

OREGON SPECTATOR.

Vol. 4.

"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way."

No. 20.

WILSON BLAIN,
Editor and Publisher.

Oregon City, (O. T.), Thursday, June 27, 1850.

ROBT. MOORE,
of Lima City, Proprietor.

BUSINESS CARDS.

JNO. H. COUCH, BENJAMIN STARK,
CORCH & CO.
WHOLESALE & RETAIL MERCHANTS.
PORTLAND, OREGON TERRITORY.
Otober 4, 1849

BENZ STARK, JAMES H. BISHMAN,
EDWARD BISHMAN, JOHN H. COUCH,
STARK & CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.
REFER TO—Wm. S. Wetmore, esq., New York.
Messrs. Wetmore & Cryder,
" Taylor & Merrill,
" Wetmore & Co. Canton.
Oct. 4, 1849.

JNO. B. BISHMAN, BENJAMIN STARK,
EDWARD BISHMAN,
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. 15, 1849.

J. H. W. C. HOLMAN,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW
AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY.
Office on West side of Water Street,
OREGON CITY.
Oct. 15, 1849.

EMMETT A. HOAR,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR,
243 FRONT STREET,
PORTLAND, OREGON TERRITORY.
JAMES M. HARRISON, OREGON CITY.
STARK & CO. SAN FRANCISCO.
January 21, 1850—15.

GEORGE GIBBS,
COUNSELOR AT LAW,
PRINTING AND COMMERCIAL AGENT,
Custom House Buildings,
1850—15.

WILL attend to all business connected with
the preparation of legal papers, the
finding and discharge of vessels, receiving con-
signments for sale or storage, &c.

Coverell & Smith, Oregon City,
Co. Wm. W. Lewis,
J. D. M. Lewis, 117 Q. M.,
Gen. John A. Smith, Astoria,
January 10, 1850—11.

ROBERT C. FIELDS,
MERCHANT and general dealer in Dry
Goods, Groceries and Provisions,
Main Street, near the bridge,
Oct. 4, 1849.

W. W. CHAPMAN,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW,
PORTLAND, OREGON.
Portland, March 1, 1850—11.

W. T. MATLOCK,
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW
AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY.
Office on Main street, opposite the Main Street
House,
Oregon City, Feb. 21, 50—11.

ABRAHAM SULGER,
COMMISSION MERCHANT & AGENT
PORTLAND, OREGON.
REFERENCES:
Gen. RILEY, U. S. A., California.
Gen. F. F. SMITH, Oregon.
DAVID S. BAOWN & Co., Philadelphia.
P. H. TYUS, New York.
EDUCIORY & GREENE, San Francisco.
January 24, 1850—11.

GEO. ABERNETHY & CO.
MERCHANTS,
OREGON CITY, OREGON TERRITORY.
GEO. ABERNETHY, JAS. B. ROSS,
HIRAN CLARK,
March 21st, 1850—11.

SALT.
143 Sacks Liverpool salt,
30 sacks Syracuse table salt.
For sale by
GEO. ABERNETHY & CO.

TULLATIN PLAINS.
No all-gives it may concern, the subscriber
has always on hand a full assortment of
GROCERIES AND DRY GOODS,
which will be supplied of at wholesale and retail
sales to suit customers.
Having effected arrangements for goods direct
from California and the States, I offer great in-
ducements to farmers and country store keepers.
By prompt attention to the wants of the com-
munity, he hopes to merit a continuance of favors
27 Town lots for sale.
ABRAHAM SULGER,
Hillsborough, May 16, 1850—17-ly.

THE SPECTATOR.

OREGON CITY:
THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1850.

For the Spectator.
To the Editors of the Oregon Spectator:

Sir—In your paper of the 19th ult., I have read an article headed "The Coast Survey of Oregon," wherein you remark, as a preface to the Hon. Mr. Thurston's letter, that "all we know on the subject is, that the Marine party were enjoying themselves at the Sandwich Islands at the latest dates," while Mr. Thurston implies by his letter, that our having gone to California instead of proceeding to Oregon, must have been in defiance of orders, and that our conduct in this particular, and subsequent neglect to do anything, "is a matter highly censurable."

With a sole desire to stand right before the people, not only for my self, but for the cause "Marine party," with whom, under the command of Lieut. Comdr. McArthur, I have the honor to be associated, feel called upon to reply. That we all entered upon the Hydrographical work entrusted to us by Prof. Bache, the Superintendent of the U. S. Coast Survey, which he had been doing all that could in any way be required of us—the plans and "orders" for the expedition were drawn up in Washington in the summer of 1845—prior to the positive announcement of the discovery of Gold in California. The expensive instruments necessary for the work were to be shipped by the first steamer for California and Oregon—and were so shipped. While the U. S. Sch. Eagle was out under way around, during the Hydrographical party to the coast, you Cape Horn, Lieut. Comdr. McArthur, and the party, with the chief and crews of the "Topographical party" were to cross the Isthmus, and all waiting at San Francisco, prepared to work.

The delay and difficulties which were encountered by all who attempted to reach California by the steamer line early in 1849, are well known. They were such, in this case, that I reached San Francisco in the evening, after a six months voyage, a whole month before Capt. McArthur—and found that the entire body of Civilian, engaged by Capt. Williams for his Topographical party, had deserted him, after they had sailed from New York, and themselves at home to receive him and the pulp for a stipulated salary,—he had not the means of using his instruments, if he should get home.

Our difficulties were continuous, day and night, and I put to sea to save our crew, for Capt. McArthur—when, to my relief, he arrived and took command.—Some had been shot, but I captured a portion of them, at a time when vessels of the "Squadron" were being men by tens and twenties at a time.

Our stringent discipline to preserve the crew for the service we came to perform, caused the mutiny by which Passed Mid'n Wilson came near losing his life, after a struggle with powerful men who left him to drown in the Bay. We pursued and captured these men, and the whole five were sentenced to death by a General Court Martial—two only were executed; the other three were lost to us.

The Court Martial had detained the party till the autumn was too far advanced to commence work, and it was only possible to go to the Islands to winter and endeavor to ship more men—it was done, and a few men obtained. All the Government stores and provisions being at San Francisco, the Schooner must return there, as at first; and again, in spite of the most rigid guard by day and night, some men escaped; and yet, we came to sea on the 31 of April, to be ready to work with the first good weather of the opening spring; Gen. Adair came with us. Capt. McArthur reached the Bar of the Columbia on the very day of your publication, and crossed to Astoria; in 24 hours we were at work, but under difficulties never before encountered by surveying officers—having to guard our crew by day and night, and work with a corps of officers scarcely able to do either, without great zeal on the part of all.

But as we anticipated, our men seized the first and every opportunity to desert—some have succeeded, and some been retaken after great exertions made by the officers, and made against the determinations of several persons who have aided and assisted our men to escape, by holding out to them tempting offers and inducements to desert.—while from the majority of the citizens we have been assisted in recovering them, and to all such, I, for one, return my sincere thanks.
I know the zeal and ambition which stimulates Lieut. Comdr. McArthur and

his corps of officers in the work assigned them here, and their extreme anxiety to perform it. I have therefore found it necessary to make this statement, which I would not have done but for the thoughtless attack upon us in your columns.

Respectfully,
WASHINGTON A. BARTLETT,
Lt. U. S. Navy, "Coast Survey."
May 24th, 1850.

Mr. King's Report on California A Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce writes (March 25) as follows:

Mr. Thomas Butler King's report on California was read to the President and Cabinet to-day, and occupied two hours and a half in reading.

It will of course be soon presented to Congress. The topics of which it treats are—The population of the country; its agricultural resources; extent and production of the mineral region; the commerce and navigation of California; the legislation necessary for the Territory; and especially in regard to the disposition of the gold-bearing lands belonging to the United States.

The population of the country is now about 120,000. An accession to the population by immigration, during the year beginning at the next dry season—on the first of May—is estimated at 200,000.

The agricultural capacities of the State are vastly greater than has been heretofore represented. There is a vast extent of pasture lands, unsurpassed anywhere in the world, in verdure and richness. The wild oats grow spontaneously all over the plains, yielding an annual crop at the rate of forty bushels per acre. Any number of cattle and sheep may be raised. Two hundred thousand head of cattle must be brought into the country during the next two years.

The cattle were formerly killed for their hides, which was the chief article of export; and they were worth but \$4 a head; but now they are worth \$20 or \$30 a head.

California is especially adapted to wool-growing; a gentleman was about to import ten thousand sheep from Mexico with a view to go into that business. The future value of the vineyards is represented as very great.

As to the commerce of the country, he estimates the value of imports needed in California from the Atlantic States, for the next year, at four millions of dollars in flour, six millions in lumber, and two millions in other articles.

As to the article of lumber, its price is now \$75 per thousand, and cannot be lower, because it is below the cost of labor necessary for cutting and sawing lumber in California. It can be carried to California for \$24 a thousand; and supposing it to cost \$20 here, it will continue to pay.

The gold region is described as extending five or six hundred miles from the south to the north, and from forty to sixty miles in width, from east to west. It rises gradually in an inclined plain, from the Sacramento valley, to the elevation of 1,000 feet at what are called the Foot Hills. Between these hills and the Sierra Nevada, a number of streams have their source, and take their course through the Foot Hills, westward.

Mr. King examined twelve of these rivers, and found them all very rich in gold. The territory on the north is very rich in gold. The territory on the north is very rich in gold; and the conclusion is inevitable, from all the facts, that the whole quartz plain, containing three thousand square miles, is full of gold bedded in the quartz, and some of which, disintegrated from the quartz by the torrents, may be found in dust and lumps in the beds of the streams.

The whole number of foreigners in the region, who are gold hunters, is fifteen thousand. There have been but seven thousand American gold hunters. The Chilians and the Sonora people came in crowds, and have carried off twenty-five millions. The Americans have procured fifteen millions. The Chilians are expert diggers.

The amount of gold already procured, is forty millions. But forty millions more will be procured during the coming dry season—say from May till November.

The regular mining operations in the solid quartz rock will soon begin, and can be continued during the wet as well as the dry season.

Mr. King estimates the amount of gold which will be procured from the 1st May, 1851, till the 1st November, 1852, at one hundred millions.

He recommends that the lands be retained as public property forever—and as

a perpetual resource for the public exchequer.

To the workers and diggers of gold he proposes to grant permits at the rate of an ounce of gold for each pound.

For the encouragement of regular mining operations, he proposes to grant leases of a limited number of acres, to persons or companies, at a small per centage on the amount of gold procured.

SPEECH OF MR. THURSTON.—The following highly complimentary notice of the speech of our delegate in favor of the admission of California we clip from the correspondence of the New York Sun, of March 20th:

"No oratorical effort of the session has fallen upon the House with better effect than that of Mr. Thurston of Oregon, delivered yesterday. Coming from the extreme west, where it is taken for granted the people are in a more 'primitive' condition than elsewhere under this government, and looking as Mr. T. does, like a fair specimen of the frontier-man, little was expected of him in an oratorical way. But he has proved to be one of the most effective speakers in the Hall, which has created no little surprise. Mr. Thurston is about 31 years of age, and is about six feet in height. His figure is muscular and finely formed. As an orator his style is decidedly western; vehement, nervous and confident. His figures of speech are eminently western, rather than of the subdued school of the land of his early years. This was manifested by his speech in favor of the admission of California. He possessed an advantage enjoyed by but one other person in the House, Mr. Hall of Missouri, both having been in California, and both knowing all about the country from personal observation. He held that they did not demand admission with too great an extent of the coast.

To prove this, he contended that the real question in this connection, was the number of harbors on that line of seacoast; and then went on to prove that the only harbor there likely to be that of a large city, was that of San Francisco, as he demonstrated to the satisfaction of all present. His next point was that fact that as bounded in her State constitution, 245,600 square miles was not too much territory for that State, as he rendered clear, in all that vast territory there was not more available land than in the State of Massachusetts. He also satisfactorily disproved the allegation that Butler King, Gen. Riley and Gen. Taylor had succeeded in influencing the people of California in the matter of the adoption of her State constitution.

A VOICE FOR THE UNION.—The Asheville (Bruncombe county, N. C.) Messenger of Feb. 20, contains a stirring appeal in favor of the Union, from which we extract the following. It expresses noble views, bold, conservative, and patriotic. Coming from a southern paper of established reputation, the article from which we extract is well calculated to lead the ultraists to pause and reflect on the tendency of their mad career:—

"As to a dissolution of the Union simply for what we now suffer, or what we think we are likely to suffer soon, we spurn the thought; we abhor the idea; and can have no sympathy with any one that favors it, so far as that is concerned; for the reason that we do not, nor have we been able to discover that we are very much oppressed, or that our rights have been seriously trampled on so as to injure them.
There are many circumstances that would justify us in separating, but they are all imaginary; as we think, so far, there is nothing done yet that we think would justify a move towards such a result. Let us appeal to argument; if that fail, let us appeal to the supreme laws of the land; if they fail, let us separate, and do the best we can. Till then, NEVER!

"A union of Lakes, a union of Lands,
A union of States none may sever;
A union of Hearts, a union of Hands,
AMERICAN UNION FOREVER!"

is our motto, and, till a worse time comes than we have seen yet, we shall religiously stick to it."

OREGON.—We again publish a long and able article from the worthy Delegate, Mr. Thurston, in Congress, from Oregon. We have only room and time to-day to call the readers attention to it, hoping it may have the effect of placing that great country in a proper light before the people this side the Rocky mountains.

We have had on our files for some time, also, a long article by Mr. T. published in the eastern papers in reply to misstatements in the Boston Atlas, but from the great daily press of matter upon our col-

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