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THE PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE.

"EVERY DIFFERENCE OF OPINION IS NOT A DIFFERENCE OF PRINCIPLE."—JEFFERSON.

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Poetry.

For the People's Advocate.

TO HELEN.

You've seen the cloud at close of day—
A dark, forboding, shapeless thing,
'Till, tinged by sunset's glowing ray,
A thousand beauties on it spring.

But soon those varied tints are gone—
A moment lingering, brighter grows,
And then forever they have flown,
To leave the cloud in dark repose.

Even so has been my stream of life,
As dark and gloomy as that cloud:
A busy chain of turmoil, strife,
And every link with pain endowed.

But Helen, dear, the pencil took,
And dipt it in refulgent light—
Both pain and sorrow I could brook,
If she the darkened edges dyed.

SINBAD.

Christ in the Tempest.

BY J. G. WHITTIER.

Storm on the heaving waters!—The vast sky
Is stooping with its thunder. Cloud on cloud,
Rolls heavily in the darkness, like a shroud
Shaken by midnight's Angels from on high.
Through the thick sea-mist faintly and afar,
Chorazin's watch-light glimmers like a star,
And, momently, the ghastly cloud-fires play
On the dark sea-wall of Capernaum's bay,
And tower and turret into light spring forth
Like spectres starting from the storm-swept earth;
And vast and awful, Tabor's mountain form,
Its Titan forehead naked to the storm,
Towers for one instant, full and clear, and then
Blends with the blackness and the cloud again.

And it is very terrible!—The roar
Ascendeth unto heaven, and thunders back,
Like the response of demons, from the black
Rifts of the hanging tempest—yawning o'er
The wild waves in their torment. Hark!—the cry
Of strong men in peril, piercing through
The uproar of the waters and the sky,
As the rent barkque one moment rides to view,
On the tall billows, with the thunder-cloud
Closing around, above her, like a shroud!

He stood upon the reeling deck—His form
Made visible by the lightning, and His brow
Pale, and uncovered to the rushing storm,
Told of a triumph man may never know—
Power undefined and mighty—"PEACE—BE STILL!"
The waves heard Him, and the storm's loud tone
Went moaning into silence at His will:
And the thick clouds, where yet the lightning shone,
And slept the latent thunder, rolled away,
Until no trace of tempest lurked behind
Changing upon the pinions of the wind
To stormless wanderers, beautiful and gay.

Dread Ruler of the Tempest! Thou before
Whose presence boweth the uprisen storm,
To whom the waves do homage round the shore
Of many an island empire!—if the form
Of the frail dust beneath Thine eye, may claim
Thy infinite regard—oh, breathe upon
The storm and darkness of man's soul the same
Quiet, and peace, and humbleness, which came
O'er the roused waters, where thy voice had gone
A minister of power—to conquer in Thy name.

Miscellaneous.

From the Public Ledger.

Curiosities at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19, 1846.

I examined to-day a single case in the National Gallery, over the Patent Office.—But before I proceeded to do so, the models of statuary which strike the eye as you enter this magnificent Hall, engaged my attention. The statue of Washington, by Petrich, is the first object of attraction as you enter. Being merely a model, it is of course in plaster, but is not the less interesting for that. It is in military costume, and cloak, gracefully thrown from the shoulders, and right hand, with scroll, extended. On the right hand of this statue is an admirable bust of Jackson, and on the left another of Van Buren. Equally admirable busts of Forsyth, Clay, J. C. Spencer and Poinsett, are also placed in the same company. Statues of Wisdom and Justice, Morality and Liberty, are the presiding deities of the group.

"Sleeping Innocence," by Pettrich, is a beautiful model, occupying a case directly in front of the statue of Washington, in company with a "Sleeping Child," by the same sculptor. These, as well as those above referred to, are all the original models. "Sleeping Innocence," a full length female figure, was executed in Rome in 1838. It reposes on a couch, the right side of the face gracefully resting on the bosom, and the slight drapery thus high covering the whole person. The left hand rests on the breast, and the right arm encircles a young lamb. The model of the sleeping child is perfect, and was executed in Philadelphia in 1841. Every married lady who visits the Gallery has at home a child exactly like it! Busts of Pettrich, wife, and eight children, are all said to be excellent. "Disappointed Love," which the ladies have voted out of the hall, is a most chaste and beautiful design—a reclining figure resting on the right arm and elbow, the drapery partially thrown over the person, covering the left arm, right wrist and hand, left leg and foot, and thence thrown gracefully over the lower part of the right. The model, in every respect, is perfect.

The "Fisherman's Daughter," by Pettrich, is also much admired. Reclining posture, resting on the left hand, fishing rod in right, with fishes and shells by side, covered with drapery gracefully arrayed. The "Young Hunter," by the same. Sitting posture, left arm and hand resting on left knee, bow in hand, arrows and game by side, drapery wolf skin, held at throat in right hand, covering the breast to the throat on which the hand rests, and the person downward and right leg and foot. The posture is exceedingly graceful.

Of the innumerable curiosities in this hall, arrayed in cases of some fifteen feet in length, by ten in height and five in breadth, I was able to examine but one during the two hours which I passed to-day in the gallery. It was case No. 24, and contains the celebrated gold Snuff Box, presented by the Emperor Alexander to Levett Harris, Esq. when Charge d'Affaires at St. Petersburg. This box contains, in the letter A on its lid, 100 small diamonds. This diamond letter is encircled also by 35 large diamonds, and about 80 of the same size ornament the edges of the lid, altogether about 215 valuable diamonds. The box is beautifully chased, is of the highest finish, and is valued at $6000. It now contains the two large pearls mentioned below, presented by the Imaum of Muscat to President Van Buren.

The same case contains a Sword, with a scabbard of gold, presented by the Viceroy of Peru to Commodore Biddle; a gold medal struck by order of the Senate of Hamburg, at the third centennial commemoration of the establishment of their constitution and the Lutheran religion, presented by order of the Senate to Mr. Cuthbert, Consul of the United States at Hamburg; a silver Medal, a duplicate of the foregoing, and presented as above; a gold Medal, commerative of the delivery from assassination of the Liberator, General Boliver, President of Colombia, presented by him to President Jackson; ten statues, presented by Ali Bacha, Bey of Egypt, to Capt. Perry and other officers of the United States ship Concord, when at Alexander, in 1832; a model of the King of Sweden, Bernadotte, in cast iron; gold Medals struck in Peru in 1821 and 1828; a gold Medal of Napoleon Buonaparte; four silver Medals of Napoleon Buonaparte; two Rio de la Plata Dollars, dated 1813; a Turkish Sword in a Damascus blade; a Gun ornamented with gold; a Gun ornamented with silver and coral, all presented to President Jefferson by the Emperor of Morocco; seven gold coins of Roman Emperors; a pair of Pistols, of Mahogany or Walnut stocks, and barrels of meteoric rock; a fowling-piece in a mahogany case; two medals in cast iron, presented by the Society of Beneficence of Cracrow, to the President of the United States, Mr. Monroe; a shawl, presented to the wife of Lieut. A. H. Foote, U. S. N. by the Imaum of Muscat; a scimetar, presented to Com. Elliot, during his command in the Mediteranean; five shawls, one sword, one string of pearls, valued at $3500, three demijohns of rose-water, one Persian carpet, two horse-covers, two large pearls, and one bottle of atta of rose, all presented by the Imaum of Muscat, to the President of the United States, Mr. Van Buren, (this atta of rose is of the purest quality, in quantity about a pint, and in value three times that of gold;) one case of coins of Morocco, one silver Medal, "Revolution Belge, 1830;" the original Declaration of the thirteen U. States of America; the original commission as Commander-in-Chief of Gen. George Washington; treaties (original) between the United States and Great Britain, George Prince Regent, 1814; U. States and France Louis 16th, 1778; U. States and Buonaparte, 1st Consul, 1803; U. States and Louis 18th, 1822; U. States and Louis Philippe, 1831; U. States and Charles John, King of Sweden; United States and Russia, Alexander; U. States and Austria, Francis 1st; U. States and Spain, Ferdinand; United States and Brazil, Don Pedro; U. States and Russia, Frederick William; U. States and Turkey; together with numerous standard and weights and measures, English, French, and American, and Medals of John Q. Adams, Horatio Gates, Nathaniel Greene, and Daniel Morgan, three gold and fine silver Peruvian medals, and one Turkish sabre. I have noticed this case thus particularly, because it is considered one of the most interesting in the collection. These articles were deposited under a resolution of Congress, by Mr. Webster, then Secretary of State, 1841. The case contains, in addition to the articles above enumerated, Washington's Camp Chest, containing 6 tin plates, 3 tin dishes, 3 tin sauce-pans with handles, 1 tin coffee boiler with handles, 1 tin cannister, for tea, and 1 for sugar, 1 tin candlestick and tinder box, 1 iron gridiron (a curiosity,) 2 glass quart bottles, (one containing salt,) 2 glass pint bottles, (one containing honey,) 5 glass bottles for pepper, &c. 1 brown earthern tea-pot, 1 glass tumbler, 2 knives and forks,—leaving five empty spaces in the chest. Also, the coat, vest, and breeches worn by Washington when he resigned his commission at Annapolis, 1783. The coat is a blue broadcloth, facings of buff with plain brass buttons, vest and breeches of buff, also with plain brass buttons. The sword worn by Washington at Braddock's defeat, and throughout the Revolution, with green hilt and silver-mounted, occupies the same case, as does also the crabb walking staff, with gold head, presented in his last will by Franklin to Washington, and part of the smaller or sleeping tent of Washington, venerable and sacred as the canopy that sheltered the Father of his Country in the day of his country's peril, and as having formed within its canvass walls the principal place to which the Chief retired to compose the most important despatches, and offer up his prayers to the God of battles, during the war of the revolution. J.

The "Traitor Arnold."

A writer in the New Haven Palladium gives some of the closing incidents in the life of this remarkable man—as remarkable for his bravery as his treachery—which, though not new, may be interesting to our readers. The writer says:

"The close of Arnold's ignominious career was characterized by the loss of caste and the respect of everybody. A succession of personal insults followed his treason, and deep abiding retribution was fully meted out to the degraded culprit long before he died.

An elderly lady, of cultivated mind, resides in Massachusetts, whose early social intimacy with Arnold and his family, at St. Johns, New Brunswick, gave her peculiar opportunities for knowing many details concerning the close of his miserable career.—Subsequent to the termination of the Revolutionary war, and after the perpetration of various atrocities against his countrymen, Arnold went to England and received a commission in the British army. He was frowned upon by the officers, and everywhere received with contempt, if not indignation. Various public insults were offered to him, and in private life he was the object of perpetual scorn.

Soon after, Arnold threw up his commission in the army in disgust, and removed to St. Johns. He there engaged in the West India trade, becoming as notorious for his depravity in business as he had before been false to his country; his integrity was suspected at various times, and on one occasion during his absence, his store was consumed, upon which had been effected an enormous insurance. The Company suspected foul play, and a legal contest was the result.—During the trial popular odium against Arnold increased, and manifested itself by a succession of mobs and the burning of him in effigy. During this painful scene his family were greatly distressed, and the lady to whom allusion has been made, and who resided near Arnold's house, was requested to go and pass that trying interval of time with them. That request, in the fair handwriting of Mrs. Arnold, until recently was in my possession, as well as a copy of a satirical handbill describing Arnold's life, hundreds of which were circulated among the populace during his trial. Mrs. Arnold in her note says, "the General is himself to-day," meaning that he bore the insults with his usual firmness; but she was alarmed herself, and wished for the presence of some female friend during the painful scene that followed.

The proof was not enough to condemn Arnold, but there was enough detected of foul play to vitiate his policy. From that time the situation of Arnold, at St. Johns, became even more uncomfortable, and that of his family distressing. Mrs. A. was treated with great respect and kindness, but he was both shunned and despised. She was a lady of great delicacy and refinement, with a mind cultivated with more than ordinary care, and of course, her sufferings were rendered acute by the imputations against her husband's integrity, aside from his treasan. They shortly left St. Johns and went to England, where Arnold became lost to the public eye, and died in degradation and obscurity.

There is a moral connected with the history of Benedict Arnold which should be deeply impressed upon the youth of this country. He was headstrong, disobedient and vindictive in early life, and often painfully wounded a fond mother's heart. In mature years, the same characteristics were visible, strengthened by power and rendered perilous by the absence of moral principle, and self-control. He died as he lived, a man of ungovernable passions, destitute of integrity, deeply depraved and without ever having openly repented of his heinous offences.

OREGON.

The great question of the northern boundary of Oregon being now settled by the treaty with Great Britain, the occupation of that territory by an American population will probably go on with rapidity and steadiness. It is manifestly the duty of the friends of christian institutions, to see that this germ of a new empire is supplied from the beginning with a healthful moral influence; and the determination of the American Home Missionary Society to send two pioneer missionaries beyond the Rocky Mountains, as as soon as practicable, will by no one be regarded as premature.

The present general desire for authentic information respecting Oregon, induces us to republish the following article from the New York Journal of Commerce. It was written by Rev. Mr. Hines, who for several years resided in Oregon as a missionary of the Methodist Episcopal church.—*Home Missionary.*

Mr. Hines describes the Oregon Territory as bounded northerly 120 miles by Puget Inlet, and from the eastern termination of that Inlet by a ridge of mountains which divides the waters of Frazer's river from those which flow into the Columbia,—said ridge extending in a direction East-North-East to the Rocky Mountains.

The Pacific coast which falls to us under the Treaty, is about 450 miles in length, extending from lat. 42 deg. to Cape Flattery at the entrance of Puget Inlet. Along the Inlet we have a "water front" of 120 miles; making a total of near 600 miles of coast, without including the gulf which projects from the east end of Puget Inlet, far to the Southward, commonly called Admiralty Inlet. These two Inlets—the latter of which is wholly ours—contain a plenty of good habors, and they are the only good harbors we possess on that coast. South of Cape Flattery, the only harbor which a ship can enter, is the mouth of Columbia river, and *that*, as all our readers know, is difficult of access, and often extremely dangerous.

The area of surface embraced within American Oregon as defined by the Treaty, is more than six times that of the state of New-York. From Mr. Hines' description of it we now proceed to quote, in his own words. The reader will observe that the country about Puget Sound, which has been generally described as an excellent agricultural district, is represented by Mr. Hines as extremely barren, although "level and exceedingly beautiful." Strictly speaking, he says, there is *no soil*. The prairies are covered with shingle, or small stones, with scarcely any admixture of earth. Indeed there are but few places on this somewhat extensive tract, where any thing can be raised. And this, be it observed, is the tract, or district, about which two nations have been disputing these thirty years, and for the possession of which they have at times been in imminent danger of incurring the direst calamities.

The face of this country (says Mr. Hines) is wonderfully diversified, and presents every variety of scenery, from the most awfully grand and sublime to the most beautiful and picturesque in nature. In the vicinity of Puget's Sound the country is level and exceedingly beautiful, and consists mostly of prairie land, with but a small portion of timber; but, with this exception, all along the coast it is broken and mountainous. On approaching the coast at the mouth of the Columbia river, ridges of high lands appear on either hand as far as the eye can reach, and the more elevated points serve as land marks to guide the mariner through the intricate channel across the fearful "Bar of the Columbia." One high mountain called by the Indians "Swalalahoost," from an Indian tradition, and from its appearance, is supposed to have once been an active volcano. With but little variation the country from thirty to fifty miles back from the coast present a rough, wild and mountainous aspect, and is covered with dense forests, fir, spruce and cedar trees. Passing over this broken border of the country, you descend on the north side of the Columbia into the valley of the Cowilitz, and on the south into that of the Wallamette river. These valleys extend eastward to that range of mountains which, crossing the Columbia river, forms the Cascades, and is therefore called the "Cascade Mountains." Comprised in these vallies are many extensive prairies, beautiful woodlands, numberless hillocks, rising grounds and majestic hills, from the top of some of which, scenery as enchanting as was ever presented to the eye, delights and charms the lover of nature who takes time to visit their conical summits. That part of Oregon extending from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, is called the "Lower Country," and is about one hundred and thirty miles wide.

The Cascade Mountains extend in one continuous range, parallel with the coast, quite to California, and have therefore some times been called the "California Range." Those whose mountain observations have not been extensive, can form no just conceptions of the grandeur and magnificence of this stupendous range. The highest peaks are covered with eternal snows, and presenting their round peaks to the heavens, appear like so many magnificent domes to adorn the great temple of nature. Some of them are more than fifteen thousand feet above the level of the sea. From one elevation, near the Wallamette river, and from sixty to one hundred and fifty miles distant, the writer counted eight of these snow capped mountains without moving from his tracks. Surely no sight can be more enchanting.—One of these mountains, viz: St. Helen, requires a more particular account, as a phenomenon which it presented three years ago. In the month of October, 1842, this mountain was discovered all at once, to be covered with a dense cloud of smoke, which continued to enlarge and move off in dense masses to the eastward, and filling the heavens in that direction, presented an appearance very much like that of a tremendous conflagration, viewed at a vast distance. When the smoke had passed away, it could be distinctly seen, from various parts of the country, that an eruption had taken place on the north side of St. Helen; and from the smoke that continued to issue from the chasm or crater, it was pronounced to be a volcano in active operation. When the explosion took place vast quantities of dust or ashes were thrown from the chasm and fell in showers for many miles distant. This mountain is the most regular in its form, and most beautiful in its appearance of all the snow clad mountains of Oregon, and though on the north side of the Columbia, it belongs to the Cascade Range. Mount Hood, on the south side of the Columbia, is more elevated than St. Helen, and presents a magnificent object on which the eye can gaze without weariness, from innumerable points more than one hundred and fifty miles from its base. By any description of these gigantic piles of Basalt and snow must fall far below the reality; and it is only necessary to gaze for one moment upon the majestic glaziers, to be impressed with the insignificance of the works of art, when compared with the works of nature.

Passing over the Cascade Range to the eastward, you come into another extensive valley, which reaches to the foot of another range which from its azure like appearance, is called the "Blue Mountains." This valley is about two hundred miles broad, and is called the "middle country." A number of beautiful rivers flow through this valley, and it is also intersected by broken ridges, which divide the numerous streams by which it is watered. This part of the country abounds in extensive plains and "prairie hills," but timber is so very scarce, that the eye of the traveler is seldom delighted with the appearance of a tree. The "Blue Mountains" are steep, rocky and volcanic, and some of them are covered with perpetual snow.

They run nearly parallel with the Cascade Range, though, far to the South, branches of them intersect with the latter range. They are about midway betwixt the Pacific Ocean and the Rocky Mountains. The country east of the "Blue Mountains," is the third, or upper region, and extends to the eastern boundary of the Territory of Oregon. The face of it is more varied if possible, than it is in that part of the country lying west of the "Blue Mountains," the southern part being distinguished by its steep and rugged mountains, deep and dismal vallies, called "Holes," by the mountaineers, and wide gravelly plains.

The northern part is less objectionable in its features; the plains being more extensive the mountains less precipitous, and the vallies not so gloomy. Many portions of this upper region are volcanic, and some of the volcanoes are in constant action. Many of the plains of this region are covered with carbonate of soda, which, in some places, may be gathered in vast quantities, and renders the soil generally unproductive. On the eastern limits of this region, rise in awful grandeur the towering summits of the Rocky Mountains, which are very properly called the "back bone" of North America. The highest land in North America is in this range, and is near the 53d parallel of north latitude. It is called "Brown's Mountain."

Near this, and in a tremendous gorge of the mountains, one of the principal branches of the Columbia takes its rise. In this region the country presents the wildest and most terrific appearance.

Stupendous glaciers, and chaotic masses of rocks, ice and snow, present themselves on every side, and defy the power of language fully to describe them.

So far as the face of this entire country is concerned, perhaps no other in the world presents a more varied or a more interesting appearance.

The climate of Oregon varies materially as you proceed from the coast into the interior. To a proper understanding of the climate, it is necessary to consider the winter and summer separately. The winds which prevail in the winter are from the South and East, sometimes veering to the Southwest. They usually commence about the first of November, and continue till the first of May.

Sometimes they come on gradually, but at some seasons, they burst upon the country at once, and with the violence of a thunder storm. They are always attended with continued falls of rain and the period of their continuance is therefore called the rainy season. During the rainy season there are intervals of warm pleasant weather, which are generally followed by cold chilly rains from the South and West. In the latter part of winter there are generally light falls of snow throughout the country, though in the vallies, and particularly the Wallamette valley, it seldom falls more than two or three inches deep. However, in the winter of 1841 and '42, the snow fell in this valley 12 inches deep, but eight days afterwards it had all disappeared.

Though the winters are disagreeble on account of the chilliness of the southeast winds, and the extreme humidity of the atmosphere, yet the cold is very moderate, the thermometer seldom falling below freezing point. As a matter of course the ground is seldom frozen, and therefore ploughing can be done a great portion of the winter. Occasionally, however, there is an exception to this. A few days before the great fall of snow already mentioned, the mercury fell in some parts of the country, to fifteen degrees below zero; and it continued excessively cold for several days. The lakes were all frozen so that cattle and horses could pass over them on the ice, and the Columbia river as far down as the mouth of the Wallemette, was bridged with ice for the period of fifteen days. A similar circumstance occurred in the winter of 1845.

In the middle region the rains are not so abundant as in the lower country; the weather is colder, and there is consequently more snow. In that portion of Oregon east of the "Blue Mountains," called the upper region, it seldom rains except in the Spring, and then the rains are not protracted. Vast quantities of snow fall in this region, particularly in the mountains. This part of the territory is distinguished for the extreme dryness of its atmosphere, which with the vast difference in the temperature betwixt day and night, forms its most peculiar trait, so far as climate is concerned. From sunrise till noon, the mercury frequently rises from forty to sixty degrees.

It should be observed that none of the winters of Oregon are either so stormy or so cold, but that cattle, horses, sheep, &c., find ample supplies of provender on the wide spread prairies, whither they are driven to roam at large.

If the winters of Oregon are rather stormy and unpleasant, the summers are sufficiently delightful to counterbalance all that is disagreeable in the winters.

In the month of March the weather becomes sufficiently warm to start vegetation, so that thus early, the prairies become beautifully green and many of Flora's choicest gifts appear to herald the approach of summer. The summer winds are from the West and North, and there is seldom any pleasant weather except when these prevail. After a long rainy winter, the people of this country look for the healthy and exhilarating breeze from the bosom of the Pacific, with solicitude. At length the wished for change takes place. The howl of the storm, and roar of the southern winds, are hushed to silence; the hills and valleys are gently fanned by the western Zephyr, and the sun, pouring his floods of light and heat from a cloudless sky, causes nature, as by enchantment, to enrobe herself in all the glories of summer. The delightful weather thus ushered in, continues through the entire summer, with but little deviation, and the temperature of the atmosphere, particularly in the Wallamette valley, is agreeably warm and uniform. At noon in the warmest days the thermometer ranges at about 82 deg. in the shade, but the evenings are considerably cooler. The coolness of the evenings doubtless goes far to neutralize the effects of the miasma that is exhaled through the influence of the sun, from the swamps and marshy places, which are found in some parts of the country. From personal experience and extensive observation in reference to this particular, the writer is prepared to express the opinion, that the climate of Oregon is decidedly favorable to health. And why should it not be? The temperature, particularly in the lower country, is remarkably uniform. The country is not therefore subject to the evils of sudden changes from extreme heat to extreme cold. The exhilarating ocean breeze, which sets in almost every day during the summer, contributes greatly to purify the atmosphere.—These circumstances connected with the fact, that there is but little decaying vegetable matter in the country, and but a few dead swamps and marshes to send forth their poisonous miasma, to infect the surrounding regions, are sufficient to show that Oregon must be the abode of health, and that human life is as likely to be protracted, and men to die of old age in this country as in any other portion of the world. Indeed, such is the healthiness of the climate of this country, that but very few white persons have sickened and died since its occupancy by such, more than thirty years ago. Yet with these facts before them, there are persons who are willing to publish far and near that the climate of Oregon, and particularly of the lower country, is "decidedly unhealthy. That the most malignat and fatal fevers prevail," than which no representation could be more erroneous.

True the ague and fever in a very modified form, sometimes prevails in the lower country; but it is easily controlled by proper remedies, and finally leaves the person with a vigorous and an unimpaired constitution, and seldom returns the second season. Those persons who have lived longest in the country, are generally the most healthy and vigorous; which is of itself a proof of the friendliness of the climate to the promotion of health. If there is any difference between the different portions of Oregon in regard to the healthiness of its climate, the middle region and that immediately along the coast, are the most salubrious. The climate of the valleys of the Wallamette, Cowlitz, Umpqua, and Clameth rivers is well calculated for wheat, barley, oats, peas, apples, peaches, potatoes, turnps, and other vegetables usually cultivated in the temperate latitudes, while horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, &c., flourish and multiply beyond all parallel; but in the middle and some parts of the upper region, the climate is well adapted to all the pursuits of a pastoral life.

With a uniform, salubrious, and delightful climate, as well adapted to purposes of agriculture as any within the same degrees of latitude in any part of the world, Oregon loses much of its importance, if the *fertility* of the *soil* does not correspond with the nature of the climate.

The soil of Oregon has been variously represented by persons who have visited the country. Some have viewed it in altogether too favorable a light, while others have greatly underrated it. Some have placed it among the first in the world, while others have considered it a boundless desert, fit only to be the habitation of wild beasts and savage men. These conflicting representations doubtless have arisen from a superficial acquintance with the country by the authors of them. They have either not stayed in the country a sufficient length of time to become acquainted with its real productiveness, or they have relied upon that information which has been artfully designed to prevent the country from being known.

[illegible] of the Columbia river, are subject to an annual inundation which is occasioned by the melting of the vast quantities of snow which fall on its upper branches, among the mountains. This flood continues through the month of June and into July, so that whatever may be the richness of the land thus overflown, but small portions of it will be brought to contribute to the support of man. There are however some portions which lie above high water, are remarkably fertile, and produce in abundance all the grains and vegetables common to the best parts of the country.—Fort Vancouver is situated on one of these higher parts of the Columbia valley, and here a farm of two thousand acres is cultivated, and produces annually several thousand bushels of grain. Here also apples, pears, and peaches are cultivated successfully, and grapes are brought to a degree of perfection.

Though but few attempts have as yet been made to cultivate the uplands, or timbered lands, yet sufficient has been done to prove that the soil of these portions must be of a superior quality. And indeed this is attested by the immense growth of the timber itself. No inferior soil could send forth those enormous trunks, which in their upward progress spread their magnificent branches to the skies, and often rear their heads to the amazing height of three hundred feet.

Clatsop Plains, on the south side of the Columbia river, near its mouth, embracing an area of about sixty square miles, are amazingly fertile, being composed of a rich alluvial deposit, and producing all kinds of vegetables in the greatest abundance. The country around Puget's Sound on the north side of the river, is altogether of a different character. The prairies are extensive and beautiful. The scenery most delightful, but strictly speaking, there is *no soil* to the country. The prairies are covered with shingle or small stones, with scarcely any mixture of earth. Indeed there are but few places on this somewhat extensive tract, where any thing can be raised. Attempts have been made to redeem it from its native barrenness, but as yet they have all failed.

The Hudson's Bay Company transported some of their surplus population at Red river to this region, but in consquence of the sterility of the country they soon became discouraged, and, though contrary to the wishes of the Company they have abandoned the place and have settled elsewhere.—And yet this region has been represented as distinguished alike for the salubrity of its climate and the fertility of its soil. The climate is indeed delightful, but the soil is exceedingly forbidding, and can never perhaps be recovered from its extreme barrenness.

Of all the different parts of Oregon, those watered by the Cowilitz and Chehalish rivers on the north side of the Columbia, and those on the south, through which the Wallamette with its numerous tributaries and the Umpqua and Clameth rivers flow, are unquestionably the most fertile. The valley of the Wallamette, which embraces an area of 25,000 square miles, is undoubtedly entitled to the appellation of the garden of Oregon. The close observer in travelling through this valley will discover several kinds of soil. On the lower bottoms in some places is a sandy soil, in others a kind