

TERMS—The Argus will be furnished at Three Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum, in advance, to single subscribers—Three Dollars each to clubs of ten at one office—in advance. When the money is not paid in advance, Four Dollars will be charged if paid within six months, and Five Dollars at the end of the year. Two Dollars for six months—No subscriptions received for a less period. No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the publisher.

The Oregon Argus.

—A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.—

VOL. IV. OREGON CITY, OREGON, JUNE 26, 1858. No. 11.

ADVERTISING RATES. One square (12 lines or less) one insertion, \$3.00 " " " two insertions, 4.00 " " " three insertions, 5.00 Each subsequent insertion, 1.50 Reasonable deductions to those who advertise by the year.

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 this locality. HANDBILLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

The following communication was received several weeks ago, but was by some means mislaid. Its sentiments upon the principle of gambling will do to think of after an election—so we let it go in at this late hour:

Mr. Bush, the Gambler. The Statesman of April 6th says: "We are authorized to bet the following sums, &c. The whole amount is twenty-five hundred dollars."

Now, as we are not a betting character, the most we can venture is to say, we wouldn't be afraid of losing anything to offer our old hat to "show our faith" that every wild breaker in Salem will vote for Mr. Bush. We discover a very good reason for this in the sameness of principle exercised by Mr. Bush and the window-smashers. Mr. Bush as a gambler would get somebody's money without giving any thing for it; the smashers give nothing for the property they destroy; hence the two are alike, only that the one wants the money for selfish purposes, while the others do not. Any one can see it would be entirely out of place to vote for any but Mr. Bush, taking it for granted that the opposing candidates are not gamblers. Men generally vote, when not deceived, or driven by the Roman army discipline—the time-honored usages of our party—for those representing their principles. "Birds of a feather flock together."

But perhaps we are too fast in calling Mr. Bush a gambler; perhaps we do injustice to the feelings of those preachers and members of the different churches who think of voting for Mr. Bush. Yes, perhaps we have not that clear perception of morals possessed by Brother Plazon, Boon, and others. True, it may be that we are a weak brother, but let us argue the question.

Is there any essential difference between betting on elections, on horse races, and betting on cards? There is none. Card-playing for money is gambling, every body says; then betting on elections is gambling, and he who bets is a gambler. But, on the occasion referred to, Mr. Bush does not propose to bet, himself—he is only the authorized agent of a gambler. Be it so. Is there any important difference between the agent authorized to sell stolen goods and the thief who stole them?—There is not; neither is there between Mr. Bush and the gambler for whom the former proposes to do business. Yes, he is in principle a gambler; he unobtrusively advertises himself ready to officiate in a transaction by which some person is to be deprived of two thousand dollars and more without any remuneration. In the Statesman of 13th April he says he is authorized to bet one thousand dollars. Indeed, he is driving quite a business: wonder what commission he gets—but no matter, he is in the gambling trade and may do well, even if not elected to office; he is a confirmed gambler, so it seems.

And now, brethren, Byron, Hyatt, and more whose names we forget, have we reasoned correctly? Is Mr. Bush not a gambler? Can you consistently vote for such a character at the same time you preach honesty, morality, and personal piety to be the duty of all men? Please record your votes in view of moral duty; if conscience is drowsy, wake him up; such a sentinel has no business sleeping on guard. But further.

If Mr. Bush, or any other man, can liberally deprive a fellow-creature of a thousand dollars without any equivalent, there is truly ground for fear that as a public officer he might deprive the government of funds by omitting the proper equivalent. We insist that all good men ought to demand the highest standard of honesty in public business. Some moderately fair men bet on horse races and elections, but these who refuse to bet from action of conscience are at least equally trustworthy.—It would be better to elect no gambler to office.

Gambling is neither stealing nor highway robbery, but there is one principle essential to all—taking another man's money without giving anything for it.

EX-ANDREW.

THE VOLUNTEERS.—A dispatch from Washington informs us that the President has finally determined to accept the two regiments of Volunteers allowed by the recent act of Congress, and to draw them from Kentucky and Ohio. A regiment in each of these States has been accepted by the Governor, and both contain officers and men who have seen service in Mexico.

COLORING BUTTER.—Some practice coloring butter with carrots, and commend it as not only improving the appearance of the butter, but the flavor and quality.—The following is the process:—To the cream for five pounds of butter, take a good sized orange carrot, wash clean, and grate off the deepest colored portion; pour a tea-cup of warm water to it, let it stand a short time, then strain through a cloth, and add to the cream before churning.

GROWTH OF THE NORTHWEST, AS COMPARED WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNION.—The Cincinnati Gazette not long since published an elaborate review of the progress of the Northwest. There are included in what is denominated the Northwest the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin, and the Territories of Minnesota and Nebraska. The statistics of the increase of population in these six States exhibit the very astonishing fact that near one third of the whole white population of the United States is contained in this Northwestern portion of the Union, and that nearly the whole of that population is the result of emigration.—Four fifths of the increase in these States have accrued within the last quarter of a century. The growth of the population in these six Northwestern States is as follows: In 1800, 50,240 In 1840, 2,977,851 1810, 272,324 1850, 4,721,551 1820, 792,919 1857, 7,200,000 1830, 1,460,218

The Baltimore American, commenting on these statistics, says: "Let us now compare the growth of the Northwest since 1820 with the growth of New England and New York on one side, and that of the original Southern States on the other, and let us see how they are likely to stand at the end of another generation:

Table with 2 columns: State/Territory and Population in 1820 and 1857. Includes New England, New York, Original South, and The Northwest.

In the last thirty-seven years the South has increased 67 per cent., the North 85 per cent., and the Northwest 800 per cent. But it may be said that the comparison should have been made, as to the South, with the new States of the Southwest, where immense territories and fertile soil give them a fair field for rapid growth. These States are Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, and Arkansas, about the same number of States with the other section, but a much greater extent of territory, and larger rivers. The comparison stands thus: Southwest, in 1820, 1,424,665 in 1857, 5,947,000 Increase, 315 per cent.

We see, then, that with this much greater territory, milder climate, and greater rivers, the Southwest has not increased at one half the rate of the Northwest. In one word, we see the growth of the Northwest increase at a more rapid ratio than any part of the Union; or, we imagine, than any portion of the globe."

CHANGES IN THE WEATHER.—HAS THE MOON ANY INFLUENCE UPON THEM?—The remarkable mildness of the weather is everywhere noticed by the press. In the western part of the State, on the Niagara frontier, the farmers have actually been engaged in plowing. Violets are growing in the open air in Connecticut and New Jersey, and the rivers are almost free from ice. Many persons have noticed the warm color of the moon, the turning up of its horns and recall the sayings of the Indians and old hunters to show that these indicate a higher temperature.

It is a question much discussed of late years, whether the moon has really any influence on the weather. Among educated people the prevailing opinion appears to be in the negative; but scientific persons are by no means unanimous. Is it possible to solve the doubt? We do not know, but there can be no harm in trying. The strongest objection to the theory that the moon has an effect on the weather, is that long, continued barometrical observations do not give any effects of consequence at its changes. Observations of twenty years at Viviers and Paris show the quantities of variation at New Moon, the oceans, the quarters, perigee and apogee, to be almost insensible, never more than one twentieth or one fortieth of an inch.

We thus give in a few words, the most that can be said of the question. But in reply to this, Arago remarks, that the Barometer ought "to remain insensible to these variations, for the columns of air, though of different height, must everywhere be of the same weight." This explanation is however liable to objection.—We suppose that if the moon has an effect upon the tides of the ocean, as is universally admitted to be the fact as is verified by experience, we must think that the atmosphere which has mobility, and a positive pressure of fourteen pounds on the square inch, must also be the subject of its attraction and influence.

Humboldt expressly states that moonlight is capable of producing heat, a discovery of his friend Melloni, who, by means of a lens, three feet in diameter, ascertained an actual elevation of temperature during different changes of the moon. The difference was in proportion to its age and altitude. Those curious to become familiar with his experiments, will find them recorded in the Comptes rendus, vol. 22d, 1545. The influence of this satellite upon

atmospheric pressure, is considered to be indubitable by the most learned of the German and French astronomers, and we know that Sir John Herschel considers it probable that, as "the moon's surface is uninterruptedly exposed to the full action of the sun's rays for fourteen days at a time" it must acquire a very high temperature, and have some effect upon our atmospheric drapery, if not so much on the surface of the earth beneath it. In proof of this it is asserted by him as a meteorological fact that clouds, not very dense, are rapidly dispersed by a full moon, and Humboldt supports it by his own observation in tropical climates.

In addition to this our late discoveries in the character of light, have proved the existence of a chemical power in its rays, whether direct or reflected, which is being turned to great account in the processes of the Daguerreotype and of photography, and in the singular effects of polarized light, of which the moon has its share.—The important part which her attractive influence plays "in regard to the liquid portions of the earth," the consequent changes in the lines of coasts by the operation of the tides, and as one of the sources of motion, cannot, says Humboldt, be denied.—We see, then, no reason why it may not be equally active in producing atmospheric changes. Medical men, of the rank of Meade, Sydenham, and Darnin, admitted the periodical influence of the moon upon the sick, and have so recorded their opinions. When the moon is near the full or new, some people, says the observing naturalist Forster, are more irritable than at other times; headaches prevail more commonly, and insanity has its worst paroxysms.

We do not here care about giving the prognostics of the weather, from the appearance and changes of the moon. "Old shepherds, gardeners, hunters, and men of education have all testified to them," but we have briefly treated the subject in a purely scientific way, and leave our readers to draw their own conclusions. Recent travelers from England on their way to India have alluded to the fact, that sleeping exposed to the moon's light was found to produce a peculiar indisposition, and had to be guarded against while steaming on the Red Sea. "The sun shall not harm thee by the day, nor the moon by night," a promise to be found in the Bible, certainly affords us some ground for the belief that the moon has singular effect on mortals, if not on the weather.—N. Y. Mirror.

AGRICULTURE OF THE UNITED STATES.—The census taken for 1850 shows Indian corn, our native grain, to be the great staple of the country, yielding at that time 600,000,000 bushels, valued at \$300,000,000, more than the combined value of the three next staples, wheat, cotton, and hay. This crop is grown from our Northern to our Southern limit, and affords a better test than any other of the advance of American tillage. In no State has it retrograded. Its increase from 1840 to 1850 was 56 per cent., while the increase of population was but 35 per cent. The crop for 1856 was estimated at 800,000,000 bushels—nearly double the crop of 1840.

The wheat crop from 1840 increased only 15 per cent. In New England, the cultivation during that time declined 50 per cent. It languishes in New York, is nearly stationary in the Middle States, but is increasing largely in the North-western States. Of wheat, the average produce in New York, Ohio, and Indiana, is 12 bushels to the acre, while in England it is 21, in Flanders 23, and in Scotland 30. How far it might be increased by culture is shown by occasional crops of 70 in England, 50 in New York, and (as reported) 87 at San Jose in California.

SERFDOM IN RUSSIA.—A report lately presented to the Emperor Alexander contains the following statistical returns relative to landed property and serfs in Russia.—The number of families who are land owners amount to 127,000. Out of these, 2000 own from 500 to 100; 18,000 from 100 to 500; 30,000 from 21 to 100, and 75,000 have less than 21 serfs. The total number of present serfs of the nobility amount to 11,750,000, and those of the Crown to 9,000,000. There are, therefore, 20,750,000 persons anxiously waiting for an improvement in their condition.

TO MAKE SOFT SOAP.—Take 10 pounds of common Yellow or Rosin Soap; 6 pounds of Sal Soda and 10 or 12 gallons of soft or rain water. Cut the Soap into small pieces, and put the whole over a fire. Bring the water nearly to a boiling point, and allow it to remain at that temperature until the soap is thoroughly dissolved. It may then be taken off, and when cooled, it will become thick and lively. The soap made with these ingredients will be found to be too strong, and cold soft water can be added until it becomes of proper consistency and thickness.

He that thinks nothing of himself, will not be thought much of by others.

VIEW OF A SOUTHERN GOVERNOR.—We are glad to find a Southern Governor, the American Governor of Maryland, speaking out in a tone worthy of his high position. The views expressed in the following from his late message to the Maryland Legislature are far more general in the South than many persons may imagine, and the time is at hand when they will be far more entertained in that section than they generally are now:

"The people of Maryland have always looked with pride on their share in the great compromises of 1820 and of 1850, and with very different feelings on the flagrant violations of those compromises, and their destruction by "designing men," in 1834. The name of one of Maryland's ablest sons is forever associated with the Missouri Compromise, which made a just partition of the common territory between those States which maintained and those which had abolished the institution of domestic slavery, and further established the great principle that each new State added to the Union must be admitted equal and sovereign as all the rest, without condition or restriction, or limitation upon the right of self-government. The act of 1820 drew a line through the territories, to the South of which slavery was established, and to the North of which it was prohibited by Congress under the territorial condition, but it equally provided for the right of the people of every territory, north or south of the line, to establish or forbid slavery in their State constitution. And this it did by asserting the absolute right of the people to form their own constitution, and exclusively control their own domestic policy, and by denying any power in Congress to impose any condition upon them.

"To William Pinckney, of Maryland, is due in great part the glory of the vindication and settlement of this principle; and to his fame we may look with feelings quite different from those with which we contemplate the action of those Marylanders who took part in bringing on the country all the strife and bitter animosity and ill which has been the direct result of that ILL-TIMED, USELESS, AND INEXCUSABLE measure known as the Kansas and Nebraska bill.—The policy of Maryland was utterly opposed to that measure, and her policy has been the policy of all the great men of the Union, from the time of its establishment till 1854. It was adopted when Texas was admitted. It was repeated at the organization of Oregon. It was re-affirmed in the compromise of 1850. It was complained of by no State, nor by any respectable body of the people. It restored and secured the peace of the nation for thirty years, and until it was ruthlessly pulled to pieces by a petty conspiracy of political aspirants. It was abrogated with the intention of once more alarming the fears of the South and exciting the prejudices of the North, and was so speciously contrived that it could be used, as it was used, for a bribe to the sectional feeling of both the North and the South."

FIDDLES AND BELLS.—There are some queer facts in regard to fiddles and bells, going the rounds. We see that a fiddle improves by age and use; a piano does not, neither does a bell. There is, perhaps, a slight improvement for the first few years, but after that, the quality deteriorates.—Metal, we know, is altered by repeated and long continued hammering. Thump a piece of iron, and you change the quality of its magnetism; the shock of the waves modifies the magnetism of an iron ship; and some of the music is knocked out of a bell by long-continued use of the clapper. A peculiar effect is noticed in the bell of Chipplegate Church, Scotland, when it strikes twelve. The first two or three strokes are distinct and clear, then a discord begins, which accumulates with every stroke, until with the eleventh and twelfth, a complete double sound is produced.

EARTH WORMS.—Farmers will be surprised to learn how great are the obligations imposed upon them by the common earth worms. Any one who has followed the track of the plow, knows what multitudes of these creatures reside in the soil. Their uses are not so manifest. They are indeed "sub-soil plows." By constantly boring through the upper crust of the earth, they render it porous and friable, and easy to be saturated with moisture. The rain readily passes through their multitudinous holes, and by this means, is rapidly drunk up by the thirsty ground. But for their humble labors the ground never could become sufficiently friable for the purposes of agriculture. The rain, as it descends, instead of sinking into its bosom, would flow along the surface in rivulets, until it became mingled with the streams of the valleys, to be lost in the ocean. The plow could no more penetrate the hard crust, than it can the granite rock, and the earth would speedily cease to yield her increase. Another benefit arising to us from the labors of these little creatures is that of the soil being constantly renewed. They swallow a quantity of earth with their food, which is again ejected around the entrance of their dwellings. These deposits are known as "worm casts" among gardeners, and are the abomination of these ornamental members of our Commonwealth. But such citizens are rarely given to philosophical inquiry, else they would speedily perceive the advantages secured to them by these labors. In this way is the entire

surface of the earth, to the depth of some twelve or fifteen inches being perpetually taken up and re-deposited; so that it has been shown that such layer, covering the entire superficies of the ground would in eighty years, acquire a thickness of twelve or fourteen inches. Observe by what lowly instrumentalities Providence has arranged that not simply our comforts, but our very existence should be preserved and sustained. Without the labors of the earth worm, this beautiful world would have been a wilderness. And were those labors suddenly and permanently suspended, it is hardly too much to say that in the space of a few years the entire human family would perish from the face of the globe. With what gratitude should our hearts be filled toward that great and good Being, who has been pleased to link together all existences in the justest harmony and dependence, and who sustains them unceasingly in that perfect and necessary relation the one to the other, in which they were first established.

THE GROWTH OF OUR CITIES, OLD AND NEW.—Boston was trying to grow nearly one hundred years before it attained a population of ten thousand; Albany was two hundred years; New York was one hundred thirty years; Philadelphia, settled sixty or seventy years later, grew much faster than the older cities, and arrived at the dignity of ten thousand, in much less time, that is, in about fifty years;

New Orleans was about one hundred years old before she had that number; During the first hundred years after the settlement of Boston, (1630,) she was the largest city of the colonies;

New York became as populous as Boston just before the Revolutionary war; Philadelphia had taken the lead of both her older sisters many years before the war;

About 1811 New York became as populous as Philadelphia, each containing one hundred thousand inhabitants; Baltimore overtook Boston about the year 1800;

The principal new cities grew to the number of 10,000, nearly as follows: Pittsburg in 65 years; Louisville, 30 years; Cincinnati, 22 years; Cleveland, 40 years; New Albany, 35 years; Chicago, 12 years; and Milwaukee, 10 years; The above-named cities attained to 20,000 in the number of years from their birth as follows: Boston, 163; Albany, 220; New York, 150; Philadelphia, 80; New Orleans, 112; Baltimore, about 80; Pittsburg, 75; Louisville, 41; Cincinnati, 30; Cleveland, 45; Detroit, 52; Chicago, 16, and Milwaukee, 17 years.

If any one will compare the early with the late growth of our cities, he will be struck with the extraordinary disparity in favor of their recent growth, not in the actual augmentation, merely, in their proportionate more rapid growth, as they attain a larger size the per cent. increasing from decade to decade. In a community of high civilization, less than half are now needed for the cultivation of the ground, and more than half find cities and large towns the best theater for their industry and enjoyment. In our country, west and northwest of the Atlantic slope, including the Canadas, not over one in 15 live in cities and towns, the other fourteen-fifteenths being engaged in opening new farms or growing crops. This state of things is anomalous, and cannot long continue. Our cities will receive, before long the whole augmentation, and a considerable number from the thinning ranks of agriculture. It is as certain as any future event dependent on human action can be, that the next ten years will exhibit a mere rapid city growth, and especially in our great interior plain, than has ever before been witnessed.

IMPORTANT DECISION.—An important case, involving the right of a father to dispose of his children by will, although their mother may be alive, has just been decided at Pittsburg.

Geo. S Hamilton died at Pittsburg last December, leaving a widow and three children, the latter aged respectively 9, 11 and 13 years. As the husband was a Protestant and the wife a Catholic, the former, in his will, appointed guardians for the children, directing them to be brought up as Protestants. They were, accordingly, taken from the mother and placed in a Protestant school. The mother applied for a writ of habeas corpus to recover the custody of them, but was denied it by the Court, which decided that the father had the right to dispose of his children by will.

THE REVIVAL AT THE SOUTH.—The revival of religion is extending widely at the South and West. The system of daily prayer-meetings in business hours has been inaugurated in most of the Southern cities. There has been a great increase in church membership, and, during the past year, the Baptists alone have added over 500,000 members, most of which accession has been at the South.

SEYLLA AND CHARYBIS.—A correspondent of the Advocate and Journal would have us believe that the world has been greatly humbugged in respect to this famous strait, by the classic writers. He says:

"We were upon the old track of Paul again. Below us, upon the island coast, were the ruins of ancient Syracuse, where he 'tarried three days.' Less distant, upon the opposite shore, was Reggio in full sight, his next halting place on his way to Rome. But classic recollections soon quench everything else; we were approaching the tremendous hell-gate of Scylla and Charybdis; we were now to see with our own eyes the terrific spot, and hear with our own ears the baying of the blue-haired dragons in the depths. We read over Virgil's description, prepared ourselves to see the broken surges 'strike the stars' without flinching, appointed a committee for sharp look out upon either side that we might give the lie to the old proverb for once, and thus, with straining eyes and ears erect, we drew near.

"We survived. We shot right through between them, and came out alive, in fact unhurt; we avoided Scylla, yet fell not into Charybdis; the thing has been done!

"The most provoking part of the performance, however, was, that we could by no means fix the exact time of our wonderful passage, and hence posterity must ever remain ignorant of the exact chronology of the feat. The fact is, the channel was nowhere less than three or four miles in width, and the water as calm as a secluded mill-pond. Charybdis, like her representative in the group at Messina, is nowhere to be found; and so hopeless is the search for her on the smooth, sandy shore with which the island terminates at its northwest corner, that some geographers have found her in a little eddy around on the northern coast of the island, more than ten miles from her mate. Scylla is not quite so bad, though, truth to say, I think the poets have sadly humbugged us in respect to both. There is a somewhat peculiarly shaped rock on the coast of the main land extending some feet into the water; and it is very possible that when a current is setting into the Strait of Messina, the water may make a few dimples in passing; but as I sailed along past at some two miles' distance, I cannot pretend to say."

THE MISSISSIPPI.—Those who have never seen the Mississippi when the gushing waters of a thousand streams that elsewhere would be ranked as rivers, had given it a volume and power, a wild rush of waters here broken by great swirls, there reverted on itself by forming eddies and counter currents that a good boatsman alone can safely pass, know little of the magnificence and sublimity of the view from our levee. Stand there, and let your thoughts trace the mighty flood now rushing by to its source, amid the little lakes of the far north, growing more and more turbid, deeper, broader and less to be restrained by any ordinary obstacles, as it receives the tribute of the Rocky Mountains and the great American plains on the west, through the Missouri, the Arkansas, the Red, and their branches, and the waters from the great basin west of the Alleghenies, through the Ohio, and you begin to appreciate the idea of the Mississippi. It grows upon you as you gaze upon its steady sweep onward to the ocean, bearing along washings from every soil to make the foundations of new lands slowly rising from the floor of the Gulf of Mexico.—N. O. Picayune.

The St. Louis Democrat has the following paragraph upon the arrival of Col. Benton's remains in that city: "By its side was the little coffin containing the statesman's grandchild, McDowell Jones. Each body was enclosed in an air-tight zinc case, which was laid within a mahogany coffin. A lid was raised so as to allow friends to look through a glass on the faces of the dead. The face of the great Missourian wore that expression of majestic placidity which was habitual to him in life. The lips were slightly open, the eyes closed, and every lineament in the face in a state of repose that indicated how gentle and peaceful had been the end of the veteran's stormy life. There was no discoloration or wrinkle to be seen, and the presence of death was visible only in the closed eyelids, and the cold, white, marble-like appearance of the features. The grandchild lay as sweetly as though only sleeping, with its little head, covered with golden hair, nestling amid white hyacinths and early spring flowers, whose purity was typical of its own young spirit."

A SENSIBLE VIEW.—Edward Everett, in a letter apologizing for not attending the dedication of a new school house, closes his letter thus:

"We must not rest satisfied with a general impression that our schools are in a very satisfactory condition. There is some danger that showy accomplishments, such as declamation and English composition—often prematurely attempted—and dramatic exhibitions—which seem to me wholly out of place at school—will occupy the time and thoughts of teachers and pupils, to the neglect of thorough instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, and Christian morality, and other branches of a solid English education."

"He who rises late may trot all day but never overtake his business." So said Dr. Franklin. A contemporary says:—"We have watched those fellows who are early risers, and as a general thing they are the first chaps who go to the groceries of a morning. It's all moonshine about the smartest and greatest man being the early riser."