

Our War Debt.

On Monday week, December 3d, will commence the second session of the 36th Congress. In view of this fact, let every citizen of Washington Territory contribute his influence to secure the payment of the Indian War Debt.

Remind that member or Senator of our claim to protection; remind him of the inducements to settlement which had been held out, inviting us to abandon the homes of our nativity, to rend the ties of kindred and family affection, and as pioneers to carry to this remote region the standard of American institutions; say to him we willingly incurred the expense and hardship incident to a settler in a new country.

The Hon. Delazon Smith died at Portland, at 6 o'clock a. m., Sunday, November 18, 1860, aged 44 years. He was a native of the State of New York, but emigrated in early life to Iowa, where he continued to reside until 1852, when he came to Oregon, making Linn County his residence.

The Representatives and Senators now sitting as judges on our claims, must be human, and will extend a patient hearing. We confidently look for an appropriation at the coming session. We look for it because we are entitled to it.

The Presidential struggle is now over. Members of Congress are not now longer needed from their post of duty to engage in the business of President-

making, or hatching schemes of secession or disunion, or that wilder treason of making a Southern and Pacific Confederacy, thereby dismembering our glorious national fabric. Our own Delegate may again hail from the Territory he was elected to represent, and will use his influence to urge our claims. He will undoubtedly be assisted by the member from Oregon. We now rejoice in a full Senatorial representation from Oregon, and the eloquent Col. Baker will certainly be influential with the Senators from Republican States, and surely we may suppose that the Senators of those States which gave their votes for Lane for Vice President will credit his Senatorial speeches.

The payment of the debt is therefore but a question of time. Another question of vital importance, however, arises, which is, whether Congress will so reduce our demands as to cut off our people with a shilling, while, by every demand of justice, we are entitled to a pound? Proper representations, made to individual Congressmen, by reliable correspondents, will, in a great measure remove doubt, and secure us from the baneful effects of further delay.

Death of Hon. Delazon Smith.

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A salute of 100 guns was fired by the Republicans at Tum-Water, in this County, in honor of the election of Abraham Lincoln President of the United States. After the salute a large and enthusiastic delegation marched to Olympia, ringing bells, blowing horns, and attesting their joy in every conceivable manner.

SEND IN THE NAMES.—Will our friends see that the names of those who have subscribed are sent to us at once? Doubtless many who have subscribed will fail to receive the paper, but we trust they will not lay the blame to us, as we have mailed to every name that has reached us.

The weather remains pleasant.

How can a Clay Whig be a Democrat?

We commend the following extracts from the New York Tribune to the especial attention of that class of our readers who profess to be old line Whigs; who attest their veneration for the memory of the great founder of their party by now voting and acting with his adversaries; who through his life-long service to the whole Union, pursued him untiringly with malignant calumny and slander. The article quoted clearly demonstrates that the greatest of American Statesmen to the latest hour of his political life endorsed the doctrine now contended for by the Republicans, viz: that the Federal Constitution vested in Congress, exclusive power to legislate on the question of Slavery in the Territories; that Slavery did not, nor could not exist in any State or Territory until established by municipal or local law; in other words, that slavery is and was but a creature of local law.

MR. CLAY'S COMPROMISE.

When Hunt, Duer, Briggs, Brooks, and Hiram Ketchum, are asked, "How do you reconcile your present course and attitude with your repeated, persistent, recorded declarations and votes in favor of the positive exclusion of Slavery from the Federal Territories?" they reply: "I am sorry that the compromise of 1850 was not made; but for that, and thereby pledged ourselves to maintain its principles and oppose all further agitation respecting Slavery."

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Gen. Jeff. Davis followed, saying: "Sir, we are called upon to receive this as a measure of compromise. As a measure of compromise, I look upon it as a modest mode of taking, the claim to which has been more boldly asserted by others; and that I may be understood upon this question, and that my position may go forth to the country in the same column that convey the sentiments of the Senator from Kentucky, I here assert that never will I take less than the Missouri Compromise line extended to the Pacific Ocean, with the specific recognition of the right to hold slaves in the Territory below that line; and that, before such Territories are admitted into the United States, slaves may be taken there from any of the United States at the option of the owners. I can never consent to give additional power to a majority to commit further aggressions upon the minority in this Union; and will never consent to any proposition which will have such a tendency, without a full guarantee or contracting measure if it is to be made with it."

Here you see, Gen. Davis—an extreme Fire-eater from Mississippi—was willing to compromise on the line of 36° 30', with a specific recognition of the right to hold slaves in all Territories south of that line. He revolted at Mr. Clay's proposition, as but a modest mode of taking everything by the North; he was willing to let these laboring millions that envy the sentiments of the Senator from Kentucky, I here assert that never will I take less than the Missouri Compromise line extended to the Pacific Ocean, with the specific recognition of the right to hold slaves in the Territory below that line; and that, before such Territories are admitted into the United States, slaves may be taken there from any of the United States at the option of the owners.

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Republican Thunder Disgusting to the Pioneer and Democrat.

The following significant squib dignified the editorial columns of the last issue of the Pioneer: "The Republicans here had a good time thanking their God last Thursday evening, if we may judge from the 'bluster and fury' of some of them, on the reception of the Oregon election news. A number of guns were fired, and a few tar barrels burnt by some boys and Siwashes. Their hilarities were, of course, such as would be expected from such a crowd and occasion."

Apart from the blasphemous allusion, in the above article, it may be considered harmless. But the use of such language Mr. Furste calls to mind the "Presidential Salute," fired by Hon. John H. Seranton, on the reception of the news of the nomination by the Secessionists of Breckenridge and Lane. To say that performance was "Serantonian," is a sufficient description of that memorable scene. If the Pioneer and Democrat could think it worth while to join in that salute, how much more propriety in the Republicans to thank God, to burn powder, and make bonfires, when we have learned that the whole Pacific Coast is true to the Union, and at the first opportunity rebukes the treasonable acts of Stevens, Lane, Gwin, and the Oregon and California delegations to the Democratic National Convention, who went out and joined themselves to the Seceders, and grossly misrepresented the Pacific Coast.

If it is matter of obliquity that the few Indians in town should assemble, out of curiosity, we commend, especially, the OFFICIAL REPORT OF Wesley B. Gosnell, Esq., Indian Agent Washington Territory, made to the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, on June 30th, 1857. (See Report Commissioner Indian Affairs, 1857—pages 340 and 341: "The Indians of my charge, and indeed, I may say, all west of the Cascade Mountains, are fully alive to the times, and I have found them possessed of more intelligence, shrewdness, and forecast, particularly in matters which may affect their interests, than they have received credit for. For instance, in the political contest which is now going on in this Territory, (I refer to the race between Governor Stevens and Mr. Abernethy for the delegateship to Congress,) they manifest a deep interest. Their sympathies are all with the Governor; for they say that he understands the Indian's turn-tum, (heart or mind), knows all about what they want, and if he goes to Washington he will know what to ask for, and will be able to affect something for their benefit. They look upon the question which is to be determined at the ballot box in this Territory on the 13th of July next as one of great importance to them as well as to others. I mention this matter not in a political spirit, (although the fact certainly forms no mean eulogium upon the official career of our late Superintendent of Indian Affairs,) but merely to show that the Indians here are not asleep, but wide awake to any and all questions which even remotely concern them."

If Indian sagacity were then so creditable a feature, their aptness to change is here as apparent as some of the effects, visible in certain political officials, who are already making fair weather with the incoming dynasty.

Daily Overland Communication with California. It will be gratifying to our readers to learn that our enterprising fellow-townsmen, Henry Winsor, Esq., will put on a line of daily stages, (Sundays excepted,) connecting this place with Monticello and Cowlitz River; from that point, connection will be made by steamers with Portland. That part of the route is assigned to Capt. Richard Hoyt. To both these gentlemen—always on hand to serve the people, even at their own sacrifice—are Washington and Oregon vastly indebted. We trust they will reap a harvest of prosperity and profit. For this vast service, Mr. Winsor has assumed to render, the sum of \$9,000 per annum is very inadequate pay; it therefore becomes our people to co-operate with him. We know from the past character of Mr. Winsor, that he will succeed if anybody can. He is of that stripe that knows no back-out, and everything he takes hold of turns into a success. We ardently hope that the projected movement may yield them as much solid profit, as it secures benefit to our Territory. For an idea of the advantages of daily mail we refer to our columns today. Here, in this remote region, are we, this 22d day of November, able to give to our readers the result of the great Presidential struggle, which took place in so many States at points so remote, on the 6th of the same month. The amplification of time and distance seems incomprehensible, and yet to a few just such men as Henry Winsor, are we indebted for these results.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—Our thanks are due to H. C. Wilson and B. F. Kendall, Esqs., for their kind attention to us down the Sound; to Butler P. Anderson and Edw. Giddings, Esqs., of Olympia, and Capt. Richard Hoyt, of the Steamer Multnomah, for latest news from the States. Our thanks are also due to Wm. L. Clancey, Esq., of the Steamer Eliza Anderson, for Victoria and Down-Sound papers; also to F. S. Balch, Esq., of San Francisco for valuable campaign documents, among which was the able speech of Oregon's Eloquent Senator, Col. E. D. Baker, at the American Theatre, in San Francisco, on the 20th October. All such favors gratefully appreciate.

GWIN CHALLENGED.—Senator Gwin's vote was challenged at the Seventh District polls, yesterday, by Owen Curran. Owen said that Gwin was not a resident of this State, but of Texas; then, that he was not a resident of the District; finally, when nothing else would serve, that he was not of age. The venerable Senator voted, Owen to the contrary notwithstanding. He is reported to have sworn in his vote, and he voted for District officers as well as Presidential electors.

LOSS OF THE SHIP BLACK HAWK.—The papers indicate that the ship Black Hawk, from Calcutta to Boston, before reported missing, has been lost, with all on board. She was last seen in the Bay of Bengal, about the 10th, and afterwards portions of the wreck of an American vessel were discovered.

Editorial Jottings.

The schooner D. L. Clinch, Capt. W. H. Perriman was wrecked in San Juan harbor, Vancouver's Island, on the 10th inst. Her cargo was saved.—Ice froze quarter of an inch thick at Victoria, on the 9th.—Through the kindness of Wm. L. Clancey, Esq., we have received the first number of the Port Townsend Register, a Democratic sheet, edited by Henry L. Sutton.—The well known Potter Theatrical Troupe are performing to crowded houses at Victoria. Miss Lulu Sweet, known throughout Oregon by the familiar name of "Sweet Lulu," and Frank Mayo, Esq., are the chief attractions of the company.—The S. F. Bulletin gloomily predicts the discontinuance of the Pony Express, as the Postmaster General refuses to award the mail contract to the overland route.—Our exchanges speak of a heroine said to be fighting in the army of Garibaldi. Her name is Maria della Torre.—The Princess Alice Maude, of England is to be publicly betrothed to Prince Louis, of Hesse Darmstadt, at Mayence. The Princess is in her 17th year, the Prince in his 23d.—Col E. D. Baker addressed one of the largest and most enthusiastic mass meetings, at the American Theatre, ever assembled in San Francisco, on the evening of the 20th ult. The audience was composed of both ladies and gentlemen, and many could not gain admittance.—Several mornings the past week the ground was covered with a thick coating of frost.—We are informed by H. Winsor, Esq., that the daily mail service will go into operation on the 1st of December.—Our Portland correspondent says that Judge M. P. Deady has become a resident of Portland; that the Fire Department has been reorganized; that another first-class engine has been added thereto.—An account of the massacre on the plains, together with a communication from "Citizen," are crowded out of this issue. Next week.—Eight prisoners escaped from confinement on Tuesday evening last, but were recaptured.

Important Decision of the Commissioner of the Land Office.—Rights of a Wife of Indian Blood, claiming under the Donation Law. In the matter of the claim of John Edgar and Betsy, his wife, a full blood Indian, for a Donation Tract of 640 acres.

In August 1860, an application was made by the administrator of John Edgar, late of Thurston County, deceased, for an assignment of the portion of his land vesting in his heirs-at-law, his widow being a full-blood Indian, a difference arose between the Register and Receiver, as to the right to claim 320 acres in her own right, which led to the following correspondence:

REGISTER'S OFFICE, W. T. Aug. 8, '60. To the Commissioner General Land Office, Washington, D. C.—Sir: John Edgar, a claimant under the act of Sept. 27, 1850, Sec. 4, has proven residence and cultivation for four consecutive years on his donation claim, and (he having been killed during the late Indian war,) his wife and heirs claim 640 acres, 320 being in right of his wife. It is admitted by the claimant that the wife is a full-blooded Indian woman, who was, however, legally married to said John Edgar.

The Receiver has decided that as Mrs. Edgar is neither white or an AMERICAN HALF-BREED, the husband can hold but 320 acres of land. In my opinion John Edgar, being a white settler on the public land, and having otherwise complied with the provisions of the law, and being a resident of Washington Territory, between the 27th of September, and the 15th day of December, 1850, is entitled to 640 acres of land, one-half to himself, and one-half to his wife, to be held by her in her own right. As there are many cases of a similar character in this country, an early decision is respectfully requested.

Respt'y, your ob't servant, ISAAC W. SMITH, Reg. The following is the reply: SIR.—I have received your letter of the 8th ult., submitting a question in regard to Donation rights, upon which it appears there is a difference of opinion between yourself and the Receiver. It is, whether a full-blood Indian woman, the widow of a settler, has, under the Donation act of 1850, the same right as a white woman in similar circumstances. The law, in my opinion, makes no distinction, where the parties were legally married and lived together, and were recognized as man and wife; because, under the law, whatever rights she has, she takes by reason of being the lawful wife and widow of an American citizen and settler under the Donation act of Sept. 27, 1850.

Very Respt'y, your ob't servant, JOS. S. WILSON, Commissioner. Isaac W. Smith, Esq., Register, Olympia, W. T.

THE TEN MILLION LOAN.—The bids for the new ten million loan, were opened at Washington on the 22d. They amount, in the aggregate, to about ten and a half millions, within the range of par to one and forty-one hundredths per cent, premium. All the bids above par are accepted, and those at par are to get a pro rata amount of the residue.