

PUGET SOUND COURIER.

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

BY E. T. GUNN.

STEILACOOM, W. T., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1855.

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Agriculture, News, &c.

A VIEW FROM THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE.

(A glance back upon the scenes of my childhood, sitting on the spot where the old school house stood.)

I live to linger here alone,
To ponder on the past,
On scenes to early childhood known
That long have passed away.

For dear to me is all around—
Each hill and each bright light,
And every inch of this old ground
Is sacred in my sight.

With everything on which I gaze,
Sweet memories are entwined,
And precious thoughts of olden days
Come thronging on my mind.

The school house on this spot was set,
O, I remember well—
'Twas here I learned my alphabet,
And first to read and spell.

And I remember, just below,
The quiet old farmer's cot,
Where we, at recess, used to go
For water, when 'twas hot.

And, on the way, how much concern,
Among my mates was found,
To know which one, on our return,
Should pass the dipper round.

The orchard I remember too,
And where the robins built
And where the doves, with their soft coo,
Unconscious, then, of guilt.

The mossy rocks—the old birch tree,
Where we were in the shade,
Where girls and boys, with hearts of glee,
At intermissions played.

How often I danced that granite floor,
And round that same old tree,
With merry comrades, now no more,
That were so dear to me.

I see the glen below the hill,
By early morning ground,
I see the stream, there, murmuring still,
But with a sadder sound.

I see the little church, where
I spent the Sabbath day,
The good old man that taught us there,
Has long since passed away.

HOW TO PREVENT AND CURE KICKING COWS.

In most cases the habit of kicking is contracted during the first month after the cow has had her first calf. If it is often the case with well fed heifers, the udder is a little feverish at the time, it often becomes so soon that it is impossible for the poor creature to stand still while the necessary milking is being done. Following the instinct of nature, she kicks; and finding she is thus for the moment freed from pain, continues to do it till the anger of the milker is aroused, and then a bad matter is made worse.

It is better in the first place to tie the heifer by the head, then set your left shoulder gently but firmly against her, just back of her right shoulder, grasp firmly her right fore leg below the knee turning her foot up backward till it touches the leg, then slip on over the knee a strap, or hoop, or cord that will confine it fast in that position. While standing on three legs, she will find it difficult to kick so as to hurt you. Now take a convenient sized cloth, and wet and wash the udder thoroughly with tepid or cold water, after which milk her carefully and tenderly as possible, using at the same time such gentle and soothing language as is calculated to show her that you do not wish to hurt her—but let her struggle be ever so violent or provoking, mind you keep control of your own temper. An outbreak on your part will be as certainly productive of bad effect upon the cow, as an echo will answer your own voice or as your image will be reflected in a mirror. Kindness, combined with the perfect control you have over her in this situation, I consider much the best way of breaking her; and after a few times she will lift her foot to be tied as readily as a horse will be shod. Continue to milk her in this way until the soreness is gone, and she will find it a gratification to be milked, will often meet you as she sees you coming with the pail, and you will ever after find it easier to get along with her should her teats by chance get sore afterward.

PRUNING.

Pruning, properly speaking, is the judicious removal of encumbering and useless wood every year, so as to regulate the branches in every part of the tree, and thus give access to the sun and air to freely penetrate through the whole tree; this is necessary, for if the air and sun cannot get freely to the fruit and the leaves, they are imperfectly matured; the leaves cannot properly perform their function; thus the sap is imperfectly elaborated, and both the wood and fruit is consequently imperfectly ripened.

As to the time to prune, there is a diversity of opinion, whether it should be performed in the fall, after the leaves are off, or early in the spring, before the buds break. This is immaterial; it is a disagreement whether trees should be pruned at the beginning or end of their dormant state, but it amounts to nothing; pruning may be done any time during the dormant state of the tree; it should however, be performed before the sap begins to flow in the spring. In these remarks we allude to what is termed winter pruning—summer pruning is a different operation, of which we shall speak at a future occasion.

In pruning it is necessary to be well acquainted with the nature of the tree to be pruned; without this it is impossible to prune to any advantage. All trees are not alike in their nature; some produce their fruit on the young rod of the previous year's growth, others on spurs which grow from the old wood, and others on the young wood of the present year's growth; these points require attention by the operator, to enable him to perform the operation aright.

Apple, pear, plum and cherry trees bear principally on spurs which grow or arise out of the wood of two or three year's growth. These branches with spurs continue to bear for several years.

In pruning these trees, due regard should be paid to the production of these spur branches; by shortening the young wood on the main branches, the main branches should be regulated as to the distance from each other, so as to give the tree a uniform appearance, and keep it open for the admission of the sun and air.

Peaches, nectarine and apricots, produce their fruit on the young wood of the previous year's growth; in pruning them, care will be necessary to retain the strongest and clearest wood of the previous year's growth, cutting out the weaker shoots, and such in a direction in which they are not needed, being careful to keep the tree open.

Vines bear on the young shoots of the same season. In pruning these all weak shoots should be taken out, retaining only the strongest rods of cane; these should be shortened, according to their strength; the object to be aimed at, is to retain only such a quantity of buds as will bear strong. Care will be necessary so as not to retain more rods than the space occupied by the vine will allow of, and placing them in such positions as will allow free circulation of the air, and freely admit the rays of the sun.

Gooseberries bear on the young shoots of the previous season's growth. In pruning them out all the cross shoots, retaining only the strong, straight shoots of the previous year's growth; of these retain only the best and most ripened wood. Gooseberry bushes cannot be left too open; if you allow the branches to get crowded, you cannot expect fine fruit, air must be admitted freely among the branches to obtain good fruit. The black currant also bears on the young wood, and should be pruned in a similar manner to the gooseberry. The red and white currant produce their fruit on spurs of old wood; in pruning them care will be necessary to form an open bush, with the bearing branches, which should be stopped to induce them to sour, and all the other young wood should be cut back to two or three eyes, being careful to keep the bush open.

able terms, cannot now be accused of taking the mark by surprise, and cannot be blamed for relieving herself of a burden which sits so uneasily on her commerce.

If the Sound dues were not in their original position arbitrary, and in their retention illiberal, the notice given by the United States might be looked upon as what the lawyers call "sharp practice;" but as the case stands, and in all similar cases, where unnecessary and mere local restrictions shackles and impede commerce, sharp should be the word. The statement said to be in the prospect of the Danish Government, to the effect that America seldom contributed more than \$200 a year towards the Sound dues, must be evidently a mistake, as the tolls levied upon vessels of the United States amount to more than \$100,000 annually. From 1828 to 1842, they averaged \$107,467 a year, and for the five years ending 1845, they amounted to 570,473 Danish Bank six dollars.

SALT MINES OF LOWER CALIFORNIA.

As the resources of the Pacific Coast become more thoroughly known, our people are gradually developing them. One by one, the articles of coal, asphaltum, guano, wood and granite, are brought into the market, all of which have received attention at our hands. We propose now to describe the salt mines of Lower California, which, though situated in what is now a foreign country, are in our immediate vicinity, and will doubtless ere long be recorded in American soil.

The salt mines of San Quentin are situated on the shore of the upper part of the bay of that name, and about 118 miles south of the boundary line, or San Diego. The salt is found in a crystallized form, in three very shallow lakes, about three miles back from the waters of the bay. A railroad is now being built, so that the article can be deposited in vessels, which can go to the extremity of the bay, drawing twelve feet of water. Vessels of 600 tons can go some fifteen miles up the bay. The country around the lake is sterile, producing neither tree nor shrub, so that all provisions and feed for oxen are exported from San Francisco. The surface is made up of sand and volcanic substances. The salt is found formed upon a deposit of wet, hard mud, resembling pipe clay, and is taken up in the summer season in a crust from two to eight inches in thickness, the crystals projecting themselves in about three weeks, so that the salt may freely be called inexhaustible. The schooner Frank Adams recently left there with a cargo, and the Captain states that before he sailed from the harbor, the space left in the field by taking out his cargo was entirely refilled by the natural process. One lake is about seven miles in circumference, and another about three. After the crust of salt has been taken up, its place is immediately filled with a perfectly pure brine, which rapidly changes into salt. About 1,000 tons have been taken from the lakes up to this time, most of which is shipped to the Russian and British possessions at the north, where it is used in salting fish. The Hudson Bay Company, from time immemorial, have paid \$60 per ton for salt shipped from London; they now use that of San Quentin.

About fifty men, including Indians, are employed in the salt works. The nearest settlement is the rancho San Gracia about eighteen miles distant, and from which fresh water is procured. A well dug in the vicinity of the lake showed several successive strata of pure rock salt, from four to eight inches in thickness, with intermediate strata of shells, scoria and volcanic sand to a depth of thirty feet. The water obtained at that depth was unfit for use. The salt by the analysis of Professor Wilson, of Edinburgh University, is also in this state is shown to contain ninety-nine per cent. of pure chloride of sodium and one of water. Pure salt in a state of nature has never been discovered. It contains no sulphate of lime or magnesia, which on account of their deliquescent properties keep the salt in a moist state and impair the antiseptic or curing qualities of the article. These salt mines are not unknown to the Russians who several years ago sent two or three vessels from Sitka and obtained cargoes for salting meat and fish, but owing to the difficulties attending commercial transactions at that time the trade was shortly discontinued. The crystals vary in size but closely resemble the Cadiz salt though much finer than that. The proprietors intend establishing a grinding apparatus by which table salt as well as all other salt can be furnished at rates to prevent all importation. There are now three vessels, averaging 600 tons, employed in this trade. San Quentin under the new Mexican Administration is to be constituted a port of entry.—*Alto California.*

REMARKS OF MR. BIGELOW.

[In committee of the whole, on the bill to divide counties into representative districts.]

MR. PRESIDENT:

This bill proposes to change the present mode of electing representatives by dividing counties, electing more than one representative, into representative districts, and providing that each representative district shall elect its representative, separate from, and independent of the other districts of the county. It now involves upon me, as the framer of the bill to show why it should pass. In a representative government, every citizen should be as directly represented as possible. In a pure democracy, every citizen may vote personally on the passage of laws. But when extent of country or population makes that form of government impracticable, it becomes necessary as the next best, to adopt the representative mode of enacting laws; that is that an agent be chosen to act for many. Let us first inquire who or what are these agents to represent. Most clearly the people, not counties. The ratio of representation in this territory, is a representative for sixty voters, or thereabouts. Then every representative stands in the place of, and speaks for sixty voters. Then clearly those sixty voters should elect him, and to them should be responsible. But how is the fact under the present law of this territory? Counties elect two, four or six representatives by the whole county vote; these counties are represented, and not the people. Perhaps one may say if the county is represented, the people surely are. But there is a plain and well distributed. To say that the people are a

well represented, by the whole county voting for the whole number of representatives, as they would be by each district voting only for its own representative, is to say, by an extension of the rule, that all portions of the territory would be as well represented by electing all the representatives of the territory on one ticket, and by the united vote of the territory, which would defeat the very object of representation, for the weaker and more sparsely settled portions of the territory would be outvoted by the stronger localities and thus denied any representation at all, and a few of the strongest localities would control the territory. Again, to illustrate my meaning, take the case of electing representatives to congress in the city of New York; say that the city is entitled to three representatives in congress, but instead of electing those three representatives in separate districts, and each district voting only for its own representative, as it does, they unite the three districts into one, and in addition to that, they add to it two representative districts from the farming portions of the state of New York, making five districts into one, and then elect the five representatives by a united vote of the five districts. Do you suppose, Mr. Chairman, that the two farming districts would ever be correctly represented? Never. Sir they would be out-voted, out-managed, and out-recalled by the great city of New York. Now the principle would and does work the same in electing representatives in this territory. The scale is true is a smaller one to work upon, thus the case cited, but injustice is injustice wherever found, whether on a small or large scale. There are always to be found in cities, towns, or villages, an undue amount of office seekers, who by devoting leisure time to handling the wires, and having more brass, and less honesty than the farming portions of the country, generally succeed in controlling nominations. If this bill becomes a law, such gentlemen will, as far as they are concerned be checked, and in some portions of counties will ever be checked, as every representative district will have both the nomination and election of its representative under its own immediate control, instead of being subjected to the bargain and sale and intrigue of a county caucus. And here let me ask what is gained by four or six representative districts uniting to elect representatives. If five individuals wished to employ each an agent to do business for them, would they be likely to select those agents by a united vote of the five principals. Certainly not, individual agency is more than that. For in the first place no one of the principals might get the agent he wanted, because he would be liable to be outvoted by the others. In the next place, the responsibility of the agents would be so divided that in trying to please all, they might fail to please any of their principals. In the third place, the accountability between agent and principal would become indirect and uncertain, where it should be direct and certain. Now there are in counties different interests to be represented, as well as in the territory. Only in the former case the fact is not so readily perceived as in the latter. There are in counties rival points as well as in the territory. There are cases now existing in the territory where counties are very nearly equally divided locally, geographically and numerically, on measures, in regard to which they wish legislative action. By the present law, the portion the county that gains the ascendancy, gains all the representatives, and is alone heard in the legislature, even though that ascendancy was obtained by a single vote. By the provisions of this bill such rival interests would both be represented, and justice and equity would become more likely to be done. And if his bill becomes a law it will be found that applications to form new counties, will be much less frequent, as every portion of the county can be as directly and fully represented as if set off into a new county. And by this bill a representative is elected by the number of votes that the law says shall be entitled to a representative, and is not thrown into a hotchpotch with two, three or five other representatives, nor dependent upon two, three or five other districts for his nomination or election, nor responsible to them. Thus when you take into consideration the knavery practiced in county caucus nominations bringing home representation tenfold nearer the people from whence it ought to originate. By the provisions of this bill, towns can neither dictate to the farming portions of a county who they shall nominate, nor be permitted to outvote them after their nominations are made. And the preference of every district can always be had as it will place it in the power of every voter, to vote directly for his choice. Whereas by the present mode delegates are sent to a county caucus, and these delegates may prove false, or may be outvoted by other districts, or be overruled by political bullies. The district system is not without precedent. Representatives in congress are elected by districts. In most if not all of the New England states, representative districts are composed of towns, each town electing its representative or representatives to the legislature. And I have seen a practical illustration of a law similar to the provisions of this bill in the state of Wisconsin. The change was made from electing representatives by counties, as now practiced in this territory, to districts as provided by this bill, while I was a resident of that state. And the change was universally popular, so far as I know. Its advantages and justice was at once seen and appreciated. Now what can be urged against it here. That the principle is wrong, I believe cannot be successfully shown. It is more direct, more simple, more democratic and more just than the present mode. Counties will still be represented in the council as its members will still be elected by counties, and we shall have different interests represented in the two houses of the legislature, counties will be represented in the council, and the people in the house of representatives. Whereas now representatives and councillors are all elected by the whole county and so far as any separate representation is concerned, might as well cast lots in which branch of the legislature they should claim a seat.

The Patent Office has had distributed through the Southern and Middle states, a household of the names of the clergy.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Crimea not to be evacuated by the Russians.

The following is given authority of a Berlin despatch in the London Advertiser:

An order of the from Gortschakoff, dated October 10th, declares that he will not evacuate the country confined to his defence; neither will he retreat before the invader, but he will defend the Crimea at all hazards.

Yesterday, one thousand officers and men of the first regiment of light infantry of the British foreign legion, embarked on board the steamer Simon for Balaklava.

The Daily News, city article, says—"The announcement that our fleet in the American waters was to be reinforced, has excited considerable discussion."

THE WAR.

The principal portion of the news from Sevastopol consists of obscure accounts of the manoeuvres of the two armies in the field, the substance of which appears to be that the Russians are moving forward systematically in strong force, and that the British are retiring in good order, back upon their fortified positions.

The British and French were engaged in clearing away the ruins of the city.

The French and Sardinians had advanced from the Tchererna and Balidar line, and correspondence of the 13th says the French posts were within nine miles of Balaklava, also close to the Russian position at Albat and Aigral, where, if at all, the Russians must make a stand.

English correspondence to October 12, supposes that the Russians from the north side of Sevastopol were falling back by detachments on Percepok. There was, however, no diminution of the fire from the forts and batteries on the north side of the harbor. Their fire during the last four days had been very active, and was chiefly directed against the Malakoff and the French quarters in the western part of the south side.

A Russian despatch of the 22d, via Berlin, says the Allies, forty thousand strong, had marched from Eupatoria, towards Torkat; but on the 23d, perceiving our lancers on their left flank they retired behind Atkatschi.

The announcement that the Russians had blown up Fort Nicholas and their other works; at Otchakoff, is confirmed.

English letters say that the gunboats reconnoitred near Nikoloff.

Major DeLaford, Major Murdoch, Jr., and Capt. McLellan, American officers, had arrived in the camp. A British general order provides them with rations during their stay in the Crimea.

Miss Nightingale had returned to Sevastopol. The land strength of the Allies in the Crimea, including the sick, is officially reported at 210,000 men.

ASIA: THE EMPIRE.

The weather was bad, and the English fleet near Nagasaki was preparing to leave.

The gunboats at Elnosoro had been ordered to England.

The coasting trade was again springing up since the removal of the fleet.

RUSSIA.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Sun, who professes to be thoroughly posted in Russian matters, makes the following singular statements:

"A most singular communication from Russia has lately leaked out at the State Department. The Czar has declared an intention to make peace with the allies only on the condition that 'Constantinople shall be made a free port, and all the seas beyond it opened to the commerce of the world without exceptions or partialities.'"

Stardling as this news may seem, it is perfectly reliable, and whoever pretends to doubt it now, you may rely upon its being announced to the world as a fixed point in the Russian plan of policy. After all it appears that President Pierce spoke by the card when he said "Russia was battling for freedom of trade and religious toleration;" and though Mr. Crampton was wrothly thereat, and talked about his government asking explanations.

Since the taking of the south half of Sebastopol, this intimation of the fixed determination of the Emperor Alexander to have "the establishment of a free port at Constantinople an inflexible condition of peace" has been repeated to our government. The communication is semi-confidential, but distinctly official; and we must infer therefore that Russia is not intimidated by the state of affairs in the Crimea."

When the Russians in Asia heard of the fall of Sevastopol, they, on the 29th of September, made their attack upon Kars. The Turkish details of the affair are received. The Russian loss is reported at two thousand. Two Turkish redoubts were lost and retaken four times. The Hungarian General, Kemény, commanded the Turks, in the absence of the English General, Williams. The Russian General, Monastieff, with eighty guns, cannot continue the siege.

The Russians have fortified all the passes leading to Tiflis.

Omer Pasha was at Soumech Kale.

The latest despatch from St. Petersburg, dated Oct. 25th, says—"The whole of the militia has been ordered on the march, to reinforce the army of the South under General Luders. Two tiers, sixteen frigates and some gunboats have entered the Deciper."

The Emperor Alexander had left Nikoloff for Elizabogod, one hundred and thirty miles northward. The usual story is received, that his resignation is affected.

There is nothing more definite as to the resignation or recall of Gen. Simpson, than was brought out by the Arago. The London Post says that a new commander-in-chief is appointed, but it does not give his name. Rumor mentions Sir De Lacy Evans, Colington, Markham, Colin Campbell, and others.

A St. Petersburg letter of the 15th, says—"The Allied successes had caused despondency, yet everything indicates the intention of Russia to continue the war. Preparations were making for a fourteenth levy and enrollment of the local militia. Prayers were offered for the Emperor's success from the Church."

STATES NEWS.

The returns of the election in Massachusetts, Nov. 6th, from all but nine towns, give Gardner 14,323 plurality. The Americans have also elected the Lieut. Gov. Secretary of State, Auditor, and Attorney Gen. by about 10,000 plurality. The houses stands 179 Americans, 80 democrats, 18 whigs, 71 republicans and 3 liberals. The senate so far known, stands 23 Americans and 17 of all other denominations.

The know-nothings were victorious in New York; The New York Times, says Hodley's (American) candidate for Secretary of State, plurality over King (Republican) is 12, 375. They have also elected all of the other state officers, with one exception, (Judge of court of appeals) by large majorities.

The result of the election in New Jersey is considered to be a democratic victory. The election was not as important as usual, being confined to the choice of legislative representatives and county officers. The democrats have elected four out of six state senators.

The latest returns from Maryland make it pretty certain that the know-nothings there, have elected a clean ticket in Baltimore, and three members of congress.

In Louisiana and Mississippi the results, so far heard from are favorable to the know-nothings. The know-nothings have carried the city of New Orleans, by a large majority.

The Niagara Falls Gazette, says: A sad accident occurred on the Niagara river, a short distance above this village, by which three lives were lost. The facts are these: Mr. Samuel Tompkins, Mr. Phillip, Mr. Murray, and two Germans started about noon to go up the river to La Salle or Cayuga Creek. They proceeded up the river in a sail boat, and when opposite Schlosser landing, and some ten or twelve rods from the shore, Mr. Tompkins observed that they had better keep a safer shore. The direction of the boat was changed, and they had approached to within about three rods of the landing, when the bow of the boat was fairly driven under water and the inmates left to the mercy of the stream.

Mr. Tompkins struck for shore, and reached the dock in safety, as did Mr. Phillip, Mr. Murphy, and the two Germans clung to the boat a few moments, after which Mr. Murphy tried to reach the dock, and only went down when within a few feet of it. The two Germans not being swimmers, went down before assistance could be procured.

The Cleveland Herald, speaking of an electrical display upon Lake Erie, says: "The heavens were clear, save to a very near the northern horizon, upon which a thick haze appeared to rest. From a few points west of port, eastward 90 degrees, columns of fire, some perpendicular, others curved, shot up from the lake, a distance of 10 or 15 degrees in rapid succession; while in other parts of the sky were visible flashes of heat lightning. The whole seemed more like a series of powder explosions than lightning. When first seen, the jets of fire were apparently within a mile of the shore, but later, were nearer the horizon. The wind was blowing a gale from the south."

A petition to congress is in circulation, in the states of Maine and Illinois, praying that Judge Kane of Philadelphia, may be impeached, at the bar of the senate of the United States, for misconduct in office, "in usurping a jurisdiction properly belonging to the courts of Pennsylvania, and committing to prison the said Passmore Williamson, a citizen of Pennsylvania, without, and in violation of his rights as a citizen of Pennsylvania, and of these United States."

A letter from western Texas, says that Capt. Callahan had disbanded his company of Rangers, and returned home, the three months' enlistment of the men having expired, and only 75 men being at the rendezvous at San Antonio; and if the number is not increased to seven or eight hundred before the 15th of November, the expedition will be abandoned. General Smith had established four stations in the neighborhood of the most serious depredations.

A preliminary meeting of the friends of Geo. M. Dallas, favorable to his nomination for the Presidency, was held at Philadelphia, Nov. 1st.

A series of resolutions were offered and adopted. They set forth the merits and claims of Mr. Dallas in strong language, referring to the purity of his public career, his patriotic services, and his untainted democracy.

Speeches were made, and an executive committee appointed.

The Norfolk papers speak encouragingly of the health of that town. The Herald notices the largely increased size of the congregations of the different churches on Sunday.

The extensive bagging and rope factory of G. W. Dunlop, at Louisville, was totally destroyed by fire on the 2d of November, together with a house containing a large quantity of hemp, rope and bagging.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, of November 2d says: "Yesterday afternoon, the extensive grease and oil manufactory of Messrs. Hubbard & Taw, on Wood street wharf, Schuylkill, was entirely consumed by fire, with the stock, machinery and material on hand. Notwithstanding the rats were of wood, and filled with grease, yet the latter burned entirely out, and the sides of the former were but charred. It is estimated that there were from ten to twelve thousand gallons of grease in the store building, and out of 200 barrels of rosin, but a few were saved."

The evidence in the trial of Hertz, who has been found guilty at Philadelphia, of being engaged in enlisting men for the British foreign legion, has so far implicated the British minister at Washington, that it is thought something will grow out of it.

The War Department have received advices of the marching of the 2d regiment of Cavalry, under Col. Sidney F. Johnson, from Johnson's Barracks, to Texas.

PUGET SOUND COURIER.

E. T. GUNN, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER. TRUTH WITHOUT FEAR.

STELLACOOM, W. T., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1855.

The Pioneer came to hand, in the absence of Mr. Gunn, laden with its usual quantity of abuse and slander.

Best joke of the season.—It has been industriously circulated in this latitude—that our contemporary of the Puget Sound Courier, is ever has been a democrat!

The above beautiful extract, appeared in the Pioneer of Dec. 14th. Where, the joke exists, must only be in the distempored imagination of Wiley, superinduced by too oft repeated indulgences in the soul-destroying cordial.

The columns of the Courier, have always been open to both parties. If this is cause sufficient to call the editor a democrat—then the same cause that Jupiter Olympus Wiley has (published but one side) he might safely be considered a locofoco.

The editor of the Courier never has "clocked his principles," but on the contrary, has stood manfully, by those principles expressed in his prospectus, which has been published week after week.

In politics the Courier will be Whig, and in all political contests, issues, and controversies, may be relied upon to stand by the principles that party whose success can alone restore tranquility, prosperity and security to the nation at home, and respectability abroad.

As for Gunn, that he will "risk all that he has worked faithfully for," I emphatically say No!

To your last question, "what will be the answer of the Courier?" find it in the above.

In another column, will be found a communication from Lieut. J. Q. Cole, in which he denies in the strongest terms, the slanderous charges proffered by the Pioneer.

The steamer Active arrived at this place on Monday last, from San Francisco, via Port Townsend and Seattle, bringing dates to the 10th inst, and in advance of the mail from the east.

We are indebted to the kindness of the Purser, for files from San Francisco and the Atlantic states. The Active left San Francisco on the 10th and arrived at Port Townsend early on the morning of the 15th, notwithstanding head winds and heavy weather.

The bark Leonesa, before reported ashore at Port Townsend, was got off on the 9th inst having sustained no damage, with the exception of the loss of a portion of her copper, although she lay exposed to the whole fury of the heaviest south-easter ever known on that portion of our waters.

The bark Ella Frances, which sailed from Port Gamble some 30 days since with lumber for San Francisco, encountered a heavy gale from south-east off Umpqua head, lost a portion of her canvas, had top-masts and light spars carried away, had her deck swept, lost two men overboard, a third had his leg broken, and both the master and Capt. Talbot of the Port Gamble mill, were severely injured.

Our "devil" is anxious for Wiley to inform him when it is time to laugh at his "Best joke of the season."

HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEWS FROM OREGON.

From Mr. Nye, express messenger from Fort Vancouver, who arrived here last evening, we learn that another disastrous battle recently took place in W hitman's valley, twenty-five miles east of Fort Walla-walla, between 250 volunteers under Major, Chinn, and some 5 or 6 hundred of the Yakima, Pelouse, and other tribes of Indians, led on by their respective chiefs.

Capt. Dryden, of the bark Iwanowna, states that the Indians on the Straits, report two vessels ashore at Cape Flattery. Capt. D. reports that he was boarded by some Indians at Clalm Bay, who brought off potatoes, oil, and berries, but would take nothing in exchange, but powder and ball, although offered the usual articles of trade.

The schooner San Diego, lying at Port Townsend for the protection of the inhabitants vent ashore, was got off without damage. She sailed for San Francisco on the 15th inst with 250 barrels of cranberries.

Some two years and a half since, I employed a little ragged Shoshoni Indian boy to go out to Fort Steilacoom on an errand. The little fellow, only some ten or twelve years of age, discharged his duty so well and seemed so unobtrusively pleased that an opportunity had occurred for him to do a "Boston" kindness, that I was at once prejudiced in his favor, and concluded to watch his movements from a distance.

He gradually and almost imperceptibly came to be a useful and almost indispensable servant in the family. Everything that was done by my wife, he watched narrowly and try to imitate, and such was his ingenuity and assiduity, that a year had not elapsed before he could get up a pretty respectable meal and not two years before he could "turn out" in the morning, prepare a breakfast of elegant coffee, broiled steak and let-takes, clean away the things after the meal was over, then fetch and heat his water, wash and wring the dirty clothes about the house, hang them out, take them in when dry, sprinkle and fold them, and the next day iron them.

Useful and faithful however, as he constantly proved himself to be, the elict was soon to go forth, that his presence in my family endangered the lives and property of the entire white community, and that he must be forthwith removed to some reservation and there placed in charge of some two or three individuals, who, from their daily and nightly intercourse with the Siwash, for years past, were justly supposed to have a right conception of his character and to be able to exercise a good influence over them.

On the 11th inst the sloop-of-war Decatur, in beating from Port Madison to Seattle, missed stays and went ashore at Restoration point, where the tide laid her on a reef of rocks; she got off next tide and having sustained some injury, went into Seattle, and was hauled alongside of Yester's wharf, and when our informant left, was being stripped. Capt. G. Gansevort had arrived and taken charge. All well.

The steamer Active arrived at this place on Monday last, from San Francisco, via Port Townsend and Seattle, bringing dates to the 10th inst, and in advance of the mail from the east.

We are indebted to the kindness of the Purser, for files from San Francisco and the Atlantic states. The Active left San Francisco on the 10th and arrived at Port Townsend early on the morning of the 15th, notwithstanding head winds and heavy weather.

The bark Leonesa, before reported ashore at Port Townsend, was got off on the 9th inst having sustained no damage, with the exception of the loss of a portion of her copper, although she lay exposed to the whole fury of the heaviest south-easter ever known on that portion of our waters.

The bark Ella Frances, which sailed from Port Gamble some 30 days since with lumber for San Francisco, encountered a heavy gale from south-east off Umpqua head, lost a portion of her canvas, had top-masts and light spars carried away, had her deck swept, lost two men overboard, a third had his leg broken, and both the master and Capt. Talbot of the Port Gamble mill, were severely injured.

Our "devil" is anxious for Wiley to inform him when it is time to laugh at his "Best joke of the season."

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We begin to fear much for the safety of Gov. Stevens, having had no tidings of him for several weeks. The large horde of Indians in the country through which he will be obliged to travel, on his return makes his danger imminent. It seems to us that some vigorous measures should be taken to render him immediate and efficient assistance.

Capt. Dryden, of the bark Iwanowna, states that the Indians on the Straits, report two vessels ashore at Cape Flattery. Capt. D. reports that he was boarded by some Indians at Clalm Bay, who brought off potatoes, oil, and berries, but would take nothing in exchange, but powder and ball, although offered the usual articles of trade.

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LETTER FROM LIEUT. JNO. Q. COLE.

Camp at Bradley's, Dec. 18th, 1855.

I was much surprised whilst engaged in my duties at camp, on the Puyallup, to see an article in the Pioneer and Democrat of Dec. 7th in which I am charged with having endeavored to create dissatisfaction among the Indians now arrayed in hostilities against us.

Some two months since, I had a conversation with Capt. Hunt, in relation to the difficulties existing among the Indians. I ascribed them to the manner in which treaties had been made with them; and stated my belief, that their dissatisfaction dated from that time; in proof of this, I mentioned that on the day, on which the treaty was concluded at Nisqually, an Indian residing in Stellacoom, named Joe came into the store where I was, and expressed his dissatisfaction, and finally he said he would buy a Red Shirt and make a cultus poletoch of it to Gov. Stevens.

It would look quite as patriotic in these chivalrous knights of Olympia, if instead of discussing the causes of the war, and attacking the characters of the soldiers engaged in their own defence, they would shoulder the musket, and take the field.

By inserting the above, you will much oblige Yours &c., JOHN Q. COLE.

Mr. Editor:—Sir: The editor of the Pioneer, after flouting that "Scorpion" is intent upon using the instrument which Nature has furnished him—paying no regard to the oft reiterated assertion that he never noticed anonymous communications—has devoted himself, in an editorial of nearly a column and a half, to the various communications of Scorpion. And now, sir, if you will allow me the privilege through your columns, Scorpion will devote himself to "Tarantula" as I shall call Mr. Wiley.

In your lengthy notice of my feeble attempts to thrust myself upon the world, you have, heretofore, regardless of that fraternal feeling which has existed for ages past in our families, never paid any attention to my various essays—you have passed me by as a thing unworthy of notice, when you well know that I am the "Scorpion" whose sting is death, and that if I make but one thrust at you, you with a full intent, you would in the madness of despair, turn your tormenting power on your own carcass, and find relief—where, I don't know.

You begin your article by bringing into question my knowledge of the treaty. "Hail Jew," I have thee on the hip! I have the treaty, and shall keep it as a lasting monument of the Indian Department of Washington territory—and as a sad comment upon the embeccle administration of Franklin Pierce. As to my knowledge of the said treaty, I consider that I am as well versed in its many paragraphs, as the duputer Olympia Tarantula Wiley—but enough—let's to business! (Friend Tarantula, I must be brief.)

You break out in a gaily, high-dogged eulogium upon those now engaged in the war. "Consistency, thou art a jewel!" You, but a few days endeavored to impose a lie upon the public, by charging an officer of treason! "Shamo were thy blush." You know full well, Tarantula, that you are holding up for a bad cause. You know, that however much you may appear to be in ignorance—that you are amongst people who are endeavoring to divide our reptile family. Come away from them, don't stay with them—they know our whole family—sting—as you are well aware of, as that cowardly centipede bit you in Mexico, when you was citizen Lieut. of the 10th; and speaking of Mexico, would you try for one moment to palm off upon our King Stevens as a brave soldier?—why, Tarantula, you must be crazy! He is it true, one of the engineeers corps, but a soldier—never! he hath not the stature of a man, but I do not say he is not one. Even the Indians laughed at him during his tour through the various tribes. His costume was so shabby, and his shirt-tail fluttering in the breeze; and now, I recollect to mind an occurrence that took place, when you and I were lying behind that large stone, (I won't say in what state,) of our hearing an Indian remark to himself, "What! he! 'Tis a big man, why, he looks more like a Lynn shoemaker than a chief of the Dooties!"

The remark—Tarantula, is between ourselves. I wouldn't Stevens, would he let, not not for a whisky cock-fall. Oh! Tarantula—that you should come out, and by your puny efforts uphold a man at the present time—how long will it continue?—Remember, Lancaster! you uphold him, and then desert him. Stevens follows in his wake. You have already attacked his representatives, and soon you will forget your first love, and denounce Stevens, as a "W" have no despatches from him."

Oh! Tarantula, I am ashamed of you! you ought not to publish me to the world as being handled by "Nothing Derogatory," without gloves. Why take advantage of my ignorance?

You talk about "truth, right and consistency," you know nothing about them. But, Tarantula—I must seek some place, "to hire out for a cent a day, to dig my grave."

Where did you get the name Tarantula? who you say "is at work." I find the word Tarantula, which means: "An insect whose bite is only cured by music." I think I am justified in calling you Tarantula, for the reason that you "worked" so very hard in getting off that brilliant leader, so beautifully interspersed with the quotations of one William Shakespeare, who once lived, in England; and that if you did bite me most unmercifully, I will try and get it healed, by listening to one of your sentimental songs which you sing so well, the one especially, commencing:

"Choo! choo! choo! bobo-oh! bobo-link! Spink, spank, spink! choo, choo, choo!" SCORPION.

Mr. Editor of the Kurrier:—I understand that the Legislature is holding a meeting at Olympia—now I want you to write to me, that if they don't amend the licker law the democratic party will beat all of them, for demerits go again oppression, and that law requires, a man to have a moral character to sell licker, and that 'is tyranny' as I would like to know the use of it, just rise will ye D. RICHTERSON.

MASONIC TRIBUTE.

To the Acty W. M. Ws. and Brethren of Stellacoom Lodge No. 8, of A. F. and A. M.

We are again called to mourn the loss of another of our best members—One of our lesser lights is extinguished! That light which has shone so bright, and spread its salutary influence over the craft so long, has gone out! Our highly respected friend, and much beloved brother; our Worshipful Master, Wm. A. Slaughter, the friend of our hearts, no longer lives! he is already numbered with the dead, and placed on the list of heroes who were once alive!

Brother Slaughter, a 1st Lieut. in the 4th Regt of Infantry U. S. Army, was in command of a company of U. S. Troops, in campaign against hostile tribes of Indians, East and West of the Cascade mountains, from the 28th September last, up to the 4th inst, at which time he was encamped at White river. He was in every engagement and skirmish, and in each of them he displayed his noble character as a soldier: by his undaunted bravery, coolness, prudence, and skill; mingled with perseverance, kindness, and humanity; and during that campaign his every action was unhesitatingly approved of, by his superiors in rank, and soon won the utmost confidence, and marked esteem of every man—Regulars and Volunteers. In public, as well as in private life: in the Atlantic States, as well as on the Pacific coast, who was more beloved, more respected, or more deservedly so than brother Slaughter? Has, or can any human being be more beloved and respected, than he whose loss we now mourn? We most emphatically say—No! No matter where he went, he made friends; none knew him but to love him; and those who knew best loved him most—but everything has an end; that grim monster—Death—was lurking nigh at hand, the sickle was already whetted; his sands were nearly run! On the evening of the 4th inst, while sitting in a log house close by his camp, and seriously consulting with the officers of his command, relative to their future movements, the messenger of death sped on his errand of destruction, and thrust in his sickle! his sands were already run, and in a moment he had ceased to live! His body was there, but his Spirit was wafted to that far off land from whose bonnie no traveller returns! While he was holding that consultation with his brother Officers, the Indians made a charge upon the camp, and at the first volley Bro. Slaughter fell a bullet pierced his heart, and he died instantly and without a groan. By his death, his country is deprived of one of her best soldiers, the fraternity of one of its most valuable members, and who can fathom the depth of the affliction of his bereaved wife and friends? All have suffered a loss which is irreplaceable.

But his is gone—his last battle is fought—his last campaign is ended; and in obedience to the Divine dispensation, he is gone to receive his reward; and let us trust that his work may pass the Grand Overseer's Square, and be placed in that Temple above, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Now that the cold winter of death has passed, when the bright summer's morn of the resurrection shall arise, may His angels descend and rescue his ransomed dust. When by His Pasword he may be found worthy, and be admitted to the presence of the King of Kings, there to dwell with Him in the beauty of holiness for ever. So mote it be. Amen and amen!

We need as meet the good, When first our Glorious Lord were evinced— Time has no power to break the ties that bind O ye my dear brethren!

Since his: we met, one dear friend Who clasped our hands, and greeted us in love: Has joined the Great triumphant Lodge above, Whose meeting never ends.

Lily's hands are falling fast We know not when our hearts shall cease to beat. This sorrow of communion calm and sweet, May be on earth our last.

And whereas, the undersigned have been appointed a Committee to prepare resolutions, expressive of the sense of this Lodge relative thereto; we recommend that it be Resolved, That the death of our beloved brother and Worshipful Master, William A. Slaughter, we regard as a loss, which will be, and severely felt by his country, and the Masonic fraternity at large; especially by those sons of Light over whom he presided so long. When we assemble, his chair will be vacant; the eye will instinctively turn to his accustomed place—but his manly form sleeps in the grave: his immortal part with the angels.

Resolved, That we all, with one accord, offer to the bereaved wife of our deceased brother, our warmest sympathy in her affliction; and would venture a point her to a throng of bright beings "before the throne"—where her husband, and our brother, will be in the midst, and then whisper— "There shall ye meet him." May He who tempers the winds to the shorn lamb, shelter her beneath the protecting wings of His providence.

Resolved, That as a small tribute of respect to the memory of our deceased brother, the members of Stellacoom Lodge, No. 8, of A. F. and A. M. bear the usual Masonic badge of mourning for sixty days; and that our Hall, and the furniture of our Lodge be clothed in mourning for the same period of time.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing preamble, and of these resolutions, be inserted upon the minutes of this Lodge; and that a certified copy of the same be transmitted to the widow of our deceased brother by the Secretary.

(Signed,) Wm. H. WOOD, LAFAYETTE BARRETT, SAMUEL McCRAW.

Masonic Hall, Stellacoom, W. T., Dec. 15, 1855.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WEDNESDAY, December 12th, 1855.

Prayer by the chaplain. Journals of the previous day read and approved.

Mr Phillips introduced a communication, signed by the county commissioners of King county in reference to a claim against said county in support of a nonresident lunatic pauper and praying the passage of an act in regard to such claim.

Mr. Morrow moved that all bills, memorials, resolutions &c. other than those emanating from standing committees be printed after first reading.—Laid on the table.

Mr. Eldridge introduced house memorial No. 2, to the secretary of war, relative to the establishment of a military post at Bellingham Bay. On motion of Mr. Walker, rules suspended and read a second time and referred to the committee on memorials.

Second reading of joint resolution No. 6, relating to the erection of light houses, referred to the committee on commerce.

Second reading of house joint resolution No. 4,

relating to accepting services of friendly Indians, referred to committee on military affairs.

Second reading of joint H. R. No. 5, relating to the creating of an additional land office for the territory of Washington. Mr. Roe moved to strike out Vancouver and insert "Monticello City," pending which Mr. Clark moved to refer the memorial and pending amendment to committee on memorials—carried.

Mr. Hale moved that house memorial No 1 relative to the extension of the donation act, be ordered to a third reading—carried.

House memorial No. 1 read a second time and referred to committee on memorials.

Message from the council by their clerk, Mr. Spenser—I am instructed to inform the house of representatives that the council have unanimously passed house joint resolution No. 7, relative to the death of Lieut. Wm. A. Slaughter, late U. S. A.

The Speaker announced the appointment of Messrs. Hale, Doughty, Morrish, Roe and Buchanan the standing committee on agriculture.

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

THURSDAY, Dec. 13th, 1855.

Prayer by the chaplain. Journals of the previous day read and approved.

Mr. Anderson from committee on memorials, to whom was referred H. J. R. No. 1 relating to placing an armed steamer on Puget Sound and H. J. M. No. 3 relative to indemnifying citizens of Washington territory for losses occasioned by Indian hostilities, reported a substitute in lieu of the original and recommended their passage.

On House memorial No. 2, relative to the establishment of a military post at Bellingham Bay, the committee report the same back with amendments, and recommend its passage.

Mr. McElroy introduced house memorial No. 3 praying for an appropriation to defray the expenses of the existing war—memorial read first time and referred to committee on memorials.

Mr. Morrow introduced H. R. No. 2—An act to locate a territorial road, from the county seat of Swannish county to Bruceville on Shoalwater Bay—bill read a first time.

Mr. Ward moved that the committee on judiciary, be instructed to take into consideration the act—entitled "an act to regulate fees and costs,"—the propriety of a reduction of the rates therein contained and report a bill or otherwise according to their judgment—carried.

On motion of Mr. Eldridge house adjourned at 10 o'clock to-morrow A. M.

FRIDAY, Dec. 14th.

Prayer by the chaplain. Journals of Thursday read and approved.

H. J. R. No. 3, relative to the creation of an additional land office for the territory of Washington was referred back to the committee on memorials, to whom it was referred, and recommended its passage.

Mr. Robinson, from select joint committee, under H. J. R. No. 2; reported by memorial, praying for increased appropriation for mail service from San Francisco to Olympia, by sea.

Mr. Gilliam introduced H. M. No. 5 to the President of the United States relative to Com. F. S. Sterrett, U. S. Navy. Read first time, rules suspended and read a second time by title. On motion laid on the table and ordered printed.

Mr. Bishop introduced H. M. No. 5, to the Post Master General, R. S. V. by Columbia River mail. Read first time, rules suspended, and read a second time by title. On motion continued on 15th second reading.

Mr. Van Cester introduced H. R. No. 3 an act to amend an act entitled "an act for the relief of the officers of the Shoalwater Bay." Bill read first time, rules suspended, and a second time and referred to committee on commerce.

Mr. Eldridge introduced H. J. R. No. 4, an act to amend an act entitled "an act relative to fence and fence viewers." Read first time, rules suspended, and read a second time by title.

On motion, house resolved itself into committee of the whole on a bill. Mr. Hale in the chair. After some time spent thereon, the committee rose and reported the bill back without amendment and asked to be discharged. Report yeas and nays, and committee discharged. On motion of Mr. Park and, bill referred to committee on agriculture.

H. R. No. 2, read second time. An act to locate a territorial road from the county seat of Swannish county to Bruceville on Shoalwater Bay. Referred to committee on roads and highways.

H. J. R. No. 5, read, and on motion laid on the table and ordered printed.

Report of select committee on memorializing Congress on increase of mail service—adopted. First reading of H. M. No. 6, rules suspended and read a second time by title. On motion, memorial laid upon the table and ordered printed.

Report of select committee to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message relating to Gov. James Douglas adopted. First reading of H. J. R. No. 8 "tendering thanks to Hon. James Douglas Gov. Vancouver's Island." Rules suspended, bill read second time.

On motion of Mr. Crook's "all of his resolutions strewn out after war." Rules further suspended, and resolution as amended, read a third time and adopted.

Report of committee on memorials—adopted. Mr. Clark moved to take up H. M. No. 7, praying an appropriation to indemnify citizens of Washington territory for losses occasioned by hostilities of Indians—carried.

