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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.—

VOL. IV.

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No. 7.

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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 additional material to all the requirements of this locality. HANDS, LETTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

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 doctrines 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 1854, 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 Kan 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 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 insist 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 prodigality of national treasure which has characterized the late anti-present Democratic Administrations, bringing to bankruptcy a treasury whose vaults have received \$91,000,000 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 shipwreck 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

of rivers and harbors of a national character.

Resolved, 13th, That the political dogmas sought recently to be established by a party styling themselves Democrats in this Territory, which assert the duty of a representative or delegate in some instances to be to obey the instructions of his constituents while in others specified he is bound to disregard them and bow to the will of others, is dangerous and anti-republican in its tendency, and worthy to be sustained only by a party that everywhere is known as the ally of personal vassalage and the advocate of partisan despotism.

Resolved, 14th, That we believe in the untrammelled right of the citizen to think and vote as he pleases, and we utterly deny the right of any representative under any circumstances to violate the instructions or known will of the people he represents.

Resolved, 15th, That the present system of voting right vote, introduced by that party to subject the suffrage of the citizen to the surveillance of partisan inspectors, and awe him, under the penalty of being branded as a traitor, into abject submission, is a relic of barbarism, which finds fit only in a party whose whole organization is devoted to the extinguishment of every spark of personal freedom, and subjects its members to the entire control of an aristocracy of leaders; and that with such a party we are proud to have neither sympathy nor communion.

Benton's Abridgment—Letter from the Author.

The St. Louis Democrat publishes the following extract from a letter written by Cal. Benton a few days before he died. It relates to the great work to which he was devoting the last days of his life:

"The fifth volume is issued, and brings down the abridgment to the end of Mr. Monroe's first administration (1821). The 7th volume is printed, and in the binder's hands (soon for delivery), and will come into Mr. John Quincy Adams' administration.

"The 8th volume is in the press, and will come deep into General Jackson's administration; so that, as you see, so far as the public and the publishers are concerned, the great work is half finished. But as it concerns myself, I am far ahead of the press, and, in fact, almost through. I gave out publicly that I will be done in two months, but that was to allow a margin for accidents or mistakes; I expect to be done in less than one month, being now employed on the great compromise session of 1819-50, being the last of Mr. Clay's great efforts on the occasion. He and I appear as antagonists with respect to those measures; but the antagonism was as to the form, and not as to the objects of the measures. He wished the whole of the measures to be contained in one general compromise bill; I wanted the same measures, (or the most of them, and their objects.) The omnibus bill miscarried, but the measures passed separately, and were just as strong on the statute book, in separate acts, as they would have been in a general one. The antagonism, then, was as to form, and not as to measures, and ended in the establishment of the same object, namely, the pacification of the country. The abridged debates will show all this, and that there was a real crisis at the time—a crisis big with the fate of Rome—its pacification worthy of the last efforts of Clay, and in accomplishing which, his ardent patriotism, his devotion to the Union, his disregard of self, his courageous self-reliance, all appeared in their midday force and splendor. It was not the blaze of the setting sun, but the noonday blaze of that great luminary. In these flashes of courage and patriotism, always struck out when the Union was struck at, he seemed to me to be the impersonation of UNION, and ready to be laid as a victim on its altar.

"This being the state and condition of the work, so far advanced as to enable the public to judge its character—which judgment has, in fact, been most favorable—and also to see the near completion of the work, I feel justified in expressing the belief that I have rendered a great public service to the Union. I have rendered accessible (and I hope attractive) to the whole reading community the history of the formation of this Union, and of the spirit in which it grew, and of the spirit in which it was administered, carrying the noble vessel through every danger for near seventy years. I have made all the knowledge accessible to every reading man, and knowledge is power!—especially political power!—and as necessary to adorn a public man's life, as to enable him to legislate beneficially for the country and avoid the mistakes and errors which often mortify himself. That is one object of the abridgment, and a high one, but not the highest. The highest lies among the most exalted of human action: among the objects which would reconcile a distracted Union by showing the examples of moderation, of justice, of composure of defense, which joined us together and kept us together. The abridged debates will abound with such examples, and from men of such noble character as will command veneration and imitation."

Green Jordan, tried at the late term of the Washington (Geo.) Superior Court for whipping a negro to death, has been found guilty of murder, and sentenced to be hanged on the 7th of May. The day of execution will be postponed, however, to enable his counsel to bring the case before the Supreme Court in Savannah in June.

A new pile is announced in Boston, under the title of "An Editor with \$5000." The Providence Journal wonders whether he was a government officer, or had been robbing a bank.

AFFAIRS IN EUROPE.—It cannot be denied that affairs in Europe are assuming an attitude of serious portent. The rude shock which the Franco-English alliance received; the virtual rupture of the entente cordiale between the British people and the French Government; the prostration of commerce and finance in France; the odious espionage and galling despotism lately inaugurated by the Emperor; the moody, sullen spirit of resentment which these tyrannical measures inspire in the people; the distrust that pervades all classes; the partial suspension of active business, as though people were waiting for some great event—all these and many other deeply significant facts indicate that Louis Napoleon is approaching the crisis in his destiny. There is a universal feeling that a thunderbolt is about to fall, though no one can tell where it will strike.

Every week witnesses a diminution of the receipts of the French railroads; the army is restless and thirsty for glory, indifferent whether it be acquired in the service of the Empire or in the service of the Republic; the French bankers, distrustful of the aspect of affairs, have directed their American agents to remit their balances in bills on London, lest a bill on Paris might prove to be worthless; England is examining her coast defenses; the Emperor is increasing the strength of his navy; Austria is bristling with resentment at the insult implied in the publication of Orsini's obnoxious letter in the official Monitor; and Russia, confident that the alliance between her old enemies is at an end, is augmenting her navy, and preparing to reassert her prostrate supremacy on the Black Sea, and strike as her own interests may dictate in the general bouleversement which seems imminent. All parties appear to be prepared for the expected crisis, and any steamer from Europe may bring tidings that the crisis has arrived.

ESPIONAGE IN FRANCE.—That the condition of affairs in France is growing dangerous and threatening, may be gathered from the following remarks by the London Times of March 15th:

"It can serve no good purpose for us to avoid allusion to a matter which has become the subject of common conversation, and which may at any time produce consequences important to ourselves. The position of the French Government, and the state of things which now exists in Paris, are notoriously the cause of much uneasiness throughout Europe.

"The gay city of Paris, the home of social intercourse, of lively conversation and free opinions, hardly knows itself. The outward aspect of the place is the same; there are the same Boulevards, the same fountains flashing in the sun, the same cafes frequented by the same loungers, and in private life the same drawing-rooms, and hangings, and toilets. But over everything there is gloom and uneasiness. People are talking timidly, and with unusual dullness on unusually commonplace topics.

"Families are hesitating whom they shall visit and whom they shall be visited by. Men consider whether they ought to be seen walking with a friend whom they have known for years. Two persons will be speaking together, and on seeing a third about to join them, will suddenly pause and turn the conversation. There will be in the midst of social converse a man who checks the mirth and puts a guard on every tongue. People will talk with him, shake hands with him, but they will be careful of what they say before him. Individuals are careful of what books they have in their libraries, what papers they have in their writing desks. They do not talk of Frenchmen in the old times did. The concierge, the waiter at the cafe, even the private servants, are kept at a distance. In a railway carriage, it is well not to be too communicative with a neighbor. In a letter it is well to confine yourself to your own private business and good wishes for your correspondent's health. For Paris and France are under strict surveillance, and no one knows who are watchers and who are the watched. The Empire is espionage. Its incarnation is a mouchard. It is not only that recognized agents of police are in every street and every public place, that the comings and goings of well-known democrats are watched, that the assemblies of communists are hunted out, but men of every rank, every phase of character, every shade of political opinion, are at the mercy of an immense army of spies, who penetrate everywhere, follow the individual into the confidence even of his family and his private life, and who have spread distrust and apprehension throughout the country."

Prof. Felton, of Harvard University, claims to have discovered among Dr. Abbott's collection of American Antiquities, in Broadway, New York, waxen tablets which were used by the school boys of Alexandria, in the time of the Ptolemies. The inscriptions upon these tablets have been deciphered by the Greek professor, and they prove to be such proverbs and apothegms as are now current in the literature of the day, and often set as copies upon the writing books of pupils in our public schools. What is more interesting perhaps, about these antiquities, is the fact that they are three or four hundred years older than the oldest to be found in any European collection.

MEXICO.—The city of Mexico correspondent of the Mobile Register draws the following gloomy picture of the state of affairs in the Mexican republic:

"Mexicans of intelligence and experience agree that the state of the country has never been so deplorable as now. Squads of soldiers are incessantly on the move, impressing artisans and workmen into the army. The patrols have been removed from the roads, and marauding bands have absolute sway almost everywhere out of the great cities, often perpetrating cruelties that make the blood curdle. We hear of villages, and even towns, attacked by hundreds of banditti at a time, the houses sacked, and women horribly mutilated and dragged at horses' tails by their own hair."

The editor of the St. Louis News was in New Orleans and Texas not long since, and gathered some ideas respecting the movements now going on in the Northern States of Mexico, which may end in their annexation to our country. He says:

"Gen. Comonfort, [the exiled Dictator,] at New Orleans, was in constant conference with the filibusters of that city. He despaired utterly of any reforms or any settled government in Mexico. He regards its rapid disintegration and dissolution as a nation as inevitable. He is most anxious for its speedy incorporation into the American Union. To this end he is willing henceforth to work. And this object is to be gained, as it can most easily be, without drawing down upon the movement the opposition of European Governments, by political revolutions and annexation of the Mexican States in detail, commencing at the North. The co-operation of the ambitious leaders of the Northern Mexican States may be safely counted on."

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CONFEDERACY.—The question of uniting the Canadas and the British possessions in North America in an independent confederacy has been mooted for some time past on both sides of the Atlantic. The Home Government is not averse to the consummation of the project, but has signified its willingness that it shall be accomplished even should it lead ultimately to final separation from England.—Recently the authorities of Nova Scotia have opened a negotiation with the other provinces in relation to the proposed confederation, and the question is now fairly presented for consideration and discussion. The Canadian press is divided as to the propriety of the movement.

The proposed confederacy would consist of six provinces and three territories, embracing an extent of territory nearly equal to that of the entire United States, and containing a population of 2,758,000; and although the climate in general is severe, yet the soil in many vast regions is very rich and productive, and there can be no doubt that the new empire or republic, as the case may be, would become a mighty power of the American continent. This movement may be the first step toward the amicable annexation of these provinces and territories to the United States, an event that would soon be followed and may even be preceded by the addition of Mexico and Central America, and will ultimately lead to the consolidation of the whole North American continent under one Federal Government.

HOW DOUGLAS BEARS HIMSELF.—The editor of the New York Times writes as follows from Washington City:

Mr. Douglas, on his part, is by no means mealy-mouthed or overfastidious in his expressions of opinion. At an early stage of his defection,—while he was having interviews with the President, in the hope that they might come to some agreement,—the latter remarked to him that it was very perilous for a public man to put himself in opposition to his party—and that he must take the liberty of reminding him of the fate of Rives and Tallmadge, who rebelled against the policy of Gen. Jackson. "Permit me, Mr. President," Mr. Douglas replied,—"permit me to remind you that General Jackson is dead."—This is very much the tone which the Illinois Senator has taken throughout this contest,—and it must be confessed that it is not eminently conciliatory.

STRONG LANGUAGE.—The Richmond Whig, though a decidedly pro-slavery journal, is getting thoroughly disgusted with the tricks played by the Administration and its supporters in regard to Le-compton. It says the Senate Kansas bill "is an abomination—an infamous cheat—a deliberate fraud; and no Southern man, with a particle of respect for the just rights and the honor of the South, should touch it with a forty foot pole."

MOUNT VERNON.—The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union has been incorporated by the Legislature of Virginia, and authorized to purchase Mount Vernon, which is to revert to the Commonwealth, if from any cause the Association shall cease to exist. It is understood that Col. Washington will now consent to sell Mount Vernon to the Association.

ILLNESS OF SENATORS.—It is said that Senator Henderson, of Texas, is far gone with the consumption, and gradually declining. Senator Davis, of Mississippi, continues ill, and, it is feared, he will entirely lose his eye-sight.

The Pacific Railroad.

We regret that we cannot congratulate our readers in California upon favorable prospects for the Pacific railroad. The vote, on Sunday last, as will be seen by our telegraph from Washington, postpones the consideration of the question, so vital to California, and so important to every State of the Union, North and South, until December next. It will be recalled that this measure was set aside early in the session to make way for the unfortunate Kansas policy. This expedient was resisted by Senators Gwin and Broderick, at the time, and was regarded by them as a great wrong. From that moment, denunciation and proscription of all who contended for fair play in Kansas have been the favorite weapons of the extreme South, and those deluded men who have followed this lead. Senator Gwin, from having been regarded as a staunch friend of Governor Walker's position against Le-compton, abandoned or changed his views, and the Legislature of California, under the influence of councils, not the most unselfish or patriotic, deemed it expedient and right to endorse the Le-compton blunder, and to instruct their Senators to support it. The consequence has been most disastrous.—The worst feeling has been rekindled between the North and the South. Sectionalism, in its most offensive shapes has reared its horrid front, and men who have cordially co-operated, have been alienated and divided. Nearly every important Administration measure has been embarrassed or defeated. The ill blood among the Democratic members who oppose Le-compton, has finally extended to those from the South who advocate it; and the vituperation poured out in such unstinted bitterness on the first, has been turned against the latter because of their hostility to certain other measures of the Administration. Witness, in proof of this assertion, the coarse comments of late members of the Washington Union against the Southern opponents of the Utah war, on the debate and votes upon the army deficiency bill. The discussion of Saturday last, on the Pacific Railroad, showed that the vast and various interest dependent upon the success of that road, are in imminent danger. Mr. Broderick, in a speech of great force and boldness, pointed out the fatal mischief which was intended to be inflicted upon California by one of the propositions of the extreme Southern men in fixing the route of the road in such a manner as to impose an enormous expenditure upon California. Judge Douglas made an argument for this great work which cannot fail to elevate him still higher in the confidence of the people of California.—Forney's Press.

The election of James Buchanan to the Presidency, will prove to have been the most unfortunate event for the Democratic party that could possibly have happened. Nominated by the predominating influence of the Southern element in the Cincinnati Convention, elected by the votes of the Slave States, and surrounded by a strong Southern pressure since his inauguration, he has, as if by infatuation, thrown himself body and soul on the side of slavery, and has most completely sectionalized the whole party of which he is the head, and to which he owes his election. So thoroughly Southern has he rendered his party, that no one can longer deny its pro-slavery character, and no man who is not a pro-slavery man can longer consistently call himself a Democrat. Before the elevation of Mr. Buchanan, the Democratic party was pretty thoroughly imbued with the pro-slavery spirit; but now the very name of Democracy has become synonymous with slavery-extension and Southern sectionalism. North of Mason & Dixon's line, it is, to all intents and purposes, defunct—a sickly, creeping, powerless thing that requires but one more assault from the Republican forces to annihilate it effectually and entirely.—Chicago Journal.

A GREAT SECRET DISCOVERED.—The Paris correspondent of the New York Times, in a letter dated 4th of March, writes:

"First a word on a new discovery.—Why is it that the present century is so far inferior to the centuries of the dark ages in the harmony and sublimity of its architecture? For a long time it has been an opinion that the singular harmony which reigns in the proportions of the architectural monuments of that age was not the result of mere accident, and that there must have been some mathematical secret unknown to the present age. This secret, a German, Mr. Henzlemann, has found. It was a secret which belonged to antiquity as well as to the Greek and Roman epochs. It presided as well at the construction of Solomon's temple, as at the Parthenons of Rome and Athens. The discovery of Mr. Henzlemann was the result of study. With his plummet, square and compass, he traveled through Germany, Italy, France, and England, measuring and calculating, and finding in all the structures of the different ages of the past the same harmonious lines. He has demonstrated beyond contradiction, the co-relation of the Greek with the middle age architecture.

This secret, which was the property of the Brother Masons (Free Masons of the present day) from the time of the building of Solomon's Temple down to the fifteenth, perhaps even to the sixteenth century, was at last lost by them, and the sublime art of architecture entered its age of decadence. The Greeks and Hebrews took great pains to keep this secret. Pythagoras in Greece, and Moses, David, and Solomon among the Israelites, were of the number of its possessors. The Free Masons, who are the descendants of these Israelite Masons, were undoubtedly the heirs of the art of Hiram, the great architect, but unfortunately they have lost it. In the Paralipomenes we see David giving to his son the plans and descriptions which he had received from God to raise to him a temple at Jerusalem; and, in the proportions and forms indicated by the different books of the Bible, we can trace the elements of the harmonious system recognized by Mr. Henzlemann.

The discovery of the German architect has excited so much interest in France that M. Lenoir, an architect of this city, has made a report on this subject to the Minister of Public Instruction and Worship. This gentleman not only approves the discovery of Mr. Henzlemann, but he supports its truth and correctness with additional proofs.

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A correspondent of the Chicago Tribune writing on board steamer John Dickey, near Kansas City, Mo., March 25, 1858, says:

"Missouri will soon be a free State. I have heard this remark made by a score or more of her own citizens on board the boat from Jefferson to Kansas City. It has been the staple of conversation at table, on the promenade deck, in the cabin—everywhere. Most of the passengers are natives of slave States. They talk coolly and dispassionately on the subject, and admit the pecuniary evils which servile labor has inflicted upon the prosperity of their State. There are a few whiskey-drinking, dog leg, tobacco-chewing loafers on board, swearing at the 'Abolitionists,' and defending slaveholders; but they are 'poor white trash,' who never sware a nigger, and who never will own anything more valuable than a jug of corn whiskey."

POPPING THE QUESTION.—The Sandusky Register thinks that the delicate business of "popping the question" might be a good deal simplified, and cites the following example:

"What a strange thing is acquaintance!" said a beautiful girl the other day to a friend of ours. "A year ago we had not seen each other; many a season had rolled its course, bringing hope, happiness and perchance sorrow to each, without cognizance of the other; and now we are so intimate!" "Our friend said she looked so lovely he could not help pressing her delicate cheek; he asked her if he had ought to do with the happiness of her future?" "You are in all the dreams of the coming days," replied she. Here you see, kind reader, the requisite little job was done without the least effort of either of the parties, just as naturally as consequence follows cause.

We have in our mind another kind of proposing—the stern, business, matter-of-fact kind. A rich old bachelor, noted alike for his wealth, eccentricity, and piety, one day took a notion to change his mode of life. He accordingly mounted his horse and rode over to a neighboring plantation, where lived an ancient maiden lady, dismounted in front of the house, and requested her to come to him. On her coming, he told her the Lord had sent him to marry her. She replied, "The Lord's will be done;" and the Lord's will was done.

Blackwood also tells of a nobleman who paid his attentions to a little witch of a girl for a long time, but could never bring his mind to the terrible crisis. The mother of the girl, who saw plainly what his lordship would be at, and what was his difficulty, one day, as the parties were sitting in the parlor, turned the key on them, thinking she would thus force the bashful man to a conclusion. After sitting the usual time, he arose to go; but finding the door closed against him, and no alternative but to remain, he was seized with a fit of the most desperate courage, and, becoming explicit just in proportion to his desperate circumstances, he marched up boldly in front of the terrible little beauty and exclaimed: "My dear, will you have me?" The young lady, without moving a muscle, and looking down with an air of becoming modesty, replied: "With the greatest pleasure, my Lord." The matter was over.

INSTITUTIONS FOR THE BLIND.—There are in the United States twenty-one institutions for the blind, having one thousand and seventeen inmates. There were in 1850, in the United States, seven thousand nine hundred and ninety seven white blind persons, being one in every two thousand four hundred and forty-five of the population.

It is said by leading National Democrats in Kentucky that that State will be lost to the Democracy if the Le-compton Constitution is adhered to by the Administration.