Further California News.

The gold bluff excitement still continues in all its intensity. The accounts published, supported by the affidavits of those who have been upon the spot, and washed the different appearances of the bench at different seasons of the year, have stirred up a spirit of adventure to an extent hardly credible. Vessel after vessel of every description are carrying crowds to the new El Dorado.

The *Alta California* expresses its belief that there is more reason in the reports concerning the richness of these sands than in those which have impelled most of the adventurers originally to hasten to California.

"After of the best standing among us," it says, "have been to the spot, examined the locality, collected the sand, submitted it to the examination of the public, and to the assays of the most eminent and honest chemists and miners in the country, and have published the results. And yet we meet men of the first rank and standing, who have spent a fortnight in the place, who have seen the sand washed in a pan, who have made their fortunes by so doing, not only ridiculing those who see fit to act as they please, and go for the place, but even yellow gold in the mass, but as conductors of the public press are denouncing all those who in the first instance tried their money upon an uncertainty for the purpose of exploring, as arrant knaves, impostors, and swindlers.

The same newspaper will wonder at the insinuation of merely all the prominent men of California. All we can say is that there is nothing unreasonable in the idea that an immense quantity of gold has been washed from the bluffs for the operations of the ocean for thousands of years. The soil is known to contain much of the gold, similar to that found among the beach sand. The Pacific has been the gold washer, or cradle, and the spirit of the ocean has been rocking it for limitless ages."

The same papers states that a "great shaly quartz veins have been kept secret by persons who have been for some time acquainted with their localities, in order to see what will be the action of Congress with regard to them, and await themselves of the earliest information to secure the possession of these veins of mines. The people at large have but little idea of their richness."

The San Francisco Herald of Feb. 1, furnishes the following:

"We mentioned in our last report that a report very valuable discoveries of gold on the coast near the mouth of the Lassen river, and that a company, under the firm, in a great degree, the richness of the deposits, but also discover many serious obstacles in the way of their realizing at the present time. The "Gold Bluff" is about thirty miles from Trinidad, the nearest safe port of ressels to discharge their cargoes. The road between us is of an almost impassable nature, only practicable for mules.

Considerable difficulty also exists in bringing into operation any really efficacious method of separating the gold from the sand; the weight of the latter, which is in great part metallic, preventing the ordinary Virginia rockers from working successfully. Experiments have been tried to make the extraction by fusion, but whether these can be carried on on a sufficiently large scale to be practically useful remains to be seen.

A bill to remove the capital of the State from *San Jose* to Tulteja, had passed the Senate. It has yet to be acted on in the House. The citizens of Santa Clara have offered to give the State $50,000 worth of land, provided the capital was retained at San Jose.

The Alta California states that it has been very healthy in San Francisco since the disappearance of the cholera.

There are now forty-five steamers plying in the rivers of California.

The weather in California continues delightful. The days have been for a long time warm enough for comfort, and the nights not disagreeably cool. Albio the rains never commenced until the third day of November, not two inches of rain had fallen up to the first of February.

Indian Troubles.

Battle with the Indians—Sixty Indians Killed—Mormons Supposed to have assisted.

The Alta Californian, dated San Jose, Sunday, January 18, says: An express rider from Mariposa county arrived in this city this evening. He has the most intelligence of a battle between four hundred Indians and a party of fifty or sixty Americans, under the command of Capt. Jenny Burnett. The despatches containing this intelligence are dated at "Agua Fria," and they state that the Indians were strongly entrenched in one of their villages. Their position was attacked at the dawn of day, or about the morning notes caused. With a feeling of impulse he could not restrain, he knocked at the door. "Come in," said Kyle, and not recognizing the knock, he said, "What do you want, sir?" "I am blind," said the boy, "and have been drawn hither by your sweet music. Do tell me who you are." "I am but a poor musician," said Kyle, "and am travelling with Jenny Lind, as flutist." "You are!" exclaimed the lad; "Oh, sir, do take me to hear Jenny Lind! I have come a long, long way to hear her sing, but the price of tickets is so high, that I am too poor to buy one. Can't you take my to hear her, sir!" he continued with great feeling; "I have heard she is so good, so generous, so pretty, and sings so sweetly, that I shall never be happy until I hear her."

Mr. Kyle felt deeply for the boy, and promised that he would take him to hear the lovely Swede. Accordingly, he took the blind boy that night, and seated him in a chair behind the scenes. The sweet songs of the nightingale affected the lad deeply, and produced upon him varied sensations. But when Jenny sang "Home Sweet Home," he melted into tears. On her retiring she was attracted by the sound of the boy's sobbing, and inquired what he was. Mr. Kyle then told her the history of the boy in a few words, which moved her; and she promised that the next day, the poor boy left the generous songstress one hundred dollars richer than he was when he rended the city.—*N. O. Picayune.*

We learn from the Jackson *Courier* that the appraisers in the estate of Miss Alfa Calhoun, on the authority of Judge Malone, who is said to be particularly well informed on the subject, estimate the tribes making hostile demonstrations, as numbering probably seven thousand, spread through the mountains between the towns of the Tuolumne and the San Joaquin. They have intercommunications through the Mountain passes, by which they will be able to concentrate the greater part of their forces upon whatever point may be attacked by the Americans. The Alta Californian says much trouble is anticipated. The mountain tribes are in sufficient numbers to keep at bay any weak parties who may march against them.—Being thoroughly acquainted with the mountain passes, they possess great advantages over most of the whites, who are disposed to take part in the foray against them. The State authorities are making every exertion to meet the emergency. A bill has been introduced in the Legislature to raise $300,000 by loan to provide for the equipment and support of the expedition for the defence." Both State and United States troops were prepared for an expedition against the savages.

Awful Particulars of the Explosion and Burning of the Steamer Oregon.

CINCINNATI, March 7.—The steamer Oregon, bound down Louisville, while passing Shippingport, on the 28ud of Sabbath at 1 P. M., on the 2d inst., burst her boiler with a tremendous report, carrying a large portion of her cabin and 250 souls, dead, and killing and wounding sixty persons.

She was heavily laden, and had from 90 to 100 passengers, who had just finished dinner, and were generally collected in the hall, and on the forward guards, at the time.

She took fire after the explosion, and burnt to the stern's edge, and hung in the channel of the river, and under way, would have consumed all those on board, but for the assistance of the Telegraph, which was wooding within a mile of the Oregon.

Upon seeing the explosion, Captain Lee, of the Iroquois passed down to the relief of the Oregon. But few minutes elapsed before she was along side. The Iroquois had just passed around the stern of the Oregon, and under way, when collected together on the after part of the boat, without the means of getting away but by jumping into the river.

The shrieks of the women, the frenzy of the Iroquois passengers, induced the boat to leave the more horrible death by fire, and plunge out of the scalded and dying, and the piteous lowing of the cattle, bells deafen.

Captain Lee ran the bow of the Iroquois aft of the Oregon, and ladders being placed from her upper deck to the lower deck of the Iroquois, all on board the burning vessel, who were able to walk, got off—the Iroquois being all the time in great danger of taking fire.

Captain Montgomery was the last man to leave the wreck, which he did just as the Iroquois was leaving sway. The parting of the boats caused the ladder to fall, which precipitated Captain Montgomery into the river, from which he was rescued with several bruises.

The clerk's office was entirely blown away, together with the books and papers of the boat. George Brown, first clerk, was in the office at the time of the explosion and was killed.

The waiters in the cabin were at dinner, and all were killed or scalded to death.

Eight white firemen were killed.

It is impossible to give a correct idea of the loss of life, some being having been left whereby to secretain names.

The floor of the Iroquois presented an awful sight.

The Oregon was scuttled, but it proved useless, as the burning of the upper works caused her to cave from her. Her loss will allow the introduction of water to her engines.

The steamer Bulletin came up soon after the accident occurred and endeavored to extinguish the flames by means of her engines, which, however proved abortive.

The passengers of the Bulletin offered much aid and remained on board of the Iroquois until they reached Memphis, when the sufferers were taken to the hospital, many of them in the agonies of death.

The Iroquois had on board twenty-five of the scalded, eleven of whom died before reaching Memphis.

Comparative Power of the States.

The late census of the United States exhibits an interesting state of things. While some States have lost in population, others have largely gained. Pennsylvania is, as before, the second in the Union. She has been steadily gaining on New York for the past twenty years, but can hardly overtake her before 40 or 50 years, before which many changes may occur. The operations of the emigration of the census returns, has enabled the following comparative table of the individual States, as presented in the National Council, to be made—which we take from the Philadelphia North American:

ADVANCING STATES.

Pennsylvania gains	1 member.
Illinois "	2 "
Missouri "	2 "
Indiana "	1 "
Arkansas "	1 "
Massachusetts "	1 "
Mississippi "	1 "
Michigan "	1 "

STATES WHICH HOLD THEIR OWN IN THE UNION.

Connecticut,	Louisiana,
New Jersey,	Maryland,
Ohio,	Kentucky,
Maryland,	Delaware,
Georgia,	Rhode Island.

Alabama.

DECREASE STATES.

South Carolina loses 2 members.

Virginia "	2 "
New York "	2 "
Maine "	1 "
North Carolina, "	1 "
Vermont, "	1 "
N. Hampshire, "	1 "

Florida and Delaware are properly declining States, but having but one member each, of course cannot lose. In justice to the other States, the representation should never be lose than the representation assigned to the Rhode Island. At present Florida, with 18,000, has as much political power as Rhode Island, with a free population of 143,000.

New York is the Empire State in population, but her comparative increase is less than that the whole country, and her power and influence are therefore declining.

Ohio has been in the Union 60 years, and has arrived at maturity. She tried hard on the heels of Pennsylvania 10 years back, and will probably be overtaken by Indiana in the next decade. Massachusetts has gained nobly in the last 10 years, and is the most active and prosperous of all the old Thirteen except Pennsylvania.—Her loss of power in the nineteen has been its power. The advancing States are three of them Slave and five Free. *Texas*, *Iowa*, *California*, *Wisconsin*, and *Florida* having been admitted since the last census, are not classed in the above table.—The entire North gains five members. The entire South loses 1 member. The section is gradually travelling westward. The Old Thirteen gain two and lose seven members.

New England gains one and loses three members. The Middle States hold their own. The eleven Southern Atlantic and Gulf States lose four members. The other four Southern States gain three members. And the West and North-west (of the new States not counted) gain four members.

ANOTHER FUGITIVE SLAVE CASE.

A colored woman and her child, (a boy about 6 years old) were taken in Columbia on Friday morning, as runaways, by Mr. Hoke, who resides in Baltimore county, Md., near the Pennsylvania line. The husband of the woman, slave to a gentleman in Baltimore, has been understood that his master intended to arrest them. The woman and her boy were taken to Philadelphia in the one o'clock train, to have a hearing before Commissioner Ingraham.

A habeas corpus was taken out on Saturday morning before Judge Kane, of the U. S. District Court and made returnable at half past twelve o'clock. The petition for the habeas corpus calls the alleged fugitives Hannah and Henry Dellam. The other members of the family died from consumption, and the information from some quarter that they were about to be arrested, and their whereabouts is at present unknown to the petitioner. The former was arrested at a house in Columbia, where she had been hired for the day to Pittsburg was presented as runaway, supposed that her daughter was at the time of the arrest, but who was immediately secreted. The child was found in the barn buried under a mass of hay and fodder. The child was only discovered after considerable labor on the part of the officers in removing the covering. This hiding place must have been selected by the child, for, at the slightest attempt to interfere with the execution of the law was manifested at Columbia, and no doubt, except in the suppose ed hiding away of the girl and boy. The prisoners are defended by F. Ellmaker, L. Myers Lodow, R. P. Kane, and Wm. S. Pierce.

What makes this case one of more than usual interest, is the fact that the woman is far advanced in pregnancy and in a few weeks will be delivered of a child, which if born on Pennsylvania soil will be free, but if born in Maryland, will become a slave. Should the latter be proved fugitive slaves, it may be that the woman will be retained long enough to save the forthcoming child.

☞ The woman and child have been surrendered to the claimant.

A NEW DISCOVERY IN THE DAGUERREOTYPE ART is just announced by the Daguerreian Journal of February, by which impressions upon plates are procured without the use of the silver of nature. This discovery has been made by L. L. Hill, of Westkill, N. Y., and it is said that he has produced pictures of remarkable beauty and clearness to the unit. Each particular shade is presented with all the softness in nature or art, and marked with great delicacy and brilliancy. The discoverer had some difficulty with the yellow color at first, but all colors have and can now, it is said, be produced. The pictures have much the appearance of enamelling, and are believed to be equally durable, for it is very difficult to efface them by scouring, and are not acted upon by light. This process, he says, involves the use of one substance, entirely new, and is unlike anything ever named in chemistry.

THE FISHING SEASON.—We learn from the St. Mary's Mad. Beacon that fresh shad and rock have been quite plentiful in that town for a week or two back. They are taken in gill-nets, "about the mouth of Briton's Bay." Some few herrings have also been caught. Should the weather continue as mild as it is at present for a week or two longer, the seinhauters on the Potomac will doubtless commence operations.

Price Reduced

VAUGHN'S

LITHONTRIPTIC MIXTURE!

Large Bottles—Only One Dollar.

The Proprietor of the Great American Remedy "Vaughn's Vegetable Lithontriptic Mixture," informed the Agents and Public, that he has reduced the Price of his popular and well known article; and from the date, will sell the Medicine at $1 per one size only—the smaller bottles—the retail price will be

ONE DOLLAR.

The public may rest assured, that the Medicine, its strength, and curative properties will remain unchanged, as it has been for the last twelve years.

The Proprietor, under the reduced price, will be purchased at his office, or of his Agents, in Philadelphia, and wherever in the United States and Canada, but now

Reduced the Price

of his popular and well known article; and from the date, he