

# THE SPECTATOR.

OREGON CITY:

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1850.

## Cascade—Middle Oregon.

An enterprising company have taken hold of the beautiful town site at the Cascades on the Columbia, and they have had it surveyed and laid out on a large and liberal scale. This is, beyond all question, one of the most commanding town sites in Oregon. It is situated at the extreme head of navigation for Ocean vessels, and any vessel that can sail on the Columbia, can reach the town of Cascade. It is thought that the amount of tillable land in the vicinity of the town, will be found to be much more extensive than has been usually supposed. Persons who have been on the ground, assure us that all along the base of the mountains, from Cascade to St. Helens, there are many beautiful and fertile, though small, valleys, eminently suited to agricultural pursuits, while the adjacent high lands are equally adapted to pasturage. There are also extensive hydraulic privileges connected with this town site, giving a chance for extensive manufacturing operations, when the wants of the country shall require it.

But the main thing which leads us to believe that Cascade will be a populous town in a very few years, is its position as the grand depot of the whole trade of middle and upper Oregon. After the portage of the Cascades, the Columbia is navigable for steam boats to the Dalles, a distance of forty miles. Cascade will then be seen to be the great haunt through which two-thirds of the life-blood of Oregon must flow.

We cannot more appropriately than on the present occasion fulfill a purpose which we have entertained for some time, of referring to the resources and prospects of middle Oregon. This term is applied to that portion of country lying between the Cascade and Blue mountains, a region sufficiently large, and possessed of a sufficient amount of natural resources, to constitute it a large and populous State. It has one of the most genial and heaven blessed climates in the world. Its winters are mild and its summers not sultry. It is not subject to the fog and humid atmosphere which characterize the lower region.

The whole region is interspersed with highly fertile and productive farming districts, while nearly the whole is one magnificent pasture field. In the farming districts nearly all the productions of an American farm have been cultivated and found to yield admirably in all, and in some things the yield was extraordinary. It might properly, however, be remarked, that to develop the agricultural and pastoral resources of this whole region, a system of husbandry in many respects different from that practiced in the States, would necessarily have to be adopted. But the system adapted to this region is so well calculated to expand the mind and invigorate the body, that it clothes it with a charm far transcending that of the ordinary farmer. And as to its settlement, we have entirely too much of the "progressive" in our composition to suppose, for one moment, that the mighty tide of emigration which is destined to flow into Oregon, will long remain confined to the strip of land lying between the Cascades and the Ocean. Indeed, nothing but the Wallapa massacre and the consequent war, has prevented the settlement of a large colony on the Ullin, near the western base of the Blue mountains.

There are also mineral resources in this region, sufficient to impart consequence to any country. It is well known that Platina abounds. Specimens of other mineral substances have been exhibited here, and among them gold from the Spokan country. And the belief is strong in this valley among those who have had experience and opportunities for observation that gold will be found abundantly on Burnt and Powder rivers. Should this supposition with reference to the abundance of gold in that region be verified, no earthly power can stay the settlement of that country.

The imaginary seclusion of that region will vanish before the ascending sun of civilization. Steam boats and rail roads will soon annihilate all the obstacles in the way of ingress and egress to and from that country and secure a passage for its products to the great Ocean. And though the lower region may become densely peopled and abound in wealth, yet in the meantime the middle region will be filling up and its resources developed, and a large and flourishing State will occupy the space of that beautiful country.

## Public Meeting—Pilotage—Mouth of the Columbia.

On Monday afternoon last a meeting of the citizens of Oregon city convened in Gov. Lane's office, to devise and execute some arrangement by which to secure the continued service of Captain Charles White as Pilot at the mouth of the Columbia. Gen. A. L. Lovejoy in the Chair.

Gen. John Adair, Collector at Astoria, and Capt. McArthur, of the U. S. Navy, who is at present engaged in the survey of our coast, being called on addressed the meeting.

A subscription paper was then presented, read and subscriptions made for the object contemplated. On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered to Captain Charles White, for his intrepidity and diligence as Pilot at the mouth of the Columbia; and also expressing the earnest wish of the meeting that he should remain in his present useful and praiseworthy office.

The above sketch is published by order of the meeting.

A. L. LOVEJOY Chairman.  
W. BLAIR, Secretary.

We have given above a rather informal sketch of the proceedings of a meeting which was attended by a greedy number of our citizens. We cannot

let the matter pass without some additional remark. The facts as set forth by the gentlemen who addressed the meeting, were to the effect that Capt. White's compensation was entirely inadequate to the service, and had therefore determined to abandon his post as Pilot—that thereby our commerce would be most seriously injured—and that furthermore it is of the most vital interest that Capt. White should be there to conduct the Mail Steamer to Astoria immediately on her arrival. Should any accident happen to the Steamer on their arrival here it would put Oregon back ten years in the career of improvement and prosperity. The object of the present movement is in view of the above facts to endeavor to raise the ways and means by which to induce Capt. White to remain. We do hope our citizens will do themselves honor on this occasion.

## Mails and Mail Routes.

We publish to-day, two sets of proposals for the mail service in this Territory, and we deem a few remarks called for to prevent a misunderstanding. The reader will observe by a reference to the third column of the first page of this paper, that Mr. Thurston, in his letter to Gov. Lane and others, says: "The advertisement for proposals to carry the mail will be sent on and published in the Oregon Spectator," &c. By the last mail we received a copy of the "Republic," the government organ at Washington city, containing the advertisement referred to, and the portions relative to Oregon were marked. The portions marked we publish below. By a comparison of the two sets of mail routes, it will be seen that they clash in almost every respect. So far as the convenience and accommodation of the people are concerned, we distinctly prefer Mr. Lonsdale's arrangement of the routes, except that from Portland to Yam Hill, which subjects all intercourse between this city and Yam Hill to unreasonable delays.

In order that the whole matter may be fully understood, we further state that Mr. Lonsdale, by virtue of his office as postal agent, has power to put his routes in operation, until the contracts are accepted and service ordered on the routes authorized by act of congress. And here is the point requiring vigilance on the part of the citizens of this city. If the routes proposed by congress do not go into effect, then Mr. L's will remain in force, and the intercourse between this city and Yam Hill will be permanently subject to the embarrassment of the round about route by way of Portland. We do hope the business men of this city will awake and bestir themselves before everything is taken away that will ensure prosperity.

Before closing we make two more suggestions, and having called the attention of the people to the matter, we leave that public to act for itself. The Postal Agent has no power to appoint deputy postmasters, and those who act under such appointments act without due authority. The other remark is that the Postal Agent cannot, without special order from the P. M. General, create a Distributing Post Office. It is hoped, however, the action of the Department at Washington on the subject, will be received by next mail.

We hope the routes proposed by the Agent will be taken, and the temporary service contemplated, be performed; but we still more fervently hope the permanent routes will also be taken on such terms as will insure their acceptance by the Department. Will not the gentlemen addressed by Mr. Thurston, act on his suggestion and give this subject its proper direction.

## PROPOSALS FOR CARRYING THE MAIL IN THE STATES OF MICHIGAN, INDIANA, ILLINOIS, WISCONSIN, IOWA, MISSOURI, AND IN MINNESOTA AND OREGON TERRITORIES.

Proposals for carrying the mails of the United States from the 1st day of July, 1850, to the 30th of June, 1851, inclusive, in the States of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Missouri, and in Minnesota and Oregon Territories, will be received at the Contract Office of the Post Office Department, in the city of Washington, until 10 A. M. of the 16th day of April, 1850, (to be decided by the 11th day of May, 1850,) on the routes and in the manner and time herein specified, viz:

[The routes proposed to be let, were published in our last paper, and are here omitted.]

## Form for a Bid where no change from advertisement is contemplated by the bidder.

"I (or we, as the case may be) (here write the name or names in full of (here state the residence or residences) hereby propose to carry the mail on No. \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ as often as the advertisement requires, in the time stated in the schedules, and by the following mode of conveyance, to-wit: [Here state how it is to be conveyed.] for the annual sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

## Form of a Guaranty to accompany each Bid.

"The undersigned (here insert the name of the guarantor or guarantors) guarantee that (here insert the name of bidder or names of bidders, as the case may be,) if his (or their) bid for carrying the mail from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ be accepted by the Postmaster General, shall enter into an obligation prior to the first day of July next, with good and sufficient securities, to perform the service proposed."

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

## Form of Certificate.

This undersigned, postmaster of \_\_\_\_\_ certifies that the guarantors above named, are sufficient and able to make good their guaranty.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

## Smuggling.

We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter received by a gentleman in this city, from a gentleman at Sitka, who is with us on the best of authority.

"We have had quite an excitement among our settlers for the last few days, caused by the seizure of the Hudson's Bay Company's schooner which plies between this place and Victoria, for smuggling. The vessel was seized by Capt. Hill, U. S. A., commanding at this post."

## Cayuse Murderers.

Gov. Lane has returned from the Dalles, bringing with him three of the Cayuse murderers. Two others are in custody, and are expected here in a few days. The time of their trial is not yet fixed, but as there is no prison in which they can be securely confined, it is exceedingly desirable that they should have their trial at the earliest possible period.

## The Legislative Assembly.

We hope it will be borne in mind that next Monday is the day set for the assembling of the Legislature. In view of the many interests involved, every seat ought to be occupied. Aside from the confused condition of our statutory laws causing them to be imperative for good to the country, there are matters of pressing importance calling for immediate legislative action. The Governor, after long and persevering effort, has secured a portion of the signatures of Dr. Whitman and others, and they are promised an early trial, but it will require an Act of Legislature to authorize a session of Court for that purpose. Furthermore, if this session does not convene there can be no other meeting hereafter without a special act of Congress, authorizing it. The case is therefore urgent and every man ought to be in his place.

## Trinidad Bay.

The grand excitement in San Francisco, is for Trinidad Bay. Gold has been found in abundance on Trinity river. Several vessels have sailed to that Bay and a new town is commenced, which of course in its day will eclipse everything else. On the fifth day after the arrival of the first "settler," an election was held for Alcalde, and 196 votes were polled. Two frames, three log and a variety of tent houses were up on election day.

## From California—The Markets.

We have San Francisco papers of April 1st, from which it appears that trade is in a vacillating condition, and prices much lower than they are here.

The Flour market is dull. Stock on hand large, chiefly Chilean—quoted at \$4 1/2 per cwt. for Chile, and \$7 a 9 per bbl. for Oregon.

Beef, mow. \$7 a 9 per bbl. Mow Pork per bbl. \$25 a 28. Boots and Shoes abundant and cheap.

Coffee in good demand—stock light—prices on the advance—Rio 17 cents per lb.

Lumber. Common \$25 a 30 per M. American pine \$50 a 100. Shingles \$3 a 6 per M.

The following from the Alta California, we commend to the notice of our readers:

"Sales have been made at quotations. Very little is taken on speculation; the wants of the consumer are fully supplied, the market is overstocked and holders vary in price. The time for high rates is gone by; it will decline still lower. Sales of Shingles have been made at less than \$3 per M.; houses 12x15, 20x30 and other sizes are dull of sale at any price; thousands are held without any prospect of sales, from the little disposition existing to erect buildings, while many are vacant."

Butter, superior, 75 a 80 cents per lb.

Sugar, Manila brown, 13 1/2 cts. Brazil white, 23 cts. do brown, 16 cts. Crushed, refined white and loaf, at 30 to 35 cts.

Gold dust, in coin, \$15 75 to 16—In trade, \$16.

## The Deserters Again.

The whole detachment of troops have returned from the pursuit of the deserters, bringing some seventeen deserters with them. This band when met were returning, and in the most miserable and famishing condition. The remainder, thirty-five in number, had made a canoe and crossed the Klameth, and thus escaped. But it is possible they escaped the hands of friends to fall into the arms of horrid death by starvation.

## Stock of the Printing Association.

We have been addressed verbally and by letter by persons claiming to be owners in the Stock of the Printing Association to which this office belongs, with reference to the proprietorship of the concern; and to all, we reply that our duties are confined exclusively to the editorial department, and therefore the stockholders must adjust the question of proprietorship among themselves.

[The reader will find the statements of our Astoria correspondent, under our commercial head, unusually interesting this week.

The examination of A. M. Short, for the murder of Dr. D. Gardner, has resulted in Short's acquittal, on the ground of justifiable homicide.

## Clay's Compromise.

The following are Mr. Clay's Compromise Resolutions, introduced in the Senate on Tuesday, Jan. 29.

It being desirable for the peace, concord, and harmony of the Union of these States, to settle and adjust amicably all questions of controversy between them, arising out of the institution of Slavery, upon a fair equality and just basis, therefore—

1st, Resolved, That California, with suitable boundaries, ought, upon her application, to be admitted as one of the States of this Union, without the imposition by Congress of any restriction to the exclusion or introduction of Slavery within those boundaries.

2d, Resolved, That as Slavery does not exist by law and is not likely to be introduced into these territories acquired by the United States from the Republic of Mexico, it is inexpedient to provide, by law, either for its introduction into, or its exclusion from any part of the said territory; and that appropriate Territorial Governments ought to be established, by Congress, in all of the said territories, not assigned as the boundaries of this proposed State of California, without the abolition of any restriction or condition on the subject of Slavery.

3d, Resolved, That the western boundary of the State of Texas ought to be fixed on the Rio del Norte, commencing one marine league from its mouth, and running up that river to the southern line of New Mexico, thence with that line eastwardly, and continuing in the same direction, to the line as established between the United States and Spain, not including any portion of New Mexico, whether lying on the east or west of that river.

4th, Resolved, That it be proposed to the State of Texas, that the United States will provide for the payment of all that portion of all the legitimate and bona fide public debts of that State contracted prior to its annexation to the United States, and for which the duties on foreign imports were pledged by the said State to its creditors, not exceeding the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, in consideration of the duties as pledged, having been no longer applicable to that object after the said annexation, but having thereupon become payable to the United States; and upon the condition also, that the said State shall, by some solemn and authentic act of her Legislature, or of a Convention, relinquish to the United States any claim which it has to any part of New Mexico.

5th, Resolved, That it is inexpedient to abolish Slavery in the District of Columbia, while that institution continues to exist in the State of Maryland, without the consent of the people of the District, and without just compensation to the owners of slaves within the District.

6th, Resolved, That it is expedient to prohibit within the District the slave trade, in slaves brought into it from States or places beyond the limits of the District, either to be sold therein, as merchandise, or to be transported to other markets, without the District of Columbia.

7th, Resolved, That more effectual provision ought to be made by law, according to the requirements of the constitution, for the restitution and delivery of persons bound to service or labor, in any State, who may escape into any other State or Territory of this Union.

8th, Resolved, That Congress has no power to prohibit or obstruct the trade in Slaves between the Slaveholding States, and that the admission or exclusion of Slaves brought from one into another of them, depends exclusively upon their own particular laws.

The following comments are from the New York Tribune:

The leading feature in the intelligence of the past week is Mr. Clay's New Compromise, based upon a series of resolutions introduced by him in the Senate on Tuesday, Jan. 29. Having laid over one week, they were again taken up day before yesterday, and sustained by Mr. Clay in an eloquent and elaborate argument. His proposition is an amicable arrangement of the controverted points between the north and south on the absorbing question of Slavery. His first resolution maintains the admission of California as a State, free from all restrictions respecting the exclusion or introduction of human bondage therein; and the second provides for the establishment of territorial governments in the territories acquired from Mexico, without conditions. The remainder provide for the definition of the western boundary of Texas on the Rio del Norte, from its mouth to the southern line of New Mexico, not including any portion of the latter; and that Congress shall pay such debts of Texas as were secured prior to annexation by pledged duties on foreign goods, Texas to relinquish therefor all claims over New Mexico—also, that it is inexpedient to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia while that institution exists in the State of Maryland, but prohibiting the slave trade in the District—and finally, that provision should be made by Congress for the more effectual restitution of runaway chattels; and that Congress has no power to prohibit the trade in slaves between different slaveholding states. In supporting these resolutions, Mr. Clay avows his object to be that of conciliation and compromise, affording a platform whereupon both sects may unite. His speeches have produced a powerful sensation throughout the country as well as upon the floor of the Senate. Regarding the fate of the resolutions in either House, it is yet impossible to conjecture. The further consideration of the subject was postponed in the Senate on Tuesday until the succeeding day.

The President has transmitted to Congress the correspondence between the government at Washington and the Military authorities at Santa Fe, and also that between the government and the authorities of Texas in regard to the boundary question. The message which accompanies them reiterates the opinion that the question of jurisdiction in New Mexico is one for the decision of Congress, rather than that of the Executive.

A resolution offered on the last day of December by Mr. Root—instructing the committee on Territories to report bills for territorial governments, prohibitory of slavery, for all that territory lying eastward of California which has been acquired by treaty with Mexico—was called up in the House on Monday last, and immediately tabled by a vote of 105 to 78. Twenty-seven northern men were absent, while thirty-two who were present voted to lay on the table.

OREGON CITY, April 30, 1850.

## To the Editor of the Oregon Spectator.

Sir—As there appears to be much excitement and interest expressed by the people of Oregon on the subject of Trinity Bay, I deem it well to state there is already a settlement there by the people of California; a town is laid off and officers of the peace, etc., elected. The lat-