Oregon Spectator.

Saturday M[illegible] Dec. 17, 1853.

[illegible]

Inducements to Subscribe.

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N. B. The [illegible]

D. J. SCHNEBLY, Publisher.

River Exploration.

The [illegible] falls on Thursday [illegible] to explore the upper W[illegible] above Marysville. [illegible] higher [illegible] the Falls [illegible] for the Falls. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] through [illegible] messenger B. Hereford, Esq. [illegible] 13 hours [illegible] ahead [illegible] New Y[illegible] and Boston [illegible] and Wells Fargo & Co., to [illegible] are also indebted for a good supply [illegible] gentlemen.

[illegible] W. S[illegible] of San Francisco, a bundle of newspapers containing [illegible] illustrated News, and other literary [illegible] pictorial works; together with the [illegible] journals from Boston, New York [illegible] New Orleans; for which we are under obligations.

[illegible] A destructive fire occurred in New [illegible] about the last of October. The [illegible]ers' buildings were entirely destroyed. The Herald establishment was entered. The loss is estimated at upwards of $400,000.

☞Collector Bronson has written a [illegible] reply to Secretary Guthrie's letter of dismissal. He denies the authority of the Cabinet to enter his premises and [illegible] state who are to be his weighers, gaugers and measurers.

☞Three steamboats were burnt at St. Louis on the 13th of October. They were the "Montauk," "Campbell" and the "Lunette." The fire originated from the bursting of a kettle of hot pitch, the contents of which were instantly communicated with the fire under it. The "Brunette" was alongside and came very near being burned.

Washington Territory.—The total population of Washington Territory, as reported by the U. S. Marshal, Col. Anderson, is 3980, including this years immigration.

The Columbian complains of the mail having been robbed between Olympia and San Francisco. Money is said to be missing. Repeated criminal mail [illegible] in office by some Post Master, post office clerk, mail agent or contractor either in or between the two points named.

Governor Stevens has recently issued his proclamation through the columns of the *Pioneer*. The day for the election of members to the Legislature and the first Delegate for the Territory is to take place on the 30th of January, 1854, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 6 p. m.—The Council will be composed of 9 members, and the House of Representatives of 18 members.

Under this head we copy the following from the *Pioneer*:

The members to be elected to the Council to be apportioned as follows: To the counties of Island and Jefferson, one; to the county of Thurston, two; to the counties of Pacific and Lewis, one; and to the county of Clarke, one.

The members to be elected to the House of Representatives to be apportioned as follows: To the county of Island, 1; to the county of Jefferson, 1; to the county of King, 1; to the county of Pierce, 2; to the county of Thurston, 4; to the county of Pacific, 1; to the county of Lewis, 2; and to the county of Clarke, 5.

Every white person, a citizen, before and since the establishment of the Territorial [illegible] Territorial limits, will be [illegible] except persons in the service of the U. S. whose residence [illegible] become a [illegible] must not be less than six months prior to the day of election.

The Washington *Pioneer* has grown out of the Columbian establishment, and has come out decidedly democratic. The *Pioneer* is under the editorial charge of J. W. W[illegible] the first editor of the Columbian, and A. M. Berry is associated with [illegible] ownership. The editor has repudiated all [illegible] associations in the Territory, and has taken a fresh start. In pecuniary matters the proprietors have our best wishes. We feel satisfied they will make an interesting paper.

A Democratic Territorial Convention is to be held at the Cowlitz Landing on the 2nd of January.

An effort is being made to unite the divisions of the democratic party, and also the two journals, the one having a prospective existence only, as yet.

Gov. Stevens reports favorably of the northern route as a suitable one for the Pacific R. R.

The election will no doubt, be an exciting one. There are many interests to compromise and concessions to be made.

☞We hope to be able to present the Spectator to our readers in entire new type in two months from this time. Our arrangements to bring this about are already nearly completed.

The Oregon mail failed to connect at California, but was dispatched on the steamer California, on 7th instant. The Columbia experienced heavy weather on her downward trip.

Administration Sustained.—The Democratic Convention in session at Plymouth, have passed resolutions sustaining the Administration in the recent controversy with the N. Yorkers, and approving of the removal of Bronson and O'Connor.

The Administration is not sustained by the Statesman, for removing M. P. Deady. That is just the difference. The Statesman, however, is not alone in its disapproval of the President's course.—He is held accountable for his free soil appointments, throughout the Southern States. They are beginning to believe the reports that were made of his New Boston speech, in which he went the anti-slavery side entire.

☞The poem, "The Crucifixion," has been received and laid on the table for further consideration.

Correspondence.

For the Oregon Spectator.

San Francisco, Dec. 6, 1853.

Dear Schnebly:—It may perhaps be a source of gratification to you and your readers, to advise you of the fact, that while you are wading around in india rubber and oil cloth, to the tune of 'no bottom' we are enjoying the most delightful weather in the world. The air as mild and balmy as in spring, and the sun beaming in glorious splendor through the day, and a fair prospect for a long spell of pleasant weather. But I must confess that about a fortnight ago, we did experience a little something very similar to an 'Oregon mist,' which lasted several days, accompanied by a stormy south-easter, which done considerable damage to the shipping in the Bay—rolling the vessels against one another and the wharves. The gale was also quite severe outside. The bark Ocean Bird, and brig Dudley, on their downward passage from Oregon, laden with lumber experienced extremely rough weather, the former loosing about twenty thousand feet of her deck load, and the latter nearly as much. The steamship Columbia also, on her last trip down, felt it severely, so much so as to do considerable damage to her wheel house, and create some fear for her safety by those on board. She did not arrive until the day after the departure of the Mail Steamer for Panama.

The competition which has existed for some time between the two great rival steamship companies, has tended to lessen the rates of passage very materially, so much so as to send hundreds home which would not otherwise have gone—and has been a blessing perhaps to many a fond heart at home, whose father, husband or brother has taken advantage of this reduction to visit their homes once more. The great excitement often spoken of accompanies the arrival or departure of the steamers is kept up, and to the eye of a stranger presents a scene of peculiar interest. Anon as the gun is heard, announcing the arrival of one of the steamers to the harbor, a general rush is made for the landing, and almost like magic the wharf is covered with a multitude, of both sexes, of all sizes and classes, together with every variety of vehicles, from the [illegible] to the splendid turn-out of prominent steeds and elegant carriages.

The deck of the noble steamship, as she nears the wharf, is crowded with its passengers, all eagerly scanning the hundreds of upturned faces, to see that of [illegible]. At the last the plank is [illegible] friends, and a mutual exchange of inquiries and replies follow, much to the amusement of the crowd around. We see an unusual thing in one same female with clasped hands, and anxious look, searching thro' the excited and moving mass, for the manly form of him who has been long absent from her sight, but so "memory dear"—she is insensible to every thing else passing around her—at last with a cry of joy she meets his earnest gaze fixed upon her—the blood bounds through her veins, and joy inexpressible fills her heart. But this is only a part of what is transpiring around us. Here is an old Californian just returned, and a hundred voices are calling his name, and welcoming him home again. Some funny fellow with odd speeches creates a great hurra and laugh. All is confusion and excitement, to the end. And in a little while the steamer and wharf are both apparently deserted—such is life.

The Nicaragua line will continue to take the precedence, in regard to number of passengers and quick trips. The amount of specie carried out by this line at this time was one million six hundred thousand, while the mail Co.'s steamer only took some eight hundred thousand, quite a contrast from what it was six months ago.

Another personal encounter took place in our streets a day or two ago, between H. Bowie, Esq., and H. Sparks, Esq.—Pistols were drawn by one of the parties, but only used as a club—hitting the other several severe and dangerous blows. The cause in relation to an action of the recent Grand Jury in regard to Mr. Bowie, late treasurer—and of which jury Mr Sparks was a member.

A new paper has lately been started here, under the management of Frank Soule, Esq., an able and intelligent gentleman, and bids fair to take the lead of any other published in this city in point of interest and general information.

The Mail steamship California, arrived this morning, and brings the report of the loss of the steamship Winfield Scott, belonging to the P. M. S. S. Co., which left here on the 1st inst., with the mails. She ran ashore in the fog on the fourth day out. Passengers and treasure all saved. This is truly an unfortunate loss for the company.

Burglaries and highway robberies are becoming as common here as was the case in our eastern cities a few years ago. A night scarcely passes that we do not hear of several houses being broken open, or of some one being knocked down and robbed in the streets. Times are getting hard with some of our gentry, and they have to resort to this means of making a raise. With the kindest regards to old friends, I am, truly yours. Dan.

☞The following letter, as far as concerns the "Spectator," bears a similarity to many others which we have lately received, from different parts of the country:

Linn City, Dec. 11, 1853.

Mr. Editor:—I cannot forbear the pleasure of expressing my utmost satisfaction in regard to your valuable paper. It is just such a journal as suits the intelligent people of Oregon City, and this Territory generally. Ever regarding truth as far better than falsehood—polite and proper language wiser, and more conciliating, than slang and blackguardism—the Spectator has won the undying regards of many friends, and I hope will continue to merit approbation, which I doubt not it will. We want a newspaper to do what is right and reasonable for the advancement of this locality; to have some compunction with regard to falsehood, and to aid rather than obstruct the onward march of improvement. Such I am satisfied the Spectator is, a true friend to our progress and melioration.

There are rare business advantages in Oregon City and its vicinity, and time will show that they have not remained unimproved. Capital (which the people have) and enterprise are only needed to make Oregon City the first town in the Territory. Have we not reason to look forward to success with bright hopes for the future? I think we have.

The Willamette Falls Milling and Transportation Co. are going ahead with their improvements, and the new steamer which they are constructing will be ready for the water in a few weeks; she is a splendid model. Every thing appears substantial about the works, and I hope ere long their fullest anticipations will be realized. That the hoisting of the freight from the lower river boats immediately to those of the upper trade will be highly beneficial to those interested, there can be no doubt. This will avoid much inconvenience which at present attends the [illegible] around the falls.

Enclosed is five dollars, for which, be kind enough to send the "Spec" to the address of L. N——, Esq., Newark, N. J., and oblige, yours, &c. Bob.

For the Oregon Spectator.

Mr. Editor:—The folks on our side of the river rejoice that we have a bridge at last completed over the Clackamas River, a matter probably you are not aware of. This bridge has met with great opposition, by the person interested in the ferry. You have been kind enough to notice the progress of the bridge and the obstacles pursued by some to prevent its completion. Mr. Hunsacker certainly deserves much credit for his perseverance in getting his task performed.

Some person during the high water cut loose or a strong rope that were employed to fasten a raft of timber belonging to the bridge, which caused a loss of several hundred dollars to the company; the timber all floated away.

Mr. Cason tried by two attempts, [illegible] has failed to keep it [illegible] in the [illegible] but off, it weakened the foundation some, but did no material injury. When he was interrogated as to what he was doing, he replied he was blasting out rock for the penitentiary. This was his pretext; but every one knows that he had no such contract. I thought it was a queer place to begin his operations, under the bridge. Some one [illegible] better than some.

The conclusion I have come to is that a man that is so ready to break a law is a poor one to elect to make laws for the government of others. A law breaker never ought to be a law-maker. The people must learn wisdom from the past. Some men's pursuits to the weakest point about them. Self interest often disposes men to do some very curious things. Agoura.

Dec. 15, 1853.

ARRIVAL OF THE U. S. MAIL!!

The P. M. Steamship Columbia arrived at her dock, St. Helens, on Sunday afternoon, with the U. S. Mails, bringing dates from N. Y. as late as Nov. 5, N. O. to the 9th ult., and San Francisco to Dec. 7.

We append below the news of the most interest. It will be seen that a first class steamer belonging to the Aspinwall line has been lost. The loss will be as much felt by the public, as the company. Regretting the loss of this steamer, we clip from the San Francisco *Herald* the subjoined statement:

The loss of the P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer Winfield Scott, may be viewed in the light of public calamity to the [illegible]. Notwithstanding the number of ships in the employ of the company on this side, but a comparatively few can be ranked as first class Pacific steamers, and the loss of one of the best in the mail line is certainly to be deplored. We learn that the W. Scott struck on the rocks, at the Island of Anacapa, off the entrance of the Bay of Santa Barbara, on Friday night last, 2nd inst., about 12 o'clock. A dense fog was prevailing at the time. She was under full headway, and struck on the rocks with such force that all efforts to back her off proved unavailing. Her wells were sounded immediately, when it was discovered that she was filling rapidly. The greatest consternation and confusion ensued among her passengers, but the coolness and intrepidity of Capt. Blunt and his officers soon occasioned order and calmness. The passengers were speedily landed on the island without the loss of a single life. The treasure, amounting to about $900,000, and the mails were also landed without loss or damage. Many of the passengers, however, lost their baggage. The vessel filled with water in the brief space of twenty minutes. She was discovered by the California, on Saturday morning last, and the lady passengers were taken on board and brought back to this city. The Agent of the Company, E. Flint, Esq., will dispatch the California to-day for Panama, with the passengers, mail and treasure that were shipped by the Scott.

By the Report of the Purser of the California, we regret to learn that the fine steamship Winfield Scott, Capt. Blunt, which left this port on the evening of the 1st inst., with passengers, the U. S. mails, and $750,000 in gold dust on freight, ran ashore, in a dense fog, on the night of the 2nd inst., and will be totally lost. The lady passengers, U. S. mails, and treasure, were all taken on board the California and brought back to this port.

purser's report.

The P. M. Steamer California, A. V. H. L'Roy, Esq., Commander, sailed from Panama on the evening of Nov. 20, at 6 o'clock, with 600 passengers and 264 mail bags from N. Y. per Illinois, and N. O. per U. S. On the 24th, at 9 p. m., met steamer John L. Stephens in the Gulf of Tehauntepec. She must have made the run to Panama in 12 days. Touched at Acapulco on the 28th, and sailed thence same day. No vessels in port.

On the 30th saw the boilers and other remains of steamer Independence, high and dry on the shore of Margarita Island. Touched at San Diego, Dec. 3, at 7 p. m., to exchange mails, saw steamer Winfield Scott ashore at Anacapa Island. Ran close to her and received ladies and children, as also treasure on board.—She went ashore about mid-night, Dec. 2nd, during a dense fog. Passengers were landed without loss of life or confusion, owing to the coolness of Capt. Blunt and officers. They were quite comfortably situated. The W. Scott will be a total loss.

Arrived at San Francisco on Dec. 6, at 8 o'clock, A. M., having made the run in 16 days and 14 hours, exclusive of detention.

U. S. Frigate St. Lawrence sailed from Panama Bay on Nov. 10, at 7 A. M., for Valparaiso.

The condition of the roads on the Isthmus unchanged, and the passengers arriving in perfect health. General good health has prevailed among those [illegible] having Nov 7 or N. O. [illegible].

Wreck of the Clipper Ship Eclipse.—Through a letter received from San Blas, dated Nov. 1, by Messrs. Cross, Hobson & Co., we learn that the American Clipper ship Eclipse, Capt. [illegible], of N. Y., was totally lost, on Oct. 11, at 10 o'clock A. M., in the Bay of [illegible], where she had gone to load with [illegible] under charter, for N. Y. She was overtaken by a North East gale which in 20 hours [illegible] to the Westward, when it was succeeded by a hurricane which drove her ashore. The vessel is a total loss, having broken in two and finally went to pieces. The Capt. and crew were all saved. A vessel was to be dispatched from San Blas, to carry them to [illegible] lying about 60 miles to the [illegible] San Blas, and at this season of the year is said to be a dangerous anchorage for ships of any class. The Eclipse was probably loaded when she went ashore, as she had been in port 11 days. We believe she was fully insured.—*Herald.*

From the correspondence of the *Herald* we glean the following about Acapulco:

Extensive Silver Mines.—About four days march from Acapulco, so says the American Consul, silver mines of surpassing richness, had been discovered a few days previous, by two scientific men, who left Acapulco expressly to make mineral explorations.

At this place the authorities are rapidly building a wharf for the accommodation of the steamships.

The Castle of San Diego is at this present time without an American prisoner, a thing exceedingly strange in this place.

Gen. Navarro, Ex Minister of War and Commander-in-chief of the Mexican Army, having been banished at a moment's notice, by the expressed wishes of His Excellency Santa Anna, fears, and not unfounded, may be entertained by His Excellency, that Gen. Navarro on taking his departure through the back gate of Mexico, via. the port of Acapulco, may shortly re-enter that Republic, crowded with the height of his ambition, through their wrong hold the port of Vera Cruz.

The only [illegible] had in Acapulco is that [illegible] by the Spaniards, called the "[illegible]," or "[illegible]" in the [illegible], cut down by them to permit a free circulation of air.

Santa Anna is now aspiring to be robed with the Imperial purple of an Emperor.

Sonora Expedition—Baja California.—It is rumored that the Brig "Caroline," which left San Francisco in Oct. last, landed 160 men at La Paz, near Guaymas, and took possession of the town.—The then Don Juan Clemente Rebolledo, was taken prisoner. After committing many depredations, the brig sailed, as it was supposed, for a port on the other side of the Gulf. It was said there were 270 men on board. What was their further intention was unknown.

Messrs. Howland and Aspinwall have been compelled to pay $60,000 tonnage duty on coal vessels at Acapulco. It is reported that their steamers will not touch at that port any longer than to consume the coal they have there.

New Orleans.—No one, certainly, would possibly imagine, from the present aspect of our city, what its condition was a few short weeks ago. Within ten or fifteen days thousands have been added to our population. The absentees have nearly all returned, while the large vacuum created by the recent appalling mortality is quickly disappearing, in consequence of the arrival of a legion of strangers among us.—*New Orleans Bee, of the 30th Oct.*

☞The people of Wisconsin have such a poor appreciation of Editors that they condemn as many as possible to the drudgery of public office. All the candidates for Secretary of State are editors, viz: Mr. [illegible], of the Janesville [illegible]; Mr. [illegible], of the Watertown Chronicle, and Mr. [illegible], of the Kenosha Telegraph.

☞There has till recently, been no change in the Post Office at Jefferson City, Mo.—next to St. Louis the best paying Post Office in the State. There was a fierce struggle for the place and finally Wm. H. Crawford, who is understood to have been supported in his claims by Col. Benton, has been appointed.

☞Notwithstanding the discord in the Democratic party, the Cabinet and the President are said to be perfectly harmonious and agreed. The course pursued by Mr. Guthrie towards Collector Bronson is fully approved by President Frank Pierce.

☞Four hundred and forty business men, and other citizens of Portland, Me., have signed a statement, to which publicity has been given, contradicting the story recently put in circulation, that there was more drinking in Portland, since the Maine Law went into operation than there was previously.

☞Legislative reports next week.

☞We have the authority of the author of the following for stating, when he left here by the last steamer, that he intends to establish a democratic journal at Albany, Linn county, as soon as he can buy a press and printing materials in the country. The following is a specimen of his doggerel, written about Oregon City, and his new home in Linn Co. He says it was impromptu. Ahem!

[illegible]

Dec. 15, 1853.

☞He who learns nothing to lose, [illegible] himself the most.

☞To please with [illegible] good sense, is to please the superficial [illegible].

Ole Bull and [illegible] will be here in the next steamer.—*Herald.*

San Francisco Markets.

Dec. 6, 1853.

FLOUR.—[illegible]

GRAIN.—[illegible]

PROVISIONS.—[illegible]

TEAS.—[illegible]

CANDLES.—[illegible]

BREAD.—[illegible]

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.—[illegible]

COFFEE.—[illegible]

GUNNY BAGS.—[illegible]

COAL.—[illegible]

MARRIED:

On the 8th inst., near Marysville O. T., by Rev. J. W. York, A. G. [illegible], Esq., formerly of [illegible] Ohio, and Miss Mary [illegible], eldest daughter of [illegible] Co.

On the 25th ult., by J. B. Jackson, Esq., [illegible], M. D., of Olympia, and Miss [illegible], of Lewis Co.

On the 13th inst., in Yamhill Co., Mr. [illegible], formerly of Illinois, and Miss [illegible], Portsmouth, late of Ky.

At her father's residence, in Marion Co., by Rev. C. [illegible], Mr. Wm. W. [illegible], and Miss [illegible].

At the residence of [illegible], Esq., on the [illegible], Mr. V. E. [illegible], and Miss [illegible], all recently from Mo.

By Rev. [illegible] Johnson, on Nov. 14, Mr. [illegible], of Portsmouth, and [illegible] Johnson, daughter of [illegible], of French Prairie.

By the same, on the [illegible], Mr. J. B. [illegible], of Yamhill Co., and Miss [illegible], daughter of [illegible], of French Prairie.

On the 6th inst., at the house of Mr. [illegible], of Polk Co., by Rev. [illegible], Mr. Jas. [illegible] and Miss [illegible].

On the [illegible] inst., Mr. [illegible], late of [illegible], and Miss [illegible].

N[illegible] [illegible] ABERNETHY & CO.

N[illegible] ABERNETHY & CO.

B[illegible] ABERNETHY & CO.

B[illegible] ABERNETHY & CO.

B[illegible] ABERNETHY & CO.

PRACTICAL WATCH MAKER.

G. Collier Robbins,

LATE of St. Louis, Mo., having [illegible] Oregon, [illegible]

[illegible]

Wanted

TO contract with responsible parties to furnish [illegible] Willamette Falls, [illegible]

[illegible], Sup't.

Oregon City, Dec. [illegible]

Dentist Notice.

TO YAMHILL CO.

DR. [illegible] will stop in Lafayette on the [illegible] and remain a few days.

Dec. 10, 1853.