

Political and General News.

From California—News of the Fortnight. From the Alta California.

Since the sailing of the steamers of the 1st inst., the State has furnished but few topics of discussion or interest, aside from the weather in the interior, and the consequent suspension of business of all kinds, and security of provisions, the suffering and emaciation of the people.

The Legislature met on the 31st inst., but up to the present time they have done nothing of moment. The Executive message and the accompanying documents have been referred to committee, but whether the important questions brought before the two Houses will receive further consideration, or be allowed to sleep on the session in committee-rooms, remains to be seen.

The old project of calling a Constitutional Convention, is once more on the tapis. The ostensible object, as set forth by the Executive in his message, is to abolish certain offices created by the constitution, but the real end is the abrogation of the anti-slavery clause of the State.

With but an interval of a few days during the past week, the remarkable and long continued drought is unabated. The air, however, is milder, and the clouds fall in rain instead of snow. Business in general at Nevada is stagnant for the want of the necessary supplies from the valley, and the mining operations appear to be as gloomy as the weather.

Prices will remain high, and the stock of flour is almost entirely exhausted. The communication between Nevada and Sacramento, has been cut off for several weeks, and the few goods received at the former place arrive by pack trains from Eliza and Marysville.

Further meetings of the miners, suffering under the scarcity of flour, have been held in various mining districts, and committees specially deputed to proceed to this city to ascertain and identify for future action on the part of the miners, the parties who are alleged to be the cause of the scarcity.

It is a matter of regret that this subject should have been so studiously misrepresented as it has been by designing parties in the city. There are thousands of miners and others in the interior who believe that the scarcity of provisions is really the result of a conspiracy on the part of the city.

It has excited the passions of men, as we see, and directed their attention to the abatement of an injury which is a public calamity—a remedy that would have presented itself to their minds if the truth had been laid before them, instead of interested misrepresentations.

Nevada County has taken the initiative toward perfecting the mining laws of the State, by adopting a code which, for all practical purposes, is a practical reality, as they do, permanent and lasting rights in the tenure of mining property of this nature, that can only be subject to the future action of Congress.

The proposed Miner's Convention is engaging the earnest consideration of the people throughout the State, and discussion is bringing about a degree of definiteness and tangibility in its purposes. It will be a very important body when it comes together, and will leave a permanent impression upon every interest of the commonwealth.

eventually successful. They say a boat had arrived at a point near Steple's Ranch, where ten or fifteen men were waiting to take it on a high stage route to its destination. Several others have tried the experiment and are now on the river.

The following, from the N. Y. Times, is sensible and to the point, and will suit our latitudes than New York:

"Who can explain the phenomenon? Why is it that when a man has made himself rich by a course of honest physical industry, his children should be brought up to be thought laborers in the same line? Or if he has only acquired a competence, and is respected by them, why should they feel loth to confess to the necessity of the same employment? The Indian child is never ashamed to confess that his sire once wandered through the same forests that he now roves in, and brought down the bounding stag with his arrow.

STORY WITH A MORAL.—We hope none of our particular friends will apply to themselves the portrait displayed in the following sketch: Some years ago Mr. R., an American gentleman, having discovered some new process by which he thought money could be made in England, concluded to try a fortune in London.

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Erie Weekly Observer.

ERIE, PA. SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 19, 1853.

We are indebted to Hon. Richard Broadhead, and Hon. C. B. Curtis, for valuable Congressional documents.

We have received one or two numbers of the "Magazine of Art," a new and exceedingly entertaining Magazine, published in New York by Alexander Montgomery, at 25 cents per number.

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.—We have the March number of this old and standard monthly, and can truly say it is an improvement on all its "Illustration predecessors." Graham has got into a controversy with the admirers of "Graham's Magazine," and so fashionably among the agitators, but from the number before us we rather think the "Uncle Tomatoes" have caught a tartar.

REPLY.—With this caption, the New Hampshire Patriot copies from the Charleston (S. C.) Standard, the following relative to Gen. Pierce:

WASHINGTON AND NEWARK.—There are two bills before Congress, both of which have passed the House of Representatives, to establish two more Territories within our expanded area.

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Louis Napoleon.

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TO PREVENT COLLISIONS ON RAILROADS.

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New Advertisements.

I. O. O. F. A Special meeting of the members of the Irish Adolphus Lodge, No. 42, will be held on Wednesday evening next, the 19th inst., at 7 o'clock.

ALMANAC. G. U. ATKINS, Editor. No. 9, Brown's Hotel, New York.

REBELS' WING ALMANAC. Editor: G. U. ATKINS, No. 9, Brown's Hotel, New York.

BURNED, BUT NOT ALIVE. A notice to the public regarding a fire at the residence of Mr. J. M. Smith, No. 123 Broadway, New York, on the 15th inst.

DEATH OF EX-GOV. LUCAS. Ex-Governor Lucas died suddenly in Iowa City, on Monday, the 17th inst.

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