Its Advantages, as Set Forth by the Boston Society, in a Circular That Has a Place in National History.

big price, a prominent Oregon eer, a resident of Portland, came into possession of an original copy of the first publication that called atable country for settlers. Only three or four copies are in existence. The iccular is here republished in full, together with farsimiles of the title page, a page of the text, a map on Territory, and of the East Side of Portland. These reproductions are worth preserving by those who are interested in the history of the

stemplation to settle with a free and enlightened, but redundant population from the American Republic, that portion of her territory called Oregon, bordering on the Pacific Ocean, and laving between the 41d and 49th parallels of N. latitude.

American Society, instituted at Boston, Mass., for this purpose, would hereby respectfully advise the friends of the settlement of that country, relative to its physical character, its resources ed countries for the occupancy and prosperity of a civilized and active people; and present to them a general view of the plan of operations; and likewise the means, by which persons of good char acter may secure a participation in the enjoyments and blessings of the most The country is represented, by the concurrent testimony of those who have explored it, to be in general uneven; nev ertheless, a large proportion of the terriwithin 200 miles of the ocean is accounted feasible farming land, and ex-inemely fertile, remarkably mild in climate, so much so that the ice was never known to be entirely formed over the large bays and rivers; nor the frost in severest days of the Winter to stop the progress of vegetation on the bottom

asie to Congress, through the Hon. J. H. aton. Secretary of War, remarks that 1820 he visited the Columbia River. and "found the mildness of the seasons ing latitudes and elevations in the valley of the Mississippi, or in the Atlantic The Winters are less cold and the Summers less hot. As a proof of this, may be mentioned, the state of the grass, which is green and julcy nearly all Winaffording excellent pasture for s, on which those animals not only sustain themselves, but the poor and lean get in good order." The section of the country called by him, the middle regions or plains, he says "is remarkable for a mild climate, a clear sky, a serene atmosphere, and a soft and brilliant sun-The nights, when the moon is ull and the hemisphere studded over with stars, are indescribably beau-The tide water region has a cli-of its own. Ice or snow is seldom seen; the heats are never great; and Win-

For a particular account of the natural reography of the country, of its soil, cli-nate, productions, aborigines, etc., the narrow limits of this work oblige a reference to a pamphlet,* published by Hall J. Kelley, A. M.

The project of opening the Oregon country to the overflowing inhabitants of the United States, is not visionary. Its votatles "are not mad, most noble Misan-thrope, but speak forth the words of truth and soberness." It is full of realiof patriotism, and active benevolence;

Right of Settling.

The title to the Oregon territory, and the exclusive right of occupancy, yet remains vested in the aborigines. The benevolent work of enlightening and civilthe nation which may have first discovered their wants, and possess the means of giving them the conveniences and comforts of refined society, and such concomitant benefits, as diversify and

adorn human life.

pern of mankind is no less imperious, it its obligations, on nations than indi

These few pages do not admit of a discussion of this question; nor is it neces-sary since from an investigation of facts. on other pecasions, it has been so clearly deduced, that the duty of protecting the rights and of cherishing and sustaining the interests of the Oregon Indians, de-volves on the American Nation; and con-sequently in her is the right of sovereignty. The import of this word is some-times misunderstood. It is mistaken for government or jurisdiction itself; whereas it is only a right, which one country has in preference to another, to establish a government, territorial, colonial or any other. It is a matter of deep regret that the United States have not exercised this right of extending jurisdiction over the territory in question, and of putting up barriers against the extension of

The right claimed by our citizens to settle is identified among their many privileges, as social beings, of doing acts, within the precincts of a rightful sovereignty, not repugnant to the principles or justice and equality, and the laws of the country. The establishment of a ju-risdiction by the English, west of the Rockly Mountains being a nullity; and the United States having enacted no statute, for the benefit of the inhabitants either color, in that country, there is by justly constituted jurisdiction. It. therefore follows that settlers, in the pursuit of their proper and laudable usiness, violate no law or right of the Government of the United States

Resources of the Country.

The natural advantages of the country, for trade and commerce, foreign, internal and constwise, are paramount to those found in other parts of America. The confluence of the many navigable rivers, opening into, and beautifying every section of the country, forms the grand river Columbia, whose gentle waters may be traversed by large vessels. 300 miles, from the sea; whose either bank affords inlets safe and commodious for harbors. Nature furnishes many indications that the mouth of this spreading and noble river is soon to be commercial part of that hemisphere, the great business place of na tions, interchanging the commodities and Much of the country within 296 miles

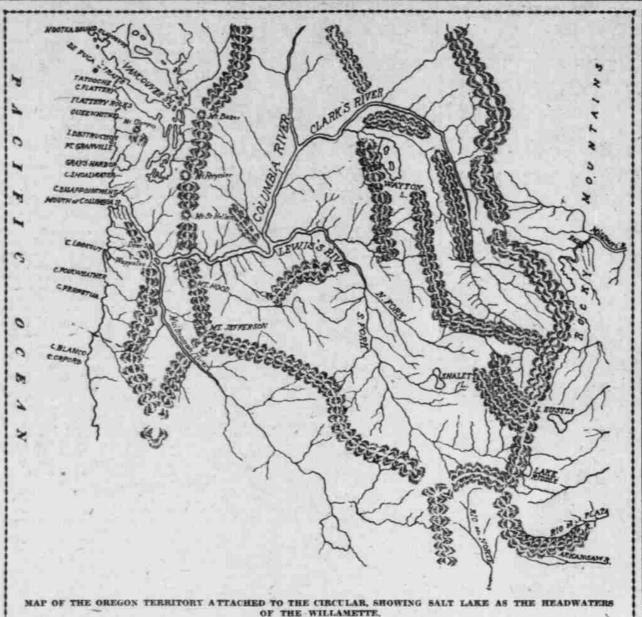
of the ocean is favorable to cultivation. The valley of the Multnomah is particu larly so, being extremely fertile advantages, generally, for ac property are paramount to those on the prairies of the West, or in any other part of the world. In relation to this last point, the following fact evinces more than a hundred doubtful conjectures. The Oregon is covered with beavy forests of timber, and within the distance of a coasting trade, boards bring from \$50 \$90 per 1000, and such is the market that no considerable reductions of these can ever be reasonably expected. production of vegetables, grain and cat-tic, will require comparatively but little labor; these articles, together with the spontaneous growth of the soll, and the fruits of laborious industry, in general, will find a market, at home, and thereby comfort and enrich the settlers. Sur-plus staple articles may be shipped from their doors to distant ports, and return a vast profit in trade. Lumber, ship timber, etc., may be sent to the western coast of South America, the islands in the Pacific; breadstuffs, furs, salmon and many articles of domestic manufactures,

to the East Indies.
It is the circumstances of a good hom market, that gives any country its great-est value, and must give the Oregon country immense advantages for settlement; advantages unknown in the West-ern States, whose market are as remote as the shores of the Atlantic. It is not d. It gives the philanthropist full the consideration of good land alone that ope for the exercise of the best feelings his heart. It furnishes him the work tant from the sea const, for with its and in the succes of his labors, he may witness the melioration of the hard conditions of thousands of his fellow citimens, and the prosperity and glory of his atmosphere; and in the proportion of its approximation to a vertical sun, yields sickness and death of The want of value to the farmer's sur-

plus produce is his poverty; and has made shipwreck of the fortunes of thousands, who have settled in Ohio. Indiana, etc. This remark is made under the influence of no motive, which does iting that rode and suffering people, is a the influence of no motive, which does prerogative of sovereignty, belonging to not regard alike the interest of every

dorn human life.

It is evidently the intention of the God of the South, manufacturer in the North, Nature, that the white man and the and then exchanged in the great market Indian should have a common and mu-tual right to occupy the earth, to use its productions, and profit by the blessings any system of imposts or revenue duties. of society; and that individuals, who mostly share in the favors of Providence, adopt. Commerce spreading more can-should be most "ready to communicate" vass-sailing into new and broader seasof the good, to his neighbors. This comvisiting distant shores of inexnaustible



wealth, will conduct home the full tide

National Advantages. In the following memorial, offered at the present session, for the consideration of Congress, are some of the National advantages which may accrue from a permanent possession of Oregon. To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress Assembled:

SCALE.

400 rods to 1 inch.

LOTS OF LAND.

40 Acres, 40 by 160 rods.

160 Acres, 80 by 320 rods.

territory would be held from the possession of an unfriendly power. Ports of entry, and ship and navy yards might be established with great advantage Poets of entry, and ship and navy yards might be established with great advantage on the waters of Oregon, and thereby the trade and commerce of both the Pacific and Atlantic occans would become extended and enriched. Capitalists and mariners might pursue, with more profit and safety, the whale and other fisheries in the Western seas, and the salmon trade on the Columbia.

A portion of the virtuous and enterprising, but not least faithful population, whom misfortunes have thrown out of employment, and who throng our villages and seaports, and

Survey and Division of Lands.

As soon as the settlement has consum mated their title to Indian lands, measures will be adopted for building on Gray's Bay, and at the mouth of the Multnomah River, commercial towns, where it is believed yessels from every sea will come to trade, repair and take

of the Columbia, about 11 miles from its mouth. It furnishes deeper soundings, better shelter and generally greater advantages for a harbor, than any other opening on the river. Five miles square of territory at this place will be laid out into the necessary configuration and

divisions for a seaport town. Of the streets, * * one, 200 feet wide, will run from the water, in a northwesterly direction, bisecting at the distance of six squares, an area of ten acres of parade or pleasure ground, which area is forever to remain open and unoccupied with buildings. The center of this street, for the width of 100 feet, will be devoted to the purposes of a market. Streets crossing this, at right angles, are intended to be 100 feet wide; those parallel to it, 30 feet. The squares are to be 400 feet on a side, each including 18 lots, 50 by 100 feet each. From the 100-foot streets and the public lands, no plant or ved or destroy ed without consent of the municipal authority.

The valley of the Multnomah will be occupied for agricultural and manufacmiles square will be appropriated for a trading town. trading town. This rich tract of terri-tory is situated about \$5 miles up the Columbia River. In this delightful region

will be introduced all the business of sci-The commercial town, at the junction will be about two miles square. A section of the land adjoining the town, will be surveyed into lots, 40 by 160 rods, of 40 acres each, making the number of these divisions equal to the whole number of emigrants, over 14 years of age, not including married women. Next to these will be other lots of 160 acres each, making up the compliment of 200 acres to each emigrant. Lands for public uses, and to meet the demands of the stock, will be included in this last division

out in right lines, intersecting each other

at right angles.
In the Oregon, it is proposed that all geographical surveys and divisions, of farming lands be made by the method, which, two years ago, was suggested to Congress—examined, approved of and recommended by General Bernard, then at the head of the corps of civil engineeers. This method is not public known or practiced, but has many advantages over that in common use. compass are avoided; the interests of the land proprietor better promoted, and the wide door for litigation, which often costs him his freehold, effectually closed. All boundaries of towns, and lots of lines, and parallels of latitude, not by the parallels as found on the surface of the earth, where they are as crooked, as the hills and depressions make them uneven; but by such, as they would be, provided the surface was smooth. It is confidently believed that this is the only simple method, by which westerly or easterly lines can be run with accuracy, and that it is attended with as much certainty as the high operations of trigo-

nometrical surveys. It is, however, true, that the divisions of land, as they lay south of each other, increase in quantity, in proportion to the divergency of the meridian lines; never theless, their boundaries will be dis tinctly marked, and their contents exactly known. A country thus surveyed gives the advantage of ascertaining, without admeasurement, the relative position or distance of any one place from another, consequently the latitude and longitude of the metropolis being determined, those of any other place are known.

Civil Government.

civil jurisdiction of the United States of America. It becomes, therefore, a matter of great moment that the settlers take with them some form of government, provided either by Congress or some other competent body. Fatal to their happiness would it be, for them to go without the means of subjecting the corrupt principles of depraved natures. Laws made efficient, by the highest virtues and energies of the people, are nelife and liberty, the acquisition of prop-erty and security of comfort and safety; as likewise, to the suppression of the restless spirits of aspiring and unprincipled demogogues, who infest every politi-cal society, have ever aimed at civil commotion and usurpation, and have ever been ready to make the fairest spot of earth the theater of their lawless am-

ered children of mature age, made free, and setting up for themselves, constituting, in some degree, an independent province, the friend and ally of the mother country; sharing in her generous and maternal solicitude; or whether they and protected by her, depends entirely on Congress. That the latter should be the case is the prayer of a memorial, at the present time before that august assemblage of talents, virtue and wisdom.
Should the emigrants fall of that charter, which reason and justice dictate, and humanity calls for, they will attempt to

under the provisions of a form of gov-ernment, so far made a free democratic representative, as will be consistent with an unequivocal recognition of the sover-eignty of the American republic. It will be in most respects, a transcript of the government of Michigan Territory. The Governor, Secretary, Treasurer and Board of Land Commissioners, being the appointments of the society. It will con-tinue two years, unless Congress, before the expiration of this time, prescribes a

make for themselves just and equal laws,

The emigrant citizens will leave the land of their fathers, under no circum-stances of oppression, and with no feeling of discontent, resolved still to cultivate only the fields of civil and peligious free-dom, where life is made the most easy and felicitous, and civilized man attains his greatest power, and his most dignifled superjority over the man in ignorance or in vassalage; still animated by the holy and unextinguishable fire, kin-dled with that of the best lovers of dence, they must, they

The religion of the settlement, it is hoped, will be the religion of conscience and the king of heaven. No people can long continue free and happy, without acknowledging, with plous reverence and obedience, the laws of Jehovah, giving full toleration to all communities of his consciencious worshippers, however various their forms, and feeling due respect for him, who administers at the sacred altar, "and is accounted a worker together with God, in labors that succeed

The settlers will lose none of their religious privileges and comforts. Churches of different denominations will be organized before emigration, who will take There will be given, in Oregon, couragement for pious and well educated young men, who regard the interests of others as their own, to engage in the great work of imparting moral and re-ligious instruction to the Indians.

The education of youth being the safeguard of a free government, and the basis of its most valuable blessings, becomes of transcendant importance. In order, then, to diffuse elementary and cientific instruction, both among the children of the settlers and of the Indian system of education will be adopted; and whatever will best civilize the manners, reform the morals, enlighten the mind and free it from the grasp of supersti-tion, will be parts of this system. Schools of every grade will be opened,

as soon as the settlement is effected, and temporary buildings provided. Agricultural and classical institutions, and colleges succeeding common and primary schools are deemed practical systems of education. These will be established; and in them red, as well as white, children will be taught the rudiments of learning, the sciences, farming industry, and that knowledge of men and things which at once enlighten and dignify the mind. Persons of good education will find many inducements to emigrate, some "apt to teach," to share in the business of in-

Emigrants.

The ultimate success of the settlement depends on the virtuous qualities of its members. If its elementary principles are defective, the result of its operations will be uncertain, and productive of but little good, if not entirely abortive. The settlement ought not, therefore, to be made the receptacle of vicious characters -or drones too indolent to pursue any honest or useful occupation—of cunning persons possessing talents without virtuous principles, of lalle dreamers of power and riches, who, faithless to good order, are often ready to sap the foundation of morality and religion; these are all a burden and a curse to society. Men of steady habits, virtuous intentions, endeavoring to cultivate practical knowl-

ernment, it should be built upon the edge and honest industry, will be deemed most finished improvements of others, worthy of the enterprise, and such per-Whether the settlers are to be considsons may, in Oregon, secure to them-selves a pleasant home and competency of good things; subserve individual happiness, and sastain the great objects of founding the settlement. Before embark-ation it will be required of all proposing to emigrate, to satisfy the society tificates or otherwise, of good

character and industrial habits. Emigrants, who go to the Oregon coun-try in the manner, and under the encouragements annunclated in this pam phlet, each to receive, gratuitously, most of the expenses of emigration landed estate, valued from \$2000 to \$10,000, situated where the healthfulness of climate, the good market for every product of earth or of labor, and the enjoyment of a free and liberal government will

conspire to make life casy. Poor children, and children of charity astitutions, can be admitted. These, with the means of moderate labor, may treat from disgrace and suffering.

Each emigrant, over 14 years of age, not including married women, and each child that is an orphan, or without a parent in that country, will receive a lot of seaport land, containing 5000 square feet, or two farming lots in the valley of the Multnomah, containing respectively, 46 acres and 160 acres. These lands, excepting what the English settlers have under cultivation, are covered with a heavy growth of valuable timber, and will be drawn by settlers, individually, as ioon as surveyed.

The society contemplate opening that

country only to enlightened emigrations, and they are actuated by no other motives than those of philanthropy and patriotism. They own no landed estates in Oregon, and expect no interest thence, that may not be common to any American citizen, who will associate with them.
It is not their desire to urge the enlistment of any person, however his condi-tion may be improved by it; and far be it from them to deceive in their repreentations. The enterprise is replete notives for emigrations. It is desirable, however, to increase the proportion of those enlisting, in whose characters are

combined science, skill and integrity, to sustain offices in the government.
Emilstments should be made of properly. educated persons, to fill the civil, military and literary rolls—of clergymen and physicians—of persons possessing a scien-tific knowledge of the different branches of mathematics and natural philos to constitute corps on engineering, surveying, astronomy, geology and botany-of farmers-of the following mechanics, viz., master shipbuilders, millwrights, wheelwrights, carpenters, blacksmiths, tinmen tanners, curriers, shoemakers, tallers, hatters, etc.; of capitalists, taking with them vessels suitable for the lumber trade, and whale and salmon fisheries, both of which pursuits are, and for many years will continue, vastly profitable; of capitalists, who will carry out the iron parts of gristmills, sawmills, of nail-making machinery, etc., who will establish a paper mill, a printing press, a manufactory of window glass and a foundry of iron ware,

Each emigrant who is entitled to receive gratuitously, a lot of land, is required to advance a pledge of \$30, that he or she will make the emigration, without disappointment to the payment of the pledge, the following certificate will be given. They may be obtained, together with this pamphlet, of any of the agents named at the end of this pamphlet.

This certifies that . L. S. has paid \$20 to the American Society for encouraging the settlement of the Oregon Territory, as a pledge for the Oregon Territory, as a pledge for the faithful performance of obligations to be stipulated and defined by covenant between him and the said society.

Persons of good education will find many inducements to emigrate, some "apt to teach," to share in the business of instruction; others, versed in law, and polity and acquainted with the principles of legislation, to sustain offices in the advantage of the society, the same being the structure of convergences.

the settlement by the society, the same being not repugnant to the Constitution and laws of the United States of America.

That all the common and public property and revenues of the settlement shall be held liable to the payment of all debts that may be incurred on account of said settlement; and that, in all other respects, he shall truly and faithfully demean himself a peaceable and worthy member of the Oregon community.

That the society shall defray all expenses of the first expedition from St. Louis, excepting arms, knapsacks, clothing and blankets, which are to be supplied by the emigrants respectively.

espectively.

That the society allow to each emigrant,

GENERAL CIRCULAR

PERSONS OF GOOD CHARACTER,

WHO WISH TO EMIGRATE

TO THE

OREGON TERRITORY.

EMBRACING SOME ACCOUNT OF THE CHARACTER AND ADVANTAGES OF THE COUNTRY; THE RIGHT AND THE MEANS AND OPERATIONS BY WHICH IT IS TO BE SETTLED :-

ALL NECESSARY DIRECTIONS FOR BECOMING

AN EMIGRANT.

Hall J. Kelley, General Agent.

BY ORDER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ENCOURAGING

the SETTLEMENT of the OREGON TERRITORY INSTITUTED IN BOSTON, A.D. 1829.

CHARLESTOWN PRISTED BY WILLIAM W. WHEILDON

> R. P. & C. WILLIAMS -BOSTON. 1531. TITLE PAGE OF THE CIRCULAR.

Settlement of the Oregon Territory, instituted seek a better home might there find opportuin A. D. 1829, and incorporated by the Committee, under the paternal kindness of the monwealth of Massachusetts, actuated by a Government, to succeed to a happier condi-

gaged in the work of opening to a civilized and virtuous population, that part of Western America, called Oregon.

They are convinced that if that country should be settled under the auspices of the Government of the United States of America from such of her worthy sons, who have drank of the spirit of those civil and religious institutions which constitute the thing foun.

tion, and to greater usefulness to themselves

160 Acres

umbia

Riv

and to their country.

These are objects so obvious, so vast and valuable, as need not be urged by your mem-orialists, and seem necessarily embraced within the scope of a wise policy. They are yet deemed practicable. Another season—their possession will be thought expedient—but not so easily wrested from the grasp of British

should be settled under the auspieces of the Government of the United States of America. Irom such of her worthy sons, who have drank of the apprit of those civil and religious, the state of the apprit of those civil and religious, the state of the apprit of those civil and religious, the state of the apprit of those civil and religious, the state of the apprit of the state of th culture secured by the provisions of a colonial government.

The society conceive it clearly deduced, from all the facts in the case, that the right of sovereignity over the Oregon Territory is invested in the Government of the United States of America, consequently, in her is the exclusive right of colonizing that country, and of introducing into it the various business and benefits of civilined life.

The expense and labor necessary to the accomplishment of this work, planned by Providence, made easy by nature, and urged and encouraged by the persuasive motives of philanthropy, are in no degree commensurate with the National blessings to be derived from it, among which are enumerated the following, viz:

The moral condition of the aborigines, if blessed by the influences of a refined and religious community, will be improved. The attempt to enlighten the minds and to dignify the nature of this unfortunate race may no longer be defeated by mindicious plans.

Their unjust and unequal alliances with another nation may be broken, and their friends, this secured to this.

By means, thus honorable, that valuable

The Oregon territory lies beyond the

to increase the proportion of those enlisting, in whose characters are combined science, skill and integrity, to sustain offices in the government.

Enlistments should be made of properly educated persons, to fill the civil, military and literary rolls-of Clergymen and Physicians-of persons possessing a scientific knowledge of the different branches of mathematics and natural philosophy, to constitute corps on engineering, surveying, astronomy, geology and botany-of farmers-of the following mechanics, viz. master shipbuilders, millwrights, wheelwrights, carpenters, blacksmiths, tinmen, tanners, curriers, shoemakers, tailors, hatters, &c.; of capitalists, taking with them vessels suitable for the lumber trade, and whale and salmon fisheries, both of which pursuits are, and for many years will continue, vastly profitable; of capitalists, who will carry out the iron parts of gristmills, sawmills, of nail-making machinery, &c. who will establish a paper mill, a printing press, a manufactory of window glass, and a foundry of iron ware.

Each emigrant, who is entitled to receive gratuitously, a lot of land, is required to advance a pledge of 20 dollars, that he or she will make the emigration, without disappointment to the society. On payment of the pledge, the following certificate will be given They may be obtained, together with this pamphlet, of any of the Agents named at the end of this pamphlet.

This Certifies that

1. 3 has paid Twenty Dollars to the American Society for encouraging the settlement of the Oregon Territory, as a pledge for the faithful performance of obligations, to be stipulated and defined by Covenant be-

tween him and the said Society

Secretary. N. B. The following are the principal conditions and stipula-

SAMPLE PAGE OF THE CIRCULAR