

THE SPECTATOR.

OREGON CITY:

THURSDAY, OCT. 2, 1850.

D. J. SCHNEELY, EDITOR.

TERRITORY LAWS.—The committee that has charge of printing the laws of the territory, is informed that the laws are folded, packed, and ready for delivery.

Through the politeness of Dr. Dart, we received our latest advices from the states, in the shape of a great roll of papers, for which we return thanks.

We are indebted to Mr. Evans for late California papers, before the arrival of the mail.

The last mail brought us the following appointments for the Post office department in Oregon: Richard H. Lanedale, Postmaster at Vancouver, in place of Moses H. Kellogg resigned. There has been a Post office established at Hillsborough, Washington county; Abraham Sulger, of that place, has been appointed postmaster.

Mr. Gibbs has placed us under obligations to him for his promptness in furnishing us the arrivals and clearances, at Astoria. We return our thanks to the Purser of the Panama for furnishing us a list of the passengers; and to the Purser of the Sea Gull, through Couch & Co., for a list of her passengers to Portland.

ELECTIONS.—In Missouri the elections have resulted in the choice of five Congressmen, Whigs, and a whig Legislature; thus securing at the meeting of the next Legislature, a whig U. S. Senator, in the place of Col. Benton.

North Carolina has elected a democratic Governor, but a whig Legislature.

Kentucky has elected a whig Legislature, but by a reduced majority.

Among the passengers of the steamer Panama we see enrolled the names of Dr. Amos Dart, superintendent of Indian Affairs, and P. C. Dart, Secretary for the same. Since writing the above we have heard of their arrival in the city. We understand that the Superintendent contemplates entering upon the duties of his commission immediately—to treat and make settlements with the Indians, west of the Cascade mountains.

FROM THE PLAINS.—We learn from the Ohio Statesman that the number of immigrants, up to the 30th June, that had passed Fort Laramie, amounted to 33,924; of this number 22,740 were men; 493 were women; 691 were children. Belonging to this number, there were 7,566 wagons, 20,789 horses, 6,724 mules, 21,419 oxen, and 3,185 cows.

Up to the same time there had occurred, among all this number, 38 deaths, 19 of which were of cholera; there were also some from small pox and erysipelas.

WHAT IS A NUISANCE?—At Washington, we learn from the Republic, any one thing, enumerated among the following, is considered as a nuisance. We would simply ask, can any of these be of local application, in Oregon City?

"Dead carcasses, dead fish or offals of fish, heaps of oyster shells; offals from butcher's stalls, slaughter-houses or tan-yards; stagnant water, in ponds, marshes, sewers, or cellars; foul privies, hog-styes, and decayed vegetables of all descriptions, whether entire or those portions thereof not used as food which may be thrown out from kitchens; horses going at large with the glanders, farcy, or other contagious disease; the drainage from dye houses and soap factories; houses or buildings unoccupied and in a state of dilapidation or decay, endangering the lives or property of those in the vicinity.

The New York papers appear to be in a great quandary about the "Rochester Knockings;" we regret, exceedingly, to see so many of the corpse editorial so badly fooled in this matter. It has engaged the wisest and most talented heads of that state—after examining and re-examining, the whole affair remains a mystery still. The only effect that the investigations have had, has been to sharpen the ingenuity of the knockers; who still continue to elude the detection of the mystery seekers. We are of opinion that there has been enough of this kind of humbug; we say emphatically, stop that knocking.

The latest news from Europe announces the death of Sir Robert Peel. This distinguished individual came to his death by falling from a horse.

An Indian Speech.

The following Indian speech shows the turn given to affairs on the Mississippi. What a blessing it would be if the same opinion could be inculcated here, where there is so much need of it. We take the trouble to publish it; we hope some person, familiar with the jargon, will publish it to the *Native Americans*, resident here. How much such a course would improve their condition, and how much more preferable it would be to lounging about on the rocks and banks of the river—to instill into their minds the importance of doing something. Every being, was made for some purpose, other than indolence and general inactivity:

The Minnesota Register contains the following report of a speech made by Nah Hakekah, alias Jim two Bits, a Winnebago chief, to his people, on the 16th of May last:

"We have come to a poor country.—There is no game here but bugs, frogs, and musquitos. We can no longer live by hunting. I can hear the frogs and musquitos around me now. We must go to work or we shall starve. We must live as the white men do. The women must no longer do all the work. The men must come out and help their wives and daughters to plant the corn. Another thing I wish you to hear. Our children must be all sent to school. If the oldest boys and girls are wanted just now to help to plant, the little ones must be sent. It is a great thing to know how to read and write well. It is what gives the white men such an advantage over us. Take all the little children that are old enough to walk, and push them into the school-house, where they can learn to be skilful and industrious; and more besides that, they will bring home bread and pork. The pork will afford you something to grease your hands with when they become sore with hard work."

PROFESSOR WEBSTER.—The following is the conclusion of the report of the Executive Council, in which they announce to the Governor of Massachusetts that they cannot consistently with what they conceive their duty, recommend a commutation of sentence in the case of John W. Webster.

Nothing now remains for the committee, in the discharge of this painful duty, but to advise your Excellency in determining upon a time for the execution; and they name Friday, the thirtieth day of August next, as the day; and recommend to your Excellency to decide upon that day as the time for the execution of John W. Webster.

JOHN REED, Chairman.
Council Chamber, July 19, 1850.

Thus endeth the chapter of this unfortunate man. A powerful appeal was made by his friends to procure a commutation of the sentence of the Court, and everything done to extenuate the crime; but Gov. Briggs, sensible of his deep guilt, was impervious to the solicitous importunities of his family and friends, and was unwilling to do any thing that would interfere with the rightful decision of the Court. Our latest advices from the States give no account of the execution of the sentence, but he was, doubtless, hung at the appointed time.

At Paris there was a balloon ascension, in which the aeronaut was accompanied by a horse. The horse is represented to have struggled some as the balloon began to ascend; but he was soon quieted and remained so during the rest of the voyage; and whilst at the greatest height, he bled profusely at the mouth. By this feat, M. Lepoitteuin pocketed about \$2,000 net, for the experiment.

MINERS PROSPECTS.—The water in the Sacramento is falling slowly. The snows in the mountains have been gradually passing away for several months, so that the miners now have ample scope of territory to "prospect," whilst they are also enabled to dam off and work river claims, which, heretofore, they have been prevented from doing on account of the melting snows.—[Sac. T. transcript.

We opine there is a mistake in the caption of the above extract. According to the way we see things in California, it should read *Minor Prospects*; that would be in keeping with the actual state of things. This should be done to correct the many false impressions abroad.

LARGE SALARIES.—The newly organized corporation of the city of San Francisco has fixed the salaries of its officers thus:—Mayor, Recorder, City Attorney, City Marshal, \$10,000 per annum each; Controller, (besides perquisites) \$6,000; Street Commissioner \$7,000; Aldermen \$6,000; and others in proportion, payable monthly. It will be recollected that the salary of the Governor of the State is but \$10,000, so that the functionaries above named are as great dignitaries as he in point of compensation.

ANOTHER FIRE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

The fourth great fire occurred at San Francisco on the 23d ult. Four squares were destroyed; and that too in a part of the city that has hitherto escaped.—The loss is estimated to be about, says the Courier, \$1,000,000. Among the losses we see enumerated the destruction of the "News" establishment, with all its type and presses. For the safety of the steam press, a fire proof building had been erected in the rear of the main building—a quantity of type had been placed in there for safety, after the fire had commenced; but the intensity of the heat so sprung the doors that the fire entered thereat and the whole was destroyed together. The Alta California office was only saved by its being proof against fire. The total destruction of the presses and materials, together with the subscription and account books and private papers, puts it out of the power of the proprietors to renew the publication of the News for some days.

The News establishment was valued at \$60,000; \$30,000 of which falls on Mr. Winchester.

The Picayune office was also burned, but the materials were fortunately saved and phenix like made its appearance in the afternoon of the same day.

There was some other valuable property destroyed, but the portion of the city visited by the late fire is by far the least valuable part; many of the buildings were cheap and temporary. We learn that scarcely had the fire ceased when preparations were making, and frames actually going up where the fire had got down sufficiently to admit of the rubbish being removed.

We have been informed by Mr. Samuel Culver and Lieut. Wood, who reached this city a few days since, that they have been for the past two weeks viewing and taking observations of the country between Astoria and the Tualitin Plains, with the view of ascertaining the practicability of opening a road from the former place to the foot of the latter.

The climate is represented as superior to almost any other portion of the territory. It is mild and pleasant, and, during the hot months of summer, is less subject to the severity of drought; whilst, at the same time, it is protected from the cold sea breezes by the coast range of mountains.

The country, instead of being, as is generally supposed, an entire mountainous district, is nothing more than a succession of gently sloping hills, beautifully diversified with clear running streams, affording an abundance of water power.

With a few exceptions the hills are of easy grade. The clearing out of the heavy masses of timber appear to be the only obstructions. This is an important move for Astoria, and we hope the anticipations of the undertakers may be fully realized.—Its impracticability hitherto has been considered settled and sure. It was truly an adventure, and we think that Mr. Culver and Lieut. Wood deserve much credit for their untiring perseverance in the matter.

WASHINGTON, July 15, 1850.

EDITOR SPECTATOR.—I am able to inform you, that I succeeded just now in procuring the final passage of the bill authorizing the Legislative Assembly of Oregon Territory to prolong its next annual session to ninety days. Thus, little by little, I am securing the interests of Oregon. This bill passed the House some three weeks ago, and the Senate this morning.

The House is yet on the Galphin claim matter, and until that is finished, our Land bill can't be touched. I am here like a watch dog, and the first possible opportunity I will seize. I hope our people will be quiet, and work on, for I believe to-day justice will be done.

Yours in haste,
THURSTON.

THE NEW CABINET.—Mr. Conrad has been appointed in the place of Mr. Pearce, Secretary of War, and Mr. McKennan as Secretary of the Interior. Both gentlemen are said to have accepted, thus completing President Fillmore's Cabinet, which stands as follows:

Secretary of State—DANIEL WEBSTER, of Massachusetts. Secretary of Treasury—THOS. CORWIN, of Ohio. Secretary of the Navy—WM. A. GRAHAM, of North Carolina. Secretary of War—CHARLES M. CONRAD, of Louisiana. Secretary of the Interior—THOS. M. T. MCKENNAN, of Pennsylvania. Postmaster General—NATHAN K. HALL, of New York. Attorney General—JOHN J. CHITTENDEN, of Kentucky.

Geographical.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1, 1850.

EDITOR SPECTATOR.—Dear Sir—Two days ago I wrote you giving in my opinion, that the Compromise bill would pass. Yesterday it was taken up, and before the Senate adjourned, the Compromise bill was completely destroyed. The Senate, to-day, are talking over its corpse, with much bitterness. Mr. Foote has offered an amendment, providing for dividing California on 33 degrees. Mr. Dawson of Georgia, advocated its adoption, and in the course of his remarks, stated that the Georgia Legislature had authorized the Governor of Georgia, in case California was admitted with her present boundaries, to issue his proclamation for the election of a convention to consult upon the matter. He intimated that Georgia would make war on the United States.

He sat down, and Clay, 74 years of age, arose and in about a five minutes speech, he breathed terror to the disunionists.—Twice the galleries cheered him, while he told the Senate, that enfeebled as his voice and arm were by age, so long as it pleased God to give him breath, that voice and arm should maintain the Union. The threats of blood and war, said he, had no terror for him; let it come, and then we will see whether we have a government or not, able to enforce its authority. Resist who may, and whatever state, or the people of any state, may oppose the authority of this Union, he was ready to throw himself into the general carnage and fight for the Union and laws. And during this time the old Tiger bore himself as proudly as in his palmy days.—The speech was worthy of Clay—and it created a sensation, backed up as it was by the clapping of the multitude which leaves no doubt what will be the fate of any attempt to upset this Government.—They will be utterly burned up by the consuming wrath of an indignant and patriotic people. Should that crisis come, there is no man living who could meet the crisis, as President, like old Harry Clay. I will send you his remarks—publish them—and may the sentiments therein be sown in Oregon and bring forth bountifully.

Yours in good faith,
THURSTON.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12, 1850.

MR. EDITOR.—It is now five o'clock P. M., and this letter is to be slipped into a way-bag, for the purpose of conveying to you the latest possible information.

The Senate to-day were occupied in discussing the bill for the admission of California, and it is supposed, a vote will be taken on it to-morrow. It will pass the Senate.

The House have been regaled to-day with the rarity of four set speeches of one hour each, on the Civil and Diplomatic appropriation bill. A resolution passed the House this morning to close all further debate on it, on Friday next. Then comes the time of offering amendments and making five minutes speeches, which will consume another week. Hence this bill will not be finished before the last of next week, so that nothing else will come up till the 26th or 27th, you see, therefore, that there is no probability of adjourning before the first of October.

I look upon the admission of California and the settlement of the slavery question this session, as extremely problematical, and I should not be surprised, if Congress adjourns, leaving the whole question open. The southern members, a majority of them are determined that nothing shall be done unless they can have niggers legislated into the Territories. This, I trust they never will get done.

Another rare specimen of Senatorial decorum came off to-day between Senators Foote and Soule. Mr. Soule said if the South submitted to the admission of California into the Union, as she was, she ought to be enslaved. Mr. Foote named this Congress by its right name, revolutionary and incendiary, and said it was more fit for the mountains, in the days of Murat and Robespierre, than for the 19th century and the American Senate. Mr. Soule retorted in a passion, and Foote told him if he wished to take it up, he would meet him out of the Senate any time. Soule retorted that Foote could be accommodated. The Vice President interferred, and the matter evaporated in the air.

The Oregon Land bill has been referred in the Senate and printed, and is to come up before the committee on Public Lands to-morrow morning for examination, and it will probably be reported to the Senate to-morrow and made the special order for a day certain.

Mr. Clay is still away on a recruit. There was a great row here last night between the fire companies. A number of fire companies met to extinguish a fire, and after that was done, they fell to extinguishing each other, a number of pistols were fired, heads bruised, and one man stabbed to the heart, and died immediately.

There was a corpse, dead of cholera, brought here last night, in the care, and there is a case, so I hear, in this city. I do not know what may be the result of it, it has got so late now, that it is hoped it will not prevail. Yours in haste,
PLUME.