

per cent. over the like receipts for the preceding year.

The reduction of postage, under the Act of March last, did not take effect until the commencement of the present fiscal year. The accounts for the first quarter, under the operation of the reduced rates, will not be settled before January next; and no reliable estimate of the receipts for the present year can yet be made.

In his last annual report the Postmaster General recommended a reduction of postage to rates which he deemed as low as could be prudently adopted, unless Congress was prepared to appropriate from the treasury, for the support of the Department, a sum more than equivalent to the small services performed by it for the Government.

He also recommends that the rates of postage on printed matter be so revised as to render them more simple, and more uniform in their operation upon all classes of printed matter.

The public statutes of the United States have now been accumulating for more than sixty years, and, interspersed with private acts, are scattered through numerous volumes, and, from the cost of the whole, have become almost inaccessible to the great mass of the community.

Many laws of a permanent character have been introduced into appropriation bills, and it is often difficult to determine whether the particular clause expires with the temporary act of which it is a part, or continues in force.

The Government of the United States is emphatically a government of written laws. The statutes should, therefore, as far as practicable, not only be made accessible to all, but be expressed in language so plain and simple as to be understood by all.

An act of Congress approved 30th Sept., 1860, contained a provision for the extension of the Capitol, according to such plan as might be approved by the President, and appropriated \$100,000 to be expended under his direction, by such architect, as he should appoint to execute the same.

I again commend to your favorable regard the interests of the District of Columbia, and deem it only necessary to remind you, that although its inhabitants have no voice in the choice of representatives in Congress, they are not the less entitled to a just and liberal consideration in your legislation.

It is deeply to be regretted that in several instances officers of the Government, in attempting to execute the law for the return of fugitives from labor, have been openly resisted, and their efforts frustrated

and defeated by lawless and violent mobs—that in one case such resistance resulted in the death of an estimable citizen, and in others serious injury ensued to those officers and to individuals who were using their endeavors to sustain the laws.

The act of Congress for the return of fugitives from labor is one required and demanded by the express words of the constitution.

The constitution declares "That no person held to service or labor in one state, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

Cases have heretofore arisen in which individuals have denied the binding authority of acts of Congress, and even States have proposed to nullify such acts, upon the ground that the Constitution was the supreme law of the land, and that these acts of Congress were repugnant to that instrument.

In my last annual message I stated that I considered the series of measures which had been adopted at the previous session, in reference to the agitation growing out of the territorial and slavery questions, as a final settlement in principle and substance of the dangerous and exciting subjects which they embraced.

Wide differences and jarring opinions can only be reconciled by yielding something on all sides, and this result has been reached after an angry conflict of many months in which one part of the country was arrayed against another, and violent convulsions seemed to be imminent.

I again commend to your favorable regard the interests of the District of Columbia, and deem it only necessary to remind you, that although its inhabitants have no voice in the choice of representatives in Congress, they are not the less entitled to a just and liberal consideration in your legislation.

Other subjects were brought to the attention of Congress in my last annual message, to which I would respectfully refer. But there was one of more than ordinary interest to which I again invite your special attention.

Oregon Spectator.

OREGON CITY:
Tuesday, January 27, 1863.

C. P. Colver, Associate Editor.

The message of President Fillmore, published in full in to-day's paper, will, we trust, be attentively perused by every citizen of our territory. A message from the President of the United States is at all times a document of universal interest; and always commands very general perusal.

For the Spectator.
ASTORIA, O. T., Jan. 11, '63.
Messrs. Editors:—The schooner "Matthew Vassar" is just in, 28 days from San Francisco.

It will be seen by reference to the advertisement of W. F. Doland, of Milwaukee, that there is no longer any excuse for idleness.

The Legislature of California has adjourned from Vallejo to Sacramento city, where it is supposed the present session will be holden.

A large number of communications have accumulated upon our table, which we are unable to publish in this No.

The Queen of Spain has liberated twenty British subjects taken in the Lopez expedition.

The Canemah brought down, on Saturday last, 3000 bushels of grain and about 40 passengers.

Disturbance with the Indians at Cape Flattery—A Vessel Burned and the Passengers Harassed!

Information has been received by Gov. Gaines, from Olympia, of an attempt having recently been made by the Cape Flattery tribe of Indians to murder the passengers and crew of a vessel belonging to the H. B. Company, which was stranded on that coast on the 25th of December last.

"I am informed by the passengers and officers of the schooner 'Guan,' which has just anchored at this port, that on the 25th of December, while off Cape Flattery, they witnessed the robbing and burning of the H. B. Co's brigantine 'Una,' by the Cape Flattery tribe of Indians.

"There are nearly three hundred Indian warriors in this tribe, and whose treachery knows no bounds. Since this success, their presence at that point, where all vessels, both American and English, seek shelter from storms, render it highly necessary for the safety of our commerce, that this matter should be investigated and these offenders chastised.

The above account of the unsafe situation of the inhabitants in that quarter, is but another proof of the great error committed when the troops were requested to be withdrawn from this Territory.

For the Spectator.
OREGON CITY, Jan. 22, '63.

Editors SPECTATOR—GENTLEMEN:—Having seen in your paper of the 26th inst., a communication from the Rogue River country, charging a Mr. Worthington with inciting the Indians to acts of hostility against the whites, and containing other serious charges against the same person, I was taken by surprise, and am quite astonished.

I have known Mr. Worthington Bill for some time. Know him in the Rogue River country, on Rogue River, and never heard or supposed from his general character, that any such offense could be perpetrated by him; and my object in addressing you at this time, from this place, rather than from my home at Tuality Plains, is to testify, as far as my acquaintance as above is concerned, to his unexceptional good character.

For the Spectator.
OLYMPIA, Jan. 1st, 1863.
Messrs. Editors:—The schooner "Demercoora" Capt. Blake, sailed on the 21st of last month, from Cape Flattery, bound to Queen Charlotte Island.

The H. B. Co's brig "Una," which was wrecked on the east side of that island about the 16th of Nov. last.

The H. B. Co's brig "Una," which was wrecked in Nash Bay, near Cape Flattery, on the 25th of Dec. She dragged her anchor in a gale blowing from the S. W.

The widow of General Lopez is now in Paris. She has been separated from her husband for many years.

FROM THE STATES.

The mails from the States by the Columbia, reached this city on Wednesday last. We are under obligations to Newell & Co's Express for last papers in advance of the mail.

The Golden Gate brought the mails up from Panama, making the run to San Francisco in eleven days and 25 hours, the quickest trip ever made.

NOTICE.
Rev. Mr. AVENUE, of Oregon City, will lecture before the Methodist Episcopal Church in this city on Tuesday evening, Feb. 2nd, 1863.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.
The regular services of the Protestant Episcopal Church will be held in the Court-House every other Sunday at 10 1/2 A. M. and 4 P. M.

A CARD.
BRACUS & TWITCHELL would return their thanks to the citizens of Oregon City and the surrounding country for their kind and generous reception of them on their late visit to this city.

THE First Bank of Astoria & TwitcheLL, is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

Wanted,
100 LABORERS, by W. F. DOLAND.

NOTICE.
I HERBY certify all persons against a practice which has been carried on by me in Oregon Territory, the collection of said taxes has entirely ceased, and I shall continue this collection.

LOOK TO ME.
MR. NEWELL will meet the youth of this city in the Congregational Church on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock for the purpose of organizing a Juvenile Singing School.

Taken Up.
BY THE authorities, living at Lebanon, Madison County, O. T., on the 7th day of Jan. last, a dark brown Indian horse, five years old; three white feet; branded in the left shoulder.

WOOD CHOPPERS wanted to work by the day or by the week. Apply to W. F. DOLAND, Astoria.

FORGOTTEN! FORGOTTEN!!
THE bulk of the river, in the rear of the block store of Geo. Almondy & Co., may be found at all times a supply of

WANTED.
5000 THE best kind of the Tenth River.

Advertisements and notices in the right margin of the page.

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