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POETRY.

THE TOAST.

The feast is o'er! Now brimming wine
In lordly cup is seen to shine
Before each eager guest;
And silence fills the crowded hall,
As deep as when the herald's call
Thrills in the royal breast.

Then up arose the noble host,
And smiling cried: "A toast! a toast!
To all our ladies fair;
Here, before all, I pledge the name
Of Stantonia's proud and beautiful dame,
The Lady Gudmundere!"

Then to his feet each gallant sprang,
And joyous was the shout that rang
As Stanley gave the word;
And every cup was raised on high,
Nor ceased the loud and glad cry,
Till Stanley's voice was heard.

"Enough, enough," he smiling said,
And lowly bent his haughty head;
"That may play his due,
Now each in turn must play his part,
And pledge the lady of his heart,
Like gallant knight and true!"

Then one by one each guest sprang up
And drained in turn the brimming cup,
And named the loved one's name;
And each, as hand on high he raised,
His lady's grace or beauty praised,
Her constancy and fame.

'Tis now St. Leon's turn to rise;
On him are fixed those countless eyes;
A gallant knight he is;
Enviied by some, admired by all,
For famed in lady's bower and hall,
The flower of chivalry.

St. Leon raised his kindling eye,
And lifts the sparkling cup on high;
"I drink to one," he said,
"Whose image never may depart,
Deep graves on this grateful heart,
Till memory be dead."

"To one whose love for me shall last
When lighter passions long have passed,
So holy 'tis and true;
To one whose love hath longer dwelt,
More deeply mixed, more keenly felt,
Than any pledged by you."

Each guest upstarted at the word,
And laid a hand upon his sword,
With fury-flashing eye,
And Stanley said: "We crave the name,
Proud knight, of this most peerless dame,
Whose love you count so high."

St. Leon paused, as if he would
Not breathe her name in careless mood
Thus lightly to another;
Then bent his noble head as though
To give the word the reverence due,
And gently said, "My Mother!"

THE POWHATAN.—The United States steam frigate *Powhatan* arrived at Norfolk on the 16th February from China. The *Powhatan* sailed from New York in February, 1855, and after touching at St. Helena, Cape Town, Mauritius and Singapore, she arrived in Borneo, where Capt. McCluney concluded a treaty with the Sultan of that empire. She then left for China, where she arrived in eighty-four running days from the United States. After a little rest, the *Powhatan* joined Commodore Perry's squadron in Japan, where she took an active share in the negotiation of the important treaty then pending between our representatives and the Emperor. Here she relieved the shipwrecked Russians of the frigate *Diana*. Returning to China, she took up Mr. McLane, United States Commissioner, and steamed to the mouth of the Pei-ho river, near Peking. In October she was in the shoal waters of the Yellow Sea, and was the first American war ship that ever dropped anchor at the foot of the Great Wall. Here her crew had a look at the Manchou Tartars. The successful engagement of the *Powhatan* with a fleet of Chinese Pirates is well known. In this combat she destroyed twenty-one large junks, and killed one thousand men, having at the same time five men killed and thirteen wounded. Twenty-one men and two officers died during the cruise. On her homeward voyage, the *Powhatan* ran nearly fourteen thousand miles in seventy-five days, consuming two thousand two hundred and forty-two tons of coal.

From the San Francisco Herald.

The Indian War in the North.

EDITOR OF THE HERALD.—It is extremely trying to the patience and temper of the citizens of Oregon and Washington Territories, those whose homes are here, and who are acquainted with all the facts and circumstances connected with the Indian war that is now desolating our unhappy country, to read the articles published in the San Francisco papers, and purporting to be written by persons who have visited this country, and who pretend to be well informed in regard to the Indian affairs in this region. I was just reading an extract from a letter written by "J. C. B." in the *Herald* of February 7th. He pretends to be well informed, and yet shows his ignorance of Indian warfare in these parts in the first few lines. He says he expected, when he left San Francisco, to march immediately into the Indian country, and as rumor said the Indians were occupying a fortified position, to strike them down with a single blow. I may not quote his exact words, as I have not the article before me, but I have the substance. Why, sir, the most glib person in either of our Territories, would have laughed at him for walking a mile, much more for coming from San Francisco here, with the idea of catching our Indians in any such fix. They know too much to be caught in such a position. Experience has shown us that these Indians must be cornered, or else taken on the run, to get any fight out of them, unless they number at least ten to the white's one. Again, he says that Gen. Wool ordered an examination of the Government animals, in order that, if possible, a command might be sent among the Walla-wallas, to prevent them from combining with the tribes already hostile. Here again he shows either his ignorance, or if (as he pretends) he is well informed, his wilful misrepresentation. He is either ignorant, or does not wish to remember the fact, that a council was held on Wap-ah-too Lake, in the month of August last, in the Yakima country, by the Yakimas, Cayuses, Walla-wallas, Palouses, and part of the Klickitats, at which time it was determined to commence hostilities against the whites last fall, instead of waiting until this spring, as had been agreed upon between the combined tribes. This decision displeased some few of nearly all the tribes, and these few held themselves aloof from the rest until the others had succeeded in driving Major Haller with his handful of men back to the Dalles, when they, emboldened by the success, joined the war parties. He also labors under a mistake, when he says that animals could not be obtained in the Territories to pack provisions for the troops during a winter campaign. With the cash, any requisite number of animals might have been obtained at reasonable prices. To be sure, the volunteer Quarter-masters are obliged to pay large prices in scrip, for the reason that the citizens of Oregon were obliged to wait so long for the payment of the Cayuse and Rogue River war scrip, and they will not let their provisions and animals go without a large percentage to cover the time and trouble of getting their pay. But at the same time cash would buy any number of animals and any quantity of provisions, even from men who would not sell for scrip at any price. He alleges the freezing of the Columbia River as the reason why a winter campaign was abandoned. This is certainly a misrepresentation of the fact. For there were two or three companies of regulars, and one company of volunteers who were mustered into the regular service, already at the Dalles, but were ordered down about the 5th of December, long before the river closed, or showed any signs of closing. This company of volunteers were there with fresh horses, the men finely armed and equipped from the regular army stores at this place; but, unfortunately, they had mastered in, and must come back. The winter campaign had then been abandoned. The Columbia river was closed with ice, and navigation stopped from the 26th day of December to the 14th day of January, and no more; before and since which time it was, and has been, as free for navigation, and steamers plying as regularly between Vancouver and the Dalles, as in midsummer. He also says that the volunteers, after asking and being refused aid by Gen. Wool, pushed on and finally did succeed in getting some of the Walla-wallas to array themselves as enemies. We will say nothing about this, as we have shown above the relation in which the Walla-wallas stood to the whites, except that in the battle so gallantly fought by our volunteers, there were Yakimas, Walla-wallas and Cayuses, as any one acquainted with the different tribes will testify, as some of each of the above named tribes were found dead upon the battle-field. He also says that Gen. Wool wished was to get the volunteers to go to their homes and attend to their farms. It is very easy for Gen. Wool to say, "Go home, boys, go home, and I'll thrash the Indians for you next spring." How gladly would they of them be to go home and live quietly once more—but where are the homes of many of them? Gone to the clouds in smoke—houses, barns, fences, everything but the land they cultivated, sent there by the burning torch of the hostile Indians, their families living in small rooms, and even barns, in the small towns scattered through the Territory, with nothing to keep them comfortable but the scanty clothing they could take with them in their flight from their homes. The houses of

others are not yet burned, but if the Indians had not been kept busy defending themselves, they would have destroyed every dollar of the hard earnings they have labored years to accumulate, and their stock driven off, leaving them penniless. Even at this very date, the Indians—in parts of the country distant from the volunteers—are going off in small parties, burning farm houses, killing stock, etc. But if they will only go home, or where their homes once were, Gen. Wool will let the troops whip the Indians in the spring—if he can catch them. I fear he will find them like Paddy's fen.

He next charges the volunteers with murdering the chief of the Walla-wallas, under a flag of truce. Pee-pee-mox-mox, the chief referred to, was killed under the following circumstances, as I am informed by persons who were present, but who had no part in the transaction: Some ten or twelve volunteers were out one morning hunting for some of their own horses; on riding into a ravine they surprised Pee-pee-mox-mox, and some other Indians who were on horse-back, but in such a place they could not make their escape. Old Pee-pee-mox-mox, when he saw escape impossible, tore off a part of his shirt and hoisted it on the butt of his riding whip. The volunteers respected even this "flag of truce" enough not to kill them on the spot, but took them into camp, telling Pee-pee-mox-mox that he must remain in camp until they could hear from their superior officer, who was then some forty miles distant. On the next day the Indians made an attack upon the camp, and as soon as Pee-pee-mox-mox heard the whooping and yelling, he sprang upon one of the men who was guarding him, and wrenched his gun from his hands. The volunteer instantly seized Pee-pee-mox-mox by the throat, and after a desperate struggle of life or death, succeeded in throwing him upon the ground, and getting back his gun, struck Pee-pee-mox-mox with it, fracturing his skull and killing him instantly with the first blow. At the same time, the other Indians with Pee-pee-mox-mox sprang upon the rest of the guard, giving one of them a terrible cut with a knife. The Nez Perce Indian who was taken prisoner with them, did not attempt to escape nor to assist the others, and the volunteers let him return to his own people. This is the horrible murder under a "flag of truce." I leave the public to judge whether they were right in killing the poor Indian or not. "J. C. B." who also says, that Gen. Wool did not wish to assist the volunteers, and had too much sense to help run up an enormous bill for the Government to pay. In regard to the enormous bill, I do not believe it equals the sum already spent upon the regular army. But I care not for the bill, for I think money never ought to be brought into the scale against human life. How much money would "J. C. B." think a fair compensation to him to give up his wife and children, or his mother, brothers and sisters to be butchered by the Indians? He also says, that General Wool has acted justly, only he would like to have had him ordered the volunteers home, and in case they refused to go, he, for one, would have been glad to have been sent to drive them in. What a ridiculous remark for a sane man to make. What a supremely contemptible piece of braggadoocio. "J. C. B." is in California. He did not make that remark while up here, so that it might be heard by the volunteers—no, no. He puts me in mind of the boy who nearly run himself to death to get away from a bull, and finally succeeded in getting over a stone wall, which the bull could not jump, and then turned around, trembling so with fright, that he could scarcely speak, and said, "Oh, if you were only over here, old feller, how I'd—I'd thrash you." I think, should "J. C. B." attempt to drive in the volunteers, he would find that the bull would jump the wall and we should see a practical illustration of the benefits of the Shanghai quick step. In regard to Gen. Wool, I would say that I honor the old veteran for the service he has rendered during his long and eventful life. He is an old soldier, good and true. But his term of service should have expired before his body became so enfeebled by age, that his mind is affected. I am decidedly in favor of a retired list, and he should have been placed upon it, giving our younger officers an opportunity to show their talent. Had some of our younger officers (I speak in comparison with Gen. Wool), had charge of the Pacific Division, we should have seen a different state of affairs. There would never have been any of this difficulty between the volunteers and regulars. There are some among the younger officers in whom the people have great confidence, and under whom (had they had the command), the volunteers would have enrolled themselves without a murmur. The people, as a general thing, have no ill feeling against the army; but who can blame them for feeling exasperated at such dilatory action on the part of the officer in command, and taking the matter into their own hands, when the bones of their fathers, brothers and sons are left bleaching on top of the sod by the merciless savage, and their scalps stretched on sticks drying in their wigwags, when it is well known by every one who knows the situation of the country that winter is the time, and the only time, in which these Indians can be punished. In winter they are hemmed in by mountains rendered impassable for their stock by snow. By following up the valleys in which their stock lives all winter,

(which fact of itself is proof sufficient that the animals necessary to pack provisions for the army could also live), their entire stock could be taken from them, and the Indians driven into the mountains, where they would either have to starve, or come in and deliver themselves up as prisoners of war. As soon as the Indians' cattle and horses are taken from them, the Indians themselves are whipped, for they will stand and fight for their stock, and under no other circumstances, unless sure of victory. In the summer the mountains are full of little valleys, in which not only themselves can live but their stock also, and that too where it is impossible for the whites to follow with any hope of success. To be sure, we may garrison and hold the country, but had it not been for the acts of the volunteers this winter there would have been no country left by next spring worth holding. Had the Indians not been kept busy by the volunteers during this winter, I don't believe there would have been a home standing upon its foundation throughout this entire country, unless it stood within a short distance of some of our larger towns.

But this is sufficient. A candid statement of the facts as they really exist is all the people of these Territories wish placed before the public, and then they are willing to abide the decision, be it favorable or adverse to their action. I forward you these statements thinking that you, as a public journalist, will be willing to publish the truth, even if it does clash a little with some of the articles you have already published. If "J. C. B." takes exceptions to anything I have said in relation to his letter, you are at liberty to give him my name and place of residence, and inform him that by applying he can receive any satisfaction he may desire.

Rumor says that money has been left in this country by some of the citizens of California for the purpose of buying up this scrip, and if they can only shake the confidence of the people in regard to its being paid, the cheaper they can buy it. But it is not the disposition of the citizens of these Territories (as far as my acquaintance with them extends), to remain quiet, and calmly bear all the abuse and vilification that interested strangers may think proper to cast upon them, in their attempts to bolster up wrong.

SEPARATING THE SEXES IN SCHOOL.—On this point, Mr. Stowe, a celebrated Glasgow teacher, uses the following language: "The youth of both sexes of our Scottish peasantry, have been educated together, and as a whole the Scots are the most moral people on the whole face of the globe. Education in England is given separately, and we have never heard from practical men that any benefit has arisen from this arrangement. Some influential individuals there mourn over the prejudice on this point. In Dublin a larger number of girls turn out badly, who have been educated alone until they attain the age of maturity than of those who have been otherwise brought up—the separation of the sexes has been found to be injurious. In France the separation of sexes has been found to be positively injurious. It is stated on the best authority, that of those girls educated in the schools of convents apart from boys, the great majority go wrong within a month after being let loose on society, and meeting the other sex. They cannot, it is said, resist the slightest compliment or flattery. The separation is intended to keep them strictly moral, but this unnatural seclusion actually generates the very principles desired to be avoided."

We may repeat that it is impossible to raise girls as high, intellectually, without boys as with them; and it is impossible to raise boys morally as high without girls. The girls morally elevate the boys, and the boys intellectually elevate the girls. But more than this, the girls themselves are morally elevated by the presence of boys, and boys are intellectually elevated by the presence of girls. Girls brought up with boys are more positively intellectual by the softening influence of the female character.

In the Normal Seminary at Glasgow, the most beneficial effects have resulted from the more natural course. Boys and girls, from the age of two to three years to fourteen and fifteen have been trained in the same class rooms, galleries and playgrounds, without impropriety, and they are aneever separated except at needlework.

The Texas Debt Bill.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 20.—New Orleans papers Thersday last are received. It is said that there is great uneasiness and uncertainty amongst the creditors in that city, concerning the shape in which the Texas debt bill was passed by the Texas legislature. No copy of the act has yet been received, but a rumor prevails that it contains a proviso to the effect that a renunciation by the state of Texas is not to be construed to affect the right of citizens to apply to congress for indemnification for losses and injuries sustained. This it is thought may create obstacles at Washington to a recognition of the act of Texas as a sufficient acceptance of the act of congress.

Anthony Kennedy has been elected to the United States Senate by the Know Nothings of the Maryland Legislature. He takes the place of the Hon. Thomas G. Pratt, whose term expires on the 4th of March, 1857.

We copy the following account of the late informal "wool" gathering at Pittsburg, from the San Francisco *Herald* of March 22. From what is contained in their proceedings, as given below, we infer that the doctrine enunciated in the inflammatory speeches of the lovers of kinky hair, must have been infamous—just exactly such as has tended to create all the difficulties in Kansas. The day of doom for the abolition arch-traitors is close at hand.

"Their grave is dug amid the dismal clouds." By reference to the proceedings of the late convention of the "bats" at Philadelphia, it will be seen that the bottom has been completely knocked out of known-things, and that that party has literally "fell through itself." It can now be regarded as *de facto*, nationally. The southern wing will fall in with the democracy in the next Presidential election; and the survivors at the north will, of course, take sides with the bigger whippers. Both parties are dead, *de facto*, and nothing can prevent the nominee of the Cincinnati democratic national convention from being elected President by an almost unprecedented majority.

Black Republican Movement.—In formal Convention at Pittsburg—Informal Speeches—Volunteers for Kansas.

The Black Republicans held an informal Convention at Pittsburg, Pa., on the 22d of February, for the purpose of effecting a national organization, and providing for a National Delegate Convention for the nomination of candidates for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the United States. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the State Republican Committee of Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin. Horace Greeley addressed the Convention, counselling extreme caution in their movements—the Federal forces were in the hands of their implacable enemies. He concluded by detailing the wrongs of the free citizens of Kansas under what he termed the tyranny of the slaveocracy. Joshua R. Giddings next addressed the Convention, and ridiculed the idea of quiet measures. Mr. Lovejoy, of Ohio, said that the places of those patriots who were about to be shot down in Kansas would be supplied by other freemen. He was willing to go, either as a captain or a private. He would rather be there weltering in blood than see a set of drunken ruffians take the government out of the hands of the people of Kansas. He would use Sharp's rifle and fire with good aim. They should put down border ruffians; men should go to Kansas armed and equipped for war to the knife-hilt, if it must be so. Eight Southern States, three Territories, one District and twelve Northern States were represented in the Convention. The Southern States were Texas, Kentucky, Missouri, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina and Tennessee. On the night of February 25th a mass meeting of Black Republicans was held in the same city to aid in the emigration to Kansas of those desiring to enlist in that country.

LAUNCH OF THE STEAM FRIGATE NIAGARA.—The U. S. steam frigate *Niagara* was successfully launched from the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Navy-yard on the 23d of February. The *Niagara* is one of the five steam frigates now in process of construction for the United States Navy. Her main dimensions are: Tonnage, 5,200; extreme length on deck, 345 feet; load line, 323 feet. She is to be ship-rigged; mainmast 111 feet long, and 3 feet 4 inches in diameter; mainyard 55 feet long, and mizzen spanker boom 67 feet. Full complement of men, 400.

Governor Shannon has left Washington for Kansas. He will endeavor to reach his destination in time to prevent the meeting of the Free State Legislature, on the 4th of March next. He is clothed with plenary powers to quell the rebellion in the Territory, and the War Department has issued orders to the troops at Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley, numbering one thousand men, to assist him if deemed necessary. Late accounts from Kansas state that the abolitionists there are organizing troops, erecting fortifications, and collecting munitions of war at Lawrence, in order to be ready for instant and effective service.

Hon. Geo. M. Dallas, the newly appointed Minister to England, left Washington on Tuesday for Philadelphia. He went out in the Baltic, on the 5th of March. Philip N. Dallas, son of the Minister, has received the appointment of Secretary of Legation.

LATER FROM SITKA.—By the ship *Zenobia*, Capt. Essling, which arrived Saturday, sixteen days from Sitka, we have received later dates from that port. Everything is quiet in that region, and no vessels were left in port. The *Zenobia* experienced strong south-east winds and heavy rains most of the passage. Capt. Essling reports as having fine and moderate weather in Sitka, the thermometer ranging as high as 45° for the last two months—during which time the wind has been south-east, with slight deviations. —S. F. Herald.

News Items.

THE PRESIDENCY.—Resolutions have been adopted in nearly every county in Indiana, where conventions have been held, recommending the Hon. Jesse D. Bright as their first choice for the presidency, before the next national convention. So says the Indianapolis *Sentinel*.

From Nicaragua the news is important and interesting. The principal feature is the abrogation of the contract granting right of way to the present accessory transit company, and the cession of similar rights to Edmund Randolph, Esq., late of San Francisco. Col. E. J. C. Kewen is now in possession of the company buildings and property along the route under government orders. Rumors of a coalition against General Walker are rife, and it is more than probable that the four remaining states of central American confederacy have combined against it, but the powers of Nicaragua are firm, and with six hundred effective American soldiers now in active service, no force which the coalition can bring into the field can prevail against them.

Mr. Weller, of California, has introduced in the senate, a bill providing for an overland mail from some point on the Mississippi river to California.

In speaking of which the *Alta California* of a late date says:

EMIGRANT WAGON ROAD.—Another attempt, and we sincerely hope a successful one, is to be made to interest the people of California in the opening of a post-road, and the establishment of a line of weekly posts, by the United States government, between California and Missouri. A mass meeting is to be held on Monday evening, in front of Montgomery block, for the purpose of making arrangements and appointing a committee to procure 100,000 signatures to a petition to congress, asking that body to act in the matter.

The legislature of Missouri has asked an appropriation from congress for the purposes specified, and a monster petition was at last accounts about being forwarded from that state. A joint stock company with a capital of \$125,000, is already organized there, for the purpose of putting a line of stages on the road as soon as the necessary steps are taken by the general government. Surely California, more interested than any of the states in this enterprise, should not be behind in its endeavors to consummate it. We hope the meeting will be a large one, and that a committee of men who will work will be appointed.

RETURN OF THE ALABAMA.—NO NEWS OF THE PACIFIC.—The steamer *Alabama*, which was sent out by E. K. Collins, in search of the Pacific, has returned to New York after an absence of two weeks. She brings no tidings of the lost vessel. The *Alabama* encountered vast fields of ice.

ARMY OFFICERS RESIGNED.—Brevet Captain Edward C. Boynton, first lieutenant 1st artillery, to take effect February 16th, 1856. First lieutenant Jefferson H. Nones, 2d artillery, to take effect March 12th, 1856.

We understand that Capt. Harry Love has resigned his commission of 2d lieutenant in the U. S. army.

Wm. C. Rives is writing the life of James Madison. It will be published by the Virginia historical society.

Gen. HARNEY, in command of the U. S. forces on the plains, has arrested Col. Howe, who had charge of the Cantonment at Running Water, on charge of starving and maltreating the soldiers under his command.

Father MATTHEW, instead of being at the Feejee Islands, as reported, is said to be in Ireland, having sometime since returned from Madeira, whither he proceeded a year or two ago for the benefit of his health.

Col. PARKER H. FRENCH, minister of Nicaragua, to the U. S. government, had gone on a tour to the western states of the Union, and therefore may not be expected to return to Nicaragua until the steamer after the steamer now due arrives.

There were 232,200 application for bounty land warrants received at the pension bureau, during the past year, of which number 77,700 were granted.

QUICKEST PASSAGE ON RECORD BETWEEN ENGLAND AND CALIFORNIA.—The bark *Greenfield* Capt. B. A. FOLANSBEE recently arrived at San Francisco, 111 days from Liverpool, being the shortest passage ever made between England and California.

The ship has not only made a quick return passage, but she has made the voyage hence to Liverpool and back in unprecedented short time.

She left here on the 30th of May, 1855, at 11 o'clock A. M., and after remaining 63 days in Liverpool dropped her anchor on the return trip on the 13th inst., having made the voyage in 287 days, or 234 sailing days, and 63 lay days in Liverpool. Her passage to Liverpool was also one of the quickest on record.—S. F. Herald.

The citizens of Iowa have been invited, by a call published in the papers, to repair to Iowa City, on the 23d of February, for the purpose of organizing a Black Republican party, to make common cause with similar organizations in other States.

Pioneer and Democrat.

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON TERRITORY,
FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1856.

J. W. WILEY, EDITOR.

"Truth crush'd to earth will rise again,
The eternal years of God are hers."

Legal Advertisements.—After this date, (April 4, '56,) no legal advertisement will be inserted in this paper unless it is accompanied by the cash.

To Delinquents.—U. S. Scrip.—Those indebted to the Pioneer and Democrat office for subscription or advertising, are informed that U. S. Scrip will be taken at par in payment of old debts, or even to settle accounts to date—4th April, '56.

The War—About Appropriations, &c.

Since the commencement of the present Indian war up to this very hour, the limits of our Territory has contained a class of persons consisting of a few military toadies of Gen. Wool, and their toadies, who, in connection with citizens in private life, dispersed throughout, have taxed their every energy and ability, and exhibited a disposition worthy of a better cause, in a concentrated endeavor to throw every possible obstacle in the way of a vigorous prosecution of the war, and by a studied and villainous misrepresentation as to the cause of the war, the manner of its prosecution, and everything connected therewith, hope, thereby, to attract the eye and ear of news-mongers, and gossiping journalists of the eastern cities; and attract the attention, unfavorably to our Territory, of the Congress and the departments at Washington City.

Amongst the military gentlemen on service in this and Oregon Territory, who have espoused the cause of Gen. Wool, against the volunteers, the authorities, and the common interests and welfare of all classes of our community, we disclaim all intention of having any thought to include any of the officers of the regular army now on duty in this section of the country—between the waters of the Sound and the base of the mountains. On the contrary, from what little knowledge we are in possession of on the subject, we infer that the regular army officers here, repudiate and are disgusted with the course pursued by the chief of the Pacific Division, evincing at the same time a disposition cordially to co-operate with our Territorial authorities and citizen soldiery, for mutual assault of the enemy, defence of the property of the settlements and protection of our people.

Much, undoubtedly, has been written, prejudicially to the interests of all, concerning the war, through ignorance, and we feel quite sure that very much more has been paraded before the public through design.

Gen. Wool, a veteran soldier, and hero of many hotly-contested battle-fields, and whose name occupies a prominent place in the martial history of our country—whose best days have long since been consumed in the service of his country—superannuated in mind, and physically enfeebled by age—unfortunately for himself—for the service—and fatally and disastrously so, as it has transpired, for the inhabitants of this Territory and Oregon, had been assigned to the command of the Pacific Division of the U. S. army; and since the Indian war has broken out—surrounding us on every side, how he has discharged the duties of his high position, the tone of the San Francisco press—the desolation, by the torch of the savage, of some of the fairest and most important portions of our Territory—the cutting down of some two hundred citizen and regular soldiers in the "tented field," and the premeditated, cold-blooded murder of more than one hundred men, women and children, return a melancholy—a bloody answer.

We will not dwell upon the utter, the total inability exhibited by Gen. Wool, to discharge the duties of his position. That question has been fully and fairly discussed, and placed beyond the pale of controversy. His zealous efforts to disparage the people of the Territories from furnishing the means to subside the citizen defenders of the hearth-stones and fire-sides of a scattered community, is well known to all, and his complete failure to accomplish anything, of himself, for the general welfare, will form a page that will cast a dark shadow over the history of his former military achievements.

Old age, even to dotage, the experience of the past bears evidence, enfeebles not a greedy, an insatiable lust for power and rule—a frigid, selfish, longing thirst for authority and place. Hence, as it is reasonable to presume, since his irretrievable blunders and consequent hopeless failure, Gen. Wool, has endeavored to make a final stand before an indignant and outraged people, and the government authorities, behind the San Francisco press—subsidized, as is believed, by money drawn from the National Treasury, and wedded to his interests, to apologize for his inefficiency and suicidal course of policy—falsify and misrepresent everything connected with the combined hostile aggressions constantly

perpetrated within our borders; and hence it is that the consciences of a few of the brass-buttoned, red-taped gentry have taken fire, and with auxiliary episodes, written from head-quarters, and forwarded for publication to widely circulating journals in the Atlantic cities, endeavor to bolster up the *sunken* course of Gen. Wool, and with a "pitious and perpetual moan," appear to dissolve themselves in tears, whilst falsely recounting the wrongs and injuries which the red man has received from his white brother—averring that it is our people, and not the Indians, who caused, and who are responsible for the war—heaping vile abuse upon our brave volunteer defenders now in the field, and in short, every argument is made use of, no matter how unfounded, to prejudice the people of these Territories in the eyes of Congress—the departments, and our brethren in the Atlantic States.

These regular official volunteers of tradition and misrepresentation, who have no interest or feeling in common with the citizens, and whose present ambition it would seem to be, is to *bravely* endeavor to rescue from drowning, a *deceased* member of the order of the "star and garter," are backed up by a thoughtless, reckless political party amongst us, who, regardless of any attending consequences, no matter how disastrous the results might prove, have, for many months past been using every appliance—and the most unscrupulous means to overthrow the civil authorities of our Territory. The solution of a joint motive is here presented: On the one hand, the extrication from embarrassment and merited obliquity, of Gen. Wool, and on the other, the removal of at least a portion of our officials, to be superseded by new appointments.

In aid of the latter object, a journal, which occasionally makes its appearance amongst us, is, at each advent, laden to the guards with base, false and foul aspersions of that department giving direction to our volunteer forces in the field, connected with the most gross and palpable misrepresentations in reference to the war. Certain articles in the journal referred to, we understand, both before and since the war commenced, have been marked, enveloped in letter form to insure attention, and forwarded, liberally, to prominent eastern journals, with the modest request of "please copy." Here, the object of such publications are known. Here, the falsehoods and misrepresentations of the Steilacoom paper fall still-born, and their authors are, by the candid and intelligent of all parties, despised—held in utter contempt. From the data before us, we infer that at least nine-tenths of the people of the Territory regard the publication at Steilacoom, as not only calculated to embarrass the movements of our volunteer forces, by engendering amongst them a spirit of discord and discontent, but also, in one sense of the word, as an ally of the savages.

Whatever that paper, or any of the army officers may write or publish, is well understood here, and can do no harm. It is abroad, where the authors are unknown, that evil may result from a publication of their falsehoods and misrepresentation. It is with the members of Congress and heads of departments alone, that we have any reason to fear their exercise of an improper influence. Appropriations for defraying the expenses of the war may be unjustly delayed. The negro-worshipping majority in Congress may, through them, find a pretext for turning Indian sympathisers also—consume the time of the session in learned, windy speeches, detailing the grievances of the poor Indian—spreading themselves in the discussion of a subject of which they are *profoundly* ignorant, whilst our farmers, and the community generally, reduced to actual want, are patiently awaiting the action of that body, to be remunerated for labor, stock and provisions, which they have so liberally and readily contributed, on the faith of the government, to aid our volunteers in keeping the field, for the protection of our settlements and citizens from the assaults of the savage. It would seem that some of the residents of at least one locality, feel perfectly indifferent as to the length of time the war may continue, so long as their stern is protected from a hostile attack by a heavy garrison, and they can be made to profit by the expenditure, in their midst, of a large annual appropriation, regardless of the suffering and sacrifice of life that may attend the residents of other portions of the Territory.

Our attention was directed to the injurious effect which such baseless fabrications as we have alluded to, produce at a distance, on the receipt, by the last mail, of a private letter from our delegate in Congress, Hon. J. PATTON ANDERSON. We will take the liberty of publishing it entire, that our readers may be made aware of the difficulties with which our delegate has to contend, and the obstacles that meet him, and are thrown in his way by the *organ* of the *hostiles*, and anonymous letter writers. The crowded state of our columns forbids

the publication of the letter alluded to, and hence we forbear any comments thereon. It is a strange medley of truth and falsehood, and of just such a character as to embarrass and perplex our delegate in his efforts to obtain such appropriations as will be adequate for the payment of the expenses incurred in the prosecution of the war. The following is the letter of our delegate to which we have referred:

HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington City Feb. 14th, 1856.

DEAR WILEY.—The California mail closes in a few moments, but in addition to what I said in my letter of the 10th, I must add a word. My attention has been called to a letter published in the N. Y. Herald of the 17th Feb., 1856, signed "E. O. C." and dated Vancouver, W. T., Jan. 11th, 1856. There are many truths in this letter, but also many misrepresentations of fact. How can a man in the midst of Indian hostilities write so? I send you the letter, for fear you may not see it elsewhere. You will readily see the objectionable features of it. For instance—"In Washington territory, the most worthless country in our limits." "Oregonians have gone unasked into Washington territory." "The gold miners who went there (Colville), last summer, did not respect the Indians much." &c. &c. Now all that the writer of this letter says about the old fogies in the army, and the efficiency of the young officers, &c., I concur in, but I most protest against those feelings at our territory, and the insinuation that this war was brought about by the bad treatment of the Indians by the whites. It is no such thing—you will easily see how such representations embarrass me here in my efforts to obtain the relief sought for. I have been asked a hundred times, if the blame was not to be attributed to the whites, to which I have always replied no. Now just as I am impressing upon the departments and Congress, that this is an *unprovoked* war by the Indians, a letter from *head-quarters* comes, insinuating that the whites are to blame.

I have not time to comment further. You will see the objectionable features of the letter. Much truth is mixed up with the balance.

In great haste,
I am your friend,
J. PATTON ANDERSON.

Whatever may be the experience of others, we have been a resident of this Territory for the best part of four consecutive years, and upon closely taxing our recollection, cannot call to mind the *first* instance which has fallen under our observation of physical chastisement being inflicted upon an Indian by a white man; neither do we know of a single instance, during that time, where an Indian has performed labor, or any kind of service, but that he has been rewarded according to contract. Our Indian agents—those in charge of the Indian department—have ever been peculiarly *vigilant* and *scrupulous* in maintaining the rights of the Indians—shielding their persons from harm or assault, and in seeing that justice has been meted out to them; and not only this, but they have used every possible precaution to prevent the traffic of liquor amongst them, ferret out, and bring to justice the vendors of it. It is needless to repeat, for the *thousandth* time, that the war was *unprovoked* by the whites—that preparations for it have been going on for years, in their accumulation of ammunition, &c.—that the formation of treaties with them had nothing to do in bringing it about, and we venture the assertion with confidence, that the rights of the Indians in this Territory and Oregon, have commanded from our citizens more respect and consideration—that they, as a general rule, have been better treated than has been accorded to any Indians on the frontiers since the march of civilization crossed the Allegheny mountains.

The people of this Territory are well acquainted with the character of its citizens who visited the Colville gold region last summer. It is well known that they comprised our most respectable, industrious and valuable citizens—just and upright; and the assumption that *any* of them wronged or mistreated the natives, going or returning, as we are informed, is *unquestionably* false. Quite a number of our citizens who went thither, never returned; they were murdered by the Indians in detail. Indian agent BOLAN was murdered about the same time, and hence the war.

Believing, as we firmly do, that a change of Executive, instead of being beneficial, would prove disastrous—most subversive of the public interests at the present time; and as we have no reason to believe that any change *whatever* is contemplated in reference to our Territorial authorities—*certainly none for at least a year to come, whereby abolitionism or know-nothingism can expect to be benefitted thereby*—we could quite regard with indifference the malicious falsehoods and calumny with which the executive is constantly assailed—confident that he has done, and continues to do, all and everything that could be accomplished by any other man, to prosecute the war to a speedy close, but when misrepresentations go abroad and claim the attention of heads of departments and members of Congress, calculated to prove prejudicial and ruinous to our already suffering people, by arresting appropriations for their relief, we cannot look tamely on without solemnly protesting in their name—in the name of the people—against the shameful course heretofore pursued by a portion of the San Francisco press—their auxiliary, "and sometimes" *hostile* organ at Steilacoom, and pensioned scribblers and newspaper correspondents in this and Oregon Territory generally.

We are under obligations to government expressmen JOHN DUNN, and COLIN WALLACE, for copies of the Oregon *Times* and *Standard*, several days ahead of the mail. No States' mail was received here this week; and the one that arrived last week, was due the week before.

The Southern Battalion RIGHT SIDE UP!

Complete Surprise on an Indian Encampment.

Eight Hostiles Killed,
THREE TAKEN PRISONERS—A NUMBER OF SQUAWS AND CHILDREN, AND ELEVEN HORSES SENT TO THE SETTLEMENTS. NO LOSS IN KILLED OR WOUNDED ON OUR SIDE!

Capt. MAXON of the southern battalion with a portion of his company, returned to this place on Saturday last week, from a six days expedition up the Nisqually river, during which time the most decisive blow has been given to the savages that has been struck at them since the commencement of hostilities this side of the mountains. Capt. MAXON succeeded in completely surprising a small camp on its own "roost," and introduced the game of "rub out" or "surrender." Eight hostiles were killed, in all, during the excursion, three were taken prisoners, and of course the women and children were sent into the settlements unharmed, together with eleven head of horses that had been stolen from the Yelm prairie—a notice of which we published in our last issue. Our side suffered no loss, either in killed or wounded. Capt. MAXON and ACHILLIS, and the brave volunteers under them, have fairly "won the pot" thus far, and are justly entitled to the "stakes."

For particulars connected with the expedition, we are indebted to notes from the field-book of Mr. A. J. KANE, of Capt. M.'s company, which furnishes the following data:

On the 29th ult., leaving their horses at McLeod's, Pierce county, with a guard of 16 men, Capt. MAXON, with the balance of his company in conjunction with Captain ACHILLIS, of the same battalion, and a detachment of 18 men—in all about 58 strong, accompanied by an Indian guide, that had been made a prisoner at the Yelm prairie, a few days previous, proceeded up the Nisqually river, where, at some distance, eastward, the Indian referred to, reported a band of hostiles encamped. The command struck into the timber, on foot, with six days rations, on a trail leading to the forks of the Nisqually and Michael rivers, near the residence of Mr. L. A. Smith, and proceeded eastward to a small prairie.—Finding a horse there, they supposed Indians were in the neighborhood; surrounded the prairie, but found none. Proceeded on to Olalley lake, at which place, fresh sign of moccasin, horse and dog tracks were discovered. Scouts were sent out, but ascertaining that there were no Indians in the immediate neighborhood, the command encamped for the night. Started next morning at day-light, believing a band might be found at a small lake, distant some three or four miles. Found no Indians there. Breakfasted and started on—experienced considerable difficulty in further finding or following the trail—crossed a swamp between the two lakes spoken of—where, on the advance guard reaching the opposite side, the barking of dogs was heard, and word sent back that there were Indians ahead. Capt. MAXON then divided the command in the centre, and moving by the right and left flanks, made a surround, when an Indian called "Chuck-nose," and two women and children came forward and surrendered. Two other Indians were then discovered on the retreat—were fired upon, they returning the shot. Subsequently one was killed and the other taken prisoner. The prisoners there taken, then gave information of a band of some six others, having a number of horses, at a small prairie on the eastern side of the Owahp river. Went there—found that they had left but recently, as the ashes at the camp ground were yet warm. Found there eleven head of horses and two colts. Also, a large sack of jerked beef. This happened very opportune, inasmuch as in the melee in the morning, some of the men had lost all their rations. Made a careful search, and encamped for the night there.

Next morning, at day-light, Capt. MAXON and ACHILLIS, with a portion of the command, pushed out for the forks of the Nisqually and Michael. The balance were ordered to remain in camp. Ascertaining to a certainty that the hostiles were close by, the plan adopted for procedure was very skillfully and adroitly arranged. It was determined to send into their camp, in advance, one of the Indian women taken the day before, to engage the hostiles in conversation, whilst they were being surrounded. This was managed on her part with great prudence. A portion of the party gained a position, unseen on the opposite side of the river, and the ranch containing the hostiles being completely surrounded, our volunteers crawled up to within twenty feet of it, when Capt. MAXON gave the order to "close in." The surprise was so complete that but one hostile gun was fired. Being encamped immediately on the bank of the Michael, after the first volley, they jumped into that stream with an object of gaining the opposite side, and making their escape; but they found

themselves completely netted, as they were there met by the volunteers, that had previously crossed over. Three were killed directly in the stream, and two in the forks below. One Indian woman, only, it is supposed escaped. One of those killed was the tyce scoundrel "Skie-kie," who, all the prisoners taken agree in saying led the party that murdered Messrs. Wm. White and Northcraft, near Eaton's prairie and the Yelm. One fell by the hands of Capt. Achilles. Capt. M. and party, then proceeded back to camp for breakfast. The horses taken, were then sent into Ft. Stevens, Yelm prairie, in charge of the Indian boy, taken out as guide—the Indian women and children accompanying.

At 12 o'clock M., a reconnoitering party of 10 men were dispatched to the scene of the engagement in the morning, and to cross the Michael at its fork with the Nisqually river, whilst the balance of the command proceeded to cross the Michael about a mile above, in search of the trail which it was said led to "Jim's" encampment—distant about one day's march—where the prisoners reported a large band of horses had been collected. Previous to crossing that stream, however, a party of Indians, supposed to be five or six in number, were discovered crossing over on a log. They were immediately fired upon by the advance guard, killing one and from appearances, seriously wounding another. The balance gaining the opposite side, fled rapidly down that stream, pursued by the volunteers; but the banks being very steep and rugged, the party lost considerable time in gaining the table land, and searching the brush for them. The first notification that the detachment at the forks had of an attack above, or of the presence of Indians in their vicinity, was given by one jumping into the Michael with an object apparently of making across the Nisqually; in attention to do which, the current in the first mentioned stream being very rapid, he was washed to within 20 feet of the shore, where he was fired upon, killed and carried down. He would have been brought ashore, but at this moment another Indian was discovered in the forks, and not knowing but that a large band was hovering around, an order was given for all to retire to the brush re-load and form for a regular engagement. A careful search was then made on both sides of the Michael, and finding no further sign, proceeded up that stream, where, at a short distance they met the party above referred to coming down. All then proceeded up on either side of the river until the next day between 10 and 11 o'clock, but finding no further fresh sign, or even trail, and being nearly out of provisions, it was deemed advisable to make the Owahp river in a homeward direction, in the hope of finding tyce "Jim's" band of horses, and a portion, at least, of the hostiles. It was also ascertained that by pursuing a direct north-westerly course, at least half a day's march would be avoided in gaining the settlements. On their way in, they found where, but recently, a somewhat large encampment had been. Proceeded down—crossed the Tenook and encamped, and the next day the command reached the encampment at McLeod's place, from whence it started, having been absent between six days, and distant, thence, therefrom 40 and 50 miles.

Capt. HENRY WEBBER, of San Juan Island, and T. J. HANNA, Esq., of Port Townsend, arrived on a visit to this place on Wednesday evening last. When they left, all was quiet along the Sound below. Seven large war canoes of British-Russia Indians—averaging from 8 to 10 persons to the canoe—had been rendezvousing at Port Townsend for more than two weeks past. The U. S. steamer *John Hancock*, Lieut. McDougall, commanding, recently visited that port, and notified them to leave within three days. That time had expired, and instead of their having taken their departure per order and agreement, another canoe had arrived, and they were making no preparations to leave when the above named gentlemen left. A war exists, and a battle has lately been fought between a band of these Indians and the 'Stickene' tribe. Mr. HANNA has recently received a letter from Victoria, Vancouver's Island, informing him that it is rumored that one hundred additional canoes of these Indians would visit our side in a short time. Their presence on our waters is by no means desirable, and it is fair to presume that the vessels of war in the Sound will see to it that they be made to leave our borders.

On Monday, agreeable to an act of the last Oregon legislature, a vote was taken in Capt. GORR's company of Oregon volunteers, stationed near Skookum Chuck, in this territory, on the "Oregon State Government" question. Fourteen votes were cast—eleven in favor of a state government, and three against it. Capt. MILLER's company, from that territory, having been engaged for some weeks on scouting duty up the Nisqually river, we are unable to say whether or not a vote was taken on the question.

THE INDIAN WAR! Movements of the Troops, &c.

By the arrival at this place on Wednesday last, of Mr. JAMES H. GORR, with an express from White river, we have news from our volunteer, and the regular forces in the field, up to the 8th inst.

Everything was quiet in the neighborhood of our troops. The Central battalion has received orders, and will proceed to establish a block-house at the South prairie—more towards the heads of the Nisqually, and from thence to the Michael fork of that river.

Major VONBOKKELIN, of the Northern battalion, is occupying the country near Fort Hays, and the north bank of White river, and scouting towards Green river.

Major HAYS, and Capt. RABBESON and HENNESSY, arrived at this place from camp on Wednesday evening. Major HAYS, late of the Central battalion, resigned, shortly after his arrival.

VAN OGLE, and WM. MARTIN, originally elected 1st and 2d Lieuts. of Co. "B" Central battalion, have resigned, and JOHN BRADY, and WM. TEMPLE, have been elected in their places.

A Lieut. Colonel's command will be formed by uniting the Southern and Central battalions. An election for Lieut. Colonel and Major for the command thus constituted, was ordered some days since. We have, as yet, been unable to learn the result.

Col. SHAW, and Capt. MAXON and ACHILLIS, with their companies, are out upon an expedition to the south of Mt. Ranier, and will keep the field in that direction as long as supplies taken out with them will last.

Capt. MILLER, of company "I," southern battalion, made a scout recently, with his company, from Fort Stevens, to La Camas prairie, between the Payallup and Nisqually rivers. Leaving their horses at La Camas, Capt. M. dispatched a Lieut. and detachment of ten men to penetrate the mountains eastward, and examine the crossings of the Nisqually. Found no Indians, and the company returned to the Fort—not being able there to subsist their horses.

Capt. GORR, Co. "K" of the Southern battalion, has received directions to erect a block-house at the crossing of the Skookum Chuck, and otherwise see that the thoroughfare between the Sound and the Columbia river be rendered safe for communication.—Capt. GORR will return to Oregon, in a few days, for the purpose of obtaining volunteers to render his company a full one. In the meantime, he leaves Lieut. HEDGES in command.

Capt. S. S. FORD, jr., with 20 Chehalis Indians, returned this week from a scout up the Skookum Chuck, without finding any hostile Indians.

By report, dated April 8th, from Surgeon M. P. BURNS, to Adj. Gen. TILTON, the sick and wounded at Ft. Hays were rapidly recovering.

By letters received by Adj. Gen. TILTON, at Olympia, from Ft. Vancouver, it appears that Capt. KELLEY's company is actively engaged in scouting in Clark co., and that some of the farmers have returned to their claims near Vancouver.

Lt. Col. MORRIS, U. S. A., commanding at Ft. Vancouver, had furnished ammunition, and the military store-keeper at the post, had issued arms to the volunteers. Block-houses were being built at the Washog and Lewis river.

The 400 stand of territorial arms, sent by the U. S. surveying steamer *Active*, via San Francisco to Clark county, for distribution to the counties along the Columbia river, arrived very opportunely on the day before the attack on the Cascades. The remainder of the territorial quota of musket caps, 158,000, recently arrived at Olympia, from the Benicia arsenal, and are being distributed throughout the territory.

The authorities are using every effort, and making every possible arrangement to keep the volunteer forces in the field adequately supplied with provisions, ammunition, forage, &c. The brig *Leonesa* and *Williamette*, have been chartered by Gov. STEVENS, and dispatched to bring supplies from Portland, Oregon, to the Sound.

A command of regulars from Ft. Steilacoom, under Lieuts. KAUTZ and NOGENT, are making a scout up the Nisqually, towards the mountains, with seventeen days' supplies.

Col. WRIGHT, having abandoned his contemplated movement from the Dalles, towards Walla-walla, is about to make an excursion from the Cascades, to the Oamas prairie, 40 miles north, on the heads of Salmon river.

Letters have been received at this place from Lieut. Col. WM. CRAIG, in the Nez Perce country, dated as late as the 23d March. The friendly Cayuses went to the Nez Perce country, early in March, and immediately opened communication with the hostile Cayuses. Col. Craig therupon organized a volunteer company, consisting of the citizens about him, and the Nez Perce warriors, and took vigorous measures to drive the hostiles out of the Nez Perce country. A Palouse spy had been taken,
