

BY D. W. CRAIG.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The Argus will be furnished at Three Dollars per annum, if paid in advance.

The Oregon Argus.

A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Interests of the Laboring Classes, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.

VOL. VI.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FEBRUARY 23, 1861.

No. 46.

RATES OF ADVERTISING: One square (twelve lines, or less, breviter measure) one insertion..... \$ 3 00

Upon a sweetly smiling plain there stands a florid, growing work of human hands, which overlooks the fair Willamette stream.

There is no spot on all this far-off coast that can of half the native beauty boast of this sweet hill, which, in a poet's strain, well might be termed the 'loveliest of the plain.'

The pale-faced student and the studious maid, that pore at midnight in pursuit of bliss; the busy merchant, as he wraps his bills;

Col. Lander is said to scout the idea of a pigmy Republic on the Pacific, and ridicules mercilessly the supposition that practical men of California and Oregon will want to throw away all the advantages of their attachment to a great and powerful Government.

Exports.—The steamer Panama left last night for San Francisco with the following cargo: 2,200 sacks flour; 1,977 sacks wheat; 2,811 boxes apples; 40 boxes butter; 24 cases bacon; 1 roll leather; 1 pkz. of fruit trees; 1 pkz. merchandise; and 126 hides.—Advertiser of Thursday.

In all their striking majesty arise, The study oak that stands with solemn pride, The low ring fir, the yew tree close beside,

When Baron de Kalb met General Marion, during the revolution, he expressed amazement that so many "South Carolinians were running to take British protection."

The large export of flour and grain which is going forward at the present time, seems to be out of all due proportion of California.

St. Louis correspondent says that "the ramored intention of Gov. Wise's Minute Men and other rash individuals, to prevent the inauguration of Lincoln, has roused Gen. Scott into a declaration that he will be responsible for it with his head."

Accounts from Lagos, West Coast of Africa, to Nov. 8th, state that the King of Dahomey was continuing his wholesale sacrifice of human life. The number already murdered at this one ceremony amounted to 1700, and many more await a similar fate.

The National Intelligencer says that there are only four States which have laws at all conflicting with the fugitive slave law, and that law being constitutional, the State laws which conflict with it are nullities.

Col. Lander is said to scout the idea of a pigmy Republic on the Pacific, and ridicules mercilessly the supposition that practical men of California and Oregon will want to throw away all the advantages of their attachment to a great and powerful Government.

MULTNOMAH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The Society held its annual election on the 21st inst., and made the following choice of officers: President, Thos. Frazer; Vice Presidents, John Powell and P. A. Marquand; Treasurer, J. D. Holman; Secretary, J. M. Burrill; Executive Committee, the President, Secretary, and Messrs. Duffur, Bybee and H. Failing.—Advertiser.

DEER GUY.—Oregon is probably lost.—I have resolved to see seed with my Native state. The election of Lincoln has did the job. Our only trust now is in god and a Southern union.

A Dutchman's heart-rending soliloquy is described thus: "She looks Stony Mick's so much better as I, because he's got a couple tollars more as I has!"

Evacuation of Fort Moultrie. The New York World gives a very interesting account of Maj. Anderson's evacuation of Fort Moultrie and his occupation of Fort Sumpter, written by a participant in the affair.

MAJ. ANDERSON AND FORT SUMPTER.—One of the Baltimoreans who returned from Fort Sumpter details an impressive incident that took place there on Maj. Anderson taking possession. It is known that the American flag, brought away from Fort Moultrie, was raised at Fort Sumpter precisely at noon on the 27th Dec.

As the earnest, solemn words of the speaker ceased, the men responded "Amen," with a fervency that perhaps they had never before experienced. Maj. Anderson drew the "Star Spangled Banner" up to the top of the staff, and the band broke out with the National air of "Hail Columbia," and loud and exultant cheers, repeated again and again, were given by the officers, soldiers and workmen.

THE PRESIDENT'S NEW POLICY.—The President remains firm in carrying out the new and vigorous policy which has been adopted. He said recently, in reply to the suggestion of apprehended difficulty in inaugurating Mr. Lincoln, "If I live till the 4th of March, I will ride to the Capitol with Old Abe, whether I am assassinated or not."

COINCIDENCE.—It is mentioned as a singular coincidence, that a nephew of Maj. Anderson, the commander at Fort Moultrie, is the class-mate and class of Mr. Lincoln's son at Harvard College.

REvolutionary SOLDIER DEAD.—Robert Curry, a soldier of the Revolution, died last week near Cincinnati, aged 102. He was born in York, Pa., in 1758.

CAUTION.—An Albany paper mentions the death of a young man from the habit of sucking his pen. The poison from the ink penetrated a slight wound in his lip.

DEAN Swift said, with much truth, "It is useless for us to attempt to reason a man out of a thing he has never been reasoned into."

NEVER fear a man who threatens you with an injury; the silent enemy is the most dangerous.

TAKING IT BACK.—The falsehoods and misrepresentations made by Southern Fire enters, in the presence of their slaves, as to the character of Lincoln and Hamlin, and the designs of the Black Republican party, have done their work among the servile population, and no master's life is safe.

THE query is, however, whether, having lied to them once, the negroes will now believe them. They will undoubtedly find it harder to undo that falsehood than to utter it.

THE PRESIDENT'S NEW POLICY.—The President remains firm in carrying out the new and vigorous policy which has been adopted. He said recently, in reply to the suggestion of apprehended difficulty in inaugurating Mr. Lincoln, "If I live till the 4th of March, I will ride to the Capitol with Old Abe, whether I am assassinated or not."

COINCIDENCE.—It is mentioned as a singular coincidence, that a nephew of Maj. Anderson, the commander at Fort Moultrie, is the class-mate and class of Mr. Lincoln's son at Harvard College.

REvolutionary SOLDIER DEAD.—Robert Curry, a soldier of the Revolution, died last week near Cincinnati, aged 102. He was born in York, Pa., in 1758.

CAUTION.—An Albany paper mentions the death of a young man from the habit of sucking his pen. The poison from the ink penetrated a slight wound in his lip.

DEAN Swift said, with much truth, "It is useless for us to attempt to reason a man out of a thing he has never been reasoned into."

NEVER fear a man who threatens you with an injury; the silent enemy is the most dangerous.

THE Right to Secede from the Union. This is claimed or asserted by a portion of the Southern journals. An elaborate attempt has been made to defend this doctrine of late by Hon. Wm. D. Porter in a tract printed by Evans & Cogswell, of Charleston, S. C.

We hail an attempt from that quarter to reason on this subject as a favorable omen. When questions of this kind are tried in the scales of right reason we need have no fear for the result. But we regret to see in that tract frequent appeals to the pride and passion of the South, not to submit to the apprehended domination ("oppression") of the North.

Our doctrine is that the States, before the adoption of the Constitution, were sovereign and independent; that the Federal Union is a union of States, and that the Constitution is a covenant or compact between them, and the fundamental law of their Union; and that as much as the covenant or compact was between sovereigns, and there is no umpire or common interpreter between them; each has the right to judge for itself of infractions of the contract, and to determine for itself the mode and measure of redress.

THE debts of a firm are money and stocks which can be reckoned on the debtor side of a ledger and be cancelled by cash. The debts of united States begin to be something else besides money, from the moment of their union.

There was originally the united obligation to protect the individual citizen at home or abroad. This necessity, so sorely felt at first, caused the Union.

This obligation has increased as citizens have multiplied. If its force then was as three millions to one, its force now is as thirty millions to one. Every citizen claims and he has a right to claim the whole power of the national arm in his defence against an oppression.

We have pledged that power to him.—We told Austria so in the case of Kozta—we have told Louis Napoleon so in the case of our French citizens, whom he has wished to impress into his service.

On the other hand, it is the duty of the nation to enforce the Union at whatever cost. If the recovery and defence of a few American seamen whom England had impressed into her navy, was sufficient cause for us to go to war with her in 1812, surely the duty we owe to all our citizens is sufficient cause for enforcing our national authority, wherever it is assailed.

We speak of the great national duty owed to every citizen, because it was the first that confederated and consolidated our nation, and made us one, one and indissoluble, and because springing from necessity it is the strongest bond of Union.

But there are other national obligations, one of which I will mention. Besides going abroad, our citizens move from place to place within our national domain under a pledge of the Union. The

to absolve himself from all company obligations.

What copartnership could be formed on such principles? What firm could do business, if one partner could at any time withdraw and repudiate all obligations? What havoc would be made of creditors if the law did not shield them from such villainous nullification! But the eternal principle of right is their safeguard, enforced as it is by all the power of the law, and mightier force of the common judgment and conscience of men.

But what is the destruction of a business firm, by a repudiating partner, compared with the ruin of a nation by the repudiation and secession of a State? If the less evil should be prevented by the strong arm of the law; if this vicious principle should be swept away by the indignant voice of a public conscience, how much more should a seceding State be restrained and held to her duty by all the power of the government! And with what indignation ought the public voice to rebuke and condemn to eternal oblivion such a doctrine of secession!

But it may be objected that a sovereign State ought to have the privilege to secede, after it has met all its obligations, as a partner in a firm, after he has met his.

We reply that although two States, like two partners in a compact, are equally sovereign, in proposing and forming a Union, there is such a vast difference in the objects of the Union, that the comparison fails afterwards. They indeed continue sovereign partners in the firm, but they necessarily assume such obligations as they can fulfill only by continuing in the Union.

A firm can dissolve by paying its debts, but the debts of united States can never be paid except by their remaining united States.

The debts of a firm are money and stocks which can be reckoned on the debtor side of a ledger and be cancelled by cash. The debts of united States begin to be something else besides money, from the moment of their union.

There was originally the united obligation to protect the individual citizen at home or abroad. This necessity, so sorely felt at first, caused the Union.

This obligation has increased as citizens have multiplied. If its force then was as three millions to one, its force now is as thirty millions to one. Every citizen claims and he has a right to claim the whole power of the national arm in his defence against an oppression.

We have pledged that power to him.—We told Austria so in the case of Kozta—we have told Louis Napoleon so in the case of our French citizens, whom he has wished to impress into his service.

On the other hand, it is the duty of the nation to enforce the Union at whatever cost. If the recovery and defence of a few American seamen whom England had impressed into her navy, was sufficient cause for us to go to war with her in 1812, surely the duty we owe to all our citizens is sufficient cause for enforcing our national authority, wherever it is assailed.

We speak of the great national duty owed to every citizen, because it was the first that confederated and consolidated our nation, and made us one, one and indissoluble, and because springing from necessity it is the strongest bond of Union.

But there are other national obligations, one of which I will mention. Besides going abroad, our citizens move from place to place within our national domain under a pledge of the Union. The