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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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THE BRITISH OUTRAGES CONSIDERED IN THE SENATE.

On the 25th of May, the following report was made in the Senate:

Mr. Mason of Virginia, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the resolution inquiring whether additional legislation is necessary to place a certain power in the hands of the Executive, submitted a report, of which the substance is that the official statements show a succession of acts of aggression by the British cruisers in the Gulf of Mexico, so marked and extraordinary as has awakened the indignation of the country; vessels under our flag, pursuing lawful commerce, have been fired into, stopped, and examined as to cargo, destination, crew, etc. No less than fifteen American ships in the harbor of Sigua le Grand, and six on the high seas, are officially reported as having had to submit to the aggressions of British cruisers, and each additional arrival brings fresh accounts of aggressions by the same power on our flag. It has hitherto happened in isolated cases. Where similar aggressions have occurred through misconception, the United States has been contented to accept a disclaimer of the intent; but the continued and persevering character of these outrages is such as to arouse the indignation of the country, and to require to arrest at once, and to end at once and forever, the continuance of such indignities. The slave trade is alleged as the excuse. The committee will not discuss that. It is sufficient that the United States, though often invoked to do so, refuses to recognize the right of police. They rest on the principle that the marine under their flag cannot be visited or questioned without their consent, and the committee deem this a fit occasion to declare it as a principle of the United States, admitting of no reserve or qualification, and to be maintained at any cost. They admit no right of visitation, and far less of search. Such matters have no foundation in law or equity, and cannot be tolerated by any sovereign power without derogation from her sovereignty. The infringement of sovereignty consists in visitation; the best American and English authorities (Stowell for instance) so decide, founding the decision on two principles: firstly, the equality of all independent States, and the community of the sea as a highway.

Indignant as the American people are, and ought to be, at these aggressions, yet their occurrence will afford an opportunity to end them at once and forever; and the committee refrain from recommending further legislation only from the reason that the President has ordered all our available navy to the infested waters, with orders to protect our flag. It is believed that this measure will be serviceable for the present in stopping outrages. The subject has also been brought to the attention of the Minister at London and the Minister at Washington; and we cannot, therefore, until we receive a reply from Great Britain, decide the measures that will be a guaranty for the future, for nothing short of that will satisfy the American people. Therefore, while refraining from recommending present legislation, the committee have unanimously

Resolved, (as the judgment of the Senate,) That American vessels on the high seas, in time of peace, bearing the American flag, remain under the jurisdiction of the country to which they belong, and therefore any visitation, molestation, or detention of such vessels by force, or by the exhibition of force, on the part of a foreign power, is in derogation of the sovereignty of the United States.

Resolved, That the recent and repeated violations of this immunity, committed by vessels of war belonging to the navy of Great Britain in the Gulf of Mexico, and the adjacent seas, by firing into, interrupting, and otherwise forcibly detaining them on their voyage, requires, in the judgment of the Senate, such unequivocal and final disposition of the subject, by the governments of Great Britain and the United States, touching the rights involved, as shall preclude hereafter the occurrence of like aggressions.

Resolved, That the Senate fully approves the action of the Executive in sending a naval force into the infested seas with orders "to protect all vessels of the United States on the high seas from search or detention by the vessels of war of any other nation." And it is the opinion of the Senate, that, if it become necessary, such additional legislation should be supplied in aid of the Executive power as will make such protection effectual.

On the 29th the resolutions came up when—

Mr. Mallory of Florida proposed an amendment, that American people cannot permit such aggressions, and therefore legislate to enable the Executive to adopt measures at once to prevent the continuance of such indignities.

Mr. Mallory, although recognizing that the mission of the United States and England should be for the preservation of peace, he could not sacrifice the rights or honor of the country to any issue whatever.

He could not consider that this succession of outrages was the mere act of individual naval officers. They were owing, doubtless, to the orders of the English Admiral at Jamaica, who in turn had received orders from his government.

It was a suspicious circumstance that these outrages commenced immediately after the refusal by this government of certain demands made by England respecting the slave trade.

Mr. Hale moved to amend the amendment, to the effect that the acts of the British are belligerent in character, and should be resisted by all the power of the country. He considered the acts of the British should be met by acts, and not by arguments. While he should look upon a war with Great Britain as one of the greatest calamities that could befall the

civilized world, he should regard the lowering of the national dignity, and submission to such an assumption as this on the part of Great Britain, as a greater calamity than war itself. The way to maintain peace and to maintain our rights inviolate is, to let Great Britain know that upon this subject we have no argument to make, and no remonstrance to utter.

Mr. Mallory withdrew his amendment in favor of Mr. Hale's.

Mr. Toombs was in favor of Mr. Hale's amendment, and further, that the British war ships in the Gulf should be seized and brought to our own ports, or sunk, and that we should be satisfied with nothing short of this.

Mr. Seward gave his concurrence and the concurrence of the minority of the Committee in the spirit of the resolutions. The assumption of Great Britain is founded on force, and is claimed by no other than the British, or such as, like her, asserted the mastery of the seas. But the United States set out with the intention to be equal with any nation, and cannot permit an affectation of superiority by any power, even in the modified form of "visitation"—the right of search and visitation being terms synonymous. The principles of police at sea are identical with those on land. Any one may seize pirates at sea, or culprits on shore, but he does it "at his peril." If the arrested party be a culprit, he is abandoned to justice. If not, it is an aggression, and the aggressor is liable to make reparation. This nation will never permit its flag to be prostituted to purposes of piracy, but it must resist every aggression on its peaceful commerce.

He had not looked in the law books for technical objections to the right of search. It is enough that it cannot be permitted; that it is an aggression on the equality of nations; enough that it is an attempt to exercise superiority over this nation.—There are seven members on the Committee of Foreign Affairs, and naturally some difference of opinion as to the terms existed, but the substance of the resolutions was satisfactory to all. Each is ready to accept any other form of words that will express the firmness, dignity, and moderation that becomes a great nation in expressing its opinion on a great question. No prudent man believes that the British government has ordered these aggressions with the view of urging war on this country. They are acts of war; but all know that if Great Britain wanted to begin a war with the United States, she would not do it with a gunboat. Although they may have originated in a misapprehension of orders, the Executive had properly and promptly determined not to wait for explanations, not to recognize that any explanation can be given which will concede the right of visitation or search. Mr. Seward fully endorsed this promptitude of action in sending to the Gulf a force sufficient to sink every British cruiser.

Mr. Douglas, of Ill., asked, what good does it do to resolve that this search is a belligerent act? The American people and England know it is. England was so informed forty years ago, and yet she has violated our rights thirty-three times within the past four weeks. He commended and admired the promptness with which the President has sent a force to the Gulf, but that force is only up to the point of preventing. Do you suppose it will ever find an opportunity, unless a ship of war be sent to accompany every merchant vessel. The Senator from New York was wrong in saying that our force could sink the British in the Gulf. The British have their three guns to our one. It is brave, at least, to think that our one will sink their three. He recommended another course. Let a ship of war, say the Wabash, get on the track of the Sixx, or Buzzard, follow her up, capture her, and bring her into an American port, and it will then be the time to make explanations. If England avows the cruisers' acts, it becomes an international question. If she disavows the acts, it only remains for us to say what punishment we shall inflict on those lawless persons who have perpetrated these outrages. The President having gone so far as he can go, let him have at once such powers as are necessary to protect our flag, and maintain the rights of our citizens at home and abroad. He had no fear of the abuse of such power by the present Executive or any that may follow him. The President is almost powerless abroad. Every other Chief Magistrate has the power not only to repel, but to punish, outrages on his nationality, and why should not the Chief Magistrate of this Republic have power to do so? He had no fear of the abuse of such power by the present Executive or any that may follow him. The President is almost powerless abroad. Every other Chief Magistrate has the power not only to repel, but to punish, outrages on his nationality, and why should not the Chief Magistrate of this Republic have power to do so? He had no fear of the abuse of such power by the present Executive or any that may follow him. The President is almost powerless abroad. Every other Chief Magistrate has the power not only to repel, but to punish, outrages on his nationality, and why should not the Chief Magistrate of this Republic have power to do so?

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Resolved, That the greatest excitement exists in New Orleans relative to the detention and visitation of American vessels by British cruisers. Resolutions have been presented in the Common Council authorizing the Mayor to equip and send an armed vessel to prevent the outrages, and a great indignation meeting was held, and resolutions were passed recommending every vessel to arm and equip before leaving port, and resist to the last extremity.

BOARDING AMERICAN VESSELS.—The Toronto (Canada) Colonist of the 20th of May has a calm and sensible article on the subject of the recent aggressions upon American vessels by British cruisers, in which it says:

"The over-zealousness of the British cruisers in the Gulf of Mexico in their efforts to cut off the slave trade, has evincedly occasioned a great deal of angry feeling at Washington, and we cannot feign surprise at the result. The boarding of vessels which on any reasonable ground may be supposed to be slavers, may be polite enough; but the course recently pursued by British commanders in the Gulf implies a much wider pretension, and, in our opinion, does not admit of palliation or defense. If it imply anything, it amounts to a practical assertion of the old doctrine of the right of search, to which the American Government and people will never submit."

DEATH OF CON. JONES.—Commodore Thomas A. Catesby Jones, for a long period connected with the U. S. Navy, died at his residence near Georgetown, D. C., in the 69th year of his age.

by men engaged in the slave trade, but the special order coming up, he concluded by moving that the President is hereby authorized and empowered to employ the naval forces of the United States and send the same to the scenes of the recent outrages, with instructions to capture the ships which have committed or may commit these belligerent acts.

On the 31st they came up again, when—

Mr. Toombs of Georgia repeated his remark of Saturday, that he wanted the British ships taken. The resolutions are not worth the paper they are written on.

Mr. Hammond, of South Carolina, disagreed with the Senator from Georgia. He was not willing to be smuggled into war by an amendment to an amendment. If the British acts are belligerent, let us throw, with all due solemnity, the bloody spear. If we must have war, let us declare war after dignified consideration. A war with England will be the most momentous event that has happened in the past three centuries, perhaps in all time past. Perhaps hostilities with England are, sooner or later, inevitable, and when it should come, he believed England would be rushing on her fate. Let us avail ourselves of the chance afforded by these resolutions, to avoid, until it is forced on us, an event which, whenever it occurs, will change the face of human affairs.

Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky, also spoke in a conservative tone, invoking the Senate to do nothing rashly, but to proceed with firm, determined, but cautious steps. The resolutions of the Committee on Foreign Affairs are sufficient to express the sentiments of the American people, and it would be unworthy of both great nations to indulge in quarrelsome actions. Let England be informed that we require reparation, and if it be refused, we have then a right to stand on our own grounds. He agreed with Mr. Toombs that we cannot assent to discuss the right of visitation or search. It would be unworthy of this Government to enter into any discussion on that subject. We have to deal with acts only, and require England to disavow them and forbear.

Mr. Wilson, having reconsidered his amendment, said it was not in order, inasmuch as it proposed to confer power on the President by the vote of one house only. He therefore withdrew it, but hoped that others had been given to sink or capture the off-lying ships.

Mr. Mallory then moved a joint resolution, that the President be authorized to arrest the outrages at once.

In the Senate, June 3d, Mr. Douglas introduced a bill to revive and put in force the Act of March 3d, 1839, in relation to the North-Western boundary, with such modifications as will make it applicable to the present controversy, in regard to the right of search and visitation.

The bill thus revived puts at the disposal of the President, to be used when necessary to resist the claims of Great Britain, the naval and military forces and the militia of the United States, and authorizes him to call into service fifty thousand volunteers; also puts at his disposal ten millions of dollars, with the right to borrow the same; also, if he deems necessary, to send a special ambassador to Great Britain. The Act is to continue in force for sixty days after the next meeting of Congress. The bill confers these powers in the precise language of the Act of 1839, except that it strikes out the word "boundary," and inserts "visitation and right of search," with a few other verbal alterations, conferring in fact the same power on Mr. Buchanan as was conferred on Mr. Van Buren.

The naval officers in Washington have evinced praiseworthy conduct on the present occasion. It is understood that every one of them has made application to the Secretary of the Navy to be employed, even though not in a position equal to their rank or claims.

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THE U. S. FRIGATE COLORADO.—This new steam frigate is fitted with engines and cannon of Richmond manufacture. The cannon are the new Dalghren gun, made of our James River iron, and whose tremendous reports whilst being tested by the U. S. officers, were familiar sounds to our citizens not long ago. We don't know how many attempts the officers made to explode one of these guns; we think about a thousand, and with the most enormous charges and every variety of gunpowder, but the obstinate gun would not burst, and they had to give it up at last as a bad, or rather, a good job. In the last war with England the explosion of our own cannon killed almost as many as the shot of the enemy. Now, we have escaped that danger; we have a gun that will not burst, and such a gun! The Colorado is probably at this moment the most formidable war vessel that floats the great deep. Her armament is composed entirely of these Dalghren guns, each of which throws a shell with the precision of a rifle ball, for a distance of more than two miles. There is no English or French line of battle ship, armed as they are with the old sixty-eight, only efficient at about a mile's distance, which could stand for five minutes before the Colorado. She can choose her distance and blow them to pieces with a few well directed shells. Capt. Dalghren has introduced in this gun a most formidable instrument of naval warfare, and one which is destined to revolutionize the character of future naval combats.—Richmond Dispatch.

Col. A. P. Hayne, appointed to fill the place of U. S. Senator from South Carolina made vacant by the death of Mr. Evans, is a brother of Robert Y. Hayne, famous for his encounter with Mr. Webster on the nullification question in 1830. He was opposed to his brother's course in regard to nullification, and is now by the fire-eaters considered as a conservative.—He is now in his 60th year. He entered the army in 1807, and served through the war of 1812. As a lieutenant he participated in the battle of Sackett's Harbor, under Gen. Brown; as adjutant-general he served in the Creek Nation, under Gen. Jackson, with whom he was an especial favorite, and with whom he also bore a gallant part in the battle of New Orleans.—Col. H. resigned his commission soon after the war.

SECRET OF HORSE TAMING.—At Astley's Amphitheatre, London, Mr. Cooke, the celebrated equestrian, undertook to exemplify Rarey's system of subduing vicious horses, and as a consequence there was a crowded house. The Morning Advertiser states that Mr. Cooke, informed the audience, when the exhibition opened that he was ready to tame any horse that was brought to him and a vicious hunter which had been sent for this purpose was then taken into the ring. He then took a strap and attached it to the fetlock of the animal's right foreleg, brought it over its right shoulder and held it firmly by hand. The left leg was then doubled up inwards till the hoof was brought in contact with the thigh, when it was tied in that position with a strap. Mr. Cooke then took the reins of the bridle in one hand, and the strap attached to the horse's right leg in the other, and holding them taut, urged the animal to walk on three legs, with his head inclined to the left. The horse was made to walk in this manner three times round the ring of the circus, when he exhibited signs of great exhaustion, got down on his knees, and finally lay down in the most submissive manner. The straps were then taken off, and Mr. Cooke lay down upon him, patted him, and the animal received these caresses in the most docile and quiet manner, and appeared to be perfectly under the control of his tamer.—Scientific American.

MARRIAGES OF CONSANGUINITY.—At the late Medical Association in Baltimore, Dr. S. M. Bemis, of Kentucky, read an able and learned report on "the influence of marriages of consanguinity upon offspring." He said that over ten per cent. of the deaf and dumb, and over five per cent. of the blind, and fifteen per cent. of the idiotic in our State institutions for the subjects of those defects, are the offspring of kindred parents.

A new process of extracting teeth without pain was recently tried in Baltimore. The patient grasps firmly in one hand one pole of an electro-magnetic machine, while the other pole is attached to the forceps, and by this means a current of electricity is passed through the teeth, and produces a local anesthesia, and so avoids the use of chloroform or ether.

The late Governor of Canton, Governor Yeh, who is now a prisoner at Calcutta on board the inflexible, protests that he never tasted cold water in the whole course of his life, and thinks that if he did it would be the death of him! His drink has always been weak tea.

PAY OF ARMY OFFICERS.—The following sums are given as the amount received per year by the several officers named: Gen. Scott, \$18,292; Gen. Wool, \$8,854; Gen. Persifer F. Smith, \$8,189; Adjutant Gen. Cooper, \$5,093; Mr. McDowell, \$4,020; Col. Totten, \$4,648; Gen. Harney, \$5,031; Col. May, \$3,510; and the general average receipts is, Colonels, \$4,800; Lieut. Colonels, \$4,000; Majors, \$3,000; Captains, \$2,500; Lieutenants, \$2,000.

The Hampshire papers announce the death, at Lymington, in Hants, of Mrs. Mary Story, aged 82, the last surviving representative in England of that family who assisted the celebrated William Penn in all his undertakings in the United States of America.

Henry William Herbert, whose books on field and aquatic sports have attained a world-wide reputation, committed suicide in New York lately. Cause, domestic difficulties.

BUCHANAN LOOKING TO A RE-ELECTION.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, in a late letter says:

"There appears to be no question of the fact that Mr. Buchanan, even at this early period of his administration, is already looking forward to and calculating upon a re-election, or at least a re-nomination.—He is fully realizing the old maxim that 'whom the gods would destroy they first make mad.' The matter is not, perhaps, openly talked of, but it is seriously discussed by men in high places, and one of the President's organs, the Richmond South, does not hesitate to avow it as his policy and that of the Democratic party South. That paper uses the extraordinary language that Mr. Buchanan is 'the only candidate whom the South can hope to elect to the office of President' at the next election.

"Of course, after his positive declaration at the time of his inauguration that he would not again be a candidate, he will only, according to the paper quoted, 'yield to exalted motives of patriotism, and to the united appeals of the Constitutional Democracy.' The fact appears to be ignored that the people of the South will not be the only voters at the next Presidential election, and that if Mr. Buchanan were to go now before the people of his own State, on any issue, he would assuredly be defeated by at least one hundred thousand majority, as the results of your coming fall elections will abundantly prove. If such be his status in his own State, what has he to expect from the entire North, the sentiments of whose people he has not ceased to outrage since the hour in which he took his oath of office!

Both Houses of the Legislature of Wisconsin have passed a bill for the re-establishment of capital punishment for the crime of murder in the first degree. A strong reaction appears to have taken place in the minds of the people of the State in relation to the subject. This last action of the Legislature is understood to be in conformity with a general expression of the popular will.

A DUEL—COURTEOUS CONDUCT.—Our chivalrous brethren "down South" do things up in style, sometimes. Here is an account of a duel, taken from the Donaldsonville (La.) Coast Journal:

"On Thursday, the 23d ult., F. C. Aubert, of the Independent Vigilant, and E. Supervielle, of the Drapeau de l'Ascension, left here on the Vicksburg, en route to Mississippi, to fight a duel. The affair came off at Fort Adams, and resulted in the wounding of Mr. Aubert in the right hip. His wound is not considered dangerous. Mr. Supervielle was not harmed.—A pleasing incident in the matter marked the dealings of the two principals. Perceiving that Mr. Aubert would be obliged to remain at Fort Adams for some days, his adversary kindly offered to attend to the edifying of the Vigilant until he recovered sufficiently to return. Courtesy like this can be appreciated by every one, and is creditable to both parties."

Mr. Gerrish, who has lately arrived at St. Louis from Fort Bridger, says that Gov. Cumming was bitten, on the 25th of March, in the right arm, by a dog that was supposed to be mad. The dog attacked several persons and was finally killed.—The Governor was quite fearful and distressed about the matter.

Mrs. Sarah Benjamin died in Mount Pleasant township, Pa., on the 20th ult., at the extraordinary age of 114 years, and a half, lacking a few days. Her maiden name was Sarah Mathews, and she had out-lived three husbands. She accompanied her second husband in the revolutionary army, cooking for the soldiers and mending their clothes. She once took her husband's place as a sentry. At the surrender of Cornwallis, she was busy during the battle in carrying water to the soldiers and relieving the wounded. When passing where the bullets of the enemy were flying, she met Washington, who said "young woman, are you not afraid of the bullets?" She pleasantly answered, "The bullets will never catch the gallows." She possessed extraordinary energy, even in her extreme age, and would relate the events of her early days with all the vivacity of youth.

How to STOP BLOOD.—Take the fine dust of teas, or the scrapings of the inside of tanned leather, and bind it close upon the wound, and the blood will soon cease to flow. These articles are recommended, because they are at all times accessible, and easy to be obtained. After the blood has ceased to flow, laudanum may be advantageously applied to the wound. Due regard to these instructions will save agitation of mind, and running for the surgeon, who would probably make no better prescription, if present.

For washing fine and elegant colors, the Scientific American advises ladies to boil some bran in rain water, and use the liquor cold. Nothing can equal it for ease upon colors and for cleaning cloth.

Mr. Singletick mystified a tea party by remarking that women are facts.—When pressed to explain his meaning, he said "Facts are stubborn things."

AN ANTI-LECOMPTON SUNDAY SCHOOL.—It is to be presumed that all the Sabbath Schools in Philadelphia are anti-Lecompton, but the sentiments of one of them came out in rather an unexpected way last Sunday. An occasion of unusual interest had brought a very full attendance on the exercise of the school, and in honor of the event the pastor or rector of the church, under whose care it is, delivered a capital address, which was rather oddly interrupted. He was giving the hundreds of bright and intelligent little people, who eagerly listened to his simple and beautiful address, reasons why they should love the Savior.

He said: "Now children, you should love Him because He is a friend whom it is an honor to have. Suppose you should get a letter from some one in the penitentiary—would that be an honor?"

"Of course, all the larger children said 'No!' and the hundreds of younger ones echoed 'No, Sir!'"

"Well, then," said the minister, "suppose Gov. Packer would write to you—would that be an honor?"

The children, large and small, of course shouted—"Yes, Sir!"

"Now," pursued the speaker, "suppose Mr. Buchanan, the President, should write a letter to any one of you—would you not esteem that a very high honor indeed?"

Here ensued an awful pause—the bright faces looked puzzled, the mischievous ones began to laugh, and the younger ones looked anxiously towards the elder scholars for their cue. The taller boys looked at each other a moment, and finally said "No, Sir!" and every child in the school, great and small, shouted out tumultuously "No, Sir!"

The teachers all smiled, and the speaker laughed outright, but recovering himself in an instant, he said, "Why, children, this is all wrong! I like Mr. Buchanan; so ought you. You ought to love everybody. I had no idea of talking politics to you." He then went on to ask them if they would not like to receive a letter from Queen Victoria—"who certainly was a very estimable lady"—and the Queen of England not being involved in "Lecompton," the children expressed an opinion that a letter from her majesty would be an honor.

The occurrence has furnished laughter to a large circle for two days, so we violate no confidence in thus giving it to the public.—Phila. Bulletin, May 3d.

The Methodist Protestant Conference at Lynchburg, Va., adjourned on the 14th April, having been in session ten days. The night after the adjournment, the delegate from Oregon made his appearance. The poor fellow had been under way since February last, and his disappointment at not arriving until all was over, was of the sorest description.

SIGNIFICANT FOR KENTUCKY.—The Louisville Courier, during one of its fits of Negrophobia, though inelegantly, yet significantly declares that "Black Republicans are as thick in these parts as wolves on a prairie."

Alabama said to Congress, if you don't give me Lecompton, I will go right out of the Union. She is just about as smart as the boy who exclaimed, "ms, if you don't give me that cake, I will go right off and catch the measles."—Louisville Journal.

Rev. Henry Wood, a Chaplain in the U. S. Navy, writing from St. Helena, says that in the room where Napoleon died, there is now a threshing machine in operation, and stalls for the horses that move it, in his bed-chamber.

The highest waterfall in the world is in the Sandwich Islands, and is stated to be between four and five thousand feet high. The stream on which the fall occurs runs among the peaks of one of the highest mountains, so high that the water actually never reaches the bottom, so great is the distance, and it ascends to the clouds again.

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