

OREGON SPECTATOR.

Vol. 4.

"Westward the Star of Empire Takes its way,"

No. 14.

WILSON BLAIN, Editor.]

Oregon City, (O. T.) Thursday, April 4, 1850.

(GEO. B. GOODY, Printer.)

BUSINESS CARDS.

COUCH & CO.
WHOLESALE & RETAIL MERCHANTS,
PORTLAND, OREGON TERRITORY.

STARK & CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.
REFER TO—Wm. K. Wetmore, esp., New York.
Messrs. Wetmore & Cryder, "
" Taylor & Merrill, "
" Wetmore & Co. Canton.
Oct. 4, 1849.

SHERMANS & STARK,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
NEW YORK CITY.
Oct. 4, 1849.

LAW NOTICE.
J. QUINN THORNTON,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW,
AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY.
Office on the east side of Main street, opposite
the Brick Store
Oregon City, Oct. 4, 1849.

A. A. SKINNER,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW
AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY.
Office on West side of Water Street,
OREGON CITY
Oct. 18, 1849.

Dr. A. H. STEELE,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
RESIDENCE WITH MR. MOSE.
Oregon City, Nov. 29, 1849—6m

J. D. & W. C. HOLMAN
HAVE formed a co-partnership, and will keep
on hand a variety of Dry Goods and Gro-
ceries. They would select a small portion of cus-
tom.
Oct. 4, 1849

A. HOOD,
MERCHANT AND TRADER,
OREGON CITY.
January 24, 1850—4f

EMMETT & HOAR,
ATTORNEYS & COUNSELLORS,
SAN FRANCISCO.
REFER TO—
Couch & Co. Portland, Oregon Territory
John McLoughlin, Oregon City
Stark & Co. San Francisco.
January 24, 1850—1y

GEORGE GIBBS,
COUNSELOR AT LAW,
SHIPPING AND COMMERCIAL AGENT,
Custom House Buildings,
ASTORIA.

WILL attend to all business confided to him
in the preparation of legal papers, the
loading and discharge of vessels, receiving con-
signments for sales of storage, &c.
REFERENCES:
CAMPBELL & SMITH, Oregon City.
Col. Wm. W. Loring, "
Lt. D. M. Frost, Reg't Q. M., "
Gen. John Adair, Astoria.
January 10, 1850—4f

ROBERT CAUFIELD,
MERCHANT and general dealer in Dry
Goods, Groceries and Produce, on
Main Street, near the bridge.
Oct. 4, 1849.

F. A. CHENOWETH,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW
AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY,
WILL devote his entire time and energies to
business. Office on Main street.
Oregon City, Feb. 24, '50—1y

W. W. CHAPMAN,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW,
PORTLAND, OREGON.
Portland, March 7, 1850—4f

ABRAHAM SULGER,
COMMISSION MERCHANT & AGENT
PORTLAND, OREGON.
On hand—1500 pounds tobacco,
700 do and iron,
1 cask stoutest bottom,
1 cask essence peppermint.
REFERENCES:
Gen. Riley, U. S. A., California.
Gen. F. F. Smith, " Oregon.
David H. Brown & Co. Philadelphia.
P. H. Titus, New York.
Esquicott & Garret, San Francisco.
January 24, 1850—4f

GEO. ABERNETHY & CO.
MERCHANTS,
OREGON CITY, OREGON TERRITORY.
GEO. ABERNETHY, HIRAN CLARK,
JAN. K. ROSS,
March 21st, 1850—4f

LAW NOTICE.
THE undersigned would respectfully tender
his professional services to the public. Until
he establishes an office, he may be consulted at
his residence, or at the office of F. A. Chenoweth,
esp. Business left with Mr. Chenoweth will re-
ceive my prompt attention.
W. T. NATLOCK,
March 21, 1850—4f

California.
We perhaps owe an apology to our
California neighbors for not noticing them
often than we have done; but we ex-
cuse ourselves on the ground, that up to
the arrival of the last mail, we have never
received a regular file of papers from San
Francisco.—Now having a complete file
of the second volume of the Alta Cali-
fornia up to February 23, we are able to
furnish our readers with quite a variety
of news items.

The Legislature of California met at
Pueblo de San Jose on the 15th December,
and was still in session at our latest dates.
The Message of Gov. Burnett is a sub-
stantial and business-like document. It
brings the leading interests of the new
State before the Legislature in a clear
and strong manner. On the whole we
are much pleased with the Governor's
plans and suggestions.

In regard to the question what will Cal-
ifornia do, in the event of the rejection by
Congress of their application for admis-
sion as a State, the Governor's sentiments
breathe that spirit of nationality and pa-
triotism which all should cherish. Read
the following:

"The first question you have to deter-
mine is whether you will proceed at once
with the general business of legislation or
await the action of Congress upon the
question of our admission into the Union.
The convention which formed the consti-
tution under which you have assembled,
and the people who ratified it with so great
unanimity have settled that question for
themselves; but they have not settled it
for you or for me. The same oath that
you and I have taken to support the con-
stitution of California, also obliges us to
support the constitution of the United
States; and when the provisions of the
two instruments conflict, the constitution
of our common country must prevail.
The great instrument which now governs
more than twenty million of inhabitants
and links in one common destiny thirty
states, and is to govern the one hundred
millions that will soon succeed us, and
the many free states yet to be, must
claim our purest affections, and our
first and highest duty. If then, it would
be inconsistent with the just rights of the
United States, for you to proceed to put
the State government into full operation,
before she be formally admitted into the
Union, you should without hesitation for-
bear, and leave our people still to suffer
on, rather than violate one single prin-
ciple of the great fundamental law of the
land."

We do not profess to be much of a law-
yer, yet we venture to say that we are
not entirely suited with Gov. B.'s recom-
mendation on the subject of secretary law.
It strikes us as not exactly up to the times.
We confess a war in partiality for the re-
vised, or rather the reformed, system re-
cently adopted by New York; and be-
lieve it to be worthy the imitation of all
other states. The Governor says:

"I have given the subject my most
careful attention for some years past;
and as the result of my own convictions,
I recommend the adoption of the following
codes, so far as they are applicable to the
condition of the State, and not modified by
the constitution or the vote of the Legisla-
ture.

1. The definition of crimes and mis-
demors contained in the Common Law
of England.
2. The English Law of Evidence.
3. The English Commercial Law.
4. The Civil Code of the State of
Louisiana.
5. The Louisiana Code of Practice."

On the subject of Revenue, the Gov.
urges strongly the necessity of direct tax-
ation, and in view of the instability of the
population of the State, he recom-
mends that the collector accompany the
assessor. The following view of taxa-
tion is good:

"The only available and just mode of
procuring the indispensable means of sup-
porting the State government, is by a sys-
tem of direct taxation: the most fair,
simple, and just mode of taxation ever re-
sorted to. The people then know distinc-
tly what the blessings of government
cost them, and which is the more desirable,
a plain republican government, adminis-
tered upon economical principles, or a
more extravagant system of expenditure;
and if they should not be willing to pay
enough to carry on an economical govern-

ment, it would at once solve the great
problem whether they are capable of self-
government or not."

The Message urges the cause of agri-
culture in the following excellent para-
graph, which is worthy the notice of every
citizen of Oregon:

"No country can safely depend upon
an uncertain foreign supply of the first
necessaries of life. Such a supply would
be subject to all the vicissitudes of war or
peace, would never be regular, and prices
would always be fluctuating, either ex-
travagantly high, or so low as to discour-
age importation. The provisions them-
selves are generally stale and unwhole-
some, and no doubt one half the disease
suffered in the country has arisen from
this prolific source. When those who
own such immense tracts of rich, fertile,
and beautiful lands, now in a state of na-
ture, producing no rents or profits, shall
have to pay taxes upon them, in propor-
tion to their value, they will find it to their
interest to sell out portions to those who
will cultivate them; and thus encourag-
ing the agricultural industry of the coun-
try, and at the same time greatly increas-
ing the value of the portions not sold. In
the last fifteen months the number of cat-
tle in the country has been rapidly de-
creasing, while our population has increas-
ed in the same ratio. Fresh meats are
indispensable to our health; and cannot
be imported; and if this state of things
should continue only a few years longer,
the increased expenses of living will be
so great, that mining and other kinds of
business must cease to be profitable. The
constitution makes it the duty of the Leg-
islature to encourage agriculture—that
first and noblest of all industrial pursuits;
but I am not aware of any other means
at present within your power than those I
have suggested."

The Message recommends the total ex-
clusion of negroes from California, while
he admits that persons of every other na-
tion under Heaven are, or may be, there
without let or hindrance. This is the
keen discrimination of the age.

The following items will be found in-
teresting:

THE OFFICERS OF THE NEW STATE.—
The following is a list of the new State
officers, Senators, and Representatives in
Congress, elected under the constitution
ratified by the people at the election on the
13th November last, viz:

Governor—Peter H. Burnett.
Lieutenant Governor—John McDougal.
United States Senators—John C. Fre-
mont, Wm. M. Gwin.
Representatives in Congress—Geo. W.
Wright, Edward Gilbert.
Secretary of State—Wm. Van Voor-
hies.

Treasurer—Richard Roman.
Comptroller—J. S. Houston.
Attorney General—Edward J. C. Kew-
en.
Surveyor General—Charles J. Whit-
ing.
Chief Justice—S. C. Hastings.
Associate Justices—H. A. Lyon, Na-
thaniel Bennett.

LAWYERS IN CALIFORNIA.—The well
known correspondent of the New Orleans
Delta, Capt. Tobin, who came to this
country early last summer, and whose
death at Sacramento city has been re-
corded, in writing from Tobago, made the
following estimate, and all things consid-
ered, very just observation:

Of nearly two thousand passengers
now between Chagres and Panama, there
are about six hundred lawyers, and of
them four hundred go out with the expec-
tation of being returned to Congress, or
the Legislature, at least; seventeen are
electioneering for the gubernatorial chair,
and twenty-one embryo Senators are al-
ready calculating the savings to be made
on the mileage allowed by Uncle Sam from
San Francisco to Washington, and back.

THE WINTER.—Thus far the winter
has been one of incessant severity, com-
mencing many weeks earlier, and ac-
companied by more rain than the last, or
even the winter of '47, which, it will be
recalled by the older citizens of San
Francisco, "stumped" the memory of the
"oldest inhabitant" to produce a parallel.
We do not experience the cold weather
which, at this time last year, brought snow
to the streets of our city, and frozen fin-
gers and toes to every convenient hearth;
but we are evidently receiving our full
quota of moisture. The heavens are con-
tinually dropping rain; and as to the
streets, there is

"No walking of the way, no locomotion."
nor has there been since first the floods
commenced. We almost despair of sus-
taining the truth of that contrariety which

has been remarked in the climate of this
place, giving to winter the most charming
weather of all the year.

The houses in California are to come
from all parts of the world as well as the
people. They are building houses in Bor-
deaux, France, to send to California, and
some have already been shipped from Bel-
gium.

HEALTH OF SAN FRANCISCO.—Our re-
cords of mortality show that many deaths
have occurred in this city within the past
six months, and that the increase since the
commencement of the rain and inclement
weather has been such as to carry a
conviction to many minds, prejudicial to
the general health of San Francisco. It
is gratifying to know, however, that the
numerous instances of disease and death
which we have witnessed are not attribu-
table to local and permanent causes to
the degree which would seem indicated,
and that we may more firmly than ever,
notwithstanding the adverse influences of
sickness and suffering as at the present
moment they exist in our midst—establish
the truth, upon well supported theory, of
the healthiness of this locality, unimpair-
ed even by the hasty growth of a city,
rising into the commanding importance of
a vast metropolis, and already numbering
a population of over fifteen thousand.

ARRIVALS AT SAN FRANCISCO.—From
the 12th day of April, 1849, to January
29th, 1850, inclusive, the passenger arri-
vals at the port of San Francisco, by sea,
is as follows:

American,	29,547 males.	919 females.
Foreign,	8,620 "	502 "

Total, 38,467 1421

Total males and females, 39,888. These
have arrived by sea, in eight hundred and
five vessels, to wit:

American,	487
Foreign,	318
Total,	805

This number of ships is exclusive of
army and navy vessels, and steamers
which have arrived during the above per-
iod.

The amount of tonnage arrived since
April 12th, and to the 29th of January is:

American,	228,439
Foreign,	55,809

Total, 284,238

COL. JACK HAYS.—We have already
noticed the arrival of Col Jack Hays, of
Texas, whose name and character are so
well known to our readers from every
portion of the Union. Col. Hays came
overland, by the way of El Paso and the
Gila, to San Diego, and thence by sea to
this place. We are glad to learn that
the Colonel intends to make California his
future home.

PETITION TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.
—Below we give a petition which was
passed into our office yesterday, signed by
the first citizens of San Francisco, com-
prising the principal mercantile firms of
this city. We entirely approve the sen-
timents therein advanced, and conceive
the regulation of the mails between this
country and Panama to be a matter which
should engage the earliest attention of
our government. Nor is it necessary for
us to remark how cordially we unite with
the general wish that steam communi-
cation should be opened with Oregon.

On this subject we shall have more to
say anon.

To the Hon. J. Collamer, Postmaster Gen-
eral of the United States

We the undersigned, merchants and
traders of San Francisco, California,
would respectfully call your attention to
the many inconveniences and serious losses
in business to which we are subjected
by the manner in which the mail service
in this state is conducted. We would in
the first place state that it frequently oc-
curs upon the arrival of the mail from
Panama, that the return mail is dispatch-
ed before it is possible for us to obtain our
letters from the post office, thus depriving
us of the opportunity of answering our
correspondents for a whole month.

We would in the next place state, that
the mail is often closed twenty-four hours
before the sailing of the steamer, we would
instance the first of February steamer;
the mail was closed at 9 o'clock P. M. on
the 31st of January and the steamer did
not sail until the first day of February at
9 o'clock, P. M.—This is so great an in-
convenience that it compels many to adopt
the uncertain and insecure mode of send-
ing mail matter by private hands, there-
by violating the post office regulations.

We would also call your attention to
the fact, that there is no even tolerably
well regulated mail communication be-
tween this city and the Territory of Ore-
gon, owing to this want of mail facilities