



MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 5, 1864.

The Statesman has a Larger Circulation than any other Paper in the State, and is the Best Medium for Advertisers.

The U. S. Laws and Regulations are published in the Statesman by Authority.

THE NEWS.

The telegraph line has worked only partially and imperfectly for ten days past, and we are therefore provokingly deficient in dispatches when exciting events are transpiring.

Our latest dates from New York and Washington are to the 23d November. Sherman having partially destroyed Atlanta, left that place on the 15th, moving easterly, and when last heard from (through rebel sources) was within twenty-five or thirty miles of Macon, Ga. This was on the 19th, and unless he encountered more opposition than there is reason to expect, his forces have before this time occupied the town. The capture of this place severs all railroad communication of the Atlantic States with Hood, who is at Florence, Ala., reported to have 35,000 men. Beauregard and Forrest are in the same vicinity with smaller commands. General Thomas has sufficient force to keep them in check, and perhaps to assume the offensive. What Sherman's intentions may be, is unknown, for he has very carefully and completely concealed them. Once in Macon, the nearest point at which he could reach the coast would be Savannah—distant about 140 miles. Port Royal (which is in our possession) is only twenty-five miles above, and, marching to either place, he could gobble up the Union prisoners at Millen and Andersonville. There is also direct railroad communication from Macon to Pensacola and Mobile, but the distance is 250 or 300 miles. On the other hand, there is no possibility of any rebel force opposing his progress in that direction. We look with intense interest for the development of his plans.

Grant is moving his forces around Richmond and seems to have bewildered the enemy so completely that they do not know where to expect the attack which they assume is inevitable. Sheridan, having disposed of Early, is reported to have sent a part of his forces to Grant upon the James. Great consternation prevails in Richmond at Sherman and Grant's operations. The report that Petersburg has been evacuated is probably untrue.

Charleston has suffered from the bombardment severely. Gov. Watt of Alabama has interfered with the operations of the rebel draft in that State. The Richmond papers are severe on Governor Brown of Georgia for his "defection."

The Brazilian Government has promulgated a decree of emancipation. The day is at hand when slavery with legal sanction will be unknown throughout the world.

Gold in New York 220. Legal tenders in San Francisco 480.

MEETING OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE.

The Electors of this State will meet in pursuance of the Law of Congress, at the Capital, on next Wednesday, the 7th day of the present month, to give formal expression to the verdict rendered by the people on the 8th November last, in favor of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. Their votes will be taken to Washington by one of their number, to be chosen by themselves.

The Legislature of this State, in 1859, enacted a law upon this subject, fixing a different day from that enacted by Congress for the meeting of the Electors—the first Monday in December—of course the law of Congress has precedence, because the Constitution of the United States provides, Art. II, Sec. 4, that:

"The Congress may determine the time of choosing the Electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States."

THE VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.

The following table shows the number of electoral votes to which each State is entitled, and the majorities for Lincoln or McClellan in each, as nearly as they can now be ascertained. The final official Count will not probably vary these figures materially:

STATES WHICH HAVE GONE FOR LINCOLN.

Electoral Vote.	Majorities.
Maine	7
New Hampshire	5
Vermont	5
Massachusetts	12
Rhode Island	4
Connecticut	4
New York	33
Pennsylvania	26
Maryland	7
West Virginia	5
Wisconsin	8
Ohio	21
Missouri	11
Minnesota	4
Michigan	8
Kansas	3
Iowa	13
Illinois	13
California	5
Nevada	3
Oregon	3
Total	213

THE FOLLOWING STATES GIVE MCCLELLAN THE MAJORITY:

Electoral Vote.	Majorities.
New Jersey	7
Delaware	3
Kentucky	11
Total	21

Lincoln's majorities exceed McClellan's 374-181. This does not include the soldiers' vote, or but a small portion of it. Full returns will probably show a majority of over 400,000 on the popular vote. The majority in the Electoral College will be 192, in a total vote of 234. Mr. Lincoln's vote is just about nine-tenths of the whole.

ACCIDENT TO THE RELIEF.—The cylinder head of the Relief blew off on Tuesday last, as it was working her way up the Santiam river. She will be disabled until a new cylinder and head can be cast. Jones & Nelson of Portland will have it completed in a week or ten days, and the boat will be running soon after. The accident is peculiarly unfortunate just now when there is so large an amount of freight waiting transportation down the river.

LABOR SHIPMENT OF TREASURE.—The Sierra Nevada which sailed from Portland on the 2nd inst., carried treasure to the amount of \$517,250, shipped by four firms of Portland—Wells, Fargo & Co., sending 450,000 of the amount. The Oregonian says a large sum besides went in the hands of passengers. We think this is the largest shipment ever made on one vessel.

THE END APPROACHING.

Many times during the great contest in which we are engaged, over sanguine estimates of the value of our successes, and under-estimates of the rebel strength, have inspired the confident opinion that, "the back-bone of the rebellion was broken." The wish was father to the thought, but events now seem to demonstrate that it was only wrong as to matter of time.—No man with eyes, ears and understanding can fail to discern that the giant rebellion is staggering towards death. The utterances of the rebel press, the desponding tone of public sentiment at the South, the inglorious tone of the speeches of their statesmen and office-holders, the desperate straits to which they are put to fill up the broken ranks of their army, the recent confessions of Jeff Davis himself, speak conclusively that the end is near at hand.—Grant clutches the throat of the Confederacy, and Lee writhes with sheer desperation to loosen his iron grasp. Sherman moves in the heart of Georgia, unresisted and almost unmolested. Farragut and Dupont have sealed their ports so closely that European prizes for cotton no longer tempt blockade runners. Their currency is depreciated until it is no longer has value. The ray of promise they saw in the election of McClellan and Pendleton has vanished. The country has decided for Lincoln and Johnson, and a vigorous prosecution of the war.—A few desperate men in the South—the leaders who made this mad leap into the abyss of treason, are holding on with a courage inspired by despair, trying to infuse new heart and hope into the breasts of their worn and dispirited followers.

They have no other resources. With them it is success or certain, inevitable ruin. They have staked all they have upon "the terrible venture of revolution." That a failure and they are at once adrift upon an unknown sea. They must fight on, even against hope, fight against time, with any faith in their success—but for the chances of improbable accidents. The men in the army and the great majority of the Southern people, are heart sick of the war and its needless expenditure of blood and treasure. They very well understand that the game is played out, and the confederacy given up, but under the despotism which has ruled over them for the last four years they are powerless. But the day of their deliverance must come. So long as the hope was held out to them that, through the weakness of the people of the North, and the dishonesty of the politicians, a President pledged to a cessation of hostilities could be elected, they endured their sufferings in the hope that through them they would reach independence and ultimate prosperity. The result of the election will not only enlighten them as to the determination of the loyal north that the government is to be maintained at every cost and hazard, but it will also awaken them to the necessity of throwing off the yoke placed upon their necks by the Davis democracy. Indications that this is already contemplated are not wanting. It is certain that negotiations looking to the return of Georgia to the Union have been going on between Gov. Brown, Vice President Stephens, and Gen. Thomas. The feeling in North Carolina as well as Georgia, in favor of peace and return to the Union has been suppressed only for some time. The people know that they can not endure four years more of war, and they know the people of the United States determined on the 8th of last month that they should endure it unless they acknowledged the supremacy of the flag.

We are not one of those who see insuperable difficulties in arranging the details of reconstruction. Once determine that the main object—Union—is accomplished, and minor matters will be easily adjusted. The people of both North and South are too heartily tired of war, its horrors, its sufferings and its cost, to continue it upon punctilious adherence to trivial matters, when the main question of the contest is settled. The unity and perpetuity of our country is now assured.

CELEBRATION AT JACKSONVILLE.

The Unionists of Jackson county devoted the evening of the 23d of last month to festivities in honor of the success of the cause at right in the persons of Lincoln and Johnson.—A torch light procession, firing of artillery, balloons of red, white and blue, gave color to the occasion. Spirited speeches were made by Messrs. B. F. Dowell and O. Jacobs, and the meeting then adjourned "until Grant takes Richmond." Later in the evening a grand Union ball and supper were enjoyed by a large crowd. Among the toasts given, on the occasion, the following appear to be noticeable among many other good ones:

Grant's destiny is onward; Jeff Davis is perpendicular.

We dare not—we will not be false to liberty.

Gen. McClellan—He could not take Richmond, making Washington his base, and ingloriously failed in his raid on the White House, making Richmond his base.

Jeff Davis—He is joined to his idols, but we will not let him alone.

Our fathers gave their children this Union—by the eternal, we will give it to ours.

The Constitution of our country—The noblest monument of human wisdom. Simple in its arrangements, wise in all its provisions, it is ideal in all its operations, and grand in all its results; may it survive the madness of faction and treason, and live on, still wrapped in flame, the realms of ether shall glow, and Heaven's last thunders shake the world below.

The President of the United States—Chosen by the only sovereigns known to our Constitution and laws; may he obey the voice of the people, and preserve, intact, the Ark of our Union.

Compromise—In the re-election of Mr. Lincoln, we have the assurance that there will be no disgraceful compromise with armed rebels.

Peace—We want no inglorious, no cowardly peace. When the rebels lay down their arms and return to their allegiance, we shall have a peace that internal discord will never again disturb.

Our sick and wounded soldiers—May they speedily recover, and long live to enjoy Liberty and Union, home and friends, and riches, and honor and glory, beneath the protecting wings of the flag of the free.

Slavery—It could have lived in peace; if it dies in a war inaugurated by its protector, it is not our fault, and we do not propose to be either mourners or pall bearers.

The pride of a patriot—his country; the joy of a traitor—a nigger.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Journal, while writing a friendly and discriminating comparison between Generals Hooker and Sheridan, recalls the singular fact that all great generals, with only exceptions enough to prove the rule, have been little men, medium, or under medium size.

It is said that watering strawberries with water in which nitrate of soda has been dissolved to the amount of one ounce of soda to a gallon of water, will help the plants produce a wonderful crop.

A French chemist has discovered that a depressing effect upon the action of the heart is caused by smoking.

THE ARENA AND THE LAST LEGISLATURE.

THE TRADER AT FAULT AS USUAL.—The young man who occasionally does the trading for the columns of the Arena, is just now engaged in a laborious effort to retrieve the fallen fortunes of his party by endeavoring to mislead and abuse the public mind in regard to the acts of the last Legislative Assembly. His first essay was a savage onslaught upon the law for the collection of taxes. In this he was singularly unfortunate and only betrayed his ignorance of the subject, and of the authors of the law.

The law itself is a good one—though perhaps not perfect in all its minutiae—and much needed by honest men so as to compel dishonest ones and shirkers to bear their just share of the public expense; but this fierce trader, with characteristic unfairness and want of truth, calls it a piece of "Russian Despotism!" and says it was passed by the abolitionists.—The fact turns out to be—and every one in the least conversant with the doings of the Assembly must have known it—that the measure was in no sense a party one; that what opposition it met with, came principally from members of the Union party, and that mostly concerning details, while it was warmly supported and voted for by the democratic members.—We see, from the Oregonian, that M. Cox, the democratic member from Josephine, had the manliness to tell the editor of that paper the other day, "that the law was a good one, and we (democrats) all went in for it." If there is any "Russian Despotism" in collecting taxes by execution against property, as in the case of a private debt, after giving the delinquent an opportunity and ample time to come forward and pay them voluntarily, we fail to see it.—The old law was notoriously lax, and the accumulation of delinquent taxes under its operation was very large. The large amounts thus lost by the counties every year, of course had to be made up by the prompt payers. In other words, every man who paid his taxes, not only contributed his own share of the expenses of his county, but he also paid an additional sum to make up the deficit of those who did not pay. The old law was no advantage to the honest man, but it was of some service to knaves. A change was certainly called for, and the Assembly acted wisely in enacting it. Whether the new law is the best that could possibly be devised, we do not know, but we do know that it is an improvement on the old one and ought to be maintained. But, anyhow, we think that common honesty would preclude the Arena from attempting to make democratic capital by falsely railing against a law which was passed by democratic votes. Shame on such hypocrisy and duplicity.

And now, the Arena has found another man's nest. In the last issue (25th inst.) in a paragraph apologizing to the Mountaineer for the votes on the Portland Mint resolution, occurs the following:

"By an iniquitous law of the last Legislature the commerce of the State was taxed to the amount of many thousands of dollars per annum for the benefit of the Portland county treasury alone."

Will the Arena in the next issue have the kindness and fairness to name that "iniquitous law"? Do if you please. From your habit of recklessness and disregard of truth in similar statements heretofore, we cannot afford to believe any such indefinite charges. More than that we are certain that the whole paragraph is a barefaced, no such thing. We have an idea of what you are driving at, and if you will only show your hand and specify the law, we will undertake to show that it is not "iniquitous," that it does not tax "the commerce of the State for the benefit of the Portland county," and that the democratic members of the Assembly supported and voted for it. We invite you to the test. Don't sneak away from your own gaseousness.

LISLE LESTER.

This talented lady, the Editor of the Pacific Monthly, will be in Salem on Thursday the 8th December, and entertain the people with one of her fine Dramatic Readings, at Griswold's Theater. She is coming by stage overland and appears to win golden opinions wherever she goes. The following ray description of her is from the San Jose Mercury:

"She is a spunky little piece of femininity weighing about 95 lbs., avoirdupois, and as cheek full of good natured impudence and wit as 95 pounds of cotton can well be. She is a brunette, not handsome, neither is she particularly plain; and at a rough guess, we should say that about twenty-eight spring a halp saved her head. She is unmarried, of course. He must be a bold man who would dare to storm the citadel of Lisle Lester's heart, fortified as it is with a column of every virtue, and as 95 pounds of cotton can well be. She is a brunette, not handsome, neither is she particularly plain; and at a rough guess, we should say that about twenty-eight spring a halp saved her head. She is unmarried, of course. He must be a bold man who would dare to storm the citadel of Lisle Lester's heart, fortified as it is with a column of every virtue, and as 95 pounds of cotton can well be."

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RAILROAD MEETING.

The meeting of the Incorporated of the WILLAMETTE VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY, which was called at Portland on the 30th ult., adjourned without transacting any business in consequence of the absence from the State of a part of the incorporators. A formal meeting will be held on the 13th December, when it is hoped that all the incorporators and friends of the enterprise will be present.

A railroad from Portland to any point south would double the value of all the real property 20 miles on each side of the line. There is no doubt of its value—there is very much of the ability of the country to build it. We hope to see a thorough and intelligent investigation of the question, and that the enterprise will not be taken unadvisedly. A start to end in failure, would be far worse than no beginning at all. The incorporators—H. W. Corbett, W. S. Ladd, J. C. Ainsworth, G. Gibbs, C. M. Carter, of Portland, and I. R. Moore and E. N. Cook, of Salem, are all men of substance and good judgment. We may be assured that what they undertake will be practical.

The editor of the Oregonian replies to the vituperative personal attacks of the Arena upon his private character with a threat to publish some details of the private family history and character of the editor of the latter paper. We hope he will forbear from doing so as he threatens. We know that the Arena has teamed with gross attacks upon individuals ever since its first issue—generally as unfounded in fact as they were malignant in spirit—and by the law of *lex talionis* would be estopped from complaining of any assault upon himself. But the columns of a journal which goes into a large part of the respectable families of the State can be better employed than in giving publicity to scandalous stories whatever basis or truth they may have to rest upon. There is enough in the Arena in all conscience to refute and condemn, without descending to the sphere of the Sunday Varieties or the Police Gazette.

IMPROVEMENT OF NAVIGATION.—The Albany Journal, discussing the railroad project, says that a canal with locks around the Willamette Falls is within the ability of the people of the Valley, and therefore more practicable than the railroad at present. We are inclined to the same belief. The canal was estimated by Mr. C. to cost some years ago to cost \$200,000. The Journal puts it at \$250,000. The larger amount at Mr. Barry's estimates would build not more than five miles of railroad.

WINTER.—Winter is upon us. The first snow fell in Salem on Friday morning, 24 inst. The mountains between here and Quartzville had two feet of snow upon them several days ago. More or less has fallen all the way from this place to the head of Sacramento Valley. At Leaven's Station, (Douglas county), and Yreka it has been particularly heavy.

The river is now so high that boats run without difficulty.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

Frank Baxter and Tom Pepper, being rather drunk on Saturday evening last, swore they could whip any Union son of a—&c., furnished knives, etc., and were finally persuaded by gentle use of a little force by the Marshal to visit the jail.—They were released after becoming sobered and promising good behavior.

PEDESTRIAN MATCH.

James Brady and a Mr. Hamilton have a walking match in Portland to commence on Tuesday next, for a wager of \$500 a side. They are to walk continuously without rest upon a platform, the one who gives out first to forfeit the stakes.

MADISON BLEDS