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The Oregon Argus.

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

Vol. VII.

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No. 1.

Table with 2 columns: Description of advertising rates and corresponding prices.

THE number of insertions should be noted on the margin of an advertisement, otherwise it will be published till forbidden, and charged accordingly.

For the Argus.

Trampling on the American Flag. At the Richmond (Va.) Theater, not long since, an actress undertook to sing "The Star-Spangled Banner," but was promptly hushed down.

Let solemn wreathe our festal halls, And tears our cheeks bedew, In vain be mirth and music's calls, To grief we wake anew.

Our country's flag, our country's pride, Has in the dust been laid, Hushed, trampled on, and thrust aside, Near Monticello's shade—

The hand which to the nation gave A Chieftain great as good, And, when in death he slept, A grave where layes Potomac's flood.

Virginia, how couldst thou do this! How tarish thus thy name? These, once bright stars, we must not miss, Though darken'd now thy fame.

Was it for this thy Henry plead, The "Alpine passage" made? Was it for this thy heroes bled, Midst battle's strife were laid?

O, free thee from oppression's chain, Lift high the Union flag; Haste, cleanse its stripes from every stain, Nor fals with onwards lag!

Think of the hearts that now lie dead, Praise the boon they gave thee; Never o'er their graves let traitors tread, Falsehood ne'er betray thee.

While wave thy cedar and thy pine, Thy country's banner save; The weak Palmetto's southern clime Too soon would be thy grave.

Forever perish Treason, By Liberty put down, As in years gone, thy motto be, A pure fame thy crown.

March 25, 1861. ZALMONA. See Wirt's Life of Patrick Henry.

The Way of the Widows.

A relative of Daniel Webster, whom we will call Col. Webster, had the misfortune to lose his wife, to whom he was tenderly attached. He was a man characterized by much of the coolness, wit, and shrewdness of the family.

The Colonel pondered over the matter, and came to a favorable conclusion. He was not acquainted with the lady, and, indeed, had never seen her; but the choice of so excellent a man as his friend, he felt persuaded, must be worthy.

He was graciously received and invited to remain. A view of the dame and an evening spent with her did not prove as propitious as his hopes had led him to expect.

However, the Colonel was a matter of fact man; and having come upon special business, he concluded to accomplish it, and take the hazards. Accordingly, about the time of retiring, he opened the subject, and stated the purpose of his visit, and his belief that they could increase their mutual happiness by filling for each other the places of their deceased partners.

Herupon the widow burst into violent weeping—was surprised he dare do such a thing—could never love another man—would never wed again, never—would consecrate all her life to the dear, dear loved one, so cruelly torn from her arms, and now in the cold, cold grave—and so on, in true widow fashion.

The poor Colonel, grieved and astounded, though not altogether dissatisfied, apologized earnestly. He was lonely and felt the need of a companion—had cherished the friendship of her husband, who was his intimate friend—had thought that their union might be mutually desirable and beneficial, and made quite a lengthy speech, in self-justification and to soothe the disturbed feelings of the unhappy lady, and finally she dried her tears and ceased her lamentations, and the scene was closed by the Colonel's retiring to bed.

In the morning the widow had recovered her peace of mind, and was all attention, graciousness and smiles to the good Colonel. He bore himself with the amenity of a courtly gentleman, and as soon as breakfast was ended, prepared to start.—The widow seemed in a mighty flurry, and urged a stay to dinner, but the Colonel felt obliged to be on the move homeward. At last he was at the door, and offered his hand for a parting pressure. The widow clasped it, held it for a moment, trembled, blushed, turned aside her head, and gently murmured:

"Well, Colonel, I have been thinking of—of—of what you said, and I—I—I think I might be induced!"

The Colonel gave her a half-quizzical, half-serious look, and replying with "Good morning, madam," entered his chaise, and left for home, an instructed man.

MAJOR ANDERSON.—This officer, whose name is now a household word, is considered one of the best artillerymen in the army. He is the author of the standard book on that arm of the service used at West Point and in the army. The country may rest assured that if he sees his guns at all, he will use them well.

Plain Talk about Traitors in Tennessee.

This inflated bigot (Jeff. Davis) made a speech at Stevenson, on Thursday night overflowing with blood and thunder. Tennessee is not scared! Her sons have seen the elephant.

Can Jeff. Davis scare Tennessee? He says that the border States will come into the confederacy in sixty days. We will simply say, that Tennessee has declared for the stars and stripes, and that vile traitors, such as he is, had better be looking out for a "safe retreat in some vast wilderness—some contiguity of space," in which to hide his head from an indignant and outraged people.

He boasted of his preparation for war? This same blusterer, in a speech a few years ago, ventured to slander the Tennessee volunteers. We know what we say, when we assert that, with all his bluster, Tennessee could, if so disposed, subdue the confederacy in a short time.—He calculates on soldiers of Tennessee to aid him in his wicked and finisish purpose of breaking up this glorious government.

He is as proud and as vain as Beelzebub. He thinks that he holds the "kingdoms of the world, and the powers thereof," in the hollow of his hand. He is looking for the English government to bow to him. He says the English government will acknowledge the cottonocracy. This is all nonsense. The English government, as well as all others, know how to treat the flag of the United States, and so will Jeff Davis. Let him attempt to subdue the Federal Government, let him fire at Fort Sumter, or at any other point of the United States, where our flag now floats, and he is as sure to be long as that the sun will rise to-morrow morning, unless he runs, like a coward, to a country beyond the reach of Tennessee. We know hundreds of men in his seedling cottonocracy, who are ready to tie the rope for the hangman.

Jeff. Davis has been producing discontent, and preaching treason as long as we can stand it. He has been a vile conspirator against his government for years. There is no use in soothing our people any longer. Traitors must suffer unless they stop their treason. We may be asked to be patient. How in the name of High Heaven can a man be patient when a traitorous flag is flaunted in our face?—when a traitor comes to our very border, and talks treason to our country openly?

He talks of seceding cities. Vile rebel! Inflated bigot! Let him try Nashville.—Our readers must indulge us a little. We cannot forbear to denounce treason, and, whenever we cease to do so, "may our right hand forget her cunning." We have borne with treason as long as it is possible to do so. Talk of tearing down our fair fabric of government! Never! never! Jeff. Davis is on the road to the Gallows, and his followers had better be careful! An indignant public will not forever endure in-sult and treason plotting. We have lived prosperously and happily for three quarters of a century, and we know that Tennessee never will give up this free and happy country.

Let the vile traitor and his foul minions come. Tennessee never has forsaken the glorious flag of free and happy America, and, by the Eternal, she never will! She has always conquered the enemies of the country, and will again, if required to do so. This is our country, and all the powers of earth cannot force us to give it up.—Nashville Democrat.

GEN. TWIGGS.—The New York News, a democratic paper, remarks:

The secession of Gen. Twiggs creates no particular surprise. His undivided sympathies with the Southern Confederacy were well known to the Government; hence his supersadure by Colonel Waite. The army suffers no great loss by the step.—Indeed, there are, or were, those in the army who had a very poor opinion of his pluck. The late Gen. Riley, one of the bravest men that ever fought under the stars and stripes, once said in the hearing of the writer, "Gen. Twiggs may be a very brave man, sir, but he can't prove it by me." Let him pass.

The New York Tribune, makes the following remarks:

The most fortunate thing that ever happened to Benedict Arnold, was the birth of David E. Twiggs, late General in the United States Army, now simply a disgraced soldier, and a dishonored old man; for though the advantage of this monopoly of shame has been at last taken from the traitor of the Revolution and shared with a worthy rival. Henceforth the name of this bad soldier may assist to point the moral of the patriotic orator, and warn the young to beware of treason.

UNDER WHICH KING?—The insinuation lately thrown out in certain quarters with regard to an underground movement for the annexation of Canada and the formation of a new Northern Union—leaving the Southern States to sink or swim by themselves—is occasioning a great revision of sentiment even among the fire-eaters, and places the whole question of disunion in an entirely novel light. With such an addition to her boundaries and wealth, and the favoring influences of the British Government, the new republic would exercise a power in the affairs of the world, and of this continent in particular, which would be perfectly irresistible. The geographical formation of the North indicates such an event as likely at some time to occur, and the absolute retirement of the South would at once afford the excuse.—It now remains for the Northrons to say with which they prefer to be in alliance—the Southern States or Canada.—S. F. Mirror.

A pretty large club is being formed in La Porte, Cal., for subscriptions to Parson Brownlow's paper, the Knoxville (Tenn.) Whig.

President Lincoln's Cabinet.

The following sketch of the Cabinet is from the San Francisco Times: First in position as in ability and enlarged views of statesmanship, is William H. Seward, Secretary of State, ripe in scholarly accomplishments, public experience and devoted patriotism. It would be impertinent to tell the reader who Mr. Seward is, and what he is. The American people know his biography by heart. We may say that he has no superior among the public men of our country, nor is there one more deserving of the country's confidence.

Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, is one of the ablest and firmest of the whole Republican party. Like Mr. Seward, he has long been an ardent advocate of the main principles of that party, and like him has filled many prominent and important positions, and all of them with credit to himself, his party, and his country. He has been Governor of Ohio for four years, and a Senator in Congress, last year was elected by the Legislature of his State as successor of Mr. Pugh in the United States Senate for six years from the 4th of March, 1861.

Simon Cameron, Secretary of War, is a self-made man, a printer by trade, twice elected to the United States Senate. Like Mr. Chase, he gives up his Senatorial honors and influence to take position under the new Administration. He is a man of fine abilities.

Gideon Wells, Secretary of the Navy, also a printer and editor, like Cameron, a long time Postmaster of Hartford, an old line Jacksonian Democrat, and formerly, we believe, a United States Senator. His ability is of a very high order.

Montgomery Blair, Postmaster-General, of Maryland, comes from good stock, his father having been perhaps the greatest political editor the country has ever produced. He was Jackson's sword arm when the Globe newspaper was in its glory. We know but little of the son now appointed to a position in the Cabinet.

Caleb B. Smith, Secretary of the Interior, is one of the best stump speakers of the Great West, a man of indomitable industry, of much practical knowledge and experience, very popular, and every way capable.

Of the Hon. Edward Bates, of Missouri, Attorney-General, not much need be said, since the nation has long recognized in him one of the ablest lawyers who belong to the profession. The Cabinet, as a whole, is one that challenges comparison.

TWO "TYPES" IN THE CABINET.—Simon Cameron, our new Secretary of War, and Horatio King, late Post Master General, are both practical printers. When quite a young man Mr. King was associated with Mr. Hamlin, now Vice President, in publishing a democratic paper at Paris, Maine, his native place. Mr. Cameron followed the printing business for several years before entering the political arena, and Vice President Hamlin "stuck type" nearly two years prior to going into the practice of law.

BABIES.—In a late number of the Eclectic Medical Journal the editor remarks that babies often cry from actual thirst.—The natural supply is intended as food not drink, and makes them thirsty as a cool liquid would not. They cry, he thinks for cold water. Many a mother anxious to know what all the little sufferer that it should cry so loudly, and imagining it to be suffering from pain administers some unnecessary opiate, or pain killer, when all the child needs is a few teaspoonfuls of good, pure, sparkling cold water. As the experiment is a very simple one, let all mothers try it.

GAMBLING AT SAN FRANCISCO.—It is said that at no time has gambling been carried on to a greater extent in this city than at present. We are told that some of the finest buildings in the most frequent streets, are devoted to this detestable business;—that men engaged in mercantile affairs, are nightly plundered by the adepts, not only of their own funds, but of those belonging to confiding friends, to an extent little dreamed of by those who are not posted in the secrets of these well named "gambling hells."—Journal.

CALIFORNIA ORANGES.—The Sacramento News says: "We were called upon yesterday, to look at a cluster, or bunch of oranges on exhibition at the St. George Hotel, grown in the orchard of Dr. Thos. J. White, at Los Angeles—and we must say, that of all the productions of this rich and fruitful country, we have never seen anything to surpass it. On a stem not larger than a man's thumb, and not more than about eighteen inches in length, were growing twenty-five beautiful, fully ripe, and luscious oranges, each one of which was as large as an ordinary sized apple."

Maj. Anderson is just now the most popular man in the country. This shows that it is always safe for a man to do his duty.

DECLARING THE PRESIDENT.—

Wednesday, Feb. 13, was one of the most charming days—clear, bright, and balmy, the still air scarcely sufficing to stir the flag floating over the Capitol, and the atmosphere soft as May, and of delightful temperature. Thousands of freemen, with their wives and daughters, thronged the Capitol to witness the sublimely simple process by which a true Republican is proclaimed as the ruler over a mighty people. The ceremonies took place in the great hall of the House of Representatives—the largest room in the country, and a most gorgeous one in its finish and fittings. The House being assembled, the Senate, preceded by the Vice-President and his officers, entered the chamber and occupied seats ranged for them in front of the Representatives. Mr. Breckinridge, seating himself by the side of Speaker Pennington, assumed the Chair, and announced, with easy dignity of manner, that the Constitution devolved upon him the duty of having the electoral votes counted there and then, and of announcing the result. The tellers previously appointed by the two houses took their seats, and proceeded to open and read aloud the reports of the Electoral College of each State, beginning with Maine and ending with Oregon and Minnesota. Through the long and tedious process, the audience were silent and most patient. When, at last, all the reports had been opened, Senator Trumbull addressed the Chair, stating the number of electoral votes cast for each candidate, and the Vice President announced that Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin had been chosen President and Vice-President of the United States, for four years, beginning on the 4th of March next. And that was all that Republican simplicity has substituted for the form and parade and show which attends the proclamation of a ruler in countries where the divine right to reign is recognized. These briefly-stated proceedings over, the Senate passed out and returned to its legislative hall, and the vast assemblage—without the slightest sign of approbation or disapprobation—left their seats and retired as gravely as though in the presence of royalty itself.

Forty babies in ten days!—As an instance of the rapid increase in importance and population of the Western country—as an instance of the abundance of the crop in Scott county—we chronicle the fact, we point with feelings of just county pride to the imposing fact, that the full number of forty births has taken place within the town of Le Claire within the space of ten days! Talk about your big potatoes; about your wheat forty bushels to the acre; talk about secession and disunion, and all such stuff—that ain't nothing compared with this mighty vindication of Iowa progress and Iowa institutions. Forty jubilant fathers; forty cradles to rock; forty thousand screams!—Jerusalem, what a country! The doctors say that the good mothers are quite "as well as could be expected." Thank you, and the children are all smart, healthy, and pretty.—Davenport Gazette.

A POWERFUL NATION.—The six States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, which have as they think left the Union, have by the census of 1860 a population of 2,257,647 whites, and 2,165,721 slave and free blacks; in all 4,423,368; just about enough whites to control the blacks, leaving none to trouble their neighbors by offensive operations. There is really no wonder they deprecate a coercion they have so little power to resist.

THE MAN WHO WON'T SECEDE WITH HIS STATE.—The New Orleans True Delta returns its acknowledgments to the Hon. Edward Bonigny, the faithful Representative of the First District, for a bound copy of the report of the Covode Committee, a species of Newgate calendar record of the infamies of Buchanan, Colh, Floyd, Toucy, & Co. in the administration of this Government, and for other interesting public documents.

GENERAL SCOTT.—The most intimate friendship has sprung up between Gen. Scott and President Lincoln, and it is said that the salute of one hundred guns fired by order of the former, on the harmonious termination of the Peace Conference, was heartily approved of by Lincoln. Gen. Scott has been consulted freely about the appointment of the Cabinet.

LETTERS FROM THE INTERIOR OF LOUISIANA say that the slaves are daily growing more and more disobedient, and punishment is daily inflicted, where the lash had not been used for months. A lady had deserted her plantation, leaving it to the negroes, and fled to New Orleans. Those who have negroes to hire find no employment for them, and they are thus an expense on their hands.

MOTTO FOR ALL TRUE AMERICANS.—Mr. Dix, our late Secretary of the Treasury, has given utterance to a sentiment that should be emblazoned in every public place from one end of the Union to the other:—"IF ANY ONE ATTEMPTS TO PULL DOWN THE AMERICAN FLAG, SHOOT HIM ON THE SPOT!"

LATE FROM THE EAST.

DATES TO MARCH 18.

We copy the following news from the Red Bluff Independent: FORT CHERCHILL, March 26, 8 1/2 P. M. The Pony Express has arrived. The following is the Union's report:

ST. LOUIS, March 16. An authorized order for the evacuation of Fort Sumter is not yet issued. All accounts agree that such will be the ultimate policy of the Administration. No other course can be pursued, as it would be impossible to provide reinforcements in time. It is generally conceded that it would require ten thousand men aided by all the naval force at command. Gen. Scott says it is a military necessity, and it is reported that he takes the entire responsibility of the step.

Some of the ultra Republicans denounce the step bitterly, but others, while regretting the necessity, concede that it is unavoidable. Among the latter is the New York Tribune. Republicans throw the entire blame on the previous administration. Union men in border States, strongly urge that the policy will be pursued, of evacuating the forts.

Southern commissioners have addressed a communication to Seward, and the latter has asked time for consideration. The matter will probably be referred to the Senate. Meanwhile everything at the South remains quiet. There are no important movements to be reported.

Latest advices from Texas state Fort Brown will be quietly given up by Capt. Hill, as soon as means for transporting troops arrive. The terms were agreed upon on the 6th of March, between the Texas commissioners and Hill. Texas troops at Brazos are fortifying the Island to make it impregnable.

The Texas Convention has passed a resolution authorizing the transfer of State military to the Provisional Government.—Gov. Houston refused to recognize the Convention and says he and the Legislature, which meets March 18th, will attend to the public questions now arising.

The Georgia Convention has made a similar transfer of forts, arsenals and arms. The Southern Congress have adopted a permanent Constitution. The President to serve six years, and officers under the grade of Cabinet, during good behavior. Cabinet officers eligible to seats in Congress. No difficulty is said to exist in obtaining the fifteen million loan.

Virginia, Missouri and Arkansas Conventions have not yet come to any conclusions, or test vote. Indications favor a Border Slave State Conference. Cassius M. Clay has accepted the Spanish Mission. Corwin has not decided on the Mexican Mission.

The United States Senate, by resolution, have directed the Secretary to omit from the roll the names of six Senators whose seats are vacated. The Republican candidate for Governor in New Hampshire is about 5,000 ahead, so far as heard from.

The bill amendatory of the Personal Liberty Law has been ordered to a third reading in the Maine House. David Wilmot has been elected U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania. The United States Supreme Court has decided in favor of Mrs. Gaines, and gives her the whole estate of David Clark.

The contract has been closed for moving the Butterfield mail to the Central route. Time, 16 days, Sundays included. The Pony Express is to run three times a week in eight days, to commence on the 15th of June. The mail on the southern route is expected to stop soon.

ST. LOUIS, March 18th. The news since the departure of the last Pony does not alter the position of national affairs in any particular. Very little requires to be added. There is no official announcement of the evacuation of Fort Sumter, though it is generally understood that the evacuation has been agreed upon.

The Northern press generally treat the step as unavoidable. The reported intention to withdraw the Federal troops created great rejoicing at Charleston. The attention of the Administration is mostly engaged by the appointments, but none yet have been made affecting the Pacific coast. It is understood that the appointments will be all made in the Free States before those in the slave States.

Washington has been agitated with rumors of a collision, but this is probably a canard. Nothing important has been done by the Southern Confederacy, and no steps have been taken by the Commissioners at Washington. The U. S. troops in Florida are quietly withdrawing from the State. The secessionists are making strenuous efforts to carry their point in the Virginia Convention, without, however, any indication of success. The only test vote had in the Missouri Convention is against the secessionists two to one, though that vote was not strictly a test of secession strength.

A sharp altercation took place in the Senate on Friday on Douglas's resolution to inquire into the Forts, between Douglas and Fessenden, which at one time threatened a fight, but the matter was passed off. The Senate has done nothing yet but confirm appointments. A pretty strong party exists at Charleston against the ratification of the Montgomery Convention. Commissioners to England and France have been appointed by Jeff. Davis. The Southern Commissioners to the European Governments, will sail from New Orleans, via Havans, on the 27th of March. Breckinridge addressed the Senate today on the Douglas resolution relative to the Forts.

Miscellaneous.

The Abolitionists, with Wendell Phillips and Wm. Lloyd Garrison at their head, are delighted over the prospect of disunion. Garrison says "the covenant with hell" is broken at last. Well, the joy of the Abolitionists is not a whit worse than the apologies of covert traitors, but it ought to open the eyes of seceders to one of the prospective effects of their folly.

The railroads crossing the Western prairies are protected from the drifting snow in winter by high fences, which serve in summer to keep the cattle from the track.—In the winter of 1855, these fences were constructed, the Illinois Central railroad company expended \$100,000 in endeavoring to keep their track clear.

Ex-Governor Call, of Florida, has published an appeal to the people of that State, in which he earnestly protests against secession. He says: "Now, my fellow-citizens, on my responsibility, and under the halter, if you please, before God and in the name of my country, I proclaim, that when the deed shall be done, it will be treason—high treason—against our Constitution Government."

The London correspondent of the Dublin Telegraph, in noting the death of a relative of the Bishop Fenlon, is reminded that five months ago died at a convent in Boulogne, at a very advanced age, and after a most edifying life of penitence, the original representative of the "Goddess of Reason," enthroned by the sanguinary mob of the great French Revolution.

Thirty-seven States and Territories have contributed \$1,969 39 to the Washington Monument Fund, through the boxes placed in the post offices. The smallest sum, thirty-five cents, came from Kansas. New Hampshire comes next, and contributed ninety-six cents. The heaviest contribution, \$1,126 63, came from California.

It is a singular fact, says a St. Louis paper, that on a certain portion of the Illinois prairies corn is being used as fuel in lieu of coal, and is found an excellent substitute. In the districts referred to, corn is 12 1/2 cents per bushel, and coal is 15 to 17 cents. Not only is the difference in price in favor of the corn, but a bushel of it gives more heat than a bushel of coal.

The Sons of Temperance of Massachusetts have within the last three months increased their divisions 8, their memberships 1,709, and their lady visitors 1,698; they have also held 189 public meetings.—Present number of divisions, 197, members, 16,075; lady visitors, 21,222.

Thomas Winans, of Baltimore, next to Astor, of New York, is the wealthiest man in the United States. He is said to be worth \$20,000,000, and made this splendid fortune by railway speculations in Russia.

At a recent calico party, the following was one of the regular toasts: "Woman—The lover of Union and the friend of annexation. Like our country, her manifest destiny is to spread her skirts." This was responded to by nine cheers and a whoop!

"The little darling!—he didn't strike Mrs. Smith's baby a purpose, did he? It was a mere accident, wasn't it, Sammy?"—"Yes, mar, to be sure it was, and if he don't behave himself, I'll crack him again."—A writer asks, through the Farmer's Department of the "Dollar Newspaper," if any one can inform a poor man the best way to start a little nursery? The Houston Times says, "Certainly—get married."

A member of the Missouri Legislature recently proposed to have the public printing done by convict labor, but it was found that there was no printer in the penitentiary, and never had been one there. Balzac ascribes the fall of many women to the beauty of their figures; their vanity preventing them from enjoying such knowledge alone.

"Feed a husband to his liking, and you can wear a new bonnet every time the sun shines," was the maxim of a very wise woman. More than one thousand years ago, the Chinese built suspension bridges of more than four hundred feet span.

There are in England and Wales 300,000 Sunday school teachers, and 2,500,000 Sunday school scholars. The farewell of some wives to their husbands every morning—buy and buy!

A STATE MADE TO SPEAK.—The statue of Gen. Jackson, before the President's house, was most curiously ornamented on a Sunday morning lately. The old anti-secessionist held in his hand the stars and stripes, while the blue cockade was tied under the tail of the horse. Great indignation was felt by the Seceders, and it was rumored they would request the Commissioners to ask for an explanation.

President Buchanan was threatened with assassination in Baltimore four years ago, and he was consequently taken through without stopping—three hours in advance of the proposed time. It is well for this nearly forgotten fact now to be recalled.

"'Tis conscience," says Shakespeare, "that makes cowards of us all." If conscience only had an influence, the human race would be as brave as a man not afraid of marriage.

The most smiling and placid countenance oftentimes marks the most dangerous temper. The most terrible thunder-bolt we ever saw was shot from a cloud arched by a beautiful rainbow.