitution and State government preparatory to resuming that relation the Government.

In the House, Wilson of Iowa, from committee on judiciary, reported a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution forbidding the payment of the rebel debt. After some debate the proposition passed by 149 against 11.

The judiciary committee of the House of Representatives agreed to report at an early day on the amendment to the Constitution, providing that the number of voters in each State shall be the basis of representation in Congress.

---

### COLLECTOR ADAMS SUSTAINED.

The following resolutions, offered by Mr. Mitchel, were adopted by the Legislature on the 12th inst. without opposition:

Whereas—The Congress of the United States of America did on the 2d day of March, anno domini, 17 9 enact a law entitled "An Act to regulate the collector of duties on imports and tonnage."

And Whereas a careful and honest observance of the provisions of said Act is a duty incumbent upon every good citizen, while a violation of its provisions or departure from its requirements is a direct stab at the national existance by opening the door to innumerable frauds upon its revenue, which is its life.

And Whereas during the past year there have been repeated and flagrant violations of the wholesome provisions of this law perpetrated by divers persons navigating the high seas between the ports of San Francisco, California, Victoria, Vancouvers' Island, and Portland, Oregon, by which gross frauds have been practiced upon the revenue of the nation.

And Whereas through the persevering and truly commendable vigilance and untiring performance of duty on the part of W. L. Adams, Collector of Customs at the port of Astoria, Oregon, divers of these offenders have been detected in, and prosecuted and convicted of such offenses, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, That being profoundly sensible of the importance of a strict observance of all laws having for their purposes the protections of the national revenue, and especially that of March 2d, 1799, which was prepared, matured, and enacted by the ablest minds of our revolutionary statesman, and being fully advised that many of its provisions have within the past year been wilfully violated by persons engaged in trading upon and navigating the waters of the Pacific ocean bordering our western coast, we do solemnly condemn all such violations of law, whether perpetrated by commanders of vessels or subordinate officers, as direct assaults upon our national existance, and do protest that those who engage in such violations of law—who are tried and found guilty by a jury of their peers—are not entitled to, and should not receive, Executive clemency.

Resolved, That we heartily commend Collector W. L. Adams, for the vigilance he has exercised in ferreting out, and bringing to trial and conviction persons and vessels engaged in these frauds upon our revenue.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby instructed to forward a certified copy of these resolutions, under seal of State, one to Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, one to Hugh McCulloch Secretary of the Treasury.

---

WHAT CONSTITUTES A POLITICAL CHURCH.—The Pastoral Address of the Southern Methodist Bishops, which we published in full last week, charges among the rest that the Methodist Episcopal Church has "incorporated political tests" into its statements of belief. "They teach," says these bishops, speaking of the Methodists of the loyal States, "for doctrine the commandments of men. They preach another gospel. They have incorporated social dogmas and political tests into their church creeds." These charges come with a very bad grace from the heads of a church whose preachers were among the most active instigators of the late civil war. The rebellion was, in no places of public assemblege more earnestly upheld than in Southern Methodist conference rooms and in Southern Methodist churches. The Nashville publishing house was used for the storage of rebel arms. Every Southern Methodist paper, with the single exception of the North Carolina Advocate, was an accomplice in the conspiracy to destroy the Union. In short, Southern methodism was the head and front of the rebellion; blessing it, praying for it, fighting for it; bound up in its fortunes, part and parcel of it by every conceivable tie that could hold the church and the rebellion together, and yet their Southern bishops, who have been steeped to the lips in treason, have the effrontery to tell us that *our* Church is political, and that *theirs* is free from the spirit of politics.—*New York Methodist.*

---

BURNED OUT.—The Jacksonville *Sentinel* has the following: On Saturday, 9th inst., the barn of N. C. Dean, near Willow Springs, was consumed by fire, burning all his hay and unthreshed oats, and four of his best horses. The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. Mr. Dean, as soon as the fire was discovered, rushed to free his horses, and succeeded in getting them all loose from their stalls and three of them from the stable—his most valuable horse and three colts—but the other four were so frightened that they laid down and refused to get up. His loss amounts to about $2,500. Samuel Goheen was arrested for the commission of the deed, and required to give bail by Justice Hayden in the sum of $2,000 to appear and answer to the crime, at the February term of the Circuit Court, and in default of bail, was committed to jail.

If Goheen gets fastened on that, he will *Go hence* to the Portland cross-bar seminary.

---

GENERAL LEE TAKES THE AMNESTY OATH.—Among the amnesty oaths lately filed at the State Department is that of Robert E. Lee, subscribed to on the 2d. That all the world may know what this man promises for the future, we give the oath entire. It is the same oath required from "any other man:"

Office of Notary Public, Rockbridge county, Virginia, October 3, 1865.—I, Robert E. Lee, of Lexington, Virginia, do solemnly swear, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States there-under; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all laws and proclamations which have been made during the existing rebellion with reference to the emancipation of slaves, so help me God. R. E. LEE.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2d day of October, A. D. 1865.

CHAS. A. DAVIDSON, Notary Public.

---

A SHEEP DISEASE.—Mathew Campbell, Hemlock Grove, Meigs County, Ohio; I have lost 60 out of 137 head, in the last nine month, and they still keep dying. They have a short, severe cough; their throat, mouth and nose are full of a frothy phlegm. Often when, and just before they die, the bloody froth issues from their nose and mouth. Between or just back of the fore legs there is, or seems to be quite a fever. I think I am not mistaken about this last symptom, as I have compared the healthy with the sick, and the heat or fever is as marked as the ears of a horse when he has the lung fever. The skin of the sheep, instead of a healthy color, has a bluish or leaden color.

This is quite enough to discourage farmer in that section from keeping sheep, and we hope the publication of this statement may have the effect of producing a remedy.

---

THE PUBLIC DEBT.—It was considered one of the greatest achievements of Pit that he devised a sinking fund wherby the public debt of England, if it could not be paid, might at least be prevented from increase. A Republican administration of the United States has done better than this. When the expences of the war can hardly be said to have ceased, the public debt is reduced twelve and three quarter millions in a single month. And this without extraordinary means, foreign or forced loans, subscription of any resource but that derived from the income of the country.

---

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TREASURE SHIPMENTS.—The following exhibit shows that, up to the present time, the exports of treasure from California by steamer for this year, fall short of those of a corresponding period last year by over $10,000,000. The total shipment by the Sacramento, on Monday, was $1,367,917.48; previously this year, $37,382,656.22; total, since January 1, 1865, $38,750,573.70, corresponding period of 1864, $49,254,254,720.03; decrease this year, $10,503,847.29

---

DONATION PARTY.—On Thursday evening, 14th inst., the members of the Congregational Church, and the personal friends of Rev. O. Dickinson, gathered themselves together at the house of Capt. J. M. Keeler, for the purpose of giving Mr. Dickinson a benefit. The party was one of the most pleasant we have ever had the pleasure of attending, and the "Parson's benefit" was quite substantial, amounting to upwards of two hundred dollars. The Governor and quite a sprinkling of legislators were in attendance. May such favors to a most worthy Christian gentleman be not "few nor far between."

---

DR. CARPENTER.—This gentleman has recently been mustered out of the service of the United States army, in which service he has spent four years as surgeon, discharging his duties to the honor and credit of himself and the command with which he has been connected. He has now located for life in Salem, and associated himself, in the practice of medicine, with Doctor McAfee. Their card may be found in another column, and their reputation in the profession needs no endorsement.

---

ROGUE RIVER WOOLEN FACTORY.—The *Reporter* says that it is rumored in Jacksonville that some of the capitalists are bestirring themselves in the matter of starting a "woolen factory in this neighborhood, and for that purpose have been looking up an eligible site for the field of their operations. We understand that the neighborhood of Phoenix is likely to be the place selected."

---

NEW PAPER.—Messrs. Upton & Bowman, of Albany, have procured the necessary press and materials, and will soon issue a newspaper from Lafayette, in Yamhill county. It will be of the Copperhead persuasion, on the Johnson tack, as we are informed.

---

SLEIGHING.—The boys and girls of Salem availed themselves of the snow, last Wednesday, to take a general sleighing spree. Two-horse racing was all the go in the streets, and afforded quite as much sport to the spectators as to those who were hurried along over the uneven, frozen roads.

---

EDITORS IN TOWN.—Mr. McPherson, of the Albany *Journal*, and Judge Odeneal, of the Corvallis *Gazette*, have been sojourning in Salem for a few days. They are both able and energetic advocates of the Union cause, and make their respective journals wield a large influence on the right side.

---

PRICES CURRENT IN THE MINES ON THE UPPER COLUMBIA.—The following are the prices current in the new mines up the Columbia, at Big Bend, on the 20th of November: Bacon, $1 50 ℔ lb; Flour, $80 ℔ 100 lb; Sugar, $1 50 ℔ lb; Coffee, $1 50 ℔ lb; Tea, $3 ℔ lb; Butter, $2 ℔ lb; Beef, 65c ℔ lb.

---

THE MAILS.—Something is out of joint somewhere. Our letters and exchanges from Eugene City have reached us by the way of Portland, for some time back. There ought to be no trouble. If the mail matter is put in the proper bags, and taken out where it ought to be, it will all be right.

---

OREGON IRON WORKS.—Articles of incorporation were filed in the office of the Secretary of State, on the 23d instant, by A. C. Gibbs, D. McCully and A. Myers, for the purpose of manufacturing iron and machinery. The name of the corporation is "The Oregon Iron Works;" capital stock, $100,000; place of business, Portland.

---

DURING THE HOLIDAYS, Parrish & Keeler will sell Books, Photographs, Albums, Notions, etc., at the lowest cash rates. They have a great variety of articles from which to select a handsome and valuable present for a friend. A good book is an ever-present friend.

---

FROZEN UP.—The Columbia is frozen up below St. Helens, so that the ocean steamer Pacific cannot reach Portland this trip.

---

ROBBERY.—A man named Trickle recently robbed his traveling companion, named Alby, on the Canyon City road, of the sum of $1,045, by stealing it from its hiding place, under a haystack.

---

THE FINEST BLANK DEED.—The *Statesman* Job Office has lately printed some blank Deeds, which have been pronounced by several County Clerks the handsomest ever printed in Oregon. Blanks of every description promptly printed at the *Statesman* Office, in a style unsurpassed in the State, and on terms as reasonable as the times will admit. Send on your orders at once.

---

RELIGIOUS.—Rev. A. V. McCarty will preach at the Court House in Salem, on Sabbath, Dec. 31st, at 11 o'clock a. m.

---


**Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer and Dressing.** You cannot be bald or grey, and neither time nor sickness can blemish your Hair, if you use them. Sold by all Druggists.

Agents, Hostetter, Smith, & Dean, San Francisco.


---

WOOD.—We will take a few loads of good dry wood at this office, in payment for subscription, if brought soon.

---

TEXAS.—The Texas papers estimate that there will not be more than half a crop of cotton in that State this year. The army worm and the recent heavy rains that have prevailed there have greatly diminished the yield there would otherwise have been.

---

IMMIGRATION TO THE SOUTH.—Governor Andrew, of Massachusetts, is turning his attention to a gigantic scheme of helping populate the South anew, to be done by encouraging Northern emigration.

---

### MARRIED.

In Spring Valley, Polk county, at the residence of the bride's father, Adam Stephens, Nov. 28, 1865, by Rev. Mr. Cooper, Mr. T. J. Armstrong and Miss Gabriella Stephens.

---

### LOST!

ABOUT December 17, probably between the Methodist church and the Sisters' Academy, a cameo breastpin. The finder will confer a special favor by leaving it at the *Statesman* Office.

---

TAKE NOTICE.—Found a Pocket-Book, containing two packages of notes, containing about five thousand dollars. The owner can have them by giving a description of the notes and other papers. E. De Young was the name found in the memorandum book. Victoria papers please copy. Address, H. HELMICK,

Lucklamute, Polk Co. Oregon.

---

### Notice.

THE first regular meeting of the Salem Lyceum and Mechanics' Institute will held at the State Library on Thursday evening, Dec. 28, at 6 o'clock. Citizens are cordially invited to attend.

---


**Dr. John Boswell**

TENDERS his professional services to the citizens of Salem and vicinity. Being a medical graduate, and having had over thirty years' experience in the practice of medicine, he cherishes a hope that he will be able to give general satisfaction to those who may favor him with their patronage. Office in Moores' brick, No. 1, up stairs. Residence near the lower end of Commercial street, Salem. 15-43


---

### Notice to Volunteers.

SOLDIERS who enlisted for one year in the First Oregon Infantry are entitled to a bounty of Fifty Dollars. Those who enlisted for three years are entitled to the full amount of their bounty on being mustered out, the same as if they had served the full three years. Under the provision of the late law, bounty bonds can be delivered in person or upon powers of attorney. Blank powers of attorney, either for infantry or cavalry, can be furnished, on application to to this office. CYRUS A. REED,

Adjutant General of the State of Oregon.

State of Oregon, Adjutant General's Office, } Salem, December 23d, 1865. } w3-43

---

### Estray Notice.

TAKEN UP, by D. J. Cooper, living in Spring Valley, Bethel precinct, Polk county, Oregon, one BROWN HORSE, supposed to be four years old; is near 15 hands high, some saddle marks and collar marks, left hind foot white, some white on the right hind foot, a few white hairs in forehead; and no other marks or brands observable. Appraised at forty dollars, this 21st day of December, A. D. 1865.

E. E. COOPER, Justice of the Peace.

---


**J. L. Collins,** Attorney and Counselor-at Law and Solicitor in Chancery, Dallas, Polk county, Oregon. All business promptly attended to. 15-43

**J. L. Collins,** Notary Public, Dallas, Polk county, Oregon. Particular attention given to deeds, mortgages, acknowledgments, depositions, etc. 15-43


---

### Santiam Gold and Silver Mining Company.

NOTICE is hereby given, that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of said company, held at their office in Salem, on the 22d day of December, 1865, it was ordered that all of the capital stock of said company on which there shall remain due any assessment or assessments heretofore levied, on Monday, the first day of January, 1866, shall on that day be advertised for sale. By order of the Board of Directors.

R. MALLORY, Secretary.

Salem, Dec. 23, 1865. 43

---

### Sonora Wheat.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS, } Salem, Oregon, Nov. 3, 1865. }

THE undersigned will receive written proposals until November 20th to furnish two hundred bushels of Sonora Spring Wheat. The Wheat must be free from foul seed or smut, put up in strong sacks, and delivered at any point along the Willamette river for shipment. Proposals must be indorsed on the outside "Proposals for Wheat," and addressed to the undersigned, at Salem. If Sonora wheat cannot be had, proposals to furnish Club Head Spring Wheat will be considered. The wheat may be delivered at any time prior to January 10th, 1866.

J. W. PERIT HUNTINGTON, Supt. Indian Affairs.

Nov 15-w3

---


Don't Fail to Read this Column!
Don't Fail to Read this Column!
Don't Fail to Read this Column!
Don't Fail to Read this Column!
Don't Fail to Read this Column!
Don't Fail to Read this Column!
Don't Fail to Read this Column!
Don't Fail to Read this Column!

"The Secret Service, the Field, The Dungeon and Escape.
"The Secret Service, the Field, The Dungeon and Escape."
"The Secret Service, the Field, The Dungeon and Escape."
"The Secret