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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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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 weekly 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.

Resignation of Governor Walker.

Below we give the close of Gov. Walker's letter of resignation which he sent in to Secretary Cass, Dec. 15th. Our extract embraces about one-fourth of his whole letter, all of which is marked by ability. Walker thinks he could not carry out Buchanan's policy without trampling on the Constitution of the United States.

His prayer that an "Overruling Providence" may avert the blow that the "conservative Mr. Dew-kanon" has aimed at the heart of the Union, we hope will soon be answered in giving us a Republican administration.

Now, by my oath of office, I have sworn to protect the Constitution of the United States, which I have shown, in my judgment, required the submission of the Constitution to the vote of the people. I was sworn also to "take care" that the Kansas and Nebraska bill "should be faithfully executed," which bill, in my judgment, as heretofore stated, required that the Constitution should be submitted to the people, and I was therefore only performing a solemn duty, when, as Governor of the Territory, to those people my first obligations were due, I endeavored to secure to them these results. The idea entertained by some, that I should see the Federal Constitution and the Kansas-Nebraska bill overthrown and disregarded, and that, playing the part of a man in a pantomime of ruin, I should acquiesce by my silence in such a result, especially where such acquiescence involved, as an immediate consequence, a disastrous and sanguinary civil war, seems to me to be most preposterous. Not a drop of blood has been shed by the Federal troops in Kansas during my administration. But insurrection and civil war, extending, I fear, throughout the country, were alone prevented by the course pursued by me on those occasions, and the whole people, abandoning revolutionary violence, were induced by me to go, for the first time, into a general and peaceful election.

These important results constitute a sufficient consolation for all the unjust assaults made upon me on this subject. I do not understand that these assaults have ever received the slightest countenance from the President; on the contrary, his message clearly indicates an approval of my course up to the recent most unfortunate difference about the so-called Leecompton Constitution. Inasmuch, however, as this difference is upon a vital question, involving practical results and new instructions, it is certainly much more respectful to the President on my part to resign the office of Governor, and give him an opportunity of filing it, as is his right under the Constitution, with one who concurs with him in his present opinions, rather than go to Kansas and force him to remove me by disobedience to his instructions. This latter course, in my judgment, would be incompatible with proper respect for the Chief Magistrate of the Union, inconsistent with the rules of moral rectitude or propriety, and could be adopted with no other view than to force the President to remove me from office. Such a course, it is alleged, would present me to the public as a political martyr in the defense of the great principle of self-government; certain knowledge that such a result must follow, would be alike unjust and improper. My only alternative, then, is that of a respectful resignation, in the hope that Kansas and our beloved country may be shielded from that civil war with which I fear both are threatened, by an attempt to force the so-called Leecompton Constitution upon the people of Kansas.

I state it as a fact, and based on a long and intimate association with the people of Kansas, that an overwhelming majority of that people are opposed to that instrument, and my letters state that but one out of twenty of the press of Kansas sustains it. Some oppose it because so many counties are disfranchised and unrepresented in the Convention. Some, who are opposed to paper money, because it authorizes a bank of enormous capital for Kansas, nearly unlimited in its issues, and in the denomination of its notes, from one dollar up and down. Some because of what they consider a Know Nothing clause, by requiring that the Governor shall have been twenty years a citizen of the United States. Some because the elective franchise is not free, as they cannot vote against the Constitution, but only on the single issue, whether any more slaves may be imported, and then only on that issue by voting for the Constitution to which they are opposed. They regard this as but a mockery of the elective franchise, and a perilous sporting with the sacred rights of the people.—Some oppose it because the Constitution distinctly recognises and adopts the Oxford fraud in appropriating legislative members for Johnson county, upon the fraudulent and fictitious returns, so falsely called, from that precinct, which recognition of that fraud in the Constitution is abhorrent to the moral sense of the people. Others because, although in other cases the presidents of Conventions have been authorized to issue writs of election to the regular Territorial or State officers with usual judges, with the established precincts and adjudication of returns, in this case unprecedented and vice-regal powers are given to the president of the Convention to make the precincts, the judges, and to decide finally upon the returns. From the grant of these unusual and enormous powers, and from other reasons connected with the fraudulent returns of Oxford and McGee, an overwhelming majority of the people of Kansas have no faith in the validity of these returns, and therefore will not vote. Indeed, disguise it as we may to ourselves, under the influence of the present excitement, the facts will demonstrate that any attempt by Congress to force this Constitution upon the people of Kansas will be an

depends upon the trained accuracy of his nose and palate, his experience in the wants of American market, and a keen business tact. If he has these qualities in high cultivation, he may make from twenty to forty thousand dollars per annum while he lives, and die of ulceration of the lungs. He overhauls a cargo of tea, classifies it, and determines the value of each sort.—In doing this, he first looks at the color of the leaf and the general cleanliness of it. He next takes a quantity of the herb in his hand, and breathing his warm breath on it he snuffs up the fragrance. In doing this, he draws into his lungs a quantity of irritating and stimulating dust, which is by no means wholesome. Then sitting down at the table in his office, on which there is a long row of little porcelain cups and a pot of hot water, he 'draws' the tea and tastes the infusion. In this way he classifies the different sorts to the minutest shade, marks the different prices, and is then ready to compare his work with the invoice. The skill of these tasters is fairly marvellous, but the effect of the business on their health is ruinous. They grow lean, nervous and consumptive. At the end of a hard day's work, they feel and act as fidgety and cross as a hysterical maid.

A SINGULAR FASCINATION.—An English paper relates the following unaccountable occurrence: One of the most singular instances in connection with material things exists in the case of a young man who not very long ago, visited a large iron manufactory. He stood opposite a large hammer and watched with great interest its perfectly regular strokes. At first it was beating immense lumps of crimson metal into thin, black sheets; but the supply becoming exhausted, at length it only descended on the polished anvil. Still the young man gazed intently on its motion; then he followed its strokes with a corresponding motion of his head; then his left arm moved to the same time and tune; and finally, he deliberately placed his fist upon the anvil, and in a second it was smitten to a jelly. The only explanation he could afford was that he felt an impulse to do it; that he knew he should be disabled, that he saw all the consequences in a misty kind of manner; but that he still felt the power within, above sense and reason—a morbid impulse, in fact, to which he succumbed, and by which he lost a good right hand.

VERACITY AND HONESTY.—The first number of the Atlantic Monthly contains a truly philosophical article entitled "Illusions," from which we make the following extract: "In this kingdom of illusions we grope eagerly for stays and foundations. There is none but a strict and faithful dealing at home, and a severe barring out of all duplicity and illusions there. Whatever games are played with us, we must play no games with ourselves, but deal in our privacy with the last honesty and truth. I look upon the simple and childish virtues of veracity and honesty as the root of all that is sublime in character. Speak as you think, be what you are, pay your debts of all kinds. I prefer to be owned as sound and solvent, and my word as good as my bond, and to be what cannot be skipped or dissipated, or undervalued, to all the eclat in the universe. A little integrity is better than any career. This really is the foundation of friendship, religion, poetry and art. At the top or at the bottom of all illusions, I set the cheat which still leads us to work and live for appearances, in spite of our conviction, in all sane hours, that it is what we really are that avails with friends, with strangers, and with fate or fortune."

A TUNNEL TO FRANCE.—The Siecle states that the possibility of uniting England and France, by means of a submarine tunnel, has been "practically and scientifically" considered by a skillful engineer, M. A. Thome de Gamond. This gentleman has submitted his project in the first place to the Emperor, who was greatly struck with it. Afterward the Minister of Public Works, in accordance with the Minister of Marine, named a special commission, composed of the most scientific notabilities. The commission has decided that M. Thome de Gamond was no mere dreamer. The English Government have also named, on their side, a commission, and "it is probable that in the coming spring, French and English engineers will apply themselves to the work of vigorously examining the practicability of the project."

THE OWNERS OF INDIA.—India is a country that never has belonged to its natives. Two thousand years ago Alexander and his Greeks led dusky captives in golden fetters from there to Athens. After him it became the prize of Iarthian bows and Scythian spears. Then came Mahomed and his Persians from Ghuznes to teach by scimitar the new theology. "Allah is Allah, and Mahomed is his prophet." Then the Afghans drove out the Persians; then the Tartars drove out the Afghans. Then came Timour, the terrible Tartar, and the long and princely line of Great Moguls—Baber and Akbar, Jehangire and Aurengzebe. The Mogul Empire got too big to hold together. Down went the throne at Delhi, and up sprang a crop of Viceroys, Nizams, King, Shahs, Rajahs, Nawabs and Nabobs all over the province. About this time H. B. M. East India Company came to trade and stayed to rule. By cajoling one prince, threatening another, invading a third, and "protecting" a fourth, they got the whole concern in the hands of John Bull and the Lion and the Unicorn. If the Sepoys succeed in securing a native Hindoo dynasty new, it will be the first they ever had.

POPULAR POISON.—When pure ardent spirits are taken into the stomach, they cause irritation, which is evinced by warmth and pain experienced in that organ; and and next, inflammation of the delicate coats of this part, and sometimes gangrene. They act in the same manner as poisons. Besides the local injury they produce, they act on the nerves of the stomach which run to the brain, and, if taken in large quantities, cause insensibility, stupor, irregular convulsive action, difficulty of breathing, profound sleep, and often sudden death.—The habitual use of ardent spirits causes a slow inflammation of the stomach and liver, which proceeds steadily, but is often undiscovered, till too late for relief.

TEA TASTING.—Few of our readers are aware that tea tasting is reduced to a regular profession, and which is as certain death to a man as continued opium eating. The success of the tea broker or taster

As the American wheat flour seldom contains more than fourteen per cent, the statement of the Quartermaster corresponds very nearly with that of the French chemist. The increase of weight in the bread over that of the flour ought to afford an ample remuneration for its manufacture.

Two PICTURES—NOW AND THEN.—Read what President Buchanan, in his letter to Professor Silliman, dated August 15, 1857, says of slavery extension and prohibition: "Slavery existed at that period, (the time when the act organizing the Territory was passed) and still exists in Kansas, under the Constitution of the United States. This point has been finally decided by the highest tribunal known to our laws. How it could ever have been seriously doubted is a mystery."

"If a confederacy of sovereign States acquire a new Territory at the expense of their common blood and treasure, surely one set of partners have no right to exclude the other from its enjoyments, by prohibiting them from taking into it whatsoever is recognized as property by a common Constitution."

Now read the doctrine advanced by Gen. Cass, and supported by the whole Democratic party of the North, President Buchanan included, during the Presidential contest of 1856:

"Slavery is the creature of local law, and can claim neither protection, existence, nor recognition in the Constitution. Slavery does not, and cannot exist in Kansas while it remains a Territory. The Constitution neither protects nor recognizes slavery in the Territories."

Which is the Democratic doctrine?

THE WASHINGTON AND OREGON INDIANS.—We make the following extract from the report of the Hon. Jacob Thompson, Secretary of the Interior:

"The Indians of the Territories of Washington and Oregon are still restive and belligerent. This disposition on their part evidently springs from disbelief in the strength and ability of this government to punish them for trespasses committed upon our settlements. It is the duty of the government to disabuse their minds. This can best be done by peaceful means. Let an appropriation be made to defray the expenses of a delegation from each of the large tribes in those distant Territories, to Washington and other eastern cities. Let them know, by personal observation, our numbers, see our improvements, and estimate our strength. They would readily conclude that further hostility would be absurd; and when they carried the story of our greatness and power to their people, a change would come over their minds, and we might then reasonably hope for the establishment, by treaties, of good understanding and perpetual peace between us. Such an appropriation would be, in my judgment, an act of true economy."

FORTY SEVEN STATES.—Would any one believe without looking into it, asks the Boston Journal, that we are in a fair way of carrying the number of sovereign States, originally thirteen, and now thirty-one, up to forty-seven? But so it is. In the first place, there are Oregon, Kansas, and Minnesota, whose Constitutions are already formed or forming. It is hoped that they will be admitted the coming winter, making the number of the Confederacy thirty-four. Then New Mexico, Nebraska, and Washington, already thriving Territories, will swell the aggregate to thirty-seven. Four new States to be carved out of Texas, according to provisions in the treaty of annexation, will give us forty-one. Two additional States demanded from the area now included in California would make forty-three. Arizona, Neosho, Dacotah, and Columbus Territories carry us up to forty-six; and Utah will be the forty-seventh to "lend that fair circle the grace of her form and the lightness of her step."

THAT MONSTER GUN.—The monster gun of the United States corvette Plymouth weighs 16,000 pounds avoirdupois. It is covered with a coating of vermilion and beeswax, and therefore has a red instead of the usual black appearance of a ship's gun. The heavy Dalgreen guns have two vents, which facilitate their rapid and safe firing. The weight of each shell they discharge is about 130 pounds, and that of each solid shot 174 pounds. The sound of the shell and shot, traversing the distance of three miles, is lost in the enormous space which it traverses. One peculiarity of the Dalgreen gun is its enormous strength and thickness where the greatest force of the powder is expended. In experiments made to test the strength of these guns, one of them had been fired off nearly two thousand times, with a large proportion of shell shot, without bursting.

BREAD FROM A BARREL OF FLOUR.—According to the statement made by a Quartermaster in the United States Army, one barrel of flour (196 pounds) when in dough, contains about eleven gallons or ninety pounds of water, two gallons of yeast, and three pounds of salt, making a mass of three hundred and five pounds, which evaporates in kneading and baking about forty pounds, leaving in bread about two hundred and sixty-five pounds; the bread thus exceeding in weight the flour employed by about thirty-three per cent. Dumas informs us that one hundred and thirty pounds of the common white bread of Paris are obtained from one hundred pounds of flour. To this he adds, that the flour contains seventeen per cent. of water, the produce being then equivalent to one hundred and fifty pounds of bread to one hundred pounds of flour.

proceeding, my wife and myself would in exactly have shared the same fate.

I would call the attention of the public to the fact that such accidents are liable to occur with like or more appalling results at any moment while traveling the aforesaid road. I would ask, why is it not kept in condition as the charter requires? To my knowledge, in 1850, the citizens of Linn City paid three thousand dollars toward the establishment of a good road along that basin, which they enjoyed until 1853, when the Falls Company, with astonishing assurance, destroyed it, making our then excellent road ill adapted to any mode of conveyance, and with scarcely a foot but what is fraught with danger the most imminent. On what ground, I would ask, has the Company repeatedly refused to repair that road, which the citizens have caused to be made at such an expense, and which they have so presumptuously destroyed? I remain yours truly, JAMES M. MOORE.

A Miracle of the Seasons.

We take the following deeply impressive and beautiful passage from Hon. Edward Everett's Agricultural Address at Buffalo:

"A celebrated skeptical philosopher of the last century—the historian Hume—thought to demolish the credibility of the Christian Revelation by the concise argument, 'It is contrary to experience that a miracle should be true, but not contrary to experience that testimony should be false.' The last part of the proposition, especially in a free country, on the eve of a popular election, is, unhappily, too well founded; but in what book worm's dusty cell, taped with the cobwebs of ages, where the light of real life and nature never forced its way—in what pedant's school, where deaf ears listen to dumb lips, and blind followers are led by blind guides—did he learn that it is contrary to experience that a miracle should be true? Most certainly he never learned it from sower or reaper—from dumb animal or rational man connected with husbandry—poor Red Jacket, off here on Buffalo Creek, if he could have comprehended the terms of the proposition, would have treated it with scorn. Contrary to experience that phenomena should exist which we cannot trace to causes perceptible to the human sense, or conceivable by human thought? It would be much nearer the truth to say that within the husbandman's experience there are no phenomena which can be rationally traced to anything but the instant energy of creative power."

"Did this philosopher ever contemplate the landscape at the close of the year, when seeds, and grains, and fruits have ripened, and stalks have withered, and leaves have fallen, and winter has forced her icy curb even into the roaring jaws of Niagara, and sheeted half a continent in her glittering shroud, and all this teeming vegetation and organized life are locked in cold and numbing obstruction; and, after week upon week, and month upon month, have swept with sleet, and chilly rain, and howling storm, over the earth, and riveted their bolts upon the door of nature's sepulchre; when the sun at length begins to wheel in higher circles through the sky, and softer winds to breathe over melting snows; did he ever behold the long hidden earth at length appear, and soon the timid grass peep forth, and anon the autumnal wheat begin to paint the field, and velvet leadlets to burst from purple buds, throughout the reviving forest, and then the mellow soil to open its fruitful bosom to every grain and seed dropped from the planter's hand, buried but to spring up again, clothed with a new mysterious being; and then, as more fervid suns inflame the air, and softer showers distil from the clouds, and gentle dews string their pearls on twig and tendril; did he ever watch the ripening grain and fruit, pendant from stalk and vine, and tree; the meadow, the field, the pasture, the grove, each after its kind, arrayed in myriads of tinted garments, instructed with circulating life; seven millions of counted leaves on a single tree, each of which is a system whose exquisite complication puts to shame the shrewdest cunning of the human hand; every planted seed and grain, which has been loaned to the earth compounding its pious usury thirty, sixty, a hundred fold—all harmoniously adopted to the sustenance of living nature—the bread of a hungry world; here a tilled cornfield, whose yellow blades are nodding with the food of man; there an unplanted wilderness—the great Father's farm—where He "who hears the raven's cry" has cultivated with his own hand, his merciful crop of berries, and nuts, and acorns, and seeds, for the humbler families of animated nature—the solemn elephant, the browsing deer, the wild pigeon, whose glittering caravan darkens the sky; the merry squirrel, who bounds from branch to branch, in the joy of his little life; has he seen all this—does he see it every year, and month, and day—does he live, and move, and breathe, and think, in this atmosphere of wonder—himself the greatest wonder of all, whose smallest fibre and faintest pulsation is as much a mystery as the blazing glories of Orion's belt—and does he still maintain that a miracle is contrary to experience? If he has, and if he does, then let him go, in the name of Heaven, and say that it is contrary to experience that the August Power which turns the cloths of the earth into the daily bread of a thousand million souls could feed five thousand in the wilderness."

Some one says that dogs bark with such zeal when one enters their master's yard, that "one would suppose they owned the premises, and that their master was only a boarder."

School Exhibitions, &c.

LINN CO., Jan. 12, 1858.

EDITOR OF THE ARGUS.—It has been disputed whether exhibitions of schools have a good effect or not. Some say that the time spent in preparation might be more profitably employed in pursuing the regular studies, and that there is always too much tendency on the part of the school to appear better than it really is. Now, I think that too much time may be spent in preparation, and in many cases there is deception practiced, which is not justifiable. But it need not be so; and we might as well say that trading, the exchange of goods, &c., is wrong, because there is sometimes deception used, as to say that exhibitions are wrong because the state of the school may, by the ingenuity of the teacher, be made to appear better than it really is. I favor the plan of having exhibitions, provided they are not too frequent, and do not take up too much time, for several reasons. 1st. They are well calculated to create an interest in the cause of education among the parents of children and the community at large. 2d. They are an incentive to study and exertion on the part of the scholars. 3d. They teach the young to appear before an audience without embarrassment; and this I consider as one very important part in the training of youth, especially in the present day. For while we find many who have not brains enough to tell the difference between squatter sovereignty, the Dred Scott decision, or the Mormon rebellion, gifted with the gift of gab and thunder, exercising a great influence over the public mind, we also find many who possess the ability, the talent, the power of mind, the moral principle, capable of wielding a great and good influence, who, from natural timidity, which might have been worn off had the proper course been taken in youth, have been kept back from taking that part and exerting that influence in the affairs of the common good which they should do.

Speaking of exhibitions, I had the pleasure of being present at one a short time since, at the large Presbyterian church building in Union Point, which certainly did great credit to the teacher and school. The Academy, I understand, has heretofore been rather unsuccessful in establishing a name, from the fact, that the trustees failed to procure suitable and competent teachers. The institution is now under the care of Rev. Wilson Blain, whose ability as a teacher is well enough known to insure it a liberal share of public patronage. He has been teaching but a short time, and the school now numbers fifty-four scholars, I believe. Every one admired the order and neatness with which the exhibition was conducted. The compositions were good, and what is not always the case, most of them bore the stamp of originality. The declamations, too, were fine; some of them being spoken as well as any I ever heard. The music was well performed, of which we had a pleasing variety. In midst of the declamation, and a short time after the commencement of the exercises, a wedding party came in, the marriage ceremony was performed, and they took their seats. The parties were Mr. Thomas P. Dinwiddie and Miss Martha M. Henderson. The attendance was large, the evening pleasant, and all present seemed to enjoy themselves happily.

OBSERVER.

TUALATIN MILLS, Jan. 13, 1858.

MR. ADAMS.—In The Argus of the 9th inst. a short article headed "Horses Drowned" attracted my attention, in which you state that a pair of horses hitched to a wagon, belonging to George Pease, "backed" into the basin just above the Linn City Mills last Tuesday. Now, sir, as to the manner in which the horses were precipitated into the basin, I feel interested in having the public at large "posted."

The circumstances are as follows: My wife, myself, and driver, Aaron Vickers, were on our return from Linn City on the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 5th, when about two hundred yards above the Mills the horses became restive, owing to the precarious footing, and, at more than one place, extreme narrowness of the road. When we arrived at the place of accident, I had a strong idea that our situation was a perilous one. Acting on the impulse, I dismounted, at the same time assisting my wife to follow my example, which we had hardly accomplished before the off horse being startled by some object became unmanageable, and, notwithstanding the almost superhuman exertions of the driver to avert the impending catastrophe, the off horse succeeded in shoving the right horse over the bank, at the same time upsetting the wagon, and precipitating the driver into the basin, who, partly by his own exertions and partly by my assistance, succeeded in gaining the bank. The finale is already known: the horses were drowned, and had it not been for my cautious