

The Oregon Argus

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. OREGON CITY: SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1856.

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Palmer's Head Rolls from the Block. The Legislative Assembly, after having voted to JOEL PALMER, Indian Agent, the use of the Hall, so as to give him an opportunity to be heard in self-justification, afterwards, upon motion of Fred Waymire, re-considered the former resolution by almost a unanimous vote, Messrs. Barkwell, Briggs, and Johnson being all that voted in the negative. It will be recollected that this terrible body had already passed a resolution to memorialize Congress to stay Gen. PALMER from locating certain Indians in this valley. Upon the discussion of the resolution many very severe things were said about Palmer, by Boies, Waymire, and the "gentleman from Linn." Gen. P., it seems, read these speeches in the Statesman, (if he takes any other paper we don't know it.) and repaired to Salem to obtain an audience, and explain himself fully to the "unwashed."

Upon the motion to reconsider, nearly all sat, with mouth wide open, ready to vote yea, as the motion came from the "Old Apostle" and leader of the flock. A few seemed to hesitate, momentarily, waiting for "the gentleman from Linn" to endorse the motion, in order to put the "brand" or seal of the clique to it. The "Old Apostle" was consequently called to the "cheer," when "the gentleman from Linn" proceeded to "drum a few (!) remarks," in his usual high-pressure style. If there had been a doubt in the minds of his unsophisticated auditors, it was rapidly dispelled by the animating eloquence that came squirting all around them in translucent streams. The hitherto doubting brethren soon began to revive, under a sensation perhaps very similar to that experienced by a wilting garden vegetable, in a hot day, after a gracious ablu-tion from a watering pot. The occasion was a deeply interesting and important one. It was decidedly necessary to make a crushing effort. PALMER, poor fellow, must be decapitated without the benefit of clergy, or even of a trial; yea, more, without a hearing! They all had some slight misgivings as to the decency, propriety, humanity, or democracy of such a course. Now the object is, to reconcile the measure with the latter, the three former being secondary, and entirely independent from it. "The gentleman from Linn" has the rostrum for that very purpose. His auditors are fully impressed with his ability; a new supply of sulphur and iron filings has been thrown into his retort; the gas begins to come; up he rises. All science, all philosophy, and all history, are as usual kneaded into hotch-potch balls, similar to those for stuffing turkeys, a part of which the orator dashes at the heads of PALMER's supporters, and crams the balance into the open mouths of his auditors. A precedent was what they wanted—a precedent drawn from ancient history. This the orator was determined they should have, and by the following flight to Greece and Rome, (he ought to have gone to Africa,) he drove the nail and clinched it, unraveled the last "kink" in the craniums of even the Clackamas members, and decided the "unwashed" to stuff cotton in their ears, and send Palmer off with a flea in his ear.

California Prices. The HERALD of Jan. 5, quotes Oregon flour at \$4 25 per hund. Fine flour un-branded, \$4 00. Golden Gate, \$5 25 per hund. Markets dull, fluctuating and uncertain. Sales limited. Oats dull at 88 cts. Potatoes, from \$1 72 to 2 17 per bushel. Pork, not quoted. Butter, 34 1/2 cts. Coffee 12 1/2 cts.

A Question for School Boys. Why is it, that if you wish to multiply any given number by 5, the result will be the same, if you divide the number to be multiplied, by 2, annexing a cipher to the right of your quotient when there is no remainder, and annexing a 5 when there is a remainder? That this is universally true, you will find by trial; the question is, why is it so? Now boys, send in the reason, if you can.

Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express delivered us exchanges on the arrival of the Columbia, only forty-seven hours in advance of the Pacific Express, and ten hours in advance of the mail.

Our Relations with England. By the latest advices, the hopes of many that England and Uncle Sam would get at loggheads, have pretty much died out.

Gov. Stevens arrived at Portland, last Thursday.

Now any body who supposes that our august legislators could have resisted such an argument as that, must look upon them as possessing more learning and firmness than the party has any use for. If the "histories of Greece and Rome, together with those of England and France," show that they never allowed their Indian Agents to enter their Senate chambers to make speeches, why should the history of Oregon show that we had done so? If Grecians enforced the gag law, why shouldn't Grecians do the same!

The argument was conclusive, and irresistible. By the way, if the "cheerman" wasn't allowed to let off a few gallons of such hydro-gen as this, the accumulation and expansion of it would soon lift him out of his seat, and fasten him to the ceiling overhead.

We have no doubt that at the time Tyler lost track of him in South America he had made a balloon ascension, and was only enabled to descend to the earth again by "making a speech," (to himself, of course,) and letting off a quantity of gas. When he dies, there will be no necessity for putting him in an iron coffin and attracting it upwards with leadstone, in order, like Mahomet, to convince his followers that he was a prophet. In twenty-four hours after his demise, if he isn't tapped, he will be sure to go up.

The War North. It is said that the volunteer companies will not move against the Indians for the present, having nobody to take the command. Maj. Chion is said to have failed to recognize the legality of the election of Cornelius as Colonel, as the election was held before an order from the Gov. arrived for holding an election. Col. Cornelius is said to have declined assuming the command until the legality of his election is decided.

Life of Greeley. We have been perusing the life of Horace Greeley, by J. Parton. Greeley is certainly rather an interesting subject for a biographer, although he seems to have lopped off by the attrition of city life, some of the most interesting features which he bore about, in and outside of his body, among the barren hills of New Hampshire, and while he was learning his trade at East Poultney, Vt.—We have not altered our conviction by reading his life, that whatever error Greeley may have embraced during his researches, he is entitled to the credit of being an honest politician.

For Territorial Printer. The vote stood as follows: For Bush—Drain, Fulkerson, Huber, O'Brian, Prou-bles, Dennison, Boies, Buckingham, Brown of Linn, Burbank, Callender, Cozad, Gates, Grant, Grover, Harpole, Harris, Harrison, Hutson, Jackson, McAlexander, Moores, Officer, Rialoy, Robinson, Straight, Tichenor, Waymire, and Delazon Smith; 29. For Taylor—Ross, Avery A. Smith, Barkwell, Briggs, Hale, Johnson, and Smith of Jackson; 7.

Absent—Kelley, 1; Voting blank—Brown, of Multnomah, and Shuck; 2. We have published the names, so as to preserve them.

We look upon the fool of an Indian salmon peddler, as occupying a much higher position than that occupied by a "fool" of this "Territorial Printer."

The Legislature. A Bill has passed both branches of the Legislature changing the times of holding the Circuit Courts in the Territory, but the "times" fixed upon as substitutes we have not yet learned. A bill has also passed the lower House repealing the act locating the University at Jacksonville.

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Harper's Magazine. We have received the November and December numbers of Harper's, from J. W. Sullivan. The subscribers to this work get nearly two thousand pages of reading matter in a year for the pittance of three dollars. We consider Harper's Magazine one of the best published. The editor is a man of excellent literary taste, and has a faculty possessed by few men, of successfully compiling a work with a view to instructing, chastening, and amusing his readers. Clubs of five persons can get the Magazine for \$10 a year.

Godey's Lady's Book for January, 1856, has already been received from the enterprising publishers. As it came by mail, it was a few hours behind the express, by which we received the other "Magazines." We never knew how highly Godey was appreciated by the ladies till last week. As we threw down upon the table a bundle of magazines, our better half hastily glanced them over, with a woe-begon look, and exclaimed, "What's the reason you have not got the magazines?" Upon our pointing to the table, "She exclaimed with a look of disappointment 'you haven't got Godey's Lady's book!'" And is it possible, that even in the wilds of Oregon, in the island of the sea, and in every clime, where the Stars and Stripes are unfurled if a man wants to have "peace in the family," he must have the Lady's Book, whether or no?—Well, we can all be accommodated, rich and poor, as Godey is now giving it away, at the rate of five copies for Ten dollars. The January number is worth the price of the whole year's subscription.

Address L. A. Godey, 113 Chesnut St., Philadelphia. Extreme Cold. Our correspondent at Yoncalla, Umpqua, writing Dec. 28th, says: "We have to day a specimen of the climate of the hyperborean regions. The thermometer stood this morning at or near 17 deg. below zero. The snow is eight inches deep." A correspondent twenty-five miles farther south, says that "the thermometer has stood 14 deg. below zero for several days and nights." This was dated Jan. 3. Now it so happens that the thermometer has been but 6 deg. below zero at Oregon City this winter; and that only on one morning. Will our friends 120 miles south of us, explain why the climate grows colder the farther South you get? This is a problem that may puzzle our readers in the States, notwithstanding our Umpqua friends may have a ready solution.

Mr. Humphrey lectures this evening in the Hall over the French Store, on Psychology, spiritual rappings, &c.

Gen. Wool left Portland last Saturday on the Columbia, for California. Query—Has he gone down to purchase oats?

Ex-Gov. McDougal, of California, passed through this city last Thursday, on his way up country.

The Wheat Crops. W. R. D., our correspondent from the Waldo Hills, Marion County, says—"The late freeze has done considerable injury to the wheat crops in this section, though not so much I think, but that we shall have a pretty good yield next harvest."

Fire Up at Bethany, Va. The following we clip from an exchange, but that it is wholly correct we very much doubt. We are too well acquainted with the Faculty of Bethany College, to believe that they would refuse to their pupils the "rights of American citizens among which was freedom of speech." However, as things "ain't now as they used to was," in many other places, Bethany may have yielded to the pressure of outward circumstances.

A Student in a Tight Place.—Last week there was a great commotion at the Disciples' College presided over by Rev. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL at Bethany, Va.—It was produced by a student by the name of Burns, who, in fulfillment of his appointment to preach on Sabbath evening in the college pulpit, pursuant to the election of a

College Literary Society, to which he belonged, undertook to speak on the subject of Human Rights and in opposition to Slavery, though in very mild terms. His remarks, mild as they were, produced a furious excitement among the Southern Students and others, who were known to be armed with deadly weapons. The meeting was greatly disturbed by hisses, yells, cat calls, &c., and threats of violence against the speaker were freely thrown out. The mob spirit finally prevailed, and the Southerners had made their arrangements to lay violent hands upon Burns, and duck him in the river and commit other atrocities upon him. His friends, however, gathered around him, and he was enabled to escape, in the darkness of the night, from those who were lying in wait to seize him.

The Southern students met next day and resolved that the subject of Slavery should not be discussed in college. The Faculty censured Burns, one of them remarking, that when among gun powder they must not carry matches. The Northern students also met, and resolved that inasmuch as the Faculty refused to award to them the rights of American citizens, among which was freedom of speech, they would remain no longer in connection with the Institution. They accordingly determined to leave. All the Northern students, except a very few who remained awaiting orders from home, left, and also some from the South.

Three of the Northern students who were on their way home, spent the last Sabbath in this village, and from them, through a friend, we have derived the above recited facts, which need no commentary.

Mr. Burns, the student above alluded to, is a Scotchman, from Canada, and was formerly a student at the Eclectic Institute, at Hiram, in this County.—Portage (O.) Democrat.

Contested Seat. Judge Trumbull, of Ill., has taken his seat in the U. S. Senate. The only evidence of his election was furnished by the Secretary of the Senate, and the Clerk of the other branch of the Legislature of Ill. The Gov. refused to grant a certificate upon the ground that Trumbull was elected in violation of a clause in the State constitution, which provides that the Judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts shall not be eligible to any other office of public trust or profit in that State or the United States, during the term for which they were elected, or for one year thereafter; and all votes given for either of them, for any elective office, except that of Judge of the Supreme or Circuit Courts, shall be void. Trumbull had been elected a Justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, and commissioned for nine years from June 24th, 1852. He resigned his office, and was succeeded by another on the bench in July, 1853. He had been out of office nearly two years when he was elected to the U. S. Senate. Now the thirteen Senators and twenty four Representatives of the Legislature who voted against Trumbull, and for the Governor for Senator, who was equally obnoxious to the same clause in the constitution, contend that the election of Trumbull is void, and ask the U. S. Senate to correct the consummation of so great a wrong as the violation of the State constitution by a Legislative majority of their own State. Here is a nice question for a lawyer. Inasmuch as the people of a State have no power to elect a Senator, but the General Government provides for the election, by the Legislature thereof, can the people, by any enactments of their own, govern this question, or prescribe to the constitutional elective body any qualifications for the elected? The N. Y. Herald intimates that they cannot. We say they most unquestionably can. Whenever a State is admitted into the Union with a constitution directing the manner of the exercise of constitutionally delegated power to the people or their representatives, or prescribing qualifications for aspirants to offices created by the General Government, she is admitted as having adopted a constitution in harmony with the U. S. Constitution, and every arrangement in her organic act for giving delegated power a given direction, or for prescribing the qualifications of her citizens she wishes to hold offices created solely for the good of the State, is to be looked upon at the time of her admission into the Union as the exercise of a natural and necessary prerogative in order to fully secure to her the benefits which such constitutional enactments by the General Government were intended to confer.

Martin Angell, formerly of this city, was killed by the Indians on New Year's day, within two miles of Jacksonville.

The Weather for the last week has been beautiful; the clear sunny skies, that overhung us, have turned our January into a spring month. We have had white frosts on three nights of the past week.

Baker's Trial. The trial of Baker for the murder of Wm. Poole, at Stanwix Hall, about nine months ago, was progressing when the steamer left N. Y. City. Up to the close of Dec. 8, the trial had consumed eleven days, and bid fair to occupy as many more. We are no prophet, but we will venture a "guess," that Baker will not be hung.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

The P. M. S. S. Columbia, Capt. DALL, arrived at Portland last night a week ago. By Wells, Fargo & Co., and the Pacific Express, we received files of California and States papers. Our dates from N. Y. city are to Dec. 11.

The news from the States is of uncommon interest. Much of it will be found on our outside to-day.

Congress met on the 3d of Dec. Mr. Hale offered a resolution in the Senate requesting the President to inform the Senate whether he had received any evidence of such resistance to the laws in Kansas as to require the interposition of military force to restore law and order in that Territory.—Upon the suggestion of Mr. Hunter, of Va., that the President's message would probably contain the information desired, Mr. Hale consented that the resolution should lie over.

Mr. Adams, dem., of Miss., gave notice of a bill to amend the naturalization laws. The House of Representatives was called to order at noon, by Mr. Forney, the Clerk. Two hundred and twenty-five members answered to their names.

Upon motion of Mr. Jones, of Tenn., the House proceeded to the election of a Speaker. Upon the first ballot the vote stood as follows:

Table with names and vote counts: For W. A. Richardson, (dem.) of Ill. 74; L. D. Campbell, (free soil K. N.) of Ohio, 52; H. Marshall, (whig K. N.) of Ky., 30; N. P. Banks, Jr., (dem. K. N.) of Mass., 21; H. M. Fuller, (whig.) of Penn., 17; A. C. M. Pennington, (whig. of N. J.), 17; Aaron Harlan, (whig.) of Ohio, 7; John Wheeler, (dem.) of N. Y., 3; B. W. Thurston, (whig K. N.) of R., 3; Wm. A. Howard, (whig.) of Michigan, 2; I. Washburne, Jr., (whig.) of Maine, 1; Daniel Maco, (dem.) of Ind., 1; Henry Bennett, (whig.) of N. Y., 1; J. Williams, (dem. K. N.) of N. Y., 1; Wm. A. Lake, (dem. K. N.) of Miss., 1; S. G. Haven, (whig.) of N. Y., 1; S. G. Hawley, (whig K. N.) of Ohio, 1; M. H. Nichols, (dem. K. N.) of Ohio, 1; K. Miller, (whig.) of N. Y., 1; R. Sage, (whig.) of N. Y., 1; W. O. Goode, (dem.) of Va., 1.

Upon the fourth vote, Richardson received 72; Campbell, 57; Marshall, 30; Banks, 21; Fuller, 17; Pennington, 17; Harlan, 7; Wheeler, 3; Thurston, 3; Howard, 2; Washburne, Jr., 1; Maco, 1; Bennett, 1; Williams, 1; Lake, 1; Haven, 1; Hawley, 1; Nichols, 1; Miller, 1; Sage, 1; Goode, 1. Five days were spent by the House in fruitless attempts to elect a Speaker. On the 33d ballot, which took place Dec. 8th, Richardson received 73; Campbell, 70; Fuller, 17; Pennington, 17; Harlan, 7; Wheeler, 3; Thurston, 3; Howard, 2; Washburne, Jr., 1; Maco, 1; Bennett, 1; Williams, 1; Lake, 1; Haven, 1; Hawley, 1; Nichols, 1; Miller, 1; Sage, 1; Goode, 1. The friends of Banks were sanguine that they should be able to elect him on the 9th. All sorts of speculations are rife in Washington as to the final result of the voting.

If the House organizes this winter, there is a strong probability that Reeder will be admitted to a seat, instead of Whitfield, as the Delegate from Kansas.

H. Greeley is in Washington, where he expects to remain as a reporter and correspondent of the Tribune during the session. He is interested in favor of the election of Banks.

The N. Y. papers report that Jo Lane is proposed in Washington for the vacant Brigadier-Generalship. The Washington correspondent of the San Francisco HERALD says "it will fail," and Gen. W. F. Smith or Gen. Harney will probably get it.

No election of a Senator yet by the Missouri Legislature. The Missouri Republicans of Dec. 5th has learned by telegraph that a coalition is being formed to elect two Senators, of whom Col. Benton will be one, and some Whig the other. The Legislature had agreed to go into joint ballot for the election on the 7th Dec.

The late election in Nebraska for Delegate to Congress resulted as follows: H. P. Bennett, 588; B. B. Chapman, 575.

This gives Bennett a majority of 13. The Board of Territorial canvassers, however, threw out the vote of Dacotah and Richardson counties, on the ground that certain persons resident on the Indian reservations were permitted to vote. The vote of two other counties, Otoe and Durt, was thrown out on the ground of some technical informalities in the returns. The result was, that out of the remaining counties Chapman, the Administration candidate, received a majority of 88. Gov. Izard gave Chapman a certificate of election. Bennett has gone to Washington to contest Chapman's seat.

The Democratic State Central Committee of Illinois has called a convention at Springfield, to be held on the first of May, to nominate candidates for Gov., and other officers.

The American Institute has purchased the Crystal Palace, on condition they can induce the Legislature to authorize the Common Council to lease them the ground for twenty five years. Terms, \$125,000.

Connecticut. The proposition to amend the Constitution so as to allow none to vote, who cannot read, was carried by over 4,000 majority.

The Telegraph Office has been removed to the Main Street House.

Much of our Kansas news will be found on our outside. The Convention of Delegates recently assembled at Topeka concluded its labors on the 11th Nov. The State Constitution, which was formed by that body, was to have been submitted to the people on the 15th Dec., and if adopted, an election is to be held on the 3d Tuesday in Jan. 1856 for Gov., Lieut. Gov., Sec'y of State, Treas., Auditor, Judges of the Supreme Court, Att'y Gen., and members of the General Assembly. Section 6 of the constitution declares that "there shall be no slavery in this State, nor involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crime." The 14th and last section of the constitution requires all slaves residing in Kansas at the time of the formation of the constitution to be manumitted on the 4th of July, 1857, if not previously removed from the State.

McCrea's trial was progressing slowly at Leavenworth. Judge LeCompte has at last found a grand jury willing to find a bill against him for murder. A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune says that during the trial every motion was ruled to the disadvantage of the prisoner, and every point decided against him by the Court.

The papers all over the Union were at a loss, when the news of civil war in Kansas reached them, to ascertain the cause of the difficulty. Below will be found an item clipped from the Herald of Freedom, which contains information of the murder of Dow by one Coleman. After the flight of Coleman, a posse of his friends, led on by the Sheriff appointed for four years by the Legislature elected by Missourians, proceeded in the night, with firearms, to the house of Branson, a friend of Dow's, and with whom he (Dow) had boarded. Branson was the principal witness against Coleman, and it was thought by Dow's friends that the object of arresting Branson was to invalidate his testimony. Branson was rescued from the hands of the mob headed by the Sheriff, and thus began the difficulty. Those who support the laws of the Missouri-Kansas Legislature are called the "Law and Order Party." Those who refuse to be governed by them, "The Rebels."

MURDER MORE FOLLOWS.—Our town was thrown into a high state of excitement on Thursday last by the intelligence from near Hickory Point, in this Territory, that Charles W. Dow, a young man about twenty-two years of age, was most barbarously murdered by a party of demons who rejoice in the appellation of "border ruffians." Mr. Dow had been to a blacksmith shop, where several of these demons incarnate were congregated. One of them drew a rifle on him, and threatened to shoot him on the spot, but finally set down his weapon without injuring anyone. Mr. Dow started to leave, and got away a few rods, when his attention was directed toward the shop by the explosion of a percussion cap. Looking around, he received a charge of buck-shot in his bosom from a wretch named Coleman, and fell dead upon the spot.

An attempt was made to arrest the murderer, but he was secreted by his Pro-Slavery abettors, and escaped to Missouri.—Herald of Freedom, Extra, (Lawrence,) Nov. 24.

Removal of Shannon. It will be seen by the following that Shannon is getting unpopular with even the Nebraska Democrats. Shannon, in order to make himself agreeable with Stringfellow, Atchison, and the Simon-pure free-staters on the "border," takes his "Squatter Sovereign" tea a little stronger of brimstone than his weak brethren can swallow. When the complaints reach Washington, the kitchen cabinet will decide whether the "orthodox" must swallow it or not.

Correspondence of the St. Louis Democrat. LEAVENWORTH, K. T. Nov. 17, 1855. Gov. Shannon's conduct has elicited the most indignant expressions of contempt and abhorrence from the conservative portions of our citizens. For an executive officer of his rank to place himself at the head of a political party and associate fraternally with men who have hitherto violated all law and advised others to invade the Territory, was as little expected as desired, and is viewed with astonishment and anger.

A petition has been drawn up and is now in course of signature to his Excellency the President of the United States, praying for his immediate removal. * * * The most active opponents of Mr. Shannon, are "Nebraska" or "Administration" Democrats. Here is the petition:

To his Excellency the President of the United States: May it please your Excellency: We, the undersigned citizens of Doniphan County, respectfully petition your Excellency to remove the present Chief Executive officer of this Territory—Gov. Wilson Shannon—and replace him by a gentleman of judgement and ability, who, while a friend of "law and order," will refuse to recognize as law-abiding men ruffians who have invaded our borders and violated our ballot-box repeatedly, or residents of Kansas who have invited such outrages, and publicly defended them as just, necessary, and even constitutional.

Many of us, may it please your Excellency, expended our time and money, used all our influence and voted in order to secure your election; many of us are still the friends of your administration, and hope to remain so; but no one of us, we solemnly assure you, President Pierce, will in future be found in the ranks of any man or any party who dares, as Gov. Shannon has dared, to invade the conduct of the illegal voters from Missouri, who have hitherto controlled our elections, national and local, and publicly boast that they will act hereafter as they have acted in time past. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

W. A. Dumbear