THE SPECTATOR.

OREGON CITY:

[illegible] DAY, JULY 9, 1851.

[illegible] Columbia, Captain [illegible], Master, has again made her appearance [illegible] painted and brushed [illegible] as new. Her power, we learn, has been considerably increased by placing new cylinders in her. She made several trips between this and Columbia City. The Columbia is the pioneer of steamboats on the Columbia and Willamette rivers; for this alone she is entitled to patronage, and since she has been repaired and fitted up, makes a very agreeable run.

☞ There were lying at our landing one day last week, four steamers below the falls, and two above. When we look back one year, a time when there was not a steamboat in Oregon, and contrast the state of things that existed then with that of the present, we have the best of reasons for becoming elated at the bright prospects now budding and putting forth in Oregon. The business is rapidly increasing in our rivers; so much so that two or three steamboats are now required to do the business, and are running regularly between this city and Astoria.

☞ The project of putting a steamboat on the Willamette receives very considerable from those who reside on the Plains. [illegible] to say that if the people [illegible] on the plains, and others immediately interested in the navigation, will manifest a disposition to assist in clearing the drift and snags out of the river, that there will be a boat placed on the river before December next. We are pleased to see so much earnestness displayed in the bringing about of this much desired work. It is said that the people out on the plains are willing of themselves to subscribe the amount necessary to make the river navigable. They have our best wishes for its accomplishment.

Four editors from the United States are reported to have gone to the World's Fair, Thurlow Weed, of the *Albany Journal*; Horace Greeley, of the *N. Y. Tribune*; Mr. Raymond, of the *N. Y. Courier and Inquirer*; and Mr. Isham, of the *Michigan Farmer*. From the great number of persons expected to be present at the great fair, some of them will be likely not to *fare* so well.

☞ The Washington, Capt. Murray owner, leaving Oregon City on Thursday last, made a trip up the Willamette as high as Cincinnati, which is a short distance above Salem, on the La Creole about 200 yards from it mouth. She seems to have had no difficulty in making that distance. In going up, the Washington ascended the Yamhill as far as Dayton, where, our informant states, all on board were received with the greatest kindness by Messrs. Parmer & Taylor, proprietors of Dayton. They remained at this place until the next morning, when she resumed her trip up the river, and arrived at Salem about 4 o'clock, P. M., on Friday. The "Big Gun" was brought into requisition, and the Washington's arrival was kindly greeted by the citizens. Wood &c. were placed at the Captain's command free of charge.

After remaining about two hours at Salem, she proceeded up the river to Cincinnati, of which A. C. R. Shaw is proprietor. This town, though small, is situated in one of the most beautiful and fertile spots in Oregon. There are some splendid farms adjoining it. Its importance as a business point is fast growing into notice, and is destined to become, some day, a considerable town. The kindness and hospitality of Mr. Shaw was spoken of by all the passengers in the highest terms. Mr. Shaw is pronounced a gentleman by all the officers of the boat; they think he deserves much credit for the enterprise he has displayed.

New Post-Offices.—There has been a Post-office established at Barnie's, on the Columbia river, called "Cathlamett"—James Barnie, postmaster. Also one opposite the mouth of the Cowlitz, called "[illegible]"—Charles E. Fox, postmaster. [illegible] Oregonian.

Another Indian War!

From a private letter received in this place by a friend, we gather the following particulars of a battle that took place on or about the 17th ult., between the Rogue River Indians and a part of the Mounted Riflemen, 26 in number, under Major Kearney's command, (the Major being with them in the engagement), at a place called Table Rock, on Rogue River, some 12 or 15 miles east of the usually traveled road.

The Indians had assembled at this place in considerable force—they were lying in ambush from which they commenced firing upon the Riflemen. A conflict ensued in which some 11 Indians were killed and many more wounded. Of the whites, Lieut. Stewart was killed and another officer, not named, is said to have been mortally wounded. Lieut. Stewart is represented as a [illegible] officer—his savages are punished, or all prospects of further difficulties are removed. The Indians are said to have evinced great boldness.

We have been favored with the subjoined account of the fight from Lieut. C. E. Irvine:

ROGUE RIVER, June 20, 1851.

DEAR SIR—On the 17th inst., Major Kearney's command fought the Rogue River Indians. Captains James Stewart and Peck were severely wounded; Capt. Stewart survived until the next day, the 18th. There was one other man slightly wounded. Among the Indians there were some 20 or 25 killed—number of wounded unknown. All well. In haste.

Yours, &c.,
C. E. IRVINE,
Lt. R. M. Rifles, U. S. A.

☞ The Bark Culloma, Corning Master, owned by Messrs. Abernethy, Clark & Co., of this city, has made the quickest trip that has ever been made between N. York and Astoria, being only 140 days out. The Culloma experienced some heavy weather during the voyage, but arrived here in safety. She is now at the foot of the rapids, discharging her cargo, which is all owned by the firm, the original cost of which amounts to some $160,000: the largest, probably, that has ever arrived in the country. The Culloma came direct from New York, without touching at any of the ports of California. This cargo offers extraordinary inducements to the merchants of the interior. It was not only well selected, but has been shipped in "tip top" order. Merchants and others would do well to look at our advertising columns, where they can see a more full description of this immense cargo.

Since writing the above, Capt. Corning has furnished us with the following report:

Bark Culloma, Corning, of Oregon City; 360 tons register; sailed from New York January 31st; arrived off the Columbia on the 20th ult., making the passage in 140 days from New York direct. During the passage has experienced much light and calm weather. The C. brings 12 passengers, and has a full cargo for Geo. Abernethy & Co.

☞ The "Kalamazoo Gazette" (Dem.) thus bestows its parting compliments on the Michigan Legislature which has just adjourned. Gen. Cass seems to have been very popular with the Legislature—they having, at his request, abrogated the rules of instructions adopted by a previous Legislature:

"The greatest curse that the people of Michigan have ever had inflicted on them, has been their Legislature. Corrupt and unscrupulous from the beginning, it has grown more so, if possible, down to the present time. If a patriotic and honest man happens to get there, he is overborne by numbers, and his conscientious scruples scoffed and laughed at. Of all Legislatures ever assembled in the State, the late one was the weakest and probably the easiest corrupted. We hope Governor Barry will see the members all in "Ballyhack" before he calls them together again."

The "Milwaukee Sentinel" is of opinion that "Michigan is not the only State in which the Legislature is a 'curse to it.' The people of Oregon have witnessed some queer things in Legislation—the congregated wisdom of the last Legislature would be "hard to beat."

☞ The accounts that have reached us lately from the mines are anything but encouraging to the lovers of the precious metal. The water in the dry diggings has so much disappeared that it is difficult to make anything more than expenses.—The health of all the diggings is reported to be good. But one man is said to have died, up to the middle of May, from disease. Several have died from wounds received by attacks from the Indians.

☞ The river below the falls has fallen some 18 inches in the last 8 or 9 days.—Navigation below is still unimpeded, there being some 10 feet water in the channel on the rapids. The river is getting low above the falls.

Immigrants Coming.

We call from numerous sources the following reports of the immigrants en route for Oregon. The immigration to Oregon this season will be unprecedented. We find in the Springfield (Ill.) Journal the names as reported below:

OREGON EMIGRANTS FROM SANGAMON COUNTY.—We have been as yet unable to obtain a list of the individuals from this county, and Indian Creek, Menard county, who have left this spring for Oregon. We hope to do so when all the company reach the Missouri stage. We give the names of the heads of families as we have been able to obtain them:

Rev. J. A. Powell,	David Newsom,
Noah Powell,	Robert Alexander,
—— Powell,	B. F. Kendall,
Joseph Williams,	W. S. Hussy,
W. Churchill,	Franklin Yocum,
William Riddle,	James Yocum,
Simon Lucas,	Christian Sneatsman,
G. H. Nelson,	Elisha Tanner,
Wm. [illegible],	[illegible]

[illegible] Sangamon county [illegible] are among them. Some of the [illegible] take much loose stock. The emigrants as will be seen, are among our best citizens.

FOR OREGON.—During the past few days about fifteen wagons, containing eight or ten families on route for Oregon, have passed through this city. The emigrants are from the lower part of Madison and St. Clair counties, and are composed in part of the families of Messrs. Ingle, Jackson Skinner, Peyton, and Bell. They proceed hence to Council Bluffs, and from there will strike for Oregon City. Success attend them in their long and perilous journey.—[*Alton (Ill.) Telegraph.*

☞ "Westward the march of empire takes its way." Forty-seven families, with their retinue of wagons drawn by large ox teams, a large drove of horses, and said to be 2000 head of cattle, passed through here last week on their line of march for Oregon.—[*Rushville (Ill.) Telegraph.*

FOR OREGON.—Some eighty teams have crossed the Eagle Point Ferry, Ia., bound for Oregon, this spring. About 30 teams have passed through Iowa City, bound for California.—[*Milwaukee Sentinel.*

Forty persons arrived at St. Louis, on Thursday evening, on their way to Oregon.—[*Springfield (Ill.) Journal.*

☞ The Hoosier, on Monday last, broke one of her wheels again between this city and Dayton. Captain White has purchased an interest in the Hoosier.—The new proprietors contemplate taking the engine and [illegible] out of the [illegible] Clipper, [illegible] capacity [illegible] model for [illegible] will freight from 6 to 10 tons at any stage of water.

☞ Bro. Dryer, did you see the Culloma pass Portland on her way up to this city? Can you not report the departures for above? *Wake nasage*, eh!

DECIDEDLY TALL.—Mr. Goodrich, residing in the neighborhood of Dayton, has sent us a bunch of wheat numbering 34 stalks, the growth of one berry, the longest of which measures 7½ feet. It is said that the whole field, containing nine or ten acres, would probably average nearly [illegible] feet all over.

☞ The "Main Street House" of this city, has changed landlords. Theophilus McGruder, is the new proprietor.

☞ The Pekin, a large ship belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company, has arrived at Columbia City direct from Europe.

☞ We are under obligations to Todd & Co. for States papers several hours in advance of the mail.

Mr. Ferguson of the Willamette, and Gregory, will accept our thanks for like favors.

☞ The *Times* reiterates its convictions of the necessity for an immediate organization of the parties. The arguments it adduces in support of it have failed to convince us, however, of its advantages at this early day. The interests of the country are, as it were, a unit, and the energies of the press could be more profitably employed, in our opinion, in giving a more full history of the country's resources, its natural products, and devising ways and means to bring into requisition its immense water-power, and turning to account the great forests that bedeck the country. We are willing, Bro. Waterman, to enter upon the duties of an exponent of the party, when the period shall have arrived to render it of utility to our country; but not until then.

☞ The Fourth of July, it seems, is to pass off here without any public demonstration on the part of our citizens, to remind the young of the land of that memorable event which gave birth to American Independence. The people in other parts of the Territory are quite alive to the importance of the occasion, and appear determined to celebrate it in the old fashioned way. We rejoice to see, though far removed from the States, such manifestations of patriotism. It will show to the people at a distance that Oregon is American in heart, sympathy and action, and that they delight to honor the day upon which our liberties were proclaimed and our independence established. So mote it be.

☞ The mail for California and the States will close on Monday the 6th inst.

Timber in Oregon.

Mr. Cox, Postal Agent for Oregon, has furnished us with the following species of timber, etc., the growth of Oregon. His report to the Oregonian has been revised, corrected, and included in this statement:

One of the first inquiries about a new country relates to its timbers. By these, in the States, the qualities of soil may be understood quite well. On entering the country, my attention was arrested by the exuberance of vegetable life. I have never before seen so heavy and dense a growth as here; it not only waves over alluvial bottoms, but is sustained by deep and rich soil on mountain sides and summits. This profusion of trees exhibits comparatively, few varieties. As to the soil which they indicate, familiarity with the subject elsewhere is of little value.—Almost everything is dissimilar from the States. Seasons, trees, fruits and herbage are all unlike. In winter, Oregon is latitude North 46 deg. as compared with New York, latitude North 40 deg. enjoys [illegible] climate."

[illegible] of number. Of all the trees, very few if any, will compare exactly with any variety in the States.

With the assistance of an intelligent friend, I have made out the following probably, imperfect catalogue, which may interest strangers, of the timbers in Oregon:

Spruce, abundant.
Fir, do.
Hemlock, most plenty near the mouth of the Columbia.
Oregon Dogwood.
Yew Tree.
Soft Maple, makes fine furniture.
Vine Maple.
Black Oak, rembling Black Jack of the States.
White Oak.
Laurel, grows a tree sometimes two feet in diameter, and very hard.
Wild Cherry, fruit small, red, and bitter.
Sweet Elder, grows to the size of a man's leg, or larger.
Alder, grows large trees, some of which will make three or four saw-logs, is manufactured into furniture, wood soft and tender.
Black Ash.
Yellow Pine, not abundant.

Several varieties of the Magnolia, of which the Cotton Tree and Balm of Gilead are most abundant. The latter abounds far up the Willamette, and is the principle timber on the Umatilla; the wood is of a yellowish cast, and soft—it is used for furniture.

White Cedar.
Boxwood, grows large and is very hard.

[illegible] variety resembles the low bush blue-berry, but the fruit is more acid and makes an excellent tart. A high bush blue-berry, acid; also a variety on bushes eight or ten feet high, the fruit pink color, acid.

Currants, blossom red or pink, beautiful.
Cranbury, same as in the States.
Gooseberries, fruit large, several varieties.
Salmon Berries, resembling Rasp-berries, but much larger, abundant and good.
Sarvice Berry, shrub, in some places large as a man's leg. Fruit sweet and nutricious.
Blackberry, vine like, on the ground, similar to dew berries, fruit abundant.
Salal Berry, ever-green, bush the size of blue-berry, but more firm and erect.—Fruit in clusters, sweet, resembling sweet apples, abundant.
Hazel, large as the English.
Oregon Grape, so called, is not a grape, but resembles the grape in size and appearance, grows on a stock, is not valuable, though sometimes used by the Indians. There are probably no native grapes in Oregon.
Crab Apple, fruit very small, seedy, and bitter, but is said to make excellent preserves. Tree large.
Choak Cherry, fruit large, about the size of the Manilla Cherry, from which, when cooked, it will not be distinguished. Most of the native fruits of Oregon are acid, but large and plentiful. Vegetation, with scarce an exception, acquires a much larger growth than in the States.

BACHELORS.—There seems to be, in many of our newer States, a most unfounded prejudice gaining ground against this useful and entertaining class of people, which all good men (and women) should frown down at once. We notice among other recent attacks upon them that the Florida Legislature has had before it a proposition to tax them one dollar a head for school purposes, with a proviso that any one should be exempt from the tax, who would satisfy the County Commissioners, that no female within twenty miles of his residence, would be willing to marry him.—*Exchange.*

This law if enacted would operate severely in Oregon, where there are so many bachelors from necessity. The only confirmed old bachelor we know of in these parts, is the callous hearted editor of the Times, who says he has neither time nor inclination to attend to the ladies.—We pity his case.

☞ A gentleman having heard that a bachelor editor was about to change his quarters, said to him: Is it possible that your folks think of moving?" Our contemporary replied—"When I move my family moves; and when my hat is on my house is shingled.

More Indian Outrages.

Capt. Tichenor, master of the steamer Sea Gull, on his last trip down the coast, we learn from the *Oregonian*, landed some nine men on a little island in the Rogue River country. Captain Tichenor proceeded down the coast to California for the purpose of increasing the number of his party, to procure provisions, etc., intending to return immediately and form a settlement here, which he named Point Orford. The Capt. had set the time for returning on the 23d of June. The Sea Gull being detained, Captain Tichenor boarded the Columbia and returned to Point Orford at the expected time—the 23d ult.

On nearing the point, no certain visible signs of the whites' safety could be discerned. Captain Le Roy, of the steamer Columbia, and Captain Tichenor, accompanied by six or eight other persons, went in search of the men. The party landed at the head of the island;—no men were to be found; the pilot bread, potatoes, and some of the carpenters tools left in possession of the men, were found strewed upon the ground. The conclusion by this time was irresistible, that the men had been murdered by the Indians. In look-[illegible] a [illegible] book was found, from which they received some clue to what had taken place. What relates to the affair is in these words:

"Camp Kirkpatrick:—We arrived at our post on the 8th of June. Our party numbered 9 men. We made our post on a small island, it was accessible only at one point. The 9th the Indians commenced an attack at about 7½ in the morning.—The Indians numbered some 33. We first discharged our four pounder; it made a sad havoc among them. Then we fought hand to hand; they then retreated to the hills, leaving 18 or 20 dead on the field. We had three men wounded, one had an arrow in his breast, another one through his ear, myself had one through my neck. 10. To-day we have had no trouble. 11th. We are prepared to meet them; we expect to have a hard fight in a few hours. These Indians are perfect devils. Yesterday everything went off smooth; to-day the boys done one thing in which I did not agree—that was by leaving camp with only three men to protect the post. They were in great danger of the Indians getting between them and the camp, but by good luck they did not."

The above account is supposed to have been written by Capt. Kirkpatrick. There is a further account in part like the other and word for word in many places, but containing the following new particulars; after speaking of letting off the 4 pounder, it says: "In the meantime the rifles commenced playing among them; Hussey killed two with one ball. The fight lasted about three hours, when the Indians left for the hills. We are at this time making entrenchments [illegible] half a mile with a bullet in him. Capt. Kirkpatrick is busy strengthening our post."

We then came down from the top to the base of the island again, where we noticed that the sand was much trampled, and that several large stones had been flung upon it, so as to cover a space of about five feet square. It struck us that some one was buried there, and accordly the sailors forming the boat's crew using their oars as shovels, removed the stones and sand, and at the depth of a foot the dead body of an Indian was found, who had been shot though the head with a rifle ball. There being no further traces to guide us at that spot, Capt. Tichenor, with two others, all armed with rifles (36 shooters,) went up the hills spoken of in the journal, to reconnoitre. No traces of Indians were seen, but a letter sheet filled on four sides was found, which gave a more detailed account of the affair, altho', unfortunately, it breaks off in the in the most interesting part. It is as follows:

"We landed this morning and took possession of a small island detached from the main land by a narrow passage of about 100 yards in width. It is dry and easy of access at low tide. We took our provisions up and made our encampment on the top of the Island. We entertained some fears of the Indians, who began to gather along the beach in considerable numbers, so we made preparations to defend our camp. We planted our four pounder so as to rake the passage to the bottom of the hill, there being but one passage that a person could approach the top of the island by. It rained all day to day, which rendered it very unpleasant. The Indians appeared friendly at first, and showed some disposition to trade with us; but when they say the vessel depart, they grew saucy and ordered us off, and when they found that we would not go, they all vamosed. We found it necessary to keep up a guard to watch their manouvres.

"June 10. We were aroused from our slumbers this morning at an early hour by by the guard, with the intelligence that the Indians were collecting on the beach. They came up from towards the mouth of Rogue River, and across the hills.—There were about 40 of them on the ground at sun up; they appeared quite saucy. I noticed that they were all better armed than when here the day before. They struck up a fire about 100 yards from our camp, and held a kind of council of war, which consisted in councilling with each other, and frequently there would be from two to three of them dancing and whistling round at a furious rate, snapping their bow-strings at every turn they made. These manouvres lasted about half an hour; during this time they were joined by several others. They waited a short time when they were joined by 12 others who came up the coast in a large canoe. There were some few [illegible] with them, who started and ran off. The men then began to approach us. There were two or three of us went part of the way down the hill and motioned them to keep off, but they were bent for a fight. They came up threatening they would kill us. We then retired to the top of the hill, where we had our gun stationed.

They still followed us and wanted to break through into camp. One of them who appeared to be a leader among them, seized hold of a gun belonging to one of our company and tried to wrest it from him; they ——

Here the journal which appears to have been regularly kept—beginning at Portland, at the date of June 6th, suddenly ends."

The party of nine, supposed to have been murdered, are from Oregon, most of them from about Portland.

☞ The Willamett is expected up to Oregon City to-day. She is to bring the Fire Company of Portland on a visit to this city. A Fire Company is a new thing—we hope it may awaken our citizens to the importance of forming a company here.

PANAMA RAILROAD.—A correspondent of the Bangor Mercury writes from Navy Bay, under date of March 25, that the road is to be opened in June to Gatun, and in August or September to Gorgona. Owing to the crookedness of the Chagres River, the distance from Chagres to Gorgona by water is 45 miles; but by railroad from Navy Bay, the distance is only 26 miles.

For the Spectator.

MR. EDITOR:

Sir—Having seen, a short time since, a request for people residing in different parts of the country to write you descriptions of the same, I have concluded to give you a small sketch of Lexington and the Clatsop Plains, which, if you deem worthy, you can publish.

Our place (Lexington) is small. It is not a city, nor do we make any pretensions as to it being such; but we think here that our location for a small portion of the business of the country is equally as good as many of the would be cities of Oregon.

In the first place I will state where Lexington is situated, and what are the prospects for a village. It is laid out on the west bank of the Skippernown creek, two miles from its mouth and nine miles from Astoria, and lies in a southeasterly direction, two miles from the Columbia river, and two miles from the sea shore: the Clatsop Plains lying between the village and the beach. Said Plains are about one mile wide and fifteen miles long, extending south along the beach from the mouth of the Columbia river. A large portion of these Plains is in a high state of cultivation. There is much more [illegible] Astoria. [illegible] by land, to Astoria. Lexington is the most convenient place to get to water, there being a good road from the Plains to it. The Skippernown is large enough to admit a light draft steamboat as high as Lexington without any difficulty. The weather during the summer is delightful; the sea breeze blowing fresh from the ocean more or less every day; accompanied occasionally with refreshing showers, giving vivacity and health to the inhabitants.—There is a post office established here, and a weekly mail from Astoria.

Persons of leisure and money might find it greatly to their advantage to spend a few months of the hot weather here—they could enjoy the luxury of the refreshing sea breezes. There is not, probably, another place in Oregon that can afford the same inducements for enjoying life in reality. Here are to be found all the dainties of life—butter, cheese, and milk of the best quality, and all the other comforts that can be found in Oregon. The farmers here are as accommodating as you will find anywhere. To persons desiring it, the ocean offers a good place for bathing.

P. E. D.

For the Spectator.

ASTORIA, O. T., June 8, 1851.

MR. SCHNEBLY:

I suppose you have had communicated to you the result of the election in Clatsop County, so I need not repeat it. The election went off finely at this place, no event occurring to mar the good feeling always existing here.

Every body was glad to have an opportunity to throw in a vote for old Jo.—the *Lane* that has no *turn* in him.

At eleven o'clock, A. M., the troops at this point paraded under the banner which had been painted for the occasion by one of the Servants, and which certainly looked splendid. Upon the banner was the following:

RALLY TO
THE RESCUE!

Candidate for Delegate,
JO. LANE,
OF
BUENA VISTA AND HUAMANTLA.

Candidate for Representative,
J. A. ANDERSON.

FAUGH A "BALLAGH!"

TRUE BLUE NEVER FAILS!

Forming a procession, they marched to the polls, where each man deposited his vote, many of them voting for the first time in their lives. A more orderly set of men on the day of an election it would be difficult to find, and I doubt if ever they will have the fortune to vote for a better man than that same old Jo. Lane, for a more honest or more capable man I am well convinced does not exist in Oregon. Success to him.

Yours, T. J. E.