THE SPECTATOR.

OREGON CITY:

THURSDAY, FEBRURY 13, 1851.

D. J. SCHNERLY, EDITOR.

CENSUS OF OREGON CITY.—Through the politeness of the Marshal, we are enabled to furnish our readers with the population of the several cities named below.

On the Oregon City Claim,	702.
Clackamas City and Canema,	308.
Whole number,	1010

The Marshal informs us that he has completed the census of Clackamas, Lewis and Clark counties. We were not informed, however, of the precise number.

☞ COL. BEVERLY S. ALLEN, one of the Commissioners for Oregon to treat with the Indians, arrived here a few days since. The board is now full. It consists of Gov. Gaines, Judge A. A. Skinner and Col. B. S. Allen. We understand that it is the purpose of the board to proceed to business forthwith.

☞ Todd & Co. have established an Express Line between this city and San Francisco, connecting with the ports below. One of the firm was here last week, and made the necessary arrangements for carrying it into effect right away.

Our business men will doubtless know how to appreciate such an improvement, from the inconveniences felt for the want of it in former times.

☞ It is wondered by the people whether the surveyor of a port is entitled to the pay of *surveyor*, and a *member* of the Legislature, both at the same time! This is a query of no ordinary interest, when we take into consideration the fact that the individual in question is not qualified for either.

☞ The fare on the steamer Columbia has been reduced to $15 for a passenger, going to or coming up from Astoria. The charge for freight per tun $15, and $15 per head for live cattle. Passengers are furnished their muc-a-muc into the bargain. This is a convenience the public will know how to appreciate.

☞ A large flat boat that came from up the river loaded with potatoes, destined for the California market, was taken round the falls and placed in the river below, where it is being reloaded to be floated down to the mouth of the river. It was slided upon green poles laid on the ground some 150 yards; the work was accomplished by the draft of two horses, belonging, and under the management of Charles Brown.

☞ The side-walk on the east side of main street, has been extended to the sister-hood. Thanks to the city fathers for this favor. Our City can now boast of a mile of side walk. The new walk is not only better and more substantial, but is wider and more safe to night pedestrians going to, and returning from church.

☞ Bro. Dryer paid us a visit last week. He visited the Legislature with the view of becoming enlightened, or to gather something to enrich the columns of his paper. But, like ourselves, he was not able to gather much, either in the way of interest or information. We have seen enough of legislation this session, to convince us that when persons get to legislating for themselves, that the public is not only lower as far dollars and cents are concerned, but natural rights will be violated, and the leading interests of the country will be sacrificed to the cupidity of designing men, who know no interest but *self*.

☞ Capt. TICHNOR, formerly of the Emily Farnham, wishes us to state that the article, which appeared in our paper several weeks since, relating to his indebtedness to people at Astoria for supplies, at the time he put to sea with several of Uncle Sam's men, and without the usual clearances from the Custom-house, is not sustained by the facts in the case. He says he was not then, nor is he now indebted for one dollar's worth to the merchants at Astoria. We make this correction at the instance of the Capt himself. He says the owner of the vessel was on board at the time, and is responsible for the abrupt departure of the vessel. Captain Tichnor, we understand, has hitherto born a good character.

☞ Persons who have just arrived in this place, bring, we are told, unmistakable evidence of the abundance of gold on the Klamath. The party brought with them lumps of unusual size; our informants state that they have one lump worth $800, and others varying from one to three ounces.

The Star on Lynching.

The *Star* expresses a great deal of holy horror at the report we gave of a case of lynching that took place at Milwaukie, a short time since. An attempt is made "to correct some palpable errors in the statement," we should have made—an impartial investigation is claimed to have been made by the editor in person; but a more one-sided statement could not have been conjured up than the editor has figured out; and it woud seem that he was interested in making out as strong a case on the other side. It is just as strong as the editor could make it, if he was employed as their counsel.

What we wished to condemn more than anything else, was the summary mode resorted to by the mob, allowing the person so treated to have been guilty of inflicting punishment; constituting themselves judge, magistrate and jury, as though there were no law in the Territory, that would reach the case. This is what we wish to censure. This is what we deemed to be our duty as a faithful journalist. We are no advocate of mobocracy. We have never lived in a country yet, where this short hand way of righting a wrong was sanctioned by public opinion; nor where its practice did not meat proper rebuke. When persons wish to wash out the sins of others, they should go to work with clean hands themselves.

Now we shall see whether the *Star* has not fallen into an error, with the facts staring it in the face, even more than the one he charges upon us. He castigates most unmercifully Mr Evans. With its correctness or incorrectness, we have nothing to do; but we wish to examine the editor's fairness and soundness on the subject of *mob law*. After indulging in a lengthy pious strain as to our wickedness in attempting to forestall public opinion, by giving one side only, and running through a long catalogue of suspicions entertained by himself and others, against Mr. Evans, he perpetrates the following homily. (We do not wish to be understood as a defender of the prosecution in this case, for we know nothing of the man and have no opinion to express for or against him; but we have an opinion on the subject of riot and mobocracy. Nor do we wish to unnecessarily censure those who are the defendents in this case. We have no feeling for one party more than the other.)

"These are the material facts as far as we know in regard to the person suspicioned; and we would have been reluctant to have made them public, had it not been for doing justice to truth in correcting the article in the Spectator. As regards those arrested for taking the law into their own hands to get back the money stolen, as far as we know them, are industrious likely men, and sustain a good character. They have a right in law to be presumed innocent until proved guilty by unimpeachable testimony, before a competent court and jury, which, knowing the circumstances, we do not believe, for a moment, can be done."

Thus it seems that he would not have given any account of this affair, if it had not been that we mis-represented it, and for the single purpose of setting us straight he makes the facts public. He attempts to cover up the infamy of the proceedings by declaring the men who commonly break the sacred laws "industrious and likely men," and who, so far as the Editor knows "sustain good characters." We have been informed that the parties are all strangers in the country, having arrived here last fall.

The *Star* thinks they should "be presumed innocent until proved guilty by unimpeachable testimony." As far as we know, the fact of lynching has not been denied by any of them. Where is now their innocence? Does the Star deny that they lynched the mill Evans? Or does the *Star* wish to make it appear that the lynching is an innocent matter? Now we are not much of a lawyer, but we have sufficient knowledge of law to know that in no well regulated community will such proceedings be deemed right and lawful.

☞ The Legislature, after having done some things that they should not have done and left undone others that they should have done, adjourned on Saturday last, *sine die*; to meet we do not exactly know where. They have legislated themselves into a quandary that will take more machineering to get them out of than it took to get them into it. They even attempted to rob the Governor of the power delegated to him by Congress. What is it that a Territorial Legislature cannot do? This is an age of progression, yes, unlimited progression, if we take for a guide the action of the last Legislature. They have not the power to charter a plank road from the foot of the rapids to the head of the falls; but they have power to do almost anything else. There are some queer things turning up. We are beginning to see through the mist a little. The question need no longer be asked who played *mose*, around which the lesser lights revolved [illegible]

☞ Mr. Payne was one of the committee on printing. He urged the necessity of having the bills of the lower House printed; that each member might have a copy always at hand before him. He said it might do for the young members of the House; but as for himself, it was impossible for him to retain in his mind all the features of a bill. He as well as other members he could mention, were not unfrequently compelled to vote on bills that they very imperfectly understood; and were forced, many times, to support particular features in bills because they were not able from memory to point out the defects. The lower House did not consider the printing of a single bill, and refused to print either of the Governor's messages. How was it with the [illegible] Governor? We learn that every [illegible] he sent in, was printed, and with [illegible] sition. Deliver us from such [illegible]

☞ A dead body [illegible] the eddy, at the Ferry [illegible] posite side of the [illegible] held over it, and [illegible] was that the dec[illegible] by drowning. [illegible] so long, that it [illegible] nized; but the co[illegible] persons present, who [illegible] quainted with him, was, [illegible] Morris, the owner of the boat, [illegible] the five persons drowned at Rock [illegible] of which we gave notice a few weeks since. Putrefaction had progressed so far, that all traces of identification were removed, save that of the shape of the face and color of the beard.

☞ We direct particular attention on the part of persons at a distance, to the table of the weather, and the accompanying remarks of the Rev. Mr. Atkinson, in another column. Mr Atkinson has kept a table for the last two years. Its accuracy may be relied upon. From it the distant reader may form some idea of our climate. It is now near the middle of February, and we are enjoying the most delightful weather—the thermometer ranging at about 12° for the last ten days.

☞ Among the curiosities of the late State Fair, was a printer with a five dollar bill in his pocket. A committee of citizens took him in charge and exhibited him at ten cents a sight.

After the show was over, it leaked out that the five dollar bill in his pocket was—a bill for five dollars due his washer-woman!—[*Ex. paper.*

How different the state of things in Oregon. There is no printer who works at his business but has his pockets [illegible] rocks. We might go farther, and say with safety, there are no poor people in Oregon, unless it be a few who are too lazy to work, and not sense enough to live by their wits. The above extract is from "deown east," where they make horn gun flints and wooden nutmegs.

☞ The piece on the first page, entitled, "Thoughts on Music," is so significant of the urgent necessity of such music, as far as Oregon is concerned, we ask for it an attentive perusal by our fair damsels.—The concluding part takes our "dulcets," for admirably done. We have heard "there being music in the *pot*, and music in the *pan*," but this is the first time that we have heard of music in the *smoke-pipe*. The lines written under the header "The Ruined Miner," by the same author, are exceedingly characteristic of the times; that we wish every person to read it, particularly our friends at a distance. For it depicts so vividly the situation of many a disappointed expectant; whose hopes have been based by an overwhelming confidence in the golden prospects, and whose visions of a golden time and golden future—the beds of flowery ease, and comforts that were to render their declining years so delightful.

Temperance.

The temperance meeting, on Monday evening, was well attended. JAMES D. TAYLOR, Esq., the District Attorney of this district, delivered the address. It was a production of high merit, and his manner in delivering it, forcible and eloquent. It produced a happy effect upon the audience—causing 13 to subscribe their names to the pledge.

During the evening the choir sung three very appropriate temperance pieces, in a manner highly pleasing to the meeting.

The society will hold an adjourned meeting, on Monday evening next, at the Rev. G. H. Atkinson's church, where an address will be delivered by Rev. H. Johnson, the President of the Society.

CONTRIBUTED.

FOUND.—The body of a man was found about one mile below this place, last Sunday, supposed to be one of the five unfortunate men that was drowned above the falls, a short thime since. Some gentlemen from this place, learning from some Indians that the body was there, went down and interred the same. They gave the following description of the body:

A man, as near as they could judge, about 40 years of age, and had on a pair of home made pants, red under shirt and [illegible] over shirt. He was 5ft 9 inches [illegible]

Communications

For the Spectator.

Situation of Linn County.

MR. EDITOR:—Thinking a description of the upper county in the Willamette Valley would be of interest to your readers, I have hastily sketched what follows, and submit it to your consideration.

Linn county, Oregon Territory, is situated in a souther portion of the Willamette Valley, on the east side of the Willamette river; and it is supposed to be in 44 degrees North Latitude. It is bounded on the north by Marion county, on the west by Benton county, and on the south [illegible] undefined. The im- [illegible] mountains with [illegible] stream has three forks, the North, Middle and South forks. There is a considerable scope of country lying between the North and South Forks, and what I have seen of the country, it appears generally to be broken, and well watered as to springs and running streams—with plenty of timber—and it is said many excellent claims might yet be made in this locality, as it is at this present time but sparsely settled. On the south side of the main Santiam, and along the South fork of this stream there is a very sightly and excellent [illegible] country [illegible] the circumstances of the times—the soil good, but generally gravelly; it appears however, to be very productive in wheat crops and vegetables. The river I do not suppose to be navigable for steamers, as the stream is obstructed by rapids and shallow places, but of this there are excellent sites for mill privileges—there are several mills already erected and in operation. On the South fork, Messrs. Earl and Stearnhead have a saw mill; up near the mountains Messrs. Keys and Cattle have a valuable mill seat, with a grist and saw mill in operation; and there may probably be more mills on the other forks of this river, of which I am unable at the present time to state their locality; but on the main stream, opposite to Syracuse, there is a large frame put up for a merchant mill in connexion with a saw mill, by the enterprising men who are in company in this concern, Messrs. Conner, Evans and H[illegible] and it is to be hoped they will finally succeed in this important work they have undertaken.

The next stream south of the Santiam is the Callapoosiah, which may be considered a large creek, its sources are in the spurs and ridges of the Cascade mountains, and it is very probable that it heads near the three snowy peaks called the three sisters. There is some rich land along this stream, but timber is rather scarce from the mouth of this stream for the distance of ten miles. There is sufficient timber for any improvement that may be made on each side of the creek. The soil along this creek from the south up is a clay slightly mixed with sand, and the character of the soil improves the farther up you go. On the north side of this stream there are but few settlers, and some considerable claims might yet be had on these sides. At this time the largest settlement in the county is on this stream, and I presume there is still room for settlers, as the small and narrow valley extends up the creek some distance into the Cascade mountains, and affording excellent mill privileges in many places on this rapid stream. There is one grist mill in operation owned by Mr. Findley; there is a saw mill now building a mile and a half below the grist mill, which will be in operation during the winter. The country lying between the Callapoosiah and the Santiam is generally a level prairie, and in many places flat, and of course too wet for cultivation. There is also a small stream called Oak creek which is generally dry in the summer season, heading north of east, within a few miles of the Santiam river running into Callapoosiah creek along which are dry ridges of prairie with many fine groves of oak timber in places along the creek and on the sloughs putting into Callapoosah creek.

The next stream south is Muddy creek, which is a small stream, or what you might call a natural canal, it has but little current during the summer. This creek runs parallel with the Willamette river for 7 or 8 miles, within one half a mile to two miles distant from the river,—from the mouth of this stream for some miles up is an excellent farming country, well timbered—then the fir groves of timber give out, but there is a continuation of fine oak groves with excellent prairie land extending to the mountains, which is not settled and entirely unclaimed at the present time. The principal settlement on this stream extends for eight miles; the country lying between two streams is a level prairie interspersed with groves of oak timber, affording beautiful sites for building and plenty of fuel for fire wood; the prairie is divided into dry and wet—and there are portions of the dry prairie equal to any other in Oregon for tillage [illegible] stock, and I have no doubt will be eventually settled by industrious citizens. The average distance between the Callapoosiah and Muddy is about three or four miles; the mouth of Muddy is about three miles above Mary's river. The next stream [illegible] mention and the most important to the citizens of Linn county, is the Willamette river, which runs through the whole extent of the county as its western boundary. This river has its sources in the coast and cascade ranges of mountains; the McKenzies fork heads in the cascade mountains near the three snowy peaks named the three sisters, from their close proximity to each other; this fork of the Willamette must of course run west till it breaks through the spurs of the cascade mountains, it then inclines in a circular course north till it is united with the middle and western forks of the Willamette. The course of this important river it becomes confined into one main [illegible] is very crooked, generally bearing west of north—its width is about [illegible] and its depth is from 3 to 15 [illegible] that this river is navigable to Benton county [illegible] be navigable higher up, [illegible] difficulty owing to an [illegible] for 7 or 8 miles and [illegible] into two channels, which [illegible] obstructed by drifts of timber and short turns in the channel [illegible] doubtless be removed and [illegible] extend it for twenty miles [illegible]

[illegible] population [illegible] they are a moral, intelligent and industrious people; [illegible] the first crime committed in the county [illegible] it has been settled [illegible] there has not been the first [illegible] held in the county. [illegible] speak well for the citizens of Linn county, as a peaceable, orderly and law [illegible] people. The amount of [illegible] property in this county [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

W. R. M.

For the Oregon Spectator.

MR. EDITOR:—[illegible] over a number of [illegible] mention, I find [illegible] farmers to discuss matters and things in the public papers. Mr. Editor, it is generally known that farmers are not able to discuss with lawyers; but when a lawyer turns his stuff mush into a form of argument so simple to find it out; and if in the scuffle the lawyer treads on the toes of the farmer he is apt to be pushed off. The writer alluded to, among other things, complains that the Land Bill is defective, on account of it requiring occupancy. He seems to think that it would be just for Congress to pass another bill, authorizing or empowering merchants, mechanics and professional men to hold claims without being on them. He seems too to take it for granted that as the farmer has not complained of the land law under the Provisional Government of Oregon, that they were therefore contented and pleased with its regulations. I wish, however, to inform the gentleman, that the farmers have learned the lesson that teaches, "what cannot be cured must be endured." A lesson, I trust, which the gentleman will learn to good advantage before he quits the school. But let us examine the circumstances under which the farmer seems to be so contented and happy. Under the Provisional Government they lived isolated, and having here and there a small pre-emption house, claim or cabin for neighbors. Their every day and night visitors were wolves, panthers, owls and the like. Their watch word was, build strong, tight houses; and put up the calves, pigs, lambs, &c., keep large dogs; discharge large guns, and by this means save one out of many of these young animals. Next to this is the schooling of children. How is this to be done? The farmer answers, we hired a teacher to come to our house to teach our children separately. Being at all the expenses of fuel, boarding and paying the the teacher, and all this without grumbling.

A matter of no less importance, the meeting for divine worship; there were no meeting houses, seats were prepared under the shadow of some large fir tree.—Then once in a long while some preacher would come along and preach a sermon, no matter of what denomination. But these opportunities, like angels visits, were few and far between. Store-houses, few in number, and not much in them, and still less to pay with. All this and ten times more [illegible] borne by us farmers; and as the writer alluded, says, without complaint. I wonder if he would not complain for the half of it!

To remedy these evils, we sent a manly honesty and good sense down to our old friend, Uncle Sam, and to lay before him our difficulties, and to see if something could not be done for us. This, we fancied, thought the better way, than that of grumbling continually. We think our agent has done well for us, and our old Uncle seems to think pretty well of him. If through want of age or experience, he has not asked enough, or a little too much, when he comes back we intend to talk it all over with him, and ask him politely to make another visit to the family. He has, we understand, become very sociable with the cousins, and is quite at home with Uncle's boys.

Should he attempt again to palm on us our old neighbors and night visitors, viz: wolves, panthers, owls and empty cabins with the other privations, alluded to above, his [illegible] will be dough.

The gentleman in his article, which we too in notice, talks of those whose [illegible] are well acquainted of their business [illegible] but we have known doctors, mechanics and merchants living [illegible] and few indeed are wealthy, purely minding their own business.

It is not hard to predict what the consequence will be when a neighborhood is thickly settled. There our meetings, and [illegible] will be [illegible] twenty improved, the youth [illegible] the distinction of the social order and [illegible] will be [illegible] and [illegible]

Now Mr. Editor [illegible] land law [illegible] to hold each a claim [illegible] the country.

Mr. Editor [illegible] I studied [illegible] this I think [illegible] and other. Now [illegible] be passed [illegible] the wheel [illegible] and [illegible] between [illegible] say five single men, perhaps, to one woman. The passage of the bill will induce the widow [illegible] finally become the owner of a half section of land in her own right [illegible] the new will be declared [illegible]

8. I see no great reason for [illegible] will complain [illegible] bus.

[illegible] I have [illegible] old friend D. [illegible] I suppose [illegible] to be [illegible] I find from [illegible] to see more [illegible] you found [illegible]

FARMER.

Mr. Editor: I find the following cut at the establishment of wisdom that has just closed its labors in your city. I hope you will have the goodness to sum up the doings of the Legislature in a nut shell for the benefit of the public.

We made a flying visit to Oregon city during the week. The Legislature was busily employed in putting the "finish" on their work of the session. We do it not for the "Wymire resolutions," we mean say some *pretty* things about some members of this august body of law makers. The lump of *locality* appeared the most prominent phrenological development we could discover, upon the heads of some members. Their several constituency, however, are better prepared to appreciate their true merits than we are. This body will adjourn to-day, to meet ——— where? (echo) where? —"*Quien sabe?*" —[*Oregonian.*

If the editor had looked a little sharper he might have discovered some other bumps, caused by some members noses coming in too frequent contact with the brandy bottle. Brandy has caused their faces to "blossom like the rose." Such is the character of some of the men who have been concerned in making laws for the future government of the Territory. But the conspiracy concocted in the House of Representatives, is characteristic of the men who begat it, and shows the impracticability of electing men to the Legislature who are interested in particular localities. The venerable parent (Oregon city) where a large amount of the funds to be employed in building up a University, were actually made, has been robbed of all her rights, if such wicked and unheard of Legislation is allowed to stand. I did suppose there was some honesty among the majority of the members, but the location of the Seat of Government, the University and the Penitentiary, have forced upon me the conclusion that a Cataline has done the work. Who is the Cataline? It was a man, as his name would indicate, high in authority. So the people say. For future reference I wish to record the names of the persons who supported the bill making the locations referred to above: Avery, Allphin, Holmes, King, Harding, Wm. Parker, St. Clair, Walters, and Wilcox.

This same immortal *nine* killed the motion to print the Governor's special mes-