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The Oregon Argus.

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For the Argus.

Constitution—Yes, or No?

The first thing to be decided in answering this question is whether it is expedient or not to go into the formation of a State government. Those who are opposed to this step in toto, will, of course, in order to be consistent, vote in the negative.

It is not the object of the present communication to discuss the expediency or inexpediency of a change in this respect, so far as it is abstractly considered. All minds are made up on that point.

First. Much has been said and written against the famous first clause in the "Bill of Rights." To what does it refer? To political rights and privileges? Manifestly not.

But these persons are none the less members of these social compacts. The Oregon convention was not composed of fools, that they should enunciate any such senseless, as the construction placed on that clause by some would make it. Of necessity then it must refer to the natural inalienable rights of men as set forth in the memorable Declaration of Independence.

Second. "The Legislature," says one who reads the latter clause of the fifth section of the first article, "cannot employ a chaplain to pray for them." Serious objection, unless viewed in a proper light.

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Our Express from New York leaves regularly on the 5th and 20th of each month, also in charge of messengers. Treasure insured in the best New York companies, or at Lloyd's in London, at the option of shippers.

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of a Maine Law to the people. In my view, this objection possesses little weight. The fact is, a prohibitory liquor law never can be executed until the people are sufficiently in favor of the principle to elect a Legislature that will pass one, and Judges that will uphold the same.

A fourth objection is that the grand jury is reduced in numbers, and provision made that the Legislature may modify or abolish the same. But is it not reasonable that seven men will discharge the duties of a grand jury as expeditiously and correctly as sixteen or twenty-four? And it is not probable that the Legislature will abolish this ancient part of our judicial proceedings until the people call for its abrogation.

But, fifthly, there is objection to the "one-horse county court." Yet the powers and duties of this famous court are left very much in the direction of the Legislature, and if the people desire, they may, through that body, reduce his Honor, the county Judge, into a very common Judge of Probate and Justice of the peace.

A sixth and much-urged objection is, that banks are prohibited, and the State and counties are limited in the amount of their indebtedness, and also that corporations are not allowed to swindle the State by borrowing her credit. As to banks, experience has proven that they are entirely and worse than useless.

Some other objections have been made to the instrument under consideration;—but they are of much the same character and weight as those which have been noticed. Keeping this communication within proper limits will preclude a notice and reply to more. They are of a negative, rather than positive character.

But a few reasons why we should vote for the constitution—especially Republicans. The instrument certainly provides for an economical government. If any objection can be raised against it in money matters, it is too much so.

Second. It is almost morally certain that slavery will be excluded from the proposed State by a very decided majority, now—

But the pro-slavery men want time and are almost unanimously opposed to the adoption of the constitution. Why? Simply because they know a majority of the present population of Oregon are from Southern States; and they expect by browbeating and calling them abolitionists if they do not vote for slavery they will excite their southern pride and whip them into the traces.

In addition to this fact, if the Judges of this Territory uphold the principles laid down by Chief Justice Taney in the notorious Dred Scott case, we are already a slave Territory, and any man has a right to introduce and hold his slaves here in spite of the present majority in opposition to it.

But again: The history of every Territory which has been admitted as a State into the American Union, will show, I think, that every one, so long as it remained in a Territorial condition was intensely Democratic in politics.

I am going to remain on the strongest side, so that we can receive favors from the dominant party in the national Legislature. But let us take upon us State responsibilities, and every man will see and know that his vote does then have an influence and bearing on these questions, and will vote accordingly.

Some object to voting for any constitution which does not suit them in every particular. The truth is, Mr. Editor, we never would have any constitution if all were to act upon this principle.

It is probable, then, that we shall ever have the privilege of voting yea or nay upon a more perfect constitution than the one already submitted? I believe not. And it is not right to oppose its adoption because it was framed and approved by Democrats.

It is among the loveliest customs of the ancients to bury the young at morning twilight; for, as they strove to give the softest interpretation to death, so they imagine that Aurora, who loved the young, had stolen them to her embrace.

same. I say, give the devil his due; and believing that the Democratic party will not form a better; that this is passably good; and that that party will remain in power so long as we continue under a Territorial form of government, I intend to vote "Yea" on the second Monday in November, so far as the constitution is concerned; and for the reasons above given, and many others which I might give if this communication were not already too long, I believe every Republican ought to do the same.

Oct. 28, 1857.

Parties in the Next Presidential Canvass.

From the Richmond (Virginia) Whig. It is a little too early, as yet, to engage in speculations concerning the probable condition and relations of parties in the next Presidential campaign.

Indeed, such an event, in our judgment, is inevitable. Before the close of the next Congress, all the issues at present in controversy, growing out of the question of slavery in the Territories, will be definitively and finally settled.

Now, suppose that Fremont had been elected instead of Buchanan—what worse thing could have befallen the South, under his Administration, than has already befallen it under a Democratic Administration? Would there have been any more certainty of Kansas becoming a free State than exists at present, under the management of Buchanan and Walker? Would slavery have been any more certain to be excluded from all the Territories under Fremont than under Buchanan? We believe not.

It is, then, in our judgment, in all respects desirable that the Democratic party should not only be displaced from power, but that it should be permanently overthrown and crushed. The rights and interests of the South, their security and preservation, demand it; and we are ready to unite and co-operate with any old or new political organizations which may combine together for the specific purpose of defeating and prostrating the Democratic party.

It is, then, in our judgment, in all respects desirable that the Democratic party should not only be displaced from power, but that it should be permanently overthrown and crushed.

Our conclusion is, therefore, that there will be but two parties in the Presidential field of 1860—the disorganized and rotten Hunker Democracy on the one side, and all those opposed to it on the other.

He that has a good book in his hand, but not a lesson of it at his heart or life, is like an ass that carrieth a burden, and feeds upon the husks.

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not to the Abolitionists of the North, but to the National Democracy, North and South. They have fed and flourished upon agitation for the last twenty-five years, forever gulling and deceiving the South into the support of their candidates and their policy, and yet all the while leaving Southern institutions weaker and more exposed, for all their pretended efforts to strengthen and to fortify them.

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