

Political and General News.

ARRIVAL OF THE STAR OF THE WEST.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

GRAT PRIZES—SUFFERING AND LOSS OF LIFE.

The Steamship Star of the West, from San Juan Nicaragua, arrived at New York yesterday morning, bringing two weeks later news from California.

The passengers report the transit across the isthmus to be in a very excellent condition.

On the 19th the Star of the West was boarded by the captain of the barque John Colby, of New York, from Navy Bay to St. Marks, requesting a supply of medicines, as all his crew were sick, and one already dead.

The San Francisco Times of the 1st inst., says the amount of treasure to be shipped by the steamer of the 1st, for Panama, is \$1,821,287, the smallest amount sent for any one of these steamers for many months.

The deficiency of a belief in the genuineness of gold from the mines during the present inclement season.

FAMINE AND DEATHS AT THE MINES.—The accounts received from the mining districts are heart-rending. Deaths by cold and starvation have visited many poor unfortunate, while as yet the tale of horrors is but half told.

It is feared as the intelligence is received from the mountains, it will record the sad fate of many more.

From divers sections, is learned the departure to larger towns of the more robust and hardy population, leaving the infirm and females to eke out a scanty subsistence from their stock of provisions left there.

Cyrel C. Cady, formerly connected with the newspaper press of Missouri, died at Sacramento on the 29th.

A report is prevalent at Stockton that some miners recently attacked a Chinaman at a mining camp, and killed him of all the provisions the Chinaman contained.

This says the Journal, must not be wondered at, nor too strongly condemned, as it is the spur of starvation that drives men to such crimes. Their lives depend on the stake.

From other quarters we have accounts equally discouraging, but more particularly Calaveras county, where the deprivation is of the most heart-rending nature.

The Times says that accounts of floods, disasters, starvation and misery in the interior, come upon us in such rapid succession that it tires the mind in reflecting the painful details. It will probably be several days before we learn the effect the late heavy rains has had on all the mining settlements, as all communication is cut off for the present.

The deplorable condition of thousands of the miners can however be well imagined.

FROM NEVADA.—TAMBOREOS, &c.—The San Francisco Evening Post, under the title of "Tamboreos," contains the following interesting news:

On Monday snow fell at Nevada Grass Valley to the depth of three feet. On Tuesday it commenced raining, and soon poured in torrents, which caused the snow to melt very rapidly.

Deer Creek has already commenced to rise, and the roads are in a shocking condition—no freighting being done, except with pack mules.

The driver of the Nevada stage was compelled to stop at his horses through Penn Valley Creek, twelve miles this side of Nevada—also across the slough near Broasby's Ranch. A teamster was drowned at the latter place about the time the stage passed.

The Yuba River is rising with an alarming rapidity, although they have not yet felt the rise of Deer Creek and other mountain streams.

There is scarcely a doubt that Marysville is completely submerged, as the water has within a few days reached the highest point reached during the last flood, when the Sacramento boat left. On the passage down from Marysville three men were seen on a roof of their cabin, near Hook Farm, calling for a boat to take them off. The water was within three feet of them.

At Nicolaus many horses and cattle were observed wading through the water, which is everywhere above the natural bank of the river.

The latest news from Downieville is that the place is almost entirely deserted.

At Grass Valley three buildings, on one square, were crushed by the weight of the snow.

It must be a long time before we can again hear from any section of the country above Marysville.

The Stockton Journal says that Main and El Dorado streets are in a terrible condition, the mud being full deep deep to horses, and as they plod their way through, each succeeding step entirely submerges them.

But two lines of stages are now in successful operation between Stockton and the mines. They make the trip usually in two days. The price being \$25.

The Miners on the Rattlesnake and other bars on the North Fork, have turned ratsmen and lumber dealers since the flood. Many of them have secured an immense amount of drift wood from the numerous flumes above, and have disposed of it at very remunerative prices.

The Union says the flood has destroyed a vast amount of stock which had been hoisted above and below Sacramento. It is said that out of over one hundred teams on the Calaveras road, some of which started early in the month, but two or three had reached their destination. The balance had stuck fast in the mud. Most of the teams had returned dejected to Stockton.

The small pox was prevailing at Murphy's Camp, and the citizens had erected a hospital for the benefit of the sick.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF NEWS.—The California news brought down to San Juan by the Brother Jonathan, reports a great scarcity of provisions in the interior, owing to the floods interrupting freights from the seaboard.

The Land-Commissioner is making considerable progress in the adjudication of claims.

of the most important, perhaps, is that of Col. Fremont's large tract of land on the head waters of the Matiposa river. The Commissioner recognizes his claim to the land, but does not undertake to decide upon his title to the mineral wealth which, it is well known, is embraced within its limits.

A convention of Quartz Miners was held at the residence of Quartz Miner was held at the residence of one of the working quartz in that county.

Barley has been cured for bread in some places in the interior, and found a good substitute for flour.

The farmers are getting their lands ready for crops next year. It is understood that considerable quantities of wheat would be sown.

Preparations are also being made for the erection of grist mills, and it is not likely that another season will find us so dependent on a foreign supply for breadstuffs.

The Golden Gate made her last trip from Panama in 11 days, 8 hours, running time, the quickest on record.

Considerable excitement was occasioned in the early part of last fortnight, on account of the supposed monopoly of flour. The article having been very scarce and dear for some time past, and the exorbitant rates commanded were attributed to force upon prices.

Indignation meetings were held in the interior and in this city. Several public prints endeavored to expose the supposed plot of the speculation.

The greatest sized steamers driven by a steam engine in California, is that of the California, built in La Fayette county. It has twelve claims of eighty feet each on Gold Hill, together with a large number of other rich localities.

The mill has eight to ten claims, and is driven by a steam engine of thirty horse power, capable of crushing from thirty-five to forty tons per day, and the quartz yielding from 800 to 875 per ton.

We are informed that Dr. Bacon, of the Company referred to, during four months, took out over \$100,000, and the vein is still improving. Two of the largest share holders, Drs. Bacon and Delavan, leave in the steamer to-day, on a visit to the Atlantic cities, on business connected with the Company.

Genl Pierce's Letter.

Boston, Jan. 25. Major Seaver read a letter yesterday from Genl Pierce to the Board of Aldermen, in reply to an invitation to participate of the hospitalities of the city on his way to Washington City. The letter recites a previous verbal acceptance of the invitation when personally presented by the committee at Concord;

but that after the event which has recently fallen upon him with crushing weight he has declined to proceed to his post of duty as quietly and privately as circumstances would permit. He feels deeply sensible of the kindness which prompted the invitation, and fully appreciates this evidence of the friendly sentiments of the citizens of Boston; he feels deeply grateful for the sentiments of confidence expressed in the invitation, and looks upon them as duty, and as a personal claim, but as a spring from noble motives, and he proposes to receive them as the representative of a principle uppermost in all hearts, the basis of which is the sacredness of the Union—a principle which will be cherished by all, while any adequate love common to country, exists in the Republic. Whatever anxieties may yet be in store for him; whatever anxieties interpose in the way of his duty, he has undying faith that he will never falter in his devotion to that object. He looks with fearless confidence to the support of all patriots of every party, in his endeavors to preserve the Union of the States and the supremacy of the law, which are the surest guarantees of our happiness present and future.

Exciting Locomotive Race.—Yesterday morning a race took place between two trains of cars on the Jefferson and Madison roads. The two railroads are laid side by side for ten or twelve miles, from Columbus to Taylorsville, and the trains started very near together, the Madison train in the lead, when the passengers threw out banners for a race. This was accepted by the Jefferson train, drawn by the fine locomotive Clark, and away they went at real railroad speed, when the Clark passed Madison under way like a streak, to the great delight of the passengers on the train.—Louisville Courier.

EXTRAORDINARY AND SUCCESSFUL SURGERY.—On Tuesday last a tumor weighing twenty-four pounds was taken from the interior of the abdomen of a woman in this city named Rafferty. She had suffered under it for some years. Immediately before the operation her person measured three feet seven inches in circumference; in the same place she now measures seventeen inches. She has recovered from the immediate effects of the operation, and is doing well.—Bangor Mercury.

FORTY-SAVEN.—We find the following in an English newspaper, and submit it to the curious inspection of those who are inclined to be superstitious on the subject of numbers:

"It is now 47 years since Nelson fought the battle of Trafalgar; 47 years he was the age of Nelson at the time; 47 years he was Wellington at Waterloo; 47 years of age was Bonaparte when he defeated; 47 years were completed last year since Napoleon the First was crowned Emperor; 47 years is the age of Napoleon the Third, who this year is made Emperor."

We may add to the above—we hope without frightening anybody into an apprehension of a coup d'etat—that Franklin Pierce was 47 on the day of the last Presidential election.

EXPLOSION OF A LOCOMOTIVE BOILER.—On Thursday morning, at about seven o'clock, a locomotive engine "blow up" at Tarrytown, on the Hudson River Railroad. The locomotive had stopped to water at the station-house, and immediately blew up and became a total wreck. A part of the engine was thrown two hundred feet into the river. The roof of the shed under which it was covered was blown away, and about 100 feet across the track. Piles of wood and iron, together with the scalding water were scattered in all directions, and what is wonderful, but one man—and he a way passenger—was injured. This man had his arm broken in two places. Around the station-house, and on the banks of the river, within reach of danger, there were a large number of persons, but all escaped, save one, and the escape was wonderful. The locomotive was a very old one.—N. Y. Times.

Wrought Iron, manufactured directly from the ore with mineral coal, without reducing it first to pig iron and thence by puddling into wrought iron, is now being made in Newark, N. J., by a company acting under a patent secured by Mr. Repton, the discoverer. The iron is said to be produced by this process, for \$20 less per ton, and sells for \$10 more than the puddled or Chertrol iron. The rationale of the invention is that the iron is oxygenized by heating a mixture of the pulverized ore and coal in close tubes, so that by the combination of the coal the oxygen is absorbed from the ore and passed off in an uniform state. The residue is taken from the tubes and worked into balls weighing about 100 pounds each. These are taken to the trip hammer, by which they are reduced to blooms. Two tons of the iron are now made per day, and it requires about two tons of ore, and one ton and a half of coal to produce one ton of the wrought iron. The ore or iron must undergo two accurate exposures to the fire before it can be reduced to wrought iron.

SMALL NOTES.—A bill has been introduced into the New Jersey Legislature to prevent the issuing and circulation of small notes for the payment of money. The bill makes it unlawful for any notes of a less denomination than three dollars to be issued and put in circulation on and after the 4th of July next. And after that first of July, 1854, it is made unlawful to circulate any notes of a less denomination than five dollars.

Lord Brougham defines Theology as "the art of teaching what nobody knows."

Eric Weekly Observer.

ERIE, P. A.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 5, 1853.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CONVENTION.

The Democratic voters of Erie county are hereby notified to meet at their usual places for holding elections, in their respective townships, townships and wards on Saturday the 5th day of February, to appoint delegates to attend the county convention, which will meet at Erie on Tuesday the 8th of February. The voters of the borough and township will meet at four o'clock P. M., those of the city at seven o'clock P. M.

F. W. MILLER, WM. A. GALBRAITH, R. S. BRAWLEY, ISAAC B. TAYLOR, SMITH JACKSON, C. M. TIBBALS, Committee.

Erie, Jan. 29, 1853.

GLORIOUS NEWS!!!

TWO MILLIONS SUBSCRIBED TO THE SUNBURY AND ERIE RAILROAD, BY THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA!!

The following despatch was received here yesterday morning. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 4th, 1853. MURRAY WHALLON, Esq., Council have passed an ordinance to subscribe two millions. All is right here.

C. FALLON. This is truly cheering news to our citizens who have waited so long for this result—cheering, because it will result in the immediate commencement and speedy completion of the road, and place Erie at the terminus, on the lakes, of the shortest and best Railroad to the Atlantic cities.—Nine cheers, then, say we, for the city of Philadelphia! The bells of the city were rung and fifty guns fired in honor of the subscription.

Bear it in Mind. We hope our Democratic friends will attend to the call for the election of Delegates to-day, to attend at the county convention on the 8th inst. We all have a duty to perform in helping to fill the offices of the State and nation, and our interest in the matter should be none the less that we have lately achieved so great a victory over our opponents. It was not done by staying at home or by taking little or no interest in the contest. The present convention is an important one in as much as it is to give our voice in favor of a man to whom, with others to be entrusted the care of the public works of the State, as well as other offices of nearly equal importance. Bear in mind, then, the primary meetings this (Saturday) evening, and let each Township be represented in the convention on the eighth.

Our thanks are due to Hon. C. B. Curtis for copies of the Congressional Globe, and to Messrs. Skinner and Hill of the Legislature for repeated favors in forwarding us Legislative documents.

Our friend Charles Miller, Esq., killed a very fine bear the other day, from which we were furnished with some delicious steak. We are requested to say that a large quantity of the oil in its pure state, may be had by calling on him at his shop on State Street.

We understand that Mr. G. Loomis has succeeded in recovering nearly all the goods stolen from his store, on last Friday night. We are glad to learn this, for Mr. Loomis is one of our oldest and best citizens.

We call the attention of our readers to the Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenditures of the county for the past year. It exhibits the finances of the county, in a good condition, being balances in the treasury on the 1st of January, 1853 of \$92,841 57.

Hon. Sam. Houston, of Texas, has been re-elected to the Senate of the United States for the term of six years from the 4th of March next, by a vote almost unanimous. Texas has thus testified her appreciation of the eminent services of the man so prominently associated with her eventful history.

It is said that Gov. Kosuth is about to re-visit this country soon, in consequence of the election of the Democratic candidate for the Presidency.

Look out for counterfeit fires on the Genesee Bank, New York.

The Miners of Steuben county, N. Y., have had a chemical test of the gold dust discovered there, which has proved so satisfactory that they have all gone home, certain that nobody will commit depredations upon it.—They now "breathe freer and easier."

The trial of Cooly, in Cleveland, for murder, has resulted in his conviction for manslaughter. The jury was out six hours.

The Hudson River Railroad Company have disabled five engines in forcing their way through the snow, since last week.

We copy the following from the Valley Spirit for the benefit of those who are indebted to us, hoping that some of our delinquent subscribers will follow the example therein set:

BORNESTOWN, January 15, 1853. J. L. GETZ, Esq. Dear Sir—Enclosed you will receive \$1.50, one year's subscription, for which please send me a receipt. I should indeed not be worthy the name of a Democrat, did I not regard to your call, and aid in defraying the expense of your new type. The noble spirit which your paper rendered in the last Presidential campaign, entitles it to the support of every good Democrat in the county. Your friend and fellow citizen.

That's the kind of talk we like, if there were only more Democrats in the county who think with your honorable correspondent, it would be none the worse for us, and all the better for the party. We have faith in the influence of a well sustained newspaper press, and believe that the money raised by political organizations for conducting our elections, could not be more profitably applied than in making every voter a reader and a thinker. We did nothing more than our duty in the last campaign; but it is something new—our day to obtain its acknowledgment; and when that is accomplished, as in the case above quoted, by an earnest wish for our personal success, we feel that partisan service is not entirely a thankless task.

In connection with the above we would say that it is our intention to enlarge and otherwise improve the present volume of the Observer at the commencement of the 24th volume, and if those who owe us for subscription, advertising or job work, would cancel their liabilities, it would enable us to do so without contacting a debt for that purpose. We hope each of the patrons of the Observer will take the matter into consideration and resolve to be square with us at the end of the volume. Many have already done so, but there are many others, we regret to say, who have neglected it—and like the editor above, we should be happy to acknowledge the receipt of the whole amount.

An old godless man named Henry Scarfe, who was the aid of the press to his son, a dwarf, who was taken from him in Chicago, in 1851, by a man named L. D. Jerome, on a promise of liberal pay to permit his being exhibited as a curiosity. It is supposed the dwarf was exhibited here and in the Eastern cities. The father has not heard from him since he was taken away.

Five years ago, says a writer in Fraser's Magazine, "Louis Napoleon Bonaparte was three years in arrears of rent in the parish of St. James. He could not pay his landlord, or his upholsterer, or his wife merchant's bill, or one half of his engagements in the city or at the west-end."

Howell and Bant, who were convicted of the murder of William Baxter in New York, were hanged at the city of Friday last week. The Governor has commuted the sentence of Johnson.

Authentic Coal.

From a communication which was lately published in the Philadelphia Ledger, we find some statistical calculations with regard to the anthracite coal trade, which present a truly gratifying result to the people of the State. The calculation appears to have been drawn out by a paragraph in Gov. Bigler's annual message, in which he says:

"The whole amount of anthracite coal mined and taken to market in 1850, was 897,000 tons. In 1852 the product will reach over five millions of tons, being an increase in twelve years of five hundred per cent. This rate of augmentation up to 1870, would give the striking production of over forty-five millions of tons, and yielding at the present Philadelphia price, the sum of one hundred and eighty millions of dollars, being more than double the present revenues of the whole United States!"

In connection with this writer says it will be found that any community consuming anthracite coal exclusively will annually require one ton for each member, equal in number—that is, the domestic consumption will equal the number of the population. To this may be added the amount used in the propulsion of machinery, the reduction of ore, and the working of metals. Of the 5,000,000 of tons sent to market in 1852, two-thirds may be safely set down to domestic use. Having, therefore, settled the principles upon which consumption depends, we can make approximate estimates of the future demand of the great state of Pennsylvania. At this time the Allegheny mountains divide our population; so that about 12,000,000 of people live upon its eastern slope and of this number about 3,400,000 are now the consumers of our anthracite. The remaining 8,600,000 still use wood or bituminous coal. If our country remains prosperous, we may safely estimate our population, east of the Alleghenies, in 1870, at 18,000,000, and of this number 12,000,000 to be warmed by the consumption of coal. By this time it will be the only fuel used to any extent in great cities and towns upon the seaboard, and it will find its way back into the interior, upon the thousands of miles of railroad that will long before then reach every corner of our land. Two millions of tons will then be wanted for domestic consumption, and the amount required for the reduction of ore, the working of metals, God only knows, no human foresight can estimate.

During the last eighteen years, the increase has exceeded fifty per cent, per annum. But ten per cent. is a safer estimate for the eighteen to come."

In addition to this we expect that the completion of the Sunbury and Erie Rail Road to this city will open a new market for Anthracite Coal, which in a few years will grow equal to that now partially supplied by the Reading Rail Road. Over that road the country bordering on the great chain of lakes, together with the region penetrated by canals and railroads stretching into the interior from every town of importance on their shores, must the supply of that kind of coal come, and who can estimate the quantity that the opening of this new line of road will require. It is hardly probable that the road will be able to furnish anything like enough for the demand in sections requiring it that have never yet been able to procure it. All of that coal that reaches here or any point upon the lakes, comes by the way of the Delaware and Hudson Canal, and by Philadelphia and New York, whereas by the Sunbury and Erie it will reach the lake in the most direct route that it can possibly come, thus shortening and cheapening the transportation from sea half to two-thirds and taking that amount off the cost of the coal.

The Sault Canal. So little has been said upon this subject of late, that even here, where we expect to reap so much benefit from its construction, the subject is scarcely spoken of. At its late session, Congress passed a bill appropriating to this purpose quite a large tract of land, and that was said to be all that was required for its early commencement. Almost a year has passed, still nothing has been done in the matter, if we may except some figuring by sharpers to get hold of the grant of land without building the canal. The Detroit Free Press justly remarks, "our Senators and Representatives, Gen. Cass and others, have labored zealously to procure a national appropriation for the work; and now that it is said that the Legislature of the State had not virtue enough to become the honest trustees of this appropriation! Shall individual interests, by loud talk, smother the strong popular demand that the work shall be put into the hands of the Government, and proceed forward to completion? It is idle, and more than idle, for the Legislature to spend its time on unimportant amendments; the best protection of the work will be found in the Governor, who is a paper person to take charge of the appropriation, and to carry out its object."

We hope the Free Press will be able to stir up its citizens so that the work may be taken hold of and completed. The whole lake country is greatly interested in it, and all should say an encouraging word in aid of the project, if nothing more.

The Rochester Advertiser is not very complimentary to the morality of the citizens of our neighbor, Westfield. In speaking of the recent arrests in that village for theft and counterfeiting, that paper remarks that "Westfield has been a 'hard customer' for the last twenty years or more. Perhaps we ought to qualify this a little by explanation. The place has always been an ambitious one, and though containing many persons of the 'highest respectability,' it has somehow or other managed to give refuge to as hard a set of eggs as any place in the State. Its contiguity to the State line makes it a desirable location to those who know not the day nor the hour when they may be compelled to 'step over'."

The Editor of the Kennebec Journal, in denouncing his subscribers, says, "he has little responsibilities thrown upon him just now, which he is obliged to meet."

Mrs. H. B. Stone, authoress of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," has received a second installment of \$10,000 from her publishers, Jewett & Co., of Boston, making upwards of \$20,000 in nine months on the copyright of one book, a thing without a parallel in the annals of literature. If one half that sum had been spent in buying real "Uncle Tom's" from Slavery, we are of opinion that the results would have strengthened the belief of real sympathy felt for the slaves by the purchasers of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Several members of this Congress—three Senators and four Representatives, and also one head of a department—have died since the commencement of the first session.

A den of counterfeiters has been discovered in Lancaster, and five arrests made by the Philadelphia and Lancaster police. About \$1,200 in counterfeit notes were found in possession of one of those arrested.

On Monday last week, a number of hands employed on the Central Railroad, were engaged in undisciplined a bank of earth, when it suddenly gave in, and instantly killed four men. The accident happened about two miles east of Greenboro.

A Colored Man (name unknown), was found dead on Thursday morning, lying at the mouth of a five-mile run Hamburg, with one side of his body terribly burnt. He had lain down there on Wednesday night, for shelter and warmth, and falling asleep too close to the fire, was burned or suffocated to death—perhaps both.

John Dodge was convicted last week by the Huntington county Court, for forging bank orders, and sentenced to seven years in the Western Penitentiary.

LETTER FROM CALIFORNIA.

STOCKTON, CALIF., Dec. 30, 1852.

Mr. Editor: It is now about one year since I landed upon the shores of this State, during which time I have been in a position to learn much of its commerce, laws, and people, and as I have nothing better to do at present, I propose to give your readers a brief view of the lights and shades of my experience. I have told you before, that we were the strongest majority of mortals ever before congregated together, out of which to form a State.—Now suppose all these various ingredients coming together from the four corners of the globe, become California, what would they make? Why something new and original, of course.

It is no use for your old men, with their set habits of business and fixed opinions of morals and laws, to attempt to stem the current—they must compromise with the times, or be swept away with the torrent. We come nearer being ruled by New York, than any other State, although the casual observer would say that Texas held the sway. The civil and criminal codes of the former State being almost literally adopted by the California Legislature, it is conceived a convincing fact in support of my assertion, whilst nearly all the executive officers in the large counties, hail from the "Lone Star," thus giving color to the idea of a southern supremacy in politics.—We might account for this by saying that the South-West is more clannish, more crafty as politicians, and possess a sharper-scent for the loaves and fishes than the North and East—and perhaps we should not be far wrong. Honest, good men are found in office, but the oil is not given to modest merit. Ex-Governors are elected to little municipal offices, whilst a man of the experience and enlarged views of a broker's clerk, may fill the second office in the State. A young man of twenty-seven may sit upon the bench as Chief Justice, whilst the gray haired veteran of 33 years practice must battle for his bread among the upstarts of a county court bar. An ignorant clown will in a few months amass his thousands in trade, while the educated merchant dwindles into a clerkship of some family grocery. The classical scholar with his brow yet fresh with collegiate honors, finds himself the second cook of a fashionable restaurant, whilst his host's diploma is perhaps a certificate of good character as under waiter at "Baron's" or the "Astor House." The Treasurer of the State may be as poor as to be under par with his wash-woman, whilst the lucky graces of some eleven feigns claims, upon which a great city is built, shall have no other claims to respectability than are due to the thick headed porter, of a thicker headed master. Such a hotch-potch was never before seen—nor dreamed of. Precursors and tract-peddlers stand to show here at all, and either take the back track or turn their attention to "monte" or employ their wits in solving the mysteries of "old sledge." Temperance lecturers, find it more profitable to retail "Whisky" at two bits a drink, or else lead their eloquence, to call the figures in a dance house.—Good christian families are scarcely comfortably in quarters before that insatiable rascal, the Devil begins to meddle with their domestic felicity.

The husband inclines to late revels and strong drinks whilst the tender mate, tired of long watching, encourages some good looking stamp to assist in the passing of the heavy hours, but his unsteady step is heard, returning from his transient joys. At length a row occurs around the family altar, the husband grabs the money, amassed more by the industry and economy of the wife than his own, pockets three or four thousand, leaves for parts unknown, and casts her prayonless upon the world, or else my lady, in a weak moment becomes the victim of the "tender passion" and some fine morning "cut stick" from her lord and master to become the mistress of a gambler.

An ex-member of Congress—the representative of seventy thousand chivalrous souls, whose classic learning, elegant diction, brilliant imagination and stilted wit, unchanged for hours the attention of the elite of the capital, who whose search integrity has passed unimpeded through the ordeal of two sessions at Washington, is accused, and must defend himself before a minor's jury of his crime of Paul Lacey.

You meet an old friend—the companion and confident of years long since passed, before contact with the harsh world had made you less generous—if he is poor you are received with a warmth that goes to your heart—but suppose him successful, look to one he don't give you the cold-shoulder with a look that says, as plainly as looks can, "You too will borrow a slug, I'll none of you." You toil and sweat, late and early are your hours employed in indefatigable labor in order that you may gain a few thousands, return "to the States," and marry the girl whom through all your trials, you have preserved an affection unassailed by a single thought of selfishness, when, lo! some officious friend, believing he is doing you a great favor, sends you a number of the "Dagwood Herald" containing the gratifying news of Fanny's falsehoods by marrying Thaddeus Stubbs. Then you turn for consolation to the editorial, and find the presiding genius of the press going into a duck fit, over some gingerbread the "happy pair" have furnished him, together with some sour wine. They say "despair is never quite despair," but I assure you, it's an even bet, the corner does not have twelve men sitting on the poor fellow's carcass in less than a week, but it's no use; if he had twenty-four they could not squeeze a respectable grain out of him, though each man possessed the corporal dignity of Daniel Lambert.

"Omego" once had some reputation for telling the truth, but now, no doubt, you begin to suspect his fidelity in that respect, that "there's the devil in it, at all, at all." We got used to these vicissitudes, they don't surprise us. On the contrary, unless we are navigating the streets of some city in a 700 ton steamer, making a trade for \$100,000, hanging a fellow for horse stealing, running away from your blazing roof, rather short even of night clothes; standing up to a square built fight with a grizzly bear, feasting on an anaconda or listening to the dyng groans of some murdered man, you involuntarily fall to yawning, and complaining of the dull times.—Surprise a Californian! Why the thing is preposterous. Tell him Kosuth has left for Europe, and he merely suggests that "the d—d fool ought to have come to California first," say to him San Francisco is in ashes, and he answers quietly that "they are in bad luck," announces the death of Henry Clay and he remarks "Clay was quite old," tell him that Pierce is elected and "Clay defeated with scarce four states to console him, and he'll tell you he "thought so," say that the "spiritual rappers" have received a communication from Gen. Washington, and "it seems quite natural" to him; inform him that Cuba is annexed to the United States and we declared against England, and he answers "all right, let's take a drink." Heavens! you give the man up in despair—take a drink, and call it a consolation the fellow's composure.—All is turmoil and change—one mail contains the burning of Sacramento, the next that it is rebuilt better than ever, and before you have received from your last surprise, lo! the magnificent city is swept away by a flood. Last week the torrent came rushing through Stockton, crossing the grand plaza, with ten feet water in the channel, "no bottom" down one of the principal avenues of the city, bearing in its irresistible might, chairs, trunks, wagons, bridges and houses, and before the wrecks are clear, a half dozen ferries are established, to which a brisk opposition lends life and vivacity to the scene. Passengers could pass from one street to another for the moderate toll of \$3.

You retire at night counting yourself worth at least twenty thousand ahead of the world and in the morning your friends congratulate you on having escaped some disaster, preserving from the rains only your worthless carcass.

The rains have been falling incessantly for the past month, the roads are almost impassable, they move about their farms in row-boats, the cattle have taken to the hills, flour is worth \$1 per lb. At the mines, and nearly all the farmers are out of "grub," and can't get the time to buy more, in short—there's a certain place about, and no pitch hot.

Labor commands as good a price now as it did twelve months ago, and opportunities are just as good now for the emigrant or they ever were, if not better. Although the farming interest begins to assume a respectable

weight in public estimation, yet the mine is the

most important in the councils of the State. The fact is to be regretted, for in him we behold the ordinary principle of property that places men in their sphere, and upholds him in his true dignity, to learn a will to conquer, and a strong set of muscles, to clear breast, form the best basis for a Californian, and no young man should migrate until he thoroughly understands his true interests in a moral point of view, unless he has the elements of the true manly mind—himself will surely fail, there being no security in any thing to over-awe vice. Neither religious nor moral teachings of a blessed mother, will serve the purpose, unless they are accompanied by the manly mind, and settle down here, on the same basis you have it.

The seeds have been planted and are now growing into a broader and more wholesome benevolence than practice is known to you. There is such a thing as people praising the doctrines of a person whose views they have been taught to despise, and Fanny W. may yet live to see her system of morals no longer philanthropists dream, but the consummation of a good.

A short year has changed the course of Pacific commerce. The whole ship now never shows but hulk in the Atlantic water, once she has dashed Cal. and Jack is kept constantly in the breeze, for the sport of the monster. And yet Jack's is an ever—And why not? Is not the Sandwich Islands liberal and jolly a place for a "free run" on either New York or Boston. There should the lad return to the arms of Molly, why the "skippers" "clipper," as she sails in port on her return packed with oil, is always glad to give the pleasure to a birth.

We are becoming a separate people, and I wish in time—to build on that national rail road, connect a cord of steel before another generation steps into the life, (and they are now on our heels) or the Pacific will become a dead fact. The Pacific Rail Road—the giant effort of this generation, when completed will be the proudest monument reared by the hand of man—the master work of scientific and practical age. It must be done. God demands it and the interests of the human race require it. It will be done, for the great democracy have it