

Mountain Sentinel.

"WE GO WHERE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES POINT THE WAY;—WHEN THEY CEASE TO LEAD, WE CEASE TO FOLLOW."

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TERMS.

The "MOUNTAIN SENTINEL" is published every Thursday morning, at One Dollar and Fifty Cents per annum, if paid in advance or within three months; after three months Two Dollars will be charged. No subscription will be taken for a shorter period than six months; and no paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid. A failure to notify a discontinuance at the expiration of the term subscribed for, will be considered as a new engagement. ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at the following rates:—50 cents per square for the first insertion; 75 cents for two insertions; \$1 for three insertions; and 25 cents per square for every subsequent insertion. A liberal reduction made to those who advertise by the year. All advertisements handed in must have the proper number of insertions marked thereon, or they will be published until forbidden, and charged in accordance with the above terms. All letters and communications to insure attention must be post paid. A. J. RHEY

DESPERATION.

There is a terrible fellow somewhere, "Down East" who ought not to be permitted to run loose. He threatens to play the very deuce, and break things, in consequence of his fruitless gal.—If he should happen to put his threats into execution, the Lord have mercy upon us! His first threat is,

I'll grasp the loud thunder,
With the lightning I'll play,
I'll rend earth and thunder,
And kick it away.

That's attempting considerable for one man—however, if he has a mind to take the responsibility, and pay damages, let him smash away—we are not afraid. He next says:

The rainbow I'll straddle,
And ride to the moon,
Or in the ocean I'll paddle,
In the bowl of a spoon.

That won't hurt anybody. Go a-head, old chap—we like to encourage a laudible spirit of adventure.

I'll set fire to the fountain,
And swallow up the rill;
I'll eat up the mountain,
And be hungry still.

Goodness gracious! is there no way to appease his wrath and stay his stomach? Must we suffer all this because he and his girl haven't anything to say to each other at present? No—never! Down with him! down with him! we say.

The rain shall fall upwards,
The earth shall tumble down!
I'll dye the grass purple,
And paint the sky brown,

Hear that! a pretty world this would be truly with the rain falling up, the smoke tumbling down, the grass dyed purple, and the sky painted brown! We might as well live in an old boat, with a dirty sole for the earth beneath, and brown paper leather for the heavens above.

The sun I'll put out,
With the whirlwinds play;
Turn day into night,
And sleep it away.

There is no doubt if he cuts that caper, the sun will feel as much put out about it as we shall. We leave it to the whirlwinds to say whether they are to be trifled with or not; and as for his turning day into night, and sleeping it away we would just as lief he would as not—if he can do it.

I'll flog the young earthquake,
The earth I'll physic,
Volcanoes I'll strangle,
Or choke with the phthisic.

Oh, ho! he dares not clinch with an old he earthquake, and so threatens to flog a "young 'un," of the neuter gender! Coward! why don't you take one of your size?

The moon I'll smother,
With nightmare and woe;
For sport, at each other
The stars I will throw.

Serves 'em right—they have no business to be out when they ought to be abed.

The rocks shall be preachers,
The trees do the singing;
The clouds shall be teachers,
And the comets go sneering.

That's well enough, except getting the comets on a spree. We don't like that pretty well.

I'll tie up the winds,
In a bundle together,
And tickle their ribs
With an ostrich feather.

Oh, cracky!—now he does it! We didn't think it lay in the gizzard of mortal man to do half as much.

Really, we think such a desperate and dangerous individual or to be caught, cast into a spider's web and safely guarded by one flea, two mosquitoes, and a vigilant wood louse. There is no knowing what a chap may do.

The Washington Union, alluding to the late news from Mexico, says:—"The edifice is crumbling to the earth in hopeless ruin. How long can this country remain an idle and indifferent spectator of a neighboring people consumed by all the calamities of anarchy? How long will it be before the interposition of the United States will be invoked to rescue Mexican society and civilization from total anarchy and barbarism? How long will it be before other powers will assert rights in respect to Mexico? These questions are worthy of the anxious consideration of the statesmen of this country. The United States cannot be indifferent to the condition of Mexico."

AN ADVENTURE.

Queen Charlotte.

"The Queen and Princesses were very fond of sea-bathing, and also sailing about in the yacht, so that excepting during very boisterous or rainy weather they daily indulged in one or even both of these diversions. The royal family were called from their beds every morning at five o'clock, in order that they might be out at six. It will be readily imagined that such early hours at Gloucester Lodge, produced equally early movements throughout the population of Weymouth, and the shops were opened very regularly at half past five o'clock, for at six the streets were thronged with all the fashionables at court, and also by those who were anxious to be thought so, as Regent Street is at present from three till six in the afternoon. "The great attraction was to see the Queen and Princesses walking from Gloucester Lodge to their bathing machines or to cheer them on their embarkation with the King and a select party on board of the royal yacht. These water excursions occurred generally three or four days in every week: and the King in particular was so much attached to them, that the royal family, when embarked, usually passed the whole of the day in sailing about sea, sometimes at the distance of eight or ten miles from the land, but always within a chain of frigates to protect the yacht from being surprised by the enemy's cruisers.

"Although I had not been hitherto in the constant habit of being out at six o'clock yet here I immediately fell into a practice so general, and out I went accordingly with all the fashionables of Weymouth. Thus, on the second morning, after a whole night of heavy rain, I sallied forth to walk on the Esplanade, in the hope of seeing the Queen and Princesses on their way to bathe. In proceeding along a cross street, my steps were for a few moments arrested to look into the windows of a caricature shop, where amongst the prints were several of the royal family, but particularly some of the King, and others of the Queen (Charlotte). I had not been standing there many minutes, intermixed with several other persons, when I heard from behind me a voice repeating, "The Queen, the Queen," which induced me to search with increased diligence throughout the caricatures in the window for one of the Queen, to which I had thought the voice from behind me had alluded, but in which I was unsuccessful. At this moment, the various clocks beginning to strike six, reminded me that unless I hastened forward I should be too late to see the royal ladies proceeding to their bathing-machines. I immediately began to move on, still, nevertheless, keeping my eyes fixed upon the window in search of the Queen. I had not, however, taken two steps in that way, without looking before me, when I found I had come in contact with a female, whom, to save her and myself from falling, I encircled with my arms at the same moment, having observed that the person whom I had so embraced was a little old woman, with a small, black silk bonnet, exactly similar to those now commonly worn by poor and aged females, and the remainder of her person was covered by a short, plain, scarlet cloth cloak, I exclaimed, "Hallo, old lady, I very nearly put you down!" In an instant, I felt the old lady push me from her with energy and indignation, and I was seized by a great number of persons, who grasped me tightly by the arms and shoulders, whilst a tall, stout fellow, in scarlet livery, stood before my face, sharply striking the pavement with the heavy ferrule of a long, golden-headed cane, his eyes flashing fire, and loudly repeating: "The Queen—the Queen, sir!"

"Where?—where?—where?" I loudly retorted, greatly perplexed and even irritated, as I anxiously cast an inquisitive look about me, amongst the thirty or forty persons by whom I was surrounded.

"I am the Queen!" exclaimed the old lady. "I instantly perceived the voice proceeded from the little old lady whom I had so unceremoniously embraced, and had addressed with such impertinent familiarity.

"On this discovery, I did not entirely lose my presence of mind; for, without the delay of a moment, I fell on one knee, and seizing the hem of the Queen's dress, was about to apply it to my lips, after the German fashion, stammering out at the same time the best apology I was able to put together on so short a notice: when the Queen, although I believe much offended, and certainly not without cause; softened her irritated features, as she held out to me the back of her right hand:

"No, no, you may kiss my hand. We forgive; you must see more careful ferry rude—ferry rude indeed; we forgive; there, you may go.—Col. Landman's Adventure.

Adjutant General Keenan, in his annual report complains with good reason of the neglect of the Brigade Inspectors to forward returns to his office. The list of officers, and tabular statements of militia, arms, &c., are very incomplete. He asks that the Country Commissioners be required to make an annual return of the enrolled militia, that our State may relieve from the government the amount of arms to which it is justly entitled.

Springfield Armory and Tobacco.

In the U. S. House of Representatives, on Tuesday, February 1, the following interesting debate occurred:—

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union on the bill making appropriations for the support of the army for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Gorman offered an amendment, that from and after the 1st of July next, so much of the act of Congress of 1842, as places the national armories under the superintendence of the officers of the Ordnance corps, be repealed, and that said armories be placed under the civil superintendence, as prior to the passage of said act.

Mr. Evans said it appeared that the cost of the manufacture of arms had been greatly reduced since the armories have been under military superintendence. Congress ought not, therefore, hastily to legislate without calling for information from the War Department. He knew that the Secretary of War is opposed to the change. Persons in Springfield are continually quarrelling as to whether the Armory there shall be under military or civil superintendence. If this change should be made, it would be merely to provide sinecures for politicians.

Mr. Gorman remarked that last session he made a report upon this subject, accompanied by a bill. It occupied the ground and sufficiently elucidated the points to be acted upon. He took issue with the gentleman from Maryland, and insisted, with the documents before him, that arms were manufactured at those armories, considerably cheaper under the civil, than under the military superintendence. Those places were kept for supernumerary officers, who were not fit to be in the service, and who should be put on the retired list. It is by the rule of despotism, the one man power, that the military officer governs the civilians. Let him rule soldiers, not citizens. Petitions from persons employed at Springfield and Harper's Ferry, come hither asking for the restoration of the civil superintendence.

Mr. Carter asked what is the trouble? Mr. Gorman replied, "the complaints are as diversified as the men who make them. The main point is the tyranny and despotism practiced by the military superintendents."

Mr. Ingersoll said a large portion of the people of Connecticut whom he represented, were deeply interested in this subject. He should do injustice to the industrious mechanics of his district were he to pass silently by the oppressive tyranny at the Springfield Armory—tyranny that ought not to be tolerated in the State prison of that State. There were complaints of that tyranny, and he was sure that when the House had listened to the depositions he had recently received, they would as one man rise to put it down. The talk about economy under the military superintendency was the veriest sham argument which could be adduced. To show what tyranny was exercised, he read from these papers that one of those men, for going to the wash room two or three minutes before the bell rung, was severely reprimanded. If a workman, morning or noon, is not in when the bell rings, he must lose a quarter of a day, and for the second offence is liable to be discharged; that the superintendent forbade a workman from keeping a bible in his drawer, and refused to let the mechanics have spit-boxes, although they proposed to supply them at their own expense; and other instances of tyranny were mentioned.

Mr. Stanley considered that all this talk was for "Bancombe." Every man to his trade.—He thought it was possible there were abuses in those armories. If so, let complaint be made at the proper quarter, that the evil might be remedied by the substitution of another Superintendent. The depositions of the gentlemen were ex parte, the officers having no knowledge that the things stated were to be sworn to.

Mr. Ingersoll remarked that the gentleman represented Bancombe. [Laughter.]

Mr. Stanley said he recollected very well the man who gave the name to Bancombe. The old fellow was a gallant descendant of a Whig of the revolution, and had a motto over his gateway—"Welcome all to Bancombe Hall." [Laughter.] But the gentleman from Connecticut complained that the Superintendent would not let these men chew tobacco in the workshops. For this regulation of cleanliness and decency, the Superintendent deserves thanks, for chewing is a vile anti-Christian, barbarous habit introduced into civil life for purposes of degradation. [Laughter.] Don't members abstain from smoking here? He only wished he had "King James' counterblast against tobacco," to be read there.

[Laughter.] A voice—A bill has been introduced in the Massachusetts Legislature to prohibit smoking and chewing. [Much merriment.]

Mr. Stanley This is better than the Maine Liquor Law, to which I am opposed. But one-half of the boys who grow up toppers commence their course by smoking cigars and chewing tobacco.

A voice—You're right. Mr. Davis, of Massachusetts, said the gentleman had made a good argument against tobacco. He understood the gentleman from Connecticut

to say, that tobacco was not allowed in the Springfield Armory; but he (Mr. Davis) wished to remark that such was not the fact.

Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania—Then the superintendent ought to be turned out.

Mr. Stanley—Yes, if he keeps the Armory in a filthy condition.

Mr. Ingersoll—They are not allowed, under any pretence to spit. [Laughter long continued.]

Mr. Davis, of Massachusetts—I believe the regulation is as to the place where the workmen shall spit. [Much merriment.]

A voice—They shall not spit in a man's face. "Ha! ha!"

Mr. Stanley—It is then, a tyrannous custom, which prevents a man from chewing tobacco where he pleases. According to the gentleman from Connecticut, a man ought to chew in church.—Some of the railroad companies have a smoking car. These kind of folks who smoke ought all to be put by themselves. They are always an annoyance of the ladies, and this is the strongest argument for my young friend from Connecticut. [Laughter.] All the tobacco smokers should be put into cars with those fellows who can chew a pound a day. From this follow other evil habits. He further opposed the amendment.

Mr. Wilcox said he loved the people as well as any man here. He was essentially a people's man, and believed in progress; but really he seemed to him that there had been a spirit exerted within the last twelve months, which, if not checked by the conservative spirit of the country, will end Gods knows where. The whole attack against the Army establishment is conceived in the fullest spirit of demagoguism emanating from the beer-house politicians in Springfield and Harper's Ferry. When he went to Mexico he was full of the demagoguism spirit. Yet it was human nature. All is corruption, from the crowns of our head to the soles of our feet. [Laughter.] He found himself speaking against the regular officers, saying, among other things, "these fellows! how straight they walk and strut!" His soldiers did it likewise. But, after a while, when they were brought under the discipline of the Army, all these feelings of prejudice vanished. He opposed the pending amendment.

Mr. Hall said the gentleman was wrong in thinking that the complaints against the armories spring from demagoguism, or anti-military feeling. He had as high respect for the army as the gentleman, but owing to the peculiar habits of military men, they are unnecessarily oppressive and exceedingly disagreeable to those under their command. A man whose business it is to order is not the best to have control of those engaged in the civil pursuits of life. He was raised in the neighborhood of Harper's Ferry, and spoke in high terms of the mechanics employed in the armory at that place. Without coming to a vote, the Committee rose.

Several executive communications of little or no public interest were presented. The House concurred in the Senate's resolutions, providing for the appointment of a Committee to count the electoral votes for President and Vice President, and inform the persons chosen of their election. Adjourned.

PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Debate in the U. S. Senate, on Wednesday, February 2, 1853:—

The Senate next took up the bill for an emigrant route to the Pacific, to which Mr. Rusk, from the special committee had reported an amendment, striking out all after the enacting clause, and inserting a provision, that it shall be the duty of the President to cause to be constructed, as soon as practicable, a Railroad and Magnetic Telegraph Line, connecting the valley of the Mississippi with the Pacific ocean, at such points as he may designate. The President to determine to the general route and to employ engineers and surveyors to furnish him with information, &c., grants the right of way of 300 feet, through the public lands, for the construction of the road; appropriates alternate sections of land, six miles on each side, through territories, and appropriates \$20,000,000 in 5 per cent bonds redeemable in fifty years. The road to be constructed in a most complete and finished manner, and to be a first class road. As soon as the general route has been determined proposals are to be advertised for, and the work given to the lowest responsible bidder.—The rest of the bill, containing fourteen sections, is occupied in the various details of the above general provision.

Mr. BRODHEAD moved to amend the substitute by striking it all out, and inserting a provision appropriating \$100,000 to enable the necessary surveys and reconnoissances to be made, which, when made, are to be reported to Congress.

Mr. RUSK considered that the object, intention and effect of this amendment was to defeat this bill, and, as such, he hoped every friend of a road to the Pacific, would view it and vote against it. In the construction of this road, iron would be a large item of expense. \$10,000,000 worth of iron would be used, and he thought Pennsylvania was much interested in the large market thus opened for her iron.

Mr. MANGUM said the bill, as it stood embraced the provision for the preliminary surveys now proposed. He thought much should be left to the discretion of the President. It was important if any road was to be constructed that it should be commenced now. The amendment would defeat the bill and the road.

Mr. BRODHEAD said the object of the amendment was to defeat the passage of the bill.—He was opposed to rushing into such a work as this without knowing the cost, or where the road was to be constructed. No private individual or State government would direct a road to be made regardless of the cost, or without a survey of the route. He was opposed to leaving the determination of this question to the President. The representatives of the people, before laying this heavy tax on them, should have some information as to the practicability of constructing the road.

Mr. BORLAND pressed the amendment. Mr. WELLER expressed surprise that the Senator from Pennsylvania should express such distrust of the incoming President, as to be unwilling to leave this question, so important to the interests of the whole country, to be decided by his judgment.

Mr. BRODHEAD said he had as great confidence in the next President as any one, but he was unwilling to devolve the duty on the President, which properly belonged to the immediate representatives of the people—of imposing taxation.

Mr. HAMLIN was opposed to the amendment. He was in favor of the road, wherever it might be situated. It was absolutely necessary. He wanted the highway to be opened, that the commerce of the Eastern World might pass through and over this nation. He wanted the road to be free as soon as finished. This amendment would delay the road four years, without effecting any good end.

Mr. BAYARD was opposed to the bill itself. It required the President to contract for the road without any limitation as to its cost. If the road could be constructed at any cost, no matter how great, it required the President to contract for it. A company with such an amount of capital and such unlimited means, would wield a power and influence four-fold that of the United States Bank. It was against the whole policy of the Democratic party to incorporate such companies. He thought it singular that at this late day in the last session of a Congress, with one administration going out and another coming in, with a total change of administration that this vast and important measure should be passed. He thought it argued a conviction in the minds of the friends of the bill that such a measure would never receive the approval of the next President. He did not believe, judging from the antecedents of Franklin Pierce, that he would ever sanction such a measure as this.

Mr. BRIGHT said he was opposed to this bill, and he never could and never would vote for it. He was in favor of a road to the Pacific, with proper starting points; and within the provisions of the Constitution. It made the President of the United States the President of this road company; and, judging from the present circumstances, the President would have enough to do without having this additional duty imposed on him. He was ready to vote for any quantity of land to construct this road; but would not vote either money or land to locate a road within any of the States of the Union.—Congress had no such power. He would never vote either land or money for a road till the route had been surveyed and ascertained. Who knew the cost of this road? How could it be ascertained? It would cost hundreds of millions of dollars, and, before engaging in such a work, Congress ought to be informed of all the details of the route and cost. He was in favor of granting such aid to a proper road, so far as the same might be within the constitutional limit.

Mr. RUSK said it was easy to talk of violating the Constitution and of unlimited cost, but not so easy to prove this bill obnoxious to either charge. The bill particularly limited the President to an appropriation of the land and the twenty millions of dollars, and beyond that he could not go. The bill also provided, that before constructing this road through any of the States of this Union, the assent of such States should first be obtained. Gentlemen talked loudly of the Constitution. The Constitution required this Government to protect California—to protect the defenceless men, women and children on the frontiers, from the savage brutality of the Indians. It required this Government to protect its citizens who traversed this region, from one State to another—and how was it done. Every day brutal murder of men, the horrid massacre of children, and the violation and reduction to abject slavery of women took place, and yet gentlemen quietly objected that the Constitution forbade the only means of giving them protection from the hordes of savages who committed these outrages. It would not do to rear up in opposition to this only measure for affording safety and relief from this oppression, the raw-head and bloody-bones of a violated Constitution. The Constitution required Congress to protect these people, and to do it there must be the means of communication with

them. Don't say the Constitution is violated by this bill, but pick up the bill and point out where and how it conflicts with the Constitution.

Mr. BAYARD replied, but he could not be heard. Mr. WELLER got the floor, but gave way to Mr. Mangum, who thought the Senate ought to have an opportunity to go to dinner, and he moved an adjournment, which took place at a quarter past four o'clock.

The Death's Head.

The following ghost story is translated from a late French journal. It is most decidedly French in its details:

Some time since, in a garrisoned town, near Paris, an addition to the barracks was in process of construction. The ground that the new building was to occupy had formed part of an ancient cemetery, and the workmen, in sinking the necessary foundations, each day turned up a large quantity of bones, which were carried away and thrown into an immense ditch, dug for that purpose, at some little distance from the spot. One evening some soldiers of the garrison, assembled in a neighboring tavern, were conversing of this incident, some lightly and in mockery, others with marks of superstitious awe.—Among the "esprit forts" there was a brigadier and trumpeter.

"No matter," said the trumpeter to the brigadier, "I'll wager that you, who mock at the dead, dare not go and fetch me a head, at midnight, from the ditch!"

"What will you wager?"

"Beer at discretion, for us all."

"Done! at five minutes past twelve, the Death's head shall be there on the table, to see us drink to your health, and at your expense."

"We shall see," replied the trumpeter, with a confident air.

Some blamed others applauded the impious bravado. Midnight strikes; the brigadier leaves the tavern, and advances in the deep shadow toward the ditch, which served as a receptacle of these sad relics of mortality. At length he reaches the spot, provided with a small ladder, which, firmly adjusting among the bones beneath, he slowly descended to the bottom of the trench. The night was dark and stormy; thick clouds obscured the sky; the wind swept mournfully along the earth, with a wail like that for the departed. In the deep obscurity he distinguished nothing; stooping with outstretched hands he meets with only disjointed and crumbling fragments, here a thigh, a leg, a rib-bone, or other portions of the human frame. At length advancing a step, he stumbles against something, and falls; he stretches out his arms to find the cause of this accident, and feels beneath his hand the Death's head; eagerly he seizes upon it, and passes his fingers in the cavities of the eyes and nose, and seeking out his ladder, ascends, crying boastfully aloud, "Well, if that's all!" but scarcely had he reached the top, than a strange dread voice rises from beneath:

"Wretch! why dost thou come with impious hand to violate my remains? Profane, give me back my head!"

The brigadier stops, more in surprise than awe; but suddenly he feels the ladder agitated beneath his feet.

"Give me back my head! give me back my head!" repeats the lamentable voice, and the ladder is more violently shaken.

"Well, then," cries the brigadier, "there's your head!" and balancing it at arm's length, he launches it with all his force to the bottom of the ditch.

A terrible cry responds to the shock. The brigadier feels his courage deserting him; he leaps upon the bank and flies with all his speed. Arrived, pale and covered with a cold sweat, at the tavern, where his friends await the issue of the expedition, he recounts the frightful occurrence. Some try to laugh, and accuse the soldier of hallucination, or dizziness.

"But where is the trumpeter?" some one asks. He who, by his wager, had caused the sacrifice, was no longer there.

"Bah," is the reply. "He was afraid of paying the wager; he's gone." And thereupon, no one thought of drinking more; for the emotion of the brigadier had communicated itself to all. They separated for the night. The next day, at the hour of commencing the works, the trumpeter was found dead at the bottom of the ditch. The brigadier, in landing the Death's head, had split the head of the sacrilegious intruder.

Diplomatic Salaries.

Certain facts, interesting to aspiring diplomatists, have been brought to light in letters from our ministers and charges abroad, in answer to a circular from Mr. Webster. The Hon. Abbot Lawrence thinks that the salary of the Minister to England should be \$20,000. His own expenses exceed that amount. Mr. Rives thinks that a Minister at Paris, "with a decent regard to his position," ought to spend at least \$12,000.

Mr. Neil Brown, living as a bachelor at St. Petersburg, spends \$20,000, and thinks the salary should be increased to \$12,000. He also says the Secretary of Legation has not a sufficient salary.

Mr. Folsom, residing at the Hague, estimates his yearly expenses at \$13,479 86. Mr. Barringer reckons his annual expenses at Madrid at \$8,518, after an original outlay of \$12,200. Mr. Schwartz, United States Consul, estimates the necessary expenses of a Charge at Vienna at \$6,082. Mr. Barnard, at Berlin, found himself on the 9th of December, 1852, \$2,500 beyond his salary. Mr. Schroeder, at Stockholm, "considers the resources provided for the Charge d'Affairs at this place to be sufficient." Mr. Bayard puts down his annual expenses at Brussels at \$9,884. Mr. Schneek, at Rio, whose children are in the United States, thinks he may save \$2,000 a year. Mr. Marsh thinks the Minister at Constantinople ought to have his salary increased.

As the circular of Mr. Webster was sent in compliance with a resolution passed by the United States Senate, it is highly probable that the subject of a general increase of salaries will be considered by Congress.—Boston Transcript.