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FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 5, 1850.

☞ Advertisers are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 5 P. M., and as early in the day as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a special time will invariably be charged until ordered out.

☞ Philadelphia North American—Advertisements and subscriptions to the North American and United States Gazette, Philadelphia, received and forwarded from this office.

☞ Cincinnati Daily Gazette—Advertisements and subscriptions, for this paper, will be received and forwarded from this office.

☞ Philadelphia Commercial List—Subscriptions for this valuable paper, will be received and forwarded from this office.

Baltimore American—Subscriptio s and advertisements for this paper received and forwarded free of charge from this office.

Meeting of the Anti-Masonic and Whig County Committee of Correspondence.—The Delegates to the last County Convention, of the Anti-Masonic and Whig party, all of whom are members of the Committee of Correspondence, are requested to meet at the New Court House, on Wednesday, the 10th of April next, for the transaction of business.

ALEX. HILANDS, Chairman.

Foreign News.—The news by steamer Europa, will be found under our telegraphic head.

Weekly Gazette.—Our Weekly of Saturday, will contain the Report of the Hon. Butler King, on California, in full; the conclusion of the trial and sentence of Professor Webster; incidents connected with the death of the Hon. John C. Calhoun; and also the foreign news, and a large collection of miscellaneous matter. Copies may be had at the counter.

The Last Moments of Mr. Calhoun. The Washington Correspondent of the New York Herald, thus describes the closing scene in the life of this eminent man.

Washington, March 31.

It is my melancholy duty to inform you that the Hon. John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina, departed this life at a quarter past seven o'clock this morning. The sad event has cast a gloom over the capital, and is the topic of conversation and universal regret, to day, among our citizens.

During the whole of yesterday, it was evident to those who had access to the sick chamber, that the lamp of life was nearly exhausted, and that if within a few hours a change did not take place for the better, his demise might be confidently expected. Indeed, he seemed conscious himself that his mortal career was near a close.

At about 10 o'clock last night, Mr. Venable, of North Carolina, read to him some letters which were addressed to Mr. Calhoun, by persons at a distance, and which reached Washington by that day's mail.

Shortly afterwards he addressed Mr. Joseph A. Scoville, who was with him from the commencement of his sickness, till the moment of his death:

"Read very low some of the papers which I wished in the morning, as I am very feeble."

About half past 12 this morning, a change took place for the worse. He had been unable for some hours previous, to raise the matter from his lungs, and he soon called him on his side, to afford him some relief. He remarked,

"It's of no use; I receive no relief—I am sinking. Place me back as I was. I have no pulse in my wrist: feel it." The medicine (an opiate) has had a charming effect. I feel a warm glow over my system."

He noticed that his son was very much alarmed, and said,

"Why do you sit up? You had better go to sleep."

His breathing had become very difficult. He said, "breathing has become very harrassing to me." His son lay down upon a couch near him, but not to sleep. About 4, Mr. Calhoun called him, and addressing him, said, "John, come here. I believe all that medical skill can do, will be of no avail, feel my pulse, I have none. Take all my loose papers out of the drawers, also my watch, and lock them up in my trunk."

He made the same request last evening, at a quarter before 6. He spoke the last words which were audible,

"I am resting now, very easily."

Mr. Mills has taken a bust of the deceased statesman, since death.

Intelligence of the melancholy event was immediately transmitted by telegraph to his widow, and to all the telegraphic stations throughout the country.

Mr. Calhoun was born at Abbeville, S. C. March 18, 1782. At the age of 23 he graduated at Yale College, Conn. In 1807 he was admitted to the bar of his native State. One year later he was elected to the Legislature of South Carolina, where he served two years. In 1811 he was sent to Congress. In 1817 he became Secretary of War, and continued so eight years, until 1825, when he became Vice President of the United States. In 1828 he was re-elected, and held that office within a few months of eight years. In December, 1832, he resigned it, and was elected a Senator from South Carolina. In March, 1843, he resigned as Senator, after holding the office for eleven years. In February, 1844, he was appointed Secretary of State, and held that office one year, when he was re-chosen as Senator, in which office he continued until his great spirit was recalled from his body this morning. For forty two years he was in active political life, and served his country faithfully, during the whole of that period.

Wheeling Bridge—It is expected at Washington, that the Supreme Court will deliver their opinion in reference to this important question during the present or coming week.

Expenses of a Diplomatist in London.—Abbot Lawrence is stated to have taken the elegant mansion of Lord Cardigan, opposite Green Park in London, at a rent of $10,000 per annum—being $1,000 more than his whole salary.

The New York Post says that one of Collins' Liverpool steamers will make an experimental trip to the city of Washington this month, for the gratification principally of the members of Congress.

Liberal.—A little boy in New Orleans found a pocket book in the street containing $11,000 and restored it to its owner, a wealthy planter from "the coast." The wealthy planter rewarded the little boy the munificent gift of one dollar!

FROM HARRISBURG.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

Harrisburg, April 1, 1850.

This being the first day of April, many ludicrous tricks were played off upon grave Senators and Representatives, as usual. The young folks of both sexes, have been making the most of the day, of course. Like Christmas, it only comes once a year; their zeal in the celebration of it is therefore excusable.

Nothing of much moment has been done in either branch of the Legislature to day. They came in very slowly this morning, and many of them seemed to be absent altogether. The important bills were consequently postponed by a sort of tacit understanding until the bodies are more full.

There is a caucus of the Locofocos in session to night. What the subject of discussion is, I have not been able to learn precisely; it is generally supposed, however, that the day of adjournment and the Apportionment bill will both occupy its attention. It has been said that they have long since determined not to adjourn until they see the Apportionment bill disposed of. I should think that an adjournment could not be effected now, short of the 20th inst., at least. Both the Appointment and Appropriation bills are yet to be acted upon, while the private business, upon the files is very little diminished, indeed.

In the House, to day, sundry petitions were presented by the several members from Allegheny, praying for the charter of the Pittsburgh and Exchange Banks.

So soon as the General Bank Bill passes, I think there will be no difficulty in getting charters. Until that is done, however, it is useless to be making the slightest effort. Parties desiring charters may therefore wait patiently till the proper time arrives.

In the Senate, on motion of Mr. Darsie, the bill from the House, to establish a uniform standard for the measurement of bituminous coal, in Allegheny county, to extend Hancock street, in the city of Pittsburgh, and to incorporate the East Birmingham and Mount Oliver Turnpike and Plank Road Company, was taken up, and passed through final reading.

The bill to enlarge the locks on the Delaware division of the Pennsylvania Canal, was also taken up, read a second and third time, passed, and sent to the House for concurrence.

Mr. Darsie introduced a bill relating to the fees of Aldermen in the city of Pittsburgh, placing the Aldermen of Pittsburgh on the same footing as those of Philadelphia, in this respect, which was taken up and passed through a second and third reading.

Whether Mr. Darsie intends to call up the free banking law, presented by him in the early part of the session, I do not know; as he seemed to adopt the bill of Mr. Laird, as amended in the Senate, however, I presume he intends to let it sleep.

It is very obvious that such a measure could not be got through, at the present session, whatever its fate may be hereafter. The Locofoco majority in the House have threatened to break up the whole Banking System, if Laird's bill is not adopted, and perhaps they are fools enough to try that dangerous experiment. A *perfect system*, like that proposed by Mr. Darsie, is out of the question, at all events. This would rob them of more than half their political capital, by taking from the people the privilege of inveighing against a system of their own adoption. They have managed so adroitly, heretofore, as to get possession of nearly all the banks in the State, and yet to throw the odium of their creation upon the Whig party. They have thus used these institutions to pulver with the people in a double sense. Whether or not the people have permitted themselves to be gulled in this matter, because of the superficial fact that the principal banking communities in the Commonwealth have generally sent Whig members to the Legislature, we are not now prepared to say, but certainly, looksavery much like it. The fact, however, that the Whig Banks have generally stood firm, while many of the Locofoco ones have failed, ought long ago to have opened the eyes of the people to the whole truth.

GODDEN.

CALIFORNIA—REPORT OF HON. BUTLER KING.

Continued.

It is quite true that this *auxiliary* was extensively employed at the missions, and undoubtedly increased the product of all crops to which it was applied, as it will to any country on earth, if skillfully used. This does not prove, however, that it was *essentially necessary* to the production of an ample reward to the husbandman. The experience of all the old inhabitants is sufficient evidence of this—If their imperfect mode of culture secured satisfactory returns, it is reasonable to presume that a more perfect system would produce much greater results. There is abundant evidence to prove that, in the rich alluvial valleys, wheat and barley have produced from forty to sixty bushels from one bushel of seed, *without irrigation*.

Irish potatoes, turnips, onions, in fact all the edible roots known and cultivated in the Atlantic States, are produced in great perfection. In all the valleys east of the coast range of hills the climate is sufficiently warm to mature crops of Indian corn, rice, and probably tobacco.

The cultivation of the grape has attracted much attention at the missions, among the residents of towns, and the rural population, and been attended with much success, whenever it has been attempted. The dry season secures the fruit from those diseases which are so fatal in the Atlantic States, and it attains very great perfection.

The wine made from it is of excellent quality, very palatable, and can be produced in any quantity. The grapes are delicious, and produced with little labor. When taken from the vines in bunches and suspended in a dry room, by the stem, they become partially dry, retain their flavor, and remain several weeks, perhaps months, without decay.

Apples, pears, and peaches, are cultivated with facility, and there is no reason to doubt that all the fruits of the Atlantic States can be produced in great plenty and perfection.

The grasses are very luxuriant and nutritious, affording excellent pasture. The oats, which spring up the whole length of the sea coast, and from forty to sixty miles inland, render the cultivation of that crop entirely unnecessary, and yield a very great quantity of nutritious food for horses, cattle, and sheep. The dry season matures, and I may say, *cures* these grasses and oats, so that they remain in an excellent state of preservation during the summer and autumn, and afford an ample supply of stock forage. While the whole surface of the country appears parched, and vegetation destroyed, the numerous flocks and herds, which roam over it, continue in excellent condition.

Although the mildness of the winter months and the fertility of the soil secure to California very decided agricultural advantages, it is admitted that *irrigation* would be of very great importance, and necessarily increase the products of the soil in quantity and variety, during the greater part of the dry season. It should therefore be encouraged by government, in the survey and disposition of the public lands, as far as practicable.

The farmer derives some very important benefits from the dry season. His crops in harvest time are never injured by rain; he can with perfect confidence permit them to remain in the fields as long after they have been gathered as his convenience may require; he has no fears that they will be injured by wet or unfavorable weather. Hence it is that many who have been long accustomed to this climate, prefer it to the changeable weather east of the Rocky Mountains.

As already stated, the forests of California, south of latitude 39 deg., and west of the foot hills of the Sierra Nevada, are limited to detached, scattering groves of oak in the valleys, and of rod wood on the ridges and on the borders of the hills.

It can be of no practical use to speculate on the causes which have denuded so large an extent of country, further than to ascertain whether the soil is or is not favorable to the growth of forest trees.

When the dry season sets in, the entire surface is covered with a luxuriant growth of grass and weeds, which, as the summer advances, become perfectly dry. The remains of all dead trees and shrubs are very combustible, and usually take fire in the latter part of summer and beginning of autumn, which commonly passes over the whole country, destroying, in its course, the young shrubs and trees. In fact, it seems to be the same process which has destroyed or prevented the growth of forest trees on the prairies of the western States, and not any quality in the soil unfriendly to their growth.

The absence of timber and the continuance of the dry season are apt to be regarded by farmers, on first going into the country, as irremediable defects, and as presenting obstacles almost insurmountable, to the successful progress of agriculture. A little experience will modify these opinions.

It is soon ascertained that the soil will produce abundantly without manure, that flocks and herds sustain themselves throughout the winter without being fed at the farm yard and, consequently, no labor is necessary to provide forage for them; that ditches are easily dug, which prevent very good barriers for the protection of crops, until live fences can be planted, and have time to grow. Forest trees may be planted with little labor, and in very few years attain a sufficient size for building and fencing purposes. Time may be usefully employed in sowing various grain and root crops, during the wet or winter season. There is no weather cold enough to destroy root crops, and, therefore, it is not necessary to gather them. They can be used or sold from the field where they grow. The labor, therefore, required in most of the old States to fell the forests, clear the land of rubbish, and prepare it for seed, may here be applied to other objects.

All these things, together with the *perfect security of all crops, at harvest time, from injury by casks weather*, are probably sufficient to meet any expense which may be incurred in irrigation, so caused, for a time by a scanty supply of timber.

In the southern part of the territory, along latitude 39 deg., and on the hills which rise from the great plains of the Sacramento and San Joaquin, to the foot of the Sierra Nevada, the forests of timber are beautiful and extensive, and would, if brought into use, be sufficient to supply the wants of the southern and western portions of the State.

I have spoken of the agricultural products and resources of the country without reference to the remarkable state of things caused by the discovery of gold, which it is probable will postpone for an indefinite time all efforts to improve the soil—As long as laborers can earn fifteen dollars or more per day, in collecting gold, they can very well afford to import their supplies from countries where the wages of labor are not more than from fifty cents to one dollar per day. It is not, therefore, to be supposed that the soil will be cultivated more than the production of vegetables, fruits and other articles so perishable in their nature that they cannot be brought from a great distance, will require.

To secure this important market for the products and manufacturers of the States east of the Rocky Mountains is undoubtedly an object of the greatest importance. It will be considered in its proper place.

PUBLIC DOMAIN.

The extent and value of public lands, suitable for agricultural purposes in California, cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy until some very important preliminary question shall have been settled.

It is not known whether the Jesuits, who founded the mission, or their successors, the Franciscans, ever did, or do now hold any title from the Spanish crown to the lands which they occupied. Nor has an investigation been made to ascertain how far those titles, if they ever existed, have been invalidated by the acts of the priests, or the officers of the Mexican government.

A superficial view of the matter would be very apt to lead to the supposition that the Jesuits, so celebrated for wisdom and cunning, would not fail to secure that which, at that time, would probably have been obtained by merely asking for it—a royal decree granting to them all the lands they might require in that remote country for ecclesiastical purposes. There have been some intimations to that effect, but nothing distinctly is known. These missions embrace within their limits some of the most valuable lands in the territory, and it is very important that it should be ascertained whether they belong to the government, or may be justly claimed by individuals.

Most of the land fit for cultivation, south of latitude 39 deg., and west of the valley of the Sacramento and San Joaquin, is claimed under, what purport to be, grants from the Mexican government.

On most of these grants the minerals and metals are reserved to the government, conditions were coupled with many of them which have not been complied with. In others, the boundaries described embrace two or three times as much land as the grant conveys.

The Mexican law required all grants made by the provisional government, with few exceptions, to be confirmed by the Supreme government. The great distance which separated them, and the unfrequent or difficult means of communication, made a compliance with a law so expensive and tardy, that it came to be almost disregarded.

There were other causes which led to this neglect.

Previous to the treaty with Mexico and the immigration of American citizens to that country, land was not regarded as of much value, except for grazing purposes. There was room enough for all. Therefore the claimants or proprietors did not molest each other by inquiring into the validity of titles.

These extensive grants are described by natural boundaries, such as mountains, bays, and promontories, which, in many instances, might allow of a variation of several miles in the establishment of a corner with chain and compass.

By the treaty of Guadaloupe Hidalgo, the United States purchased all the rights and interests of Mexico to and in California. This purchase not only embraced all the lands which had not been granted by Mexico, but all the reserved minerals and metals, and all revenionary rights which might accrue to Mexico from a work of conditions of their grants, or a want of perfection in the title.

It will be perceived that this is a subject of very great importance, not only to the people of California, but to the United States, and calls for prompt and efficient action on the part of the government. It is believed that the appointment of competent commissioners, fully empowered to investigate these titles, in a spirit of kindness towards the claimants, with power to confirm such titles as justice may seem to demand, or with instructions to report their proceedings and awards to Congress, for confirmation or rejection, will be the best and perhaps the only satisfactory mode of adjusting this complex and difficult question.

The lands in the northern part of the Territory, above the 39deg., have not been explored or granted. They are supposed to embrace an area of about twenty millions of acres, a large portion of which is doubtless valuable for its timber and soil.

Comparatively few grants have been obtained in the great valley of the Sacramento and San Joaquin. This vast tract, therefore, containing, as is estimated, from twelve to fifteen millions of acres, belongs mostly to the government. South of this valley, and west of the Colorado, within the limits of California, as indicated in her Constitution there are said to be extensive tracts of valuable unappropriated land, and on investigation it will probably appear that there are many of them in detached bodies, which have not been granted.

I do not speak of the gold region, embracing the entire foot-hills of the Sierra Nevada, some five hundred miles long and sixty miles broad, in connection with the public domain, which may be embraced in the general land system for sale and settlement, for reasons which will be hereafter assigned.

The survey of the public lands on a system suited to the interests of the country is a matter of very great importance. In the inhabited portions of the Territory the boundaries of Mexican grants, running as they do in all direction, will render the system of surveys by parallels of latitude and longitude, quite impracticable.

In all parts of the country irrigation is desirable, and its benefits should be secured, as far as possible, by suitable surveys and legal regulations. Most of the valleys are watered by streams sufficiently large to be rendered very useful. It would, therefore, seem wise to lay off the land in conformity to the courses of the hills and streams which bound and drain the valleys.

A system of drainage, which would also secure irrigation, is absolutely necessary to give value to the great plain of the Sacramento and San Joaquin. This valley is so extensive and level, that if the rivers passing through it were never to overflow their banks, the rain which falls in winter would render the greater portion of it unfit for cultivation. The formation of such a system can only be established in the survey and sale of the lands.

This can be done by laying out canals and drains at suitable distances, and in proper directions, and by leaving wide margins to the rivers, that they may have plenty of room to increase their channels when their waters shall be confined within them by embankments.

It would be well also to regulate the price of these lands, so as to meet, in some degree, the expense of draining them.

This system would, when agriculture shall become a pursuit in California, make this valley one of the most beautiful and productive portions of the Union.

COMMERCIAL RESOURCES.

The commercial resources of California are, at present, founded entirely on her metallic wealth. Her vast mineral treasures remaining undeveloped, and her fertile soil almost unbroken by the plough. It cannot be the case as long as labor continues to be so productive and as much more profitable than any other pursuit which can furnish the sinews of commerce.

The day is probably not distant, however, when her minerals, especially the quicksilver mines, will be extensively and profitably worked.

Gold is the product of the country, and is immediately available, in an uncoined state, for all the purposes of exchange. It is not there, as in other countries, where the productions of the earth and of art are sent to markets—foreign or domestic—to be exchanged for the precious metals, or other articles of value. There, gold not only supplies the medium of domestic trade, but of foreign commerce.

At first view, this state of things would seem to be unfavorable to an extensive intercourse with other parts of the world, because of the want of return freights of home production, for the vast number of vessels which will arrive with supplies.

These vessels, however, making no calculations on return cargoes, will estimate the entire profits of the voyage on their outward freights, and become, on their arrival, willing carriers for a comparatively small consideration.

This tendency in the course of trade, it would seem, must make San Francisco a warehouse for the supply, to a certain extent, of all the ports of the Pacific, American, Asiatic, and the Islands.

Almost every article now exported by them finds a ready market in California, and the establishment of a mint will bring there also the silver bullion, amounting to more than ten millions per annum, from the west coast of Mexico, and, perhaps, ultimately from Chili and Peru, to be assayed and coined.

Vessels bound round Cape Horn, with cargoes for markets on the American coast of the Pacific, can, by taking advantage of the southeast trade winds, and "standing broad off the Cape," makes the voyage to San Francisco in as short a time as they can to Valparaiso or any port south of California. Vessels have sailed from our Atlantic ports to San Francisco in less than one hundred days, and they have been, in more than one instance, over one hundred and twenty days in going from Panama to San Francisco.

This astonishing difference, in time and distance, was caused by the course of the winds, and the "gulf stream" of the Pacific, mentioned in my remarks on the climate of California.

The vessels from our Atlantic ports took advantage of the winds by steering from the Cape as far into the Pacific as to be enabled to take a course west of the gulf stream in sailing northward, thus availing themselves first of the southeast, then of the northwest "trades," and avoiding opposing currents.

The vessels from Panama were kept back by calms, adverse winds, and currents. It will be perceived, therefore, that there can be no inducement for vessels bound round Cape Horn, with mixed or assorted cargoes, to stop at Valparaiso, Callao, Guayaquil, or any other port on the west coast, because the exports of all those places will seek a market at San Francisco; and their supply of merchandise, as return freight, will be delivered at less expense than it can be by vessels direct from Atlantic ports, American or European. This tendency of trade to concentrate at San Francisco will be aided by the course of exchange.

Gold dust is worth but $17 per ounce in Chili. It is worth $18, at the United States mint. If, therefore, a merchant of Valparaiso has ten thousand ounces in San Francisco, received in payment for lumber, barley, flour, or other produce, and desires an invoice of goods from the United States or Europe, he will gain $10,000 at the outset, by sending his gold to New York, besides saving something on the freight and insurance, and, at least, one month's interest.

The countries on the west coast of America have no exports which find a market in China, or other parts of Asia. San Francisco will therefore become not only the mart of these exports, but also of the products and manufactures of India, required in exchange for them, which must be paid for, principally, in gold coin or gold dust—Neither gold coin nor gold dust will answer as a remittance to China. Gold, in China, is not current in any shape, nor is it received in payment of import duties, or taxes on land, or on the industry of the people.

The value of pure gold in China is not far from $14 the ounce. Hence, the importer of manufactures and products of India into San Francisco will remit the gold coin or dust direct to New York, for investment in sterling bills on London. These bills will be sent to London, and placed to the credit of the firm in China, from whom the merchandise had been received, and who, on learning of the remittance having gone forward to their agents, will draw a six months' sight bill for the amount, which will sell in China at the rate of four shillings and two pence or three pence per dollar.

I have a statement before me from one of the most eminent merchants and bankers of New York, who was for many years engaged extensively in the India trade, which shows that the profit or gain on ten thousand ounces of gold, thus remitted, would be $31,434 44

And that the loss on the same quantity, sent direct to China, would be 15,600 00

Total difference in profit and loss in favor of the remittance to New York $50,034 44

It will thus be perceived that Nature has so arranged the winds and currents of the Pacific, and disposed of her vast treasures in the hills and mountains of California, as to give to the harbor of San Francisco the control of the commerce of that ocean, as far as it may be connected with the west coast of America.

Important as the commerce of the Pacific undoubtedly is, and will be to California, it cannot now, nor will it ever compare in magnitude and value to the domestic trade between her and the older States of the Union.

Two years ago California did not probably contain more than fifteen thousand people. That portion of it which has since been so wonderfully peopled by American citizens was comparatively without inhabitants, without resources, and not supplied with the common comforts of shelter afforded by a forest country.

Notwithstanding the great distances emigrants have been compelled to travel to reach the Territory, more than one hundred thousand have overcome all difficulties and spread themselves over hills and plains. They have been supplied, from distances as great as they themselves have passed, with food and the necessaries, but the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. Houses have been imported from China, Chili, and the Atlantic States of the Union. All the materials required in building cities and towns have been added to the wealth of a people so numerous, destitute, and remote from the sources of supply.

These wants will exist as long as emigration continues to flow into the country, and labor employed in collecting gold shall be more profitable than its application to agriculture, the mechanic arts, and the great variety of pursuits which are fostered and sustained in other civilized communities.

This may be shown by mentioning the prices of a few articles. Last summer and autumn lumber was sold in San Francisco at $300 to $400 per thousand feet. At Stockton and Sacramento city, at $500 to $600. At these prices it could be made in the Territory, and many persons were engaged in the business. I perceive by recent accounts, that the price has fallen in San Francisco to $75; at this rate it cannot be made where the hands receive $10 to $15 per day, and the difficulties attending its manufacture are much greater than in the Atlantic States. Lumber can be delivered in our large lumber markets for an *average* of the various qualities of $16. and freighted to San Francisco for $24, making $40 per thousand feet. This price would cause the manufacture of it in California to be abandoned. We may add $20 per thousand, to meet any increase of price in the article itself, or in the freight, and the result would be the same.

It is probable that the demand, for several years to come, will not be less than twenty millions of feet per annum, which, at $40 per thousand, will be $800,000.

When California comes to have a population of 200,000, which she will have before the close of the present year, she will require a supply of flour in addition of barrels of flour from some quarter, and no country can supply it so good and cheap as the Old States of the Union.

Including freight and insurance, this may be set down as an item of about $5,000,000

The article of clothing, allowing $20 to each person, would be $4,000,000.

There is no pretension to accuracy in these items, and they may be estimated too high, but it is quite as probable they are too low.

We have no data on which to found a calculation of what the value of the trade between the States east of the Rocky Mountains and California will be during the current year. I will venture the opinion, however, that it will not fall short of twenty five millions of dollars. It may go far beyond that sum. At present, I can perceive no cause which will retard or diminish emigration to the country.

If the movement shall continue five years, our commerce with that Territory may reach one hundred millions per annum.

This is doubtless a startling sum, but it must be borne in mind that we have to build cities and towns, supply machinery for mining, coal for steam purposes and steam navigation, and all the manufactures and manufacturing implements, multifarious articles used in providing the comforts and luxuries of life, for half a million of people, who will have transferred themselves to a country which has not produced, comparatively, nothing except gold, minerals and the precious metals, and whose pursuits will enable them to purchase, at any cost, whatever may be necessary for their purposes.

It is difficult to imagine or calculate the effect which will be produced on all the industrial pursuits of the people of the old States of the Union, by this withdrawal from them of a half a million of producers, who, in their new homes and new pursuits, will become *consumers* to a commerce almost equal in value to our foreign trade.

Let no one therefore, suppose he is not interested in the welfare of California.

As well may the farmer say his interests would not be influenced by closing our ports and cutting off intercourse with all the world.

The distance round Caps Horn is so great that breadstuffs and many other articles of food deteriorate, and others are so perishable in their nature that they would decay on the passage.

This would be the case particularly with all kinds of vegetables and undried fruits.

Until some more speedy mode of communication shall be established by which produce can be transferred, the farmers and planters of the Old States will not realize the full value of this new market on the Pacific.

Many other important interests will be kept back, especially the consumption of coal.

The American steamers now on that ocean those on their way there, and others shortly to be sent out, will consume not far from one hundred thousand tons of coal.

The scarcity of wood in California will bring coal into general use as fuel, as soon as it can be obtained at reasonable prices.

Suppose there may be, three years hence, forty thousand tons, which shall consume five tons per annum, this, with the steamers, would be a consumption of three hundred thousand tons. If delivered at $20 per ton, it would compute also ceasefully with the coal from Vancouver's Island and New Holland, and amount to six millions dollars.

The construction of a rail road across the Isthmus of Panama would secure the market for those articles against all competition.

Some idea may be formed of the demand for them, from the prices paid in San Francisco last autumn. Coal was sold at $60 to $100 per ton; potatoes $16 per bushel; turnips and onions from 25 to 62½ cents each; eggs from $10 to $12 per dozen.

The distance from Chagres to New York has recently been run in seven days. The same speed would carry a steam boat from Panama to San Francisco in half that time. Allow three days to convey freight across the Isthmus, on a railway, and both passengers and freight will be conveyed from New York to San Francisco in twenty days.

This celerity of movement would secure for American produce the entire market of California. Sailing vessels may be successfully employed between our Atlantic and Gulf ports, and the termini of the railway on this side of the Isthmus; and *propellers* from Panama to San Francisco. These latter vessels will be found peculiarly suited to that trade; they can use their steam through the calms of the bay of Panama, and against head winds and currents going north, and their sails with favorable winds and current coming south.

These modes of conveyance, in connection with the rail road across the Isthmus, would be sufficiently expeditious and economical to turn the tide of commerce, between the Atlantic and Pacific States of the Union, into that channel. The tendency of our commerce on the Pacific to promote the employment of ocean steamers, is of much importance as connected with the defence of our extensive line of coast, from latitude 32° to 49°, the protection of the whale fishery, and other branches of trade on that ocean. The establishment of a line of heavy steamers to China, would promote all these objects, increase our intercourse with that country, and probably be the means of opening communications with Japan. Money wisely employed in promoting these objects, it is believed, would add more to the power and prosperity of the country, than its expenditure on any general system of fortification at the present prices of labor and materials. There is one point, however, of such vast importance, that no time should be lost in taking the necessary steps to render it perfectly impregnable—that is the entrance to the harbor of San Francisco. On the strength of the works which may be erected to defend that passage, will depend the safety of California in time of war with a maritime power. Permit a hostile fleet to cast anchor in the harbor of San Francisco, and the country would be virtually conquered.

The coast has not been surveyed, nor has its outline been correctly ascertained. There are many rocks above and below the water line, and small islands not mentioned or indicated on any chart, which render navigation near the land, especially at night, extremely dangerous.

An accurate survey of the coast, to commence at the most important points, the construction of light houses, and the placing of buoys in proper positions, are objects of much importance, and it is not doubted, will attract the early attention of Government.

METALLIC AND MINERAL WEALTH.

The gold region of California is between four and five hundred miles long, and from forty to fifty miles broad, following the line of the Sierra Nevada. Further discoveries may, and probably will, increase the area. It embraces within its limits those extensive ranges of hills which rise on the eastern border of the plain of the Sacramento and San Joaquin, and extending eastwardly from fifty to sixty miles, they attain an elevation of about four thousand feet, and terminate at the base of the main ridge of the Sierra Nevada.—There are numerous streams which have their sources in the springs of the Sierra, and receive the water from its melting snows, and that which falls in rain during the wet season.

These streams from rivers, which have cut their channels through the ranges of foot hills presenting to the plain, and disembogue into the Sacramento and San Joaquin. These rivers are from ten to fifteen, and probably some of them twenty miles apart.

The principal formation, or substrata, in these hills, is talcose slate, the superstratum, sometimes penetrating to a great depth, is quartz. This, however, does not cover the entire face of the country, but exists in large bodies in various directions—is found in masses and small fragments on the surface, and seen along the ravines, and in the mountains overhanging the rivers, and in the hill sides in its original beds. It crops out in the valleys and on the tops of the hills, and forms a strikingfeature of the entire country over which it extends. From innumerable evidences and indications, it has come to be the universally admitted opinion among the miners and intelligent men who have examined this region, that the gold, whether in detached particles and pieces, or in veins, was created in combination with the quartz. Gold is not found on the surface of the country presenting the appearance of having been thrown up and scattered in all directions by volcanic action. It is only found in particular localities, and attended by peculiar circumstances and indications. It is found in the bars and shoals of the rivers, in ravines, and what are called the dry diggings.

The rivers, in forming their channels, or breaking their way through the hills, have come in contact with the quartz containing the gold veins, and by constant attrition cut the gold into fine flakes and dust, and it is found among the sand and gravel of their beds at those places where the swiftness of the current reduces it, in the dry season, to the narrowest possible limits, and where a wide margin is consequently left on each side, over which the water rushes, during the wet season, with great force.

As the velocity of some streams is greater than others, so is the gold found in fine or coarse particles, apparently corresponding to the degree of attrition to which it has been exposed. The water from the hills and upper valleys, in finding its way to the rivers, has cut deep ravines, and wherever it came in contact with the quartz, has dissolved or crumbled it in pieces.

In the dry season these channels are mostly without water, and gold is found, in the beds and margins of many of them in large quantities, but in much coarser state than in the rivers; owingprobably, to the moderate flow and temporary character of the current, which has reduced it to smooth shapes, not unlike pebbles, but had not sufficient force to cut it into flakes or dust.

The dry diggings are places where quartz containing gold has cropped out, and been disintegrated, crumbled to fragments, pebbles, and dust, by the action of the water and the atmosphere. The gold has been left as it was made, in all the ingoldable shapes; in pieces of all sizes, from one grain to several pounds in weight. The evidences that it was created in combination with quartz are too numerous and striking to admit of doubt or cavil. *They are found in combination in large quantities.*

(Will be concluded to morrow.)

SENTENCE OF WEBSTER.

TWELFTH DAY.

Boston, Monday, April 1, 1850.

The Court room was crowded this morning to hear the sentence of the law pronounced upon Dr. Webster, as were all the avenues leading to the Court House. The state of feeling was one of great sadness and solemnity, and silence like that of a funeral prevailed throughout the assembly.

Dr. Webster was brought into the Court at 8 minutes to 9. He looked gloomy in the extreme, and wore the marks of the suffering he must have passed since the verdict was made known, but yet was collected and calm.

At ten minutes past nine, the Court came in, including Hon. Richard Fletcher, who had attended throughout the trial. After some minutes of silence, Mr. Attorney General Clifford rose and succinctly, yet with great gravity, narrated the facts of the indictment, trial, and verdict, and then moved the Court that the final sentence of the law be now pronounced.

The prisoner then rose and was asked by the clerk what he had to show why sentence of Death should not be pronounced against him. In reply, he said nothing, but bowed sadly and took his seat. Chief Justice Shaw then addressed him in the following words. The voice of the Chief Justice was replete with emotion and his whole manner evinced the sincerity of the feeling so touchingly expressed in the following

SENTENCE'

John W. Webster—In meeting you here for the last time, to pronounce that sentence which the law has affixed to the high and aggravating offence of which you stand convicted, it is impossible by language to give utterance to the deep consciousness of responsibility, to the keen sense of decorum and sympathy, with which we approach this solemn duty. Circumstances which all who hear may duly appreciate, but which it may seem hardly fit to allude to in more detail, render the performance of this duty on the present occasion unspeakably painful. At all times, and under all circumstances, the feeling of indescribable solemnity attaches to the utterance of that stern voice of retributive justice which pronounces a fellow man an out melly and ignominious death; but when we consider all the circumstances of your past life—your various relations in society—the claims upon you by others—the hopes and expectations you had cherished, with them immediately after the arrival of the Packet from the West. By the arrangement passengers will go through without detention.

A Packet Boat will leave every morning at 6 o'clock, and every evening at 9 o'clock.

This mode, for Safety, Speed, and Comfort, is not equalled by any now in use to the Eastern Cities.

For passage or information apply at

W GUTCH, Monongahela House;
D LEECH & CO, Canal Basin

apr5

To Let,

A LARGE and comfortable OFFICE, and if required, some Rooms in Warehouse No 113 Second st. A desirable location for business. Enquire at the House.

apr5

BACON—30,000 lbs Hams and Shoulders, direct from Smoke House, for sale by

J WATT & CO, Liberty st

apr5

BACON—15 cks prime Cincinnati Cured Hams;
15 do Evans & Swift's sup B C do;
8 do Miller, Brown & Hankins' S C do;
12 do prime Shoulders, for sale by

L S WATERMAN & SONS,
21 Water and 62 Front sts

apr5

LARD—25 bbls No 1 Leaf Lard;
265 kegs do do; for sale by

L S WATERMAN & SONS

apr5

FEATHERS—14 sks prime, in store and for sale by

J SCHOONMAKER & CO

apr5

COUNTER FOR SALE—16 feet long, with cherry top, handsomely made and nearly new.

J SCHOONMAKER & CO,
21 Wood street

apr5

VENETIAN RED—25 bbls English, for sale by

J SCHOONMAKER & CO

apr5

PITCH—30 bbls for sale by

J SCHOONMAKER & CO

apr5

ROSE PINK—Fine article just rec'd and for sale by

J SCHOONMAKER & CO

apr5

LARD OIL—Best quality for sale by

J SCHOONMAKER & CO

apr5

PARED PEACHES—4 bu for sale by

C H GRANT

apr5

CRUDE SALT PETRE—31 sacks to arrive, and for sale by

ISAIAH DICKEY & CO,
Water and Front sts

apr5

BACON—9 cks Hams;
4 do Shoulders;
4 do Hams and Shoulders;
3 do ass'd; to arrive on steamer Genoa, for sale by

ISAIAH DICKEY & CO,
Water and Front sts

apr5

LARD—30 bbls No 1;
1 tierce do;
3 bbls do; to arrive and for sale by

ISAIAH DICKEY & CO

apr5

BEESWAX—2 casks to arrive on Genoa, and for sale by

ISAIAH DICKEY & CO

apr5

GREASE—4 bbls to arrive, for sale by

ISAIAH DICKEY & CO

apr5

FEATHERS—68 sks to arrive on Genoa, for sale by

ISAIAH DICKEY & CO.

apr5

FEATHERS—12 sacks live geese, prime quality, rec'd on consignment, for sale by

C H GRANT

apr5

COTTON YARN—Dexter Yarn, manufactured at Economy; also, Batting, Candlewick and Twine, for sale by

GEO COCHRAN

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HAY & MANURE FORKS—Superior articles, for sale low by

GEO COCHRAN

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OIL ORIGANUM—1½ lbs just rec'd and for sale by

J KIDD & CO

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BORAX—600 lbs refined, for sale by

J KIDD & CO

apr5

JUJUBE PASTE—100 lbs for sale by

J KIDD & CO

apr5

20 GROSS Allen's Nerve and Bone Liniment, for sale by

J KIDD & CO

apr5

BOTTLE CORKS—300 gross superior Velvet, for sale by

J KIDD & CO

apr5

GREAT WATER PRIVILEGE.

WITH 330 ACRES first rate Land, for sale on the west side of Big Beaver, opposite the Fourth Dam, at the mouth of Conoquenessing, on the Beaver and New Castle Road. It is well watered with Springs, and has about 200 bearing Fruit Trees, one of him instantly deprived of life by your guilty large Frame Barn, one Dwelling House, with two Cabins. Enquire of the subscriber, living on the premises.

JAMES DAVIDSON.

apr5-4t*

WANTED—A Boy wanted. Enquire at this office.

apr5

Wanted,

BY a young man, a Situation as Book Keeper or General Clerk, or Clerk on a Steam Boat, has a good knowledge of business, having had ten years' experience; he feels confident of giving every satisfaction; is a good accountant, and writes a good hand; can give of a good moral character, and temperate; can give the best of city references. Any communications addressed to 203, this office, will be attended to.

apr4-3t*

ROBERT McKNIGHT,

ATTORNEY AT LAW—Office on south side of Fourth st, between Cherry alley and Grant st.*

apr4-d1m&w3m

REMOVAL.

CHURCH, CAROTHERS & CO. have removed to No 57 Water st, between Wood & Market, in the house formerly occupied by Hardy, Jones & Co.

apr3-3m

WALL PAPER—W. P. MARSHALL is constantly receiving, from