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

THE EDITORIAL PROFESSION—WANTS ELABORATING—AN ILLUSTRATION OF ITS IMPORTANCE.

For a long time we Americans have attempted to run our public and social machine upon a theory that a person may be qualified to teach and govern others without knowing much of anything himself. Of late years there is a perceptible and hopeful movement in another and better direction.

With the domain of opinion, either in politics or religion we would not interfere, but common honesty and intelligence should be required of every candidate for editorial position—at least the door should be permanently closed upon downright ignorance and rascality.

As for Mr. Lincoln thinking the sentence a harsh one, that is simply ridiculous. We always supposed that the chances were that Tichenor would be pardoned—not because he ought to be, but because he was a Californian who could command the aid of a certain California political influence—because he had money and would spend it.

Mr. H. H. Luse, a hard-working Oregonian, and mill owner of Coos Bay, was convicted of the same offense for a small amount of timber cut with his own hands. He paid his fine, about \$600, as we remember, and we have never heard any whining or grumbling over his case.

But here is a rich California speculator who has hired timber out to the value of \$200,000 in gold a year from the public lands in Oregon, for over ten years, and when at last he is convicted and fined by an Oregon jury and fined \$18,000 in greenbacks by an Oregon court.

How much greater force does that apply to the roads here in this valley? Our roads through the valley are, in the winter time, almost impassable—they are so as to load teams, so that produce cannot be marketed at the very time that it will bring the most money.

As matters stand now, the country is compelled to stop and stand still (except as to what can be shored into the steamboats from the immediate vicinity of the river), for about one-third of the year. This state of things must be remedied before we can have vigorous prosperity.

But we have let our illustration carry us away from our original topic. The community needs a newspaper, if true to its mission, is something more than a mere mechanical job or a business opportunity to pad or puff or libel and black-mail for a living.

Good people of all kinds and conditions take papers and read them day after day and week after week, who would think their time wasted, or their moral standing affected by spending an hour in the society of the men that edit them.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS—COMMON ROADS, &c.

As a highly commendable spirit is now being manifested in different parts of the State, to the importance of some means of cheapening the transportation of the products of the farm and the necessities of life, we propose in this and some succeeding numbers of the Statesman to impress the importance and necessity of such public improvements as will not only help the whole State, but immensely help the particular locality most interested.

The means of transportation, such as good common roads, railroads, canals, steamboats, &c., are sure and correct evidences, or even tests of the progress and degree of the prosperity, intelligence and refinement of any country or community.

It may be said that roads and highways are the veins and arteries of an organized community of the present time, for through them flow the agricultural produce and the merchandise which is the life blood of the community.

It was a favorite remark of Dr. Johnson, that life had no greater pleasure than being whirled over a good road in a post chaise; but had the renowned author of "Rasselas" lived to ride over any ten miles of Oregon "stage road" in a Concord wagon, he would doubtless have changed his mind about the great pleasures of this life.

In the same country, and for similar reasons, sheep are killed for their fleeces only, and the flesh is abandoned; as is likewise the case with cattle in Brazil, slaughtered merely for their hides.

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boats or railroads, but would be the greatest aids to both. And the town in this valley that first wisely and vigorously set to work to bring trade to its midst by such means, will reap the greatest profits.

A MISSTATEMENT CORRECTED. The last Arena contains a long reply to our article upon opposition reports of decisions, "important about greenbacks," which had nothing to do with them.

The right of Congress, arbitrarily, to impair the obligations of contracts is affirmed. If Congress may legalize the robbery that takes from the creditor half his debt, it may permit it all to be taken. If it may thus destroy his property, it may destroy his personal rights.

The first sentence of the quotation in relation to the right of Congress, &c., is intended to convey the impression that the Statesman so asserted. Mark how plain a tale shall put him down. The Indiana court, which the Arena quoted with approbation, was alleged to have decided the Legal Tender Act invalid because it "impaired the obligation of contracts."

The States only are prohibited from passing laws impairing the obligation of contracts, not the United States. Providing the end sought to be accomplished, to make money, be within the power of Congress, its effect upon contracts is immaterial, except as a matter of public policy.

The difference between the "right to impair the obligation of contracts arbitrarily," and the power to do something else, that power being granted, which might incidentally affect the obligation of contracts, is just the difference between the Statesman's position and the Arena's version of it.

The Petersburg Express says the fighting on Monday was very severe. The timber and another were utterly cut to pieces by balls and bullets. The ground was fought over four times, in consequence of the arrival of reinforcements to either side.

A MONKEY CAPTURED. Barrow has got at his museum a woman who weighs 70 pounds, together with her husband who weighs 70 pounds. The manager announces that he has secured General Beauregard's monkey, which was recently captured at Sherman while in the act of treating.

THE WRITER OF THE ABOVE evidently never heard of the specimen in the employ of Watkins, Hayden, Bush, Miller & Co. These gentlemen have got far ahead of Barrow—they have not only made a "show" of a monkey, but have been trying to make an editor of him.

CELEBRATION.—The Washington Literary Society, at Belpash, celebrated the birth day of Washington. The literary performances of the Society, consisting of essays, declamations and comic dialogues were quite lengthy and creditable.

WEALTH OF CALIFORNIA.—The value of property in the State of California as shown by the assessor's return for 1864, is \$180,484,950. In 1863 it was \$174,104,955. Showing an increase in twelve months of \$6,380,000 nearly.

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

GLORIOUS NEWS! Sherman Marching On! CAPTURE OF CHARLESTON!

The Old Flag Waves over Sumter! Mobile Evacuated. General Exchange of Prisoners. BATTLE NEAR PETERSBURG. The Rebels Driven Back. Union Forces Successful at Wilmington.

Stephens and Hunter on a Peace Mission—Met by Lincoln and Seward—No Peace. The Constitutional Amendment Bill Prohibiting Slavery, Passed Congress, and Signed by the President.

CITY POINT, Feb. 15.—Yesterday a flag of truce appeared in front of Petersburg, asking permission for Vice President A. H. Stephens and Senator R. M. T. Hunter, Peace Commissioners to visit Washington.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The rebel Peace Commissioners have arrived at Fortress Monroe, and the President and Secretary Seward have gone there to have a conference with them.

FOURTEEN MONROE, Feb. 3.—The rebel Peace Commissioners had an interview with the President and Secretary Seward on board a steamer to-day.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—It is said that the President and Secretary Seward have agreed upon a general exchange of prisoners, which will forthwith take place.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—The President and Secretary Seward have returned to Washington. The peace conference was without result.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—The Commercial's special dispatch says officers from the fleet off Mobile report great activity in the removal of torpedoes and other obstructions in the harbor.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Quite a severe engagement took place at Hatcher's run resulting in a considerable advance of our lines in that vicinity.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Army of the Potomac holds its newly acquired ground on Hatcher's run, on which very strong earthworks have been erected.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—The Herald's correspondent says: There are renewed indications of the evacuation of Richmond.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The late fighting at Hatcher's run, resulted in an advance of five miles on our left, south of Petersburg, which is to be held.

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NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—It is now said that the rebel General Hindman, of Arkansas has gone to Mexico, expecting to obtain a command in Maximilian's army, having left faith in J. F. Davis' Confederacy.

The Richmond Sentinel, Feb. 10th says: The Union forces are making raids in Florida, and were at last accounts advancing on Rich King.

The Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist says: The appointment of Dick Taylor to command the rebel army of Tennessee, had inspired the troops with fresh hopes.

The Richmond Enquirer says: Submission, the abolishment of slavery and reconstruction were the only terms that could be got out of the Lincoln Government.

The Enquirer of the 14th says: Grant appears to be getting ready to march forward his lines still further, having by the recent movement advanced them three miles further to the west of Petersburg.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The Petersburg Express says: Grant has thoroughly fortified himself in the rear. He is now nearly as strong on that quarter as in front.

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CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—Charleston and all its defenses, with 200 cannon, supplies and ammunition came into our possession on the morning of the 18th.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 24.—Headquarters, Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, Feb. 24, 1865.—General Order No. 11.—The following has just been received by telegraph: Washington, Feb. 21, 1865.—To Major-General McDowell—It is ordered that a National salute be fired to-morrow noon, February 22d, at West Point and every fort, arsenal and army headquarters of the United States, in honor of the restoration of the flag of the Union upon Fort Sumter.

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The last Arena has a dash of wish-wash and shrapnel about the Code. From its vil-lage attorney style, we suppose it was written by the legal (?) editor. Amid a good deal of general whine, it makes two specific objections. One is in regard to the provision allowing all persons to testify, regardless of interest, race or color.

To Soldiers. We send the Statesman to officers and soldiers in the service of the United States and receive gratuity at par in payment, but to avoid imposition it is necessary that such subscribers specify the company and regiment to which they belong.

For Sale. A first-class Grover & Baker Sewing Machine. Apply at this office.

Teachers Institute. THE undersigned, desirous of promoting the cause of education in this county, issue this call for a County Teachers Institute, to be held in Salem, commencing on Wednesday, the 27th of March, 1865, and continuing four days.

SINGING SCHOOL. A SINGING SCHOOL FOR NEW BEGINNERS will commence on SATURDAY, the 4th of MARCH, at 10 o'clock, P. M.

Legislative Hall. All are invited to attend who are in any way interested in CHURCH MUSIC.

ROOP'S MENAGERIE AND MUSEUM. ROOP would with very great pleasure and confidence announce to the public that his Menagerie has proven quite successful, in consequence of which he has erected a building on a new and convenient plan.

Summons. JOHN KELLY vs. JOHN HILL, in the County Court of Douglas county, Oregon.

ESTRAY NOTICE. I, the undersigned, having found six mules and about 15 hams, on the 6th of February, one day being about 13 hours high, 6 or 7 years old, and some of them spotted, and some of them black, on Monday, the 3rd day of April, A. D. 1865, and in answer to the complaint of the plaintiff on file against you in the said entitled cause, and you are hereby notified that unless you do, immediately establish your claim, plaintiff will take a judgment against you for the sum of one hundred and ten dollars, with interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, from the first day of May, A. D. 1865, and his costs and disbursements in this action.

LOAN STAR GOLD AND SILVER MINING COMPANY. A meeting of the directors of the Loan Star Gold and Silver Mining Company, held on February 24th, an assessment was levied on the said company, and every share of the capital stock of said company, owned by any person, within the time specified in the notice, to the Secretary of the Company in said State gold mine.

BRANDRETH'S VEGETABLE UNIVERSAL PILLS. It is generally known that my Grandfather was the original inventor of these remarkable pills. These pills were first introduced into the medicinal world by the Old School. But becoming alarmed at the practice that attended the Blooding and Blood Purification, he turned his attention to the study of natural medicine, and discovered the medicinal properties of certain vegetable agents which he found to exist exclusively in the Vegetable Kingdom.

CONGRESSIONAL. NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—The bill in the House for amending the Constitution so as to abolish slavery, passed by a vote of 101 to 59.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Foster, of Connecticut, in the Senate reported an act continuing cases pending in the Territorial Court of Nevada to the courts formed under the state Government.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The two houses of Congress met in the hall of the House of Representatives at 10 o'clock. The Vice President opened the certificates of election for President and Vice President. Abraham Lincoln was declared elected President, and Andrew Johnson Vice-President.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—In the Senate, Congress of California, called up the bill to establish a mail steamship service between the United States and China. The bill provides that the Post Master General shall have power to contract with any company who will agree for the lowest price, to establish a line of steamships, to make twelve round trips between San Francisco and China per annum—the contract to run into effect on the 1st of January, 1867.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—In the House the committee on elections reported in favor of admitting Bryan to a seat as a Representative from Louisiana, and have decided to report in favor of Johnson and Kays, as Representatives from Arkansas.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Post's special dispatch says: The Postoffice committee of the House have agreed to report a bill, establishing a steamship line to China.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—In the House the death of Senator Hicks, of Maryland, was announced, and after appropriate remarks had been made, the House proceeded to the Senate Chamber to attend the funeral.