



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, JANUARY 3, 1863.

The Salem Blockhead tries Finance again.

A seven-by-nine traitor, who is always trying to ape somebody with brains, has failed in laboring the President's Message through over a column of rapid twaddle. As it's the fashion to say something about the Message, he thinks he must squirt at it. To show our readers what that sheet is feeding the people in Salem on, we quote what the fellow says, after cocking up one eye and squinting at the President's proposed scheme for securing a sound, practicable currency:

"There cannot, it seems to us, be any system of the sort invented, not providing for the redemption of paper currency in coin at presentation, which will not be subject to fluctuation, uncertainty, and a final crash of the whole concern, terminating in bankruptcy and ruin at some date. We hope Congress will not undertake to patch up any currency not founded on a specie basis."

This critic has been reading over some of Tom Benton's speeches and poor Pierce's messages about finance in a time of profound peace, when the income of the Government was more than enough to meet the current expenses, and this revenue was all paid in coin. Finding that it was deemed practicable by Benton for the Government to discharge its obligations, amounting to *five million* a year, in coin, with a revenue of *forty-five millions*, derived from import duties and the sale of public lands, the Salem blockhead concludes, from his knowledge of arithmetic, that it is just as easy for the Government to pay out *four hundred millions* a year in coin, when its customs receipts amount to but *ninety millions*, and the revenue from the sale of public lands amounts to almost nothing. A leading New York journal very correctly remarks that "the coin of the entire civilized world would not suffice for the enormous expense forced upon us by the slaveholders' rebellion. Europe would be convulsed with bankruptcy if we could draw from her that portion of the whols amount which falls to her share. Even what we have among ourselves is never seen in the army chest. The banks, the people, and the speculators own and control it all. What the Government needs it is compelled to buy in the open market."

If the Government had in its vaults all the coin in the United States, it would all be drawn out in less than six months by a provision for "the redemption of paper currency in coin at presentation," as the Salem financer would have it. This coin being drawn out, the Government would be compelled to issue paper. The paper, according to this scrib, must not be made legal tender, because it isn't "*sound*" to pay traders and money lenders in that kind of a currency. The paper being issued, and the soldiers, worn out, wounded, and crippled for life perhaps, being paid off in paper, these critics raise the howl, "the paper isn't worth anything, because it isn't a legal tender, and because there is no money in the Treasury to redeem it with!"—This howl runs the paper down to twenty-five cents on the dollar, and the Government, instead of issuing four hundred millions per annum, has to issue *sixteen hundred millions*, thus augmenting the public debt at a frightful ratio, and soon requiring more coin than there is in the United States to *pay the interest* with. But every time the currency is *cried down*, the public debt is not only proportionally augmented, but brokers and moneyshavers hold on to their coin with a tighter grasp, and the miser puts another pinlock to his chest. The Government, in holding on to the cutoms money with which to *pay the interest* on the public debt, is told by our wisecracks that it ought to make its paper currency receivable at the custom-houses—then its *interest* would be good. The same squirt comes out the next week, cocks up his eye at the President, and squeaks out—"It's our opinion that you had better have advised Congress to have passed a law that nothing but coin shall be paid out hereafter, and then you'll have a *sound currency*." Now, we presume there isn't one of the Tribune's "intelligent contrabands" but what could instruct this Salem blockhead in regard to the finances of the country, and yet he has the effrontery to publish his ignorance and send it out among people who can read and write. It is as impossible for the Government to use specie as a currency, or redeem paper "on presentation," which would amount to the same thing, as it would be for the Government to create a world—for the reason that the *specie is not now in Europe and America both*, and, if it was, the Government couldn't get it.

These attacks on the Government currency are saying indirectly what outspoken rebels say openly—*Dismiss the army, and stop the war immediately*. The former is a mean, sneaking way of accomplishing

that which the latter is trying to effect in an outspoken and more honorable method.

So much for the "opinion" of a very small Yankee secession squirt, who, instead of writing on finance, isn't really qualified to keep the books of Dr. Cragg's "reception room!" No wonder that Wesley Shannon, in regretting that such an ass had been sent to the Eugene Convention as a delegate, said to us—"He's nothing but a fool, any way."

Cragg's Agent Blunders.

New York alone has sent a hundred and fifty thousand loyal men to the war, nine-tenths of whom would have voted for Wadsworth, thus electing him by over a hundred thousand majority.—*Argosy.*

"That is a falsehood worthy of its paternity. If it was exactly reversed, so far as the volunteers from the city are concerned, we suspect it would not be far from the truth. There are regiments from the city in which there is not a man who would have voted for Wadsworth. It is not probable that, taking the entire State, more republicans than democrats enlisted. We do not believe as many did. There is no other fact in the State known enough to assert that nine-tenths were republicans."—*Cragg's Statesman.*

It is a little curious that, either from stupidity or meanness, you can never touch your pen to paper without telling a lie or exposing your ignorance. Your blunder is caused by your ignorance of the number of soldiers New York has sent to the war.—Our statement was that New York had sent a hundred and fifty thousand *loyal* men to the war, and that one hundred and thirty-five thousand of these would have voted for Wadsworth. By loyal men, we meant true Union men—men who are determined to maintain the authority of the Government, though *slavery falls*—not such "Union" men as you and Pat Malone. We never stated that *only a hundred and fifty thousand men* had gone to the war from New York, and that nine-tenths of all the soldiers would have voted for Wadsworth. New York has sent to the war, all told, *ten hundred and eight thousand and four hundred men*. Our statement which gave to Wadsworth one hundred and thirty-five thousand, would have left seventy-three thousand, a portion of whom would have voted for Seymour, a part wouldn't have voted at all, and we now claim that out of this seventy-three thousand a heavy vote would have been given for Wadsworth—enough to have elected him by about a *hundred and fifteen or twenty thousand majority over Seymour*. You will see, as stupid as you are, that if you had known the actual number of voters that has gone to the war from New York to be *two hundred and eighty thousand*, instead of one hundred and fifty thousand, as you understood us to say, and which you *yourself believed*, you wouldn't have made an use of yourself to quote the extent you have. You have put your foot in the very trap we set for you, and have given us another opportunity to show that we know what we are about when we make a statement, and that when you undertake to correct us, you invariably put your foot in it. You had better *again* take to stealing editorials from the Albany Evening Journal, and write nothing yourself but spouts about "abolitionists" and whining appeals to those who owe you not to offer legal tenders, but in lifting mortgages on "hard patches" the "poor but honest" fellows always "come with the bite."

PENNSYLVANIA "DEMOCRACY."—The democratic papers at Salem and Corvallis are both rejoicing over the "democratic victories" East, and both claiming the democracy there, as of "our kind." They both claim that these victories condemn the policy of the Administration, and prop up "our party." They are both right, as is shown by the following extract from one of these democratic papers, *The American Volunteer*, at New Carlisle, Penn:

"They [the democrats] have in the face of life threats and persecutions, dashed their clenched fists in their very eyes, and branded him and his truckling, thieving, rotten Administration with the seal of their condemnation. 'Come out of that chair, Abraham Lincoln,' is the demand of the people of this State, made on Tuesday last week."

This is the "democracy" that the traitor organs in Oregon all claim as *their kind*. Most of them now say amen to the sentiments of the Pennsylvania paper, and the new "convict" will before long—it would now, if it dared to. Like the Mormons who introduced their "convicts" gradually into polygamy, theft, and murder, that sheet is afraid it will not pay to throw off its shirt and exhibit its shame to "Union men" too suddenly.

For uttering the above secession sentiments the Union men, embracing the real democrats who didn't vote the democratic ticket, turned out in New Carlisle and demolished the office of the *American Volunteer*.

Malignant secessionist thinks that if he and a nigger were running for office, we would prefer the nigger. If he was what we used to call in Tennessee "a right mean nigger," we should probably not vote at all; but we should be sure to go the very next day and apologize to the nigger.

CONSISTENT.—The men in Lozenea Penn., who raised a mob and resisted the draft on Friday before the election, marched to the polls in procession and voted the entire democratic ticket on election day.

"Honesty."

A secesh merchant down the river gave out that he would take legal tenders only at fifteen per cent discount. He had taken so many, and they were so ruinously low in the market, that he was in a bad way. A neighbor went to him with the coin, proposing to buy a lot at that price—*Scrooge's "handa' come to sell."*

Hearing a general complaint among the farmers that Portland merchants wouldn't take currency for goods at more than ninety cents to the dollar, we tested the matter, by going into about a dozen stores not long since, and asking if they had any "green-backs" to sell. They all had plenty—but not one of them would sell for *ninety cents on the dollar in coin*. They all said they took them at par for goods.

If there are any merchants in Portland, Salem, or any where else, who want legal tenders for less than they are willing to sell them at, our farmers ought to dress in buckskin, and take to using pea coffee, as we did in 1848, and let such merchants *eat* their goods. The war is making money plenty, and per consequence prices are going up. This will always be the case when there is more money in a country than is actually needed for a circulating medium in the community. The effect is, that people are disposed to run into extravagance, contract debts, and place themselves in the jaws of ruin when the crash comes, as it surely will by and by. Let the wise make a note right here. Don't be tempted to buy anything that you can possibly do without, because money is plenty. Pay up all your debts as soon as possible, and then economize just as you would in the hardest times. Set your house in order in this way, and when the financial hurricane sweeps over the country, you will hardly feel it, while your more improvident neighbors will be buried in ruin. Remember this, and act upon it, and it may be worth thousands of dollars to you a few years hence.

The Sacramento Union, an intensely republican paper. * * * * The San Francisco Bulletin, another republican journal—*Craig's Salem Statesman.*

This reliable journal is in the habit of quoting abuse of the Administration from some secession sheets East, and calling them republican papers. Every man in Oregon knows that neither the Union nor Bulletin claim to be republican papers. The former, though a sound Union journal, has always maintained what was called Douglass's democracy. It supports the Administration in carrying on the war, but criticizes it when it thinks the Administration is at fault. Its criticisms are, however, those of a friend, and are always sensible, if not always strictly just. The paper shows that it is edited by gentlemen—for this reason, and because the Union approved of the removal of McClellan. The bushwhacking squirt calls it an "intensely republican paper." The Bulletin is edited by Simonton, an enemy of Douglass, a dispossessed office seeker, a former collaborator of Raymond's in the N. Y. Times, and not quite as good a republican as "the little villain" himself.

The Summers' Vote.—A Jeff Davis sheet above, says that the election of Seymour is a veto by New York of the President's proclamation, and thinks that "as many democrats as republicans have gone to the war," the soldier vote would have gone much the same way with that of the Five Pointers. We have never denied but that a great many democrats had *volunteered*, but they are not of the Seymour kind—that kind go off only under the form of a strong draft. The democrats around Ottawa, Ill., who *stand at losses to vote*, denounced the President's emancipation proclamation, and claimed that Ottawa had sent off a "treacherous sight" of democrats in her volunteer regiment, who were like them, "rock-bottom democrats." To settle the thing, a report was sent to the Ottawa regiment, then in Kentucky, to have the vote taken on the emancipation proclamation. The result was—for it, \$44; against it, 16. The fifteen who voted against it were either fools, or joined the army hoping to be of service to the rebels—they were democrats, of the "malignant" kind.

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Details of Eastern News.

Headquarters Army of Potomac, Dec. 18th.—Burial parties yesterday crossed the river under a flag of truce, for the purpose of burying our dead. Col. Walton, Chief of Longstreet's artillery, informed some of our officers that the rebel infantry force that engaged Sumner's force on Saturday was only two brigades, but that they had a large reserve force near by.

The following additional news was received by the steamship Scotia:

The Open of Spain in opening the Cortes said grave events had transpired on the Cuban coast, but she felt confident that these events would not change our excellent relations heretofore maintained with the United States Government.

St. Louis, Dec. 19.—We have a report that Gen. Hindman has crossed the river with four regiments of infantry and one hundred cavalry, and brought back over one thousand head of cattle. A number of prisoners were also taken, but have been released.

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