

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, and will be in the receipt of additional material to all the requirements of the locality. HANDBILLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

THE LAND OF DREAMS. BY WILLIAM C. BRYANT. A mighty realm is the land of dreams, With steps that hang in the twilight sky, And wakening ocean and trailing streams, That gleam where the dusky valleys lie. But over its shadowy borders flow Sweet rays from the world of endless morn, And the nearest mountains catch the glow, And flowers in the nearest fields are born.

THE LAND OF DREAMS. BY WILLIAM C. BRYANT. One calm, sweet smile in that shadowy sphere, From eyes that open on earth no more— One warning word in a voice once clear— How they rose in the memory o'er!

THE LAND OF DREAMS. BY WILLIAM C. BRYANT. Dear maid, in thy girlhood's opening flower, Scarce weaned from the love of childish play! The tears on whose cheeks are but the shower That freshens the early blooms of May!

THE LAND OF DREAMS. BY WILLIAM C. BRYANT. Thin eyes are closed, and o'er thy brow Pans thoughtful shadows and joy no gleams, And I know, by the moving lips, that now Thy spirit strays in the land of dreams.

THE LAND OF DREAMS. BY WILLIAM C. BRYANT. Light-hearted maiden, oh, heed thy feet! Oh, keep where that beam of Paradise fall! And only wander where thou may'st meet The blessed ones from the shining walls.

SOUTH YAMHILL, Polk Co., O.T. Jan. 14, 1855.

Friend Adams—DEAR SIR: It seems that I am compelled to ask permission to speak through the columns of THE ARGUS concerning the great explosion and cracking of revolvers, which took place in Mr. Walker's yard some time in the latter part of Oct. last. In short, I have no doubt that the popping of those small revolvers sounded equally as powerfully in the ears of Mr. Hall as the bombardment of Sebastopol did in the ears of the Russians, at the downfall of that great city, as he and all the family were taken with a leaving in time of the great Indian fight in Mr. Walker's yard. It also appears that no one happened to be hurt or wounded in the least, excepting Mr. Hall slightly feathered. He pretends to know the hour the shooting took place; be that as it may—I never charge my mind with so small matters, unless I had been very badly scared at the time.

But to the facts as they are. Myself, in company with Mr. Bohannon, an old party mate from Missouri, on our way from Portland, called to stay all night with Mr. Walker, also an old acquaintance from Missouri, and after talking some time on the affairs of Oregon, &c., it was suggested that we should fire off our revolvers for the purpose of regular shooting.

As we stepped into the yard, and fired them off—shooting just as regularly as the motions of a clock pendulum; (that represented a great Indian fight, indeed.) I then proposed firing again before we loaded with lead, as the echo fell most melodiously upon our ears as it rang thro' the tall fir that surrounded Mr. Walker's beautiful little farm; accordingly the shooting took place again, in regular order as stated above. As the sound of one would die away, another would come, &c., and the sounds were so nearly alike that any man would have supposed they all came from the same gun; in short, the whole matter was so conducted that no man of common sense would have taken it to be an Indian fight. We then lay down, Mr. Bohannon and myself in an adjoining room. In an hour perhaps after lying down some gentlemen called at the gate; the ladies of the house went to the door, and one of the gentlemen came up to the house, I suppose to learn the cause of the shooting. Mrs. Walker

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, Editor and Proprietor. AMERICA—knows naught of golden promises of kings; knows naught of coronets, and stars, and strings. VOL. 1. OREGON CITY, OREGON TERRITORY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1855. NO. 42.

told him the cause, and very politely apologized, at the same time saying she was very sorry to hear that the neighbors were so much alarmed. I did not understand a word the gentleman said. I was afterwards credibly informed he stated that the bridge was guarded, and that the whole neighborhood was aroused. I was also informed by good authority that there was an old lady in the neighborhood who was afflicted in one shoulder by the slightest exposure. The next morning I left for home, and near Hillsboro I heard a respectable young man say that "the people were all in an uproar in the neighborhood of Hall's last night, caused simply by some persons discharging a revolver or two."

I have just stated the facts as they were told to me concerning the bridge being guarded, the afflicted old lady, and the aroused state of the country, and I firmly believe them to be true. In conclusion I will just say that I have accounted to that insult of community which has done me no harm. Respectfully, R. D. BUTLER.

PORTLAND, O.T., Jan. 20, 1855.

Mr. Adams—SIR: "A Catholic Citizen" did not comply with your very reasonable request to unlock his name and give it to the public, and furnish the documents on which he relied to prove you in error, which, had he done so, would have justified him in his denunciations of jesuit-like cursings and calumnies and denunciations hurled against you so liberally, for stating and briefly commenting on a few official facts or facts as they are reported.

This idolatrous and wicked, and withered slip of apostate and degraded humanity, having committed the keeping of his conscience and the eternal destiny of his soul to the most corrupting class of all the classes of erring and depraved humanity, seems to be well qualified, in a moral point of view, for the slimy task imposed on him by those to whom he yields an unqualified obedience. Indeed, we might well suppose that the least conscientious and most debased instrument of the party would be used as a "cat's paw," to pronounce and calumniate the name and standing of the good—if perchance, they should be in the way of carrying out some nefarious and unholy scheme.

And you, Mr. Editor, have had the courage and manliness to state and comment on a few facts—the same as written by officers, and by the "boys" also, while encamped at or near Pandoy's sanctuary. This "Citizen" knows that it is all false, and consigns you to a terrible "gulf," (said to be prepared for apostates and unbelievers,) for telling the truth. Ah! indeed! this is the hurt. Truth, like fire on living flesh, is painful, and goading to those exposed by it. This evil-hearted "cat's paw" is evidently blinded by iniquity, as a snake in August by its superabundant poison; and the lameness and inefficiency of his defense is proof enough that he can't see one inch before his nose. The book from which he purported to make extracts was against him, if they were in any wise applicable. But then they gave a register of some only of his transactions with the Indians, (not in '55) in 1852-3. Suppose I accuse a man of killing my horse yesterday, and his advocate attempts to prove that the man was not in the county two years ago, with no effort to prove that he was not there on yesterday, would not such effort be scorned by the court, the jury, and every man of sense and reflection? Would it not be prima facie evidence of his guilt? This is precisely the case before us. Puffery is accused in '55, and his advocate attempts to prove him innocent in '52 and '53!

Well, the "cat's paw" proof in his second letter are just his own bare unsupported statements, and which, if true, would only be a thin veil, too transparent to relieve him, when his own handwriting, and other facts, plain, positive, and weigh y, are against him. The protests wanted middle Oregon to themselves, as in the winter of 1847. And the plans laid this time were too large and too systematic for the uncultivated savage, unadvised!

The Indians all over this valley, and the coast, and Umpqua, and Shasta and Rogue River, say that runners have been sent from east of the Cascades, to engage them in this war; and those in the valley, and on the coast, and down south, were to begin at a time suggested by the Indians east-jungleless to weaken the defense there. The scheme was a mammoth one, requiring a cultivated intellect.

See the "American and Unionist," published by Rev. Mr. Griffin, in 1848, in which he proves by the highest evidence known to the law that the priests and their satellites had no small agency in the massacre of Dr. Whitman and family, and many others, dear to both public and in mercy. I am far from condemning and accusing every Catholic. No; God forbid! And many of them cannot be made to believe that their priests, or any of them, are capable of such deeds. But the guilty should be exposed, and the public warned. W.

REVOLUTIONARY TESTIMONY TO THE JUSTNESS OF AMERICAN PRINCIPLES.—In an oration delivered at the request of Congress, by Gen. Henry Lee, on the death of Washington, Dec. 26 1799, that Revolutionary patriot used the following eloquent language:

"I think I see his august image, and hear falling from his venerable lips these deep-sinking words: 'Come, sons of America, lamenting on separation! Go on, and confirm by your wisdom the fruits of our joint efforts, and common dangers! Reverence religion, diffuse knowledge throughout your land, patronize the arts and sciences. Let liberty and order be inseparable companions. Control party spirit, the bias of free governments. Observe good faith to, and cultivate peace with all nations. Shut up every avenue to foreign influence; contract rather than extend national connections; rely on yourself only. Be Americans in thought, word, and deed. Thus will you give immortality to that Union which was the constant object of my terrestrial labors; thus will you preserve undisturbed to the latest posterity the felicity of a people to me most dear; and thus will you supply (if my happiness is now sought to you) the only vacancy in the round of pure bliss high Heaven bestows.'"

Such were the sentiments of General Lee, of Virginia, attributed to the Father of his Country, and which perfectly coincided with those he expressed during his life. Such are the principles against which the administration of Franklin Pierce and the whole foreign party are waging war, and for the avowal of which they proscribe patriotic Americans.

THE LAST OF MARION'S MEN.—A correspondent of the Kentucky Statesman gives the following sketch of an old citizen in Pulaski county, named Elijah Denny, who is perhaps the oldest man in Kentucky. He was 118 years of age on the 10th of September, and is as active as many men of forty. He works daily upon a farm, and throughout his whole life he has been an early riser. He informed the writer that he had never drunk but one cup of coffee, and that was in 1848. He served seven years in the war of the Revolution, and was wounded at the siege of Charleston; he was also at the siege of Savannah, and at the battle of Eutaw Springs; he was also present at the battles of Camden, King's Mountain, and Monk's Corner. He served under Col. Horry and Gen. Marion, and was an eye-witness of the sufferings and death of Col. Isaac Hayne, of South Carolina, an early victim of the Revolution. He is sprightly and active, and would be taken at any time to be a man of middle age. He is a strict member of the Baptist church, and rides six miles to every meeting of his church. He has four sons and five daughters, the eldest being now in his seventy-eighth year. Such is a brief sketch of this aged soldier and Republican, who is perhaps the only surviving soldier of Francis Marion, Su. pter, and Horry.

The Democratic injury in the Senate is having trouble about the Printership. The Administration wants the Union editors—Nicholson and Forney—to receive this spoil, to enable them to keep up the organ. But it is wing of the Democracy numbers only eighteen in caucus. Others oppose the nomination because they don't like the general course of the Union—and still others, because they are opposed to Pierce's administration which the Union advocates. As a consequence, the Democracy are sadly divided, and the result is in the hands of the twelve "Republican" Senators on the floor. The probability is that they will unite with the anti-Union democrats, and elect some new man yet named.—The blow will be a severe one to the Administration.—S. F. Herald.

MATRIMONIAL.—A woman in Memphis, Tennessee, lately married her ninth husband. An exchange paper says "she beats all the women we ever heard of." Her husband, probably care a very little how many women she beats, provided she doesn't beat him.

Sharp's Rifle. Mr. Sharp, the inventor of the wonderful fire-arm, known as "Sharp's Rifle" is now establishing a large factory in West Philadelphia, near the wire bridge over the Schuylkill river. I visited the establishment the other day, and found Mr. Sharp hard at work, erecting his machinery and preparing tools. When thoroughly organized, the new work will employ about 800 men, and finish off from 150 to 200 rifles per week, besides moulds and other equipment. The concern now in operation at Hartford, Conn. Mr. Sharp has no connection with it. It is owned by a company, and they are every way infringing upon the patent rights of Mr. S., beside producing an inferior description of rifle. They have been prosecuted for infringement, and will soon be wound up by an order from the court.

Sharp's rifle is the most efficacious and terrible fire-arm in existence. The small carbine now used by U. S. mounted men, throws a ball with deadly accuracy one-quarter of a mile, and can be fired ten times per minute. It is not complicated in structure, is easily cleaned, and suffers no injury from wet weather. Mr. Sharp is now preparing models for four new species of his weapon, namely: A small pocket pistol, calculated to throw a Minié ball one hundred yards; a cavalry pistol, with a range of five hundred yards; a rifle suitable for footmen, with a range of one mile; and a large gun to throw a two-ounce ball, or a small shell one mile and a half, or as far as a man and horse can be seen to advantage. With this latter weapon, Mr. S. declares he can set on fire a house or a ship at a distance of nearly two miles and prevent the use of field artillery by killing the horses before the guns are brought within good range. When completed, the piece will weigh about seventeen pounds, which for a strong man is not embarrassing. The service rifle for footmen will be a most serviceable and efficacious weapon, of about nine pounds weight throwing an ounce ball. Sporting rifles will also be made, of much smaller caliber, but the same range. These weapons should be the American arms and non-American citizens should be supplied with them.

Sharp's rifle, in the hands of a good marksman, who can load and fire rapidly, is fully equal to ten muskets, for short range, while for a medium or long distance a musket can no more compete with Sharp's carbine or rifle, than can a shilling pistol. Bayonet are obsolete, for place a man six rods distant, with a musket and layon't, and before he can bring it into use, the rifle can be loaded and discharged at least ten times. A column of infantry advancing upon a body of riflemen, would be almost annihilated before they came within musket range.

Mr. Sharp showed me certificates from scores of men, civilians and soldiers, who have used this rifle, and they all testify to its wonderful qualities. One officer now on the frontier, writes that two men with Sharp's rifle, on one occasion held thirty Indian warriors at bay; they were not able to approach sufficiently near to use their common rifles with any effect. As the talented and ingenious inventor declares, these rifles are destined to become the national weapon, and I hope Congress will purchase the patent and hold it secure from any other government or country. It will be about ten months before the new weapon I have referred to, will be ready for sale; after that time they can be had without much delay. Mr. Sharp is always ready to exhibit his weapons to strangers or persons desiring information concerning fire-arms, and his establishment is well worth a visit. I am told that Col. Colt has invented a new pistol, much superior to his present revolver, and that it will soon be offered to the public. I predict, however, that Sharp's pistol will be preferred to any description of revolver. After firing the six barrels of a revolver, it requires at least five minutes to load again, while Sharp's pistol may be fired twelve times per minute, all day if necessary. The cavalry pistol carries an ounce, and the pocket-pistol a half-ounce ball. They will be ready and for sale in a few months.—Cincinnati Times

The first National Thanksgiving day was appointed by President Washington, by proclamation, in January, 1795, who designated the 13th of January

During the year 1854, one hundred and sixty-five men were hung in the United States for murder. Of the number only seven could read and write.

Commodore Breeze at Constantinople—Terrible Fuss with the English Fleet. (Constantinople (Nov. 22) Correspondence of the London Times.

A United States steam corvette, whose complicated name, borrowed from some transatlantic stream, escapes my memory, arrived here the other day, bearing the flag of the renowned Commodore Breeze. She did not salute, but on coming to anchor sent on board the Admiral's ship to know why he had not saluted. It was politely intimated—so the story runs—to Brother Jonathan that it was his place to have first saluted the officer of higher rank. "By no means," retorted this gentle Breeze from across the water, "a Commodore being the highest officer in the American service, is of equal rank with an English Admiral." The consequence was that nobody saluted, and the powder was saved. But then arose another difficulty. Who was first to call upon the other—the Commodore on the Admiral, or the Admiral on the Commodore who esteemed himself his equal?—a point demanding grave deliberation. If I am rightly informed—but I make every reservation when speaking on so grave a subject—the difficulty was at last settled thus: The English flag lieutenant paid his respects on board the American steamer; the American flag captain called on the English flag captain who returned his visit; the Commodore then called on the Admiral, and the Admiral called on the Commodore.—Thus were all conflicting interests and points of etiquette satisfactorily reconciled, and there is no danger, I am happy to say, of a war between Great Britain and the United States arising out of the susceptibilities of Commodore Breeze.

(From the Albany Prohibitionist.)

Property is Rum. Under this head, we are glad to put our readers in possession of the following well reasoned remarks by the venerable Dr. Humphrey, ex-President of Amherst College, who has written at our request:—"You ask my opinion on the point 'Can there be property in Rum, when offered for sale as a beverage—to be protected by law?'"

"I am afraid my opinion will be worth but very little; but I cannot refuse to throw out a few such thoughts as I have. You know that I am no lawyer, and I cannot tell whether your State Constitution permits you to make a law forfeiting intoxicating drinks when offered for sale as a beverage, for I never read it. But if it does stand in the way of your cutting off the head of the Hydra, it is high time that it was amended. I shall base what I have to say upon the great law of self-protection, which underlies every written law, whether organic or statutory. Can any property claim the protection of law, in a use of it, which to a certainty, not only endangers, but actually destroys the health, morals and lives of thousands upon thousands every year? Are we to sit down in despair, and see rather the wholesale slaughter go on forever, because the destroying agent is but hit with money, and thousands grow rich upon the traffic? Intoxicating drinks are no more property than the keys and files and saws of the midnight house-breaker are—than the implements of counterfeiting are; but nobody claims, that they should be protected against seizure, because they cost money and men get their living by the use of them. The question is not, how much was paid for them, nor how many have made house-breaking and counterfeiting a lucrative business. It is enough that the public interest and safety require the seizure and confiscation. No doubt, keys and files and saws and drills are necessary and lawful articles of traffic when sold for legitimate purposes; but should this authorize the sale and protection of them from seizure, when it is known to be a moral certainty, that they will be put to a bad use, as is the case, where intoxicating drinks are sold as a beverage?"

"Why not let apothecaries keep poisonous drugs to be sold as a beverage, if anybody wants them; and why not protect them from seizure, if anybody should choose to deal them out for such a use? Why forbid gun-powder to be stored in the dens of a city, and why seize it and fine the owner because, as soon as it is found—Drugs are private property, powder is private property, as much as rum or brandy. Why interfere, then, with the sale and storage? It is to protect the property and lives which they might destroy. And may not the State protect itself against infinitely greater dangers and wholesale slaughter by a law which shall forbid the sale of alcoholic drinks as a beverage, and seize

them when in defiance of the law they are sold to make and kill drunkards by scores, and hundreds? Alcohol is property, is it! and so sacred that nobody may touch it, when there is no other way to save the community from its fiery ravages! It is property! It cost money and to be retained for a great deal more than its cost, and so let the demon and his impa go on, poisoning all whom they can tempt and to haunt their graves! God of mercy, deliver us, oh deliver us!!

"PITTSFIELD, Mass., Sept. 18th, 1855."

Kansas—An Historical Retrospect.

Whatever fears others may entertain with respect to the peaceable settlement, ultimately of the brawls which now agitate the Territory of Kansas, we ourselves feel satisfied that they will terminate in the recognition of law and order; and that whether the State be admitted as a slave or free-soil member of the confederacy, its citizens after passing through the rough ordeal not uncommon to the frontier, will be adequately protected, both in person and property. The history of the United States offers several instances of a similar condition of things, although the causes were various which led to such turbulent demonstrations. During the Revolutionary War the Vermonters, under Ethan Allen, openly repudiated the jurisdiction of New York; formed an independent government; issued grand-jury indictments; equipped with a variety of mad and whimsical freaks, even while exhibiting their devotion to the cause of liberty, by crushing Baum at Bennington, as the Tennesseeans, three years later, crushed Ferguson at King's Mountain; and yet a compromise was finally effected with New York, the spirit of insubordination was rebuked, and Vermont, in 1791, was admitted into the Union.

The earlier settlers of Tennessee bore, also, a few years later—notwithstanding their memorable achievement at King's Mountain—a character far from reputable in the eyes of the more orderly colonists dwelling on the sea board; yet John Sevier, their leader—"Nollicucky Jack," as he was familiarly called—displayed subsequently, in the National Councils, as much ability as he had previously exhibited energy and determination in partisan warfare against English and Indian foes. But the Mountain men on the Hills and Watauga, like many of those who now inhabit Kansas, were tough and intemperate, while the large number of lawless ruffians who subsequently sought refuge in those Cumberland fastnesses, by no means tended to improve the general tone of society, or to bring the original border population into better odor abroad. Their subsequent disputes with the mother State of North Carolina; their bold erection of the territory they occupied into the independent State of Franklin; and the petty civil war which ensued, created considerable commotion at the time, and really threatened serious consequences. But wiser counsels prevailed. North Carolina ceded her public territory to the General Government; a continuous stream of immigration followed; committees of safety executed summary justice upon the most daring offenders; the State of Tennessee was organized, and, from that time, the laws of the land were faithfully and effectually administered.

Texas and California are still more recent instances of a similarly lawless condition of society, while the Missouri disturbances in 1820, presented complications certainly quite as serious, in a national point of view, as any that are likely to arise out of the present state of affairs in Kansas.—Baltimore Patriot.

GOV. REYDER.—The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer, on the date of Dec. 1, writes as follows: "I had an interview last evening with Gov. Reyder. His views are exceedingly moderate; there is nothing extreme, fanatical, or pro-pretorian about him. The real cause of the disturbance, he thinks, is the active and criminal interference of the Administration and its salaried agents to defeat the will of the people. This intervention he hopes will be counteracted by the decisive action of Congress. He admits that the duty thrown upon the House requires great firmness and nerve, but as the exercise of those qualities is needed, he relies upon finding them."

POPULATION OF ST. LOUIS.—The Intelligencer says, "A year since, the census of St. Louis within the city limits as fixed about ten years ago, was about 94,000. The city has outgrown these limits about 25 per cent. Our population is now not less than 120,000. The Legislature is, at last, extending the limits so as to take in the past ten years' growth of the city. When the act is passed, we shall have a census taken, and give the world the exact figures."