

More Trouble with the Indians.

HORRIBLE MURDER AND MUTILATION.

We have just been informed, by a gentleman lately arrived from Coose Bay, that the bodies of two men were discovered, a few days since, floating down the Coquille River, a few miles from the mouth. When brought ashore and examined by the miners, it was found that the head of one was perforated by a rifle ball, and the skull of the other broken by a blow from some heavy weapon. A rope was around the neck of each; and the assassins, not satisfied with depriving their unfortunate victims of life, mutilated the bodies in a horrible manner. From the information given by a squaw, it appears that the murderers, some seven or eight in number, and belonging to the Coquille tribe, have made their escape in the direction of Coose River. A party of whites are out in pursuit of them, and terrible will be the retribution should they overtake them. This is a bad state of affairs, and not likely to terminate very soon. We would advise travellers going down the Coquille River, to be well armed, and on their guard, as of late the Indians in that quarter have evinced anything but an amicable disposition towards the whites.

P. S.—Since the above was in type, we learn that the names of the unfortunate men were Raymond Venable and — Burton.

OUR WAGON ROAD.—This work is going on bravely. Some fifteen or twenty hands are constantly employed on the road, and more are wanted. The Commissioners, Messrs. Thompson and Ladd, deserve great praise for their indefatigable exertions.—Those who subscribed to the road are requested to pay up promptly, as the completion of the work, which the commissioners assure us will take place about the first of July, depends solely on the prompt payment of the funds subscribed.

OUR MAILS.—Why is there not a direct mail communication between this place and San Francisco, or, at least, a mail route between this place and Port Orford? How long are the mails of Southern Oregon to be imposed upon by this great "Pacific Mail" humber? Fancy a man starting from New York to Liverpool, and taking Canton, in China, in his way, by way of a short cut! But thus it is with our mails. Our papers and letters are deposited in the Post office at San Francisco, and after remaining there long enough to get the "Latest News from Europe," they are sent out on a pleasure trip to the Columbia River. Then, anxious to explore the country they had passed some two weeks previously, in the Mail Steamer, they return by an overland route to Southern Oregon. This is expedition, with a vengeance!

The following are the names of the gentlemen who contracted for the bridges, on the line of road between Scottsburg and Winchester:

- Elk Creek, Mr. Winchester, \$1500; Anyheim's, Capt. Hathaway, \$150; Foot of the Big Hill, John Frere, \$75; No. 2 Sawyer's, and No. 2 Chadwick's, Messrs. Casey & Frere, \$150 each; Hudson's, Clark Hudson, \$150; Burgess', Burgess, \$150; Golding's, Wm. Golding, \$150.

The specifications, as given by the County Commissioners, required the completion of the bridges by the 10th of August. Most of the contractors, however, will complete by the 1st of July.

WHIG CONVENTION.—We are requested to say, that the Whigs of this county will hold their convention at Elkton, on Wednesday, the 10th of May, for the purpose of nominating suitable candidates for the different offices to be filled at the coming election. A full attendance of delegates is expected on the occasion.

Those who have our prospectuses will oblige us by sending them in as soon as convenient.

We have received a communication from Coose Bay; but too late for publication in the present number. It shall appear in our next.

We are indebted to Mr. MEYER OPPENHEIMER, for San Francisco papers of a late date.

Owing to the severe indisposition of the publisher, and the difficulty of procuring assistance on the instant, the publication of the present number has been delayed beyond the usual time, which prevented our getting the papers for the upper country in the mail this week. We hope, however, that such an occurrence shall not happen in the future.

The Surveyor General has received instructions from the President to remove his office to the seat of Government before the first of August next.

Mrs. Susan Bigler, mother of the present Governors of Pennsylvania and California, died recently, at her residence in Delaware township, Morenc county, aged about seventy.

The Coroner's Inquest.

Territory of Oregon, County of Clackamas.

An inquisition held in said county, on the 8th day of April, 1854, on the dead bodies of the persons hereafter named, before Forbes Barclay, Coroner of said county, by the oaths of the jurors whose names are hereunto subscribed, who, being sworn to inquire when, how, and by what means the said persons came to their death, upon their oaths say as follows, to wit:

- 1. Joseph Hunt, formerly of Michigan, deputy U. S. Surveyor, aged about twenty-eight years.
2. Rev. James P. Miller, of Albany.
3. David Paige, of San Francisco, superintendent of the Willamette Falls Co.
4. David P. Fuller, of Portland, formerly of Lynn, Essex county, Mass.
5. Cyrus Wadsworth, of Milwaukee.
6. Benjamin S. Birch, of Polk county.
7. John K. Miller, from Joe Daviss Co., Illinois.
8. Antonio—a Spaniard.
The above died instantly, from mortal injuries received on the head.
9. John Daley, of Butteville, cabin boy, aged about sixteen years.
10. — Hatch, employed on the boat.
11. David Woodhull, from Branch Co., Mich.
The above died from being scalded and drowned.
12. William S. Morgan, of Polk Co., died from severe wounds and drowning.
13. James M. Fudge, pilot on steamer Wallamette. Death caused by mortal injuries received on the body.
14. Jean Clemens, died from being scalded and scalding steam.
15. Charles Prevaut, same cause as the last.
16. Michael McGee, employed on the boat, died from injuries on the head, and being scalded.
17. Charles Plant, second engineer of the Gazelle, died from the same causes as the above.

And the jury further say, that the above deaths were directly caused by the explosion of the steamer "Gazelle," at Canemah, on Saturday morning, April 23d.

And the jury further say, that after duly examining the causes of said explosion, they find:

1st. That it resulted from the gross and culpable negligence of the first engineer, Moses Toner, in knowingly carrying more steam than was safe, and neglecting to keep sufficient water in the boilers. They also say that said Toner, though summoned to appear and testify before the jury, refused to do so, and escaped from the Territory, and beyond the process of the Coroner, or any judicial authority.

2d. That while they feel unwilling to reflect upon the conduct of Plant, the second engineer, as he was a victim of the disaster, they still believe he was ignorant of his duty, and too much frightened to attend to it in the absence of Toner, who had left before the explosion.

3d. That there is no reason to find fault with the captain, R. Hereford, as from the testimony he appears to have acted in accordance with the judicious and prudent instructions, given in writing, of David Paige, Superintendent of the Company, and owning the boat, and that he communicated the same to the first engineer.

4. That there is no reason to believe that the machinery or boilers were in any respect imperfect, or not fit for the purpose for which they were designed; but they believe that if they had been used according to the act of Congress concerning them, they were properly and sufficiently constructed.

5th. That the present situation of this Territory especially calls for the enforcement of the act of Congress as to steam-boats and engineers; and that it is the duty of those having authority in this matter to attend to their business without delay, and thus do what can be done to save the further sacrifice of human life, and the agony of human suffering.

- AMORY HOLBROOK,
WELLS LAKE,
ARCHIBALD McKINLAY,
WM. C. DEMENT,
THOMAS JOHNSON,
JOHN B. PRESTON,
Jury.
FORBES BARCLAY,
Coroner.

Agricultural Society of Polk Co.

A meeting of the farmers of Polk county was held at Dallas on the 3d inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration the formation of an Agricultural Society.

J. M. Fulkerson was called to the chair, and J. E. Lyle appointed Secretary. On motion of John Rigdon, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted: Resolved, That we deem it expedient, necessary and proper, to form ourselves into an Agricultural Society.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare and draft a constitution, and report the same at our next meeting.

Messrs. R. P. Boise, Isaac Ball, and J. E. Lyle were appointed said committee. On motion of G. O. Burnett, voted that said committee procure some suitable person to deliver an agricultural address at our next meeting.

On motion of H. N. V. Holmes, voted that a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be furnished to the several newspapers in this Territory for publication.

The meeting adjourned, to meet at the same place, at 10 o'clock, A. M., on the 4th Monday of May next. J. M. FULKERSON, Chairman.

J. E. LYLE, Secretary.

Railroad Proceedings.

Pursuant to an act to incorporate the Willamette Valley Railroad Company passed in the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oregon, January 24, 1851, the Board of Commissioners named in said charter convened at Thorp's Mills, Polk county, on Thursday, April 13, 1854.

On motion of F. Waymire, the meeting was organized by electing Martin L. Barber President, and John Thorp, Secretary.

On motion of F. Waymire, Major Thorp was requested to explain the objects of the meeting. Which being done, the Board of Commissioners ordered that the books be opened for receiving subscriptions to the capital stock, in Washington county, at Hillsborough, on the 24th, 25th, and 26th days of April; at Portland on the 27th, 28th, and 29th days of April; at Lafayette, Yamhill county, on the 1st, 2d, and 3d days of May; at Eugene City, Lane county, on the 8th, 9th, and 10th days of May; at Corvallis, Benton county, on the 15th, 16th, and 17th days of May; at Dallas, Polk county, on the 22d, 23d, and 24th days of May.

On motion, Resolved, That the Secretary transmit copies of the proceedings of this meeting, to be published in the papers of this Territory.

On motion of James Holman, the meeting adjourned sine die. MARTIN L. BARBER, Pres't. JOHN THORP, Sec'y.

Indian Affairs in Oregon.

Gen. Palmer, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Oregon, has gone to the southern portion of the Territory, on an official visit to the Rogue River tribes, and those living along the coast, from the mouth of the Umpqua River south to the 42d parallel, including the Coose, Coquille and Port Orford tribes. His object is first to visit those of the Upper Rogue River, who have a reserve of country by the treaty made last fall, near Table Rock, and endeavor to induce them to live together in harmony, and commence the cultivation of their lands, and faithfully to observe the treaty, which, we have news from Washington, is about to be ratified. With this view he has taken with him a pack train loaded with seeds of various kinds, agricultural implements, &c. The natives in that section are the most intelligent and vigorous we have seen on the whole coast—mild and tractable when friendly, but in war as fierce as the Scythian, and ruthless as the Gaul. If this policy proves successful, we shall have peace on our southern borders for the future, which is much to be hoped for the good of all.

Mr. Culver, the efficient agent for that district, has been very active and persevering in his endeavors to keep our Indian relations there in a satisfactory condition. The superintendent will also visit the coast for the purpose of endeavoring to settle the existing difficulties between the Indians and the miners. He will explore the country in search of convenient "reserves," and, if possible, induce the wandering tribes to make their habitation within certain bounds. With this object, he has ordered some \$20,000 worth of suitable goods to be forwarded to Port Orford on the next steamer, to be used in treating with these Indians. J. L. Parish, Indian Agent, also goes down to Port Orford to support the Superintendent in these movements. We are confident our fellow citizens in the south will render the government officers every assistance they can, in establishing a good understanding with all the tribes, and maintaining peace within our borders.—Statesman.

TERMS OF THE DISTRICT COURTS.

The District Court for Lane county commenced its session on Monday last.

In Benton, the court will be held next Monday.

In Linn, the third Monday in May.

In Polk, fourth Monday in May.

In the Third District as follows:

In Douglas county the third Monday in May.

In Umpqua, the fourth Monday in May.

In Jackson, the first Monday in May.—Statesman.

From the Boston Traveller.

THE RUSSO-TURKISH WAR.

LONDON, January 28, 1854.

EDITORS OF THE TRAVELLER.—It is vastly entertaining to mark the tone of the London Press upon the subject of the threatened Eastern war. If its utterances might be accepted as oracles, then the conclusion would be obvious and inevitable that a small measure of true English courage and decision on the part of Ministers, at the outset, would have brushed away the cloud which has now grown so large and portentous, leaving England and Europe to bask in the sunshine of a settled peace. And so that terrible war, if it comes, will impose a heavy burden of blame on Lord Aberdeen, who has vacillated, and Prince Albert, who has intrigued, and Queen Victoria who has sympathized with the Czar.

Now, I will not deny that all this may be true; but I will venture to assert that not one reflecting man in England seriously believes it. It is just as natural as it is easy, to find fault with a course that seems to fail; and men will surely censure another, for not venturing to do what, in the same circumstances, they would not venture to do themselves.

A great deal of cheap valor has mingled in all this high sounding talk of the London Press. The Cabinet has estimated it at its true value and treated it accordingly.

Indeed if there had been the very smallest expectation that the popular clamor for decisive measures, would be answered by the adoption of such measures, you may be well assured that clamor would not have been heard. If the Press would express the profoundest feeling of the heart of the whole English nation, its language would be:—While we hold ourselves ready to do in this business, whatever is demanded by a due regard to our own self-interest and our position among European States, we have at the same time, a settled, deep, unutterable dread of war. And if it be a possible thing to avert so tremendous a calamity, consistently with integrity and honor, then we mean to do it. Not until the very last resources of diplomacy are exhausted, and every attempt at an amicable adjustment has failed, will we consent to fight.

This pacific disposition is impressing itself as a characteristic feature on a great era in English history. And it is a sign of promise, albeit other elements than temperate moral are contained in it. It is very largely commercial and economical. The present age is intensely commercial, and in no other part of the world is the influence of this spirit more apparent than here. The existing generation of Englishmen is absolutely swayed up by it. It is a ruling passion.

Every body looks its position from the Queen's house down to the humble mechanic, in which has managed to lay up a few hundred pounds, all ranks and classes, and professions are such holders and traders.

A fall of the standard in copper is sufficient to spoil a Duke's breakfast; while an upward movement in corn excites joy in Baronial halls as deep as the sorrow which is produced in the same vent in the cottages of the peasantry. Even literature and art have grown commercial. The best thing about Landseer's celebrated picture of the Duke of Wellington and his daughter-in-law the Marchioness of Douro on the field of Waterloo, was, that it brought him four thousand guineas; and the brightest gem in the glittering chaplet of Dickens' fame is the fortune which he is building up from the sale of his books. What would poor Milton and Correggio say, brought back and set down among the men of this generation!

It is thought by some, that, if matters proceed at the present rate, the nineteenth century will not have terminated before Hellas and Parnassus will be all carted off to make railway embankments, and their waters used to turn a cotton mill. In fact this extant John Bull is a gigantic Peter Panam; full of grand schemes and enterprises, mechanical, artistic,—washing-houses, museums, menageries, crystal palaces; all especially contrived and designed for the good of the people, and all turning out, some how or other greatly to the good of Peter. Nor is it to be supposed that Peter will care to turn aside from all this to quarrel with his neighbors. Depend upon it he is a great deal too busy for that. Just so has the commercial completely overlaid, if it has not destroyed the old war spirit in the heart of this English nation, and the necessity of going to the Black Sea with fleets and subsidies, to drive back the Czar, is felt to be an intolerable bore. But there is also the economic view of this question. England has now for a long time been suffering dreadfully for the enormous folly and wickedness of her past wars—the iniquities of the fathers visited upon the children with a terrible emphasis.

A debt of nine hundred millions sterling is a burden that has sometimes made her stagger with all her wealth and energies. The great demand for the last forty years has been for a Chancellor of the Exchequer. And the magnitude of the task imposed on him may be estimated from the fact, that the highest point of statesmanship in this direction has been reached again and again as it is believed, without finding out any possible way of exempting the people from the necessity of paying money for every ray of sun-light that entered their dwelling; an impost so cruel, and hateful, and hard to be endured, that many thousands of children especially, have died of acrofula and fever in the poisonous atmosphere of dark, ill ventilated houses.

But now, at last, after lengthened and most patriotic endurance, these heavy burdens are just beginning to be lifted off.

The window tax has been greatly reduced, and now assessed in a way that a man may have his house all window without adding to the amount. Tea, which has hitherto paid a duty on the very meanest quality imported, almost equal to the entire cost of the best in Boston, is to be gradually set free. Soap is in the same way brought within reach of the poor; the advertisement duty is repealed, and the income tax is subjected to such a clipping process that people think they can see already to the end of the business. And these are only samples of blessings realized, and brightening hopes.

Now just think how very hard it must be, after having "dined, with incredible toil and pation, almost to the top of the hill, and caught a glimpse of the goodly land beyond stretching beyond, to be rudely and violently hurled back again to the very base, and all that lengthened toil to be repeated! Such must inevitably be the result to England, of a protracted Russo-Turkish war. Who then can blame her for an intense desire to escape so grievous a catastrophe!

But there is another and still more startling bearing economic argument. Repeatedly within the last few years, and in times of peace and great general prosperity, there have been bread riots in England. What is to be expected then when all things feel the blight of a great and terrible war! On Monday, the 9th of January, 1854, in the Episcopal city of Exeter, a troop of dragoons, mounted and armed, was seen driving back a hungry mob of forlorn wretches from the loaves of bread piled up in bake-shops, the greater part of the rioters being, as the papers state, "the masses of large families." If war must come, then, it is also, that the home secretary is likely to have his hands full, as well as the foreign.

I rather think that what I state are the most persuasive arguments to induce England to desire the continuance of peace. It is not to be doubted, however, that she has a considerably deeper conviction of the wickedness of war than she had a quarter of a century ago. Our noble hearted countryman, Eliba Burritt, and his coadjutors, have not labored in vain. The spirit of the "olive leaf mission" is diffusing itself gradually, yet surely, throughout all lands and classes, and, along with the other influences which I have described, is interposing a barrier to warlike movements which nothing but a stern, inevitable necessity will henceforth overcome.

Yours very truly, H. P.

Prince Albert.

The disposition among the English people, on account of Prince Albert's alleged insouciance with political affairs, seems to be quite general and decided. The husband of the Queen is merely an ornamental appendage to the Government, and has no more authority in concerns of state than the flounces of his wife's dress. The sphere of his operations is entirely domestic, and beyond the discipline of his own children, in which, by the way, Prince Albert is said to present a model of parental government, he has no sort of control over any subject of Great Britain. From Prince Albert's previous course, so marked by delicacy, sound judgment, and rigid abstinence from every species of intermeddling with political affairs, we had not supposed that there was the slightest ground for the recent complaints of an improper use of his influence in regard to the Eastern question. But according to the latest accounts, there seems to be very grave dissatisfaction with the Prince in some of the best informed English circles. The intelligent London correspondent of the National Intelligencer gives his opinion that the rumor is a probable one which attributes the resignation of Lord Palmerston to direct interference with the political affairs of the country by Prince Albert. He says this "as much in sorrow as in anger," and quotes the following from a writer in the Daily News. Other papers have alluded to the same subject in strong terms:

"The impression, the suspicion, the persuasion, the apprehension, or the belief, for it takes a great variety of forms, that the Prince Consort has recently trespassed into the bounds of political affairs, from which he is prohibited by the constitution and his duty, is now so general that it is impossible any longer to confine it to conversation. Go where you will, into good or bad society, amongst rich or poor, the feeling or the fear that it is the Court, and not the responsible Ministers of the Crown, who are giving the impetus and the tone to the foreign policy of England, is now a topic of conversation. People cannot get rid of an apprehension that something is going very wrong in this, the highest quarter of the State; confidence in the Prince is giving way; and instead of popularity, resentment seems to me very likely to take possession of the public mind. Nor is it political affairs only that His Royal Highness is accused of meddling in and marring. In the army, also, he is interfering; and the recent scandals at the horse guards are openly and loudly ascribed to him. It is quite time that notice should be taken of imputations so serious. 'The Duke, moreover, is dead and gone. So long as he lived, interference with the army would have been impertinence. His absence is felt at the Horse Guards now."