

might we saw it there. The stone lays near vvhhere it then did, and you say that you have seen the marks upon it. The vvhite men have lately rolled it a short distance to get it out of the wagon path, vvhich we vvere very sorry for. VVe never pass it without stopping to worship the Great Spirit, and to think of our friends vvhho died in battle there; vve also leave some little present—usually a piece of tobacco—for the manitto, that he may keep in good humor and send no more evil upon us.

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## OREGON FREE PRESS.

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GEO. L. CURRY, Editor and Proprietor.

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OREGON CITY, SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1848.

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**APPOINTMENT—BY THE GOVERNOR.**—Hiram Clark to be Commissioner on Pilots and Pilotage, vice Geo. L. Curry, resigned.

**RECOVERY.**—VVe are happy to state that Michael Laframbois, vvhho was injured last week by a fall from his horse, is rapidly recovering.

**PILOTS.**—Messrs. Benjamin L. Fairfield, and Fred'c C. Coates, first and second officers of the late ship Maine are preparing to qualify themselves for the situation of bar and river pilots, under the assurance from the Governor and Board of Commissioners on Pilots etc., that vvhhen qualified they vvhill receive these appointments in conjunction with Mr. Hawks.

Our brethren of the California press have our sincere acknowledgments for the very complimentary manner in vvhich they have been pleased to notice the "Free Press." And if it be not too late, vve take the opportunity to tender the same to our brother quill-drivers of the "Polynesian" and "Sandwich Islands News."

**MARINE.** Capt. Crosby is off on to-morrow for California vvhith the Sch. Maria, a small craft built by him at Portland.

The brig Henry, 16 days from San Francisco, has arrived at Portland laden vvhith munitions of war and merchandize: her polite officers have placed us under obligations, as usual, for files of late papers.

The brig Mary Dare has arrived from the Islands vvhith a cargo of merchandize for the Company. Her obliging officers have our thanks for forwarding us a file of the latest papers from the Islands.

**GOLD.**—Recent arrivals from the vicinity of the gold 'diggings' have created an astonishing excitement in our midst. By far the larger portion of our male population vvhill have left to 'dig for gold' before the expiration of the present month. According to late papers, the Sandwich Islands are being depopulated by their demizens rushing to the mines. From all the information we have, it seems these discoveries cannot be exaggerated. They are unparalleled—and of course all vvhho go fancy they can make their fortunes. Four companies have left during the past ten days, numbering over 100 men, and others are preparing to follow. Some are going by sea, and we are requested to state that a company designing to go with wagons will rendezvous on the Luckamute and leave for the El Dorado on the 12th inst. Nothing like the present 'furor' has been known in our age. Sincerely do vve hope it may end well—may all vvhho go make their fortunes—particularly those vvhho left without 'paying the printer,' in

order that they may be better able to settle with us on their return—and in conclusion, those vvhho are indebted to us vvhill confer a favor by settling their accounts, as we must have something to live upon during the winter.

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### ARRIVAL OF THE IMMIGRATION.

Our hearts were gladdened on Wednesday afternoon by the arrival of a company of packers from the Immigration, the headmost company of vvhich they left on Grandround river on the 20 ult. These gentlemen, Messrs. Geo. L. Boone, Jackson co., Mo.; G. J. Baskett, Howard co., Mo.; J. N. Ebey, Schuyler co., Mo.; Ruben Joy, Salem, Iowa; Wm. Bristoe, McDonough co., Ill., inform us that the extent of the immigration for Oregon, as far as their knowledge goes, may be put down at 300 wagons—the same number have gone to California. There may be other wagons on the road, perhaps in the rear, that they have not heard of, as those that are known to be coming left the settlements in the early part of May. Joseph L. Meek, our messenger to the U. S. government, arrived at St. Joseph on the 10th of May, and took steamboat on the same day for St. Louis; he would reach Washington about the 25th of May. Up to the time of the departure of these gentlemen nothing had been done for Oregon. The "Oregon Battalion," strange to say, were still vvhhere they had wintered, at Fort Karney, on Table creek, about 150 miles above St. Joseph. They had been ordered to be at Grand Island on the 1st of May, to protect the Immigrants. Maj. Fitzpatrick, Agent for the Pawnee, Chayenne and Arapahoe Indians, vvas met returning to the settlements with an intention of reporting this neglect of orders. The commander of the Battalion, Col. Powell, of St. Charles, Mo., vvas elected to that post by one vote over Andrew Sublette, vvhho holds a Captain's commission in the Battalion.

The first company, it is supposed, are novv between this and the Dalles, the second are a day or two behind the first, and the third are perhaps a day or so in the rear of the second. The 4th and 5th companies are some distance from the advance, having been left by the packers on the 31st of July, on Goose creek. VVe give below the names, (chiefly the heads of families,) of the Immigrants vvhho constitute these five companies. Some of the teams are failing, and those vvhho have friends on the road should hasten out to their relief. VVe are requested to state that a party vvhill start for this purpose on the 10th inst. Up to the time of the departure of the packers from the wagons, no trouble had been experienced from the Indians, and the packers savv fevv or none in coming in; we are apprehensive of difficulty, however, vvhile the wagons are passing through the Cayuse country.

**1ST COMPANY**—John T. Crooks, Saml. T. Jones, Mercer co., Ill. VVm. Brunson, Sangamon co., Ill. Ruben Dickens, Warren co. Mo. Thos. Gates, Dupage co, Ill. Orrin Kellogg, Dan'l Hathaway, Joseph Kellogg, VWood co. Ohio. Robt. Houston, Shelby, O. Elias D. VWilcox, Nathaniel VWilcox, Ft. Atchison, Iowa. Reuben Pigg, Ja's Robinson, Lafayette, mo. John Stipp, Vermillion, Ill. Ira Patterson, Madison Ill. Rhinehart Cripe, Andrew Bowers, Benj. Cripe, St. Joseph co. Indiana. VVm. w. King, Knox co. mo. Riley Root, Knox co. Ill. Ja's Emery, Atchison co. Vt. Lyman Lautarette, Seneca co. N. Y. Dr. D. S. Baker, VVabash co. Ill.

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