

curious people will be governed, is the law of the church, and that emanates from Gov. Brigham Young, and him alone.

I do believe that if there were a man put in office as Governor of that Territory who is not a member of the church (Mormon), and be supported with a sufficient military aid, that much good would result from such a course; but, as the Territory is now governed, and has been since the administration of Mr. Fillmore, at which time Young received his appointment as Governor, it is non-day madness and folly to attempt to administer the law in that Territory. The officers are insulted, harassed, and murdered, for doing their duty, and not recognizing Brigham Young as the only law-giver and law-maker on earth. Of this every man can bear incontestable evidence who has been willing to accept an appointment in Utah, and, I assure you, sir, that no man would be willing to risk his life and property in that Territory after once trying the sad experiment.

With an ardent desire that the present Administration will give due and timely aid to the officers that may be so unfortunately as to accept situations in that Territory, and that the withering curse which rests upon this nation by virtue of the peculiar and heart-rending institutions of the Territory of Utah may be speedily removed, to the honor and credit of our happy country,

I now remain your obedient servant,  
W. W. DUMMOND,  
Justice of Utah Territory.  
March 30, A. D. 1857.

## The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1857.

Republican Nominations,  
CLACKAMAS CO.

For Delegates to Constitutional Convention,  
GEORGE ABERNETHY,  
GILBERT REYNOLDS.

For Representatives,  
W. C. JOHNSON,  
C. W. BRYANT.

For Sheriff,  
JOHN M. BACON.

For Assessor,  
WILLIAM P. BURNS.

D. W. CRAIG is authorized to do any business connected with The Argus Office during my absence.  
W. L. ADAMS.

G. W. LAWSON, Esq., independent candidate for Congress, made a speech to a crowded house in this city last Tuesday, with good effect. We believe that more than two thirds of those who heard him will vote for him.

In order to have our position fully understood, we here state that, while we advocate Republican principles, and support Republican nominees when properly chosen, we shall never depart from a rule we have always lived up to, never knowingly to support a bad man for office. Consequently, when the Republicans nominate a man for office whom we know to be a villain, they must excuse us for neither advocating him nor even printing his name.

We call the attention of our citizens in this vicinity to the suggestion of friend Atkinson in this paper, in relation to a Cold Water Army fourth of July celebration. We had a good one last year, and we think it can be improved upon so as to meet the wants of all, old and young, this year. The impressions made upon our mind by the occurrences of last year on the memorable Fourth, the happiest one we ever experienced, have not yet been obliterated, and the little heroes of the Cold Water Army fairly clap their hands for joy at the prospect of a recurrence of these events. While old drunkards are falling around us, and while our young men are being tempted to drain the convivial glass of the burning poison that creates a drunkard's appetite, it is most that parents and guardians throw around their offspring all possible inducements to a love of virtue and a deep seated loathing of vice. We venture the assertion that the liquor dens will get few subjects from the Cold Water Army.

We hope to see the white flag of peace floating over the heads of these little invincibles on the coming Fourth.

It will be seen by Mr. Newsom's communication that he is the "first man on the ground" with a budget of acceptable information for the Immigrant Aid Society. What Mr. N. has said of his lovely Abicaw valley may be properly said of a thousand other valleys which constitute the Willamette, Umpqua, and Rogue River valleys, excepting perhaps the advantages of water may not be as multifaciously bestowed upon some others.

Mr. N. is certainly within bounds when he says Oregon could support a population of two millions. He might have said fifteen millions. With the boundaries fixed upon by the U. S. Senate, we have an area just twice as large as that of the State of New York, and she already contains a population of about four millions, with a fair prospect of having it quadrupled in less than fifty years. The whole of Great Britain, including England and Ireland, is less than one and a half times larger than Oregon, and it contains about thirty millions of inhabitants. Our soil is equal to any of these countries and our climate far superior to most.

The fact is, our three great mountain ranges, the Blue, Cascade, and Coast mountains, are all susceptible of settlement. The land is richer, and the climate less objectionable, than those of the barren hills of Massachusetts and New Hampshire,

which literally swarm with live Yankees, who not only make a good living but are able to school their children.

We hope our friends in all sections will contribute their mite towards furnishing information respecting their localities.

### Traitors in the Camp.

We learn that Starkweather and the other Democratic candidates who have spoken in the county precincts, when cornered on the stump, repudiate the Salem platform and the Statesman. Kelley and Wait, who are nominees, and were members of the Salem convention, and submitted to its dictates, have not yet come out before the people to answer questions as to their position. Do they dare do it? We have seen a letter from the Dalles, however, in which it is stated that "the Bush Democracy there have nominated Humason for Councilman, because they can't and won't go Wait." We wonder which bundle of hay these political animals of doubtful gender will choose, or will they starve between the two?

Our two old friends "Sep" and "Dolph" got into a warm discussion last Tuesday in this city, upon bushism, the latter for and the former against. The debate was getting decidedly interesting, when "Sep" gave a "striking argument" by hitting his opponent in the face. Upon this, an iron weight was thrown, when "Sep" seized a spade and "Dolph" an ax, and something might have happened had it not been for the bystanders, who interfered with the loss of the end of a finger by one of them by some way getting it mixed up with the ax.

Some villain made an unsuccessful attempt to fire Dement's store-house last Tuesday night. The fire, which was kindled against the building in the rear, went out of its own accord.

By referring to our advertising columns it will be seen that a large reward has been offered for the detection and conviction of the scoundrel.

The U. S. M. Steamer Columbia reached Portland last Sunday. No later States news, than was brought by the Commodore.

A serious fight occurred at Portland on board the Columbia last Monday, between the officers of the boat and some persons who attempted to board her for the purpose, as we hear, of chastising the mate, who had knocked down a passenger. Several persons were seriously injured.

We hear that a flatboat load of hay took fire a few days ago from the sparks from the steamer Eagle, which was towing it up the Willamette to Portland. One man on board the flat came near being burned up before he was taken off.

We learn from Ex-Governor Abernethy that, from recent explorations of the Tualatin river, it is ascertained to be navigable as high up as Hillsborough.

The report of the Clatsop Republican convention, with a number of communications, came to hand too late for this issue.

The private letter of A., at Yoncalla, came to hand, but no communication.

The Republicans of Washington Territory have nominated A. S. Abernethy for Congress.

The Jacksonville Sentinel publishes an imploring letter in favor of slavery in Oregon, signed "Mary Ann." The argument and style of it is precisely that of "the Mary Ann of the Mexican war."

Gen. Adair, the bushite candidate for Convention from Clatsop, has declined running.

Jackson county seems to be infested with thieves and murderers. The Sentinel says an old man named N. B. Lane, was found murdered in his house on the 5th inst with his hands tied behind him. No clue has been got to the murderers. H. Noble, Eli Judd and C. Walker, were lodged in jail for robbery, but Noble broke jail and escaped.

Trespassers will do well to notice Mr. Heman Buck's card in to-day's paper.

The proceedings of the Republican convention in Yamhill came to hand too late for last week's paper.

G. W. Burnett was chosen chairman and J. R. McBride secretary.

Resolutions were adopted to support no man as State delegate who was not in favor of submitting a free constitution to the people, as also repudiating the idea of caucus sovereignty.

The following candidates were nominated:

Delegate to State Convention—J. R. McBride.

Councilman, jointly with Clatsop—A. A. Skinner.

Representatives—J. E. Brooks, T. R. Harrison.

Sheriff—Henry Warren.

Auditor—J. W. Cowles.

School Superintendent—G. W. Elmer.

Assessor—James Graves, Jr.

County Commissioners—J. R. Bean and Wm. Odell.

"I love every inch of the Union."—JO LANE.  
Sir, if you love each inch we tread  
Of this good land for which you bleed,  
Your love is somewhat thickly spread,  
Upon my life, sir!  
You have but little left, I trow,  
To give your wife, sir!

### Domestic Difficulties.

NOTES TAKEN THROUGH A "KNOT-HOLE."

Dramatis Personae—  
OLD JO,  
MAC, a Pro Slavery Democrat.  
LEX, a Free State Democrat.  
EDITOR OF CZAPKAY'S ORGAN.  
ACT I.

SCENE II. Private Room in Salem.  
Enter Jo and Lex.

LEX.—What do you think about the payment of the war debt, General?

JO.—Why, God bless your soul, it'll be paid; there is nothing surer than that.

LEX.—Happy to hear it, and hope you won't be disappointed.

JO.—The Government always has paid such debts, and I presume it will continue to do so. The fact is, it would have been paid long ago, if it had not been for the Black Republican House.

LEX.—I believe that the word "pay" was stricken out of the bill in the Senate, where Black Republicans are about as scarce as they are in Missouri.

JO.—Yes but it was upon Seward's motion.

LEX.—Then Seward is responsible for what the Senate did at his suggestion?

JO.—Well, the blame ought to rest somewhere, and you know it won't do to throw it on "reliable" democrats.

LEX.—Why did those appropriation bills, that were recommended by the House in committee of the whole, fail to pass the Senate?

JO.—I suppose it must have been owing to a want of time.

LEX.—Or probably to Seward's influence. But how do you account for the fact that Faulkner of Virginia, a strong democrat, was the man of all others most conspicuous in the House to oppose the payment of the war debt?

JO.—Well, really, I hardly know, unless Seward had some influence over him; but here, let us take something, (drawing a flask from his pocket.)

LEX.—No, thank you, I don't drink.

JO.—A democrat, and not drink? Well, it's all right. The democratic party you know, is neither temperance nor anti-temperance, slavery nor anti-slavery, but stands wholly on the principles of the Nebraska bill.

LEX.—It seems to have been a disputed point among democrats as to what the principles of the Nebraska bill were.

JO.—What do you mean?

LEX.—I mean that while the northern wing of the party contended that the bill announced the sovereignty of the people of the Territories over their domestic institutions, the southern wing repudiated the idea, and contended that the domestic institutions of the South might go to all Territories in spite of the people.

JO.—Well, but the Supreme Court, you know, has settled that matter.

LEX.—Yes, the five slaveholders that compose a majority of the Supreme Court have decided that the southern wing of the party was right, and under this decision, the democratic party which fought the last campaign upon the squatter sovereignty platform, find the planks all knocked from under their feet and they are compelled either to renounce the democratic party or stand upon a slave sovereignty platform, which the supreme Court now declares the Nebraska swindle to have been.

JO.—Why, my dear friend, don't call the Nebraska Bill a swindle.

LEX.—I call it a swindle because it was offered to the North during the last canvass, as containing the principles of squatter sovereignty.

JO.—Well, has the democratic party ever decided that it does not?

LEX.—Buchanan in his Inaugural stated that the Supreme Court would settle the difficulty that had arisen in the minds of the people in constraining the bill, and he gave it as his opinion that the bill contained no such thing as squatter sovereignty. The Supreme Court has decided that he was right. I, for one, believe in the sovereignty of the people, even of the Territories, and I think it would be well enough to let us elect our own officers.

JO.—Well, God bless your soul, the great democratic party goes in for the largest liberty to the people of the Territories.

LEX.—It certainly looks to me like the largest measure of despotism.

JO.—How do you prove that?

LEX.—From the Nebraska bill, as construed by Buchanan and the Court.

JO.—Let us hear your proof.

LEX.—When the Nebraska bill was passed, it was boasted of as having enunciated a very important fact, and that was, that squatters in Territories were sovereigns.

JO.—Yes, and the great democratic party discovered this doctrine.

LEX.—Well, if they have discovered it, I should be pleased to have it pointed out to me, and you can do me a great favor by putting your finger on a single point where, under the Nebraska bill, the people of the Territories enjoy privileges they did not enjoy before; for instance, they are not allowed to elect their Governor, Judges, or any of their Territorial officers.

JO.—No, of course not.

LEX.—But the officers of these newly-created Territories, are appointed by the President, and their Governors are clothed with the veto power. There is one instance where the people have been robbed of a title of sovereignty, instead of having their privileges increased.

JO.—Well, you can't mention another.

LEX.—Let us see. Oregon and Washington had the privilege conceded to them by all statesmen, North and South, to legislate slavery out of their Territories, and their Legislatures, acting upon the conviction of this right, did exclude it, but the Nebraska bill has declared their acts null and void, upon the ground that they had no right to legislate slavery out of any of the Territories belonging to the United States. Here I have furnished two instances in which the Nebraska bill, as construed by Buchanan and the Supreme Court, has robbed the people of the Territories of sacred privileges they enjoyed before, and I challenge you to put your finger on a single *quid pro quo* which they have received in return for them.

JO.—Well, the decision of the Supreme Court is final and is now the law of the land.

LEX.—We will attend to that after a while; but let us examine squatter sovereignty a little more.

JO.—I don't think we had better agitate this question.

LEX.—Information is what I am after just now—and I wish to propound a few questions.

JO.—Well.

LEX.—Under the Nebraska bill the people of the Territories are not allowed to elect their own Territorial officers.

JO.—No.

LEX.—Beautiful sovereignty, that!—The Governors of Kansas and Nebraska are clothed with the veto power!

JO.—Yes.

LEX.—Then where is the sovereignty boasted of?

JO.—In "regulating their own domestic institutions." But Buchanan and the Court have decided that they are not entitled to even this privilege. The last administration tore down the bar of the Compromise, telling the people that as Congress had put up the bar, it was not compatible with the sovereignty of the people, and they had no earthly object in tearing it down other than merely to give the people the blessed privilege of putting it up themselves, provided they saw slavery making a push to get in. After the election is over, Buchanan and the Court tell them that they have no right to put it up, but that slavery can go into all the Territories in spite of the people. This is "squatter sovereignty" with a vengeance!

JO.—But will you nullify the decision of the Supreme Court?

LEX.—My object was to show you that squatter sovereignty had turned out to be nothing more than slave sovereignty, and that the Northern wing of the Democratic party had now nothing left but to abandon the party, or become the willing tools of the slave power, more abject if possible than the negroes who toil under the lash.

JO.—But the decision of the Supreme Court is law.

LEX.—I deny that. It is merely an extra-judicial opinion upon a matter not before the Court, and every lawyer in the Union of any note will tell you that it has just about as much weight, and is entitled to full as much consideration by the Courts and the people, as Pratt's "directory opinion" on the location difficulty.

JO.—Why, you certainly talk like a Black Republican.

LEX.—Well, I hope I talk like a man who has a little sense, and who knows his rights and privileges under the Constitution as an American citizen, and not as a mere thing, a tool, for demagogues.

JO.—What do you mean by "tool"?

LEX.—I have already shown you that by recent developments in regard to the "squatter sovereignty" swindle, democrats are converted into mere tools. If anything, however, were wanting to put the finish on the tools, it has been done by the "caucus sovereignty" platform of Salem. The Nebraska bill deprives us of the privilege as citizens of a Territory of electing our own officers, and even of excluding slavery or polygamy, and the Salem platform takes away what little sovereignty we had on other matters, and lodges it in a caucus at Salem. If you can show me any difference, then, between a "reliable democrat" in Oregon and a serf in Russia, I should like to have you point it out.

JO.—Then you will probably leave the Democratic party.

LEX.—The Democratic party has left me.

JO.—So will I. [Exit Jo, Lex following.]

### From Nicaragua.

The expedition under Col. Lockridge, to open the San Juan river, and effect a junction with Gen. Walker at Rivas, has completely failed, and the army disbanded. Col. Lockridge, however, with about 100 men—out of 400—determined upon making an attempt to force a passage to Walker's camp overland, and started up the river on the steamer J. N. Scott for that purpose; but, when two miles above Serrapiqui, the boiler exploded, killing thirteen and wounding twenty or thirty. The rest returned to Greytown, and from thence sought opportunities of getting back to the United States, in which they were assisted by the British vessels-of-war in port.

The failure of this expedition will no doubt operate most disastrously to Gen. Walker, and it is not probable that he can maintain himself in Nicaragua much longer. Disease—a more fatal enemy to him than the Allied army—is thinning his ranks rapidly, and to disease alone will Central-American praise be due, far more than to the impotent valor of its armies, for Walker's discomfiture.

The weather has been very warm for a few days past.

### For the Argus.

The Cold Water Army or Fourth of July Celebrations.

At a meeting lately held in Boston, it was

Resolved, "That, under the deep impression made by the addresses of Peter Sinclair, of Edinburgh, relating to the importance of a new juvenile temperance movement, it be recommended by this meeting to all the friends of temperance throughout the State, to gather together the youth of both sexes as soon as possible in temperance associations, and on the 4th of July next, to aid them in such public demonstrations as shall be cheering and animating to them, and useful to all around them."

This Resolution, Mr. Editor, opens a volume of important truth not only to the people of Massachusetts, but to the friends of temperance throughout our Union. If we can gain all the children, we shall soon have all the men and women on the side of "total abstinence." And it is easy to get the children. Their convictions and sympathies are entirely with us in this reform, and, until they are allured into habits of drinking, or enter into business, allured by the profits of liquor-selling, or into alliances involving the support of such vices, we retain those sympathies and those convictions.

But so soon as children become young men and young women, they are tempted to drink, or to become clerks to liquor dealers, or to associate and form attachments among drinkers and vendors; and when they do, we find them committed against our cause, or else indifferent, or else sufferers of the evils of intemperance. As children they are unsuspecting unless taught, especially on this subject. Our temperance organizations for adults hardly reach the children. We are learning them to grow up and take their places in society for or against this cause, without making an effort to guide them in their decisions. We are now thankful to gain a young man to our ranks, who had even been wavering, and much more one who had begun to drink occasionally. We are glad to save a young lady from "life union" to a man, who has the habit of using liquor as a beverage. But if we will begin in the childhood of these young persons we shall save them from all danger and hundreds more like them. Let us go to work and indoctrinate the thousands of children in Oregon in the principles of Temperance. Let the friends of temperance in every City, Town and Precinct take this in hand. Let us have Public and Family pledges. Let us have Banners and Badges. Let us have Processions and Celebrations.

If the moving "log cabins and the barrels of hard cider" elected Gen. Harrison President, and if great public demonstrations are always found necessary carry the Presidential election, or even to call out much enthusiasm among men upon the subject, there is the more reason to have symbols and public exhibition of our principles and strength, to impress children.

And what better day for such scenes than the FOURTH OF JULY!

We shall thus be following in the steps of "our fathers," and make the day not only memorable for Freedom, but for independence of "King Alcohol."

Yours, Truly, G. H. ATKINSON.

ABICAW VALLEY, OREGON,  
May 25, 1857.

As general as well as local information is desired, with respect to various sections of California, and Oregon and Washington Territories, for future settlements of the emigrants to these shores, I will contribute, in some small degree, to give such information concerning some parts of the Willamette Valley as may be beneficial to these for whom it is intended. The first section of country to which I shall call public attention is Abicaw valley in Marion county. The Abicaw rises in the western slope of the Cascade Mountains, and is fed from pure cold springs gushing out from the regions of almost perpetual snow, and the waters are clear, pure, and cold. About nine miles from the mouth of this stream, the valley along its course widens out, and affords fine locations for farmers and stock-raisers. The lands are rich, and well adapted to the production of wheat, corn, oats, rye, buckwheat, and all sorts of culinary vegetables, in the greatest abundance and of the best quality. The various locations in the Abicaw valley have been tried in the culture of apples, pears, plums, cherries, currants, apricots, almonds, and gooseberries, and the results are highly satisfactory. The lands can be bought from their owners at from two to ten dollars per acre, according to the improvements or other circumstances. At the base of the Cascade Mountains, and extending eastward, the lands are vacant, and subject to pre-emption or to sale. On these vacant lands there is an opportunity now for a heavy and profitable settlement by those who may desire to locate in this part of Oregon. About four miles east of the settlements on Abicaw, and on the divide between it and Bute Creek, is "Crooked Finger's Prairie," situated twenty miles from Oregon City, twenty miles from Salem, and near six miles from Silverton—the last a thriving country town on Silver Creek in Marion county. This prairie contains about 1200 acres of smooth, rich, and beautifully-situated lands, well watered, and surrounded with an immense body of tall fir, cedar, ash, maple, and alder timber. Outside of the prairie

are large tracts of good second-rate lands, called "fern openings." The bunch grass is exceedingly luxuriant on these lands.— Elk, deer, and bear abound here. Springs of pure cold water gush out every two or three hundred yards all over these rich lands. I have never seen better timber than abounds here. On the bluffs of the Abicaw, opposite and two miles south of Crooked Finger's Prairie, are extensive stone-coal banks. This coal has been tried and found to be excellent. Millions of tons of iron ore abound here in the hills. I have seen this ore, and have no doubt of the exhaustless quantity of the ore at this point. The geologist sent to Oregon never examined these iron mines, and hence they are unknown. I have never seen such a stream as the Abicaw is, according to its size, for water-power facilities. It affords a good mill-seat every half mile for twenty miles from its mouth. As yet there is no mill or any water-works upon it, except a saw-mill at its confluence with Silver Creek in sec. 20, town 6 south, 1 west, Willamette meridian. This stream runs nearly due west, and a good wagon road or plank road could be made from the coal mines, iron mines, and "Crooked Finger's Prairie" to Salem, or to Fairfield, on the Willamette River. A wagon road now leads from the settlements to this charming prairie. A territorial road and two county roads cross Abicaw creek at right angles. A more healthy region of country than this valley is not in Oregon or North America. If ever a Railroad is made from the mouth of Big Sandy and up the Willamette valley south to California, it must cross Abicaw valley. Mills, stores, mechanic shops, churches, and school-houses are being erected in this valley and adjacent to it. Yet under the system of Oregon land laws each settler holds generally a section of land in this valley, and therefore the farms are "few and far between." There is scarcely a section-holder here but would sell a part of his claim very cheap. Temperate and industrious farmers, mechanics, machinists, iron-mongers, and stock-raisers can find excellent openings in this valley, and such men are greatly needed here. It may be asked why all these "openings" are not already occupied. I answer that but a mere *tithe* of Oregon is yet settled. What will be included in the State of Oregon (if we include Grand Rond), can sustain a population of two millions. And yet our present population is only 50,000. Grain, stock, vegetables, lumber, &c., can be had here, on reasonable terms, for an increase of one thousand persons in Abicaw valley this year. There are many other favorable "openings" in Marion county for immigrants, but none are more so than Abicaw valley. The size of this creek is about eighty feet wide, and twenty inches deep from March to December, on an average. Its bottoms are never overflowed by its waters. Light draft steamers ascend the Willamette nearly all the year, and emigrants by water can land at Champege, Fairfield, or Salem, and thence on good roads can reach Abicaw valley.

It may be asked why I give such a glowing description of this section of country? My answer is that I have no special interest, apart from hundreds in Oregon, to misrepresent any portion of the country. I truly rejoice that emigration is again approaching our far-off country. We have experienced hard times in Oregon for four years past. With our bitter experience fresh in mind, and a heavy influx of emigrants to our shores, they and we may be able to develop the vast resources of our large Pacific possessions in Oregon, Washington, and California.

We say then to our friends in the United States and Europe, Come and help us to build up a great moral edifice, that shall endure while the broad flag of our glorious Union shall float over Ocean's broad bosom, and tell, to the down-trodden nations of the earth, of "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

DAVID NEWSOM.

### To the Friends of Temperance in every Precinct in Oregon.

The undersigned Executive Committee of the Oregon Temperance Society as instructed by the Society (see proceedings on the first page) have prepared the following petition which they beg you will circulate in your several precincts and forward the same to some member of the convention, provided such convention shall be ordered.

### PETITION

To the Convention for framing a State Constitution for Oregon.

The undersigned, legal voters of Oregon Territory, respectfully represent to your Honorable Body, that

Whereas, in several States of the Union laws enacted for the prohibition of the Liquor Traffic have on different grounds, been declared unconstitutional;

We therefore pray you may frame, a clause clearly stating that it shall be constitutional for the Legislature, at any time, to enact a Prohibitory Liquor Law, or, to frame and submit such a law for ratification to the people of Oregon, and if it be ratified by a majority of those voting thereon, it shall have full force and effect.

D. E. BLAIN,  
G. H. ATKINSON,  
W. C. JOHNSON,  
DAVID RUTLEDGE,  
DANIEL BAGLEY, } Ex. Com.

Although the Salem convention treated the Sentinel with perfect contempt by ordering the platform to be published only in Cop's organ and the Times, the Sentinel copies the platform, and whines for it zealously.