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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 speedy receipt of additions suited to all the requirements of the locality. HANDBILLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

For the Argus.

MARION COUNTY, April 1st, '58. Mr. Editor—In these exciting political times it is common for most every person to have his particular candidate picked out as the one he wishes to elect.

Allow me to introduce to the numerous readers of the Argus the name of the Hon. Elias Frost Colby Esq. (ex-representative of Marion County) as my choice for State Senator (over towards Hadly's) from the county of Marion. Mr. Colby very ably represented this county in the Legislature the winter of '53. It is reported that he labored very hard for the good of his constituents; one thing is certain, however, he got "his name in the papers" by making a motion to adjourn, and another time making a motion to elect temporary officers for Tillamook County. But to the point. I have always been "a kinder a Know Nothing," and this is the reason why I support Colby (over the left). He goes a little farther than the most ultra Know Nothing ever claimed to go. In a conversation with him a short time after the election on the Constitution, I gave as my reason for not entirely endorsing that instrument that it prohibited Chinamen from ever holding any real estate or working any mining claim within the limits of the State, unless he was a resident of the State at the time of the adoption of the Constitution. Colby remarked that that was the reason he liked it, and said that he would go even farther, and prohibit all foreigners from exercising this right until they had made this their permanent home, remarking at the same time that none of the Jews here ever intended to make this their permanent home—that none of them ever died here—that when they got what they wanted they left for the Old World and cared nothing for the United States.

He made the same statement in substance to one of my neighbors at a different time. Now I wish to see if all the democratic foreigners (including the Jews) will gulp this gentleman down at the June election without greasing. He may attempt to deny these statements, but they can be proven on him. Yours, W.

THE FACULTY OF FEIGNING DEATH.

There are cases on record of persons who could spontaneously fall into a death trance. Monti, in a letter to Haller, mentions several. A priest of the name of Callius Rhodaginus had the same faculty. Col. Townsend, mentioned in the serial work of Gooch, by whom and by Dr. Cleve and Dr. Bevard, the performance of Col. Townsend was seen and attested. They had long attended him, for he was an habitual invalid—and he had often invited them to witness the phenomenon of his dying and coming to life again, but they had hitherto refused from fear of the consequences to himself. Accordingly in their presence, Colonel Townsend laid himself down on his back—after a few seconds, pulse, breathing, and the action of the heart were no longer to be observed.—Each of the witnesses satisfied himself of the entire cessation of these phenomena. When the death trance had lasted half an hour, the doctors began to fear that their patient had pushed the experiment too far and was dead in earnest; and they were preparing to leave the house, when a slight movement of the body attracted their attention. They renewed their routine of observation, when the pulse and sensible motion of the heart gradually returned, and breathing and consciousness. The sequel of the tale is strange: Colonel Townsend on recovering, sent for his attorney, made his will, and died, for good and all, six hours afterward.

STRENGTH OF THE ARMY.—The effective force of the United States is, according to the latest returns received at the Adjutant General's Office, as follows, distributed among the military department: Department of the East, 899; department of Florida, 387; in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and Arkansas, 3,096; department of Texas, 2,945; department of New Mexico, 2,254; department of the Pacific, 2,517; army of Utah, 1,857. Total, 13,575.

The Baptist Almanac for 1858, gives the number of regular Baptists in the United States at 897,718; in the British Provinces at 28,812, and in the West India Islands at 36,050; total in North America, 962,580. The total number baptized in 1856 was 65,150.

Prince Tzi Kusen, nephew of the emperor of Japan, on his way to this country, with a corps of Japanese civil engineers, to examine our railroads and other improvements. The models of the railroad and telegraph which Com. Perry took out, have evidently set the Japanese to thinking.

LEGAL PATHOS.—In a suburban court in a case of injury to a cow, somewhat too hastily driven into a pound, the counsel for the plaintiff made the following eloquent declaration: "A parish pound should be an asylum not only for the roaring bull, but for the tender heifer."

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted by the Republican State Convention, April 24, 1858.

Resolved, 1st, That the Republican party, true to the principles that form the basis of our free and democratic system of government, reaffirms to them its unalterable devotion, as laid down in the blood bought charter of American liberty, the Declaration of Independence, and developed in the Constitution of the United States, and that the prosperity and perpetuity of our Union depend upon a strict adherence to the doctrine taught, and the rights guaranteed in those honored repositories of republican faith.

Resolved, 2nd, That in relation to the institution of domestic slavery, we remain where the patriots who formed our institutions planted themselves, and where the leading statesmen of all parties, until within a recent period, have harmoniously stood—that it is a purely local, not general, State, and not national, institution—determinable by the States, each for itself—over which the other States have no control and for which no responsibility.

Resolved, 3d, That with Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Franklin, and their contemporaries, who in the framing of the Constitution made effectual provision for the annihilation of the traffic in slaves, and who were especially anxious that that instrument should contain no admission of the right of one man to hold property in another, we believe slavery to be a political, social, and moral evil; and while we disclaim all right and inclination to interfere with it as a municipal regulation of any of the sovereign States of the Union, we believe that the organic act of 1787 for the government of all the territory then belonging to the Republic, passed by the sagacious Jefferson, approved by the immortal Washington, and strictly adhered to in the formation of every territorial government from that time down to 1851, embodies the duty of Congress in framing governments for the Territories—that is, the non-extension of slavery.

Resolved, 4th, That the unfortunate departure from that principle in the late act organizing the Territory of Kansas, to which we directly trace the bitter agitation which has destroyed the peace, and reddened with the blood of brothers the virgin soil, of that fair land, has proved by its bitter fruits the wisdom of the ancient policy which it has supplanted.

Resolved, 5th, That we stand by and maintain, as did our forefathers, true popular sovereignty, and the inalienable right of the people to govern themselves; but we deny that a man is deprived of these unless he enjoy the privilege of enslaving others, and affirm that the result of such a doctrine would be to found the liberty of the citizen upon a basis of despotism.

Resolved, 6th, That the attempt upon the part of the present Democratic administration to force upon the people of Kansas a constitution abhorrent to a large majority of its citizens, and to sustain in power a usurping and tyrannical minority against the known will of the remainder, is an outrage not to be borne by a free people, and we hope that, planting themselves firmly upon the immortal truth first enunciated by the Declaration of Independence, that all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, they will be able to wrest from their oppressors that which is inestimable to a free people and formidable to tyrants only—the right to compel the rulers to conform to the wishes of the ruled.

Resolved, 7th, That we insist that the right to govern necessarily follows the right to acquire and hold territory, and that in providing a government for a Territory under this right it should be based upon the inalienable rights of the people, and we arraign the modern system as practically carried out in Kansas for its utter and gross violation of these principles, and affirm that the dark catalogue of wrongs and crimes committed by the late and existing Administrations against popular rights in that Territory deserve the execration of every lover of freedom of the present day, and as their just reward in history, an immortality of infamy.

Resolved, 8th, That the late partisan decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Dred Scott, which makes the Constitution a grand title instrument to every holder of slaves, is a disgrace to the Judiciary of the nation, and a stain upon the character of our country, whose proudest boast is its love of liberty in its largest sense and its hatred of tyranny in every form.

Resolved, 9th, That we congratulate ourselves and the people of Oregon upon the result of the late election upon the question of slavery as a triumph of the Republican doctrine of non-extension, and we only wish that we ought to use our influence wherever it can be legitimately done to secure to other Territories the same priceless blessings of freedom which by such a gratifying majority we seem so fully to appreciate for ourselves.

Resolved, 10th, That the reckless profligacy of national treasure which has characterized the late and present Democratic Administrations, bringing to bankruptcy a treasury whose vaults have received \$20,000,000 per annum, and necessitating a loan in a time of peace, is a clear and demonstrative proof of that wasteful extravagance which has plundered the nation and turned its treasury into a shipwrecked machine, with nothing but its credit to sustain its finances.

Resolved, 11th, That the Pacific Railroad is no longer an enterprise of doubtful expediency, but has become one of imperative commercial and national necessity; and we favor its construction on any central and practicable route by the aid of the General Government given in such a manner as may be best calculated to effect its early completion.

Resolved, 12th, That we favor appropriations by Congress for the improvement

THE SICKNESS OF WILLIAM H. PRESCOTT.

This distinguished historian has lately experienced an attack probably of a paralytic nature, and of such a character that for some hours his life was almost despaired of. By prompt and skillful medical treatment, he has, however, been so far restored, that his physicians look forward to a perfect recovery of his literary powers. He, himself, however, it is said, views the matter differently, and regards it as a warning that he is very soon, if not immediately, to leave the ink left to dry forever in a pen that has contributed the most lasting benefits to his age and glory to his country.

He is one of the few men which the United States has produced who have devoted their lives to literature, not with any view to immediate gain, or the supply of daily necessities, but from a desire to produce works of imperishable merit. When quite a young man, and a graduate with high honors at Cambridge, he devoted himself to illustrating the History of the American Continent. Sparks and Bancroft have done the same, and have both published far more. Sparks has collected and preserved voluminous materials and thrown great light upon the Revolutionary period of our country, and the biography of the chief actors in that gigantic struggle. Bancroft has commenced further back, and with a vigorous pen and a more glowing and gorgeous style of coloring, painted the early settlement of the infant colonies from which this country was formed.

But Mr. Prescott has taken a still wider view of the province of history, and by his "Ferdinand and Isabella," his "Conquest of Mexico," and his "Conquest of Peru," has placed his name among the very first historical writers, not only of the present age, and of the English tongue, but of all ages, and every language.

Possessed of an independent fortune, he has devoted capital, a life, and a thousand labors and contrivances to surmount the difficulties of his position and his undertaking. For a large part of his life he has been almost blind, and every ray of light that entered his room has to be tempered to the delicacy of an eyesight which even then did not allow him either to read or write.

Yet he has thoroughly ransacked the Spanish literature of three centuries for his materials, procured original documents from European governments and ecclesiastical archives, and reviewed them with such a breadth and compass of mind as make them unfold more knowledge of the customs of tribes and nations now extinct than any one of the writers alone was able to gather, though a cotemporary and eye-witness.—The skill with which he has reconstructed the social system of the Aztecs and the Peruvians, and the bold and graphic pen with which he has sketched the outline, the origin, and the effects of their peculiar institutions, is only exceeded by the skill with which he has filled in the details of his narrative.

If he has not ordinarily the energy and terseness of Tacitus, it is only because he deliberates to make his narrative more flowing, simple, and lucid. His writing is quite equal to that of Homer in a certain purity and elegance combined with dignity, but he has spent hours in studying and weighing every authority where Hume would have been too idle to open books in his own library, even to correct the grossest blunders. He is never cumbered with partisan details like Alison, nor does he, like Macaulay, allow the vivid sketches of such details to divert him from the flowing, majestic current of history. Where to look for a more perfect specimen of historical writing, we do not know. Certainly not in the English language, and hardly among the ancients.—Phila. Ledger.

THE NOVEL SHOOTING MATCH.

It has been announced that Capt. Travis has accepted a wager to shoot, at three oranges, placed upon the head and hands of a boy. Capt. Travis is a man of medium height and size and well formed. He has a mild blue eye with a very earnest expression. The pistol which he intends to use on this trial shot is one made by Morgan James, of Utica, New York, who has no superior in such workmanship. The oranges are each to be 2 1/2 inches in diameter—one is placed on the top of his head, and one on the back of each hand, the arms being extended. In this position, at the distance of ten paces or thirty feet, facing the shooter, and with no intervening object. Captain John Travis proposes to hit each orange, and has only three shots to hit the three oranges. The feat is to be performed in this city in June next. The boy who is to support the oranges is ten years of age, and a bright and sprightly lad. He has every confidence in Captain Travis to hit each object, and has equally as much in his own nerve which cannot be surpassed. He is now under daily training. The boy's feet are placed twelve inches apart and his hands upon his hips. The Captain shoots through the angles

THINGS AT PARIS—DANGER TO THE EMPEROR.

The following extract from a Paris letter to the N. Y. Herald shows the terrible nature of the dangers that menace the French Emperor: That the fears of repeated attempts on the Emperor's life are not merely chimerical, some of the circumstances which attended the event of the 14th sufficiently attest. The instant it was known that the attempt had proved abortive, a long, low whistle was distinctly heard by many persons, taken up and carried on throughout the whole line of the Boulevards up to the column in the Place St. Antoine. No efforts of the police have as yet been successful in tracing the authors concerned, but it is of itself an evidence of a fearful system of organization. Again, when ten days afterwards the Emperor and Empress paid their visit to the English Ambassador, on account of the marriage of the Princess Royal with the Prince of Prussia, it is whispered that on quitting the hotel, about two o'clock in the morning, just as they had entered the carriage a man fired a shot straight at the Emperor from a revolver. In an instant the short swords flashed from the scabbards of a hundred police who were on duty, and the Emperor, seeing the fact, and forgetting the nature of the body that surrounded the carriage, and believing a band of desperate assassins were present, ready to complete the work which the pistol shot had missed, flung himself on the bosom of the Emperor, exclaiming, "Monroy ensemble."

As the British Embassy itself, such was the state of terror lest anything should occur, that the Ambassador declared he would be responsible for the Emperor's reception and safety on condition that the house should be placed several days before in the hands of the police. Only one or two of the ordinary domestics were retained on duty, and the hotel was accordingly fairly invested by the agents of M. Pietri. The very serving men, arrayed in gorgeous state liveries, with powdered perukes, white kerseymers, and long silk stockings, were then guilty in disguise, and probably accounted for the incompleteness of their waiting, which was complained of, notwithstanding the vast number of attendants.

A correspondent of the New York Tribune, who writes himself "A European," says that the secret of the attempts made upon the life of the French Emperor by Italians, is that Louis Napoleon, while a wanderer, was a sworn member of a secret society known as the Carbonari. This society never forgives a renegade member, and "Louis Napoleon has been tried by the chiefs of the society, formally condemned to death, and received notice of the doom which anxiously awaits him."

Orsini, the Italian conspirator arrested for the recent attempt on the life of the French Emperor, is a man of remarkable personal appearance. Pietri, the Corsican Prefect of Police, alluding to him after his arrest, said: "He is the handsomest man in the world; I never saw anything to equal the beauty and grace of this monster."

WORTH THINKING ABOUT.—Prof. Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, under the head of "Meteorology, in its connection with Agriculture," has stated a number of facts, in the form of a report, which will make a deep impression at Washington when they come to be known and understood. The inference from his facts may be stated in a simple manner. The result is, that the entire region of the United States west of the 95th degree west longitude (say the western boundary of Minnesota), with the exception of a small portion of Western Texas and the narrow border along the Pacific (including California), is a sterile waste of comparatively little value, and which can never be valuable to the agriculturist. The statement will astonish the reader when we direct his attention to the fact that the line of Prof. Henry, which extends southward from Lake Winnipeg to the Mexican Gulf, will divide the surface of the United States into two nearly equal parts. If this be true, what becomes of the great national drama to be played on the North-Western Empire of the American Continent, of which politicians have harangued and poets sung?—The intense heat and extreme dryness of this region, which will make the Great American Plains a barren waste forever, are caused to a large extent, according to Prof. Henry's theory, by the fact that the returning Trade Winds, sweeping over the elevated masses of the Rocky Mountains, are deprived of their moisture; in other words, the heated air which ascends at the equator, saturated with moisture it has abstracted in its passage over the ocean, after depositing a portion of its vapor in the tropics at the "rainy season," is farther desiccated by the ridges and mountains which it meets, the vapor being condensed

on the windward side by the cold, due to the increased vertical height, and it finally passes over and strikes the plains as dry as a sponge which has been thoroughly squeezed. Without moisture there can be no fertility, and without fertility no agriculture; and a great portion of this wilderness, according to Prof. Henry, is as sandy as the desert of Africa. True or false, the theory is worthy of attention.

THE DESPOTISM OF PARTY.—The world has learned by sad experience that a land of tyrants, under whatever name, are far more to be dreaded than a single despot, however irresponsible he may be. The former, stronger by combination and the concentration of bad passions upon bad ends, are generally as destitute of a conscience as a corporation is reputed to be, while the latter, if he be insonable to moral appeals, may yet be held in check by fear. The most notable form of popular tyranny was exhibited in the first French Revolution, when, under the sacred name of Liberty, crimes were perpetrated that will make the world shudder while history shall last. To the intolerable rule of Robespierre and his bloody-minded associates succeeded the military despotism of Napoleon, which, stern as it was, was infinitely preferable to the former.

It is also a matter of history that political parties as well as governments may degenerate into despotism; and we need not go beyond the bounds of our own country to find one as thoroughly imbued with the principle of tyranny, as the heart of any single tyrant that can be named. What one element of freedom is discoverable in the rule of the present Administration or of that which preceded it? Instead of being the exponents and executors of the popular will, they have been false to their trust in both these particulars, so far as the only real question at issue is concerned. The repeal of the Missouri Compromise was clearly effected in opposition to the will of a large majority of the nation; and the subsequent war upon the people of Kansas—involving many atrocities no less savage and bloody than those which have made the French Revolution infamously memorable—has been even more opposed to the popular sentiment of the country. The evidence of the latter fact is unmistakable, yet the Administration doggedly persists in consummating its iniquitous work by forcing upon the people of Kansas a Constitution which they have indignantly rejected in every form in which it was possible to make their wishes known. Its tyrannous appetite has so grown with what it fed on, that now it not only defies the people, but denounces vengeance against any official who shall dare to question its infallibility. To the meanly subservient its promises are gracious and its rewards liberal; to the honestly stubborn it deals out swift punishment. The President and his Cabinet, like Louis XIV. of France, assume to be the "State," and have as far as possible monopolized all the powers of the Government. What need have we of a National Legislature if they, by the President alone, can dictate and carry measures in opposition to the will of the people? What need of a Court of Supreme jurisdiction, when, through the tyranny of a reckless party, it can be dragged down from its high position as a dispenser of law, and a tribunal to determine the highest constitutional questions, and converted into a mere instrument for confirming that tyranny?

The great strength of party despotism, as now exhibited by the Administration, lies in the vast dispensing power of the President, which, unfortunately, becomes vaster with every passing year. This is a subject over which the patriot may well pause, and fearfully ponder upon the future of his country. If, as we see, the Administration now, through this power, feels itself strong enough to defy the will of the people, what act of tyranny may not a future one dare unless the people shall in time assert their proper sovereignty?—Chicago Press.

PREPARING FOR THE WORST.—The editor of the New York Courier & Enquirer, who claims to know all about the Emperor of France, in 1851 reported a conversation of Louis Napoleon's as follows: "My life presents four phases. The first comprised the follies of my youth, such as the expeditions of Strasburg and Boulogne; these served to make me known. The second is my Presidency; the third, my Dictatorship; and the fourth will close with my fall beneath the assassin's blow."

A LONG WIRE.—New York city and New Orleans were connected by the wires of the National Telegraph line early in January, and a number of messages were transmitted to and from each city direct, without repeating at any point on the line, a distance of about two thousand miles, a feat never before performed.

One hour's study daily would make an ignorant man wise in ten years, and brighten up his rusting faculties.