

The Oregon Argus.

W. A. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1855.

Agents for the Argus.

- J. R. McBRIDE, Lafayette. C. A. REED, Salem. MORGAN RUDOLPH, Sublimity. WM. BARLOW, Molalla. H. C. RAYMOND, Forest Grove. DR. DAVIS, Bloomington. FRANK W. BROWN, Corvallis. J. E. MURPHY, Independence. AMOS HARVEY, Plum Valley. SOLOMON ALLEN, Amity. J. E. LYLE, Dallas. JOHN MCKINNEY, Catawpa. REV. WILSON BLAIN, Union Point. L. A. RICE, Jacksonville. H. HARRIS, Cincinnati. JUDGE SNELLING, Yreka, Cal. JNO. B. PRESTON, Will Co. Ill. R. A. N. PHELPS, Galesburg, Ill.

Hoops & Co., Agents for soliciting for Advertisements, and collecting for the same, 27 Merchant st., San Francisco, Cal.

Preaching.

We are authorized to say that Elders G. O. Burdett and J. E. Murphy will commence a meeting to-day, at the house of Mr. Bailey, on Malah.

Temperance Lectures.

The Hon. Aaron Payne is expected to address the citizens of this place, on the subject of Temperance, this evening, at early candle-light, at the Methodist Church.

To Correspondents.

A farmer of Polk County has given us a short article on the cultivation of blue grass, and promises to write more, if desired. Send along your communications, and do not forget next time to send your name, as we never publish any thing unless the name of the author is sent to us with the communication.

The poetry sent us by a friend in Plumb Valley we are sorry to say does not come within our rules. The sentiment is excellent, but the measure is such that we cannot make it "mean."

Retained, and Gone Again.

In our hurry last week we forgot to announce the return of our old citizen James O'Neill, of the Wells, Fargo & Co. Express. He is now in Portland, attending to the business of the Express firm in that city. We hope he won't forget us, and "go after strange gods," down in the great city of Portland.

Improvements.

Our friends in the country will be glad to learn that Oregon City has at last taken a new start. We notice that a new and commodious engine house is being erected, and Charnan & Warner have got up a new sign over their popular establishment. We hope to have the hops all sold off at auction soon, and a treaty made with the Indians, preparatory to their removal. Then if all the liquor in town could be exchanged for linseed oil, and our old wood colored buildings all painted over white, what a nice, healthy, sweet place we should have.

The Election.

We give below the returns from the election so far as we have heard from the counties. We cannot vouch for their being entirely correct, but they will not probably be far out of the way:

Table with columns for County, For Delegate, and Opponent. Lists names and vote counts for various counties including Clackamas, Marion, and Benton.

We understand that the rest of the O. democratic ticket was all elected in this county, excepting A. A. Smith, Republican, who was elected as Joint Councilman for Benton and Lane.

Indian Outbreak on Rogue River.

We learn that a party of some three hundred warriors in the vicinity of Applegate Creek, a branch of the Rogue River, has made a descent upon the whites, killing some six or seven men, and carrying off a large number of animals and other property.

The Wheat Crop.

Has been materially injured in many parts of the country, by the falling of the grain. The season has been so unusually wet that many fields of early sown grain have grown too rank to stand erect, and are now being prostrated in every direction.

United States Magazine.

We have received the April number of this splendid magazine, with a request from the publisher that we act as agent for the work.

Farmers, mechanics, and tradesmen, who want to invest a dollar to good advantage, will send us in the money, and we will order the work as soon as possible. The work can be seen at our office, by any one wishing to subscribe.

What we may expect from the "Parties."

Mr. W. L. Adams—DEAR SIR: Your paper meets with strong opposition from certain quarters out here, owing to its Know Nothing proclivities. The democrats endeavor to create the impression among the people that it is a wolf in sheep's clothing, coming wrapped in the mantle of Temperance and Reform, when in reality it is a Whig-Know Nothing paper, got up for the express purpose of furthering the "Anti-Republican principles of the secret order of Know Nothings" &c.

There is however a respectable number of citizens in this valley that are opposed to Slavery and its further extension—men who are in favor of a Prohibitory liquor Law, and who have long deplored the necessity of a paper in Oregon that would rise above the contaminating influences of party politics, and advocate those great principles of Reform and progress that are now agitating the whole people of the North—questions which they conceive to be of paramount importance to the future welfare of society, even in Oregon. Such men hail the appearance of the OREGON ARGUS with delight, as a mark of the advancement of society in moral reform in Oregon, and as the medium through which can be disseminated the opinions and views of the people on these important topics.

I do not believe there is any thing to be gained for these great principles from the present political parties, as they are organized. What think you, Mr. Editor? For instance if the whigs of this county had adopted the Resolutions that passed at Yamhill county convention, not one half of the whigs in this county would have voted the ticket. Thus you see whiggery in Yamhill county is just the opposite to whiggery in Jackson county.

There was a political meeting in this neighborhood on the 17th inst. The Democrats boldly advocated the doctrine of "squatter sovereignty" and opposition to a prohibitory liquor law. There was but one whig candidate present, he followed suit and advocated the Kansas-Nebraska bill and "squatter sovereignty," and when asked his opinion on the Temperance question he did not think it a party question, but thought probably he would use his influence in favor of Temperance. Now I would like to know Mr. Editor, how we should act in order to remedy these evils?

The Grand jury of this county indicted the merchants of Jacksonville for keeping open houses on the Sabbath, and also the liquor vendors for the same offense. The houses will probably be closed from this on as the American portion of the merchants are in favor of it.

Yours &c. J. M. McC. Jackson Co., O. T. May 19th.

In the first place, friend Me., you will accept our thanks, for the interest you have taken in our behalf in sending us new subscribers. In the second place, you will excuse us for the liberty we have taken with your epistle, as it affords us an opportunity of walking right up and taking the bull of party humbuggery by the horns, and of taking a squint at his phrenological developments and counting a few of the wrinkles on the staggery ornaments of this, probably Apocalyptic beast.

We have all read in our younger days about the "Great Image" which Nebuchadnezzar set up and commanded the host of Babylon to fall down and worship upon pain of being roasted in a fiery furnace, and we have as often wondered at, and admired the independence and countless moral courage of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who could not be wooed by the charming notes of music, which Babylon's fairest daughters swept with soft hands, from the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, nor be driven by the forest of glistening lances, with which grim soldiers pointed these noble men to the "seven times heated" furnace, to renounce their allegiance to a higher authority, and fall down with the popular rabble to worship an image of probably some political or religious beast of power in the Chaldean metropolis.

Who of us have not admired the intrepidity and courage, that induced Laocoon, of eternal Trojan fame, to quell for a moment with his own stentorian voice, the deafening clamor of Troy's citizens ejected from her broken walls, and frantic in their enthusiastic homage of the "Divine art of

Pallas," whilst he seized upon the moment of calm, to warn his countrymen of the dangers that threatened their beloved Troy, and with his own right arm drove the quivering halbert, into the hollow sides of the wooden "beast," which then contained the murderous Moors, who afterwards danced in the ashes of Trojan temples, into which their own hands had plunged the fatal torch?

How many of us have often wondered, that out of the whole Jewish nation, who prided themselves upon being the only real favorites of the Skies, in the vast family of man, so few were found who were willing to yield their convictions of the conclusive power of the evidence produced by the miracles of the Messiah, whilst from an overwhelming majority the deafening cry went up, "Away with him! Crucify him! Crucify him!"

And what Protestant has not often wondered at the blind adherence to Papal dogmas, and an unresisting acquiescence to the bloody edicts which proceeded from the Roman hierarchy, during the long night of darkness and superstition which followed the first bold assumption of Papal supremacy by Boniface VIII, who received his installment at the hand of the bloody Phocas, A. D. 606.

History affords almost innumerable instances of the rise, progress, and downfall of powers, political and ecclesiastical, and sometimes politico-ecclesiastical, which are almost invariably represented by inspired writers as "beasts." These beasts or powers, no matter how hideous, deformed, and terrible, no matter how much of the "earth, earthy," or whether they carry the brand and ear-marks that show them to belong to the origin of Daniel's "Sea Monster," their legitimate sire, there always has been in every age, nation, and clime, a blind, infatuated rabble, ready to rally around them, off hats and shoes, and at the instigation of the high priests of the proper temple, down the voice of opposing Reason, with long and loud hosannas to their horned object of adoration: No matter what may have been the origin or character of the beast, so he be labeled with a charming name, and have embelozed upon his iron sides some divine pedigree, which attendant bawling priests, with frothy mouths and bloodshot eyes, are ever intent upon enlorging, and calling the attention of the gaping crowd to; if the name be symphonious, and suggestive of liberty, dear liberty, a majority are often found willing to bend the supple knee, and join the shout, without being able to give a reason why. Drag him up from the infernal pit, all singed over, black, smoking, and smelling of brimstone, and hang a board on his horns on which is written, in flaming characters, "Democracy," "Whiggery," "Religion," or something of that sort, and a thousand men will be found, who profess to be worshippers of the Only True God, who are ready to get right down in the dust and kiss the hoofs of the animal, no matter how many grog shops, how many hand-cuffs forged for human beings, and how many other implements of vice and human woe, he may have stowed away in the huge hull of his wonderful carcass.

But for fear that our figurative manner of getting at a few things which we wish to say, may not be fully understood, we shall talk for a little while right on in a plain, common way, so to be understood by every man, woman, and child, who reads this article.—And for the purpose of being heard all over the Willamette Valley, we shall raise our voice to a suitable key to be heard in Rogue River Valley, and address our conversation to those of our friends out there who profess to be good moral, temperance men, anxious about the future peace and prosperity of society in Oregon, and who believe that they have something to do themselves, as citizens of our glorious country, in the way of bringing about a state of affairs, such as every good man desires, but who have hitherto been bowing down, and worshipping the "beasts" of party, under the delusion that the moral redemption of society was any part of the mission of these animals into the country.

Do you not know that the reforms which, we all so heartily desire, are not to be secured by supporting a party whose creed of principles like the skin of the chameleon, changes color with its passage out of one given district into another? Do you not know that, what is Democracy in Chicago, is rank heresy among democrats of Charleston? That what is considered sound democracy, by tens of thousand of the most intelligent democrats in the States, is what the miserable dupes of party are condemning us for advocating in Oregon? Do you not know that Oregon democracy as advocated by the leaders of the party, is no more like the democracy of Thomas Jefferson, than the "Latter day saints," are like the "Saints" in golden times? Do you not know that the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, against the will of the people, thereby opening up and fanning anew the fires of discord, which have so often well nigh torn

our Union asunder, and the refusal of such men as Toucey to listen to the instructions of their constituents, who desired the restoration of this solemn compact, between the North and South, has been enlorged as democracy in Oregon, whilst throughout the whole line of the Northern States, the democracy have rightly pronounced it anti-democratic and a usurpation of power by such pigmies as Toucey, which is unpardonable in any representative of the people, and worthy only of a European despot? Do you not know that, whilst democrats in many portions of the states have warmly enlisted in the cause of temperance reform and such other wholesome legislation, as is of infinitely more importance than the questions of bank or no bank, a high protective tariff, or a tariff simply for revenue and what construction we put upon the constitution, as to the limits of the powers delegated to the general government, for using the public lands, and treasury funds for internal improvements—that the would-be expounders of democracy in Oregon, have violently opposed these reforms, here, and in order to neutralize our influence, have called us a "wolf in sheep's clothing," Whig and K. N., &c., &c. Are you not also aware that, what was sound whig doctrine, with such men as Clay and Webster, is hooted at, by whigs, in extreme parts of the Union, who occupy extreme ground, on the subject of an unlimited slavery extension? That what is, (in the language of our correspondent,) "Whiggery in Yamhill, is just the opposite of whiggery in Jackson county?"

Are you not also aware that in different States of the Union the reforms for which we labor have been brought about, by the abandonment of the old political platforms by the conservative portion of the old parties? and are you not also aware that those who took an independent stand for truth and righteousness, labored through a long, dark, gloomy night of party supremacy, whilst miserable, driveling, party demagogues poured upon their devoted heads a continued shower of missiles, in the way of opprobrious epithets, that the high priests of the Baal of party, who made their living by making party shrines, and picking up crumbs from their masters' tables, howled, yelled, and cut a thousand wonderful antics, in order to excite the party enthusiasm of the populace, and that no means of misrepresentation and falsehood were left unresorted to, in order to gull the people?

Did you never notice, that stern, almighty, unresisting truth, though often struck to the ground, returned with new vigor to the conflict, until, by dint of repeated blows from the good old claymore of truth, the routed hosts gave way, and the people are now enjoying the pleasures of the largest liberty, and the blessings of good moral legislation, which invests society with an atmosphere in which a virtuous father would delight to see his children growing up around him?

Has the thought never occurred to you, that if we had been influenced by the love of money or popularity, in undertaking our enterprise, how much easier it would have been to reach the acme of such aspirations by falling into the current of popularity by publishing a paper devoted to the interest of some party, "right or wrong," and then watching the popular current, when such great and thrillingly interesting questions as Temperance, and Slavery or No Slavery in Oregon, came before us, so as to fall in with the popular rabble, and either do violence to our conscience by advocating error, or take a sort of a "so-so" position, from which we could look down, from an easy chair, upon the heat and fury of the strife, and with a very complacent grin, have faintly smiled at the rout or victory of either party, so as to have produced the conviction that we were a very "clever fellow," and not particularly inimical to either set of principles. The world, kind reader, boasts of many more just such men than you are probably aware of, and we have often thought that the man who possesses, in a large degree, this india rubber sort of cast, as to character, formed about the best subject to put upon the political race course in this particular latitude and longitude.

All of these evils grow out of the want of information. The mass of our citizens will go right when they clearly see the path of duty. The only chance is, to emancipate them from the control of party leaders, and then get these principles fairly before them, and the country is safe. We have already occupied more space than we intended, and yet we have not said as much as we desire. In the mean time, we will just answer your interrogation as to "what is to be done?" by saying in the words of the dying Lawrence, "Don't give up the ship." "Agitate, agitate," said O'Connell "and Ireland is safe." If you wish to lay a sure foundation, and are willing to wait for the next generation to exhibit the fruit of your labors, lend all your energies just now to the dissemination of knowledge by means of common schools.

The wrinkles of the heart are more indelible than those of the brow.—Delany.

Celebration.

We learn that our citizens are making preparations to celebrate the coming Fourth of July in this city. The Flora Festival, to which we have before alluded, together with the other demonstrations to be made, will probably make a very pleasant time of it.

Dishonesty of Politicians.

POLK CO., June 7, 1855.

Mr. A.—Dear Sir: Enclosed I send you the names of three new subscribers to your excellent paper, besides my own name. There are a good many in this part of the country who would like to take it, if the times were a little better. I think in the course of the summer you may count on a good many names from Polk.

Before I close I will state the reason why I have sent my name as a subscriber. I have not been taking any Oregon paper since last March, when I stopped the Statesman. I always thought I was a democrat, before I came to Oregon, but I found after reading the Statesman a little over a year that either that paper is anti-democratic, or else I am. I always thought democracy consisted in something that went in for the good of the people, and not the support of a few, who would like to "lord it" over the people. I thought, too, that temperance and morality were not inconsistent with Jeffersonian democracy. But I find, in Oregon, that many of our leaders, who follow out the principles of the Oregon Statesman, are strongly opposed to the reforms of the day, and are quite forward to read out of the party such men as are not willing to support their ticket, no matter what sort of character is put forward as their standard bearer.

During the electioneering canvass in Polk County I have often been denounced as no democrat because I would not stifle my convictions of duty, and support such men as Waymire for the Legislature. I supported Lane, very reluctantly, but if I had been well posted up as I am now, I should have either voted for Gaines or stayed away from the polls. Fred Waymire has probably heard was a candidate for the Legislature. He stumped the county with a great deal of party zeal, and tried to make our citizens believe that the future salvation of the Territory depended on his election. Waymire, you must know, was once a Methodist preacher, but is now a zealous disciple of Tom Paine. He has often made his boasts that he once belonged to the Methodists, and says that he then did his "d—ndest" for them. I look upon him as a very wicked and blasphemous apostate, who hates religion, and every thing of a religious character; and viewing him in this light, I could not conscientiously as a Christian lend my influence to the support of Tom Paine morals, by voting for such men to rule our country. Although he is elected, I think every religious man who voted for him must repent it to the day of his death, if he has any conscience.

Waymire took particular occasion to abuse your paper during his tour through the county. In a speech he made at Simpson's on the Luckamute he called it the "stinking Argus." Up to this time I had never seen your paper, but as the Statesman and Waymire had come down on you so heavy, I began to think it must certainly be something decent. I have since taken pains to hunt it up, and after reading it, I see clearly why you are such an object of hate among these men. I think it by far the best paper I have ever seen on this coast. I do not agree with you in every thing, but the general tone and character of the Argus is such that I am willing to introduce it into my family. I think such a paper will be sustained if there is as much intelligence and morality in this country as I think there is.

At the close of Waymire's speech on the Luckamute, he called for a separation of the crowd, telling them that all who did not expect to vote for Lane would be published in the Statesman as Know Nothings. I am told that such was the dread among the crowd of being thus exposed, that the whole crowd, with one exception, rallied on the Lane side of the house. Quite a number of these men had been for Gaines up to that moment, when this maneuver of this arch apostate decided their change. I am told that the young man who stood in a "crowd all by himself," was eyed a good deal after the fashion that a band of Spanish cattle would look upon a wolf which was trying to carry off a calf.

As to the doctrines or principles of the American party, I know but little, but so far as I gather them from what I have read, I see no objections to them. Their secret meetings I am not in favor of, as I never yet belonged to a secret society of any order whatever, not even the Sons of Temperance. If any other person wishes to belong to a secret society I have no particular objections to his doing so, as I think this is a privilege which every man enjoys.

But I have already said much more than I intended to say when I sat down to write. I therefore close by wishing you and your paper great success.

Respectfully, Yours, Our stranger friend will excuse us for publishing the above extracts from his letter, which he probably intended merely for our own eye.

We are receiving almost daily intimations that many such choice spirits are to be found in every part of the Territory. As Sodom, was said to be safe upon condition of there being ten righteous men found in her environs, we hope that as Oregon numbers several thousand, of such characters as are said to be the "Salt of the earth," we may hope that if we are never regenerated

The young man here referred to was Mr. Jeff. Miller, of Linn City, who we are happy to state, has returned in safety. He ever got out of Polk county alive is a wonder to us. He is not a Know Nothing, although supposed to be by old Fred.—E.

as a people we stand, some chance of seeing the day of vengeance, put far off, when the Providence of Heaven shall rain fire and brimstone upon our devoted heads.

Our correspondent comes pretty near filling up the gap, which has been recently made in Polk, by the assault which Mr. Waymire has lately made upon the devoted head of our poor ARGUS.

He (Waymire), will be gratified to know that through his influence several of his political followers, (and probably religious too) have been induced in the heat and blindness of party strife to stop their paper. He will also be more gratified, no doubt, to learn that such was the character for honesty, (I) intelligence, and independence, of his dupes, that, although they had regularly received our paper, for some five or six weeks, they never discovered its heresy, until he probably pointed it out, and made it so plain that they were all able to "see it, with their mouth," and were then willing: at the suggestion of this "apostate" (probably) to return the whole file, (with the exception of one or two which the pigs had probably demolished in the house) in such a greased and dirty condition, as gave the clearest evidence that if they had never been read, they had been well handled, and that by "greasers." These papers were sent back by all of these gentlemen (except one) without offering to pay a single cent, for that which they had continued to receive for five weeks or more, without ever having discovered our heterodoxy. We state this for the purpose of showing the character for honesty, and a high minded open manly way of dealing, adopted by such men as are willing to be made tools of by frothy demagogues, and for the purpose of giving Waymire, an opportunity of chucking with real heartfelt delight, over an exhibition, of the weakness and frailty, of poor human nature as developed in the manner in which his friends have treated us. We want you to take all the comfort you can in this life, for you are very sure to find out sooner or later that Paine's 'Age of Reason' contains directions, that lead to a very dark place, where enjoyment will be known only as a "has been," and when you first take a peep into it you will probably bawl "Lord! Lord!" much louder, and more in earnest than you ever did when you deceived Christians as a theological wolf and black hearted hypocrite, in the garb of a Methodist preacher.

Oregon Bible Society.

Editor of the Argus.—Sir: By a vote of the Oregon Bible Society I was requested to prepare and send you a synopsis of the proceedings of their late anniversary, for publication.

The Oregon Bible Society commenced its ninth anniversary at Corvallis, at ten o'clock, A. M., on the sixth day of June. Rev. D. Leslie, President of the Society in chair. Religious services conducted by the President, Rev. G. H. Atkinson, and Rev. H. K. Hines.

The committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account for the last year reported it correct.

Rev. L. C. Phillips, agent for the American Bible Society for Oregon, read a report of his doings the past year. Rev. G. H. Atkinson and Rev. T. H. Pearne were appointed auditing committee for the ensuing year. Voted to amend the constitution of the Society by fixing its annual meeting on the second Wednesday in May.

Salem was then selected as the place for the next anniversary.

Society then adjourned to three o'clock P. M. Benediction by Rev. T. H. Pearne.

Three o'clock P. M., met according to adjournment, and listened to addresses by Rev. G. Hines and Rev. G. H. Atkinson.

Subscriptions were then called for, and \$33.50 received, twenty dollars of which constituted Rev. D. Leslie a life member of the Oregon Bible Society.

Thomas Pope, Esq. was elected depository for the ensuing year.

The Officers of the Society for the coming year are,

President—Rev. D. Leslie. Vice President—H. H. Spaulding. Secretary—Rev. G. Hines.

Treasurer—Thomas Pope, Esq.

Executive Committee—Rev. G. H. Atkinson, Rev. C. S. Kieckly, Rev. Thomas Condon, Charles Pope, Jr. Peter H. Hatch.

The price of the Society's books was referred to the executive committee.

After prayer by Rev. H. H. Spaulding, the society adjourned sine die.

H. K. HINES, Secretary.

The Effect in Cincinnati.

Office of the Chief of Police, Cincinnati, Ohio, March 26, 1855.

Mr. Geo. W. Sheerer—Dr. Sir: In accordance with your request as to the operation of the State Liquor Law, upon the various grades of crime in our city, I will state that as nearly I can calculate from our Register of Crime in the Watch and different Station Houses, it has fallen off at least 50 per cent. The principal offences, where the great falling off is visible, are the following grades, viz: Assault and Battery, Disorderly conduct, Drunkenness, Fighting, Abusing Family, Wife-whipping and grades similar to those, that are caused by drinking liquor. Yours Respectfully, D. T. HOWE, Chief of Police.