

Office—Good's Building, Main st. Editorial Room in first story.

TERMS—The ARGUS will be furnished at Three Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum, in advance.

Mr. Everett on the late Outrage on Senator Sumner.

The Oregon Argus.

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

Vol. II.

OREGON CITY, O. T., JULY 19, 1856.

No. 14.

ADVERTISING RATES. One square (12 lines or less) one insertion, \$5.00...

Job Printing.

The proprietors of THE OREGON ARGUS are happy to inform the public that they have just received a large stock of JOB TYPE...

PRATTLE ON FIRE.—The following is an extract from an interesting letter of the editor of the St. Louis Advertiser...

"Did you ever see a prairie on fire? Perhaps you have, but many of our readers never did. It is a grand, a sublime, and to us it was a terrific sight. We were in the midst of a large prairie, covered with grass at least six feet high...

The first company of the overland immigrants has reached California. The company wintered at Salt Lake. We are indebted to the Placerville (Cal.) American of June 21st for the following information:

IMPOSITION AND EXPOSITION.—Mr. Barnes complains grievously, as well as he may, of the gross imposition forced upon him in the way of taxation, resulting from the necessity of wintering among the Mormons.

He has the receipts with him to show that he paid a tax levied by the authorities, of twenty-two per cent., or twenty-two on every hundred dollars valuation, or nearly one-fourth of all he had, and he was compelled to submit to it or face worse.

FACTS ABOUT THE FAMINE.—That the "Latter Day Saints" in the immediate vicinity of Salt Lake, have suffered to an unusual degree from famine, or if not actual famine, a want of the common necessaries of life, facts attested to by Mr. Barnes and those accompanying him, are conclusive.

TROUBLES OF A BALLOON MAN.—The Placerville American, of Saturday, June 21st, gives rather a ludicrous description of the trials and perplexities of Prof. Wilson, who has been trying to make an ascension at that place for some time past in his balloon. It says: "We were requested from time to time to give notice that an ascension would be made at a certain time, times and divers times..."

HYPOCRISY.—It is a noticeable fact that many of the prominent speakers at the recent celebration of the anniversary of the birth of HENRY CLAY were Democrats. There would be more propriety in their celebrating the anniversary of his death...

On the 1st of June, out of the Treasury of the United States, the Texas creditors are to be paid \$7,750,000, at least those who have filed their legal claims prior to the first of May.

An article in the London Times has lately told the truth about Ireland, with a terrible emphasis. We learn from it, that in March, 1851, the number of men and women in Ireland was reduced to 6,559,000 from 8,175,000, their number in June, 1851, was decreased by more than 1,500,000.

It is for the unfortunate alone to judge of the unfortunate. The pulled-up heart of Prosperity cannot understand the sensitive feelings of Misfortune.

the United States. They know that this sentiment is fully shared by M. Sartiges, the French Minister at this point, who has been visited by not a single Senator in two years, and whose social position here is very low. Indeed, Sartiges boasts of his knowledge that this sentiment of hate of the United States is indulged by the Emperor, his master. President Pierce knows full well that the insult to our Military Commission was intended as an insult to the United States. Under these circumstances, can he pass over it without instituting some measures of redress? Sartiges, entirely unacceptable as he is to our people and our Government, continues to be crammed down our throats. As our Government has a perfect right to request his recall and persist in it, why is not the present a favorable opportunity to accomplish it?

Correspondence between Senator Wilson and Mr. Brooks. MR. BROOKS TO SENATOR WILSON. FLINT'S HOTEL, May 27, 1856. SIR: In the Senate to-day, when referring to the collision with Mr. Sumner, you spoke of my conduct as "cowardly," thus making yourself an arbitrator of true courage.

In debate in the Senate heretofore, you declared yourself responsible for what you might say there and elsewhere. I, therefore, hold myself at liberty, by this note, to request that you will inform me, without delay, where and when, outside of this District, a further note will find you. Respectfully, &c. P. S. BROOKS. THE HON. HENRY WILSON.

SENATOR WILSON TO MR. BROOKS. WASHINGTON, May 29—10 1/2 o'clock. HON. P. S. BROOKS.—Sir: Your note of the 27th inst., was placed in my hands by your friend Gen. Lane, at 10:30 this morning.

I characterized on the floor of the Senate the assault upon my colleague as "brutal, murderous and cowardly." I thought so then—I think so now. I have no qualifications whatever to make in regard to those words. I have never entertained or expressed in the Senate or elsewhere the idea of personal responsibility in the sense of the duelist. I have always regarded dueling as the lingering relic of a barbarous civilization, which the law of the country has branded as a crime.

Resolved, That Preston S. Brooks be and he is forthwith expelled from this House as a Representative from the State of South Carolina. Resolved, That this House hereby declares its disapprobation of the said act of Henry A. Edmundson and Lawrence M. Keitt in regard to said assault. LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, FRANCIS E. SPINNER, ALEX. C. M. PENNINGTON.

The statement that the United States Military Commission, which recently returned from Europe, was treated with marked incivility and rudeness by French Government officials is fully confirmed. The Commission, it will be remembered, was composed of Majors Delafield and Mordecai, and Col. McClellan, all officers of the United States Army, worthy and accomplished gentlemen, who were sent abroad by the President to acquire information of value to the military service of the United States.

On their return by the way of Paris, they called upon Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, who met them with a "Well! what do you want?" The answer was, "We have called according to an arrangement made when we were last in Paris, to go some books then promised us." Vaillant rejoined, in substance, and in a manner as offensive as his words, "We have nothing to give! There are misunderstandings between our Governments, and our relations are such as not to justify any such civilities!"

All the correspondence in relation to this disgraceful affair has been laid before the President. What will he do about it?—Our Government is perfectly well satisfied that this conduct is only one of the modes by which Louis Napoleon and his subordinates have, time and again, indicated their feelings of settled hostility to said hate of

fore the speech was concluded, Mr. Brooks took exceptions to the remarks of the Senator, and that on Wednesday morning, after the delivery of the speech, he declared to Mr. Edmundson of the House, whom he casually met in the Capitol grounds, a short time before the meeting of the two houses, that he intended to inflict violence upon the person of Mr. Sumner, as a punishment for language uttered in his speech. He therefore requested Mr. Edmundson to walk with him, and after taking a seat near the walk leading from Pennsylvania avenue to the Capitol, he expressed a desire that Mr. Edmundson should be present as a witness to the transaction; that they remained some fifteen minutes awaiting the approach of Mr. Sumner, and then proceeded to the Capitol.

On Thursday morning he again casually met Mr. Edmundson at the western entrance to the Capitol grounds on Pennsylvania avenue, a point which commanded a view of all the approaches to the Capitol from that portion of the city in which Mr. Sumner resides. Here he again informed Mr. Edmundson that he was on the lookout for Mr. Sumner for the purpose of making the attack, and, after remaining for a short period, the two proceeded to the Capitol.

After the reading of the journal of the House, on Thursday, the death of the Hon. Mr. Miller, of Missouri, was announced, addresses delivered, the customary resolutions adopted, and, thereupon, the House adjourned.

When the Message was received by the Senate from the House announcing the death of Mr. Miller, a tribute of respect was paid to the deceased by Senator Geyer in an address, and that body thereupon also adjourned. Most of the Senators left the Senate, a few only remaining. Mr. Sumner continued in his seat engaged in writing. Mr. Brooks approached, and addressing a few words to him, immediately commenced the attack by inflicting blows upon his bare head, while in his seat, with a case, said to be of gutta percha. Mr. Sumner made an effort to rise and ward off the blows of his assailant, but they were repeated with great rapidity and violence, until he fell to the floor under the attack, bleeding and powerless.

The wounds were severe, and calculated to endanger the life of the Senator, who remained for several days in a critical condition. It appears that the blows were inflicted with a case, the material of which was about the specific gravity of hickory or white-oak, one inch in diameter at the larger end, and tapering to the diameter of about five-eighths of an inch at the smaller end. It is not too much to say that the weapon used was of a deadly character, and that the blows were indiscriminately dealt, at the hazard of the life of the assailed.

The Committee have extended to all parties implicated the fullest facilities for taking exculpatory testimony. There is no proof to show, nor has it been in any way intimated that Mr. Brooks, at any time, in any manner, directly or indirectly, notified Mr. Sumner of his intention to make the assault. There is no evidence that Mr. Sumner ever carried weapons either for the purpose of attack or defense. On the contrary, it appears that Mr. Sumner did not anticipate personal violence until at the instant he received the first blow, and that he was not armed or otherwise prepared, in any respect, for self-defense.

There is no evidence, beyond the character of the attack, tending to show an intention on the part of Mr. Brooks to kill the Senator; his expressions being that he did not intend to kill him, but to punish him; but the Committee cannot but regard the assault as a most flagrant violation, not only of the privileges of the Senate and of the House, as coordinate branches of the Legislative Department of the Government, and the personal rights and privileges of the Senator, but of the rights of his constituents, and of our character as a nation. It was premeditated, during a period of at least two days, without any other provocation than words lawfully spoken in debate in the Senate Chamber, nor ruled out of order by the President of the Senate, nor objected to by any Senator as violative of the rules established for the government and order of that body.

The act cannot therefore be regarded by the Committee otherwise than as an aggravated assault upon the inestimable right of freedom of speech, guaranteed by the Constitution. It asserts for physical force a prerogative over governments, constitutions and laws, and, if carried to its ultimate consequences, must result in anarchy, and bring into its train all the evils of a "Reign of Terror."

The Committee therefore, in conformity to the spirit of the resolution of the House and their sense of public duty, are constrained to recommend to the House the passage of such a resolution as will vindicate its own character and rebuke the member who has so unhappily for himself and the country perpetrated this great wrong.

The Committee do not discuss the powers of the House to punish its disorderly members, nor do they undertake to argue the general question as to what constitutes a breach of privilege. The passage of the resolution raising the Committee is regarded as a declaration on the part of the House of its power to call its members to account for such acts as violate the privileges of the Senate. This assault having been committed by a member upon a Senator, "while remaining in his seat in the Senate Chamber in the performance of the duties pertaining to his official station," and for words there spoken in debate, the Committee have no doubt of the rights or power of the House to adopt the resolutions which they recommend.

No testimony has been taken, nor are the Committee aware of any, which shows that any other member of the House was either actively engaged in the assault or designed to commit any violence upon Mr.

Sumner, nor that any other knew the "precise time when" or "the place where" Mr. Brooks would assault him. It does appear, however, that the Hon. Henry A. Edmundson of Virginia, and the Hon. Lawrence M. Keitt of South Carolina, Members of the House, had been previously informed of the purpose of Mr. Brooks to commit an assault upon Mr. Sumner, and that they anticipated that the assault would take place in or near the Senate Chamber about the time the occurrence did take place. Mr. Keitt was in the Senate Chamber, and Mr. Edmundson in a room adjoining it, at the time the attack was made; and it is proved that Mr. Keitt rushed up with a cane in a threatening manner when the bystanders attempted to protect Mr. Sumner from the blows of Mr. Brooks, and that Mr. Edmundson entered the Senate Chamber soon after Mr. Sumner fell.

The Committee do not feel themselves justified in expressing the opinion upon the testimony, that either of these members was a principle or accessory in the assault; but regard their conduct in the transaction—and particularly in not taking steps to prevent the perpetration of the wrong, or to inform the Senator of his danger—as reprehensible.

The Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions: Whereas, The Senate of the United States have transmitted to this House a message complaining that Preston S. Brooks, a Representative from the State of South Carolina, committed upon the person of Charles Sumner, a Senator from the State of Massachusetts, while seated at his desk in the Senate Chamber after the adjournment of that body, on the 24th of May last, a violent assault which disabled him from attending to his duties in the Senate, and declaring that said assault was a breach of the privileges of that body; And whereas, upon full investigation, it appears to this House that said Preston S. Brooks has been guilty of the assault complained of by the Senate, with the most aggravated circumstances of violence; that the same was a breach of the privileges, not only of the Senate, but of the Senator assailed and of this House as a coordinate branch of the Legislative Department of the Government, in direct violation of the Constitution of the United States, which declares that Senators and Representatives shall not be questioned in any other place; And whereas, this House is of the opinion that it has the power and ought to punish the said Preston S. Brooks, for the said assault, not only as a breach of the privilege of the Senator assailed, and of the Senate and House as declared by the Constitution, but as an act of disorderly behavior; And whereas, it further appears from such investigation that Henry A. Edmundson, a Representative from the State of Virginia, and Lawrence M. Keitt, a Representative from the State of South Carolina, sometime previous to the said assault, were informed that it was the purpose of the said Preston S. Brooks to commit violence upon the person of the said Charles Sumner, for words used by him in debate as a Senator in the Senate of the United States, and took no measures to discourage or prevent the same; but, on the contrary, anticipating the commission of such violence, were present on one or more occasions to witness the same as friends of the assailant; therefore,

Resolved, That Preston S. Brooks be and he is forthwith expelled from this House as a Representative from the State of South Carolina. Resolved, That this House hereby declares its disapprobation of the said act of Henry A. Edmundson and Lawrence M. Keitt in regard to said assault.

LEWIS D. CAMPBELL, FRANCIS E. SPINNER, ALEX. C. M. PENNINGTON.

Mr. Howell Cobb, representing the minority of the Committee, presented a minority report, arguing that no breach of privilege, under the Constitution, had been committed, and that the House had no power to go beyond the Constitution in deciding that a breach of privilege had been committed.

The Outrage in the Senate. The Louisville Journal, which is intense in its hatred of Mr. Sumner, has a well considered article upon the subject.

It calls for the prompt expulsion of Mr. Brooks, adding that "if such things are tolerated, Massachusetts should send rowdies instead of men of intellect to Washington, as she might find many a bully within her borders who could make as short work with Mr. Brooks as he made with Mr. Sumner—and that too without taking him at a similar disadvantage."

The Journal continues: "It seems that Brooks attacked Sumner because the latter had in debate abused South Carolina and Mr. Brooks' rather aged relative, Senator Butler. The idea of using a bludgeon upon a Senator for making a speech against a State is monstrous. A score of South Carolina members of Congress within the last few years have used their whole power of abuse and vituperation against Massachusetts, and as many Massachusetts members have exercised themselves upon South Carolina. A pitched battle has long been raging between the champions of those two States, and generally the harshest and most offensive language has come from the South Carolinians, who don't like to be outdone in anything. What Sumner may have said about Senator Butler we know not, but we think that the old Senator, who is quite as fiery-hearted as he is white-headed, would scorn the thought of letting any younger man take a quarrel with an abolitionist off his hands."

"We happened to be in the Senate Chamber near the close of the last session of Congress during one of the night discussions of all manner of slavery questions. Judge Put-

The Commission and the French Marshal, Vaillant. Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Daily Times. WASHINGTON, May 14.

On their return by the way of Paris, they called upon Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, who met them with a "Well! what do you want?" The answer was, "We have called according to an arrangement made when we were last in Paris, to go some books then promised us."

On their return by the way of Paris, they called upon Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, who met them with a "Well! what do you want?" The answer was, "We have called according to an arrangement made when we were last in Paris, to go some books then promised us."

On their return by the way of Paris, they called upon Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, who met them with a "Well! what do you want?" The answer was, "We have called according to an arrangement made when we were last in Paris, to go some books then promised us."

On their return by the way of Paris, they called upon Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, who met them with a "Well! what do you want?" The answer was, "We have called according to an arrangement made when we were last in Paris, to go some books then promised us."

On their return by the way of Paris, they called upon Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, who met them with a "Well! what do you want?" The answer was, "We have called according to an arrangement made when we were last in Paris, to go some books then promised us."

Mr. Sumner delivered his address on Washington, in Taunton, on Friday evening last, on which occasion, after alluding to the distinguished favor with which the address had been received in various parts of the country, and stating that the character of Washington was the only subject which had the power to call him out from his retirement to address public audiences more frequently than is consistent with his health or the purposes of his life, he said:

"But, with the satisfaction which I feel in addressing you at this time, are mingled feelings of the profoundest anxiety and grief. A sadness, which I strive in vain to repress, overwhelms me at the thought of the occurrences of the past week, and a gloomy apprehension forces itself upon my mind that events are even now in train, with an impetus too mighty to be resisted, which will cause our beloved country to shed tears of blood through all her borders for generations yet to come. The civil war, with its horrid train of fire and slaughter, carried on without the slightest provocation against the infant settlements of our brethren on the frontier of the Union—the worse than civil war which, after raging for months unabated at the Capitol of the Union, has at length, with a lawless violence of which I know no example in the annals of Constitutional Government, stained the floor of the Senate Chamber with the blood of a defenseless man, and he a Senator from Massachusetts. Oh! my good friends, these are events which, for the good name, the peace, the safety of the country, it were well worth all the gold of California to blot from the record of the past week. They sicken the heart of the good citizen, of the Christian; they awaken a gloomy doubt whether the toils, the sacrifices and the sufferings our fathers endured for the sake of founding a higher, a purer and a freer civilization on this Western Continent than the world had yet seen, have not been endured in vain. For myself, my friends, they fill me with sorrow too deep for tears. I am not ashamed of the weakness, for I sorrow not for myself. My few remaining years are running too rapidly to a close to allow me to attach much importance to anything this side of the grave which endures me individually; but I sorrow beyond the power of words to express for the objects of affection which I shall leave behind; for my children, for my country; and God is my witness that, if by laying down my life at this hour, I could undo what has been done the last two years, beginning with the disastrous repeal of the Missouri Compromise, to embitter the different sections of the country against each other, and weaker the ties which bind them, I would willingly and cheerfully make the sacrifice. Did I not think there is a healing charm in the name of Washington, that attachment and veneration for his character is almost the only kindly sentiment that pervades the whole country, and that in the contemplation of that character there is a spirit of wisdom to guide and of love to soothe and unite, I would even now throw myself upon your indulgence to excuse me from the duties of the evening."

Report of the House Committee. Majority and minority reports from the Special Committee on the Sumner Assault were presented, and laid on the table to print. The following is the majority report:

The Select Committee appointed under the resolution of the House, passed on the 23d day of May, 1856, to investigate the subject of the assault alleged to have been made in the Senate Chamber by the Hon. Preston S. Brooks and other Members of the House, upon the Hon. Charles Sumner, a Senator from the State of Massachusetts; and to whom the House referred the proceedings of the Senate, announcing that that coordinate branch of Congress "makes complaint to the House of Representatives of the assault committed by one of its Members—the Hon. Preston S. Brooks—upon the Hon. Charles Sumner, a Senator from the State of Massachusetts." Report:

That upon a full investigation of the subject they concur in the following conclusions, which the Senate seem unanimously to have declared:

I. That the Hon. Preston S. Brooks, a member of the House of Representatives from the State of South Carolina, did, on the 24th day of the present month, after adjournment of the Senate, and while Mr. Sumner was writing at his desk in the Senate chamber, assault with considerable violence, striking him numerous blows on and about the head with a walking stick, which cut his head, and disabled him for the time being from attending to his duties in the Senate.

II. That this assault was a breach of the privileges of the Senate.

III. That it is not within the jurisdiction of the Senate, and can only be punished by the House of Representatives of which Mr. Brooks is a member.

IV. That the Senate "for a breach of its privileges cannot arrest a member of the House of Representatives," and, a fortiori, "cannot try and punish him," and that "what certainly devolves upon the House of which he is a member."

The Committee therefore report back the complaint of the Senate, with the journal of their proceedings and the testimony taken in the premises, pursuant to the resolution of the House. The testimony discloses the following facts: On Monday and Tuesday, the 19th and 20th days of May, 1856, Mr. Sumner delivered a speech in the Senate in reply to the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Butler) and other Senators, an authorized copy of which is appended to the testimony and forms a part of this report.