

refused to give any. Both in the Senate and lower House an amendment was offered giving the Territorial Legislature the right to legislate upon the matter, but the amendment was voted down by the party that passed the bill. Mr. Buchanan in his inaugural says that the question is still undecided, but gives it as his opinion that the Legislature has no right to exclude slavery. This will undoubtedly be settled by the party as the proper construction, and it is all that the most rabid fire-eater can ask. Under this arrangement, the Territories can all be filled up with slaves, which, being recognized as other property, are of course bound to be protected by Territorial legislation, and when the constitution is formed the slaveholder has every advantage over the free laborer, in having the peculiar institution deeply rooted under all the necessary machinery of legislation already put in requisition to cherish it, an institution the existence of which may have already perhaps driven out thousands of free white laborers who were not able to compete with slave labor, and thus, under the operation of this Nebraska fraud, the Territories are all liable to be swallowed up by the South, while the millions of poor white laborers, to whom of right the soil belongs, are cheated out of the public domain. The General Government ought to protect all its citizens alike, and it ought to say to the citizen of Virginia and the citizen of Connecticut, if you wish to occupy the public domain belonging to the United States, you must occupy it upon the same footing. The citizen of Connecticut who may be in possession of banking implements, which the laws of his own State recognize as property, has an undoubted right to emigrate to the Territories with his chattels, but he cannot carry along with him the laws of Connecticut which make them property. So with a citizen of Virginia. He may emigrate to a Territory with his property at his own risk, but he cannot claim to carry along the laws of Virginia which recognize as property what is not recognized in other States. Slavery and banks are local, sectional institutions, and while the U. S. Government has no right to interfere with them in States where the local laws recognize and protect them, any political party bent upon nationalizing them is a sectional party. As slavery is a sectional institution, depending upon sectional legislation for its very existence, and admitted by the whole civilized world to be a curse to the State where it exists, the most that can be reasonably asked by the South is to be left "entirely free to regulate their own domestic institutions" in States where their constitutions and legislative enactments already recognize them. To ask the privilege of transferring their institutions and laws to the Territories belonging to the Government, upon the plea of justice to them as a slaveholding community, thus virtually excluding the citizens of the North, is as preposterous as the plea set up by leading citizens of South Carolina in favor of the privilege of reviving the slave trade.

If proof positive were wanting that the Nebraska Bill Sovereignty, boasted of, was a fraud and entered not into the calculations of the party which originated it, we have the proof in abundance in the history of the Territory which was first made to wear this galling yoke. To pass over the history of the incursions into that Territory of lawless invaders, who drove peaceable citizens from the polls with bowie-knives and bludgeons, burned their property, mobbed, lynched, and murdered many of her citizens, and elected by some five thousand Missouri votes all the members of the Kansas Legislature, we invite attention to the present condition of those "squatter sovereigns," oppressed by the most tyrannical, unconstitutional, and bloody enactments of this bogus Legislature; "sovereigns" who, so far from having enjoyed the privilege of electing their own Territorial officers, and of "regulating" even the "domestic institution of Slavery," have never even been permitted to elect their sheriffs, county judges, and judges of probate; "sovereigns" who are ruled over with an iron rod, by these petty minions of border ruffianism, all appointed by a Legislature elected by Missourians; "sovereigns" who, although an overwhelming majority of them are in favor of "regulating slavery" out of the country, are not even allowed to violate a single enactment of the bogus Legislature for fostering slavery in their midst without being subjected to grievous pains and penalties inflicted by such judges as Le Compte; "sovereigns" who, by a recent act of this Missouri Legislature, are to be punished with death for rebelling against their Territorial government; "sovereigns" who have many of them been already arrested for treason, for daring to call a convention to make a constitution preparatory to admission into the Union; "sovereigns" who have been denied the privilege of voting without taking an oath to support slavery; "sovereigns" who have stretched out their hands toward Washington and in vain employed the Administration that gave birth to "squatter sovereignty" for the simple boon of being allowed some of the privileges said to have been secured to them in the Nebraska Bill!

The past history and present condition of these people show conclusively that it was nothing more or less than the last act of desperation on the part of slavery propagandists to make Kansas a slave State at

all hazards. The violation of the Missouri compromise and the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill have brought the slavery agitation upon us, increased ten-fold to what it ever was in times past, when Clay, Webster, Benton, and even Buchanan, thought they saw in it omens of fearful portent to the Union. The modern democratic party by its policy has made the slavery question the paramount issue.—Henceforth it will continue to be the great absorbing issue in politics, until it is decided whether slavery or freedom shall rule this Government, whether one portion of the Union is to enjoy exclusive privileges over the other, and whether the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution shall be carried out, in rendering the nation prosperous, happy, and powerful at home and honored abroad, or whether arts, science, manufactures, and internal improvements, which, under the fostering appliances of free labor, rapidly augment a nation's wealth and power, are to be blighted by the withering influences of a system which but nominally benefits some three hundred thousand out of four million voters.

The issue is now made up, and short-sighted is the man who thinks there is a possibility of restoring peace to the country by settling the agitation by any such unjust and flimsy expedient as the Nebraska Bill. That measure itself has raised the present storm that now rocks the fabric of the Union to its center. The only just and expedient settlement that can be made, is by Clay's policy of non-extension. Let all parts of the Union enjoy the new territories upon the same footing. Let the States manage their own domestic institutions in their own way, but, in the language of the Constitution, let Congress make all needful rules and regulations for (the soil if you please of) the Territories, and all other property of the United States, by seeing to it that that soil is never cursed with the blood of slaves. This being settled as the policy of the Government, all parts of the Union will be satisfied; the slavery agitation will cease, and the country will be prosperous. Nothing short of this can save the Government, and come to it, it surely will, unless we are too far gone for salvation. This is the position of the Republican party, and on the ultimate triumph of this great National Constitutional party hangs the destiny of the nation.

So much for our national policy. We cannot take leave of the subject without calling your attention to such of our Territorial policy in Oregon as has not necessarily been included in the foregoing. It is now about seven years since the party in power drew the party lines and marshaled their hosts under the Democratic flag. From that day to this, they have had undisputed control of the reins of government. That they have administered that government well, we presume no man will pretend to claim. Within that time, Congress has appropriated about two millions of dollars to our Territory for public buildings and other purposes. Our University fund has, by bargain and intrigue in removals, and by injudicious and foolish management, been frittered down till what remains promises to be of little use to the people. Our Penitentiary fund has gone in the same direction, till what has escaped being sifted into the pockets of party favorites is represented by permanent improvements probably worth not more than half what they cost the Territory. Our Capitol fund is all exhausted, except a mere pittance, entirely useless in the absence of further appropriations, or a tax upon our people. This party has kept up an almost continual excitement upon the seat of government question, and at length when the people were about to decide the matter permanently, the election returns were by some mysterious agency disposed of, so that the people were robbed of their rights. When our country was involved in a war with the savages, efforts at proscription of some of our most gallant volunteers were made on account of politics. The Legislature reorganized the militia laws, and decapitated some of our most efficient officers of the medical staff, and substituted party favorites incompetent to discharge their duties. Our citizens who nobly responded to the call of the Executive of the Territory, and furnished property to carry on the war, at the close of it find thousands of dollars worth sold under the hammer for cash, and pocketed by irresponsible agents of the Territory appointed by the Governor, and the party Legislature places these agents above the people by refusing to make them accountable to those who had committed their effects to them in trust. It has now been nearly seven years since the passage of the land law, and yet such has been the tardiness in completing surveys, that few of our oldest citizens have been able to procure the certificates to which they are entitled, and there is little prospect of patents issuing for the next seven years to come. To sum it all up, we have been cursed with the misrule of partisan officials, whose great aim has been to blind the people to a constant support of the party by an incessant party drill, and by a constant and liberal use of the word "democracy," as well as an unmeasured abuse of those who have tried to open the eyes of the people to their true interests, by calling them all sorts of opprobrious names. It is in the mouth of nearly every honest farmer who supports the party that the country for

some reason is in a languishing condition. Yet few of them ever think of emancipating themselves from the shackles of party drill and supporting better men for office. The Republican party will always aim to nominate candidates with Jefferson's qualifications of honesty, capability, and loyalty to the Constitution. Our doctrine is, that a public officer is alone responsible to the people he serves. If he cannot conscientiously carry out their wishes, he is bound to resign and let them elect a servant who will. A representative of the people degrades himself and disgraces his constituents whenever he sacrifices their interests to the wishes of a party caucus or a wire-working clique.

The Republican party is also in favor of the ballot system of voting, instead of the present inconvenient one of viva voce, which not only is attended with much inconvenience, but gives great power to moneyed capitalists in controlling the votes of their employees, or of the poorer class of people, who may be dependent upon them for pecuniary considerations.

In short, the Republican party is in favor of restoring the Government to its ancient purity and simplicity in the days of Washington and Jefferson, and instituting such a reign as shall best promote the peace, happiness, and prosperity of the whole people, as well as bind together all parts of our great Confederacy in bonds of an indissoluble union.

Fellow-citizens: The Republican party is now a permanently organized party in Oregon, planted upon the Rock of the Union and the Constitution, opposed as a national bulwark to the waves of sectional fanaticism, and floating over them the Stars and Stripes, under which many a gallant hero has bedewed the earth with his blood to transmit to posterity the blessings of civil and religious liberty. Our platform is purely national, and broad enough to hold every lover of equal laws, equal rights, and equal justice to all men, from Maine to Texas, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. There is nothing in our creed that would debar any man from acting with us who holds to the principles of the founders of our Government. In conclusion, we invite all to act with us who can subscribe to the doctrines we embrace, and who desire to see the country prosper under a wholesome administration.

W. L. ADAMS,  
S. COFFIN,  
THOS. POPE, } Committee.  
April 11, 1857.

## The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.  
OREGON CITY:  
SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1857.

See fourth page for an interesting summary of news from the Atlantic States.

We hope no man will fail to read the Republican Address on account of its length.

This paper closes Vol. II. of The Argus. We shall endeavor to make a better paper of Vol. III. Times are not "hard." There are not five farmers in Oregon who are not able to take a paper and pay for it.

Many thanks to our friends who have lent a helping hand thus far. Will they continue to enlist in our behalf? The beginning of Vol. III. is an excellent time for new subscribers to begin.

Recollect that we send The Argus to the States at the greatly reduced price of three dollars a year.

The Columbia reached Portland last Wednesday. We are indebted to Wells, Fargo & Co. and J. W. Sullivan for files of late papers.

At the loocofoco county convention in this city last Wednesday the following ticket was nominated:

Delegates to Salem Convention—A. E. Wait, J. A. Pownall, Alvis Williams, W. A. Starkweather, and J. S. Risley.

Delegates to Constitutional Convention.—J. K. Kelley, A. L. Lovejoy, Starkweather, Hector Campbell, and N. Robbins.

Councilmen—A. E. Wait.

Representatives—George Reese, Col. Land, and Gilliland.

Sheriff—Almond Holcomb.

Assessor—J. E. Taylor.

Treasurer—Thomas Johnson.

Commissioner—J. D. Brent.

Upon the whole, we think this is about as good a ticket as could have been manufactured out of the material of this miserable party, although some of it could have been bettered a good deal.

The convention passed some stringent anti-Czapka resolutions, and fully endorsed the action of our representatives last winter. Col. Kelley declined being a candidate for Congress, consequently a vote was passed in favor of Jo Lane. Some of the whisky-suckers and rabid wool-washers of the party, who had hoped to get a nomination but failed, are awfully down in the mouth.

Our fast friends in Portland have just enacted a city ordinance such as we recommended to our council in reference to obstructing sidewalks.

The President of the United States has ordered a sale of the public lands in Oregon. The time fixed upon we have not learned.

We see there is quite a diversity of opinion in this county as well as in other parts of the Territory among the loocofocos as to the principles and present position of Col. Kelley.

We feel authorized to set this matter at rest. In principle, Col. Kelley is a Buchanan Democrat, standing square-footed upon the Cincinnati Platform, and swallowing the Douglas humbug of "Squatter Sovereignty." He is at the same time a decided Free State man, so far as Oregon is concerned. He has rendered himself odious with the leaders of the clique, by holding to the doctrine that a representative ought to treat the wishes of his constituents with too much respect to trample on their will at the dictation of a caucus made up of representatives from other sections, and by submitting to the wishes of a majority of the members of the Council, who elected him President last winter over a "regular nominee of a party caucus," as well as by voting for several measures which were obnoxious to the ruling dynasty in Salem. He is not a candidate for nomination in the Salem convention as a candidate for Delegate, and does not expect to get the nomination. If he should get the nomination at that convention, he will run—but upon no other conditions!

A Strong Ticket.

At the loocofoco caucus in this city, one of the hard-handed democracy, who was not able to read the ticket the town gentry had made out for him, crammed it into his pocket and went into the caucus.—When the hat was passed around for the ballots, he pulled out what he supposed to be the "clane thing sure," and thrust it into the hat, under the full conviction that he had righted up the tottering fabric of the government.

When the ballots were counted, his ticket was found to be a receipt from one of our merchants for thirty cords of wood!—If all loocofocos would vote that kind of a ticket, it would be a fine thing for the country.

The untrifled had a dreadful time of it in Yamhill at the mass meeting last Saturday. The Shuck and Leland democracy were perfectly routed, although they number more than three to one in the county against the bushites. The latter party, we learn, were all in convention to a man, numbering about fifty, while of the former there were only about forty. A set of resolutions, said to have been sent over from Salem, were adopted, endorsing all that the bushites claim. A committee of nine was appointed to get up a ticket of delegates to the Salem convention. Seven of the nine were free State men, yet they reported four names, all proslavery men. The convention threw them overboard, and appointed others. Our informant tells us that there was such a row he could not tell who were appointed, neither did any body else seem to know, but some twelve or fifteen claimed to be the delegates.

A resolution endorsing the representatives of last winter was voted down; also a resolution declaring that a representative was bound to obey the wishes of his constituents in preference to that of a caucus. Well, Shuck and his friends must wait and let the people try on bushism at the polls.

Fire.

The house of Thomas Waterbury of this county accidentally caught fire and burned down last Tuesday. Mrs. W., who was the only person at home at the time, succeeded in saving a bed and some articles of clothing. A shop adjoining the dwelling house, containing three hundred bushels of grain, was also consumed. Mr. W. estimates his loss at \$3,000.

Dr. Steele, of this city, succeeds J. N. Banker Esq., as agent for Wells, Fargo & Co. It is an excellent selection, and the Doctor bids fair to rival the fastest agent of the line.

Mr. Kennard, who was supposed to have been put out of the way, some time ago, on Muldy, was at last accounts at work on the building about which the difficulty occurred between him and his employer.

The Standard says that from private advices received by individuals in Portland from Washington City, it is thought that Gov. Stevens is removed and Col. Anderson appointed in his place; also that G. L. Curry has walked the same plank, and his place been filled by Gen. Palmer. Well, we hope Buchanan will stir up the snakes as long as we are a Territory.

Anything for a change.

The Devil is hard at work, through his friends, in increasing the circulation of immoral and anti-republican prints among our people. Will the friends of truth lay off their coats and work a little, too?

We have received the first number of the Washington Republican, printed at Steiencamp, W. T., and edited by F. S. Balch. The typographical execution of the paper is good, its principles excellent, and the zeal and ability which characterize its editorial columns give an earnest of such a journal as the Washington people ought to place upon a permanent basis. The Republican is a star that has arisen to shine on that Territory during the election campaign, but we hope it may not set for many years.

We are glad to see that the Senate has altered the boundaries of Oregon as fixed by the House laying the eastern boundary as far east as Snake river instead of John Day's river, which will give the State about 90,000 square miles.

The Senate also adopted another amendment attaching to Washington the residue of the Territory not included in the boundaries of the proposed State of Oregon.

We hear that the steamer Republic, which is running from San Francisco to Portland in connection with the Columbia, on her downward trip last Tuesday took away three tons of freight and one steerage passenger. The Columbia by her has reduced the price of freight to five dollars a ton.

In reply to several who have written to us, we say there are no apple seeds for sale in this city, neither have there been any.

Property has fallen twenty per cent in this city since the election last Monday.

Senator Sumner resumed his seat in the U. S. Senate on the 26th of Feb.—He is still in feeble health.

We judge from the following advertisement which we find in the Chicago Times (Douglas loocofoco) that editing loocofoco papers doesn't pay very well in Illinois:

"Newspapers for Sale."—Three of the best Democratic papers (weekly) in Illinois are for sale. Any person competent to conduct either of them, and possessed of capital enough to purchase, can be put in communication with the proprietors by addressing a note, with references, to the editor of this paper. All these papers are doing an excellent business, and are located in thriving and populous districts.

We suppose that being "competent to conduct either of them," means being good at lying.

We see by the Vicksburg Sentinel that the Legislature of Mississippi has recently passed the following act prohibiting a species of gambling:

Keeping or Exhibiting Billiard Table.

ART. 1. Any person or persons who shall keep or exhibit any billiard table for public play, or shall be in any way interested or concerned in such billiard table; for each offence shall pay a fine of not less than five hundred dollars, and not more than two thousand dollars, and be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months.

BLOOMINGTON, March 31st, 1857.

Friend Adams—I see there is a mistake made in the obituary of my father published in The Argus, which reads, he "emigrated from Tennessee to Missouri in 1800." It should have been in 1818. Please make the correction. Respectfully, yours,

H. LINVILLE.

OREGON CITY, April 7, 1857.

Mr. Editor—I had supposed that the Know Nothing party was dead and buried in our town, until its claws were felt in our city election yesterday. And the men who were elected were those who have been the most loud-mouthed denouncers of that Order. They have always, (before the public) and more especially among Democrats, been hired to stigmatize it as a most foul attack upon the liberties of man, and both gag and fetters to the free exercise of those just rights of suffering, to which all men (to whatever nation, religion, or country they may belong) are justly entitled. And yet these men under the head and front of a Know Nothing organization are pushed into office.

And again, they have gone further than denouncing the Order, for, after hearing all the approbrium that they could upon it when among Democrats, they have denounced good and true men, and Democrats, as belonging to the Order, that they might defeat them with their own party, and so carry out their nefarious designs.—Thus, you see, it behoves us to watch well for those who loudly talk of the great Democratic party, and those who use bitter invective and taunting verbiage against the straight forward, honest, and open-hearted of their own party; men, whose shoe-latches they are not fit to unlace. It is high time these men were held up to view, so that they may be known by all good Democrats, and visited with that scorn which is so deservedly meted out to all renegades, political hirelings, and party hacks of every hue and cast, by all those whose hearts are with their country in all that is great, good, and glorious!

I might add, in conclusion, that these men have been heretofore known among us as the great advocates and avowed friends of the Bush-archy that has governed our Territory. Further conclusions might be drawn, but forbearance is a virtue.

VI.

For the Argus.

MR. EDITOR—The untrifled and unwashed negro-driving black democracy held their precinct meeting at Albany on Saturday, March 28th, 1857, and on opening the meeting it was found to be no go, there being only three persons present,—two Republicans and one black democrat. After spending some time, and drumming up from store and grog-shop, they made a raise of ten men, and five of them were elected delegates to attend the county convention. The Rev. Delusion O'Smith was present, and gave great dignity to the meeting. Bush of the filthy Statesman is very much opposed to ministers meddling with politics; hope he will reprove Delusion soon. After the organization was effected, the Rev. Delusion Smith mounted the rostrum, as is usual for him

on all such occasions, and commenced ranting and raving, by way of admonition to the faithful. Delusion is a candidate for Delegate to Congress; (hope Bush will see to this matter;) he moved that five delegates be appointed to attend the county convention; a second was obtained, and the five delegates elected, and to the great surprise of Delusion it was found that one of the delegates elect was opposed to him as Delegate to Congress, whereupon Delusion became very much frightened.—He then consulted several of his friends as to what should be done. To rule one of the delegates elected off and elect a Smith man in his place, would cause a breach which could not be healed easily; and, after further consultation, Delusion mounted the rostrum again, and moved that Albany precinct have only four delegates to the county convention; whereupon a mighty quarrel ensued, each man striving to mount the rostrum, but Delusion having more wind and a greater amount of steam on hand than the other ten that constituted the meeting, was able to be heard over all others. In this state of confusion our reporter left.

J. S.—I have learned that old Isaac Miller was nominated as one of the delegates to the county convention, and was objected to by Delusion Smith because he (Miller) was not a democrat. Miller has always voted the democratic ticket, but last year he ran for Colonel of Militia against the democratic nominee, and is now by Smith read out of the party. Mr. Fanning is the only delegate I know elect to the county convention; he is a strong pro-slavery man, and will vote for slavery in Oregon, as will most of his party.

April 4, 1857. Bos.

OFFICE OF SEPT. OF SCHOOLS,  
Oregon City, March 23, 1857.

Mr. Adams—I herewith send you an abstract of the Report of the Schools of Clackamas county for the year 1856.

No. of districts in the county, 30  
" which have reported, 27  
" children reported, 1034  
" including those not reported, 1228  
" schools during the year, 26  
" months taught, 92  
" children that have attended, 800  
" not, 425  
Average attendance in all the schools, 460  
salary paid teachers, not including board, &c, per month, \$400  
Amount paid teachers, \$1400  
" for board, repairs of houses, &c., \$1400  
" of appointment, \$1125  
" raised by tax and subscription, \$473  
averaging nearly \$3.50 per pupil that has attended school.

This is a growing interest in the cause of education, and my intercourse with the people has been pleasant to me.

Yours, Respectfully,  
J. D. POST, Supt.

The inauguration of President Buchanan passed off with much eclat at Washington on the 4th of March. There were nearly a hundred thousand spectators of the ceremony. The Inaugural Address will be found on the outside of this week's paper.

THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION.

THE EXECUTIVE.

President.....JAMES BUCHANAN.....Pennsylvania  
Vice President.....JOHN C. BREKIDGEMAN.....Kentucky  
Private Sec'y to President.....Jan Buchanan Henry

THE CABINET.

Sec'y of State.....LEWIS CASWELL.....Michigan  
Sec'y of Treasury.....HOWELL COBB.....Georgia  
Sec'y of Interior.....JACOB THOMAS.....Mississippi  
Sec'y of War.....JOHN B. FLOYD.....Virginia  
Sec'y of Navy.....JAMES W. BROWN.....Tennessee  
Postmaster Gen'l.....ARNOLD PLECKER.....Pennsylvania  
Attorney General.....NATHAN CLIFFORD.....Mass  
Assistant Secretary of State.....Henry Ledyard

Latest from Nicaragua.

We have dates from Nicaragua to the 14th of March. We take the following from the memoranda of the steamer Sierra Nevada:

U. S. sloop-of-war Saratoga, Capt. Tilton, arrived at Greytown about the 5th March, much to the joy of the Americans, who complain of unfair treatment by the English fleet.

The important post of Fort Serapipe was evacuated on the 14th Feb. by the Costa Ricans—after a strong resistance of three days—in favor of the Walker volunteers, and it is generally believed that by this time they are in possession of the entire river route, together with Fort San Carlos and the Lake. They had also succeeded in capturing two more of the river steamers.

Rivas is quiet. An unsuccessful attack was made on it by the combined forces of the allies on the night of the 5th. They were immediately dispersed by Gen. Henningsen's force, and driven back with great loss. Gen. Henningsen lost only one man.

Rivas and the country generally is perfectly healthy. Sickness and fever are scarcely known. Much excitement prevails in the camp of the allies at St. Jorge, owing to the withdrawal of the troops of the north in apparent disgust, leaving Costa Rica on her own resources.

General Canas, the second in command of the Costa Rican forces, had been charged with an attempt to meet General Walker in conference on board the British steamer Esk, or on the St. Mary's, at San Juan, for which he had been arrested by the Allied Generals.

The idea of routing Gen. Walker seems to have been abandoned for the present, and his position at this time is infinitely better than ever before. The army is in excellent health, well clothed and provisioned, and the best possible feeling exists