

THE OREGON ARGUS.

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Job Printing. THE PROPRIETOR OF THE ARGUS IS HAPPY to inform the public that he has just received a large stock of JOB TYPE and other new printing material.

The Oregon Argus. W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. OREGON CITY: SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1855.

Educational Movement. We are glad to see that the move for a Teachers' Convention, which was made a few weeks since by the Superintendents of Multnomah and Clackamas counties, is meeting with considerable favor among the teachers in this country.

The establishment of a thorough system of common schools would do more, infinitely more, towards redeeming our country, morally and politically, than the united labors of all our clergymen and philanthropists of every order, directed in the line of their various callings, could possibly accomplish in the next hundred years.

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Gold! gold! gold! is the motto; and who shall have the most cattle and the largest farms, seems to be the strife among too many of our landholders who already have an abundance of this world's goods to make them comfortable, and enable them to school their children.

Nothing has afforded us more pleasure than the exhibition of an awakened interest in this matter in some sections of this country. We have political conventions, and almost all kinds of conventions, which convene their zealous attendants from all parts of the Territory, but who among us has ever had the proud distinction of having his name enrolled as a delegate to an educational convention?

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The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, Editor and Proprietor. AMERICA—Knows nought of golden promises of Kings; Knows nought of Coronets, and Stars, and Strings. VOL. I. OREGON CITY, OREGON TERRITORY, SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1855. NO. 18.

Secunds the Motion. ED. ARGUS:—In looking over a late number of THE ARGUS I was gratified to see a call for a Teachers' Convention or Association.

This is a good move, and should meet with favor from every one. If properly conducted, it will be of great benefit to the cause of education in Oregon. What we want is concerted action on the part of guardians and teachers of our common schools.

This can only be secured by meeting together, and consulting with each other on the proper means to be used in advancing the interests of education; and suggesting such improvements in the manner of teaching, and the books to be used, as experience has shown to be necessary.

In no country has the cause of education a deeper hold in the minds of the people, than in Oregon. Government has made magnificent provision for the cause of common schools, and more will be done if the right use is made of what we have already obtained.

It only remains for parents and teachers to improve their present advantages, to place the common school system of Oregon far in advance of all other countries of her age.

Then let us have the convention, and let the place of meeting be Salem. Let some of the friends of education in that beautiful town speak out, and say that a suitable house can be had, and that those who attend will be properly provided for.

As to the time, allow me to suggest Thursday and Friday, the 6th and 7th of Sept. next, and 9 o'clock in the morning. And in the mean time, cannot our Salem friends make arrangements for some kind of a musical entertainment on the evening of each day—say at 8 o'clock. This would be a treat not often enjoyed by those who live far back in the woods, and among the hills, and would afford an agreeable variety to all.

If none more suitable are proposed by some one else, would it not be well to call a meeting at the time and place above-mentioned? and the other papers in the valley will, it is hoped, assist in giving it publicity.

What say you, Superintendents and Teachers, will you attend? A TEACHER. FOLK COUNTY, July 12, 1855.

Extract from a Private Letter. BETHANY COLLEGE, VA., June 11, 1855.

MR. ADAMS—My much esteemed Friend: I have felt myself under many obligations to you for many favors, together with the profitable instructions you gave me in days past. The relation I once held to you as your pupil will never be forgotten.

But these lasting obligations have been increased, or rather renewed and more forcibly impressed, by the reception of your very valuable and most excellent paper, THE OREGON ARGUS, which, I do assure you, was, indeed, a welcome visitor, and I feel right happy in its acquaintance.

I have often been made to blush with shame since I have been from Oregon, which I regard as my beloved home, on having such questions as these propounded to me by persons wishing to emigrate to Oregon: Do you have much drinking and gambling in Oregon? Does your law tolerate public gambling shops? Are there many Temperance Societies with you? Do all the citizens manifest a deep interest in these societies? Well, do not those who have families all belong to them? How many religious and temperance journals have you in the Territory? What can't support a religious paper nor even a temperance paper?

Now, my dear sir, if you were in Virginia, Ohio, or Pennsylvania among their good moral people who wish to emigrate to the Far West, and who would make most valuable citizens and worthy members of society there, and you were asked such hard questions as these, what would you answer? What answer would you give, especially to that last question, which is asked with such astonishment and emphasis, "What! can't support even a temperance paper?" I presume you would do as I have sometimes been compelled to do, that is, drop the matter as soon as possible and commence talking about the weather, and the probability of another failure in the crops. Now, I tell you, under the then existing circumstances, I could desire that they would not be quite so inquisitive about the affairs of Oregon, which it was her interest to "keep dark." But I shall have the appearance of THE ARGUS may have such a salutary influence upon my paralyzed patriotism as to resuscitate my wretched boldness in declaring that Oregon is the Eden of America.

I have too much confidence in the good sense of the many substantial citizens of Oregon, to have any doubts whatever of its success. Such a paper only needed a start. Having that, and the people knowing of it, "its bound to go ahead."

We shall advocate an Oregon prohibitory liquor law, as the last and only hope of the friends of temperance and good order, always distinguishing between individual and social rights. Whilst we deny that our neighbor has any right to sell, or give our children, or our friends, that which will deprive them of their senses, pollute their morals, and sink them lower than the imbruted savage; we cheerfully surrender to all, so far as legislation is concerned, the privilege of manufacturing any liquid poison they see proper, and applying it, both externally as a bath, and internally as a fuel, if they choose.

This is what you say, is it, ADAMS? I would like to give you my hand on that declaration. Hold to it, and contend for it till the last. And I will venture to predict that the time will come when the pure-hearted sons and daughters of redeemed Oregon will celebrate the day on which you made this bold declaration.

Though the cause of temperance may meet with opposition at first, still if the advocate has the will to go on I am inclined to the opinion expressed by Horace in the words, "Nil mortalia ardua est." However much our efforts to alleviate suffering humanity may be sneered at by the scoffing prodigate we should rest confident upon such well tried maxims as, "Vicit omnia pertinax virtus," or that of the modern Livy, alias Davy Crockett, "Be sure you are right, and then go ahead."

There are a great many things I might write you which now would be news to you, but I presume you will get it before you receive my letter. I am enjoying only tolerably good health.—Bethany College is in a very flourishing condition. A great many of your friends here desire me to remember them to you, but I can't now give their names. * * *

Believe me, as ever, your grateful friend, L. L. ROWLAND.

We publish the following extract from a private letter, which we have just received (by the hands of Mr. Denby of this city,) from our excellent friend Dr. Greer, who was a member of the council last winter. His numerous acquaintances in the Willamette valley will be glad to hear from him and his family, and of his present location and prospects:

BEXCEMILLE, Jackson Co., O. T., July 9th, 1855.

FRIEND ADAMS:—We are all in good health and spirits at present, although we had rather a tedious trip in getting here. This place is situated about twelve miles south of Jacksonville, on Applegate Creek, four miles below Sterling. Times are moderately good here for the season. There is a scarcity of water at Sterling. Here we have plenty of water, although the mines are not paying very largely, yet every one having water privileges, can make four dollars per day. I have bought in pretty largely in order to get water privileges. I do not expect to make anything large at it, but I think it will at least pay \$4,000 to the hand. I have an interest in the Applegate company, and also two other lots fifty yards square, with water privilege. I have ground enough that will pay \$4,000 per day, to work four hands a year. I have to give three dollars per day for hands now. But I think I can get them cheaper after harvest. (We are afraid not, if our Colville mines create as much of an excitement out there as they have done here—Eo.) There is but little to do in the way of pill making here, as there are but twenty or thirty men in this immediate vicinity. It may perhaps pay me to set up shop in Sterling this fall. If so I will move up, and leave the boys to superintend the mining, for the time being. I have only been here a week, and cannot give you much general information. It is altogether a pleasant place, for a mining district, good water and plenty of good grass to keep horses and cattle, and if the Indians will let us and our stock alone I believe I can do tolerably well here, I can at least tell you more about it next time.

Yours in haste, G. W. GREER.

Religious. SALT CREEK, July 6, 1855.

MR. EDITOR: There has just been a Camp-meeting held by the Methodists on the South Yamhill, which commenced on the 28th of June. Eighteen were added to the church during its progress, and considerable impression was made upon the minds of others, which is hoped will prove lasting.

The meeting passed off very pleasantly, and without any of that "rowdiness" which is so common on such occasions. OBSERVER.

Another filibustering expedition, says the New York Herald, is on the tapis. This time Peru is to be the favored country. According to the reports in circulation, the friends of General Echiquique, lately overthrown by Don Domingo Elias and General Castilla, are organizing an expedition to restore their fallen chieftain in the presidency of that republic. It will be recalled that General E. was beaten by the aid of seventy Americans, disappointed gold hunters, in the army of General Castilla, and the adherents of Echiquique argue that if seventy Yankees put Castilla in power, a hundred or more could restore Echiquique. Peru has been in a disturbed condition since the last revolution, and is probably ripe for another. An expedition could be easily formed here just now. The failure of the other filibustering schemes has left abundant floating material in this country, which could be made available by a leader with plenty of funds; and it is said the Echiquique party have a large supply on hand, and any amount in prospective, in the shape of land and other spoil. General Echiquique arrived here about two months ago, and put up at the St. Nicholas hotel.

Said Pacha, Viceroy of Egypt, has given orders for the construction of the railway across the Isthmus of Suez—84 miles. The rails will be sent from England, and the work will be executed by the Pacha's own French engineers.

What it Costs. Just put your finger on his till, And flick a dollar out, And any man you know of, will Ask what you are about, And there's a prison, or a jail, To put the rascal in, That in some little theft should fail To hide away his sin.

And there are officers to learn All breaches of the peace, And magistrates with ardent bairn To make all tumbrels cease; Yet there are laws to license those Who wish to retail rum, A thing distilled to end repose, And ruin many a home.

That brings a man to worse than death, And brings his wife to care, And children crying for the bread That comes not to their prayer. It strips a victim of his all, It heartens, his homo, his sense; It fills his cup of life with gall, To win a few base pence.

Oh! what is money to the mind? And what is gold to health? Yet men on every hand we find Who rob of priceless wealth, Whose business 'tis to stir up strife, A school for every ill, And tax the peaceful man this life To pay the damning bill.

Now, sir; you, sir, who feel so bad, To see a dollar lost, What pity 'tis but time you had To sit and count the cost. To figure up the poor-house bill, The taxes for the jail, To see how much it robs your till, I'm sure you would turn pale.

But never mind—the time must come When grog shall leave the land, When we will banish all the rum, And jills wide open stand; And all who will not help and aid To bring the tax list down, Will learn the truth of what I've said When grogshops leave the town. SALT RIVER, July 24th, 1855.

LATE FROM EUROPE. Highly Important War News.—Capture of Kertsch.—Destruction of the Russian Squadron and Fortifications.—Occupation of the Tchernaya by the Allies.

The U. S. Mail steamer Atlantic, from Liverpool on the morning of Saturday, June 3, arrived at New York June 13th. The Atlantic arrived out at 6:50 P. M. of Sunday, May 27.

The war news brought by this arrival is the most important that we have received since the passage of the Alma. Intelligence by the last steamer announced that after two nights of sanguinary conflict, the French had driven the Russian garrison from a strong position of defence before Sebastopol, and had themselves occupied it. The loss on both sides was little less than eight thousand men. Since then, two most important strategic movements have been effected by the Allies, with complete success.

The first was the seizure and occupation of the Russian position on the Tchernaya, which was effected with but little loss, the enemy retiring before the allied advance. The other success was yet more important, being nothing less than the capture of Kertsch, the destruction of the Russian squadron and fortifications there, and the obtaining of entire possession of the Sea of Azoff, on the waters of which the allies have now fourteen steamers.

The enterprise was accomplished without the loss of a man, the Russians having themselves destroyed their defences and retired. The telegraph wires being exclusively in the hands of the Government, ten days must elapse ere the public can learn anything beyond what the War Department chooses to dole forth, but the possession by the Allies of the important station of Kertsch, whence the garrison of Sebastopol drew most of their supplies, must exercise a speedy influence on the siege.

There were rumors of another great battle having been fought at Inkerman, but the statements want confirmation.

The Capture of the Pinnac d'Armes, and of the Line of the Tchernaya. The following are the only accounts yet to hand of these affairs:

Gen. Pelissier in despatches dated the 23d and 24th of May, says: "The enemy had formed between the central bastion and the sea a large place d'armes, where they proposed assembling considerable forces to make important sorties. In the night between the 22d and 23d, we attacked those works which were defended by nearly the whole garrison. The combat was fierce, and lasted during nearly the whole night. We carried and occupied half the works. I hope to be able to announce to-morrow that we shall have taken the remainder."

On the next morning, accordingly, the General telegraphs: "We last night very successfully carried the remainder of the works we had attacked on the previous evening. The enemy, whose losses were enormous the night before, did not make so stout a resistance. Our losses, though considerable, were much less. The allied armies to day cordially celebrated together the birth day of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria."

Prince Gortschakoff's account of the affair is this: "Yesterday evening seventeen battalions of the enemy, with reserves, attacked our trench of counter approach, commenced the day before in front of bastions Nos. 5 and 6. The combat was sanguinary, and lasted during the whole of the night. Our twelve battalions lost nearly 2,500 men in driving back the enemy."

The Monitor publishes the despatches received by the Minister of War from Gen. Pelissier, namely: CRIMEA, May 27—10 P. M.—To-day we have occupied the line of the Tchernaya. The enemy, who were not in force, offered little resistance in disputing the ground, and retreating rapidly into the hills. We have definitely established ourselves in the works carried during the nights of the 22d and 23d. An armistice was agreed upon for burying the dead, and we were enabled to form an estimate of the enemy's losses.—They must be about 5,000 to 6,000 men, killed and wounded. May 26—10 P. M.—The enemy has not made any demonstration either in front of the place or against our lines on the Tchernaya. The works of fortification at Kameisch are progressing. The sanitary condition of the army continues good. May 27—9 A. M.—The expedition to Kertsch and Yenikale has been attended with complete success. The enemy fled at the approach of the allies; they blew up their powder magazines, destroyed their batteries, and burned their steamers. The sea of Azoff is occupied by the allied squadron.

Progress of the Siege. MAY 19.—The fourth parallel was completed. Heat had succeeded to rain. There had been hardly any firing on either side. Large convoys had entered Sebastopol from the north side. The Russians are working vigorously at the north side, where they are erecting an earthwork.

The British are moving all their heavy mortars of 13 and 10 inches into the advanced parallels. Two deserters from Sebastopol reported the garrison very strong numerically, but the hot weather was causing sickness.

Numbered Battle. It is rumored in Paris that Pelissier had attacked and routed Gen. Liprandi's force. Canrobert was reported wounded, and another General killed. This news was very doubtful.

Capture of Kertsch.—The Allied Squadrons Enter the Sea of Azoff. Lord Raglan telegraphs as follows: CRIMEA, May 27.—We are masters of the Sea of Azoff, without a casualty. The troops landed at Kertsch on Her Majesty's birth-day, and the enemy fled, blowing up their fortifications on both sides of the Straits, and destroying their steamers; some vessels and fifty guns have fallen into the hands of the allies.

On May 28, Lord Raglan announced that Gen. Sir Geo. Brown had reached Yenikale at 1 P. M. on the 25th of May, having, the day previous, destroyed a foundry near Kertsch, where shot, shell, and Minie balls were manufactured. In the advance the French were on the right, the English on the left, and the Turks in reserve.

Of date Sebastopol, May 30, Lord Raglan again telegraphs that letters received from Sir Geo. Brown and Admiral Lyons, of 29th, announce the destruction by the enemy of four (Russian) war steamers and large depots of corn. The allied ships had succeeded in destroying about one hundred merchant vessels. Only one steamship remained of the enemy's forces in the Sea of Azoff.

The Admiralty account says that on the appearance of the Allied Squadron before the Pinnac d'Armes the Russians burned four war steamers, and considerable stores of corn; merchant ships were destroyed.

Lord Panmure announces to the press that advice, dated 28th, from Sir George Brown state the troops continued healthy. Five vessels laden with corn had run into Kertsch, not knowing the place was taken, and were captured. The number of guns found by the Allies exceeds 100.

Matters continued much the same in the Crimea. A French account says the Russians burned 30 transports as well as their four steamships, and destroyed 350,000 sacks of corn, 160,000 sacks of oats, and 100,000 sacks of flour. In the evening 14 Allied steamers entered the Sea of Azoff.

Another account from Yarna, May 29, says: "On the Queen's birth-day the allied expedition arrived off the Straits of Kertsch. The troops landed and ascended the heights, and the small steamers went up to Kertsch. The Russians blew up their fortification and fled, after destroying several ships and very large quantities of wheat, flour and oats. Thirty vessels were burned, thirty taken, and fifty guns. Reinforcements were daily arriving at Constantinople. The occupation of Galatz and an attack upon Ishmael and Rani are confidently spoken of."

Various War Items. Prince Mendchikoff has returned to St. Petersburg, where he was well received by the Emperor.

Letters from the Sisters of Mercy, of whom there are 63 within Sebastopol, portray in lively colors the scenes of carnage they have to witness, and give a romantic account of their celebrating divine worship in the Malakoff Tower, while it was under the fire of the enemy, in the recent bombardment.

All stratagems, they say, are fair in love and war. The British ship Highflyer captured a boat containing a new carriage belonging to the Governor of Kertsch, and the captain of the cruiser sent in a flag of truce, offering to restore the carriage. The offer was accepted, and English boats took it in, at the same time taking soundings, which enabled the English fleet to follow.

Seven hundred and forty-six Russians are prisoners in the hands of the English, while the Russians have but 108 private men and 10 officers belonging to the British. We have no return of the French prisoners.

Four Days Later. The U. S. Mail Steamship St. Louis arrived at New York on the 18th June, bringing intelligence from England and France to the 6th of June.

Scarcely had the Atlantic left Liverpool, with the news of the great successes which had taken place on the part of the allies against the Russians, than further intelligence in reference to their position on the Sea of Azoff had reached England. From a dispatch which had been received at the Admiralty, from Sir E. Lyons, at Kertsch, dated the 31st of May, it appears that the squadron in the Sea of Azoff had appeared before Genitich, landed a body of seamen and marines, and after driving the Russian force from the place, had destroyed all the depots and vessels laden with corn and supplies for the Russian army. Only one man was wounded. Since entering the Sea of Azoff four steamers-of-war and 240 vessels employed in conveying supplies to the Russian army in the Crimea, have been destroyed.

The Monitor of the 4th inst. publishes the following despatch from Gen. Pelissier to the Minister of War: "Crimea, June 1—We have sprung two mines in front of the Flagstaff Bastion. The second explosion did considerable damage to the enemy. In the ravine of Careening Bay, in advance of our works, our engineers discovered a transverse line of twenty-four cubic cases filled with gunpowder—each forty centimetres thick on the inside—placed at equal distances, and buried just beneath the soil. Each case, containing one-fifth of a kilogramme of powder, is covered with a fuming apparatus which would explode by the simple pressure of the foot. These cases have been taken up by our engineers."

Later advices from the Sea of Azoff state that the steam flotilla of the Allies has destroyed above 200 vessels and six millions of rations of corn and flour destined for the Russian army at Sebastopol.

The conferences at Vienna were formally closed at a late sitting held on the 4th inst. The Morning Herald, in a telegraphic dispatch dated June 2, states that the Allies had taken the town of Sawngeli, at the mouth of the Putrid Lake, burnt a month's rations of the whole Russian army, and destroyed the shipping. There is little doubt but that this account is the French version of the affair at Genitich.

A dispatch from Prince Gortschakoff, dated the 29th, states that the Allies have occupied Kertsch, but have not pushed inwards. He reports that in consequence of the measures which he has taken, the Allies will not be able to cut off the communications of the Russian army.

The Port Gazette of Frankfort publishes a dispatch from Odessa, to the effect that the Russians are raising batteries to command the channel near Genitich, which connects the Putrid Lake with the Sea of Azoff. Another dispatch says that General Oushakoff had arrived at Perekop with his division—four infantry regiments, each 3,000 strong. General Grossheilen had also arrived at Perekop, with his Light Cavalry division—the third consisting of four regiments, each 600 strong. These figures would give Prince Gortschakoff a reinforcement of 18,000 men—a number which more exact information would probably reduce.

Letters from Berlin of the 1st instant state that the successes of the Allies in the Crimea.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)