

California News.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER EMPIRE CITY.

At New York from Chicago. TWO WEEKS LATER NEWS. VERY IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE.

Proceedings of the State Convention. Over half a million in gold in the Empire City.

The steamship Empire City, Captain J. D. Wilson, arrived early on the morning of Nov. 11th, from Chicago, by the way of Kingston, Jamaica.

Annexed is the amount of dust in the Empire City. Amount of gold dust on board the Empire City: \$177,307 87 on freight, and a large amount in the hands of the passengers.

From the Alta Californian, Oct. 1. THE STATE CONVENTION. This body, up to our latest dates, had been in session a little over three weeks.

The bill of rights, as adopted in committee of the whole, embraces twenty sections, of the usual character of such provisions.

The suffrage question was the source of considerable debate; but was finally disposed of by admitting all male citizens of the United States, six months resident in California, and twenty one years of age.

INTERESTING GOLD NEWS. We have no details of successful digging, or reports of a different nature than those presented in our last, wherewith to illuminate with auriferous brilliancy, the columns of our paper to-day.

Parties have been organized within the past month, and departed to explore the region of Trinity river, where it is now rumored certain gold exists.

Feather river, high up, has been nearly drained of precious metal, and at this time affords scanty profit for the few who prefer its solitude to the crowded washings of the north.

There is probably no portion of the placer that has proved more productive, than the mountainous country watered by Yuba river.

On the North and Middle Forks there is a marked change in the weather; the waters having fallen, every one who does a fair day's work can calculate upon "bagging" about an ounce.

Companies organized for turning the rivers in this section have fared but indifferently; much of this branch of mining has, signally failed, and the projects have been entirely abandoned.

On the Middle Fork we learn, says the Times, "that the diggings are improving, and that an ounce a day can be obtained by all who work."

The most favorable news we gather this week is from Dry Creek, at which point operations were doing surprisingly well.

We learn that Dr. Boynton's company, consisting of six, took from one hole some five miles above Mormon Island, in seven or eight days, \$8,000.

The gold washings on the tributary streams of the San Joaquin continue to attract much attention. Sickness is abating, and success is more general than when we last prepared our summary of intelligence.

I saw a day or two ago, a piece of gold taken from the diggings on the Calaveras, not far from Stockton. It was the most singular, and at the same time the most beautiful piece I have yet seen.

A civil engineer of London has proposed to the Admiralty to send to the northern seas one or more vessels laden with gun-cotton, with which to explode the ice and open a passage to Sir John Franklin's ships.

Thirty thousand Americans (the present probable aggregate) in the gold region of California, are incessantly exhausting the resources of that portion, which has long been occupied.

COL. FREMONT'S GOLD MINE.

Bayard Taylor, in his letter, speaks of Fremont's discovery of gold in the following strain: But by far the most magnificent discovery...

It is a large vein, the first which has been found in California. Whether it was first detected by a party of Sonorians or by the company which Col. F. organized last spring, and which has since been worked in the same locality, is a disputed point.

The gold is there, and in extraordinary abundance. I saw some specimens which were in Col. Fremont's possession. The stone is a reddish quartz, filled with rich veins of gold, and far surpassing the specimens brought from North Carolina and Georgia.

At one extremity of the mine he found large quantities of native silver, which he calculates will fully pay the expense of setting up machinery and working it.

The volume for 1850, Godley promises, shall surpass all others. The volume for 1850, Godley promises, shall surpass all others.

Mr. Taylor also serves up the gold discoveries with a very prudent caution to the reader respecting gold stories in general.

This country seems fated in regard to gold and golden excitement. It was supposed not long since that the limits of the placers had been settled, and that the Sierra Nevada was the great store-house of the precious metal.

Since my arrival, however, discoveries have been made which almost induce us to believe that the whole country, from San Diego to Cape Mendocino, from the Pacific to the topmost ridge of the Nevada, and heaven knows how much further eastward, has been completely seasoned and spiced with the yellow grains.

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SUNBURY. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 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. GODEY'S 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 DEATH OF THE REV. JOHN WESLEY.—This large and magnificent Mezzotint Engraving is offered as a Premium to any person remitting \$3 in advance, for one year's subscription to Godey's Lady's Book, the leading magazine of America.

THE LADY'S BOOK.—Godey closes the year with the December Number, containing 100 pages of reading matter from about forty contributors. Among the engravings, 24 in number, we have a beautiful portrait, a handsome line engraving of Mrs. Alice B. Neal. Also "The Secret" and "The Gentle Warning" from mezzotints, a colored title-page for the closing volume—a characteristic sketch of "After the Election," puny illustrated by Arthur—"Winter has Come"—one of Godey's Paris Fashions Americanized—Music—The Christmas Party, and other neat wood-cuts of Cape Birds, Model Cottages, &c. &c.

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THE HARRISBURG KEYSTONE COPIES FROM THE WASHINGTON UNION, a letter over the signature of "A Pennsylvania Iron Master," in favor of the tariff of 1846. We take from the letter the following beautiful extract, for the purpose of showing how easily a man may sometimes refute his own position by the absurdity of his statements:

"I propose now to submit a plain statement of facts, which they know to be true, and which are conclusive with me, that it is the iron of the Pennsylvania iron-masters to oppose any change in our present tariff.

The cost of manufacturing pig iron from anthracite coal, varies from \$12 to \$15 per ton. To get to the Philadelphia market, additional costs over \$2, and large quantities are daily thrown into Philadelphia for one dollar per ton; making the whole cost to iron-masters from \$13 to \$17."

Now the fact is, experience has demonstrated that in the most favorable locations, good Anthracite iron can not be made for less than about \$15 per ton, and the transportation from three-fourths of the Furnaces, will average from \$3 to \$4 per ton, independent of storage commissions &c., which this patriotic Iron Master has put down at \$1 to swell the cost of British iron, but omitted it in regard to the American article, as if there was no charge for hauling storage and commissions on American iron.

The freight from England, he puts down at \$4, when it is often brought from Liverpool as ballast, at \$2 per ton. It is not the amount of duty that we complain of, as much as the ad valorem system, which, even, according to this writer, has enabled the "British manufacturers to play a game" which he thinks they will soon grow tired of—like the cat we presume, playing with the mouse, when she has worried it to death.

THE TARIFF ISSUE. The editor of the Sunbury Gazette, taking his cue from the Washington Union and Pennsylvania on all leading subjects, finds it necessary to show its loyalty to the powers that be, by endorsing the vapour nonsense of these papers, on the subject of the tariff.

To claim the election of Mr. Gamble as an anti-tariff victory, is the sheerest piece of presumption that we have seen for some time. During the late canvass the editor of the Gazette was as quiet as the grave upon this subject. We confess that we were therefore surprised that it should refer to the alleged passage of a resolution in favor of the tariff of 1846 at the late County Convention, in proof of this assertion.

The truth is, the editor of the Gazette, being himself a candidate, had, to our certain knowledge, no particular desire to see this resolution in print. His free-trade principles, so obvious to the people of this county, had very nearly swamped him as it was, and had this resolution been placed on his shoulders as an additional burthen, it would have sunk him so deep that the hand of resurrection could never have reached him.

THE HARRISBURG KEYSTONE COPIES FROM THE CANAL COMMISSIONERS THE PROPRIETY OF TAKING INTO THEIR OWN HANDS, THE CARRYING OF PASSENGERS OVER THE COLUMBIA RAIL ROAD. The state, it appears, has a capital of about \$4,000,000, in this road, and car owners about \$20,000. The State receives for the use of her road and motive power, about \$1 54 per passenger, from Lancaster to Philadelphia, and the car owners nearly \$1 00. This division is about equal to that of the Monkey with the Cats. We have heard the Canal Commissioners on this more than one occasion complain of this imposition, and of their ineffectual attempts to amend it. The company has many ways of operating on the members of the legislature, so as not to interfere with their interests.

AN ANTI-TARIFF ARGUMENT. Some of our brethren of the Press in order to bolster up the tariff of 1846 resort to, not only extraordinary arguments, but extraordinary calculations to support them. Our friends of the Berks County Press, in reply to one of its neighbors makes the following terrible onslaught on the protective policy:

"To show the extreme stupidity of the 'Journal,' and the shallowness of its humber of a Home Market, to gull and deceive its readers, we ask the attention of the public to the following fact: last year the Farmers of the United States produced, it is estimated, over 126,000,000 bushels of wheat. Our population is over 20,000,000, which would give to each man, woman and child in this Union, SIXTY-THREE BUSHELS! Can the big-shells of wheat in a year of our year, be carried to the Foreign Market, but also the Home Market? This would be the certain result of the 'Journal' to assert that they can consume this amount. The yield for the present year is much greater than it was last year, yielding at the lowest calculation 100 bushels for each inhabitant. Does not this show that the Farmer cannot depend upon the Home Market alone for the sale of his produce, and yet these Tariff wise-aces and most consummate Jack-asses, these second Daniel's expounders of whig tariff doctrines, are assiduously laboring, in their madness, to destroy not only the Foreign Market, but also the Home Market. This would be the certain result of their insane twaddle upon the Tariff."

We advise Mr. Masser to sell out the Ice Cream manufacture forthwith. All men have stomachs, in common with other animals, but only one in a hundred has brains; and the editor of the American will find it much easier and more profitable task to tickle the public palate with Ice Cream, at a shilling a dose, than to enlighten the mind of that same public with his newspaper.

We cannot, however, adopt the advice of our friend of the Gazette. We have invented the machinery as a labor saving apparatus for the ladies. The cream making we shall leave for them and for others in the business. And we may as well state, that our agents Messrs. Prouty & Barrett, of Philadelphia, will soon be able to supply every part of the Union with the machines. We think, however, that our friend does injustice to his readers, and readers in general. A man who takes and pays for a newspaper is not wholly destitute of brains, and without a handsome lot of paying subscribers, we take it such a paper as the Gazette, could not long be sustained.

The New York elections are closely contested. The Tribune says, the Senate will be Whig by a majority of two or three. House doubtful.

Judge Huston died at his residence in Bellefonte, on Saturday last, aged 80 years.

THE CITY OF BOSTON has transmitted one thousand volumes of American books as a donation to the city of Paris.

CALIFORNIA.—The news from the gold regions, which will be found in another column, is much more encouraging than by the previous accounts. The whole country seems to be embedded with gold, and Col. Fremont, it seems, has opened a regular vein. Heretofore no original deposits had been found, the diggings being confined to the deposits of dust, where it had been washed. We fear that California, like all other gold regions, will be good for little else than the gold it contains.

SULLIVAN COUNTY.—The seat of Justice in this new county, has been a bone of contention for several years past. It is now at a place called Laporte, almost a perfect wilderness and scarcely accessible. Last winter an act was past appointing new Commissioners to review and decide upon the location. They have fixed the county seat at the Widow Fairchilds on the turn-pike.

COL. HENRY PETRIKEN, died recently at the Merchants' Hotel in Philadelphia, of consumption, aged about 52 years. Col. Petriken was Deputy Secretary of this Commonwealth under Gov. Shunk's administration, and part of Gov. Porter's term. He had been in declining health for several years.

JENNY LIND, the Swedish nightingale, as she is sometimes called, will probably come to this country. Mr. Barnum, of the Philadelphia Museum, has offered her \$1,000 per night, for 200 nights. Jenny's sweet voice is worth more than a California gold piece. To sing to the tune of \$10,000 seems extravagant, yet it is much less than she has been receiving in Europe.

The Camden and Amboy Rail Road Company are experimenting on a new species of light, something similar to the Drummond light, to be placed in front of the locomotives on their rail roads between Philadelphia and New York. This will render travelling at night as safe as day light. This Company is controlled by enterprising men, who will spare no money in introducing new experiments.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY BANK.—The Bradford Reporter says, that this Bank has long been a swindling concern, and that the stories of the brokers in connection with the Bank's failure, is a humbug.

DISTRESSING STAGE ACCIDENT IN SCHUYLKILL COUNTY. On Monday evening last a fearful accident occurred to the Northumberland stage, coming this way, occasioning serious injury to several of the passengers, and endangering the lives of all. It seems that on starting from Ashland, 13 miles above Pottsville, the driver had barely reached the box, when the horses started at full speed, and on turning an angle in the road, a very short distance this side of Maj. Burrows' hotel, the stage was thrown over with great force.

There were eleven passengers in and upon the stage, and among them Mr. Wm. P. Smith, of Catawissa, whose wrist was sprained; Mr. Robert McCoy, P. Master at Washingtonville, Col. county, and daughter, the latter of whom was slightly bruised; Rev. Geo. Foot, Northumberland, his hand somewhat injured; Mr. Eastman, and his son, A. Eastman, of Bangor, Maine, the latter of whom received a very severe cut, extending from the temple to the lower part of the face, which was sewed up by Dr. Halberstadt, after the passengers arrived at Maj. Lessig's Exchange Hotel, in this borough; Mr. Thomas Racer, of Northumberland, whose head was slightly bruised, and Mr. Buck, a merchant of Muncy, Lycoming county, whose thigh was broken. He remained necessarily at the Major Burrows' Hotel, Ashland, where the fractured limb was skillfully set by Dr. McWilliams, of New Castle, and we learn the wounded man is quite comfortable, with a fair prospect of recovering rapidly. The driver, Mr. Ellis, who is said to be sober and prudent, was considerably bruised.—Pottsville Emporium, 8th inst.

MAJOR CHEVALIER has withdrawn from the service of Chihuahua, in which he had been engaged in hunting down the Apaches at \$200 a head. His men had made \$300 each by their expeditions, and none of them had been killed or wounded.

PRIZE CONSUMPTION.—The following by Miss E. P. Brown, of Meriden, was adjudged best by a late committee, in New Haven: "Why is the Great Russian Bear, Nicholas, like a half starved fox? Because he's got Hung(a)ry and wants Turkey."

GREY EMIGRATION ON SQUIRRELS.—It is stated in some of the Kentucky papers, that the squirrels have paid another visit to that good old commonwealth, are traversing it in great numbers. In 1822 and in 1833, they crossed the Ohio in tens of thousands.

A LUNATIC, named Matilda Elliot, now in the Lunatic Hospital at Philadelphia, has just obtained by judgment of the Court one undivided fifth part of the town of Temperanceville, near Pittsburg, Pa., valued at \$200,000.

COL. WELLER, who has been suspended by Col. Fremont, as Mexican Boundary Commissioner, writes that his removal would break up the commission, expecting the party engaged with him to resign and take to gold digging.

BAPTISTS IN NEW JERSEY.—The New Jersey Baptist State Convention met at Plainfield on the 30th ult., and among other things adopted a resolution with a view to the publication of a complete history of the Baptist church in the State.

SEVERAL old ladies in the vicinity of Wilmington, Del., imagine that they are bewitched. They are rather behind the ago-

Return of Col. Washington from the Navajo country—Treaty with the Indians—Major Stein Recovering—Surgeon Norwood and Surgeon Snyder Killed by Indians—New Route to California Discovered, &c.

St. Louis, Nov. 12.—By an arrived here from the Plains, later dates have been received from Santa Fe.

Col. Washington returned to his quarters on the 24th of September, from his march through the Navajo country. At first he found the Indians very troublesome, and not disposed to come to terms, but he finally succeeded in concluding a treaty of an important character with the Navajos, by which it is stipulated that they give up all the property which the marauding bands of their tribe have stolen; release all prisoners, and acknowledge their subjection to the government of the United States. The Indians appeared perfectly satisfied with the arrangement.

PREVIOUS to the conclusion of the treaty, Col. Washington had an engagement with a party of Indians, in which six Indians were killed, and several wounded.

Major Stein, who was wounded in a fight with the Apaches, on the 16th of August last is recovering. He is now able to walk about but the ball has not yet been extracted.

Surgeon Norwood was shot dead in the same engagement, and Surgeon Snyder, who was wounded at the same time, died from the effects of his wounds, on the 14th of September.

Lieut. Simpson, who accompanied Col. Washington on his expedition, has discovered a middle route to California. It is situated between Gila river route and the old Spanish trail. It is a wagon route, and three hundred miles nearer than any other passage which has yet been discovered.

Business at Santa Fe is represented as being very dull.

HENRY CLAY ON SOURKROUT.—Henry Clay's opinions have been quoted upon many subjects; those upon sourkrot are quite as decided as anything he has uttered, if the following story be true:

"Henry Clay dined recently with ex-President Martin Van Buren, at Lindenwald. The dessert consisted of Crullers, oleocooks, sackethask, owtgreenchees, &c. Mr. Clay expressed a wish to see that sweetest acres of reclaimed bog land," so much talked of during the election, which Mr. Van Buren took great pleasure in showing him. On their return, a tureen filled to the brim with sourkrot was set before him. Clay put his handkerchief to his nose, and with a "whew," said—"Van, I've lived long, and encountered as strong opposition as any other man, but to be frank with you, I never encountered anything quite as strong as this!"

THE SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY BANK.—We learn from Montrose that the failure of the Susquehanna County Bank has caused the greatest excitement in that community. The committee of directors appointed to investigate the affairs of the institution, report that the bank has at least \$200,000 amount, of which probably \$150,000 has recently been put in circulation at the west, through a certain agent in Cincinnati, who was in Montrose but a week before the institution exploded. The cashier, T. P. St. John, has been arrested and committed in default of \$40,000 bail. He had assured the directors that there were but \$49,000 in circulation; and that every dollar could be redeemed. So infuriated were the citizens that they attempted to do violence to his person, and after his incarceration, they took the signs from the bank, and placed them with an effigy over the jail door.

POLYGAMY AMONG THE DESERT MORMONS.—A correspondent writing from the city of Salt Lake, states that the laws of the community permit the men to have as many wives as they can support, and that some of the older ones have twenty, but that young men content themselves with five.

ETIQUETTE OF A DINNER PARTY.—Married ladies precede the single. The lady of the house is the last to enter the dining-room. People who are engaged walk together. Ladies do not dine with gloves on, and are not asked to take wine by gentlemen. There must be a salt-cellar for every two persons.

MAJOR CHEVALIER has withdrawn from the service of Chihuahua, in which he had been engaged in hunting down the Apaches at \$200 a head. His men had made \$300 each by their expeditions, and none of them had been killed or wounded.

PRIZE CONSUMPTION.—The following by Miss E. P. Brown, of Meriden, was adjudged best by a late committee, in New Haven: "Why is the Great Russian Bear, Nicholas, like a half starved fox? Because he's got Hung(a)ry and wants Turkey."

GREY EMIGRATION ON SQUIRRELS.—It is stated in some of the Kentucky papers, that the squirrels have paid another visit to that good old commonwealth, are traversing it in great numbers. In 1822 and in 1833, they crossed the Ohio in tens of thousands.

A LUNATIC, named Matilda Elliot, now in the Lunatic Hospital at Philadelphia, has just obtained by judgment of the Court one undivided fifth part of the town of Temperanceville, near Pittsburg, Pa., valued at \$200,000.

COL. WELLER, who has been suspended by Col. Fremont, as Mexican Boundary Commissioner, writes that his removal would break up the commission, expecting the party engaged with him to resign and take to gold digging.

BAPTISTS IN NEW JERSEY.—The New Jersey Baptist State Convention met at Plainfield on the 30th ult., and among other things adopted a resolution with a view to the publication of a complete history of the Baptist church in the State.

SEVERAL old ladies in the vicinity of Wilmington, Del., imagine that they are bewitched. They are rather behind the ago-

The exact velocity of electricity along a copper wire is 288,000 miles in a second; it is calculated accordingly that we could telegraph to our antipodes in rather less than the 500th part of one second of time!

Page a Parliamentary return; just published, it appears that the total number of paupers relieved in England and Wales, on the 1st of July, 1843, was—in workhouses, 87,122,—out of doors, 743,266.

R. H. SLITER, the great negro dancer, continued dancing, in Cincinnati lately, without losing time, twenty-five minutes.

THE GIRL who deceives the eye by wearing false curls, is apt to deceive the heart with false professions of love.