

California News.

CALIFORNIA INTELLIGENCE. Mr. Frenner, of the Pioyane, writing on the 31st of August, gives the following account of the

PROSPERITY OF SAN FRANCISCO. No pen can describe properly the progress of improvement in this country. The first we hear is the noise of the hammer and the saw. It is utterly impossible for any person to keep pace with the onward march of general melioration in all things.

THE COURTS AND THE LAWYERS. Col. Geary, who was unanimously chosen by the people of San Francisco District for the responsible office of Alcalde, has entered on the discharge of his duties in good earnest.

ing to lift the saddlebags, he found he was unable to do so without assistance. The fact was, that they contained \$40,000 in gold, which the careless, hatless and bootless man had brought with him from California.

GAMBLING AT SAN FRANCISCO. The number of gambling establishments, or rather gambling tables, in San Francisco, cannot fail to surprise any visitor, however familiar he may have previously been in such establishments, more quietly conducted, in the United States.

VENICE A DESERT.—Recent accounts give a gloomy picture of the appearance of Venice. The city had become a desert. The place of St. Mark was one vast solitude and not a vessel was to be seen in the Lagoon. It is stated that no less than fifty thousand persons had demanded and obtained passports, and that they intended to quit Venice forever.

FIRE IN TAMAUCA.—A destructive fire occurred in this place last week. The Centre street Hotel, owned and kept by Peter Mead, a cabinet maker shop, and several small buildings were totally destroyed.

SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.—Some of our exchanges are already naming candidates for the Speakership of the Senate. Among them we notice the name of Gen. Wm. F. Packer of Lycoming.

A FINE BOLD-FACED VILLAIN.—An adroit scamp lately succeeded in passing himself off on the Hon. H. Clay as a brother of Speaker Winthrop; and in that character accompanied him to Ashland, where he was introduced to a number of Mr. C's particular friends, from whom he succeeded in borrowing sundry sums of money, and then returned.

CALIFORNIA SENEADERS.—A case was lately tried at Orwigsburg, Pa., in which one John Lewis was indicted for riot and assault and battery on Thomas R. Johnson. It appeared that on the night Mr. Johnson's marriage the defendant and others annoyed the party by assembling in front of the house, and performing a serenade with horns, bells, kettles, &c. &c. Although \$5 were offered to them to go, they refused, and continued their annoyance until 2 o'clock in the morning, insulting the ladies, and striking Mr. Johnson. The defendant was fined and imprisoned.

IMPORTANT DECISION IN NEW JERSEY.—The U. S. Circuit Court at Trenton has just decided an important suit in that state, where a plaintiff claimed title to land under the proprietors of East New Jersey, which was derived from the grant of King Charles II. to his brother, the Duke of York, made March 12, 1684. This was a very comprehensive grant, beginning at St. Croix and extending to the east side of Delaware Bay, which grant invested the Duke of York with the property and the power of government. The Court decided that:

"After the Revolution, and the establishment of a new Government, all royal rights and privileges became vested in the People, represented by the sovereignty of New Jersey, and the Proprietary Rights became null and void."

A BOLD PUSH FOR LIBERTY.—A negro confined in the Michigan State prison, convicted of a brutal murder in Detroit, made a leap the other day, from the top of the prison wall, and got off over the river; notwithstanding he was fired at by the guard, two balls entering his body, and one going entirely through. He was finally recaptured, however, after a hard fight.

POLITICAL SIGNS.—The Democratic governor recently elected in Maine, publicly avowed himself, before the election, "opposed to slavery in all its bearings, moral, social and political, and especially opposed to its extension;" and that he would adopt all constitutional and equitable means to prevent its extension, and that he believed that "Congress has entire constitutional jurisdiction over the subject in the territories." To this profession he owed his success.—Albany Atlas.

THE DEMOCRATS OF MICHIGAN have nominated for Governor, John S. Barry, of St. Joseph; for Lieut. Governor, Wm. M. Fenlon, of Genesee.

THE AMERICAN RAILROAD.—The grading of this road, from Gorgona to Panama, has been contracted for by Mr. Totten, of Philadelphia. The cost will be about \$400,000.

HON. JOHN C. CALHOUN.—The Columbia, S. C. Telegraph, referring to the rumor that Mr. Calhoun contemplated resigning his seat in the Senate at an early day, says, that no such intention has been either expressed or entertained by Mr. CALHOUN, and that the rumor is entirely without foundation.

CURE OF HEADACHES.—A work has recently been published in Paris, by an eminent physician, in which he describes a new remedy for headaches. He uses a mixture of ice and salt, in the proportion of 1 to 4, as a cold mixture, and this he applies, by means of a little purse of silk gauze, with a rim of gutta-percha, to limited spots on the forehead or other parts of the scalp where rheumatic headaches felt. It gives instantaneous relief. The skin is subjected to the process from half a minute to one and a half minutes, and is rendered hard and white. It is good in erysipelas and diseases of the skin.—Scientific American.

CALIFORNIA GOLD.—The deposits of California gold, this year, to the end of September, were: At the mint in Philadelphia, \$2,397,264 46 Do. do. in N. Orleans, 360,561 42 Total of this year, \$2,657,825 88 Add deposits of 1848, 44,177 00 Total deposits of California gold, \$2,702,002 88

ADDRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF CANADA IN FAVOR OF ANNEXATION TO THE UNITED STATES. The people of Montreal favorable to the annexation of Canada with the United States, have issued an address in favor of that project. The address is of considerable length, and brings up for brief discussion various remedies which have been proposed for the amelioration of the present depressed and suffering condition of Canadian commerce and industry. After pronouncing upon the inefficiency of those remedies to give to Canada permanent prosperity and social harmony, the address declares there is but one remedy, of all suggested, which deserves serious consideration, and that one which the Canadian people can look with confidence as calculated to promote the best interests of their country, develop its commercial and industrial resources, and terminate those party animosities, jealousies, strivings and scenes of bloodshed which disquiet and degrade its present social system. This final remedy consists in a "friendly and peaceable separation from British connexion, and a union upon equitable terms with the great North American Confederacy of Sovereign States." Without the consent of Great Britain, separation is considered neither practicable nor desirable. But the colonial policy of the present States and the avowals of her leading statesmen, leave them no longer room to doubt that it is the resolve of England to invest them with the attributes, and to compel them to assume the burdens of independence, and they declare that it is weakness in them not to provide against such intentions. There are no harsh recriminations against England, the peaceful consummation of the object is alone sought. This temperate and considerate address is signed by 325 names, among whom are Benj. Holmes, formerly Cashier of the Montreal Bank, now in Parliament, and J. G. McKenzie, the leading Tory. Fifty are Liberals and the rest Tories.

THE STATE SENATE.—The Democrats have secured the casting vote in the next Senate, which will stand as follows—new members are marked with a star (*); Democrats in roman; Whigs in italics: 1. Philadelphia City—Benjamin Matthias; William A. Crabb. 2. Philadelphia County—Thos. S. Fernon; * Thos. H. Forsyth, Peleg B. Savery. 3. Montgomery—Joshua Y. Jones. (*Dem gain.) 4. Chester and Delaware—H. Jones Brooke. 5. Berks—Henry A. Muhlenberg. 6. Bucks—Benjamin Malone. 7. Lancaster and Lebanon—Jos. Konigsmacher, Danl. Stine. 8. Monroe, Carbon, Schuylkill and Pike—Charles Frailey. 9. Northampton and Lehigh—Conrad Shimer. (*Dem. gain.) 10. Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming—Francis B. Streeter. 11. Bradford and Tioga—John W. Guernsey. 12. Lycoming, Clinton, Centre and Sullivan—Wm. F. Packer. (*Dem. gain.) 13. Luzerne and Columbia—V. Best. 14. Northumberland and Dauphin—R. M. Frick. 15. Cumberland and Perry—R. C. Sterrett. 16. Mifflin, Juniata and Union—J. J. Cunningham. 17. York—Henry Fulton. (*Dem. gain.) 18. Franklin and Adams—W. R. Sailer. 19. Huntingdon, Bedford and Blair—Alexander King. 20. Armstrong, Cambria, Indiana and Clearfield—Augustus Drum. 21. Westmoreland and Somerset—Isaac Huggs. 22. Fayette and Green—Maxwell McCaslin. 23. Washington—G. F. Lawrence. 24. Allegheny and Butler—George Darsie, Wm. H. Haslett. 25. Beaver and Mercer—David Sankey. 26. Crawford and Venango—J. Porter Brawley. 27. Erie—John H. Walker. 28. Warren, Jefferson, Clarion, McKean and Elk—Timothy Ives. Total—Democrats, 17 Whigs, 16 Democratic majority, 1

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Dem. Whig Adams, 1 3 Allegheny, 1 3 Armstrong, 1 1 Bradford, 1 1 Bedford, 2 2 Beaver, 2 2 Berks, 4 1 Blair, 1 1 Butler, 1 1 Bucks, 1 2 Crawford, 2 2 Centre and Clearfield, 2 2 Chester, 2 1 Columbia, 1 1 Cambria, 1 1 Delaware, 1 2 Dauphin, 1 2 Erie, 2 2 Franklin, 2 2 Fayette, 2 2 Green, 1 1 Huntingdon, 1 1 Juniata, 1 1 Jefferson, Clarion and Venango, 2 1 Lebanon, 1 1 Lehigh and Carbon, 2 2 Luzerne, 2 2 Lancaster, 2 5 Lycoming, Clinton and Potter, 2 2 Mifflin, 1 2 Montgomery, 2 2 Mercer, 2 2 Monroe, 2 2 Northampton and Monroe, 1 1 Northumberland, 1 1 Perry, 1 1 Philadelphia city, 5 5 " county, 8 1 Schuylkill, 1 1 Somerset, 1 1 Susquehanna & Wyoming, 2 2 Tioga, 1 1 Washington, 2 2 Westmoreland, 2 2 Warren, McKean and Elk, 1 1 Wayne and Pike, 1 1 Union and Juniata, 2 2 York, 2 2 Total, 39 41

EROM OREGON. Advice from Oregon City have been received to the 21st of July. S. R. Thurston has been elected Delegate to Congress. Nine hundred and forty-three votes have been polled. The Legislature convened on the 16th of July. Both Houses were at length organized by the election of Democratic officers.

GREAT CAVERN.—At the Scientific Convention, recently held at Boston, a paper, written by Prof. Heraport, was read, in which an account is given of a cave, situated about twelve miles from the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, and supposed to be larger than it. Mr. J. S. Stevenson, of Bowling Green, has penetrated it a distance of five miles, and it then seemed still expanding.

GEORGIA ELECTION.—The latest returns say the State Senate will consist of 23 Democrats, 22 Whigs and 2 Independent Democrats, and that the House stands 65 Democrats, 63 Whigs.

It is reported on the authority of the Limerick Examiner, that John Mitchell, the Irish patriot, has been released by the British Government.

BANISHMENT OF GARIBALDI FROM SARDINIA.—A letter from Genoa of the 16th ult., announces the departure on that day of Garibaldi, in the Tripoli steamer for Sardinia, and thence to Tunis.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Dem. Whig Adams, 1 3 Allegheny, 1 3 Armstrong, 1 1 Bradford, 1 1 Bedford, 2 2 Beaver, 2 2 Berks, 4 1 Blair, 1 1 Butler, 1 1 Bucks, 1 2 Crawford, 2 2 Centre and Clearfield, 2 2 Chester, 2 1 Columbia, 1 1 Cambria, 1 1 Delaware, 1 2 Dauphin, 1 2 Erie, 2 2 Franklin, 2 2 Fayette, 2 2 Green, 1 1 Huntingdon, 1 1 Juniata, 1 1 Jefferson, Clarion and Venango, 2 1 Lebanon, 1 1 Lehigh and Carbon, 2 2 Luzerne, 2 2 Lancaster, 2 5 Lycoming, Clinton and Potter, 2 2 Mifflin, 1 2 Montgomery, 2 2 Mercer, 2 2 Monroe, 2 2 Northampton and Monroe, 1 1 Northumberland, 1 1 Perry, 1 1 Philadelphia city, 5 5 " county, 8 1 Schuylkill, 1 1 Somerset, 1 1 Susquehanna & Wyoming, 2 2 Tioga, 1 1 Washington, 2 2 Westmoreland, 2 2 Warren, McKean and Elk, 1 1 Wayne and Pike, 1 1 Union and Juniata, 2 2 York, 2 2 Total, 39 41

VOTE FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER. 1848. 1849. Counties. Painter, Middleburgh, Canby, Fall, Armstrong 2013 1864 0000 0000 Allegheny 6130 8245 5103 6263 Adams 1785 2314 1236 1645 Butler 2310 2303 2072 2172 Beaver 3229 2591 1884 1875 Bradford 3700 2992 2687 2434 Blair 1424 3282 0000 400 Bedford 2735 2610 2579 2523 Bucks 5204 5063 50 0000 Berks 8290 5113 6827 2867 Cumberland 3045 2968 2909 2558 Clinton 897 792 1001 670 Columbia 3134 1922 2423 1696 Centre 2540 1638 700 0000 Crawford 2778 2398 2483 2264 Clarion 2209 1134 1851 840 Clearfield 1105 603 893 526 Cambria 1440 1118 500 0000 Carbon 1000 746 756 490 Chester 5101 5899 4238 5085 Dauphin 2887 3262 2108 2788 Delaware 1480 1974 1311 1743 Erie 2090 3035 1369 2503 Elk 277 116 000 000 Fayette 3273 2710 600 0000 Franklin 8004 3737 2666 3097 Greene 1350 1297 1100 0000 Huntingdon 1864 2277 0000 500 Indiana 1668 2258 0000 0000 Juniata 1190 1108 179 0000 Jefferson 926 643 870 463 Lehigh 2966 2521 275 0000 Lycoming 2267 1831 600 0000 Luzerne 3683 2899 700 0000 Lebanon 1807 2622 1788 2378 Lancaster 5519 9706 4224 7133 Lawrence 000 000 000 000 Monroe 1635 372 1000 0000 Montgomery 5337 4522 5081 2608 M'Kean 406 362 000 000 Mercer 3102 3462 400 0000 Mifflin 1585 1422 180 0000 Northampton 3007 2450 2982 2215 Northumberland 2038 1436 1874 1111 Philad. city 4972 8956 4602 7386 Philad. county 16005 16994 14680 11714 Pike 598 119 655 119 Potter 600 277 546 282 Perry 2055 1243 1419 927 Sullivan 361 172 000 000 Susquehanna 2375 1505 2073 1361 Somerset 1077 2703 0000 1200 Schuylkill 3534 4181 3551 3478 Tioga 1980 1124 1681 1183 Union 1580 2941 1820 2431 Venango 1523 935 1028 517 Warren 1136 901 972 784 Wyoming 948 780 000 000 Wayne 1402 744 650 000 Westmoreland 4983 2689 4997 2397 Washington 3952 3806 450 0000 York 4319 4122 4055 3359 167,161 165,314 000,000 000,000

ONE OF THE WONDERS OF MODERN TIMES is the foundation and growth of the new State of Deseret, in the great interior basin of California. Four years ago not a solitary white man had fixed his abode in this State. Now more than sixty thousand people, with a city and towns, manufactories, and all the needful elements of comfort and happiness are collected and organized into a sovereign State, with a well-ordered constitution, a regular system of judicial tribunals, and an efficient executive authority. Other circumstances than the usual natural flow of emigration, it is true, have contributed to the peopling of the country; but the fact that a mere desert, in so short a time, should be made to exhibit all the thriving indications of civilization which attend old and well-ordered communities, is another wonderful mark of the peculiar genius and energy which distinguish the genius of this country from all others, and which makes prosperity an attendant wherever they wander and choose to set their feet.

SOMEONE gives the following receipt for making lemonade: "Get a bowl of pure water, let a dozen pretty girls kiss it, then get one old maid and just let her look at it, and the lemonade is done. N. B. If she looks twice at it, another dozen of girls must be got immediately."

COMMUNICATION. FOR THE AMERICAS. I. O. O. F. EUREKA LODGE, NO. 260.

As it has pleased the all-wise Providence and almighty God to call home our beloved brother and generally esteemed neighbor, John K. Maurer, on the 10th October, after a short illness, from time to eternity, and from our midst to the City of an all-living God—we will not mourn for the transition of this esteemed young man as such who have no hope, but we will bind ourselves under the hands of the almighty God and say: It is the Lord—He does what he pleases—have Resolved, To assure the widow who remains behind and also the mourning parents and brothers and sisters of the departed, of our deep and sincere sympathy, as we all feel the worth which the deceased had as husband and father in his family and as son and brother—and know the hearty fidelity with which he adhered to them—but also to request their to direct their mourning look beyond, into that land where God has promised us to meet again for ever.

Resolved, That the insignia of the Lodge be covered with black crepe for 30 days and that the brothers shall wear the usual mourning sign for the same space of time.

Resolved, That copies of these proceedings be sent to the widow and parents of the deceased.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the "Sunbury American and Deutscher Amerikaner" in Sunbury.

JACOB HOFFA, N. G. ED. ENTERLINE, V. G. GIBSON ADAM, Sec'y. SOLOMON FALK, Ass't Sec'y. Upper Mahony, Oct. 13, 1849.

MARRIED. On Tuesday, Oct. 9th, by the Rev. J. P. Shindel, Mr. WILLIAM GROSS, of Lovina Haas, both of Shamokin. On the 7th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Collins, Mr. GEORGE SCHWICK, of Augusta township, to Miss ELIZA JANE MORGAN, of Shamokin township.

SHERIFF SALES. BY Virtue of certain writs of Venditioni Exponens to me directed, will be sold at public sale, at 1 o'clock P. M., on Monday the 5th day of November next, at the Court House in the Borough of Sunbury, the following described Real Estate to wit:—A certain tract of land situate in Lower Augusta township, in the County of Northumberland, bounded on the east by lands of John Fey; west by Andrew Gansner; containing 17 acres more or less; whereon are erected a two story brick dwelling House, a one and a half story frame dwelling House, a small barn, a shed, an orchard, &c.

ALSO: A certain other tract of land situate in Irish Valley, in Shamokin township in said county, bounded on the east by lands of Wm. Campbell, on the south by Joseph Hope, and on the west by lands of James Reeler and others; containing 65 acres more or less, whereon are erected a 1 1/2 story frame dwelling house, a small barn, and orchard &c; about 60 acres of which are cleared.

ALSO: A certain other tract of land situate in Lower Augusta township in said county, bounded by lands of John Mallick, on the east, and on the west by lands of John Long, the stone church and others; containing 18 acres more or less, all of which are cleared.

ALSO: A certain other lot of ground situate in the township and county aforesaid, bounded on the north by lands of Peter Reeser, and on the east by lands of John Mallick and others, containing 7 acres more or less, whereon are erected a small store room, a shed, a frame barn, &c.

ALSO: A certain other tract of land situate in Upper Augusta township in said county adjoining lands on the north by Jacob Hoover, on the east by lands of Geo. Zimmerman, on the south by lands of Sarah Keen and on the west by lands of Joseph Saville, containing 93 acres more or less, whereon are erected a one story frame house, a frame barn, a young orchard, &c.

ALSO: A certain lot of ground situate in Lower Augusta township in said county, bounded on the north and east by land of John Fleming, on the south by land of Herman Schuman, and on the west by lands of Jacob H. Rhodes, containing four acres more or less. Seized taken in execution and to be sold as the property of James J. Wm. Ross.

ALSO: A certain lot of ground situate in the Borough of Northumberland, in said county, bounded on the north by lot of McQuibban, on the east by a lot of McQuibban, and on the south by Water and Queen streets, containing one-eighth of an acre more or less, whereon are erected a two story frame dwelling house, a large frame stable, a wagon house, a pump of water at the door, &c.

ALSO: A certain lot or piece of ground situated in Point township in said county, bounded on the north by land of Joseph Walls, on the east and south by land of Jacob Snyder, and on the west by land of John Elston, whereon are erected a log house & stable, containing one acre more or less. Seized taken in execution and to be sold as the property of John Snyder.

ALSO: The undivided fifth part of a certain house and lot of ground situate in the Borough of Sunbury, on the south side of Blackberry street, No. 264, bounded on the west by an alley south by the railroad, east by lot No. 202, and north by Blackberry street, whereon are erected a two story dwelling house and a small stable. Seized taken in execution and to be sold as the property of John Bogar.

ALSO: A certain lot of ground situate in the Borough of Northumberland, in said county, bounded on the north by Queen street, east by lot of John A. Sterrett, south by Duke street, and west by property of D. B. McGregor, fronting on Queen street 60 feet, and 200 feet in depth, whereon are erected a frame house on Duke st, two stories high, one log house (weatherboarded) on Queen street (two stories high), and a shop attached thereto, a stable, a well of water, &c. Seized taken in execution and to be sold as the property of Wm. McCay, dec'd, in the hands of his administrators.

ALSO: A certain lot of ground situate in the Borough of Milton, in said county, between front street and the west branch of the Susquehanna river, beginning at the corner of a lot of Solomon Deffenbacher, on front street, thence along said street 20 feet, thence by a line parallel with the line on the south side of and lot of the said Solomon Deffenbacher, and extending as far back westward as is midway between high and low water mark of said river, thence up the said River 30 feet, to the corner of the lot of the said lot of the said Solomon Deffenbacher, thence the line of the lot, it being the same lot of ground which Seth L. Conly by deed dated Dec'r. 1st, 1842 granted and confirmed to Paul Bennett. Seized taken in execution and to be sold as the property of Paul Bennett.

Sheriff's Office, Sunbury, Pa. Oct. 12th, A. M. 1849.

FIRE! FIRE!! FIRE!!! Farmers! save your Property and help each other.

FARMERS COMPANY GUARANTY CAPITAL OVER \$500,000

The Washington County Mutual Insurance Company of Genesee, N. Y., through their Agents, is now taking risks in this County and vicinity, on dwelling Houses, Churches, Taverns, Boarding Houses, Hay, Grain and Farmers produce generally. This Company takes no risks in exposed parts of the County, on stores, Legging Sheds or Machinery, nor insures exceeding \$2000 in one locality. The rates are exceedingly low, averaging less than \$5 per thousand for Policies running 5 years or \$1 per year. A small premium note is required, but the prosperous condition of the Company and the large accumulated cash fund, precludes all probability of there ever being an assessment. The Policies of this Company are free from objectionable conditions often found in policies of other Companies; the Company being also responsible for the correctness of business done by its Agents. It is now the most extensive Mutual Insurance Company in the United States, and universally popular among the farmers of N. Y., Mass., and Conn. All losses, however small, after due notice will be promptly paid either at the place of loss or the Branch Office at Harrisburg. The Company is now under the direction of the following gentlemen: Hon. David Russell late member of Congress, Hon. Solomon S. Cowen, Cornelius L. Allen, Joseph M. Bishop, H. N. Graves, Henry Holmes, Geo. Clements, Joseph U. Orvis, Arch Bishop, Geo. Young, Jr., Nathan Doane.

YOUNG & RUSSELL, President.

Persons desiring Insurance in the above Company by informing the subscriber by letter or otherwise will receive prompt attention.

ALBERT A. CARRIER, Agent. Sunbury, Oct. 20, 1849.

Estate of Sarah Dreher, dec'd. NOTICE is hereby given that letters administrators have been granted to the subscribers, on the estate of Sarah Dreher, late of Lower Augusta township, Northumberland county Pa'd. All persons indebted to said estate or having claims against the same, are requested to call on the subscriber for settlement.

JOHN DREHER, Adm'r. Lower Augusta tshp., Oct. 20, 1849.



THE AMERICAN. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1849. H. B. MASSER, Editor and Proprietor.

NOTICE.—As the late firm of Messer & Eiseley was dissolved in March 1848, and the books left in the hands of H. B. Masser for collection, persons are hereby notified to settle with and pay over to the said H. B. Masser any balance due for advertising or subscription to the American.

EDITOR'S TABLE. Business Notices. GONNETS LADY'S BOOK, AND THE AMERICAN.—Those of our readers who would like to subscribe for this elegant monthly periodical, can now do so at a very small cost. The Lady's Book is published at \$3 per annum, but as an inducement, which we are enabled to hold out by means of an arrangement with the publishers, we will furnish the Lady's Book and the Sunbury American, one year for \$3.50 cash in advance, to those who may wish to subscribe.

LIGHTNING RODS. The season just passed has been remarkable for the fierceness of its thunder storms. Almost every week during the summer we have to record the destruction of valuable property, and loss of invaluable lives by that terrible agent, lightning. In very many cases the calamity could have been averted off by the timely erection of a good lightning rod. We occasionally see these articles placed along side of a house or barn, but seldom find them constructed in such a manner as to protect against the danger. To afford protection, it is absolutely necessary to have them properly erected, and when they are not so, the long iron point only invites the electric fluid to discharge itself upon them in all its force, and inevitable destruction must follow. This improper construction leads many, who do not understand the principle on which they act, to distrust their efficacy. Their action is thus explained. A needle, or any pointed metallic body, held within an inch or two of a substance charged with electricity, will gradually draw of the whole charge, without any perceptible shock, the electricity passing through the body, which is an excellent conductor, into the earth. So when a cloud, similarly charged, passes over a building, a pointed metallic rod elevated a sufficient height above, and perfectly insulated from the latter, will harmlessly pass the fluid from it to the earth. But if the rod touches the building, the electricity will be likely to leave the rod and enter it, as to pass into the earth. Thus a house furnished with a bad lightning rod is in a more dangerous condition, than one without, and the means taken to protect, become an instrument of destruction.

The best substance that can be used in the manufacture of a lightning rod is copper, but if this can not be procured, or if found too expensive, iron will answer the purpose. The rod may be either round or square, and its diameter should be not less than three-fourths of an inch; for otherwise the excessive heat accompanying a powerful discharge would melt it. The metallic communication must be preserved throughout its whole length, and to accomplish this, the joints ought to be screwed together, a globe of mercury being dropped into the joint before it is put together. Fastening the pieces together by links is utterly ineffectual. The length of the rod must be governed by the size of the building it is intended to protect. The rule is that the rod will protect a cone whose base is four times the length of the rod. For example, suppose the height of the rod to

40 feet. From a point directly under the upper termination of the rod, lay off in every direction a line 80 feet in length, and the rod will protect every part of the building that falls within a line drawn from the latter point to the upper end of the rod. The point of the rod ought to be plated with gold or silver to prevent it from rusting, and thereby becoming blunt. One point is of as much benefit as three. The staples by which the rod is fastened to the building should be made of glass, or if these can not be procured, iron staples will answer, provided they enclose glass tubes to prevent a contact of the metals. It must on no account directly touch any part of the building. The lower end of the rod must extend at least four feet below the surface of the ground, or until it reaches a place which is moist in the driest seasons. If a stream of water is convenient it would be still better to let the rod project into it. Or you may let the end drop into your well. If the soil is very dry and no water near, a few bushels of powdered charcoal ought to be placed around the end of the rod.

Protected by a rod constructed in accordance with these directions, your building will be perfectly safe from the danger of lightning. All others are wholly inadequate, and increase the peril.

VENICE A DESERT.—Recent accounts give a gloomy picture of the appearance of Venice. The city had become a desert. The place of St. Mark was one vast solitude and not a vessel was to be seen in the Lagoon. It is stated that no less than fifty thousand persons had demanded and obtained passports, and that they intended to quit Venice forever.

FIRE IN TAMAUCA.—A destructive fire occurred in this place last week. The Centre street Hotel, owned and kept by Peter Mead, a cabinet maker shop, and several small buildings were totally destroyed.

SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.—Some of our exchanges are already naming candidates for the Speakership of the Senate. Among them we notice the name of Gen. Wm. F. Packer of Lycoming. This gentleman has had considerable legislative experience and as a presiding officer is unequalled. All who have witnessed the ease and dignity with which he filled the Speaker's chair, in the House, for two consecutive sessions, will be glad to learn that the democratic Senators have an eye on him, for this situation in the Senate. We hope such will be the case.

Near Pottstown, Pa., on Friday evening last, about a dozen cars were knocked into any quantity of small pieces, in consequence of a locomotive running into them. No lives lost.

Kissing another man's wife by mistake, our imp very appropriately terms a blunder-buss.

RAIL ROAD ACCIDENT.—On Monday last, a son of Mr. John B. Shipman, of this Borough, employed on the Rail Road, was run over and severely injured by one of the coal trains. The cars passed over his leg, below the knee, mangling it horribly.

V. B. PALMER'S REGISTER.—We have before us this monthly journal published in Boston, New York and Philadelphia, by the well known newspaper agent, V. B. Palmer. It is well printed, and full of valuable statistics and scientific and business articles.

BANKING CAPITAL OF DIFFERENT CITIES.—According to the last "Merchant's Magazine," the banking capital of New York city is twenty-four millions, of Boston nineteen millions, of New Orleans seventeen and a half millions, of Philadelphia ten millions, of Charleston nine millions, of Providence eight millions, of Baltimore seven millions, of Nashville three millions. Pittsburg, Augusta Ga., Albany and Richmond, each have rising two millions of bank capital, and Savannah, Salem, New Haven, Cincinnati, Lexington, Ky., Mobile, Troy, N. Y., Newark, New Bedford, Utica, Petersburg, Va., Rochester, Wilmington, Washington and Portland, have each more than one million.

SENATOR BENTON.—The St. Louis Republican says that Col. Benton intends being in that city to attend the Pacific Railroad Convention. After the Convention he intends making a tour through as many of the south eastern counties as his time will permit before the meeting of Congress. It is also his purpose to return from Washington at an early day next season, and continue the agitation of his appeal from the instructions of the Legislature to the people, up to the time of the holding of the next August election.

CANADA.—The Montreal Courier of the 9th, contains the outlines of an annexation association question by legitimate and constitution means. The first proposal is to offer a premium of from \$300 to \$500 for the best manuscript pamphlet of a limited size in favor of annexation. It is also proposed that the pamphlet be printed at the expense of the association, and the copies spread over the country at the nominal price of one penny. After its publication a challenge is to be given for a written refutation of its arguments; and it is likewise proposed by this association to employ lecturers to advocate its views and form branch associations.

CALIFORNIA GOLD.—The deposits of California gold, this year, to the end of September, were: At the mint in Philadelphia, \$2,397,264 46 Do. do. in N. Orleans, 360,561 42 Total of this year, \$2,657,825 88 Add deposits of 1848, 44,177 00 Total deposits of California gold, \$2,702,002 88