

# OREGON SPECTATOR.

"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way,"

Vol. 3.

Oregon City, (Oregon Territory,) February 24, 1848.

## BY AUTHORITY.

**AN ACT** to amend an act, passed at the annual election of 1846, for the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That Vancouver county be entitled to elect one member to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 2.** That Clatsop county be entitled to elect one member to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 3.** That Lewis County be entitled to elect one member to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 4.** That Clackamas County be entitled to elect three members to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 5.** That Clatsop County be entitled to elect four members to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 6.** That Linn County be entitled to elect two members to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 7.** That Yam Hill County be entitled to elect three members to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 8.** That Polk County be entitled to elect three members to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 9.** That Tualatin County be entitled to elect three members to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 10.** That Benton County be entitled to elect two members to the House of Representatives, at the annual election of 1848.

**Sec. 11.** This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th December, 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** to establish a Territorial Road from Linn City to Zed Martins, &c.

**Sec. 1.** Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That Jeremiah Rowland, George Nelson and William T. Newby be, and they are hereby appointed a board of commissioners, to mark out and locate a territorial road from Linn city, Tualatin county, the nearest and best way to Chehalis valley, to, or near, to Smith's farm; thence the nearest and best way to the new bridge on the north fork of Yamhill river; thence the nearest and best way to Zed Martins, on the south fork of Yamhill river.

**Sec. 2.** Said commissioners are hereby required to meet at Linn city, on the first day of May, A. D. 1848, and proceed to mark out said road, and they are further required, to report the same to the county courts through which said road may pass.

**Sec. 3.** Said Commissioners are hereby required, to meet at Linn city, on the first day of May, A. D. 1848, and proceed to mark out said road, and they are further required, to report the same to the county courts, through which said road may pass.

**Sec. 4.** If said commissioners, or any one of them, shall neglect or refuse to serve, it shall be the duty of the governor, and he is hereby authorized and required to fill such vacancy.

**Sec. 5.** This act to take effect and be in force, from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th Dec., 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** to provide for the payment of the several departments of Oregon Territory, as provided for by law.

**Sec. 1.** Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the sum of twelve hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for pay of Legislative department.

**Sec. 2.** That the sum of three hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for executive department.

**Sec. 3.** For pay of prosecuting attorney, three hundred dollars.

**Sec. 4.** For the relief of Frederic Prigg, secretary of Territory, eighty dollars and thirty-eight cents.

**Sec. 5.** For the relief of G. W. Bell, Auditor of public accounts, sixty-eight dollars and eighty-seven and one half cents.

**Sec. 6.** Pay for territorial Treasurer, five hundred dollars.

**Sec. 7.** That the sum of sixteen hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for pay of the Judiciary.

**Sec. 8.** For pay of Indian department, two hundred dollars.

**Sec. 9.** Contingent expenses, five hundred dollars.

**Sec. 10.** This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th Dec. 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** authorizing the location of a Territorial road from Oxford, on the Willamette river in Clatsop County, to John McCoy's farm on Mealy Creek, in Linn County.

**Sec. 1.** Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That F. X. Mathews, W. H. Wilson, and More McConnell be and they are hereby

appointed Commissioners to view out and locate a Territorial road, from Oxford, on the Willamette river, by the nearest and most practicable route, via Salem, in Clatsop county—thence to Hale's Ferry, on the Santiam river, from thence to said McCoy's farm in Linn county.

**Sec. 2.** Said Commissioners shall meet at Oxford on the 16th day of May, A. D. 1848, and proceed to view out and locate said road.

**Sec. 3.** In case either, or all of said Commissioners shall fail or neglect to comply with the requisitions of this act, it shall be the duty of the Governor to appoint suitable persons to fill such vacancies; and further, said Commissioners shall report their action thereon to the several County Courts, through which said road shall pass.

**Sec. 4.** This act to take effect, and be in force, from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th Dec., 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** to locate a Territorial road leading from Tualatin plains, to Clatsop Plains.

**Sec. 1.** Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That B. Plimondon, J. Tuller, and J. Lampson be appointed Commissioners, to view out, and locate a Territorial road, from Tualatin Plains to Clatsop Plains, commencing at the Territorial road, leading from Portland to the Falls of the Yamhill river, where said road passes through B. Q. Tucker's Plain. Said Commissioners shall meet at Columbia, in Tualatin Plains, on the third Monday in May next, and proceed forthwith to view out and locate said road. And in case a vacancy occurs or the Commissioners fail to meet, as provided for in this bill, the Governor is required to fill any such vacancy, and set another day for the Commissioners to meet, to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

**Sec. 2.** That said Commissioners be required to make returns of the location of said road, to the Clerk of the County Court, in the respective counties, through which said road may pass.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved, 28th December, 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** to amend an act authorizing L. H. Judson and W. H. Wilson to construct a Mill race from Santiam river to Mill creek.

**Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, as follows:**

**Sec. 1.** That the 4th section of an act entitled, "An act authorizing L. H. Judson & W. H. Wilson to construct a mill race from Santiam river, to Mill creek," passed December 24th, A. D. 1844, be amended by striking out the words *three years*, and inserting *four and a half years*.

**Sec. 2.** This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th Dec., 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** to denominate E. Bratton's residence, "Pleasant Hill."

**Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, as follows:**

**Sec. 1.** That the residence of E. Bratton, situate in the second forks of the Willamette river, be and it is hereby denominated "PLEASANT HILL."

**Sec. 2.** This act to take effect, and be in force, from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th Dec., 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**A BILL** authorizing the Secretary of the Territory to insert enacting clauses in certain laws.

**Sec. 1.** Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That all acts passed at this session of the Legislature, without the enacting clause, the same shall be inserted by the Secretary of the Territory.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th Dec. 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** authorizing the location of a Territorial road from Oregon City to the Calapoosh river.

**Be it enacted by the Legislature of Oregon Territory, as follows:**

**Sec. 1.** That Jesse Looney, Morgan Keys, and Alexander Kirk, are hereby appointed commissioners to view out, and locate a Territorial road, leading from Oregon City to the Calapoosh river, at the farm of Alexander Kirk.

**Sec. 2.** Said road to cross the Molalla river at Wright's farm, thence to pass the farm of Daniel Waldo, thence to Hale's ferry on the Santiam river, thence to Morgan Keys, and terminate at said Kirk's farm, on the Calapoosh river.

**Sec. 3.** Said Commissioners shall meet at the house of Jesse Looney, on or before the 1st day of June, A. D. 1848, and proceed to view out and locate said road.

**Sec. 4.** In case a vacancy occurs by either, or all the Commissioners refusing or neglecting to act, the Governor is hereby authorized and required to appoint persons to fill such vacancies; and further, that said Commissioners are required to make returns of the location of said road

to the several County Courts, through which said road may pass.

**Sec. 5.** This act to take effect, and be in force, from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th Dec., 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT** to grant Elizabeth S. Sweet a Bill of Divorcement.

**Sec. 1.** Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory, That the bonds of matrimony subsisting between Elizabeth S. Sweet, and Charles B. Sweet, be, and the same are hereby dissolved; and the said Elizabeth divorced from all obligations of said marriage contract, and her name changed to Elizabeth S. Moore.

**Sec. 2.** This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th December, 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**AN ACT**, amendatory to an act, entitled an act in the statute laws of Iowa, defining the duties of judges of elections, to be appended to the 5th section of that act.

**Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of Oregon Territory as follows:**

**Sec. 1.** And it shall be the further duties of the judges, to deposit all the votes in the box, and no votes shall be counted, until the polls are closed, when the judges shall put the tickets on a string, and within ten days after the election, the judges shall deposit them in the county clerk's office, to be kept for reference.

**Sec. 2.** All acts or parts of acts in any way conflicting with this act, are hereby repealed.

**Sec. 3.** This act to take effect, and be in force, from and after its passage.

Attest, ROBERT NEWELL, C. W. COOKE, Clerk. Speaker. Approved 28th December, 1847. GEO. ABERNETHY.

**To Geo. L. CURRY, Esq.**

Sir:—You will no doubt recognize the writer of this article in the remarks that will be made—he has no disposition to conceal his name from you even had you not the means in your hands of knowing it. At this time he feels, that as a citizen he meets you upon equal ground, and that you have equal privileges with himself to defend public character, and public acts. I intend air, that you shall have no cause to complain of me for want of courtesy towards you. As a private citizen, and a gentleman I have nothing to say against you or your character; but as an editor of the first newspaper published West of the Rocky mountains, as a public man expressing great reverence for truth, and the "palladium of human liberty" I have (not) a few words to say—and should I call your attention to statements you have made in the Spectator at different times, I hope you will be able, and will be allowed to explain yourself in a manner satisfactorily to the friends of truth. You will remember, sir, that you were requested to explain a statement you made in the Spectator for August 5th, 1847, under the caption—"Oregon and the United States," you say at the close of that article, "It is necessary to state perhaps, that the model of a law which closes the Tribune article, was knocked into pl two or three years ago." Was it so or was it not? The charge I bring against you in this case is no more nor less than wilful misrepresentation of what you knew to be not the case. If from December 19th, 1846, to August 5th, 1847—seven months and eighteen days, makes "two or three years" I wish to know sir, how near you came to telling the truth? Did you sir, in making that statement think that temperance would be promoted thereby? and that when you so triumphantly threw back upon the Tribune a statement, that no one would ever be able to correct you, or that at least you would enjoy the benefit of this statement until it could be corrected from some other source. You will allow me to close this paragraph by quoting a word from yourself sir, under date of January 31st, 1847, and subscribing most heartily to the sentiment there expressed, "Oregon needs no tawdry ornaments, or false gloss to set off her charms" and I fancy sir, that your statement respecting the Tribune's article is quite as superfluous and gratuitous as a statement of "a friend to truth" was, which you at that time was prompt to correct.

I have called your attention to one statement that you have doubtless long since forgotten, I will now speak of more recent transactions, and in doing so I wish that you and the public generally better understood, or at least appreciated and

were willing to act upon the principles laid down in the preamble to the constitution of the Oregon Printing Association. My personal acquaintance with a majority of the stockholders who first engaged and undertook to get a press into Oregon, enables me to say with considerable assurance, that the promotion of the cause of temperance was one leading motive in procuring that press. Sectarianism you know, is excluded by the constitution.—Now sir, please inform me of the first leading editorial article that has taken a decided stand in favor of temperance.—True sir, you have in your paper spoken of certain temperance meetings, but I have generally noticed the name of some other person attached to these notices, and that most temperance articles are admitted to your paper by special request. When you assumed the Editorial chair you knew what you contracted to do; among your first duties was "the promotion of science, temperance," &c. and no exclusiveness in politics. You know sir, that the stockholders of that press have appointed a board to manage and superintend the whole or entire printing concern, or procure a person to do so. How they could reconcile your course with the constitution and their duties to their associates I leave with them to explain. You appear to think you have obtained a great triumph over them in being able to maintain your post as editor for at least thirty days longer." I have not seen your extra and know not what you attempted to do, or what statements you made, unless you have published the whole of it in the Spectator for December 25th, 1847. If that is your extra, I think you have little to complain of, for I confess air I should have regarded your case with more sympathy and good feeling had I never read it. You say the board informed you the night previous, that your services were no longer required as editor. You seem to be anxious to hold your post, not so much for public good, but for some private object you have in view, that you imagine will be interesting to the public, and when you have got it out, to hold, it amounts to but little, and at most is a public slander, and in accomplishing this, to you all important object, you injure yourself and very possibly some others. You ought certainly to have known this nineteen twentieths of the people of Oregon cared but little about Judge Thornton, and less about any attempt of the Legislature to meddle with him. Besides sir, you forget that in your attempt to slander the legislature, you injured two hundred innocent citizens to touch one.—It appears to me, (I know not nor do I care how others look upon this matter), that the whole concern was a private matter in which you were too deeply involved to act with becoming independence, and the blow designed to be struck, chimed in with your feelings and came out in "our extra of this morning"—in an attempt to arouse "our clique" to maintain ourselves as editor for a specific and special purpose.

Now sir, pray tell us, I say us, for I am a citizen in common with thousands of others in Oregon, what were the whole proceedings of our legislature. From what I have seen in the Spectator, I regard your statements about the legislature in no better light than I would or did the anonymous statements made of the Legislature for 1845. You give us what please you, and what you dislike you withhold. Your summary for two years amounts to a perfect aggravation, and nothing more. I agree with the board that you had no business to grabble a single resolution that was ill born, simply because it suited your purpose; in doing so you not only lowered yourself but perverted the press or "palladium of human liberty," as you are pleased to term it, to a most desperate and unbecoming object. Your valedictory, I have not yet seen, but I can anticipate its character from what I have seen. Your talents I respect, and much regret that you should so much mistake the object of the press you conducted.

**A CITIZEN OF OREGON.**

For the Oregon Spectator.

SAN FRANCISCO, U. C. 25th Nov. 1847.

EDITOR OF THE OREGON SPECTATOR.

Sir—In a late number of your paper, I find a very false and slanderous communication over the signature of "A. Q." in reference to myself; and must ask the privilege of publishing a reply through the same medium.

The writer, whom I take to be some disappointed office seeker, in his wrath at my appointment of Indian Agent for Oregon, and having naught of truth to urge against my character and fair fame; resorts to several falsehoods to sustain his opposition to my elevation to this post; and you Mr. Editor I appeal, particularly with him in this case—whether the statement of such a character is to be published or not.

To prove the justice of my appointment, and the fitness of my character generally, and particularly in reference to my philanthropic feelings and sentiments towards the Indians, he makes use of a letter from me to emigrants leaving Oregon last spring for this country, which was published in your paper; wherein he not only perverts my entire meaning by his pretended quotation from that, but actually quotes a sentence not where to be found in the letter. "Kill all the Indians you may find from Oregon to California." And this he exultingly exclaims "is sufficient to tell the man."

I have said that you were a participant in this affair, because you suffered a falsehood to go forth here, uncorrected in a reference to a publication in your own paper, which might easily have been corrected by turning to look at your files. The following was the advice contained in my letter to the company on the subject of their Indian relations:—

"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 mountains, 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 unamenable rascals, would be through my rifle. The character of their country precludes the idea of making peace with them, or their ever maintaining treaties if made; so that philanthropy must be set aside in cases of necessity, and self preservation here dictates these savages being killed off as soon as possible. After getting into the Sacramento valley, you will find good Indians and peaceable."

It can be seen from this extract, how far the article referred to has done me justice, as out of 600 miles travel—the distance from Oregon City to this place, along the whole of which route Indians are to be met with,—I have advised hostilities against them of but one hundred. And this because whites have ever suffered here from pursuing a different policy.—I might adduce several arguments in favor of my position, or at any rate in excuse, for what no honest man who knows me, would charge other than an error in judgment—but 'twould necessarily lengthen on this communication too much. This is the course pursued by all mountaineers whilst traveling through hostile tribes.

For the Oregon Spectator.

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particulars which I have given you a few weeks before you were in Oregon. I have not seen your paper since—four of his men having all whilst staying in the country. I have not seen your paper since—four of his men having all whilst staying in the country. I have not seen your paper since—four of his men having all whilst staying in the country.

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The writer, whom I take to be some disappointed office seeker, in his wrath at my appointment of Indian Agent for Oregon, and having naught of truth to urge against my character and fair fame; resorts to several falsehoods to sustain his opposition to my elevation to this post; and you Mr. Editor I appeal, particularly with him in this case—whether the statement of such a character is to be published or not.

To prove the justice of my appointment, and the fitness of my character generally, and particularly in reference to my philanthropic feelings and sentiments towards the Indians, he makes use of a letter from me to emigrants leaving Oregon last spring for this country, which was published in your paper; wherein he not only perverts my entire meaning by his pretended quotation from that, but actually quotes a sentence not where to be found in the letter. "Kill all the Indians you may find from Oregon to California." And this he exultingly exclaims "is sufficient to tell the man."

I have said that you were a participant in this affair, because you suffered a falsehood to go forth here, uncorrected in a reference to a publication in your own paper, which might easily have been corrected by turning to look at your files. The following was the advice contained in my letter to the company on the subject of their Indian relations:—

"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 mountains, 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 unamenable rascals, would be through my rifle. The character of their country precludes the idea of making peace with them, or their ever maintaining treaties if made; so that philanthropy must be set aside in cases of necessity, and self preservation here dictates these savages being killed off as soon as possible. After getting into the Sacramento valley, you will find good Indians and peaceable."

It can be seen from this extract, how far the article referred to has done me justice, as out of 600 miles travel—the distance from Oregon City to this place, along the whole of which route Indians are to be met with,—I have advised hostilities against them of but one hundred. And this because whites have ever suffered here from pursuing a different policy.—I might adduce several arguments in favor of my position, or at any rate in excuse, for what no honest man who knows me, would charge other than an error in judgment—but 'twould necessarily lengthen on this communication too much. This is the course pursued by all mountaineers whilst traveling through hostile tribes.