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The Oregon Argus.

—A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.—

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ADVERTISING RATES. One square (12 lines or less) first 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, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

Which is Right? Editor of the Argus—The Weekly Times of the 11th inst. quotes from the Richmond (Va.) Examiner the following assertions:

"The question is simply, what shall be the status of the African negro? The Abolitionists insist that he shall be enfranchised, elevated to sovereign citizenship, and admitted to all the social, civil, and political relations of husband, father, brother, guardian, employer, fellow-workman, voter, legislator, governor, juror. The South insist that, whatever may be done with him at the North, within his own borders, at least, he shall be the inferior of the white man, degraded from citizenship, and continued as the servant and parasite of the white man."

The Wheeling (Va.) Intelligencer, speaking of the late triumph of the emancipation party in St. Louis, remarks:

"These elections do demonstrate this fact beyond a cavil—that the sentiment of the great majority of the people of this Union is irrevocably opposed to the extension of slavery; that they are determined, if overwhelming public sentiment can avail anything, another slave State shall not be admitted into the Confederacy. And why are they so determined? Because they believe, and not only believe, but see and know, that slavery is an unmitigated curse to the soil that sustains it. They know this, because they see every free State outstripping every slave State in all the elements that make a people powerful and prosperous; because they see the people in one, educated and thrifty, and in the other, ignorant and thriftless; because they have before their eyes a State like our own, once the very Union itself almost in importance, to-day taking her rank as a fifth rate power."

If the editor of the Times endorses the sentiments of the Examiner, for the States, will he do so for the Territories? Is the question here, what shall be the status of the negro? Or is it, what shall be the welfare of Oregon?

We are gratified that he has made the point at issue one concerning the status of the negro, instead of the status of the party which he desires to represent. Hitherto he and others have done what they could to reproach the Republicans with the charge of desiring to destroy the Democratic party. Now he proposes to show that their aim is to elevate the negro.—We are willing to accept the issue. We are willing to vote that the hundred or two negroes in Oregon shall be left free to go or stay, to rise or fall, to become intelligent or remain ignorant, to have families of their own or live without families, as they please, if for no other reason, at least for this, that Oregon may have the advantages of a free State. We are not patriotic enough to wish to impoverish and starve ourselves for the sake of standing over a negro with our foot upon his neck. If they have had that habit so long in Virginia that they wish to continue it, until that State becomes a tenth-rate power in the Union, we sincerely hope that the people of Oregon will continue the opposite habit, of using their feet to walk and their hands to work, instead of treading upon other people's necks or thrashing their backs, that our Territory may perchance gain what Virginia loses by the operation. Let the editor of the Times stick to the point, the negro status, which is so luminous to him now. Let the Democracy and all the people remember that he wishes us, 10,000 voters of Oregon, to be henceforth employed in keeping down below the white man the 150 negroes now here, and every stray one that may happen to come in.—And, for this privilege, he wishes us to barter away our prospects of all that advance in population, wealth, and intelligence which has been realized by every Free State.

For the Argus.

BETHEL, POLK CO., OREGON, July 1, 1857.

Mg. EDITOR: As information doubtless will be sought for by those wishing to immigrate to Oregon upon the subject of schools and the probable facilities to acquire a good education, I feel it to be a duty to give you all the information in my power, at least so far as our county is concerned, leaving other counties to be reported by persons living in them. To an enlightened community of emigrants, satisfactory information upon this subject would I presume go farther in determining their direction than any other single advantage commonly found in Oregon. In fact, all intelligent men look upon the proper education of the rising generation as the great business of their lives, and he who refuses to give his influence and as much of his means as possible to aid in this common business of life, will be called a misanthrope, and he who would seek to build up a school by directly or indirectly palling down others, and thereby preventing general and universal education only so far as can be obtained at his own school, is only half converted to the cause of education, and can only feel its importance through selfish motives.

In Polk we have at this time four permanent schools, some of high order, besides a

number of well conducted district schools. The first I will mention is Salt Creek Academy, situated on the south bank of the stream bearing that name two miles below where it rushes from the mountain and enters a beautiful farming country known as James Riggs' neighborhood.—The house is well situated for convenience, and is beautifully and substantially built, and well furnished inside, and all enclosed with a good plank fence. Every thing may here be found to make life a blessing, and the means of instruction are abundant. I do not know what class-books are used, but from my acquaintance with the present very competent teacher, Mr. John Frazier, I have no doubt the best selections are made. The precise number of scholars I am not able to give, but from the interest taken by the people of the vicinity, I would suppose the school to be well attended.

Six miles south of Salt Creek school we come to Dallas, which is the seat of justice for Polk county. Here the enterprising citizens have built on the south bank of the Rickreall (a very beautiful stream gushing from the mountains and passing through a fine and beautiful section of our county, and passing by Eola it empties its waters into the Willamette) a very substantial frame building two stories high, 26 by 58 feet. In the lower story are two rooms, one 23 by 30, the other 20 by 26, which are separated by a hall eight feet wide. The larger room is well finished, having been ceiled and painted, and fitted up with four rows of desks and seats, with aisles between. The other room below and also those above are unfinished, but it is the intention of the trustees to complete them whenever the wants of the school demand it. The following named books are used in the school at present: Sander's Series of Readers, Webster's Elementary Spelling Book, Ballou's Grammar, Smith's do., Davies' Arithmetic, Thompson's do., Mental and Practical, Montei's's Geography, Primary and Youth's Manual, Davies' Algebra. The average attendance the present term has been about 45 scholars.—The present teacher, Mr. A. J. Leach, comes to our county highly recommended, and from his gentlemanly appearance and kindness of manners, we have no hesitation in believing that Dallas Academy will flourish under his supervision. I understand the Legislature granted a liberal charter some two years since, and in the hands of judicious directors the school must prove a great benefit to our citizens. For situation of location, Rickreall Academy, together with the surrounding country, I presume cannot be surpassed by any place in Oregon.

Above and midway from Dallas to Luckinute we find Monmouth University beautifully situated on a fine undulating prairie, surrounded by a rich country, and settled by enterprising people, who make education one of the leading pursuits in life.—Here the citizens have a very commodious house, well finished, sufficiently large for present purposes, with everything necessary for the present wants of the community. I am not informed how large their present house is, but understand they have it in contemplation to build a very splendid house before a great while amply sufficient for the wants of the growing community around them. I learn the trustees of this institution have a liberal charter, and it is the intention to make it a school worthy of our fine country and the beautiful situation it occupies. The present teacher is Mr. Marion Mulky, a young man of fine promise, and I presume, well qualified to take charge of the school.—From personal acquaintance with him, I can most cheerfully recommend him to the favorable consideration of an enlightened community. A school in his hands I think must not only prosper but be a blessing to the people. Present number of scholars about 35.

I learn from reliable sources that the friends of education have erected a house of suitable size near Harrison Linville's with a view to make a permanent school.

In the north-east corner of Polk county stands Bethel Institute, situated one half mile from a range of oak hills running north and south, on a very handsome, smooth prairie. This location is, in the midst of a fine rich section of our county. Bethel Institute is a fine large two-story frame building, almost entirely finished, and well ventilated, having some forty-seven large glass windows. This school also has a liberal charter. The building was mostly built by the citizens of its vicinity, and now has an income from the sale of lands belonging to it of some \$500 or \$600, with a considerable portion of un-sold lands, which when sold will augment the annual interest to some \$1,200, to be used in defraying the expense of tuition. It is also the settled policy of this institution, by an act of the board of trustees, to educate all orphans and indigent persons who are not able to educate them-

selves; and to carry out this policy a committee was instituted whose duty it is to make, upon application, the necessary inquiries, and, when found to be satisfactory, to give to such person a certificate to the professor or teacher, whose duty it is to make no charge, &c. It is also contemplated to donate to young persons who wish to settle alone for the sake of the school, and are not in such circumstances to board at the common boarding-houses, a sufficient quantity of land for house and garden, free from any charge. The trustees are making arrangements with a very eminent classical scholar to take charge of the collegiate department, which is expected to open the first Monday in September. The primary department is and has been under the control of Mr. T. R. Harrison, with several assistants. Mr. H.'s experience as a teacher eminently qualifies him for that station, as well as his indefatigable exertions in the management of his school, gives to him a name ranking with the first order of teachers. The books used in the primary department I believe are the same used in Rickreall Academy. The number in attendance I am told this summer is about 80, many having to leave as soon as the good weather sets in, who expect to return after harvest; the number entering last fall being largely over 100.

I will say that any information desired upon any subject connected with the above named schools, or with the price of land in our county, will be furnished with pleasure by making application to G. O. BURNETT.

Interesting letter from Judge Drummond—Real State of Affairs in Utah.

CHICAGO, Ill., Monday, May 4, 1857. To the Editor of the New York Daily Times:

Sir:—A valued friend of mine has just presented me an extract of a communication from Feramorz Little, of Great Salt Lake City, which made its appearance in some one of the New York papers in which this high functionary of Mormonism, this Elder of the Latter Days, this member of the "quorum" of the "seventies," this spiritual brother-in-law of Gov. Brigham Young, this tool, agent and abettor, in the Black-st crimes that the malignant heart of man can conceive, has had the church duty to perform in denying the allegations in my communications to Attorney-General Black. In the first place he asserts that the books and records were not destroyed. I assert that they were, that Mr. Little well knew it at the time of that black outrage, and that in his capacity of Elder he sat in judgment on certain members of the Church and cut them off, for the reason that they expressed a degree of dissatisfaction at that high-handed outrage of the High Priesthood of Mormonism.

Again he asserts that at the time that he left Salt Lake there were no persons in the Penitentiary of Utah save three Indians, who were convicted in A. D. 1834. This, I assert, is a gratuitous and unmitigated falsehood, and well-known by Mr. Little; and that there were at least four young men in the Utah Penitentiary who were tried and convicted before Elias Smith the Probate Justice of Great Salt Lake City and County, in March, A. D. 1856, and severally sentenced for fourteen, sixteen and eighteen months; and that, too, without those men having committed any criminal act known to the law books save the Mormon Priesthood, and that they were in the Penitentiary when he left Salt Lake City, and that he knew that fact.

Again: I assert that a man by the name of Lewis was tried and convicted before George Peacock, Probate Judge of Manti County, in Dec. last, of assault and battery, and put in the Penitentiary of Utah for five years' time, and that before he was incarcerated in the prison that he was captured by a Mormon mob, all of which Mr. Little well knew and no doubt had an active hand in this bloody outrage.

Again, he asserts that he never heard anything of the murder of the dumb boy, Whitehouse, by the English Doctor named Baker. I assert that Mr. Little's connection with that band of Church licensed pirates and murderers well known as Danites or Destroying Angels, is such as to keep him fully and promptly posted in all the nefarious acts of the Church, and in this case in particular, that he well knew that Baker was tried and should have been hung for one of the most brutal murders ever committed by the hand of man; that the Jurors did find him guilty of murder in the second degree, and that he, Baker, was sentenced to the Penitentiary for ten years; was started to the Penitentiary in care of Deputy Marshal Anson Call, on Wednesday, and was promptly pardoned by Gov. Young without ever seeing the inside of the Penitentiary, before the following Sunday; that Hosea Stout and John Bair were the lawyers who defended Baker, and that Joseph A. Kelting was the counsel for the Government on the trial; that Lewis Brown, Wm. Steves, Allen

Russel, George Callir, John Cavin, Chas. Price, Jeremiah Hatch, John Mangum, Warren Snow, Wm. Holden, and Orville Cox were the Jurors who tried the case.

Again, Mr. Little asserts that the murder of Col. Babbitt, on the Plains, last Fall, is all fancy, &c. Mr. Editor, I wish it was so; that Col. Babbitt was a bad man and a murderer, no man will deny, neither did I expect Mr. Little and his numerous licensed costurers in crime to acknowledge that they had murdered Babbitt and Sutherland, while on the way to the "peaceful valleys of the mountains"; but, Sir, it is the base and cruel act, the manner in which it was done, of which I complain. If Babbitt was worthy of death, let him be tried by a constitutional jury of his country, and not by a self-constituted court, known as the Melchizedec Priesthood, or higher law of a Church whose code is stained with the blood of countless scores. Babbitt had been in and out of the Church, as occasion seemed to require, for nearly twenty years, and at times, when under the influence of liquor, told many solemn truths on the subject and design of Mormonism, among which were the secret oaths administered to the male members of the Church when taking their endowment degrees, all of which are pregnant with treasonable designs; and for this overt act the poor unfortunate fellow lost his life, in strict obedience to the absolute law of the Church, all of which Mr. Little well knew.

In connection with this communication I send you an affidavit made by Hiram A. Watson, now a resident of the city of Chicago, and a gentleman who enjoys the confidence of all who know him (save the Mormons); and as Mr. Watson has been a minister of this Church, and was honest enough to leave it after losing several thousand dollars worth of property, I fancy that his statements will be taken far more real worth than the man who is still in the meshes of the Church, who is still the pliant, willing and obedient tool of the Church, whose duty it is not only to say openly that the charges against the Mormons are untrue, but it is his duty to go into Court and swear that they are false and untrue, which he would assuredly do.

But, Sir, why is it that all the appointments under both Fillmore and Pierce's Administration so nicely agree as to the disloyalty of the Mormons, and their open and secret rebellion to the laws and instructions of the country? Does not the universal language of all these men agree in this state of facts? Certainly, Sir, no man will have the presumption or ignorance to take any other view of the subject. Then you must conclude that these men tell the simple truth as far as they go, or that they have all joined together as enemies to the truth.

Tear up the graves of a Shaver, a Harris, and of Babbitt; call together all the judges, secretaries and Indian agents, who have not been under the baneful influence of Mormonism, and in one universal tongue will they reiterate the same state of stubborn facts which constitute now a record that will yet agitate this happy country from centre to circumference. The American people, thank heaven, are kind and benevolent to a fault; hence, Sir, those arch-traitors are relying on that benevolence; and while the parent Government deals with this Territory as a rude child, in loose kindness, every effort is being made to bring into that Territory a class of ignorant aliens from foreign countries to build up an independent republic in the midst of the most beautiful republican form of Government that civilized man ever beheld, and after ages will yet point to America as a stench in the nostrils of all refined and civilized countries, unless a firm and speedy step is taken to suppress that spirit of organized hostility to our common country; and I, for one, Sir, confess that I have but little hope of seeing this question fairly and promptly met by this Administration; but it will be met in the pulpits and on the rostrum, by politicians in after years, as a siepping-stone to political preferment, which should certainly be avoided; but will it? Respectfully, yours, W. W. DRUMMOND.

MR. WATSON'S AFFIDAVIT.—The following is the affidavit referred to in Judge Drummond's letter:

State of Illinois, County of Cook, ss.—Hiram A. Watson being first duly sworn on oath, says that he is well acquainted with Feramorz Little of Great Salt Lake City, in Utah Territory; that this affiant was once a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (commonly called Mormons), and lived in Great Salt Lake City for near three years, during which time he took three endowment degrees in the Church; and that he knows from the order and secret organization in the Mormon Church that Mr. Little, as well as all other male members of the Church of the same degree and standing in the Church, have taken such oaths and obligations as to bind them to open hostility to the form of Government in the United States; that he is acquainted with Judge

W. W. Drummond, late a Judge in Utah Territory, has read his letter of resignation in office, and that from what he knows of Mormonism, he can fully vouch for much that Judge Drummond charged against the Mormons in his letter of resignation, and that from what he has heard from reliable information he believes the whole to be true; that he knows Feramorz Little to be worthy of death under the laws of the country, and that said Little is bound by his oath to the Mormon Priesthood to contradict the charges and statements of Judge Drummond, as well as all other Federal officers, relative to Mormonism, be they ever so true, or for-it-his-life to the hands of Mormon assassins for failing to contradict the statements of Gentiles, and that said Little has often aided and abetted in the commission of murders at the request of his brother-in-law, Brigham Young, and that it is a part of the Church duty, of the whole Church, to murder and put out of the way all who may question the authority of the Church, or disobey the will of Brigham Young; and that the secret organization of the Church is one of determined hatred to the American people, and particularly to the Constitution and laws of the United States; and that Mormonism teaches its Church members neither to obey nor respect any man in office or authority under the laws of the United States or any of them, unless that officer be a Mormon; and that he is bound to execute the will of the Church, and disobey the law of the land, or lose his life, according to the law of the Mormon Church, and further this deponent saith not.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 29th day of April, 1857.

H. A. WATSON, W. L. CURCHEN, Clerk of Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois.

OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA.—Since our treaty with China in 1844, the most amicable relations have existed between the United States and China. Nothing has occurred seriously to disturb the friendly relations which that treaty was intended to secure. China is our friend, and we are hers. It is for the interest of both that these amicable relations should continue. Great Britain and China have fallen upon difficulties, and actual war, though of a local and limited character, exists between them. France and China are at variance. Both Great Britain and France have views concerning their relations with the Chinese, and the objects which they wish to accomplish. Our government expresses no official opinion upon the points of difference involved, or the rights and duties of either. We are neither the guardian nor surety of either. When solicited to join with England and France in belligerent efforts to bring China to certain terms, our government wisely declined doing so, leaving those interested to pursue such course as they deemed proper. Although this policy has not met the full approval of the English press, it has been highly satisfactory to ours and to the American people. It gives us great pleasure to see that, without exception, the American press has sustained the views and course of the administration. Better evidence that its policy was right and its action proper could not be desired. Its course has been in accordance with common sense, honor and justice, and consequently the people approve. Should China trespass upon our rights, and treat us in a manner unworthy of our peaceful and amicable relations, we may expect our government will pursue a course calculated to vindicate our rights and preserve our national honor.—Washington Union.

BRANDY; ITS MANUFACTURE.—The following account, from the Toronto Colonist, of the death of a man from tasting a poison used in manufacturing Brandy from raw spirits conveys its own moral:

At about 11 o'clock, Thursday morning, a clerk in the employ of Mr. Wright, liquor manufacturer, at Brampton, left the store for the purpose of manufacturing a quantity of brandy from raw spirits. He took with him a preparation used for this purpose—by some called essence of brandy. The preparation was placed on the table in the warehouse; and the deceased (Mr. Morris) after preparing a portion of the liquor, returned to the store, and took a glass of ale with some friends from Toronto. He had scarcely returned to his former occupation more than five minutes, before the porter ran into the store in great alarm, exclaiming, "Mr. Morris has been tasting the essence of brandy, and it has killed him." On those present running to the spot, it was found that the report was too true; the sufferer had inadvertently tasted a few drops of the drug, which is nearly allied to prussic acid, an instant death was the consequence.

THE CLERGY AND THEATRICALS.—The religious community in both New York and Boston has recently been startled by the appearance of two distinguished clergymen before large audiences in defence of theatrical amusements. In New York city, Rev. Dr. Bellows delivered before a large audience, composed of members of the theatrical profession and others, an admirable discourse, not in vindication of the stage, as it now is, but as it may become, when purified and elevated—with plays of higher character and players of purer morals—a wholesome source from whence an active and overworked people may derive that recreation which is profitable and necessary. He considers the stage as an existing institution, which would flourish whether good people approve it or not, and he argues that it is better for good people to interest themselves in the drama and improve it, than deny it, give it over to vicious control and permit it to remain an evil institution, when it is possible to convert it into a good one.

In Boston, on Wednesday last, Rev. Mr. Hale, a Congregational clergyman, delivered a discourse upon the same topic, taking much the same line of argument as Dr. Bellows. This is a delicate subject for a clergyman to handle, for in his first step he is beset by a score of popular objections, and hedged about with the prejudices which confine the usefulness of his vocation, but no person can read either of the above named discourses, without recognizing much that is forcible and true, and being convinced that they have been written with entire sincerity of purpose. We note them as an important incident in our daily history.

BEER DRINKING.—Perhaps it may be looked upon as out of place in these intellectual times, to warn people against the growing vice of beer-drinking. With an increase of customers and no corresponding growth of hops, there must be strange drugs introduced into ale and beer. The fuddling properties of Cocculus Indicus and aloes, are represented to enter largely into the composition of some of these beverages. The effect is to stupefy the individual, destroy his appetite, and in some instances, when the habit of beer-drinking is confirmed, to produce a kind of chronic looseness of the bowels which is charged to all causes but the right one. Let the beer alone.—Medical World.

THE CAP OF SILENCE.—The King of Naples has introduced a new luxury into his prison discipline. It is called a cap of silence (capita distenzio), and both for the particular purpose for which it is ostensibly applied, and as an instrument of torture generally, it may, perhaps, be considered superior in refinement to the celebrated "iron mask." The inventor is due to the genius of Signor Balona, Inspector of Police at Palermo, and it appears to have been so highly approved by the King that he immediately decorated the talented and philanthropic gentleman with the order of Francis I.

The cap consists of a circular band of steel, passing round the head just above the eyes, with a semicircular band of the same material connecting it over the top of the head from ear to ear; attached to this superstructure is a chin strap of steel wire, growing broader towards the bottom, so as to confine the lower jaw completely, and make it utterly impossible to articulate when the bands on the head are properly screwed up; and to complete the adjustment there is a strap of leather with a buckle attached to the chin strap, which passes round the back of the neck, just below the ears, and keeps the latter firm in its place. It is said that the first experiments made with this novel instrument of torture were on two persons called Lo Ro and De Medici, and that the former suffered so much from it that he remained senseless for some time, and a gaoler, who saw him, believing the man to be dying, ran and fetched a doctor and a priest without asking Signor Balona's permission. When the doctor and priest arrived Signor Balona consented to allow the cap to be removed from the unfortunate prisoner, who was at length restored to life, after a copious bleeding and other remedies; but he ordered a punishment of 15 blows of a stick to the gaoler, in order to check his over zealous charity in future.

THE PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE has granted a divorce in a case where the contracting parties got married, thinking it an excellent joke. It strikes us that the cases which most require relief from the law, is where the marriage turns out to be "no joke."

TURKISH FINANCING.—A curious instance of how some things are managed in Turkey has just occurred. To relieve sufferings of the inhabitants of Rhodes, victims of an earthquake and of the terrible explosion of a large quantity of gunpowder, the Sultan sent them a present of 400,000 piastres. In passing from hand to hand this sum was so reduced that only 18,000 reached the Island, and this sum was handed to the primates to buy their silence, so that the sufferers got nothing at all.

Lay your carpet on good long straw which is easy to the foot when walking on it, preserves the carpet more than twice as long by acting as a filter to let the sand to the floor, and keeps the carpet free from dust, which is not the case if laid on the naked floor—or, what is no better, on paper, which appears to be an invention of the carpet dealers and upholsterers.