

WEEKLY CORVALLIS GAZETTE.
OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE STATE
OFFICIAL PAPER FOR BENTON COUNTY

Corvallis, May 28, 1880.

W. B. CARTER, EDITOR.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

For Congress,
M. C. GEORGE.
For President Electors,
GEO. H. CURRY, E. L. APPELGATE,
C. B. WATSON.
For Supreme Judges,
W. P. LORR, J. B. WALDO,
E. B. WATSON.
For State Printer,
J. W. ODELL.
For Circuit Judge,
J. F. WATSON.
For District Attorney,
JAS. A. YANTIS.

BENTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN TICKET.

For Joint Senator,
E. A. BENSKILL.
For State Senator,
E. WOODWARD.
For Representatives,
F. M. WADSWORTH, G. A. WAGGONER,
DR. F. M. CARTER.
For County Commissioners,
R. A. HURLBURT, J. L. LILLY.
For Sheriff,
SOL KING.
For Clerk,
B. W. WILSON.
For School Superintendent,
J. E. MCELROY.
For Treasurer,
J. W. WILLIAMS.
For Assessor,
SILAS HOWELL.
For Surveyor,
GEO. MERRILL.
For Coroner,
DR. F. A. JOHNSTON.

LOCKS AND DAM COMMISSIONERS.

The *Blade* says a man's public record is public property. With this for authority and guidance, we ask a brief examination of a law passed in 1876, late in the session, under pressure of urgent petitions from all parts of the State, appointing a Board of Canal Commissioners, whose duties among other things, was to "appoint a Secretary, and fix his compensation, whose duty shall be to keep correct minutes of all proceedings of the Commissioners, in books provided by them for that purpose, and keep a register of the names of all water crafts, passing through the Locks at the aforesaid Willamette falls, transcript and compilation of the freight list, and the number of passengers on board each boat each successive trip."

Sec. 14 of said law fixed the compensation of the Board at \$200 per annum, and five dollars per annum, and traveling expenses for time actually devoted to the duties of their office.

Allen Parker was one of the Commissioners appointed, and we find on examining the State Treasurer's Report, that Mr. Parker drew the following sums:

March 3, 1877, page 61.....	\$355 82
May 29, " " " " " " " " " "	216 00
Dec. 28, " " " " " " " " " "	348 00
April 4, " " " " " " " " " "	171 00
May 31, " " " " " " " " " "	289 00
Sept. 8, " " " " " " " " " "	159 00

Total \$1804 32

By deducting \$200, annually, we find Mr. Parker and his associates (for they drew alike) must have rendered service to the State, at the rate of a trifle over one hundred and forty dollars per annum at five dollars per day, aggregating the large sum of \$5412.96, paid by the State, for what? Why some say a complete knowledge of the business, passing through the Locks at the Willamette falls. That is what the people should have had, but there is not a scrap of paper having even the semblance of record on file at the capital, no minutes of the Board's meetings, no compilation of freight lists, etc., as contemplated by the law under which Mr. Parker acted, and under which he was sworn to do his duty. Has Benton county any use for Allen Parker in the Legislature, after this piece of dereliction? We might add that the same duties are now performed, carefully and correctly, under a law of 1878, at the rate of \$825 00 per annum.

HON. JOHN WHITEAKER.

The people of Oregon, the taxpayers, are not probably aware of the fact, that the Oregon Modoc War Bonds amount to \$133,000, and that the government, by an agent appointed to investigate and audit the claims of citizens growing out of that war, recommended the payment of some \$90,000. All that was required to reimburse Oregon for a large portion of this State obligation was a man of legislative capacity in Congress. The State has already paid on these bonds the enormous sum of fifty thousand dollars interest. It does seem, to us that *Honest John*, with an extra session's time, might have attended to this very important matter, and relieved the State of a \$90,000 debt.

YAQUINA BAR—OFFICIAL REPORT.

We present our readers, this week, with Col. G. W. Wood's official report on the obstruction at Yaquina Bay. The report is a substantial verification of all that has ever been said in behalf of Yaquina Bay, and the necessity of its improvement:

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE
PORTLAND, ORE., Nov. 28, 1879.

SIR: In obedience to your orders I proceeded to Yaquina Bay, Oregon, and made a survey of the bar, and have the honor to submit the following report:

I found the channel much to the southward of the range beacon that was standing on the south beach. The weather had been very rough for two weeks prior to my arrival, and the heavy swell from the south was rolling in broke heavy on the north and south reefs, and at low-water the only channel at present existing; but at high-water tide quite an opening could be seen between the north and south reefs, and the breakers, the north reef composed of soft sand-rock running southerly from the north head, the first reef rising gradually from seaward and ending with an abrupt steep face to the eastward. This reef can only be seen at low-water.

The inner reef rises gradually like the first, but 5 or 6 feet higher, and can be seen at all stages of tide. The intervening space between the two reefs is filled with sand in some places for a few inches deep and in others 8 or 6 feet. This rock is perforated by a crustacea called rock-oyster.

The north reef, as far as it can be traced at low-water, culminates in a rock, marked on the accompanying chart a rock awash; here the reef appears to sink. The rest of the north breakers are formed by sand. Across the bar, 500 feet wide from north to south and 1,000 feet long from east to west, a depth of 9 feet was found at low-water; and by sounding with an iron-pointed pole, the bed of this channel was found to be of the same formation as the reefs, the bed rock in some places quite bare and in others covered with sand from a few inches deep to 3 and 4 feet in others. The south breakers are formed by detached rocks in a line with and in all probability a continuation of the north reefs.

This harbor is protected by a reef running parallel with the coast about 1 1/2 miles from shore, on which in heavy weather the sea breaks with great violence, and inside this reef, between it and the shore, it is all white broken water to inside the heads, and, in consequence of rocky bottom, buoys are constantly shifting their position, and tend to change the beacon marked "range" on the chart and erected it more to the southward than the beacon shown on the chart, and now ranges with the flag-staff across mid-channel. This range I am informed by the old settlers is the only one used by the captains of coasting vessels acquainted with this place. Very respectfully,
GEO. W. WOOD.

Col. G. W. WOOD,
Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.

YAQUINA BAY AS A HARBOR OF REFUGE.

MR. EDITOR: Since the Board of Engineers have recommended Port Orford as a suitable place for a Harbor of Refuge, it is well enough to offer such objections as were freely offered by the entire press of the Willamette valley, while the Board was engaged in taking testimony on the subject. It was denied at that time that Cape Foulweather presented advantages commercially and in an economic sense over any other Port on the coast. This is now admitted by every argument made against the policy of spending millions without any increase of commercial facilities, adding nothing to the wealth of the State in a general way. The Board in their report, say they visited Yaquina Bay; that is true, and they ordered a survey of the bar, with no other object, presumably, than to determine the nature of the obstruction at that place, and notwithstanding the survey was a corroboration of all evidence before the Board. In fact a complete vindication of the position taken by the friends of Yaquina Bay, and a settlement of the question affirmatively as to whether a Harbor of Refuge could be constructed at Yaquina or not. The chairman of the Board offered an opinion which came near cutting the Bay out of an appropriation for its improvements. The Board felt justified in obtaining the opinions of sea-faring men of experience. This was proper, and, in this connection, I have letters from masters of vessels both in California and Oregon, condemning the selection of Port Orford, and asserting their belief, that Yaquina Bay (improved at comparatively small expense to the government) can, and will be used as a marine asylum, for that class of coasting vessels usually employed coasting in the winter months, at least twenty years before Port Orford is ready to offer any protection. And this is presuming every future Congress to be exceedingly liberal. Many competent persons claimed that no harbor was necessary, that the improvement of small harbors was much better policy. The Board seemed inclined to economize, and its a question the solution of which no one can reach, using common sense as a basis, why Port Orford was selected at a cost of over eight millions, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, of which goes to purchase land, material, etc., etc., of private parties. Port Orford is an isolated locality, and the action of the Board and without criticism much easier than the people of Oregon. The San Francisco *Alta*, in referring to this subject exhibits a want of geographical knowledge truly surprising. Port Orford is declared to be a shipping port, destined to reduce rates of freight, pilotage and tonnage on the Columbia river, surrounded by a fine country, and a good deal more nonsense of the same sort. For downright inexcusable ignorance, the *Alta* is entitled to the dunce block.

Corvallis, May 24, 1880.

PHILOMATH VICINITY.

ED. GAZETTE: So much has been said against the present County Clerk and Sheriff, and as generally in such cases all unfounded too, to prevent the re-election of these gentlemen, that the public in mass has become annoyed by it. Soap Creek, Muddy, and especially Kings valley, have tried their best to throw mud at them. If those mud-slingers intended to soil the reputation of both these gentlemen, they have committed a gross error; that undeserved slander only roused the sympathy of the honest citizens of Benton for them.

I am expressing, by saying this, the opinion of a great majority of our settlers on Mary's river and all her tributaries, of both parties. "King-Wilson" can expect three Democratic votes for every one they should lose from their own party.

The candidates of the Democratic party for those offices are, undoubtedly, good men, but the people know how to value the service our present, honest officials have done them; they have given proof that they are just the men the people need and want for that office. What wrongs had the "Kings Valley Bar" to complain of? And so they think that the people of Benton care for their personal hostility to those present county officials? One of the main charges against Mr. Wilson, that he knows more about the bottles in the saloons than he does about his official duties, falls entirely to the ground. Only a sluggard could say that Mr. Wilson either neglected or didn't know his duty, candid people are convinced of something better; and nobody else but a calumniator could call him a drunkard. It shows the fearless man who takes his drinks occasionally at the bar where everybody can see it, instead of getting it by wholesale in the old lady's vinegar mug in the drug store, and enjoy in the background of some dark corner. If the habit of using drinks stronger than water is of such value in connection with our county officials, Mr. King, at least, ought to be the man of their heart, as he is even capable of letting strong drinks alone without the use of a blue ribbon as a preventive. Having many children and using them as assistants, was another great fault found with them. What a mad idea? To ask a father to send his children into the woods to chop wood, and engage strangers to assist them at home, especially when such children are exceedingly fit for home purposes. One of these fault-finders even carried the ridiculousness as far as to blame Mr. Wilson for having given him gratuitous advice. Well, my good man, you need advice, and should you sooner like to pay for it, I should think the members of the Corvallis bar could accommodate you.

My article is getting lengthy, yet I must beg for a little more space for the benefit of those Kings valley correspondents. That latin scholar ought to remember that there are fellow-citizens in Benton county who never studied the foreign phrases of the common school edition of Webster's. My opinion is that gentleman feared his neighbors of common but sound sense, might have shaken their heads if they had read, "For the Good of the Public," and so he wrapped a veil round it. Another of those famous scribes would do well, if puzzled again by a mathematical problem, instead of trying a candid but simple country lad to solve it for him, to go to "Bush," that masterly chess player will convince him, contrary to his expression towards that young country gent from Blodgett's valley, that Corvallis can boast of good mathematicians; or if that should be too degrading to his honor, he can be told by his young friend where else to find redress.

LIBERAL.

Near Philomath, May 21, 1880.

The mastery incapacity of Allen Parker for an office of trust and responsibility, is shown by the manner in which he discharged his duty as canal commissioner. He was chairman of the Board, and as such it was his duty to enforce the law, and guard the interests of the state. But instead of doing this, it appears that his chief official acts were to call the Board together, quarterly, and allow each commissioner pay for work never performed. No bills were filed with the secretary of state for their services, and of course it is impossible to know what pretext was set up for their raid on the treasury. The whole proceeding is characteristic of the Grover-Chadwick administration, under which they acted. Mr. Parker developed a "drawing" capacity equal to Gilfy, Cann and Hackleman, considering his opportunity.

Sol. King and Bush Wilson have been tried, and not found wanting.

THE CORVALLIS COLLEGE.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.
Began Saturday evening, May 22d, with a literary entertainment by the Preparatory Department. Prof. McElroy had given the students so rigid a drilling that the performance was lively and rapid. At 7:30 the City Hall was full and the exercises were opened with a Salutatory by Sarah Jacobs, in a clear and distinct tone. Then followed in quick succession, Lyman Kelany, "short and sweet;" Willis McElroy, "scratched his nose;" Sarah Egin, "mother at the gate;" Lulu Smith, Carrie Palmer and Ada Smith, "Little and Loud." Edgar Smith was sure he was right and went ahead.

Green B. Smith, Jr., "Farmer John." The Humbug was not a good plough boy, but a worthless, little gentleman. Lucian McElroy stood on the burning deck. Lulu Smith said something about a Bumble-bee's nest. Dialog by Ivis Egin and Nellie Humphrey. Hattie Friendly was the gem of the evening. In return for the many flowers received, she flung a wee kiss at the large audience. Lulu Miller recited "Great and Small." Leo Green and Henry Goldson showed how they do in court. Fred Horning declaimed. David Palmer knew his p's and q's. John Swick declaimed and Carrie Baldwin recited. Willie Stock and Sarah Baldwin, Ollie Kiger, Sarah Jacobs, Sarah Egin, Addie Smith, Ivis Egin, Lulu Smith, Nellie Humphrey and Carrie Palmer explained how the Lilacs grow—the solo and concert were in good time. Chester Mason said hens are good to lay eggs for plum pudding. Otto Wells and Willis McElroy extolled boys to be neat. George Smith expected to be larger if he lived long enough and didn't use tobacco. Annie Kelsay recited a piece. Lizzie Hemphill and Lucy G. Wiles had a talk about going to school.

Willie Stock and Clara took off the attorney and the witness. The refrain of Sarah Jacobs was "pin it back tight, mother, pin it back tight." John Stanford recited how the Lilacs grow—the solo and concert were in good time. Willie Stock and Willis McElroy talked money. Otto Wells: How 'ee and Betty killed a "bar." Lyman Kelany declaimed. Lucy G. Wiles, Ollie Kiger and Lizzie Johnson kept school. The refrain of Sarah Jacobs was "pin it back tight, mother, pin it back tight." John Stanford recited how the Lilacs grow—the solo and concert were in good time. Willie Stock and Willis McElroy talked money. Otto Wells: How 'ee and Betty killed a "bar." Lyman Kelany declaimed. Lucy G. Wiles, Ollie Kiger and Lizzie Johnson kept school.

Henry Goldson said that girls are as mean as men can be except sometimes when they are ten times meaner. "Dot schilling German baby" was described by Willie Stock and Clara. R. Taylor and Willie Calkins could not agree about the use of tobacco. Sarah Jacobs, Ollie Kiger, Carrie Baldwin and Lulu Smith tried to decide whether it was a goose or a turkey. Lizzie Hemphill recited well the piece, "My home is in heaven." Lizzie Keese was sad because she could not go to the country ball and show off her new dress. Mary Castled advised us not to "holer before we get out of the woods." Sol. Stock and W. T. Wiles tried to speak their pieces at the same time. Clara and Willie Stock tried to decide whether it was a goose or a turkey. Lizzie Hemphill recited well the piece, "My home is in heaven." Lizzie Keese was sad because she could not go to the country ball and show off her new dress. Mary Castled advised us not to "holer before we get out of the woods." Sol. Stock and W. T. 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