

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. OREGON CITY SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1856.

Gen. McCarter informs us that after a good deal of enquiry he has satisfied himself that the persons who committed the outrage upon the Indians...

Improvements. Visitors have occasion to compliment our city upon the marked improvements visible in many quarters. Although we are not building a great deal, or entering upon any heavy public works...

Fatal Accident. On last Sunday, Mr. Wm. Robbins was accidentally shot through the head and instantly killed, whilst on a hunting expedition.

Arrival of the Mail. The U. S. M. steamer Columbia, Capt. DALL, reached Portland last Monday. Per Wells, Fargo & Co. we received a few papers.

The N. Y. Tribune of April 4 treats us to over two columns in dissecting and laying open what it conceives to be a huge scheme for plundering the U. S. treasury by means of an Indian war...

Greely says, "I wish the House would send out a Committee to the Pacific and probe the matter to the bottom." We second your motion, and challenge the investigation.

Political. The party calling itself "democratic" met in this city last Saturday, and brought out the following ticket for Clackamas county:

For Representatives, A. L. Lovejoy, F. A. Collard, and W. A. Starkweather; Auditor, F. S. Holland; Treasurer, Thomas Johnson; Assessor, Charles F. Benty; Judge of Probate, Robert Casfield; Public Administrator, W. W. Buck; School Superintendent, W. C. Johnson; County Commissioner, Samuel Miller; Colonel of Militia, George W. Jackson; Lieut. Col. G. C. Thurman; Major, Cyrus Suttle.

The "loco" party in Clackamas county, whilst it dare not commit itself on the temperance question, leaves us to infer that it is in every sense of the word a liquor party. By endorsing the Nebraska bill, as one of the planks upon which the candidates stand, and by eternally denouncing the "abolitionists," they have created the impression that they never courted the sympathy or support of those whose garments smelt of the peculiar odor belonging to those whom they so classically denounce as "nigger worshippers."

This year, in order to secure a small office, and secure the support, as we suppose, of what they call one of the "isms," Guthrie has set him astride of the main plank of "Douglas democracy," turned up edgewise—and, in order to give it weight and importance, signed by F. C. Cason as chairman of the committee. Here is the plank: "We suppose that the omission of the words 'and polygamy' after 'slavery' is purposely made, as polygamists are not numerous in this county."

Religious Expositor. We stated last week that we had received the above titled paper printed at Eola by C. H. Mattoon. Since that we have been favored with No. 2 of the same paper. Mr. Mattoon is certainly clear of the charge of being a two-faced man, and trying to deceive the people by promising to cover a great many "grounds" in order to serve up a weekly dish of salmagundi for the soul.

Infallibility. We stated that Christ had a church on earth, and one church only, and that we believed the Baptist church to be the only church of Jesus Christ—and that they only were right in every respect, both as to their organization and doctrines taught.

Campbellites. In giving the reasons why he cannot commune with the "Campbellites," the learned editor says: "They stand in relation to us the same as excluded members. Indeed, Alexander Campbell and several of his followers were excluded or cut off from the Baptist church for holding doctrines that were considered heretical. Hence all who teach the same views stand in relation to us in the same light."

Slavery. This question has become almost entirely a political question, and as we have plenty of papers already in the Territory in which may be published any article (almost) upon either side of the question, there is no necessity of our dabbling in the matter at all, and we shall therefore publish nothing upon the subject either for or against.

Temperance. We, ourselves, are decidedly opposed to all grogeries for the sale of ardent spirits, and to all use of the same as a beverage. We have never drunk a pint of anything that intoxicates in our life, and we don't know as we ever shall, but as to the means to be employed in breaking up of the liquor traffic, we are not fully decided. We can only say that we shall not advocate a law until we see it, and then shall say just what we think of it, whether for or against it.

form in order to lay them before our readers. We have published them, italics and all, just as we found them. All, save the first plank, are, as near as we can understand them, identical with those upon which the Advocate at Salem rests. There may be a little difference in the style in which the two editors would word them for effect in certain directions, but practically they are the same. However we may differ with the Expositor upon those great moral questions which affect the substantive basis of all true religion in all societies, civilized or savage, we must award to him the credit of having succeeded in placing his position in such an unequivocal attitude that he who runs may read it. His informing us that his temperance position is taken from the fact that "there is no liquor shop in Polk county," and he can see no reason why he should "leave home to stir up a muss with his neighbors," leads us to infer that he intends to confine his labors to Polk.

If bro. Mattoon cannot consistently with his views do any thing towards helping us roll on the temperance ball in the Territory, we hope that if he should happen to see a poor drunkard wallowing in Eola, he will pull him out, besides occasionally dropping a tear of sympathy for the distresses of those made widows and orphans by rum and oppression, and sending up a prayer to Heaven for the success of those "works of faith and labors of love" which are going on outside of the bounds of Polk.

Below we give a letter we received from Col. GARDNER written at Vancouver, whilst on his way to Washington to accept of an appointment under the Administration, in place of that of Surveyor General of Oregon Territory, which has been tendered to him by President Pierce in lieu of it. Col. GARDNER sent his resignation to the President last September, which it would seem that the President, did not see cause to accept, till he received a memorial got up in secret conclave by a dark-lantern caucus of the members of the last Assembly. The memorial was kept such a profound secret that, judging nobody had a true copy, the Statesman just on the eve of Col. GARDNER'S departure, published an altered copy of it which it solemnly avers was the memorial "passed and signed by every democratic member of the last Legislative Assembly." We have a true copy of the original, which contains some choice scholarship, and we intend to give our readers the benefit of it. The Statesman editor has been uniring in his efforts to perfect one of the main principles of his democratic (I) creed by having his father-in-law, Mr. Zieber placed in such a position that the conduit which drains Uncle Sam's treasury of two thousand and five hundred dollars a year in hard cash should empty itself into the breeches pocket of "one of the family." He has tugged away at this "glorious democratic principle" ever since Col. G. has been in the Territory, but has never been able to get to Lane to "pass the law" and make the President sign it, until at length, by the resignation of Col. G., there is a vacancy. Although the Assembly had probably heard of the resignation of Col. GARDNER, in order to make assurance doubly sure, and to gratify the spite of the "son-in-law," the members (a part of them) got up a memorial asking for the "removal" of Col. G. upon the ground of many hard charges, many of which almost every Oregonian knows to be utterly false. But here it seems, that there arose a new obstacle in the way of carrying out the principles of "democracy." The members of the Assembly, although they seemed willing on almost every occasion to prove their democratic faith, by getting down on all fours, eating large mouthfuls of dirt, and pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for the gentleman from Linn" and his "organ" grinder, they nearly all jumped stiff-legged, when they were called upon to sign the memorial in behalf of Mr. Zieber, (this was no discredit to Mr. Z.) The inventive genius of "the son-in-law," whose great mind is always prolific of expedients, when excited by a jostle of the ark that carries the leaves and fishes of the priesthood of Oregon democracy, steps forward and has the name of Grover inserted in the memorial in order to satisfy the recumbent memorialists, with the express understanding that Grover would send his resignation along with the memorial, and that ample instructions would be sent to Lane to urge the claims of Mr. Zieber. We have been informed, by one who ought to know, that a seat in Congress was held out as an inducement to Grover to make this shift, but for the truth of it we are not able to vouch. We however believe it. But since the people have decided adversely to a State Government and the clique has no seats in Congress at their disposal just at present, we do hope Grover will not bring suit against the clique for damages, for not complying with this heavy contract.

Col. GARDNER is an old-fashioned democrat, and being an old man, and a gentleman desirous of doing his duty as a public officer, regardless of party favor, has never got the hang of locofocoism or Oregon democracy. He assured us that the party in power here was not guilty of possessing a particle of real democracy, but made an issue on "patronage." This is just what we have contended all the time to be the truth. We hope the recent series of the party in refer-

ence to the Col. will be the means of opening the eyes of at least one honest democrat.

OSGON CITY, May 10, 1856. Col. C. K. Gardner—Dear Sir: I notice in the Statesman a memorial directed to the President of the United States, and asking for your removal from the office of Surveyor General for the Territory of Oregon. The memorial is said to have been "passed and signed by every democratic member of the last Legislative Assembly." Never having seen any notice of the passage of such a memorial by the Assembly in open session last winter, I am at a loss to know how this memorial came to be "passed and signed by every democratic member of the Assembly," and no record to be found of the fact. How could a memorial containing, as I believe this does, many false charges against you, have ever got through the Assembly without a single dissenting voice, and at the same time the record of that event being wholly suppressed so as never to have come to the knowledge of the people?

I am sorry that you are about leaving the Territory under the impression that it is not necessary to place your friends, and all men who love truth and justice, in possession of such facts in the premises as will enable them to defend your character as an officer who was not controlled by partisan considerations in your official action, and also enable them to make up a fair and truthful record of events that are transpiring in Oregon. I believe the great mass of the people of this Territory will approve the right and reject the wrong, whenever the right is presented so that they understand it. Whatever course you may choose to adopt in reference to this matter, permit me to assure you that you leave Oregon with the respect and best wishes of one who admires an honest, dignified, and gentlemanly public officer, who can neither be swayed by party bias nor the hope of public patronage. Your humble servant, W. L. ADAMS.

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Fort Vancouver, May 11, 1856. W. L. Adams, Esq.—Dear Sir: I thank you sincerely for your letter of yesterday. I had received, in confidence, a copy of the memorial against me, from Washington, but I perceive the editor of the Statesman has published one materially differing from the one sent. The petition was for the appointment of LAFAYETTE GROVE to be Surveyor General; and by striking out the name for whom the application was signed, he makes it appear that the sole object of the signature was to effect my removal. It is not true that I was signed "by every democratic member" of the Assembly. There were twenty-six of that body who signed it, and it may fairly be inferred, in charity to the most of them, that not three of them had read it. You know how easily signatures are obtained to a petition after three or four of the interested or vindictive have signed, by importunity of the remainder, as one of the Councilmen said, at Oregon City, (I forget while I was there, he "signed" it as the easiest way to get rid of it.) On the word "passed," applied to by the editor of the Statesman, you make the proper comment. The Legislative body held no secret session; besides, the Assembly is required to keep a journal of its proceedings, in which it has never appeared. It was easy for that editor to add to the signatures the counties from which the members came, whereas they only signed as individuals. In making this statement, the editor has displayed his ability, for which he is distinguished above all the editors in this Territory, in the suggestion of falsehood.

How far the first statement made by Bush relative to the Surveyor General's Office,—"that the heavy patronage of the Office has been thrown into the hands of the enemies of the democratic party, and systematically distributed to us as to strengthen them,"—has been founded in truth, may be seen by the results of the last annual election; and as Salmon democracy has now the control of the "heavy patronage of the Office," (which, from the steps already taken by its head, it will soon be inferred will be used unscrupulously,) it will soon see how far the bestowal of official patronage, for partisan purposes, is conducive to the popularity of a cause, from the results of the next election.

The other alterations from the memorial which was sent, after Bush and his assistant had drawn it up for the Legislature, plainly indicate that he has printed it from his original copy, which was not in the memorial signed—but that the falsity of these charges would be known at Washington, the surveys not having been tardy, and the Office having no concern whatever in the delay of patents,—only that the deception of such accusations can be practiced upon the settlers here. It is true, as you observe, that on leaving the Territory, I had not thought it necessary to reply to the productions of the Statesman, whose denunciations are so notorious to the lovers of truth; but as these may be thought to contain "grave charges," I have had no hesitation in furnishing you the editor of the Standard, an excusable self-defense, with a copy of my brief remarks sent to one of my family by the last mail.

I am, sir, with great respect, Your ob't serv't, C. K. GARDNER. It will be seen by the following, that Col. GARDNER was not removed, as has been so stoutly affirmed by the Statesman: APPOINTMENT OF A SURVEYOR GENERAL.—John S. Zieber, of Salem, Oregon, has been appointed surveyor general of the United States for that district, in place of Col. Charles K. Gardner, who desired to be relieved from duty in the Territory.—Washington Union.

OUTSIDE.—We publish to-day a very interesting letter from Mrs. BROWN, of Forest Grove, which we find in the Jeffersonian Democrat, of Ohio. It furnishes some interesting incidents connected with the early settlement of this country, and illustrates some features of the character of our first pioneers. Mrs. Brown may be said to have laid the corner stone of Pacific University which is now in a flourishing condition under the Presidency of S. H. MARSH. Mr. Gray, of Astoria, in writing to us, says: "The old lady is still alive, now 75 years old, and the same strong abiding faith and disposition to do good is manifest in all her acts. Pacific University may truly be said to owe its existence to her efforts; her prayers and examples in its support which sustain it to bless this land with many like energetic and faithful mothers."

The letter of Buchanan, which is also found on the outside, settles the dispute which has been going on among the States papers, as to his position upon the Nebraska bill. He, with Pierce and Douglas, stands flatfooted upon the plank upon which the foot of the great image of modern democracy rests. This foot like that of the image which was set up in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, is made up of iron and miry clay (the iron comes from the South and the clay or dough from the north); and like its grand prototype "it is bound to be ground to powder by a small stone cut out of the mountains."

A slight shaking of the dots and knees of the unwashed and unlettered. And they played on a harp of a thousand strings—heretics of evil means and seducers waxing worse and worse. [From the "Democratic Standard"] THE "STATESMAN" HAS BOLTED.—Our straight out and out Democrat of the immaculate "Statesman," has portrayed the extent of his Democracy in an article of date May 13. He bites a file with but a bad grace. He makes a violent attack upon the Democracy of Multnomah county because they have seen fit in the exhibition of their free choice to re-nominate G. W. BROWN as candidate for representative. Having nominated him last year on the Democratic ticket, and elected him over the champion of the opposition with a signal triumph, he went to the Legislature and acted his part to the satisfaction of his Democratic constituency; and in consideration of this, they with due deliberation and from a careful review of the records of his past services, their regular convention, regularly called and by delegates duly appointed from the different precincts of the county, tendered to him a re-nomination by a vote of sixteen to eight on the first ballot, and afterwards unanimously ratified that vote on motion of a member well known to have voted for another on the first ballot. In defiance of this expressed will of the Democracy of Multnomah county, the editor of the "Statesman" declares that he shall not publish his name among the list of Democratic candidates, and shall not support his election.

Where is the boasted attachment of the editor of the "Statesman" to the Democratic organization? Is Democracy in Multnomah county and in Marion different? If so, who shall decide the right? Shall Marion county, or an editor in Marion county, be the sole judge? The Democrats of Multnomah claim this right for themselves, and they have exercised this right in re-nominating Mr. BROWN. And yet the "Statesman" counsels the Democracy of Multnomah not to support their nominee, but to either throw away their votes or run some other man whom that editor can endorse. In another article he challenges the proof that the "Statesman" has ever published a line which assumed the power of dictation. Do Democrats want any better evidence of his attempt at dictation than this attempt to interfere with the action of the Democrats of Multnomah county? Are we Democrats of Multnomah slaves, that we must bow to the domination of a Democratic editor because he publishes the laws officially? Is there no freedom of thought and political action left for us? We receive the ipse dixit of no man, be his antecedents what they may, in matters belonging to us alone. The iron heel of no despot, though he may wear the habiliments of a Democrat, or be promoted to the most exalted position in the ranks of our party, can be found sufficient to crush out the rights belonging to us to choose whom we please to represent us in the councils of our Territory. Multnomah was grossly insulted last winter, by the conduct of Bush, Delazon & Co. Insult and injury have been dealt out to our county by the "Statesman" on several occasions since. Now not only insult and injury, but defiance is thrown in our teeth. We may have nominal Democrats who will wringe and still fawn around him who lashes them. But thank God their number is small and growing beautifully less with each succeeding exhibition of depravity on the part of him who arrogates to himself and his personal friends all the Democracy of Oregon. This bolting does not end with Multnomah. In the same number of the "Statesman," the editor omits to publish the name of Thos. Smith, of Jackson, as a Democratic nominee, though duly nominated by the regular Democratic convention of that county; thus assuming to dictate to that county also her Democracy. Such is the Democracy of which the "Statesman" boasts without shame, and seeks to coerce the people to endorse. Our advice to Democrats is to "give him the full length of his rope." He will surely fail to hang others—he may hang himself. It will save a trial by the court or jury. [From the "Democratic Times"] THE NOMINATIONS.—Multnomah county has nominated her county ticket, which we raise at our mast-head to day. We have every reason to believe that it will be elected in spite of all opposition. If our opponents think different, they have only to trot out their fast tags and get distanced. For Representative—G. W. BROWN. " Commissioner—M. M. LUCAS. " Assessor—Z. N. STANSBURY. " Treasurer—L. M. STARR. [From the "Democratic Statesman"] BROWN is a weak minded, shrinking, cowardly creature, who was in the last Legislature, without capacity enough to determine which side of a controverted question he ought to take, and without the moral courage to take either, * * * and had no more weight or character in the Assembly, with any member, than a Borneo ape in his seat, under a hat and behind spectacles, would have had. At a joint convention of the Legislative Assembly, held on the 9th of January last, the following persons were elected to the offices named, and in the subjoined order—Asahel Bush, territorial printer, &c. * * * These men were all nominated in a democratic caucus, regularly called and held; [at the dead hour of midnight.] * * * This G. W. BROWN refused to vote for every one of them. On every ballot he voted blank. * * * Now we come to the question, what is the duty of true democrats in respect to his nomination. We answer, for ourselves, unhesitatingly, it is to refuse to support him; * * * it is a duty democrats owe to their organization [as a chain gang] and their principles, [supporting bad men for office.] * * * The Statesman will not support Mr. BROWN nor publish his name among the democratic candidates. * * * We hear that the sound democrats of Multnomah county [Pat Malone and the Jews] repudiate the nomination of BROWN, and declare their resolution not to support him. * * * We trust such will be the case that the true and tried [and convicted] democrats of Multnomah county, (and she has some of the best in the Territory,) [since the Penitentiary was located there.] will leave Mr. BROWN the support of the Algerine Standard. [Did the Legislature of last winter pass a law allowing these "tried" democrats to vote?—and was it made the duty of Pat Malone to "superintend" the election?]

To Correspondents. Answer to W—. If you wish to buy by the wholesale, send your order to W. C. Dement's.

Was the money sent from Sublimity, by Mr. Nichols, for a new subscriber? We cannot find the name of Kenoyer on our books, except at Willamina.

S. is informed, that we are publishing THE ARGUS at the lowest figure possible—almost at cost—and we cannot afford to pay a traveling agent to solicit subscriptions. Such a course would be ruinous to us. If, as you say, you wish to see our paper more extensively circulated, you can do a little for us as many others have done, by sending on as many names as you can pick up whilst at your ordinary business.—In this way our subscription might be soon doubled if the friends of temperance and true democracy were half as untiring in their efforts, as the rummies, sectaries, and blind partisans. There are many temperance men (professionally) who are shedding tears as big as walnuts over the woes of intemperance, and who, while they admit that our paper suits them on this and other questions, are too stingy to patronize it.

C. A. R.—Send it to us by Capt. Wygant. The Sentinel informs us that it "astonished" some gentlemen very much by refusing to publish a notice of a Republican convention to be called in Jackson Co., without pay. We should think this would be enough to "astonish" anybody. We never think of charging pay for inserting a call for any kind of a convention, not even a locofoco one. Neither does any other paper to our knowledge. Send your proceedings to us gentlemen, and you shall be heard.

Read the advertisement of W. C. Dement & Co. They have just received a very heavy stock of goods, which they propose to dispose of at very reasonable rates. We believe they are doing business on the "live and let live" principle. A man who advertises is never ashamed to show his goods to the best judges, and those who order goods from a distance need not fear of being "bit."

Every thing in Kansas is quiet. The Legislature under the new constitution had assembled, and gone to work. Every indication seems to point to Kansas as a free state. The "Telegraph Saloon" of this city has closed, and we are truly glad that its proprietor, who we always knew was well suited to a much higher calling, has engaged in a less objectionable, and we hope more profitable, calling. He has our prayers for great success.

We notice that Mr. John Burns is now acting in the capacity of Steward, on the famous steamer Enterprise. They couldn't have got a better man for the berth.

See outside for congressional appropriations of \$420,000. Clatsop County Temperance League Convention.

Pursuant to previous notice, a convention of those favoring liquor prohibition was held in the Court House at Astoria on Saturday, May 3d, at 10 A. M. The meeting was organized by appointing W. W. Parker chairman and James Wayne Secretary.

On motion, a committee of three was appointed on organizing and order of business for the afternoon; also, a like committee on resolutions.

The meeting then adjourned to 1 o'clock, P. M. EVENING SESSION. Convention called to order by the Chairman. Minutes of morning session read and approved.

Report of Committee on order of business read and adopted, in conformity to which the following officers of the meeting were appointed:—Col. James Taylor, chairman; Jas. Wayne, Sec'y.

The following report of the Temperance League Committee for the past year was read: The Temperance League Committee report: That during the past year the cause of temperance has progressed steadily.—The prohibition principle, so far as relates to the use of any injurious article of commerce, is gaining firm adherents among those who but a few years since denied the right of interdicting any article of commerce used for the gratification of passion or appetite.

The principle that one man has a right to engage in any business that tends to increase his own wealth, at the expense and injury of his neighbors, or of the community, is becoming to be looked upon in its true light. The traffic in intoxicating drinks for the purpose of gain or gratifying passion or appetite, produces evils affecting individuals and public interests too seriously to escape legal prohibition. The influence of the traffic has become a political engine, which is used to secure men in office who are wholly incompetent to discharge the duties devolving upon them in meeting out equal justice to all. The social glass and the intoxicating bowl lead them to err in judgment.

The democratize, the partizan, and the man that would enrich himself at the expense of his neighbor, have combined to secure to themselves the full influence to be derived from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks, by the enactment of laws to protect them from the evils resulting from the traffic. Should the butcher secure a law to protect him in the sale of spoiled or poisonous meat, it would be considered an outrage upon the community. Yet the liquor