Oregon Spectator.

Friday Morning, Sept[illegible] 1850.

The Falls Improvement

[illegible] to be made [illegible] complete the magnitude of this [illegible] If we are not judges of [illegible] we would represent the [illegible] to be very advantageously situated, under the [illegible] of Mr. Ferguson, in a very [illegible] manner. There has been already a very [illegible] of water, an immense [illegible] their power, and the half of the work [illegible] to be accomplished. [illegible] months to the time when the water will [illegible] the work [illegible] we think an ample time to get the work sufficiently completed to be out of the way of freshets in high water.

The undertaking is by far the most important one undertaking [illegible] that has been set on foot anywhere on the Pacific coast. The whole enterprise appears to have been [illegible] upon a grand and extensive scale, and its realization, we think no longer problematical, though we confess that we entertained some fears upon the subject at the first. All doubt has been dispelled, and we are now [illegible] upon it as one of the things possible, and that in a few [illegible] We [illegible] very much to the enterprising [illegible] We hope, too, the day is not far distant when a [illegible] and corresponding improvements may be made on the side of the river. It [illegible] a real address of power, but surely it is among the things possible and will be a consummation.

We had with pleasure noticed improvements of every kind made here in the falls, and particularly since we have been absent, [illegible] We have been informed that the [illegible] will be formed where the [illegible] of the building now [illegible] to get done at the time above stated. Mr. Ferguson is a gentleman superintendent of the whole concern, and a man well qualified to perform the [illegible] undertaken.

The saw mill is under the superintendence of the well known mill-wright M. A. Barnum, Esq., [illegible] will be one of the largest lumber mills on the Pacific coast. The frame [illegible] has been ready to raise some five weeks, and a part has been raised in account of the foundations not being quite ready. A 72 inch [illegible] and 70 feet wide and [illegible] in all, 82 feet—the [illegible] gang containing 24 saws in a sash [illegible] principle—the [illegible] gang of 6 saws—2 single [illegible] saws [illegible] 4000 feet of [illegible] Every part of [illegible] machinery [illegible] of which [illegible] M. Barnum [illegible] They are [illegible] [illegible] saw [illegible] and [illegible] of the [illegible] The whole of the [illegible] machinery [illegible] manufactured [illegible] works. But [illegible] San Francisco [illegible] and drawings made by M[illegible] of which [illegible] credit to any [illegible]

M. Barnum has [illegible] for [illegible] Country [illegible] their [illegible] power [illegible] Falls [illegible] hope to [illegible] encouragement [illegible] the [illegible] This [illegible] will [illegible] Mr. [illegible] of the [illegible] examined [illegible] remaining [illegible] of the [illegible] a saw is [illegible] of sawing [illegible]

[illegible] 9th inst. the factory in Champoeg [illegible] and burned [illegible] were [illegible] saws were [illegible] The large [illegible] $4,000 or $5,000 [illegible] day time and [illegible] before being [illegible] possible to [illegible]

[illegible] jewelry this season. A hour or two more [illegible] brought us by Mr. [illegible] ago. This season, [illegible] news of the weather, [illegible] made one our [illegible] last, but we have [illegible] standard being placed [illegible]

[illegible] paper now is prom[illegible] The mail manager had [illegible]

From the Immigrants.

We learned from Mr. H. M. Dunn, one of a company of six persons who came from Bloomington, Illinois, that they left the Missouri river on the 3d day of May. The company traveled pretty much all the way alone. They started with seven yoke of cattle, and came in to Foster's with five yoke. Mr. Osborn Barnard, one of the six, started with eighty-six oxen and heifers and three bulls—all choice stock, and some of them of the best Durham blood in Illinois. In all, Mr. Barnard had 160 head of cattle, out of the number he has only 22 head—10 oxen and heifers, and 6 cows. He had the good fortune to cross the Cascade mountains with not any loss whatever of stock. He has driven his stock to Lane county to winter them.

There was a good deal of rain in the Cascade mountains, but no snow when they crossed. There was quite a number of teams in the mountains at the same time they were. There were not many dead cattle to be seen by the wayside over the mountains, but quite a number of horses were seen on both sides of the road.

A Mr. Smith crossed some beloved ones with unsparing zeal, it is supposed, a hundred head of cattle. He lost some 20 or 25 head of them. A number of the missing, Mr. Dunn thinks, strayed into the brush, and were lost in that way.

There are a number of droves of cattle some distance behind them, but the names of the owners were not recollected. There were a great many dead cattle seen on Snake river. The mortality among the stock was confined principally to the trains on the south side of Snake river. Comparatively little loss of stock on the north side; water and grass plenty.

Some teams were entirely lost, and the persons—families as well as others—were compelled to pack through any way. There were no depredations committed by the Indians—all very peaceable. He did not hear of the Indians attacking any persons on the entire route.

The bulk of the immigration was behind their company. When they passed the Agency, not at the Umatilla, their team made 272 that had passed that point up to the 7th of August.

They saw a great many speculators on the road about the Umatilla and the Grand Ronde, but little stock changed hands before they arrived at the Grand Ronde. Here the speculators were more extensive. They persuaded some persons that there would not be able to get through the mountains—that they were entirely too late to "make it" with safety.

There was but little sickness on the road, and very few deaths. The greatest amount of suffering that existed was caused by the breaking down of teams. There was no suffering from want of provisions. Every train appeared to be well provided for in that way.

Mr. Dunn thinks about one half of the immigration is composed of families. He thinks it a hard trip to be performed by a woman. He could never be persuaded to bring one across, if he had an interest in one. The whole are bachelors. They got along remarkably well. They were a complete unit at all times. No dissension among them. Mr. Barnard assisted the company of five persons to travel with him, and he entertained their confidence and respect until they separated at Foster's.

Mr. Dunn thinks the bulk of the immigration has gone to California.

Mr. Spectator—Dear Sir: I have four friends in the States who I wish you to supply regularly with your paper, and I wish you to send an additional copy to my own address. I am pleased with the manner in which you have conducted your paper so far. It shows that you are one of us. Your heart beats in unison with the people's in this locality. There has been a recovery here for some time. I am happy to find that you are exerting yourself to fill it. I may have occasion to tell you hereafter how well you have succeeded. I do not wish to be premature in my encouragements at this time. That dust is still in the basket. But laying all jokes aside, I am well satisfied. Enclosed you will find $20 for five copies of your paper, four of them I wish you to send to the addresses herewith enclosed, and greatly oblige yours, &c. S. K. H.

There is an exhibition of mankind that is rarely exhibited in this money making and money-loving country. We have not intended to please any particular person. We have endeavored to do what we deem as our duty as a journalist. We find our friend has overestimated us in our efforts to represent this locality. We have pleased ourself—or, in other words, we have done as we pleased. No person has been consulted in the matter, and in one has manifested an any assistance. We thank our friend very kindly for his sentimental favor. It is gratifying to us to find that there is one man appreciates the value of a decent and gentlemanly newspaper.—Ed.

☞ There is not a mail route in this county running out from the river. There is a semi-weekly mail between this city and Salem; a semi-monthly mail to Portland and Astoria. We do not complain because there is a semi-weekly mail established between this place and Salem. But what we complain of is, there is not a mail route running in any direction through this county, while, in Washington county, there is a weekly mail carried between this place, Hillsborough and Forest Grove, and one running from Portland via Hillsborough, on to Lafayette. It is encouraged by some that it would not pay to run a weekly mail out to Foster's neighborhood. We might answer that plea by asking whether it pays to carry the mail to Hillsborough? and we are certain that it would pay as well as the mail to Salt Lake does. We have been informed that there never have been as many as a dozen letters passed in any trip to the Salt Lake mail bank, per $6000 a year was appropriated for keeping up that route for three or four years. As far as pay is concerned, there are very few routes on Oregon that pay. Why such parsimoniousness has been observed with respect to the mail accommodations for this county, we are unable to answer. There is not another old settled portion of Oregon so poorly provided for as Clackamas county as respects mail facilities. The Puget settlement and the Umatilla settlement all have to come here. So great is the inconvenience that persons, many times, in the winter, do not get their letters and papers for two or three weeks. It is deeply the people of this county a right they ought and must have. We want to see a movement made forthwith in this matter.

Immigrants.—We have been credibly informed that the great majority of the immigrants who have crossed the plains this season, are persons of families, and that they have the appearance of becoming permanent settlers in Oregon. We regret very much to learn that they have been subjected to such heavy losses of stock previous to their arrival at the Dalles. This is truly unfortunate, to cause the more severe trials have yet to be encountered crossing the Cascade mountains. For there is the place to "use the elephant." Though the road has been improved within the last two years, it is bad at the best, and what causes it still worse is, it comes upon the way worn traveler when his physical energies are over about exhausted, and such has is the condition of his stock that they are even less able to perform their part, which necessarily has to be done without any thing to eat. There are only some of the sacrifices an immigrant has to make in performing a journey across the plains. He who thinks a day's easy task, had better get rid of the delusion—the sooner the better.

☞ We are as out and out peace men, but we want it distinctly understood, for all coming time, that when persons attempt to interfere with our legal rights as an odium or civilian, and court recruits from us, by vaccine disregard of all fair game, law and precedent, it is going to find what our good nature will bear. It gives us pain to find any persons committing the kind of treason here complained of, and it is an unpleasant task for us to find fault with persons, whether it be our of authority, because they entertain different views from us. We are as quick blier and have an ambition to gain numerity of that kind. Persons loathing to their promises, and dilatory in their public dealings with us, are notified that we care not who they are, or what position they may hold, they render themselves liable to answer whenever they commit palpable infractions of law, order, custom and decency. The policy, in brief, we intend to pursue is deliberate, and not offensive war, and we consider our offensive declared in all cases where public functionaries are guilty of any of the aforesaid heresies named.

☞ Our opinion is solicited on the subject of Temperance. We would answer that we are on the side of humanity. And we are in favor of every thing that has a tendency to correct error, instil right principles, elevate human nature, increase domestic happiness, abate nuisances, foster education, reform abuses, lessen distress, diminish misfortunes, punish wrongs, alleviate sufferings, inspire wisdom, reward ingenuous, (particularly of printing) destroy vice, retard immorality, stop blasphemy, encourage religion, cultivate morality, assist liberty and heighten our subsequent ease. From this data probably "Total Abstinence" will be able to make up his mind as to our position. Let your course be all deportment.

☞ Let all your precepts be courteous and clear, that ready wits may comprehend them.

Indian War

There have been several fights between the whites and the Indians, the reports of which have come to hand since we published our last. The facts we gather from the Statesman. From it we learn that the Superintendent of Indian Affairs had reached Yreka, Cal., on the 21st of Aug. on his way to the seat of war, and then. Lane reports to the Superintendent that on the 20th of August he and his men had a fight of four hours with the Rogue River Indians, in the most dense forest in this part of the country. Our loss was three killed and four wounded. Those dead are Capt. Armstrong of your county, (Yamhill) a Mr —— and Francis Bradley. Those wounded are Colonel Alden, dangerously, Charles Alden, do., and Wm. Fisher, badly, Thomas Hayes, shot through the shoulder. There were eight Indians killed and about twenty wounded.

In the afternoon a proposition came from the enemy for a parley, which was granted, they being in such a position that they could not be dislodged without the loss of a great many men.

To day we have arranged terms with them, and have agreed to meet them at Table Rock in seven days from to-day, to make a general treaty, and your presence is imperatively required as soon as possible."

From the Statesman we extract part of a letter written by W. G. T'Vault. After indulging in some speculations as to the bravery of the Indians he remarks:

"Sam, the great war chief with Joe the rival chief, and Jim, a chief in smaller grade, took a position five or six miles north of Table Rock in a canyon of dense brush. There they reported that they intended to give battle to our forces under the command of Col. John Ross and Col. Alden, of the U. S. A. About the 18th of August, the forces proceeded to the Indian camp to give them battle, sending an independent detachment under Capt. H. Ellett, in their rear to bring on the attack while the main force were in charge them in front. But when they arrived, the Indians were nowhere to be found, having moved their camp several days before to Lower Elly of Capt. Gendall's company, from Yreka, was sent in search of the Indian camp, and the main force remained to head quarters on Stewart's creek for the purpose of obtaining supplies to pursue the Indians into the mountains. On the morning of the 17th, Lower Elly with 71 men discovered the Indian camp, some 10 miles south of their former camp upon Evans creek. We immediately fell back some two or three miles to an open prairie interspersed with small wooded gullies and branches of willows and sent two men as an express to head quarters, remaining with 26 men to await the arrival of a sufficient force to attack the Indians; the Indians in the meantime availing themselves of the advantages of the gullies and brush crawled up and commenced an attack at a distance of a few yards, say 20 or 30, killing [illegible] men at their first fire and causing the small force to make a precipitate retreat to a ridge covered with pine trees, a distance of 250 yards, when they took a position covered in the rear by elevated ground and prairie. The Indians flanked and very near if not quite surrounded them. The men were brave and most rationally sustained their position for three hours and fifteen minutes, when J. D. Carly Esq., of Yreka, arrived with 5 white men, in advance of the main force. The Indians among this new arrival immediately took to flight, carrying off their horses and mules with their equipments together with blankets and camp equipage.

The loss on our side was, killed J. Shaw, P. Kreth, Frank Perry, A. Doughton, A. C. Colburn, and L. Lockley. Wounded—1st Lieut. Ely, shot through the wrist, John Allen, James Carter and Zebulon Sloats, all slightly. The entire forces in the field again returned to head quarters on Stewart's creek, to complete their supplies.

On the morning of the 21st, Gen. Lane arrived at head quarters and joined the army under the command of brevet Col. Alden and Col. Ross, and on Monday morning by sun rise, the whole force was in motion the battalion under Col. Ross, consisting of Capts. Miller and Lamerick's company, going down Rogue River and then on Evans creek, till they found the trail of Sam and Joe, or until they met with the battalion of Col. Alden, consisting of the companies of Capts. Gendall and Rhodes, which marched in the direction of the battle ground of Lieut. Ely. The order was, that which detachment found the main Indian trail, was to pursue it, and the other follow on when they came up, if they did not intercept before following the trail. Gen. Lane and myself joined Col. Alden's command, and late in the evening we found that the Indian trail had taken to the mountains in a north direction from Evans creek. Tuesday morning we got an early start, pursued the trail all day, passing over the most difficult mountains, we supposed that an army could pass, much delay occasioned by the brush and fallen timber, and our progress slow on account of the almost impossible mountains as they were barely "possible our practicable" to pass. Tuesday night we had our animals to brush with grass, and Wednesday morning was in early march on the Indian trail, ascending a high mountain, passing along the summit four or five miles, we heard the Indians a short distance ahead, as a rumor, at a distance of about 600 yards.

The order was instantly given to dismount, and Col. Alden, with Capt. Gendall and about 20 of his company, proceeded down the Indian trail to attack them in front. Capt. Rhodes, with some 15 or 20 men, was sent down a ridge to the left to attack them on the left and prevent an escape down the canyon. In a few minutes the Indians fired on Col. Alden, who was within 30 yards of the camp, and the battle commenced, raging with much fury. Col. Alden was badly wounded the first fire, also Pioneer Armstrong, of Yamhill, was shot through the breast, expiring as he fell—"a dead center shot." The battle continued raging with great fury, the yells of the Indians, the howling of dogs and the sharp continuous crack of the rifles issued about one hour, when our pack train arrived and furnished 10 men more. Gen. Lane at the head of them too, followed down the trail to the battle ground, and with brave determination, ordered a charge, leading himself. When he arrived near the camp he received a wound through the right arm. The battle continued for about four hours, and the Indians called for quarters or a parley. When finding that Gen. Lane was there, they consented on his coming into their camp. The old hero, although pretty badly wounded, and suffering much immediately went into the camp, (or fortification, for it was represented to be a stronger place to charge than "Chapultepec,") and had a talk with Sam, Joe and Jim. An armistice was agreed upon for a short time. We buried our dead, and in a short time Col. Ross with his command arrived, and a general treaty was talked of, and an armistice with Joe and Sam was agreed upon for seven days, at which time they were to meet Gen. Lane and give up their rifles.

Our loss in battle was three killed on the ground—Pioneer Armstrong, P. Bradley, one name not known. Wounded, Col. Alden, Gen. Lane, —— Hays, and two others not known.

The Indians say twelve killed, and 20 wounded—many all mortally. Much talk of a cantonment war, and many are anxious for peace. If there is one place Rogue River will be the grandest resting place of many a brave and good man. The last news generally are the first to fall, and the most clamorous for extermination are not the most interested, yet many good men go for a war of extermination.

On the 25th I am informed that the Indians attacked Wm. Dunn's house, at the south part of the valley, killed three men, wounded two or three, robbed the house, burnt the hay and grain. On the same day they attacked a pack train, killed 2 men, wounded 2, and captured 2 animals and cargo. This was on Applegate creek. I will have to give you more anon.

G. W. T'Vault.

Canonville, Douglas Co., Aug. 26, 50.

Dear Sir:—The company under Major Alvord and Col. Armstrong are just passing through the Canon. This is the third company that has gone to the seat of war from this county, viz Gen. Lane's of 71 men, by Table Rock Road; Captain Martin's of 70 men, via the Canyon, and Captain Applegate of 78 men. There are now in the field from 250 to 400 men. I have just heard of an engagement which Gen. Lane had with the Indians a few days since near Table Rock. The Indians number about 300, and the whites 200. The Indians were defeated but with what loss the rumors differ. No loss has been sustained on the part of the whites, a few were slightly wounded. About 6 or 8 days since a company of 21 men from Yreka were surprised upon Evans creek by the Indians, and but 3 men is killed and 4 wounded. It seems cattle and many waggons and other small arms. On the 20th a company which has been stationed at Bates on Grave creek, surprised a party of Indians in the mountains and killed 6 of their number. These are all the reliable rumors that I have been able to obtain at present. The particulars of the different engagements I will give you as soon as I can obtain reliable information. * * Times.

For the Oregon Spectator.

It is gratifying to the friends of Education to observe the interest which is manifested here in the cause. It speaks well for the future, and may properly be an occasion of great hopes. On the 25th ult. the examinations at Tualatin Academy took place, followed by an exhibition in the evening. The whole performance was highly creditable both to the pupils and to the accomplished teacher, Mr. J. M. Kenler. The classes in arithmetic and geography, especially, appeared well, and evinced a readiness and self possession highly satisfactory, and not always to be expected in youth of their age—while the examinations was conducted in such a manner that it was manifest that the pupils had studied not with reference to the examination alone, but with reference to the subject, and that the teacher had kept in view the real practical ends of all study—the cultivation of the mind and the duties of real life.

The exhibition in the evening passed off smoothly and pleasantly. A large crowd attended, and all seemed greatly interested and perfectly satisfied. The declamations were all that could reasonably be expected from scholars of their age. The pieces were generally well learned, and pronounced in such a manner as to satisfy any one that the important art of Elocution is not neglected.

The compositions by the young ladies of the school, were read by the teacher, and if not perfect, as no one showed that mental activity with them as one learned in the daily recitations.

The vocal music under the direction of Mr. Whitcomb was very fine, and added much interest to the performances.

The people from the neighborhood were generally in attendance during the day and evening, and appear to have a lively interest in the institution.

At the close of the examinations a collation was served up, and after the "feast of reason" and a long fast, the feast of fat things was not without a good relish.

The institution is on a prosperous condition, although much care and labor will be required before it will prove a realization of the ideas of its founders. It is the purpose of the Trustees to organize immediately the Collegiate department allowed by the charter, and afford the most ample facilities for a thorough and complete classical education. The Rev. S. H. Marsh, a gentleman of talents and learning, is already there to take charge of that department, and like a class already studying Latin and the higher mathematics.

One feature in the organization of settlement of the town where the academy is located, is deserving of attention. As the transfers of lots, as yet, have been made upon the condition that no ardent spirits shall be sold there, and the experiment has been fulfilled; and not only the sentiment of the community there would not tolerate a grog shop—but boys and young men need there will be no exposure to the corrupting influences of dram-drinking. Yours, &c.

Sept. 1, 1850. Pioneer.

The Account of Mr. Gs. Shotwell.

Some three weeks since a party from Portland, and some persons, we believe, from this place started on, on a visit to Mount St. Helens, distant some fifty or sixty miles from this place, as luminous. Their route was via Vancouver; from thence their course was partly over a mountainy road or trail. Numerous small streams and some large ones were encountered on the way, which had to be crossed and re-crossed; the water in places running frightfully swift and promising, consequently, rather awful to behold. After proceeding with their horses as far as was deemed prudent, and coming to a small prairie (prairie) they pitched their tent for the night, and completed their preparations for the ascent.

If our term had not been as much occupied we would like to have made one of the party, we must be contented, however, with giving the history as furnished by the Oregonian whose editor was the fortune to gain the pinnacle of their ambition, and to whose pen we are indebted for the foregoing facts, as well as embellishments.

"The next morning at [illegible] of day, Messrs. Wilson, Booth, Dixon and myself took three days' rations, together with such things as were deemed necessary to aid us in the ascent, and left the camp for the summit, distant about four miles in an air line. We found the route a continuous story ascent, with the exception of an occasional descent over a precipitous ledge of rocks. About two miles from our camp we descended a high ledge to the bed of a small stream, which we followed until we struck the base of the first of the lava mountains—where vegetation ceases to make its appearance. The portion of this stream which we traversed has a fall of at least 1000 feet to the mile, and a much greater one higher up.

The appearance of the mountain upon a near approach is sublimely grand, and impossible to describe. The blackness and piles of lava which were thrown into ridges hundreds of feet high in every imaginary shape, with an occasional high cliff of primitive formation, seemingly to lift its head above and struggle to be released from its compressed position, impress the mind of the beholder with the power of Omnipotence, and the [illegible] of human power when compared with that of nature's God. Above all stands a tower of eternal rock and snow, apparently stretching its high head far above the clouds and looking down with distain upon all beneath. The glaring sunbeams upon the 'snows of a thousand winters' serve by contrast to make the immense piles of lava appear blacker than they otherwise would.

We commenced the ascent at once on the south side by climbing up the cliffs of lava towards a small glacier of spruce trees which stand a short distance from the line of perpetual snow. After several hours hard toil we reached this point, and finding a few sticks of dry wood, kindled a fire and made our camp for the night. We here supplied ourselves with water by melting snow.

We found the night cold and extremely uncomfortable—our party did not find much repose, and as the eastern sky commenced to show the approach of day, we left the camp and pursued our way upward. The higher we ascended the more difficult our progress. Suffice it to say that, by constant and persevering effort, we were enabled to reach the highest pinnacle of the mountain some after noontide. The atmosphere produced a singular effect upon all the party; each face looked pale and sallow, and all complained of a strange ringing in the ears. It appeared as if there were hundreds of fine sound bells jingling all around us. Blood started from the nose, and all of us found respiration difficult. With this exception, we all felt well. It would be futile to attempt to give our readers a correct idea of the appearance of the vast extent of country visible from the top of this mountain. The square, distant over one hundred miles, still plainly seen. The Olalie Coast and Cascade ranges of mountains could be plainly traced with the naked eye. The snow-covered peaks of Mt. Hood, Rainey and two others seemed close by. There lays a vast of amphitheatre as a large basin, diversified with hills and valleys.

The crater has been represented to be on the south-west side of the mountain, which is not the case. We took the bearing from the top with a compass, and found it to be on the south-east side. The smoke was continually issuing from an mouth, giving unmistakable evidence that the fire was not extinguished. There is much snow upon the north than on the south side; on the latter it is here or there visible on the former it is hundreds of feet deep. We examined thereon to the snow several rods across, which extended a great length along the side of the mountain; and on throwing a stone down found a strike a long distance from us.

After spending sufficient time to see what was to be seen, and building a pyramid of loose stones on the highest spot of level earth and rubble, we commenced our descent, and reached our camp at 6 o'clock in the afternoon, tired and worn out in body and limb. As dark we reached the timber and camped for the night.