

Portland O.T.
Monday 15th Oct-1855

Ed Statesman

My Dr Sir--

I perceive you have a regular & reliable correspondent in our old friend ("The from Wasco") at the seat of War; hence I will not anticipate his information, nor inflict needless repetition on the readers of The Statesman. A few thots however in relation the the War Spirit here may not be amiss.

One item of news obtained by The Bell which brot down the news of Haller's Retreat, I see has been entirely omitted & perhaps dis--ly by the Portland papers. She reported having seen bands of apparently hostile Indians in and around the Cascades. (Cascade City I mean) whether this piece of information has been suppressed for fear of disturbing the nerves of the Portland grannies of both sexes I shall not venture an opinion.

With some difficulty, & a good deal of ---ming Multnomah has furnished her contingent to the volunteer force. They organised on Saturday by elccting Mr. Wilson as Sheriff Captain- Mr. Pillow of the firm of Pillow & Drew 2nd Lieutenant- Mr. Shubruk Norris was honored with a corporal's commission. In the evening they proceeded on the steamer to Vancouver for the purpose of arming and equipping- but it is rumored that the arms were withheld from them in consequence of their refusing to act under the command of the U.S. Military officers- and Gov Curry has gone over today to try and effect a reconciliation:- I have not yet learned with what success. It is a deplorable fact that our effete army are as much the creatures of the abominable red tape formalities as if they belonged to the Queen Mother of England. I trust our boys will take the arms and duck the red tape gentlemen in the Columbia if they resist. The Volunteers from Wash & Clark intend to pursue the same course-namely not subject themselves to red tape formality & officership.

This may look a little like the territory going to war on its own hook, but certainly we think we are excusable for acting upon the defensive- especially when the circumstances of the case demand it as it does now. Forty additional names have been enrolled yesterday (Sunday) towards forming a reserve company by this county: and it is a fact worthy of note that very few of the denizens of trade or the professional gentlemen in with which this city abounds have enlisted in either company! or gone forth to defend their homes against the savage!

Now, as ever, commercial men, & commercial communities are unpatriotic: Now, as ever, it is to the arm of the agriculturist,- whose right hand is daily hardened with the bodily toil that gives him bread- the county will be indebted for its protection.

While upon this simple fact, trivial and un---able in itself, my mind instinctively wanders down the tide of time to the commercial Republics of Venice & Greece, and methinks I can see a reason for their short duration- what I cannot help contrasting with the venerable age and recuperative energies of Agricultural which has stood

since the 15th century against "the tooth of time" & the age of despotism. And with such philosophy of history before our eyes how must we admire the policy of Democratic America which has sought from the beginning to make her people an agricultural rather than a manufacturing & commercial people. How too does the Democratic policy of protecting later against capital recommend itself to us? and come home to our hearts in such an hour as this? We see that it is labor alone- the brawny muscle bone and sinew of the tillers of the soil- that goes forth to fight our battles. That is patriotism! That is the patriot! Political patriots- statesman patriots are very good, but after all the true test of patriotism is the soldiers. Others may be willing to serve their country- he is willing to lay down his life for it. But I must not preach a homily on this head- my object was simply to draw the readers attention to the instructive lesson which may be learned by observing the cars of men who fight our battles- leaving his own mind to draw the natural deduction. It seems the war party of last year are all dead- except Dryer and he might as well be for he is inefficient! Where is Dr Henry? Where is Logan? Where is Condon? Gov Curry is on hand now Why don't they come forward? or has their patriotism died out with their political existence? Ah! there is nothing to be made now by blethering- that only is effective now which can bore a siwash or out him down, and professional gentlemen not being used to such speech making have thrown themselves back upon their professional dignity. Well let them go: we think the county will be saved without them. -----A -----

Private.

Friend Bush

All your private letters &c will be acknowledged & some remittance sent by next mail.- I had a "confab" with Old Jo when he was here- the substance of it you shall here in du time. Meanwhile I think he is not at all sanguine of Stearns. You understand me I have in my hands the following of your money which I would send now but I am advised not to send any by Lafayette. Shiply says he mailed the lost letter. H.C. Sturtevant \$2.50 W G Ogden \$5.00 and \$5 of another whose name I forget but will find out. I think I will get Col King's \$10 also and send it all by the Canyon City mail next Saturday.

Your materials did not arrive on the Columbia at her last trip. You may set me down as The Statesman Rep. for at least the first month of the session. And for the whole session if it can be made pay in proportion to the amount of labor which it -if not I intend going to Rep The K N Legislature of Cal by the Christmas holidays. I am necessitated to do this for I intend to go back to America and civilisation next spring

Yrs

P. Malone