

PUGET SOUND COURIER.

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

BY E. T. GUNN.

STEELACOOM, W. T., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1855.

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Agriculture, News, &c.

THE DYING BOY.

Mother, I think the angels
Are coming here to-day,
They must be to go with them,
I may not longer stay.

I feel my heart strings broken,
My pulse is faint and few,
And soon the blessed angels
Will bear your child from you.

I know your heart will be so sad,
And father too will weep,
But kind and blessed Jesus
Your little boy will keep.

He'll keep me free from sorrow,
From pain and sickness too,
And when your days are ended
He'll kindly send for you.

Then farewell father, mother,
And farewell sisters dear,
The kind and blessed angels
Are gently drawing near.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

In the absence of the Executive, I have the honor to respond to your call. To the people of this Territory, and to me especially; that absence is, at this time, particularly to be regretted, for the present juncture of affairs requires all the experience, ability, and energy, so justly conceded to the distinguished gentleman who has the honor to preside over this Territory, and whose duties, in such absence by law devolves upon the Secretary of the Territory. With real sincerity I will assert, that many and grave doubts have arisen in my mind, as to my ability to discharge the weighty and responsible duties incident to, and arising out of our present Indian relations; but, with firm reliance upon the patriotism of the people, and their hearty co-operation, I have endeavored to compensate for want of experience by an earnestness of purpose, and a zealous effort to discharge my whole duty.

It is a subject of regret that, pressure of business and multiplicity of labors, prevent as full and careful a review of matters as is desirable. Should, therefore, things seemingly important, be omitted, or slightly alluded to, the neglect must be attributed not to intention, but rather to an attention to more pressing matters.

Since you were last assembled, an important, and I regret to say, disastrous change has taken place in our social prospects. While peace and security seemed to reign about us as every person was, as usual, pursuing his customary avocations, an Indian war breaks out in our midst, spreading alarm throughout our whole Territory. Families are murdered, property is destroyed, claims are abandoned for the fort and the blockhouse, and the whole country, instead of portraying the usual peaceful occupations of American citizens, has the appearance of desertion, and nothing but parties of armed men are to be seen in motion. How long this state of affairs is to continue, it is impossible to say; but from the energy which our citizens have shown, and the measures which have been adopted, it is earnestly to be hoped that the end is not far off.

The extinguishment of the Indian title to lands within the Territory, had been long and loudly called for by the people. This was a matter absolutely necessary for our welfare, in order that there might be no conflicting claims between the settler and the Indian, and that the Indians might be placed in such a position, that, while they were taken care of and protected, they could at the same time, as far as possible, be prevented from doing harm.

In the month of December, 1854, in pursuance of instructions from the general government, Governor Stevens entered upon this delicate and arduous task. The first treaty was made in the county of Thurston, in the vicinity of the Nequally river, on the 26th of December; it was ratified by the United States Senate before its adjournment—March 3d, 1855,—has been proclaimed by the president, and is now a part of the supreme law of the land. The basis of that treaty, is the basis of all that has been concluded since. Great care was taken to explain the provisions, and the objects of negotiation to the various tribes. Careful interpreters were secured, and every individual was allowed to speak his views. Similar treaties have been concluded with all the Indians west of the Cascade Mountains, with the exception of the Chehalis, those residing in the neighborhood of Shoalwater Bay and on the Columbia, as far east as the Dalles.

In pursuance of the instruction and line of policy marked out by the Indian Department at Washington City, Governor Stevens crossed the Cascade mountains, and in conjunction with the Superintendent of Indian Affairs of Oregon, treaties were effected with the various bands known as the Yakima tribe, the Cayuse, the Walla, Wallas, and the Nez Percés. He then proceeded to Fort Benton, on the Missouri River, where a great council had been called, to conclude and settle a definite peace between the tribes divided by the Rocky Mountains, hostilities between which had continued ever since the whites have had any knowledge of the country.

This measure was of vital importance to the Territory of Washington, as while these hostilities continued, there could be no safe travel or communication by the great northern route connecting the waters of the Columbia and Puget Sound, with the headwaters of the Mississippi. It may be well here to state, that the latest information received, will justify the belief that that treaty has been concluded, and the return of Gov. Stevens is daily looked for.

In the midst of this favorable appearance of things, while the ink was scarcely dry, with which treaties had been written, Indians, who had entered into these stipulations, and solemnly pledged their faith to preserve amity and peace towards all American citizens, have risen in arms, treacherously surprised, and barbarously murdered our innocent citizens, killed an Indian agent, while in the performance of official duties, and in defiance of all pledged faith and written obligation, waged a war, accompanied with all the horrid brutalities incident to savage life.

The sphere allotted to this message will not justify a recital of the preliminary aggressions. Satisfactory evidence, however, has been afforded, indicating that both in Oregon and this Territory, for a great length of time, preparations for war had been going on, on the part of the Indians. Simultaneously with the murders committed in the Yakima valley, southern Oregon became the scene of Indian warfare, and the moment troops moved from Puget Sound across the mountains, an outbreak takes place on the White river prairies.

On the 23d of September, in addition to previous floating rumors, positive information was received that two of our citizens had been murdered in the Yakima valley, while traveling on the military road across the Naches pass. A requisition was immediately made upon the commanding officers of the military posts of Fort Steelacoom and Fort Vancouver, for sufficient forces to proceed, by different routes, into that country, to procure, if possible, the murderers, if not to punish the tribe, and to furnish protection to such persons as might be

traveling to, or returning from the Colville mines. Both of these requisitions were promptly complied with. Previous to this, Major Haller commanding fort Dalles, being nearer the scene of action, and having earlier information, had moved into the field, and on the 6th of October was attacked by an immensely superior force, and, after a gallant and desperate conflict of about forty-eight hours, succeeded in driving off the enemy, losing five men killed and sixteen wounded, together with a large portion of his animals, and all of his provisions. This last compelled him to return to the Dalles. Upon the receipt of this information, Major Rains, commanding the Columbia river and Puget Sound district of the United States army, made a requisition upon the Governor of Oregon for four companies of volunteers, and upon the Governor of Washington for two. The proclamation by the respective executives, calling for these forces, were responded to with zeal and alacrity by the citizens of the said of our sister Territory. In consequence of the scarcity of arms, existing in this section of the country, in order to furnish the volunteer force being raised, it became necessary to make a requisition both upon the United States sloop-of-war "Decatur," and the revenue cutter "Jefferson Davis," for such as could be spared. Much praise is due to the commanding officers of those two vessels, for the willingness and promptness with which they responded to that request, thus enabling the first company of Washington Territory volunteers to be equipped and ready for the field, the moment their organization was completed.

On the 30th of October, Major Rains, having received from me the appointment of Brigadier General of the volunteer forces serving in the Yakima war, moved into the field with all the disposable regular troops, and having the co-operation of nine companies of Oregon mounted volunteers, under command of Col. Nesmith. After proceeding as far as Yakama Mission, having several skirmishes with the enemy, capturing some of their cattle and horses, and destroying several large caches of provisions, the whole command returned to the Dalles, the unusual inclemency of the season preventing a winter campaign. In the meanwhile, the command moving from Fort Steelacoom, under command of Lieut. Slaughter, proceeded across the mountains, through the Naches pass, to within about twenty-five miles of the Atlatman Mission, where, learning of the return of Major Haller to the Dalles, they fell back, first to the summit, and then to the upper prairies on White river. Being reinforced with seventy six regulars and company B of the Washington Territory volunteers, under command of Capt. Gilmore Hays, the whole detachment, under command of Capt. M. Money, U. S. 4th Infantry, again advanced; but, after crossing the summit, were overtaken by an express, informing them that they had taken place in the movements of the troops from the Columbia river. Capt. Money consequently fell back to the first grazing ground on this side the mountains—the White river prairies. During these movements, a band of rangers had been organized, under command of Capt. Charles H. Eaton, whose duty it was made to guard the outskirts of the settlements, and watch the various mountain passes. Scarcely had the command commenced its operations, when a detachment of eleven men, on regular scouting duty, were suddenly attacked by Indians, heretofore supposed to be friendly. Taking refuge in a log house, after gallantly sustaining a siege of some sixteen hours duration, the Indians were repulsed. The murder of several highly esteemed citizens, traveling from Capt. Money's camp into the settlements, and the massacre on White river, followed.

The return of the command under Capt. Money, cannot but be looked upon as a most fortunate event for the settlers on Puget Sound, as it is impossible to say what might have been the result, with the settlements entirely unprotected, and many of the Indians at open war, and the rest, to say the least, wavering. The battle on White river, in which both regulars and volunteers, so distinguished themselves, cannot fail to impress the Indians with the superiority and power of the white man, and that, however protracted the contest may be, ruin and desolation must necessarily come upon them.

The calls upon the people of the Territory for their services in the present war, have been met by the organization of 12 companies, consisting of two companies of Rangers, and ten companies of the 1st Regiment of Washington Territory Volunteers, amounting in all, to upwards of seven hundred men. Of these about five hundred are mounted. In addition to these, there is a company of Rangers at the Coville Farms, under command of Capt. Peers, not regularly mustered into service, but ready to perform duty as such may be required of them.

I deem it my duty, here, to make public acknowledgments of the services rendered by His Excellency, James Douglas, Governor of Vancouver's Island. Upon the alarm naturally attendant upon a serious Indian outbreak, almost without arms and ammunition, application was made to him for such an amount of these munitions of war as he could possibly furnish. That application was promptly and cordially responded to, to the extent of his power; he at the same time regretting that he had at the moment no vessel of war at his disposal, and that his steamers, the "Otter" and "Beaver," were both absent, but upon the arrival of either, she should be dispatched to the Sound, to render such services as might be required of her. Since then the "Otter" has visited this place.

This movement on the part of the Executive of Vancouver's Island, cannot fail to have its influence upon the Indians residing upon our waters, having a tendency to show to them that whatever differences may exist between the Americans and the Englishmen, in their social and political organization, as far as savages are concerned, they are but one.

The Indians west of the Cascades, with the exception of those before alluded to, still continue friendly. They have been collected at various points, disarmed, and placed under surveillance of local agents, and arrangements have been made for their support. The only fear at present entertained, is that, by some act of indiscretion, they may be frightened into the hostile ranks.

The disposition which has been subsequently made of the troops in the field in this portion of the Territory, has been with the design—while at the same time to keep the Indians in check, to concentrate force should be moving on the outskirts of the settlements—in order that the farmers might be enabled to return to their claims to provide for the coming year's subsistence.

The general stagnation in trade and industrial pursuits arising out of the present state of affairs, loudly calls for prompt and speedy action on the part of the general government. Should Congress adjourn without affording the relief so pressing needed in this emergency, it will much retard our Territorial growth and advancement. I therefore earnestly recommend a memorial calling for a sufficient appropriation to remunerate the citizen soldiery for their valuable and patriotic services, and the citizens generally, for the supplies they have so promptly furnished, and for the property destroyed.

Beyond the limits of our Territory to the North, the Coast and Innumerable Islands are inhabited by numerous tribes of Indians of a fierce and warlike character, bands of which are constantly in the habit of descending into our settlements for the ostensible purpose of procuring labor. Besides the alarm occasioned to the most exposed settlers by the presence of these unwelcome visitors, complaints frequently arise from the various thefts committed by them. In case punishment is inflicted, isolated settlers, as we already know from past experience, are liable, in revenge, to be cut off by them. In view of these facts, in order to discourage their coming within the limits of the Territory, I respectfully submit to your consideration, whether or not it would be advisable to enact a law, making it penal for any person to employ for hire any of these Northern bands. In connection with this subject, considering the nature of the waters of Puget Sound, the numerous tribes residing on its borders, the liability to incursion from foreign tribes, and the utter inefficiency of sailing vessels for rapid communication, I will recommend that you memorialize the Navy Department to station within our waters, an armed steam vessel.

I will here call your attention to the trade that has been largely carried on with the Indians in guns and ammunition. Our very self-preservation demands that it should entirely cease, and that very stringent laws should be passed upon the subject.

The existing law, has suggested many deficiencies in our Militia Law. It provides for the election of officers, but on the subject of enrollment of men, and the rendering the militia effective, it is extremely defective. I would respectfully recommend the election of the general staff, consisting of a Brigadier, Adjutant, Quartermaster and Commissary General, by the Legislative Assembly, and a system of enrollment of all capable of bearing arms, in the various counties, and that the formation of companies be entirely voluntary—to elect their own officers, and to be formed into battalions or regiments as circumstances may require. The scattered nature of our settlements, and the isolation of some of our counties, seems to dictate this as the most effective means for their protection, and at the same time, the most expedient for combination or general action. I suggest it for your consideration.

During the past summer, rumors of discoveries of gold fields near Fort Colville, induced many enterprising and energetic citizens of the Territory to visit that region. Many have returned on account of the war, and the impossibility of obtaining provisions there, during the winter. Although the extent of the gold bearing region is not known, yet the fact is certain, that those who worked the bars and prospected the country near Fort Colville, found gold in sufficient quantities to pay well for working. Whenever the more experienced miners dug either upon the bars or upon the hill sides, gold was found, and even with the rude mode of working with pans, an average of \$10 per day has been made, and those who are still at the mines, report profitable employment. I have no doubt that with improved machinery and better preparations for working to advantage, these gold mines will prove amply remunerative to many citizens who may go there, whenever the state of the country will permit communication between the Columbia river and Puget Sound settlements and the gold bearing region.

The prosecution of the public surveys during the past year, has developed large bodies of fertile lands, and made great addition to the topographical knowledge of the Territory, which will be useful to immigrants in search of the best lands. As to the amount of work thus far accomplished, the office of the Surveyor General shows the following results—Total amount surveyed while this Territory was under the Oregon office, 1876 miles; amount surveyed and under contract since the organization of the Washington office, 3063 miles; proposed to be surveyed in 1856 and 1857, as per annual report of the Surveyor General, 5688 miles—all lying west of the Cascade Mountains.

The general government has made liberal appropriations for public surveys in the Territory, but the Surveyor General has found it impossible to obtain surveyors willing to contract for the whole amount, as the exceedingly difficult nature of the country, and the high prices of labor and provisions have subjected to loss those who undertook the work, even at the maximum prices allowed by law. The present Indian war has stopped all field work in this important part of the development of our Territory; but it is hoped that it can be resumed in the spring, and that you, by your action, will second the urgent request of the Surveyor General to the General Land Office, that an increased sum per mile be allowed by the general government, for further surveys.

At the last session of Congress, appropriations were made for the military roads in this Territory—One from Fort Benton, in Nebraska, to Walla Walla; one from the Dalles to Columbia barracks; and one from Columbia barracks to Fort Steelacoom. A reconnaissance has been made of the two latter during the present fall, and it is expected, work

will be commenced thereon during the coming spring.

In addition to these roads, communication should be opened by land to Bellingham Bay, on the north, and through the valleys of the Chehalis and Willapa to Grey's Harbor, Shoalwater Bay, and some point near the mouth of the Columbia, on the south. These roads will be of great importance, in a domestic point of view, as opening a large section of country to settlement, and communication with other settlements; and, in military affairs, as affording communication with exposed points, and of rapidly marching troops into the fastnesses and lairs of those savages who may hover upon the outskirts of the settlements. I call your attention to this as a subject of memorial.

In the act making appropriations for the support of the army, for the year ending the 30th of June, 1856, and for other purposes, it was provided, that the Secretary of War shall equalize, as far as practicable, the number of arms heretofore distributed, and now in possession of the several states, so that each state which had received less than its pro rata share, shall receive a number sufficient to make an equal pro rata proportion for all the states, according to the number of their representatives and senators in Congress respectively.

Under this provision, the amount falling due to this Territory is 2000 muskets. An effort was made to draw them in rifles, but failed from some regulation to the contrary. In addition to this, our annual quota of arms is 137 muskets, which amount, consisting of 2137 muskets, have been drawn in 1850 muskets, 100 rifles and accoutrements, and 30 cavalry sabres. The whole amount—to which 208,000 caps were added—have arrived at Vancouver, in this Territory, some mistake having occurred in their shipment. Owing to the difficulty of transportation at the present season of the year, (before the Columbia river and Puget Sound, efforts have been made to procure the proper portion, suitable for the Puget Sound section of country, transported direct by sea, from Vancouver to this place.

Your attention is urgently requested to the subject of the Postal arrangements for the Territory. Mail routes have been established throughout the Sound, and a large appropriation has been made for carrying the mail from Olympia by sea to San Francisco.

The contracts of the former have not as yet been let, and the latter has proved inadequate for the service required, and has thus far been of no avail.

In the present critical state of affairs our exposed position demands from the general government, a more rapid communication with San Francisco and New York.

By an act of the last Legislative Assembly, the public buildings of the Territory were located, and by subsequent resolution, the Governor was requested to draw the amount appropriated by Congress to be used in the erection of the Capitol. During the vacation of the Legislature, and as soon as a site for the Capitol could be cleared, the plan of construction was adopted, and a contract entered into for its erection. The building was fast reaching its completion when the war broke out, taking from said building the artisans engaged and preventing the possibility of securing others. Under these circumstances, a suspension of the work was ordered, and I have been compelled to employ, temporarily, the hall used by the Legislative Assembly at its last session. The architect and contractor of the capital assures me however, that the work will be finished shortly.

In reference to our boundary question, and the extinguishment of the rights of the Hudson's Bay and Puget Sound Agricultural Companies; I refer you to the last message of the Executive.

In conclusion I will state, that as far as my limited judgment extends, every effort has been made on my part, for the protection of the Territory. An Indian war existing all around us, demands from every citizen a unanimity of opinion, and a concert of action.

From the uniform courtesy which has ever been extended to me by the citizens of this Territory, as long as the duties of acting Executive devolve upon me, I shall rely upon your patriotism and earnest co-operation, and, having in view but one object—that of duty—shall leave it to you, how far that has been accomplished.

C. H. MASON.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE KANE EXPEDITION.

The expedition succeeded in crossing Melville Bay, and reached the headlands of Smith's Sound as early as the sixth of August, 1853. Finding the ice to the north completely impenetrable, they were forced to attempt the passage along the coast, and on Sep. 3, 1853, succeeded in gaining the northern face of Greenland. Here the young ice froze around the vessel, and compelled them to seek a winter asylum. The winter gave them a degree of cold much below any previous registration on record. Whisky froze in November, and for four months in the year the mercury was solid daily. The mean average temperature was five degrees below zero, summer and winter included.

The operation of search commenced as early as March, 1854, the first parties under the personal charge of Dr. Kane, crossing the ice at a temperature of 57 degrees below zero. The loss of their dogs obliged them as an only alternative to adopt this early travel. Many of the party were frost bitten, and underwent amputation of the toes. It was by means of these efforts that the expedition succeeded in bringing back its important results.

The parties were in the field as late as the 10th of July, only ceasing from labor when the winter darkness made it impossible to travel. The extreme severity of the previous season made it evident that the brig could not be liberated before the winter set in. She was fast imprisoned in a large field of ice. The provisions although abundant, were not calculated to resist scurvy, and the fuel, owing to the severity of the first winter, was deficient in quantity.

Under these circumstances Dr. Kane, with a party of volunteers, made an attempt to reach the English expedition, and thus give relief to his associates. They passed in an open boat over the

tracks of Baffins travel, riding out a heavy gale. They found an unintercepted barrier of ice, extending in one great horse shoe from Jones's to Murchison's Sounds, and were forced, after various escapes to return to the brig.

During the winter which ensued they adopted the habits of the Esquimaux, living on raw walrus meat, and surrounding themselves by walls of moss. In spite of these precautions the scurvy advanced with steady progress, but by the aid of a single team of dogs, Dr. Kane succeeded in effecting a communication with a settlement of Esquimaux, 70 miles south, and by organizing a hunt, relieved the party.

At one time every man of the expedition, except Dr. Kane and Mr. Drunsee, was confined to his bunk, but by a providential interposition, the party escaped without a death.

Dr. Kane followed and charted Greenland towards the Atlantic in a northern direction until his progress was checked by a stupendous glacier. They followed this glacier by means of sledges, and ascertained that it connected Greenland with a new land further north, which they named Washington. A large bay intervening between this land and Greenland was named after Mr. Peabody of Baltimore; but the real discovery of the expedition is the open Polar Sea.

The channel leading to these waters was rendered the more remarkable by the existence of a belt of solid ice, extending one hundred and twenty five miles to the southward. This Sea verified the views of Dr. Kane, as expressed to the Geographical Society before his departure. An area of three thousand square miles has been seen entirely free from ice. This channel has been named after the Hon. J. P. Kennedy, Secretary of the U. S. Navy, under whose auspices the expedition was undertaken. The land to the north and west of this canal has been charted as high as 82 deg. 30 min. This is the nearest land to the Pole yet known. It bears the name of Mr. Henry Grinnell, the founder of the enterprise.

The great belt of ice made it clear that no relief expedition could reach the party in time to prevent the imprisonment of a third winter, which, with their deficiency of fuel, would have proved most disastrous if not fatal.

Under these circumstances Dr. Kane determined to abandon his brig, and escape to the South by boats and sledges.

In accordance with this view, they left the brig on the 17th of May. The temperature at the time being five degrees below zero. They crossed a belt of ice 61 miles in diameter, dragging their boats behind them, and carrying four of their sick comrades by means of a dog sledge.

After traveling three hundred and sixteen miles, with thirty-nine days constant exposure, they reached Cape Alexander, and embarked in open water. From Cape Alexander they traveled southward, sometimes over ice, sometimes over water.

At Cape York they burned up their spare boats and sledges for fuel, and left the coast, putting out into the open sea at Melville Bay, and sped for the Northern Danish provinces of Greenland.

Here they were providentially landed on the sixth of August, in vigorous health, after a travel of one thousand miles, and eighty one days exposure.

From Upernivik, the largest of these settlements they took passage in a Danish vessel, for England. By great good fortune they touched at Disco, where they met Capt. Hartstena's expedition.

The searching expedition had found the ice at Smith's Sound still unbroken, and having heard from the Esquimaux of the departure of Dr. Kane had retraced their steps.

YELLOW FEVER.

The New York Herald, illustrates the awful condition of Norfolk, by the following personal experience.

When the disease broke out we engaged a correspondent at Norfolk, and as usual provided him with a substitute in case of his illness or absence. He wrote one or two letters, then fell ill, and his substitute entered upon the discharge of the duty of correspondent. In the third or fourth letter we received from him, he states that he had been attacked, and must resign the post, but that he had requested a friend to supply his place. The third correspondent had scarcely entered upon the work when we heard that his two predecessors had died. Their successor wrote for some time, till one day we received, instead of his letter, a note from his wife, stating that he was ill, and begging that he might be excused. The next mail brought a second letter from the wife, containing the account of her husband's death, leaving her a widow with seven children. She added that she would be glad to discharge the duties of correspondent, and would up with a few paragraphs of news. She wrote for a short time. The other day her letter was missing—we were addressed by her brother, who said that his sister has fallen ill, and that he would try to send us some account of the awful scenes around him.

Is there anything in any history of any plague or epidemic, more heart-rending than these few facts?

Condition of the people.—A gentleman who has been nursing the sick, writes to the Baltimore American:

"After a long siege in the sick room, by way of change, and for recuperation, I have been appointed on one of the Ward Visiting Committees, and going the rounds to day I was surprised at the ignorance of many as to what was going on around them. They seemed to know nothing but death, as prefigured to them by the passage of hearse and the carrying about of coffins, which they had watched from the windows of their houses. Many families had shut themselves in with but a scanty supply of provisions, waiting in terror for an attack of the fever, and when attacked, they have in some cases been without assistance or even the commonest necessities of life, and know not where to get them, having completely shut themselves off from the world. Indeed, gossiping has even been at a stand still in Norfolk among the lower classes, some not allowing any one to speak to them for fear that their breath may be charged with the pestilence.

PUGET SOUND COURIER.

E. T. GUNN, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR.

STEILACOOM, W. T., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1855.

LIEUT. SLAUGHTER.

Among the misfortunes of the present war with the Indians, nothing has occurred to produce a deeper, and more universal sorrow, in this part of the country, than the death of Lieut. William A. Slaughter, of the 4th Regt. of Infantry U. S. Army, who was killed near the junction of White and Green rivers, on the evening of the 4th inst.

Lieut. Slaughter was born in the state of Kentucky, in the year 1827. Early in life he removed with his family, to the town of Lafayette, Indiana. In 1844 he entered the Military Academy, and graduated with distinction in 1848.

Those who were acquainted with Lieut. Slaughter, as a Cadet; relate that he was always exemplary in his conduct, attentive to his duties, and respectful towards his superiors. Among the graduates of the Military Academy, some are scholars, and some are soldiers; and some partake of the qualifications of both. Mr. Slaughter's scholarship was very respectable, but it was in those qualities which constitute the soldier and officer, that his claims to the admiration of his fellow citizens, are chiefly to be sought.

Soon after graduating, Mr. Slaughter joined the 2d Infantry in California, as Brevet 2d Lieut. For a while he served with the escort to the commission for establishing the boundary between the United States and Mexico, and in the spring of 1850, having been promoted to the 4th Infantry, he returned to the United States. He again embarked for the Pacific with the 4th Infantry in 1853, and after being stationed a short time at Fort Vancouver, he was ordered to Fort Steilacoom in February, 1855. From that time till the date of his untimely death, he was constantly on duty in this portion of Washington territory.

In the difficulties which heretofore have disturbed our Indian relations in the neighborhood of Puget Sound, Lieut. Slaughter's services were often required. His activity and energy, and the alacrity with which he performed his duties, caused him, as a general rule, to be selected as the leader of the expeditions which from time to time, were sent to suppress the threatened and actual hostilities of the savages.

Upon the breaking out of the war with the Yakimas, Lieut. Slaughter was ordered, in September last, to cross the mountains with a command of only 40 men. He was shortly recalled, and after joining his 40 men with the force under Capt. Maloney, again set out for the Yakima country late in October; before proceeding far, Capt. Maloney was induced to retrace his steps. In the complaints with the Indians, on the 3d and 4th of November, on White and Green rivers, Lieut. Slaughter's conduct and gallantry, were such as to win the admiration of all parties, both of regulars and volunteers.

After the conflict on Green river, Lieut. Slaughter was detailed with a separate command. In crossing the Puaylip, over a fallen tree, the two leading men were shot down by Indians ambushed on the other side—the men fell, Lieut. Slaughter called out to them "separately by name," but receiving no answer, he ordered his soldiers to charge across. Two sprang forward, he himself, following next, and then all rushed over and drove the red skins from their covert.

For reasons not well understood, the people of the United States are prone to undervalue the exposures, hardships, and dangers of Indian warfare. In all our wars with the aborigines, during the last twenty years, it is probable that the number of whites killed by the Indians, has been ten-fold greater than the enemy's loss—this is true if we except some cases, where we have violated the laws of war, or have been guided by their own people, to surprise communities of men, women, and children. In Florida, most of our distinguished generals, failed to do any harm to the Indians, (but much to their own reputation) except by means of Indian treason, and the violation of flags of truce; and so it has been in New Mexico, California, and Oregon. In Mexico our arms were always victorious, who ever may have been the commanders and whatever the disparity of force; but where the Indians are true to themselves, and fight us, they scourge us as the Parthians did the Romans, under Crassus.

Lieut. Slaughter was uncommonly successful in his encounters with Indians, and if his life had been spared no estimate too high, could be placed on his capacity to chastise those monsters. His appearance was not robust, but he would start out, on foot, in the dress and equipment of a common soldier, with his blanket and provisions on his back, and march all day through rain, mud, and frost, and bivouac at night without any complaint of fatigue. Such hardships and deprivations, ordinarily so discouraging to the strongest men, seemed only to enliven his spirits, and inflame his ambition. When he started on his last expedition, he declared he would kill 50 Indians, or never return alive. As he uttered those words his friends remarked a shade on his countenance, that seemed to indicate that he could see hanging over the path he was to pursue, the black cloud that concealed the messenger of his death. It is supposed he was shot by an Indian boy, once his servant at Fort Steilacoom, towards whom, he had always been kind and indulgent—such is the character of the savage.

We have been permitted to copy the following extract from the report of Capt. E. D.

Keyes, commanding the Puget Sound district, describing the circumstances of his death, and paying a just tribute to the memory of the deceased.

"I had just closed my report to you of this date, when news was brought to me, that Lieut. Slaughter had been killed by the Indians. He had left his camp at Morrison's on the Puaylip river, and had gone in the direction of the forks of the White and Green rivers, to Branman's prairie, where he halted before night. He then sent for Capt. Hewitt of the volunteers, who was encamped about two and a half miles below. At the place where he halted, there was a small log house in which Lieut. Slaughter, Capt. Hewitt, Lieut. Harrison, and Dr. Taylor of the Navy, were conversing together. At about 7 o'clock p. m. of the 4th inst, the Indians fired a volley at the house and through the door. One ball passed between the logs, and through the breast of Lieut. Slaughter. He fell dead without a groan, and without speaking a word. The Indians kept up their fire until about 10 o'clock, killing Corporal Barry of Co. C, 4th Infantry, and Corporal Clarendon of the Steilacoom volunteers, and wounding six other men; one of whom has since died. The others will probably recover.

"The death of Lieut. Slaughter, merits more than a passing notice. He had been much in the field of late, and the hardships he had suffered in this cold wet climate were excessive. Nothing however could repress his enthusiasm. He sought a place in every expedition, and where there was most danger, there would he always be. My heart is sick when I reflect that so brave an officer, and so gallant a gentleman, should be slain by the wretched savages.

The remains of Lieut. Slaughter were consigned to the grave at Fort Steilacoom, with Masonic and Military honors. These ceremonies have seldom been performed over the body of one more sincerely lamented. The countenance of the deceased as he lay in his coffin, appeared placid and composed, as though he had died without a pang; and so youthful, that we could not but recall the words of Rosset to old Seward, when reporting the death of his son:

"He only lived but till he was a man; The which no sooner had his powers consumed, In the unthinking station where he fought, But like a man he died."

Among those slain by the hand of the savages, we are called to mourn the loss of Corporal Julian Clarendon, Co. D, (Steilacoom) Washington territory volunteers.

With Corporal Clarendon we were personally acquainted; he having been for some time employed in this office. He immigrated to this territory, in 1852, as a private in the 4th Infantry, and after a short term of service at Vancouver, was removed to Fort Steilacoom where, having completed his term of service, he was honorably discharged, with the respect and esteem of the officers and men with whom he had been associated; all of whom were ever ready to acknowledge his sterling stability as a man, undaunted bravery as a soldier, genius above mediocrity as a scholar, and his kind, affable and gentlemanly deportment, as a friend.

During the term of our acquaintance with Corporal Clarendon, we ever found him the true, steadfast friend of good morals, and an able advocate of the temperance cause, both by his voice, pen, and example; bringing all the ability, energy, and experience that he could command, to the support of the cause. Mr. Clarendon was the author of several articles on temperance which have from time to time, appeared in the Courier.

The manner of his death is a true indication of the presence of mind, and entire absence of fear, with which he was endowed. At the moment the camp was attacked, he sprang forward to extinguish the fire which was burning, in order to prevent his comrades becoming an easy mark to the unerring aim of the savage miscreants with whom they were contending; hardly had he commenced the work, than he was struck in the head, by a musket ball, and fell expiring instantly. Thus did he fall, as a soldier would wish to, in the faithful discharge of his duty, leaving an example worthy of emulation.

FUNERAL OF LIEUT. SLAUGHTER.

The body of Lieut. Slaughter was interred in the burial ground near Fort Steilacoom, on Sunday last, with masonic and military honors. The inclemency of the weather, no doubt would have prevented a large attendance, were it not for the deep regard and esteem in which the memory of the lamented Slaughter is revered by each and every inhabitant of this country.

The hour appointed for the services, was 11 o'clock, but long before that time groups of two and three were to be seen wending their way, regardless of the pelting storm, through the woods to Fort Steilacoom; from the direction of Nisqually, large numbers of our citizens were seen approaching on horses, in vehicles, and on foot, while from the Puaylip persons were observed hastening to the Fort, all anxious to pay the last tribute of respect to the remains of their common friend, who has sacrificed his life in their defence. Among the most prominent persons on the ground, we noticed acting Gov. Mason, Dr. Tolmie, Mr. Huggins, Capt. Lafayette Balch, and others.

Soon after 11 o'clock, the beautiful and impressive service for the dead, according to the form of the Episcopal church, was read by Capt. E. D. Keyes, 3d Artillery, who appeared to be much affected during the ceremony. On the conclusion of the service, the funeral escort consisting of detachments of Co. M, 3d Artillery and Co's A, and C, 4th Infantry, under command of Lieut. McKeever, was drawn

up in line to receive and salute the corpse, after which the procession moved on in the following order:

- Band.
Funeral Escort.
Free Masons in regalia.
Coffin, draped with the National Ensign.
Capts. Keyes and Maloney.
Lieut. Nugent, and Surgeon Potts.
Relatives of the deceased, Gov. Mason.
Discharged soldiers.
Attaches of the Puget Sound Agricultural Co.
Citizens of Pierce and adjoining counties.

On arriving at the grave, the funeral ritual of the Free Masons, in which order Lieut. Slaughter occupied a high station, was performed by J. M. Bachelder, Esq., assisted by Capt. Lafayette Balch, the mortal remains of William A. Slaughter were consigned to the tomb, there to rest, regardless of all commands until the last trump shall sound summoning him to the grand review, of which we shall all be participants.

OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The convening of legislatures of states and territories, is ever looked to as another era in their onward progress; and in those, now and energetic like our own, when difficulties surround, and we so need the use of the strong arm of legislation, it is but expected, that it is the commencement of unusual and better events.

The opening of the present legislature of Washington territory it is to be trusted, is the dawning of such an era of events, for the legislation heretofore heaped upon the people's back, has been anything, but what they were willing to bear. But at this time, the field is wide for their labors, the country calls for their assistance, and their is no possibility of a doubt, that their duties will not be performed. Since the assembling of the legislature, we cannot but say that great credit is due them for their actions, and though in joint assemblage, as regards politics, the majority is against us, we cheerfully abide the oft-repeated quotation "Render unto Cæsar, Cæsar's."

As a body, intelligent and enlightened, they would fitly represent any land, and Washington may be proud of her representatives in assembly. As an instance, in our estimation, a compliment, the remark was overheard, expressed against them to the effect, that they seemed too busily employed, and out of sight, to enter into the activity and amusements of the capital. Both houses convened on the 3d inst, and after electing pro tem officers, adjourned. On the following day the lower house met and chose its officers, which we have the great pleasure to announce, are all from our ranks, yea! whigs. We hardly expected so decided a result; but time works wonders—and the mighty have fallen.

Another act, that of electing chaplain, may not be passed lightly by. We honor them for the deed, though former legislatures have not done it.

The council met and adjourned on the first three days, paying a just tribute to the Hon. Seth Catlin, president of the last session, selected, whose presence they awaited and upon appearing, was chosen as presiding officer. Such respect to age and ability, was well bestowed. Other officers, from the opposition, were elected; but we are gratified to say, not those of the chosen clique. When will that knot of bright spirits learn wisdom?

WILEY'S LAST LEADER.—If we were entirely devoid of sense or continually "tight," we might be prevailed upon to reply to the leader of the last Pioneer, but as we flatter ourselves we are in neither predicament, we care not about spending the time, or space, to answer a fool according to his folly.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT.—On the receipt of the intelligence at Olympia, of the death of Lieut. Slaughter, both branches of the legislative assembly adjourned after passing resolutions expressive of their regard for the memory of the deceased.

We are indebted to the United States Coast survey office, Washington city, for a copy of the superintendent's report for 1853.

E. Schroter, Esq., will please accept our thanks for an early copy of the Governor's message.

Col. Simmons has our thanks for the delivery of favors.

LEGAL OPINION.

The following opinion, given by Judge Chenoweth, at the late district court held at Port Townsend, Jefferson County, in the case of the murder of one Indian by another, has been handed to us for publication, as a case unlike any that has ever come before the courts: We cheerfully comply with the request.

Territory of Washington, vs Skookum an Indian.—Indicted for murder. Defendant appeared by counsel, and interposed a plea, "that he is an Indian belonging to an independent tribe in treaty with the United States, that an alleged murder had been committed in the Indian country, and that the person alleged to have been killed was also an Indian woman of the same tribe—demurs the jurisdiction of the court &c., &c."

Chenoweth, F. A. The facts stated in the plea not being denied by the prosecution, must be taken to be true. The only question in my mind, is as to the applicability of the criminal code to the Indians, while they remain distinct and independent tribes, having a government of their own, and being distinct from the whites, being governed by their chiefs, and punishing their own crimes. Where they are disbanded and live among the whites in the capacity of servants, or otherwise, I apprehend they would be in all respects subject to our laws, and most certainly where an Indian com-

mit murder upon a white person, larceny or other crimes. There can be no doubt as to the jurisdiction because every nation, or society, or people, have a right to protect its own citizens.

But while they preserve their existence as a tribe or nation, while we acknowledge their chiefs, as the heads of these tribes, we of necessity acknowledge their right to govern their people and regulate their own internal affairs, punish crimes, in their own way, and keep up the customs of their fathers, that have become sacred in their view from immemorial uses.

All Indians as far as I know have some mode of punishing crimes, most or all of them abhorrent to our views of the proprieties of punishment, partaking as they ever do of the savage nature that frames their criminal code, but still to their mind the proper punishment is applied to any case which they deem criminal. It is not right that any person should be twice punished for the same offence, or be subject to two governments.

Again, if we punish for murdering each other, we must punish for stealing from each other, we must indict and try them for adultery, polygamy, gambling, &c. Now would any one believe that the Indians contemplate or have ever been clearly and distinctly told by the agents of them and us that their government is at an end, and they must be subject in all respects in their intercourse among themselves as well as among us, to our laws?

If our criminal act applies to them in their intercourse with each other, this matter ought by all means be made known to them and should be inducted permanently in our treaties with them. The chiefs should be informed that their authority to punish crimes is at an end, that we would apply the rod of correction to their offending children. Would it be contended that we should punish as criminal, things that they believe to be innocent? Such has not been the course of our government, and government has only interposed to protect its own citizens, and to exercise a general supervision over the Indians as tribes, and that too in accordance with the terms of treaties. I am not aware that our courts have been in the habit of entertaining jurisdiction in crimes committed among themselves, but has ever left to them the punishment of their own crimes in their own way.

I think the plea in this case a good one, and that the prisoner should be discharged. It is a grave affair truly and one that should be punished and for ought we know it has been punished.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

(REPORTED EXTRACTS FROM THE PUGET SOUND COURIER.)

House of Representatives.

MONDAY, December 3d, 1855.

This being the day prescribed by law for the meeting of the legislative assembly of Washington territory, the members elect to the house of representatives, convened at Olympia, in the chamber occupied by them last winter; and were called to order, by B. F. Kendall, esq, chief clerk of the session of 1854-55.

On motion of Mr. Clark, the house was temporarily organized, by the appointment of Mr. Johnson as speaker, pro tem, and B. F. Kendall, clerk, pro tem.

On motion of Mr. McElroy, the chairman appointed Messrs. Phillips, Clark, and McElroy, a committee on credentials.

On motion of Mr. Clark, the house adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, Dec. 4.

House met pursuant to adjournment. The committee on credentials made the following report:—The committee appointed to examine the credentials of members elect to the house: report the following persons duly elected and entitled to seats in this house.

Messrs. Anderson, Baker, Bishop, Buchanan, Caples, Chambers, Clark, Doughtitt, Eldridge, Gilliam, Hale, Harris, Howe, Johnson, Jones, McElroy, Morrison, Morrow, Packard, Phillips, Robinson, Walker, Ward, Whipple, and Denny. Report was accepted.

The oath of office was administered to the new members, by Chief Justice Lander, according to law.

On motion of Mr. McElroy, the house proceeded to the election of speaker by ballot.—Messrs. Clark and Howe were appointed tellers. The following was the result of the ballot:—whole number of votes cast—24.

Mr. Denny, received 15
Mr. Crobbie, 8
Scattering, 1

Mr. Denny having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared duly elected; and Messrs. Morrison, McElroy and Morrow, were appointed to conduct him to the speaker's chair. Mr. Denny in a neat and appropriate speech, returned thanks for the honor conferred.

On motion of Mr. McElroy, the house proceeded to the election of chief clerk, ballot. Whole number of votes cast—25.

Of which Elwood Evans received 16
John J. Lowell, 8
Scattering, 1

On motion, the house proceeded to ballot for assistant clerk, and on the third ballot, Mr. Q. A. Brooks was duly elected.

On motion of Mr. McElroy, the house proceeded to election of door-keeper, and on the third ballot Mr. John Scott was elected.

The several officers, took the oath of office, and immediately entered upon the discharge of their respective duties.

Mr. Morrison moved that the house procure the services of a chaplain. A division of the question was called.

Mr. Clark moved to lay the motion on the table. Lost.

The question being taken on Mr. Morrison's motion, it was carried.

Mr. Morrison moved to proceed, to the election of a chaplain, and on motion, Mr. Hale called for the yeas and noes.

Ayes—Messrs. Anderson, Baker, Buchanan, Caples, Chambers, Doughtitt, Eldridge, Hale, Harris, Johnson, Morrison, Packard, Phillips, Roe, Walker, Whipple, and Mr. Speaker.—17.

Nays—Messrs. Bishop, Clark, Gilliam, Howe, Jones, McElroy, Morrow, and Ward—8. So the motion was carried.

The house proceeded to ballot for chaplain, and on the 3d ballot, Rev. J. F. Devore received 14 votes, and was declared duly elected.

During the pendency of the motion to elect a chaplain, considerable discussion ensued, pro and con, between Messrs. Morrow, Clark, Morrison, and others.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, the house adjourned till Wednesday morning.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 5.
House met pursuant to adjournment. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Johnson moved that a committee on elections be instructed to enquire into the legality of Cyree Ward holding a seat in the house, as a representative, from the county of Thurston.

On motion of Mr. Hale, the clerk was instructed to inform the council, that the house was organized and ready to proceed to business.

The speaker announced the following, as standing committees:—

Elections.—Messrs. Phillips, Buchanan, McElroy.

Judiciary.—Clark, Anderson, Crosbie, Harris, Jones.

Ways and Means.—Eldridge, Doughtitt, Ward, Roe, Whipple.

Claims.—Morrow, Robinson, Vanclve.

Military Affairs.—Walker, Gilliam, Howe, Baker, Eldridge.

Roads and Highways.—Johnson, Hale, Caples, Morrison, Chambers.

Engrossed Bills.—Whipple, Jones, Caples.

Enrolled Bills.—Harris, Morrison, Ward.

Indian Affairs.—Bishop, Gilliam, Chambers, Roe, Walker.

Commerce.—Packard, Walker, Anderson.

Printing.—McElroy, Baker, Robinson.

Corporations.—Gilliam, Packard, Buchanan.

Counties.—Howe, Bishop, Phillips.

Memorials.—Anderson, Clark, Doughtitt, Jones, Morrow.

Education.—Crosbie, Ward, Roe.

Rules and Orders.—Hale, Howe, Clark, Johnson, Harris.

On motion of Mr. Morrow, a committee was appointed to wait on Mr. Devore, and inform him of his election as chaplain of the house of representatives: Messrs. Morrison, Hale, and Johnson, were appointed said committee.

House adjourned till 10 o'clock, on Thursday morning.

THURSDAY, Dec. 6.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. J. F. Devore.

Mr. Phillips, of the committee on elections, reported Mr. R. J. Robinson, of Jefferson county, entitled to a seat in the house of representatives.

On motion of Mr. Hale, the sergeant-at-arms was instructed to call upon the secretary of the territory and request the laws and copies of the last two sessions, for the members of this house.

Mr. Morrison moved that each member and office be supplied with ten copies of the "Pioneer and Democrat," and ten copies of the "Puget Sound Courier," in wrappers.

On leave, Mr. Morrow introduced the following resolution:—Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to investigate the claims of Frank Clark, to a seat in the house, and report as soon as possible—laid on the table.

House adjourned till 10 o'clock, to-morrow.

FRIDAY.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. J. F. Devore.

On motion, the calling of the roll was dispensed with. The Journal of Thursday was read, approved. A message from the council was received, which read as follows:

Mr. Speaker—I am instructed by the council to inform the house of representatives, that the council have organized by the election of Hon. Seth Catlin, president, John J. Lowell, chief clerk, D. L. Phillips, assistant clerk, J. L. Mitchell, sergeant-at-arms, Mias Galliter, door-keeper, and the council are now ready to proceed to business.

On motion, a committee of three, were appointed to act with a similar committee from the council, to inform the executive that the two houses were organized, and were ready to receive any communication, which he thought proper to make.

Messrs. Johnson, Hale and Clark were appointed a committee on the part of the house, and Wallace and Bigelow, on the part of the council.

A bill was next introduced by Mr. Packard—relative to placing a war steamer on Puget Sound.

On motion of Mr. Walker, a bill was introduced allowing three copies of the "Puget Sound Courier," and the "Pioneer and Democrat," for the use of the members and officers of the house, instead of ten, as was before provided.

[The reasons given in support of this measure, were that the Auditor would not acknowledge so large a newspaper account. Uncle Sam was growing poor, and could not possibly allow so much information being sent to different places.]

Mr. Johnson from the joint committee to wait upon the Governor, reported that his Excellency would in fifteen minutes, attend at the hall of the house of representatives, and in person deliver his message to the legislative assembly.

On motion of Mr. Hale, the house took a recess, for ten minutes.

On re-assembling of house, Mr. Clark moved that the clerk be instructed to inform the council that the house was ready to receive that body, to hear in joint convention, the message of the Governor.

The council having met the house in joint convention, Hon. Seth Catlin, president in the chair, on motion of Mr. Poe, a committee of five were appointed to wait upon Gov. Mason, and escort him to the hall of the house of representatives, to deliver his message. The president appointed Messrs. Poe, Walker, Cook, Roe, and Johnson, said committee. The committee having returned, accompanying the Governor—his Excellency delivered a message, [which the reader will find on the first page of to-day's paper.]

Mr. Morrow moved that the chaplain be invited to hold religious services on Sabbath days during the session. Mr. Hale moved to lay the motion on the table—carried.

On motion of Mr. Hale, the Governor's message laid upon the table, and 1,000 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the house.

On motion of Mr. Hale, resolution relative to seat of Frank Clark, taken up; on leave, Mr. Morrow withdrew his resolution.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, house adjourned till Saturday morning.

SATURDAY, Dec. 8.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Speaker in the chair. Prayer by the chaplain.

Mr. H. B. Crobbie appeared and took the oath of office, according to law.

Mr. Robinson introduced joint resolution relative to appointing a joint committee to memorialize Congress, on increase of mail service. On motion of Mr. Clark, rules suspended. Resolution read a third time and passed.

Mr. Johnson moved that a committee on elections be instructed to enquire into the legality of Cyree Ward holding a seat in the house, as a representative, from the county of Thurston.

On motion of Mr. Hale, the clerk was instructed to inform the council, that the house was organized and ready to proceed to business.

The speaker announced the following, as standing committees:—

Elections.—Messrs. Phillips, Buchanan, McElroy.

Judiciary.—Clark, Anderson, Crosbie, Harris, Jones.

Ways and Means.—Eldridge, Doughtitt, Ward, Roe, Whipple.

Claims.—Morrow, Robinson, Vanclve.

Military Affairs.—Walker, Gilliam, Howe, Baker, Eldridge.

Roads and Highways.—Johnson, Hale, Caples, Morrison, Chambers.

Engrossed Bills.—Whipple, Jones, Caples.

Enrolled Bills.—Harris, Morrison, Ward.

Indian Affairs.—Bishop, Gilliam, Chambers, Roe, Walker.

Commerce.—Packard, Walker, Anderson.

Printing.—McElroy, Baker, Robinson.

Corporations.—Gilliam, Packard, Buchanan.

Counties.—Howe, Bishop, Phillips.

Memorials.—Anderson, Clark, Doughtitt, Jones, Morrow.

Education.—Crosbie, Ward, Roe.

Rules and Orders.—Hale, Howe, Clark, Johnson, Harris.

On motion of Mr. Morrow, a committee was appointed to wait on Mr. Devore, and inform him of his election as chaplain of the house of representatives: Messrs. Morrison, Hale, and Johnson, were appointed said committee.

House adjourned till 10 o'clock, on Thursday morning.

THURSDAY, Dec. 6.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. J. F. Devore.

Mr. Phillips, of the committee on elections, reported Mr. R. J. Robinson, of Jefferson county, entitled to a seat in the house of representatives.

On motion of Mr. Hale, the sergeant-at-arms was instructed to call upon the secretary of the territory and request the laws and copies of the last two sessions, for the members of this house.

Mr. Morrison moved that each member and office be supplied with ten copies of the "Pioneer and Democrat," and ten copies of the "Puget Sound Courier," in wrappers.

On leave, Mr. Morrow introduced the following resolution:—Resolved, That a special committee be appointed to investigate the claims of Frank Clark, to a seat in the house, and report as soon as possible—laid on the table.

House adjourned till 10 o'clock, to-morrow.

FRIDAY.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. J. F. Devore.

On motion, the calling of the roll was dispensed with. The Journal of Thursday was read, approved. A message from the council was received, which read as follows:

part of the house, to memorialize Congress in relation to the procurement of mail facilities between San Francisco and Puget Sound.

On motion of Mr. Cook, the rules were suspended and the resolution passed.

Messrs. Wallace and Paget were appointed said committee on the part of the council.

Mr. Wallace moved that the clerk be instructed to immediately inform the house of the council upon the resolution—carried.

Mr. Bigelow introduced a bill to regulate the school fund for 1855.

The bill was read the first time and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. Poe offered a motion that the committee on printing be instructed to order 50 copies of all bills, resolutions and memorials introduced into the council, and 50 copies of all resolutions, bills and memorials passed by the house, printed for the use of the council.

On motion of Mr. Strickler the council adjourned.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. President Catlin in the chair.

Council B. No. 1, first in order, an act relating to the distribution of the school fund for 1855, read a second time.

Mr. Wallace thought some amendment necessary to the 1st and 2d sections, as there might be some confusion created in the distribution of the money.

Mr. Wallace moved that the clerk be instructed to immediately inform the house of the council upon the resolution—carried.

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On motion of Mr. Strickler the council adjourned.

Council met pursuant to adjournment. President Catlin in the chair.

Council B. No. 1, first in order, an act relating to the distribution of the school fund for 1855, read a second time.

It is a fundamental principle of our government that Sectarianism and state, be kept as far apart as possible. I am aware that congress has elected a chaplain, but in doing so I believe they directly violated the constitution of the United States, which expressly declares that all persons shall worship God, according to their own conscience. It is not pious that men seek in this way; it is nothing but a show of piety; it is political hypocrisy. Let all who wish say their prayers in private, I do not believe in having prayers said in political assemblies, I believe it has a tendency to do more harm than good. I shall vote for the purpose of defeating the election of a chaplain. I vote for Brigham Young.

Mr. Cook—I do not wish to cast any disparagement upon Mr. Whitworth, by voting for Brigham Young. I believe Mr. Whitworth to be a good and pious man. I shall vote for Bishop Scott a good man who is at the head of the Episcopal Church in Oregon.

On motion of Mr. Huff, the further voting for Chaplain was indefinitely postponed.

H. J. R. No. 7 was taken up, and on motion, the rules were suspended and the resolution passed (the resolution relates to the death of Lieut. Slaughter and will be found among the proceedings in the early part of the day. Rep.)

Mr. Wallace moved that the council adjourn out of respect to Lieut. Wm. A. Slaughter, late of U. S. A.

Council adjourned.

FOR THE POST OFFICE—COAST.

McDONALD'S ISLAND.

Although we are not favored with mail facilities in this secluded spot, when an opportunity does offer, we take advantage of it to inform our friends of our whereabouts and occupations. Two companions raised in this section under command of Capt. Ebey, is now stationed on the Snoqualmie river about two miles from the mouth, where they are engaged in building a fort, the necessity of which the good people here, cannot see, as I understand the friendly Indians, it was intended they should keep and keep in check, are to be sent to Whidbey's Island where the inhabitants are utterly unprotected as a great portion of them are now away from home on volunteer service and other business in various parts of the Sound. A great number of the friendly Indians are collected here, they evince no unfriendly disposition to the whites, but seem perfectly willing to comply with all requirements.

The Barque "Anad" left this place on yesterday, loaded with spars destined for Europe, which were certainly the finest lot of sticks I have ever seen, and think that there are but few places where similar ones can be obtained, as there certainly is the best timber in this territory of any part of the U. States territory over which I have traveled. These timbers were gotten out by Messrs. Thomson, Grennon & Co., of this place, who certainly deserve the highest praise for the untiring perseverance and industry they have exercised since they have been on the sound, in the timber business. It may not be amiss to give you the dimensions of these timbers, which is from 100 to 115 feet in length and measuring from 36 to 40 inches in diameter one sixth of the entire length from the butt. They have nearly another cargo on hand at present and will continue to make them during the following winter as I have just been informed by Mr. Grennon, who leaves this place for San Francisco to day.

If agreeable I will keep you apprised of the affairs in this part of the territory whenever I have an opportunity to forward it the same to you.

CHARLEY.

McDonald's Island, Nov. 30th, 1855.

Obituary.

LEON WALLACE A. SLAGHTER, 4th Infantry, killed on the evening of the 4th inst., at his camp, on McDonald's Island, in the Sound.

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Steellcock Prices Current.

Provisions.	Per lb.	Per 100 lbs.
Beef, fresh, per lb.	10	1000
Mutton, fresh, per lb.	12	1200
Pork, fresh, per lb.	15	1500
Butter, fresh, per lb.	20	2000
Eggs, fresh, per doz.	25	2500
Flour, per barrel.	100	10000
Wheat, per bushel.	100	10000
Oats, per bushel.	50	5000
Barley, per bushel.	40	4000
Hay, per ton.	1000	100000
Straw, per ton.	500	50000
Coal, per ton.	1000	100000
Wood, per cord.	100	10000
Iron, per ton.	1000	100000
Copper, per ton.	1000	100000
Lead, per ton.	1000	100000
Zinc, per ton.	1000	100000
Gold, per ounce.	100	10000
Silver, per ounce.	100	10000
Platinum, per ounce.	100	10000
Palladium, per ounce.	100	10000
Rhodium, per ounce.	100	10000
Iridium, per ounce.	100	10000
Osmium, per ounce.	100	10000
Vanadium, per ounce.	100	10000
Chromium, per ounce.	100	10000
Manganese, per ounce.	100	10000
Nickel, per ounce.	100	10000
Cobalt, per ounce.	100	10000
Antimony, per ounce.	100	10000
Bismuth, per ounce.	100	10000
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Poetry and Literature.

THE DREAMING MINER.

By J. SWIFT.
Eyes in the narrow canyon,
Darkened into silent night;

AN INSURANCE AGENT'S "AID."

Borem was the soliciting agent of the Gotham Life Insurance Company in this city. His business was to induce as many of the mortal population of this world as possible to insure their lives in his company.

In this way it was fast coming to pass that all the parties insuring in the company were yielding a profit to Borem, whose percentage was eating up the profits of the business.

Many very cute stories are told of his operations to seduce the careless into an insurance against the ravages of the destroyer.

Mr. Lively had a dry goods store above Chambers street, and moreover, had an interest in a broker's store in Wall street.

"That is my name," said the gentleman addressed.

"Yes," said Mr. Lively, "I have a twin brother."

"Oh, yes, I know him," said Borem, "he is a merchant up town. He is about insuring his life in my company, and I called to ask if you would not like to insure at the same time."

Mr. Lively knew what Borem was up to; and saying he would think of it, turned away; Borem left the office.

"That is my name," said the merchant.

"Yes," said Mr. Lively, "I have a twin brother."

"Oh, yes, I know him," said Borem; "he is a broker in Wall street. He is about to insure his life in my company, and I called to see if you would not like to insure at the same time."

Mr. Lively said he would think of it; and Borem took his leave, after pressing the subject with his usual volubility and impudence.

Useful Publication.

The Illustrated Horticulturist.

An elegant Illustrated Monthly Journal, containing seventy-two large royal octavo pages, devoted to the Rural Arts and the advancement of the Science of Horticulture in the United States.

The want of such a magazine has long been experienced. The growing interest with which the rising generation view the Science of Horticulture renders such a Journal as 'The Illustrated Horticulturist' imperatively necessary to the progress of Rural Affairs.

Rural Architecture forms one of the principal features; each number contains from two to four engravings of model cottages from designs by eminent and skillful architects.

To Nurserymen, Amateur Cultivators, and to all who can boast of the sovereignty of a square rod of tillable earth, 'The Illustrated Horticulturist' and Journal of Suburban Art will prove an invaluable companion.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—A weekly Journal for the Farm, the Garden, and the Fireside—forming two large and beautiful quarto volumes of 416 pages yearly.

THE CULTIVATOR—This work, which has now been published for twenty years, is too well known in every part of the Union, to need commendation.

THE LARGEST RELIGIOUS PAPER IN THE WORLD. EDITED BY Pastors of Congregational churches in New York and vicinity.

THE HORTICULTURIST. AND JOURNAL OF Rural Art and Rural Taste. THE HORTICULTURIST is a monthly Journal, devoted to Horticulture and Landscape Gardening.

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