

Mountain Sentinel.

"WE GO WHERE DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES POINT THE WAY;—WHEN THEY CEASE TO LEAD, WE CEASE TO FOLLOW."

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MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Scientific American.

The World's Fair.

LONDON, May 16th, 1851.

The London Illustrated News has some very fine half imaginary engravings of some works of art exhibited at the fair. One thing represented is a beautiful designed iron gate, which should attract the attention of our countrymen. I have seen some castings in iron here which surpass anything of the kind I ever expected to see, and this gate is one of them. It is placed within the grand entrance, and forms a subsidiary bar; the scene beyond this gate is magnificent,—but let me pass on to describe something I have not yet in any of my letters described, this is the great diamond of Lahore, "the Mountain of Light." This diamond is now the property of the crown of England; it once sparkled in the coronet, it is said, of the princes of Persia. It is displayed in a machine formed for its reception by Mr. Chubb's, the celebrated lock manufacturer, of London. This machine is impregnable. The diamond is let down into its recess at night, and raised for exhibition in the morning. Mr. Chubb's diamond case is extremely ingenious, but nobody except the maker fully understands the mechanism. It has to defend property, valued at one million sterling, which might be slipped into one's pocket without greatly increasing its bulk. This great diamond has an interesting history. It was the property of Runjeet Singh during his life. The able Sikh leader had two estimates of its value. He knew its worth in money, but he knew also that it possessed influence which money could not buy; for the Hindoos regarded it as the symbol of power and success, and it is worth "ten thousand men" to an ambitious prince. The political importance of "the Mountain of Light" induced its removal to England; but it is the greatest of the world's gems—the premier diamond that earth has yielded.

Among the statuary there is a splendid work of art by a German artist from Berlin. It is a most noble group, and it is rumored that some of our countrymen have become the purchasers. It is called the "Amazonian Group," and is an embodiment in statuary of a familiar painting. The Queen of the Amazons is mounted on a splendid charger. A lion leaping at the lady on the horse, fixed his huge claws in the horse's neck, and hangs suspended by them between the horse's fore legs. The Amazon poised her spear and is in the attitude of striking. Her expression is most admirable, and nobody can doubt that the next act of the tragedy will bury that javelin deep in the lion's neck, for the lady has a muscular arm, and will be felt when she strikes.

To the finest conception of limbs and arms and bust and figure, there is added such a face of exquisite beauty in cool, determined revenge, as I never saw.

This is allowed to be the finest group in the building, and if true that it is destined for America, it will command universal admiration. There is a group of Milton and his two daughters, a glorious composition, and then a short distance from them stands one of the noblest of the most noble of English Reformers, John Hampden.—Milton and Hampden, what names! how the heart thrills as they are mentioned. Statuary is grouped in all directions. A lion of immense bulk, said to be one of four intended to form a group at one of the gates of Munich, occupies a large space, and resembles a large mansion in size. This casting is shown chiefly for its magnitude, and in that respect is admirable, and probably unrivalled.

A colossal equestrian statue of Godfrey de Bouillon, from Brussels, follows, follows the last-mentioned group, and is remarked at once from its magnitude. "Achilles Wounded" forms a splendid production. The Grecian hero, who believed himself to be invulnerable, is represented as bending, and turning to seize the arrow which has penetrated into his heel, and seems to quiver yet in the wound. The figure in that posture was necessarily a bold and difficult undertaking for the sculptor. The face of Achilles is peculiarly handsome, although he is evidently suffering considerable pain; but the artist's powers were necessarily taxed, by the nature of the tale, to mingle pain and astonishment, disappointment and incredulity, in the same features. Achilles was dipped by his mother in Styx, to render him invulnerable, but she grasped him by one heel in the operation, and then omitted to bathe it.

But here I must stop, for the works of art would make up a respectable catalogue, by the mere enumeration of their names.

An American railroad bridge in our department attracts considerable attention. The largest plate of glass that I ever saw, or that is in the world, is here. It measures 18 feet 8 inches by 10 feet, and was cast by the Thames Plate Glass Company. It is the prince of mirrors—a noble plate, worth a journey to see, and a trophy in glass manufacture that places England in this respect far over all competitors.

The improvements which have been made in the glass manufacture here, within a few years, astonish the German visitors, who were con-

dent in their own superiority. There is a watch with a peculiar arrangement of dial which I would present for the benefit of all who believe, as I do, that it is a good one. The second hand revolves in the same centre as the hour and minute hands, giving the dial an improved appearance.

EXCELSIOR.

From the Pacific Standard.

Grand Bear and Bull Fight.

On Saturday evening a well known grizzly bear, which had been for several months the terror of the neighborhood, killing horses and cattle, was taken by a party of rancheros at the rancho of Mr. Daguerro, just over the hills northwest from San Jose. Several lassos were thrown upon him at once and he was taken alive and unhurt. He was brought into town in a sort of rude cage drawn by four oxen. He announced his own arrival by his howls of rage, producing a greater commotion in the little city than any recent distinguished arrival. Six mounted rancheros with their lassos jerked him most adroitly from the cage into the arena of Mr. Pico's amphitheatre, where he was fastened to a stout stick of timber by lashing his hind legs around it.—His howlings as he was jerked into the arena, utterly powerless in the hands of his captors and their resistless lassos,—were heard far and wide. He was considered to be the largest grizzly bear ever taken alive and unhurt, and appeared to be about four years old, and to weigh nearly 800 lbs. All night long his howls echoed through the town, as he lay fastened to his stake, pining for his moonlight haunts in his native hills. In his own savage fashion, he made moan for his freedom; and his cries, pitched in a key of pain and wrath, smote upon the ear, through the deep silence, with a sort of inarticulate eloquence that was troublesome.

This morning, at 11 o'clock, it was announced, the fight was to come off between the bear and two or three of the wild bulls of the plains.—Punctual to the hour a crowd of people filled the seats of the amphitheatre, including a goodly sprinkling of members of both houses of the legislature.

As for the details of the affair, neither time nor inclination serves me to give them. The expectations of a fierce conflict raised by the appearance of the bear and the stories told of the ferocity and power of the grizzly bear of our mountains,—were certainly not satisfied.

The moment the bull—a magnificent animal by the way, of perfect proportions, and untamable vigor and courage—was let into the arena, he dashed like a thunderbolt upon the bear and notwithstanding his resistance with his tusks and his formidable paws, gored him terrible, pinning him to the ground, and tossing him about.—Either the bear was worn out and exhausted by his confinement and constrained posture, or he was overmatched. What is certain is, that the bull gored and trampled and tossed him without mercy; leaving his huge bulk, frequently to the full extent of the ropes, by which the hind leg of the bear was attached to the fore leg of the bull. The whole thing was too one-sided to be called a contest; and it was a relief when the dying bear was hauled out of the ring, into the street, where a friendly knife put an end to his sufferings.

On examining the carcass it was found that the bull must have given him, in the onset, a severe thrust under the forearm, nearly the depth of his horn; probably disabling it. The general impression produced, besides the disgust, is that the grizzly bear is not nearly so formidable a beast as had been supposed. But it cannot be said that the bear to-day, exhausted and probably paralyzed in his formidable limbs by the confinement,—furnishes any proper criterion.

The Progress of California.

Every day gives evidence of the rapid strides with which this city, and the state of California, are advancing to that high and commanding position which they are destined to occupy. It seems but as yesterday that California was a terra incognita; San Francisco, a harbor without commerce, almost without inhabitants; and a visit here from the Atlantic States or from Europe, a thing to be pondered for months, and if decided on, equivalent to a separation from friends for long and dreary years; while the dangers attending the journey balanced the checks of the friends of those who undertook it. Previous to the occupation of the country by the Anglo-American race, this post was only occasionally visited by trading vessels to dispose of a portion of an assorted cargo from Yankeeedom, and obtained hides in return; and at that time of so slight importance was it, that it was subsidiary even to Monterey, where vessels had to enter their cargoes and obtain permission to trade here. And to dispose of the cargo of a moderately sized vessel, it was necessary to visit all the ports from San Francisco to San Diego, remain weeks at each, and sometimes one or two years on the coast, before the cargo could be sold, and replaced with a cargo of hides.

But now how changed! Three years have now elapsed, and at this port the arrivals of vessels with cargoes are counted by hundreds monthly,—as many as 108 vessels arrived here

from the 1st to the 12th April.—Streams where two years ago a steam vessel had never been seen, are now navigated by one, two, three, four, (and frequently more,) each way daily. On the coast between Panama and the Columbia river, where two years ago a steamer had never been engaged, ocean steamers can now be counted by dozens. The goods and passenger traffic on the coast between San Francisco and San Diego, now furnishes employment for two ocean steamers, making each semi-monthly trips; and from this port to the Columbia for two more. The mail, which, when the contract was made to convey it across the Isthmus of Panama, it was supposed would not exceed a hundred pounds monthly, now amounts to upwards of one hundred bags twice a month, weighing from five to ten thousand pounds. Where a monthly communication three years ago was considered an extravagant undertaking for the Government of the United States, a semi-monthly communication now exists, and very shortly that will be merged into a weekly one. A railway across the Isthmus of Panama is rapidly progressing; a second route across the Isthmus is being surveyed; a regular communication will shortly be established with the old states via the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; another is contemplated via Nicaragua; and arrangements have been made by which those who prefer it can cross from Acapulco to Vera Cruz via the city of Mexico. A contract has been made for a magnetic telegraph over the last mentioned route; and will speedily be built across the continent to this city.

But space fails us to enumerate the wonders which have been accomplished in less than three years by Anglo-American enterprise in this land of hitherto fabulous achievement. We have mentioned sufficient with what we see passing every day, to convince the most sceptical that our progress is still onward, until we reach the proud eminence we are destined to occupy.—Pacific Standard.

Another Big Lump.

A few days since Frederick Taylor, a Prussian by birth, but an emigrant here from New York, had the good luck to meet with a lump of pure gold weighing forty-two and a half ounces. It was dug from the arroyo directly behind our office,—the same place where the 22lb lump was found more than a year ago. The fine gold washed out by himself and partner the same day amounted to three and a half ounces. We hope their claim will continue to yield an abundance of the precious metal, and they will soon be as rich as they are industrious.—Senora Herald.

Indian Battle.

We learn from the Transcript that the Indians, about 125 miles above that city, on the Sacramento river, stole a quantity of stock from Messrs. Toomes & Dye, on Leonard's Ranch, and retreated with the stock about 35 miles from the river into the Coast Range. These gentlemen collected 25 men, and pursued and overtook them in the mountains at a large rancho, consisting of about 600 Indians. They attacked them, but the Indians were prepared and fought desperately. The Indians used arrows only, and the whites had much the advantage with the rifle. Although twenty-five in number only, the whites killed forty Indians, while none of their party were shot. The Indians however, still maintained their position. The men who lost the stock, after their party had killed 40 Indians, insisted on returning. The Transcript does not say whether they recovered the stock or not.—It seems, if they did not get the stock that the Indians were not whipped.

Origin of Tammany Hall.

The New York Herald gives the following history of Tammany Hall: A few years prior to the revolution there existed many British clubs or societies, such as the St. George's, St. David's, St. Andrew's, &c., not only in this city, but St. George societies were opened in all the maritime towns and cities of the colonies. The members of these societies were all liege subjects of King George. In 1773, when disaffection to the mother country (as Great Britain was then called) began to spread through her North American colonies, those opposed to the relations that existed, found it necessary to form some rallying point, in order to ascertain or combine their own strength. This was the origin of the St. Tammany Society, or Columbian Order, and its operations were secret, and directed against toryism, until after the revolution. It then directed its power against federalism, and that party that inherited, to a certain extent, the men and principles of the '76 Tories.

It has more of the power and characteristic of a national institution than of a local one, and in times of trial has wielded a terrible power throughout the federal Union. There are members of the order from every State, and have been from its commencement. Its sachems are thirteen, computing with the thirteen original States that formed the Union. Its banners are thirteen, each having the name and coat of arms of these old thirteen States emblazoned upon it. On its books are enrolled some of the

most prominent dead and living statesmen of the democratic party, such as De Witt Clinton, Aaron Burr, Daniel D. Tompkins, Andrew Jackson, R. M. Johnston, Martin Van Buren, Dixon H. Lewis, and a host of the planets, stars, and small lights of the great republican party, comprising about 4,000 names. There are perhaps 600 now living. Of these, about 150 generally meet at the annual election. This year 183 voted.

The Tammany Society own the building known as Tammany Hall, which is worth \$100,000. The sachems vote all the appropriations and collect the revenue. No man can be a sachem or other officer without being a member. The grand sachem is elected by the sachems from their own ranks. The sachems hold great power. If they are united they can unite the sections of the democracy, and prevent any party from meeting in the hall, but such as they endorse and consider the regular democracy. Although the general committee, elected by the eighteen wards, appear to be the power that regulates the democracy, yet it is not so. "There is a power behind the throne greater than the throne itself," and that power is the sachems of Old Tammany.

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN.—David V. Bright, the father of Hon. Jesse D. Bright, died suddenly, yesterday morning, of an affection of the heart.—Mr. Bright was in the 77th year of his age. He was born in Rockingham county New York, where he filled several offices of honor and responsibility.—From New York he came to Indiana about 1820, since which time he resided in Madison and vicinity. He lived to see his sons reaching the highest positions, not only in his adopted State, but in the Union; and full of years, and universally respected for his many virtues, he descended to the grave.—Madison (Ind.) Courier, May 26.

The Salt Lake.

Lieut. Gunnison, of the Topographical Engineers, who has been employed for a long time past in the survey of the Great Basin in which the Salt Lake is situated, speaks of the lake as an object of great curiosity. The water is about one-third salt, yielding that amount on boiling. Its density is considerably greater than that of the Dead Sea. One can hardly get his whole body below the surface. In a sitting position the head and shoulders will remain above water, such is the strength of the brine, and on coming to the shore the body is covered over with an incrustation of salt, in fine crystals. The most surprising thing about it is the fact that during the summer season the lake throws on shore abundance of salt, while in the winter season it throws up glaucous salt in great quantities.

Spain has sent to the Crystal Palace a most superb collection of deadly weapons.—Among others, are a pair of rapiers, of Toledo manufacture. One of them, as to handle and sheath, is fashioned into the shape of a silver serpent. When sheathed it forms a complete circle; but when drawn, the exquisite temper of the steel causes it to straighten at once.—Some pairs of pistols in wrought iron, damascened over gold ground, are worked into magnificent designs, and are equal to the art of Cellini. Splendid specimens of Spanish embroidery are shown; on seeing which, it is said that ladies who work in Berlin wool and crochet may throw away their needles and hooks in despair.

Mesmerism.

ALL news on this subject is part of the intelligence of the progress of the time, and our readers will be interested in the following:—

"We learn from the London papers received by the Africa, that there is an infirmary in the metropolis, where diseases are treated wholly by mesmerism processes. In the London Sun, of the 8th ultimo, is a long account of the celebration of the first anniversary of the institution. The Earl of Duve, the regular President, being absent, the Rev. George Sandby took the chair. The Archbishop of Dublin and the Earl of Stanhope were vice-presidents. Dr. Elliottson read the annual report, which, after giving an account of the establishment of the hospital, says, that ninety-four patients have been treated, the greater part successfully. Some of these were desperate cases, incurable by every other means. Thus:—

"On the 9th of last April, a man applied, with an almost total inability to open his mouth, and an inability of swallowing anything but fluids, and he swallowed these with extreme difficulty, so that he feared being starved. He had received public and private medical attendance for several weeks, and been informed that his complaint was palsy of the mouth and throat; and so indeed it was, but from cold, not from internal disease. One local mesmerization, by Mr. Capern, enabled him, in ten minutes, to swallow his saliva, and on returning home he ate a rasher of bacon; and, by repetition of the treatment, he has been enabled to eat all solids at his meals, and to return to his work.

"A very remarkable case is that of a dumb boy, fourteen years of age, who had been palsied from his birth, and totally unable to walk. He had been in many hospitals, and under

many private medical gentlemen; and been refused admission into St. Bartholomew's Hospital, from the conviction of the medical officer that his case was hopeless. He was first mesmerized on the 21st of February, and an improvement was discernible after the mesmerization. "After the 6th, he could positively walk across the room without assistance; and on March 27th, he walked from the infirmary into Tottenham-court-road."

"The speakers on the occasion were the Honourable Captain Scarlett, Mr. Janson, and Surgeon Barker of Exeter; the latter of whom stated that twelve hundred cases had been successfully treated in that city."

AN ACT RELATING TO ACTIONS FOR PERSONAL INJURIES.—Heretofore actions for personal injuries abated on the death of the persons injured, and the representatives of an individual whose death was occasioned by unlawful violence or negligence, has no remedy. The following act, passed at the last session of the Legislature, remedied this defect. It is important to Railway Companies and others, who have the lives of citizens in their keeping.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, etc., That no action now pending, or hereafter brought, to recover damages for injuries to persons by negligence or default, shall abate by reason of the death of the plaintiff; but the personal representative of the deceased may be substituted as plaintiff, and prosecute the suit to final judgment and satisfaction.

SEC. 2. Whenever death shall be occasioned by unlawful violence or negligence, and no suit for damages be brought by the party injured during his or her life, the widow of such deceased, or if there be no widow, the personal representatives may maintain an action and recover damages for the death thus occasioned.

SEC. 3. So much of any law as is hereby altered or supplied, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

A Magnificent Gold Story.

The New York Tribune gives the following extract of a private letter from San Francisco. It embodies one of the most marvellous and magnificent gold stories that has yet reached us:—

"In the fire proof store of Gregory's Express Office, in San Francisco, lives a gentleman named Hastings, who is largely interested in the quartz mines. In one of his claims on Carson's Creek, ten miles above Stockton, his partners (for there are seven of them) have been working for the last two or three months with indifferent success. They leased out the claim to some dozen Mexicans, agreeing to divide the profits. Early in April they commenced drilling on the opposite side of the mountain, where there was not the least outward sign of gold. After boring to the depth of seven feet they blew out at one blast \$350,000 worth of gold. This occurred on the 12th. On the 14th one of the partners arrived by express with the news. On the 22d two of the partners arrived with two boxes of the quartz. Gregory's Express Office was crowded for two or three hours with the wealthy merchants and brokers of the city, who flocked to see the show.

"The boxes were afterwards taken to Moffatt's Government Assay Office. On the 25th the result was given, which the writer copied from Moffatt's account, viz.: 103 lbs. of quartz rock produced 36 one-pound bars of pure gold, valued at \$17 75 per ounce. Each ounce of rock yielded \$8 50 of gold. Total value, \$8,182 15.—Cost of coining, \$225.

Several merchants have tried to purchase shares, but they have been told that \$100,000 would not buy one. The lead is represented to be 7 or 8 feet from the surface, and about 6 or 7 inches wide. The depth and length not yet ascertained. Over two tons of this valuable rock is said to be in sight, and the estimated value, according to present appearances, is \$5,000,000. \$2,000,000, it is said can be got out in a month.

Perjury.

The existence of such an offence as this, and the frequency of its occurrences, we should think, would shake the faith that prevails in the efficacy of an oath. It is true, administration of the oath is a very business like affair, and not at all calculated to inspire the most imaginative with the solemnity of its obligation; the rapid and mechanical utterance of the satiated official, and the contact of a cover of a book with your lips do not seem a very impressive manner of binding you to speak "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."—The administration of an oath is a gross violation of conscience to that large and growing class, who, through the exercise of their thinking powers, entertain doubts of many matters pertaining to religion. These individuals must either turn hypocrites and take the oath, or, refusing to do so, be prepared to be committed to prison, and prejudice the ends of justice by the absence of their evidence. The substitution of the affirmation for the oath is loudly called for, both for the interest of truth-telling generally, and to prevent the barbarous anomalies of the present system necessitates.

English and American Rivers Compared.

In the memoranda of Dr. Breckenbridge's travels in Europe, some ten years ago, the following anecdote occurs:—

A gentleman-like and well informed Englishman, who was in the stage coach with me, and who found out I was an American, after dilating on the greatness, the beauties, the majesty, in short, of this noblest of British rivers (the Thames), concluded thus:

"Sir, it may seem almost incredible, but it is nevertheless true, that this prodigious stream is, from its mouth to its source, not much, if at all, short of one hundred and fifty miles long!"

I looked steadfastly in his face to see if he jested; but the gravity of his conviction was upon it. Indeed, John Bull never jests. After composing myself a moment, I slowly responded,

"Perhaps, sir, you have never heard of the Ohio river?"

"I think I have."

"Perhaps of the Missouri?"

"I think so, though not sure."

"Certainly of the Mississippi?"

"Oh yes, yes."

"Well sir, a man will descend the Ohio, in a steamboat of the largest class, a thousand miles."

"Of what, sir, how many sir?"

"A thousand miles; and there he will meet another steamboat of the same class, which has come in an opposite direction twelve hundred miles down the Missouri, and then after going fifteen hundred miles more down the Mississippi, he may see that flood of waters disembrace by fifty channels into the sea."

I had made up my mind to be considered a cheat; so I went calmly and emphatically through the statement! As I progressed, my companion seemed somewhat disposed to take my story as a personal affront; but at its close, he let down his visage a contemptuous pout, and regularly cut my acquaintance.

From Texas.

By the Southern Mail to-day, we have Galveston papers to the 20th, Brownsville to the 12th, and Houston to the 17th ult.

A letter in the Galveston News says that a small force of the Rangers, under the command of Lieut. Brady, on the 29th of April, attacked a large body of Comanches on the Dona, about 98 miles from San Antonio. Seven of the Indians were killed and four wounded. The Rangers had one killed and two wounded. A number of horses and mules were taken from the Indians.

The Houston Telegraph learns that a party of Tongaway Indians had lately murdered a family in Denton county, and that they had afterwards been captured by a party of United States Dragoons from Fort Gates.

At the requisition of Gov. Bell, Gen. Harney has ordered out a force of 200 dragoons, under the command of Lieut. Col. Haride, to awe the Northern Comanches into submission to the demands of the Indian agents, for the release of all prisoners in their possession, as well as the delivery of those Indians who committed violations of the treaty. Judge Rollins and Major Stein, the Indian Commissioners were to accompany the expedition.

The Washington Lone Star records the death of Col. Barry Gillespie, one of the leading lawyers of Texas, on the 10th inst.

The City Council of Galveston have passed an ordinance levying a tax of 50 cents on every white passenger that lands in the city from steamships.

The Victoria of May 10th says, steamer Wm. Penn had just arrived at Victoria, with a freight of goods for the Santh deposits that a train of twenty-five animals; twelve took their last rate of 4 1/2 per cent per lb. on the cities, for sale in sums to suit purchasers, and collections made upon any at low rates.

August 8, 1850.—44—

KEGS OF NAILS on hand, and for sale by J. IVORY, Belmont Sept. 6, 1850.

as a man who lot of Stone and you might put received and for sale pocket of this huge Pa. J. Moore. feet high, and four or five. centre of each wall rises a lo. of all kinds ing the first square, you come Moore's. a wall as high, and with four mor. Within that square is another, and white again another—and you find seven squares, within another, crowded by thousands of Bra. mins. The great hall for pilgrims is supported by a thousand pillars, each cut out of a single block of stone.

The Westchester Village Record says that a young man was stung by a locust, one day last week. He was climbing over a fence, and placed his hand unintentionally on a young locust, and the sting entered his hand between the thumb and fore-finger. Very soon the arm became much swollen up to the shoulder, and was attended with considerable pain. The locust was quite young. It has been doubted by many that the locust had a sting. The female, however, is armed with a weapon of this description, of a spiral or auger form. Some deaths have been ascribed to wounds inflicted by it.