

# LIBERAL REPUBLICAN.

VOL. 4,

DALLAS, OREGON, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1873.

No. 17

**The Liberal Republican**  
Official Paper for Polk County.  
Is Issued Every Saturday Morning, at  
Dallas, Polk County, Oregon.  
**P. C. SULLIVAN PROPRIETOR.**  
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JOURNAL**, is in every respect a First-  
Class Magazine. Its articles are of the highest  
interest to all. It teaches what we are and how  
to make the most of ourselves. The informa-  
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is well worth the price of the Magazine to every  
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and OREGON REPUBLICAN together for \$4 00  
We commend the JOURNAL to all who want  
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**PROFESSIONAL CARDS.**

**P. C. SULLIVAN,**  
Attorney & Counsellor-At-Law,  
Dallas, Oregon.  
Will practice in all the Courts of the State.

**SIMPSON & STONE,**  
Attorneys at Law.  
Will practice in all the Courts of the 3d Ju-  
dicial District.

**BOISE & WILLIS,**  
Attorneys at Law  
SALEM, OREGON.  
Will practice in all the courts in the State

**JOHN J. DALY,**  
Att'y & Counsellor-at-Law  
DALLAS, OREGON.  
Will practice in the Courts of Record and In-  
ferior Courts. Collections attended to promptly.  
OFFICE—In the Court House.

**DR. SITES & GRUBBS,**  
Physicians and  
Surgeons,  
OFFER THEIR PROFESSIONAL SER-  
vice to the citizens of Dallas and vicinity  
OFFICE—In rear of Nichols & Hyde's  
Drug Store.

**DR. HUDSON A. M.**  
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,  
OFFICE—Over Souther's Store,  
Cor. Commercial & State Sts., Salem, Ogn  
with Dr. Richardson.  
Nov 9.

**NOTICE.**  
NOTICE is hereby given that on the 26 day  
of July, A. D., 1873 there will be a meeting  
at Bethel Polk County Ogn, at one o'clock P. M.,  
on said day of the Stock Holders of the Lin-  
coln warehouse and shipping company which  
said meeting will be for the purpose of electing  
officers for said corporation.  
Dated at Dallas June 19th 1873.  
J. S. Townsend,  
H. N. V. Holmes,  
E. C. Keyt, Cor's.

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DALLAS ADVERTISEMENTS.

## GOOD NEWS! NEW GOODS!

FOR THE PRESENT SEASON.

We respectfully call the attention of the  
Public to our Well Selected Stock of

Ladies' Dress Goods.

Ladies' and Misses' Hats.

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Gloves, Gaiters, Etc

Hard ware.

Groceries.

School Books.

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In Fact Everything Found in a First-  
Class Retail Store.

We can assure our Patrons that we will be  
up with the times.

Come and Examine our Stock before pur-  
chasing elsewhere.

Country Produce taken in exchange for  
Goods.

N. & J. D. LEE,  
Dallas April 22, 1871.

## DALLAS LIVERY, FEED & SALE

**STABLE**  
Cor. Main and Court Streets.

**THOS. G. RICHMOND, Proprietor.**

SAVING PURCHASED THE ABOVE  
LI Stock of Mr. A. H. Whitely, we have re-  
fitted and restocked it in such a manner as  
will satisfactorily meet every want of the com-  
munity.

Buggies, single or double, Hacks, Con-  
cord Wagons, etc., etc.,  
Furnished at an hours, day or night, on  
short notice.

Superior Saddle Horses, let by the  
Day or Week.

**TERMS, REASONABLE.**  
T. G. RICHMOND

**W. H. RUBELL.**



## DENTIST.

Office one door North of the Post Office

DALLAS, OREGON.

Particular attention given to the regula-  
tion of children's teeth.  
work warranted Jan 11th 73

## CHEAP PAINTING

AS I AM NOW THROUGH WITH THE  
most any work this fall, I propose to  
paint H. CKS, WAGONS, and BUG-  
GIES at \$3.00 apiece. Now is the time to  
bring on your old Hacks and Wagons as you  
will never get them painted cheaper.

Shop on the corner over G. B. Styles

ALL KINDS OF WORK. SEWING  
Washing and Ironing, &c., done by M  
urphy on short notice and on reasonable  
terms. All orders left at the house, south of  
part of Dallas will be immediately attended to.

## NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ap-  
plication has been made to the County Court  
for an order, to sell the following described real  
property belonging to the estate of A. C. Daniel  
deceased situated in the County of Polk and  
State of Oregon to-wit: Beginning at the S E  
Corner of the Land Claim of Jesse Harriett;  
thence West on the S line of said claim 27 95  
chains thence N 65 chs thence W 7 66 chs to  
the center of the county road from Salem ferry  
to Spring Valley thence N 10° 35' W along the  
center of said road 13 56 chs thence East 40 50  
chs to the bank of the Willamette river thence  
along the bank of said river to the place of  
beginning containing 65 46 acres more or less  
By order of the Court the 9th day of August A D  
1873 at 1 o'clock P. M. of said day is set for  
hearing said petition all persons having an  
interest in said matter are hereby notified to  
appear at said time and show cause if any why  
the prayer of said petition should not be  
granted.  
Done by order of the County Court,  
O. F. Daniels, Administrator.

## A WONDERFUL STORY.

The Confession of John C. Nixon, Here-  
before Called "Wrestling Joe."

THE STATEMENTS OF OTHER WITNESSES.

STATE OF OREGON, ) ss.  
COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH, )

I, John C. Nixon, being duly sworn,  
depose and say: That my true name  
is John C. Nixon; that I was born in  
London, England; that I am about  
sixty years of age; that I was reared  
in Queens county, Ireland, until I was  
seventeen years old; that my father's  
residence was called "Milford Cottage,"  
about seven miles from Carlow, and  
about three miles from Athy; that my  
father's name was Frederick R. Nixon;  
that my mother's maiden name was Char-  
lotte Rencher; that she had a brother  
named Charles, who lived in Halifax  
county, North Carolina; that one of my  
father's sisters married a man by the  
name of Cook, who lived about a half  
mile from "Milford Cottage;" that I  
had an old maiden aunt named Jane  
Nixon; that I had three brothers—  
Frederick R., Walter T. and Robert  
Nixon; that I had one sister named  
Dorothea E. Nixon; that my father  
moved into Carlow several years before  
I left home.

On the 13th of May 1833, I left  
home and went to Liverpool, where my  
father accompanied me, he then re-  
turned home, and I shipped for Amer-  
ica, and after reaching New York I  
went to Norfolk, thence by Elizabeth  
City to Edenton; thence to my uncle's  
Charles Rencher's; from there I went  
to Clarksville, Tennessee, with General  
Bryant; thence to New Orleans, thence  
to Alexandria, thence back again to  
New Orleans, thence to Todd county,  
Kentucky, and there worked in a store  
for a man named Tom Anderson; I  
then went to Charlestown, South Car-  
olina, with some horses;  
then shipped aboard a small  
schooner as cook; then went to  
Wilmington, North Carolina; there  
shipped on board the cutter Da-  
vidson with Lieut. Russell. As soon as I  
told Lieut. Russell who I was, and that  
I was a relative of the Renchers, he  
released me from the ship, and I went  
to General Bryant's, in Grayville coun-  
ty, North Carolina; from there I went  
to Abraham Rencher's; from thence to  
Wilmington, and shipped aboard a  
schooner loaded with lumber and went  
to Havana; there the schooner loaded  
with fruit and sailed for Mobile, Ala-  
bama. I arrived in Mobile about 1837  
or 1838, and there worked on a steam-  
boat for a time. About the year 1845  
I married a girl named Elizabeth Toler,  
in Baldwin county, Alabama. I have  
lived in that State and Mississippi and  
Louisiana until I left and went to St.  
Louis, in 1879, and from there came to  
Oregon—excepting since the war,  
when I made three or four trips up  
the Mississippi river, begging.

I separated from my wife about  
fifteen years ago. After our separa-  
tion I made Scarborough Melvin's and a  
man named Chandler in Baldwin coun-  
ty, Alabama, my home, excepting about  
two years, until I came to Oregon. I  
left Baldwin county the last time  
about the 1st of August, 1870, on a  
begging trip; I went by the way of  
New Orleans. When I left Baldwin  
county I left nine head of cattle, 130  
chickens, and \$350 in money with a  
man by the name of Chandler; he lived  
about 17 miles northeast of Mobile,  
near Scarborough Melvin's who was  
step father of my wife. I begged in  
the principal towns along the river  
until I reached St. Louis, Missouri. I  
had been there five or six days, when a  
man overtook me as I was going up  
street, and took me by the hand and  
asked me what my name was and what  
I was doing. I told him my name was  
John C. Nixon, and that I was beg-  
ging; he then asked me where I came  
from; I told him I came from Mobile,  
Alabama; he asked me many questions,  
and among them how long I had been  
in St. Louis; I told him five or six  
days; he asked me if begging was not  
a hard way of making a living, I told him  
it was, but I had to do it, for I had no  
money. After considerable conversa-  
tion he said to me: "You are the  
very man I want." He then said:  
"Would you like to make seven or  
eight thousand dollars?" I told him I  
would, if I would not have to go to  
the penitentiary or jail; he told me  
that I would not have to go to either;  
he told me his name was James Moore;  
that he was from Oregon, and that if I  
would go with him and do as he  
wanted me to, he would give me \$8,000.  
I told him I did not want to go to Ore-  
gon. Moore said, "Well, if you won't go I  
know another old man that will." I  
then told him I believed I would go.  
He then took me over the Mississippi

river to a hotel, and told me that I  
must change my name. And say that  
my name was "Joseph Thomas," or  
"Wrestling Joe;" that I was ninety  
one years old; that I was the father of  
Finice, Caruthers; that I was born in  
Kaskaskia; that I went to Tennessee  
and married Elizabeth Caruthers, in  
Dixon county, Tennessee, in the year  
1816; that I lived with my wife,  
Elizabeth, in Dixon county about six  
months; that I then moved to Christian  
county, Kentucky; that my wife had  
one son, and that his name was Finice,  
and that he had red hair; that I lived  
with my wife about five years; that we  
separated; that I went to the moun-  
tains and trapped for a living. Moore  
and I staid over the river only a part  
of a day this time, and we then came  
back to St. Louis, and he wanted me to go  
with him to a tavern, but I told him  
I would go to my boarding house,  
where I had been stopping. Moore  
came next morning and took me over  
the river to the same place where we  
were the day before. He then got paper,  
pen and ink and wrote down what he  
wanted me to study, so I could answer  
questions. He told me there was a  
man by the name of Finice Caruthers,  
and his mother who had died in Ore-  
gon and left a large amount of property  
and had left no one to inherit it, but  
that there was two or three men in  
Oregon who were rascals and  
swindlers, and were about to get the prop-  
erty, but had no right to it, and that  
he and a man named Davidson wanted  
me to come to Oregon and personate  
the father of Finice Caruthers, so  
that he, Davidson and others could get  
the property. The following is as  
near as I can remember, what Moore  
wrote down for me to study: I must  
say my name was Joseph Thomas, or  
"Wrestling Joe;" that I was ninety-  
one years old, that I was the father of  
Finice Caruthers; that I was born in  
Kaskaskia; that I went to Tennessee  
and married Elizabeth Caruthers, in  
Dixon county, in 1816; that I lived  
there about six months and then moved  
to Christian county, Kentucky, and  
worked on a mill; that I lived with  
my wife about five years; that I had  
one son; that his name was Finice,  
and that he had red hair; that I left  
my wife in Kentucky and went to the  
mountains and trapped for a living;  
that I afterwards met my wife and  
son at St. Louis and other places; that  
I moved my wife and son from St. Louis  
to Harmony Mission, Missouri, and that  
Green Davidson went part of the way  
with me, and that there were two trap-  
pers along; that I settled my wife on a  
creek near Harmony Mission and went  
trapping again; that I saw my wife  
every once in a while; that Finice  
came down to a creek where I was  
trapping to see me two or three times;  
that my wife and Finice lived near  
Harmony Mission about ten years, and  
then moved to Oregon; that I met a  
trapper in the mountains who told me  
my wife and son had gone to Oregon.  
Moore and myself staid to days, this  
time over at the hotel, so as to give me  
time to study what Moore had written  
down for me, so I could answer the  
questions a magistrate would ask me  
when we got to St. Louis; we  
then went to St. Louis. As we  
were going up from the ferry boat,  
Moore gave me a one hundred dollar  
bill; we met Green Davidson on the  
street, and he took me into a  
store and gave me a  
new suit of clothes; Davidson and Moore  
took me to a great big house—I think  
it was a hotel; from there Davidson  
and a man (I think his name was  
Johnson) took me to a picture gallery  
and had my picture taken; Davidson  
or Johnson, I can't remember which,  
told me to write "Joseph Thomas" on  
one of my pictures and not  
make a mistake; we then returned to  
the hotel and they sent for a squire;  
I repeated to the Squire the lesson  
which Moore had written down for  
me to study, as well as I could  
remember it; as soon as I had done  
telling my story there was a man (I  
think it was Johnson) took a paper  
or deed, and gave it to the Squire.  
Who read it to me, then Johnson (I  
think it was) signed the name  
Joseph Thomas to the paper, and I  
touched the pen; Moore then paid  
the Squire \$3. Davidson and Moore  
then took me to Lebanon, Illinois,  
where Davidson lived, and left me at  
a hotel; Moore said he was going to  
New York to get money to pay me  
and I was to stay at Lebanon until he  
came back; I think he was gone about  
eight days; when he came back he  
took me to St. Louis to a tavern, and  
paid me \$1 000, and said he would pay  
me the balance of the \$3,000 when we  
got to Oregon, and when the trial was  
over would give me \$5,000 more.

Moore and Davidson told me that I  
would not have to be gone longer than  
three months. I did not want to come to  
Oregon, but they said I must come,  
and they would pay me well. While  
at St. Louis, I repeatedly told Moore  
and Davidson my true name, where I  
was from and all about myself.  
Moore, Davidson and his wife, and  
myself, all started to Oregon together;  
arriving at Portland, I staid one night;  
next day Moore took me to Oregon  
City on the cars; McCown or Johnson  
took me from the cars to the hotel at  
Oregon City; the second day (I think  
it was) after I got to Oregon City,  
Johnson came to my room at the hotel,  
and said he had met me in St. Louis;  
said "don't you know me? I was in  
St. Louis with Moore and Green  
Davidson." He then commenced talk-  
ing to me about who I was, and where  
I came from, and I thought he was a  
partner of Moore and Davidson, and  
commenced telling him what my true  
name was and where I came from; he  
then said his dinner was waiting, and  
he must go. I do not want to tell on  
Johnson as he never did me any harm.  
I was taken from Oregon City to the  
opposite side of the river, and stayed a  
few days; I was then sent to Green  
Davidson's, in Marion county, after I  
went there, Moore sent me \$200 by  
Green Davidson.

The paper Moore wrote for me to  
study while him and me were at the  
hotel opposite St. Louis, Missouri, he  
took from me; I do not know what he  
did with it.  
When I went to Green Davidson's,  
Moore came up, and wrote another,  
and gave it to me; it was like the one  
he gave me at St. Louis, except that  
the one at St. Louis made me say I  
only had one son, and the one he wrote  
at Green Davidson's made me say that  
I had two sons—Finice and John—and  
that John died at Harmony Mission.  
This paper was given me about three  
months after I went to Green David-  
son's, in Oregon; I studied this paper  
in the presence of Green Davidson and  
his wife; I studied this paper until I  
wrote it out, and so they had to write  
the third one. About four or five  
months after I went to Davidson's in  
Oregon, he paid me \$1 700. While I  
was at Oregon City, after the payments  
in the summer of 1871, I had \$2 800  
with me, and I lost, or some one stole  
it from me, and Green Davidson slept  
in the room with me the night I lost  
it.

All the witnesses who swore that they  
knew me, and that my name was  
Joseph Thomas, swore falsely, for my  
name is John C. Nixon; I never saw  
Joe Meek in my life, in the mountains  
or anywhere else, until I saw him in  
Portland; I never was a hunter, or  
trapper, or mountaineer; I never worked  
on a mill of any kind; I never was  
at Harmony Mission, in Missouri; I  
never knew Elizabeth Caruthers or her  
son Finice. My wife's name was  
Elizabeth Toler, who I married in  
Baldwin county, Alabama, and by her  
we had two children. My wife's father  
died, and mother-in-law married again  
to a man named Scarborough Melvin,  
who lives in Baldwin county, Alabama,  
16 miles northeast of Mobile; when I  
lived in Alabama I boated wood and  
lumber, and kept a boarding house in  
Mobile, and after I got crippled I  
begged for a living.

The whole scheme of bringing me  
to Oregon as a witness in the trial  
about the Caruthers estate, and as to  
my knowing anything about the matter  
in any way shape or form, is a grand  
fraud that I was hired by Moore and  
Davidson to swear to; the whole story  
was manufactured and drilled into me  
by Moore and Davidson; I had to learn  
my lessons like a school boy; Moore  
generally wrote his; Davidson gave  
his verbally, Davidson was teacher.  
One time while I was at Green David-  
son's, when he lived at Fairfield, they  
kept me out in the woods two weeks to  
keep Hannah from seeing me; he told  
me to keep away from Hannah, that he  
(Hannah) would kill me; Moore and  
Davidson put white paint on my hair  
to make me look old. Last September  
1849 Green Davidson came down to  
Oregon City to see Johnson and Pease  
and the man in the Land Office, and  
to have them pay me the \$5,000 that  
Moore agreed to pay as soon as the  
suit was over; but they refused to pay  
the \$5,000, for the reason that Hannah  
had given them trouble, and finally we  
com-promised by their agreeing to give  
me \$3,000, as follows: Pease's note,  
due the 14th of September, 1873, for  
\$1 057 33, and Johnson and the man  
in the Land Office to pay the balance  
equally between them; the amount due  
from the man in the Land Office and  
Johnson was paid to me, and Pease's  
note delivered to me somewhere about

the 15th of September, 1872, in  
Mitchell & Dolph's office, at Portland,  
by a young man whom they sent down  
to pay me; I do not know who this  
young man was. In March or April  
last I got Mr. John Phillips of Salem,  
to come down to Oregon City with me  
to see Moore, to have him pay me  
\$2,000 that they failed to pay me in  
the settlement. I asked Moore to pay  
me the \$2,000. [They had agreed to  
pay me \$8,000, and had paid me but  
\$3,000.] I told him I wanted him to pay  
me or I would go to Portland and tell  
Hannah the whole secret. Moore said:  
"If you do he (Hannah) will put you  
in the penitentiary." I told Moore  
that he (Moore) did not talk that way  
in St. Louis; that he had told me  
there was no danger. Moore said in  
reply: "There is no danger now, if  
you will do as I tell you, but if you  
tell Hannah you will go to Penitentiary  
for life." I told him that I did not  
care, that I would tell it anyhow.

I think that it was on Monday, the 12th  
day of the month of May last, I told  
Green C. Davidson that I had made a  
confession to Hannah of the whole  
secret about myself, who I was, where  
I came from, who I had been with  
here, and what they brought me home  
for. Davidson then said: "We are  
all ruined; I will lose my \$5,000, and  
you will go to penitentiary for life;  
if any person asks you about the matter,  
tell them I had nothing to do with it,  
that Moore did it all."

The foregoing is a true and correct  
statement of my name and family con-  
nections, and the circumstances under  
which I was induced to come to Ore-  
gon to personate the father of Finice  
Caruthers, and give my testimony in  
connection with the Caruthers estate,  
and I now make this statement that  
those whom I have wronged may be  
enabled to obtain justice.

**JOHN C. NIXON.**

Subscribed in presence of Ralph  
Wileox, L. Brooks, Elizabeth Nixon  
C. M. Godbold, John Hickey.

STATE OF OREGON, ) ss.  
COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH, )

I hereby certify that on the 19th  
day of June, A. D., 1873, personally  
appeared before me John C. Nixon, who,  
being by me duly sworn, did depose and  
say that the foregoing statement was true,  
as he verily believed; that, before swear-  
ing to and subscribing said affidavit,  
the said statement was read to the  
affiant and by him subscribed in my  
presence.

Witness my hand and official seal the  
day and year in this certificate above  
written.

[SEAL] C. W. PARRISH,  
Notary Public for Oregon.

STATE OF OREGON, ) ss.  
COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH, )

I, Elizabeth Nixon, being first duly  
sworn, depose to say: That I met  
John C. Nixon, who signed the un-  
sworn affidavit, about the year 1837;  
that my maiden name was Elizabeth  
Toler, and my father's name was Daniel  
Toler. As near as I can recollect,  
he died about the year 1833. About  
the year 1855 my mother married  
Scarborough Melvin. I was born in  
1832, and was forty one years old the  
22d day of February last. I first met  
John C. Nixon about 1840, at my  
father's house about three miles from  
Blakely, in Baldwin county Alabama.  
My father had been up to a plantation  
of his on Middle river, and when he  
returned John C. Nixon came home  
with him. This was the first time I  
remember of seeing him. Mr. Nixon  
made my father's house a home from  
that date until he married me, on the  
25th of May, 1845, at that place. Mr.  
Nixon and myself lived in and near  
Blakely until about 1849.

Our first child, a girl, was born at  
my father's house on the 11th day of  
February, 1848, and died May 10,  
1848. In 1849, Mr. Nixon and my-  
self moved to Fish river, where we  
remained but a short time and then  
moved to Bayou Manette, where Mr.  
Nixon commenced building a boat.  
We remained there about three or  
four months, and then moved to  
Balunxey on the lake in Mississippi. We  
remained there four or five months,  
where Mr. Nixon kept a store. We  
then moved to New Orleans, in 1850,  
where Mr. Nixon kept an oyster saloon  
on Circus street, near the corner of  
Grevis street. We then returned to  
Mobile in 1851, where we kept a board-  
ing-house. I think it was on Water  
street, between Congress and Adams  
streets. In 1852 we went on the rail-  
road from Mobile to Citronell, where  
Mr. Nixon engaged in livery track.

Concluded on fourth page.