

For the Oregon Spectator.  
SAN FRANCISCO, California,  
10th February, 1847.

MR. EDITOR—Learning by the Toulon, there are many persons in Oregon designing to come to this country in the Spring, I feel myself obligated, as a traveler over the road, to give them some advice in reference to their mode of getting here: and take the liberty of addressing them (by your permission) through your columns.

In the first place, let every horse be *skod*, without fail. All who neglect this, will rue it on their arrival here. For not only will they travel much faster, and lose no horses by the way, but have something to ride after getting here, as by neglecting this, their worn out hooved and skeleton animals will be unfit for service for months; and besides, they will get next season but few horses, and at high prices in California, in consequence of the war. Mules are in demand, and bring much better prices than horses; and do not suffer yourself to be imposed upon by certain folks in Oregon, who will tell you (as they deceived me) that the scrubbiest Oregon pony is worth more in California than the best of the native breed. Or rather I was told by several, a good one of the former, would trade for two of the latter. This is altogether false. A good sized, well broke harness horse from Oregon, is in demand and will sell well.

Treat the Indians kindly along the road, but trust them not. Though you risk nothing in a couple hunting apart from the main body along the whole route. After you get to the Siskiyou mountain, use your pleasure in spilling blood, but were I traveling with you, from this on to your first sight of the Sacramento valley, my only communication with these treacherous, cowardly and untamable rascals, would be through my rifle. The character of their country also precludes the idea of making peace with them, or ever maintaining treaties if made: so that philanthropy must be set aside in cases of necessity, which self preservation here dictates these savages being killed off as soon as possible. After getting into Sacramento valley, you will find good Indians and peaceable.

There is no danger whatever to be apprehended, except in the thickets and rocks along the trail, at particular spots, where they ambush themselves immediately on the path. Some dogs and men to go ahead and examine these, as well as the firing a gun or two, on entering suspicious places, will clear the road.

From the Creole river to Sacramento is 425 miles, and thence to Sutter's Fort, 175. This can be traveled in 25 days, with good horses. The rough and hard travel does not commence till after passing the Shaste peak, and getting on Destruction river, a branch of the Sacramento. The road along here for about fifty miles, is the worst on the continent of North America. Just at the foot of Shaste peak, and at the entrance into this barren, desolate region, you will find a beautiful small prairie of green grass: stop here at least three days to rest and feed your animals.

You will be apt to find little or no game at your season of passing, from the Clamet river on; so keep your dried meat for this part of the journey.

Bring all your garden seeds. And make arrangements to have sent down next Fall, on some vessel, all the apple scions and grafts that can be got.

Pears are plenty here of all kinds. Send your farming utensils—and also your white seed wheat; as I doubt not but this article will be scarce and high in the Fall. Ship your *ictas* to W. H. Davis, Esq. of this place, who will see to their safe landing and storage.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't,  
C. E. PICKET.

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MR. EDITOR—By the arrival of the Toulon, Capt. Crosbie, we have received another version of the Oregon Treaty, which, as far as we can judge, can be relied on as official; and the articles of the Treaty are decidedly far more in favor of British subjects, than those received at a previous date; but still they would admit of modification in favor of the latter, could it however have been expected or even desired that Great Britain should have plunged the nation in a war merely to protect the interests of a few British merchants, and the country of little or no value either in a commercial or politi-

# Oregon Spectator.

"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way."

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cal point of view; the very idea is preposterous. True, it is to be remarked, we have a precedent in regard to Mear's affair in Nootka Sound; there indeed we were on the eve of a war, which would have occurred, had not Spain apologized and accepted of the terms dictated to her by G. Britain. Spain was then a great nation, and was making rapid strides in discovery and securing all she could—but now a mere blank among nations. The unprovoked insult on Mear's caused a strong feeling on his behalf all over England; and again, in those days, the ruling passion amongst all nations was war; since then, however, great changes have taken place—the march of intellect has made rapid progress—civilization is greatly improved—nations now know and feel the consequences resulting from shedding torrents of human blood, and also now keenly feel the responsibility that is attached to them in waging war, and thus do we reap the benefits resulting from enlightened men holding power and making a proper use of it; and ought we not then, one and all, to rejoice, and render thanks to God that this long pending and agitated boundary line is amicably, and I may add, satisfactorily settled for the interest of all, and that the honor of both powers has not been in the slightest degree sullied, but stands as high as ever.

OBSERVER.

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## EDUCATION.

'Tis Education forms the common mind.'

Of all the evils which threaten to trouble us, there is not a greater than the want of a disposition in our people to educate their children. The yielding of any portion of our territory, after indisputable proof of our right to it, would be an act disgracing the name of American; but that would not bear comparison with the neglect of the education of our children. The land might revert to us by similar acts of diplomacy as that which would take it from us, or a declaration of independence might place it in the same situation as our own favored Territory. But on the other hand, with all that is justly ours, with the whole continent at our command, and our children growing up in ignorance, of what benefit would it be to us? Verily it would open the larger field to the despot. In such a case, let the political aspirant come in and use his powers of mind for our destruction, and we would be sure to fall. Ignorance in the mass is sure always to lead to despotism. Wealth opens here her horn of plenty to all who use any application and industry. This in all countries, is a fruitful source of that system so destructive to human happiness, the formation of *classes in society*. The rich governing the poor—*wealth, not worth*, the high road to places of distinction and trust. Educate your children, and that evil will in a great measure be remedied, or at least the consequences will not be as greatly felt. Who can contrast the cold formalities of society, with the disinterested friendship of the schoolmate, and not feel a wish to renew acquaintance with those days of pure friendship? Educate the mass, and the distinctions made by wealth will not be seen. Who can forget the associates of school days? Let the fountain of knowledge be free and open to all, and the heaven-born principles of our glorious constitution will exist as long as the earth shall continue to roll. Behold in your children the future rulers of the land. Is it not expedient that they be able to read the issues from the press, religious and political, in order to judge for themselves? Should they not well understand the principles of the constitution of our country, as well as the general laws of nations? Should they not be able to read in the history of the past, the cause of the rise and fall of nations, in order to profit by the experience of their predecessors? Then educate

them. Let us establish a school in every settlement in our land, provide good and comfortable schoolhouses, books and apparatus. Let us employ teachers well qualified for the task, and sustain those well, who prove competent; so that our children may be benefited, and the teachers continued in their proper sphere. Let us through our representatives, as early as practicable, urge the appropriations of public lands, in every township throughout the Territory, for the purpose of supporting common schools. By so doing, the labor of our hands will not be lost, but on the contrary, our children will bless us, and our children's children will revere our memory and become a blessing to the world.

C. W. S.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—A gentleman who has passed the two last years in Oregon and California, reached this city yesterday. His name is James Clymer, and migrated from Milwaukee, with a view of determining for himself the character of that country. He left California, in company with six other persons, the latter end of April, and has been ninety days on the route. Mr. Clymer has kindly permitted us to glance at his diary—we could do no more—kept for the whole time of his absence, and to select such facts as may interest our readers. We have, of necessity, to take such incidents as occurred during his return home, passing over many descriptions of country, soil, places, mountains, people and government, in Oregon and California.

Mr. Clymer met, at different times and different circumstances, parties of immigrants to Oregon and California, who were moving about, discontented, and going back and forth, as whim dictated. On the 22d of March, he notices having met, in California, a party of one hundred and fifty persons, thirty or forty of whom were then going to the Columbia river, having become tired of the other paradise. On the 20th of April, Mr. Sumner and his family arrived at camp, prepared for their journey to the States. Mr. Sumner had been in Oregon; from thence he went to California; and, being still dissatisfied, he was now returning, after having spent five years in traveling and likewise a small fortune.

He met, and left Mr. L. P. Hastings, the author of a work on California, at his camp on Bear Creek, a small creek running into Feather river. He has located near the road traveled by the immigrants to California. Mr. Hastings had been looking for some force from the State, with which it was designed to revolutionize California, but in this he had been disappointed. He was then, it seemed, awaiting the action of the American Government, in taking possession of that country—of which he appeared to have some intimation.

Twelve days of travel up the valley of the St. Mary's river over a most sterile country, brought them to the point where Lieut. Fremont intersected the wagon trail, on his route to California last fall. On the 23d May, after long consultation and many arguments for and against the two routes—one leading northward by Fort Hall, and the other by the Salt Lake—they determined to take Fremont's trail, by the Lake. Interesting as it is, we cannot follow the traveler on his way, but must content ourselves with his conclusion as to the practicability of the route. Mr. Clymer is of opinion that it is very little nearer to California, and not so good a road as that by Fort Hall.

On the 23d of July, Mr. Clymer met the advance company of Oregon immigrants, consisting of eleven wagons, nearly opposite the Red Buttes. From the North Platte, they had the pleasant sight of beholding the valley to a great distance dotted with people, horses, cattle, wagons, and tents. Still further on, they met three small companies—some destined for Oregon, and some for California. "It is remarkable," says the jour-

nal, "how anxious these people are to hear from the Pacific country; and strange that so many of all kinds and classes of people should sell out comfortable homes, in Missouri and elsewhere, pack up and start across such an immense barren waste, to settle in some new place, of which they have, at most, no certain information." At Fort Laramie, they met Gov. Boggs and Judge Morin, from Jackson county. After a night spent in conversation, both of these gentlemen determined to change their destination for Oregon. Other parties were met, all getting along cheerfully—suffering, only, from the deprivations of the Indians on their cattle and horses. The only death among the immigrants is that of Mr. Trimble, who was killed by the Indians.—*Missouri Republican*, July 30th, 1846.

FIRST TRADING SETTLEMENT ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER.—It is not generally known that Capt. Jonathan Winship, of Brighton, projected and commenced the first trading establishment on the Columbia river. Two ships were employed upon the expedition—the O' Cain, under command of Capt. Nathan Winship himself, and the Albatross, commanded by Capt. Nathan Winship, his brother. The latter sailed from Boston July 7, 1809, with about twenty-five persons on board, and with the proper outfit for such an undertaking. She had a long passage to Cape Horn, and arrived at the Sandwich Islands March 25th, the succeeding year. Here an addition of twenty-five persons, all islanders but one, was made to the party, and the ship was properly provisioned.

She sailed for the Columbia, April 18th, and arrived at the mouth of the river May 25th. The log-book of the ship describes her course up the river as one of great difficulty, through the strong current, the shallowness of some parts of the river, and ignorance of the channel, Vancouver's chart being quite incorrect. After cruising up the river ten days, a place was selected for the settlement, and preparations were made for the erection of a large trading and dwelling house; land was cleared for cultivation, and some seeds were sown, when a rise in the river put a stop to their operations. The land was overflowed, and the house, which was nearly finished, was filled with water to the depth of eighteen inches. Of course the spot had to be abandoned.

At this time Captain Jonathan Winship, in the O' Cain, was at Sir Francis Drake's Bay, California, and his brother determined to join and consult with him, before attempting any other location. The settlement was temporarily abandoned, and the Albatross left the river July 18th. The two ships continued trading and sealing upon the coast, but did not return to the Columbia, as Mr. Astor's projected settlement had become known; and as he had sent out force and material for the large establishment of Astoria, it was considered useless for a rival company, so much inferior in strength, to attempt to compete with him. The expedition, however, was not finally given up until the breaking out of the war in 1812, when all thought of renewing it was abandoned.

If Oregon is annexed to the Union, Captain Winship is certainly entitled to a claim for land, as the first American settler upon the banks of the Columbia. His settlement was anterior to all others. Unfortunate circumstances in location, and the occurrence of war, put a stop to the enterprising project; but he was the first among the pioneers of civilization, who planted corn, and laid the foundation of a settlement upon the Columbia river.—*Boston Courier*.

NOSE-OLGY.—Amongst Europeans, the Italians rank first for beauty of nose; the Dutch for the excessive ugliness of that feature. The English nose is apt to be thick and cartilaginous; that of the Jews somewhat crooked. In France almost every man of genius has had a well-formed nose. Short and flat noses, so censured by Aristotle, still rank low in the conscience of physiognomy. Socrates, however, was a singular instance of a hideous nose. Boerhave and Gibbon had one of the same disagreeable feature.

DESPERATE PASSION.—"Pete, what makes you look so awful?"

"Jake, I'm agitated, and unless my spirits are soothed, I shall do something desperate, I know I shall—I'll rush out and tear a board off the pig pen!"

Modesty and sincerity are laudable.