[illegible] SPECTATOR.

OREGON CITY:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1849.

Oregon and California.

We are pleased to see our neighbor of the Alta California expressing himself so [illegible] as he does in the [illegible]. We have always felt [illegible] and Oregon were one in in[illegible] hope, in destiny. And now that [illegible] Territory has with a noble and [illegible] magnanimity repudiated the [illegible] of slavery we feel that the [illegible] bind us together is greatly [illegible]. It is certainly true that [illegible] of the gold mania will be in [illegible]. And though every thing [illegible] into other [illegible] the agri[illegible] of the country will be [illegible] it would have been had the [illegible] been discovered. Pre[illegible] the gold excitement farmers were [illegible] of both the conveniences and [illegible] of life. The implements of [illegible] were not to be had, and if they [illegible] there was not money in the [illegible] with which to purchase. Now [illegible] money is abundant, and farmers [illegible] their farms with every thing [illegible] to the successful prosecution of [illegible]. Hence though the culti[illegible] of the soil has, for two seasons, been unhappily neglected, yet we trust it [illegible] only been that the strong arms and [illegible] hearts of our farmers may return [illegible] facilities and redoubled en[illegible] to their necessary and honorable cal[illegible].

The closing suggestion of our neighbor we commend to the notice of those citizens of Oregon who have not subscribed for the Spectator. It is true that the people generally have come up manfully to [illegible], yet it is also true that a re[illegible] number have not yet passed in [illegible].

Oregon.

Whether we view Oregon as the early [illegible] home of the Pacific adventurer, [illegible] the advantage of a priority of [illegible] of the world, and lib[illegible] capital and labor on its [illegible] a country redolent with [illegible] of nature, and, at this time [illegible] possession of an enterprising and in[illegible] people, we cannot but concede in[illegible] advantages to result from its [illegible] and kindred relation to California. [illegible] without a kindling of envy, it [illegible], do we view the mag[illegible] prospects and admit the favored [illegible] of our fair sister Territory; the [illegible], however, furnishes a source of [illegible], while it illustrates a great truth, [illegible] glittering treasures of our soil [illegible] build up an adjacent mighty [illegible] state. If we have eclipsed [illegible] and dazzling riches the [illegible] wealth of Oregon—if, by the [illegible] influence of our golden [illegible] we have shaken the basis of its [illegible] by striking panic to her indus[illegible], momentarily disorgani[illegible] society and paralizing the strong arm [illegible] there has a crisis arrived, and [illegible] a reaction follow, far more ef[illegible] good, and immeasurably [illegible] to her interests than if [illegible] California had never disclosed the gilded bait to tempt the loyalty of her [illegible]-handed, stout-hearted, and strong-[illegible] yeomanry.

The people of Oregon are temperate, frugal and industrious, and the productions of Oregon are those of a heaven-blessed clime. Her agricultural resources are alone capable of sustaining a great people, and these, together with her numberless attributes of wealth, are, by the proximity of a growing state—im[illegible] in those generous qualities by [illegible] their influence—to be the more [illegible] and speedily developed. California [illegible] market for each and all of the productions of this neighboring soil; and, having [illegible] her sister territory, will later, discover the true elements of a country's [illegible] in the means thereby employed. [illegible] viewed as a country slowly recovering from the paralysis created by gold [illegible] near its boundaries, Oregon [illegible] to the eyes of the world, at the [illegible] time, the spectacle of a benighted region—an American territory without its representative press. Time was when, [illegible] in lumber, and produce, and two newspapers, Oregon "cut a swell" com[illegible] with its vast importance as a [illegible] of our Pacific possessions. Our [illegible] should restore the press, as the [illegible] toward building up a powerful [illegible]

[illegible] Winters in Oregon.

[illegible] of opinion that a false impres[illegible] generally prevails with refer[illegible] the character of the winters in Oregon, than perhaps on any other subject. From the gloomy tales published [illegible] by disaffected persons one [illegible] suppose that it did nothing, but [illegible] torrents of rain all winter.—As "facts and figures" are however powerful arguments, we took the trouble to prepare [illegible] for comparison. During the winter of '47 and '48 we kept a [illegible] record of [illegible] of the weather from Oct. 1st, to April [illegible] noting [illegible] the clear, cloudy, [illegible] rainy days, and also the degree of temperature indicated by the Thermometer at the head of Lake Michigan in the State of Indiana. A similar record we kept in Linn City for the corresponding period in '48 and '49. The result is as follows. The number of clear, cloudy, and rainy days were the same in both places. They differed widely however in two very important respects. In the first place there fell, in Indiana during the period specified, at least twice as much water in the form of rain and snow, as fell in Oregon during the same period the succeeding winter; and also in Indiana the heaviest of the rain fell during the day while in Oregon about two thirds of the rain fell during the night. The other important difference is that the average temperature as indicated by the Thermometer, shows that Oregon was nearly twenty degrees warmer than Indiana. With these facts before us we must of course decide in favor of the mild and salubrious climate of the land of our adoption.

We have thus far had a comfortable winter. During the last month there was a good deal of rain, the weather however is mild and pleasant, the Thermometer not having as yet indicated a temperature below 21 degrees. Last Monday snow fell to the depth of eight inches, but is now rapidly disappearing.

Milwaukie.

We take pleasure in announcing the commencement and growth of numerous villages in this Territory. The prosperity of the villages and cities of a country is the surest indication of the general prosperity of the country. We propose noticing some of the more recent beginings of future populous towns; and we begin with Milwaukie.

This village is located on the east bank of the Willamette river, in Clackamas county, some six miles below the Falls. Lot Whitcomb, Esq., is the proprietor. It may be said to be at the head of ship navigation on the Willamette. We are assured that any vessel that can come into the river at all can come up to Milwaukie. This being the fact we wonder our city merchants do not use their influence with shippers to bring their cargoes to this point. Above Milwaukie the Willamette is entirely unsuited to ship navigation. These facts attach no small degree of importance to this town site in a commercial point of view. But this is not the only thing which recommends this place to the public notice. In the rapid improvement it is making we have evidence that its citizens possess the right kind of go-ahead American energy to guarantee its prosperity. The erection of a new building is a matter of very frequent occurrance, and gives assurance of an active, busy population. Four saw mills and one grist mill are, or soon will be in active operation.

And in the midst of all this active labor, they have given cheering evidences that they are a thinking people. Education is duly appreciated and properly attended to. To their honor be it said they have erected the first public school house in Clackamas County. There is a good and full school in operation there, under the care of Mr. Campbell. In conclusion we notice with pleasure another and sure indication of a noble character and intelligent enterprise,—the inhabitants of Milwaukie came up more unanimously to the support of the Spectator than any place out of our fair twin sister cities of Oregon and Linn. We commend Milwaukie to the notice of the public, and wish it abundant prosperity.

Falls City.

This is a new town just laid out by A. T. Hedges, Esq., It is situated on the East side of the Willamette, immediately above the Falls, and adjoining Oregon City. It enjoys great commercial advantages as the terminus of the navigation of the Willamette from above. It undoubtedly will in a few years become a place of very considerable business.—Though Falls city was surveyed only a few weeks since, such is the spirit of improvement, that we see several new houses erected, and we are assured that others will be erected soon. We are authorized to say that a lot will be cheerfully donated to any christian denomination that may wish to erect a house of worship in Falls city. To those who wish to make investments this town holds out flattering inducements. We wish Mr. H. success in his enterprise.

Syracuse.

This town is located on the South side of the Santiam in Linn County. Milton Hale, Esq., is the proprietor. It is one of the most beautiful town sites we have seen, occupying as it does a plateau of beautiful table land. It is at the head of navigation on the Santiam. Any vessel that can navigate the Willamette can ascend to that point. There is at that point a considerable fall in the river affording a [illegible] water privilege. This privilege is being improved by the enterprising firm of Cosser & Evans by the erection of a saw and grist mill. In addition to these advantages Syracuse is in the midst of a most beautiful and fertile district of country. None more so in Oregon. Surrounded as it is with such ample agricultural advantages it will doubtless enjoy a rapid growth, and ere long become one of our handsomest country villages.

Other Oregon Towns.

While speaking of towns, for the purpose of giving a correct idea of the geographical position of the towns of this Territory, to our readers abroad we give the following list.

Between the Falls of the Willamette and the Mouth of the Clackamas are situated the following places. Oregon City, Green Point, Clackamas City; Linn City, and Multnomah city. These will in all probability at some future day constitute the different wards of one great city. At present the entire population is about 1,200.

Portland is situated on the Willamette, in Washington county, about twelve miles below the Falls. It is a place of general and active trade. Vessels usually discharge their cargoes at this point.

In addition to the above we have been informed that a steam saw mill will soon be in operation there. An enterprising firm in Portland have also sent to the States for an engine and machinery for a Steamer to run between that place and San Francisco. This is what we like to see. It is just the kind of energy and enterprise that will make any place flourishing, and beautiful.

Astoria is on the well known site of Fort George at the Mouth of the Columbia.

Lexington is another village, and is situated on Clatsop Plains.

La Fayette city is the shire town of Yam Hill county, and is situated at the Falls of the Yam Hill river. It has many advantages which will make it a beautiful and flourishing place.

There are doubtless many other places towns in this valley, but further than the above our geography is at fault.

To Correspondents.

We invite the attention of our readers to the able and interesting article of the Superintendent of Common Schools, on the subject of education. This cause should be warmly embraced, and enthusiastically sustained by the people of Oregon. O. P. Q. is heartily welcomed to his old corner in the Spectator. Junius came "near jumping the claim" but he is back in season; and we will stake off another for Junius rich in all the profuse charms of our Mountain muses.

A considerable amount of interesting matter, both original and selected, is crowded out this week.

Health of the City.

The summer and autumn have passed away, and our city has enjoyed the most excellent health. We have it is true seen some persons afflicted with Ague, and other forms of billious disease, but they came from the gold mines, or some other place. We do not recollect having noticed a case of fever, or ague which was contracted in this place; and only two deaths have occurred within our knowledge. And these were infants who died of diseases peculiar to infantile years. We have not indeed known any person to be seriously sick of any disease for months past. This for a population of more than 1,000 speaks volumes for the health of the place.

Our Price Current Table.

The reader will observe that we have made up a very full table of the prices current in Oregon City. We have not only bestowed time and attention to this matter, but we have enjoyed the assistance of others in the city. Our design in this matter is to disabuse the public mind both at home and abroad. In no one thing have the people of Oregon experienced greater injustice than in regard to the matter before us. Our citizens have gone to the mines, and having remained in them for their appointed period, they return to San Francisco on their way home. There they propose purchasing a supply of dry goods and groceries for family use, or perhaps they propose purchasing a stock of goods for the purpose of going into the mercantile business. But they are assured that Oregon is perfectly flooded with goods,—that they can lay in their supplies in Oregon cheaper than at San Francisco, &c. &c., But when they arrive in Oregon they find things neither so plenty nor so cheap as they had been led to suppose. We love "an open field and a fair fight," and hence we bring up this matter. Here we do most distinctly declare that Oregon is very far from being overstocked with goods. We grant there is a large amount of merchandise on hand, but we also assert that *there is not a good assortment* of dry goods and groceries in the Territory. And as for the price of the articles that are in this market, our table speaks for itself.

In order to illustrate our assertion we invite the attention of all, to the following enumeration of things that are much needed, but not procurable in this city, and we believe not in this Territory.—Medicines, Paints, and Dye Stuffs. A well assorted Drug Store is greatly needed as there is scarcely any thing in this line in Oregon. Books and stationery are much in demand and yet there is not a Book Store in Oregon, and only a supply of writing paper. Leather is out of market, and also childrens shoes, and only a meagre supply of boots and shoes. If there is no salt brought in there will soon be none to be had. Stoves of all sorts, hardware and tin ware, flannel goods of every variety, almost every thing in the grocery business, and many other articles "too tedious to mention," are in great demand here, and if the stock is not soon replenished will soon be entirely out of market. If goods are not more abundant than this in California the news we receive from there must be as far wide the mark as the news there from Oregon is.

We disavow any thing like reflections on any person in these statements, but as we feel that injustice is done to Oregon and Oregon people in this matter, as the conductor of the only public Journal in the Territory, we feel called upon to correct it. We have no doubt the existence of this impression at San Francisco has prevented persons, who would have been valuable citizens, from coming themselves, and bringing their wealth, to this Territory. Let it be known the world wide that here is a grand field for marchantile, mechanical, and agricultural persuits, and then citizens will pour in, and population will rapidly multiply; and Oregon take her place as a prosperous State.

Jno. W. Carter in a Gale.

The Jno. W. Carter, on her passage from San Francisco to the Columbia, encountered a gale off the Mouth of the Columbia, by which she was dismantled and driven out to sea a great distance; but fortunately she made her way into the Straits of Fuca, where she was refitted and is daily expected in the Columbia.—There were no lives lost.

Official Changes.

We see it stated that Joseph G. Marshall of Indiana, has been appointed by the President, Governor of Oregon in place of Gov. Lane, removed.

Also, Joseph J. Combs, U. S. Attorney for the district of Oregon.

Also Daniel B. St. John, Collector for the Port of Astoria, in place of Gen. Jno. Adair, removed.

Served them Right.

The evils of intemperance have been growing more and more alarming for the past two or three months. While the evil was sufficiently annoying to the community, it was exceedingly so to the officers in command of the troops in this city. As there appeared to be no disposition on the part of the citizens to check the mischief, Col. Loring took the matter in hand yesterday, and "shut shop" for the doggeries. There was a small lot of spirits destroyed, and the determination is exhibited to put a stop to the traffic in the city. And thus far we believe every right hearted, and right thinking person in community will sustain the Colonel in his course. But we ask for impartiality. Serve all alike.

Temperance Meeting.

There will be a meeting of the Oregon City Temperance Society in the Methodist church on Monday evening 24th inst. at half past six o'clock. An address will be delivered; the officers for the ensuing year will be elected, and other important business transacted. All are invited to attend.

COMMUNICATED.

Mr. Morgan's Concert.

The concert given to the citizens of this place, by Mr. Morgan, on Monday evening last, not only proved a rich and interesting treat to his large and respectable auditory, but realized, as we are pleased to learn, the most sanguine expectations of the talented vocalist. Mr. Morgan's powers as a singer are of no common order, and our citizens, by their frequent demonstrations of applause, showed themselves capable of appreciating his willingness and ability to entertain them. We understand that Mr. M. will favor his friends with another Concert on next Monday evening, and we would bespeak for him the patronage of all the music-loving denizens of our City. The immortal Bard, to dissent from whom on such points is nothing short of literary heresay, says that

> He that has no *music* in his soul
> Nor is not moved with *concert of sweet sounds*,
> Is fit for treason &c.,

News—News.

CALIFORNIA. RISE IN PRICE OF FLOUR. GENERAL NEWS FROM THE STATES AND FROM EUROPE.

We have had a mail since our last, and by it files of papers from California and the States. The news from the latter is old news though it is pleasant even at this late period.

Our California neighbors have, in Convention adopted a Constitution for a State government, which was to have been submitted to the people Nov. 13th. The political atmosphere at our latest dates was in a delightful state of agitation, it being necessary to "man the ship of State" from a host of worthy candidates. We notice the name of Peter H. Burnett at the head of the list of candidates for the office of Governor. There has been a great advance in the price of provisions. Flour was selling in San Francisco at $40 per barrell. Prime Pork was $60 per barrell. Prices generally have made a great advance.

We have papers from the States up to Aug. 27, and Sept. 1. We notice nothing of very great interest. The Cholera had greatly abated its ravages having almost entirely disappeared from most of the large cities. A very destructive fire occurred at Plattsburg, N. Y., consuming the best part of the town. The property destroyed is estimated at $250,000. A fire occurred at St. Louis by which the steamers Algoma, San Francisco, Mary, and Dubuque were burned to the waters edge. This was followed by a street fight between a company of firemen and an Irish mob, in which several lives were lost.

The gold fever has measurably subsided and the precious metal which has been returned to the States begins to make a sensible impression on the commerce and trade of the Atlantic cities.

Crops are reported as having been unusually good throughout the union, except the cotton crop which it was feared would be light.

A private expedition of a warlike character had been fitted up in the United States destined for some revolutionary movement in Cuba. At least the presumption in favor of this view of the affair was so great that the President issued a proclamation on the subject, warning all concerned to desist. He has also ordered the armed steamer Allegheny into the vicinity to watch and arrest the movement.

President Taylor was on a tour for recreation, at our latest dates, through Pennsylvania.

Hon. Henry Clay was also on a tour through the North. He was slowly recovering from an attack of Cholera.

The elections had passed off quietly in a number of the States. In Indiana J. A. Wright Dem. was elected Gov. by a majority of 8,000. The delegation to Congress stands seven Dem. one Whig, one Free Soil. The Legislature is reported as having a democratic majority of ten.

North Carolinia and Maryland have gone Whig as formerly.

In Tennessee Gen. Wm. Trousdale Dem. is elected Governor.

Kentucky as we find it reported has elected a Congressional Delegation of six Whigs and four Democrats.

Alabama and Iowa have both cast a decided vote for the Democrats.

In Congress the parties stand this winter nearly equal, at least we judge so from the fact that both parties claim a very small majority. The evidence preponderates in favor of the ascendency of the Democrats.

Father Mathew, the apostle of temperance was taking signatures to the pledge by the thousands.

The prevailing sentiment in favor of the "great idea of the age," the Rail Road to the Pacific begins to assume a more encouraging aspect. And though Whitney's project does not meet with universal favor, yet the prospect of the speedy commencement of the great work is becoming more and more flattering. The only fear is that local feelings and factions may frustrate the project.

Hon. J. C. Calhoun is out with a defence of his position and views on the slavery question, and in reply to Col. Benton. But on the contrary the Colonel is fighting his own battle in Missouri and there was no doubt of his being sustained by his own State.

Major Simonson has purchased Ft. Larimie for the use of the United States paying the traders $3,000 for it.

The Legislature of Michigan has instructed Gen. Cass to vote favorably to the Wilmot Proviso. And the report (perhaps unfounded) is that the General will in the present Congress make a speech against the proviso and then resign.

Some additional news will be found in the following summary from the N. Y. Tribune of affairs on the Atlantic side:

Throughout the States, we have tidings of good crops, and moderate prices. The imports of Foreign Merchandise are very heavy, and our Custom-Houses in receipt of unusually large sums for duties.

Mr. Clay continues his tour in the North and East. His health improves gradually and the proofs he everywhere receives of the esteem, veneration and regard of his many disinterested and faithful services to his country, help to cheer his declining years.

President Taylor has recovered from a temporary indisposition, and is traveling through Pennsylvania, stating with great frankness, in his public addresses, his views of the Constitution, and the principles which are to guide his Administration. His popularity, so far as it can be judged of by the enthusiastic welcomes he everywhere receives, is even on the increase.

The Texas elections have terminated: Pillsbury, who supported Calhoun's views, is replaced in Congress by Volney E. Howard, a friend of Senator Houston: Kauffman is re-elected. P. Hansbrough Bell is probably elected Governor in place of Wood. All the candidates were independent Democrats; but none of them had been nominated by any party. There has been considerable sickness among the Texan Indians.

Troops have been sent to Florida to quiet apprehensions expressed of danger from the Indians, who are but few in number.

Mr. Inge is elected for Alabama, notwithstanding his extra mileage charge, by 420 over Baldwin, whig.

Virginia has completed her Revised Statutes, and agreed to abolish imprisonment for debt, after the first of July next, as did Lower Canada, last Legislative session.

At the Annual Scientific Convention at Harvard University, there was a large attendance of eminent scholars from every part of the Union, and the subjects discussed were of a useful and highly interesting character.

Strong efforts are being made in many parts of the country to produce more unanimity in Congress on the subject of Post-Office Reform. We expect that next winter a uniform postage bill will give every part of the Atlantic country a cheap and easy communication with their brethren on the Pacific side.

The question of a railroad to connect the Pacific with the Atlantic, and furnish Europe and the older States of this Republic, with an overland highway to India, China and the East, is receiving a careful consideration from business men, and is much discussed by the press.

The Canadas are greatly distracted by civil discord; burnings by incendiaries are of frequent occurrence and to great extent; the Governor-General, though residing within a mile or two of Montreal, has not entered that city since April last. The mansion of Mr. Lafontaine, the Prime Minister, was attacked a few days since by a mob at 10 o'clock at night; they were fired upon—one of their number was killed and the rest retreated; while the Coroner's Jury were inquiring into circumstances attending the riot, the large hotel they were sitting in was set on fire in an upper story, and burned to the ground.

The Ojibeway Indians, near Lake Superior, have raised difficulties with the Canadian government about their lands, which have been alienated, as they say, without their consent.

After a trial of fifteen days at New-Orleans, before the United States Commissioner, the Spanish Consul at that port, and several other persons, have been held to heavy bail to answer the charge of abducting and sending back a young man named Rey, the turnkey of a jail in Havana, who had escaped from Cuba, with Fernandez, a rich fraudulent bankrupt, in duress for cheating his creditors, and Villaverde, a sort of patriot, who had his quarters in the same prison.

The Cholera decreases throughout the Union, and the deaths from it in this City have been much fewer since our last.

The enthusiasm for the success of the gallant Hungarians is almost universal. A meeting to be held to-day in the Park will be presided over by Governor Fish, with a host of Vice-Presidents selected from our citizens of the highest respectability.

From Europe.

We had from our exchanges of Aug. 27 and Sep. 1, prepared a sketch of news from Europe, embracing the most flattering accounts from the battle field of constitutional liberty, Hungary, but a copy of the New York Herald of September 14, now before us, blasts and withers all our sanguine expectations. Hungary has fallen. The hords of Russian and Austrian despotism came down on the fields of Hungary like a fearful avalanch, and the noble band of freemen was crushed by its overwhelming weight. What we had hoped was the brilliant morning star of European liberty, proved to be only another glowing meteor flashing across the horizon, and then leaving us in deeper darkness. The patriots of Ireland are imprisoned and banished, the fire of freedom was extinguished in Poland, and now Hungary has fallen, and whence shall we look for the next manifestation of the deathless spirit of freedom? There is too much light and intelligence in the world to suffer the nations of christendom to remain under the iron heel of despots.—There is something prophetic in Kossuth's appeal to the constitutional governments of Europe. And if these governments do not experience a fearful fulfil-