



THE SPECTATOR.

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Signs of the Times.

On Monday the 16th, as we expected, quite a number of the *courreges* of Clackamas county met in Oregon City, although the morning was showery and threatening, such was their curiosity to witness, in this "sun-down" land, scenes with which they had once been familiar in the far east, viz: STUMP SPEAKING. Our anxiety was much heightened by delay. Noon came—the court adjourned—the bells rang—dinner was over, and no speeches yet! At two o'clock the court met pursuant to adjournment; at four o'clock the court was again adjourned—and the sheriff, in true official style, cried out from the porch of the hotel—"O, yes! O, yes!! O, yes!!! the candidates will now address the people as soon as they will collect." The crowd immediately assembled about the porch, particularly keen to witness the exhibition new in Oregon. The candidates seemed not to have settled the preliminaries or order of the day, or something else, for they were not forthcoming, although they were repeatedly called for, even by name, as "General Husted, Mr. Parker," et cetera. Thus were we held in cruel suspense until it was no longer durable; and many of the sitters proclaimed aloud, that they would vote for no man who had declared himself a candidate and would not publicly express his sentiments beforehand, and on motion, it was resolved by the company, to select a new set of candidates. Finally, however, the sheriff proclaimed that, as the candidates were backward about speaking, Esq. T'Vault, who was not a candidate, would address them, if they would come in the house. We were all soon snugly located in the hotel. Esq. T'Vault said he was not a candidate—did not intend to be—yet he would call their attention to some political points, upon which they ought to know the views of those who were offering to serve them in the next legislature. If he should, in the course of his remarks, commit homicide by murdering the English language, he hoped they would consider it justifiable homicide—he did not like the English any way. He thought the Organic Law permitted too general a system of holding land claims. We should conform, as nearly as possible, to the law that had passed or would pass congress. Our judicial system was badly arranged, especially the criminal code, which should be amended; the salaries of officers should be reduced—the people would then pay their taxes, and we would have a revenue.

"Husted! Husted!" was heard from every part of the room. Gen. Husted said, "It appeared as if the candidates were called upon for to give their views and their sentiments upon various subjects which might come before the legislature—there were many subjects both political and agricultural that ought to be attended to." He hardly knew what position to take, but would go for such measures as would tend to advance the prosperity of Oregon. (Applause.) He thought the "liquor law" was not exactly a good one, and might perhaps be mended. He would say no more at present, till he heard from his fellow candidates.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. Parker was next called. Mr. P. said he was almost a stranger in the country, and it might appear forwardness in him to offer as a candidate, having been so short a time in the country; but he was a citizen of Oregon, and consequently felt an interest in her prosperity. He thought our criminal code a bad one, there being but one criminal court—he would be in favor of changing it. The liquor bill was not good—the legislature had gone beyond its powers in passing that bill—Americans would not long bear it; we should fix a tax upon liquor—not too high; but if any one sold it to the Indians, we might tax them as high as we pleased. We must have a direct tax; the fees and salaries of officers should be small; men could be found who would accept offices for small salaries. He was opposed to the 40 acre amendment, as proposed, but would be governed by the majority; he saw no harm in the partnership clause of the land law as it now stands; he was bound to no party; if he went to the legislature, he would go with his hands untrammelled. Esq. Mr. P. thanked the audience for their attention, and then, without rising, when his opinion was called for touching on oath of office. He replied, that he would not take an oath, but would do as he pleased—for an instance, he would not take an oath to Mr. Douglas, chief factor of Vancouver, and a judge of the county court, with, he thought, was in the habit of selling ardent spirits.

Mr. Parker then occupied the floor, and said, we, as a separate people, had a right, in common with all

detached communities, to govern ourselves. There were different forms of government—he preferred the republicanism. He thought the criminal code should be changed—the land law he thought imperfect. He was an uncompromising enemy to ardent spirits—opposed to suffering it to have a place in Oregon at all. As to the oath of office, he did not consider himself a citizen of the United States or a subject of Great Britain, he, therefore, could take the simple oath to "support the Organic laws of Oregon" without the qualifications. Here some one called for his views on the currency. Mr. B. said we were compelled to have a currency of some sort, and he supposed even a bad one was better than none.

Mr. Straight followed, and said he was not accustomed to stump proceedings, but would give his views as briefly as he could. As to the amendments which had been proposed to the Organic laws, he was present when they passed the house—voted for them—had not changed his mind since; he had voted against the liquor bill, because he thought it touched our natural rights—he still thought so, and would go against all such measures. The currency bill, in his opinion, was about as good as we could make it.

Mr. Foster was called next. He was unaccustomed to stump speaking—considered himself an American citizen, and was proud of it. He was in favor of the proposed amendments—in favor of amending the judiciary—opposed to the liquor law—had no more to say; but if any one wished to have his views on any particular point, he would be happy to give them—if elected, would serve them according to his ability—was not anxious on the subject, nor disposed to beg their votes.

Esq. Lovejoy being called, said he felt bound to respond to their call, though he had nothing prepared—had been busied with other matters. If he should omit any point, he hoped some one would call his attention to it, and he would be there. The Organic law should be changed, with much caution, if changed at all. In legislating, we should conform to the government of the United States. The 40 acre law would be really allowing persons to hold two claims, while the Organic law said they should hold but one claim at the same time. If elected, he should have no private opinions, but would be governed by the will of the people so far as he could know it. The currency bill he thought wrong altogether—we should not legislate on that subject at all—let it alone, it will take care of itself. The liquor law—he would go his length for temperance, and do all in his power to put down the use of ardent spirits, by public sentiment, but he could not support a law that deprived an individual of any of his natural rights—would legislate on broad principles—grant no exclusive privileges—would choose war rather than injustice.

Gen. McCarter being repeatedly called, arose and said he was not in the field—was not a candidate—consequently, had nothing to say.

The curtain dropped—all was over, and the crowd dispersed, doubtless highly gratified and instructed.

Clackamas County Court.

The May term of this court commenced on Monday the 19th inst., before Fredc. Frigg, S. S. White and C. E. Jett, judges—S. W. Moss, clerk. The docket presented an array of eight causes, and two indictments, of which five were disposed of; three were continued to next term, and two were settled by the parties themselves.

The following is a summary of the proceedings: The court being opened by the sheriff, Wm. Holmes, the grand jury were duly empanelled and sworn, to whom the presiding judge delivered a charge, and appointed M. Crawford foreman thereof; and after being engaged three days, were discharged.

W. G. T'Vault and N. Olney were admitted *ex gratia* to practice as attorneys and counsellors at law during the present session, and were sworn accordingly.

Oregon vs. Richard McCary, indictment for selling, and trading ardent spirits. Attorney for prosecution, A. L. Lovejoy—for defendant, N. Olney. Verdict, guilty—judgment, twenty dollars fine and costs of suit.

Girtman vs. Budine—assumpsit. Attorney for plaintiff, W. G. T'Vault—for defendant, A. L. Lovejoy. In this case the jury were unable to agree, and after several attempts, by re-examination of witnesses, &c., were discharged. Eventually the parties, through their attorneys, agreed to submit the case, from the testimony adduced, to the decision of the court, who gave for the defendant with costs.

Robb vs. Cason—assumpsit. Attorney for plaintiff, W. G. T'Vault—for defendant, A. L. Lovejoy and N. Olney. This was an appeal from the justice's court—was continued last term, and the venue changed to Tualaty; thence it was brought back to this county. The general issue was pleaded, and after a long investigation, and animated addresses to the jury, on the part of the attorneys, the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, for the amount of the note, viz: \$100, with interest thereon, no fraud having been proven. The trial occupied the entire day.

Robb vs. Cason—assumpsit \$200. This being the second of a series of notes given for the same consid-

eration as the above; no defence was offered, and judgment was rendered by default.

Husted vs. Abernethy—assumpsit. Attorney for plaintiff, W. G. T'Vault—for defendant, A. L. Lovejoy. This was an action for labor done in laying a stone foundation for a brick store—demand \$1500. The defendant put in a set-off of \$333 64, merchant's account, which being proved, was allowed, and the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for \$38 86.

Husted vs. Holly—in chancery. Attorney for plaintiff, W. G. T'Vault—for defendant, N. Olney. The bill set forth waste committed on a farm leased to the defendant, and contrary to the judgment of an arbitration award, which the parties had bound themselves should be final, a plea to the jurisdiction was offered, which was overruled by the court; and the case being diffusely argued by the attorneys, the court rendered a decree that the defendant, failing to file any plea or demurrer to the exhibits in the bill, said exhibits are taken *pro confesso*, and the cause is continued to the next term of the court, for the purpose of obtaining testimony to prove damages, when witnesses will be examined orally.

Conner vs. T. Smith, assumpsit—continued.
Oregon vs. Richard McCary—manufacture of ardent spirits—continued.

Husted vs. McLaughlin—assumpsit—settled, the plaintiff paying costs.

Campbell vs. Young, do. do. do. do.

The docket being disposed of, the sheriff handed in his assessment roll, and also census for the county, as required by law, the gross population of which, according to his returns, is 507; qualified voters 901. After which the demands against the county being received and proven, the accounts were audited, and on Friday the 22d inst., the court adjourned *sine die*.

Some road petitions were offered, but the notice required by law not having been given, they could not be acted upon, and the judges signified their intention to hold a call term in six weeks for that and other purposes.

Oregon Rivers.

It is gratifying to see our noble rivers navigated by regular lines of packets. Instead of being compelled to wait at the Falls a week or more, daily expecting an opportunity to get away, we can now time our journeys so that we can reach Oregon City on the sailing day of some of our splendid packet boats, and without any detention, find ourselves gliding along on the smooth waters of the Willamette.

Last Thursday week two rival boats were advertised to leave Oregon City for the Bute and Champoeg—the Mogul and Great Western—the latter left at the hour appointed, and, of course, the Mogul being like the wind and tide, which wait for no man, was supposed to leave at the same time. The Western arrived at the Bute at 3 P. M. on the 13th inst. The following day the passengers that stopped at the Bute saw the Mogul passing, and concluded she must have met with some accident, she being rated as a very fast boat; but whether she broke a shaft, had too little steam for the trip, or what was the cause of the detention, they could not tell. We shall wait with great anxiety until we hear from her, as we should be very sorry to learn that the enterprising owner of that splendid line should meet with any serious loss.—Com.

BETTER YET.—During the last week two new boats were launched from the boat yard in this place. They are both "Clinker built," and intended for the river trade below the Falls. The boats of this class now in the river both above and below the Falls of Willamette and the Cascades of the Columbia, in the absence of steamers, contribute much to the comfort and interest of our enterprising citizens.

THE COLUMBIA RIVER.

The rise of the Columbia, which is earlier this year than is usual, renders the navigation of the Willamette very easy up to this place, the back-water being sufficient to overcome the difficulties of the Clackamas rapids. The Callapooiah, Capt. Cook, is now plying regularly between this city and Fort Vancouver. She left the upper wharf on Saturday last, with 250 barrels of flour for Vancouver. We fear that when the Callapooiah passes from the hands of her present enterprising and indefatigable owner, Capt. Cook, she will lose a portion of her utility.

List of officers of H. M. Frigate FIGGARD, 42 guns, now lying in Puget's Sound:
Captain—J. A. DUNTRE.

Lieutenants—John Rodd, Charles Dyke, George Y. Patterson, Edward W. Lany, Edward D. Ashe.

Marines—Lieutenant Henry H. M'Carthy, Fleetwood J. Richards.

Master—Edmund P. Cole.

Chaplain—Robert Thompson.

Surgeon—Thomas R. Durm.

Purser—Thomas Rowe.
Second Master—James Crosby.
Instructor—Robert M. Jaahip.
14 midshipmen,
Crew—350 men.

Annual Election.

Ere our next number issues from the press, our annual election will have transpired, and we shall severally know our representatives in the legislature, for, at the present moment, notwithstanding the short period intervening, we were really never less able even to guess at the probable result of the annual ballot—although we have a numerous array of candidates in this county, some openly declared, and others still behind, waiting for the auspicious moment to disclose their desire to labor for the public weal, still (in the absence of positive party) no regular or trinomial ticket having been formed, but each relying on his friends, to succeed as he best may, or in other words, "on his own hook," the most shrewd conjectures, must at best be vague. In the other counties, if we may believe our informants, there seems to be a degree of unconcern exhibited with respect to the individuals to be elected, which is difficult to account for in this present important, and perhaps, highly momentous year; our hopes and wishes would intimate an approaching crisis in the affairs of Oregon, which require and should receive the exertions and abilities of the best qualified of her citizens, not only to warrant the ratification of a discreet system of laws, but also to evince the proper value we put upon our enfranchisement. There is a feeling existing among many high-minded men, that there is little honor to be reaped in the legislative hall at the present period of our history; but we would ask them, if they are not depriving themselves of the privilege of complaining, by holding back, and really sanctioning and approving by their covert supineness, those loose and imperfect acts, which must ever result from inexperienced and raw hands, however honest and sincere their intentions may be. We trust none will feel offence at these our few candid and general remarks; but we must ever urge the electors in casting their votes, to select those "good men and true," who being worthy of their choice, will do honor to themselves and their country.

Communicated for the Spectator.

Hallo, friend! who do you vote for out of all these candidates?

Well, there is a precious sight of 'em, surely; but I rather think I shall give the General a pop.

Ah, indeed! What are your reasons?

Why, he says he's going for to move Oregon City down to the Clackamas, for to build a stone bridge, and for to erect a powerful fine state-house; the brick's now making, close by.

Well, they are much needed, truly. Any thing else?

Oh, yes! he's going for to kick that liquor law to thunder, and he's deadly opposed to taxing litigants, from principle, I know; won't you vote for him 'quire?

I'll think of it.

Summer Residence—Vancouver.

The founding of an elegant rectangular arbor, or summer retreat, took place some days ago in our neighborhood, on a picturesque and shady spot adjoining the old fort hill, where a select party formed in procession, and with all due solemnity went through the ceremonies usually practiced upon such occasions. The erection of this rural mansion appears, from the plan, to be a model of handsome and scientific architecture, and a promising specimen of the taste of the builder—at the same time evincing a new spirit of industry and enterprise hitherto unknown in Oregon. It is intended, we hear, as a sweet retirement from the fatigues of arduous duties, and from the heat prevalent during the "dog-days." At the conclusion of the above ceremony, it was appropriately named "Musquito Grotto." A CORRESPONDENT.

PREDICTIONS.—In the course of next spring and summer, many alterations will be made in the form and trimmings of the ladies' head-dresses; but it is thought their appearance will not be much improved by the alteration. Many young ladies will be married this year, who are not yet courted; and many who are courted will wait another year.