



... If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot! —Gen. Dix.

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. Adams, Editor.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1861

What of the Night

In a time of profound peace and general prosperity, a telescope that would enable a man to peer through the future, and see all that is to happen in the next five years, would find a ready sale at a great price. In a time of revolution like this, when bubbles on the surface of the "many waters" of the Apocalypse indicate a not very distant earthquake that shall try the European governments, and when our own soil a formidable internal war is now fairly inaugurated, what price would not be given for a peep only for two minutes through some Yankee invention that would present in panorama the great events that are shortly to come to pass? The world is every day having its appetite for news sensibly sharpened. Every man you meet on the pavement going on a trot stops and asks, "What's the news?" The farmer, hastening to market, stops his plowing steed in the middle of the road, on meeting an acquaintance returning from town and eagerly requires for the last "pou news." In our cities, no sooner is a batch of news devoured, than the paper containing it is thrown down, and the reader sets about trying to make himself comfortable till the "next pony." As a general thing, the heads of the masses are filled up with imperfect images of rapidly transpiring events, now taking place over a vast area of territory known as the theatre of war. Each event, no matter how trivial, that makes a news item, has a meaning—its meaning contains its only power to move the heart and incite to action.

To correctly understand the meaning of everything that has transpired since the beginning of this rebellion, in its incipient workings for thirty years back, would be to pretty thoroughly understand the real character of the moral leprosy of treason that has infected so large a portion of the body politic. Understanding the character of the disorder, we may know what kind of a remedy to apply. To predict with certainty the time in which a cure will be effected, of what shape the disorder may yet assume, cannot probably be done by any one. We believe there are a few men, and not few, who have pretty correct notions as to the origin, the future history, and the end of this pro-slavery rebellion; which, for being unapproved mean in its conception, dark in its design, and fiendish in its execution, reposes for which the Devil and his make-strappers are now contending in hell. The majority of our political leaders and professed statesmen in the North have as yet no correct idea of the magnitude and bow character of this hellish conspiracy. Their plans for suppressing it, are generally cut out from a red tape measurement of the monster even at such a distance as to be able to see its form to plumb the mine. The heads of the Government may have got it true measurement, and be now thoroughly convinced of rapidly approaching calamities, but the Government can only keep pace with popular sentiment. That sentiment is slowly and barely being educated up to a patriotic, statesmanlike, and Christian standpoint, that will demand the reputation of all plummy schemes of policy, and the inauguration of a campaign, that while it crushes out treason, will not unnecessarily involve thousands of innocent in everlasting ruin.

The idea seems to have been entirely abandoned in the North, that any compromise whatever could be offered the rebels that would induce them to ground their arms. A small portion of the North, perhaps one man in fifty, is in favor of acknowledging the independence of the Southern Confederacy, and thus stop the war. The rank and file of those who make up the peace party, on this platform, are men too ignorant to understand the consequences of such a policy, and too besotted to have any ideas of honor or duty due to posterity. The leaders of this party, who are now conducting the organs of treason in this State and elsewhere, advocate peace overtures to named rebels, not because they think it would save money or blood, or in any way advantage the Government, but because the sounders are black-hearted traitors in league with the rebels, and seeking to throw the Government into the hands of Davis by creating divisions in the North that will so weaken the federal government as to compel it to capitulate to the rebels. These villains, under the enlarged privilege guaranteed by all the free States entitled "freedom of the press" in times of peace when all parties are justly secure in rightly criticizing all the acts of the Government, are claiming the same privileges in times of war, and contend for the right of playing into the hands of our own enemies by giving them aid and comfort through their hiring presses. The Government has wisely laid its hand on some of these vile pro-

and Daniel S. Dickinson says it ought to throttle more of them, as it clearly has the right to do.

The only possible way to bring the war to a satisfactory issue, is by a united effort on the part of the citizens of all the loyal States. The war will be a terrible and bloody one at best, and we might just as well make up our minds to meet it like men. He who flatters himself that the rebels are to be subdued by a battle or two or even by a six months' campaign, as is said to be thought by Gen. Scott, when the Cotton States will all become loyal States again, will find himself woefully deceived. The question that we are called on to decide, is, Shall we have a government or not? The federal government is acting strictly on the defensive—fighting for its own existence. If the government goes down, we have nothing left worth living for. Freedom, honor, property, all are gone. It behooves us then to cease preventing expenses, and talking as though we grudgingly paid our taxes to support the government. If the government needs it, every dollar we possess shall go freely, and then we are ready to enlist in its army. If the government fails to conquer the rebels now, it will be owing to the interference of Northern traitors.

Acknowledge the independence of the South, and the war is not ended—it is only protracted. It will only be a lull in the storm, which sooner or later will be down upon us with an increased fury. It would be but an armistice during which a standing army would be maintained on either side of the line, at a cost nearly equal to that of actual war. The slave power, intoxicated with success, rendered haughty and detestable by its conceded ability to conquer the North, would seek new occasions for exactions, trump up frivolous excuses for repudiating debts and committing outrages on Northern men, till at length an exasperated North would rush to arms, displace the heads of the Northern government if necessary, and under the lead of a temporary dictator, pour down on the slave dominions and conquer them, by attacking them in their vulnerable point, and wiping out the cause of all our troubles. When that day comes—as come it will, unless the rebels are conquered now,—see he to the vagabond, hell-deserving traitors of the North. These white-livered scoundrels may cry peace, peace, and try to cripple the Government now—they may be permitted, through the amazing clemency of the Government, to point and scatter treason through the land, to act as spies and reporters for Jeff Davis, without having their property confiscated and their necks stretched, but their day approaches—their doom is fixed—down to hell they ought to go, and will be hurled, while all the righteous will say—Amen!

The new warehouses and appliances for transportation of goods at the works across the river, are in such a state of forwardness that down freights may already be received, but the railway for hauling up goods is not yet complete. "The new warehouse is fifty by seventy five feet, alongside of which it is designed to erect another of like dimensions, one of the buildings to have two stories for the reception and shipment of different kinds of merchandise. The break-water foundation round the lower end, has been thoroughly repaired where it was injured by fire, and further improved by the addition of an immense amount of rock, filling the crevices, which were little more than half full before. By this improvement, say here that very large, heavy, and unmanageable foundation getting way below the pressure of high water, is effectively removed. Mr. Robert P. Cushman, a principal stockholder, has been acting as general agent, having oversight of the repairs and improvements, which have been made in an efficient and substantial manner.

An Inquirer.—Approach, today, did gentlemen; lamp of patriotism well developed; strong Union men. Accented by Jeff Davis men, more than suspected of sympathy with treason and rebellion; refused to allow Liberty Pills to be cut on this land. Sympathizers with affecting simulation of grief to Union men. A very bad news; great pity Baker's being killed. "No! not a bit; I don't care for that." "What?" says inquirer, incredulously. "No," continues Union man hurriedly, "I don't mind Baker's being killed,—he died as any brave man ought to be happy to die, fighting for his country,—but it is a pity that some d-d second-rate secessionist may be sent on by Whitaker, to misrepresent us, and show his littleness trying to fill Baker's place." Exit secessionist, cogitating.

Cour.—On Saturday, one week ago, Judge Wait, sitting in chambers in this city, heard a motion to dissolve the attachments on the property of G. C. Robinson of Portland. The question was elaborately argued by Williams and Carter for the motion; Shattuck, Logan, Page, and Farrar against it, all speaking on the case. The case was one of some importance particularly, and aside from this, there appeared to be considerable interest manifested by certain parties in the result. Motion to dissolve attachments, not granted.

At Law.—John C. Breckinridge has sneaked out of Kentucky, and joined the rebels. This is what has been expected of him for the last few months.

Warren, Montgomery, and Lyon have welcomed another to their company of patriot heroes! The news in our columns today shows that our eloquent Senator is no more. He fell gloriously, while leading his men into action. We mourn not for Col. Baker—for he died as a patriot soldier should die—but we mourn the loss which Oregon and the Union sustain in being bereft of his transcendent abilities in the councils of the nation.

Under the circumstances, it is scarcely necessary to apologize for publishing a private letter lately received by a gentleman in this city from our much-lamented Senator, Colonel Baker. It shows in a strong light his sense of the obligation, which he owed to his adopted State, and the calls of ambition could not prevail on him to renounce Oregon, though a brilliant future was opened for his acceptance in another sphere. A sense of duty to Oregon prevailed over his receiving a high commission in the army, but a sense of duty to the whole country, and a trust in Providence to override all things for the best, led him to accept a much more hazardous, though less distinguished position. He spoke eloquently for the Union, and we could well wish that he had been spared to see the olive branch of peace again wave over the land, and our country, our whole country, restored to more than its original grandeur. But his life has been offered, and, himself a host, Oregon may well feel that her blood has been liberally poured out on the altar of freedom, to perpetuate the institutions for which our fathers died. Being dead, he yet speaks and his letter, dated so short a time before his death, in reference to his future, if Providence should lead him safely through the terrible ordeal, furnishes a triumphant though and vindication of his character from charges, made against him by political rivals and opponents.

In the death of Col. Baker, we have sustained an almost irreparable loss; for the letter which we publish, probably one of the last he wrote to Oregon, almost invariably shows that his heart was ever with us, and that he was doing all in his power to advance our interests. In his place in the Senate, he stood up as the embodiment of the Union sentiment and feeling of the whole of Oregon, but of the whole Pacific coast, and amongst the Members of America in at one took a pre-eminence in which his profound statesmanship, as well as his earnest eloquence, well entitled him. Against the subtlest special pleaders for secession, treason and rebellion, our Senator, Col. Baker, appeared as a champion for the Union, and in each encounter he gained fresh laurels.

He was ever ready to sacrifice himself for the good of the country, and the great amount of military business devolving upon him, would be no excuse for having neglected to write to you sooner. Again, I feel that what would interest you particularly at this crisis would be our news, which you receive in a much more extended and rapid manner through the medium of the public press, than I could possibly give you by any communication.

A great battle is hourly anticipated, and whatever position I may occupy in the coming contest, you may rest assured that the State of Oregon shall have no cause to be ashamed of my services.

You have doubtless learned, ere this, by my appointment by the President as a Brigadier-General. My duty to the State of Oregon, in my opinion, is only that I have felt compelled to decline the honor.

Yesterday, I had conferred upon me an additional honor, in the shape of an appointment as Major-General, but, satisfied of the honor would be a decided one in the eyes of the people, I shall decline this position.

I am very conscious of the necessity of a military force in Oregon, for various reasons. I am today preparing a plan and I intend submitting to the President and Secretary of War for their approval, by which I hope that a force sufficient for purposes will be raised in Oregon.

While I am writing this, your letter of the 28th arrived. In relation to the Seaboard, be pleased to say to every one, once for all, that I value the Union conferred upon me by the State of Oregon more highly than any other in the world—that I do not intend to receive or accept it.

I shall still retain command enough in the field to risk my life with honor. With that I am content. I have strong hopes that by next spring this war will be successfully terminated—the unity of the country maintained—and the provisions of the Constitution vindicated. How happy shall I be then to return to your peaceful valleys, and give to our people an account of this great contest! But if Providence should will it otherwise, and my bones moulder on a southern soil, be pleased then to say for me that no man can be more grateful for the confidence of the people of my State, and the warm wishes of so many good friends, than your very sincere friend, E. D. BARNES, W. C. Johnson, Esq., Oregon City.

Evening.—On Thursday evening our city was again blessed with a sight of the rival, she having come over the Rapids for the first time this fall. The Onward and the Relief, we understand, are to run in connection this winter on the upper Willamette. The Relief, under command of Capt. J. W. Cochran, will leave Corvallis this morning at 8 o'clock.

Just Like Them.—The more decent of the sympathizers with rebellion in this vicinity simulate regret (like the Portland Advertiser) while chucking inwardly over Col. Baker's death—but the low snooty crowd openly express their joy at the event.

Printed Verses.

A man may be a friend to the South by reason of birth and education—may be opposed to the Administration on general political principles—may even disapprove its measures on the score of inexpediency, though they be endorsed and approved by an immense majority of the people whose interests are at stake. All this may be opinion sincerely entertained, and yet furnish no ground of interference by the Government, or by individuals holding different grounds of belief. Free opinion on religious and political questions, where there is no danger of intolerance, is an essential element of our free institutions. But when the freedom of opinion, in the undisciplined license of free expression, rears itself in a defiant hostility to the dignity and power of Government, thus giving aid and comfort to a powerful and unscrupulous enemy, public sentiment, acting directly in the various communities where action is demanded, or more constitutionally, though indirectly, through lawfully elected representatives, may and should, itself defend, apply a little wholesome coercion, teaching lessons of prudence, if not of loyalty and patriotism. Such lessons have been given, not only in the suppression of information valuable to the enemy, but in the strong hand of the law being laid on printing presses which were unscrupulous for the spread of treasonable ideas. The national mail bags have been locked against documents in the shape of periodicals and other matter, whose scope and aim were to do injury to the national existence. Public men have met with marked and deserved rebuke for an outraged people, whose confidence had been abused. The nation is putting forth its utmost energies in a life and death struggle, and it is little wonder now that Union lovers, whose much more than life is at stake, should not be over-patient and long-suffering toward unscrupulous enemies, who in the guise of friends, seek as early, but most surely, to run a deadly blow at the national heart. Then, while differences of opinion, even on the present frontier, are rare, may be unavoidable, let sympathizers with treason and rebellion beware of abusing, by word or deed, that they are enemies to the country, as well as friends to its enemies.

The Retaliator Press.

The Grand Jury of Washington County, before adjourning on Saturday last at White Plains, presented to the Judge of the Circuit Court, sitting at that place, *The Evening Herald, The Highland Democrat, The Eastern State Journal of that county, and the State Zealot*; and the National Zealot of this city, as libelous and defamatory articles which, by the existing state of things, tend to give aid and comfort to the enemies of the Government, and to prevent a vigorous prosecution of the war by which alone the supremacy of the Government is to be maintained, and national peace and property again restored in the land. And they furthermore call upon the District Attorney of that county to prosecute the editors and proprietors of those journals if after this public notice, they shall continue in their evil course; they also request that a copy of the presentment be forwarded to Mr. E. D. Smith, the United States District Attorney in this city, that he may commence proceedings against the two German papers presented published here, and further request that a step may be put to the circulation of those papers in Washington County.

The Grand Jury of which Mr. Lynn of Bedford, a Democrat, was foreman, in making this step have performed a simple but important duty. The legal power to suppress a journal appearing in this county is an unquestionable one, as the right to suppress obscene publications dangerous to the decency and moral sense of the community. It is a question not of the liberty but of the honor of the Press, and a regard for their liberties of the people imperatively calls for the exercise of a wholesome restraint. A timely caution and half-way measures are proper at the outset, but these failing, a resort to more vigorous steps to suppress the evil is imperative. Forbearance carried too far becomes a weakness, and a Government cannot be respected that fails to enforce the law. Mobs are always bad, and all ways weaken authority while they usually grow out of that very weakness. The warnings we have already had in various parts of the country of the dangerous tendency to this spirit of disorder should not be passed by unheeded. It is fostered by any seeming hesitation on the part of the authority to suppress an obvious and crying evil; and for the sake of the peace and good order of society the law should not longer tolerate an evil which is recognized to be such. Even if to stop a newspaper be a dangerous power, it is much more dangerous to suffer the continued existence of one which has become an open public enemy, and may become an incitement to riot. For the sake, then, of the journals here libeled by the Westchester County Grand Jury, as well as of others of a like character, here and elsewhere, and for the public welfare and peace, it seems to be clearly the duty of the officers of the law to put an end to an unquestionable wrong.

N. Y. Tribune.

RESULTS OF MOB LAW.—The City Council of Canton, Ohio, have appropriated \$2,000 to the proprietors of the Stark County (Ohio) Democrat, for loss sustained by the destruction of their office by a mob—Advertiser.

If the Union-loving citizens who destroyed that secession office had hung the editor, instead of wreaking their vengeance upon the inanimate press and type, that amount of cash would have been saved.

ARRANGEMENT.—The assessment of Clark county for 1861 is \$1,361,702—being \$41,837 less than that of last year.—The State tax is two mills; school tax one mill; county tax, five mills.

Read Michael Meigs' advertisement, just as in southern Missouri, where him-

Details of Eastern News.

Yonkers, Oct. 25, 1861. The overhead telegraph line was completed yesterday p. m., and is working O. K. to St. Louis. The following dispatch was received last night from Salt Lake, having been telegraphed from the East to that point. The advice are to day before yesterday—Wednesday 23d.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—It is stated that Johnston and Beauregard intend to make no stand this side of Centerville; on the right of which, however, if followed, they will oppose the Union force for a while, but when pressed would return to their old position at Bull Run.

JEROME, Oct. 20.—Lexington, Missouri, has been captured by 150 Union men, under J. White. The secession force numbered 300 men.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Gen. Stone crossed the Potomac this morning with one portion of his command, at Edmond's Ferry, and the other at Harrison Island. Skirmishing began between the enemy, in several numbers, and part of Gen. Stone's command, as early as 9 o'clock in the morning, and continued with effect until 5 p. m., when large reinforcements appeared on our right, which was commanded by Col. Baker. The Union force engaged numbered about 1,500, and were attacked by a force supposed to be about 3,000.

At this juncture Col. Baker fell at the head of his command, while gallantly leading his men. Immediately before he fell he dispatched Maj. Young to Gen. Stone to apprise him of the condition of affairs, and Gen. Stone proceeded in person toward the right to take command; but in the confusion occasioned by the fall of Col. Baker, the right wing captured a rebel with considerable loss. Gen. Stone says that the right wing retired in good order. He will hold the approaches thereto. Strong reinforcements will be sent to Stone during the night.

The remains of Col. Baker were removed to Poolsville, Maryland, and will be brought to this city on Wednesday.

PANAMA, Oct. 23.—The death of Baker has created intense excitement in this city. The greatest anxiety prevails to learn further details of the regiment. Much anxiety is also felt in regard to the California regiment, composed mostly of Philadelphians. It is said 100 Mississippi soldiers were seized at Col. Baker when he fell.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25th.—The Washington Star's account of the fight says that both wings were attacked, but the enemy were repulsed whenever they appeared. About 7 p. m. the right wing found itself surrounded by about 4,000 of the enemy under Gen. Evans, whose artillery Gen. Baker had just disabled. In this charge he was killed. The officers in command immediately ordered the men to fall back to the river, where they could be supported by Gen. Stone, and the portion of the army that had effected a crossing. The men were in good order, carrying off all the dead and wounded. On reaching the position selected, the right wing turned though under the fire of the enemy, who crossed at midnight. Throughout the night the balance of Gen. Stone's men crossed the river, and threw up temporary works that rendered his position safe, and enabled him to protect the crossing of the division of Gen. Banks to his aid. The movement was to enable the command of Gen. Banks to be safely transferred to Virginia. Evans attacked Col. Baker in front and on both flanks. Col. Coggins was severely taken prisoner.

Information for this morning is that Gen. Banks' army arrived at the Mary land landing at Edmond's Ferry, and have been crossing the river since daylight.

The President was deeply affected by the news of the death of Col. Baker. Maj. Gen. McClellan left for Gen. Banks' headquarters in the field this morning.

The fight was a desperate one, and later numbers were killed on both sides. Though the enemy was much stronger than Gen. Stone, they were falling back before our troops, and would undoubtedly have been entirely routed but for the fall of Col. Baker, which produced a sudden confusion. Banks is supporting Stone.

It is a subject of regret that Baker should have engaged with the enemy, while, according to reports, he was ordered to make a reconnaissance, with strict instructions, if attacked, to fall back and not fight.

Col. Baker made his will on Saturday and deposited it with Col. Webb, and when he left for the field he said to the latter: "I shall participate in a battle in 48 hours. If I fall I request you to take charge of my body."

The Times dispatch says that a Cabinet meeting today it was decided not to interfere at present with Gen. Fremont and his command.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Success of the movement of Stone and Banks across the Potomac is now established, as the enemy did not return to make further resistance. All agree that our men conducted themselves nobly in the affair.

Price's army was at Greenfield last Wednesday, still retreating South.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 23.—Information received here says that the loss in killed and wounded at Edmond's Ferry was 175.

Telegraph from McClellan's headquarters was received at the Washington Office at 2 p. m. stating that Leesburg would be taken within an hour; there had been sharp fighting in that neighborhood all day. It was also reported that Stone and Banks had crossed the Potomac and were advancing upon Leesburg with 40,000 men.

Some 350 California volunteers reached Vancouver last week, and a portion of them have since gone up the country to look after the Indians. They are spoken of as a fine body of men.

drach of well-meaning but ignorant Union men have taken up arms under the rebel leaders with the impression that they were defending the Government from attempted overthrow by Lincoln.

Dr. Steele proposes to read another speech at the same place, on Friday evening next—probably one of Holt's.

Patterson, who killed Capt. Staples in Portland, has been admitted to bail in the sum of \$5,000.

Multnomah Lodge No. 1, I. O. O. F., holds its stated communications at the Masonic Hall on Monday evening of each week. Invited in good standing are invited. J. S. RINEARSON, N. G. J. M. Bacon, Sec. Secy.

Removal of all diseases arising from an impure state of the blood, or fault of the system. This pharmaceutical effluence tends to stimulate the functions of the stomach and bowels, to regulate and invigorate, and without nausea, purging expel therefrom all detestable accumulations, purify the blood, excite the circulation, remove poisons, improve the appetite, impart tone and vigor to the system, and gradually, but surely, eradicate the disease.

Morley's Life Pills.—The high and varied celebrity which this effluence medicine has secured for its inviolable efficacy in all the diseases which it produces to cure, has rendered the most practice of conscientious puffing not only unnecessary but unworthy of them. They are known by their fruits their good works testify for them, and they thrive not by the bills of the medicine.

In all cases of indigestion, dyspepsia, biliousness, nervous affections, piles, rheumatism, fever and ague, morbid humors, and all general derangement of health, these Life Pills have invariably proved a certain and speedy remedy. A single trial will place the Life Pills beyond the reach of competition in the estimation of every patient.

Dr. Abbott's Phlegm Bitters will be found equal to all cases of nervous debility, dyspepsia, headache, the sickness incident to females, a delicate health, and every kind of weakness of the digestive organs. For sale by Dr. W. R. MOORE, 315 Broadway, New York, and by all the leading druggists and Dispensaries throughout the country.

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