THE OREGON ARGUS.

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VOL. II.

Breaking up of the Ice at St. Louis, and

On the evening of the 26th, the ice is the Mississippi, at St. Louis, gave way, and under the great pressure of the rising wa. ters, ran down upon the steamers that were lying at the levee, and tore them from their fastenings, wedged them between heaps of ice, ground them into kindling wood, or bore them off to be cast upon the shore hopelessly wrecked. This catastrophe has been for some time apprehended, and anything that seemed practicable was done to arrest it, but in vain. The weight of the ice and the waters was not to be over come by any means at command, and as a consequence this wholesale destruction is recorded.

The reporter of the Republican, who visited the scene of disaster, reports what he saw :

"The levee yesterday morning presented a dreary and desolate spectacle-looking more like a scene in the Polar regions, than in the fertile and beautiful Mississippi valley. The Father of Waters, wakened up from his long sleep, was pitching along at a wild and rapid rate, as if to make up for lost time. His ice coat of mail was torn into shreds, which lay strewn along the shore on both sides in huge, continuous piles, and fragments of which were still floating on his bosom. The ice on this side was forced a considerable distance upon the levee, and was in some places heaped up to the height of fifteen and twenty feet above the water. Where the boats had lain thickly a few hours before, nothing was now to be seen save this high bulwark of ice, which seemed as if it had been left purposely to complete the picture of bleak desolation. The whole business portion of the levee was clear of boats, except the two wrecked Alton wharf-boats, which were almost shattered to pieces and cast upon the shore in the midst of the ridge of ice .-The upper works were rendered entirely useless, save for fuel, and both hulls are badly cut by the ice, but may be repaired and made to serve their purpose again.

"We yesterday visited the boats which were carried down, and for which so much solicitude was felt. They are twenty-three in number, all lying between the Lower Dyke and the Arsenal-scattering along the river for the space of a mile. They are in groups of threes and fours, and an occasional one is seen by itself. About twenty canal boats lie scattered in great confusion among the steamers, making a delightful

variety. "We may now remark, in connection with at first anticipated. Several of the boats sunk, or otherwise rendered useless, were old and of little value. There was no boat in port that entirely escaped damage, and the injuries varied in extent from \$100 to \$8,000, excepting those boats which are

entirely lost.

"The total loss is variously estimated from \$50,000 to 150,000. It is certainly more than \$50,000, and we presume that \$100,000, the medium, will not be far from a correct estimate. Nor is it known that the wreck remaining out of the water, there be the one as would suit me the best."there will not yet be further damage. The steamers near the Arsenal are in a helpless condition, being bedded in the ice which had gorged in the slough, and is sufficiently strong to admit of persons passing to and from the boats. They are merely sticking there aground, awaiting a sufficient rise to carry them off, and there is no telling the accidents they may yet meet before they can be considered as safe. Their owners are now taking every means to provide for their eafety, and we hope they may succeed.

"The prospect is, however, still dreary for many of them, but as the river was rising last evening, we shall probably know their fate in a day or two."

Breaking up of the River--- Wreck of a

Persons familiar with the ways of the river saw on Saturday that the time for ing banners would have flaunted, almost in the dreaded "break up" was imminent .- the twinkling of an eye, over the whole arclosed, the shores of Ohio and Kentucky city-over the lordly Strader, and the these are often allied to agriculture. Elev. them their principles, and in nine cases out printes \$1,000 for this purpose. The serhave been for weeks united by a bridge of "tubs" and all. crystal strong enough for the safe passage of droves of cattle and ponderous wagons at hand but the last living coals in the fur. long, and merchants keep their stores open and in many cases propagate them among with their loads and teams. But on Sat- naces were quenched by the timely appli- from fifteen to seventeen hours a day. urday it was evident that this phenomenon cation with buckets, and when this became having existed for an unprecedented length known the multitude breathed again. And of time, was about to be dissolved. The it was presently discovered to the deep restall winter, and idle away part of the steamboatmen made every preparation in gratification and surprise of all that no lives summer, and these are the ones, usually, their power to meet the impending crisis, have been lost on the Flag. But we never that cry out against the profitableness of will then be formed, speaking different lanbut were to a great extent powerless. The before saw such foolish recklessness of life farming. lanche and flood. Saturday night the great be driven from the steamers by throwing money. sheet of ice in front of the city, was anxious- water upon them; and up to the time that If farming is unprofitable, how happens it peeting to see it start like a monster from just below the Newport ferry remaining un- clothed, and so many have money in the sleep, and do its work of ruin. A little af broken, the people were crossing upon it, Savings Banks ? ter eleven o'clock the ice started. The ex- though the danger that they would be The farmer's salary comes in by driblets, citement was painfully intense. The bells swept away was obviously imminent. instead of lumps. Little by little he re-

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the order of its going, instead of going at \$30,000 to 40,000. once, and the mass remained in an uneasy condition until moving. Then Licking bestill bosom of the Ohio. There it rolled, shore is also up and there yet remains only and leaped and plunged, accumulated and til one o'clock, when the brittle clasps of there is only one span of the bridge yet to the Ohio were partially broken and loosed, and the Licking poured forth an angry eruption which raged across the Ohio, and Walnut or Sycamore streets to the river, that of its ancient prototype, and which we less, beheld a vast whirlpool of dingy ice rushing at dizzy speed, in lumps of all imaginable shapes, many of which seemed inspired with individual life, so strange and complicated were their evolutions, and so apparently unacconstable their vertical movements. It was a chaos of wrecked icebergs .-- a maelstroom choked with the debris of a frozen zone, and struggling to annihilate the tumultuous fragments. This spectacle was observed by thousands of persons, and few even of these who had no dation under him-the rushing waters of special interests there made precarious, but the Mississippi rapids. recognized the scene as an imposing demonstration of the tremendous forces of nature. Yet the bridge in front of Newport remained steadfast, and in a couple of hours the gorge below had checked the rush from Licking, having first given it a turn up the river. Is was curiously suggestive to see "The GRAY MARE IS THE BETTER HORSE." for some time the ice from the Licking take We know very well the line is in Prior's a run up in front of the Newport barracks. Epilogue to Lucius; but the story from About the time that the gorge became so which the phrase is derived is something tight that the ice ceased to move, the pres- like this: A gentleman who had seen the sure against the steamer Grapeshot, lying world, one day gave his oldest son a span staggered Wilson somewhat, but he rallied their struggles, Kansas is to the Northern just above the foot of Sycamore street, was of horses, and a chariot, and a basket of and pummeled Mr. Pierce's official pretty too heavy for her timbers, and she began eggs. "Do you," said he to the boy, "trave effectually. In the progress of the fight too heavy for her timbers, and she began eggs. "Do you," said he to the boy, "travto leak and slowly succumb, while her crew el upon the high road until you come to Mr. Hoyne was knocked through the show ground of the defeated, for no political fuand all persons who could be induced for the first house in which there is a married love or money to assist were with frantic couple. If you find that the husband is energy hurling ashore everything about the master there, give him one of the horses. her that could be handled.

people, who were gazing on the gorged and part with a horse, but do not come back portentous river, with something of awe so long as you keep both horses, and there mingled with their excitement. Though is an egg remaining." at any moment, and sweep some of the and, just beyond the borders of his father's boats away, snapping their cables as threads. estate, lo! a modest cottage. He alighted Chicago Press. the total loss sustained by the breaking up and sinking others at the landing, people from the chariot and knocked at the door. of the ice, that it will be far less than was crowded upon them. A large number The goodwife opened it for him and curtesiwere on the steamer Flag, which was the ed. "Is your husband at home ?" "No;" but next west of the Grape Shot, when she was she would call him from the hay field. In observed to totter and commence settling. he came wiping his brows. The young They moved off, but slowly, when a sudden man told them his errand, "Why," said destruction overwhelmed the boat. She the wife, bridling and rolling the corner of was heavily loaded on deck and on the her apron, "I always do as John wants me guards, and when fairly started, broke up to do; he is my master-ain't you John?' in an instant, falling into a shapeless, utter To which John replied, "Yes." "Then," wreck. Such instantaneous destruction of said the boy, "I am to give you a horse; a boat few had ever witnessed, and as the which will you take?" "I think," said steam and smoke arose from that part of John, "as how that bay gelding seems to was a minute and fearful suspense. There "If we have a choice, husband," said the was fire in the furnaces! Would it spread! wife, "I think the gray mare will suit us

the whole fleet at the landing. fire alarm, and the sensation among the don't think so; the gray mare is the betgreat crowd on the land was awful. It ter horse; and I shall never be contented amid the splinters; and if that was the case you," said the boy; "allow me to give you tween it and the swelling river be speedily one, and you can boil it hard or soft, as it; and they will eventually succeed by the furnaces were so completely submerged, egg remaining in his basket. - Cozzen's cle for the bad and disaffected population that the fire did not find a rosinous splinter Winepress. on which to seize, or his red and conquer-For fifty three days the river has been ray of steamers that are the pride of our

mortal fear expressed in their deep, hourse St. Louis is stated to be from \$50,000 to apples, are some of the things he wells. roaring. All the river men who were not \$100,000, which is considerably less than on the spot, made the utmost haste to the the first estimate. The St. Louis insurscene of action. But the ice stood upon ance companies will suffer to the extent of pense of cultivation, in a single year. A

THE MISSISSIPPI BRIDGE .- This strucgan to show symptoms of giving out with a The third span is up from the Iowa shore, ture is rapidly approaching completion .rengeance. That stream was rising, with which is the span connecting with the great some rapidity, and about ten o'clock large draw on the centre crib, on that side. quantities of ice were forced against the The first span reaching from the Illinois one span more to connect it with the draw crushed, with a moaning, grating noise, unon the Illinois, or island shore. That is, erect, and the draw to complete. The centre pieces on which the draw is to swing is about finished, and looks in its solidity spent its first fury on the boats lying at the and size something like the commencement foot of Walnut street, where it made half a of a medern tower at Babel-it is a tower, dozen wrecks. Persons looking down Main, too—one whose usefulness far surpasses where recently all things have been motion- hope may endure much longer, as a monument of the real progress of the age in which we live. On each side of this cen. tre circular pier, and in which it is enclosed, in the great wooden crib, filled in with rock, extending some three hundred and fifty feet up and down the river, and on which the draw is to rest, when not in use for the crossing of trains. On the upper end of the crib there is room for a house in which the draw-tender is to live far out amidst-but high above, with a firm foun-

> When the whole is completed it will be one of the grandest structures on the continent or in the world. It will be completed probably by the 1st of March, proximo.

-Rock Island Adv. If, on the contrary, the wife is the ruler, The whole landing was now black with give her the eggs. Return at once if you

.. Is Farming Profitable ?"

It was remarked, that indolence and bad en hours a day are required of operators in After a brief interval a fire engine was manufactories and workshops, all winter

Farmers work in winter as many hours as manufacturers. Some, on the contrary.

bonts were immovably fixed to the shore, as was displayed along the landing and on Iffarmers were as diligent and constant exposed to the combined fury of an ava- the river yesterday. The crowds had to as other men, they would make as much

Land worth ten dollars an acre often pays for itself, besides taxes, interest and exman in this vicinity sold \$210 worth of potatoes from an acre this year. They were an early variety, and were dug and sold in eason to sow the ground with turnips,

Besides, money is not the only think in which there is profit. Farmers are healthy men. Is health profitable? Ask the invalid. Is good digestion worth any thing ! Ask the dyspeptic. Is sound sleep good! Ask him who dies in "manhood's early

All these belong to the farmer. They are almost inseparable from his business,-They are allied to his calling. Who would not then be a farmer !- N. E. Farmer.

Flogging an Editor a Bad Business. Clark street was yesterday the scene of which the defenders of the Kansas-Nebras- people are now required to answer. We ka outrage would descend, we must con- say no. Because, if the settlement of this gard to this sad and painful subject. The due regard for the laws, if not for common decency, from those high in authority.

The facts to which we allude, as we have these: Yesterday morning about 11 Journal, was passing along Clark street, near the State Bank, he was met by the the time for action. United States District Attorney for the State of Illinois, Thomas Hoyne, Esq., Mr. Hoyne accosted Wilson and told him not to use his (Hoyne's) name in his paper so often, or he would ring his nose for him .-Wilson replied that he had better not undertake that job, when Hoyne struck Wilson a severe blow in the face. The blow window of the State Bank, and safely de- ture for those who have chosen the wrong posited among the other small coin to the side. The national peace cannot be re great consternation of the man of mammon. The editor having pied his dignified (?) assailant, the gentleman of briefs was permitted to withdraw his suit without further between the slave and free States, will be damage. It is a legal question which will established, or the new policy of the Kannot be likely to figure in the law reports of in behalf of individuals) confirmed by the

Yet retiring and simple as are the charthe State of Illinois, who shall pay for the issue of the contest. As a national ques-

Americans, Read !

celebrated Col. Lenox, was Governor of and the genius of commerce, or be held Canada in 1815-'16. The late Horatio enthralled by the feudal, turbulent territo-Gates, of Massachusetts, was at that time rial spirit of the border. The feudal spirit an eminent merchant in Montreal, and was which is manifested so strongly in the frontier, is at war with the spirit of comknown and respected by thousands in Canada and his native country. Mr. Gates re- as it was in the thirteenth, when cities that ported the following remarks as having had arison in defiance of the territorial been made in his presence by the Duke of power, revived the arts and sciences, and

"The Duke, a short time before his transmitted to modern times." death, in speaking of the Government of the United States, said : 'It was weak, inme; he is more square in front, and his and great are the evils that have originated of Europe, when they are not wanted for European governments will favor such a offering by the miners. This will create a surplus and course.' majority of low population, who are so eamanagement are always unprofitable, and silv excited; and they will bring with costs \$2,000 per annum. Congress approof ten, adhere to their ancient and former vants paid by the Government are a doorgovernments, laws, manners, and religion, keeper, who receives \$600 per annum, an and will transmit them to their posterity, the natives.

These men will become citizens, and by the constitution and laws will be invested with the right of suffrage. The different grades of society will then be created by the elevation of a few and by degrading guages, and of different religious and senalike, in political affairs, will be like mixing be a movement in favor of George Law. oil and water; hence discord, dissension, anarchy, and civil war will ensue, and some of Europe, the immigrants, and many of the natives, will sustain him.

"The Church of Rome has a design upon of all the steamers rung their wildest alarms. The steam whistles shrieked, and processed of the steamers rung that there was great grief and processed of the break up at row, pigs, calves, poultry, corn, potatoes, alarms.

mously expressed these opinions relative to the government of the United States, and their determination to subvert it."

These remarks were made by the Duke of Richmond, nearly forty years ago-for he died in 1816-and the correctness of his assertions has, since that time, been remarkably verified.

The low and surplus population of Europe has been brought to this country as he predicted. It has become "a receptacle for the disaffected population of Europe.' These men have become citizens of this Ask the sleepless. Is longavity valuable? country, and have been invested with the right of suffrage. The question now arises-shall this state

of things continue! Shall the United

States remain forever a receptacle for the ignorant, vicious, and disaffected population of Europe ! Shall Europe be permitted for the future to vomit forth upon our shores annually five hundred thousand paupers, criminals, and vagabonds of every an unmitigated outrage. If Chicago is to grade and hue, to become, after the lapse be made the theatre of such acts by govern- of five years, American citizens, American ment officials, although we had some knowl- law makers, and American office holders? edge as to the depths of degradation to This is the question which the American fess that we have yet much to learn in regreat question be postponed for five or ten years longer, it will be too late to answer public certainly have a right to expect a it, as it should be answered. If postponed for a few years, the foreign party will become so strong that it will be impossible to effect the reformation in our naturalizathem from an eye witness, are substantially tion laws, so imperatively required for the conservation and well-being of our repubo'clock, as C. L. Wilson, Esq., editor of the lican institutions. Delays are not only dangerous, they are fatal! Now or never is

> THE TERRIBLE ISSUE .- Col. Benton, in letter to the St. Louis Democrat, makes the following thoughtful comparison of the

all-pervading Kansas question : "What the Holy Land was to the Saracens and Crusaders, what the Crimea has been to the Russians and the Allies, the scene of their exploits and the theatre of and Southern coalitions in Congress: it is now the camping and fighting ground of stored by compromise. The total over-throw and subjugation of one of the combatants is the one sole guarantee of peace The old policy of dividing new territory elegant show window of the State Bank ?- tion, the Kansas problem is invested with an absorbing interest, but in Missouri it has the added interest of a local question. The position which St. Louis will maintain in The Duke of Richmond, formerly the relation to the contending parties will show whether she will be true to the instincts merce as much in the nineteenth century, rekindled the smoldering embers of a more ancient liberty, which sacred fire they have

PROSPERITY OF CALIFORNIA .- Since the consistent, and bad, and could not long ex- discovery of gold in California, now almost ist. It will be destroyed; it ought not to, eight years, the prospects of the miner If it did, wholesale ruin would oversweep best." "No," replied John, "the bay for and will not be permitted to exist, for many have never been more flattering than at the The bells of all the steamers clanged a legs are better." "Now," said the wife, "I from the existence of that government,-The curse of the French Revolution, and of new discoveries, and exceeeding in richsubsequent wars and commotions in Eu- ness all preceding ones. Immense operarope, are to be attributed to its example; tions have been projected, in which capiseemed certain that several persons had unless I get that one." "Well," said been killed in the destruction of the boat, John, "if your mind is set on it, I'll give safe upon his throne; and the sovereigns of or that at least a number were confined up; we'll take the gray mare," "Thank Europe are aware of it, and they have determined upon its destruction, and come to percentage. There are quartz mills in an understanding upon this subject, and this State, which have paid fifty per cent. and the fire should extend, they would, be- an egg from this basket; it is a nice fresh have decided upon the means to accomplish per month upon the amount of capital intween it and the swelling river be speedily one, and you can boil it hard or soft, as it; and they will eventually succeed by vested, and several water ditches where the subversion rather than conquest. 'As the profits have been nearly as large. Althanks to a kind Previdence, the sinking story you may imagine; the young man story you may imagine; the young man interest of the profits have been nearly as large. Althanks to a kind Previdence, the sinking story you may imagine; the young man interest of the profits have been nearly as large. Althanks to a kind Previdence, the sinking story you may imagine; the young man interest of the profits have been making coin for was so sudden after the boat careened, came home with both horses, but not as that country, it is and will be the recepta- nearly two years, at the rate of more than a million a month, there is not coin enough soldiers or to supply the navies, and the in the country to purchase the gold dust

OF The fuel for the President's mansion assistant door-keeper, who receives \$420. and a furnace-keeper, who receives \$365. All the other domestics required to keep and fight them, but I hadn't fired a gun in this extensive establishment in order are twenty years. I knew the red conts had paid by the President.

07 There has been a call for another convention of such of the American party, as bolted the Fillmore convention, to meet timents, and make them act, think, and feel in N. Y. City June 12th. It is thought to

The Washington correspondent of ly watched by many sleepless eyes; ex- it grew quite dark last night, a strip of ice that farmers' families are so well fed and popular individual will assume the govern- the Commercial Suvertizer states that he ent and restore order, and the sovereigns has information from a responsible source, which renders it almost certain that if the late Nicaraguan decree, annexing the Mosinat country, and it will in time be the es- quito territory, shall be attempted to be Supreme Court of Michigan have affirmed

ADVERTISING RATES.
One square (12 lines or less) one insertion, \$3,00

two insertions, \$2,00 two insertions, 4,00 three insertions, 5,00 Each subsequent insertion, 1,00 citions to those who advertice by the year.

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 printarge stock of JOB 3 11PE and other new printing material, and will be in the speedy receipt of additions suited to all the requirements of this locality. HANDBILLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK

Private Life of Queen Victoria.

We copy the following description of the personal habits of the Queen from the recent London correspondence of the Philadelphia Inquirer :

"There is among the Spring west end residents of this capital, an excellent and amiable lady, who rejoices in a husband and seven children; a spacious and elegant mansion, skirting, like several other palatial residences, St. James' park; and seen abroad almost every day, sunshine or cloudy, in a gentle but exceedingly recherche barouche and four, sometimes only a pair, with natty looking post-boys. Said lady makes calls of a morning on those of her own "set," when she chats for ten minutes on ordinary matters of gossip; the latest murder, poisonings, public improvements, new fashionable arrivals, newest novel, newest opera, newest bonnet, anything in short but

'Polities, and the church rate.'

Being, without peradventure, a lady, and no sham, our west-ender assumes no airs, dresses in no very striking or ruinously costly robes, exacts no special homage, and rather shuns than courts the stare of the crowd among whom she modestly and neiselessly moves. She is much respected by all-for she is by all known to be a pattern English woman-a good original for Mrs. Ellis, i. e., a careful housekeeper, who can turn her hand to any kind of housework above the mere department of drudgery, notable at her needle; tasteful in domestic appointments; a good gardener, who can handle, if need be, a garden trowel, train a shrub or creeper, and arrange a parterre. She is clever with her pencil; she is fond of her children, and assists in their tuition; withal, a loving and considerate wife. Her parties are unexceptionable, and (as I have heard of a hospitable and fashionable hostess in west Chestnut street,) her guests thoroughly enjoy themselves under her gilded and fretted roof.

To come to what is more directly personal, our West-ender is "fat, fair, and fortv." Fat she was not, when I (almost daily) saw her some years ago; but English women in high life all grow full, if not naturally so, when they reach forty-and the lady in question, for an English woman, appears every day of her age. Yet "fair" she is as a lily, and no sunbeam could look more clear, more free from care, or habitually wear an aspect of more entire noncha-

acter and personal habits of this lady, (who is always glad to escape back again to the shade and rural scenes of the country.) she is relatively the most important person in this island, and in her name is every act of state or government performed. Indeed, though so good a wife, her own husband is her obedient "subject"-(like a few Philadelphia husbands !) - and she even disclaimed his proper surname. Mrs. Albert Wittakind is she not, but "Her Majesty, the Queen," of the less account, and less honorable house of Guelph. Albeit her sons will inherit their father's surname.

How fully the British public distinguish between the sovereign and the executive head, was strikingly manifested vesterday. when our good-humored little mother, bringing, as she always does, fine weather, emerged from the main entrance of Buckingham palace, and was borne along in her state coach through the largest crowd of well dressed citizens I ever saw in St. James's. She was on her way to the House of Lords to read a "speech," written by my Lord Palmerston, which everybody knew would recommend an inglorious and humiliating peace, to be concluded at the dictation of the French Emperor, which proposition is so exquisitely obnexious to everybody in London, that public indignation thereat can scarcely preserve decent

PRESIDENT STILES .- Old Governor Hull, our first Territorial Governor, used to relate with great humor the manner in which old President Stiles, of Connecticut, told him of his only military adventure.

Speaking of the war, (of the revolution then raging.) the sufferings of our people, and the barbarity of the enemy, he would say, "When they came up here, I saw our people all turning out under arms to meet no right here, so I got down my gun, though I hadn't fired it for twenty years. I cleaned it up, and followed our people to mark the enemy. We soon came near them, and the firing begun. I drew up my gun, though I hadn't fired a gun in twenty years. I drew a fine sight on a red-coat, prayed the Lord to take his soul right to heaven, shut my eyes, and pulled the trigger."-Erchange,

La Seven of the eight Judges of the