



THE PUGET SOUND HERALD is the oldest and largest newspaper published in Washington Territory, and has the largest circulation.

It is published every THURSDAY EVENING, at \$5 per annum, in advance; for six months, \$3; three months, \$2; single copies, 10 cents.

Advertisements, to insure insertion without delay, should be handed in on or before Wednesday of each week.

L. P. FISHER, 625 Washington st., San Francisco. Authorized to act as the Agent of this paper in receiving advertisements and subscriptions in San Francisco and elsewhere, and collecting and receiving for the same.

THE columns of the Puget Sound Herald are open to communications on all questions of public policy and interest, and the advocacy of all sides of every question shall be freely heard; but such communications as are not of a general public nature, or are intended for the amusement of individuals only, will be charged as advertisements. This rule will in no case be departed from.

Legal Tender Notes received at par for Subscriptions and Advertisements.

PUGET SOUND HERALD. STEILACOOM, W. T., Thursday Evening, May 28, 1863.

GEORGE GIBBS, Esq.—In the San Francisco Bulletin of a late date we find the following notice of the doings of Geo. Gibbs, Esq., one of the oldest and most respected citizens of this country: "George Gibbs, who is well known in the scientific annals of our Pacific domain, is now preparing a work on the Indian languages of California and the Northwest Coast, for the Smithsonian contributions to knowledge—which is a sufficient guarantee that it will be of a superior character. The work will include an Indian tribal map, with vocabularies and critical analysis of not less than one hundred of our aboriginal idioms, which he has collected during a residence of over ten years on this coast, and also from the contributions of his friends. Having served here in the Indian Department, with the Railroad Surveys and the late Boundary Survey between British Columbia and the United States territories, under Commissioner Archibald Campbell, Mr. Gibbs, with long devotion to the study of the California Indian ethnology, will be enabled to produce one of the best collated and compiled works of the kind yet attempted, and which is looked for by the scientific world with much interest. He lately edited an excellent grammatical essay on the language of the Yakima Indians of Washington Territory," &c. Though a geologist by profession, Mr. Gibbs has acquired an enviable reputation for literary ability. Among the translations from his pen is the great Gayacactus hexa, published in San Francisco some six or seven years ago, under the auspices of Lieut. Derby, or Squibb alias Phoenix; and, later still, the hoax of the Goods, a geological specimen said to have been found on Fraser River, to which his fertile imagination attributed the remarkable property of gradually turning men to stone. As a literary writer he has few equals on this coast. In a private letter recently received from him, he expressed a desire to return to his home here as soon as he completed the work above alluded to, on which he was then engaged.

THE WEATHER.—In California, complaint is made of the dry weather, amounting to a drought; here, people complain of a surfeit of rain. During the past fortnight, a very large quantity of rain has fallen in this vicinity. It has rained daily and nightly, with short intervals of clear and mild weather, and on Monday last one of the most violent hail storms we ever witnessed took place. This is a very unusual weather for this period of the year, but we have not learned that it has been productive of any injury. There was quite a heavy frost on Monday night.

VICTOR SMITH REMOVED.—From Olympia we learn that intelligence has been received there of the removal of Victor Smith, and that Fred. A. Wilson, of Port Townsend, has been appointed Collector of Customs for the Puget Sound District. Alan, poor Victor! a victor no longer. A greater than he has arisen in Israel—no less a personage than Dr. Anson G. Henry, Surveyor-General of Washington Territory; for through his influence alone, we believe, has the whimsical Victor been displaced. Bully for Henry! He's the big top in the puddle now.

REBELS ARRESTED SLAVE.—Since a single Southerner didn't prove himself a match for half a dozen Northerners, as we were so disappointed by the Northern press would be done, the rebels begin to entertain thoughts of arming their slaves, and promise for them a process which their masters failed to exhibit. A Georgia paper, favoring the project, says that in that State alone they "could pick up ten thousand negroes that would register in meeting fifteen thousand Yankees in deadly conflict." Just try it on, Mr. Rebel.

THE CALIFORNIA WHEAT CROP.—Late advices from California represent the wheat crop of that State as having suffered severely from the unfavorable spring weather, and the prospects of a fair crop are discouraging. Large fields are said to have been damaged to such an extent as not to be fit to cut for hay; others will not produce enough for seed for the ensuing year. We are inclined to think these reports are greatly exaggerated for speculative purposes, as was the case last spring.

POETRY.—In response to petitions for an armistice and peace, a Union Democrat in the Ohio Legislature offered a resolution setting forth "That we will have no dissolution of the Union; that we will have no secession; that we can fight as long as rebels and traitors can; that we will not surrender until we are restored; and we will never despair of the Republic." The resolution was adopted. Ohio is sound on the Union question.

RECOVERED.—We have received another communication from Aunt Mary, entitled "Mrs. Smith on the Freedmen." It came to hand the late for this issue; our columns being previously filled with other matters. Next week we shall make room for it.

HEALTH OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY. It has been generally supposed by old residents of this Territory, without figures upon which to base such a supposition, that this climate was the most healthy on the globe. The last census report, recently received, settles the matter beyond question. The Oregon Argus compiles the following statement from that report, showing that Washington Territory is the healthiest part of the Union. The very marked difference in mortality between this Territory and California will surprise many, while the exhibit cannot but gratify all who feel an interest in the development of this region:

By the Eighth Census preliminary report, just published, we see that Oregon and Washington Territory are the most favored spots in the whole United States, in regard to health. During the year ending June 1st, 1860, there was only one death to every 218 inhabitants in Oregon, and one to every 228 in Washington Territory, while in California there was one to every 100. In Minnesota, one to every 153, Alabama 1 to 74, Arkansas 1 to 48, Connecticut 1 to 74, Delaware 1 to 89, Florida 1 to 78, Georgia 1 to 92, Illinois 1 to 87, Indiana 1 to 87, Iowa 1 to 91, Kansas 1 to 73, Kentucky 1 to 69, Louisiana 1 to 57, Maine 1 to 81, South Carolina 1 to 71, Tennessee 1 to 72, Texas 1 to 63, Vermont 1 to 92, Virginia 1 to 70, Wisconsin 1 to 107, New Mexico 1 to 71, Utah 1 to 106, Maryland 1 to 92, Massachusetts 1 to 87, Michigan 1 to 100, Mississippi 1 to 64, Missouri 1 to 66, New Hampshire 1 to 72, New Jersey 1 to 88, New York 1 to 82, North Carolina 1 to 84, Ohio 1 to 98, Pennsylvania 1 to 93, Rhode Island 1 to 69. The report, in noticing the comparative paucity of deaths here, says:—A feature worthy of mention is the small mortality in the new States of Minnesota and Oregon, and in Washington Territory. On examining the returns, we find here the least mortality; but early explorations in the territory had determined "the sky influences" to be favorable, and the climate healthy. By the "sky influences," we suppose Superintendent Kennedy means those "influences" which are most active in winter, when such "conservatives" as abhor water, and might do out of pure nastiness, get the scales washed off occasionally, so as to open the pores and keep them in tolerable health.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS. By the mail of Friday last we received liberal supplies of papers from the attentive San Francisco news agents, Sullivan and Stratman. To John Stratman we are indebted for Harper's Weekly of April 11th and 18th; Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper of same dates; Forney's War Press of the 4th and 11th; Boston Journal of the 2d and 9th; N. Y. Convention of the 4th and 11th; Tribune of the 11th; Herald of the 11th; Baltimore Weekly Sun of the 11th; Louisville Journal of the 7th; Missouri Republican of same date; and the National Tax Law of July 1st, 1863.

From J. W. Sullivan we received Harper's Weekly of April 11th and 18th; Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper of same dates; New York Illustrated News of the 18th; Forney's War Press of the 4th and 11th; Boston Weekly Journal of the 2d and 9th; London Daily Times of March 21st; The Sleeping Sentinel, a poem; The Foggy Night at Oxford, a novel; and the Lightning Calculator, a card showing at a glance the comparative values of gold and legal tender notes. This is valuable to business men, and should have a place in every counting room. It is printed and sold by Sullivan.

To Capt. Finch, of the Eliza Anderson, we are indebted for files of Victoria papers and other favors.

A REMARKABLE SPRING.—Many curious things are found in the United States, but among them we have met nothing more remarkable than the following: A strange story is told by a Frederick-labouring correspondent relative to a curious spring near that city. According to tradition, this spring was discovered running three months before the Revolutionary war. Three months before a treaty of peace it dried up and ceased to run. It commenced running again three months before the war of 1812, and three months before its close, as in the Revolutionary war, it again dried up, and so with the Mexican war. Three months before the fall of Fort Sumpter it again commenced running, and a short time since dried up. I give as my authority for this an aged man who was born and is living near the spring, and who has considerable property, and offers to bet it all that we will have peace in three months from the drying up of the spring.

PRIVATE.—The Pacific Commercial Advertiser (of Honolulu, S. I.) of the 10th ult. contains the following:—"A letter from Capt. Worth, of Hilo, reports the arrival of the whaleress Mt. Wollaston at that port, direct from New Bedford. Off the coast of Brazil, she spoke the American barque Theo. Fletcher, 70 days from New York, bound to San Francisco, which reported five Confederate privateers cruising off the Brazil coast. One of these privateers had taken a schooner, the captain and mate of which were killed in the capture of her. The privateer took her prize into Rio, where the Brazilian government seized both her and her prize, and the probability is that the privateer will be confiscated, as she ought to be."

A FEMALE ADVENTURER.—The Pacific Commercial Advertiser gives an account of a young woman who was discovered on board of a whaler, serving in the capacity of "stowage boy." She shipped at New Bedford last fall, and her sex was not discovered until the vessel arrived off Chile, some months afterwards. While mingling in disguise with the sailors, she had a number of pugilistic encounters with them, and invariably came off victor. After changing her attire, the captain put her ashore at Talcahuano. The love of adventure alone induced her to do as she had done; and it was thought that if her sex had not stood in the way, she would have made a capital whalerman.

BLACKWOOD.—Blackwood's Magazine for March is received: The table of contents comprises another contribution from Carlton (Balwer); Mrs. Clifford's Marriage; An English Village—in French; Lord Macdonald's Roman Law; The Paragaitic Politician—in Florence; The Frank in Scotland; Kinglake's Invasion of the Crimea; The Opening of the Session.

The free knows as box alder or ash maple is said to be as rich in saccharine matter as the sugar maple.

RAMBLING LETTER FROM PICKAX. CASSON CITY, May 2, 1863.

It has been a long while since I have heard from my "numerous readers," and doubtless it has been about as long since they have heard from me, through the columns of the HERALD.

As it is pleasant to form new acquaintances, so also the revival of old friendships is by no means disagreeable. We live in the past. Trivial joys of by-gone days delight us more, when lived over in the retrospects of memory, than the realities of the present, or perhaps even more than the anticipations of the future.

Well, as Pickax is himself again, it may be well for him to imitate the politician by defining his position. In the first place, I am confident there will be no little stir and commotion at my appearance upon the stage again, inasmuch as some have feared and trembled at the probability that, long ere this, I had gone down to the "unfathomable caves of the dark blue sea." No, indulgent reader, "heaven has kindly lengthened out my days," to commune with you once more.

It is true, that, since I saw you, I have had some fearful times. I have a distinct and peculiar recollection of a certain place called Cape Flatery; but while off that Cape, for nine long, wearisome, roaming days, in a gale of wind, I cannot flatter myself that my behavior was very sailor-like, or that I was off my back long at a time. If I mistake not, I was, however, as fully off my pins.

Oh! the cruelty of those wretches who, on seeing the woful plight I was in, put a grin on their countenances that reached from ear to ear, and would have reached farther, had not those surcular organs intercepted its progress! Didn't I wish them all in Davy Jones's locker, with myself seated on the lid? In the classic language of the times, you bet. And didn't I chuckle with inward delight—that is, what there was left that was inward—when there came a big sea that knocked in the windows and flooded the cabin? Anything to keep them employed. They found no more time to poke fun at me that day. Fortune favors the brave, and old Neptune for once favored me, for which I thank him most heartily. But as a substantial token of respect, before that storm fairly cleared away, I took several observations over the yard-arm for his special benefit. There is an end to all things; and as my gratitude to old Neptune ran high, the demijohn, or rather its contents, ran low; so there was an end to drinking his health. I was not alone, mind you; I had been, the ceremony might have been prolonged. Officers and sailors were all loyal; they were willing to take the oath every hour in the day.

Well, the storm had passed away. The sun shone out in all his surpassing loveliness. The good old barque moved steadily on her way. The pumps, which, during the storm, had been worked for thirty minutes every half hour, received a little respite. We congratulated each other upon our safety. Our joy, however, was not unmingled with grief. True, we had not gone to the bottom of the ocean, but what was nearly as bad, we had gone clear to the bottom of the demijohn, which stared at us in all its naked ugliness.

Here I am, in the land of sagebrush and alkali. It is approaching the witching hour of twelve. The moon shines out in all her gentle, genial loveliness. My candle burns dimly before me, but perhaps it does the best it can. I despise a candle. It makes a mean flickering light. Then you have to stop every few minutes to snuff it, and if you have neither snuffers, scissors, nor knife, you must stand fire, and at it with your fingers, at the imminent risk of getting them burned. Then, as you throw it away, the snuff is sure to set something on fire, so up you must get and tramp it out. A plague on candles, may I tell you to the horrors that invented them. They are only fit to kindle fires with.

There is a huge rush to this region. Hundreds and hundreds reach here dead broke, and have to work for low wages to make a stake. Business will be pretty good after a while. Hurry, rush, push and jam; there are the order of the hour. Well, it ain't just. Washoe will be a big country at no distant day. The climate is tickle. In summer, they say it is hot. The winds are very disagreeable. As from day to day I see these old gray peaks, presenting to the view nothing but utter barrenness, I sigh for the charming scenery of Puget Sound. I long to look once more upon my favorite little sheet of water—Gravelly Lake. I remember the day I first saw its smiling face. I had good company. Fred was my comrade in arms. The morning was one of peculiar loveliness. The sweet songsters filled the groves with their morning carols. The air was balmy and exhilarating. With shot-gun and fishing tackle we rushed on with boundless footsteps, only stopping to corral two fine rabbits that were going home from market. We hunted. We feasted some on the sweets of nature. We nestled snugly on a liberal supply of cakes and sandwiches that of most excellent lady had furnished for our benefit. The day passed. We were well paid for our walk. Gravelly Lake, I have seen these often since, but never without emotions of pleasure. Comrade in arms, may thy life flow smoothly on. May all thy plans prosper. May thy days of joy be many.

PICKAX.

A PATRIOTIC CONGRESS.—The members of the last Congress gave a rather unworthy example of their patriotism by robbing the Treasury of \$100,000, or thereabouts, on the score of extra mileage. Just before the adjournment of the late Congress it voted itself an extra mileage, of three miles for the Congress. The mileage for the Oregon members for the Congress amounted to about twenty thousand dollars each. Two-thirds of this war-paid in coin, and one-third in greenbacks. This act was unlawful; a previous Congress having enacted a law to protect the Treasury from this species of robbery.

YEAST POWDER.—Every housekeeper knows how difficult it is to make good bread, and we therefore take pleasure in calling attention to the fact that by using uniformly good, light, sweet and nutritious bread, it is only necessary to use Redington & Co.'s Yeast Powder, which is every respect equal all similar preparations ever offered to the public. See advertisement, in another column.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CONVENTION. Pursuant to notice, the Union Democratic Convention met at Hey's Mill on Saturday, the 23d day of May, 1863, for the purpose of electing delegates to attend the Vancouver Union Democratic Convention.

The Convention was called to order by Stephen Judson, Esq., chairman of the Democratic County Central Committee. On motion, Thomas Blackshear, Esq., was elected chairman. On motion, Wm. P. Dougherty, Esq., was elected secretary.

On motion of A. C. Lowell, the Convention proceeded to elect delegates by viva voce. And the following named gentlemen were elected: P. H. Hughes, A. C. Lowell, Henry Murray and George Gallagher.

On motion of D. W. C. Davison, the delegates to the Vancouver Convention were instructed to cast their votes for the nomination of none but an unqualified Union man. On motion, the delegates elect were empowered, to appoint proxies to cast their votes, should they from any cause be unable to attend the Vancouver Convention.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to transmit a copy of the proceedings of this Convention to the editors of the Puget Sound Herald and Overland Press.

On motion, the chair was instructed to fill the vacancy in the Democratic County Central Committee; whereupon A. C. Lowell, Henry Murray and Dumnick Corcoran were appointed to fill said vacancy.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet at the call of the Central Committee. THOS. BLACKSHEAR, Chairman. W. P. DOUGHERTY, Sec'y.

The Richmond Enquirer admits that cotton is not king now. "Corn is king; potatoes, hogs, hay, oats and cattle are sovereigns," it says.

New Advertisements. ARMY NOTICE. SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED by me at this office until 12 o'clock M. on SATURDAY, the 30th day of May, 1863, for the supply of FRESH BEEF to the United States Troops stationed at Fort Steilacoom, W. T.

The beef to be of the best quality, and to be delivered at such times and days (ordinarily three times each week) as may be required by the A. C. S. The amount required at present is about Two Hundred pounds per week; this amount to be increased or diminished according to the number of Troops at the post. Proposals should be endorsed "Proposals for Fresh Beef." Two responsible names as sureties for the faithful performance of the contract are required.

The A. C. S. reserves the right to reject any or all bids, should it think the interests of the service require it. P. E. TOHILL, 34 West 1st W. T. Inf., Acting Commissary of Subsistence Office, Fort Steilacoom, W. T., May 28th, 1863.

ARMY NOTICE. OFFICE OF THE A. C. S. CAMP PERRY, San Juan Island, W. T., May 18th, 1863. SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at the office of the A. C. S., at this Camp, until WEDNESDAY, June 10th, 1863, at 10 o'clock A. M., for Forty Head of STEERS for the subsistence of the Troops at this Camp. The weight of the steers to be not less than 1,000 lbs., and they to be of the best quality, and to be delivered at such times and days (ordinarily three times each week) as may be required by the A. C. S. The amount required at present is about Two Hundred pounds each; this amount to be increased or diminished according to the number of Troops at the post. Proposals should be endorsed "Proposals for Fresh Beef." Two responsible names as sureties for the faithful performance of the contract are required.

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GEO. H. BELL, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER, 611 Montgomery street, corner of Merchant st., SAN FRANCISCO. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN SUBSCRIPTION AGENCY FOR MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS, AND OTHER PERIODICALS.

Table listing various publications and their prices, including Harper's Monthly, Godey's Lady's Book, Peterson's Magazine, etc.

Miscellaneous Advertisements. WHAT-CHEER HOUSE, SEATTLE, W. T., A. P. DeLIN, Proprietor.

THIS HOTEL IS SITUATED IN THE MOST business part of Seattle, convenient to the steamboat landing, and has accommodations suitable for all classes of travelers.

Single Meals and Lodgings FURNISHED AT ALL HOURS. Terms as reasonable as any on Puget Sound.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. THE UNDERIGNED HAVING BEEN APPOINTED by the Hon. Probate Court of Pierce County, W. T., Administrator of the Estate of JOHN VAN BISKIRK, deceased, all persons having claims against said Estate will present the same, with the necessary vouchers, within one year from the date hereof, otherwise they will be forever barred.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE. THE PROBATE COURT HAVING DECEASED by me at this office the following described Property, and ordered a re-sale, notice is hereby given that it will be sold by Public Auction, on the premises, on SATURDAY, May 30, 1863, at 11 o'clock A. M.:

Two Lots No. 5, 6 and 4, in Block No. 2, in the town of Steilacoom, W. T., containing one acre and one-half, more or less, together with all the improvements thereon, including a two-story Cottage House, with three rooms on each floor and kitchen attached; two rooms being furnished with grates, and lathed and plastered throughout.

NOTICE. SHERIFF-GENERAL'S OFFICE, Olympia, W. T., May 8, 1863. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, by the 10th day of March, 1863, ordered "That a tract of land one mile wide and five and one-half miles in length, along the Straits of Fuca, contiguous to Port Angeles, in townships 30 and 31 N., ranges 6 and 7 West, Washington Territory, be surveyed into suitable lots, and the provisions of an Act of Congress approved March 23, 1860, be observed in increasing the revenue by reservation and sale of town lots, and the provisions of said Act be observed in the execution of the said law, directed that said reservation, except so much as may be needed for light-house purposes, be surveyed into suitable lots, and the provisions of an Act of Congress approved March 23, 1860, be observed in increasing the revenue by reservation and sale of town lots, and the provisions of said Act be observed in the execution of the said law, directed that said reservation, except so much as may be needed for light-house purposes, be surveyed into suitable lots, and the 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