SPECTATOR.

C. L. Goodrich, Editor.

OREGON CITY, OREGON TERRITORY

Friday Evening, May 5, 1854.

Prospects of Oregon City.

It seems almost necessary, after saying what we did last week with reference to the prospects of our Territory in connection with the European war, that we should say something now about our own city in particular:

Although in consequence of certain changes south, the greater portion of the trade from the Rogue River mines, which formerly centered somewhat at this point, may have taken another channel, still, in our opinion Oregon City has more reason now than ever to look forward to a bright future. IN TWENTY YEARS OREGON CITY WILL BE THE LARGEST CITY IN THE TERRITORY!! and its business and population will probably fairly exceed that of any two at the present time.

It strikes us that a place is not always most prosperous when she has most money to spend. Capital is not the only thing needed. Industry, perseverance and economy are also necessary to the development of true strength. These good qualities are represented in an eminent degree, in the greater portion of our citizens. They may, to an extent, have partaken of the lethargy which has o'erspread our Territory for the three years of nominal plenty. But they are awaking to their true interests. It is always understood that a producing community in and around a city or town is absolutely necessary to its prosperity. This kind of a community is becoming larger in our vicinity, at a rapid rate, and we expect before long to see our streets teeming with the busy life of a great inland commercial mart.

We are happy to note the fact that portions of land, (if we have been correctly posted up) which were in a high state of cultivation before the discovery of gold in California, but which were suffered to grow up with weeds, and the enclosures to go to rack, have again been fenced, and the same state of true progress which is said to have existed here five years ago, may be expected to dawn on us once more.

True enough, business times are dull now, but it is always better to have a small stream coming in, and business dull, than to have a great flood *going out*, and every thing going it with a rush. Some pretend to say, even, that we will be eclipsed by our rival town below—Portland. This is all nonsense. Her location is far short in point of beauty, health, or comfort. She lacks entirely, those great and important advantages of, which no town but Oregon City, in the whole Territory, can boast. The time will probably come when the sea-boats will mostly load and discharge their cargoes lower down the river—perhaps near the mouth of the Columbia. The produce of the whole Willamette Valley is bound to pass through this place, and most of it thro' the hands of our business men. Besides this, our immense water power, which is of itself sufficient to make a city, will infuse the very powerful element of manufacture into our progress.

Among the many things which we might enumerate, did time permit, are our schools. The Female Seminary is a flourishing institution, and is permanently located. The Oregon City College is a school for males. Besides which there are two other schools in town, in prosperous circumstances.

Thus it will be seen that we have some reason to predict the future greatness of our city. We have active, intelligent and economical inhabitants; a scope of rich farming country near, the trade from which can never converge to any other point; together with the healthiest locality, as no one will deny, in the Territory. What for do we ask, but time to develop that which we are certain of accomplishing? Nothing!

New Feature.

Being, as we are, rather incapable of devoting our pen to the welfare of the female portion of Oregon, and having a laborious task to perform in regard to many important topics of the day, together with the printing of our paper, we have concluded to devote, for an indefinite length of time, three columns of the third page of the "Spectator," to the use of Mrs. M. J. BAILEY, in the form of a Ladies' Department. This feature will be introduced next week. The matter is not *necessarily* all to be original, but that lady will use the scissors at her descretion, in filling up the space spoken of. She will make it exclusively a female department, paying true respect and polite deference to wishes of the women of Oregon, and as long as she pursues this course we hope her endeavors will be duly appreciated.

☞Since our last issue, the bodies of two more of the unfortunate victims of the Gazelle explosion have been recovered from the river. Hill, and Bloiner were [illegible]

To Correspondents.

All will please recollect that we do not wish both sides of the same [illegible] covered with manuscripts in writing communications for this paper.

"Catawah by Mesenger," a poem. Of interest we admit, but as length will prevent its appearance.

J. H.—Portland—Your article is too full of abuse—cannot publish it.

"One week at the Battle or the Hops and Mishaps of a tran pong joint," an interesting story, will be published [illegible] provided it's finished in time. But if it is as you say: that "there's a power yet to be 'writ,'" we fear you will be late.

F. N. O.—Buttoville—Your advertisement is received, and published this week. Please accept our thanks for the list of subscribers you sent us from Oregon. Rep your future efforts will be equally successful.

R. S.—Our terms are $3 per annum, in advance. Messrs. Hussey & Burbank are our authorized agents in Lafayette.

"A Whig of '76," is very anxious to draw us into an argument. We want him to distinctly understand that when we copy an article from a neighboring journal with the intention of endorsing it, before the public, we intend to say so. Every body could suppose, from reading his communications we *really had* said that we advocated the same policy, with regard to the question, as the "Democrats." We so far believe it to be right to make the question a party issue. *It can not be done with any kind of propriety at all.* Who ever informed the whigs of this Territory that they should consider the negative side of this question as one of their firmly fixed principles just because it is the popular side? If we cannot climb into distinction and authority by our own Whig merits, let us keep down. This is no more of a party question than temperance, slavery, or any thing of the kind. If part of the Whig party want to commend the opposing the idea of adopting a State Government is a Whig measure, and that supporting it is a democratic measure, they will have to differ widely from the other party so far, at least, as that idea goes. If a portion of the democrats choose to oppose the measure, are they going to succumb to any insignificant notion of their fellow democrats! and say "it won't do, gentlemen, we must make it a party question and all go for it strong, because some of our brethren do it, *vice versa*. We think they will not.—If whigs choose to vote for the adoption of a State Government, we say let them go AHEAD! It's a free country, and this is a free fight!

When there is a common enemy to fight, we can join together as if all were members of one family, and bring every piece to bear upon the spot; but when we are at peace with all others, why, of course we must get up some little broils on our own responsibility, just for the sake of showing the world that we are a people of genius! and also, to show the "old folks at home" that we can be as foolish as themselves.

☞Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of the present week, our citizens have been entertained and amused by the "Ethiopian Harmonists," in connection with Dr. Robinson, who, perhaps, can hardly be equalled in personating the downeast Yankee. The band have skillfully trained themselves, and go through with their dulcorent parts with ease and unison. No audience need find fault with their performance. A few ladies only, attended, on either occasion. We presume the *face* of our city would be agreeably disappointed, should they attend the concerts to be given next week. Due notice will be given in the circulars.

☞The steamships Columbia and America are running in connection, between San Francisco and Portland. They will hereafter leave San Francisco, alternately, each Saturday. So we are to have a weekly steamer, besides the regular semi-monthly trips of the Peytona!

☞The "Umpqua Weekly Gazette" is the title of a new Oregon journal just started at Scottsburg; D. J. Lyons, Editor. It is neutral. Situated, as it is, in a new and flourishing locality, we can but hope it will succeed. If you had only—— why didn't you, Bro. Lyons, call it the "Pacific Bugle?"

☞If public meetings are intending to have us publish their proceedings, they should pass a resolution to that effect. We must know whether they wish us to publish them or not, and that is a sure guide for us to follow. After this is done they will expect us, of course, to act our pleasure with regard to them.

☞The man who was recently *pilled* with consternation, has become convalescent by the frequent swallowing of *humdings*.

☞Madam Anna Bishop is playing at the "Metropolitan" theatre in San Francisco.

To Young Ben.

For the Spectator.

EDS. SPECTATOR:—The writer has recently enjoyed a privilege which he believes many others would avail themselves of, if they were aware of the fact. Rev. G. H. Atkinson, was lecturing on Wednesday evenings, a series of very interesting lectures to young men. It may be some have been deterred from attending, supposing they were religious discourses. This not the case. The subjects which have been [illegible] "the power of habit," "the [illegible]" and the "[illegible]." They are interesting to all and all should hear. But they are especially adapted to young men, and all those who are now forming habits and laying plans for life. For one, I am willing to acknowledge that I am [illegible] these lectures, and have resolved to follow the instructions and counsel given there.—New York and Mobile papers of the latest dates in which, not only are there a notice of her departure, but an account of her cargo and its destination. But now, after allowing her, for months, the same rights and privileges which steamers of other lines have enjoyed, and which had come to be, in effect, a law, she is seized, and although by the laws of Japan twelve hours are allowed to change or make additions to the manifest, her captain is refused admission to the custom house, her hatches are broken open, and in spite of the remonstrances of the consul and the captain, her cargo is taken possession of.

That this act was premeditated, every circumstance connected with the case presents abundant proof. Every facility which friendly nations usually give to passenger steamers, and even to those which could be expected, had been cheerfully and heartily granted her, and received with becoming acknowledgment, in the belief that such favors would be continued, and that no commercial tribunal would be disturbed. But with the uncommon character of that government, and especially of the officers of that port, she has been made—[illegible] notice, and without protestation—obtained in port, and her cargo discharged. We hope that satisfactory explanation and redress will be demanded by our government, and that such a course will be pursued in this case as shall convince Spain, as well as every other foreign nation, that the property as well as the rights of American citizens are and will be protected wherever the "stars and stripes" may float.

Whig Meeting.

Previous notice having been given, a respectable number of whigs met at the Lima City Exchange on the evening of the 29th ult., for the purpose of choosing delegates to attend the whig convention at Hillsboro, the 6th of May.

The meeting having been called to order, Ransom Clark was chosen Secretary.

After indulging in many speeches made from persons present, J. M. Moore, C. Cummins, R. Clark, M. R. Barnum, and G. Miller were duly declared elected delegates to said convention.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, that the whigs of Lima City precinct have entire confidence in the honest, integrity, ability and sound whig principles of M. R. Barnum of Lima City, and they select the Whigs of Washington Co. to give him their support as one of the Representatives of said county, at the next June election. R. CLARK, *Sec'y.*

State Government.

For the Spectator.

The pressing invitation contained in a recent number of your paper to discuss the policy of a convention, seems to have been made for the purpose of having an affirmative side of the question against which to direct your opposition, rather than from a desire to have your readers convinced of the propriety of the measure—and although it is evident from the tone of your editorials and those of the Oregonian, which have been copied into your paper with a full endorsement, that you consider the question as satisfactorily settled against the policy of a convention—I am disposed to present my reasons, feeble as they may appear, for [illegible] Yamhill county, whatever may be thought of my orthodoxy by "*the organs*" of the party.

I am sorry to find an effort made by the Oregonian to make a party issue upon a question as much above party as any question that ever has been, or ever can be presented to the people of Oregon. In forming my determination to vote for the convention I have not been influenced by my party predilections—and I hope every Oregonian, both whig and democrat, will make up his mind independent of all party considerations.

I have read the articles of the Oregonian carefully, and I find the main argument relied upon is addressed to the *pockets* of the people. It is true other reasons are urged against it, such as our smallness of population and our consequent insignificance as a State, &c., &c., but after all, the whole spirit of the argument is addressed to the pecuniary interests of the people.

It seems not to have occurred to the Oregonian that the smaller our population the greater our proportionate political influence in the national government. With a population of twenty thousand, as estimated by the Oregonian, we should have the same influence in the executive department as the three millions of population in the State of New York; and since we should have the same representation in the upper branch of the legislative department, through which all bills are obliged to pass before becoming laws, it follows that our influence in that department would be nearly, if not quite, the same as the largest State of the Union, inasmuch as we have but three electors, while the Empire State has her *thirty-four*. It must be borne in mind that in the event of the election of the President devolving upon Congress, which has once happened already in the history of our government, "The little San Marino Republic" of Oregon would wield an influence equal to the largest States of the Union. Are these causes for despair on our part? and must we continue our Territorial vassalage until our population shall equal that of New York or Pennsylvania? because if we come into the Union with less population than they now have, we should individually enjoy a larger share of influence than we are equitably entitled to. It strikes me very forcibly that if we can get into the Union with our forty thousand, with the consent of the large States, and we can't get in at home, we would be very foolish to delay on account of smallness of population. The citizens of the little States of Rhode Island and Delaware prized the right of a voice in the choice of those who were to rule over them as highly as the citizens of the State of Virginia, and fought as bravely for it in our struggle for independence; and I cannot believe that the people of Oregon, who, actuated by the same love of liberty and equality, will voluntarily part with that right for one moment longer than is absolutely necessary, for the paltry consideration of a few dollars and cents.

I expectly to hear that if we come into the Union as a State we shall be compelled to raise by taxation several thousand dollars for its support, though we had the amount estimated by the Oregonian. To only admit of this we have to [illegible] three judges, an Auditor, Secretary of State and Treasurer, and the per diem of three dollars a day for some forty or fifty, for 20 or 30 days each year.

Two thousand a year for the Governor and each of the three Judges would be $8,000—1,500 each for Secretary of State and Auditor, would be $3,000—$1,000 for Treasurer, and three dollars a day each for forty for thirty days—$3,600—making in the aggregate $15,600.

Now I think it safe to assume that by the time we get into the Union, and begin trying right hard, we shall have a population of 50,000, which would be just $15,600 each. Is there a voter in the Territory that would not willingly pay three times the amount for the privilege of a voice in the choice of our rulers? Take away the expenditure of dollars and cents, and there also cause a few dollars a year more than they value the rights of a free man, will vote in June against continuing our Territorial vassalage.

There is one other reason, sufficient of itself, to influence my vote for the convention. It we don't assume the functions of a sovereign State soon, we shall have no territory left to make a State of, for Congress has already made one Territory out of us and is now talking of making another; and if we don't take the control of matters into our own hands soon Congress may take it into their heads to sell us out to Great Britain body and soul, land and water, and apply the proceeds for the purchase of a cotton plantation down south.

A WHIG OF '76.

State Government.

Clackamas Co., April 15, 1854.

MR. EDITOR:—I send you the following, soliciting a publication of the same in your respectable sheet.

By previous notice, a portion of the citizens of Clackamas Co., met at Mt Tabor school house, for the purpose of consulting the best interests of the Territory with regard to State organization and retention of Territory, passed the following:

On motion, N. D. Gilham was chosen chairman, J. T. Kerns Secretary.

On motion, Mr. P. Kelly arose, and by a few brief remarks stated the object of the meeting. The question was then discussed at length.

On motion, the chairman chose a committee of five to draft resolutions, consisting of Dr. S. Nelson, Wm. Kerns, C. Kelly, P. Kelly and Dr. P. Prettyman. The committee retired, and after a few moments reported the following resolutions, which were voted upon and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, by an act of the last session of our legislature we are called upon at our approaching election to cast our votes for or against a State organization;

Resolved, that a Territorial Government will tend most to advance the interests and prosperity of our infant Territory.

Resolved, that with our present population we are decidedly unable to support a State Government.

Resolved, that in order to raise means to defray the expenses of a State Government would require a taxation that would be oppressive.

Resolved, that a State debt, (which must continue to increase for years to come) must be the inevitable result of a State organization.

In addition to the views expressed in regard to a State organization, *Resolved*, That we stand decidedly opposed to any further division of our Territory, in any way or under any circumstances whatever.

N. D. GILHAM *Pres't.*

JNO. T. KERNS *Sec'y.*

ARRIVAL OF THE COLUMBIA!!

This steamship arrived at Portland yesterday, bringing no U. S. mail. The America is expected to be here with it on Tuesday next.

Adams & Co. furnished us with the California papers at half past 9 yesterday morning. The news is of little importance. We clip the following with regard to the mines:

"Every interior paper we open contains accounts of the success of the miners in various portions of the State. In the neighborhood of Nevada the miners are doing unusually well. The Nevada Journal says:

On Oregon Hill, near Cayoceville, Benj. Dunning, Cana & Co. are making clear money to an amount scarcely credible. Their weekly receipts do not fall short of from 2,000 to $3,000.

Webster, M'Affee & Co., in the same hill, a few days since took out, working five men, one day $156, and another day $310.

Danford, Wilson & Co. on Gold Hill are running 4 sluices in the ravine which are paying from one to three ounces a day to the hand. This company are taking out from the hill diggings from 6 to $800 per day.

At Forest City, the Buckeye Co last week took out 206¼ ounces with two drifters. One piece was of pure gold weighing 24¼ oz. The Empire Co. and Live Yankee Co are making from 5 to 7 oz per day to the hand.

Samuel J. Den, working alone, took out 17 oz of gold dust in six days, at Jefferson Hill. On an other claim 3 men took out $1,500 in one week.—Wm Boyd & Co are making from 10 to $12 daily to the hand.

The Yreka Herald says that the miners in that vicinity are doing well, and that business in the city is brisk. Several brick yards are in operation, and the erection of quite a number of brick buildings is contemplated. The farmers and gardeners of that region are taking the necessary steps to irrigate during the dry season, by using the water of the Shasta river."

Wells, Fargo & Co. are also entitled to our thanks.

Proceedings of the Temperance Convention of Clackamas county, May 2, 1854.

Convention organized by the appointment of Rev. E. Fisher as chairman, and Thos Pope Secretary; and the proceedings were opened by prayer. The chairman stated the object of the convention to be to carry out the recommendation of the State Convention at Salem, in taking measures to insure the adoption of a law similar to the Maine Liquor Law, in this Territory.

Remarks on the general subject having been made by Judge Matlock and others, a committee of the following gentlemen was appointed to prepare business for action of convention—Messrs. Matlock, T. Pope and W. P. Burns.

The committee presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were discussed and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, we believe the enactment of a stringent law for the suppression of the liquor traffic the most important matter which will come before the legislature at its next session. Therefore, resolved that we will make the support of such a law the test question in our coming election.

Resolved, that we will support those candidates of the two political parties who will pledge themselves to favor and vote for the passage of such a law.

Resolved, that if no candidates favorable to our cause are nominated by the other parties, we will nominate a third ticket and support the same to the extent of our ability.

Resolved, that a committee of three persons be appointed by the chair to ascertain the position of the nominees of the whig and democratic conventions and report to an adjourned meeting of the convention.

The chairman then offered the following: *Resolved*, that as friends of humanity, civil liberty and of the best interests of Oregon, we will not cease working on this enterprise at the ballot box, and in the private and public circles of life, until we see our beloved territory rid of the destructive influence of intoxicating spirits, by their removal through legislative enactment. Passed unanimously.

It was moved and carried that the committee be instructed to confer with other gentlemen in the county with a view to their nomination, if the candidates of the respective political parties will not pledge themselves to support our movement.

The chairman announced the committee contemplated in the above resolutions to consist of Messrs. T. Pope, R. Atwater and P. H. Hatch.

Convention then adjourned to meet at same place at 2 P. M., of Tuesday, May 16, 1854.

EZRA FISHER *Ch'n*

THOS. POPE *Sec'y.*

☞The accumulation of funds in the Sub-Treasury, it is supposed, says the Charleston Courier, is for the purpose of making the payments to Mexico under the Gadsden treaty, when passed.—The Administration, it is said, have little doubt of its ratification, and will make the entire payment, fifteen millions of dollars, in one payment, instead of annual payments. The Sub-Treasury holds an abundance of funds, and the Secretary of the Treasury prefers to pay the whole amount at once. Of the amount, it is understood about four millions will be remitted in sterling bills to London, and a portion of the remainder will be used in payment of some debts due in N. Y. by Santa Anna.

☞A French physician is now in Liverpool for the purpose of applying galvinism to the propulsion of ships. The discovery of the doctor consists in lining the vessel with zinc and copper, according to a given plan, and in forming, by them, an immense series of galvanic piles, or batteries, of which the liquid electro motor shall be the salt water of the sea. The immense battery acts upon the electro-magnets, of which the movement of attraction and repulsion much surpasses, it is said, the force of our greatest steam engines.

☞The State Department, at Washington, gives notice to all persons who may have occasion to address the diplomatic, consular, and other agents of the U. S., on their personal affairs, that unless their communications reach those agents free of charge, they will not, most probably, receive attention, as the Department has given directions that postages, &c., shall be paid on official communications only. Communications from individuals, which may relate solely to business connected with the offices of such agents, will, if transmitted unsealed to the State Department, be forwarded with its dispatches.

☞If green-room gossip in El Dorado may be relied on, Thalion cleared $9,000 the first week of her engagement in San Francisco, and Murdoch $10,000 by his whole California engagements; he leaves there in June. Julia Gould has made a hit as a ballad and burlesque singer and actress. Breton is coming home with $20,000 in his pockets.—The Bossets have already netted over $40,000 there. Mrs. Sinclair, universally popular in San Francisco, as actress and manager of the new theatre, is going to London, to play an engagement at the Hay market, opening in *Lady Teazle*; she leaves in June. Julia Gould has made a hit as a ballad and burlesque singer and actress. Breton is coming home with $20,000 in his pockets.—The Bossets have already netted over $40,000 there. Mrs. Sinclair, universally popular in San Francisco, as actress and manager of the new theatre, is going to London, to play an engagement at the Hay market, opening in *Lady Teazle*; she leaves in June. George Lucer is the musical director of her theatre; Lyte, formerly of the New York Bowery, and Wallack's, the leader, and John Poole, who went out there to play young lady parts on the stage, is about to marry a Carolina "gentleman of wealth and distinction."—*N. O. Picayune.*

☞The London Advertiser says: "It gives us much pleasure to be able to state that the Queen has most graciously intimated to Mr. Buchanan, the Yankee ambassador, that it will in future be not more necessary to appear at state balls and the opera in other parts, in whatever costume is most agreeable to himself. The Lord Chamberlain has also made a similar communication to his excellency, relative to his costume on the opening and closing of the sessions of Parliament."

☞New Orleans must be a very lively place, according to the following paragraph from the Picayune of the 25th:

"Around the Exchange, also, the usual applications are being made at all of the hotels for suites of rooms and even single apartments. Never did our city present a gayer and more encouraging appearance than at this moment. There were in port yesterday seven steamships, 120 ships, 50 barks, 20 brigs, and 20 schooners. The number of steamboats coming regularly from the pool exceeds 40."

☞Guard from the earliest days to insure your principles against the peril of ridicule. You can no more exercise your reason if you live in the constant dread of laughter, than you can enjoy your life if you are in the constant terror of death. If you think it right to differ from the times and to make a point of morals, do it, however rustic, however antiquated, however pedantic, it may appear; do it not for insolence, but seriously and gravely, as a man who wore a conscience in his bosom, and did not want oil it was breathed on him by the fashion of the times.—*A. Smith.*

☞A pair of skates made for Queen Victoria, at Birmingham, Conn., are described. "The iron in the front is in the form of a swan, chased in imitation of feathers; the [illegible] of good satin wood, with the feathers [illegible] in the shape of a shoe, so that when fitted to the foot and laced, it is very firm; at the opposite extremity was a place cut to fit the heel, and chased in the rare, characteristic thistle. The strap round the heel is of black patent leather, stitched to correspond with the heel cup. The ring and tongue leathers are lined with 'chamoury' skin to secure warmth to the foot."

☞Paper is made of wood in France.

☞In the U. S. there is about one white male person to each 1,200, and about one white slave to each 1371.

☞The richest locality in the U. S. is stated to be the 4th ward in the city of Boston, the assessed valuation of which is over $60,000,000. The New York Central Railroad is said to have earned six per cent. net in the past six months.

☞The Georgia Citizen thinks good resolutions are like fainting ladies—they want to be carried out.

☞Monroe county, New York, produces a third more wheat than the six New England States.

☞A mother admonishing her son, a lad some seven years of age, told him he should never defer till to morrow what he could do to-day. The little urchin replied, "then, mother, let's eat the remainder of the plum pudding to-night."

☞An Irishman was brought up before a magistrate, on a charge of vagrancy, and questioned:

'What trade have you?'

'Sure, your honor, I am a salt sailor,' replied Pat.

'In the seafaring life? I question if you have ever been to sea at all.'

'Sure now, an' does your honor think I came all the way from ould Ireland in a waggon?'

Acquitted.

☞The amount paid into the custom house at San Francisco, during the year ending December 31st, 1853, was $2,581,097,84.

☞In Plymoth, Vt., O. K. Farwell, about 25 years old, shot himself a week or two since, because his young wife, of 17 years, had left him and refused to live with him.