## LETTER FROM NEVADA.

**The Journey to Austin from Virginia City—Philadelphia Fabric—"The Great Silver Mines—Description of Virginia—Arrival at Austin.**

(Correspondence of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.)

AUSTIN, Nevada, June 13, 1867.—My last letter to you, written on my arrival in Nevada, was from Virginia City, where I was detained unexpectedly some days or weeks, by the sickness of my friend and travelling companion from the States. I remained there with him until his convalescence and then, with the thermometer ninety, made a stage ride before us, from Virginia to Austin. Not hearing from you, as I had expected to have done, on my arrival here, or soon afterwards, and not knowing whether my other letters had reached you and proved interesting enough to you, I postponed writing for awhile; but now, having by recent mails heard from my friends that they had seen my letters to you and were pleased with them, though still not hearing from you as I desired, yet I feel encouraged to continue the series, and endeavor to describe my trip to Austin from Virginia, the city and its mines, &c., &c.

As a Philadelphia Fabric, I take degree of pride, in this far-off State, to see the signs up in different localities in Virginia and here, showing that our city was not forgotten by those who had once resided there. We are, in traveling at home and abroad, so apt to hear of New York that we almost think that Philadelphia is not known elsewhere than in Pennsylvania; but I found in California our merchants and manufacturers were known, and in the State also. Passing along, I have often seen Philadelphia brooms, tools and shoe stores and bakeries, significant of the fact that in those particular trades we excel. Among the prominent signs of boots and shoes I have seen frequently those of Jeremiah Fox, formerly of D. Bodmer, King & Co., C. Benkert & Son, A. Selbertich and J. Miles & Son, and Bullock's Boots and Shoes manufactories stand A 1. If a man has on a pair of Benkert's boots, he is considered to have on the best, and the ladies take their choice of the three others I have named for the best. I mention Bullock's last, with the intention of puffing any of those firms, for I have no interest in doing so, and they have no need, as I understand by what I see, that I should do so either, but simply as fact we ought to be aware that our Philadelphia manufacturers are held in the Pacific States. The brewers and bottlers, I hear, same, are from our city, and, with fond recollection, put up their drinks in Philadelphia kegs and bottled to their respective callings. It makes one feel almost at home to see the Philadelphia boxes and wagon.

In such we find more Philadelphians and Eastern people than in Virginia. In the latter place the population is mostly Eastern, numbering But 1 digress, and must come back and start from Virginia. Before leaving Virginia, I spoke of a certain sense of difference between these two principal cities of Nevada, although in many be anticipating my readers somewhat; still, I have passed over the ground before writing, if the reader has not before reading this. Virginia has a much older city, dating back from 1860, while Austin is three years in age. Virginia is at a point, and being started and backed by the capital of California, which is proverbial for rushing for gold found silver, and in finding silver found the Comstock Lode, which is in Virginia City, which is a saving in those very greatness to this section of our Union—freight and passenger moneys. And oh what I see this, how I still cry for the Western Railroad, that has so long promised will do for this country, and (not with any intention of being selfish) that I will do for the Pacific road company itself, and finally, what it will do for the Government and the rest of the United States, in bringing supplies with certainty and regularity, and in taking away the produce of the State, which all have now to pass through the Comstock Lode, and the wagons and teams, how many who now think we live out of the world will see for their own eyes that it is as easy to make wine as water. Virginia, with all these advantages, drawing to its mines upon the great food, and of where food and fuel are, the thousands of miners, carpenters, blacksmiths, engineers, &c., and the thousands who have to use necessaries of life, food, clothing, furniture, &c., &c., has a much larger and more wealthy population; their buildings run up from two to five stories high, of brick and freestone, while in Austin, being two hundred miles further east, in the centre of the State, and far further away from the point of supplies, the buildings are generally only one story in height, built of rough stone and adobe, and many more miners' cabins to be seen, in proportion, than there. They are rude in structure, but comfortable enough for the wants of that hardy, energetic race of men. We have been to "Comstock," the lion of extensive lodes, but numerous smaller ledges with far richer ores, which I will describe, or attempt to, in due time. Virginia, then has a richer population, and makes more show of its capital in its houses, &c. But it has a more numerous Chinese population, who are engaged, as I wrote you, in washing, ironing, and washing clothes, transporting the streets of a day with their donkeys almost lost behind the pile of wood; and they have more Indians (of the Digger tribe) in their dress better, and have learned by longer experience with the whites to earn money and how to spend it. The mining properties are more extensive and more expensive also, inasmuch as they have been taking out much rock, and some of them take out handsomely, but, as I said, it is not so rich as the rock around Austin, averaging probably fifty dollars per ton. The cost of reduction is much less, however, as it can be "wet crushed," that is, put under the stamps as it comes from the mines, and then, without wasting, passed through the amalgamators, which is a great saving of time and expense; in other words, a fortune, they say here, "there are more taxables." In Virginia, there are more fast horses, fast women and fast men than here, and there are fewer families—in proportion to the population, I mean, of stronger nerve to bear the voices of the little ones much more than there. Austin has a good Fire Department, with very fine hook apparatus, and here the means for extinguishing fires are, I think, much more second and takeriers, significant of the fact that in those particular trades we excel. Among the prominent signs of boots and shoes I have seen frequently those of Jeremiah Fox, formerly of D. Bodmer, King & Co., C. Benkert & Son, A. Selbertich and J. Miles & Son, and Bullock's Boots and Shoes manufactories stand A 1. If a man has on a pair of Benkert's boots, he is considered to have on the best, and the ladies take their choice of the three others I have named for the best. I mention Bullock's last, with the intention of puffing any of those firms, for I have no interest in doing so, and they have no need, as I understand by what I see, that I should do so either, but simply as fact we ought to be aware that our Philadelphia manufacturers are held in the Pacific States. The brewers and bottlers, I hear, same, are from our city, and, with fond recollection, put up their drinks in Philadelphia kegs and bottled to their respective callings. It makes one feel almost at home to see the Philadelphia boxes and wagon.

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