

TERMS—The Argus will be furnished at Three Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum in advance, to single subscribers—Three Dollars each to clubs of ten at one office—in advance. When the money is not paid in advance, Four Dollars will be charged if paid within six months, and Five Dollars at the end of the year. Two Dollars for six months—No subscriptions received for a less period. No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the publisher.

The Oregon Argus.

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

VOL. III.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, SEPTEMBER 19, 1857.

No. 23.

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, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

BUSINESS CARDS.

W. T. MATLOCK. W. C. JOHNSON. Matlock & Johnson, ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW, And Solicitors in Chancery.

E. G. Burnett, ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW, And Solicitor in Chancery, BETHEL, FOLK COUNTY, OREGON.

JOHN R. MERRID, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW, Lafayette, Yamhill County, O. T.

Wm. C. Dement & Co., WHOLESALE and Retail Dealers in Groceries, Provisions, Paints, Oils, Boots and Shoes, Crockery, &c. Opposite the Land Office, Main St. Oregon City, June 1, 1855.

CHARLES POPE, JR., DEALER in Hardware, Groceries, Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots & Shoes, Medicines, Books and Stationery, Main-st., Oregon City, April 21, 1857-1st

GEO. ABERNETHY & Co., MERCHANTS, OREGON CITY, O. T.

Abernethy, Clark & Co., COMMISSION AND FORWARDING MERCHANTS, San Francisco, Cal.

W. F. HIGHELD, W. F. HIGHELD, WATCH-MAKER, Persons desirous of getting good work done will do well to give me a call, as my whole time is devoted to the repairing of Chronometers, Lever, Duplex, and Horizontal watches.

B. Millwain, Manufacturer, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in COOK AND PARLOR STOVES, TIN & COPPER WARE, HARDWARE, &c., Main St., opposite Main Street Hotel, OREGON CITY, O. T.

JOHN P. BROOKS, Wholesale & Retail Dealer in Groceries, Produce Provisions, &c. Main Street.

GUN SMITHING, BEING permanently located in Oregon City, I am prepared to carry on the business of GUN SMITHING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

Wells, Fargo & Co's Express, Between Oregon, California, the Atlantic States and Europe.

Reading for the Million, S. J. MCCORMICK, HAS CONSTITUTED AN AGENCY AT THE FRANKLIN BOOK STORE, FRONT-ST., PORTLAND, OREGON.

Oregon Lodge No. 3, I. O. O. F., MEETS at their Hall over the Oregon City Drug Store every Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock.

TEMPLE OF HONOR.—Tuslalin Temple of Honor, No. 1, meets on the 1st and 2d Friday evenings of each month at 6 o'clock, at Temperance Hall, Forest Grove, Oregon.

H. TERRY, W. R. E.

What the Dred Scott Case Decided and what it did not Decide.

The Boston Law Reporter for June contains a very able and thorough review of the "Dred Scott Decision," which will enable the reader to know what the Supreme Court has decided in that important case, far more readily and certainly than he can learn from the official report itself.

These, also, who desire to understand, not merely the points which the so called decision really decided, but also what it did not decide, will do well to consult the Law Reporter's article, the authorship of which is ascribed to Horace Gray, Jr., and John Lovell, two well known legal gentlemen of Boston.

"First—As to the question, 'Can a negro be a citizen of the United States?' It has been commonly supposed that the Court decided this question in the negative. This is a mistake. From the form in which it was presented it was very doubtful whether it was before the court for a decision.

"Secondly—Was the Missouri Compromise a constitutional one? It is a perfectly well settled principle of the Supreme Court, and one that has often been laid down from its bench, that no part of an opinion of the Court is to be regarded as of authority as a precedent which was not necessary to the solution of the question before it.

"Thirdly—This case is often spoken of as deciding that a master may take his slave to a free State and there hold him as a slave. This is a simple mistake; there is no such point decided. But Fourthly—The doctrine is here established that, if a slave be taken by his master to a free State, and does not there claim his liberty, but consents to return with his master to a slave State, he may be held as a slave there, if the higher court of that State considers him to be still a slave.

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.—Aug. 1.—Lord Napier has had several prolonged interviews with Gen. Cass relative to subjects of correspondence between the two governments, during this week. Today the conference was unusually protracted.

AN ARGUMENT KNOCKED ON THE HEAD.—The National Intelligencer says: "A paragraph is going the rounds of the public press that the Hon. R. J. Walker, after handling hundreds of millions of dollars as Secretary of the Treasury, retired from that office as poor as a primitive Christian.

RAINY DAYS.—In general, Johnson tells us, the number of rainy days is greatest near the sea, and decreases in proportion the further we penetrate into the interior. On the eastern side of Ireland, it rains 208 days of the year; in the Netherlands on 170; in England, France, and the North of Germany, and in the Gulf of Finland, on from 152 to 155 days; and the plateau of Germany on 131; and in Poland on 158 days; while on the plains of the Volga, at Kassin, it rains on 90, and in the interior of Siberia, only on 60 days of the year.

WASHINGTON—AN INDIAN LEGEND.—The following Indian legend relative to the spirit-house of Washington is from Morgan's League of the Iroquois. It is curious, as showing the estimation in which the father of his country was held by this singular people, and their idea of future felicity:—"Among the modern beliefs engrafted upon the ancient faith of the Iroquois, there is one which is worthy of particular notice. It relates to Washington. According to their present belief, so white man ever reached the Indian heaven. Not being created by the Great Spirit, no provision was made for him in their schemes of theology. He was excluded both from heaven and the place of punishment.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. MONDAY, Sept. 7.—Mr. McBride offered a preamble and resolution expressive of the high regard in which we hold the memory of Gen. La Fayette, and resolving that in honor of the centennial anniversary of his birth-day the house will adjourn at 12 o'clock.

Starkweather moved that the public printing and other legislative expenses be let to the lowest responsible bidder. Dryer opposed the proposition—was in favor of leaving the matter to the legislature with their responsibility to their constituents to hold them to their duty.

Afternoon.—On motion the convention went into committee of the whole on the "Bill of rights." The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th sections were adopted without amendment.

Logan said he had desired to get some

UTAH.—Washington, Aug. 2.—The instructions to Gov. Cumming were completed to-day. They are brief and specific. He is to see that the laws of the United States are faithfully executed. No man in Utah is to be affected for his political or religious opinions, but held responsible for his conduct.

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NEW MONTHLY.—Several leading literary and scientific gentlemen in Boston have in contemplation the starting of a new monthly to be called the Northern Magazine, to be altogether original, and to aim at the highest literary and political character. The best of our American writers have been secured for its pages, and an agent of the publishers is now in England to secure aid in that quarter.

SPAIN IN 1857.—The progress of Spanish civilization within the last few years has been very considerable. Roads are becoming better, more plentiful and more secure. Spanish ships multiply in Spanish shipyards, universities are reviving, free schools and institutes are established by government and an agricultural Press finds an ample field. Lines of railway reaching France through Catalonia and Navarre, Portugal, through Estremadura, and the Atlantic to Cadix, are in process of construction.

PULPIT SERVICES.—THE LATEST IMPROVEMENT.—DENON Robert Sheriff, of Greenock, Scotland, has resigned his connection with the Free West Church of that city, for the reason that he does not like to have sermons preached, prayers offered, &c., but thinks the entire service ought to be devoted to reading the Bible. His language is: "It is my impression that not a word of man's wisdom should mingle in the service, not even in prayer, lest it should leave an open door for it, or perhaps for what is worse, his pride. I think the Lord's Prayer, or some other portion of scripture, such as the 51st Psalm, amply sufficient, and to be repeated by the congregation along with the minister or leader. Public prayer, as it is at present, is tedious, more especially in Scotland. The minds of the people wander to other subjects, from not being allowed to take part in it. Estem-pore prayer might be used in private, and as full and minute as the suppliant might choose; but not at all in public, for the aforesaid reason.

LANDS SECURED BY TREATY.—The private claims of individuals to lands ceded to the United States by treaties with Great Britain, France, Spain and Mexico, are secured to them by treaty obligations, and they do not go into what may be called the "public domain," and are not surveyed and sectioned as other lands; but in granting patents for such private claims the General Land Office require that, after adjudication by law, their precise connection with the public lands shall be indicated.

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