

POETRY.

ORISON.

BY THEO. ECKHART, 1ST U. S. ARTILLERY.

Through the mist of coming years,
From this vale of hope and fears
There's a future bright appears
Rolling on
And thy sons amid their toil
On this far, far distant soil,
Shall be proudly seen to smile.

Though no more a foreign red
Is extended o'er thy sod,
But thy hills and vales are trod
By the free
Though the children of the north
In their might have sailed forth
To assert Columbia's worth
Gloriously!

Yet, alas! the parent hand,
That should nurse so bright a land,
Doth but faintly, feebly, stand
For its son:
While with anxious eyes we look
On the homes we once forgot,
All thy thousand ills to brook.

But we laugh despair to scorn:—
Though forgotten and forlorn,
We predict the coming morn
Through the gloom:
When thy sons and daughters fair,
Sweetly rest of grief and care,
Shall a nation's bounty share,
And a home!

For the day is drawing nigh
When the long-neglected cry
Not in vain, shall raise on high
"WE ARE ONE!"
And thy sons amid their toil
On this free the distant soil,
Shall in sweet contentment smile.

Vancouver, O. T. April 25th, 1850

GOLD! GOLD! GOLD!

BY THEO. ECKHART, 1ST U. S. ARTILLERY.

I've been where Sacramento's waves
O'er yellow sands have roll'd:
Where countless thousands dig their graves
While seeking gold: gold! gold!
I've dug till life was ebbing fast:
Till fever scorch'd my brain:—
I've cov'd me with the passing blast,
And dug and dug again!

But what is gold? Can happiness
Upon this earth be found?
Or can we force the gates of bliss
By digging in the ground?
Ah! no—the laden with the treasure,
My woes increased tenfold:
I found that in pursuit of pleasure,
I had but gather'd gold!

I hid me home, enraged at fate,
Embrace'd my dear ones o'er,
And vow'd that come what might, my state
I never should deplore.
And now, content, I feel a joy,
The half could ne'er be told:
A smiling wife and a cherub boy,
Oh! these are better than gold!

Vancouver, April 26, 1850.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11, 1850.

Friend Blain—I was greeted this morning, with the news from Oregon, contained in the first two numbers of the Spectator, and a letter from my wife, yourself, Gen. Lovejoy, Rev. H. Johnson, Col. Lawrence Hall, and Eli Davis, besides two letters from California. I have not had time to hear whether the President or Departments have received any official information from the Oregon officers, or not. Up to the reception of this mail, none had ever been received; which created some dissatisfaction in the Departments. I have uniformly said to them, that such must have been made, but had, probably, been lost. I hope our public officers will attend to these things, because official communications, coming from each branch of the territorial government, explaining what is wanted in the several departments of the Territory, with a recommendation for the same, will have great weight, and add not a little to my efforts in our behalf. For instance, a communication from the Collector, laying open the necessities of improvements at the mouth of the river, accompanied with detailed recommendations, would be laid before the committee on Commerce by the Secretary of the Treasury, and would have incalculable weight in procuring the appropriations. So a communication from the Governor, stating what the Territory needs, with the reasons why these needs should be attended to, would have like weight. The same would hold true of the Judges, and all the balance of the officers. I hope these suggestions will be attended to, for there is need that every man in Oregon should use his influence in her behalf.

You will be able to get the news of the day from the papers I send you, but perhaps it is not inappropriate that I should say a few words on one subject—one which swallows up all others, and which will necessarily stop the progress of all matters in Congress till it is settled—the subject of slavery. We are at a crisis, but what will be the development of it, I

am not able to say. There has been a southern convention called, to be held at Nashville in June next, which is to occupy the position relative to this country, that the old Hartford convention did in its time, only more revolutionary. The object of that convention is to dissolve the Union, on the happening of the following contingencies: First, The application of the Wilmot proviso to the territories of Deseret or New Mexico; second, the admission of California in the Union as a state; third, the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia; fourth, the refusal of the executive of a northern state to deliver up a fugitive slave on demand; fifth, the restriction of the slave trade, by Congress, between the slave states; and sixth, the abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia. All of the above items are put forth by some of the southern states, some not going quite so far. How much of this is brag, and how much genuine intention, of course it is impossible to tell. It is, however, generally concluded, that a part of it is bona fide, and that there is a party in the south really desirous to dissolve the Union—a party of whom it may be said, that they would prefer to rule in hell than reign in heaven. It is no doubt a fact that there is a conspiracy, against the government to which the South Carolina nullification is a pigmy. And what is peculiar in the contest, is that these southern men take the ground, that they have the constitutional right to dissolve the Union. That is, they say, as did South Carolina, speaking through Mr. Calhoun in the days of nullification and the hero of the Hermitage, that a state has the right, under the constitution, to enquire into the constitutionality, or policy of a law of Congress, and, without waiting for the court to so say, declare it unconstitutional and resist its enforcement by the government; and they claim the right to resist it, although the Supreme court may have pronounced it constitutional. They say further, that any state has the constitutional right to go out of the Union at pleasure. Whereas, the doctrine of the Union is, once in the Union, always in the Union, unless by its consent to the contrary.

The doctrine thus assumed by these ultra, if it deserve the name of doctrine, is denied by the whole north, and badly denounced as fanatical by Mr. Clay in his great speech, delivered in the Senate a few days since. It is proper that the people in Oregon should understand the issue, and without stopping to show that the doctrine is a humbug, that if true, we are no union and never could be,—that our government would be nothing but an imbecile league, dissoluble at the pleasure of a single member,—that the whole energies of the government could be paralyzed, at any time, by a single state,—I will settle the point, by deeming it in the celebrated language of Gen. Jackson, in his no less celebrated proclamation to the southern nullifiers, in 1832, that the doctrine "is incompatible with the existence of the Union, contradicted, expressly, by the letter of the constitution, unauthorized by its spirit, inconsistent with every principle on which it was founded, and destructive of the great object for which it was formed." All italicized in the original! Who can fail to see that these words are all Old Hickory. On every letter is instamped that iron will of his! If you have it at hand, I hope you will publish that proclamation. Now is an appropriate time, and it will at once present the doctrine to the people of our Territory, and show to them its utter fallacy. I believe a better specimen of human reasoning cannot be found. And here you will allow me to digress and relate a little anecdote I have learned from Col. Benton, connected with the nullification scheme. Mr. Calhoun was the champion of the movement. The old General had determined to crush the scheme. He had said with fearful emphasis, "the Union must and shall be preserved." To accomplish this Herculean task, he had fully made up his mind to hang Mr. Calhoun, and during all that turbulent time the old man had a secret express running between Washington and Charleston, S. C., to watch the movements of the nullifiers, being determined to hang up the first man that committed an overt act of treason. But to make sure of Mr. Calhoun, he consulted his Attorney General. The Attorney General was of the opinion that Mr. Calhoun's acts would not justify a conviction for high treason. The old General went away in a surly mood. That night, a friend called on him, and, in the conversation, asked him what was to be done with Mr. Calhoun. "Why," said Old Hickory, "I have been consulting my Attorney General, to see if I can't hang him. He thinks he has not committed any overt act yet, but that isn't my opinion. I have been trying to get the Attorney General up to the scratch, but can't quite succeed." "But," said he, rising to his feet, and straightening up his tall form, and right arm raised, "by the Eternal, I'll hang him anyhow." It is said this fearful declaration was reported to Mr. Calhoun that very night, and was one of the principal things which quelled that rebellion.

This being the doctrine and position assumed by the south, and so large a portion of the south being committed to the project, the matter has assumed such a form as to alarm our best men. It is be-

lieved that danger is ahead, and the great question is, how can it be avoided? Mr. Clay has come forward with his compromise, as he did in the South Carolina nullification. I send you his speech, so that you will be able to give the people, and his views to the people, and will proceed to tell you how it takes here. The south, a large proportion of them, are opposed to it. They say they will have all of California south of 36 deg. 31 min. north. The north say they will surrender it. If the south would agree with all I think the north would agree to admit California with her present boundaries as a state into the Union, and separate New Mexico and Deseret into territories, saying nothing about slavery. Some portion of the north will not agree to this, that if the south oppose that project will not succeed. My own opinion is that this will be the course which will prevail, because California will be a good thing, how. And I think it is the south's wish, they will come to some arrangement indicated. If this question settled, there will be a law passed for the recovery of fugitive slaves and the slave trade in the District of Columbia will be abolished, part of the south are in favor of this—Mr. Clay called for a degree of information.

But you are anxious to know what will be done in the event of a successful question in the admission of California, and without saying that I have no opinion on that point, I will say that I can never be dissatisfied with any arrangement Mr. Clay might make, so long as our Congress is authorized to legislate within constitutional bounds by threats of dissolution. Mr. Cass remarked, the other day, at it comes to that pass, we shall all be Taylor men, by which he meant, what is the arrangement you offer to the north, that in preserving the Union, we will rally round the chief magistrate, and fight under and defend the stripes and stars, till the last man, woman and child shall fall. But may God avert the calamity, and utterly consume the infamous person who shall announce at this juncture. What had we in mind to suppose there is a conspiracy in the territory, a proclamation of dissolution, I have been repeatedly asked by southern men, whether in earnest or in jest I meant to say, what Oregon will do in case of dissolution. Now I advise moderation on both sides, and shall do so, but in answer to this question I have but one reply to make, that Oregon will go to war with the country in defiance of the Union, that she will follow the stripes and stars—under the white flag—under them she will lay on her arms at night, and in the morning praying to the God of battles to rescue the Union, she will go forth with her brethren in the field of carnage in its defence. But what the crisis comes, what will General Taylor do? God needs his arms. Will he say, "the Union must and shall be preserved." Will he say, "I will be up to the scratch." Will he stretch up that arm of his, and, with a declaration as pregnant with war, the light and glory as was that of Jackson, declare that traitors shall be hung? You know he has sworn to fight for the constitution, and I have it from the lips of one of his Cabinet that he or they will first attempt a dissolution, will be crushed by the whole power of the government. Let all of us teach our children that this Union is too sacred to be divided, or that whenever necessary our all on earth should be religiously surrendered up in its defence.

There is a curious warfare now going on in Missouri. The watch word is, Benton and Anti-Benton. The issue is this, as I understand it, the Legislature of Missouri, by joint resolution, pledged the state to cooperate with the south in any measures the south might adopt, on the happening of any of the contingencies I have before named. Col. Benton takes ground against it, and says, let that in passing these resolutions, the Legislature mistook the sentiment of the people of Missouri, and that the Legislature mistook its own powers. He plants himself on the ground assumed by Jackson in his proclamation,—that this government is a union, not a league, and that all laws should be left to the judiciary, and the ballot box to be receded; that a law, oppressive in its operations on one part of community, or even unconstitutional, should be rectified by the e two powers, is his doctrine—surely a most natural one, too. Whether Mr. Benton will be defeated, time only can tell. Mr. At his is in bitterly opposed to him, but Benton is a perfect giant, and will make such a fight in Missouri, next summer, as was never made before in that state. I understand he will leave here in June to canvass that state. I will now leave you. If any thing happens which shall give cause for real alarm, I will apprise you. Meanwhile, let me exhort you and all our people to labor diligently to build up Oregon, for I don't apprehend that a single stone will be shaken from our national temple.

I remain, dear sir, Yours, very truly, &c., SAMUEL R. THURSTON.

KOSUTH'S CHILDREN.—The members of Kosuth's family, consisting of women and children, who were in arrest have been liberated. A guardian, a Hungarian and Protestant, has been appointed to superintend the education of the children.

NOTICE. W. M. K. REIDBORN, would invite the attention of the public to his LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GOODS, which he has now on hand at the store next to the Methodist Church in this city, where he would be happy to see his customers, and all the new ones he can get. He would also request all indebted to him by note or account to call and settle, as all demands not settled by June 1st, 1850, will be left in the hands of an attorney for collection. Oregon City, April 16, 1850-131

BOOTS & SHOES. Gents Morocco boots, do Kip do Ladies gaiters and slippers, do High shoes, Gents leggings, Cow hells boots, Childrens shoes. For sale by O. HANAW Oregon City, February 21, 1850.

NEW GOODS! BE KEPT AT THE BANK ANN SMITH AND CO. BAYMOND.

THE subscribers have received and offer for sale their stock of Goods, consisting of DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, FRUITS, &c., &c. BROOKS & BARLOW. Oregon City, March 21st, '50—11

LOOK! consequence of the late freight, the undersigned will be compelled to fix up their goods for a period of a time, but are now pleased to notify their customers, that they are now reopening their goods at Main street, next door below the Landing, and opposite Campbell and Main streets. They have also a general assortment of goods, such as the various Louisa, Louisiana and W. Carter and Brog Almona—all of which are at or near Portland. We hope the few days to have them all here in readiness for sale. J. D. & W. C. HOLMAN. Oregon City, Jan 24, 1850.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. At the April term of the Probate Court for the County of Yam Hill, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate of Thos. Jeffers, deceased. Date of letters 21st of March. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned for allowance within one year from the date of said letters. A. COLESON JEFFERS, Adm'r. NEALY T. FLETCHER, Adm'r. of the estate of Thos. Jeffers, dec'd. Apr. 15, 1850-131

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. At the April term of the Probate Court for the County of Yam Hill, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate of Joseph M. English, deceased. Said letters are dated April 11, 1850. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them to the undersigned for allowance in one year from the date of said letters. M. P. DEADY, Administrator of the estate of Joseph M. English, dec'd. April 15, 1850-131

NOTICE. At the April term of the Probate Court for the County of Yam Hill, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate of Wm. H. Crisp, deceased. Date of letters of administration, April 11, 1850. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them to the undersigned for allowance, within one year from the date of said letters. O. HINLEY, Administrator. Apr. 15, 1850-131

FARM FOR SALE. THE subscriber offers for sale the land claim formerly owned by Captain Crosby, and situated about one mile below Portland. This claim has a dwelling house, barn, and other improvements upon it, and is decidedly the most desirable one on the Willamette river. For particulars apply to ANDREW WILLIAMS. Portland, April 1, 1850.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. THE undersigned, by order of the Probate Court of Marion county, made this 19th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1850, was appointed by said court administrator of the estate of Thos. McKay, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them to said administrator in one year from the date of said order. G. GROOM, Administrator. April 19, 1850-16-31

NOW LANDING, from bark "Louisiana," and for sale by Crosby & Smith, American and Spanish saddles, black leather and russet bridles, martingales, girths, fancy plaid pincushion cravats, venon hoods, gloves, &c. Portland, April 15, '50-1611

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Agents for the Spectator. The following persons are authorized to act as Agents for the Spectator. They will receive subscriptions and advertisements for us. CALIFORNIA—T. P. POWERS, General Ag't; C. E. PICKER, eq.; Dr. Wm. CARPENTER, Sacramento city. OREGON—Geo. ABBEETHY & Co., Oregon city; Cohen & Co., Portland; J. B. McCLELLAN, P. M. Salem; Gen. ADAMS, Astoria; C. M. WALKER, eq., Chehalis; A. J. HEMMER, eq., Yam Hill; Jacob CHAMBERLAIN, eq., Hale's Ferry; ROBERT MOORE, eq., Linn city; JOSEPH C. AVERY, eq., Mouth of Mary's river; A. SUTLER, eq., Hillsborough. ILLINOIS—OLIVER WHITAKER, eq., Toulon, Stark county; Dr. J. C. MOORE, Aviston, Clinton county. How Sent: R. THURSTON, Washington City, D. C. and General Agent for the United States.