

PUGET SOUND COURIER.

A Weekly Journal—Devoted to Agriculture, Commerce, Literature, Useful Sciences, Arts, Politics, News, and General Intelligence.

BY AFFLECK & GUNN.

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Poetry, Agriculture, News, &c.

THE OLD CIDER-MILL.

When fancy's wild mania is over me,
Waking in the sweet of the days that are past,
I run to the mill with a shout and a bound—
To see the sweet juice from the huge press come out,
And pick up the apples that fell freely about;
I'm glad to exchange the school room's dull dust,
For the musical creak of the old cider-mill.

On mild autumn days from lessons rest free,
How we frolicked and gambol'd and retted in pride;
No fruit was so sweet as the fruit we found there,
Picked from huge piles of apples so temptingly rare;
To see the sweet juice from the huge press come out,
And pick up the apples that fell freely about;
I'm glad to exchange the school room's dull dust,
For the musical creak of the old cider-mill.

Right well I remember, with boyish delight,
How we gathered around the old Breckner at night,
And piled up the hay and willow and higher,
Till the old cider-mill was a mountain of light;
Our grandfathers did, in the great rocking chair,
Steadily smoking his pipe in the height, rocky glare,
Would set off the "Bretter" and old master Bill,
When warned by the mug from the old cider-mill!

In wild frolics, when autumn's rich store
Of bright yellow corn, was piled up on the floor,
Where round country boys and willow young made
In her warm bosom nest of best hominy arrayed,
When many old farmers, the steady, steady folk,
With laughter vociferous, cracked their rough jokes,
A shout shook the barn from the rafters to the mill—
As the "wheel" creaked round from the old cider-mill.
—California Pioneer Magazine.

INQUIRY AND OBSERVATION.

It is not expected that the farmer shall have an exact knowledge of the construction of the trees and plants which he cultivates with so much care, or the anatomy and physiology of the animals which he rears. He cannot learn the precise habits of the insects which destroy his crops—their periods of coming and retiring—or the office which it is designed they shall fill in the economy of nature. Yet a general knowledge of the laws which govern them, and a constant observation of their habits, will direct us to the repugnance felt towards them, and lead us to a profound contemplation of the wisdom and goodness of the Great Architect of all.

We plant the seed, and behold the germ springs to the light and air. What wonderful operations are still carried on! The tree assumes its most stately, as well as graceful forms—the buds, the leaves, blossoms, and fruit appear surprising in beauty all the art of the most skillful hands. It furnishes fuel, shade, fragrance, sustenance, and of tenderness protection against summer heats and winter winds, and always beauty to the landscape.

But the farmer too often stands in the midst of his trees, his plants and flowers, of his corn, and grass and grain, which he has caused to grow, and looks upon them as the result of a mere mechanical operation. He overlooks that wonderful and mysterious agency which prepares the food, dignified as it is, and sends it to the farthest bud and leaf of a monarch of the forest, or the minutest tendril of the tiny vine. He plows, because it is easier to plant and hoe in a loose soil, forgetting that, in a fine tilth, there are millions more mouths to receive the food which the plant requires than in a compact soil; that these open mouths catch fertilizing substances from every passing breeze, and drink them in from the cooling dews and genial showers. He forgets that the sand which he applied to the clay land, has found potash in the soil, become soluble, been taken up by the roots of the plant, carried to its utmost extremities, and now covers the straw of his wheat-field, with a delicate and beautiful coating of sand, or enamel, which gives it strength to stand erect, and thus prevent its bowing to the influence of the sun and air, and bring them to perfection.

While he reaps, shall he not inquire how this came, and compare it with another field, which fell to the ground and failed to perfect its growth? Will he not investigate these causes and thus acquire more knowledge of the operations of nature and improve upon his crops?

By an accurate knowledge of the times when insects appear, and the kinds of plants on which they prefer to feed, the time of planting and sowing may be varied, so that it may be possible to escape their ravages in some degree in this manner; or, as their period of existence is often very brief, we may learn their time of retiring to a winter home, and destroy them there by late plowing or other means. The season of their coming and retiring, the food they require, and the length of time they remain, but accurately understood, will, at least, give us a power over them we do not now possess. But this is not all we gain. This knowledge admits us to some of the secrets and thus leads us, by successive steps, "through nature up to nature's God."

The "Frog bug," for instance, has received its name from its annual appearance coinciding with the blossoming of that plant, and this fact may operate as a note of preparation against its ravages; and so it may aid us against the caterpillar, cankerworm, cutworm, and beetles. The latter insect sometimes prove exceedingly destructive. The discovery was made by a gentleman, that they visited his cherry trees in the night. When this habit was known they were shaken down and destroyed in large numbers, and the trees thereby saved. This fact was learned by reference to a work on insects and will illustrate what has become too fashionable to condemn as "book farming," as if facts recorded in a book or newspaper were not as valuable as those declared by the tongue. To be consistent, the scouffer at "book farming" should reject many of the best practices of the farmer now, because Virgil wrote of them; or Cato, or Columella, or Jethro Tull, commended them.

The insect race has its part to fill in the great plan, and that part is undoubtedly an important one. We accuse them of encroachments when they select, as their favorite food, the plants we are cultivating for our own pleasure or profit. It may be, that in their deliberations and conventions, if they hold any, they look upon us as the aggressors. They feed on the common bounty as well as ourselves, enjoy their brief existence and die. Our domestic animals do the same; but we make them subservient our purposes, and are content. We have not yoked the insect race to our implements for practical purposes; but having this decided advantage of them, the possession of reason, it is the part of wisdom to study their habits with patient care, until we become as well convinced of their usefulness, as we are of that of the ox and cow, and that an intelligent Being placed them here for our good.

Many of the beetles live on plants not only of little use to man, but some of them poisonous and in a state of decay often offensive; they are therefore to be reckoned among our friends. Some live on the juices of animals, and by this means destroy a great number of insects. Others are of service in the arts, affording us the costly cochineal, scarlet grain, lac and manna. Dragon flies and some others, subsist upon plant life, and thus become our active protectors.

REQUISITES OF A GOOD FARM.
Nearly all who have thought on the subject at all, have some idea of what constitutes a good farm and good farming. To put a farm in good order requires good judgment, good taste, labor, money and experience. A mean or penurious man can never make a good farmer, because he is too stingy to enrich his soil with manures, to build a good house and surround it with trees and shrubbery, to erect good fences, or even to purchase and keep the best of animals. Every man's farm reflects pretty correctly his heart and mind. If by nature he possesses a large heart which has been enriched by cultivation, his farm, house, and stock show it quite as well as his conversation and address. The Norfolk (Mass.) Agricultural Society have attempted to sketch them, and here they are:

1st. A good soil, well tilled, and kept free of various weeds, both on the fields and the roads.

2d. Lots well fenced and suited in number to the size of the farm.

3d. Substantial and convenient barns and stables of sufficient dimensions to contain the produce of the farm, and to comfortably house the cattle on it.

4th. A judiciously arranged dwelling, in neat condition, with a well and filtering cistern.

5th. Convenient buildings to facilitate the economical management of the farm—among which may be enumerated a wood-house, a wagon and tool-house, and workshop, and a granary, all well secured against decay by being well raised from the ground and neatly painted or whitewashed.

6th. Door-yards laid with grass and flower beds, shaded by ornamental trees, indicating to the passer-by the dwelling of taste, health and comfort.

7th. A kitchen garden highly cultivated, and containing every specie of vegetable that can be raised in our climate, with strawberry and raspberry beds.

8th. A fruit garden or orchard, where choice apples, cherries and plums are carefully cultivated, and where can be found neat rows of raspberry, gooseberry, blackberry and currant bushes.

PROFITABLE FARMING.
Mr. Coning, in his address before the Connecticut River Agricultural Society, says: Farmers will in future time come to understand that the earth and the air are both full of wealth to them. They will understand that the deeply bedded clay and the hard pan which is hidden far down in the ground are worth something more than merely to hold the world together. They will be found opening deep and broad drains in the operation of which they will obtain valuable material for top-dressing on their upland, and at the same time make the lowlands of much greater value by relieving them of surplus water. They will discard the idea of cultivating much land with the use of a little manure, as requiring much labor and tending to poverty. High cultivation, without fancy farming, will be in the way of the successful farmer of future time.

The importance of thoroughly pulverizing the soil will be better understood, and the value of the subsoil. Men who know little or nothing by experience, about the use of plows, and other farming implements, and men who can understand no principle of science, will not much longer be trusted and credited in making and recommending such implements. Farmers will have all these things tested by science and by experience. The plowman will also come under new orders. He will learn that his object is no longer to be plowing as much ground as possible in a day; but, to thoroughly plow and pulverize every inch of ground he goes over.

The conditions of respectability will be somewhat changed. The young man will not think it a dishonor to him to work on a farm. The young woman will not think herself degraded by familiarity with the kitchen. Intelligence, industry, usefulness, will merit respect and establish a title to respect. These things we ought to consider now.

GOOD ADVICE.—The life of the farmer who owns the land he tills, is the life most favorable to true independence and the highest virtue. Stick to the land and invest your money if you have any, in your farming business, remembering that the prayer, "let me be quickly rich," is seldom answered, and if ever, oftenest to the hurt of him who utters it. Comfort and education and peace may be universal, but wealth can, from the nature of things, be but occasional. With all that reasonable beings can ask, let our farmers be contented with their condition, and not envy the rich man his gold, for in the language of Isaac Walton, which we quote from memory,—"The cares that be the keys that keep those riches, hang heavy at the rich man's girdle, and clog him with weary days and restless nights."—N. E. Farmer.

AN APPLE TREE HEDGE.—When visiting a neighbor recently, among other things to be admired on his farm, my attention was particularly drawn to a hedge fence made of apple tree and gooseberry. The trees were planted some four years since, about five or six inches apart, and a cutting of gooseberry between each one. It is now beginning to bear fruit, which in a short time will pay all expenses of planting and keeping in order. At this time it is a formidable fence, and at the bottom a bird can not pass through it. I have never heard of apple trees being used for hedges before, and can not see why it is not equal to any other tree for that purpose.—Cor. Michigan Farmer.

COW'S SORE THREAT.—First wash with castile soap and warm water, then apply lime water and linsed oil, mixed in equal parts.

The surest wheel of fortune is a wheel-barrow.

CUBA—THE REAL CAUSE OF WAR.

We will set before our readers some of the facts which tend to bring on a war with Spain. The first cause of real animosity of a veritable war movement is the Africanization of Cuba, which means the freedom of the negro race in that island. There is danger that it will be made free if it is not annexed to the Union. The following remarkable declaration was made in the Cortes by the Spanish Ministry, as reported in the Paris Presse:

"M. Luzziaga ventured to insinuate a fact which people here would like to doubt, namely, that the impulse of this conspiracy (in Cuba) came from the United States; and he immediately asserted, with energy and in a manner which produced a profound impression on the assembly, that all the conspirators arrested, were acknowledged partisans of the maintenance of slavery."

"On this occasion the minister made a declaration which reflects the highest honor upon him, as well as upon the cabinet whose sentiments he expresses. He said, that without invading the rights of established property, without refusing to compensate them by a suitable indemnity, the Spanish government was finally decided to put an end to a barbarous institution, which all civilized nations condemned, and which M. Luzziaga did not fear to call a pest and a shame to humanity."

"The Espartaco ministry has the more merit for having taken this generous initiative, from the fact that negro slavery reckons, in this liberal land of Spain, numerous and very warm partisans. And for Cuba itself, the declaration is not without its perils."

"M. Olazaga constituted himself the interpreter of the sentiments of the whole Assembly, by proposing a vote of adhesion and thanks to the Cabinet. It was the prudent to that which was passed about a month since, in consequence of the explanations demanded by M. Maristeguy. The Cortes have proved once more, that they are decided not to retreat from this position, in which the honor of Spain is so deeply involved."

"Apart from the debates of the Assembly, I have learned that the principle author of this Cuban success, is an unfrocked monk, who had succeeded in insinuating himself, to a certain extent, into the confidence of Gen. Concha. Mention is also made, in connection with it, of a well known employe belonging to the engineer corps."

The English papers report this language as only referring to the slave trade. The presumption is that they desired to stir up no sectional feeling in the United States.

Then the conduct towards the *El Derrode*, in firing into her, and in firing shotted guns at her when at a distance, as she came out of Havana, and the arrest and detention of J. P. C. Thompson, American Vice-Consul at Laguna la Grande, because he had an American ensign in his room, and other insults, will be the real and ostensible cause of war. A correspondent of the N. O. *Picayune* refers to this as follows:

"The particulars of the arrest of Mr. John Thompson, at Laguna la Grande, and the execution of 'Estremades,' are the events which come to you magnified by the fears and colored by the fancies of your correspondents. Both, I doubt not, have also been sent to Washington to be added to that long 'list of outrages,' to each of which, like the moral law, has been affixed a penalty and a threat by our valiant government, to be inflicted too, perhaps, like the infirmities of that code, when 'time shall be no more'—but not till then. I myself saw Mr. Thompson in the Havana, and learned from him the incidents of his arrest. He was requested, then ordered to take down the American coat-of-arms, hanging in his counting room, and upon his refusal, was arrested, brought to the capital, had an interview with the Captain General, was instantly released, apologized to and informed that he might return to his business as soon as he thought proper. Now that this whole proceeding was arbitrary, I am willing to confess, may more, I feel to as an indignity, premeditated, perhaps; for if our papers constantly teem with abuse of the Spanish officials, it is but natural that they should resort to the 'lex talionis,' and seize so glorious an opportunity, within the law, of wounding our national pride by a 'public take down' of the 'American Eagle.' Yet there can be no doubt that those 'arms' had no right to hang there. Mr. Thompson was not a vice-consul, nor a commercial agent; his existence, I presume our Government ever to be ignorant of; he was simply then an American gentleman residing at Laguna, attending to his own business, but occasionally also acting as an agent for the Consul of that port, who resides at Trinidad—hence he had no claim to consular protection; but as the suspension of those arms implied such claim, it clearly became the right of the authorities to take them down, in order that Mr. Thompson, or no other person might take refuge under them; when as private citizens they might render themselves at some future time amenable to the laws of the land. That this whole proceeding was unnecessary—or if necessary, that the 'sawdust in mode' was wanting, I am anxious to admit; but Mr. Thompson, voluntarily residing under that arbitrary government, and makes his money there. Even in freer countries individual injustice often has to be submitted to."

The following warning from the *National Intelligencer*, one of the soundest and most discreet journals in this country, is worthy of careful consideration:

"We shall not affect such simplicity at this day as to express surprise at any party expedient for party ends; but we confess we had thought the Secretary of State too considerate, staid and far-sighted a statesman to give into this notion of going off into the islands of the ocean for territorial acquisition, or any other wild scheme of the 'manifest destiny,' which must, in its natural and unavoidable consequences lead, sooner or latter, to the overthrow of this happy American Union."

"Ships, colonies and commerce" has been the maxim and policy of the great maritime nations of Europe for two centuries past, and the consequence has been almost incessant naval wars, solely for colonial conquest and defence. Let us acquire Cuba, and we too enter on that career of European policy, which will bring in its train wars and taxes, and national impoverishment, and ultimate dis-

union as sure as night follows the day. We would ever, therefore, regard this tempting apple of Cuba as it was regarded by the Carolina statesman—for this country "the forbidden fruit."

THE PRESENT CAUSE.
In whatever way Nicholas closed his career, the most interesting question which presents itself is how his successor, now Alexander II, will act. Long ago European newspapers intimated that a grave misunderstanding prevailed in the Imperial family, having its source in the complications into which Russia was precipitated by the war. It was generally represented that the present Emperor was opposed to the policy of his father, and to that of a party said to be headed by the Grand Duke Constantine, his younger brother, a young man of eminent capacities. Still, no positive facts ever confirmed these reports. On the contrary, as commander-in-chief of the Guards, the hereditary Grand Duke, now Emperor, marched into Lithuania and Poland, and was thus to command, offensively or defensively, the great army comprising the flower of the Russian forces. His headquarters have been at Wilna. This and many other reasons, lead us to suppose that there will not be any departure from the policy pursued by his father.

The new Emperor, was born on the 29th of April, 1818, and accordingly is nearly thirty-seven. If not of extraordinary abilities, he possesses fair capacity and intellect. If not gifted with the iron will of his father, and if marked by a certain mildness of temper, he has exhibited more than once, considerable energy. He has a poetical and chivalrous turn of mind, and is Russian to the core. Years ago he urged the use of the Russian language at Court instead of French. As Grand Duke, he was always kindly to any pure, genuine Russian development in literature and policy. Some ten years ago he insisted strongly on the propagation of the Russo-Greek creed among the Protestant Finns, Estonians, and other tribes forming the peasantry in the Baltic provinces.

It is scarcely to be supposed that he will make any change among the highest dignitaries of the Empire. Such things will come by-and-by, as for some time past he has had a small court and a knot of favorites around him. Prominent among these is Prince Baryatinsky, who last year distinguished himself in Asia, against the Turks and the Circassian Schamyl. This prince is a proud, haughty ambitious Russian. He spent a great deal of his youth in Vienna, and it is possible that he may be sent thither, under some pretext, to control the action of the Russian Legation at the approaching congress.

Could it be admitted that the war at the start, had not the approval of the new Emperor, he will feel it necessary to prosecute it vigorously, unless a peace, acceptable to Russia, can be obtained. In honor of the memory of his father, whom he loved devotedly, and to whom he looked with deep deference, he will so act. He was always treated by the deceased Emperor with the utmost fondness—always as the most confidential friend, and as his successor. For about eighteen years the Grand Duke, has been habitually present at Cabinet meetings, giving his opinion and sharing with his father the thorny and heavy burdens of absolute power. It was the aim of the late Emperor to fit his son to sway the Imperial sceptre, and not to allow him to be taken unawares in his new position. Alexander II, therefore, ascends the throne, not as a mere novice, but wholly aware of the great task before him. If so disposed, he could not at once change the policy of the Empire. The late Emperor, idolized as he was, by the Russian people, will now be looked upon as a kind of martyr to the strong and wide coalition against him, and his sudden death will in our view, lend fresh fuel to the warlike flame. In this point of view, the death of Nicholas creates no probability of peace, nor renders it possible to count on any concession to the allies which he would not have made.

Another probability which merits consideration, is that the King of Prussia, the uncle of the new Emperor, with the Prussian Court, and the officers of the army, and of course what is called the Russian party at Berlin, moved by the sentiment of the so-called chivalrous honor, will not desert the young Autocrat. Indeed, they will be likely to espouse his cause more decidedly. Nor should we be astonished to hear that Francis Joseph, moved by common courtesy, should mediate for an armistice, to give time to the new sovereign to assume his royal charge, to ascertain his position, and decide on the policy. That such a demand, made by Austria, and backed by Prussia, would be accepted by the English Cabinet at least, is probable. Out of this might arise an interruption in the fighting in the Crimea, as well as a delay in the negotiations for peace. It would, however, be premature to deduce from the death of Nicholas, any considerable addition to the chances of a speedy termination to the war.—New York Tribune.

AN ADVOCATE OF PIERCE ON THE STOOL OF REPRESENTATION.—The editor of the *New York Democrat*, after quoting the Louisville *Journal* and the Richmond *Examiner* upon the indebtedness of politicians to the press, makes his own remorseful confession as follows:

"It is not unrequited that the friendship of an editor is the politician's stock in trade, upon whom he draws for every step he takes in the way of fame."

"Witness for instance, the tremendous man the press made Mr. Pierce during the campaign of his election. We confess that we look back with shame upon the part we bore in that business during the four months of that canvass. We wrote for a campaign paper which circulated more than sixty thousand copies a week, what would make a book of not less than three hundred folio pages, all proving most clearly, that he was in intellect, genius, purity of principles, and firmness of character, a second Jackson. Our head almost aches now when we remember the weary days, and nights of editorial labor in which we followed him through the battle smoke, over the plains of Mexico, and erected him into a tremendous and most frightful brave general, who never did flinch from fear under the blazon and whizz of the saltpetre and bullets of the enemy. And now to see the burlesque thing he has turned out to be, bows our own spirit with shame and regret."

PACIFIC RAILROAD ROUTES.

According to the report of the Secretary of War on the several railroad explorations, the extreme northern route (Major Stevens) between the 47th and 50th parallels of latitude, will require a road, allowing for ascent and descent, of 2,907 miles; estimated cost, \$180,871,000. The second, or Mexican route, will require a road of 2,001 miles; estimated cost, \$116,098,000. Benton's great central route is pronounced utterly impracticable from its mountainous obstructions. The estimated length of this route is 2,080 miles. The engineers think that 2,127 equated miles, and \$109,210,265 might do the work on the fourth route (Senator Rusk's). The 5th route is near the 33d parallel, or the extreme southern route, via Texas, New Mexico, El Paso, and the Gila, to the Pacific; estimated distance from Fulton, in Arkansas, to San Pedro, on the Pacific, 1,618 equated miles, allowing for ascents and descents 2,289 miles, estimated cost, \$68,070,000. The advantages of this route are that it is practically a third shorter than any of the others between the Mississippi and the Pacific—that it goes by the flank of the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada chain, instead of going over or under them—that the route is over a region of elevated table lands requiring little or no grading—and that the soil is dry and free from snow from one end to the other, except occasional light falls in New Mexico. The drawbacks of this route are that, after leaving Arkansas, it is a continuous desert to the Pacific, without timber and water, except at an oasis here and there at long distances apart. The Secretary of War proposes to supply water by artesian wells, and to transport the necessary timber from the two ends of the road to bridge over the desert.

RECAPITULATION.
(FROM OFFICIAL REPORTS OF ENGINEERS.)

Route.	Distance of Road.	Ascents and Descents.	Length of Road.	Comparative Cost.
	Miles.	Feet.	Miles.	
Extreme northern route	2,907	35,100	2,907	\$180,871,000
Mexican route	2,001	29,129	2,001	\$116,098,000
Benton's route	2,080	29,998	2,080	\$109,210,265
Senator Rusk's route	2,127	18,818	2,127	\$109,210,265
Extreme southern route	1,618	22,754	1,618	\$68,070,000

The cost by this route is so great that the road is impracticable.

SUMMIT OF HIGHEST PASS.

Route.	Summit of Highest Pass.	Feet above sea level.
Extreme northern route	Sierra Nevada	14,967
Second route	Sierra Nevada	14,967
Benton's route	Sierra Nevada	14,967
Senator Rusk's route	Sierra Nevada	14,967
Extreme southern route	Sierra Nevada	14,967

APPLICATIONS UNDER THE NEW BOUNTY-LAND ACT. Under the Bounty-Land act of March 3, 1853, the first claim was presented to the Pension Office about the 10th ult., and up to this date 81,700 applications have been received. About 20,000 cases have been developed, numbered, and briefed, and yesterday the Office commenced the examination of claims under this law. They purpose having at least 10,000 ready for issue when the plates are furnished. Although the forms and instructions issued by Commissioner Waldo are plain, explicit and easily understood, of the first 30 cases examined one was in accordance with the requirements of the law, and the instructions of the Office. The remaining 29 cases, of course were rejected. An applicant for bounty land should first ascertain whether his particular case is or is not embraced within the provisions of the late act. If he is really one of the beneficiaries, he should next see that his application is drawn up in accordance with the forms and instructions which the Commissioner has issued. A few minutes of care and intelligent attention may save months of delay.

COL. BENTON'S CHAIRMAN.—A Washington letter writer says: "Col. Benton is in a spasm on account of the almost certain defeat of his project of a Railroad to the Pacific. On this subject he was heard to remark—"

"The Pacific Railroad, Sir, is defunct, (from *de-fungo* to get rid of), yes, Sir, defunct in the abstract! Congress has killed it, Sir—killed it!—They are the most stuffed body in the world. Sir—yes, Sir, (from *stultus*, a fool, Sir!) If I had my way with them, Sir, I would expunge their names from the rolls of the House, (from *expungo*, to blot out), yes Sir, every mother's son of them, Sir!"

LATEST STATES' NEWS.
We have received, by Stuart's Express, dates from California up to the 18th inst., and from the States to the 21st of April. Below will be found a brief synopsis of States' news. Nothing of importance from California:

On the 10th day of March, an army from Missouri, regularly organized, armed, officered and disciplined, and liberally supplied with rations and whiskey, seized on the polls in each election district in Kansas, appointed their own Judges, prescribed their own rules, and cast three-fourths of all the ballots.

Corcoran & Riggs have paid into the Treasury about \$100,000 attached in their hands by government, being about one fourth the amount fraudulently obtained by Gardner under the award of the Mexican Commissioner.

The deposits in the New Orleans Mint in March, were \$188,018, of which \$46,951 was in gold—the coinage was \$367,000. The officers of the Philadelphia Mint do not seem yet to have found time to make up the statement of the Mint for March.

Gen. Martin Flint, an old Revolutionary Hero, died at Randolph, Vt., a few days since.

Barnum has a real live elephant at Bridgeport, Conn., which is used for carrying large loads of gravel in a cart arranged purposely for him, and in drawing sleds on a sledge-boat or drag, in piling up wood, timber, &c., and in making himself generally useful.

The carriage which the Hon. Daniel Webster was sold at auction in Boston, by Mr. Riddle, on Saturday, for \$17 50—a less sum than would have been realized for a good hand-car.

Gov. Pollock has signed the Pennsylvania Temperance law.

The trial of Theodore Parker and other abolitionists, who were indicted for instituting the Bunker riot in Boston, has ended in smoke. On Thursday Judge Curtis, of the Circuit court of Massachusetts, decided to quash the indictments, on the ground that the process was not sufficiently set forth, and also that it was not alleged that Commissioner Loring had legal cognizance in the Burns case. This order discharging the accused was revived with applause by the spectators, who thronged the court room.

Col. Benton has written a letter, dated the 15th inst., in which he states that there is no Indian war on the Upper Missouri and North Platte—that he has received simple proof to sustain the assertion, and that the new regiments were raised for another purpose, which he thinks, lies in the direction of Cuba. It is not believed here that there is any danger of the new regiments being employed in a war against Cuba or Spain. There is not pluck enough in the administration for a war against any nation that will show fight.

The King of Prussia has ordered a great medal for Science, and a golden Cosmos medal, to be presented to Lieut. Maury, for the Wind and Current charts.

The importations of foreign goods into the port of Boston for the week ending Saturday last, were valued at \$1,888,080.

LATE EUROPEAN NEWS.
Substantia.

The special correspondent of the *London Times* describes the condition of the army as much improved. Weather fine, health and spirits of the troops better, provisions abundant, and sanitary regulations strictly enforced; but the actual works of the siege make no progress to justify favorable prophecies. Actual increase of the lines and batteries there is, but it exists on both sides, and there has been no comparative advantage gained by the Allies. A formidable Russian force is assembled around Eupatoria, and virtually besieges the place. The Russians could not hold Eupatoria if taken, as it is completely under the guns of the English fleet.

Lord Raglan's latest dispatch announces a steady fire, without any change in the aspect of affairs. Important operations are, however going on.

The Russians continue to strengthen the works which they recently threw up in advance of the Malakoff Tower. These are not isolated works, but are part of an advanced line of defenses, and consequently it is indispensable for the Allies to destroy them. With this object in view, the British are pushing forward a parallel from an advanced point on the right, with a view to form a junction with a corresponding parallel which is being made on their side by the French.

Night encounters take place between the French and Russian riflemen. The latter have been repeatedly dislodged, but again return to their pits, under cover of the Russian batteries.

Atlantic Coast.
The British frigate *Viper* destroyed, March 6th, the *Martello Tower* and the barracks of Djimlithra, which the Russians recently constructed for the defense of their communication between Anapa and Kerasth. The *Viper* fired from a hundred yards distance, burned the granaries and took two guns. The *Circassians* menaced by land the still existing earth batteries, while the steam-frigate *Leopard*, acting in concert with the *Circassians*, shelled Soujak Kale, but the *Circassians* having failed to attack by land as promised, the ships discontinued the bombardment. The *Circassians*, however, took and burned a small fort at the head of Soujak Bay.

Constantinople.
The treaty of alliance between Sardulia and Turkey is signed. The death of Prince Metichloff is reported.

The Principality.
Reports are revived of a French division for Bessarabia, and Muscia is named as their place of rendezvous. Halina is occupied by a strong Russian garrison, and the export of corn from Bessarabia is prohibited.

The *Paris Presse* states (but the statement is contradicted by other papers) that the Allies have assented to a truce.

A manifesto from the Holy Synod of the Russian Church has appeared, inciting the Russian nation to war in defense of the Faith.

No loss of life occurred in the recent burning of the French Hospital at Constantinople.

England.
In Parliament, the details of the Sardinian Convention have been discussed in Committee, from which we learn that England engages to borrow money at 5 per cent. and loan the same to Sardinia at 4 per cent.

Mr. Roebuck's Committee continues in session, and the medical officers are at present under examination. An inquiry for certain papers connected with Admiral Dundas's conduct before Odessa, was refused by the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston remarked that there was no part of the Admiral's conduct that did not do him honor.

The conduct of the Earl of Lucan was discussed in the Commons on a motion to grant him a Court-Martial. The Earl's gallantry was admitted, but his demand for a Court-Martial was not complied with.

A motion is on the books for the appointment of a Commission to amalgamate the British and Indian armies, or at least to render the Indian army available in the European war. Another motion asks if it is intended to nominate any more Bishops for Canada, since the Canadian Clergy Reserves bill says it is desirable to remove all connection between Church and State.

Mr. Buchanan attended a dinner at the Seamen's Hospital, London, and returned thanks for the aid rendered fifteen hundred sick American sailors. Lord Palmerston presided. A donation of \$200 from the merchants of New York and Boston was acknowledged.

Forged bills of lading have appeared in the Liverpool market to the extent of £14,000 sterling, all shipped at Charleston, South Carolina, by James C. Nichols. The fraud was accomplished by the insertion of the word hundred after units in the body of the bills.

PUGET SOUND COURIER.

ATLACK & GUNN, EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

STEELACON, W. T., THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1856.

REGULAR WHIG NOMINATIONS.

FOR DELEGATE TO CONGRESS.

WILLIAM STRONG.

Thurston County.

COUNCILMAN—B. F. YANTIS.

REPRESENTATIVES—T. F. McELROY, C. H. HALE, C. WARD, J. W. GOODELL, C. G. SAYLOR, GEO. HARTSOCK.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER—W. R. PARSONS.

ASSESSOR—S. M. SARGENT.

CLERK—J. H. HARRIS.

COLLECTOR—B. F. HARNARD.

DEPUTY COLLECTOR—W. E. MILES.

MAJOR—J. J. WESTBROOK.

THE PEOPLE THINKING ALOUD.—DEMOCRACY HUNTING A KNOT-HOLE.

In order that we shall believe that what has been done may be repeated, reference to past affairs, and serious reflection, both seem unnecessary. The minority choice for Congress, made by the late Democratic Convention under that despotic absurdity, the two-thirds rule, who is now urged upon the voters of the Territory by the Pioneer and Democrat, with all such zeal as that journal manifested in '54 for Lancaster, after his nomination, may realize the truth of this should he unfortunately be elected. We have good reason to believe, however, that the journal now advocating him as a candidate will not have the opportunity to desert him as a Congressman. The people are resolved that he shall not be exposed to such danger, and they can have no serious thought of inflicting upon themselves so deep an injury as his election would certainly prove to be. Viewed in a partisan light, his pretensions and those of his adherents have no sort of foundation, and deserve to be signally rebuked; whilst above and independent of all party considerations, there is a mountain of reason why his ambitious hopes should be instantly dashed, and his idea of usurpation quitted for the time being. We say to the people that the endorsement of any candidate by the Pioneer and Democrat should amount to nothing. It is literally no security at all. The facility with which that paper commended a candidate at one time, and after his success deserted him, and finally denounced him with unmeasured ferocity, is proof to you of the inutility of its endorsement in the present or any future case. Our readers should not be deceived, and we believe it is their resolve not to be. Without any regard for the fulminations of the Pioneer, they will form their own estimate of the rival candidates, and by a handsome majority for O. S. Skookum do themselves honor, and their interests justice, and enlist in their behalf the services of one well calculated to pull the laboring oar for them in the halls of Congress.

A good cause cannot suffer by being investigated. The more clearly understood, the better appreciated. Our policy as shown in the platform of our Convention is open to the inspection of the country. Our opposition to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, our advocacy of the immediate construction of the Pacific railroad by the General Government, and our denunciation of the present administration and its entire policy stand self-commended to the favorable consideration of the people. These, the views of our party are also the views of our candidates, and will by him be carried out. In addition thereto a number of large appropriations of money must be obtained. The wheels of government here must be kept in motion: the Hudson's Bay and Puget Sound Companies must be ejected by some means, from the Territory; the pre-emption system must be applied to our public lands, and settlers be privileged to enter them at the minimum or a nominal rate, and fortifications must be erected at all the maritime approaches to our Territory. We have depots of arms and ammunition for the use of the inhabitants in emergencies. Marine hospitals are wanted on the Sound and Columbia river. Our capitol, universities, custom house, and penitentiary must be undertaken at once. Our northern boundary must be ascertained and established; the number of our military posts must be increased; a naval station must be established on the Sound; the necessary steps for a navy yard and dry dock must be taken without delay; and the rights of the Indians must be extinguished by paying them a generous consideration.

Now, to accomplish these important objects it is necessary that the people should make a careful selection of their delegate to Congress. In Feb. '54 the Pioneer urged the election of a democrat on the ground that none but a democrat could obtain appropriations from a democratic Congress. We now offer to that paper a dose of its own medicine, when we say that as the new house of representatives is largely anti-democratic, anti-Nebraska and anti-everything that savors of Mississippi politics, it would be madness on the part of the people of this Territory to send the democratic nominee to Congress. If the Pioneer's argument was true in '54 its reverse is the very perfection of truth now. Whilst we admit that Anderson is "a young man" of many excellent traits of personal character, it is clear and will be soon, that his

in his being forced upon the democracy thro' the machinations of his clique at Olympia. The people owe it to themselves to defeat his nomination, and counterplot the selfish designs of his clique. His democracy is of the Jeff. Davis school, which to the freedom of our Territory is far more distasteful than the union

sentiments of Foote would be. To usher him into Congress as the representative of our union and liberty men, would bring down upon his head the opposition of all northern members, and upon us that contempt, anger and punishment at their hands, which as dupes and fools we would so richly deserve. What! this furthest north-west of all our free Territories, be represented in the Congress of the United States by one whose policy obtained its hot-house growth at the southernmost extremity of the union—where even conservatism receives no consideration either in their houses or their cotton-fields? What! a candidate from Mississippi—secession, fire-eating Mississippi—where the youth are not trained to industry and to struggle with the world for a livelihood, but are lapped in luxury, waited upon by menials, and instructed that of all occupations, politics is least laborious, and most genteel and appropriate for delicate hands to dabble in? What! a candidate from Mississippi—a land wherein "a young man" obtains no acquaintance with the general affairs of business life, can know nothing of the interests or wants of northern commerce or agriculture, and can have no correct opinion of what is due to free white labor? What! a candidate from among the federal officials recently sent out to us from the states, and he nominated by a convention that solemnly resolved against such appointments being made by the President? What! a federal official candidate who did not patiently and faithfully serve out his term as marshal, but preferred to desert his post of duty to obtain an advantage over his competitors for a favor from a democratic convention? What! a candidate with Pierce and Jeff. Davis' views of the Nebraska question, to represent in an anti-Nebraska Congress the interests of an anti-Nebraska people, where he would have less influence than a child might obtain? Surely his election can not be seriously intended by any voter. His nomination was a joke, or he was offered as an atonement for the iniquities of his party. What! though Jeff. Davis did predict that he would occupy a seat in Congress? Must we verify the prediction? Is this his latitude? and are we disunionists? Col. Anderson may yet be in Congress. He is, in the language of the Pioneer, "a young man," and may yet fill out a long career; but he can never go to Congress from Washington Territory. Let him go hence, and seek his preferment at the hands of people whose sentiments are widely different from ours, and akin to his own. A tree, the branches of which are reputation, violation of faith, opposition to free labor, and acquisition of territory south and nothing north, is one that will not take root in northern soil. Skookum will surely be elected, and Anderson may carry out his original design of returning to Mississippi. So say the people, and they know.

FERIERS COUNTY. We have not been long enough residents of this County to become intimately acquainted with all its resources, but we have seen enough to convince us that immigration will find as many inducements to settle here, as in any part of the country north of California; there the gold fields will continue to attract the young and adventurous, but to those who are content to make a good home, a comfortable living, and await the gradual development of the future, to such we would say, that Puget Sound will not only repay their labor; we have no mountains of gold, but our plains are fertile, and in the autumn they are golden with a bountiful harvest; our inland sea is filled with fish of the choicest kinds, its shores, crowned with forests of the heaviest growth, come boldly down to the deep, where ships of the largest class may lay and take in their cargoes; our mineral wealth, will attract the investment of capital, our proximity to China, and our fine harbors will give us commercial importance, and, although not sanguine of its speedy completion, we shall advocate, and hope to see the construction of the great Pacific Rail Road, having its terminus within our borders. But we are digressing somewhat from what we intended to discourse upon. We have a few items in regard to this County, that we wish to lay before our readers, although familiar perhaps to many of them. We find upon examination, that there are in this County, one hundred and sixty-seven farms, of which, all but four, are less than twenty miles from this town. These farms are all, more or less, under steady cultivation, and many of them remind one of the old farms at home, with their well fenced fields, large barns, and fine stock, evincing at once, industry and prosperity. From a careful estimate, we are convinced that of wheat alone, we shall harvest thirty thousand bushels; and our grains in proportion. Many of our farmers are devoting their attention to stock, and this cannot prove other than a lucrative business, for the prairies yield an abundance of the most nutritious grass; and the climate is well adapted to raising cattle, horses, and sheep. We are glad to see also, that orchards are being made, and fruit trees planted, and doubt not, but our climate will prove equally favorable to these, although the peach, and some few fruits, may not attain that perfection here which they do where the summers are warmer and longer. The great body of the most fertile farming land of the County lies on the Puyallup river, and the soil is as rich as a western farmer could desire. Forty claims have been taken and improved here within one year and a half, most of them bordering immediately on the river; these are partly prairie, and partly wooded with a light growth of vine maple and are easily cleared, and made ready for the plow. A good wagon road has been constructed to this part of the County, which with the river gives the farmers ample means for the

conveyance of their produce to market. The bottom of the Puyallup will yet afford two hundred good claims, which are rarely, if ever overgrown, with a soil of rich black loam, from fourteen inches to three feet in depth, and all that is required is industry, to make this the garden of the Territory. Much has been said of the gravelly prairies that are so extensive in this County, and many have expressed the opinion, that they would not repay the cost of cultivation; but actual experiment has proved that they will even raise good crops of wheat, and that the American system of farming will replenish instead of exhaust the soil. But if unfit for the plow, where can better grass be found for our stock, than that which now grows wild upon them? Sheep too, thrive well here, and we learn from good authority, that the flocks of the Puget Sound Co. yield a quality of wool that commands a higher price, than any similar grade in the London market. The Lakes that are so numerous in this County, are also generally surrounded with a rich soil, and upon their banks many tasteful cottages have already been erected, adding much to the beauty of our natural scenery. These fine sheets of water, well stocked with trout and other fish, will one day prove the great place of resort for our pleasure-seeking citizens. Of these Lakes, Weechee is the largest, the most romantic, and just at a convenient gallop from town; it is some four miles long, and was in former times a favorite tarrying place of the Indians, who gained an easy subsistence from the game and fish which abounded there. There is connected with this Lake, a beautiful tradition, which the Nisquallys have handed down; a tale of unhappy love, which some day we will lay before our readers, and with that pleasing fiction, also more facts in relation to pigs, prairies and potatoes.

"SKOOKUM'S ABOUT." The above sobriquet was applied to Judge Wm. Strong, by the editor of the Pioneer, Dec. 31, '53. "O, Jew! we thank thee!" for putting into our mouths the words: "Skookum's about," for he will show you that he is about, and that he will take that trip to Washington city which was so much feared by a number of Locofocoes then. No sooner had the Whig convention selected their standard bearer, than the Hon. WILLIAM STRONG, (as we understand) with that peculiar boldness which is peculiarly his characteristic, gave full and fair notice that he was ready for the fight, and challenged his Democratic competitor, Col. J. Patton Anderson, to meet him on the stump and discuss the two platforms.—The ball opens at the Lewis county court, and we have no fear as to the result. Our candidate is a "Skookum" team—Strong by name and nature, and his fortitude, patience and endurance will secure to our party an efficient and thorough canvass. He is well known to the citizens of Washington Territory, and his ability and fearless independence while on the Bench of the Supreme court of Oregon—and as Associate Justice of the District now constituting this Territory, makes it a work of supererogation to allude to his judicial career. He has since his withdrawal from the Bench, devoted himself to the practice of law, and to the cultivation of his land claim, situated at Cathlamet on the Columbia river. As a lawyer his reputation in this and Oregon Territory is deservedly high, and his position was but properly complimented by the first legislative assembly of Washington Territory, which with a large democratic majority, and a bitter party opposition, called from his claims to the Capitol and made him a code commissioner. Without expressing an opinion on a code which though adopted more than a year ago, is an "epochal type" to the people of Washington Territory, and which could not therefore be fully tried; we may be permitted to state that the industry and energy of Judge Strong on that commission, secured for him from the Democratic organ of the Territory—the name of the "working member." Such a description is decidedly just. We hazard the assertion without fear or denial, that should Judge Strong be elected, the interests of the Territory will be as industriously looked after, and as earnestly and strenuously presented as by any citizen who could possibly be sent. For that place he is peculiarly adapted. He has resided with us for years. As a judge and an attorney he has visited every section of the Territory, making the acquaintance of our people—learning their wants, and forming his own judgment by observation of the resources of the country and its necessities. If being conversant with a physical knowledge of the whole Territory—its requirements as to roads, the feasibility of mail routes, and the importance of an inseparable and intimate communication between the Columbia river and the Sound: be it all essential to a delegate in Congress, we challenge the Democratic party to produce a man on whom the suffrages of the people should rather fall than on Hon. Wm. Strong.

The Whig watch-fires are burning brilliantly bright, and every thing indicates success.—Let every Whig throughout the Territory but be imbued with the enthusiasm which pervaded the convention, and our candidate will be triumphantly elected the next delegate from Washington Territory.

Four vessels of war of the allied fleet, are daily expected at Victoria, where a hospital is being erected for the sick and disabled. The Admiralty have selected Esquimaux Harbor, as a place of rendezvous for the fleet on this coast.

We learn that the Chilean bark Juanes Guzman, is on her way to this place, to load with spars and lumber for the Valparaiso market. We hope this is the precursor of many more for the same destination.

"LOOK ON THIS PICTURE, AND THEN ON THAT."

As is well known to all our readers, the result of the Democratic Territorial convention recently held at Olympia, was the nomination of Col. J. Patton Anderson, as delegate to Congress. It is also known, that he was not the choice of the majority of the delegates there assembled, any more than he is now the choice of a majority of the Democratic voters in the Territory. By and by we will endeavor to give our reasons why, he was not the choice of the convention; and also, why he is not the man whom the party would prefer as their delegate.

Our readers are also well aware, that the result of the deliberations of the Whig Territorial Convention, which met at Olympia one week subsequent to the Democrat, was the nomination of Hon. William Strong as delegate to Congress. They well know too, that he was the choice of the majority of the delegates there assembled, and that he is also the first choice of the more liberal minded and better thinking Democrats in the Territory. The result of the election on the 2nd Monday in July next will amply prove this; and it will prove another thing too, and that is: that our people are determined to cast off the miserable shackles of party by which they—or many of them at least—have heretofore been bound, and go in with a hearty good will for the election of those men who have the will and ability to do the most good for the Territory generally.

Well, the two candidates are fairly before the people, who will be called upon in a few weeks, to decide at the ballot-box, which of the two they will have to represent their interests in the halls of Congress.

Let us now, before entering into a discussion of the merits of the important questions that divide the great Whig and Democratic parties of our country, take a "good look" at these two gentlemen who now occupy so prominent a position before us, and make some fair and impartial inquiries, relative to the several qualifications, and the legitimacy of the demands that they are making upon us for our suffrages. First upon the list then—his nomination being first made—comes Col. J. Patton Anderson, the Democratic nominee. Well, who is Col. J. Patton Anderson, and what claims has he upon us?

Col. J. Patton Anderson is a very pleasant gentleman from Mississippi, and was until recently the United States Marshal of Washington Territory. Some two years since, we believe, he arrived amongst us with a commission from President Pierce, in his pocket, to act in the above capacity. A short residence of two or three months in Olympia, sufficed to make for him some very warm and active friends, who got it into their heads that he was the only man in the Territory really qualified to represent us in Washington, and with so much zeal and energy did they take hold of the work, that they actually "came within an ace" of getting him nominated in the first Democratic convention held in the Territory; and "in all human probability" would have done so, had not "old bald-headed Columbia-Lancaster" run "athwart his law." The question, who is Col. J. Patton Anderson? has now been answered, and we trust satisfactorily.

Has Col. Anderson any interest in this Territory? With the exception of some two or three lots, perhaps, in Olympia, bought on speculation, we are not aware that he has.—Has he a wife who is content to reside in the Territory for a week or a day, even, and children whom he intends to raise and educate amongst us? No! he has not. A wife he has, 'tis true, but if he be any truth in common report, she has manifested anything but a disposition to remain here, even for a limited time. Why did Anderson resign his office of Marshal? Rumor says it was to get the nomination of the Democratic convention, but we think that it was simply from the fact that he had fully made up his mind to leave the Territory for good. How is Anderson upon the Nebraska question? Pro-slavery Locofoco will tell you that he is "all right"—what the good old honest Democrats will tell you that he is all wrong; and so we believe. Is not Anderson a pro-slavery man? Is not he a warm friend and advocate of the iniquitous Nebraska-Kansas bill? Is he not a politician of the Jeff. Davis school? and a believer in the doctrine of "States Rights"? Most undoubtedly he is all of these.

Is he the man, then, whom you wish to see elected as our delegate? Can you consistently vote for him on the 2nd Monday of July next? No! you cannot, and we are fully persuaded that you will not. We want a gentleman, do we not, to represent us in Congress, who can exert sufficient influence with the members of that body to secure to us the many appropriations that we so much need, and which will conduce in so great a degree to the permanent prosperity and welfare of our infant Territory. Have we any good reason for believing that Col. Anderson can effect much for us in the next Congress, which will bestroingly Anti-Nebraska, and diametrically opposed to that political creed in which he was educated, and to which he so tenaciously clings, if we should be so foolish as to elect him? We think not, and so, reader, do you. Well then, what shall we do? What is the alternative? Why, we will just turn in, all hands of us, and triumphantly elect "old Skookum," a man who has been among us for the last six years, whom we all know, have frequently tried, and never found wanting. This is the alternative, and the best one that could possibly be offered to the people of the Territory.

There is not a man amongst us, whose interests are more closely identified with those of the Territory, than William Strong; and we feel that we are perfectly justified in saying:

that there is no man in the Territory who could urge its wants with more ability or with greater success upon the Congress of the United States than he could.

MORE INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS.

We have been informed by Capt. Trask, of the Brig Geo. Emery, that the Northern Indians, who left this place so suddenly two or three weeks since, have paid a predatory visit to a portion of Whidby's Island. It will be recollected by our citizens, that these Indians numbering about forty male and females; after spending a few days in town, amusing the people with their songs, dances, &c., left suddenly in the night, taking with them several canoes and a chest of carpenter tools belonging here, and apprehensions were felt at the time, that further down the Sound they might do more mischief.

Capt. Trask brings the first intelligence of their movements, and it appears that they robbed several houses on the Island, of such of the contents as they could best carry, and in the house of Mr. Libbey, a settler there, they snatched a loaded musket from the wall, and discharged it at him, the ball just grazing his ear? Mr. L. managed to escape and proceeded to alarm the nearest neighbors, who, to the number of twenty-five started in pursuit, but did not succeed in coming up with them. Intelligence was immediately conveyed to Capt. Pease, of the revenue cutter Jefferson Davis then at Port Townsend, and without a moment's delay, got under weigh; and did his best to overhaul them, but with what success is not yet known.

We are not disposed to sound a note of false alarm, nor to create any unnecessary excitement in the community, but we think that enough has already been seen of the character of the northern tribes of Indians, living far north of the 49th parallel, to make us justly suspicious of their intentions. We must admit that the bloody affair, in which Butler here so disgraceful a part, and in which a northern chief was killed, was of a character to make an American ashamed of the inefficiency of our laws to punish; and well calculated to excite feelings of everlasting hostility from his tribe towards the whites. If the punishment fall alone on the guilty, we would not say a word, but we have already seen our offending citizens killed and their property plundered, and we believe that the end has not come yet. From conversation with many of these Indians, we feel assured that they are determined to take savage and retributive justice into their bloody hands, unless, prompt and energetic measures are taken, to conciliate or intimidate them. They are enemies of no ordinary character, with all a common savage's cunning, and deceitfulness, they are almost unequalled for their ferocity and bravery in war; they are well skilled in the use of the musket, and are well supplied with both arms and ammunition.

These Indians are from one of the most northern of the Hudson Bay forts on the Pacific, being from the Sitkine river, in lat. 56 20 and in early times they gave the Company great trouble. In 1842, they killed the gentleman who was in charge of the fort, and two thousand of them surrounding it, were preparing to rob it of its contents, when fortunately a Russian steamer appeared, and they were induced to lay down their arms and came to terms of peace. Since then, the Company by their kind treatment and honorable dealings towards them, have secured their confidence; this is what we have not done, and we must prepare for the worst.

The attention of Government must be called to our defenceless position, and in the mean time we must take all available precautions to defend ourselves. We need an organization of the militia, a supply of arms, powder, and balls, and in exposed situations, forts, something like that at Port Townsend, for the defence of women and children.

We need an armed vessel to cruise at the northward, to watch their movements, and a detachment of troops stationed near Bellingham Bay. We trust that who ever may be called upon to represent us at Washington, will call upon Government to adopt means for checking these depredations, ere we are involved in a costly and bloody war.

MAIL LOSS.—On Friday last, the mail for this place, was started from Olympia, in a small canoe with three men, the mail-frier and two others. In crossing over from Devil's head to Balch's passage, under sail, they were suddenly struck by a flaw, and capsized being at the time half a mile from shore, the men all clung well to the canoe, and in a short time were rescued from their perilous and truly uncomfortable position, by Mr. Lovell, of Vancouver, who was on his way in a canoe, from Stellacon to Olympia. By this accident, the mail due this place was lost, and we are consequently without a single No. of any Oregon paper, or even the Pioneer and Democrat, of last week. Whether that was on board, we have been unable to learn, but of this fact we are sure, that there has not a single copy of the last issue of that paper reached Stellacon.

This is rather annoying to us, for we felt anxious, before going to press the second time to get friend Wiley's opinion of our first No. Messrs. Boise and Thompson, of this town, will leave in a few days for the Grand Round, near Fort Walla-Walla, where they propose stock raising, farming, &c. This will doubtless be the nucleus of a future large settlement. But our friends will find a lonely home in that Indian country, for a long time to come.

We learn that 150 men are expected here during the coming week, to fill up companies A, and C, of the 4th Regiment of Infantry, at Fort Stellacon.

RE-ANNEXATION OF WASHINGTON TERRITORY TO OREGON.

In a late number of the Pioneer and Democrat, Wiley animating our late delegate, says: "better be annexed to Oregon, and depend upon Gen. Lane as a delegate than select Hon. Columbia Lancaster." It is not proper to defend Lancaster against his own party attacks, for it may be supposed that Whig support but fastens upon him a desertion of Locofoco obliquely. But let us look at the case and do justice. Why should Lancaster be thrown overboard, and his name thus treated with derision?

Was not the convention which nominated him a Democratic convention? Did he not as a Democrat make the canvass? and did he not in charge of Gov. Stevens and Col. Ebeby, and at the expense of the government officers of the present Democratic administration make a Democratic tour?—and did not Stevens, Ebeby, Anderson, Lander, McConaha and others of the "faithful" support him in beautiful, by-fair Democratic speeches?—and did not the said Lancaster when he spoke at Olympia, talk so Democratically, that another high Democratic official then on an official visit to Olympia, leave the room when Lancaster ceased to speak, and fire a Democratic salute? Are not all these facts? and was not Lancaster then a good wholesome Democrat? Whigs thought so and voted against him. What has he done since? Has he deserted his party? We say no! emphatically. His claims were entertained by the Democratic convention, and he received numerous votes on numerous ballots for a re-nomination;—and among the proceedings of that convention, we find the following resolution unanimously adopted by said convention: Resolved.—That the thanks of this convention, and the citizens of Washington Territory, are due to Hon. Columbia Lancaster, late delegate to Congress, for the able, impartial and indefatigable manner in which he has served them; and has been instrumental in effecting the passage of appropriations for steam mail, and other purposes of this Territory.

Suppose Lancaster was faithless—suppose he deserved the treatment which he has received from certain quarters. What has that to do with the humiliating proposition made by our friend Wiley? We have had enough to do with Oregon and Oregon politics. We thank Lane sincerely for helping us to the division— for standing by us since, and all he has done; but we imagine without a delegate, Gen. Lane as his duty required him, would be found representing his own Territory, and that Washington would soon be in a worse fix than when the neglect we received under Lane's and Thurston's representation, impelled the people north of the Columbia river as one man to ask for a division. That division was given to us, and we are thankful. We believe Lancaster has done his duty as he could do it, and to the best of his ability. The proceedings of the Democratic convention divulged matters which show why more was not done. We will have something to say on that subject, and will not now further allude to it, than only to say that we believe Washington Territory should elect and depend to upon her own delegate; and we believe Judge Strong has too much self-respect if elected, to gratify the vanity of any man, by depending upon or annexing himself to the delegate from any other Territory, and believing that, we are for him ALL THE TIME.

BOCASONIAS AT A DISCOUNT.

The legislature at its last session passed an act, amendatory of that regulating marriages, the first section of which is as follows: "That all marriages heretofore solemnized in this Territory, where one of the parties to such marriage shall be a white person, and the other possessed of one-fourth or more negro blood, or more than one-half Indian blood, are hereby declared void." Now, as marriage is in the law a civil contract, and as the Constitution of the United States prohibits any state from passing laws impairing the obligation of contracts, we imagine that the act and not the marriage will prove to be "void." But the fun of the thing is this, that a proviso is tacked on to the tail of the amendatory act in these words: "That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent any parties from being united in marriage, who may be living together at the time of the passage of this act."

So that although the existing marriages are all void, yet the parties can get married again notwithstanding. Now, we are not ourselves a marrying man—certainly we never shall marry any one who comes within the provisions before mentioned; but in the name of those interested in the matter, we protest against this wholesale unmarrying of persons whose tastes or necessities have induced them to form such alliances. The negro part of the business, we apprehend, is a dead letter any way—black and yellow girls not being common in these parts, and we don't apprehend any Pendley suits in the future history of the Territory; but the clothesmen section is serious. Some of our "first families"—the Pilgrim fathers of our land—have crossed on the original stock. Until very lately, "Boston" women were not to be had for love or money, and even now they can't be got for mere asking. Where was old Virginia when that act passed? Where the pride in that diluted drop of Powhatan's blood that animates her sons? Echo answers, "not in the Legislature."

Seriously, we object to this species of law making, not merely because it is beyond the power of the Legislature altogether, but because it is unjust and unrighteous, and calculated above all things to create mischief, bad feeling and immorality.

OBLIGATIONS.—J. W. Sullivan, San Francisco, has again sent us a large number of newspapers, magazines, &c. by Stuart, for which we thank him. We are also indebted to the Pacific Express Co. for numerous papers, among which were late California "ashes."

REMARKS.—We learn that 150 men are expected here during the coming week, to fill up companies A, and C, of the 4th Regiment of Infantry, at Fort Stellacon.

...UNDER THE PIONEER AND DEMOCRAT.

We noticed in the Pioneer and Democrat of May 19th, an article (under a sobriquet peculiarly appropriate) in which was made an attempt to parol the credit belonging to the Whig party of this Territory, and bestow it upon an organization having no more claim to such a bestowal, than has the Locofoco faction. Its leads off thus:

"On Monday last, a Territorial convention consisting of a joint stock company of Whigs, Free-soilers, and devotees of 'Sam,' assembled in Olympia, and on the evening of that day, nominated Hon. Wm. Anderson as their candidate for next delegate to Congress."

Now the statement is untrue and without foundation, that the convention which convened at Olympia on the 14th inst, was composed of any but Whigs. There were none in that convention as delegates, except those whose political actions have identified them with, and who claim to be members of the Whig party.

What palliation then is there for the author of that article, for asserting that the convention was composed of other than Whigs? It cannot consist in the fact, that the platform upon which the whig party have placed their standard, and which they trust will wave in triumph on the day of election, is more republican, and more in accordance with the spirit of the times, than the deformed hulk upon which locofocoism has fixed its ensign; because it is to the credit of the whig party if the great cardinal principles of their faith, are so stamped with liberality, justice and equality, as to recommend them.

The band of citizens and freemen in this Territory, known as the whig party, believe that principles only are immortal—that every political organization which has not its foundation in principle—is a faction, and that its existence and influence must be both temporal and dangerous.

They believe that the locofoco clique of this Territory, when they appropriate to themselves the appellation of democracy, are guilty of the practice of deception, and should be regarded as vice arrayed in virtue's clothing. They believe that the locofoco party—a party composed as it is of all the ills of the day, and tailed up by a most unwarrantable use of official patronage, regards not, nor cares for the interests of the people, and that vitality in the locofoco ranks, will soon become extinct, and that the wily demagogues who have heretofore so vociferously exclaimed, democracy, oh democracy! will be consigned to a well merited political obscurity; because the facts too apparent that they have had in view, but the single object of living a life of riot upon the spoils of office. We have too high an opinion of the intelligence of the people to imagine that they will supinely sit, regardless of their interests, and be imposed upon by the morbid pathos of the Pioneer and Democrat, when it tells them that action will be unavailing; you must succumb, for our able, national, enviously honest youth—Col. J. Patton Anderson will overcome all your opposition. We know the people too well, to believe it. We know that the first inquiry will be with them: Is Mr. Anderson among all the men who have shouted democracy, the best qualified to serve our interests as delegate to congress? No! What reason then has he to expect our suffrage? Is it because some two years ago he was commissioned and shipped to the Territory, and before the ink was fairly dry upon his commission, allowed himself to be forced by his friends, upon the notice of the Cowlitz convention; and asked them to believe there, what the locofoco organ would have us believe now; that one of our old citizens would do so—and that the country's ruin was inevitable if he were not sent to congress?

We can clearly discover the chagrin that is felt in the locofoco camp at the nomination of Mr. Anderson, by the gasp of agony apparent in the article referred to, where the writer tells us, that the youth who bears their colors has some show because Judge Strong has personal prejudice to contend against; but we believe his fancy has deceived him there, quite as badly as he was deceived in what the labors of the convention would bring forth.

It may be true that Judge Strong has some personal enemies, but it is also true that he is a man of superior ability—that he is an old citizen—that he is well acquainted with the wants and interests of the Territory—that he is a man of untiring energy and perseverance, and that he has many warm personal friends and influential acquaintances in the city of Washington. Even his enemies will not question his ability, or integrity; and his experience places him side by side, if not above any politician on the Pacific coast. His principles are defined and known. The platform he indorses is national, just and equitable, and we have no doubt that he will be triumphantly elected.

The New Hampshire Patriot, the Pierce organ in that State, says "It is a dark day for the democracy." It is so dark that all the locofoco chickens seem about going to roost.—Louisville Journal.

Precisely the same case here. In fact, a deep sleep seems to have fallen upon the democracy every where. Not even the sound of cannon can arouse them. Their sleep will know no waking.

HARRIS' MAGAZINE.—We have received from J. W. Sullivan, San Francisco, this truly valuable publication. It contains a large amount of excellent matter, selected with great care from foreign and American periodicals, as well as a large amount of originality in the "editor's table." We will be pleased to show it to our friends, believing that a number would subscribe for it, did they but examine its contents.

Every body reads a new paper with interest. They examine it carefully in all its departments. Merchants and others will see the advantage in giving us their advertisements now.

We call the attention of our readers, to a notice of the discussion of Temperance, on the 19th of June.

"A number of excellent things, in the shape of catables and 'chicken fixings,' have been presented to us the last week, from the hands of whom we are requested not to make known. Of course, we don't do it; but the kind donors have our best thanks. To the fair hands, especially, we say, we do appreciate their taste for good things."

The Hudson's Bay Co., we learn, will take their goods for Fort Walla-walla, from Fort Nisqually over the Immigrant road, and bring back the furs over the same route, instead of by the Columbia, as formerly.

FOR THE FURTHER GOOD OF THE WHIG RESOLUTIONS.

Enclosed find the amendments made by the late Territorial Whig Convention, to the report of the Committee on resolutions, which were omitted in the published proceedings of that body. Please make the necessary correction and republish the platform in your next issue.

Yours, II. C. WILSON. Steilacoom, May 25, 1855.

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PROHIBITORY LIQUOR BILLS IN PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW YORK.

A letter from Harrisburg, Penn., to the Phil. Ledger, dated April 11th, says: "The House of Representatives, this morning, agreed to the amendments made by the Senate to the liquor bill, so that it now only needs the Governor's signature, to become a law, and this there is no doubt it will receive."

The vote was taken on each section, and the yeas were to the yeas, on an average, about 56 to 26. All licenses to expire on or before the 1st of October, 1855.

The liquor importers and dealers of New York have proposed an amendment to the present law of that State, allowing them to ship to ports out of the State, and not within 100 miles, packages of liquor, containing not less than 20 gallons; they giving bonds to observe this regulation. The amendment has been referred to a select committee in the Senate.

POOL'S MURDERERS.—Morrisey and Hylor, indicted for participating in the Stanzis Hall tragedy, have been released from custody, bail ten thousand each having been entered for their appearance at the time of trial. In the case of an indictment returned, but bail required was reduced from twenty to ten thousand dollars, but their friends have not yet come to their assistance. Mr. Clark, counsel for the accused, has stated that he had received a letter from Baker, the fugitive prisoner, but that he had seen no self-defense.

The bark Spingbok arrived at Boston on the 11th of April, with dates from Cape of Good Hope to February 24th. An epidemic disease was raging among the crew, but the vessel was not allowed to leave the harbor until the epidemic was over. The Rev. John Scudder, Missionary of the American Board, died near Cape Town, Africa, on the 13th of January, of apoplexy.

A late English paper, the Liverpool European Times, mentions that a floating flouring mill, capable of grinding 500 bushels of wheat per diem, and floating barge, producing 20,000 pounds of flour in twenty-four hours, have recently been sent from England to the Crimea.

A great four mile race recently took place at New Orleans between Lecompte and Lexington, over a Medina course, the latter being the real and best time 7:32; his competitor having barely been getting distanced—and is now, without doubt or cavil, the champion of the turf.

The assembly of New York has passed a tax bill levying "a state tax of one mill and a quarter on each dollar of the value of the real and personal property taxable in the state of New York," which will give an increased revenue of about \$1,700,000.

A correspondent of the Scientific American suggests that as a difficulty exists in getting white paper to print upon, that black might be substituted, and white ink used. Black ground, or some distinct black ink, is then relieved from the glare of rays from the white surface.

The Treasury Department have allowed all the disbursements claimed by Lieut. Deale, late Indian agent for California. The result is a complete vindication of Deale against the charges made sometime since by some of the newspapers.

The Alabama Journal complains that so little respect was paid to the recommendation of the Governor to observe a day of fasting and prayer. Churches were not opened, and few places of business were closed.

The legislature of New York adjourned on the 14th of April, after passing 143 acts.

PIERCE COUNTY OFFICERS.

J. M. CHAMBERLAIN, Clerk of the District Court. J. M. CHAMBERLAIN, County Commissioner. L. A. SMITH, County Commissioner. R. B. MOORE, County Commissioner. W. K. MELVILLE, Sheriff. J. Q. COLE, Auditor. R. K. TAYLOR, Treasurer. JAMES RICE, Assessor. JOHN RICE, Coroner. J. B. DEVERE, School Superintendent. S. BONNEY, Justice of the Peace.

ATTENTION TO THE WHOLE!

The Whigs of Pierce county, "one and all," are requested to assemble at the Court house on Saturday the 11th day of June, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of organizing, and to transact any other business that may come before the convention.

JOHN Q. COLE, Sec'y of Whig Com. Steilacoom, May 31, 1855.

PUBLIC AND COUNTY CONVENTIONS.

At a meeting of the Democratic County Committee, it was resolved to adopt the representative principle for holding a county convention, and assigned the representation of each precinct as follows: Steilacoom 7, Talentine 9, and Puyallup 5.

The democracy of the several precincts are requested to meet in convention on Saturday, the 10th of June, at 2 o'clock P. M., at the following places—in Steilacoom, at the court-house; in Talentine precinct, at Thomas Deane's; in Puyallup, at Thomas Owen's—for the purpose of electing the number of delegates above stated, to meet in convention on the 12th of June, at 2 o'clock P. M., on the 23d day of June, at 2 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of nominating candidates to be supported at the coming election for the following offices: One Colonel, one Lieut. Colonel, one Major, one Captain, three Representatives, one County Commissioner, one County Surveyor, one County Auditor, and one Coroner.

A new military county is joined with Pierce in a council and military district, we would recommend the democracy of said county to send one delegate for every ten voters, to meet with us in convention at the time and place aforesaid, to participate in the military and council nominations.

An extraordinary and unusual nomination of Justice of the Peace and Constable at their precinct meetings. By order of the Committee. M. H. FROST, Chmn.

Steilacoom Prices Current.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including provisions, flour, sugar, and other goods.

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF STEILACOOM. Arrived: May 21—Brig George Emery, Trank, San Francisco. Departed: May 21—Brig George Emery, Trank, North Bay.

PORT OF NISQUALLY. Arrived: May 21—British steam-propeller Ulster, Capt. W. A. Mowatt. Departed: May 21—British steam-propeller Ulster, Capt. W. A. Mowatt.

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Discussion of Prohibition Continued. Motion: At the public meeting held in this place last evening, in regard to the passage of a prohibitory liquor law, for each of the several precincts in this Territory, on the 20th, 21st and 22nd inst, some remarks in opposition to said law, some of which are regarded by the undersigned as being so essentially wrong and injurious, that we propose to have another meeting, at the Methodist Church, on Tuesday evening, June 5th, for the further discussion of the subject.

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Poetry and Literature.

MAUD MULLER.

Hand Miller, on a summer day,
Baked the meadow sweet with hay.
Beneath her tower, she had her health
Of simple beauty and rustic health.

LITTLE CHARLIE.

W. PICKUP.

We pick up the following reproach for careless mot-
ary in the wife's family, and one of 'em should
seize her, this would be a "seize for inheritance,"

THE GREAT PRINCIPLES OF THE LAW.

FROM BLACKSTONE ON "REAL ESTATE."

"Blackstone divides Realty into three grand
divisions: Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments.
Land is a very comprehensive term, including
everything of permanent, substantial nature,

THE BELLS AND THE STUDENT.

AT A CERTAIN

splendid evening party, a haughty young beauty
turned to a student who stood near her, and said:
"John, I understand your economic friend

ANECDOTES.

A WITNESS IN COURT.

The Worcester Spy re-
lates the following amusing examination of the wit-
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San Francisco Advertisements.

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THE PACIFIC RAILROAD,
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THE BUREAU OF CONFECTIONERY,
THE BUREAU OF BOOKS,
THE BUREAU OF PERIODICALS,
THE BUREAU OF PROSPECTUS,
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