The Gregon Bepublican. COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER. DALLAS. SATURDAY, OCT. 22.

Universal Suffrage.

The Bulletin of the 15th inst. has a langthy article on this subject, and it is rather amusing to see how many ways are invented to avoid the real issue. Mr. O'Meara says he does not espouse or favor the views of any particular party, but proposes to treat this question as the greatest political question of the day, and from an independent standpoint. This spirit we admire in any man. either as a journalist or a public speaker, but at the end of an article of a column's length the writer concludes that the only true rule for the exercise of suffrage, as regulated by law, should be intelligence and good morals, and then adds, "upon this principle all the Indians. Chinese, and the majority of the African race should be excluded." This, he remarks, violates the principle on which he started out in this discussion, but he is forced to the conclusion from the conviction that the elective franchise is not a natural right and its exercise by all would not be safe. How is it that the editor comes to the conclusion that there is no intelligence or morals to be found among the Indians, Chinese, and the majority of the Africans in this country is not revealed in the article referred to. the principle of universal suffrage is wrong and incorrect, then there must be a qualification, and the great question is, what shall that quelification be We maintain it cannot be based npon intelligence and morals, except you draw the line against those persons who are known in a community as actually insane or idiots on the one hand, and moral prostitutes and outcasts on the other. This would embrace a number so few that it would amount to nothing, for that class of people are not now permitted to exercise that right, but for fear we may misrepresent the writer. we give his own language : "The only true rule for the exercise of suffrage. as regulated by law, should be a suf frage among persons competent to un derstand and exercise aright the great right of citizenship." It is very easy for men to speak o the great right to exercise the elective franchise in general terms, and say that none should vote but those who are competent to vote aright; but it is not so easy to define the qualification or as certain who is competent to vote aright. How would the gentleman ascertain whether or not a man possessed the competency to vote aright? Would he appoint a board of inspectors to examine into the qualifications of a person to vote at every general or special election? and would he ascertain just how a man intended to vote, so as to determine whether or not he was going to vote aright? or would he leave the whole question to the judges of elec tion, unrestrained by law, tr examine each individual offering to vote, and al low only those to exercise the right who, in their judgment, was then and there competent to exercise it aright? If this is to be the mode of ascertaining the proper qualification, how beautifully the rights of the American people would be secured? We contend you cannot make this the test, and that the conclusions of the writer has n solid foundation on which to lest, But others say the proper qualification intelligence and property combined. Others again say property alone, because they say it is the property holdrs alone who are directly interested in

order in society situated like ours, if manently establish a monied aristocracy, which will constitute him a ty rant; then, under the cloak of Republicanism, this Government will be converted into a monarchy. We are not now discussing the question of the principle of universal suffrage, but, tak ing it foe granted that a large majority of the voters of both parties at this day are agreed against that principle and agree that there ought to be a qual ification, the question is what should selves; we will protect as faithfully reforms which we think will tend most that qualification be? We think it must be one that can be understood by all, and one that can be defined in such a manner as to place the question bcyond dispute. Can this be done by a law which shall say that all persons who are competent to vote aright may vote at all elections? or by a law declaring that all persons who possess intelligence enough to understand the workings of the Government may vote, or a law saying that all persons of good moral character may vote? We think not, for you can devise no means by which you can impartially and correct ly ascertain as to a man's competency to vote aright or just the amount of intelligence he possesses, nor as to what his morals are, consequently a trial to accomplish this would simply prove a signal failure. But you can say, by positive law, that a man shall be worth five hundred dollars, or any othe sum of money, before he can exercise that right; and you can say that a man shall be born in the United States in order to qualify him to vote; or you can draw the line nature has provided -that of race-and can understand it These qualifications may be made and she line made plain, but in the cases first named, it will be imaginary only. We are satisfied, and have long been, that the only rule which can be established for the qualification of voter in this Government, is the line of race, if any is to be required outside of age and sex, and we are sincere in this conclusion, for the reason that we firmly believe that the principle of uni versal suffrage would have a direct tendency to destroy our present form of government, as much so as the doctrine of State supremacy and peaceable secession. But, says the objector, why fix it on the line of race? We answer, because this is the only one which has its foundation in common sense and equity. But some ask, is race any objection to a man's right to exercising the elective franchise? We answer, yes; because we hold it would be destructive to our institutions to allow all races of men to come here and have the same voice in our governmental matters that we ourselves have. How could it be otherwise ; men and women coming here from all nations by millions every year, trained to customs entirely different from ours, strongly tainted with the idea that no government is worth maintaining, except a monarchy; strangers to republicanism. and the markings of our Government, it must be plain to all that such an experiment would be dangerous indeed. But, say many, if this rule is to prevail, then Europeans would be eqcluded. This is a mistaken idea. Europe is the country from whence our fathers came. We are of that race of people. There is between us no antagonism of race. We have always intermingled with the people, and always will; and this is all in harmony with the immutable laws of Deity. It was the white race that discovered and settled this country. It was the white race that established this Government, and it is the white race that ought to continue to run this Government; and we pre-

for all, and make all races of men citi- the REPUBLICAN, we might as well FITHE UNDERSIGNED, HAVING PURzens who desire to be, for the purpose say here, that we shall advocate what of protection to their person and pro we deem to be correct political principerty only, then all will be satisfied, ples, and shall endeavor in all cases to at very cheap rates, for CASH or if we sternly say to all opposite races, advocate the right, nor shall we fail to you may come here if you are oppress- | condemn the wrong, whenever or whereed at home, and we will make the ever we discover it. We shall lend our same laws for you that we do for our aid, as best we can, to bring about those your person and property, but we will to the perpetuity and perfection of our republican form of government, as instinot pass to you the reigns of Governtuted by Washington and his comment by giving you the ballot and peers, and indicated in the Constitution allowing you to hold office, then all will understand our position, and all who of the United States, and those reforms come will be content. Apply the op- which tend to the establishment of posite rule, and what will be the result? good morals and good order in society; The experiment so far has already consequently, we shall favor the proproven, in the first place we extended | hibition of the manufacture and imporit to the African in the South, and it tation of spirituous liquors into or within the limits of the State of Orewas said it should be extended no fur ther, but very soon men saw that it was gon. We shall oppose universal sufnot just to say that the African should frage, and the principle of universal have the ballot, simply because he reamnesty to traitors; we shall advocate sided in a certain locality; and the Af- the total abolition of all life offices in ricans of all other localities also raised the Government, and favor the election the ery of injustice, an I clamored for of all offices to the people; we shall their rights. We yielded to the demand stand upon the chief corner stone of by a violation of our former pledge, and this Republic, as established by the extended it to the African of the terripatriots who won for us the proud torics of the United States and all name we have throughout the civilized other places over which the general world-" that the United States shall Government had exclusive jurisdiction, be the asylum for the oppressed of all and then we declared both long and nations." We shall favor, then, citi loud we would go no further, but did zenship to all who are oppressed at we stop? no, and why? simply because home, and desire in good faith to ab we had stepped over the line of race. solve allegiance to the Government of Then was raised again the cry of injustheir birth, and be adopted as a citizen tice, as before, because, said its advocates, if it is right that the African should vote in the Southern States in all our territories, and in the district of Columbia, then it is right that they should enjoy the same privilege in all the States. And then came the Fifteenth Amendment, extending to African citizens all over the land the ballot. But were the friends of universal suffrage then satisfied? by no means; the same cry of injustice was raised. and they said, if race is to be wiped the citizen who has a legal right out, then why not allow the African, who is a foreigner, to become a citizen, rectly. so as to enable him to vote also. And the reasoning was unanswerable, be cause it was founded upon the very principle of which we speak. If we give to one of a race the privilege of the ballot, we must in justice give it to all. Then came the proposition to extend it to all Africans, with all their ignorance and barbarism, and this was only the legitimate fruits of the first act; and now the frienls of univeral suffrage are raising the same cry of injustice, because we refuse to extend the ballot to the Chinese and Indians; and they have just as much reson for making this demand, as they had for making the first request to step over the line of race; for, if it is true, as claimed, that Sentinel. a man's rights cannot be protected in this Government, unless you give him the ballot, then it is just as necessary for the Mongolian to enjoy it as the Af rican, or any other race of men, and to apply Mr. O'Meara's rule of fitness. the Chinese, as a people, would have and enjoy it for a century, before the African would possess equal qualification. And this demand for Chinese suffrage will be urged, and that, too, with great force, until we shall be compelled to accede to it, on the principle ot equaliy and justice, as long as we recognize the right to pass the line of race ; for if it be right and just to exand quick sales tend that most sacred privilege to one old Store Roon opposite race, then it is but just that all should enjoy it. It is impossible to wipe out the natural antagonism of NAPOLEON IS A PRISONER OF

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4- tf



defy competition.

are required to present the same to the Admin ace. Go to the African to day, to WAR I istrator, with proper vouchers, within sin months from the date of this notice, at his res OAK SOLE LEATHER, FRENCH dict right here, that unless that rule six the Government, and consequently whom has been given the right to vote, DUT CALF, KIP AND UPPER shall be established, there will soon be idence one mile west of Salem on the Eola man or woman should be required to SHOE FINDINGS, and ask him if he is willing the Chinaroad. be left here no Government to run. accumulate a certain amount of prop-S. D. GIBSON, G. B. STILES' man should have it, and he instantly Shoe Machinery and everything generally found in a Leather and Finding Store. Gold coin paid for HIDES and FURS, October 7th, 1870. 32-4 Administrator. Another reason why we think the line erty, either real or personal, before EADQUARTERS and indignantly answers no, and of race is the proper one is this, if we he or she should exercise that right ; and Home Shuttle Sewing Maready to fight, in order to prevent it GILBERT BROS. step over that line to extend the ballot, is on Main Street, opposite the Court House we think there is much more reason in chine! Salem, Ogn., March 10, 1870. 2-6m We maintain, then, that it would be we find ourselves out upon a shoreless New Store! New Goods!! this than in the qualification of intelli-**Great Reduction in Prices!** dangerous to permanently fix any line Administrator's Notice. ocean, where no permanent stake can gence and property, for we have never of qualification, save that of race; and THE ABOVE CELEBRATED FAVORbe stuck, or line drawn, until we have I am now prepared to yet known a man possessed of wealth ite machine is now offered to the public at the reduced price of of TWENTY DOL-LARS, and will be kept constantly on hand we believe the American people must choice assortment of OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT embraced all races of men ; and to do who, in the eyes of a community, did PROVISIONS. he undersigned has been duly appointed by finally choose between the establishment this, nearly all agree, would be ruinistrator of the estate of Jas. B. Riggs, deceased, late of said county. All County Court of Polk county, O not possess plenty of intelligence, and and for sale at the rooms of GROCERIES of that line and universal suffrage. As ous; and to extend it to one iteoppos ed, late of said county. All persons NAILS, AXES & SIEVES, the whole thing would result in fixing Burchard & Powers, to the mode of coming back to that race, and exclude another, would be QUEENSWARE, claims against said estate are hereby not the qualification upon the line of money No 139, First Street, Portland, Oregon to present them, with proper vouchers, within line, and making it permanent, we prounjust, as is properly claimed by the WOODEN & WILLOW WARE, disregarding all other considerations, six months from the date of this notice to the H. B. MORRILL, BOOTS & SHOES. pose to give our views hereafter. said Administrator, at his residence in Salem advocates of universal suffrage. Traveling Agent. 33-tf and when that line shall be drawn and FACTORY GOODS, bregon, or to J. L. Collins, his Attorney, al We repeat, then, that the line of permanently established, then the hope YANKEE NOTIONS, &c., &c. NOTICE. RUFUS A. RIGGS. race is the only just and equitable line G. B. Stiles has just received the of the poor man is lost forever, and he I design to keep only the choicest and best Dallas, Sept. 24, 1870 30-4w that can be drawn ; and there is no eslargest and best lot of Oregon cheese AULT HAS RE articles and sell at a small profit for cash or and his posterity will become poorer PRODUCE. I tired frem the ELCH'S PREMIUM SALMON_BEST cape from this conclusion. This is the ever brought to this market. Try it. and gradua"y go into slavery, while **KEPUBLICAN**, and all monies due from any Our motto is quick sales and small profits. in market-in kits or barrels. person must be paid to P. C. SULLIVAN. only way by which we can maintain G. B. STILES. COX & EARHART'S. For sale at the rich will become richer and por-Subscribe for the REPUBLICAN, Dallas, Oct. 22, 187 33-tf