

BY D. W. CRAIG.

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The Oregon Argus.

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ADVERTISING RATES.
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JOB PRINTING.
THE PROPRIETOR OF THE ARGUS is HAPPY to inform the public that he has just received a large stock of JOB TYPE and other new printing material, and will be in the speedy receipt of additions suited to all the requirements of the locality. HANDBILLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

Death.
This is a world of care,
And many thorns on the pathway lie;
Weep not then, mothers, for your fond and fair—
Lest the young die!
Joy is like summer flowers,
And soon the blossoms of their beauty fall;
Clouds gloom o'er both; brief are of both the hours—
Death ends them all!
This is a world of strife,
Of feverish struggles and satiny,
And blighted enterprises—what then is life!
Lest the strong die!
All human love is vain,
And human might is but an empty sound;
Power, both of mind and body, bringeth pain—
Death is its bound!
This is a world of woe,
Of heaviness, and of anxiety;
Why cling we then to that we know?
Lest the old die!
Weedlings with disease,
Vain lamentations o'er departed years;
Lest age rise with these?
Death dries our tears!
This is a world of pain;
There is a "better land" beyond the sky;
A humble spirit may that portion gain—
Lest the just die!
But let those shrink with dread,
Whose days have been of evil, lest they find,
When all their earthly hopes are withered,
Despair behind!
Let them implore for aid,
A fitter reward of their years to give;
And lean on Him who mercifully bade
The sinner live!
—Miss Pardoe.

Land Patents.
SURVEYOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
SALEM, Oct. 28th, 1859.
Frequent inquiry is made at this office for land patents; and why settlers whose claims have been surveyed four or five years have not received their patents.
The following extracts from letters of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to the Surveyor General of Oregon, may throw some light upon the subject. In one bearing date the 2d of May, 1859, he says: "It is necessary that plats showing the donation claims under the Act of 1850, and the adjoining fractions and subdivisions of the public land, in the townships caused by those claims, should be furnished to this office as speedily as possible. In order to expedite this business, you are requested to inform the claimants, by special notice, of the necessity of perfecting their claims, &c., as but a small number has been received at this office, thereby causing delay in the issue of patents and trouble to the claimants."
Nor is this the first instance in which this matter has been made the subject of instructions from the Commissioner. As early as the 24th of January, 1854, he writes to this office that "The old settlers cannot be permitted by their laches, in the matter of their special surveys, to subject the community to all the embarrassment consequent thereon. When the act of 27th September, 1850, confers on the old settlers, as a special privilege, the right to make his special survey in cases where he cannot reduce his claims within the legal subdivision, it is by no means intended that that very privilege in his favor is to operate as a disadvantage to others of the community. So far from such consequences, the law absolutely intends nothing else than that the claim shall absolutely be surveyed within a reasonable time, and such is the construction which must govern your action in such cases. You are therefore requested to issue a printed notice, duly explanatory, and couched in forcible terms, setting forth the intention of the act of Congress, and the construction put upon it at the department, and stating that their unreasonable delay in causing their special surveys to be made, will be at their own peril, &c. In pursuance of the latter instructions, notice was issued, and very many of the settlers availed themselves of the opportunity to submit their claims to survey, and who, together with those whose claims had been surveyed previously, before this time should have received their patents.
In his annual report of 1856, my predecessor says: "In order to expedite the completion of claim-maps of townships, to be forwarded to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, it would be well to empower this office to say authoritatively to settlers that 'they must' make their requests for surveys within a given number of days after the expiration of their four years' residence and cultivation, otherwise a deputy will be commissioned to make the necessary surveys without delay and at their expense." And again, in his report of 1857, he says: "The completion of claim-maps, to be forwarded to the Commissioner of the General Land Office and the Registers, is retarded; superintendents of schools cannot make sale of fractions of school land contiguous to unsurveyed claims; nor can the Registers arrive at a knowledge of the areas of such tracts to accommodate pre-emptionists; and from the same cause the recently advertised sales of the public lands could not be made in this Territory." The Surveyor General of Washington Territory, in his annual report of 1858, calls the attention of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to the necessity of some legislation by which to compel settlers to make a request for the survey of their claims.
The great body of settlers have had their

claims surveyed, and even amongst those remaining unsurveyed when I came into office, (from seven to ten hundred in the State) very few indeed have shown any reluctance to attend to this matter; but on the contrary, they have been waiting anxiously for a final survey, in the completion of which, every claimant within townships where there are claims remaining to be surveyed, are deeply interested.
While the causes before mentioned have operated incidentally, there are other causes operating directly to prevent the issue of patents. Some claims have been surveyed, and the plats not prepared for the registers; others, the field notes have remained for years without having been corrected by deputy surveyors, though they have long since received their pay for doing the work. In some cases, though the claims have been surveyed four or five years, the field notes have remained in the hands of the deputy till the present time, and I have just been informed that a deputy who surveyed about fifty claims, about five years since, and who has failed to correct his work and return his notes, is now about to leave for the Atlantic States. Patent certificates cannot issue for those claims, much less patents, until a remedy is applied. It is worse than useless to have claims surveyed and then permit the deputy to trifle with the business, for the completion of which, in most cases, he has received his pay in hand. In the contracts I have let, bonds have been taken in every instance for a complete return by the first day of December next; and those deputies to which reference has been made as being in default, I have no doubt, will find it convenient to complete the business in their hands by the tenth day of November next.
In my circular of the 6th of July last, there is no intimation that claims taken by legal subdivisions must be surveyed. If, in progressing with this unfinished business, I shall happen to have notified some who did not desire a survey or may not be entitled to one, because having settled since the general surveys, they should not be offended, such notices can do them no harm. There are some cases, however, wherein claimants have supposed that a tract ten chains wide and forty chains long would be a legal subdivision, and have so notified. But the Commissioner of the General Land Office has unqualifiedly prohibited such being so regarded, and declared that "the smallest legal subdivision which is susceptible of being described by its relative position in a township, and section, is 40 acres of twenty acres square," or the fraction of such 40 acres made by a surveyed claim.
In looking over the abstracts of notifications and observing cases where the claimant had supposed he could take a "40," ten chains wide and forty chains long, and had notified by such a legal subdivision, I have caused such claimant to be notified, in order that if the date of his settlement would permit he might have a survey, and save, perhaps, forty more acres of land by it. But in such cases he should still claim by legal subdivisions, or by any other reason satisfactory to himself, decline to survey. I have nothing further to do with his case than to hasten the adjoining surveys, so that he may be able to get a patent certificate. There are many claims the surveys of which have been returned to the Register and Receiver, at Oregon City, and have laid there for years, without any certificate having been issued. In such cases, of course, no patents can be expected to have issued; though for this delay it is certain that the present incumbents are not responsible. They have only been in office a short time, and I am free to believe that in due time they will prove themselves worthy of their trust.
Few persons, I apprehend, know the true condition of their claim matters, except that a survey has been had a great while since, and think it time to receive their patents.
Inasmuch, therefore, as one or two public journals have conceived it to be their duty, not only to attribute to me unworthy motives in having taken prompt measures to bring up this unfinished business, but to dissuade claimants from a final survey, and all too, in the face of the continual effort, for four or five years, on the part of the Commissioner to get the the Surveyor General's and Register's offices into a condition for the issue of patents, I have deemed it my duty, as a public officer, to place these matters before the claimant; and also, it is my duty to inform them, that I am at all times ready to give all the information they may desire, as to the condition or progress of their titles, whether at this or the Register's office; and letters of enquiry addressed to this office upon that subject, will meet with immediate attention, while no time or pains will be spared in putting the business of the office in a condition to admit of the issue of patents.
W. W. CHAPMAN,
Surveyor General.

Extensive Cursing.
The Pope has sent a large bundle of curses to England after a workman, escaped from his alum manufactory, and who revealed some of the secrets of the art. The form of excommunicating curses the poor mechanic "in his basket and in his store, not only in eating, drinking, and being hungry and thirsty, but in sleeping, in walking, working, standing, resting; not only in the power of his body, but in all of his members, in the hair of his head, temples, forehead, ears, eyebrows, cheeks, jawbones, nostrils, foreteeth and grinders; in lips, throat, shoulders, wrists, arms, hands, veins, groins, thighs, hips, knees, legs, joints, and nails, living and dying." The Pope attaches a great deal of importance to alum, from his pains to curse this poor fellow from the crown of his head to the sole of his foot; and lest his own influence is not enough, he calls in to his aid St. Michael, St. John, St. Peter, St. Andrew, St. Paul, and a whole company of martyrs and confessors, "from the beginning of the world to everlasting ages." The stringency of this bull savors of alum works.
AGRICULTURAL ADDRESSES.—Why do our agricultural societies employ lawyers to write and deliver the addresses at the annual fairs? Are there no farmers who are qualified to write, and who know and can tell as much about agricultural interests as lawyers or any other professional men, and know enough about it to enlighten their hearers upon the subject? but for our part, we should greatly prefer to listen to the remarks of a sensible practical farmer who could detail, in a style however homely, the result of his own observation and experience, rather than an essay on the history of agriculture, or the laudation of rural life, however eloquent it might be, and we hope the time is not far distant when our county agricultural societies will make it a rule to select for their speakers men who know "whereof they speak." There are few countries which cannot furnish men from among their own ranks, competent to address an assemblage of farmers intelligently and profitably.
A CURIOUS LETTER.—TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL.—Col. John Averill writes to the Albany News that he has just been north through Ohio, New York and Indiana, held frequent conversations with northern Democrats, and mixed with people of all occupations, holding much political conversation with them, and says that all shades of Democrats, except here and there one, are becoming abolitionized; they say that were they residents of slave States, they would be "opposed to the duration of slavery," and prefer that "all the Territories be free." Not one that he conversed with held that slavery was right, while all held it to be "a great moral and political evil." He is astonished to find such feelings among northern Democrats, after being told so often at Washington that the only party in the North that is true to the south is the Democratic party. He then denounces Northern Democratic Congressmen for misrepresenting the principles of their constituents, says that they are traitors and not fit associates for Southern men; think such triple deception—first, getting elected as abolitionists, then denying their abolitionism at Washington and falsifying the opinions of their constituents, when talking with Southern men—must sink the whole race of Northern Democratic leaders into unfathomable degradation.
The News calls attention to Col. Averill's letter, and wonders if such is true of Northern Democracy; if so, the News would prefer a Republican to any northern Democrat for President.
USE OF CHLOROFORM IN EUROPE.—It is officially reported to the Emperor of the French that chloroform was used in 30,000 surgical operations in the Crimea by skilled assistant surgeons without a single death. A similar success has followed its administration at Solferino and Magenta; but in English hospitals there have been about 100 deaths in one-third this number of operations in the Crimea. The London deaths from chloroform begin to be so common that coroners' inquests are rarely called for. Everything depends on the mode of administration.
A story has been circulating in the papers respecting a child in New Bedford who was left sleeping in a cradle, and was found by its mother nearly deprived of life by a cat, which had stolen into the cradle and was sucking the infant's breath. The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, a semi-medical organ, advances the opinion that the story is all moonshine so far as the child's breath is concerned, as at such a game the cat would have the worst of the bargain, babies having a much stronger power of suction than cats. The probability is that the cat selected the cradle as a warm bed, and lying on the child's chest, produced violent nightmare, which might have resulted, as it sometimes does, in death.

FREE STATE CONVENTION IN MISSOURI.—In our last issue we spoke of the necessity of a thorough organization of the Free Labor party of this State, and now in order to bring about such an organization we would suggest the propriety of holding a State Convention in order to begin that organization. We would call the attention of our friends to this suggestion, and do most sincerely hope that it will be acted upon. A call can be issued for such Convention to be held in the most suitable place. Let it be a Mass Convention and let there be a good representation from every county in the State. Then and there can be started a most thorough system, appointing a State Central Committee, which Committee can correspond with the different counties, and urge them to immediate action by calling County Conventions, and those Conventions appointing County Central Committees, thus having the whole machinery in good working order in a very short time. We do not feel disposed to stand with our fingers in our mouths, waiting for somebody to do something, and we hope to be pardoned if we seem presumptuous in thus advancing to the work, but we know somebody must do it, and we will not hesitate to urge it, but continue to do so.—St. Joseph Free Democrat.
DEATH OF AN OLD HERO.—Mr. William Owens, of Southampton county, Va., died at his residence, in that county, on the 25th ult. He had attained the age of one hundred years, five months, and eleven days, having been born in the year 1758. Southampton was his native county. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and was in many of the most important engagements against the British, among which was the battle of Brandywine. A most remarkable circumstance in the life of Mr. Owens was, to the day of his death, he had never known what sickness was, and having never tasted medicine, insisted, to the last upon dying a natural death, and refused everything in the shape of physic which was offered him. The only physical pain of any consequence that he had ever endured was from the wound of a musket ball, received at the battle of Brandywine.
NEGRO SALES IN MISSOURI.—The St. Louis News learns from a gentleman of the highest intelligence that the sales of slaves in the Missouri River counties have been enormous this year, and that the receipts of money from that source have had a material effect on the money market, causing matters most palpably. The prices obtained are high, and the slaves are taken invariably to the South—to the cotton States. The gross receipts of money to Missouri from this source, this year, it is thought will amount to millions of dollars. The drain on the slave population commences in Platte county, and follows the Missouri River down, on both sides, to St. Louis.
IS GEN. HOUSTON A DEMOCRAT.—The Canton (Mo.) Reporter don't like Sam Houston, if he is elected Governor of Texas. The Reporter thus displays, in a very commendable form, the old veteran's sins:
"What Democrats, or at least men who call themselves Democrats, can see in Sam Houston to entitle him to the name of Democrat, we can't divine. He opposed the Kansas-Nebraska Bill—fought General Pierce's administration—approved of faction in the Democratic party—belongs to the Know Nothings—wears on Buchanan's administration—bolted a Democratic nomination, and does not endorse the Democratic party or its platform. He's no Democrat for us. A friend at our elbow says 'there are better Democrats in hell.' We don't know—certainly there are no worse."
MORTALITY AMONG PRINTERS IN NEW ORLEANS.—Death has been very busy among the printers of New Orleans. Five of those connected with the Picayune alone, have been carried off since November last. In an editorial on this subject that paper says:
"But the noble sentiment of charity and brotherly feeling that ever characterizes the printers, in whatever part of the world they may be found, in some degree compensates for those losses; and although there is no rule that calls for such action on the part of printers, as a body, the widows and orphans' griefs are often assuaged by the practical kindness and benevolence of the friends and associates of the loved and lost."
The eccentric Englishman who joined Garibaldi's corps, from pure love of shooting at such high game as Austrians, always took out his memorandum book, and made a note on't, every time he brought down one of the enemy. The results of his season of shooting counted up twenty-five killed certainly, and ten more under the head of "uncertain." Among other recruits, Garibaldi had two Frenchmen, members of the Paris Jockey Club, five Americans, a few Germans, and one Chinaman.
A correspondent of the London Times, referring to a recent case of cloke damp in a well, says: "If an empty bucket had been lowered, drawn up and inverted away from the mouth of the well, so as to empty it of its heavy carbonic gas, and this repeated again and again, the pit would have been speedily freed from its noxious damp."

A NOVELTY IN FASHION.—Among the novelties recently introduced in ladies' apparel, is a new article of suspenders. They bear resemblance to those worn by gentlemen except that they are made of delicate, white elastic fabric, with frilled edge about one inch wide, and are attached to the skirt by buttons in like manner. We doubt not this invention will be generally adopted with view to relieve the waist of the unlimited burden, which such habiliments necessarily produce. Reason and experience teach us that the old and absurd method, while followed, impairs the health, impedes locomotion, and tends to ill-health.
EXTRAORDINARY MARRIAGE.—Nine years since, Mr. T. F. Walton, residing in Hamilton, Butler county, Ohio, having been infected with the gold fever, was carried off to California, leaving his wife at home.—He remained there about a month, his spouse expecting in vain to hear from him, until two entire years had elapsed. Supposing him dead or herself deserted, she sued for and obtained a divorce, probably on the ground of protracted absence, and lack of support.
A few months after the divorce was granted Mrs. W. was married again, and, after living with her second husband two years, he died, leaving her an actual, as she was before a legal, widow. She continued in a state of single blessedness for several years, and had determined to wed no other lord, so unfortunate—or fortunate was it?—had she proved with two already.
A fortnight since, Mr. T. F. Walton, the couldn't-be-heard-from, gratified a mythical Micawber, and 'turned up' most unexpectedly in this city. He immediately proceeded to Hamilton, and found his former consort, made explanations—what they were we know not, but sufficient that they proved satisfactory to her—and obtained her consent again to be a candidate for her hand. He began his courtship anew, wooed and won her in three days, and yesterday Mr. and Mrs. W. the original, came to the city, and were married at the Walnut-st. House.—Cincinnati Enquirer.
A late dispatch from Buffalo says: "A convention of self-styled Reformers has been sitting in this city for two days past, comprising the leading abolitionists, spiritualists, free lovers, infidels, fanatics, and women's rights men and women of the country. They have been assiduously searching for the origin of evil and its cure, while their speeches for the most part have been disgusting and blasphemous."
AFRICA COTTON.—President Benson writes that the Liberians have gone into the culture of cotton and sugar in earnest, and that more has been accomplished in way of agricultural pursuits within the last year than in the previous 40 years altogether. 4,000 lbs of African cotton have been imported into Boston by Mr. Edward Atkinson, by way of Liverpool, and is now being spun and wove into cloth.
NEGRO VOTING IN KENTUCKY.—The Winchester Chronicle says: "Of all the acts which have come under our notice, none has given us more contempt for Kentucky Democracy than the voting of negroes in Bath county. We have learned, reliably, too, that four negroes voted the locofoco ticket in Bath county, and that some twenty-eight young men, who were under twenty-one years of age, exercised the right of suffrage. Such are the manner and course pursued by the Democracy to defeat the people."
TO CURE FEVER AND AGUE.—Just before the chill comes on, have a pot of very strong coffee made hot, and when the first chill is felt, pour out about a pint and squeeze the juice of a couple of lemons into it, add a little sugar to make it palatable, drink it off, go to bed and cover up warm. One trial of this often cures, whilst two or three trials never fail.
A small, clean potato, with the end cut off, is a very convenient medium of applying brick dust to knives, keeping it about the right moisture, while the juice of the potato assists in removing stains from the surface. We can get a better polish by this method than by others we have tried, and with less labor.
The editor of the Fredericksburg News, who is summing at the White Sulphur Springs, writes of a colored man whom he has found there, who is an ex-Judge of the Superior Court of Liberia. At present he is superintendent of the bath-house.—He was born free, had \$1600, and concluded to go to Liberia; went, and was appointed Judge by President Roberts. He remained, however, only six months.
PHYSIOLOGY.—Punch, having heard a good deal of the term "stony-hearted," determined upon making a few scientific investigations. His first experiment was upon the heart of an habitual drunkard, which he found changed entirely into quartz.
When we reflect that every mother has children of surprising genius, it is a matter of serious inquiry where all the ordinary men come from who cross our path in every day life.
The telegraph is now so extensively used for correspondence, that the revenue of the post office department is a million dollars less, annually, than it would otherwise be.

Miscellany.
—Mr. Alonzo Hitchcock, of Chicago, claims to be the inventor of the Armstrong gun, for producing which an Englishman was honored with a title of nobility.
—The Baton Rouge (La.) Gazette announces the death of Anous Adams, Esq., so well known throughout the length and breadth of the Union for his zeal and activity as a Mason, and honored and respected by all who knew him. Mr. Adams was, at one time, Grand Master of the State.
—The citizens of Dallas county, Texas, have notified a Methodist preacher, named McKinney, to cease the promulgation of anti-slavery sentiments in his discourses.—They inform him that they will expel all abolition preachers.
—Messrs. Hoe & Co. have recently manufactured and shipped a six-cylinder press for the Sydney Herald, Australia.—This firm has now the exclusive right to manufacture the celebrated Adams press.
—The Sandusky (Ohio) Register notices as among the survivors of the battle of Lake Erie, who were on the stand at the late laying of the corner-stone of a monument to be erected in commemoration of the victory, "Dr. W. T. Taliaferro, of Cincinnati, who was a Kentucky volunteer on the Somers."
—The resignation of Mr. Miller, the State Treasurer of Illinois, is attributed by his enemies to a deficit in his cash account of \$200,000. His friends ask a suspension of public opinion until Mr. Butler, the new incumbent, is heard from.
—The new suspension bridge now in course of erection over the Ohio, at Wheeling, will have a span of over one thousand feet. The estimated cost of the structure is \$37,000.
—Capt. John Everett, aged 84, formerly of Ipswich, N. H., died at Templeton, Mass., Aug. 25. He was one of the first engaged in the manufacture of woollen goods in the town of New Ipswich, from 1804 to 1825. He was the youngest brother of David Everett, the author of those well-known lines, "You'd scarce expect one of my age."
—The profound quiet of New Haven, Conn., was ruthlessly disturbed on a late Saturday by one John Green, "a boy about fifteen years old," who was arrested for "chasing butterflies in an open lot." The papers, in chronicling this unwonted instance of activity, add that "he made some noise while engaged in this harmless amusement, it is true, but then he did not mean anything by it."
—Alton (Ill.) has, according to the Courier, a wonderful young mathematician. He possesses the astonishing faculty of giving—instantly and without calculation—a correct answer to any arithmetical problem that may be put to him.
—Mrs. Harriet Porter, a well-known spiritual medium, died lately, at her residence in New York, of consumption, which it is believed was brought on by her frequently going into the trance state.
—Oliver H. Morgan, of Louisiana, has presented to Bishop Polk the sum of forty thousand dollars, which makes up the required sum of half a million of dollars raised for the purpose of establishing a Southern University.
—It is understood that but \$30,000 have to be paid to complete the purchase of Mount Vernon. Under the superintendence of a competent gentleman the out-houses have been repaired, the old paths, almost obliterated, are being traced and cleaned up, and other measures are in progress to arrest the ravages of decay.
—It is said in London that the recent article in the London Quarterly Review, demonstrating the feasibility of a French invasion of England, is from the pen of Sir Howard Douglas, the eminent military writer.
—The American people have now come to regard prunes as a luxury worth cultivating. The imports of the fruit into the country for the past year were 1,566,943 pounds, against 712,483 in 1856.
—Ferdinand Didot, of Paris, has published letters from Mary Stuart to Bothwell, which throw light upon the assassination of Darnley, and upon the events which preceded her execution.
—The State Department has received information from our Minister at Berlin, Mr. Wright, that Christian Ernst, an American naturalized citizen, who had been compelled by force to enter the Hanoverian army, has, upon the remonstrance of our Government, been dismissed from service.
—Among the nominations to different grades of the Legion of Honor, given on the occasion of the Emperor's fête, are three crosses for the Paris press, and one for the press of the department.
—According to an official return of the Austrian government, just published, the total loss of the army in Italy in killed, wounded, and prisoners, was 1164 officers and 48,560 men.
—The Hartford Press, Sept. 6, announces the death of Col. Samuel Green, at the age of 92 years. He is said to have been the oldest printer in the United States.
—The returns of the late election show that Texas contains a voting population of above seventy thousand.
—An Arkansas paper says that many of the girls in that State grow six feet high. They must be uncommonly well cultivated.
—It is estimated that the tobacco crop of Connecticut this year will be worth one million of dollars.
—The whole number of dogs destroyed according to law, in New York city, during the present season, was 9,682 dogs and 387 puppies, at a cost of 1 1/2 cents each.