

be convinced that it is not chimerical, it is not exaggerated, but that it is impossible to half estimate its result.

I ask who can oppose it? No man's rights to be abridged? No man's taxes increased, and not even one cent asked for from any man. All I ask is that which is now a great part of it useless, and ever must be without this road; and I do not ask that without pay in money, for the whole cost of the road is to be expended for materials and labor, and the products of the earth to sustain the labor among, and paid over to the people, to whom the lands belong. Though it does not go into the treasury of the United States, it goes into the pockets of the people, directly to whom that treasury belongs, and a sum too, more than double of that which will be received for the same lands in any other way. I call on you, and upon all to examine and investigate this subject, and to support me in it, so far as I am right, and no farther; it is to the press I look for aid and support in bringing this subject fully before the people.

It is not a political question, it is not sectional, it is one in which all parties can act, and all interests be benefitted; it is no stock-jobbing or gambling scheme, there being no company to manage it; no stock to speculate upon; no one can be deceived or defrauded. And the only question seems to be, do we want such a road? Is it desirable? Will it be a national benefit, and will not the whole world be benefitted by it? It appears to me that these questions cannot be answered but in the affirmative. I believe that the whole human family are to be benefitted by this road, the ignorant enlightened, the destitute raised to industry, comfort, usefulness and virtue—and who can say nay? If I cannot from the lands build the road, the people still have the lands, they do not part with one inch, that is not applied to it, but if I build the road, then they gain all I have promised—yea, far more.

I shall remain here a few days, then pass through Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, and hope to be in New York by the middle of next month, when I will give in person more full particulars of my exploration.

Immediate action is necessary; this question must be decided by next Congress—the lands from the lake to the Mississippi are fast being taken up, and will soon be so much as to defeat the object. Iowa and Wisconsin will soon be made States, which will be an objection. Oregon, so much interested in, and so entirely dependent upon, this road for its membership of, and connection with our government, calls for action.

Truly yours, A. WHITNEY.

**EXERCISES IN GRAMMAR.**—A country schoolmaster summoned his grammar class to parse the sentence, "there is a bullfrog snoring in the pond." "Jemmy," said the pedagogue, with a brow as severe as that of Jupiter Tonans, "Jemmy, parse the word *bullfrog*." "*Bullfrog* is a noun"—but here Jemmy stuck fast. "What kind of a noun?" demanded the knight of the raton. "A *bloody noun*, sir," innocently replied the juvenile grammarian.

Bernadotte, King of Sweden, speaking of his own warlike disposition and appearance, once remarked, that whenever he looked in the glass he was afraid of himself.

There are many who are afraid to look in the glass, not so much on account of their warlike, as their particularly ugly appearance.

**ANGER.**—It is a passion fitter for flies and insects, than for persons professing nobleness and bounty. It is troublesome, not only to those that suffer it, but to those that behold it.

The two most precious things on this side of the grave, are *reputation* and *life*. But it is to be lamented that a contemptible whisper may deprive us of the one, and the weakest weapon of the other.

"Does smoking offend you?" said a landlord to his newly arrived boarder. "Not at all, sir." "I'm very glad to hear it, as you will find your chimney fire constantly given to the practice."

"Let us lay no temptation in the path of youth," as the frog said when he popped his head under water on seeing a boy pick up a stone. *K-chug!*



## THE SPECTATOR.

Oregon City, February 18, 1847.

GEO. L. CURRY, EDITOR.—N. W. COLWELL, PRINTER.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—Our correspondent 'J. H. P.' is informed that we were so unfortunate as to lose his last letter, and the one previously received, containing with other poems, an unpublished one, entitled, "To one I Love." He will do us the favor to forward another copy.

'F. F. F.' was received too late for insertion in this number.

'W. T. N.' is inadmissible.

We have received a communication in relation to the immigrants and the southern route, the publication of which, in consequence of its length, has been necessarily put on file for our next.

Acrostics by "Nedgo," shall appear in our next. They were received too late for insertion this week.

The publication of all the enactments of the last session of the Legislature, is concluded in this number of the Spectator.

**GRATIFYING.**—We have received a gratifying increase to our subscription list for the new year, from Vancouver county; our friends in that section will accept our acknowledgments for the zeal they have manifested in behalf of the Spectator.

The bark Toulon and the schooner Cadborough crossed the bar and went out to sea on the 15th ultimo.

**SUDDEN DEATH.**—A correspondent informs us that Mr. John Horregan, commonly called Paddy Roland, was found dead in his bed, in Champoeg, on the morning of the 10th inst. The verdict of the Coroner's inquest was, death occasioned by intoxication. We regret to state that the deceased has left a wife and four children, helpless and homeless. This is the first death that we have heard of in Oregon, from such a cause; let it suffice as a warning to others.

**PAINTING.**—Mr. Paul Kane, a Canadian gentleman, has been in our city recently, engaged in putting upon canvas, some of the interesting scenery of our locality. He is an artist of great merit, and has made several faithful and beautiful pictures of this city and the Falls. His paintings are in oil colors, extremely attractive and strikingly correct. We understand that it is Mr. Kane's intention, during a sojourn of several months, to touch with the magic of his elegant art, various points of the wild and sublime scenery of Oregon, and on his return to the States, to publish the results of his labor. Our countrymen on the eastern slope of the Rocky mountains, entertain imperfect notions, doubtless, of the appearance of Oregon and its settlements, but we can assure them that in the achievements of Mr. Kane, they may behold correct delineations of the country.

**EDUCATION.—Public Schools.**—We have received a letter from the Rev. J. S. Griffin, containing the very gratifying information of the organization of the citizens of Tualatin Plains, for purposes of education. A board of trustees was established, of which, Mr. Griffin is secretary, "empowered with the responsibilities of securing approved teachers, importing from time to time, all necessary books, embracing late improvements in teaching, and as the agents of the people, to take such general superintendence of matters as will be best calculated to secure the permanency, utility, and prosperity of school operations." These trustees are to hold their office for one year, and it was made "their duty to call meetings of the school community, near the close of the year," for the purpose of reorganizing said board of trustees, and to call other general meetings for counsel and instruction, as occasion may require. It was likewise made the duty of the secretary, in addition to the usual duties of such an officer, "to make such importation of books, stationary, and school apparatus as the board shall order."

We are glad to notice this movement that has taken place in Tualatin county, and sincerely hope that it may be followed by similar action in other sections of our Territory. "The Oregon Printing Association" have published a large edition of the Elementary Spelling Book, which may be obtained at a very low price, which will render material aid to such laudable endeavors. Let the seeds of knowledge be sown broadcast throughout the land, and we shall ever have a vigorous, industrious and happy population.

## JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

ITS EXTENSION OVER OREGON.

An extension of the jurisdiction of the United States over this country has been long and most devoutly desired by every American within its limits. The news of the settlement of our boundary question seemed to promise us an immediate gratification of our hopes, and ever since the reception of this news have we been looking forward anxiously for the consummation of our wishes, expecting and expecting, till we are now almost heart-sick with disappointment. What is the policy of our Government? What is her intention? Why has she not given her people in the far-off wilderness, the protection of her great authority—that protection so long and unaccountably withheld? These and similar questions are daily propounded by our citizens without satisfactory reply.

In the histories of countries we can find no parallel to that of Oregon; rapid in its growth, mature in its development, mixed in its population, circumstances have conspired to render its history peculiar and interesting. Years without government or law of any kind, except the law of love inherent in the human heart, its industrious inhabitants still peacefully labored on, although one of the great branches of enterprise was entirely cut off at that period, from the American trade, by a powerful monopoly. Time brought change and the necessity of human government and law. Hence originated the social compact and provisional government under which we now live, with that anomaly of an oath to which all of our executive officers are obliged to subscribe, as follows:

"I do solemnly swear that I will support the Organic Laws of the provisional government of Oregon, so far as said Organic Laws are consistent with my duties as a citizen of the United States, or a subject of Great Britain, and faithfully demean myself in office. So help me God."

Notwithstanding the imperfections of this government, thus far it has been faithfully observed, which redounds to the honor of our citizens. The intense anxiety with which the government is looked for, which an extension of the laws of the United States will give us, at present almost absorbs every other consideration. It is wished for, prayed for, daily and nightly, as a remedy for increasing grievances and the grand means of permanent prosperity. It would give importance and character to the country—fresh impulse to trade and the various branches of industry, and satisfy the public mind upon the subject of land claims. In short, it would do so much good, that we are vexed to think that the time, even when we shall have it is uncertain, in consequence of the short-sighted policy which seems to control the actions of the general Government. We will have news very soon, however, that will afford us clearer and more certain information in relation to this subject, we hope; though, in the mean time, we may be compelled to tax our patience greatly, still, let us trust our expectations will be abundantly gratified.

**WASHINGTON'S BIRTH DAY.**—The anniversary of Washington's birth day occurs on Monday next; it would be a happy occasion for the exhibition of a little patriotic feeling in Oregon. Let us commemorate it in a manner that will testify the high respect and profound reverence we entertain for the memory of the Father of his country.

Illustrious spirit of the revered dead,  
Freedom's blest refuge when sweet hope seemed fled,  
When Mercy ravished, her meek power defied,  
And foul Oppression ruled in bloody pride;  
When impious men broke Justice's high laws,  
And Virtue mourned her violated cause;  
When fair Columbia tottered to her fall,  
War's sulphurous canopy her threatened pall;  
When Ruin wildly held supreme her sway,  
And fierce Destruction clamored for his prey;  
God smiled in goodness on the wounded earth,  
And raised thee, armed invincible in worth!  
Man's noble champion—Glory's chosen son!  
Our country's matchless chieftain—Godlike Washington!

**FARMER'S MEETING.**—We are informed that an adjourned meeting of the farmers of Tualatin county, for the purpose of determining upon the best mode of disposing of their productions, which was numerously attended, resulted highly satisfactory to all concerned. We understand that the conclusion arrived at was adverse to the formation of a chartered company. A committee was appointed to select some competent person in Oregon City, to act as agent for each and all, in the shipment of their produce and the importation of such goods as may be desired by them. The full proceedings of the meeting will be published in the next Spectator.

**EXPLORING PARTY.**—Quite a number of our citizens are preparing to leave for Puget's Sound in the ensuing Spring, some for the purpose of exploration. A friend suggests the propriety of a union of effort, with the object of thoroughly exploring the country lying between the Sound and Wallawalla, and establishing a permanent settlement in that section, if practicable. The idea is worthy of consideration.

For the Oregon Spectator.

NEW ROADS TO OREGON.—No. 1.

MR. EDITOR—In the last two numbers of the Oregon Spectator, I have perused with some attention and interest, two communications over the signature of "Z," the writer of which, I think, in the main, is entitled to some credit; but when this mead is granted, I think it does not altogether shield him from the charge of errability. His object in view appears commendable—and that is, the discovery of the nearest, best, and most feasible wagon route from the United States to Oregon. But in relation to the appropriate manner of accomplishing this object, judging from his published articles, doubtless he and myself would materially differ. I cannot effectually persuade myself that the surest and most successful method of obtaining an improved and tolerably good road to Oregon, is to quote a page or two from Mr. Fremont's journal, (a man who always traveled with pack animals,) where he has described some parts of the old road as almost impassable, and who did not accompany wagons over any portion of the road; neither can I persuade myself that it is consummate wisdom to disparage and underrate the old road so excessively as this writer has done, until a better one can be found. "Praise the bridge that carries you safely over," is an old adage, and worthy of consideration in this case; for thousands of immigrants now resident in the Willamette valley, have been safely carried over this old road, and that too, when various attempts have been made to obtain a nearer and better route, but without success.

"Z" says, that "a considerable sum was raised by subscription for Mr. Barlow's benefit," to enable him to complete his road. I understand, from an authentic source, that Mr. Barlow has received the enormous sum of thirty dollars on this subscription for opening and improving this great thoroughfare. The writer of the article under review also says, that after some little improvements upon the road, "no material improvements upon the ground can hereafter be effected." I would be very glad to be informed by this sage writer, why improvements cannot be as readily and thoroughly effected upon the old route, as upon any other. When "Z" will discover a shorter, better, and more practicable road, which will admit of "material improvement," than the old one, and Mr. Barlow's, then will I advocate his claims to a share out of the enormous sum which was raised by subscription for Mr. Barlow's benefit; but until this is accomplished, I think Mr. Barlow is entitled all the profits arising from this subscription, and in addition to this, a considerable amount of approbation and credit, for the victory he has achieved in finding a wagon road leading into the Willamette valley.

By the foregoing remarks, I would not wish to be understood as discouraging any laudable attempt to discover and explore a nearer, safer, and better road than the old one; on the contrary, I am decidedly a strenuous advocate for continued and unremitting explorations of the various portions of the country, where there is any possible chance for a passable road, until unequivocal evidence shall be adduced, that the best and most desirable route that ever can be ascertained leading to Oregon, has been discovered. I cannot fully acquiesce in the sentiment warmly expressed by some persons, that because a large amount of suffering and many deaths have been occasioned by Mr. Meek's attempted cut-off in 1845, and by Mr. Applegate and his associates attempting to bring a part of the immigration of 1846 over the southern route into the Willamette valley, therefore all attempts at discovering and improving any new routes, should hereafter forever cease. For it must be confessed by all, that comparatively little sickness and suffering from extreme exposure, and but few deaths have occurred upon the old route. But in all new countries, time, perseverance and repeated attempts at exploration and discovery, alone can accomplish the great object of ascertaining the preferable and most practicable route for a road. And the American people are peculiarly noted for this species of enterprise. The peculiar situation of this country undoubtedly requires several different roads terminating at various points for the convenience of future immigrants, and the inhabitants generally. But while I would strongly advocate the discovery of new routes, I would wish it to be distinctly understood, that I am positively