

harbors on the Pacific, can never for a moment be entertained by the United States, without an abandonment of their just and clear territorial rights, their own self-respect, and the national honor. For the information of congress, I communicate herewith the correspondence which took place between the two governments during the late negotiation.

The rapid extension of our settlements over our territories heretofore unoccupied; the addition of new states to our confederacy; the expansion of free principles, and our rising greatness as a nation, are attracting the attention of the powers of Europe; and lately the doctrine has been broached in some of them, of a "balance of power" on this continent, to check our advancement. The United States, sincerely desirous of preserving relations of good understanding with all nations, cannot in silence permit any European interference on the North American continent, and should any such interference be attempted, will be ready to resist it at any and all hazards.

It is well known to the American people and to all nations, that this government has never interfered with the relations subsisting between other governments. We have never made ourselves parties to their wars or their alliances; we have not sought their territories by conquest; we have not mingled with parties in their domestic struggles; and believing our own form of government to be the best, we have never attempted to propagate it by intrigues, by diplomacy, or by force. We may claim on this continent a like exemption from European interference. The nations of America are equally sovereign and independent with those of Europe. They possess the same rights, independent of all foreign interposition, to make war, to conclude peace, and to regulate their internal affairs. The people of the United States cannot, therefore, view with indifference attempts of European powers to interfere with the independent action of the nations on this continent. The American system of government is entirely different from that of Europe. Jealousy among the different sovereigns of Europe, lest any one of them might become too powerful for the rest, has caused them anxiously to desire the establishment of what they term the "balance of power." It cannot be permitted to have any application to the North American continent, and especially to the U. States. We must ever maintain the principle, that the people of this continent alone have the right to decide their own destiny. Should any portion of them, constituting an independent state, propose to unite themselves with our confederacy, this will be a question for them and us to determine, without any foreign interposition. We can never consent that European powers shall interfere to prevent such a union, because it might disturb the "balance of power" which they may desire to maintain upon this continent. Near a quarter of a century ago, the principle was distinctly announced to the world in the annual message of one of my predecessors, that "the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European power." This principle will apply with increased force, should any European power attempt to establish any new colony in North America. In the existing circumstances of the world, the present is deemed a proper occasion to reiterate and reaffirm the principle avowed by Mr. Monroe, and to state my cordial concurrence in its wisdom and sound policy. The re-assertion of this principle, especially in reference to North America, is at this day but a promulgation of a policy which no European power should cherish the disposition to resist. Existing rights of every European nation should be respected, but it is alike due to our safety and our interests that the efficient protection of our laws should be extended over our whole territorial limits, and that it should be distinctly announced to the world, as our settled policy, that no future European colony or dominion shall, with our consent, be planted or established on any part of the North American continent.

Congress of the United States.

Correspondence of the N. York Journal of Commerce. WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1846.

There was much opposition to Mr. Slidell's nomination as minister to Mexico, but it was confirmed by a strictly party vote.

There was a debate in the senate to-day on the bill to augment the navy, which was

called up by Mr. Fairfield. The general expression of opinion in the senate was favorable to the continuance of peace. The war feeling, if there has been any, is considered an absurdity. Mr. Fairfield's object was to assign a day for the consideration of the bill, but Mr. Speight, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Sevier, were opposed to it, unless it should appear that we were to have war, in which case a much larger appropriation would be necessary.

It was said that if the bill was pressed now, it would be lost. Some wished to postpone it till the Oregon Notice Bill came up, and others to lay it upon the table.

Mr. Yulee, Mr. Westcott, and Mr. J. M. Clayton advocated the bill, as an economical mode of increasing the navy, and a necessary addition to its efficiency for sea coast and harbor defence, without reference to the question of war or peace.

Mr. J. M. Clayton remarked that Mr. Sevier had expressed the opinion a few weeks ago that war was inevitable. He would like to know if the gentleman had changed his opinion, and for what reason; but if he was of the same opinion now, why should he oppose the measure for preparation?

Mr. Sevier replied, that he had found that the senate would not pass the Notice, and that nothing would be done to sustain the President on the Oregon question. As proof of this, two of the motions of the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs had been rejected. Of course, if we took no measures upon the subject, there would be no war.

Mr. Allen said that Great Britain was content with the present state of things. If we did nothing, we should enjoy the fruits of our "masterly inactivity."

Mr. Hannegan would not believe, he said, that the Notice would fail to pass the senate. He regarded it as the only means by which peace could be permanently secured. He was in favor of peace, and therefore of the Notice. He was tired of blustering war speeches, and wanted to see some action on this subject. He was in favor of augmenting the Navy without reference to war.

Mr. Calhoun was pleased to hear the sentiments expressed in this debate. He, too, like the senator from Indiana, was in favor of an honorable peace; and he was glad to learn from the Hon. Chairman of Foreign Affairs, that the "masterly inactivity" would maintain peace. Yes, said Mr. Allen, by giving up everything.

The bill was postponed to next Tuesday. Mr. Bagby introduced a short resolution, increasing the term of the president and vice president of the U. States to six years, and rendering the president ineligible for more than one term.

Also providing that no member of congress shall be eligible during the term for which he was elected, or four years after; and that no member during his term shall be appointed to the head of an executive department.

Mr. Dix reported a bill establishing a warehousing system.

The house was engaged all day on the Florida contested election.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 22.

Mr. Allen made an explanation of some remarks which he made yesterday, as to the probability of a war. He did not believe that Great Britain would declare war on account of Oregon. If she declared war, it would be for some other and special state reason.

The entire and thorough defeat and annihilation of the "war party"—if any there was—in the senate, is a matter worthy of remark.

I know it is denied that there was any war party. It was not popular to deny that at first. Now, all are forward to deny that they ever countenanced the idea that the question would lead to war; or that the measures proposed by the administration would lead to war.

For the Spectator.

Mr. Editor—In Mr. Parker's address to the electors of Clackamas county, delivered at the meeting lately held in Oregon City, as reported in the Spectator of the 25th May, I observe that he is pleased to point out "Mr. Douglas, a judge of the county court, who, he understood, was in the habit of selling ardent spirits." This may have suited Mr. Parker's purpose, while attempting to establish a position, which appears to be a favorite with him, "that the oath of office binds a man to do just as he pleases," as it however cannot be supposed that I admire the mode of illustration he has chosen, and as I also happen to entertain a very different opinion, touching the force and propriety of that oath, I hope it will not be considered a breach of courtesy on my part, to offer through the medium of your respectable paper, a direct and unqualified denial of this charge of rum selling, in the only sense it is plainly meant to be received, and can be considered as at all applicable to the subject in question.

As a particular favor I ask Mr. Parker to bring forward a single proof in support of the assertion he has so wantonly advanced, I refer him to all his fellow-citizens: I ask him to search the country from one extremity to the other, and to put the question to each individual member of the community, with the absolute certainty, that not one person will be found, who ever purchased ardent spirits from Mr. Douglas.

A stranger in the country, evidently unacquainted with its early history, Mr. Parker may not have been informed that the members of the Hudson's Bay Company have, for many years past, uniformly discouraged intemperance by every means in their power, and have also made great and repeated pecuniary sacrifices to prevent the sale of ardent spirits in the country; an article, moreover, which forms no part of their trade, either with the white man or the Indian.

Mr. Parker does not indeed pretend to speak from his own personal experience of the fact, but on the authority of others; and should any doubt still linger in his mind, with respect to the correctness of what I have just said, he may perhaps have no objection to seek other means of arriving at the truth. Suppose, for instance, he was to try the experiment of negotiating a purchase, I venture to predict he would soon be convinced that Mr. Douglas is not in the habit of selling ardent spirits.

But let us enquire a little further into this matter: what can have induced a person of character to hazard an observation in public which he must have known would, if false, be as openly exposed. Mr. Parker must have had some grounds for his assertion—he may possibly have heard, or he may have supposed that Her Majesty's Ship "Modeste" was daily receiving supplies at Fort Vancouver. If, with reference to these supplies, he had told his hearers that Her Majesty's Ship "Modeste," now stationed at Fort Vancouver, had, with other supplies for ship use, from the stores of the Hudson's Bay Company, received several casks of rum; or if, referring to the H. B. Company's own ships, he had stated that a small allowance of spirits is daily served out to the crews of the company's vessels, and that other classes of the company's servants, according to long established usage, receive on certain rare occasions, a similar indulgence, he would have told the plain and simple truth, and his statement would not this day have been called in question by me.

These acts, which I fully admit, and would, on no account attempt to conceal, cannot by the fair rules of construction, be considered as infringing upon any law recognized by the compact, which we have agreed to support, in common with the other inhabitants of Oregon. The framers of these laws, with a degree of wisdom and foresight, which does them honor, never entertained the idea that a person in becoming a member of the compact, thereby relinquished his distinctive national character. On the contrary, British subjects and citizens of the United States, casting aside every shadow of illiberal prejudice, extended to each other the right hand of good fellowship, for the purpose of mutual protection, to secure the peace, and promote the prosperity of the country, until protected by their respective governments. The compact was formed and perfected upon that principle, and can rest with security, on no other foundation.

We are pledged, and do faithfully intend to support the Organic Laws. They do not bind us to violate pre-existing engagements with our servants, nor to withhold from the officers of our government supplies of whatsoever kind the Hudson's Bay Company's stores can provide. In the high character of the latter, we enjoy the fullest security against abuse to the detriment of the country. With all other parties we have most rigidly, and shall continue to enforce the prohibitory statutes of Oregon.

My wish, in addressing you, Mr. Editor, is to set Mr. Parker right in respect to this matter of rum selling, and the public may rest assured that, if my wishes could influence the community, there would never be a drunkard in Oregon. JAMES DOUGLAS.

MARRIED—On the 10th ult., by the Rev. William Light, Mr. ISAAC STAATS, formerly of N. York and late of Platte county, Mo., to Miss ORLENA MARIA, eldest daughter of James E. Williams, Esq., late of Jefferson county, Tenn.

Shipping Intelligence.

COLUMBIA RIVER—VANCOUVER.

June 3—Arrived, Hon. Hudson's B. Co's schooner Cadboro', Capt. Scarborough, from Fort Victoria.

Sailed, H. B. Co's Clipper Victoria, Capt. Johnston, for the Cascades. Calipoiah, Capt. Cook, for Oregon City.

In harbor, H. B. M. S. Modeste, Capt. Baillie; H. B. Co's Barque Columbia, Capt. Dunoon, and Cadboro' Building, H. B. Co's schooner Prince Albert—about to be launched.

WILLAMETTE RIVER—OREGON CITY.

Arrived, 4th inst., Calipoiah, Captain Cook, from Vancouver.

Sailed, on the 5th, Calipoiah, for Portland.

" " 6th, the Salt River Packet, Captain Gray, for Clatsop, with a number of passengers.

Arrived, on the 7th inst., Calipoiah, Captain Cook, from Portland.

The Calipoiah for Sale.

Captain Aaron Cook having determined to quit the river for a time, offers to sell his well-known and excellent sailing schooner "Calipoiah." For terms and particulars, call on Capt. Cook on board. If no private sale be effected before the 15th of July, the above named craft will, on that day, be offered at public auction, in Oregon City.

May 26, 1846—6th

Farm for Sale.

The subscriber offers his valuable claim, in Twenty plains, for sale. There are on the claim 80 acres in cultivation, under a good fence, with a log-cabin thereon, and also timber for a framed dwelling and barn, a quantity of shingles, &c. Persons wishing to purchase a good farm, will do well to visit the above, as it will be sold on good terms.

May 26, 1846—6th A. COOK.

CITY HOTEL,

BY H. M. KNIGHTON,

Oregon City.

The traveling community are respectfully invited to call. The City Hotel is undergoing repairs, and the proprietor feels safe in saying that when completed, his customers will feel more comfortable, as every necessary attention will be rendered to make them so. His table shall not be surpassed in the territory. Those who favor him with a call from the west side of the river, will receive home carriage free. Jan. 20, 1846—1st

Tavern and Tannery.

NOTICE is hereby given to the citizens of Oregon, that the undersigned is now occupying the stand formerly kept by Mulky, on the west side of the river, and hopes to give general satisfaction to all who may call on him. Terms—Ready pay, 25 cents per meal. Price for home over night, 75 cents. All kinds of produce will be received for the same.

Also, 1,000 Hides Wanted, which he will tan on shares, or cash or store pay will be given. Hides will be received at any time at the above stand. C. D. SMITH.

Multnomah City, April 30, 1846—7th

Farm for Sale.

The subscriber hereby notifies the public generally, and those in particular who wish to purchase an improved claim, in an eligible part of the country, that he claim is now offered for sale. Said claim lies on the Wallace Prairie, adjoining Jas. Ford and Jno. Ford, formerly known as B. Del Cour's claim, having a log cabin and a French barn, and also another set of logs for a cabin, which was once put up, and has been removed, and about two hundred acres enclosed, and about sixty acres of that old land, upon it. Said claim is about 3 miles from the Salem mills, and 4 miles from the Oregon Institute. Terms reasonable, and conditions easy. For further particulars, enquire of the subscriber at Salem mills. JNO. B. McCLANE.

March 19, 1846—4th

Blacksmithing.

NELSON & McDONALD,

HAVING rented Mr. H. Burns' old stand in Multnomah City, on the west side of the Willamette river, are now ready to supply their friends and customers with all kinds of manufactured iron and steel. They have a large stock of assorted iron and steel on hand, which will enable them to supply all orders in their line with dispatch. They have now on hand a number of Diamond and Cary Files of the best quality, axes, drawing knives, mortising chisels, and edge tools of all kinds, warranted to carry a good edge, or no charge. All of which will be sold at a moderate price for good pay.

Customers coming from the east side of the Willamette river to our shop for iron work, will be furnished free of charge. Feb. 19, 1846—1st

Hat Manufactory,

Oregon City:

JOHN TRAVERS & WM. GLASER,

HAVING associated themselves together in manufacturing Hats at Oregon City, are now ready to supply their friends and customers with hats manufactured in Oregon. Although the profits are small, they confidently hope, by their prompt attention to business, to be able to furnish hats to the Oregon citizens at reduced prices.

Wool, beaver, otter, raccoon, wildcat, muskrat, mink, prairie wolf, and fox skins will be taken in exchange for hats. February 5, 1846—1st

Plows! Plows! Plows!

\$10,000 Reward for every one to attend to his own business.

THE subscriber begs leave to inform the public at large, that he has established himself in the Blacksmithing in general, in Oregon City, where he will keep on hand an assortment of Plows, which cannot be surpassed in the States. Persons wishing to purchase plows, can be accommodated with them, finished or unfinished. Also, Patent Fish Forks, Hoes, Axes, and all kinds of mechanics' tools. As the subscriber has had long experience in machinery, he feels himself competent to execute all kinds of mill work, shingle machines, and thrashing machines of the best approved patents.

Gentlemen wishing to purchase any of the above articles, will do well to call and examine for themselves on Main street, Oregon City.

D. C. INGLIS.

February 19, 1846—2nd

JEFFERSON INSTITUTE

IS located in the Rickreall Valley, one mile west of the residence of Col. N. Ford. The first session of this school will commence on the second Monday of next April, and continue twenty-four weeks.

Scholars from a distance, can be accommodated with boarding in the neighborhood. Terms of tuition, \$8 per scholar. J. E. LYLL, Teacher.

March 7, 1846—4th

N. Ford, Jas. Howard, Wm. Beagle, Trustees.

The Oregon Specimen.

Terms—Five dollars in advance; if not paid until the expiration of three months, six dollars; and if not paid at the expiration of six months, the subscriber reserves the right to discontinue.

Advertisements inserted at one dollar and fifty cents per square of sixteen lines or less, for the first insertion, and twenty-five cents for each subsequent insertion. A liberal deduction to young advertisers.

All kinds of JOB WORK, handsomely executed at the shortest notice—promptly in Oregon.