

From California.

Correspondence of the New York Tribune.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 20, 1849.

The accounts from the placers continue encouraging, notwithstanding the high water. The "mining season," however, has hardly set in—the most favorable time being from the middle of August to the 1st of December, when the rainy season commences.

The town of San Francisco—the emporium of the West—has sprung up almost as miraculously as that of the ancient Thebes. Two years ago, half a dozen frame and one or two adobe houses graced the hill sides.

Since the first of April last, more than three thousand houses have been erected, and if a sufficient amount of lumber could be obtained, a thousand more would be built during the next three months.

It is true rents here are enormous, and the price of most necessities greater than in New York; but nevertheless, the condition of the laboring man is much improved. As an illustration of rent, take the "Parker House," the new hotel recently erected by Robert A. Parker, esq.

The Legislative Assembly of the District have recently incorporated a company who are about erecting a magnificent wharf, where vessels may ly and discharge their cargoes.

As for the gold-washing machines sent out from New York and Boston, they are humbugs and of no value whatever.

al Post-Office for California and Oregon, arrived in the steamer Oregon, and has entered upon the duties of his office.

A splendid building recently erected by Purser R. M. Rice, U. S. N., has been rented for a Post-office, and it is to be hoped our postal arrangements will be attended to.

The Golden Emigration. The Alta California of July 2d contains the following interesting article on the recent emigration:

Never, in the history of man, has a single event so universally affected the world as the discovery of the gold mines in California. Coming, as it did, so close on the heels of the Mexican war and the revolutions of Europe—blazing, as it did, through the smoke of battle fields, and booming above the crash of falling thrones, it seems to have waked the last chord, and struck the last string which was needed to immortalize the year 1848.

This state of things cannot fail to impress upon the mind of the most casual observer, the power which gold possesses over the human mind. Parents, brothers, sisters, friends, the endearments of home, the blessings of health, society and competency, have all been abandoned for the pursuit of gold digging in California.

From the best information in our possession, we are of opinion that up to this time (30th June) there have probably arrived in this country since the 1st of January last, about 15,000 souls, as follows:

Table with columns: By sea in 110 vessels, Males, Females. Rows list various ports like Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, etc.

The number of inhabitants in the country on the first of January last, was probably not far from 15,000, exclusive of Indians. Of this number 9,000 were Californians, 5,000 Americans, and 1,000 foreigners of many nations.

By the last accounts from the Atlantic States, there were about 17,000 emigrants on route for this country by sea. Some 3,000 of this number have already reached here, and the others will probably arrive by the end of October.

Col. Allen, Special Agent of the General Post-Office for California and Oregon, arrived in the steamer Oregon, and has entered upon the duties of his office.

Americans in California at that time of thirty-five thousand.

If we add to the above figures the probable number of emigrants which will reach this country from Europe and all countries, by the last of October, we shall then find the total statement something like this:

Table showing population statistics: Americans 35,000, Californians 9,000, All other nations 16,000. Total 60,000.

POLITICAL.

Whig State Convention. The Delegates to the Whig State Convention assembled in the court house in Harrisburg on Thursday the 16th day of August, 1849, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the office of Canal Commissioner.

The Convention was called to order, and temporarily organized by appointing David Leech, of Armstrong, Chairman. After which the Senatorial and Representative districts were called over and the delegates took their seats.

Resolved, That if properly sustained by the action of Congress, the enlightened Chief Magistrate of the nation will in a brief space of time restore to the people of this country, the policy adopted by the fathers of the Republic: the dissemination of just and equal laws, protection to their honest industry, adequate wages for their labor, the improvement of Rivers and Harbors, and the promotion of their general happiness.

Resolved, That protection to the industry of the people is one of the first duties of government; that the true interests of the State and Nation are best promoted by placing the Manufacturer, Mechanic, and Laborer, side by side with the Agriculturist—that the days of greatest prosperity for the country have been those when domestic labor has been protected and unnecessary and excessive importation of foreign fabrics prevented by a proper tariff of duties, and in our opinion, such results have not followed the tariff of 1846, and can never be promoted by its continuance.

Resolved, That as Pennsylvanians we cannot tamely submit to see our iron manufactures thrown idle, our mines of coal rendered valueless, our laborers and citizens unemployed, our farmers without a market for their products, our capital destroyed, and business paralyzed, to try any further experiments on the Locofoco theories of Free Trade, when we are taught by all past experience that poverty and want must be the consequence of importing from other countries those articles which we can better manufacture within our own borders.

Resolved, That in the language of Governor Wm. F. Johnston, we view slavery as an infraction of human rights—opposed to the enlightened spirit of our free institutions—destructive of equality of power in the general government, by enlarging where it exists, the constitutional representation—possessing an influence against Northern and Western policy and interests, by promoting a system of laws destructive of domestic industry and vitally affecting free labor—retarding the natural growth of population and improvement, by the appropriation of large tracts of land for the benefit of the few, to the injury of the many—as in open defiance of the spirit of the age, the march of rational truth, and the enlightened policy of mankind—and while in good faith we would maintain the compromises of the constitution, the further extension of the system should be steadily and firmly resisted.

Resolved, That we have undiminished and abiding confidence in our patriotic, enlightened and worthy Governor, Wm. F. Johnston, and believe that with such a man at the head of our state affairs, if properly sustained by an honest and intelligent Legislature, Pennsylvania will be able to assume and sustain her exalted station at the head of the National confederacy.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due to our efficient and indefatigable State Treasurer, Hon. Gideon J. Ball, for his patriotic and successful exertions in paying the interest on our state debt in specie, thereby sustaining the credit of the Commonwealth against the unworthy combinations of the Locofoco leaders to tarnish and break it down, by prematurely drawing enormous sums of money from the public treasury to place in the hands of their office-holders and political parasites, under a pretext of paying the laborers on the public works.

Resolved, That in calling to his assistance in the administration of public affairs the honest, the sagacious, and experienced statesmen of the country, the President gives assurance that every department of the government under his control will be faithfully administered; that the interests of the whole people will be constantly fostered and protected; that public faith with all nations will be steadily regarded, and that, following the examples of the earlier Presidents, the pure republican principles of the constitution, will be deemed paramount, whatever interpretations they may have received from recent political commentators.

Resolved, That the selection of Wm. M. Meredith for the responsible office of Secretary of the Treasury, meets the hearty concurrence of the people of the State; that while Pennsylvania is honored in the choice of one of her gifted sons, she feels a proud confidence that the administration will be strengthened by the influence of his virtues, and the eminent abilities he brings to the discharge of his duties.

Resolved, That we have undiminished confidence in the Hon. James Cooper, whose past life affords the surest guaranty that he will nobly vindicate and sustain the interests of Pennsylvania in the National Legislature.

Resolved, That if properly sustained by the action of Congress, the enlightened Chief Magistrate of the nation will in a brief space of time restore to the people of this country, the policy adopted by the fathers of the Republic: the dissemination of just and equal laws, protection to their honest industry, adequate wages for their labor, the improvement of Rivers and Harbors, and the promotion of their general happiness.

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We have given them a man entirely worthy of their confidence, one who is well known to the people, and the entire unanimity of this convention is the surest criterion of the estimation in which he is held by his fellow citizens.

Resolved, That it is the true interests of the people to have gentlemen in the Board of Canal Commissioners entertaining different political principles, as thereby the fraudulent bestowal of public money on party favorites, for party purposes, will be prevented. We therefore call upon the honest tax-paying people of Pennsylvania, to give their suffrages to Henry M. Fuller, as the best means of promoting their own interests, and securing the public Treasury against fraudulent speculation.

THE DOLLAR.

Clearfield, Pa., Aug. 24, 1849.

DECLINATION. We are authorized to withdraw the name of JOHN B. KYLAR, of Morris township, as a candidate for the nomination to the office of Sheriff at the ensuing Primary election.

The principal part of the proceedings of the late Whig Convention at Harrisburg will be found in our pages this week.

The \$300 exemption law will be found on our fourth page this week. If we can get hold of it, we will next week give the supplement to the School law passed last session.

Dreadful Accident.

An accident of the most distressing nature occurred in our village on Friday afternoon last, by which a little boy, between 5 and 6 years of age, son of ISAIAH FULLERTON, was instantly killed.

Let this sad affair serve as a salutary caution to those who are in the practice of driving horses and wagons through our streets. There is entirely too great a disregard of life in this respect.

Some person has sent us a notice announcing a certain gentleman as a candidate for the Legislature, without entrusting us with his name. As such notices are inserted as advertisements, we cannot of course put them in without knowing who is responsible for them.

Work for the Enterprising.

Now that it is rendered certain that the Central Railroad will be finished at least in its Eastern division, at an early day next spring, and perhaps this fall, why do not our men of capital make some effort to form a connection with that great improvement? We have several citizens who could, single-handed and alone, do the whole job themselves, and scarcely feel the expense, and yet we see no movement being made towards such an undertaking.

And when this is done, the great work, which is destined to make this section of Pennsylvania (now the most interesting) the most wealthy and populous of her broad domain, will have just commenced. The next thing will be a connection with the Milesburg and Smithport turnpike, and thus secure the rich and rapidly increasing trade of Northern Pennsylvania and Southwestern New York.

Let those who are able, take the matter into serious consideration. It is time they were doing something for the improvement of their country.

The Magazines.

SARTAIN'S MAGAZINE, for September is already on our table, rich in all the excellencies that render this work as number one in the family of Magazines. The list of contributors for this number embrace the names of the most celebrated writers of our country—and the embellishments are beautiful indeed.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK, for September, is also before us, and more than sustains the high reputation possessed by that long established & universally admired monthly visitor. It can only be properly estimated by being regularly read—the better you get acquainted with it, the better you like it.

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We again state that we will furnish The Country Dollar and either of the above works for one year, for the sum of three dollars.

THE CENTRAL RAILROAD.—The Central Railroad is now finished to Lewistown, and a train of Cars made an experimental trip to that place on Monday last.

NO STAGE YET.—Last week the stages were to re-commence running thro' this place for certain. But like all the former promises to the same effect, it has ended in the promise. How much longer will our citizens put up with the imposition?

News from the Plains.

From the Dayton Bulletin, 6th: From a letter received this morning Monday, from near the Rocky mountains, dated June 23, we learn the following particulars. This letter though scorched and broken by the burning of the mail boat at St. Louis, was one among the saved, and states that the author Jno. M. Wentz with five others, Dr. Longenecker, Kemp and others, were travelling with eight or ten other wagons from other parts—swore within one day's travel of the mountains—that the Clegg Company were one hundred miles ahead, and the six expected to overtake them in a few days.—They found such a sufficiency of food along the road, that if they had not taken one pound of provisions from St. Joseph, they would have found an abundance along the road which had been thrown away as surplus. They had killed six buffalo, and an abundance of small game.

One of the party one day went out, along the route, and found a pile of meat about 600 pounds, from which he took 60 pounds of beautiful side meat, and a sheet iron cook stove of ten pounds weight, that lay near by, which he brought into camp, for which they threw out 60 pounds of their own meat as inferior to what they found. Whole barrels of flour lay scattered along the road. Baer's Company and others were behind, and many companies also that had pushed along hard for the plains to find grass had become worn down and now fell in the rear. They expected to spend their fourth of July at some fort in the mountains.

From a letter dated June 18, 50 miles beyond Fort Laramie, we learn that the company in which William Decker of this place is travelling for the gold regions, left Fort Kearny June 1, and in 13 days reached Fort Laramie, passing over 1,000 wagons. Major Sanderson, of the U. S. army, arrived at Fort Laramie on the 5th of June en route with the advanced detachment of the regiment ordered from Fort Leavenworth for Oregon.

The great bulk of emigration ahead of this company of five is estimated at 2,500 wagons, and were at that time within one hundred miles. There were many rumors of Indian difficulties, but nothing reliable.

He passed Capt. King, McCorkle and Wm. Smith, some ten days before; they were in good health. He says it was amusing to see an ex-candidate for Congress driving an ox team.

Captain Smith's Bear Story.

A correspondent of the Newark Daily Advertiser gives the following receipt for getting rid of one's neighbor's hogs—About the year 1830, I settled at the Lower Peach Tree, in Wilcox county, Alabama, and cultivated a few acres in corn and cotton, besides a small potato patch, and a bit of garden, as was usual in them days. My nearest neighbor, John Champion, being better off than the rest of us, had a nice gang of hogs, and feeling a little above his neighbors on account of his wealth, and being a rather overbearing man too, was not particular whether his stock broke into other peoples' fields or not. My crop was so small to feed my family and John Champion's hogs too; so I complained to him several times, but got no relief: when being at old Erasmus Culpeper's house one day, I heard him say that if a foot, or an ear, or even a piece of bear skin, was thrown down in a place where the hogs use, that they would never show their snouts there again. I went home and got the skin of a bear, which I had killed some time before, and having supplied myself with some corn, I went out and saw about twenty fine year olds, mauling away in my field. I yelled them up, an catching a good runner, sewed him up in the bear skin, and then turned him loose, when he ran after the rest, who flew from the supposed bear. The last that was seen of them was at Basset's Creek, near forty miles from my house, only two being alive—one running from his fellow, sewed up in his bear skin, an he trying to catch the other. The rest were found dead in the road, having literally run themselves to death. It is needless to add that John Champion's hogs staid at home after that.

Sad Accident.

The Kittanning Free Press, relates the following: On Monday evening last, a lad 16 or 18 years of age, a son of Mr. John Skinner, residing about half a mile north of this place, in shooting at a mark near the house, with the rifle, accidentally shot his mother, who was in an out-house at the time. Her cries brought the family to her assistance, when it was ascertained that the ball had entered her left breast inflicting what is supposed to be a mortal wound—though at the present writing (Wednesday morning) she is still alive, with but faint hopes of her recovery. Another sad warning against the careless use of fire arms.