

THE COURIER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1866

Are we to have a School House?

We have lately heard a number of our leading citizens, express themselves quite favorably to the institution, of proceedings looking to the early commencement of a school building which shall be of ample dimensions for the accommodation of the large and fast increasing number of scholars in the district, as well as those from a distance who may find it convenient and profitable to favor us with their patronage. The fact that Lafayette, the County Seat of a rich and flourishing county like Yamhill, is entirely without school buildings save those erected by private enterprise, is something that we are loath to acknowledge, but is a fact that duty prompts us to chronicle. Our Court House and Church buildings are such as reflect credit upon the county and her citizens. In fact our Court House is said to be the best public building in the State, except the one in Linn county, which has quite recently been completed, while ours has stood a monument of the enterprise and public spirit of our people, for many years in advance of other and more populous counties of the State. For \$3000 a building could be erected conformably in its appointments to late and generally approved plans, which would, besides imparting to the place an air of thrift and importance, afford school facilities for all the scholars in our district, and also for many more. It will be seen by reference to the statistics of the aggregate wealth of the district, that it would require a comparatively light per centum of a tax to raise the required amount. The advantages accruing to the property holders of a town amply provided with public buildings are manifold and obvious. Property enhances in value in exact proportion to the enterprise and public spirit of the community in the way of permanent improvements. Population is another important consideration to be taken into the account in calculations affecting the value of property and its probable enhancement in value, and in order to secure an increase of population, we must on our part, provide those attractions which are necessary to invite people to settle among us and assist in building up, improving and beautifying our place. Nothing more certainly conduces to this end than thorough and adequate school facilities. It is the custom of many parents in all parts of the country, when their children are well grown up, to remove to town to avail themselves of the superior educational advantages, usually offered at the County Seat. If their own towns do not offer these advantages they are compelled to seek them elsewhere, thus working to the community the loss of valuable citizens as also sums of money expended by each, which, considered in the aggregate, is no trifling amount. This money goes to build up and improve other places, when with half an effort we might have retained it among us. We could elaborate on this subject, but deem it unnecessary. Shall we have a School House? That's the question.

POLEMICAL.—A number of our citizens assembled at the school house on Wednesday evening last, for the purpose of organizing a debating club. They did nothing more we learn, than to detail a committee on permanent organization, and agree upon a question to be debated at the first regular Meeting. This a step in the right direction. One evening of each week can be very profitably spent in a participation in a Polemic of the character proposed to be instituted here.

LOOK UPON THIS AND THEN UPON THAT.—We respectfully invite the attention of the Statesman editor to the following declaration of a loyal correspondent of the Oregonian, writing from Washington, and when it is considered that the man who makes the humiliating confession is the "regular correspondent" of that paper, and that it was published in the same without comment or protest, it follows that they see no way to escape the conclusion which the said correspondent reached, to-wit: That President Lincoln and also President Johnson had violated the Constitution, in that they had appointed and detailed military governors over sovereign States, and had said them out of the people's treasury, \$3,000 a year.

The correspondent says, that "this (\$3,000) was the salary Mr. Lincoln paid Mr. Johnson when he was military governor of Tennessee." And that "there is no law for this expenditure and it is in open violation of [not only the Constitution] but the loyalty oath, also yet it will not provoke comment in Congress." The office of military governor is unknown to law or Constitution.

Now, Mr. Statesman you cannot get out of it by saying that the thing is the fabrication of a "copperhead." Come down and acknowledge that the Constitution has been violated, and trump up the best excuse you can for the act or acts. The leaders of your party have been forced into the fatal admission—it will not do for you to take issue with them on so plain a proposition.

ON WHAT MEAT, &c.—The Editor of the Oregonian devotes a leader in his issue of Feb. 12, to the consideration of the COURIER, and matters and things generally, connected therewith. He brings to bear "copious effusions" of "classical allusions," then "waxes eloquent then "eloquent," until he soars aloft to his zenith. To avoid a sudden collapse he lets himself down by misquoting a paragraph from our paper. We are neither surprised nor abashed at seeing our language tortured in to something foreign to what we said, since it is notorious that misrepresentation constitutes the staple of the Oregonian's columns. Vide Oregon Statesman. It is peculiarly the work of one unable to meet an argument, to resort to ridicule and billingsgate to decoy attention from the true point. The Oregonian is quite welcome to the enjoyment of every advantage he thus gains over us. Such tactics are unworthy an editor of a paper laying any claims to respectability.

EDITORIAL BREVITIES.

A Terrible tragedy was enacted at Carson City on the 5th inst. It seems that one Peaseley was assaulted by a man named Barnhart, with a pistol, receiving a mortal wound, after which, he was beaten over the head severely with the pistol, but, recovering himself, threw Barnhart from him with great violence through a partition door, when drawing his revolver, fired three shots at his antagonist and soon expired. It was immediately afterwards discovered that Barnhart too was dead, having received a fatal shot from one who was himself in the agonies of death.

From the Oregonian we learn that business is on the look up in Portland—that J. Stewart Lewis, the murderer, may soon be expected down from the Dalles, to take lodgings we presume, in the big Brick—that the Bark Mustang, from San Francisco to Victoria, was wrecked on the coast of Vancouver's Island, on Jan. 21.—Vessel and cargo a total loss—that the Steam Ship Pacific departed from Portland for San Francisco on the 13, taking 5,800 Boxes of Apples, 259 hides, 600 sacks, onions, 36 gunnies bacon, and \$140,000 in treasure.

The President has been honored during the past two weeks, with two distinguished delegations: one composed of a large number of the sooty sons of Africa's sunny clime, and the other of gentlemen appointed by the legislature of Virginia. The former left the White House with an exceedingly poor opinion of Mr. Johnson, while the latter delegation departed, entertaining the most profound respect and veneration for him. Great gnashing of teeth among the black republican leaders.

We soon expect to witness an open and undisguised warfare against the President by the republican press and republican leaders generally. Mr. Johnson speaks out plainer every time. His response to the delegation from the Virginia Legislature and the one composed of niggers with Fred Douglass at their head respectively, will go far toward bringing to the culminating point a feud long been enjoining, a "rupture" is imminent.

The telegraph announces the fact that Beas Peind Butler contemplates erecting an extensive Cotton Factory somewhere down in Virginia. We do not believe a word of it. The Beast is too thorough a poltroon to risk himself down there, after the army shall have been withdrawn, besides he had supposed him a shrewder financier than to invest his ill gotten wealth in so hazzardous a scheme.

The Vancouver Register thinks they are likely to strike a good thing in Washington Territory in the way of "gold placers." We hope the fondest dreams of the editor in that behalf may be speedily realized.

At the time Richmond was evacuated, there was in the Confederate treasury, between three and four hundred thousand dollars. The whole amount is said to have been paid to the soldiers in Johnson's army.

The Brown-ville Woolen Factory will soon be completed and ready for the manufacture of fabrics. This we glean from the Albany Democrat.

We noticed in a republican paper some time since, a statement to the effect that furniture and other valuables to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars was abstracted and purloined from the White House, during the latter part of Mr. Lincoln's reign. The question is, what became of the articles? Casson, member of Congress from Iowa says that Mrs. Lincoln only got one article, and that was given her by the Secretary of the Interior, and Commissioner of Public Buildings. Congress was under the necessity of passing an appropriation of \$25,000 to supply the deficiency.

Wonder if Butler had been seen hanging about the White House at or about the time the goods come up missing?

Mrs. Clark, a widow, has lately brought suit in San Francisco, against Michael Reese for one hundred thousand dollars for promising to marry her and failing to come to time.

[From the Daily Oregonian.]

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

CAIRO, Feb. 8.—The steamer St Nicholas struck a snag in Tombizbee river on the 5th and sunk. She had 500 bales of cotton on board, part of which will probably be saved. It is expected that the steamer will prove a total loss. There was no loss of life.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—Miss Bateman, the actress, appeared in the Marine Court in a suit by Mr. Daley, dramatic author, claiming four thousand dollars for literary services. The defense was infancy, Miss Bateman being only 20 years old, which proved a bar to the proceedings.

A woman named Lanna Abraham was arrested on Monday, on Houston street, by a Government detective, who found in her muff the steel plate from which it is alleged over \$24,800 of twenty-five cent fractional currency had been printed.

The Colored Delegation to the President.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The following is the published reply of the colored delegation to President Johnson: "In consideration of a delicate sense of propriety as well as your own repeated intimation of indisposition to discuss or listen to a reply to the opinions you were pleased to express yesterday, the undersigned would respectfully take this method of replying thereto, believing as we do that the views and opinions expressed in that address unsound and prejudicial to the highest interests of our race, we can not do otherwise than expose the same, and as far as may be in our power arrest their dangerous influence. The first point to which we feel especially bound to take exception is your attempt to found a policy opposed to our enfranchisement upon the alleged hostility of the former slaves towards the poor white people in the South. We admit the existence of this hostility and hold it entirely reciprocated, but your obviously commit an error by drawing your argument from a state of slavery and making it a base for the policy adapted to a state of freedom. The poor whites were the natural tools of the slave masters in oppressing the slaves and you cannot but admit that the cause of this hatred has been removed by the abolition of slavery. In the name of Heaven, we reverentially ask, how can you, in view of the professed desire to promote the welfare of the black man, deprive him of all means of defense and elude him when you regard his emancipation in parody of political power. On the subject of colonization that you were pleased to touch on, very much could be said, but it seems that no greater injury could be done the colored race than the idea that the presence of negroes might be tolerated in degrading slavery, and that they must be driven into exile for no other cause than having become free.

A delegation of colored representatives from different States are now in Washington to urge the interests of the colored people. They had an interview with the President this afternoon. The President shook hands with each member of the delegation. Fred Douglass first advanced for that purpose. G. F. Downing addressed the President, saying: We have been delegated by some who have unjustly worn iron manacles, and by those classed as ministers in the States called free.

Homicide at Eugene.
Eugene City, Feb. 11.—A boy Deadmond, a citizen of the town, was shot last evening in a saloon and instantly killed by the saloon keeper, Steve Gardiner. An inquest was held over the body this morning. Gardiner is under arrest and will be examined to-morrow. It is generally believed that the homicide was justifiable. Deadmond was a brother of Henry Deadmond who was hanged for murder at the Dalles a year ago.

Twenty-seven Children Drowned.
Cincinnati, Feb. 10.—The Dayton Ohio Journal of yesterday, reports that twenty-seven children were drowned in the reservoir at Celina on Wednesday. They were attending school in the vicinity of the reservoir, and at noon all the scholars twenty-seven in number, went on the ice to slide, when it broke through with them. The whole party were drowned before help could reach them.

Relief for Mrs. Johnson Davis.
Chicago, Feb. 11.—The Mason, G. papers have an appeal from Governor Jenkins to the ladies of Georgia to contribute a fund for Mrs. J. H. Davis, paying one dollar each to the county treasurers. All sums will be forwarded to the State Treasurer.

Visit of Delegates from the Virginia Legislature to the President.
Washington, Feb. 10.—A delegation from the Virginia Legislature visited the President this morning for the purpose of delivering resolutions approving his policy. Speaker Baldwin said Virginia accept the result of the contest in good faith and recognized the United States and the Government, and said the people would use the freedmen justly. The President replied expressing his pleasure at meeting so influential a delegation.

Chicago, Feb. 11.—The President's speech to the delegation of the Virginia Legislature yesterday contained several important declarations, conspicuous among which were the following. He said: I do not intend to say anything personal but at the beginning of the recent gigantic struggle there were extreme men North and extreme men South. This great fault was kept upon the anvil and hammered during the rebellion, and has been hammered ever since the rebellion, and there seems to be a disposition to continue hammering until the Government is destroyed. I have opposed that system always, I oppose it now. The Government is certain of its powers and in the maintenance of the principles of the constitution taken hold of one extreme and with the strong arm of physical power put down the rebellion. This other extreme which stands in the way must get out of it.—The Government must stand unshaken and unmoved upon its basis. The Government must be preserved. I hope that all the people of this country, in good faith and in the fullness of their hearts, will fix upon the principles which you have enunciated here today, of the maintenance of the Union, laying aside every other feeling for the good of a common country and with uplifted faces to heaven swear that our goods and our altars and all shall sink into the dust together rather than that this glorious Union shall not be preserved. I am gratified to find the loyal sentiment of the country manifest in these expressions, and now that an attempt to destroy the Union has failed, I trust we shall grow determined to preserve the Union in its original purity against all opposition.

After some further conversation between members of the delegation and the President, the latter said: If now the country can arrive at a point at which these states are all restored, each having its representation in the national council, with the Union restored so that we can proclaim peace and good will among the people of the United States, it will be to me a very happy day. I care not what may be said in taunt or jeer, but I tell you that whenever that point is reached, the men are of my ambition will have been filled.

For the Pardon of Breckinridge.

Petitions have been received for presentation to the President, asking for the pardon of John C. Breckinridge, signed by upwards of 70 members of the Kentucky Legislature.

The President on Negro Suffrage.

Boston, Feb. 11.—The correspondent of the Boston Advertiser gives a reported conversation between the President and a distinguished representative, wherein Mr. Johnson expressed himself desirous to see secured to the colored people a fair chance but nothing he could say or do now, if his former language and antecedents are not sufficient, would give any such guarantee. It was best to speak plainly, and he thought the effort now making for universal suffrage was not wise or just. In regard to difficulty with the party that elected him, he says he might differ with individuals of what was called the Union party, but in the main, he considered himself in general accord with that party. He was not a party man, but meant to sink in the patriot, and should be wholly at liberty to differ and to state the ground of difference.

Trial of Semmes.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The trial of Semmes has been delayed this long for the reason that all proceedings requisite to its commencement are not yet agreed upon. The names of many parties of high position in the merchant service, including upwards of fifty Captains who have suffered from his depredations, are known and some of them will probably be summoned as the proper time. It would facilitate matters if any of those who have served on the Alabama, either as officers or among the crew, whose testimony would be reliable either for the defense or prosecution, should send their address to the Judge Advocate, at the Navy Department.

Nebraska Seeks Admission into the Union.

Omaha, Feb. 9.—The Legislature has framed a State Constitution to be submitted to the people on the 24th of June. An election for state officers take place at the same time.

An Act of Justice.

Washington, Feb. 4.—It is mentioned in diplomatic circles that the wife of Signor Bertinatti, Italian Minister, who had been in arrears was Mrs. Brest, of Vicksburg, has received from the Quartermaster-General \$50,000, the value of her property appropriated or destroyed by our army at the capture of that place in 1863. Madam Bertinatti, formerly Mrs. Brest, resided in Vicksburg up to the time of investment by our army and has all along been an ardent sympathizer with the rebellion.

Napoleon intends Withdrawing his Troops from Mexico.

Boston, Feb. 6.—The steamship Palmerston, from Liverpool January 23d, has arrived. The Emperor Napoleon in his speech says, an arrangement is being made to withdraw the French troops from Mexico. It is hoped this will pacify the people of the United States, who were invited to join the expedition, but declined, although such an expedition was not opposed to their interests.

The Russian encroachment in Central Asia has latterly assumed a new phase. It is now conceded by the Anglo Indian press that the slow but sure advance made by the Russian Government in Central Asia are endangering the future safety of England's Indian Empire. The Bombay Gazette admits that England is utterly helpless to prevent Russia from proceeding in her career of conquest, at the same time bears testimony to the wonderful civilizing influence of Russia upon Asia.

Hartford, Feb. 7.—The Democratic State Convention to-day was the largest held for many years. James E. English, of New Haven, was nominated for Governor; E. L. Hyde, of Hartford, for Lieutenant-Governor. The resolutions passed endorsed the restoration policy of President Johnson.

Concord, N. H., Feb. 8.—The Democratic State Convention to-day was the largest held for many years. J. B. Sinclair, of Bethlehem, was nominated for Governor, and G. H. Price, of Dover, for Railroad Commissioner. The resolutions adopted endorse the President in his endeavors to have the Southern States represented and his discountenance of any amendment to the Constitution.