

TERMS—The Argus will be furnished at Three Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum in advance...

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, JANUARY 16, 1858.

No. 40.

ADVERTISING RATES. One square (12 lines or less) one insertion, \$5.00...

BUSINESS CARDS.

W. T. MATLOCK, W. C. JOHNSON. Matlock & Johnson, ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW...

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

Wm. C. Dement & Co., WHOLESALE and Retail Dealers in Groceries...

CHARLES POPE, JR., DEALER in Hardware, Groceries, Dry Goods...

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

Abernethy, Clark & Co., COMMISSION AND FORWARDING MERCHANTS...

W. F. HIGGINS, WATCH-MAKER, PERSONS desiring of getting good work done...

Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, and Toys...

JOHN P. BROOKS, Wholesale & Retail Dealer in Groceries...

GUN-SMITHING, BEING permanently located in Oregon City...

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

Reading for the Million, S. J. McCORMICK HAS CONSTANTLY ON HAND THE FRANKLIN EGG...

Oregon Lodge No. 3, I. O. O. F., MEETS in their Hall over the Oregon City...

TEMPLE OF HONOR—Temple of Honor, No. 1, meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturday...

100 GALLONS, sperm oil (superior quality) for sale by WM. C. DEMENT & Co.

TOYS of different kinds, for sale by CHARMAN & WARNER

SUNNY HILL SIDE, Dec. 15, '57. Editor of the Argus—As the children are asleep, and Mr. Glen is away for the evening...

He has toiled all day long with the plow and the harrow, and now he sits here...

Mr. Glen has just come in and interrupted my meditations by asking me to tell Mr. Adams to send him The Argus for a year...

Table of the Weather for 1857. From a Journal kept by William J. Gale, in Lane county, O. T., in which is shown the number of snowy, rainy, cloudy, foggy, smoky, and clear days in each month...

January, 6 3 7 13; February, 2 8 11 7; March, 12 6 13 17; April, 1 2 27 27; May, 8 2 21 21; June, 6 8 16 16; July, 1 3 4 23; August, 1 3 20 10; September, 2 6 22 22; October, 7 6 6 14; November, 7 6 3 12; December, 5 6 3 14.

Total, 10 57 68 9 24 107. You people who talk about its being forever raining in Oregon, please observe out of 365 days we have 57 rainy—not quite 16 of the time...

EDGEMO CITY, Dec. 25, 1857. W. L. ADAMS—Dear Sir:—I notice in the Argus of the 19th inst., that you urge upon the Republicans in the different counties...

W. J. G. In all things we observe a positive and a negative principle. Things may be run to extremes either way. If you have ever inhabited any one of the Middle States, you have experienced both in the weather...

W. J. G. The weight of this huge ship being 12,000 tons, and coal and cargo about 18,000 tons more, the motive power to propel her twenty miles per hour must be proportionate...

W. J. G. We have the fact demonstrated, that wood placed in streams of water, containing silicious matter, iron, &c., will in lapse of time become changed in its character...

W. J. G. I have heard it stated by those who have visited coal mines, that they have seen a portion of the coal in a semi-fluid condition, a thick unctious substance—a fact I can readily believe...

W. J. G. But there is one suggestion that naturally comes up; if coal is produced from the interior of the earth, and is a fluid, cannot we find by the process of boring, the location of some of the deposits of that fluid...

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W. J. G. IS COAL OF VEGETABLE ORIGIN.—The following communication appears in the last number of the Scientific American: In your paper of Sept. 26th, you say that one of the savans of the scientific convention held at Montreal insisted that coal was of vegetable origin...

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W. J. G. A Good Ink.—An ink that will stand the test of oxalic acid, and be indelible on cloth, can be made of the following cheap ingredients: To a gallon of soft water add one pound of logwood...

W. J. G. Nine years ago the only railroad track laid down in Illinois ran from Naples, on the Illinois river, to Jacksonville, a distance of twenty-two miles. Now there is scarcely a county in the State which is not traversed by or within short distance of a railroad.

largest cotton-mills in Manchester, giving employment to from 30 to 40,000 operatives. There are four cylinders, each about 25 tons, and 84 inches in diameter. The crank-shaft, to which the connecting rods are applied, weigh about 30 tons.

It is not more than three years since the lofty walls of iron, forming the sides of the Great Eastern first began to excite the wonder of voyagers up and down the Thames...

Let me answer one question by asking another. Why is it that the woody fibre is mostly at right angles with the stratification of the coal, and why is it that the leaves and more delicate parts of the ferns lie parallel with the stratification?

Does not the late demonstration of making oil from coal prove the non-vegetable origin of it? It strikes me that it does; can you produce the same or similar products of wood? I doubt it.

My view of the nature of coal is simply this, that it is a production of the interior of the earth, that it is a liquid, and like all fluids, takes the lowest positions; and the woody fibre and leaves found in coal are of that character that is produced in low and shady positions, giving them a rapid growth and consequently comparative spongy texture...

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we find by the process of boring, the location of some of the deposits of that fluid, and do not the Petroleum wells, now used I think in Virginia, demonstrate this? If so, then I contend, singular as it may seem, that there is no great stretch of the imagination when we say that it is possible for man to control in some manner the location of coal beds.

It is not more than three years since the lofty walls of iron, forming the sides of the Great Eastern first began to excite the wonder of voyagers up and down the Thames, and as she approaches completion the public interest increases.

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keep him alive forever among the living. He can't die no way you can fix it, when once we have touched him with these bits of lucky pewter. He shan't die no sleep. We will keep his mind at work on all the minds that shall come to live here as long as the world stands.—Prcs. Quarterly Review.

REV. MR. WALDO.—A highly interesting incident occurred to the venerable ex-Chaplain to Congress during his late visit to Philadelphia. He had been visited by the Chaplain of the United States Naval Asylum, to preach there to the officers and sailors, and gave his hearers an able and destructive discourse from Luke 8: 25—

And they came to him and awoke him, saying, Master we perish! Then he arose and rebuked the winds and the raging of the waters; and they ceased, and there was a calm." At the conclusion he remarked that he had preached that very sermon forty-five years ago, on board the frigate Constitution, in 1812, then under the command of Commodore Hull; and that he had the curiosity to know whether among his present hearers there were any who were on that ship. If there were such, he would be pleased if they would make themselves known to him. After the services, Commodore Stover, the Governor of the Asylum, came forward and told Mr. Waldo that he himself was a midshipman on board the Constitution at that time. Three old tars came forward and took the old venerable man of God by the hand, and told him they were then boys on that ship. The meeting seemed highly gratifying to both parties, and was witnessed with much interest by all present.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A SINGLE VOTE.—It too often happens that our citizens, either from indifference or business engagements, neglect the first great duty of an American citizen, that is to vote. We find in one of our exchanges the following illustration of the importance of a single vote: "One vote in the United States Senate annexed Texas to the United States. Mr. Hannegan of Indiana cast that vote. One vote in the Indiana Legislature selected Mr. Hannegan to his place in the Senate.—That vote was cast by Madison Marsh of Steuben county. Mr. Marsh was chosen to the Legislature of Indiana by one vote. Hence, one vote cast by a private citizen at a primary election in Indiana, annexed Texas, led to the Mexican war, the acquisition of California, New Mexico, and Utah, and the immense consequences still held in the future as the sure outgrowth of these great transactions."

INTERESTING STATISTICS.—The United States are composed of thirty-one States and seven Territories. They contain a population of 30,000,000, of whom 25,500,000 are white. The extent of the sea-coast is 12,520 miles. The length of the ten principal rivers is 20,000 miles. The surface of the five great lakes is 90,000 square miles. The number of miles of railroad in operation is 20,000. The length of canals is 5,000 miles. It contains the longest railroad on the globe—the Illinois Central—which is 784 miles. The amount of registered and enrolled tonnage is \$4,400,000. The amount of capital invested in manufactures is \$900,000,000. The annual amount of its internal trade is \$600,000,000. The annual amount of its products of labor, other than agriculture, is \$1,500,000,000. Its mines of gold, copper, lead, and iron are the richest in the world. The value of its gold produced is \$100,000,000. The surface of its coal fields is 180,131 square miles. Within her borders are 80,000 schools, 5,000 academies, 234 colleges, 3,800 churches, and more newspapers than in all the world beside.

The Atlantic Telegraph cable is about the size of a dime in diameter. The outside is composed of 18 strands of small wire; next is 6 strands of yarn; next three coats of gutta percha; inside of all are 7 copper wires for telegraphing. The aggregate length of smaller wires required in the manufacture of one mile of the cable is 125 miles! It weighs 1500 pounds to the mile, is quite flexible, and it was estimated to be strong enough to bear in water over six miles of its own length if suspended vertically.

A Good Ink.—An ink that will stand the test of oxalic acid, and be indelible on cloth, can be made of the following cheap ingredients: To a gallon of soft water add one pound of logwood, and boil it one hour; then add twenty-five grains of bichromate of potash, and twelve grains of prussiate of potash. Stir a few minutes while over the fire, take it off and when settled strain it. The ink is exceedingly black and flows freely from the pen.

Nine years ago the only railroad track laid down in Illinois ran from Naples, on the Illinois river, to Jacksonville, a distance of twenty-two miles. Now there is scarcely a county in the State which is not traversed by or within short distance of a railroad.