

Oregon Spectator.

OREGON CITY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1851.

C. P. Culver, Associate Editor.

The Spectator

Contains more reading matter than any other paper in Oregon. It is unconditionally devoted to the true interests of the country. It is extensively quoted throughout the States. It gives more reliable information of matters at home, of the country, its general prosperity; and is per consequens of more interest abroad; and besides it costs but half the postage to the States; the postage is only five cents; the postage on the other journals is ten cents. Persons can be accommodated with papers in wrappers, to send to the South, by calling at the office. Price, 25 cents.

River Trade.

Within the past summer important changes have dawned upon the commercial prospects of the interior of our Territory. Changes which have doubtless determined the destiny of many of the principal business points on the upper Willamette, and rendered communication with the upper country easy, cheap, and reliable. Several first class steamers are already running above this city, and created new facilities for the transaction of a ripening and vigorous trade, fast developing itself between this city and the counties south. Besides those advantages, important improvements have been effected in our mail communication. And, although at present not accommodated in this particular to the extent that our constantly increasing wants would seem to demand, yet much has been done, and a disposition manifested by the department to do all that is required. In fact on all our rivers where, but a few short months ago, the "laggard launch-man trimmed his little sail," or the slow and tedious oar boat was our only apology for communication, now the mighty rushing keels are urged along by the triumphant power of steam, and herald with loud voice the advancing hosts of civilization. Beautiful and commodious steam vessels have usurped the place of the small and uncomfortable sail and oar boats, so long the sole dependence of our merchants, and our only means of transportation. Freights and passages on the rivers are comparatively low, and hence the great increase of business with the more remote sections of our Territory. The spirit of progression is eminently entertained by our citizens, and already the iron links of navigation are binding the interests of the towns and counties south of us in close connection with those of our city, and convincing even the most incredulous of the immense importance of our position.

And now in view of all these things, notwithstanding so much has been done, yet the history of the last twelve months, the fact of the great strides of our Territory towards the acquiring of a high and enviable position in the eyes of the world, in this her first season of steam navigation, but shows the great and elevated position she is destined to occupy when our immense resources shall be more fully developed to the astonishment and wonder of the world. Although much has been done to bring about this great desideratum, yet more still remains to do, and our capitalists and business men have still a great work to perform, requiring their united energies and attention. Our city, the whole portion of southern Oregon, town and country, have long suffered, and still continue to suffer by the obstacles in the way of an easy communication between this City and the mouth of the river. Every man, woman and child, throughout the most populous portion of the country, are directly interested in the overcoming of this barrier to our navigation—and if the people will but rise in their strength, there is no doubt of its being readily overcome. Heretofore the upper Willamette was hardly considered capable of being navigated except by flat boats, and many honestly thought a steamer for that portion of the river was a wild and chimerical idea; but already with all its renowned impracticabilities it has been "pressed into service" like a beast of burden; yet carrying upon its waters but a tithes of the immense trade that in future will be required, to sustain the mighty interests of the unparalleled agricultural country stretching far back along its borders. When we contemplate the necessities which must spring up for increased and constant communication between the head of this valley and the mouth of the Colum-

bia, the inducements for the construction of steamers adapted to the navigation of our rivers can be readily seen. Such boats of light draught and great power should be constructed, as will at once overcome the obstacle created by our strong currents, and in the dry season, and consequent shallowness in many places of our streams. We are acquainted with no country that has the natural facilities of inter-communication by water that Oregon has. Canals, as it were, almost as conveniently located as though made by the hand of man, and requiring but slight improvement to be ready for use. The improvement of the natural channels of communication is nearly all we require.

We have just learned that quite an excitement existed at the Court, and also at Portland, caused by the following circumstances, as we understand them: It appears that a suit for indebtedness was in prosecution, vs. several defendants, the majority of them residents of Portland. That after the pleas, demurrers, replications, &c., were offered and argued, the cause was finally set down for trial the same evening; that at the convening of the Court a jury was asked for, and they having been dismissed, Court was adjourned to 8 o'clock next morning; that upon the assembling of the Court in the morning, a change of venue was prayed for, and on account of the unusually strong language used in the affidavits, the Court was displeased, and the attorney Col. W. W. Chapman, also one of the defendants, ordered to show cause why he should not be committed for contempt. Finally, when the party was sentenced to some twenty days imprisonment, the Sheriff was prevented from executing the mandate of the Court by some persons present, and the attorney leaving immediately reached Portland, whence the Sheriff was dispatched to arrest him. Upon reaching that place and attempting to execute his writ, he was prevented by some of the citizens for a time, but we are informed finally succeeded in making the arrest, and started for Hillsboro with the attorney in his custody.

We see by the last Oregonian that the City Fathers of Portland have passed an ordinance fining any person convicted, "of riding or driving a horse upon any side walk," in the sum of five dollars for the first, and ten dollars for each subsequent offence. Our imp wants to know if they mean the walks generally found about six inches or a foot under ground. He thinks it would be "awful" pleasant to find any other in that flourishing city, particularly when it rains! We suppose the scarcity of side walks in their city accounts for the wording of the ordinance where it says "upon any side walk." We shall expect them here protecting the rights of our pedestrians, against the encroachments of the equestrians who navigate our streets. They did not include us, because it was supposed they were capable of taking care of themselves, and kicking their own way through the crowd!

The young men and bachelors of the country should bear in mind that the first day of December, 1851, is near at hand. Your days of grace soon expire, and the 330 acres is lost beyond redemption, unless you are up and stirring.—The ladies, it seems to us, should wear their most winning smiles, and encourage the timid young man to nerve himself up to the striking point, and boldly declare his desire to possess another half (section.) But seriously where is the government that equals in its liberality and munificence, that of our glorious country. It is a true saying that the government which "governs least governs best." And here we find some of the finest and best lands in the United States, given to the settler for the taking. Some may say they don't care for the land; but wait a few short years, when Oregon shall be one of the first States in the Union, and then hear their regrets for neglecting.

The Oregonian of week before last did not reach here until the Tuesday afternoon following. It took an excursion on the plank road, and becoming intoxicated with the excitement of the journey, got "elevated" on the "coast mountain route," and came the "river cut" by Marysville. Bro. DRYER, you must not get so toploftical. It won't do to cutting up your extras so in those times of "through navigation."

AMORY HOLBROOK, Esq., District Attorney, left on the last mail steamer for the States. We understand he intends to bring his family with him on his return. He will remain absent no longer than is necessary to perform the journey.

By the last mail steamer for the States, Dr. AWSON DART, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, left the Territory temporarily, en route for Washington, on business connected with his department. He expects to return to the Territory as soon as the first of April. A large amount of business has been transacted in his department, during the latter part of the season; commencing the latter part of the August up to a short time previous to his leaving, we are informed that thirteen treaties were made with the various tribes of Indians, in different parts of the Territory. In the making of these treaties something over 1000 miles of traveling was necessarily performed; and they negotiated for the purchase of about six millions of acres of land, at a cost of about two cents per acre. And that the total expense of making the treaties was something less than \$3,000.

It will be a great benefit to the Territory to have the provisions of these treaties immediately carried out, and we trust no unnecessary delay will be allowed in their confirmation. It removes a very serious obstacle in the way of the settlers locating in whatever portion of the Territory suits him best, and we hope now this objection will soon be removed.

Our amiable contemporary over the way, in reply to a communication, (of his own manufacture undoubtedly,) pretending to be written in the Santiam country, enquiring after the "old Spectator," &c., goes off in the following characteristic style:

"It is just about this time that our books will show that we send more papers to a single post office in the Territory than they send to all the offices. We are willing to risk an examination, at any rate. And every mail brings back more or less of the few they send, marked 'received.' A small edition is still published, principally to supply its exchanges."

Now, neighbor, if you had said that we published some except to supply our "exchanges," it would have been an epoch in your career—for you would once at least have told the truth!! We publish our edition, instead of "principally," altogether to supply our "exchanges." Some we "exchange" for other papers, some we "exchange" with our subscribers for cash, for the hard "tracks," and some we "exchange" with transient persons arriving in the Territory, who desire reliable information—and we "exchange" enough of the "old Spec." in this manner, to pay our way as we go along, neighbor, we do.

There is quite an excitement at this time in the Willamette valley about the Port Orford country. This excitement, it is thought, will carry off a goodly number of our enterprising men. The spirit of adventure is nearly as rife now as it was at any previous time. While some are seeking fortunes way in the north at Queen Charlotte's Island, comparatively but little known not a few are directing their steps to the mines south, the greater part of whom are of this year's immigration; and the rest of the floating portion still unsettled, are taking up their line of march for the Coquille country, down the coast, where the prospects for rapid improvement are very flattering. Thus we go in Oregon—there is a paradise somewhere, but all have not yet found it.

Some people think we can't raise corn in Oregon, but by reference to our correspondence in to-day's paper from Lumpkin, it will be seen that such is not the fact, with regard to that portion of our Territory. And from our own observation, in this section, we are satisfied that enough of it can be raised for our own consumption at least, and we doubt not some to spare. Our seasons are certainly long enough, and we see no reason why it cannot be grown. Let any of those people who are incredulous on this point, call at our office and examine the specimen of "tall corn" left with us.

We notice with pleasure the improvement of the bridge and the street at the lower part of town. The bridge has been lowered and a good substantial railing put up on the sides, both of which have long been needed. The street at the lower end of the bridge has been dug out and graded, and the old mud hole filled up and drained by a ditch. This is a very great benefit to the public generally.

We learn with regret that the Canemah on her last trip met with an accident, by which her rudder was broken and the cabin somewhat injured. We have not the particulars of the accident, but understand it is not very serious. We sincerely hope it is not, for aside from the expense of repairs, &c. she is of too much service to the public to be long laid up.

The steamer "Multnomah" brought on her last trip down the river 800 bushels of wheat. The one previous 1500.

CHASTA HORSE THIEVES—FULL PARTICULARS.

We are informed by John D. Cook Esq., one of the party who has been in pursuit of the Chasta horse thieves, that during the summer horses have been frequently stolen, and pack trains stampeded, &c., by which means mules were supposed to be lost, but were in fact taken by this infernal band of scoundrels. That Reason Haynes, D. C. Smith, (generally known as Charley Smith,) and D. H. Hartley, (commonly called Doc, Hartley,) and Terwilliger son of Terwilliger at Portland, kept a rancho on Chasta river, 3 or 4 miles from Chasta City, during the latter part of summer, and were for some time suspected of being engaged in running off stock and stealing it in various ways; until, about the last of September, Smith, Haynes and Terwilliger left the country, taking with them the two Indians Antoine and Joe, leaving Hartley in charge of the rancho. Some animals being missed about the time of their leaving suspicion was aroused, Hartley, as well as Winslow, Stillman and James Pool, (the latter three supposed to be interested in the rancho,) together with a man by the name of Thompson, were upon this arrested. Upon Hartley's being arrested, great feeling was exhibited against him, arising from the satisfaction on the part of the miners of his guilt; and being called upon to do so, he made a statement relative to the matter as follows: Mr. Cook here informed us that the statements heretofore made, about a rope being placed around his neck, &c., is incorrect, no such means having been used. Hartley said that while keeping the rancho, some 16 horses were stolen by them, and that Smith, Haynes and Terwilliger took these horses with them when they left. They started with the intention of joining a company of ten men somewhere in the vicinity of Chasta Butte, who were a part of a company of twenty-five, engaged in stealing and herding animals at the Grande Ronde. Hartley stated that he got this information from Haynes, who was acquainted with several of the Grande Ronde company. That their intention was to remain in the neighborhood of the Butte—continue their depredations until about the last of December, and then leave with their animals for the rendezvous at the Grande Ronde. But for some reason, fear of detection it was supposed, they kept on in the direction of the Dalles.

On the 3d of October they were pursued by a company of 26 men, 10 of the pursuers turning back on the fourth morning. The party of 16 continued their pursuit, and the first time they struck the trail of the thieves was on the north side of the Klamath Lake, about 150 miles from Chasta. After two day's further pursuit, they reached the head waters of De Chutes river, and there found the bodies of the three men, under the following circumstances. Noticing an encampment, and the irons belonging to two or three saddles, the saddles having been burned, suspicion was excited that something must have occurred of an extraordinary character, and they immediately commenced a search. Seeing a trail through the grass with the appearance of something having been dragged over it, it was followed and the body of Haynes was discovered in the creek, about 125 yards from the encampment. About 25 yards below, the body of Smith was found partly out of the water. And Terwilliger's body was found a few feet below Smith's in deeper water. Their bodies were taken out and examined, and it was found that Haynes was shot with a rifle ball through the head. Terwilliger was also shot in the head and a deep wound in the back of the neck, breaking the neck—apparently done with an axe. Smith had received four blows with an axe on the head and face, either of which it is supposed by our informant, would have produced instant death. No signs of his having been shot discovered. His right arm was broken at the wrist. Their bodies were interred by the party, and they then continued on in pursuit of the Indians. They followed them to the Dalles, where they found Antoine, and about 60 miles above among the Yaconia's Joe was found. The horses were in possession of the Indians.

The two Indians were arrested, and brought down by the pursuing party, accompanied by our informant as far as the forks of the road at Mr. Foster's where he left the party to come to this city, they continuing on with the Indians to Chasta. The Indians confess the murder, and give the following description of the manner in which it was done. Joe shot Haynes, at the same time Antoine commenced upon Smith with an axe. Joe then says he shot Terwilliger with a revolver, upon which Terwilliger attempted to raise himself up, when Antoine dealt him a severe blow in the back of the

neck. Our informant also informs us that they arrested a young man calling himself John Markham, who confessed having stolen seven horses from a Mr. Cooper, residing in the Willamette valley. The reason for the theft assigned by Markham was that Cooper owed him some \$200, borrowed money, and refused to pay it—and he thought he could sell the seven horses for that amount.

The above are the particulars of this horrid transaction as furnished us by Mr. Cook. It shows the most extensive combination of dastardly scoundrels to rob the traveller of his property, and we doubt not if need be, of his life. The most vigorous means should be used to bring the guilty ones to punishment, and check this growing evil at once.

ARRIVAL OF THE COLUMBIA. Two Weeks Later from the Atlantic States—Traces of Sir John Franklin, The Negro Riot in Pennsylvania—Great Excitement in Baltimore—Fire at Buffalo, N. Y.

The mail by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's Steamer Columbia, reached this city yesterday morning about 4 o'clock. We take the following from the San Francisco Herald of Nov. 5th:

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—The American Expedition fitted out to search for Sir John Franklin, has met with more success during its short expedition, than all the expeditions sent by England. Lady Franklin has addressed a letter to Mr. Maitland, in which she says all her hopes of hearing anything of her husband rests upon the American ships. In August, 1500 traces of Sir John Franklin's expedition were discovered to the northward of Port Innes, Wellington Channel. These consisted of fragments of clothing, preserved meats, tins and scraps of papers, and 2 graves, which bore respectively the names of W. Braze, R. M. John Hartley, and John Torrington. These evidences indicated that Sir John Franklin must have wintered there in 1846. This intelligence has been received in London, and has created sanguine hopes that the friends of the intrepid navigator may yet have the pleasure of welcoming at least the surviving portion of the noble crew of the Erebus and Terror.

NEGRO RIOT.—The particulars of the negro riot in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and the arrest of thirty four of the rioters, occupy several columns of the New York Herald. Mr. Fillmore has instructed the United States attorney for the eastern district of Pennsylvania, to ascertain whether the facts would make out a case of treason against the United States, and if so to prosecute all concerned in that offence. Much excitement continued in the City of Baltimore, and a large meeting was held in Monumental square, at which strong resolutions were adopted in relation to the matter.

FIRE AT BUFFALO.—A great fire occurred at Buffalo, N. Y., on the 29th ult. The portion of the city extending along down between the canal and terrace is entirely destroyed. Thousands of poor people were rendered homeless and millions of property had been consumed. An area of not less than ten acres has been burned over.

The provinces of Coahuila and Tamaulipas in Mexico are in a state of insurrection against the Central Government. The supposition is that they will gain their independence and ask to be annexed to the United States.

From the Alta California, Nov. 6th.

CUBA.—The Tribune says: We have, one day's later news from Havana, tracing to the 17th August. Since our last advices eight more American prisoners have been taken in the mountains and brought into Havana. Of these previously captured twenty-five remain in the military hospital, under medical attendance. The remainder, amounting to 138 persons, have been sent to Spain in different vessels, with the exception of ten, who are waiting ship at Havana. The prisoners have received the kindest attention from Mr. Crawford, the British Consul at Havana, and before embarking, published a card expressing their sense of obligation to his generous efforts in their behalf.

The Cuban party in New Orleans, numbering about 2,000 in all, disembanded on the 6th of October. A considerable number took passage immediately for Alabama; others went up the river, but the remainder, being without means of getting off, were disposed to have a row, but excepting a few arrests for petty breaches of the peace, which were effected without difficulty, nothing serious occurred.

The first train propelled by steam, passed over the Panama Railroad from Navy Bay to Gatun on the 11th October.

The revolutionists in the southern part of New Granada, have been utterly defeated and dispersed by Gen. Herrera, Gov. Borrera, the insurgent chieftain, was obliged to fly the country.

Twenty-one prisoners escaped from the Panama jail on the night of the 11th October. Among them were two of the gold train robbers, Charles Cromwell and Bartholomew Thomas, alias Tom Summers.

The District Court for the 3rd judicial district, was to have commenced its session yesterday.

Correspondence. For the Spectator. MISTERS SKIMMERY.—I wonder of a little severer by name Paper into a tangle site better, karked on with judgment and karo with the best kinds of elections from eastern papers, than wen ten by twelve conducted on a principle of—I was a gwine to say a prinpel of sum kind but I want larmen enuf to give it a name; there seems to be so many objects in vu in its kondukt that it wuld bother a fladelfa lawyer to name it; however I'll ventur to name what I think some of the o'jects are in a kinder question wa, for evry body to think of and consider justly.

Well, the first, popalarety; well thats al rite of it meretz it; but the thing is duz at it is popalarety to admit so much of the flattest kind of self praise in a paper by way of korrespondens [make so.] I think the printin in a paper out to be the editors true sentiments, akording if it is mister Bush must be tarnedly easy flatorf if he is I think he aint fit for a editor.— Now there is many things I mite state as I think as objects as abay, but the air to meny and of to much no sense for the little 7 by 10 to publish; no flatory mister Skully to you. I rite in defense of my own feelings and meny others I could name,— we like the Spectator as a family paper, and we air tryin to like the Statesmen, but mister Bush wout let us; of he staks meny meny worthy berfed parents while they mende air at the Z-noth of their sorrows how kan we like him or his paper I speke for you only, that the apathets of 7 by 10 luther hed & so fourth & so fourth some so kontemptibel and insignifikant to mite make the Statesmen fele to me demestibel. What is the use of keepin' up such a flat flatory warefair, duz it sho wisdom to a editor to it sartingly wuld if the Spectator was as flat as represented by the Statesmen. Now I take it of the a kexpanding wery meny what the popalarety wuld do if mister Bush is full of flatory adwrtising them in his paper, or dusin's under his rethors foel enuf to luse them; I dont a little aint I no, and I dont be ashamed to think any one that I did. Now I wuld ask mister Bush with the respect of it apelas well of the taste morals, lavets and outfest of the pople of Oregon to have a paper please them best that is filled with short flat insinuating lammishams, lamm bug and fol de rol the great credit I give mister Bush was for being his korrespondens to have mury ex on him. I red his paper for some time after with quite a good feeling.

Mister Skully I rite this communication with a friendly motive, for be it from me to try to du the Statesmen enny injury, I woud not of I had sense enuf to, I think all of the Oregon papers out to be supported, we have nun tu meny. I'd rather a good deal hear the saying of fore editors than one, for I beleve the editors will be a little, and when one dus the others shure to tell him of it; so by you all wege somethen in the truth. I hope mister Bush wint luther hed you nor the rest of the editors of the track intirely, for absolute power invested in one man is oddle him ever so virtuous. I hope of you see fit to publish this that mister Bush will take no offence and not devote a single line in his val— (no twont do to sh so you but I hope it will soon) paper in a reply to this, for I trust evry body will remember that Mose mones well of he kaut peke it kollegiatly.

MOSE SKILLER. Salem, Oct. 25th, 1851.

A vessel left the Columbia river for Queen Charlotte's Island on Friday last. The expedition was composed principally of men belonging to Oregon, who have gone for the double purpose of testing the truthfulness of the previously received reports, as to the existence of gold in large quantities on that Island, and at the same time "make a raise" for themselves; which, from the reports, promises to be a sure thing.

The District Court for Washington County has now been in session three weeks, and we understand still not ready to adjourn. A very large amount of business has been transacted, much more than at the session of any court since the organization of the territory.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—We are indebted to NEWELL and Co's Express for late California papers, seven hours in advance of the mail. Mr. JOHN FERROUS, Esq., will also accept our thanks for a roll of late papers.

SUNK.—The wharf boat at Canemah, we are informed, sunk on Saturday night last, with some 300 or 400 bushels oats, and about 500 or 600 bushels of wheat on board. Do not know the cause.

Several communications from our correspondents have been received, but to late for this week's paper.