

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., SEPTEMBER 20, 1856.

No. 23.

ADVERTISING RATES. One square (12 lines or less) one insertion, \$3.00. Two insertions, 4.00. Three insertions, 5.00. Each subsequent insertion, 1.00. Reasonable deductions to those who advertise 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 printing material, and will be in the speedy receipt of additions suited to all the requirements of his locality. HANDILLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

Trying to Please Everybody. HINTS TO EDITORS. One reader cries, your strain's too grave, Too much morality you have, Too much about religion; Give us some witch and wizard tales, Of slipshod ghosts with fins and scales, And feathers like a pigeon. I love to read, another cries, Those monstrous fash enable lies— In other words, those novels, Composed of kings, and priests, and lords, Of border wars, and gothic herds 'That used to live in hovels. No, no, cries one, we've had enough Of such confounded lore sick stuff, To craze the fair creature; Give us some recent foreign news, Of Russians, Turks, the Poles, or Jews, Or any other nation. The man of dull scholastic lore Would like to see a little more Of first-rate scraps of Latin; The grocer fain would learn the price Of tea and sugar, fruit and rice; The draper, silk and satin. Another cries, I want more fun, A witty anecdote or pun, A riddle or a riddle; Some wish for parliamentary news, And some, perhaps, of wider views, Would rather hear a fable. The critic, too, of classic skill, Must dip in gall his grander-quill— And scrawl against the paper; Of all the literary foes, Bred in our colleges and schools, He cuts the greatest caper. Another cries, I want to see A jumbled up variety, Variety in all things— A miscellaneous hodge-podge print, Composed (I only give the hint) Of multifarious small things. I want some marriage news, says miss; It constitutes my highest bliss— To hear of wedding plucky; For in a time of general rain, None suffer from a drought, 'tis plain, At least not one in twenty. I want to hear of deaths, says one, Of people totally undone By losses, fire or fever; Another answers full as wise, I'd rather have the fall and rise Of racoon skins and beaver. Some signify a secret wish For now and then a favorite dish Of politics to suit them; But let us rest at perfect ease, For should they swear the noon was cheese, We never should confute them. Or grave or humorous, wild or tame, Lofly or low, 'tis all the same, Too lengthy or too humble; So, brother editors, pursue The path that seems the best to you, And let the gumbler's grumble.

A Sensible Article. The New York Mirror defines its position in the present canvass as follows: "It is due to our readers that the Mirror should define its position on the question of the Presidency. We have waited, watched, inquired, observed, and deliberated calmly on the subject; and have decided to vote for FREMONT. The reasons that have led to this conclusion, we briefly state: "In the first place, we like the MAX—his character and his career. We like him for what he is and for what he has done; and are willing to take the record of the past as a warranty for the future. With his political principles, as indicated by his votes and speeches in the United States Senate, and as set forth in his recent letter of acceptance, we have no fault to find. And we have private reasons for believing, that, in the event of his election, he will prove as good and prompt a President as Gen. Jackson. "But, other and stronger considerations than these have determined the election we have made. After fighting the battle of the South for twelve long years, defending its political rights, domestic institutions, social character and manners on all occasions, recent occurrences have convinced us that the time has come for the North, with its superior numbers, intelligence, wealth and power, to take a stand, firm and fixed as its granite hills, against the threatening, bullying, brow-beating, skull-breaking spirit of the South—a spirit that tramples upon compromises; violates the sacred freedom of parliamentary debate; and murders the settlers upon our common soil for simply opposing, by voice and vote, the fastening of slavery upon a free and virgin Territory. "It is not necessary to assure the readers of the Mirror that we have no sympathy with political Abolitionists—the Greeleys, the Giddingses, and the Van Burens of the North, who have been riding the nigger-hobby for fifteen years, seeking office while 'shrieking for freedom.' But, however mischievous and detestable the sentiments promulgated by these sectional demagogues may be, they have never resorted to bullets and bludgeons to carry their points, or to silence their opponents. They have even made a virtue of necessity by submitting to the operations of the Fugitive Slave Law, (the bitterest pill ever swallowed by the North for the benefit of the South,) and even the repeal of the Missouri Compromise would have been quietly acquiesced in, had 'fair play and no gouging' been secured to the settlers in Kansas. "As the representative of Northern feeling aroused by a series of unwarranted outrages on the part of Southern politicians and countenanced by the Pierce administration, JOHN C. FREMONT has been selected as a candidate for the Presidency. In the great emergency of the nation the eyes

of the free States turn to him, who has waved the flag of his country upon the top of America, as to the rising Star of the Republic. THE HOUR AND MAN have come together, as they always do come, in the right time of a nation's need. "It is not our purpose to prophesy; we have not even made an arithmetical calculation of the chances of this complicated campaign. The question with us is not one of policy, but of principle; not of politics even, but of patriotism. In the event of Fremont's election, the very triumph would suggest a course of magnanimity toward the South. The Republican Cabinet and Foreign Missions should fairly represent every section of the Union.— And it is the strong assurance that such a generous and purely national policy would be adopted, more than all other considerations, that has decided the step we have taken. "Against the other candidates in the field—Fillmore and Buchanan—the Mirror has nothing to say. They are good men, both. But the platforms on which they are mounted; the alliances and associations they have formed; and the measures to which they are committed, are not broad enough, free enough, grand enough to accommodate the progressive, independent, and go-ahead spirit of Young America.— Old Fogyism may lift its spectacles, shake its Silver Gray Locks, and warn us against yielding to a sudden hurricane that is sweeping over the North. But so long as the breeze blows in the right direction, it is better to go with it than against it; and without throwing overboard a single conservative principle hitherto advocated by the Mirror, we can go into the fight for FREMONT and DAYTON; for the Union of the States and the constitutional rights of both the North and South, as conscientiously as ever crusaders battled for Jerusalem. In times like these, to be neutral is to be a coward."

The Slavonian and American Races. History is full of startling contrasts.—When the Carthaginians ruled three hundred cities and covered the Mediterranean with their commerce, they looked with contempt on the horde of refugees, who were founding a city on the banks of the Tiber; not imagining that there was the germ of a people who would not only sweep Carthage from the face of the earth, but rule the world. While Philip II. was ardently striving to establish universal papal and imperial power, and Louis the XIV. was glittering in his ambitious projects, amid the glittering splendor of Versailles, there were growing up in obscurity and unnoticed, in the distant northeast of Europe, and on the far off shores of the Atlantic, the first humble institutions of two people, whose rapid progress since has been the marvel of mankind. When in 1453 Mahomet II. was battering down the walls of Constantinople and building up Ottoman power in Europe on the ruins of the Greek Empire, Russia was a small feeble state, having a population of six millions of people, and a territory of some two hundred thousand square miles; not five times as large as the area of the State of New York. The battle of Pultowa in 1709, which struck a fatal blow at the ascendancy of Sweden in the North, was the critical point in the history of Russia, and from that day her progress has scarcely a parallel among nations. Instead of two hundred thousand square miles of territory, and six millions of people, her Emperor rules over nearly seven millions of square miles, more than one-eighth of all the land of the earth, and seventy millions of obedient subjects. Unlike the dominion of Britain, her territory is one compact, unbroken whole, from the Baltic Sea across Europe and Asia to the shores of the Pacific, and from the Arctic Ocean to the Caspian and Black Seas. She possesses, therefore, in her continuity of territory, one of the chief elements of strength. Her means of internal communication are equal to those of any part of the globe. Her rivers flowing into the Arctic Ocean, the Sea of Japan, and the Caspian and Black Seas, are navigable for a greater distance than any of the earth, excepting those of America. The rivers of the Caspian and Black Seas, and also those of the White Sea and the Caspian, are united by canals, thus forming three uninterrupted lines of water communication across the entire length of European Russia. There is a complete network of rivers and canals, through which flows an internal commerce only equaled in value by that of America. Her system of railways is gigantic, and beyond question her whole surface will, before the lapse of a quarter of a century, be entirely interwoven with a web of iron roads. Our own progress has not been less rapid than or inferior to Russia. The America of the Revolution was a narrow section of this continent, chiefly of forest land, lying along the Atlantic Ocean, comprising some 90,000 square miles, inhabited by scarcely 3,000,000 of inhabitants, and dotted here and there with a few small towns. Now we have three millions of square miles, more than twenty-five millions of people, and our cities have increased in number, size, and splendor, until they rival the capitals of the older world. The territory of the Republic is three times as large as the whole of Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Prussia, Austria, Denmark, Belgium, and Holland, combined, equals in extent that of the Roman Empire, when Augustus Caesar presided in his last testament, its boundaries.— Baltimore Republican.

Gen. Walker, President of Nicaragua. According to the correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune, Walker received 14,000 out of 21,000 votes that were polled. The fact of his having been elected was formally proclaimed on the 10th of July, in the streets of Granada, amidst the feeble strains of the natives and the loud cheers of the soldiery. On the 12th the inaugural ceremonies were performed, when he de-

livered an address. In this he said that he felt deeply the difficulties and responsibilities which the office involves. The State was menaced by dangers from without and from within, and there was need of sleepless vigilance and untiring energy to preserve the government from the enemies who threaten it. In order, therefore, to administer properly the affairs of the Republic, he required all the assistance he could derive from the patriotism of its citizens, and the skill, courage, and self-restraint of its soldiers. He hoped that day would close the revolutionary epoch of Nicaragua, and that the struggles of thirty-five years had taught the people that liberty was not to be obtained amid the petty feuds of contending chieftains, and that prosperity did not result from a constant state of civil broils and intestine commotions. Urging the assistance of all good citizens in the maintenance of order, he proceeded: "Not only is internal order required for the advancement of material wealth and prosperity, but also for the proper defence of the Republic from the external enemies which threaten its repose. The other four States of Central America, without reason and without justice, have undertaken to interfere in the domestic affairs of Nicaragua. Conscious of their own weakness, and fearful lest the prosperity of Nicaragua should detract from their wealth, these neighboring States are enviously endeavoring to interrupt our progress by force of arms. The imbecile rulers of these States, too, feeling that they have failed to perform their duties to the people they undertake to govern dread lest their impoverished countrymen may finally fly for refuge to those who have redeemed Nicaragua from anarchy and ruin. Moved by such ignoble sentiments, these miserable relics of a once powerful aristocracy are striving to impede the march of events in this Republic. But the impotence of their effort is beginning to be made manifest to themselves and to the world; and they are now appearing as blind instruments in the hand of all-wise Providence, which, out of the bad passions and unworthy motives of men, educes good and improvement. "In our relations with the more powerful nations of the world, I hope they may be led to perceive that, although Nicaragua may be comparatively weak, she is yet jealous of her honor, and determined to maintain the dignity of her independent sovereignty. "The principles which shall guide me in the administration both of the foreign and domestic affairs of the Government are few and simple. To allow the utmost liberty of speech and action compatible with order and good government, shall be the leading idea of my political conduct.— Therefore, the greatest possible freedom of trade will be established, with the view of making Nicaragua what nature intended her to be—the highway of commerce between two oceans. And with this freedom of trade will come the arts of a civilization which grows and increases by the wants and necessities itself creates."

In conclusion, he said that to promote education and encourage the practices of religion, should be with his government objects of primary importance. This address is on the whole very high-toned and dignified; but his reference to the other Central American States appears to argue but too plainly the contemplation of further conquests so soon as he may secure firmly his present possessions.

facturing interests, her people being devoted chiefly to the pleasures of life, or the excitements of war, she was compelled to import almost every article of use or ornament which she required. Having nothing to exchange for these foreign fabrics, except her gold and silver, and the luxury of her people increasing in the ratio that the products of her transatlantic mines decreased, she was compelled finally to resort to forced legislation, in order to keep the precious metals within her own territories. An export duty of from five to fifteen per cent. was laid on all exportations of specie, and this additional burthen broke the backs of her people. Smuggling was resorted to, and the government found itself daily growing weaker and poorer, in spite of the Alcazola tax, whilst the people hourly plunged into greater excesses of extravagance and effeminacy. The world sees the consequences, and the nineteenth century pays with its shame for the sickly splendors of the sixteenth. It is, therefore, evident to the shallowest mind, that mere mineral wealth cannot long sustain a nation in a position of power or opulence. If there be no corresponding commercial and agricultural interests to keep the specie at home, it will go abroad to seek after luxuries, and when the balance of trade is once fixed against a country no human power can long postpone the catastrophe. It was a knowledge of this great principle in political economy, and a full appreciation of its importance, that gave to the American System of Clay its great popularity and its triumphant vindication, in the earlier days of the Republic. Had not New England been enabled to build up her commercial and manufacturing interests, so as to compete successfully with other countries, our country, instead of being rich and powerful, would at this day be a second-rate power, and a mere dependency of England and France. America owes more to the memory of HENRY CLAY, than she does to that of Jackson or Jefferson. In arms, Jackson was pre-eminent, in politics Jefferson, but in wise and beneficent statesmanship, Clay surpassed all his contemporaries. The splendor of his eloquence could not subdue the perspicuity of his mind, but wisdom and enthusiasm for the first time in the annals of our history met and embraced each other. Let no man say our country owes no debt of gratitude to Henry Clay because the protective principle is no longer necessary to foster our commerce and manufactures. He built them up, and left them just as they were able to walk alone. He nursed them into strength, and their meridian glory will be his best monument.— San Francisco True Californian.

Submarine Telegraph. The Steamship Propontis sailed from London on the 2d of June, with the submarine electric cable, to be laid down to cross the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and connect Newfoundland with Cape Breton. The New York Journal of Commerce, mentioning this, says: Besides this, another similar cable will be extended from Prince Edward's to New Brunswick, and it is expected they will both be laid by the last of the present month.— The English Government have sent the warsteamer Argus to be present when the wire is put down, and render any needed assistance. A number of persons sailed from Boston, in the Niagara, to witness the execution of this interesting portion of the work, and will be met by other parties leaving England with the same object. The manufacturers of the wire, in London, assume all risk in connection with this portion of the enterprise, it being agreed that they shall receive a certain amount in payment when the wire is laid down and guaranteed. The company have for some time past had 600 men constantly employed on the line across Newfoundland, where a parallel road is built, and houses are erected at every ten miles, for the occupation of the operators and laborers. All this work is only preliminary to the formidable enterprise of linking the old world to the new by electric telegraph. Experiments are constantly making, with a view to ascertain the best description of cable adapted to this purpose, and it is confidently expected that the work will be completed during the next year. Capt. Berryman, who is shortly to sail on a surveying expedition in one of the U. S. Government steamers, and by whom the survey of the proposed route of the trans-Atlantic cable was made, ascertained that the ground was highly favorable for the execution of the project. One fact not a little remarkable is, that no rock was anywhere found in deep water, the entire bottom examined being covered by a deep layer of minute tropical shells, such as might afford effectual protection to the wire. The company anticipate the receipt of a considerable revenue immediately on the line to St. Johns, (connecting with the Nova Scotia line at Port Hood, Cape Breton,) a

distance from New York, the way the line runs, of 1,700 miles. It is not improbable that European news will soon be furnished by steamers stopping at St. Johns. The Pacific Railroad before the Country. We have already noticed the fact that the Democratic Convention, assembled at Cincinnati, recommended to Congress to do what it constitutionally could for the Pacific Road. We have now to notice also the fact, that the Republican Convention, assembled at Philadelphia, has endorsed in strong language the construction of that road. It may be taken, therefore, as an assured fact, that the public sentiment of the nation is in favor of the Pacific Railroad, and that Congress is not only authorized, but required to take some positive steps on this subject. What shall they be? It seems to be pretty well settled that a grant of lands on the one hand, and an advance pay of mileage for the transportation of mails and troops, are the only proper methods of accomplishing anything effectual. We cannot see why this plan should not be adopted, or why it should not accomplish the object. Suppose that there are two roads actually made—one by the middle or Platte route, and one by El Paso; the cost of both will not reach what many people imagined some years since that one road will cost. The Texas road, allowing for all contingencies, will not cost over \$70,000,000; and the other is now, we believe, reduced to about \$100,000,000. If economy could be evinced, we have no doubt both may be made for that. But, granting there is not economy, we believe two hundred millions will cover both branches. Suppose the Government were indirectly to furnish half of that, viz: \$100,000,000, where should be the difficulty? Suppose they give \$600 per mile for fifteen years, for transportation of the mails, and give this only when each section of fifty miles are made,—that is, when fifty miles are made, and their mails and freights begin to be transported, then they pay in advance for fifteen years use of that 50 miles. This is \$450,000, or \$9,000 per mile.— Now, at the same time, they give 30 sections of land per mile, or 1,500 sections, or 660,000 acres, which is 13,200 acres per mile; which again, at \$1.25 per acre, is \$16,500 per mile. Both grants are equal to a little more than half the supposed cost of the road; and on the basis of this, there can doubtless be found sufficient capital to accomplish the object.— Railroad Record.

The UTAH PROBLEM.—The Baltimore Patriot, in speaking of the question of the admission of that State says: One of the most difficult problems which Congress will have shortly to solve will be the admission of Utah into the Union, with a people whose religious tenets have been perverted by a gross imposture, and whose social customs at war alike with decency and propriety.— Are we to recognize a commonwealth of polygamists? Are the followers of Joe Smith, the arch hypocrite and blasphemous defamer of sacred things, to be allowed to be represented in the national councils, or shall Utah be repudiated, an independent Republic be suffered to inaugurate itself in the heart of the Rocky Mountains? These are the questions which Congress will soon have to decide. A Christian people shrinks from the recognition of this licentious Commonwealth, but Congress possesses no power to prohibit any form of worship, however gross or sensual; and though it may claim the right to deny to a territory, disgraced by its excesses, admission into the Union as a State, there yet remains the equally serious point to be decided, as to whether its people shall be allowed to establish on lands the property of the United States an independent form of government.

STEAM IRON FLOATING BATTERY.—The late Robert L. Stevens was employed for some years before his death, in the construction of an immense iron floating battery for the defence of New York. Several months ago, the Secretary of the Navy sent an intelligent naval officer to inspect the battery, and report progress. His report, now on file at the Naval Department, is an interesting document at this time, when gunboats and all sorts of defensive and offensive modes of warfare are being developed.— The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Herald writes: This vessel, mysteriously docked and hid from public view, has already been fourteen years under way, and of course considerable progress has been made in her construction, and she could be finished, if necessary, in one year. She is four hundred feet long, and thirty or forty in breadth. She is built entirely of wrought iron plates, and each plate seven inches in thickness; these are attached to her iron frame work. She will have eight steam engines, and is to be propelled by two screw paddles, on each side of her stern post. In smooth water she will run, it is expected, from twenty to twenty-five miles an hour; and as she is intended solely for harbor defenses, she will have smooth water to run in at all times. She can, by her double propelling power, by reversing one

of the screws turn in her own axis, or in a space of four hundred feet. She is to be mounted with twenty guns, of the heaviest calibre and the longest range. The dock where this wonderful floating battery is now lying is very mysteriously guarded. Owing to the extreme length of the vessel, rocks have been excavated, and one of the streets of Hoboken has been tunneled to admit one end of the monster.— When Mr. Robert L. Stevens died he left models to enable Mr. Walker, the Superintendent of her construction, to complete the vessel in accordance with his original intention. She has cost the government thus far, over half a million of dollars, all of which has been expended, and lately the work has been carried on out of the private funds of Mr. Stevens. This vessel, or two or three like her, will guard New York from any force that may be brought against the place. She is perfectly impervious to shot and shell, from Lancaster, Paixhan or Columbian. The iron plates of which she is constructed are each thoroughly tested by cannon shot before being fastened to the frame of the vessel. Her machinery is all below the water line and out of h-r-m's way. Her speed will make her equal to twenty or thirty gun boats of the modern style. With two or three such vessels, New York would indeed be impregnable.

A NOVEL IDEA.—PAPER FROM MUMMIES.—Mr. Deck, of New York, comes out with the startling statement that henceforth all paper may be derived from the mummy catacombs of Egypt. The doctor has explored the entire valley of the Nile, and has become so accustomed to speak the Arabic that he has almost forgotten his mother tongue. He estimates that the mummy pits of the Nile contain about 500 millions of embalmed Egyptians, who, he says, will, with their linen and papyrus ceremonies, furnish excellent material for first class paper. He does not explain the rationale of his theory, but as the adipose and muscular matter of these bodies have all been transformed into fibre, it is possible, as he says, that it can be converted into pulp with the same facility as vegetable matter. Let this idea be put into practical effect, and it may even happen that one of the Ptolemies, or Cleopatra, or Nebuchnezzar himself, may yet furnish material upon which to print a daily newspaper.— They would thus certainly be useful in death as well as in life.

THE EMPEROR OF FRANCE AND THE AMERICANS.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American writes that for reasons which are best known to the Emperor, but which must be assumed to be good, the feeling of the Government of France recently believed to be decidedly unfriendly, has undergone a sudden and favorable change. There are no longer any intimations thrown out that strength will be measured, or resistance offered to our supposed policy of territorial extension. On the contrary, the sentiment is quite conciliatory, and the disposition one of overtone, rather than formality. DIFFERENCE OF OPINION.—It is a fine remark of Rousseau's, that the best of us differ from others in fewer particulars than we agree with them in. The difference of a tall and short man is only a few inches, whereas they are both several feet high.— So a wise or learned man knows many things of which the vulgar are ignorant; but there is still a greater number of things the knowledge of which they share in common with them.— Hazlitt.

A "REFRESHING PLACE."—Now and then a "specimen" of the bygone race of river boatmen, who have mostly settled down to farming, will turn up on the western steamboats; and on such occasions their propensity to "rough fun" will break out afresh. Some years since one of them took passage down for New Orleans, and for several days he seemed quite desponding for want of excitement. At last, the boat put into Napoleon, in the State of Arkansas, for supplies. Just at the moment there was a general fight, extending all along in front of the town, which, at that time, consisted of a single grocery. The unhappy passenger, forgetting about, jerking his feet up and down, as if they were touching upon hot bricks, inquired of a spectator: "Stranger, is this 'ere a free fight?" "Wal, I reckon it ar'" was the prompt reply. "If you want to go in, you needn't stand on any ceremony." The passenger went in, and soon came out again appearing to be reasonably satisfied. Groping his way on board, his hair half torn out, his coat in tatters, one eye closed up, and several of his teeth knocked into his throat, he sat down on a hen-coop and soliloquized: "So this is Ne-pole-on, is it? It's jest the most refreshing place I've seen in many a day!"

Alexander the Great, seeing Diogenes looking attentively at a large collection of human bones, piled one upon another, asked the philosopher what he was looking for. "I am searching," said Diogenes, "for the bones of your father, but I cannot distinguish them from those of his slaves."