

Political and General News

ARRIVAL OF THE ATLANTIC.

The Collins steamer *Atlantic* arrived at her dock about 6 P. M. of the 23d. She left Liverpool on the 8th. She brings 42 passengers.

The *Niagara* arrived out on the morning of the 8th. The news generally is unimportant.

Maxwell—The following is from the circular of Richardson, Brothers:

The weather after three weeks frost, has become mild, and the land will in all probability, soon be in a state to receive seed.

At our market this morning we had the usual attendance, dealers and millers and a few from some of the interior towns, but not finding holders of wheat offering under Friday's prices, little was done.

Flour was in the same sluggish state, we have lately reported this branch of the trade, and when sales were effected, buyers had the market in their favor.

Indian corn slow for both white and yellow, at 32¢ for American.

Large arrivals of breadstuffs have slackened the old.

Cotton closed dull, with a declining tendency.

Robt. Makin & Sons, in their circular of the 8th, quote wheat 10 lower than on that day, week, and four 6d and 1¢ lower than on Friday.

England.—In the House of Lords on Monday, Lord Aberdeen, in reply to an enquiry, said that the Government has no information of the escape of Mazzini from Genoa, on the British frigate *Retribution*.

Lord Melbourne said it were true, it was an act of ill-judged humanity in the Captain of the ship to receive this political agitator on board.

The subject of education in Ireland has been under debate in the House of Lords.

In the Commons some remarks sprung up between Mr. Home and Lord John Russell as to the proposed canal through the fathoms of Barrow, which the latter declared the Government in favor of, if practicable, and desirous of the co-operation of the United States.

Parliament was to adjourn over, on the 18th to the 4th of April, for the Easter Holidays.

The West India Mail Steamers *Thomas* and *Oronoco*, had arrived at Southampton with a large amount of specie.

The Board of Trade reports for February, show an increase of 80 per cent. in the value of the exports over the same month last year.

The directors of the Atlantic and Pacific Junction Company, had an interview with the American Minister. The result did not transpire.

Postage between England and all the British colonies is to be reduced to the uniform rate of 6d for each half ounce.

France.—A batch of new Senators have been created, and several members added to the Council of State. One hundred and sixty-four more of the officers have been appointed.

Lacordaire had been ordered to leave Paris, by the Archbishop acting in concert with Government for every pointed allusions to the Emperor's course in a sermon.

Prince Camerata committed suicide in Paris on the 4th. He was a grandson of Eliza Bonaparte the sister of Napoleon the 1st.

Typhus fever and influenza are raging in the French provinces as well as at Paris.

A monument is to be erected to the memory of Ney on the spot where he was executed.

In Denmark the elections to the Second Chambers were resulting in favor of the opponents to the Government.

SWITZERLAND.—Letters from Bern state that the Federal Council has determined to address a vote to the European powers, showing that the accusations made against it by Austria are unfounded.

Austria.—The Emperor was nearly regained to his usual health.

The reported conspiracy in the fortress of Comorn is confirmed.

Italy.—Mazzini has published two letters which have produced discussion in the democratic camp.

The U. S. frigate *Cumberland* and *St. Louis* were in Genoa, and had received on board a large number of refugees, to which the British frigate on which Mazzini is thought to be, had refused hospitality.

TURKEY.—The details of the settlement of the Montenegro war, already announced are published.

The Turkish authorities are much annoyed at the submission of the Porte to the demands of Austria, and it is thought that the Ministry will resign.

THE DISCOVERY OF CAPT. ERICSON.—In describing his invention to a delegation from the legislature of Va., said:—“This under your feet will carry you through the air, and will be sufficient for this purpose. You can go to China and back without taking in coals there! You can go from the United States to Australia, and thence to England, without coaling in Australia! This vessel consumed four tons and a quarter only in twenty-four hours during her late trip. This gentleman is not the least in practical arithmetic is the best fuel for this engine, because we only require a slow, radiating heat, and I predict that when this new motive power shall have been introduced, England will come hither for her coal.”

With reference to locomotive engines, Captain Ericson said he could now build one fast enough for freight purposes; but in one year hence he could construct one that would be the fastest. A Dutch steamer, he stated, had made the voyage in thirty-three days as much freight as the *Atlantic* steamer, as she has an entire freight deck, on which no coal is carried; the coals in this vessel being stowed below the freight deck, in bunkers, alongside the engines.

THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT.—The time has come for the people of this country to say whether this monument shall be finished, or suffered to remain not one-half finished. It was supposed that a sufficient sum would have been raised at the last election to have completed this great national work, but what is the result? The small sum of six millions does not equal all that has been required throughout this entire Union! Does this look as if we, as a free people, are grateful for the many blessings which we now enjoy, to him who styled the “Father of our Country”? We answer no, and we hope the entire press throughout the country will give the same response.

We are pleased to see that the Board of Managers of the National Monument has appointed Mr. John L. Brown of Baltimore Co., Md., Agent, to attend the World's Fair, to be held in the City of New York, in May next, to solicit contributions from the millions of visitors who may attend.

Mr. B. has engaged one of the best workmen of our city to make a model of the monument, a facsimile of that which he is to erect. He is to have contribution boxes made of plate glass, so that the amount deposited can be seen by each visitor. There will be at the lower calculation 5,000 visitors per day. Suppose the Fair shall last four months, and each visitor contribute the small sum of ten cents, to take off seventeen Sundays in four months, which makes 100 days to receive contributions. The estimate, which is altogether too low, would make the number of visitors amount to 500,000, which at the small sum of ten cents per visitor, would amount to \$500,000.

Mr. Brown, the indefatigable Agent, is a gentleman of energy, fully impressed with the vast importance of completing this great work, and we commend him to the especial notice and favor of our brethren of the New York press and elsewhere.—*Baltimore Clipper*.

THE DURER DIAMOND.—WONDERFUL IF TRUE.—We have received a communication descriptive of this remarkable stone, which was found within two miles of Columbus, in Tuolumne county. It is to be exhibited in Stockton and this city, for a short time, prior to the departure of the steamer for New York. Our correspondent informs us that it has been carefully and scientifically tested by Dr. Banks, a graduate of the Medical University of Louisiana, who pronounces it, beyond all doubt, to be a diamond of every degree of purity. It is said to be nearly ten times the size of the crown of England, which is valued at ten millions of dollars. We are informed, by a gentleman who has seen it, that it is about the size of a pigeon's egg, but is of course still in the rough. Should this turn out to be true, its value will be enormous, and a new source of boundless wealth will be opened to the kind in this country.—*Diamond mines are just as well defined as gold mines*.—*San Francisco Herald*.

Wasikan Earthquake.

The following account is from the *Northern Journal*, published at Duluth, Minn., in Jefferson county. It will be seen that the relation is much like that given by the St. Catherine's Journal, but whether the time was coincident, or not we do not recollect. The account is as follows:

A STRONG PHENOMENON.—A most singular occurrence happened in our village and vicinity, on Friday night, or rather Saturday morning last. The day previous had been clear and mild, and the evening closed in stary and cloudless. At about 10 o'clock the sky became overcast, and unusual darkness prevailed, which continued to the time of the occurrence, which was about half-past two.

The phenomenon commenced with a heavy, distant rumbling sound beneath, somewhat like distant thunder, except that it was more smothered, which rapidly approached and increased to a climax, and then receding and dying away. The roar, as it approached was interrupted by one grand explosion louder than the loudest thunder, and by a series of reports less loud and less defined, the whole ending with the same heavy rumbling with which it commenced. The only intelligent description that can be given of the sound was that it was terrible and appalling. Many who were awakened by it from their sleep, pronounced it unearthly. From the first tremulous motion was communicated to the earth causing a rattling of the windows, which increased with the roar, to such an extent that the buildings were violently shaken, displacing furniture, rattling dishes, &c. The motion was sufficient to cause the bell in the church to strike ten or ten times. The Academy bell rung also, though lower down, and in a position to be less affected by the vibratory motion of the earth.

Some of the people were standing in their houses at the time of the shock, say that in the height of it, it was quite impossible to stand unassisted. In one instance a chimney was thrown down. In some instances the brick buildings were even more threatened. Our villagers were everywhere aroused, and many rushed into the streets, each supposing that his neighbor's house was being overthrown by some convulsory explosion.

In other places, in particular directions, the shock and reports seemed equally or more severe and terrific. Mr. Calvin Wakefield, a candid man of undoubted veracity, living some six miles east of here, says that the shock threw several stones from his cellar wall.

The whole occurrence was said to have been very great for this season. Numerous persons in the vicinity to distant neighbors to me, in turn, expressed some friendly sympathy or protection. All concurred in believing that some dire, impending evil threatened their sure destruction.

What was it? Is it asked on every hand, to be answered in a thousand ways as diverse as the contents of the question. Was it an earthquake? Was it a concussion of the atmosphere produced by some wild rushing storm, or comet? Was it the bursting of some wandering serolon in our midst? Was it what was it?

Nearly all concur in pronouncing it an earthquake—a genuine, bona fide earthquake. What facts are at hand are given to sustain this. First, the noise was clearly subterranean; the motion of the earth; the absence, as all confirm, of any light or flash; no sudden changes of color—facts, however, would go to show there was sufficient disturbance or change in the atmosphere for dumb beasts to discover that something unusual was about to occur. The dogs barked and howled in the street for some time previous and those confined manifested the greatest uneasiness. It is possible, however, that the rumbling heard by them before it broke out loud enough to wake sleepers.

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Eric Weekly Observer.

ERIE, P. A.
SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 26, 1853.

APPOINTMENTS.—Governor Bigler has made the following appointments—Hon E. W. BOGUES, late Secretary of State, to be Attorney General, in the place of Judge Campbell resigned. CHAS. A. BLACK, of Greece county, Secretary of State. They are spoken of by our contemporaries as judicious selections for the posts to which they have been appointed.

THE Charter Election of last week was closely contested and resulted in the partial ascension of both tickets. In fact the result was about an even thing. The whigs succeeded in electing their Mayor and also their ticket in the West Ward, while the Independents elected eight out of their twelve Common Councilmen and their entire ticket except Constable in the East Ward, together with their High Constable. We are not able to see any material difference between the present council and the one, a portion of which has just gone out of office. They did what they believed would be for the interests of the city fearlessly and faithfully, and we hope the majority lately installed will do the same.

We understood that letters had been received from Harrisburg, stating that the bill repealing the gauge laws of the State has passed the Senate, and that there is no probability of its being availed in the House.

DISSENSIO CALAMITY.—We learn by the *Advocate and Journal* of Franklin, Pa., that while Rev. P. Dodd and five others were attempting to cross French Creek near that place on Sunday evening, the 12th inst, in a small skiff, it filled and sunk with about the middle of the stream by which three out of the six were drowned. But one of the bodies had been found up to Wednesday, the time that paper went to press. There were two ladies in the boat both of which were drowned, and their bodies had not been recovered.

NAVY COURTYERS.—Counterfeit 's on the Union Bank of Troy are said to be in circulation. The bill is of course a new counterfeit, and all would do well to be on the look out for them. The bill is described as unlike the genuine; it is a steamboat on the right side of Washington. 's on the City Bank, New York, are also in circulation; viz: portrait of Dr. Wm. Clinton; on the right rail cars, merchandise, etc. unlike genuine.

The Rough Notes of Buffalo has entered on a new year with “prospects ahead” for a substantial existence. The notes is sometimes rather “rough,” particularly in its remarks upon our city, and the railroad arrangements here—but on the whole it is a good paper and we are glad to hear of its prosperity. Success to you Mr. Notes during your policies.

The Commercial Advertiser of this city has ceased to exist, and is in its stead published the *Weekly Observer*, in the editing and publishing of which Mr. Caughy has associated Mr. A. J. McCrea. The only important item in this change is the additional evidence which it furnishes of the entire disunion of the whig party, since the result of the late election. The Scott abolition portion of the party must go somewhere, and they as a general thing will take the same course of the *Commercial*; back out of whigery and join the Free Soilers; not that they love whigery less, but power more, and as a party, they have always went for what appeared to have the chance of winning without regard to principle. The *Observer* proposes to be abolitionism strong, to be independent in politics, and to devote some little of its energies to the cause of temperance, hoping among them all to have an “increasing” patronage, and to be enabled to do much good in its new position. We are of opinion that if the Editors had profited by the experience of some other in the business than themselves, and had put the price of their paper at \$1.50 they would have found their business a little more profitable, and perhaps discovered the secret that would have enabled them to continue the *Commercial*, had it been adopted sooner.

The *Gazette*, in speaking of the new Council, says, “We hope they will regard it as one of their first duties to make a thorough and searching examination of the city affairs, inquiring into the manner in which they have been conducted in past years as well as the present.” We decidedly hope so too. They will find no difficulty in treating, in that examination for the past year, but if they are