

~~June 21st 1842~~

Rev. J. S. Griffin, Editor
of the Evangelical Unionist
Dear Sir

A paper bearing
a superscription somewhat longer than ^{I have just} the
which I find your name attached as its Editor
came to hand last evening. I have given
its introductory article and all its ^{the} leading
articles a careful perusal - I wish simply
to express the views I entertain of the
paper its objects &c, &c, In doing so I
wish to be plain and explicit and should
I express an opinion that may perchance
differ from your views your candor will
pardon it, and if you choose withhold this
from the public:-

First let me say that you have made an
unhappy impression upon many minds
not from the want of any good will at heart
but from a lack of a more thorough knowledge
of Oregon and its inhabitants, notwithstanding
you have been here a number of years -
To be successful in your undertaking you will

be obliged to change in many things or I am
confident you will make an utter failure
in your undertaking -

As to the form and size of the paper it
is good and if continued with becoming
spirit it will do much for Oregon, For it
will open a channel of thought and discussion
that has been long much needed in this
country, It is deeply to be regretted that
you should have thrown yourself so much
and so directly across the path of the two
other papers now in circulation, You
doubtless honestly think you know all the
whys and wherefores and whereabouts these
papers take the course they do, but sir
let me tell you that notwithstanding I am
in one corner of Oregon at present, and
you in the center, yet information can
and does reach to the circumference and
to the corners. Now sir we have your
paper and also the others we have also a personal
acquaintance and knowledge of the origin and objects
of those papers - Partisanship do not affect us at
this remote point, neither does the spectiments

That are prevalent in your region since
we have a better opportunity of judging on all sides
and we hope you will be cond^d enough to make
a becoming apology to the Editors on papers you
have unnecessarily intend a contest with, and
allow them to pursue their own course and do all
the good they can, and do the same yourself.

As to the letters, explanations, &c. of Mr Spalding
they are of minor consequence in the present
state of affairs, The great object of your paper
should be to open, first, a channel for a
free and christian communion and
circumpling of evangelical thoughts and
feelings, once established, then open your
batteries of Truth, and light and all the
powers of Reason, Bishops and Savages
could not move nor touch you, I say
again back you said a little, and if
you cannot avoid the hornets a head, -
that that I fear a contest, or to enter the
field against any that are now in it, on any
subject. Still a successful general will often
retreat to draw his enemy into the position
he wishes to meet him in, and turning will
inevitably overcome him ~~any~~

Do not let any excitement on any thing draw
you from the one great object. Be careful
Now Sir that you do not allow but one idea
one subject, and one exclusive thing to be
apparent in your paper, In due time
I will take the liberty to communicate through
your paper a Historical sketch of the
Religious and political relations of Oregon
since 1835. The form and size of your paper
is well adapted to this, also the Religious state
of our own section of country. and such
other items of news as may fall in our
way. And allow me again to ^{and interest} ~~express~~ you
to let, The Oregon Spectator take ^{its} ~~its~~ noble
and high minded stand not to meddle in
"party politics or controversies." notwithstanding
its ^{present} ~~present~~ editors and a little in their judgment
in allowing Mr Spalding's letter to the Bishop to
be published and also the Bishop's Mandates
and pastoral letter, which are most decidedly
retrospective - and a violation of the Constitution
of the association, such things will cost
themselves in due time - you may send me two
copies of your papers - - I am in yours &c

W^m