

An Improbable Story.

The New York Sun says: "A most extraordinary phenomenon, it is said, has just made its appearance in this city, viz: A slave from the South, who has discovered a secret mode of changing the colored skin to a white one! He has already, according to report, changed the hue of his feet, his hands, and a part of his face, while the rest of his person is gradually undergoing the same wonderful metamorphosis. The story is, that while at work upon his master's plantation, he discovered that a certain weed exercised this astonishing effect. He and a number of his fellow slaves vigorously applied the cosmetic, and the result is before us. He expects to be fully white in from eight to ten months."

For ourselves, we place this white-washing discovery, the foregoing account of which we find in the *Pennsylvania Enquirer*, in the same category with some other famous discoveries and inventions with which the public has been amused or hoaxed or bamboozled during the last twelve or eighteen months, among which are the Desprez diamond, Porter's Flying Machine, Paine's Hydro-Electric Light, and the Rochester Ghost.

This "Cosmetic" may answer the purpose in the case of a quadroon, or a very bright mulatto, who needs no bleaching; but where the subject is black and all black, or nearly so, we fear he is remediless in the premises. Can the Ethiopian change his skin? He cannot, we fancy, or at all events by so simple a process as the application of "a certain weed."

There have been cases, and they are to be found recorded in books and newspapers, in which negroes have become partially white, which takes place when, from disease or debility, the secreting organs that deposit the black pigment, or coloring matter, between the cuticle and the true skin, do not perform their functions in a moral and healthy manner. But this whitening process cannot be controlled by any appliance of science or of art, is never complete, and always leaves the subject in a worse plight than he was before, for he becomes finally neither black nor white nor yellow, but spotted and blotched and piebald, something after the fashion of a leopard, except that the spots are not so well defined, or so agreeable to be looked at.—*Washington Globe*.

The *Sacramento Times*, speaking of the overland emigration, says:

We are told that there is scarcely a party who have not been some time on short allowance, that the road is lined with dead animals, some from exhaustion, others slaughtered for food and partly consumed, and that great numbers of travellers had lost all their animals and were packing their scanty supplies on their backs, almost ready to give out, worn down and emaciated by their long journey and privations. These cases are among the stronger sex—but a short distance behind them are hundreds of women and children, doomed to the same sufferings, and, too, we fear, unless the hand of charity is quickly extended. At Carson river some supplies are found, but generally at a price beyond the means of the needy to purchase flour and bread at \$2 per lb.—The loss of stock prevents the carrying of supplies of water over the long stretches of desert, and on there is the most exquisite suffering experienced.

Dignity.—We do not know to whom to credit the following, but here it is:

"The best proof of a vulgar man is to be found in the quantity of dignity that he wraps himself up in. In the opinion of such men, the only way to set a proper value on yourself, is to treat with contempt every body else. Such men are generally rich and very ignorant. The biggest feeling man we ever knew was a swindling blockhead, who imagined that the tragedy of Hamlet was written by Damon and Pythias, and who could not tell, without consulting his *ade mecum*, whether Shakespeare was the author of Macbeth or Macbeth was the author of Shakespeare. As a general thing, your dignified men are great asses. They keep at a distance, that their neighbors may not discover what counterfeits they are. Across the street, a galvanic watch appears to be built. Men are like ships—the more they contain, the lower they carry their heads."

An American from Boston is now at Newfoundland who is about applying to the Local Government for permission to make a submarine examination of our coast, and to retain all property which may be raised; the parties concerned have a vessel at St. John's, and are provided with English divers, and with the necessary submarine apparatus and machinery for raising sunken property. Some years ago a large amount of specie was lost in the Drake man of war, near St. John's, which we suppose has been the inducement to this enterprise.—[*N. Y. Tribune*.]

COCOON SUGAR.—A new mode of obtaining sugar has been recently discovered in Ceylon. It is obtained by cutting off the stem of the cocoon nut flower, attaching a vessel to it, and evaporating the liquid thus obtained, which is said to flow from the treen quantities almost incredible. The sugar thus obtained is described as equal in quality to that furnished by the sugar cane—and the milk or sap of the cocoon tree can be obtained in almost any quantities. But how many years a tree that is tapped in this way will exist, is not stated.

You will see Prentice preaching, not mere democracy, in a year from date, but the most rabid Locofocoism, or sustaining those that do preach it.—[*Dem.*]

We are already sustaining the Democrat, which is certainly a specimen of "rabid Locofocoism." How long would that concern him but for the eclat of an occasional notice from the Journal?

[*Louisville Journal*.]

ELIOT BURRITT—The Learned Blacksmith—His Personal Appearance.—He is tall, inclined to gauntness, rather dark, his head and features large and well-proportioned. His voice is sonorous and flexible; his articulation, though New Englandish, distinct; his tones are what one would call earnest and pleading, not sharp, quick, or sledge-hammer like. He has either in voice or manner; is direct and unassuming. He does not thrust his own person between the subject and his audience, but stands behind the one that it may be viewed by the other.

His fancy and diction are luxuriant—very. His thoughts and style, his modes of treating topics strike one as peculiar—*suu generis*. You can compare him to no one. One prejudiced in his favor would assign him in prose the place Milton holds in poetry. Not that he is pre-eminent in rank, as Milton was, but that his range of thought and language is as lofty, rich, and in some respects like Milton's. Yet a profound admirer of the author of *Paradise Lost* might not be a profound admirer of the Learned Blacksmith. Yet, after all, he is a great man—made so by intellectual attainments. He has forged his way from the anvil and the shop up to a broader theatre and a world-wide renown.—*Cleveland Plaindealer*.

A YOUNG SINDAR.—The *Norwich (Conn.) Courier* thus narrates the narrow escape of a boy 14 or 15 years of age, named Lemmis, from drowning in the Sound a few days since. The lad wished to visit New York, and for this purpose he secreted himself on board the steamer Knickerbocker, on Monday night—reached New York safely, and set out to come home by the same boat on Tuesday evening. About midnight, when the steamer was off Saybrook, the young scape-grace fell overboard in some way—in just what way he himself seems unable to explain. He cried for help, but nobody heard him, and the boat went on her way. He says his first impulse was, after finding himself left to his fate, to strike out for the Connecticut shore; but, looking in the direction of New York, he saw, or thought he saw, a vessel of some sort in the steamer's wake, and he concluded to "lie to" a while, till he should find what it was, and whether it was likely to come within his reach. The result was that she came steadily on, nearer and nearer, till she came within hailing distance. He "spoke" the craft, which proved to be a fishing-smack, and was soon after picked up by her and taken into New London.

If you wish to have enemies, just rise in the world. Nobody throws cats at a balloon till it leaves the ground. Talk as you may, men will destroy what they cannot imitate.

"Why do you not admire my daughter?" said a lady to a doctor. "Because," said he, "I am no judge of painting."

A cross-grained, antiquated maiden vixen went to a physician for advice. "Madam," said the doctor, "it seems to me that it would do you good to have a little sun and air."

"Oh, you amiable creature! a son and heir! Oh, dear, will somebody fan me! I will go off! The outrageous brute!—a son and heir!"

BY AUTHORITY.

PUBLIC ACTS

Passed during the first session of the Thirty-first Congress.

[Public—No. 17.]

AN ACT to provide for holding the courts of the United States in case of the sickness or other disability of the judges of the district courts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in case of the sickness or other disability of any district judge of any judicial district of the United States, which shall prevent him from holding any stated or appointed term of the district court of his district, or of the circuit court therein in the absence of the circuit judge, and upon the fact of such sickness or other disability being certified by the clerk of such district court to the circuit judge of the circuit within which such district may lie, it shall be lawful for such circuit judge, if in his judgment the public interest shall so require, to designate and appoint the district judge of any other judicial district of the United States, within the same circuit, to hold the district court or circuit court in case of the sickness or absence of the circuit judge, in the place of, and discharge all the judicial duties of the district judge, who may be sick or otherwise disabled as aforesaid, while such sickness or other disability shall continue; which appointment shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the said district court, and be entered on the minutes of the court; and a certified copy thereof, under the seal of the court, be, by such clerk, transmitted to the judge so designated and appointed.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That in case there be no circuit judge resident within such circuit, or of his absence therefrom or inability to execute the provisions of the preceding section, or of the disability or neglect of the district judges designated by him to hold the courts and transact the business within the district for which he or they may be so designated, the clerk of such district court shall certify such fact or facts to the Chief Justice of the United States; and it shall thereupon be lawful for the Chief Justice of the United States to designate and appoint, in manner aforesaid, any district judge within said circuit, or of any judicial district within a circuit next immediately contiguous to the one within which such disability exists, which appointment shall be trans-

mitted to such clerk, and by him acted on as directed in the preceding section.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of such district judge as shall be for that purpose designated and appointed, (as in the preceding section provided,) to hold the district court or circuit court as aforesaid, and discharge all the judicial duties of the district judge, who shall be sick or otherwise disabled as aforesaid, so long as such sickness or other disability shall continue; and all the acts and proceedings in said courts, or by or before the said district judge so designated and appointed, shall have the same force, effect, and validity, as if done and transacted by and before the district judge of said district.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for such circuit judge or the Chief Justice of the United States, as the case may be, from time to time, if in his judgment the public interest shall so require, to make a new designation and appointment of any other district judge of any judicial district within the same circuits as aforesaid, with the powers and for the duties and purposes mentioned in the preceding sections of this act, and to revoke and determine any previous designation and appointment.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That the district judge so designated and appointed to hold the court and discharge the duties of the district judge of another district, and who shall hold such court or discharge such duties, shall be allowed his reasonable expenses of travel to and from his residence in such other district, necessarily incurred by reason of such designation and appointment, and his obedience thereto; and such expenses shall, when certified by the clerk and the district attorney of the judicial district within which such services shall have been performed, be paid by the marshal of such district, and allowed him in his accounts with the United States.

Approved, July 29, 1850.

HOWELL COBB,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WILLIAM R. KING,

President of the Senate, pro tempore.

MILLARD FILLMORE.

[Public—No. 21.]

AN ACT supplementary to the act entitled "An act providing for the taking of the seventh and subsequent censuses of the United States, and to fix the number of the members of the House of Representatives, and to provide for their future apportionment among the several States."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to increase the compensation allowed the marshals or agents, and their assistants, for taking the seventh census in California, Oregon, Utah, and New Mexico, so as to secure the prompt and faithful execution of the work.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That in enumerating persons residing in California, Oregon, Utah, and New Mexico, the several assistant marshals or agents shall include those who may have removed from their residence in any State or Territory of the United States prior to the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and settled subsequent to that date in either of the said countries.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That each assistant marshal or agent shall be paid for making and returning complete copies of the original census returns as required in the eleventh section of the act to which this is a supplement, eight cents for each page of the two copies of the original census returns required to be furnished by the eleventh section of the act to which this is a supplement.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That in any of the districts of the United States where causes beyond the control of the marshal shall have tended to delay the taking of the census, so that the same could not be taken and returned thereof made within the time prescribed by the act of twenty-third May, the Secretary of the Interior may, if he sees proper extend the time to any day not later than the first January, eighteen hundred and fifty-one: Provided, That the said Secretary may extend the time for completing the census in California, Oregon, Utah, and New Mexico, to such time as in his discretion may be deemed advisable.

Approved, August 30, 1850.

HOWELL COBB,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WILLIAM R. KING,

President of the Senate, pro tempore.

MILLARD FILLMORE.

[Public—No. 22.]

AN ACT to amend the act entitled "An act to amend, in the cases therein mentioned, the Act to regulate the duties on imports and tonnage."

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act, the collection district of Oregano, in North Carolina, shall embrace all the waters, shores, harbors, rivers, creeks, and inlets within the limits hereinafter described, to wit: Commencing at Drum inlet, on the sea shore, twenty miles south of Oregano, thence running in a northerly direction to the thoroughfare, so called, and through said thoroughfare to Point Marsh, near the mouth of the Neuse river, thence to the point of Long Shoal in Pamlico Sound, thence across said sound in a southwesterly direction to the outer bar of Cape Hatteras inlet, twelve miles northeast of Oregano, and thence along the sea coast to Drum inlet.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved, August 30, 1850.

Law Notice.

E. HAMILTON.

WILL practice law in the District and Circuit Court of Oregon. He will accept agencies for the purchase and sale of real estate. His office is in the building hitherto occupied by Mr. Pritchett, Secretary of the Territory.

—REFER TO—

COL. JAMES COLLIER, San Francisco.
COL. J. B. WALKER, N. Y.
W. C. JONES, Esq., N. Y.
Moses Woodward & Co., N. Y.
45 William street.
JOHN B. MYERS, Esq., Philadelphia.
Auctioneer, Market-st.
Hon. THOS. CORWIN, Washington.
E. F. COURIER, San Francisco; Express, N. Y.
Intelligencer, Washington—insert two months.
Oregon City, Oct. 3, 1850—6m.

Wholesale and Retail Store.
AND for sale by the subscribers—
Provisions, &c. Salt, fine and coarse.
Tea, Sugar,
Molasses, Rice,
Almonds, Cheese,
Arrow Root, Pepper, &c.

CLOTHING AND SHINA GOODS.
A. McK & Co., having now put their Boots in thorough repair, are prepared to continue carrying Foreign and Passenger between Oregon City and Portland, touching at Milwaukie when required.
ALLAN, McKINLAY & CO.
Oregon City, October, 1850—6m.

New and Cheap Store.
AT LINN CITY.

THE subscribers have recently returned from San Francisco, with a general assortment of Dry Goods, Groceries, Clothing, Boots, Shoes, Canned Goods, Bed Sprays, LINSEYS, Flannels, &c., which they offer to those wishing to purchase, upon terms as favorable as they can be obtained elsewhere in the Territory.

A share of public patronage is respectfully solicited.
N. B. Butter and Cheese will be received in exchange for goods.
W. F. DAY & ROBINSON.
Linn city, Sept. 5, 1850—264.

Notice is hereby given.

THAT I will apply to the honorable probate court of Clatsop county, to keep a Ferry from opposite Lat No 7, Block No. 2, Oregon City, on the Willamette river, to the Ferry Landing on the opposite side of the river.

JNO. McLAUGHLIN.
Sept. 19, 1850—32

HEAD QUARTERS 11TH MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

FORT VANCOUVER, O. T., Oct. 31, 1850.

NOTICE is hereby given to all whom it may concern, that a Military Reservation, for and in behalf of the Government of the United States, is hereby declared, as follows: Commencing at the point where a meridian line, two miles and four tenths of a mile, from the North bank of the Columbia river, thence down said river, thence down said bank to the place of beginning. Said reservation being subject also to the lawful claims of the Hudson Bay Company, as guaranteed under the Treaty between the United States and Great Britain, dated July seventeenth, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six. All improvements made within the above described limits, by resident settlers prior to the date of this notice, will be appraised by a Board of Officers, and payment recommended for the same.
W. W. LORING,
Brig. Comd'g 11th Military Department.
Oct. 1, 1850—84

Notice is hereby given.

HAT I will make application to the Hon. Probate Court of Washington county, at the next regular term of said court, for license to keep a Ferry across the Willamette river, from where the ferries are now in operation, from the lower end of Linn and the upper end of Multnomah cities, to Oregon City.

ROBT MOORE.
Linn City, October 31, 1850

Washington County.

TAKE NOTICE.—That the subscriber is now receiving new supplies of DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, &c., which will be disposed of at wholesale and retail to suit purchasers. The greatest bargains to be had, and produce taken for cash, and good pasture for American horses this winter; apply to the subscriber.

For sale may be had of the subscriber. The advantages of locating in this healthy spot are so well known.

Remittances made to any part of the State or Foreign, by

ABRAHAM SULGER.
Hillsborough, Oct. 3, 1850—1y

Ollendorff, Wolf & Co.,

OREGON CITY AND 8 JACKSON-ST., BETWEEN SANBORN AND MONTGOMERY-ST., SAN FRANCISCO.
IMPORTERS of Fancy Goods, Blank Books, Playing Cards, Blank Cards, Perfumery Jewels, Diamond Rings and Pins, Guns and Pistols, Silk Hosiery and Handkerchiefs, Ribbons, Laces and Shawls, Ready-made Clothing, and a variety of other Goods.

The undersigned have made arrangements to receive a regular and complete assortment of the above named goods, from the most extensive Manufacturing and Importing Houses in Europe and New York city.

All of the above goods have been selected with the greatest care, and will be sold as cheap as the market will permit.

Ollendorff, Wolf & Co.
Oregon City, October 17, 1850—1y6

Up-River Navigation!!

IS the Willamette river navigable above the mouth of Yam Hill? The new Keel Boat NALEM CLIPPER!! will answer that question by informing the public, that she has successfully navigated this "frightful" river during the summer, is far as Salem, and will continue to carry freight to Salem, or any other landing on the Willamette river, where there is sufficient business to justify it.

This boat will continue to run from the Falls to any accessible point in the country above. Terms reasonable.

LEONARD WHITE.

Willamette River, Oct. 31, 1850—84

N. B. All freight will be delivered as dry and in as good order as when placed on board. L. W.

THE NEW DEPOT

WILL offer for sale at Scott's ville, at the head of Tide-water on the Umpqua river, an assortment of Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Wagons, Harness, Lumber, Mill Irons, &c., &c., at the first of October next.

WINCHESTER, PAINE & Co.
Sept 10, '50—4f

To those in want of Steam Engines!

I AM expecting from New York seven Steam Engines, three of them for Saw-mills and four for Steamboats, and every thing complete for operation. For particulars, apply to

SAMUEL BAIRD, Engineer.
Astoria, Nov. 14, 1850—36

Commission Business.

THE subscriber is desirous of receiving orders for the purchase and shipping all kinds of goods, stores, machinery, &c., on commission, and will give his personal attention to the same, and will ship by vessels direct for Oregon, or via San Francisco, as required. All purchases will be insured for the benefit of the consignee, and any funds sent to him will be covered by insurance, on receiving notice of the same.

WILLIAM ATKINSON.

New York, August 13, 1850—1y8

REFERENCED—NEW YORK

JOSIAH L. HALE, Esq., Atlantic Mutual Ins. Co.

ZEBURDY COOK, Esq., Astor Mutual Ins. Co.

JOHN S. TAPPAN, Esq., Union " "

CALIFORNIA

MORRIS F. ARGENTI & Co., Bankers, San Francisco.

MORRIS ADKIN & STORY.

ALBERT CLARK, Esq.

OREGON

MORRIS ABERNETHY & Co.

Capt. MARTIN THOMPSON.

Rev. GEORGE H. AYRIMON.

Rev. HORACE LAYMAN.

To Immigrants and others.

THE undersigned, proprietors of the TOWN of MILTON, being desirous to have improvements progress rapidly, propose that they will give to every head of a family two town lots, and to every single man one town lot, who will become an actual settler in said town within six months, and build a house upon the same; in addition to which, we will sell building materials to those that accept this proposition, and allow them a reasonable length of time to pay for them.

To any one that will build a good Grind Mill, calculated to do the business of the place, we will give a mill site, together with land sufficient for the purposes of a grist mill.

This town is handsomely located upon the lower branch of the Willamette river, just far enough above its junction with the Columbia to render it an excellent harbor, and has the advantage of being accessible from all sides, either by land or water; it is also the lowest point upon the river that has a wagon road leading from it to the Willamette valley.

Two mountain streams run, one on each side of the town, affording water power sufficient to manufacture 50,000 feet of lumber per day—upon one of which three saw mills are now under way. Although the town has been laid out but a few months, it has already made much progress in point of improvement and commerce, and bids fair, to become the most important one in the territory.

To those desirous of taking up land claims, we would state that we are surrounded by as beautiful and fertile a section of country as Oregon can boast of, including the Scappoose plains, Sauvee Island, the rich and extensive Pringle's tract, situated upon the Clatsoppe or Lewis river, and the fine land in the immediate vicinity of the town.

CROSBY & SMITH.

October 10, 1850—34f

N. B. We can give permanent employment to quite a number of hands during the winter.

JUST RECEIVED

PER bark "Lemon," from San Francisco,

the following goods:

A large and general assortment of Ready-made CLOTHING,

oil cloth carpeting,

brushes, do

FURNITURE—such as, bureaus, tables, bedsteads, wash stands, chairs, &c.

garden and turkish slates,

superior cigars, tea, soap, nails, window glass, tobacco, knives and forks,

silver plated & german silver tea & table spoons, tin, iron and buffed do do do

assorted tinware,

complete sets harness, sets from axes,

trunks, carpet bags, trace chains,

paints and picture frames,

aw-litch cooking stoves, with pipe and furniture complete.

All of which will be sold, together with their former stock of goods, upon the most favorable terms, by

CROSBY & SMITH.

Portland, Sept. 15, 1850—184

CHANCE FOR INVESTMENT.

THE subscriber will sell lots in Astoria on the claims of Gen. John Adair, Robert Shawnee and others, at low prices. These lots have been accurately surveyed by competent and experienced engineers, and maps of them may be seen at my office. They are now for the first time offered to the public, and those wishing to invest at a place—the port of entry to the Columbia river—the value and importance of which is so apparent to need putting in an advertisement, are invited to examine the place at an early day.

AMORY HOLBROOK

Oregon City, July 11—210

RECEIVED per bark ELIZA.

120 coats assorted, 1 lot assorted vests,

9 doz plush caps, silk and satin cravats,

ladies' call bells, silk and merino shawls,

laid alpaca, silk and merino shawls,

combs, &c.

4-4 mulling,

cambric handkerchiefs, superior mohair table rags,

superior window blinds, clothes brushes,

rice, pickles, pease, apples, eggs,

superior prime pork, tin ware assorted,

point brushes, firmer chisels, augurs,

butts and screws, gate hinges,

superior sperm candles.

July 25—240 J. D. & W. C. HOLMAN.

FROST & CO.,

WHOLESALE, RETAIL & COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

CHARTERS.

Astoria, O. T.

JAMES FROST,

JOHN GREEN,

HERMAN LEONARD, San Francisco.

WILL receive and execute all orders of country merchants for the purchase and supply of goods, the sale of produce, forwarding and general agency and commission business.

aug-23-4f

FOR SALE.

OUR entire block, consisting of eight lots in Portland, together with my dwelling house and the out-houses situated upon the premises. The dwelling house is universally acknowledged to be the finest specimen of architecture in this Territory. For terms apply to

NATHANIEL CROSBY, Jr.
Portland, Aug 22—244f

For Sale.

THE subscriber will sell his LAND CLAIM, situated in the Tualatin Plains, together with the improvements thereon, consisting of one Dwelling House, one Barn, several out-houses, one field of 30 acres, and one pasture of 25 acres; an acre and a half of land is reserved out of the claim for a *LAND CLAIM* joining the town of St. Helene and the town of Milwaukie.

Also, TWO TOWN LOTS in the town of St. Helene, all of which will be sold cheap, by

CHARLES MCKAY.
October 17, 1850—64f

FOR SALE.

ONE steam engine, complete, 30 horse power, designed to run a saw or grist mill, with the machinery