

# THE DEMOCRAT.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY

D. E. Van Valkenburgh.

Thursday, July 8, 1869.

THERE is a journal published in New York city, rejoicing in the rather astounding title of "The Imperialist." Its object is sufficiently indicated by its name and the motto which flanks at its mast-head: "The Empire is Peace." The mere fact that such a paper is being published in this country, and that it already has a large and rapidly increasing circulation, is one of the severest criticisms that can be made on republican misrule for the past eight years. That our readers may have a taste of the Imperialist's temper, we copy, from a late number of that paper, an article entitled

## "OUR NATIONAL UNITIES."

If there is anything of which Americans, as a people, have a right to be proud, it is of the possible future, rather than of the past history or present condition of the nation. Our progress thus far has been a progress in spite of not because of Democracy; and when we look back a quarter of a century, reflecting on the giant strides we might have taken had not the curse of a false and abnormal social and political organization hung like a mill stone round the neck of the nation, we find much cause for regret, and little, if any, for honest and worthy pride. So is it with our present condition. Agitated by fierce internal strife and discord; by sectional hostility and unrelenting party antagonism; weak and powerless at home and scarce respected abroad by the third rate powers of the world; this is all we have to be proud of to day. But neither the past nor the present have witnessed more than the slow processes of nature that are working out our natural destiny, governed and controlled by laws as inexorable as those which brought order out of chaos in the beginning. The evils that afflict us now are not the pangs of death but the throes of a mighty parturition that shall combine order with progress and give us liberty with laws and government without oppression.

The magnificent destiny of this nation is predetermined and inevitable, and it is born to Empire on resistless current of fate. The geographical configuration of the country necessitates the perpetual political and social unity of the race, and points it out as the location of an Empire that shall rank first among the powers of the world. Owing to its peculiar conformation, this country could never have been the nursery of infant communities possessing civilizing instincts. It contains none of those natural divisions so common in Europe, capable of sheltering the germs of incipient nations and of protecting them against each other until they are able to protect themselves. Hence no such fortified localities, capable of becoming the cradles of nationalities, are to be found. The whole country is open and exposed from ocean to ocean, from the Arctic Circle to the tropics. The only mountain barrier is banished so far to the West that gives us an eastern slope of more than a thousand miles in width, with no obstacles to overcome in the passage across more serious to cross than a few fine rivers of no considerable width. The climate of this vast expanse of territory, though embracing nearly all of the continent lying within the North temperate zone, is so equalized by physical causes and by geographical and astronomical laws as to offer no violent contrasts nor detract in any appreciable degree from its general character of unity. It is evident, therefore, for these and many other causes, that America was designed to furnish a home for a homogeneous people with a ready-made civilization, who should form a single nation without moral, political or social diversities of greater importance than its few geographical disparities. It is not strange, therefore, that such a people did actually come to it, with a civilization already prepared, and that of these elements was formed a nation of the kind described. As was rendered possible by the geographical unity of the country, the various elements composing this homogeneous race have continued the development of the civilization brought from the four quarters of Europe with wonderful uniformity and harmony. Speaking the same language obeying the same laws, conquering under the same flag, and owning the same imperishable history, the inhabitants of the whole vast country have marched forward shoulder to shoulder with an unanimity of sentiment and design never before witnessed in the history of the world. With a government adapted to the exigencies of the nation—which Democracy never has been nor can be—the differences that have

grown out of local diversities would serve to excite a more active and vigorous natural life. But to insure a lasting co-operation of functions and a desirable interlace of mutual benefits, requires a perfect equilibrium of political forces between opposing sections. The balance once destroyed, a rupture of these peaceable relations ever will be found inevitable.

Notwithstanding the moral and physical unities of which we have spoken, the country is still too extensive and its social interests too diversified, not to give rise to those divergencies of opinion which are sure to find their solution in war, unless means be employed to adjust and reconcile such differences. To preserve this balance of power is the first duty of government. If it be of a kind to create sectional hostilities instead of allaying them, it is in no sense adapted to the purpose for which it was established. We do not need to waste time in showing that, although tested under the most favorable circumstances, democracy has ever exerted an influence favorable to disorganization and disturbance, but fatal to a peaceable adjustment of the differences that have grown out of opposing interests in rival sections. Our present political system, based on false theories of political equality, and practically denying the existence of any supreme authority but the will of the demagogue-led populace, has encouraged the antagonisms of sections and parties striving for supremacy, until peace and harmony have fled before the careless war cries of contending factions.

In such a condition of affairs there seems to be little to encourage those who are earnestly laboring in the cause of peace and good government; but the eye of faith can discern, even in these dangerous and destructive results which have followed the practical application of the dogmas of democracy to the purposes of government, the evidence of a social and political demoralization which always precedes revolution. When this approaching revolution shall have been successfully accomplished, and the irresponsible rule of the many has given place, finally and forever, to that of the one sovereign intelligence, a new bond will have been added to the many that now render the nation inseparably a unit, and we shall have entered on the new era of our national prosperity and progress which the prophetic vision of more than great statesman already dimly discerns in the immediate future toward which we are hastening.

## AN OVERLAND TRIP TO OREGON.

### DALLES CITY, OREGON.

West of Mormon City, the scenery is grand beyond description. Ten miles west of Mormon City we pass the "Devil's Slide." It is composed of two perpendicular rows of rock running 800 ft. to what is called "Brigham's Peak." The space between them I should think, was some 10 feet. The bottom of the space between the sides is solid rock and as smooth as a floor. It is difficult to perceive how it can be the work of nature, as the rock are piled up, one strata above another and as straight as though they had been hewn by the hand of man. As we approach Ogden the scenery becomes more grand. Five miles east of Ogden we enter the Devil's Gate. This was wider than anything I had yet seen, great cliffs over a thousand feet high, loom up either side of the road as if to crush it out of existence. This place is virtually the mouth of the canon. We pass through this a distance of one mile, cross Weber River for the last time. From here it runs in a southwesterly course and empties into Salt Lake 40 miles south.

After passing several Norwegian and Swedish settlements we arrive at the city of Ogden 1,634 miles west of Omaha, at 5 p. m. Friday. Here I will leave you, and my next shall be a description of my trip from here to Monument Point, the western end of the Central Pacific, and beyond.

Very Truly Yours,  
ORLANDO M. PACKARD.

### THE STATE.

LA PORTE: New peas and cabbage.... Auditor's and Treasurer's office is being newly roofed.... Spiritual lecture last Sunday.... Streets being cleaned.... Prof. Jackson organizing a musical convention.... Eight fat sheep stolen from a pasture.... The local of the Argus has been transported to

"That magical Isle up the river of time,  
Where the softest airs are playing."

The vehicle used for the occasion was a "tastefully arranged" bouquet, presented by a lady.... Lady thrown from a wagon.... broke an arm.... Theatrical troupe at Huntsman's hall.

SOUTH BEND: Cherries 12¢ cts. per quart.... Green peas 40 cts. a peck.... Colfax and wife expected last Saturday or Monday.... Only 8 marriage licenses were issued in June, two two different parties for the same lady but we are unable to inform our readers which one got her, if either.... Man from California came through in four and half days.... 18 out of 20 sheep drowned, owned by Huntingdon, near Wilson Creek, from the water raising and overflowing the island on which they were kept.... A herd was arrested for attempting to commit a rape on a little girl only eight years old.... 120 Masons of S. B. attended the celebration of St. John's Day at Goshen.

VALPARAISO: Gurney, the editor of the *Vedette*, has returned from eastern trip.... Hon. T. J. Merrifield and Col. G. A. Pierce have formed a partnership for the practice of the law.... Quarterly meeting (Methodist) last Saturday and Sunday.... Prof. Ruggles is holding a musical convention.... 25 votes for and 11 against lay delegation, in the M. E. Church.... That versatile and inimitable genius "Cave" Rogers, Esq. was to have delivered an oration last Monday. Subject, Lieutenant movement.

WARSAW: The *Indianian* is enlarged to a ten column paper, and is decidedly the neatest country paper on our exchange list. Aside from its black-and-tan political proclivities we wish its abundant success.... Wright House almost completed.... New billiard saloon.

House breakers are at work in Bainbridge.... Wade Hampton recently visited Indianapolis.

The court house at Bedford is to be remodeled.

Spiritualism is on the increase all over the State.

A slight earthquake agitated Ohio Co. the other day.

—Army worm devouring whole fields of corn in Knox Co.

The valuation of the school property of Fort Wayne is \$125,000.

Street preaching in Muncie for the first time last Sunday evening.

Dogs are slaughering sheep by the wholesale in Washington county.

—A grape bug is destroying the vines in Washington county.

Sorghum is being successfully cultivated in the southern part of the state.

—Livonia circuit has given twenty-nine majority against lay delegation.

Skeletons have recently been washed from graves in the old cemetery at Madison.

—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lewis, both over 90 years of age, reside in Tippecanoe county.

—The city Council of Richmond proposes to raise the price of a liquor license from \$50 to \$100.

—Watermelons, all the way from Alabama, are offered in the Indianapolis market at fabulous prices.

—The letter carriers at Indianapolis are getting up their routes, and will commence delivering in about one week.

The Greencastle boys have been amusing themselves chipping of pieces of the tombstones in the cemetery at that place.

—Delphi has three old ladies. Mrs Cullen in her hundredth year; Mrs McElheny in her ninety-third year, and a Mrs. Bond in her ninetieth year.

—A Lafayette German hooked a Wabash pike, and in endeavoring to take it off the line, the fish bit his thumb off.

—Next Saturday will end our terrestrial tribulation, if certain Millerites are correct, for they prophesy the end of the world on the 10th.

A new town has been laid off on the line of the St. Louis, Vandalia and Terre Haute Railroad, twelve miles west of Terre Haute. It has been christened Winchester.

—A workman, named Dickinson, came near losing his life last Monday evening, while engaged in cleaning out the court house privy. Overcome by the gass, exhausted, it was with difficulty that he was rescued. Life was nearly extinct when he was taken out. By the timely aid of a physician his life was saved.—Ex.

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—The Lebanon Patriot says the Court House of that town was converted into a house of ill-fame on a night not long since. It also says that a decent lady cannot walk the streets without fear of insult from libertines, who are constantly on the lookout for a strumpet. All of which indicates a bad state of morals at Lebanon.

—Cognac, the famous brandy town of France, is said to be one of the wealthiest places of its size in the world.

—A man in Georgia is so fond of riding on horseback that he shouldered a saddle and walked sixteen miles after a horse for the pleasure of riding him back.

—A convention of American Physicians is called to meet at Poughkeepsie on the 27th of July, to continue for several days.

—Since the Viceroy of Egypt's arrival in Paris he has received over six hundred letters a day from persons requiring assistance. The total amount already asked for is over 1,000,000.

Requests for employment are more modest, amounting to only nine hundred.

A cheese factory has recently been started in White county. The proprietors are manufacturing about two hundred pounds of cheese per day, fully equal to the best Ohio factory cheese.

They contemplate using the milk of at least five hundred cows next season.

—There are sixty-five income tax-payers in Gibson county—the highest, \$63 10, and the lowest, \$17. The total amount of income on which tax is paid is \$54,287.

A buried treasure was recently discovered near Waveland, Montgomery county in this state, by a man named McIntosh. The lucky individual was engaged in plowing, when he discovered a belt filled with gold coin, and an earthen vessel filled with silver. The newest of the coins were dated in 1851. No clue has yet been obtained by which the mystery can be solved.

By the Ocean Bank robbery which occurred in New York a few days ago, Mr. Frank C. Johnson, the well known nursery man of the late, lost about \$9,800. Last summer while on a visit to New York he made a special deposit of government bonds to the amount of \$9,500 in the Ocean Bank for safe keeping. To-day the coupons on \$9,000 of the bonds amounting to \$270 are due, which makes his loss nearly ten thousand dollars. He received notice of his loss from the bank officers Tuesday.—*New Albany Ledger*.

—Miss Fanny Yoxing is a Notary Public in Kansas City.

—Commodore Nutt's other name is Lewis Dinger.

—The Nevada legislature has licensed gambling.

—Shipbuilding is active at San Francisco.

—Boston has shipped over \$22,000 worth of boots and shoes in five months.

—A Baltimore lady recently shot a mad dog on the street.

—The scholarship of Grant's son at West Point is very low.

—In Oswego the people are called together by a brass band.

—The French government requires that the fronts of all buildings shall be cleaned on and after the first of May of the present year and periodically afterwards.

—Commodore Vanderbilt has taken an entire floor in the new hotel at Niagara, Canada, for his family, during the summer.

—General Smith, late governor of Montana, intends to become a Baptist preacher.

—Boutwell forbade smoking in the Treasury department. Delano did it, and Boutwell regulated him, but Delano still smokes and fails back on Grant.

—McClellan intends to make a tour through Canada and the Northwest during the summer.

—A snow storm passed over the town of Lecce, Italy, on the evening of June 15.

—The latest fashion among the London "nobs" is to carry a poodle in their arms under the flowers in their respective button-holes.

—Fashionable people in Europe have tabooed railway traveling this season, and are wandering over Europe in their private carriages.

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—A San Francisco man has sued another for \$10,000 damages for cutting away his wife, and detaining her against his utmost peaceful efforts, whereby he has been deprived of her society and assistance.

—A few days ago, a white man, a fisherman, residing on the Ogeechee canal, ten or twelve miles from Savannah, Georgia, sold his wife to another fisherman for sixty bunches of fish, valued at fifty cents per bunch. The wife was perfectly satisfied with the trade, and is now living with the purser.

—An English paper says it is not an uncommon thing in the country for ladies traveling in first-class railway carriages to cut down and carry away the silk curtains of the windows, for the purpose of making aprons of them.

—So general did the practice become on one line, that all new curtains were made of a material that was not worth stealing.

—At West Pithole, Pa., on Thursday last, Mrs. F. Smith and her child, 3 years of age, were burned to death.

The mother was throwing crude coal oil on a fire, when the burning oil caught the clothing of the child and enveloped it in flames. The mother attempted to save the child when her own clothing ignited. They lived but a few hours.

—If you would be healthy, happy, and exhibit your wisdom, eat when you are hungry and cease when your appetite is satisfied; drink when you are thirsty and no more than is necessary to quench your thirst; guard against rapid changes in the temperature of your system, and in all things conform promptly and cheerfully to the reasonable demands of nature.

—Sixty-one new newspapers were started in the United States during May.

—The receipts of the Peace Jubilee were nearly \$1,000,600.

—Fred. Douglass has applied for the admission of his youngest son to the Naval Academy.

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