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OREGON FREE PRESS.

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Geo. L. CURRY, Editor and Proprietor.

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(FREE PRESS CORRESPONDENCE.)

FT. VVASCOPAM, April 30, 1848.

Dear Sir—The company of Capt. NESMITH is in camp, three miles east of this place. VVe arrived on the 26th ult., much fatigued by the difficult journey we had performed—for we had to lead our horses most of the way to this place, over ledges of rocks, or along the steep stony cliffs of the Columbia, where one false step of the animal would have left his owner a footman in the army. Many of our horses' feet were so injured that it was with difficulty we got them through.

Capt. PUGH's company arrived on the evening of the 25th, having lost one mule—and Capt. MARTIN's arrived on the 26th, losing two horses. Their companies are encamped about three miles east of us, and about six from fort VVascopam. The men composing this detachment are in excellent health and fine spirits, and the loud laugh excited by the rough joke of the backwoodsman, is frequently heard in camp. Maxon's MILITARY report, and the ladies' PATRIOTIC resolutions and contributions are also remembered and often referred to by the "b'boys."

Col. LEE travelled the greater part of the way from Portland with us, and I had some opportunity of studying his character. He is well suited to the command of an irregular force, of the kind we have, and I think a better selection could not have been made in the Valley. Our Captain is also an excellent officer for this service, and the men take pride in obeying his orders, and he is careful to give them in such a manner as not to offend. VVe have twice been stinted in our rations of flour and beef, (the only we darw,) but you may be assured that we relish that kind of rations better than the scarcity.

Much dissatisfaction prevails in the detachment with regard to the negligence of the Assistant Commissaries at the Fort in furnishing our supplies—but whether the censure is just or unjust I cannot pretend to say. I have visited the Fort and found the officers actively engaged in procuring and forwarding supplies—but at the same time found them almost entirely destitute of the necessary means. They have neglected the cattle that were here, so long, that they are all strayed and lost.

Fort VVascopam is built upon the ground formerly occupied by the Mission houses—badly erected for defence, and to use an ancient phrase, "having neither form or comeliness." The inmates pay little regard to cleanliness, and the Indians stray through it at leisure. The Colonel, however, informs me that he intends vetoing the free admission of the natives.

Mr. R. W. Morrison, of Clatsop county, with 50 men, is to be left in charge of the Fort until we return.

The Indians here are perfectly quiet—in fact they are terror-stricken, and skulk around rather than meet one of our people in the road.

The news from Fort VVaters this morning by the H.

B. Company's express gives us hopes that we may yet overtake Telouquoit and his two sons, with others of the murderers, whom, we understand, are now on the Sahaptin river, detained by the Spokans who refuse to allow them to pass through their country. Tamsuckie has fled to the Snakes, and Joe Lewis, that arch scoundrel, with three of the Young Chief's men, have gone to the Mormons.

VVe expect to march to-morrow morning if the Commissary's boat arrives, which is all that detains us now. VVe are all anxious, and I believe deeply feel the responsibility of the duty we have assumed.

Yours, etc., JUAN.

P. S. I have just learned that one of Capt. MAXON's men was killed by a fall from his horse while returning to Fort VVaters, but have not been able to learn his name. Five o'clock P. M.—the boat has arrived, and I suppose we shall be off to-morrow. J.

THE ELECTION.

In the Government "organ" we perceive the Secretary of State's official announcement relative to the election, from which we learn that the following officers are to be elected, in the several counties, on the first Monday of next June:

COUNTY OF CLATSOP—One Representative, one Sheriff, one Coroner, one Justice of the Peace.

LEWIS—One Representative, one Sheriff, one Coroner.

VANCOUVER—One Representative, one Sheriff, one Coroner, one Justice of the Peace.

CLACKAMAS—Three Representatives, one Sheriff, one Coroner, two Justices of the Peace.

CHAMPOEG—Four Representatives, one Sheriff, one Coroner.

TUALATIN—Three Representatives, one Sheriff, one Coroner, one County Treasurer.

YAM HILL—Three Representatives, one Sheriff, one Coroner.

POLK—Three Representatives, one Sheriff, one Coroner.

BENTON—Two Representatives, one Sheriff, one Coroner, three Justices of the Peace, one County Treasurer.

LINN—Two Representatives, one Sheriff, one Coroner, three Justices of the Peace, one County Treasurer.

Former Judges of Election are desired "to hold their offices and perform the duties of the same until others are appointed." The voters present at the polls can elect their Judges of Election who appoint their own Clerks, etc. The polls are to open at nine o'clock, in the morning, and continue open until six o'clock in the evening. The Judges may, if necessary, postpone the closing of the polls until nine o'clock at night. The several proposed amendments to the "Organic Law," which we have before published, are to be accepted or rejected at this election.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.—The Barbadoes Gazette, of the 23d September, states that it has heard, on what is considered good authority, that orders have been received from his government by the Danish governor of St. Thomas and Santa Cruz, to prepare the proprietors of those islands for the immediate emancipation of their slaves, and it is further confidently asserted, that similar orders have been transmitted to the governors of the French Island.