

THE OREGON ARGUS.

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ECCHOES.

Still the angel stars are shining, Still the rippling waters flow, But the ancient voice is faint That I heard here long ago.

For the Argus.

State Government.

LAFAYETTE, Feb. 5, 1856.

Mr. Editor—I notice in your paper of the 2d instant an invitation to discuss the question of State organization, and I avail myself of it to lay before your readers some of the more prominent reasons for voting for a Convention on the first Monday in April next.

I am glad the question has been submitted to the people as a separate and distinct issue, for I have no desire to see the influence of party brought to bear upon it; and if it is made a party issue, it shall not be with my consent or approbation.

The principal objection urged against the formation of a State Government is the assumed inability of the people to sustain it without a resort to oppressive taxation; for no one pretends to doubt that many advantages would result from it.

I have said that \$30,000 would be amply sufficient to meet every needful expenditure incident to the organization of a State government, over and above our expenses as a Territory.

No enterprising capitalist refuses to invest in Rail-Road or other stocks for the reason that they will not yield a dividend for the first three or four years.

The people of Oregon are now called upon to invest some thirty thousand dollars a year in State government stock, with a moral certainty that it will pay a very large interest on the investment.

The value of property, as well as of labor, is always regulated by the amount of money in actual circulation. Now, if we can bring into the State an addition of one hundred thousand dollars over what we receive as a Territory, by paying out to our own citizens thirty thousand a year, is it not plain that we have a net gain of seventy thousand?

We will suppose, by way of illustration, that the General Government now expends in the Territory one hundred thousand dollars for support of the government and for internal improvements, (and this is a high estimate.) If we take the statistics of appropriations made to the new States for the first few years after their coming into the Union, we will find them fourfold greater than were made to the Territory for the same period.

The Government has expended in the State of California for improvements more

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W. L. ADAMS, Editor and Proprietor.

AMERICA—Knows nought of golden promises of Kings; Knows nought of Coronets, and Stars, and Strings.

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than a million a year; and who will doubt this being secured to a great extent by her representatives in Congress. This consideration alone would leave a balance in favor of State organization of three or four hundred thousand a year.

Secondly—The moment we become a State we are entitled to receive 500,000 acres of land, to be located within the limits of the State, as a sort of marriage portion; to be used in any way the people may determine. All the land west of the Cascade Range worth having is already occupied. The territory east of the mountains is now open for settlement, and arrangements are being made for its survey.

Thirdly—We are now incurring an expenditure of millions of dollars for the prosecution of the pending Indian wars, and we are looking to the General Government for ultimate payment. Having no substantial representation in Congress, we find officers of the military department predicting great delay, if not refusal to pay, on the part of the government.

I have said that \$30,000 would be amply sufficient to meet every needful expenditure incident to the organization of a State government, over and above our expenses as a Territory. It is true, we might augment it to eighty or one hundred thousand; but I take it for granted that the people, who pay the money, have the matter entirely in their own hands, and will be likely to consult the most rigid economy in the formation of their Constitution.

Making the total expense to be provided for, thirty three thousand dollars per year. It must be borne in mind that the salaries of Auditor, Treasurer, and District Attorney are now paid out of the Territorial Treasury, and that the Marshal and other United States officers would continue to be paid by the General Government, as also a Judge of the District Court, and the expenses of the Court. This would relieve our three Judges of a large amount of business now devolved upon them.

In my next letter I will show, by the statistics of the States which passed through a Territorial pupillage, that the relative increase in wealth and population of the last three years of their Territorial vassalage, and the first three of their probation as a State, is greatly in favor of an early State organization.

"We wish to tear up the deadly Opus of the liquor traffic by the roots, and entirely to eradicate it, with all its consequences."

Mr. Editor—This is a part of a paragraph over the signature of "J. R. M.," of Lafayette, Jan. 12th, 1856, in your paper of Jan. 26th. The article is headed, "Injury to the cause of Prohibition by injudicious advocates."

Now, my dear sir, allow me to say, first, that our friend J. R. M. is a young, not to say timid, advocate of prohibition. He tells us, after a long apology and a lengthy argument to prove "Prohibitionist" wrong, that "we wish to tear up the Opus of the liquor traffic."

Two hundred years' experience and experimenting upon the license system of friend J. R. M., has only increased the evil, and made a business that was before doubtful, and considered dangerous, to become legal and respectable, by law, and long-established usage.

I am suspicious that our friend's fears are excited upon another point, which is, the "exception for sacramental purposes," as intimated by "Prohibitionist." Upon this point I have never doubted but the church was half a century behind the times, and would, if she could, dictate every moral reform, so as to comport with her own sanctified drunkenness.

Your memorialists would have borne all these grievances in silence, and left these public acts and omissions of Gen. Wool, to the just judgment of the people of Oregon and Washington Territories, and to the approval or disapproval of the proper officers of the United States Government.

means of subsistence for the Oregon Volunteers now in the field. Instead of offering aid and encouragement to our people, he has shown a disgraceful activity in his endeavors to persuade our merchants and those of California not to furnish ammunition and supplies for our Volunteers in this trying time of their need; instead of attending to the duties of his high office, he has become an intermeddler between the people of Oregon and the Government of the United States, and publicly declared that his influence will be exerted to prevent the payment by the United States of the just claims incurred in prosecution of this war.

Therefore inasmuch, as your memorialists, as well as the people of Oregon have lost all confidence in the willingness of Gen' Wool to assist and defend them in their present Indian difficulties, they most respectfully ask that he be recalled from the command of the Military Department of the Pacific, and your memorialists will ever pray.

Passed Jan. 30th, 1856. (Signed) Speaker of House of Representatives. A. P. DENNISON, President of the Council.

While this distinguished statesman and patriot was Vice President of the United States, it was customary for the individual holding the said high office, to attend to business more in person, than the refinements of more modern times will allow. It happened on one occasion that some important matter required his attention in Philadelphia, and some other places distant from the Capitol.

We are happy to say that this cry for relief was not unheeded by the Governor, and that our citizens, with promptness and zeal which a sense of danger alone could call forth, volunteered to go out in defense of their country, leaving their homes and the various avocations in which they were engaged; they have nobly discharged their duties under many adverse and trying circumstances, and are still in the heart of the enemy's country combating the Indians, or holding possession of the country which they have conquered.

His past services had led us to hope that he would at once have sent the forces under his command to the assistance and relief of our Volunteers, who were desirous of returning to their homes.

Jefferson did not hear the remark, and asked if he could be accommodated with a room. His voice which was commanding and attractive, occasioned another survey of his person by the honest proprietor of the house, whose only care was for its reputation. He could not find, however, in his plain dress, pretty well covered with mud, anything indicating either wealth or distinction, and in his usual rough style, he said—

"A room?" Jefferson replied, "Yes, sir, I should like to have a room to myself, if I can get it." "A room, all to yourself? no—no, we have no room—there's not a spare room in the house—all full—all occupied—can't accommodate you."

The Vice President turned upon his heel, called for his horse, which by this time was snug in the stable—mounted and rode off. In a few minutes one of the most wealthy and distinguished men of the town came in and asked for the gentleman who rode up to the door a few minutes before.

"Gentleman?" said Boyden. "There has been no gentleman here on horseback this afternoon, and no stranger at all, but one common looking country fellow who came in and asked if he could have a whole room; but I asked him out of that mighty quick, I tell you—I told him I had no room for such chaps as him!"

"No room for such chaps as him!" "No, by the pipers, no room for anybody that don't look respectable."

For fifteen minutes Boyden raved like a madman, and went fifty times to the door to see if his wished for guest was returning. The Vice President rode up to Market street, where he was recognized by many of his acquaintances, and by them directed to the Globe tavern, which stood somewhere near the corner of Market and Charles streets—here Boyden's servants came up, and told him their master had provided rooms for him.

"Tell him I have engaged rooms," said Jefferson. Poor Boyden's mortification can be better imagined than described; the chaps who were loitering about the bar and the large hall, and had laughed heartily at the disappointment of the muddy farmer, had prepared to laugh at their down-cast landlord. After some time he prevailed upon some friend to wait on Mr. Jefferson with his apology, and request that he should return and take lodgings at his house, promising the best room, and all the attention should be given him.

Mr. Jefferson returned the following answer:—"Tell Mr. Boyden," said he, "I appreciate his kind attentions, but if he had no room for the muddy farmer, he shall have none for the Vice President!"—Baltimore Athenaeum.

The 12th volume of M. Theirs' history of the French Revolution has been published. It is to be succeeded by three more, appearing at intervals of three months. He has been employed upon the work some fifteen years, but the distinguished historian excuses himself as follows:

"The work might, I acknowledge, have been done more quickly, but I have such respect for the mission of history that the fear of alleging anything inexact fills me with a sort of confusion. I take no repose until I have discovered the proof of the fact which is the object of my doubts. I seek it wherever it can be, and I do not rest until I have found it, or until I have acquired the certainty that it does not exist."

The State of Vermont, with a population of over 300,000, pays about \$150,000 per annum for all the expenses of government, or less than fifty cents a head for her people. She owed at the close of her last fiscal year, \$48,038, and had funds to balance this sum to the amount of \$59,352. There was in her Treasury at the year's end, \$16,703, and her annual expenses had been \$153,127.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY A NATIONAL HOLIDAY.—The N. Y. Commercial Advertiser has a long article on our National Festivals, and urges the press to make a united and earnest call upon Congress to declare an early day after its organization, that Washington's birth-day shall be henceforth a national holiday. We certainly hope this appeal of our cotemporary will be heard. Few, if any, countries have so small a number of holidays as the United States.—Chicago Journal.

A bill has been introduced in the Tennessee Legislature for the purchase of the Hermitage by the State of Tennessee. The Nashville Union says: "Tennessee should own the ground in which repose the remains of her most illustrious son. The property can now be purchased on reasonable terms, and it should be owned by the people. That the people would say so, if the decision were in their hands, we have no doubt; and we trust there is no doubt that their representatives will say so too."

Thackeray says he once had an idea of collecting all the lies the English told about the French and the French about the English, in the Napoleon period—but he shrank from the task.