

OREGON SPECTATOR.

The Spectator

D. J. Schuchly, Editor.

"Westward the Star of Freedom's Light" - Oregonian

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D. J. Schuchly, Proprietor.

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POETRY.

What is a Year?

What is a year? 'Tis but a wave

On life's dark rolling stream.

On life's dark rolling stream.

Account it but a dream.

'Tis but a single earnest thought

That flits from heart to heart.

Which tireless now and strong as when

It first with life did start.

What is a year? 'Tis but a turn

Of Time's old brass wheel—

Or but a page upon the book

Which death must shortly seal.

'Tis but a step upon the road

Which we must travel o'er.

A few more steps and we shall walk

Life's weary road no more.

What is a year? 'Tis but a breath

From Time's old nostrils blown,

As rushing onward o'er the earth,

We hear his weary moan.

'Tis like the bubble on the wave,

Or dew upon the lawn.

Astray on the mists of morn

Beneath the summer sun.

What is a year? 'Tis but a type

Of life's oft changing scene.

Youth's happy morn comes gaily on

With hills and valleys green.

Next, Summer's prime succeeds the Spring.

'Tis Autumn with a tear,

Then comes old Winter—death, and all

Must find their level here.

THE MINER'S SOLILOQUY.—To dig or

not to dig—that's the question; whether

'tis better to stand in knee-deep water,

suffering a boiling sun, dig and sweat

and wear, and dig for a few paltry ounces;

or to place one's animated duds upon

some neighboring mule, and travel home-

ward. Hold on!—to dig, to find one pile

—and by that pile say we end our poverty,

and pay the thousand little natural

debts we owe, 'tis a consummation devout-

ly to be wished.

To be in luck—reach San Francisco

—to visit *monie*—aye, there's the

rub; for in that game of chance what

luck may come. When we have shuffled

off this pile of ours—must give the blues

—there's the calamity that makes one stay

THE SPECTATOR.

Tuesday Morning, Feb. 17.

One of the members of the Salem

Legislature, from Benton County, thinks

that unless the people through the country

contribute of their means to the fugle-

man, for the printing of the "Vox Populi,"

it will come too heavy on the members to

bear the entire expense. We make the

statement on the authority of a democrat

from the Luckaluku. He was solicited,

but he thought as he had no hand in get-

ting it up he could not see any good reason

why he should be taxed. He was

willing, though, to pay a dollar, if that

would be considered any help. Mr. Rich

disclaims having taken any part in this

infamous sheet. The thing is certain, it

was printed on his type and in his office.

This road to Canemah is almost

impassable, rendered so by use and the

wet weather. But bad as it is it is still

travelled by the teams which are daily

plying between this place and Canemah.

The quantity of produce, such as wheat,

oats, onions, potatoes, chickens, eggs

and live hogs, all of which, except the

wheat, are destined for the California

market. At no time since the settlement

of the country, has there been so great a

trade driven in these several articles.—

Large quantities of grain are in store on

both sides of the river, waiting shipment.

The means below for carrying it off are

inadequate to the demands of trade.

THE JAMES P. FLINT.—This boat again

made her appearance at our landing on

yesterday, after an absence of a few

weeks, in which time she has been refit-

ted in a tasty and elegant style. Im-

provements have also been made in her

machinery, by which her power has been

greatly increased. We understand that

she will continue to run regularly between

this place and Portland. As the proprie-

tor has spared no expense in refitting

her exclusively for this trade, they should

receive a liberal patronage from the pub-

lic. We assure all those who want to

take a trip down the river that no pains

will be spared by her gentlemanly Cap-

tain, VANBERGEN, to make them comfortable.

The weather for the past two weeks

has been unprecedentedly fine; the sun

shining the greater part of the time. The

winter thus far, has been much more

pleasant than last; there has been fewer

rainy days; but we are inclined to the

opinion, however, that fully as much rain

has fallen for a like period during last

winter. The river has receded consider-

ably both above and below the falls; but

not so much as in the least to interrupt

the free navigation by the several boats

up as far as Marysville.

The propellers Washington and

Eagle were both disabled for several days

last week. The communication between

this city and Portland, was in consequence

temporarily suspended. The unrivalled

of the boats referred to for the time, was

seriously felt by the traveling public; so

important has the trade become between

the two points above named. One year

ago a couple of whale boats performing

three trips a week, were sufficient to ac-

commodate the travel.

Eggs have declined in price in

California. The last report is that they

are worth one dollar and twenty-five cents

per dozen.

CANTOR OIL FOR LIGHTS.—The Jack-

sonville, (Ill.) Journal says it may not be

generally known that castor oil is better

Correspondence of the Spectator.

The Memorial.

(Continued.)

As has already been said the moderate

and modest prayer of the memorial passed

by the Representatives of the people, she'd

be earnestly desired by every friend of

civil liberty, and how the conductor of a

public journal should be so far blinded by

partisan zeal or personal friendship, as to

oppose a principle upon which rests our

whole political fabric, is to me inexplic-

able. He may rest assured there is no

political party in the Union who will en-

dorse his sentiments, and he will find him-

self alone in the support of principles that

have been for centuries repudiated by the

whole Anglo Saxon race.

But there are some objections to the

document, which, though in my opinion

are highly unwarrantable, I will not

deference to its parents and adopters, pre-

ced to notice.

As one of the reasons for asking a

change in the Organic Act, is the misrule

of the appointees of the Federal Govern-

ment. To charge the fact is right and

proper, but to introduce the evidence or

specifications upon which the charge is

made into the body of the memorial, I

think is wholly out of place. The time

of Congress being too precious to be wa-

sted with the examination of evidence or

petty details of any business before the

whole body; for this as well as other good

reasons, such matters are referred to com-

mittees who examine and report upon

them. The specifications, therefore, in the

form of authenticated evidence, w'd

have had great weight. But appearing

in the body of the memorial and relating

to special cases that could not be known

to every member of the body that gave

them their sanction, not only cease to be

evidence to establish the charge, but re-

quire evidence to establish themselves. And

further the introduction of the name of

Amory Holbrook against whom as an offi-

cer, no charge is made, but merely as in-

fluencing the Governor to an obnoxious

course by bad counsel, a charge that no

evidence could establish, is a very grave

error or oversight in the memorialist, and

fatal to its character as a fair and impar-

tial statement of the wishes of the people.

The handling over of Judge Bryant to the

public execration does not relieve it of its

sinister or partisan character; for he as Judge

Pratt justly remarks is one who no rules

of legislation can bind—one whose course

has been too reprehensible for any party to

defend, or any party to charge, on the

misdeeds of opponents; parties have not

yet descended to accuse each other with

the creeds of felons or malefactors. Yet

Judge Bryant withdrew his hand from the

public treasury voluntarily, while others

who can assign no higher motive for the

acceptance of office, will hold on like

leeches until glorified by political mar-

tyrdom.

Every true friend of Oregon must

regret that party feeling should appear in

the memorial; it gives room for those

whose interests cause them, to wish the

continuance of the present state of things

to charge the memorialists with motives

of jealousy rather than patriotism; and a

greater desire for the removal of present

oppressors than of the oppression itself.

In regard to that portion of the mem-

orial which relates to the interference of

one Judge with the jurisdiction of another,

I shall only say that if such interference

is without the authority of law, the Judge

THE DOCTOR'S ABSENCE.

A fashionable doctor lately informed his friends,

in a large company, that he had been

passing eight days in the country.

"Yes," said one of the party, "it has

been announced in one of the journals."

"Ah," said the doctor, stretching his

neck very importantly, "pray in what

terms?"

"Why, as well as I can remember, in

the following: There was last week

seventy-seven interments less than the

week before."

on intellects less comprehensive than his

own—and several other poetic flights

equally akin to the subject, he finally tells

us "grave and revered saviors" at

Washington, that "three small armed

vessels" could block us in; an evil certainly,

which he proposes to remove by a remedy

as applicable to the grievance, as religion

is comparable to basalt, to-wit: a "military

road in the interior." What think you