

Letter from Puget Sound.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.]

OLYMPIA, W. T., January 7, 1863.

A Homicide Case.

In my last I informed you of the shooting of Horace Howe by B. F. Kendall, editor of the *Overland Press*, and gave you the particulars of the affair. All the physicians of the city declared that Mr. Howe could never recover from the effects of the wound; yet, contrary to all their predictions to the contrary, the old man is rapidly recovering, and is able to walk out about town.

A few days ago, Horace Howe, Jr., son of the wounded man, called upon Mr. Kendall in reference to retracting the charge of arson made against his father. I understand that Kendall agreed to do so, and would sign any retraction that Howe, Jr., would demand. To-day young Howe went into Kendall's office to see him in regard to the matter, and get him to sign the necessary retraction. Kendall invited him into another room to arrange the affair privately, leaving a Mr. Chittenden in the front office. What transpired in the private room no one was a witness to. Chittenden testifies that in a short time after the parties retired, he heard the report of a pistol, and soon after Howe came out and said he had shot Kendall in self-defense; that Kendall struck him, and then attempted to draw his revolver, when he (Howe) drew his derringer and fired. Kendall came out and said to Chittenden, "I am shot," and placed his hand on his breast. Immediately after making this remark he fell, and in a few minutes expired. The ball lodged in his heart. Howe surrendered himself to the civil authorities.

The affair created great excitement. Groups of men could be seen on every corner discussing the merits of the case. Some of Kendall's friends are trying to organize a mob to take Howe from the custody of the Sheriff to-night and hang him. If this is attempted, you will hear of bloody work in this quarter. Ex-Judge McFadden and Hon. Frank Clark have been retained as counsel for Howe.

Territorial Legislation.

But little legislation has been transacted since

the holidays. Two important measures are now pending in the House of Representatives—the Apportionment bill and an amendment to the act incorporating the Columbia River Transportation Company. This amendment authorizes the Company to construct a plank road across the portage at the Cascades, and extends the time to six years for completing a railroad. The Oregon Steam Navigation Company have agents here lobbying against the law, and one of them, Judge Strong, is said to have brought quite a large bundle of “greenbacks” to operate with. He will find that a majority of the present Legislature are not “that kind.”

The apportionment bill introduced to-day by Mr. Reed of Jūaho, created quite a flutter in the House, particularly among the members who represent the Sound country, as it gives the mining region east of the mountains a majority in both branches of the Legislature next year.

The election for Public Printer has not yet transpired, and probably will not take place until near the close of the session, as that office is to be used as “trading stock,” on which to effect the removal of the capitol or penitentiary. The removal question has not yet been introduced in either house, as the “re-location” members have not yet got a “sure thing.”

Scraps.

Dr. A. H. Henry, editor of the *Standard*, started last Monday for Washington City. He goes to assist our Delegate in effecting a division of the Territory during the present session of Congress, and to refute, in person, charges lodged against him as Surveyor-General by ex-Secretary Turney and ex-Superintendent Kendall. During Henry's absence, Walton, who was lately pardoned out of the Oregon Penitentiary by Gov. Gibbs, will have editorial charge of the *Standard*.

The Legislature yesterday passed an act to punish parties who refuse to take Legal Tender notes at the value expressed on their face. The act is very severe upon parties who make a business of buying and selling “greenbacks.” The punishment for depreciating the Government money is six months imprisonment and a fine of \$500.

The contract for carrying the mails on the Sound has been awarded to P. Keach of Steilacoom. He has no boat to perform the service. The owners of the *Eliza Anderson* have declined to carry the mail any longer. The revenue cutter *Shubrick* has been put upon the route for a short time to give Keach a chance and time to get a boat.

The weather has been decidedly bad during the past few days—a good deal of rain and some snow.

Juxo.