

THE OREGON ARGUS.

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. Oregon City, Saturday, May 19, 1855.

Agents for the Argus.

- S. J. McCORMICK, Portland. J. R. McBRIDE, Lafayette. C. A. REED, Salem. Wm. BARLOW, Molalla. Dr. G. W. GREEK, Forest Grove. Dr. DAVIS, Bloomington. J. E. MURPHY, Independence. AMOS HARVEY, Plum Valley. SOLOMON ALLEN, Astoria. J. E. LYLE, Dallas. L. A. RICE, Jacksonville. H. HARRIS, Cincinnati. JUDGE SNELLING, Yreka, Cal. JNO. B. PRESTON, Will Co. Ill. R. A. N. PHELPS, Galesburg, Ill.

For Delegate to Congress, J. P. GAINES.

For Pros. Attorney, 1st Judicial Dist., GEN. THOMPSON WARD, of Marion County.

Hogg & Co., Agents for soliciting for Advertisements, and collecting for the same, 97 Merchant st., San Francisco, Cal.

A Pious Man's Opinion of Us.

"A correspondent, a high-minded and pious gentleman, writing to us from Jacksonville, speaks of the Argus as follows:—Oregon Statesman.

"The foul villainy of that Oregon Argus ought to be known to all the honest world. Private letters (at least a private letter) was received in this valley, from the editor, making a very strong appeal to the native sentiment, giving broad assurances of the intention to take the 'American side,' in politics, as the main object for which the paper was started."

Now be it known to all the world, that the statement made in the above extract from said "pious" (?) correspondent is not true. We have never written but one private letter to Jacksonville, in relation to our paper. That letter was written to L. A. Rice, Esq., and any person who will produce it, and show that we gave "assurances of our intention to take the American side in politics, as the main object for which the paper was started," will be paid \$100, whenever the letter is shown, sustaining the above assertion. That letter was sent to Judge Rice, together with a prospectus we got out last October, solely for the purpose of explaining fully and honestly the position we calculated to occupy upon the American question. The prospectus before alluded to, whilst it stated, that we should be neutral in what is commonly termed party politics, (what any sensible man would say was "neither whig nor democrat,") at the same time most positively "reserved to ourself the right of making such comments upon the acts of any and all associations, and of government officials, as might be deemed just and proper."

We are ready to admit, that if we had used the word independent in politics, it might have been less liable to misconception, but at the same time would have no more legitimately set forth our position than was done in our prospectus.

Such was the light in which it was viewed by every man who had any knowledge of the laws of philology. In fact, a highly intelligent clergyman, who has long resided in Oregon, and was once in his lifetime an editor himself, and who we presume to say is equally "pious" with the Statesman's correspondent, and who has left the democratic party on account of its corruptions, informed us that he fully understood the position we would occupy, as soon as he saw our prospectus last fall.

The Statesman's correspondent goes on to complain of us for violating our promises, to advocate the "promotion of good men." Well now as the Statesman itself has declared it to be the policy of the K. N.'s to "elect good men to office," might we not safely advocate the election of K. N. candidates to office without doing violence to our pledges? and as we have occasionally taken the liberty to recommend the support of good men for office, of both the old political parties, how can we be charged with having departed from our legitimate sphere?

We know exactly where the shoe pinches all such demagogues as this Jacksonville correspondent. If we should retail abstract temperance lectures from week to week, advising the good people never to drink any liquor, only "when they felt as though they needed a little, and a little would do them good," at the same time advising them to be careful and never mix up temperance with politics, by voting for a temperance man in preference to a drunkard, or one who lends his influence to the support of vice, we should be called a very clever fellow.

Such a course would not endanger the craft by which these political Judases make their bread. Only leave them in possession of the "bags," and they are satisfied.

We should be gratified to know precisely in what school of religion to place this "pious" correspondent. We used to read, when a boy, of a "Pious Ensign," whose Virgil represents as having been engaged much of his

time in such religious exercises as looking into the intestines of animals, in search of such auguries as indicated the wishes and intentions of his god Jupiter. We have also read somewhere in the writings of an old-fashioned author called Paul, something about a school of religionists, or "pious" men that existed in his day, whose "god was their belly." In modern times we hear of religionists who are said to worship some political demagogue, for the sake of the "loaves and fishes." These might be classed off under the head of the "pious" worshipers of Mammon.

Now, if this "pious" man will inform us to which of the three churches above alluded to he belongs, we will see that his name is immediately enrolled in the proper calendar among his brother saints, and snugly stowed away in its appropriate niche. The members of all these churches are of one common parentage, and the religious pedigree of this correspondent is easily made out, from the fact that he has knowingly, wilfully, and maliciously, stated a falsehood concerning us, in the extract which we publish. All such characters are said to be of their "father, the Devil," but the only difficulty with us, is, in not knowing exactly in what church to locate him.

Jo Lane's Temperance Principles.

This low flung abuse, this vilest of blackguardism is from a professedly neutral paper, with John P. Gaines' name flying at its mast-head, and temperance democrats are asked to support it as "the temperance paper." The Devil, with less effrontery could ask for aid as a minister of Christ. Out upon such detestable hypocrisy and base villainy.

There is not a man, woman or child in Oregon who knows Gen. Lane, who does not know that he is a temperate moral citizen.—Oregon Statesman.

We have long since learned that before disputants join issue upon a proposition, many lengthy debates would be saved by a mutual understanding of terms. Taking your meaning of the term "temperance" and we will, for the sake of no argument, concede that Lane is a temperance man, most of the time, at any rate, that is, he is not a confirmed sot, wallowing from day to day in the mire. In fact we know not that he could hardly be said to be a drunkard, as we believe it takes about a gallon to remove his centre of gravity, and we don't suppose that we could prove that he generally "beats about in his body" more than about three quarts at a time! So you see there is no issue when the terms are understood.

A temperance man in this city, and a man of high standing, informed us this week, that Lane, during his residence here was the means of making more drunkards than any grog-seller in town. He says that Lane has actually insulted him, by motioning and beckoning him behind the chimney, and trying to get him to take a swig at the jug, which he kept constantly on hand for the purpose of soaking himself and treating his friends. With your view of temperance, however, he is certainly a remarkably temperate (?) man, although, as we stated before, a dear lover of grog-shops.

"Come out of Her my People."

We ask the candid attention of the religious community, to the communications signed "Kirkman," which we publish today. They were written by an intelligent gentleman, who has left the dust and smoke of the political Babylon in Oregon, and taken a proud position on the side of virtue and political reform. He assures us that his neighbors are so disgusted with the organ of the party in power, that none of them allow the Statesman to come into their families. They have a club made up, consisting of a number of gentlemen, who throw in enough each to pay for one copy, which is always left in a certain box in one corner of the post-office, and whenever they have occasion to examine any of the laws, or stray notices it contains, they go to the box, and after examining it, return the filthy thing to the box to await the next comer.

There must be some "pure and undefiled religion" in that neighborhood. Does it not speak poorly for the virtue and intelligence of our citizens, who have elected legislators to office, who have been willing, merely for the sake of "party favor" to confine the territorial printing to a journal which christians, and even moral infidels, are unwilling to introduce into their families, but are compelled to keep boxed up, as they would box up a basilisk?

Honored.

We were honored with a call from the editor of the "Democratic Standard," on Thursday last. To his subscribers who may wish to hear from him before his next issue, we are happy to say he is quite as well as usual, with the exceptions of a dreadful cold, and the fact that the latest news from the South, has produced in his mind, "a certain fearful looking for, and hastening upon the coming of the day of (political) retribution."

Arrival.

The schooner Matthew Vassar, has just arrived at Portland, with a full cargo of goods to suit the trade.

"55" will appear next week.

Our Correspondents.

We have surrendered much of our editorial space this week to our correspondents, who, we presume, will interest you more than we could. We still have interesting communications on hand which are crowded out.

These times are so exciting that all of our communications have decidedly a political tinge. Even the ladies themselves seem to be wide awake, and, true to their love of right, have warmly enlisted in favor of the election of Gov. GAINES. If any thing is wanting to fully enlist every virtuous woman in Oregon on our side, it is only an opportunity of carefully perusing the organ of LANE, printed at Corvallis.

The last issue of that sheet bears the most unmistakable evidence that its success—is a foregone conclusion. "Samuel" has planted his fangs deep in his sable "calves," at last, and he is now writhing in the agonies of death. In his "foamings out of his own shame" he blindly strikes and bites at the Argus, and exhibits his usual horror for "cold water."

We hope our Corvallis friends will "give him plenty of room" in his last convulsions.

To the Oregon Clergy.

REV. GENTLEMEN:—It is with pain and astonishment that I have witnessed the unmanly attacks which have been made on your body. And now that a channel is opened through which we can speak one to another, I wish to utter a word of encouragement. Your appropriate work is one that involves great labor, and also reproach. Your great Master and the holy Apostles were assailed as agitators, and disturbers of the peace—as "turning the world upside down." Your case is then not odd.

To you God has committed the religious, moral, and social well being of the people. Not only the work of conversion, and the edification of the church, but the moral reform and the social improvement of the community belong especially to you. You are God's husbandmen. And you are bound not only to plant, and water, and hoe, but also to clear away the brush, old logs, and noxious weeds, in your Master's field. You are God's shepherds. And your duty is not only to feed the flock, but also to drive away the wolves that would devour it. You are God's watchmen. And your duty is required to proclaim with trumpet tongue the approach of danger to the cause of Christ, and the souls of men. Do battle, then, for temperance, humanity, and right, as valiant and brave-hearted men. The satellites of the rum faction will clamor,—the panders to lust will howl,—the hirelings of the oppressor will traduce, and corrupt-hearted infidels will scoff, but what should all this be to you? "Blessed are ye when men shall revile and persecute you."

The temperance reform, prohibitory laws, and other wholesome moral legislation you should always advocate. Politicians find it easier to truckle to the vices of men than to advocate reform, and they will never do it. Our hope is in your efficiency. If you do not work on, and patiently, we must ultimately sink so low in moral pollution that the arm of Mercy will scarcely ever reach us.

And while you are battling for the right let the cry of humanity,—let the voice of ignorant, ragged, rum-made orphans,—let the agonizing wail of the heart-broken wives and widows of drunken men,—let the dying groans of the ruined drunkards themselves,—let all these ring so loud and shrill in your ears as to render you wholly deaf to the curs let loose from the political kennel, and barking at your heels. They can not harm you;—they are toothless;—and in a few more moons they will lick your hand for a few small crumbs of political influence. You are in the right. Your success is certain. Then go ahead.

A Suggestion.—The anniversaries of the Oregon Benevolent Societies will be held at Corvallis on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of June. Ministers generally take pleasure in attending these meetings. Suppose then that all the earnest working ministers of Oregon attend these anniversary meetings, and while there hold a ministerial meeting, to discuss their rights and duties, both as ministers and American citizens; so that there may be entire harmony and concert of action in all the works of charity and labors of love to which they are called. KIRKMAN.

Apoteotic.

We do hope that our Christian friends will forgive us for the space we have taken up this week in noticing the organ of the "Clique" that is trying to plunge its murderous steel into the vitals of Christianity. We couldn't very well help it, but will try to do better next time.

Our Portland Prices Current.

May be relied on as giving a correct state of the prices below. It is corrected as often as there is any change in the market, by a gentleman who can be depended upon.—It should be remembered that the prices given only embrace the best articles, whilst articles of an inferior quality are sold as you "can light on cheap."

Lane's Expense to the Country.

EDITOR OF THE ARGUS—Dear Sir: I noticed that the Statesman has stated, that the government was at no expense in bringing Joseph Lane to Oregon, when he came out as Governor of our Territory.

This is far from being the truth, as he (Lane) is well known to have been sent out with an escort of Mountain Riflemen, Lieut. Hawkins in command, and Doct. Hayden, Surgeon. Most of the men deserted in California, and Lieut. Hawkins, arrived at Astoria, with some six or eight soldiers.

Canoes were purchased at Astoria for transporting the company to Oregon City. By Mr. Hawkins' account, Lane and his escort were brought up from Astoria to this city, at a cost of from one thousand to twelve hundred dollars to the Government.

I have a distinct recollection of these facts, as I acted as Mr. Hawkins' fiscal agent afterwards.

J. G. CAMPBELL. Oregon City, May 18, 1855.

Gold Discovered—No Humbug!

Mr. McKinlay of this city, handed us a table spoonful of black metallic sand, which was sent to him by a half-breed who has been prospecting on the Columbia, near Fort Colville about five hundred miles above. The sand seemed to be what a miner would call "rich." We applied quick-silver, to it, and took out three grains of pure gold, worth ten or twelve cents.

The gold was very fine, the biggest piece being not larger than a pin-head.

The half-breed sent it to Mr. McKinlay for the purpose of getting his opinion as to the character of the metal. He sends word that if it is gold there is plenty more where it came from.

We have long been of the opinion that rich mines existed on the head waters of the Columbia and Missouri rivers.

We talked with an old mountaineer in California, six years ago, who told us that he had often passed over a large section of country, on the head waters of the Yellowstone, of precisely the same appearance of the richest mining regions of California.

We are no prophet, nor the son of a prophet, but we will venture the prediction that there is a region far to the north east, rich in mineral resources, which awaits the visit of Anglo Saxon enterprise.

The half-breed who brought in the gold, has loaded a number of horses with provisions, and returned to the "diggings."

Who is -SAM-?

We have concluded to give the Hon. Mr. Kenneth Rayner, of N. Carolina, a part of our editorial space, this week, for the benefit of those who may be upon the political "anxious bench," and honestly enquiring after "Sam." To those who are ignorant of his real character, and who are "travailing in pain to be delivered" from the shackles of party slavery, we commend it as an excellent description of a political leader, whose "yoke is easy, and whose burthens are all very light."

Hogarth himself couldn't have drawn a more graphic and life-like picture of this young champion of human liberty.

But we'll not detain you any longer, for we know you want to be reading it:

"There is a certain personage abroad in the land at the sound of whose voice the shackles of party drop from the hands of our people, like those of Paul and Silas at the approach of the angel.—Although the echo of his footsteps is not heard, yet to the demagogue and party hack, he is as terrible as an "army with banners." He is no magician, and yet the touch of his wand, like that of the spear of Ithuriel, causes the mask to drop from the face of hypocrisy, and exposes selfishness and partisan bigotry in all its deformity.—He comes with his 'fan in his hand, and he purges his floor,' as he goes. They call him 'Sam.' But it is not "Uncle Sam."

Uncle Sam is venerable in years, with a sound head and an honest heart. But he is growing old, bent in form, bowed down with the heavy burdens which the lazy, the avaricious, the cunning and selfish, have heaped upon his shoulders, and compelled him to bear. This personage to whom I allude, is his first born and dutiful son. He has come to his father's relief. With all the wisdom and honesty of his sire, he possesses the buoyancy, and vigor, and the strength of youth. His muscles are elastic, and his sinews are tough. His mission is to visit every city, town, and hamlet in the land. He is equally at home in the mansion of the great, and the cottage of the lowly. He takes his seat at the council-board of the wise, and ministers at the couch of the afflicted. He whispers the word of hope, which nerves the arm of the mechanic in his workshop, and walks beside the farmer as he turns up the furrows of his field. His march is ever onward. He passes rivers at a bound, scales mountains at a leap, and treads through swamp and forest he never loses his way. He never stops, except to drop a tear upon the grave of some revolutionary hero, for his heart is astounded as his nerves are strong. He watches around our dwellings when we are asleep, and slumber never weighs heavy on his eyelids. He carries in his hand the flag of his country, which has so often withstood the battle and the breeze.

The halo of freedom beams upon his countenance and the enemies of the Union fly at his coming, like kites and crows at the eagle's swoop. He never strikes without warning, but when he does, the edge of his claymore severs joints and marrow, and a headlong falls at every blow. The creed of his faith, is the constitution of his country, and Luther and Washington are his two great ex-

emplars of religious liberty and civil freedom. Bars and bolts cannot screen the chicanery of midnight caucuses from his ken, and covert walls cannot be built too high for him to scale.

Chattering demagogues grow dumb at his approach, and bishops' miters and Jesuits' robes fall from the head of pampered insolence and skulking knavery at its touch. He cheers the hearts of the honest, the patriotic, and the good, with the smile of hope at their country's deliverance—and to the wicked, the hypocritical, the selfish, he speaks their day of doom. After having gone his destined round, he will finish his labors by hatching with legislation at Washington, those who have been desecrating freedom's altars by offering victims to political idols. After such a Herculean labor, he will need a least four years' repose, which he will spend in the "White House."

When he retires again to private life, he will leave his warming admonition with his countrymen to preserve our institutions from the evil and corrupt tendencies of foreign and Roman Catholic influence; and to maintain and defend the Union, to cherish a cordial, habitual, and immovable attachment to it; accustoming themselves to think and speak of it, as the palladium of their political safety and prosperity; and watching for its preservation with jealous anxiety.

I am, with much regard, yours sincerely, R.

"Farmer" on hand Again.

WINCHESTER, O. T., May 9th, 1855. DEAR SIR—Since I wrote you last, but little of interest has transpired in this part of the country, aside from politics, except a fatal accident which occurred a few miles north of here.

Mr. Eliza Williamson, was riding a vicious horse, which suddenly took fright, threw him off and fractured his skull. He died in a few moments. Horse racing, with its accompanying vice has been practiced to a great extent in this neighborhood of late, and it is to be hoped that this sad casualty will be a warning to those engaged in it. Mr. Williamson was an estimable citizen and leaves a family to mourn his loss.

No election ever held in this county has caused the same excitement that this one does. The interest felt is very general and both parties will no doubt strain every nerve to secure the success of their candidates.

In this county Daniel Stewart, (Dem.) is nominated against James Cole, (Whig) for Representative. The latter is very popular, much better qualified for the office than his opponent, and in any other, than so strong a democratic county as this, would I think surely be elected. The result is most doubtful.

Levi Scott (Whig) of Umpqua Co., is running against H. E. O'Bryen (Dem.) of this Co., for Council. I was in error in stating in my last that Chapman was the democratic candidate in Umpqua Co. for the lower house. A Mr. Coard is the nominee. Underwood is the whig nominee as stated.

Gen. Lane and Gen. Gaines have returned from Rogue River. They spoke the day before yesterday at this place, yesterday at Calapooia and Yoncalla, and to-day they are to speak somewhere on the coast fork of the Willamette.

I don't think Gen. Lane seems in as good spirits as when he went out—at all events his manner is not so confident as it was then.

I was astonished to hear him deny yesterday in the most positive terms that he came from California in 1851 to run against Mr. Thurston. Gaines asserted that he did and Lane denied, whereupon a little discussion ensued ending in an issue of veracity between the two gentlemen. Neither would recede and I am very curious to know who was right.

I was not in the country at the time and of course know nothing about it, but I have always understood that if Mr. Thurston had lived Gen. Lane would have been his opponent.

Lane comes out warmly in favor of the Nebraska Bill, which I regret very much. I did hope that upon this all important question of Slavery there would be no division of sentiment among the people of this territory and that all parties, all creeds and all sects would combine to keep the curse out of our land. But since the question has been agitated I am astonished to find what a number of people are in favor of that bill. If the question of slavery or no slavery were submitted to the people to-day the struggle would be a close one in this country.

Your position, Sir, as editor of a paper which owes no allegiance to whigs or democrats, gives you an influence which no other man has. May not we who love the right, who believe that ALL men were born alike free and equal, hope for that influence on our side?

The national issues upon which the old parties divided have become obsolete, neither whigs or democrats any longer regret them. Ought not the Anti-Slavery and Temperance men to unite in organizing a party devoted to the furtherance of their principles? A FARMER.

Exports.

Ed. ARGUS—Dear Sir:—We give you below mem. cargo Bark C. Devans, recently loaded for San Francisco, and carrying out one of the largest cargoes of produce which has ever left our Territory.

Yours, &c., G. A. & Co. 19,797 quarter sacks flour. 190 sacks seconds. 325 " oats. 25 packages butter and eggs. 3,000 lbs leather. 2 lots Furniture. 20,000 feet lumber, on deck. Oregon City, May 17, 1855.

Mammoth Calf.

Mr. EDDON:—Almorán Hill, residing near Wapato Lake, Washington county, is the owner of a cow which gave birth to a heifer calf, a few days since, which is hard to beat. It weighed and measured, when only forty-eight hours old, as follows: Length, from point of hips to crown of head, three feet, three inches—height, two feet, eight and three-eighths inches. Weight one hundred and eighteen pounds.

ALMORAN HILL. Hillsboro' May 8, 1855.

Political Dishonesty.

We clip the following from the "Statesman," for fear some of our readers may not see it.

These appointments were made for Lane, without ever conferring with Gov. Gaines. Lane assured Gaines at Jacksonville, that he had left his son Nat Lane to confer with the other candidate, and make the nominations, but, true to their sneaking political policy they proceeded to make the appointments for Lane without ever mentioning the matter to Gov. Gaines, although Nat Lane saw Gov. Gaines as he passed up country. Gov. Gaines will, however, (Deo volente) not be very far off at the time these appointments are filled, and we hope that every body, far and near, will attend them and hear both sides. "Will do you good!"

Democrats Attend.

JOSEPH LANE, DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR DELEGATE, will address his fellow citizens at the time and places named below: Lafayette, Yamhill Co., Tuesday, May 22, 1. P. M. At Smith's blacksmith shop, north fork of Yamhill, Wednesday, May 23, 1. P. M. Tualatin Academy, Forest Grove, Washington County, Thursday, May 24, 1. P. M. Hillsborough, Friday, May 25, 1. P. M. Portland, Saturday, May 26, 1. P. M. Milton, Columbia Co., Monday, May 28, 1. P. M. Columbia Slough, at Lewis Love's, Multnomah County, Wednesday, May 30, 1. P. M. Milwaukie, Thursday, June 1, 1. P. M. Oregon City, Friday, June 1, 1. P. M. Harrison Wright's, Molalla, Sat'y., June 2, 1. P. M.

Minutes of Temperance Meeting, Oregon City, May 18, 1855.

At a meeting of the Clackamas County Temperance Society, and friends of Temperance generally, held in the M. E. Church, the committee appointed at a previous meeting presented the following as their report:

"A Convention of citizens from various parts of the county, favorable to political action on the question of Prohibition, convened at two P. M., May 8th, in the upper room of the Brick Store.

J. E. Hurford, Esq., was chosen as chairman, and T. Pope, secretary.

After an interchange of views, and intelligence from various precincts, the following resolution was discussed and unanimously passed:

Resolved—that as temperance men we re-affirm our intention now and always to bring the question of Prohibition to the polls, until success is attained:

That we disclaim all such connection with Party as demands a surrender of this point, and that so long as Prohibition is not a watch-word of either of the political parties, so long we expect to nominate a distinct and separate Temperance Ticket for members of the Legislature.

On motion, W. T. Matlock, Esq., was unanimously chosen.

It was then proposed to select the names of four gentlemen, to be waited on by a committee, in order as elected, beginning with the first, who should be solicited to become candidates for the Legislature, on the Temperance Ticket, and with the pledge on their part, to openly advocate the passage of a Prohibitory liquor law during the canvass, and in the legislature if elected. The two names first assenting to such nomination to be placed on the Temperance Ticket, together with the name of W. T. Matlock, if ratified by the meeting to convene on Friday evening, May 11.

The following gentlemen were thereupon nominated:—J. N. Banker, Chas. Beatty, P. H. Hatch, Henry Hayes.

The following persons were then nominated for County Commissioners:—Geo. Higginbotham, Thomas Pope.

The following persons were then appointed a committee to wait on the candidates for their replies:—G. H. Atkinson, H. K. Hines, Thos. Pope.

On motion, the following gentlemen were appointed a County Temperance Vigilance Committee, with instruction to take early action next year in regard to elections:—Mahlan Brock, Sam'l L. Campbell, Charles Pope, L. D. C. Latourette, G. H. Atkinson, Allan Mattoon, Thos. Pope.

Con. adj'd sine die. J. E. HURFORD, Cr'k. Thos. POPE, Sec'y.

On motion the meeting proceeded to ratify the nomination of W. T. Matlock, Esq., for the Legislature. The committee having reported that the other nominees for Legislature declined running, R. T. Lockwood, Esq., was nominated, and responded in an address accepting the nomination.

The Committee reported James D. Miller, Esq., as being in favor of a Prohibitory law, consequently the name of T. Pope was withdrawn, and Messrs. Higginbotham and Miller nominated for County Commissioners.

It was voted to print five hundred Temperance Tickets, and the society adjourned. T. POPE, Sec'y.

Thank you Gentlemen.

We are under obligations this week to many of our friends for sending us new subscribers.

To Loafers.

We would like to have all loafers, of every name, creed, and character, select some other place to spend their leisure time, than in the room of our compositors during working hours. "Verbum sat sapienti."