

Port Townsend to Sherbourg, or False Dungeness. Under a suspension of the rules read three times and passed.

The resolutions from the Council relating to the Union were taken up. These resolves, brimming over with patriotic fervor and fear of foreign influence, proclaimed that the integrity of the Union should be maintained unless some Constitutional right of a State were invaded by the General Government; as this admits the right of a State to nullify an act of Congress, if it deems its rights assailed, we are happy to chronicle that the House repudiated the heresy by the decisive vote of 17 to 8.

The committee of Ways and Means (Mr. Bozarth) made the following report on the Council Bill making an appropriation for cleaning and repairing the Territorial arms:

"That the amount appropriated is neither extravagant nor unjust, but on the contrary, we find that the labor necessary to put the arms in proper condition and repair would cost at a moderate allowance fully twice the sum named in the bill. We are convinced by the testimony of several witnesses that the arms were in very bad condition 'having been used by the Republicans in firing a salute in honor of the election of 'Honest Abe.'"

[The salute fired by the Republicans in honor of Oregon rebanking Lane and secession, was by one howitzer kindly loaned by Q. M. General Miller.]—Ed.

The committee go on to state that they are of opinion that the bill possesses some merit, but would recommend that the Quartermaster General be instructed to present an authenticated bill of particulars to the Executive Committee of the Great Republican Party of this Territory, and demand immediate payment.

Notwithstanding the report, the bill passed, after which the House adjourned.

## THE WASHINGTON STANDARD.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1860.

"The people of these United States are the rightful masters of both Congress and Courts, not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution."—ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

### "A Merry Christmas to Ye All!"

On our first page will be found an article embodying many details in regard to the history of the establishment of Christmas festivities by different nations.

How well we remember the time-honored custom in older settlements, of the News Carrier going around among the patrons and subscribers of public journals, carrying with him a poetic address, and wishing the "compliments of the season" to those he served! In return the duty was enjoined of unburdening the pocket, and making glad the heart of the poor carrier by the bestowal of a small gift. We are not old enough yet for its revival in our midst, yet it is proper for us, who live by your kind encouragement, to embrace so fitting an opportunity to wish most cordially to each of our patrons and friends a merry, merry Christmas.

We have a thorough appreciation of the weight of our obligation to you for your kind patronage and support. Without your kindly aid, we would be powerless to perform the duty we have assumed in publishing a journal. Youth-like, our hopes were ardent, our expectations great. To your liberality and confiding generosity are we compelled to acknowledge that thus far our success has much over-reached our most sanguine expectations.

In the glad some merry-making holidays, which will have been entered upon before another issue of this paper, let our fervently-felt best wishes for your happiness and joy be with you. Let that prayer of our's accompany you through life's journey. May many returns of this most happy anniversary be your lot, and may each succeeding one confer upon you an amount of pleasure equal to that we feel in wishing you well.

Banish for the time all feelings of personal rancor and hate. Lay aside all differences alienating you from friends. Thankful to God for his inestimable gift to our whole race, a gift which at one and the same time secured us our Model of Life, our Teacher of the Way to Heaven, our Saviour and Redeemer, from the tainting and corrupting influences of sin and death. Let us be guided by His divine precepts, teaching love to God and love to our neighbor. Let it be treasured in your recollection, that of all others this day was created for unalloyed happiness and pleasure. It belongs to all of us. Enjoy it, then, as best you may—wisely we trust—but be merry and rejoice, for we have great cause to be thankful.

We appreciate and admire that piety which finds comfort and its greatest joy in the outpouring of thankfulness for the great event Christmas is designed to commemorate; but we have no heart

to censure the course of others, who, of a different vein, "eat, drink and are merry," and thus attest their joy, feeling happy themselves, and "at peace with the whole world and the rest of mankind."

To each of you, we say, select the most satisfactory manner of attesting your own joy, without marring the happiness of others, or violating any obligation you owe to your own character or for the well-being of society; and whilst you are thus enjoying yourselves in the hilarities of the passing hour, give one thought to us, and remember that our most cordial feelings are with you—that it is no mere idle fashion of words which prompts us now to express to each of you that homely, but endeared wish, "A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YE ALL!"

THE FAIR.—The Fair held by the ladies of St. John's Episcopal Church, on Thursday and Friday evenings last, for the aid of their ministry, passed off admirably. A larger attendance than we remember to have witnessed in this place, greeted the fair ones, and we doubt not that the proceeds of their labor exceeded even their most sanguine expectations. The hall was tastefully festooned with flags and evergreens, which, together with the beautiful maidens, who so smilingly convinced us that they were very dear, combined to transport us to the fairy scenes described in the "Epicurean." The supper was well-arranged and bounteous, with almost every delicacy the mind could suggest. Dr. Eggers' Brass Band discoursed sweet music, and under its potent charms care seemed banished, and joy reigned supreme. We congratulate the ladies upon the success of their undertaking, and would express the wish that all they attempt will prove as satisfactory as the fair at the Washington Hall.

Too GOOD TO BE LOST.—A few days since, Col. Paul K. Hubbs visited the Puget Sound Institute. One of the young ladies read the *Bouquet*, a collection of literary contributions by the young misses. Among other contents, rich, racy and interesting, was the following conundrum: Why is the seat of government of Washington Territory like a wagon? Ans.—Because the Hubbs had to be turned before it could be moved.

After the exercises, the Colonel was called upon for remarks, and he concluded by assuring the ladies that if they desired the wagon to go along smoothly they must not bear too hard upon the Hubbs.

A friend who was present suggests that if the Hubbs were "greased" something might be gained.

We visited the St. John's Episcopal Sabbath School last Sabbath afternoon, and was agreeably surprised to witness the proficiency and decision with which some of the younger classes—mere children—answered questions in the catechism. Another feature, which we wish was more common, was a class of Indian boys, ranging in age from 10 to 16 years, who seemed to take almost if not quite as much interest in the exercises as the white children. We think if parents would occasionally visit the Sabbath Schools that great advantage would result.

It has long been a matter of surprise to us that more attention has not been bestowed by our missionaries upon the education of the Indians of this country. The command is "Go preach to every living creature," and we confess we do not know the meaning of Holy Writ if a true follower can neglect such an explicit command.

"IT'S BETTER TO LAUGH THAN TO CRY." The Pioneer has the nerve to perpetrate a pun at the expense of its defeated party, as follows:

A "DISMALISM."—The new broom that will sweep clean. A-brah'm!

There's a stoic for you! A democrat who would be guilty of penning the above would laugh at his grandfather's funeral, smile at his wife's outbursts of ill-temper, or witness the inauguration of Lincoln without thoughts of secession and disunion.

Abe's rails are serving to some purpose out here. We find even Federal officials on the fence. They hardly know whether to go over, and run the chances of obtaining pasturage, or tender their resignation to take place after the 4th March. A few of them "allers were Link-in democrats."

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.—We are happy to inform some of our friends at a distance that a three dollar piece can be transmitted in a letter at single postage.

### Divorces.

Is it not time for the people of Washington Territory, to raise their voices by Petition, remonstrance or otherwise, against the growing evil of the Legislative Assembly—granting Divorces? Legislatures are not the places to hear such applications, and how often does it happen that great wrongs are inflicted in consequence of these acts. But slender testimony is required to support the assertion of a member, who is interested in securing a divorce for a constituent, probably one to whom the member is under a weight of political obligation. The member who introduces the bill may be satisfied of its justice and propriety, but is it right, is it proper, that on mere statements of parties, the rights of the absent should be compromised, and great wrongs perpetrated upon innocent and helpless children, who until they are orphaned by a law passed without their knowledge, have been forever cast upon the world destitute alike of a legal protector, and of the support and protection which the law had secured to them?

Marriage is declared to be a contract. It continues or is supposed to continue until dissolved by death. It obligates the husband to support the wife, to maintain, protect and educate their offspring until they have arrived at the age of majority. It is necessary to be solemnized according to law in order to secure these benefits to all concerned. It raises the woman to the rank of wife; it secures to the child pride in parentage and creates in him the obligation of filial love; it makes society draw the line between virtue and all we adore in woman, on the one hand, and sensuality and prostitution on the other. Besides all this, it confers rights upon innocent and helpless third parties, who by its ordination, know to whom they must look for support and protection. For a mere contract between A and B, for a few paltry dollars, cannot be rescinded by the Legislature—the fundamental law wisely says, the validity of such a contract shall not be impaired. Your Constitution nobly proclaims, that property shall not be taken even to satisfy such a contract without due process of law. And yet without notice, without service of process, without being allowed to confront witnesses, on mere *ex parte* statements, this most vital of all contracts, this most solemn of all agreements, this most interesting of all bonds, because it secures the rights of children, and the claims of society, is frittered away.

Members consent to a divorce, not because they are satisfied a good cause exists, but because policy dictates the support of the measures of other members, to prevent opposition to a favorite measure or measures of their own. We ask, is this right? Thus is the most sacred of contracts rendered a mere nullity. We all condemn that horrid barbarity, the polygamy of Utah—a domestic institution which under the Kansas-Nebraska act, the people are allowed to settle for themselves. The exercising this right called *Popular Sovereignty*, assumes in this Territory an equally obnoxious type. A husband may grow tired of his wife, and of the duties of supporting his offspring. It will not do to restrain the freedom of the individual. The Legislature is asked to secure him his liberty; a wise provision of law says he shall not commit bigamy. The legislature removes this obstacle, the popular sovereign is free to violate the laws of God and man, and seek a new companion.

The same doctrine of "popular sovereignty" which curses the Territory of Utah with polygamy, is gaining strength in Washington Territory. If it leads to facility of avoiding the marriage contract, freedom to violate the marriage vows, repudiation of the offspring, and a new marriage, let us frown it down, before it becomes formidable.

Legislators of the Territory of Washington, we implore you to ponder and reflect upon the course which has been pursued. Are you aware that you are making our Territory a by-word and reproach, among civilized states? Are you aware that soon will be flocking hither from older states where the marriage contract is respected, and cannot thus easily be gotten rid of—a class of people who will but gain a residence, to enable them to repudiate their most solemn obligations? Are you aware that you are slandering our character, in the eyes of those who would migrate hither with growing families, who will avoid us as they would Utah, because we do not respect those great moral laws lying at the foundation and existence of every well regulated social community?

We trust therefore, that if any more Divorces based upon reasons, which would not, nor could not for a moment support them in Court, the only tribunal where they ought to be introduced, and (then only upon exceedingly aggravated causes) let them be hurried up at once, so that such legislative proceedings will close with this session. The House have organized a committee of five, who sit upon all such cases, and business of this character can be put through expeditiously. It would be wrong to deny any, and now is the time to be divorced. It is a matter of pain thus to speak, but our duty as public journalists, guarding the interests of the Territory, induce us to proclaim to the world, that if the majority of our people do not deprecate these things, a very respectable minority unhesitatingly and earnestly condemn, this growing evil.

### Reciprocity of Trade with British Columbia.

We have been shown by the Hon. J. A. Simms, the member of Council from the Walla Walla and Spokane District, a statement subscribed by a number of reliable American citizens, which is worthy of the attention of the Home Government. To render the matter intelligent, it must be remembered that the 49th parallel which is our Northern Boundary, runs through rich mineral country, lying between the Cascade mountains and the Columbia River, and that it is absolutely necessary that miners traveling to and from the different localities, must cross the parallel. American miners desiring to work in American mines have to traverse a small portion of British Territory, and British miners have to pass through a greater strip of our Territory to reach the mines in British Columbia. No United States officer is in the vicinity to guard the revenue, and thus, large quantities of English goods are passed through our Territory free of duty.

But Americans enjoy no such exemption. Every dollar's worth of merchandise, has to pay duties, although it is merely carried through British Territory, *en route*, for mines south of the Boundary line. A Custom House has been stationed near the line, and British officers are stationed there to make collections. Did these custom house officers stop at the collection of duties, there would be no just cause for complaint; but the following exorbitant taxes in the shape of Tonnage Dues, Road Tax, &c., are levied.

Road Tax.....	\$10.00
Tonnage Dues per Ton.....	3.00
Wagons (each).....	10.00
Single Teams (each).....	4.00
Horsemen.....	1.50

All Foreign goods brought into the United States, not regularly entered at the Custom House, are subject to seizure, and it would seem necessary that a Deputy U. S. Marshal might find work, if stationed near Fort Colville.

Our revenue laws should not be violated with impunity. But our business is now with the grievances of our fellow citizens, in being subjected to the above enormous taxes for merely passing through British Territory. We urgently implore the general Government to secure our people from such rapacity and oppression. If that be impossible, then we demand that British miners passing through our Territory should incur like restrictions. Such is the only method to protect our traders, and enable them even upon our own soil, to compete with British Columbians. The country in that vicinity is fast filling up. Some 400 American miners are at present wintering in the American mines. It cannot be expected that our people can long peacefully submit to the exaction of this tribute. To guard against future difficulty, and not endanger the peace between two nations, the National government must at once act.

THE BALL AT TUMWATER.—We learn that Mr. Carroll is making extensive preparations for the New Years' Ball, at his Hall at Tumwater. Mr. Carroll has the reputation of being the best caterer, in "these parts." We hope the beauty and fashion of Olympia will be well represented at the New Years' Ball at Tumwater.

DEATH OF A PIONEER.—Mr. F. C. Cason, died in Clackamas county, Oregon, recently. He was among the first emigrants who crossed the Plains for that State, where he has resided till his death.

The ladies of the Congregational and M. E. Churches, in Portland, recently gave suppers, at the Metropolitan Hotel, in aid of their respective churches.

THANKS.—To Capt. Fleming and W. L. Clancy Esq., for favors.

### Legislative Proceedings—Eighth Session.

REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE "STANDARD."

#### Council.

MONDAY DEC. 17.—Mr. Hubbs introduced a memorial for appropriation for a Military Road connecting Port Townsend and Fort Colville by a Road from Point Elliot *via* Cady's Pass at the head of Ski-wah-mish river. Read twice and ordered printed.

Mr. Caples—a memorial for appropriation to complete the Military Road from Steilacoom to Vancouver. Under a suspension of the rules this memorial received its three several readings and unanimously passed.

Mr. Caples—a memorial relating to the putting into operation the Land Office at Vancouver. This memorial passed its three several readings. It is proper to observe that on the 16th May 1860, a Land District called the Columbia River District was erected. And \$8,000 was appropriated to carry it into effect. For some reason probably the mission of Hon. J. I. Stevens of Oregon to Charleston or Baltimore, the appropriation Bill, made the expenses of officers payable out of proceeds of sale of public lands. Such provision rendered the law *inoperative*. We trust this memorial will secure the desired effect. The people of that vicinity are surely burdened by being obliged to bring their witnesses to Olympia.

The Council Territorial Bill and charter to E. W. Pierce and others, for Road from Walla Walla into the Clear-water mining country, and thence to intersect the road from Walla Walla to Fort Benton, was taken up. Amendments reported by committee on Corporation (Mr. Clark) being under consideration. The amendments change the Commissioners, and substitute Lycurgus Jackson, James Bradley and Joseph L. Davis; gives to the Counties through which it passes, certain restriction powers, and duration of the Charter. Its discussion consumed considerable time, a large part of which the whole were in committee of the Council, (Mr. Denny in the Chair.) Mr. Burbank, tried ineffectually to shorten the terms. The Bill as amended by Committee was passed.

Several memorials were passed, among which were the following:

One praying the appointment of an American Consul for Vancouver Island and British Columbia; and appropriation for military Road from Steilacoom to Bellingham Bay.—Then adjourned.

MONDAY DEC. 18.—Mr. Caples—an act to incorporate Columbia River Institute.

Mr. Caples—an act creating the office of Precinct Recorder and defining his duties.

The Pilotage Bill of Mr. Hubbs, was referred to Committee on Commerce.

Most of the morning was spent in consideration of the Bill for the reimbursement of Egbert H. Tucker Esq., Sheriff of Pierce County, for expenses of keeping Penitentiary convicts. This Bill asked for an appropriation of \$1,419 75. The Committee on claims reduced it to about \$1,150. Chief Justice McFadden, was called on to testify. Mr. Tucker's attention and public spirit was highly complimented by all. The amount of services were not disputed. The only objections were to the price of board per day, and the per diem of deputy Jailors. Mr. Clark worked faithfully to secure Mr. Tucker's whole claim, but the Committees allowance was adopted. This gave \$5, per week for board of each convict, and \$3, per day, to two assistant Jailors. On motion of Mr. Clark, the Treasury warrant draws 15 per cent interest from date of issue until paid. The Bill as amended was passed.

On motion of Mr. Denny the Committee on Judiciary were instructed to report a Bill providing for meeting the expenses of the care of Penitentiary convicts.

The House Bill restraining swine from running at large in Pierce County being taken up, on motion of Mr. Simms, extended to County of Walla Walla. On motion of Mr. Clark, so amended as to include the whole county, without regard to incorporated towns. Thus amended, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

After being engaged in the reference of certain Bills, to appropriate Committees, Council adjourned.

#### House.

MONDAY, DEC. 17.—Mr. Ferguson introduced a memorial asking an appropriation to complete a wagon road from Rockland to Fort Colville, *via* White Bluff.

Mr. Harris—a memorial for appropriation of \$20,000, to be expended on so much of military road from Steilacoom to Fort Vancouver as lies between Monticello and Olympia. This memorial, under suspension of the rules was passed.

Mr. Anderson presented the petition of Elizabeth Anderson for a divorce. On his motion it was referred to the Special Divorce Committee, with instructions to report a bill.

On motion of Mr. Hays, all memorials heretofore passed were directed to be enrolled and signed forthwith, so as to be dispatched by the Secretary of the Territory by steamer now daily looked for.

Mr. Hyatt—a memorial for appropriation for military road from Bellingham Bay to Fort Colville. Read third time and passed.

Mr. Berry—an act relating to printing of laws—limiting the time of exe-

cution of the printing to forty days after adjournment, and making deductions from pay in event of failure to conform to this act.

Mr. Ferguson—a House Resolution for inquiring as to the condition of certain printing ordered by the House Adopted.

Mr. Hyatt moved to abolish special committee on Divorce. Lost, by the decisive vote of 7 to 20.

House took up and passed memorial praying the appointment of an American Consul at Vancouver's Island.

After discussing and passing several divorce bills, the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, DEC. 18.—Mr. Ferguson introduced a bill authorizing Thomas Howe to establish a ferry on the Columbia river at White Bluffs.

The motion of Mr. Berry in regard to printing of the laws, referred, on motion of Mr. Hale, to committee on Printing.

The memorial of Mr. Hyatt, relating to defenses upon Puget Sound and praying for two war steamers to be stationed thereon, was taken up. Mr. Hyatt addressed the House at length, and earnestly invoked the attention of the Government to our numerous grievances, and to our claims upon it for protection. He asserted that we should have at least two men-of-war on the North-west coast and Puget Sound—one equal in men and metal to any in the British service, the other a fleet screw-steamer, of light draft of water, constantly guarding our settlements from attacks of Northern Indians. These vessels to be independent of any other service. He alluded to the murder of Schroter and others, and the proceedings in regard to the extradition of the murderers. The speaker then reviewed at length the policy of the British and Hudson's Bay authorities towards Americans, the taking of the boy Charley from the steamer *Eliza Anderson*, in the harbor of Victoria, and finally, their absurd claim for the Island of San Juan. [While we recognize as true very much of what was said by the speaker, we doubt the policy of indulging in language of censure against the British authorities. We trust, however, that our Government will never surrender the island of San Juan to what we conceive to be the ill-founded claim of Great Britain.] In reviewing the history of the Oregon Controversy, we were struck with the condemnatory language which Mr. Hyatt used for that blunder of James Buchanan, then Secretary of State, in surrendering so much of "Oregon."

[We would insert Mr. Hyatt's remarks at length, had we the space to do so. Aside from the censorious language, it is a very creditable effort.]

Mr. Bowles introduced a resolution in regard to the refusal of Legislature to receive certain printed matter.

Mr. Coupe introduced a new license law, providing a graduated license from \$50 to \$400, to be fixed by County Commissioners.

Mr. Cannady—an act to create the county of Shoshone. The new county embraces all of Washington Territory that is, the land excluded from Oregon when constituted a State, which never was included in any county organization, and lies south of the 46th parallel, and east of Snake river. The Commissioners of Walla Walla are authorized to establish precincts and appoint officers to conduct the next general election, and on the qualification of such officers, the act goes into effect. Failing to hold such election, the territory referred to is annexed to Walla Walla county.

The memorial for wagon road from Rockland to Fort Colville passed.

The House indefinitely postponed a license law, leaving amount discretionary with County Commissioners. This bill was introduced by Mr. Coupe some days ago. The bill to-day introduced differs in its provisions, as will be seen above.

The House passed the bill authorizing Messrs. Jackson and Buckley to establish a ferry across Snake river; also the bill for Territorial road from Vancouver to Cascades; also the acts amending the Olympia and Vancouver charters; also the Council memorial praying the appointment of a Commissioner to treat with the Nez Perce Indians, for a change of boundaries in their reservation; also two bills legalizing certain acts of J. J. H. Van Bokkelen, as Notary Public and County Auditor of Jefferson county; also County Joint Resolution, praying that "Harney Depot" may be established as a military post; and also the Council Memorial for the establishment of Land Offices at Vancouver.

Then adjourned.

Many of the leading citizens of the State were present at Salem, says an Oregon paper, when the electors met and cast their votes for President and Vice President. Three heavy guns were fired in honor of the occasion. Three cheers by the crowd were given for Lincoln and Hamlin, and three cheers for the Electors. The national flag waved proudly over the Capitol of the State, and no vile and discordant note of secession and treason was heard.

We learn that Wm. H. Weeks, one of the Electors, was chosen by the Republican Electors of California, to carry the vote of that State to Washington.