

OREGON FREE PRESS.

FOR THE

VOL. I.)

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1848.

(NO. 28.)

"Here shall the Press the people's rights maintain, Unawed by influence, and unbribed by gain."

TERMS OF THE "FREE PRESS."

One copy, per annum, (in advance,) three dollars and fifty cents, cash—for six months, two dollars.

ADVERTISING.—Each square, (12 lines or less,) first insertion, two dollars—each subsequent insertion, one dollar. A reasonable deduction made on yearly advertisements.

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A NEW PLAN FOR ELECTING A PRESIDENT.—To get rid of the intervention of nominating conventions and to avoid the necessity of a resort to the house of representatives, in the business of choosing a president, a plan has been suggested by Senator Benton, which he considers admirably adapted to the object in view as well as easy and excellent in itself. In this recent speech at Jefferson he thus sets it forth:

"He had long since made known his opinion—a direct vote of the people, and no interventions of intermediate bodies to nominate before hand, or to decide alternatively afterwards, was his plan. A vote by districts, and a second election between the two highest, if the first one failed, was the plain and obvious remedy. A second election between the two highest would dispense both with a nominating convention, and a contingent resort to the house of representatives—no matter how many candidates were in the first election—if any one obtained a majority of the whole, then the elective principal was satisfied—the majority to govern—and the election was finished: if no one obtained such a majority then the first election to be held as a nomination of the two highest by the people, and the election to be held over again between those two. He wished the necessary reforms to be made in time; the constitution to be constitutionally amended, upon foresight and reason; before some violent shock should do mischief to the house of representatives, or to the nominating convention. But he was no architect of ruin; he did not pull down until he was ready to build up, he did not quit one shelter, though defective, until ready to enter another. The two intermediate bodies which stand between the people and the object of their choice—the nominating convention and the house of representatives—must stand as they are, though at the great risk of frustrating the popular choice, and bringing on a crisis until the hard lesson of experience shall induce the people to supercede them by safe and better institutions.

POOR FELLOWS.—"A printer and an editor," says the N. Y. Ledger, "were seen running at full speed through Broadway, uttering the most heart-rending cries. They stopped at Bloomingdale, and were asked what had alarmed them. They stated that each had ten dollars, and that Mr. Hitchcock, of the American Museum, hearing the fact, despatched six strong men to secure them as curiosities."

MESMERISM EXTRAORDINARY.—A few years ago, before the railroad company between Albany and Buffalo had provided the long and comfortable cars now used by the Mail Agents, and Livingston and Wells, the Messenger of the latter, rode in the passenger car, 'just like any body,' and of course, encountered all sorts of characters. One of the firm, whose love of wagery is well known, happened to be going to Buffalo, and was seated quietly in the car, when his attention was directed to the conversation of two individuals opposite.—One of these two was, it appeared, a travelling mesmerizer—a regular 'professor' of the 'science.' He was dilating upon its rapid development—the wonderful phenomena it exhibited—its astonishing curative power for disease—the extraordinary discoveries developed through its agency, Finally he got upon his own superiority as a 'professor,'—a congenial theme—and here he was at home. After narrating a variety of experiments—some of them astonishing of course—he spoke of the following with a "gusto" that was irresistible. Said he:

"Last week I was going through the streets of this very city, (Rochester) and saw a man just ahead to whom I was anxious to speak. He walked too fast for me to overtake him without running, so I just straightened out my right arm, concentrated my will, made a 'pass' at him—'thus'—and he stopped quicker than lightning."

"Wh-wh-wh-vvhy, mister y-you don't call that m-m-m-m-'ch of a tri-i-ick, do you?"

"Yes, sir, I rather flatter myself, sir, that it was a pretty strong demonstration."

"W-vv-vv well, it don't be-g-in with wh-what I once did."

"Then you are familiar with the science, sir I presume?"

"S-s-s-some."

"Might I inquire what was the case you spoke of?"

C-c-c-cer-certainly. Y-y-you see I h-h-ha'-appened to be up there in Batavia once in the winter. G-g-going down to the c-cars I saw a m-a-a-an on t-t-t-top of a building, sh-oveling off snow; pr-etty soon his f-f-foot slipped and d-d-d-down he came; wh-wh-when he had got about h-h-half way down, I just m-made a p-p-pass at him, and it st-opped him quicker than powder. I c-c-c-came off vvith-o-out thinking more a-bout it. If you are g-o-ing to Batavia, I vvish y-you would just l-let him down, for I pr-pr-pre-sume he is h-h-h-anging there yet."

A ROARING ORATOR.—Mr. President—I shall not remain silent, sir, vvwhile I have a voice that is not dumb in this assembly. The gentlemen, sir, cannot expostulate this matter to any future time that is more suitable than novv. He may talk, sir, of the Herculeum revolutions, vvwhereby republics are