

OFFICE IN HENDERSON BUILDING, NEXT DOOR WEST SCOTTSBURG HOUSE. SCOTTSBURG, OREGON. Thursday, August 23, 1855. G. D. R. BOYD EDITOR.

FOR STATE CONVENTION IN 1856.

LAWS OF NEWSPAPERS. 1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscription. 2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their periodicals, the publishers may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid. 3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their periodicals from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible till they have settled the bill, and ordered them discontinued. 4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to the former direction, they are held responsible. 5. The courts have decided that refusing to take periodicals from the office, or removing and leaving them uncollected, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

Timber--Oregon as New England.

Editor Umpqua Gazette--Sir: In looking over the New England Gazette, I find under the reference of large pines, the following paragraphs: "Norridgewock, Maine, is remarkable for its luxuriant growth of the white pine. A few years since, one of these trees was cut for a canoe; its length was 154 feet, and measured four and a half feet in diameter." Also, in speaking of Liberty, Maine: "A short time since a pine tree was cut in this town, which measured seven feet in diameter at the stump; it had three branches; the tree was sound, and 10,610 feet of square edged boards were made from it." The above are stated as facts, in a very respectable work; and thinking they would interest your readers, I have made a note of them. I have no comments to make. Yours, N. S.

The writer of the above has resided some years on the Pacific coast, and having explored a considerable portion of the country and studied with much care its natural resources and products, we can imagine that when he penned the above for the Oregon reader--being acquainted as he is with their majestic features--an involuntary smile passed over his features, as the thought of the comparisons that would naturally emanate in the mind of every Oregonian who read it, and how unequal would be the result of such comparisons. Large trees being so common in this country, we have never taken the trouble to measure any of them heretofore; but the above aroused our curiosity a little, and we now give the result of some measuring we done a few days since, assisted by Mr. Brattain, an old resident of Oregon. We did not search for large trees, for it was only our purpose to find out as near as possible the average size and length of timber in common use here. About 100 yards from our office some fir trees had been felled for the purpose of obtaining the bark to be used in the tannery; of course the best timber would not be used for such a purpose. The first tree measured 190 feet in length; it was three feet in diameter four feet from the ground; at 100 feet it measured two feet in diameter. Another, measured 245 feet in length; four feet in diameter five feet from the ground; at 100 feet it measured three feet in diameter, and at 180 feet two feet in diameter, and so on. The first of these trees had scarcely any branches for the first 100 feet, while the latter had very few for 150 feet. Now, we assure our Atlantic readers that these trees which we measured are considered of a very ordinary sized growth, and inferior to those generally used for making lumber, &c.; that the average size of the timber in use here, for such purposes, is about 200 feet in length, and about 6 feet in diameter at the ground; the average decrease of the diameter being about one foot to every 100 feet in length. These trees are beautiful and straight, and have scarcely any limbs or knots for the first 150 feet, while above that distance the branches are very small, and offer no impediment to their being converted into lumber, or used for any other purpose. There are many trees in the mountains adjacent to this place, which will measure at the ground between 40 and 50 feet in circumference, and it is not uncommon to find trees measuring 300 feet in length. The supply of this timber is inexhaustible, as all the hills and mountains in Oregon are densely covered with it. We know that our estimate of the average size of timber in this country, is not exaggerated; if anything, we have underrated it. We might add more upon this subject, but we only wish to give our Atlantic friends an idea of our common timber, and we deem the inferior specimens above given, quite sufficient to cast a shade over "the luxuriant growth of white pine" in Maine, without referring to our more extraordinary specimens, whose tops mingle with the clouds, and cannot be seen without the aid of telescopes; so says "Uncle Ben," and he is good authority upon this subject, but it is remembered he is a little near-sighted, which may account for the apparent exaggeration, in regard to the necessity of telescopes. We take the following extracts from a communication by "N. S." in the Norwich (Ct.) Courier, which will give the reader a brief, but correct description of the extent and variety of Oregon timber:

"The forests of Oregon, which stretch without much interruption, through a width of forty or fifty miles bordering on the coast, consist chiefly of evergreens, fir, spruce, pitch pine, cedar and hemlock. Maple, alder, ash, myrtle, and a few other varieties of deciduous trees occur along the bottoms adjacent the rivers, &c. White pine and oak occur in the interior; no walnut or chestnut are found in the Territory. "These forests extend with a character somewhat varied by the broken aspect of the serrated surface, through the coast range or system of mountains; beyond which for a space varying from 30 to 60 miles in width, to the cascade range, and extending north and south through the whole territory about 250 miles, exist wide spread prairies, verdant hills and valleys, fertile lawns, divided occasionally by rugged mountain chains; and interspersed, here and there, with 'copse, dingle and glen.'"

From the proceedings of the Oregon Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, we observe that Mr. Flinn, of this place, has been transferred to Jacksonville. While we regret very much the departure from our midst of so inestimable a citizen, yet we are gratified to know that he carries with him the best wishes of all who know him, for his future happiness and prosperity. Mr. Flinn is one of the few professed ministers of the Gospel, in these "degenerate days," who does not pollute his high calling by meddling in the exciting political strifes of the day, by turning his pulpit into a political rostrum, from which to preach political sermons. From his consistent course in this particular--his honest, upright bearing and Christian devotion, he has won the respect and esteem of all who know him. May his efforts in his new field of labor, in the cause in which he is engaged, be crowned with such success.

The probability is that we will not issue another paper for some two or three weeks, as we are again entirely out of paper. We have ordered a large amount, however, enough to do us a year; and when it arrives, which cannot be longer than three weeks, and perhaps sooner, we will not be subjected to any more suspensions in the future, in our business. It is very annoying and aggravating to us, but it cannot be helped, so "there's no use in crying over spilt milk." If anything extraordinary occurs, or if we receive any important news before receiving our paper, we will issue extras.

Mr. Spors, who arrived a few days since direct from the scene of the late Indian massacre, on the Klamath, informs us that ten men were killed, instead of seventeen, as first reported. No cause is assigned for this outrage, and serious apprehensions are felt by the citizens in that vicinity, for their safety. Neither Dr. McKinney nor Mr. Flanagan were among the killed as was first reported. See correspondence signed "Jackson."

The body of Mr. Patterson, who it will be remembered was drowned last winter in the Umpqua, was recently found just below Cooper's Ferry, where it had lodged in the branches of a fallen tree. Decomposition had taken place, and scarcely anything remained but the bones of the unfortunate young man. His remains were collected and decently interred by Mr. Dimick and others.

The Department has at length acted upon the suggestion of the citizens of this valley, as the following communications will show. We are indebted to the postmaster at Yoncalla for the information: POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT, CONTRACT OFFICE, June 4, 1855. Sir:--The contractor for route 12722, (Yoncalla to Umpqua) has instructions to commence his trips at Oakland, instead of your office. Reports when the change is made. Respectfully, &c. W. H. DUNDAS, 2d Ass't. P. M. G. Postmaster at Yoncalla, O. T. Similar instructions have been received concerning route 12723.

Correspondence of the Umpqua Gazette. ELKTON, Aug. 19th, 1855. Mr. Editor--Dear Sir:--I promised in my last that I would give you some general remarks relative to the interests of the Umpqua Valley and those identified with them. I now resume my pen for that purpose. In my former communication I spoke in defence of not only myself, but many others. This I done in as friendly and argumentative a manner as I possibly could, and taking into consideration the cause which prompted that defence, I need scarcely add, that the subject was treated a great deal lighter than the aggravated circumstances which called it out would seem to be necessary and proper. I studiously avoided personalities, for if there is one thing above another in this world which I utterly abhor in a community, it is this low slang and personal abuse, which some people are so prone to indulge in. This, sir, was my motive in dictating the former communication, and I am happy to witness that my efforts have received the approval of all good thinking minds, as well as the approval of my own conscience. I understand that there was not a little indignation manifested on the appearance of your last paper, and poor Damphule received a horrible castigation in the way of words, flourishes, &c. I think the following couplet will explain all. "When caps into a crowd are thrown, What each man fits he calls his own. I threw my caps out, and if any persons have been fortunate enough to find a fit, they are welcome to wear them, without any objections from me. I have not sought customers for my caps--if they now rest on any heads, they have been sought after and placed there gratuitously by the wearers, and that being the case, I hope they may fit tight and wear well. A few more 'left of the same kind."

The large extent of agricultural and mining country from the upper part of the Willamette Valley to Yreka, in California, has within an almost incredible short space of time, emerged from a wilderness only inhabited by the merciless savage, to a densely populated and well cultivated country. All through this part of the country men have settled with a view of making it their homes for life. And these are the only men who are identified with the true prosperity of the country--those who have made a permanent residence here, and not those who seek these shores for a short time, for the purpose of making fortunes and then leaving, taking the money out of the country with them. To those persons who have made themselves thus permanently identified with the country, does the Umpqua harbor belong; because it affords a natural outlet for their surplus products; and a convenient place for delivering their mail matter by sea. If the U. S. government enter into a contract with parties to deliver the mails at the mouth of the Umpqua, they do it with a view of accommodating this class of permanent citizens with proper and convenient mail facilities, and not for the benefit of any particular class of persons in trade. The government has no intention of building up particular communities or localities. They have no right to legislate for this village or that; and it is a matter of indifference to them whether town lots in Scottsburg are \$5 or \$5,000, and whether this man or that is successful in business. The people settled over a large extent of country demand that their mail matter be delivered at the mouth of the Umpqua, and the U. S. government will heed that demand, for it is a proper and rightful subject for legislation, but the people for none of them can expect any further favors--that is, they cannot demand as a right that government should send a steamer to ply between San Francisco and the Umpqua to facilitate the traffick of speculators at either place. As far, however, as this service--which is intended to benefit the whole people of southern Oregon--is of service to particular communities of villages, of course is all right and even desirable; but what I wish to impress upon the minds of some, is that when government orders the mails left at the mouth of the Umpqua, they do not do it that certain persons may have the benefit of shipping on the steamer. The people all through the country are anxious that their mail service should go into operation immediately; they are anxious because they wish to get their mail matter in a reasonable length of time, yet they are willing to hear to reason, confident that the merit of their cause will ensure them justice at no distant day. This is the view that I think the mass of the people who are interested take of this matter, and although it differs materially from that entertained by some of your neighbors, yet it is the only proper view to be taken of the subject, and must address itself as such to every sensible man.

I offer these few suggestions in a friendly manner. I ask none to coincide with me who think my reasoning not good. They are welcome to entertain their own opinions. I shall not quarrel with them so long as they manifest a proper regard for the opinions of myself and those who believe as I do. In the course of my remarks in these communications I have been forced to dabble somewhat in politics, which was done very reluctantly, and would not have been referred to had it not been for the most aggravated assaults upon my political principles and upon those who entertain the same opinions as myself. And I find it very awkward to indulge in political disputes and pay proper attention to my farm and other business at the same time, for a man cannot do both at once, at least, I cannot. I must do one or the other, either mind my own business and let politics alone, or turn patriot and politician, and "save the country," ere it is too late, and my inclinations not tending towards the latter, you may for the present, until "something turns up," number this as the last letter from your friend, A. DAMPHULE.

Correspondence of the Umpqua Gazette. JACKSONVILLE, O. T., August 17, 1855. Editor Gazette--Dear Sir:--The present term of the U. S. District Court for this county is one of unusual interest. Last week several important cases were disposed of, and the greater portion of this week has been consumed in empanelling a jury in the case of Jas. S. Oldham, who is now on trial under an indictment for the murder of Dr. Alexander. Quite an array of counsel has been retained, both on the part of the prosecution and the defence. W. G. T'Vault, Esq., Pros. Atty., is assisted by L. F. Mosher, P. P. Prim and S. F. Chadwick, Esq., of your place. W. H. Farrar, Esq., of Portland, Cook & Cosby, of Yreka, Cal., and Kenny, of this county, are counsel for the defendant.

Business of all kinds is dull in this valley at the present time, nor do we see any indication of improvement for several months to come. Nothing happens to arouse our citizens from their usual quiet, save the arrival of the mail from the North with the GAZETTE and the latest news from the Colville gold mines. Many of our miners have already left for these new diggings, and others are preparing to follow. Since the last election, we have been free from political excitement. The old whig dynasty, once so powerful in Jacksonville, has fallen--completely caved in--the high "places" of trust which "they once filled will know them no more." A change has come over Jackson county. From this time forward, her citizens will be found ready to cooperate with other portions of the Territory in all matters pertaining to the common good of Oregon. Recent developments have shown such an amount of corruption on the part of the late whig office holders of this county, as its honest citizens never dreamed of. We hesitate not in affirming that in no part of our whole Territory is there a better prospect for the democracy than in this valley. The democrats have selected good and honest men for places of trust and responsibility, and I doubt not they will maintain the honor of the party. Those demagogues in the know-nothing-whig ranks, who have hitherto lived by keeping alive sectional prejudices and by appeals to the lowest passions and the most selfish interests, have been forced to retire to that obscurity from which they have shown themselves unworthy ever to have arisen. It is unnecessary to name those who formerly composed the whig regency in this county. We will be magnanimous, and leave our prostrate adversaries to their fate--believing that their history and present position will furnish a warning example of the inevitable fate of all unscrupulous demagogues.

By the late mail arrangements between this place and Scottsburg, the time of transporting the mails between the two points has been reduced from twelve days to six. We regret very much to learn that no service is to be placed on the route from San Francisco to Puget's Sound, including the delivery of the mails at Umpqua by ocean steamers. Gen. Lane will undoubtedly be unremittent in his exertions to procure service on this new route. We still think that upon proper representations the Department will advertise proposals to receive bids for the service, and feel assured that our Delegate will spare no efforts to obtain a delivery of the mails at Umpqua, under the act of last session of Congress. You must not be discouraged, nor despair of Scottsburg. It must ultimately come out. If you had ocean steamers, with San Francisco, it would be the best point in Oregon for the publication of a good democratic newspaper. This you must have. Your paper has done good service to the party and the Territory during the year. The success of the democratic party in Southern Oregon, and the prosperity of this portion of the Territory imperatively demands that it shall be sustained.

Yours, CANDOR. The Sacramento Valley Railroad is progressing finely. Workmen will commence laying the rails on the Sacramento terminus, in a few days. The Union says--"Look out for the engine when the bell rings."

Correspondence of the Umpqua Gazette. AUGUST 21, 1855. EDITOR GAZETTE:--In your last number appeared a communication, in which the character of Gen. Lane was triumphantly vindicated, and wholesome rebuke was administered to that class of unscrupulous politicians who are unsparing in their abuse of political opponents. The circumstances and expressions, which led to the origin of the letter from Elkton, are so similar to such as all have often witnessed, that there can be but little doubt of their correctness. Whatever honesty may have governed the conduct of the voter, he is no less exempt from defamation by wanton charges. Opprobrious epithets are poured out upon the honest motives of a citizen and neighbor, who is the more sensitive, in the ratio of his own consciousness of integrity. These indiscriminate charges of dishonesty exhibit a want of charity. They expose their authors to the suspicion that their judgments are directed by their own experience and feelings. There are, doubtless, many who are governed in their political action by prejudice, interest and personal feeling; yet it is equally evident, that the great majority are governed by higher motives. While the former may lend to mercenary and private ends; the latter are disposed to support those measures that will advance the general prosperity and stability of the country. While the former support men personally; the latter estimate them only as political exponents and instruments. The indiscriminate charge of political dishonesty upon the latter is empty and criminal, and, though often reiterated, will fall to the ground, and rise only to accuse their authors. There can be but one palliation for such conduct. When the soreness and chagrin of defeat excites the bitterness of ungovernable passion, we may then pity the madness that has engulfed the rational man. Yet it would be far more graceful to submit quietly to an unavoidable result, and veil mortification with smiles instead of curses--to yield like good citizens to the will of the majority, and bide the future for victory. In the excitement of an important election and its issues, it is natural that warmth of feeling should be generated, and that, in the earnestness of support and defence, incautious and offensive expressions should occasionally slip. But when the agitation has passed, and the ballot-box has declared its result, it would seem proper that the bitterness of contention should cease, and that neighbors and friends should live together in peace.

For the Umpqua Gazette. JACKSONVILLE, Aug. 17, '55. Smiley Harris, a very worthy gentleman of this place, was shot a few evenings since, by a man by the name of W. H. Mitchell. Mitchell was drunk, and discharged his pistol at any and every object he saw, without reference to what it was, and before he could be arrested he shot Mr. Harris. Had his pistol gone off at the first attempt to discharge it, Mr. H. would have been killed. Mr. Flanagan, (whose brother lives at Coos Bay,) whom you say was killed by the Indians, is living. I have met him several times since his death was published, therefore it is a mistake, and please correct it. The several hundred of volunteers from Yreka, and thereabouts, who have been here after the Indian murderers of Klamath, have returned,--not, however, until arrangements were made to secure the prisoners. The volunteers have behaved well, and complied with the suggestions of Capt. Smith, of Fort Lane, and Dr. Ambrose, Indian Agent, which could only secure peace with the Indians in this valley. The Indian troubles are quite settled. The Indian murderers are to be delivered up to the authorities of Yreka. Yours, JACKSON.

U. S. District Court--Jackson County--August Term, 1855. [FIRST WEEK] Hon. M. P. Deady, Judge. W. H. Farrar, Esq., U. S. Dist. Atty. W. G. T'Vault, Esq., Pros. Atty. J. W. Drew, Dep. U. S. Marshal. T. Pyle, Sheriff. S. H. Taylor, Clerk. Attorneys present,--Messrs. Farrar, Mitchell, Chadwick, Cook, Crosby, T'Vault, Kenny, Prim, Brennan, Mosher, Reed, Colver and Stearns. Grand Jurors,--W. S. Hayden, (Foreman,) W. W. Fowler, Jas. R. Davis, H. W. Nixon, Woodford Reams, Jas. Barrett, Isaac Woolen, Rowland Hall, John Kennedy, George Ross, James Poole, N. B. Evans, Eber Emery, B. B. Griffin, N. W. Fisk, Wm. Ducker, E. B. Ball, Thomas Bailey, Clifton Riley, Granville Lewis, Benj. Armstrong. The Grand Jury presented 15 true bills of indictment, viz. 1 indictment for murder; 1 for assault with intent to kill; 3 for selling liquor to Indians; 10 for selling liquor without license. Twenty-eight cases on the civil docket. Trials have been had in the following criminal cases continued from the May Term, A. D. 1855: Territory of Oregon vs James Hamilton. Indictment for assault with intent to commit murder. Prim for Territory. T'Vault for def't. Verdict--Not guilty of assault with intent to commit murder, but guilty of assault. Sentenced to pay a fine of \$250 and costs of prosecution. Territory of Oregon vs Horace Ish.

Indictment for assault upon Francis Ball by shooting with a pistol with intent to kill. T'Vault and Colver for Territory. Farrar, Cook, Mosher, and Kenny for def't. Verdict--Not guilty. Territory of Oregon vs. George Livingston. Indictment for assault upon E. H. Day by shooting with a pistol with intent to commit murder. Prim for Territory. Cook, T'Vault and Kenny for def't. Verdict--Not guilty of assault with intent to kill, but guilty of assault. Sentenced to one year's imprisonment in Lion county jail, and to pay costs of prosecution. Notice of an application for modification of the sentence has been given.

Latest War News. The allies made an unsuccessful attempt on the 18th June to storm Sebastopol, but were repulsed with terrible slaughter. Accounts published in the Loudon Standard, say the loss of the British officers in killed and wounded amounts to no less than seventy. From the obstinacy and courage with which the combat was maintained by the British at the Redan, and the necessity of eventually retreating from the attack, the slaughter on all sides has been immense and if the information be correct, the loss in killed and wounded of the British alone amounts to very little short of four thousand. The greatest portion of the loss was experienced in a ravine where a powerful an unexpected battery was opened on the troops. There is reason to fear that the loss has been very great; but Lord Palmerston said, last night, that no additional information had been received. The Allies lost terribly by the springing of a mine, and during the confusion, the Russians recaptured the Mamelon Tower. The French from their position in the Mamelon, stormed the Malakhoff Tower, and the British, from their vantage ground in the Quarries, the Redan. What the loss of the French was is not stated, but it was probably full as great as that of the English. The defeat of these attacks, although a severe blow, might not have been so serious if it had not resulted in the recapture of the Mamelon by the Russians. That will necessitate another storm and another slaughter to recover the ground lost. Altogether, the news is more disastrous to the Allies than anything that has occurred since the opening of the siege. It may be remarked as a coincidence, that the furious attacks of the Allies on Sebastopol took place on the 18th of June--the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo.

The grand assault on Sebastopol has for the present failed, still two such proud and powerful nations as France and Great Britain cannot resign their purpose, though it cost years of time and seas of blood to accomplish it. They have staked their military reputation on the reduction of Sebastopol and they cannot retreat. It is worthy of remark that all the powerful fortifications on the land side of the town, such as the Mamelon, the White Tower, the Redan, the Malakhoff Tower and a multitude of others, which the Allies have sacrificed so many lives to obtain, without success, are outside of the original defences of the place and have been constructed since the allies sat down before it. The news from Europe possesses an importance which may not, at first glance, be fully realized. Its effect is most significant. Cotton fell 1-4d in London, consols 1 per cent, and France stock 2 per cent. With this impression, the Legislature of France had been convoked for the purpose of negotiating a new loan of a hundred or a hundred and fifty millions of dollars, whilst the British national debt was increasing at an enormous rate. In itself, this may not seem remarkable, but upon an examination of the Amsterdam prices current, it appears that Russians 5 per cent, are quoted at 10 5-8. The credit of Russia, notwithstanding the fact that she is engaged in a desperate struggle with the two nations claiming to be the most powerful in Europe, aided by a third not at all insignificant, has never varied. This fact is truly significant.

AMERICAN SHARP SHOOTERS ENGAGED IN THE DEFENCE OF SEBASTOPOL. A gentleman of Boston received by the steamer of yesterday, a letter from a young friend who at the date of the letter was fighting in the ranks of the Russian forces at Sebastopol. The following is an extract from the letter: FORTRESS OF SEBASTOPOL. \* \* \* \* I am getting along pretty well, although somewhat troubled with an attack of a fever prevailing here at this time. Myself, with some four hundred and fifty "Yankee boys" have done our part in defending the strongest military works in the world. We are on duty only in the day time and use nothing but the long American rifle. Dr. Tenbroeck is with us, and some forty other American physicians; they are employed constantly night and day. We fare well, and are universal favorites with the Russians. FRED MARSHALL.

CALIFORNIA STATE ELECTION. Governor Bigler has issued a proclamation ordering an election of State officers to be held on the first Wednesday in September next. For news from the south read the communication of "Caudor."

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