



THE SPECTATOR.

H. A. G. LEE, EDITOR.—J. FLEMING, PR.

Oregon City, July 9, 1846.

☐ The first page of to-day's paper bears date of the 4th inst., five days in advance of its due time. This was occasioned by our intending to publish on that day; but learning there were two vessels in the river, and hoping to receive by them some later intelligence from the states, publication was deferred till to-day, its proper time. Henceforth the paper will be issued each alternate Thursday as it becomes due.

☐ On Sunday afternoon an affray took place between John Watson and Ed. Robinson, in which the latter was severely cut through the arm and on the breast—not sufficient, however, it is thought, to endanger his life. The former was soon arrested and brought to trial before A. Hood, Esq. He was bound for appearance at court in the sum of \$200.

☐ We have occupied the first page of to-day's paper chiefly with items of foreign news, gathered from Sandwich Island papers, received per Admiral Moorsom, and kindly furnished us for perusal by our friends at Vancouver and this place, to whom our thanks are due and respectfully tendered.

Our peculiar circumstances render the arrivals of intelligence from abroad very like to angelic visits—not only "few and far between," but anxiously expected and thankfully received, whatever be the purport of their tidings. From these facts we are induced to continue the farther notice of such things as we deem of interest to our readers. The following extract from the St. Louis New Era, given in the Polynesian of April 25, is copied, not because it is very late or very important, but because it is very strange.

"Oregon—Mr. Elijah White is on his way to Washington, as a delegate from the self-constituted government of Oregon, and goes to ask for a seat in congress, to represent that distant territory. He carries with him his credentials from the provisional government of Oregon, and a large petition from the inhabitants of that region, asking that the jurisdiction of the United States may extend over that territory. * * * This delegation to congress is to induce that body to take the actual occupancy of Oregon, and on his report and success will depend the decision of the question, whether or not the people will establish a separate and independent republic on the shores of the Pacific."

With all due respect, we beg leave to correct some of the errors into which our friends abroad have, by some means or other, fallen with regard to Dr. White and his late business at Washington. Dr. White was sub-agent of Indian affairs west of the Rocky mountains; at the expiration of his term of service, he returned to Washington, not as a delegate to congress from this government, but as an agent of the United States government; not to represent this "distant territory" in congress, but to close his business with the department from which he had received his appointment, and, perhaps, to receive a re-appointment; carrying with him, not his credentials from the Oregon legislature, but a report of his proceedings as agent, and we trust, an interesting account of this country, together with the petition to congress for their protection. How far the Doctor's report, and other information which he may communicate to congress, will influence the decision of the question of Oregon independence, we know not, nor do we know certainly, that such a question is pending there.

We hope, however, to see the Doctor soon, and receive much information and interesting news from the states.

ARDENT SPIRITS AT THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The Island papers are much occupied with remarks—moral discussion, treaties, political catechisms, &c., &c.—on the subject of ardent spirits. What is to be done with that old sinner, Alcohol? He seems to be kicking up a row all over the world and the Islands too. But the Kanakas are walking into his pocket with a pretty good relish, by imposing a duty of \$5 per gallon, and yet the old scamp will just shut his eyes and go it. Oh, shocking! The court records show that the old reprobate has even been found skulking about in the brush-woods of Oregon, regardless of the law which forbids him to enter the territory under pain of capital punishment. But we guess, when the old chap learns that Dr. White is on his return to Oregon, he will be trudging away, for he doubtless well recollects having, more than once, paid his life for his temerity to the Doctor, and can have no hope of quarters from that source.

To be sober, however, on an intoxicating subject, we are pleased to see the force of public opinion, as well as legislative enactments, brought to bear upon the evil of ardent spirits at the Islands and elsewhere, and sincerely regret that the perversity of human nature will attempt to support an evil, against which two such powerful engines are directed as public sentiment and civil authority.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR.

JUNE 26.

Frederic Prigg, secretary for the territory, vice John E. Long, deceased.

JUNE 27.

Samuel S. White, president of the court and probate judge for Clackamas county, vice Frederic Prigg. Jeremiah Rowland, president of the court and probate judge for Yam Hill county.

JUNE 29.

James Howard, president of the court and probate judge for Polk county. Isaac Staats, judge for Polk county. Hiram Taylor, judge " " Frederick Waymire, sheriff for Polk county. Andrew Hood, judge for Clackamas county.

☐ The Polynesian regards many statements made in American papers, on the subject of Oregon and the business of the Sandwich Islands and this country, as "exaggerated" and calculated to mislead merchants, and thinks the Americans have attached to Oregon an importance and value which it never did and never will possess. Perhaps friend Jarvis is not thoroughly acquainted with the American character, and may not be aware that, while the Americans speak of things in language that may seem to other nations highly extravagant, they are really capable of effecting measures and accomplishing ends, which are marvelous indeed in the eyes of the world, especially in matters of trade and traffic—settling new countries, &c., &c., and we hope they will soon give to our island friends and all the world, a practical demonstration of their wonder-working powers, by taking hold of Oregon and making it all they have ever represented it as capable of being made—feeling well assured that his Hawaiian Majesty's subjects will suffer nothing by the happy transformation of Oregon, from savage wilds to productive fields; but on the contrary, they will find their own wealth and commercial importance advancing with our prosperity. We have no disposition to mislead any person "to their cost", and are free to acknowledge the truth of the Editor's remark that, like themselves, we are "ready to buy, but have little to pay;" yet we are gratified to see our means rapidly increasing by a successful application of industry to the superior natural advantages of Oregon.

☐ The editor of the Polynesian is pleased to make honorable mention of the "Oregon Spectator," the first number of which he had just received, and gives a summary of the contents, but speaks doubtfully of the existence of love in our land. He says: "Only imagine the advance of the country—love in the pine woods of Oregon!" We would inform our sceptical friend on that point, and appearances warrant us in saying, that Oregon is highly congenial to the soft and tender flame, and that our young folks are far from being content to imagine the idea, as a long list would show, could we be favored with the names of all the candidates for hymeneal joys. We hope our friends up stream will take the hint. It is surprising how it makes the bachelors prick up their ears to read a few notices of marriages. Imagine love in Oregon, indeed! He says, "he shall expect to see advertised in next number, bustles and ice cream." As for the former articles, we would inform our friend of the Polynesian, that love in Oregon is of that pure description, such as nature in her happiest mood decreed it should be, that no such superfluous evidence of bad taste is required to fan the hallowed flame; and for "ice cream," we are but waiting for the completion of the Mt. Hood road to have a constant supply on hand. Whilst our friend of the Polynesian is doubting the truth of our advance, it is not unlikely we shall pass him and leave him in the distance.

Fourth of July Celebration.

We were highly gratified with the successful efforts of the Committee of Arrangements, and the citizens generally, to celebrate the Anniversary of American Independence, in an orderly and truly becoming manner, and with a truly patriotic spirit, evincing thereby the undying interest of American citizens, in the perpetuity of the momentous and happy results of the noble deeds of '76. This day can never lose its interest with the American people while they retain the enjoyment of national independence, individual liberty and a participation in the free institutions of a happy republic.

A day that marks the beginning of a new era in the world's history—an era, noted as the age of religious, political and mental freedom and improvement—a day consecrated to liberty—and upon whose sacred enjoyments no selfish or ungenerous spirit should ever be permitted to encroach. Upon the annual return of this memorable day, the American, wherever he wanders, and whatever be his circumstances, feels the warm devotions of his soul directed to the God of liberty and the free and beloved institutions of his own native land, which he can never forget or cease to love while his heart remains susceptible of the hallowed influence of unaffected patriotism. It cannot, therefore, be a matter of surprise, that we should celebrate the birth-day of our national independence, even on the shores of the Pacific. We give below a brief sketch of the proceedings of the day in Oregon City, under the superintendance of the Committee of Arrangement named in our last.

A very handsome Liberty-pole, which had been presented to the committee by Mr. Wm. Holmes, was erected under the superintendance of Col. Wm. Finley, marshal of the day, and followed by a round 31 guns. The procession was formed at the City Hotel, and marched in double file, under Col. Finley, with the flag of the United States borne in front to the Methodist Church, where the farther ceremonies of the day were opened with appropriate thanksgiving and prayer by Rev. J. L. Parish. The Declaration of Independence was then read from the stand by A. L. Lovejoy, Esq.; after which, the Hon. Peter H. Burnett, orator of the day, addressed a crowded audience of both sexes, in an extempore speech, in which he expressed, in his free and happy style, not only his own sentiments, but those of the community. The oration was well timed and judiciously adapted to our peculiar circumstances; but as Judge Burnett, at the request of the committee and many other citizens, has promised to write it out for publication, we forbear any farther remarks. We hope to receive it in time for our next.

The procession was then marched, as before, to the hotel, where a public dinner was prepared by Capt. H. M. Knighton, proprietor, by order of the committee, which was free for all, and we believe gave general satisfaction. The cloth being removed, the following regular toasts were read successively by A. L. Lovejoy at the head of the table, and M. M. McCarver at the foot, and cheered as follows:

REGULAR TOASTS.

1. *The day we celebrate*—May it ever be remembered with as pure a spirit of Republicanism as was entertained by those patriots who signed the chart of liberty of '76. 3 cheers, 1 gun.
2. *The illustrious '56*—Signers of the Declaration of Independence; of sentiments honest, patriotic, brave, self-denying, and in all respects worthy of imitation under like circumstances. Peace and happiness to their remains. 5 cheers, 2 guns.
3. *The soldiers of the American Revolution*, made their mark, which must and shall ever be lived up to by their posterity. 3 cheers, 1 gun.
4. *George Washington*—(Honorably called the Father of his country,) was the champion of Freedom; a foe to tyrants, a hero, a statesman, and a christian. 6 cheers, 3 guns.
5. *Lafayette, Montgomery, Pulaski, DeKalb, and other worthies*—Who felt the tyrant's hand, and gave aid in the establishment of Freedom, may the memory of them remain a morning star to the nations from whence they sprang. 7 cheers, 3 guns.
6. *James K. Polk, president of the United States*—Worthy of the station which he occupies, and in whose Message the true sentiments of the nation are spoken. 9 cheers, 3.
7. *George M. Dallas, vice president of the United States*—A stern republican statesman; second to no man in the world. 3 cheers, 1 gun.
8. *Oregon*—Belonging to the United States, and rightfully claiming her protection, and ever ready to repel any insult offered in seducing her from that path by hired emissaries, come from what source they may. 10 cheers, 3 guns.
9. *Texas*—Re-union under the Star Spangled Banner of her sister republic, the interference of European monarchies notwithstanding. 7 cheers, 2 guns.
10. *United States of America*—An example for the world, a bone of jealousy to tyrants, the home of the free, land of the brave, and an asylum of the oppressed. 13 cheers, 5 guns.
11. *Education*—The bulwark of all free institutions, and elevates man to that sphere where he belongs. 3 cheers, 1 gun.
12. *Freedom of the Press*—A light to the world, causes tyrants to tremble, monarchies to crumble, and republics to rise. 5 cheers, 2 guns.
13. *The American Ladies*—Accomplished, beautiful, and useful. If every Oregonian swain were possessed of one, we could exclaim "Oregon is safe under the stars and stripes." 5 cheers, 3 guns.

VOLUNTEER TOASTS.

- By Col. Jas. Taylor—The orator of the day done well his task.
- By Hugh Burns—Oregon, the best portion of the American Union, and last settled.
- By J. R. Robb—The flag of our American nation, now kimed by the breezes of heaven, may her stars and stripes ever continue to float over the happy shores of Oregon.
- By Philip Foster—As this day is a celebration of the independence of the United States of America, and the stars and stripes, with the golden eagle at the head, as a token of liberty—so may Oregon continue from year to year to celebrate the same; and may the day speedily arrive when she shall be added to the brilliant number of stars, and the great republic not be ashamed of her legitimate son.
- By J. W. Smith—The land we live in, and that which we left—lives there a man with soul so dead, who, to himself, hath never said, "This is my own, my native land?"
- By J. R. Robb—TEMPERANCE—May Oregon be a temperate community; it builds our houses, cultivates our fields, puts vigor in the body, intelligence in the brain, and spirit into the whole composition of man.
- By H. Straight—ORANGE—The vigor of mankind is in her steps; the heaven of liberty in her eye; her destiny is written in two words—onward and upward.
- By Col. J. Taylor—THE UNION: May millions of freemen unborn, Revere this great day of her birth; And a like constitution release and adorn Every people, and nation, on earth.
- By T. Magruder—Every settler of Oregon, of whatever nation, name, or creed, if his heart be honest and his soul be free, I hail him as my brother.

By A. L. Lovejoy, Esq.—May time soon come when the Lion and Unicorn may cease to go about on the North American continent seeking whom they may bite.

The enjoyments of the day were closed with the more bewitching enchantments of the ball-room at the hotel, and we are much pleased to be able to say that, during the whole of the day and evening, no untoward circumstance occurred to mar in the least, the sacred enjoyments of the day, and that the only matter of regret was the slight inclemency of the weather.

For the Spectator.

MR. EDITOR—My attention was called to the following remarks, made in the Polynesian, a paper printed in the Sandwich Islands, on the 25th April last, which, whether dictated by the editor or some person having a deeper interest in the profits arising from such trade coming, as it does, from persons living on the great highway to this much neglected country, we view as equally untimed and unfriendly to our interest:

"We have before alluded to exaggerated statements made in American papers of late, relative to the business of this country and Oregon. The paragraph we give below, and others of a similar nature, will undoubtedly mislead some merchant to their cost. The two sailing packets running between Oregon and the Sandwich Islands, cannot accommodate the commerce of the Columbia. Freight, it was supposed, would advance fifty to a hundred per cent. when the crops come to market."

Now, Mr. Editor, I propose, through the medium of your paper, to make a frank avowal of our real condition, which I am certain is but the suppressed feeling and opinion of this community. Up to this date, July 1, 1846, from some strange and unaccountable cause, not a vessel of trade has entered our harbors since the fall of 1845, except one from Sitka, belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company, which had been freighted with goods exclusively for that market; and strange as it may appear, we have had no increase in the quantity of goods or number of stores on account of the three last great emigrating parties of 1843-44-45. Indeed, it may well be questioned whether there were as many goods in Oregon when the last great American party, consisting of nearly 5000 persons, arrived, as there was when the first one, in 1843, reached here. We found on our arrival at Oregon City, (for I came here in '43,) four commercial houses, to wit: one kept by Dr. John McLaughlin, then chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company; one by Mr. Abernethy for the benefit of the Methodist Mission; one by F. W. Pettygrove, and connected with the house of Benson & Brothers, N. Y.; one by Capt. Couch, in connexion with Mr. Cushing of Newburyport, Massachusetts—the two latter houses have each a brig engaged in this trade, and are probably the two vessels alluded to in the above paragraph. These mercantile houses, without increase in number, still remain, with this alteration, that the one belonging to the Methodist Mission, has been transferred to Mr. Abernethy, and that of Dr. McLaughlin to the Hudson's Bay Company; and these are the only mercantile houses in Oregon, except the H. B. Company's at Vancouver, where goods are sold to the white inhabitants; and the only vessels employed in this trade, except occasionally transient visitors, are those belonging to the H. B. Company, which, if we are not misinformed, are prohibited by the rules of the Company from carrying freight for persons not concerned with them; and the two brigs above mentioned, are employed in the importation and transportation of such articles as these houses, with which they are connected, have on hand, and decline, like the H. B. Company, the freight of private individuals when they have a sufficient cargo of their own.

Captain Couch's vessel is now on a voyage to the states, and will probably not reach here before the summer of 1847, and we understand that he will receive cash alone for his goods until she arrives, and that F. W. Pettygrove has at the ship landing a sufficient freight (consisting of lumber, flour and salmon) for the vessel connected with that house, and the arrival of which is daily expected.

Thus we are situated, in a country remote from the civilized world; without vessels to import our goods, or export our surplus products; without that necessary competition to regulate trade; without the absolute necessities for the support of the most economical farming community; with our lumber yards stocked with boards, laths, &c., for shipments; with a rapidly increasing surplus of flour and other productions of the soil; with a soil and climate, for the production of grain and other articles of commerce, not to be surpassed, rapidly filling up with the most industrious farming community; while our best