

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., FEBRUARY 7, 1857.

No. 43.

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 this locality. HANDBILLS, POSTERS, PLANS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

Benefits of Newspapers in a Family.

Henry Ward Beecher says:—"In no other way can so much, so varied, so useful information be imparted, and under circumstances so favorable for educating the child's mind as through a judicious, well-conducted newspaper.

"To live in a village was once to be shut up and contracted. But now a man may be a hermit and yet a cosmopolite. He may live in the forest, walking miles to a post office, having a mail but once a week, and yet he shall be found as familiar with the living world as the busiest actor in it; for a newspaper is a spy-glass by which he brings near the most distant things; a microscope by which he leisurely examines the most minute; an ear-trumpet, by which he collects and brings within his hearing all that is said and done all over the earth; a museum full of curiosities; a picture-gallery full of living pictures from real life, drawn not on canvas but with printer's ink on paper.

"The newspaper is a great collector, a great traveler, a great lecturer. It is the common people's encyclopedia, the lyceum, the college!"

The influence of a good newspaper upon the minds of a family of children can hardly be estimated; certainly not compared with the cost of the paper itself.—It is a universal fact asserted by teachers, and others who have made observations on the subject, that children who have access to useful newspapers at home, are better spellers, better readers, and understand what they read better; they obtain a practical knowledge of geography and history more readily, make better grammarians, and write better compositions, and in short are more intelligent and learn faster than children brought up in a family without the enjoyment of such reading.

Children are interested in newspapers, because they read about many things with which they are familiar. Often, too, they will read a paper, because it comes new to them every week, or every month, when they would not open a book. We candidly believe that a good newspaper is worth a quarter's schooling to every child.

THE SLAVEHOLDERS THEMSELVES.—It is a significant fact, that some of the heartiest opposition to Slavery comes from men who first saw the light "on Phantasia." The Review article which Senator Butler arraigns, turns out to be penned by Mr. Harbut of his own State; James G. Birney relinquished Home and Slaves, to become a citizen of a free State, and a life long opponent of the system. Cassius M. Clay, reared and reared among Slaveholders, maintains hot warfare for freedom though it compels him to carry a dirk in his pocket, and twice cost him his life. Rev. Mr. Conway, torn to an inheritance of Virginia flesh, abandons it for a Northern Palpit. Francis P. Blair, himself a slaveholder, is a moving spirit in the Party for resisting further Extension. John C. Fremont, whose cradle was rocked in Carolina, is that Party's candidate for President. Kentuckians are among the "Free State prisoners" in Kansas jails. Marylanders were among the most earnest "Free Constitution men" in California. Virginians by birth are among the sturdiest Republicans of Ohio.—Albany Evening Journal.

STATE.—Pennsylvania is our greatest wheat State, and is estimated to raise this year, 18,250,000 bushels; Ohio next, raising 16,200,000; Illinois next, raising 14,000,000; Wisconsin, 14,000,000 and Virginia raises 12,500,000.

The British United Service Gazette understands that an expedition will be prepared forthwith, to proceed in search of further traces of Sir John Franklin's party, via Behring's Straits. The command will, it is said, be conferred upon Captain Geo. H. Richards.

ANOTHER SUICIDE RESUSCITATED BY FLOODING.—In New York on Sunday, Patrick McIntire undertook to destroy his life by taking laudanum, and was conveyed by the police to a station house, where a physician attended, but gave up the case as hopeless. The police, however, were not satisfied, and sent for another physician.—The latter stripped the patient, and with a leather belt flogged him until the blood came. With the blood also came the patient's senses; and strange to say, by this novel treatment, he was completely restored.

A wicked wag of a lawyer, in one of our country courts, recently scandalized the bench by putting the following query to the professional brethren:—"Why is Judge — like necessity?" The "members of the bar" then and there present quickly answered, "Because he knows no law."

More evil truths are discovered by the corruption of the heart than by the penetration of the mind.

Letters from Liberia state that the culture of sugar has been carried on so prosperously that several sugar growers are talking about exporting it largely to the United States. One of them, named Richardson, expects to ship two hundred hogheads of his first grinding.

The assessed value of property in Washington city for the year 1856 is \$26,040,318; being an increase of \$1,237,545 since the general assessment of 1854. This valuation includes ground improvements, personal property of all kinds, bank and other stock. Slave property is assessed at \$361,475.

A question has been raised in one of our courts whether a blind man can be made liable for a bill payable at sight.—The lawyers are puzzled.

the "thousand and one" readers of The Argus that they save their share of this \$30,000, and use it in paying the Editor who prints this article, and in educating their children. If the writer of this could know that even a small share of it would be saved for these purposes, he would be amply paid for proposing the following plan to do it:

The planting of root crops has long been considered a most valuable part of husbandry. In England almost every farmer sets apart a portion of his land for this purpose, and the importance of this kind of crops is fast growing in the estimation of the farmers of this country; but I do not believe the people of Oregon are aware of the immense productive resources of our Willamette valley in this respect.

Last spring I set apart a portion of land three rods square for planting carrots. I manured and ploughed it well, and in the fall and winter fed out the carrots to my cattle as I needed. In gathering them I had the curiosity to pull one square rod, and measure them strictly, heaping the bushel basket so as to give good measure. This sixteen and a half feet square, upon which was a small stump and a yearling apple tree, gave me eight and a half bushels, which is equal to thirteen hundred and sixty bushels per acre.

Now, Mr. Editor, my experience in feeding is that, for horses, cows, cattle, and hogs, (for every creature I have eaten them greedily,) they are worth more than half as much as oats. This is equal then to 680 bushels of oats per acre, a pretty large yield, however rich the land or well manured. If now, our farmers would plant a few square rods of carrots to each one of their cattle, they would be able to carry them through our winters without loss. It is becoming a question of great importance to the farmers of Oregon how they shall save their cattle. Our winters seem to be growing colder, and snow lies longer on the ground than formerly, and, in addition to that, the cattle are less and less able to get their own living, as the country grows older and feet gets shorter. It would seem that farmers have been sufficiently warned this year to bestir themselves and make some provision for their cattle. A few days longer of snow this winter would have destroyed whole herds of cattle.—That few days may come next winter. We are having our warnings. The wise will foresee the evil, and prepare for it. I hold, Mr. Editor, that it is a sin to keep cattle unless we will make some provision for them in winter. The merciful man is merciful to his beast, and if men will not take warning from the past, if they will go on, leaving their cattle to live or die, just as they can catch it, they ought to suffer for it severely. After, even when cattle do live, they suffer equal to a dozen deaths from hunger; they just squeeze through with the breath of life hardly left in them, and in the spring you hear this one and that one saying that they have lost a noble ox, or a fine milk cow, or an excellent steer, with the hornbill, and they seem to speak of it as if they expected some commiseration for the hard "providence" that seems to follow them. I tell you, Mr. Editor, I do not believe they are hard providences; I believe that they are only gentle hints; that if they do not take warning and prepare for their cattle, by and by they will lose all they have. That this may prove valuable and a hint in season, is my desire, while I subscribe myself a friend of the poor cattle.

Next week I will try to give your readers the minutiae of carrot raising, after two years' experience. I think I can give some hints in these matters that will be valuable, at least, to some of them. And I propose to follow that with an article on fruit culture, on the proper treatment of a young apple orchard, so as best and soonest to realize the desired returns of golden fruit. And if these should prove acceptable to you, I shall hope to follow them with something else as interest shall excite.

Yours truly, O. DICKINSON.

For the Argus. BETHEL INSTITUTE, Polk Co., O. T., Jan. 17th, 1857.

The Trustees of Bethel Institute met at the house of G. O. Burnet, according to adjournment on account of the sickness of Mr. Burnet. Present A. H. Friar, President, G. O. Burnet, Amos Harvey, S. M. Gilmore, John H. Robb, and Sanford Watson.

The first business in order was the election of three Trustees in the place of Sanford Watson, A. H. Friar, and A. V. McCarty, whose terms of service had expired.

On motion, A. H. Friar and Sanford Watson were re-elected. T. R. Harrison was also elected one of the Trustees.

On motion, A. H. Friar was elected President, T. R. Harrison Secretary, and S. M. Gilmore Treasurer.

Resolved, That there be three Trustees elected in addition to the present number.

to hold their offices one, two, and three years. Jesse Applegate of Umpqua county, was elected for the term of three years, Capt. J. C. Matheny for two years, and Elder Geo. W. Richardson for one year.

Resolved, That there be a Collegiate department established in Bethel Institute, as soon as the necessary funds can be collected to sustain the same.

Resolved, That the tuition in said department shall be \$33.00 for the term of 42 weeks in each year, and that the Secretary shall be authorized to present an article to each of the Trustees for obtaining subscriptions for said department, to take effect when said department opens, payable semi-annually.

Resolved, That the Secretary notify the Trustees elect of their election, and desire their acceptance.

Resolved, That the proceedings be published in The Argus.

Resolved, That the meeting adjourn to meet at Bethel Institute on the first Saturday in March, at 9 o'clock A. M.

N. B.—Our school is in a flourishing condition, and we have already two departments established, under the direction of experienced teachers, which give great facilities to pupils who wish to make education their study.

S. M. GILMORE, Sec. pro tem.

THE SLAVE INSURRECTIONS.—The Richmond Enquirer has a Washington correspondent who writes:

"From certain indications, not entirely demonstrable, but yet sufficiently suspicious, we have long since been led to believe that the District of Columbia has a large share in the incendiary negro movement. Not long since, some gangs of negroes were arrested here, by the police, for being found out together after ten o'clock at night. To our surprise we found that there were several negro Masonic lodges, so called, in this city, holding their secret conclaves, at the dead of night, in various parts of the city.

"These negro lodges in the District of Columbia are undoubtedly nothing more or less than some secret dens of negro agents for promoting the cause of the abolitionists. On the dividing line between the free and the slave States, they are ready to, and undoubtedly do, aid in many of the underground railway movements that occur.

"It has been a prevailing sentiment among the negroes of the District that the election of Fremont was to be the first step toward their liberation; and so sanguine were they of success, just before the election, that they could not restrain their sentiments and their bitter hostility to the whites. Knots of these free scoundrels could be seen at the corners of the streets, chuckling over the probable triumph of Fremont; and an occasional 'Ha! ha! do white folks 'll stand about don,' significantly showed what was going on among them."

One of the editors of the N. Y. Courier des Etats Unis was traveling in Tennessee in the center of the black conspiracy, at the time of its detection, and speaks as follows as to the causes that gave rise to the insurrection:

"Its origin is traced to the presidential campaign. Much weakened by distance, the echo of the noise made in the North about the name of Fremont has extended to the banks of the Cumberland. It came in the track of the steamers which traversed the second tributary of the Ohio, and then found itself in the center of Tennessee. To penetrate the most distant villages, it had only to pass along the gorges which separate these little isolated mountains. Whether emissaries (as they affirm here) came or not from the North, it is nevertheless true that there have been certain indications of an approaching revolt. According to some, it was to be general, and would extend to all the slave States. According to others, it would simply be confined to Kentucky and Tennessee. This latter version appears to me true, and it is already more than necessary to exercise an active surveillance.

"Nevertheless, nothing of a positive nature had been discovered till about ten days since, (22d Nov.) when a negro escaped from the Cumberland Iron Works. He was promptly captured, and it was learned from him that he fled from the persecution of his brethren in servitude, who had threatened to kill him if he refused to take part in the conspiracy. The numerous questions to which he was subjected caused the subsequent arrest of nearly 80 negroes, almost all of whom avowed their complicity in a plot, and even gave the most precise details as to the execution of their project. Nothing less was contemplated than a general massacre. The negroes of each habitation intended, between the 23d and 25th of December, to slaughter the whites who surrounded them, and this accomplished, to march to the chief place of the county, where the blacks would generally assemble, and commence to act.

"The credulity of these poor people is such that, in the belief of the whites who excite them, they imagine that Col. Fremont with a large army is waiting at the mouth of the Cumberland until the night of the 23d or 24th of December has arrived. Then all this army will help to deliver the slaves. They have been struck by the sudden swelling of the river, and attribute this circumstance to the great assemblage of men and ships at its mouth.—Certain slaves are so greatly imbued with this fable that I have seen them smile while they are being whipped, and have heard them say that 'Fremont and his men can bear the blows they receive.'

"The mines along the shore of the Cumberland, for a distance of about thirty miles, have suspended work. Machine shops, occupying from 150 to 200 negroes, have now only five or six whites to direct operations. In these localities also the panic is great. Three white freesoilers have been arrested in Dover in the act of exciting a revolt. They were beaten, and were allowed fifteen hours to leave the county and thirty to go out of the States. A black preacher was arrested while delivering an abolition sermon. He forms one of the nine who were yesterday in Dover. Of these nine, five are yet to be tried. Of the body of 200 blacks that marched to Dover about 60 have been arrested. They are those which I saw whipped yesterday at the Cumberland Iron Works. Thirty others returned to their workshops and farms, and the rest ran to the woods; but no attempt at pillage or murder has yet been made.

"As I told you yesterday, the plan was to butcher the whites upon isolated farms and in the workshops, and then to march to each chief town of the county. They would thus have established a free road along the Cumberland from Nashville to the Ohio. By this route all who took part in the revolt could have sought a retreat to Indiana and Illinois. No one could have disturbed them, for they would have traversed the least populated part of the country. Thus, though the plot has been exposed, and we have not to dread any actual explosion, there still remains an uneasiness about the future, and we reflect with terror upon the facility of executing this plan if it had not been discovered."

ARIZONA AND HER DELEGATE.—It will be observed in the report of the Congressional proceedings of yesterday, that the inhabitants of Arizona have presented their petition for the privilege of a territorial government. Their claim to such a privilege rests on the allegation, in their memorial, that they are cut off by natural barriers from New Mexico, and the benefits of her laws, deprived of the safeguards of citizenship and exposed to savages.—They have sent E. A. Cooke to represent them as delegate in Congress.

Arizona embraces the territory in the northern part of Mexico, acquired by the Gadsden treaty, in addition to the Mesilla valley, which we had claimed under the former treaty, and comprises twenty-nine thousand square miles. It would thus form a State more than half as large as New York.

Although a portion of the district which Col. Benton described as so poor that a wolf could not get a living there, marvelous stories are just at this time circulated as to its abundant resources. Newspapers interested in the project of a Southern Pacific Railroad, publish glowing accounts of arable, well watered soil, rich mines of gold, silver and copper.

Wagons have traversed the territory from the Rio Grande to the lead of the Gulf of California. The territory is chiefly valued, however, as presenting a route for a railroad to the Pacific. The distance from the Rio Grande to San Diego, or San Pedro, by routes which have been indicated, is about 1,600 miles. This is the route to which Jefferson Davis gives the preference, among those which the government have caused to be examined and surveyed.

Whether the House will consent to create a separate territorial government for Arizona, or extend that of New Mexico over it, is not determined.—N. Y. Post.

THE WEALTH OF THE NATION.—Mr. De Bow, in his Compendium of the Census, gives the value of the agricultural productions of the United States, in 1850, as \$1,820,691,326, and states that in 1854 it had increased to \$1,600,000,000. The total tonnage of the United States in 1855 was 5,212,000, of which 2,535,136 tons consisted of sea-going vessels. The internal commerce of the country, in 1852, is thus stated by Andrews: Coasting trade, \$3,319,439,372; canal commerce, 1,188,000,000; railway commerce, 1,081,500,000. The products of manufacturers and mechanics, for 1856, it is estimated by competent authorities, will approach the value of \$1,500,000,000; and the products of the sea, including fisheries,

freights, transportation, etc., \$1,500,000,000. In addition to the immense capital invested in commerce and manufactures in the United States, there are either improved, or under actual cultivation, not less than 113,032,714 acres of land.—Within the last twenty-five years nearly \$800,000,000 have been expended in other forms of internal improvements—ordinary roads, canals, improving the channels of rivers, harbors, etc. The industrial and commercial activity of which these figures are the measure, has had no parallel in history. With such resources as the basis of future operations, what may not the nation accomplish in the next quarter of a century! The aggregate of its wealth at the end of that period will be so vast as to defy the mind to grasp it by monetary valuation.

The Case of Whitfield.

The admission of Whitfield, by the House of Representatives, as the Delegate from Kansas is a bad omen of what may be expected from Buchanan and his party. It gives the sanction of the House of Representatives to the usurpation of legislative authority in the territory by the Missourians and to the code of laws they enacted establishing slavery and disfranchising two-thirds at least of the actual settlers.

Whitfield is simply the representative of the Missourians, and not of the people of the territory. If the Buchanan party did not mean to confirm the Missouri usurpation and the Stringfellow code, they would have rejected him. The day of election was appointed, and all the arrangements for it were made by that code which defined the qualifications of electors and denied the right of suffrage to those who refused to swear allegiance to slavery.—The free State settlers, who formed the body of the population, would neither present themselves at the polls to be refused, nor would they, by any participation of theirs in the election admit that the Stringfellow code had any lawful authority or deserved respect. Mr. Buchanan's party in the House of Representatives, yesterday, by admitting Whitfield, declared the Stringfellow Legislature to be legally constituted, the Stringfellow code to be the law of the territory, and the Stringfellow test, by which the settlers were deprived of the right of voting, to be valid and binding.

In short, things are going on under the new political auspices, which begin to take effect with the election of Buchanan, just as they did before. The party is not reformed in the least—on the contrary, it has grown bolder in outrage. The House of Representatives last winter excluded Whitfield, this winter it admits him; last winter it declined to recognize the Missouri usurpation and the Stringfellow code; this winter it gives its deliberate sanction to both. If we expect anything better from Mr. Buchanan than we have had from Mr. Pierce, now is the time. Pierce has nothing more to promise; the day of his influence has passed away; the real fountain of Executive influence is now Mr. Buchanan, and we must judge of the fountain by the waters it sends forth.

We believe, for our part, that Kansas will be a free State, but not because Mr. Buchanan desires this, or will do anything to promote it. On the contrary, it will be a free State in spite of him and his friends. The petty obstacle they are placing in the way of this result, by admitting Whitfield to a seat in the House of Representatives, will be but an attempt to parry a sabre thrust with a straw. Kansas will be a free State, because the people of the North will it to be so—because they have it in their power to make it so—and because neither the Senate, nor the House of Representatives, nor the Executive, nor Major Buford, nor Colonel Titus, nor Aitchison, with all the border-ruffians at their back, can make head successfully against the roused spirit of the North and the numbers they are sending out to take possession of the region which the farmers and champions of the Nebraska bill hoped to colonize with slaveholders.—N. Y. Post.

Letters from Liberia state that the culture of sugar has been carried on so prosperously that several sugar growers are talking about exporting it largely to the United States. One of them, named Richardson, expects to ship two hundred hogheads of his first grinding.

The assessed value of property in Washington city for the year 1856 is \$26,040,318; being an increase of \$1,237,545 since the general assessment of 1854. This valuation includes ground improvements, personal property of all kinds, bank and other stock. Slave property is assessed at \$361,475.

A question has been raised in one of our courts whether a blind man can be made liable for a bill payable at sight.—The lawyers are puzzled.

For the Argus.

SALEM, O. T., Jan. 29, 1857.

Editor Argus—There are few subjects of greater importance to the people of Oregon, than that of Pomology. To understand fully the science and practice of fruit culture amongst us, is of great importance at the present time. Nearly one hundred varieties of the apple tree have been brought to Oregon, and multitudes of young trees disseminated from them into different parts of Oregon and California. Many of them are spurious—or under the wrong names—many of them do not suit our soil and climate. The science of fruit culture here, is in its infancy—it must be mostly learned anew. Experience has already taught us that we cannot rely on the information exclusively, in the fruit books published in the United States, for general use here. Quite a number of the popular varieties in the United States brought here are perfectly worthless—cultus—as the July bow, Lady's Sweeting, Northern Spy, Carolina June, and some others. The Y. N. Pippin, Winesap, White Winter Pearmain, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Hubbardson Non-such, Michael Henry Pippin, Blue Pearmain, Waxen Summer Queen, Rambo, Rhode Island Greening, Sweet June, Yellow Bellflower, Red June, Golden Russet, Roxbury Russet, Smith's Cider, Fall Pippin, and Fall Beauty, are perfectly at home in Oregon. A large number of false Esopus Spitzenburgh and Green N. Pippin, have been disseminated by quacks in the nursery business here. The true Esopus Spitzenburgh (Lewellen's selection) turns out to be the standard apple of Oregon; as is well known, from specimens grown in the orchards of Messrs. Shannon, of Howell Prairie, Marion county. A vast number of fruit trees are planted out in Oregon; and when these shall all become bearing trees, their owners will find out that many—very many—will have to be cut down or headed back; owing to false varieties, and those which do not suit our soil and climate. What an immense loss will this prove to our country! And of what importance it is, that persons, now setting orchards, should know what they buy from the nurseries. I am happy however, to know that many of our large nurserymen graft from their own bearing trees, and can show specimens of the apples of each variety sold. Such apples as were shown in Salem last April, by Messrs. Meek & Lewellen—in such a perfect state of preservation—and so fine and large and so well flavored—would surely recommend young trees of the same varieties. That California will finally supply herself with early fruits there can be no doubt. But that Oregon will furnish the late keeping apples, for our own use, and for California, the Polynesian Islands, and many parts of Asia, there can be but little doubt.—How important, then, that we plant liberally the late keepers! It is true, that, for cider, for the dessert, and table, and for drying, much fruit will be used in the summer and fall at home. But this proportion ought to bear, but as a fraction, to the late keepers. If an individual were now to plant out 1000 apple trees—and were to select 500 Y. N. Pippins, 300 Winesaps, 100 White W. Pearmain, and 100 of Fall Pippin, Summer Queen, Red June, and one or two other sorts—his selection need not be repeated.

The enterprising citizens of the States have their Pomological societies, and they have also "The American Pomological Society," which hold their annual meetings, and from which is disseminated a large amount of sound practical and theoretical information, connected with the subject of fruit growing. That Oregon is as good, or better, for tame fruits than any portion of North America, but few need doubt. And that fruits raised here, are, and will become, one of our greatest staples of production for other markets, needs no argument from me. All the remarks which I have now made, are only to introduce the "main question"—that is, the organization of a Pomological society in Oregon. Cannot the thing be effected? Is not the measure a good one?—Let a voice come up from our hills and valleys—Yes, yes, we are in for the measure! If so, my object will be attained.

DAVID NEWSOM.

For the Argus.

Farming Experience.—Carrots.

SALEM, Jan. 29, 1857.

Friend Adams—These long rainy weeks make us often think of the poor cattle.—There are but few men in Oregon who have large herds of cattle but will lose more or less of them during the present winter and spring for want of good feed. Perhaps we may safely say that not less than a thousand head of cattle and horses will die this winter. This thousand head at \$30 each would be worth \$30,000, and the whole of it is a dead loss to our farming interests. Now, Mr. Editor, I propose to