The Oregon Argus. W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROFRIETOR. OREGON CITY : SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1857. The New Year.

## A happy new year to all, both friends and fors! A kind of universal philanthropy siezes hold of us to-day, and we cherish none but the kindest feelings to all. Happiness, a bountiful share of it, we wish to all, the world over. Our friends, and the friends of truth and virtue, draw closer than ever to our heart, as for a time we beckon away the crowding objects of worldly interest which have employed much of our time during the exciting year that is now numbered with the past. Be nevolence sits enthroned supreme, and, right or wrong, even Justice at its command hushes her voice, while we offer up invocations in behalf of all men, and forgive, as we hope to be forgiven. Whatever of unavoidable evil may have befallen us during the past year, that has harrowed up our feelings and detracted from our happiness, let us cover with the mantle of obliv. ion, and whatever of wrong we may have committed from an excess of temptation, the future, let us try to be happy as we go when fully repented of, let us bury in the along, same grave, and, "forgetting the things that are behind, press forward to those which are before."

and full of glory."

promise with wrong by whomsoever advo-

cated, that we will set our faces like flint-

for the right inflevery issue that is made

that we will transgress as few luws, phys.

ical and moral, as possible, that we will de

all 'he good to others that we can, relying

on Infinite Wisdom for support, and, in

stead of chasing happiness as always in the

AT NEW YEAR'S DAY was celebrated

n this city by the usual social "calls."

All seemed to enjoy themselves hugely in

assing from house to house, visiting the

adies, and partaking of the dainties which

graced the tables and were served up by

fair hands. The merchant locked up his

all sallied forth in quest of amusement.

ands, whether in the city or country, in

the drawing room of a palace or in the

Temperance.

There is a petition being circulated in

this vicinity praying the Legislature to

permit the people to say at the polls on the

day of the regular election whether li

censes for retailing grog shall is up or not.

tious and remonstrances to be presented to

the county commissioners' court, as they

now do. We hope everybody will sign

this petition, and then we hope the Legis-

lature will not in accordance with the

prayer of the petitioners. The alteration

proposed in the law is a good one, and we

can see no objection that can be urged

Prohibitory laws have met with bad

uck in some of the States, but we hope to

instead of obliging them to circulate peti-

family room of a cabin.

Of past conduct and past incidents, such are only to be treasured in the memory as afforded us real happiness at the time, and the images of which being recalled afford us pleasure still ; while such as have caused us pain are only to be retained in the memory, with a distinctness that shall serve to render them effectual warnings for the future. In this way reflection, which renews past emotions, dwelling on those that are pleasing, and passing rapidly over such as never ought to be recalled but as monitors. augments our present felicity and adds to our stock of experimental knowledge, thus strengthening the soul and sharpening the mind, the batter to enter upon the new year, panoplied to go forth, combatting dif. ficulties, avoiding dangers, and fulfilling human destiny by increasing our own happiness, benefitting others, and honoring God.

The past year has probably afforded to us all its usual storm and sunshine and furnished its general diversity of rugged steeps, gentle declivities, and flowery plains upon the great journey of human life .--The most unfortunate of us all have no doubt abundant reason to be devouily thankful to the bountiful Giver of all good for the manifold blessings that have been showered upon us during the past year. For the blessings of health, food and raiment, as also for those privileges guaranteed to us by our free institutions, it would be well for us to enter upon the new year with a most solemn thankoffering to Him

Tualatia Improvement. leaning measurably upon its guidance, we The contract for clearing obstruction

must never throw away the staff of "means, from the Tualatin river has been let, and but keep feeling our way along carefully as we suppose that the river will be made navthough we were sole arbiters of our own igable during the winter. We believe that destiny, cherishing a lively faith withal the present subscriptions are amply suffithat what we are unable to accomplish cient to clear out the river, make the dam ourselves shall be performed for us by an at Moore's mill, and complete the plank invisible agency that works all things with road to Linn City. We have not yet al a view to the developments of eternity, and tered our opinion that this is decidedly the not by rules judged right by human wis most important improvement that has yet dom. Under such a view of the matter, been undertaken in this section of the who could fail to be happy ! Indeed, we country. The only fear that we have read of those who, amid many trying cir. heard expressed by the "faithless and uncumstances of poverty and worldly perbelieving" is, that the water will not be secution, have drawn such consolations deep enough to float a boat after the drift from similar views that they went on their is cleared out. Those who reside on the way "rejoicing with a joy unspeakable river, and are consequently well acquainted with it, assure us that the water is ample. To sum up the whole matter, then, in or-In fact, we know that at Brown's ferry der to make the coming year the happiest where the water was only knee deep be we have ever spent, let us make resolves (and keep them) that we will make no com-

fore Moore's dam was built, it was some six or eight feet deep after the dam was raised. It is not necessary to construct boats for that trade drawing over fifteen or twenty inches water. After this improvement is made, the company can construct a boat if they choose to run from Linn City o Portland. The trade from Tualatin Plains ought to justify the company in continuing the line to Portland, provided the price of shipping should still keep up .--The producers of the grain will be the prin cipal stockholders, and by judicious management their produce will be got to market at a much less cost than it can be taken over the bad roads. We repeat that the

value of this improvement is appreciated by but few men.

### Naved.

store, the mechanic his shop, and the com The Calumet, which was wrecked a few mon laborer donned his Sunday suit, and weeks ago at the mouth of the Siletz, has been raised, and the damage done to her Just here we think it would not be amis hull has been repaired by Capt. Tichenor, • say that our city is behind no other in who has written to Capt. Ainsworth for the way of sensible ladies, ladies whose ordage and canvas with which to rig her. manners are polished by good sense and a Only about one hundred sacks of flour ound education, rather than by artificial were lost. Most of it was driven ashure unnatural, and affected accomplishments and saved by the Indians, Such constitute the real aristocracy, in all

> 07 A pack train consisting of nearly me hundred and firty mules and horses which was in the employment of the U.S. in packing supplies to the fort in the Yackima country was recently lost in the snow trying to come through the Canyon north of there. The packers forsook the train and came in to the Dalles on snow shoes. Our informant reports the snow to be three feet deep between the Datles and Walla-Walls, with a hard crust on top, which renders it impossible to travel with animals .-Men are only able to travel with snow shoes. The weather is said to be extremely cold. Such a winter last year would have made dreadful havoe with our volunteer forres.

# New Mall Arrangements.

The mail which left here for the South this week, for the first time in nearly a gon City to Pleasant Hill. month, was carried up by Mr. Bradley, who

## OREGON LEGISLATURE.

DECEMBER 12, 1856. House .- Consor offered a resolution dopting a memorial to Congress asking for appropriations to make a road from Grand Ronde to Tillamook.

House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the State Government bill Smith of Linn made a speech saying that he had been so often foiled in his at empts to get the people to effect a State organization that he had become almost liscouraged, but he was now hugely tick led to think the matter would be properly attended to. The question of Slavery was an important one. He believed that Oregon would never become a slave State .--It was his opinion that five sixths of the people would vote for freedom. was not a proslavery man, but if he lived n a slave State he might own slaves proided he was able.

Committee reported, and report adopted. Afternoon .- Upon motion of Lovejoy. State government bill passed.

Committee on Corporations reported bill o incorporate the Willamette Woollen Manufacturing Company,

DECEMBER 13. House .- Shuck from Yambill appeared and took his seat.

Memorial to Congress on the late judiciry act read and adopted.

A bill to incorporate the masonic lodge at Eugene city, and a bill exempting cer tain persons from military service, were passed.

Select committee reported and amended bill for employing the convicts in the penitentiary or the highways. Smith of Linn opposed it and Dryer favored it. It was laid on the table

Bill declaring Santiam river navigable. submitted by Consor.

DECEMBER 15. House .- Lovejoy offered a resolution requesting our delegate to " pass a law," merely "directory," making provisions for

the payment of expenses incurred by the removal of the capitol to Corvallis and back to Salem. Adopted.

Collard offered a resolution asking Con ress to permit us to appropriate the Uni ersity fund to common school purposes It was advocated by Collard, Lovejoy, and Welch, and opposed by Smith of Linn, to 16 noes.

A bill to incorporate a free ferry company at Portland was put upon its final passage. The bill was advocated by Brown of Multnomah, and opposed by Dryer and Gates. The bill was indefinitely postponed.

Smith of Jackson introduced a bill tax ing all foreign miners two dollars a month each.

DECEMBER 16. Council.-Smith of Lane presented petition for changing the road from Ore-

Peebles introduced a bill to prevent ne

## Smith of Linn introduced a bill amend ing the act relating to assessors.

Miller offered a memorial to Congress, sking that the Table Rock Indian Reservation in Rogue river be surceyed and opened for settlement. Adopted.

Slavery or Freedom.

Editor Argus-DEAN SIN :- Since read ng an article which recently appeared in your journal over the signature of A., I have for the first time asked myself the question, if by any possibility Oregon may become a slave State ! To enable me to form a correct judgment I have so. licited the opinion of those who have had opportunity to become acquainted with the sentiment of the people on this subject, and to my surprise, some of the most candid expressed their belief that a majority of the people of Oregon could be brought to declare them-elves in favor of the introduction of slave labor, if that measure were proposed and supported by the nume and influence of the present reigning politcal party. Although a large proportion

of our population consists of Pikes, reared in a slave State, and accustomed to the attention of slaves, I had supposed that they had parted with their slavish papelivities. and were now satisfied to live in a land of freedom where all men are free and on an equality.

That slavery, as an in-titution, is beneficial to a certain class of community may be admitted, and yet, so long as a large majority (including the bone and sinew of the people) would be injured by its introduction, every true friend of his country must oppose such a measure. That some of our political leaders would be glad to be able to hold slaves I have no doubt. Sup ported as many of them are by the kind ness of Uncle Samuel in a state of comparative affluence, and under no necessity to degrade themselves by any species of labor, (unless purchased freemen may de cline being bribed to do some of their dirty work) to them, slaves would be a great convenience. Sime of our aristocratalso would like to be waited upon by slaves dressed in livery, but I will hope there are not many such, and that the class I first named are the ones principally interested in this movement. Although I am myself a laboring man, and as such am interested in maintaining wages at their present

Dryer, and Avery, Resolution lost 11 ayes standard, I am convinced that the prosperity of our country in regard to agriculture and manufactures depends upon the reduction of wages to a level approaching hat of other countries where the same pursuits are followed. That Oregon rests under a disadvantage from not having laborers enough, is evident, but he who im agines that the passage of a law declaring this to be a slave State would remedy the evil, deceives himself. But a minority of the inhabitants of this Territory are so sit uat-d as to be able to purchase negro stock if it were in the market, while a portion of

those who are able, (from conscientious

CAUSE OF EASTHQUARES AND VOLCA. NOES -Dr. C. F. Winslow, in a paper recently prepared by him, reaffirms the oninion he advanced some time since that earth. quakes and volcanic eruptions, and changes of level on the earth's surface, are caused

by the action of the sun-first, b cause the Moon, Venus, Earth, and Mars, all having similar inequalities of surface, must have some general or central cause for their sai form physical appearances; and, second, because the frequency of earthquakes is greatest during the time when the earth is rolling through the perih-lie portion of its orbit, and fewest when in the aphelie .-Dr. Winslow also details facts which go to rove that earthquakes and volcanic phatomena are inseparably connected with the cath's motion round the sur, and that some change of tension is annually induced in the molten nucleus of the globe, whereby dynamical energy is exercised and its surface is elevated, rent, shaken, or opened for the eruption of the platonic fluid, which rolls or presses underneath it, or flows through conduits which form a sort of natwork throughout the solid crust.

THE PLANET JUPITLE. -- Jupiter is not the evening star, and will continue so umil April 11, 1857. Jupiter is the largest of all the plan-ts, and, next to Venus, the must brilliant. It is one thousand three hundred times larger than the earth, is about four hundred and ninety five million ight hundred thousand miles distant from the sun, and is accompanied by four moons, which help it to its light. It is twelve years in revolving around the sun, and turns bout on its axis once in ten hours, which gives it a velocity at its equator of four housand six hundred and fifty-eight miles in a minute, or a speed of two thousand times greater than a cannon hall. Its axis being nearly perpendicular to the plane of its orbit, the sun is almost always in the plane of its equator.

BELLIGERENT .- The London Post, speak. ing of Mr. Marey's maratime circular, says : "We do not want a war with America. but we must look upon it as an eventuality not impossible, and we must consider how it is to be carried on ; not on land, for there she is unassailable ; hardly egainst her war navy, for with such disproportionate numbers it could do but little mischief. It is in her commerce that she is chiefly vulnerable."

RIPENING THE PRAN.-The whole secret of keeping the pear, is to preserve them in barrels ; if the quantities are small, let them be put together, with the simple separation of a double sheet of clean thick brown paper. If the selection of sorts which ripen at the same time is judiciously made, they may all be taken out at once, ripened up in a slightly higher temperaare, and produced in all their beauty and excellence. Whoever has hesitated about growing the winter pears on account of the difficulty of ripening, may dispel their ears, if they will try this method of Re ing them.

who holds the keys of human destiny, and with a renewed purpose to hereafter let these benign influences have their legitimate effect in preparing us for a wider area of usefulness, a larger measure of felicity, and a more exalted sphere. The scenes that have been enacted

upon the stage of life in preceding years will, with perhaps slight variations, form the sum of our experience during the coming year. A judicious application of experimental knowledge may enable us for the future to glide much more smoothly down the current of time, avoiding many shoals and quicksands that have hitherto been sources of annoyance and vexation While we are disposed to admit that man is in a great measure the arbiter of his own destiny, and that good and evil result in the main from the observance or infringement of established laws, we yet cherish a religious belief in a superintending Providence, a great centralization of all goodness, wisdom, and power, that sits enthroned in the center of the highest universe, and as a spiritual power pervades all space, and is felt by the smallest atom on the farthest confine of the most insignificant orb. The relations that we bear to this contral, all prevading influence, are as much regulated by established laws as man's organism is influenced by principles that have formed for ages the subjects of human research. They form the capstone and elimax of perfection of all occult to be effectually studied as a science by embodied spirits, there is manifold evidence of their existence and influence in shaping individual and even national destiny, and the short-sighted sceptic, whose whole volume of science is drawn from an observation of the physical world around him, is a mere pigmy in learning and stands upon a pedestal that reaches but little above the vapor that floats around the mountain tops. This unseen, all prevading will be elected." influence, by righteousness, faith, and prayer, is brought to operate in educing good from causes that naturally work evil, and in shielding the Leads of mortals from the consequences of missteps that are made from an ignorance of man's full relation to the universe, a complete knowledge of which lies beyond the bounds of human research. As a child in leading a blind

man over a rugged path causes him to miss many a stumble, which he could not have avoided by the most careful use of his staff, it comes to our aid in a thousand crooks and turns of life which, through

christianized, to enact and support a law that is founded in common sense and productive of such infinite good.

against it.

## Prospects Had for the Reservations.

It is reported that the Indian Agent for Washington Territory has had express or ders from Washington City to discontinue he practice of feeding the Indians on the Reservation. If this be so, it is of course quivalent to an order to break up camp on he Reserve by turning the Indians loose. The Indian Agent for Oregon is now out of funds. Contractors are furnishing provisions for the Indians on the Reservation. with no prospect of a remuneration till Congress shall make appropriations to nert the liabilities already incurred by the Indian Agent. The Agent of course will operate to a great disadvantage until the mind of the Government is known as to its future Indian policy in this country. If the Reservation should be abandoned, there will be one or two new converts to squatter sovereignty" up there thrown out of employment, who will be scenting out some new track to political preferment.

### Hig Election.

It seems we are to have quite a time of it in electing office seekers at the next June election. In Clackamas county, for instance, we are to vote for a delegate to Congress, a councilman, three representaphilosophy. Whilst these laws are too tives, five delegates to a convention to form a constitution, and one sheriff, with perhaps half a dozen smaller officers. making nearly twenty candidates in all. One of the black democrat office hunters, who calculates to make a living off the "party," is chuckling hugely in view of the fact that there will be an office apiece for nearly every [black democrat] feller that wants one"! He also informed us that "whoever gits the reg'lar nomination of our party

> These poor fellows seem to think they own a majority of the yeomanry of the county, and can put a Spanish bit on them. blind them with a pair of leather spectaeles, and then mount them, with a pair of "ercular saws," and ride them up to Delusion's "viva voce" polls, with a "clean (?) democratic ticket" between their teeth .-Well, we are sorry to say they can.

OF We were told by a wheat buyer lately that the best wheat in Oregon generally comes from Yamhill county,

KT We leave that the new mill across the staff of scientific research. While kind of flour it makes, we have not lerroed. | ways .- Bradehow.

has been employed by our post master at he sufficiently educated, elevated, and the direction of the Postal Agent in place gon to live. of the present contractor, who has not House .- Lovejoy offered a resolution in-

been heard of in these parts for a long time.

river and our friends will be likely to get ship. Voted down-ayes 11, noes 17. be news regularly.

17 The Island grist mill is now in successful operation. It has very superior machinery for cleaning wheat of smut and blue pod, and if there is a mill in Oregon that can make better flour or more of it from a bushel of wheat, we would like to know where it is. One biscuit at a meal has always answered our purpose till this mill started. Since we have got to using their flour, we invariably eat two,

AT Professor Post has sold his entire apple tree nursery in this city to a gentleman who has shipped the trees to Coos Bay. They were bought here (yearlings) for twelve cents each, and are said to be worth a dollar each at Coos Bay.

#### Accident.

Dr. J. G. Glenn, a dentist, was lately found south of Silem wandering around deranged, with a bad bruise on his head, He stated that a man knocked him off his horse. His case of instruments was found scattered upon the ground, and it is thought that he received his injury by being thrown from his horse.

it The roads are said to be in a worse condition just now than they have been before for many years. We don't know why, unless they are used this winter more than nommon

07 Snow fell here last Tuesday night o the depth of six inches. The weather s mild and much of the snow has already disappeared. The snow in Portland is some righteen inches deep,

to The District Court for District No. 2 is now in session in Portland.

AT The new boat Express is now run ing between this city and Portland.

VESUVIUS .- A letter from Naples save; Slips of earth into the principal crater of V-sucius have been taking place for some ime past. It is feared that the entire summit of the mountain will di-appear in the open chasm. Violent and continual reports have of late proceeded from the volcano.

15 Parties are the scales wherein a nation weighs its policy. Each makes manifest any error in the other. They keep mental blindness, we cannot feel out with the river has just begun to grind. The the balance even by pulling it opposing

groes and mulattoes from coming to O

structing the judiciary committee to en quire into the expediency of admitting The mail will now be carried by the half breed Indians to the privilige of citizen-

> Dryer introduced a bill authorizing county commissioners to assess the rates of

toll at bridges and ferries. Consor introduced a bill to incorporate

Salem. Brown of Linn introduced a bill authorizing counties to apply county money to building and repairing bridges.

Smith of Linn introduced a bill fixing the times for holding the Supreme Court on Aur 6, 1857, and on the first Monday. of August annually thereafter. Rule suspended and bill passed.

Bill to change judicial districts was read Bill to incorporate De Shutes bridge company passed.

from the heads of the war department would be handed in as soon as possible. Moffitt presented a memorial to Con gress asking for \$53,000 to complete the military road from Astoria to Salem .--Adopted.

Johnson gave notice of a bill to amend School law.

DECEMBER 17.

Counon.-Bill amending Miltia law passed. Committee on the contested election be tween Holmes and Ford report a tie be

tween the two, and recommend referring the matter back to the people. House .- Dryer offered resolutions call ing on the Governor to produce all corres.

pondence had with any of the officers of in regard to the war. Adopted.

Lovejoy introduced a bill providing fo the sale of school lands.

Bill to incorporate the Woolen Manufacturing Company, at Salem, passed. DECEMBER 18.

Convent-Contested election case be tween Ford and Holmes was made the spe cial order for January 6.

Bill to incorporate Willamette Woole Manufacturing Company passed.

HOUSE .- Allen presented a retition, ask ing a law to restrain swine from running at large. Referred to a select committee. Welch presented a petition praying for a repeal of the Polk and Marion Free Ferry ebatter.

scruples and other motives) would d cline to enter into such a speculation. Where

is the working man who desires to place himself in competition with slave 1 abor ? strength, knowing the market to be under he control of a large producer, who by means of his slaves may have a decided advantage over his poor neighbor, enabling him who owns the colored stock to live at his case, and perhaps to look down with corn upon those who chance to be in

morer circumstances than himself ! Yours in huste, J. D. L.

OUR COUNTRY AND ITS PROSPECTS .some interesting facts are recapitulated in the United States Military Argus. It is stated that the population of the eleven in fant colonies in 1701 was 262,000 souls-Georgia and Delaware were added to the third time and lost. Ayes, 10, Noes, 17. number about 1749, and the census gives us 1.040,000. In the year 1775, the thirteen colonies had 2,303,000 whites and A message was received from Gov. Cur. 500,000 blacks. In 1790, after the adopry, stating that the desired information tion of the present Constitution, there were hirteen States, with 3.172,664 white, 50,-456 free colored, and 697,807 slaves. In 1850 the States had increased to thirty one, with 18,559,000 whites, 434,000 free colored, and 3,204,000 slaves. The total population at this time is approaching 39,000,000. The number of electoral votes is 296, requiring 149 to elect a President by the people. The free States have 176, and the slave States 120.

ANNEXATION OF CANADA TO THE UNI. rep States .- A warm discussion is going n between the Herald and the Commercial Advertiser, of Montreal, respecting an nexation to the United States. One of the objections urged by the Advertiser, which opposes the movement, is that the power f the Federal Government would be used the United States, especially John E Wool for the oppression of Canada, as it now is for the persocution and subjugation of the people of Kansas.

> 07 Elections are more closely contester than they once were. In 1904, for in stance, Jefferson had 162 electoral votes, and Pinckney his opponent, 14 only. In 1408, Madison had 122 and Pinckney 47. In 1812, Madison had 128 and Clinton 89. In 1816, Moorne had 183 and King 31 .-In 1820, Monroe had 231, only a single electoral vote being cast in opposition.

> ( Benjamin Hughes, of Halifax counv. Va., charged with killing one of his -laves, has been tried, convicted of man slaughter, and sentenced to eight years imprisonment in the penitentiary.

A New PistoL .- The Albany papers state that a pistol has been invented in the farmer who is willing to task his that city which will fire ninety times per minute, carrying a ball forty yards further than any uistol now in use, and that it is al-o much lighter, and in every respect superior to Colt's pistols,

> 07 In 1752, an English ship stranded near New Rochelle. Such has been the changes in the sea that the wreck now lies in the midst of a cultivated field, thirteen feet above the sea, and around it are two thousand acres of cultivated land.

07 It has been decided by the Supreme Courts of Connecticut and South Carolina, that the losing party in a wager may recover from the stake-holder the money he had deposited with him, though the latter, after the determination of the wager, had, by the order of the depositor, paid over the money to the winner.

SERASTOPOL -The Russian Government intend to make Sebastopol a magnificent city. A letter from Constantinople says the attempt made to get up the fragments of the vessels sunk at the mouth of the harbor appears likely to prove successful.

THE CENSUS OF RUSSIA .- The Moniteur de l' Armee gives the following as the result of the census of the Russian empire, taken by order of the Emperor at the time of his accession to the throne. The total number of the population is 63,000,-

000.

ACTION OF SUGAR ON THE TRETH .- The Charleston (S. C.) Medical Journal states that M. Larez, in the course of his investigations on the teeth, arrived at the following conclusions :

1st. Refined sugar, from either cane of beet, is injurious to healthy teeth, by immediate contact with these organs or by the gas developing, owing to its stoppage in the stomach

2d. If a touth is macerated in a saturaterl solution of sugar, it is so much altered in the chemical composition that it be comes gelatinous, and its enamel opaque, spongy and easily broken.

3d. This modification is due, not to free acids but to a tendency of sugar to com basis of the tooth. bine with the calcareous The foregoing conclusions are correct, and candles and condiments should avoiled. They should be kept from children especially. It is well known that maple sugar renders the seeth tender and

OT It is with ideas as with pieces of money-those of the least value genorally circulate the most.