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THE OREGON SENTINEL.

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B. F. DOWELL, Proprietor.

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SOLDIERS AT HOME.

They come through the green still ways
To their peaceful homes once more,
To lie in the shade through the summer days
Till their weariness is o'er,
And the silence grows a familiar thing
After the battle's roar.

They are strong in limb and look,
And forget to heed the rain;
And drink at every babbling brook,
And sleep on the open plain;
For the night-mists fall in harmless dew
On their oaken bark and grain.

The children count the stars
On their faces one by one;
And the maidens that twinkle out like stars
After the set of sun,
Draw shyly near to hear them tell
How the bloody fight was won.

They are heroes one and all
To their gentle ones they meet;
And the voices of love that to them call
Were never more soft and sweet;
And toward what once was a hopeless dream
They now may turn their feet.

They are the nation's pride,
And its living memory
Of the noble hearts that bravely died
Beside them on land and sea;
And at their feet are the highest gifts
Of a thankful people free.

MESSAGE OF Governor Addison C. Gibbs

— TO THE —

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SPECIAL SESSION, DEC. 5, 1865.

STATE OF OREGON, EXECUTIVE DEPT.,
Salem, Dec. 5, 1865.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and House of Representatives: The Constitution of this State requires the Governor to give, from time to time, to the Legislative Assembly, information touching the condition of the State, and to recommend such measures as he shall judge to be expedient; and, when assembled, the purpose for which they shall have been convened.

The principle object for which I have called you together is, to recommend that you adopt the amendment to the Constitution of the United States, proposed by the last session of Congress, for the purpose of abolishing slavery wherever it exists in the nation.

"There is one calamity," says De Tonnelle, "which penetrated furthest into the world, and which was at first scarcely distinguishable amidst the ordinary abuses of power; it originated with an individual whose name history has not preserved; it was walled like some accursed germ upon a portion of the soil; but it afterwards nurtured itself, grew without effort, and spread naturally with the society to which it belonged. This calamity is slavery. Christianity suppressed slavery, but the Christians of the sixteenth century re-established it; an exception indeed, to their social system and restricted it to one of the races of mankind."

From the commencement of the African slave trade in 1508 to 1860, it appears from the most reliable evidence to be obtained, that upwards of fifteen and a half millions of human beings were forcibly torn from their native country, early associations and family ties, and were doomed to perpetual slavery—themselves and their offspring—in a foreign land. Language is unequal to the task of recounting the bitter, burning wrongs which were perpetrated upon that unfortunate people by carrying on this most unholy traffic. An indistinct picture may be formed in the imagination when we call to mind the well authenticated facts.

Lord Palmerston, speaking in the House of Lords in 1844, gave some of the reasons which stirred the government to move in this matter. He said:

"The negroes destined for the slave trade were not taken from the neighborhood where they are embarked. A great number come from the interior. Many are captives made in wars excited by the thirst for the gain procured by the sale of the prisoners. But the greatest number arise from kidnapping expeditions, and an organized system of man-stealing in the interior of Africa."

"When the time approaches to set out with the slave caravans for the coast, the kidnappers surround a peaceful village at night, set it on fire, and seize on the inhabitants, killing all who resist. If the vil-

lage attacked is situated on a mountain offering facilities for flight and the inhabitants take refuge in the caverns, the kidnappers kindle large fires at the entrance; and those who are sheltered there placed between death by suffocation and slavery, are forced to give themselves up. If the fugitives take refuge on the heights, the assailants render themselves masters of all the springs and wells, and the unfortunates, devoured by thirst, return to barter liberty for life.

"The prisoners made, they proceed to the choice. The robust individuals of both sexes, and the children of above six or seven years of age, are set aside to form part of the caravan which is to be driven to the sea shore. They rid themselves of the children under six years by killing them on the spot, and abandon the aged and infirm, thus compelling them to die of hunger.

"The caravan sets out. Men, women and children traverse the burning sands and rocky defiles of the mountains of Africa barefooted and almost naked. The feeble are stimulated by the whip; the strong are secured by chaining them together or placing them under a yoke. Many fall from exhaustion on the road, and die, or become the prey of wild beasts.

"On reaching the sea shore, they are penned up, and crowded together in buildings called *barracons*, where they fall a prey to epidemics. Death often cruelly thins their ranks before the arrival of a slave trader."

Lord Palmerston's general deduction from these and other facts connected with the trade is contained in the same speech. "It is calculated," he says, "that of three negroes seized in the interior of Africa to be sent into slavery, but one reaches his destination; the other two die in the course of the operations of the slave trade. Whatever may be the number yearly landed, therefore, we must triple it to obtain the true number of human beings which this detestable traffic annually carries off from Africa."

Of the millions thus robbed of human life, but one-third withstood the horrors of the "middle passage."

In the American colonies, public opinion as well as the legislation had uniformly been against the African slave trade.

The inhabitants of Virginia were controlled by British authority. Their Legislative halls had resounded with eloquence directed against the plague of Negro slavery. Again and again they passed laws restraining the traffic.

Yet in 1860, there were 2,953,587 slaves in the United States, many of whom were nearer white than black, held under a system that disregarded paternal feeling, destroyed the sacred rights of marriage, and made it a crime for any one to teach a slave to read even the words of eternal life; a system, the horrors of which have been increasing during the last forty years, while there has been a corresponding decrease in the percentage of slavery.

"The whole commerce," said Mr. Jefferson, "between master and slave is a perpetual exercise of the most boisterous passions—the most unremitting despotism on the one part and degrading submission on the other. Our children see this and learn to imitate it." "The man must be a prodigy who can retain his manners and his morals under such circumstances."

"The prevailing ideas entertained by Mr. Jefferson and most of the leading statesmen at the time of the formation of the Constitution were, that the enslavement of the African was in violation of the laws of nature; that it was wrong in principle; socially, morally and politically. It was an evil they knew not well how to deal with; but the general opinion of the men of that day was, that somehow or other, in the order of Providence, the institution would become evanescent and pass away. This idea, though not incorporated in the constitution, was the prevailing idea at that time."

Recently, however, the slave power, not satisfied with shaping the legislation of the country and holding a majority of the offices of honor and profit, has been exacting that newspapers which freely discussed the question of slavery and told bloody stories of its wrongs, have been denied the mails. Freedom of the press and of speech upon the subject has existed only in name in one-third of the Republic. Mobs, revolvers and bowie-knives have been made subservient to its commands in attempting to crush all opposition to its unholy mandates. Conventions of its friends have been held even in the northern states where resolutions have been passed declaring that it was the duty of the Government to protect slavery in the territories and wherever its constitutional authority extends.

The depravity of man's nature has been so quickened by contact with slavery, that the institution, conceived in sin and brought forth in iniquity, with all its monstrosities and hideous and disgusting

deformities, has even been called *divine*. It has sown to the winds and from the whirlwinds will reap destruction. The day is not distant, when no man shall be called master or slave.

The Constitution made by our patriotic fathers who shed their blood to establish it as freely as their gallant sons, in the last four years, have shed theirs to preserve it provides the way in which this last vestige of barbarism shall be forever removed from the constitution of our nation.

The fifth article of the Constitution of the United States provides that whenever two-thirds of both houses of Congress shall propose an amendment to the same such amendment shall become a part of the Constitution whenever such proposition shall have been ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states. No exception whatever is made with reference to the subject of slavery.

On the first day of February, A. D. 1865 a resolution was passed in Congress by the constitutional majority, providing for an amendment to the Constitution abolishing slavery. And as the news of its passage was wafted over the nation upon the wings of the wind, twenty millions of people clapped their hands for joy.

By a special letter from Secretary Sew and I am requested "to cause the decision of the Legislature to be taken upon the subject" so as to complete the work so well begun.

On the 23d of September, seventeen states had adopted the amendment and officially notified the Department of State of the fact. How many have adopted it since, I am not advised, but from the triumph of late elections in the East, it cannot be doubted that, by the dawning of another year, every man in the Republic can stand up in the enjoyment of the native liberty in which he was created—claiming and receiving the "inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

"If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong." It has wronged the masters. Those who violate the rights of all others. They may have been indulgent, kind fathers and neighbors, honorable in their business transactions and esteemed in society. Still the anomaly is presented of men whose characters in one respect entitle to be called civilized and refined; in others, especially in their dealings with the proscribed race, their conduct would indicate that their feelings were those akin to barbarism.

The system has greatly wronged the "poor whites" of the South. Its extensive plantations have prevented a general diffusion of knowledge by means of common schools. Slavery has rendered labor dishonorable in the estimation of thousands who would have otherwise thrived by it—closed the avenues of commerce and the march of internal improvements. Such a system is fraught with danger to our form of government and tends to the building up of an aristocracy. Such has been the character which slavery has stamped upon every form of government where it has existed; its spirit and practice is not only aversive to religion and civilization, but to democracy also. Many expressions of regret have been made by slave holders in the last four years that we ever threw off the monarchical form of government, and a desire to return to it has been manifested. The two systems of labor cannot peacefully exist in a republic. Slavery cannot be made national and ought not to be. The effort to nationalize it can, like the institution itself, be considered in no other sense than an utter failure.

[CONTINUED ON 2D PAGE.]

POSTAL AFFAIRS.—It is an unprecedented fact that during the fiscal year 1864—5 the Post Office Department was self-sustaining, the excess of receipts over expenditures amounting to \$861,000. The opening of mail routes throughout the South will change the aspect of the balance sheet for the present fiscal year, and an appeal will be made to Congress to abolish the franking privilege, that the Department may be self-sustaining. The money order system works well, and is to be extended to the Pacific coast and the route thither. This will enable persons in Sacramento, or any other place where a money-order office is established, to make remittance of sums not exceeding two or three hundred dollars, at a cost of two-thirds of one per cent, with a Government guarantee. Thus, far New York has issued 6,000 money-orders; Philadelphia, 6,200; Washington, 6,000; Boston, 2,500, and other places in proportion.

Mrs. Senator Kate Chase Sprague has a baby—a boy about five weeks old. Mrs. Sprague's mother-in-law presented her with \$500,000 for having a boy, and settled \$100,000 on the little stranger. A regular greenback baby! It is not every boy-baby whose father is a cotton lord and whose grandfather is a greenback lord!

Presid't Johnson's Message

CHICAGO, December 5th.

President Johnson's message opens as follows:

"To express gratitude to God, in the name of the people, for the preservation of the United States, is my first duty in addressing you. Our thoughts next revert to the death of the late President by the act of a parasitic treason. The grief of the nation is still fresh. It finds some solace in the consideration that he lived to enjoy the highest proof of its confidence by entering on a renewal of a term of the Chief Magistracy to which he had been elected; that he brought the civil war substantially to a close that his loss was deplored in all parts of the Union, and that foreign nations have rendered justice to his memory. His removal cast upon me a heavier weight of care than ever devolved upon any one of his predecessors to fulfill. I need the support and confidence of all who are associated with me in the various Departments of the Government, and the support and confidence of the people. There is but one way by which I can hope to gain their necessary aid; it is to state with frankness the principles which guide my conduct and their application to the present state of affairs."

The message then discusses the powers of the Constitution of the United States and the relations of the States of the Union. "It is not the right of State Government to renounce its own place in the Union or to nullify the laws of the Union. The largest liberty is to be maintained in the discussion of the acts of the Federal Government, but there is no appeal from its laws, except to the various branches of the Government, to itself or to the people. The sovereignty of the States is the language of the Confederacy, and not the language of the Constitution."

Again he says "The true theory is, that all the pretended acts of secession were from the beginning, null and void. States cannot commit treason nor screen individuals who may have committed treason."

States attempting to secede placed themselves in a condition where their vitality was impaired not extinguished; their functions suspended, not destroyed. But if any State neglects or refuses to perform its office there is the more need that the General Government should maintain all its authority and as soon as practicable resume the exercise of all its functions. On this principle I have acted and sought to restore the rightful energy of the General Government and of the States. To that end Provisional Governors have been appointed for the States, Conventions called, Governors elected, Legislatures assembled, and Representatives and Senators chosen to the Congress of the United States. I know very well that this policy is attended with some risk; that for its success it requires the acquiescence of the States which it concerns, that it implies an invitation to these States to resume their functions as States of the Union; but it is a risk that must be taken, as no State can throw a defiance over treason. The power of pardon is exclusively vested in the Executive branch of the Government of the United States. In exercising that power I have taken every precaution to connect with it the clearest recognition of the binding force of the laws of the United States, and the unequalled acknowledgment of the great change of condition in regard to slavery, which has grown out of the war." Again he says:

"All parties in the late terrible conflict must work together in harmony. It is not too much to ask, in the name of the whole people, that on one side the plan of restoration shall proceed in conformity with a willingness to cast the disorders of the past into oblivion, and on the other, that the evidence of sincerity on the future maintenance of the Union, shall be set beyond any doubt by the ratification of the proposed amendment to the Constitution which provides for the abolition of slavery forever within the limits of our country. The adoption of this amendment unites the United States beyond all power of disruption."

"It is manifest that treason, most flagrant in character, has been committed. Persons who are charged with its commission should have fair and impartial trials in the highest civil tribunals of the country in order that the Constitution and the laws may be fully vindicated, and the truth clearly established and affirmed that treason is a crime, traitors should be punished and the offense made infamous, and at the same time that the question may be judicially settled, finally and forever, that no State, of its own will, has the right to renounce its place in the Union."

The relations of the General Government toward four million inhabitants, whom the war has called into freedom, have engaged the serious attention of the President. "In regard to the propriety of attempting to make the freedmen electors by the proclamation of the Executive, I took for my counsel the Constitution itself, the inter-

pretations of that instrument by its authors and contemporaries, and recent legislation by Congress." The President thinks granting the elective franchise to the freedmen would have been assumption of power which nothing in the Constitution or laws of the United States would have warranted. On the other hand, every danger of conflict is avoided when the question is referred to the State. "In my judgment, freedmen, if they show patience, will sooner come into participation in the elective franchise through the States than through the General Government even if it had the power to intervene. Good faith requires the security of the freedmen in their liberty their right to labor, and their right to claim a fair return for their labor."

The President argues a dispassionate treatment of this subject also from all party strife. He then discusses the Department reports under the provisions of the Homestead Law, 1,160,533 acres of land were entered during the last fiscal year. On the 1st of May the total number of persons on the pension list was 85,956, requiring for their annual pay \$8,023,445.

The revenue of the Post Office for the past year foots up \$14,556,158, and the expenditures \$13,694,828.

By the report of the Secretary of the Navy it will be seen that at the commencement of the present year there were in commission 330 vessels, armed with 3,000 guns, and manned by 51,000 men. The number of vessels now in commission is 117, with 830 guns and 12,129 men.

By the report of the Secretary of War it is shown that the military force on the 1st of May was 1,009,526 men. Over 800,000 of these men have been mustered out, and the Department is still rapidly reducing the number. The war estimates are reduced from \$510,814,461, which amount, in the opinion of the Department is adequate for the peace establishment.

The President discusses the financial questions at length. He recommends the people to be constantly on their guard; to liquidate debts contracted in paper currency and by conducting business nearly on a cash basis or short credits, to hold themselves prepared to return to a specie standard. The gradual reduction of the currency is the only measure that can save the business of the country from disastrous calamities. It is estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury that the expenditures for the fiscal year ending 30th of June, 1864, will exceed the receipts by \$112,184,847. It is gratifying, however, to state that it is also estimated that the revenue for the year ending 30th of June, 1877, will exceed the expenditures in the sum of \$111,628,815. This amount, or so much as may be deemed sufficient for the purpose, may be applied to the reduction of the public debt, which, on the 31st of October, 1862, was \$2,740,864,750.

In regard to our relations with Great Britain, the President declined the proposition of that power for the formation of a Joint Commission to settle the mutual claims between the two countries. The President closes with a virtual affirmation of the Monroe doctrine, and says the correspondence between the United States and France on the subject will at the proper time be laid before Congress.

THE ORIGIN OF THE FENIAN.—The Fenian Brotherhood has been in existence for the past eight years. Its founders were two of the Irish exiles of 1848, Colonel John O'Mahoney and Michael Doherty, both of whom are well known in this city. The late General Corcoran was in conjunction with them. O'Mahoney was connected with this movement in 1848, and though a mere youth he influenced about fifteen thousand of the peasantry in the county of Tipperary, where he belonged, to escape upon the hills of that place. The military surrounded and dispersed them, and O'Mahoney fled to France, where the plans for the future revolutionary organization were formed. After residing in France for a few years, O'Mahoney came to America, where, aided by Corcoran and Doherty, he started the Fenian Brotherhood organization. For five years the Brotherhood maintained a semi-secret character, spreading rapidly through the United States, Canada and the British Provinces with a regular system of communication.

Three years ago a national convention was held in Chicago, and the purpose of the organization was boldly avowed, and the spread of the movement was greater than ever. The leaders of the Fenians are men who have taken up downright revolution as the business of their lives. O'Mahoney, the Head Centre, is acknowledged, even by his enemies, to be highly cultured, of a chivalrous nature, and a man of great determination. The State Centres are nearly all wealthy Irish merchants. Many Catholic Clergymen are in the ranks, and not very long ago a General McGoorty, President of the Fenian Military Council, went arm in arm with Father Wigot, Superior of the Jesuits, to head a Fenian

procession in Washington. General Meigher is a member, and the late General Smith of the Union army, was a member of the Brotherhood at the time of his death.

Pardon.

Pardon implies guilt. Where guilt is disputed, a pardon should be denied, and a trial had to determine whether the accused needs a pardon. General Lee, we understand has applied for "pardon" in a voluminous document denying his guilt, i. e., denying that he is a proper case for a pardon. On the other hand it is largely claimed by Lee's Northern friends that the terms of his surrender to Grant amount to a pardon, and shield him from all punishment by the Government. If we believe General Lee and his friends, therefore, his case stands as follows:

1. The Government ought to pardon him.
 2. The Government has pardoned him.
 3. He never was guilty.
- This is very much like the case of the kettles which was—
1. Cracked when it was borrowed.
 2. Whole when it was returned, and.
 3. Never was borrowed at all.

We object to these triple obfuscations of facts which ought to be clearly demonstrated and known. If Grant's terms of surrender amount to an amnesty to Lee, and were so regarded by Lee, does any one suppose he would go to the President for a second pardon? It may fairly be assumed therefore from Lee's application for a pardon that he does not regard the terms of surrender as amounting to an amnesty or releasing in any way beyond his protection as, and while a prisoner of war.

There remains, therefore, the single question whether the Government should pardon any applicant who denies his guilt, until that guilt has first been established on a fair trial. We think not. Especially in leading cases, this should not be done. If parties are unwilling to confess their guilt, so that the point shall be forever thereafter established by their confession, let them stand trial, and be pardoned after conviction, and in a few of the more deserving cases, after execution.—Chicago Tribune.

LADIES UNDER WATER.—In Belgium, men and women, bathe together as freely as if water were their natural element. At Blankenberg you will see the bridegroom come forth from his *baignoir*, leading his bride by the hand, strolling her amid the surf. The father dips his daughters, and the most modest *dames* in the world, from a neighbouring machine gladly avail themselves of his polite services. Sometimes a hazardous acquaintance is struck up among the waves to be perfected on dry land, as occasion may offer. At the baths of Pforr young men and maidens, old men and children, sit in the boiling waters promiscuously while tables of wood, bearing a news paper or a cup of coffee, are gently floated to them, along the surface, at their call. At Duppel, the weather beaten father, with his coarse blue shirt and sunburned face, waits patiently for the lady issuing from her marine chamber, fancifully clad, often wearing a feather in her hair, and rings. He listens with his bucket in his hand, while she tells him how the seawater is to be thrown. With one it is the head, with another the arms, chest or nape of the neck, that is to be perfused first; and another stands like a rock, while pale after pail is dashed upon the small of her back. Then, if she is young the father gives her a lesson in swimming, and bids her rely on the motion of her arms and leave her feet entirely to his direction, while he guides them after the semblance of a frog.

DEFINITION OF A "BOSS."—Boss, to kiss rebuses, to kiss again; pluribus, to kiss without regard to sex; allybuss, to kiss the hand instead of the lips; blanderbuss to kiss the wrong person; omnibuss, to kiss all the persons in the room; Eccebuss, to kiss in the graveyard or in the dark. Evidently the country girl who came to town last week had these definitions in her head. A young gentleman was to escort her a mile or two down town, and not wishing to walk be remarked, "Hold on, Mary—let's take a bus." But Mary, blushing to the eyebrows drew back and with wounded modesty replied, "Oh George! not right here in the Street!" It is well that all the ladies are not like Mary!

KILLED.—A note from Capt. Kelly, dated at Fort Vancouver, Dec. 2d, informs us that James Alderson of Co. C, 1st Oregon Cavalry, was killed by Indians while herding horses in a canyon, a mile and a quarter from Camp Alford, Nov. 6, 1865. The Indians took away all the horses. Sixteen of the best in the company. The man's body was found next day, asked but not mutilated. Lieut. Chapman, with 32 men, mostly mounted on mules, the others on foot, followed the Indian trail for five days but failed to overtake them. Jas Alderson was one of the best men in the company. He has relatives near Jacksonville.

So there's another rupture in Mount Vesper, and Mrs. Farrington, as she put on her specs, the paper tells us about the burning rather running down the mountain but it don't tell us how it got fire.