

Oregon Spectator.

Friday Morning, September 30, 1853.

Internal Improvements.

Whenever a measure is introduced in this Territory, it is time for the people to be informed of its nature and objects...

The N. Y. Herald, in a very good manner, however, gives it out that President Pierce occupies some common ground in that respect and in relation to his position, holds his language...

The little giant, or "Young America," is a bold advocate of this enterprise. He has mounted it as his hobby. As to his motives we have nothing to say, unless he should come out and say it is a measure...

There are many who are not individual opponents of the railroad in Oregon, neither Whigs nor Democrats. And this remark is doubly true of California too. If we may judge from some of the papers, the people of Oregon are without a dissenting voice...

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The Pacific Railroad.

This all-absorbing topic has become the daily theme of the papers on both sides of the Rocky Mountains. We are pleased to see the almost unanimous voice uttered in behalf of the project...

With Britain, the attempt now making by Austria and divers states to secure the aid of the Legislature to construct the Pacific Railroad scheme, is doubly treacherous...

The election last year, had resulted in the elevation to the Presidency of a very worthy man, whose majority only grew out of his determined opposition to internal improvements...

So far as the Whig party is concerned, it is its mission, as well to originate schemes of State policy, which, working their way by force of innate merit into popular favor, finally come to be appropriated without credit, to the use of the Legislature...

We certainly have no disposition to "whip behind," the acknowledgment of the wisdom of Whig measures, is a compliment—although unintentional—of decided character...

This sympathy with the great project of the day was a forced acknowledgment of the correctness of one of the prominent traits of Whig policy which have marked our political struggle...

For the Oregon Spectator.

Editor Spectator—Dear Sir:—I have just perused in the "Spectator" of last week, a correspondence relating to the Umpqua harbor, its entrance &c., upon which I beg to make a few remarks...

I shall commence with Mr. Aspinwall's letter to the Post Master General. Mr. A. states in that letter that he has put on a smaller steamer than the one especially constructed for the Oregon route...

Correspondence.

For the Oregon Spectator. Editor Spectator—Dear Sir:—How much we owe to the fact that we were born in and are citizens of the United States...

Our next letter to Mr. Aspinwall is in the shape of a note from A. McBurns, Commander of the Fremont, addressed to Capt. Knight. In this note Capt. Burns expresses his horror in no measured terms of the Umpqua river bar, its entrance and dangers...

Capt. Wilks gives the latitude found by Lieut. Emmons at the Fort, and the account given the Lieutenant by Mr. "Gagnier," or as we call him, Gagnier, and having thus given us now for nearly twenty years, we believe we cannot only touch for the correct orthography of his name, but also for the veracity of his statements...

In regard to the mouth of the Umpqua offering no harbor for sea-going vessels—we have had three in and out twice each this season—the "Pawa," "Frances Helton" and "Judon," besides the surveying steamer "Active" once, and we refer to their captains in respect to the anchorage near the mouth. In the above remarks you will most assuredly find that in the main I am correct, and if I am not I shall be most willing, when proved that they are not so, to correct them, and to make the amenity honorable...

For tonnage of the steamer Columbia, (400 tons) see Boston "Journal" of June 6, 1853. For tonnage of the "Fremont" (600 tons) see "Alta California" of April 30, 1853. Monteburg, Sept. 12, 1853.

For the Oregon Spectator.

Dear Spectator—Agreeable to promise I send you a few lines from this place, with the assurance that it will afford me infinite pleasure if I can make myself in any way serviceable to our old friend the "Spectator," which comes back to us again looking so perfectly natural that we almost question whether it has been absent from our hands for so long a time, but being convinced that such is the case, we can only hope that the recreation it has enjoyed, may give it renewed life and interest...

We Californians are now in the enjoyment of some of the most delightful weather I ever experienced and our evenings for some time back have been glorious with a moon twice as large and bright as the poor State people ever see...

You will be surprised to see the improvements made in this city within the last year. More beautiful and substantial buildings have gone up than during any previous year. Blocks of brick and granite have been erected, equal to any in our eastern cities...

Our election which has just been decided and which has been one of the most exciting and interesting ones for many years, and has of course disappointed very many in their anticipations. Our nicknaks are becoming a little more regular now than formerly. During the fore part of the season goods were extremely low, and did not begin to pay the shipper, but for three or four months past, they have gradually attained a fair price...

I perceive by the late papers from Oregon that T. J. DYER, Esq., of the "Oregonian," together with others, have been making the ascent of Mt. St. Helens. This must have been a very interesting and romantic adventure, and such as I would have gloried in accomplishing. They should have planted a "Star spangled banner" on its peak, showing that although presenting such a formidable appearance, with its covering of snow, and spouting forth of fire and smoke, yet it cannot restrain the aspiring American, or withhold the stars and stripes from waving over its head.

You will perceive by our papers, lately, that considerable of a brisk business has been carried on in the shooting and stabbing line. This is a pastime that some of our citizens seem perfectly at home in. Were it only the outcasts of society who rid the city of one another, it would not be so bad; but we are too often called upon to record the death of some influential citizen. The habit of carrying weapons about the person is one reason for so many fatal encounters of this kind. A man feeling himself insulted or imposed upon, possessed of a fiery temper, without reflection or hesitation draws his weapon and commits an act which he repents of too late.

I must now close, as time and paper will not admit of further continuance. Hereafter I may give you something of more interest; in the meantime, believe me, Yours truly, D. J. T. San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 30, '53.

For the Oregon Spectator.

Editor Spectator—Dear Sir:—I am very sorry to inform you of the loss of the bark "Orion" of Baltimore, loaded with materials for the light-house to be built on Cape Disappointment. I give you the following statement from Capt. Lantz, the master of her. We took a pilot on Sunday night at nine o'clock, and stood off and on until daylight. At noon a breeze sprung up from the N. W.; squared away and stood in for the bar. At 3 P. M., wind died away, ebb tide making strong and a heavy sea on the bar. She struck in a gale and a half feet of water, the bar drawing and a half feet of water, the bar drawing and a half feet of water...

The crew and mechanics, thirty-two in number, were out all night at sea in the boats, the surf on the beach being too heavy to land, and were picked up by the pilot boat next morning. There was nothing saved, scarcely any with an entire suit of clothes. Immediately on hearing the news at our place, several of the citizens volunteered their services and went on board of the pilot boat, and in ten minutes she was under way and standing for the bar. I write in haste.

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