## THE OREGON ARGUS.

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For the Argus. Temperance at the Ballot Box.

Editor of the Argus-DEAR SIR: Pub lic speeches are public property. When the candidates for office canvass the county or the Territory, they design to put the whole community in possession of their own opinions, their deliberate and most mature judgments, upon the questions at issue; and they moreover convey a promise, by fair inference, that they will act, if elected, in strict accordance wit those opinions. We, the people, are at liberty to criticise those opinions, examine the argu ments adduced in their support, detect the fallacies and expose the sophistries, which may have been practiced, as well as notice the excellencies of the speakers. Thus we anay come to a deliberate judgment on the same questions and upon others that are fairly involved. The candidates, for the time, take the place of teachers, and we, of learners. It would be fairer for us if we could examine their principles and discuss them as deliberately as they have formed and stated them. We need time to review the discussions of the campaign, before selecting our men and electing them to of fice. But we are hurried from the forum of debate to the ballot box of decision.

Since it is so, we have the alternative to review the opinions of every candidate after he is elected or defeated. And this is the more important to be done speedily, because the successful party are expected to carry their principles into practice. Those who have elected them are held responsible for what they do, and also for what they have promised to leave undone.

A review now may enable some men to see results of their own action, which they did not foresee. Having won the day, the victors can afford to examine the field of their triumph, and the vanquished, that of their defeat. It may be found, as it has often been in history, that victory was gained at the loss of all that is valuable, while the defeated, having lost nothing, were the real victors. An eminent example of this kind, you are aware, sir, occurred in the early history of the Kansas-Nebraska bill. While it was under discussion, petitions adverse to its passage were sent from all sections of the North .-Its friends hurried its passage, and it became a law. Some strong petitions failed to reach the Senate in season, and among them one from 3050 ministers. They were in the defeated party, but their petition was entertained long enough to be disauthors villified by grave Senators. By that discussion the Senate lost the prestige of slavery. They have felt obliged to enand now it is the question upon which the ablest men of that body are expending their noblest efforts of talent and of eloquence. The friends of the Kansas-Nebraska bill gained the field, but they gained it to be the most advantageous battleground which their foes could have desired. But more than this, the discussion of that petition from ministers, ignorant of politics, who had unwisely forsaken their vocation, -so represented-has aroused the people North and South to discuss the slavery question as the greatest issue in our present national politics. The whole nation is moved. The question cannot be put to rest again until it is decided by the whole people, whether we as a nation are to be the propagandists of freedom or the propagandists of slavery. The eternal quietus which Mr. Douglas and others promised to give to this subject by one bill, has by that very bill raised an eternal clamor.

Even so it may be found in the smaller sphere of our Territorial politics on the subject of Temperance. The design has been to keep this question out of politics, and to keep the people quiet upon the subject. Politicians have not dared to speak on the 15th inst. She was daily looked for ren, Polk, Cass and Pierce are fully equal their sentiments on the question, except by innuendoes, and suggestions, and inferences, all of which had two faces, one for the friends, and another for the foes of the cause. Candidates for office have avoided Committee of Foreign Affairs to inquire into held by the South, in these extraordinary it as much as possible. For two years pre- the facts of the case, with the view of pro- assemblies, upon the overwhelming Northdidates have replied as best they could .- by our Washington correspondent that the for the abrogation of the two-thirds rule .which this subject has awakened. All oth- last night to consider the propriety of in these conventions? Why increase their er subjects, except the Nebraska bill, have adopting some specific action, as a political power, until at least they have shown thembeen dropped, to give this one place. Here- party, with regard to the Central Ameri- selves capable of using it with discretion !" tofore every other one, however unimportant, was introduced to crowd this out.

We have elected but one of our candidates, yet we have actually won the field ter. It is stated upon good authority that rer worshipping mania. But that cannot for a more advantageous triel again. We have gained the public ear. This is what the Rivas-Walker government and receive gested that a "free soilish" type of the dethe truth always seeks first. Our conquer- the new Minister from Nicaragua, Padre mocracy did exist in the North, and that it ors have lost their most valuable argument, the prestige of dignified neglect with the capital.

## The Oregon Argus

-A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.

OREGON CITY, O.T., JUNE 14, 1856.

with unusual hesitation. Long established -N. Y. Herald. prejudices were shaken. It required much tions of their own consciences.

the arguments for prohibition.

to treat both classes of candidates honora- 23d inst. bly, while we give to every one a separate notice. That we may do so without misany re-statement of their positions through THE ARGUS. If none such appears, we shall feel at liberty to use our notes of what firmatory. Yours truly,

## News from the States.

Our despatch from Washington informs us that Gen, Sam Houston will run as an independent candidate for the Presidency, trusting for his election to the great body of the people, and repudiating all caucuses and conventions. His platform is :- Op position to the domestic and foreign policy of the present administration, restoration of the retired naval officers, and condemnation of no citizen without a hearing. It is said that fifteen delegates from Ohio to the Cincinnati Convention are in favor of the nomination of Mr. Buchanan. A despatch received in Washington reported that the disturbances had again broken out in Kansas, and that some of the authorities had been shot.

furnishes us with the position and platform of Gen. Sam Houston. It is definitely settied that he will be an independent candidate, and we may expect a general scrub race. A fierce war is said to be going on calibre of Col. Polk. The same materials, There was a pause—a hush, as it were, between the Buchanan and Pierce partisans, and that the President, if he cannot ousies, the same cliques and the same outobtain the nomination himself, will use his standing candidates will come up before the ed-"We're on the bridge-see the mighty influence in favor of a Southern candidate. same tribunal at Cincinnati. What, then, Mississippi rolling on beneath"—and all shortly. A bill is to be presented to the the guillotining of the most dangerous can-House of Representatives to introduce the didate to all the rest, and then their mutual glided in solemn silence. A few minutes of a dignified indifference upon the subject apprentice system into the Merchant Marine destruction, till they make the astounding and the suspended breath let loose-"We service. In case the promotions occasion- discovery that the right man has been over!" was the cry; "we have crossed tertain the question at every session since; ed by the Naval Retiring Board are con- looked for a whole week! firmed bythe Senate, an effort will be made to reduce the number of captains in the heretofore to a small and facticious minority ger, as he hustled his carpet-bag and him-Navy to thirty, commanders to thirty, and in these packed conventions, the destinies self out of the cars. We followed, to view lieutenants to two hundred. Several delegates from Texas to the Cincinnati Con- dependent, liberty-loving and intelligent their first vote to Pierce, and then go for

> The news from Central America has graphic despatch of Mr. W. H. Aspinwall, tection when needed to American persons twenty-seven millions of people, supposed taries. and property. It was written on his being

Washington, April 30, 1856. "Telegraphic orders will be sent to the Fulton, at Pensacola, to touch at Aspinwall in her cruise, so soon as she can.

J. C. DOBBIN."

can question. ton, published this morning, is full of mat- in the slightest degree tainted with the nigthe administration is prepared to recognize be. A short time since we modestly sug-

have also gained a knowledge of our true caster, Pa., Saturday. He left Philadelphia by the Cabinet organ at Washington and friends, and they have also lost the assu- in the morning, and all along the route he by its echoes, as a malicious slanderer of rance with which they counted upon some was met by deputations of the people of all the unspotted democratic party. No-nevfriends, who, although they voted for the parties, who manifested their respect and er! There is nothing "free soilish" among licensing of saloons, and the increase of admiration. At his home there was a gen- its material in the North. The Van Buren pauperism, and sufferings and death by eral turn out, and "all sorts of people" Pierce democrats had passed through the means of drunkenness, this time, did so seemed pleased and gratified at his return, fire, and had come out without as much as

drilling and many "erong stories" to keep says, that while Sheriff Jones was sitting in should the democracy of the South be so men from voting according to the convicthe tent of the soldiers he was shot at by a suspicious of their Northern brethren in party outside and dangerously wounded .- these national love feasts! The plain truth We rejoice therefore that the subject Jones had made twelve arrests during the is, that the managers of these conventions has had a week and more of discussion in day, assisted by a company of dragoons un. are simply spoilsmen, and they meet to apour county. We thank the candidates for der Lieut. Armstrong. Much excitement propriate the spoils with the same feelings their faithfulness in presenting it. We prevailed in regard to the affair. The per. of fraternity as those which govern a gang thank the opposition for entertaining the petrator of the deed is unknown. The of robbers in one of their "extraordinary subject, and answering as best they could situation of Jones at present is very critical assemblies" for the division of a large haul cal, his life being despaired of. The In. of plunder. We shall endeavor, with your permis- vestigating Committee commenced holding sion, in subsequent numbers of THE ARGUS, sessions at Lawrence on the morning of the

Official advices have been received from The Mississippi River Crossed by the Iron Horse--lowa and Illinois connected by Railroad-Great Rejoicing. Commodore Salter, of the Brazil Soundron. take, we solicit from them, if they please, stating that he had returned to Rio from escorting out to sea the steamer America, which it was supposed was fitted out at New York as a Russian privateer, and that they said, with the notes of others as con- she had not been molested by the British Rock Island. He says: Admiral, as previously threatened.

in Washington:

## The Jugglers of the Cincinnati Convention

According to our special despatch from Washington, which we lay before our readamong the democratic jugglers for the nine voice from a young lady to her pa dainty prize of the Cincinnati Convention.

of these awindling gatherings is very ex. larger than the Hudson." traordinary. In 1844 Martin Van Buren had a clear majority of the Convention; his neck and sunk him. In 1848 Gen. Cass was nominated: but Van Buren had Our special despatch from Washington his revenge; for Cass was defeated by that purely revengeful Buffalo ticket. In 1852 all the great democratic guns were spiked once more, and the compromise at last sounded, and the conductor cried outagreed upon was decidedly smaller than the "Passengers for lowa keep their seats."

of this great country and its masses of in- the mighty structure. vention are in Washington, who will give people; and from the same source we can Bridge Company. Henry Farnam, Esq., expect nothing but the same consequences is President and Chief Engineer, and N. again. Think of ninety-nine men at Cin. B. Judd, Esq., Secretary. cinnati-cross-road politicians and tricky The bridge connects the Chicago and created a great excitement at Washington. spoilsmen, elected as delegates, some of Rock Island and the Mississippi and Mis-The following prompt and decided reply them, perhaps, by half a dozen boon comfrom the Secretary of the Navy to a tele- panions, others chosen by themselves, de- Gen. John A. Dix are the respective Presiciding upon the suffrages, the rights, the dents, and John F. Tracy, Esq., and John shows that he is determined to afford pro- world-wide interests of this vast republic of E. Henry, Esq., are the respective Secreto possess, themselves, the sovereign power | There are two bridges, the "Slough advised of the riots of the natives of Pana- in the government, and in the elections to democracy, personal independence and popular sovereignty! What a farce!

The Columbus (Ala.) Times gives the only plausible plea for this two-thirds rule The new steam frigate Merrimac will, it at these "extraordinary assemblies." It is said, be ordered to proceed to the Pacific says-"The democratic candidates chosen without delay. We find also, that the under it will compare favorably with those sloop of war St. Mary's was at Guayaquil on selected under the majority rule by the the 31st ult., and would leave for Panama whig party. In point of ability, Van Buat last accounts. In addition to these de- to Harrison, Clay, Taylor and Scott. We monstrations, Mr. Herbert, of California of- therefore protest most solemnly against the fered in the House of Representatives abrogation of the two-thirds rule by the Wednesday a resolution instructing the Cincinnati Convention. It is the only check vious to the present the Temperance can- tecting hereafter our citizens while cross- ern majorities. Until quiet is restored to didates talked upon the question without ing. The interference of France and Eng. the country; until the rights of the South hardly eliciting a reply. But this year, land in the quarrel between Nicaragua and are recognized and respected by the North, sir, the same tried candidates, and one Costa Rica will be brought up in Congress and the slavery agitation is settled, we more, have fairly discussed this question probably to-day, by Mr. Humphrey Mar- should regard that Southern man as either before listening audiences. Opposing can-shall, of Kentucky; and we are informed knave or fool who should propose or vote We have been surprised at the interest Know Nothings held a caucus in that city Is not the North now vastly in the majority

There is something in that argument, if Our telegraphic despatch from Washing- we admit that the Northern democracy are which they treated our puny efforts. We Mr. Buchanan reached his home in Lan- icon; but we were instantly pounced upon some of his went half a mile,

the smell of free soil or niggerism on their A Kansas letter, dated the 24th inst., garments. Such being the case, then, why

> "Extraordinary assemblies," indeed !-The plot thickens, and we "shall see, anon, that it is a knavish piece of work."

A correspondent of the Chicago Press. writing from Davenport, Iowa, says that on the 22d of April the first locomotive and train crossed the Mississippi River at

That such an event should have occurred 27 The following from the New York without an assemblage of spectators from Herald looks as though Bennett was a lit- all quarters of the globe to witness it, is tle out of humor at the way the cards are only another instance of the mighty progbeing managed by the party wire pullers, ress which has been made within the last fifty years in the science of bridge building. As we approached Rock Island there were rumors affoat that we would cross to Iowa on the bridge. "Cross the Mississippi on a bridge!" cried an intelligent looking geners this morning, the plet is thickening tleman. "On a bridge ?" simpered a femirents, bound for Council Bluffs; "why, Pa,

So silently has this work progressed that, while half the world has been asleep, gebut they fastened the two-thirds rule about nius has been spanning the mightiest river on the globe, and connecting two as magvificent sections of territory as the sun ever shone upon.

Swiftly we sped along the iron track-Rock Island appeared in sight-the whistle preparatory to the fierceness of a tornado. the Mississippi in a railroad car." "This is That two-thirds rule, in fact, has given glory enough for one day," said a passen-

The bridge was built for the Railroad

Bridge," which crosses from Illinois to the has made on the east side of the island, and the island to the Iowa shore.

The following is a description of extends from the island to the Iowa shore is 1,581 feet.

The length of the draw is 286 feet-the largest in the United States.

spans 150 feet each in the clear.

The appearance of the bridge, from the his savage tribes were the sole possessors. set the initiatory. Truly it is a great, a magnificent work .-It is indeed "glory enough for one day."

65 It is the opinion of a western editor Vigity, who has probably ere this reached had its antipathies to such Nebraska can that wood goes further when left out of the capital.

By dayfew two hundred ton ships and brigs condidates as Pierce, Douglas, Bright and Atchdoors than when well housed. He says about 55 miles from Granada. By day-

NICARAGUA.

From the papers received by last mail from the States we have full accounts of Nicaraguan affairs. The steamers have been withdrawn from the line on the Pacific side, owing to which we are maily dependent upon the New York and New Orleans papers for reliable accounts of events transpiring in Nicaragua. SCHLESINGER'S DEFEAT.

In regard to the defeat of Schlesinger who had invaded Costa Rica with the vanguard of Gen. Walker's army, numbering about 280 men, it appears that it was owing to the gross negligence and cowardice of Schlesinger. His men were encamped upon an eminence near the bacienda of Santa Rosa, surrounded by dense shrubbery; no sufficient guards were stationed to provide against surprise; parties, from five to fifteen were out foraging; and everything in camp displayed the most culpable and criminal carelessness. It was under such circumstances that the onslaught of the Costa Ricans was made. Confusion prevailed, and Schlesinger showed the white feather from the start. The attacking force was 1000, although, it is supposed, not more than 500 were engaged at first. One account says the assailants were up within fifty yards before they were discovered. Of Schlesinger's men only about 175 came into action; the French and Dutch companies not forming at all. Of the 175 men that remained at their post about 60 were killed. On the homeward march to Virgin Bay the dangers and fatiques were dreadful. With bleeding feet and hungered stomachs, they plodded on The working of the complex machinery I thought the Mississippi was a great river, leled the sufferings of our forefathers during the Revolution. Their return trail was closely followed by the enemy, and the escape of the little band from capture was almost miraculous. The defeat at Santa Rosa took place on the afternoon of the 20th of March.

> From the Nicaragua correspondence of tha N. Y. Tribune we take the following:

On the 15th of April the steamer Chas. Morgan arrived at San Juan del Norte from New Orleans with 250 men for Gen. Walker, and on the day following the Orizaba arrived from New York, with 50 recruits. A sailing vessel from New Orleans of the South, should not perceive that the about the same time landed 12 men for greatest danger to her institutions comes

BATTLE AT SERAPIQUE On the 10th of April a company of sixeen men, belonging to Walker's army, sur- conflict between them and the South. prised a detachment of Costa Ricans 200 strong, a few miles back of Serapaqui,- ing remarks upon this subject: The fight lasted about an hour. Twenty Costa Ricans were killed. The Americans two men wounded, one mortally. Serapaqui is a village on the San Juan river about 40 miles from its mouth.

APPEARANCE OF THE FILLIBUSTERS. During the few moments we remained on the east side. The entire length of the a brass 18-pounder cannon. As we passed Creote. bridge from the island to the Iowa shore, the Machucha rapids we met a small detachment of Walker's men, who were also The piers are seven feet wide at the top, walking, to lighten their bungos, and thus and thirty-five feet long. They are thirty- facilitate descent. Every one of them was eight feet high from the bed of the river, armed with either a Sharpe's, or a Missisand they rest on solid rock. There are four sippi rifle, a bayonet, and two revolvers. arch beams to each span of the bridge. - They must have been picked men, as every one of them was tall, muscular, and well made. They had an earnestness in their The Slough Bridge, as it is called, i. e., faces which was almost terrifying. They the bridge from Illinois across the channel were in no especial uniform, but each wore of the Mississippi that runs between the a red ribbon, either about his hat or on his island and the main land, consists of three breast. This is the badge of "no quarter," Since the Costa Ricans murdered those under Schlesinger whom they took prisonriver, is most magnificent, while the im- ers a general order has been issued in Gen. menseness of the structure strikes the be- Walker's army that no prisoners shall be holder with wonder, and to witness the made. Every male capable of bearing iron herse rushing over this mighty river, arms is to be put to death. This order is where but a few years ago Black Hawk and justified by the fact that the Costa Ricans BATTLE OF RIVAS.

my numbering 1,500 or 2,000 men enter- greater proportion of which are owned in ed and took possession of the city of Rivas, Boston and New York. Fifty years ago a light on the 8th, a force of 500 men, of trolled the East India business.

Schiesinger's Defeat-Great Battle at Ri vas--Walker Victorious--600 Costa Bicans Killed.

Gen. Walker in person was at the head of the army. He encamped on the night of the 10th within nine miles of Rivas, and early on the merning of the 11th of April the march was resumed, with the prospect ahead of a lively engagement. With his usual promptitude, Walker lost no time in commencing the attack. The conflict was fierce and bloody. The Costa Ricans disputed every inch; but the Americans broke through their barricades, and with great slaughter drove them from their defenses. The Costa Ricans had with them a heavy piece of cannon, to obtain which the Amercans made a desperate attack, and succeeded. The Costa Ricans made two or three very courageous efforts to recover their lost arm; finding this impracticable, a body of three hundred of them were observed to fall back. This was construed by Walker's officers into a retreat, and redoubling their efforts they put the everny to a total rout. Almost simultaneously with this about 250 fresh Costa Ricans were observed to approach the scene of conflict. They were promptly met by the Americans, now flushed with the prospects of a complete and brilliant victory, and after a terrible struggle they were routed with much

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additions suited to all the requirements of this lo-enlity. HANDBULLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

whom 100 were native troops, were on the

march from Granada to engage the enemy.

The conflict raged from 8 in the morning till the middle of the afternoon. Gen. Walker acted during the entire action with the greatest coolness-exhibiting no fears as to the result. Six hundred Costa Ricons were killed, while the Americans had only thirty killed and about an equal number wounded. The native soldiers under Gen. Walker fought with obstinate braverytheir commander, Col. Machado, being slain in the engagement.

Since the beginning of the war it has een known that the Costa Ricans have fought with Minie rifles, furnished them by the British Government, and many English and Germans are said to be fighting on their side.

Western Toxas a Free States

Some months since we alluded to the probability that Western Texas might become a free State, and based our suggestions on the fact that it was populated to a considerable extent by immigrants from the Old World. It is strange that those who have such fear for the integrity of the rights from this quarter. Immigrants are mostly freesoil men-abolitionists by inminct, and wherever they settle there is immediately a

The San Autonio Texan has the follow-

"Some may look upon such an event as a Free State of Western Texas, as improbwere headed by Capt. Baldwin, who had able, particularly at a time when such strennous efforts are being made to carry slavery into Kansas, where slavery does not now exist by positive law. Yet there is a strong probability that such an event will occur within the next ten years. Our opinion is at this place we were informed that an at- based upon the fact, that foeign immigratack, by a force of some 200 or 300 Costa tion is greater than domestic, by at least Ricans, was momentarily expected. When ten to one; and upon the well-known fact, asked whether they did not dread to have that all foreign immigration is opposed to their small force (not quite forty) attacked slavery, from principle, prejudice, and eduby such a large number, they laughed and cation. And there are many of the immireplied that they were good for double the grants from the older States opposed to slanumber. They informed us, however, very, who quietly tolerate it so long as it is that a reinforcement from Gen. Hornsby's an institution of the State, but who will force at Castillo was hourly expected .- vote no slavery, when the question comes its offices! What mockery it makes of island, over a channel which the Mississippi We passed Serapiqui in the night. The up, whether Western Texas shall be a Free morning proved the truth of all that had or Slave State. This fact is not generally the "Main Bridge," which extends from been told us. About 10 o'clock some known; if so, it is not duly considered .bungo boats, filled with soldiers, passed us. The vote of the adopted citizens of Texas In reply to our questions they said that now numbers at least twelve thousand. In THE MAIN BRIDGE.—The main bridge they were "going down to Scrapiqui to less than ten years it will be increased to shoot off some Greasers"-a name given to three times that number, unless the natof the Mississippi, and consists of five spans the Costa Ricans from their greasy appear- uralization laws are changed. The increase besides the draw. Three of these spans ance. Presently a large flat-boat swept by will be in a much greater ratio than that are on the west side of the draw, and two us for the same destination, in which was of the native born vote."-New Orleans

TRETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN .-Chambers's Journal alluded to a discovery of Mr. Blundell, dentist, of London, of a process for extracting teeth without pain, and to another process described by Dr. Roberts before the Scottish Society of Arts, for cauterizing the dental nerve, and stopping the teeth without pain independent of the ordinary intimidating mode of holding a red-hot iron before the patient's face. Mr. Blundell's process is the application of ice to the jaw, which so deadens the sensibility that the tooth is extracted without pain .-The process of Dr. Roberts is to cauterize by means of a wire attached to the patient's tooth, perfectly cold, and afterwards instantaneously heated to the required extent by a small electric battery.

37 The East India trade of the United States, including the African and Pacific trade, employs at the present time four hun-On the 6th of April the Costa Rican ar- dred ships one hundred and fifty barks, the