



WM. BREWSTER, Editor and Proprietor.

Wednesday Morning, December 23, 1857.

THE COMING HOLIDAYS.

We are happy to see that whatever the times may be, or whatever may be thought about them, there is still a joyous anticipation of the holidays, and pleasant proofs in many directions, that whatever clouds there may have been, the world is pretty well determined that, for a season at least, there shall be gleams of home-light.

Of all touching incidents not involving real grief, there is hardly one so touching as that of the giver who would gladly be generous, timidly preparing with many misgivings the little offerings, wherewith so many hopes are bound up—a problem of hope.

There are substantial reasons why the coming holidays should be kept with particular festivity and with more than wonted rejoicing. The whole community has passed through tight times and is on the mending hand. Perhaps nothing would go further towards promoting its convalescence than the prospect of a down-right good holiday, or help more towards getting people's spirits up for renewed exertion.

A liberal scattering around of small change among the dealers would do far more than most persons would imagine towards stirring up business, promoting a better feeling and providing employment for those who most need it.

There is a great deal of common sense in promoting seasons of joyous festivity and hearty mirth, and in seeking to do our best towards bringing lightness of heart into a life nine tenths of all whose social characteristics are tinged with grim seriousness, if not with almost invincible melancholy. It is the failing of the Anglo-Saxon of the present day that he has no appreciation of joyousness. He looks upon it occasionally with a misgiving smile as the trifle of the moment, and tolerates pleasure and the beautiful as if anything which he dreads may ruin him if more than casually glanced at. Let those who have been gifted in understanding this matter, do their best towards making the world feel that the New Year's tide is not a period of frivolous non-sense, meant merely for the delectation of children, but a time which ought, if possible, to be cultivated into social communion rent from labor and all manner of consoling and inspiring pleasures.

But there is a ground of Christian charity for helping holidays along, which is by far too little regarded. The grim Pharisees may not care themselves for joyousness, but do they care nothing for the happiness of the poor and the young? A poet has finely sung that once

'A Christmas banquet of old cheer
A poor man's hearth for half the year.'

And the idea is a very fine one. To see the holidays pass by without a trace of the usual festivities, is dreary indeed, since nothing brings home to them so keenly, by the fact that they are indeed suffering. In good natured, kind-hearted old Germany, there are associations for the sole object of providing the children of very poor parents with holiday gifts. There is a degree of humanity in such charity which we could wish to see generally imitated.

The Philadelphia North American and United States Gazette, made its appearance a few days ago in an entirely new dress.

The North American is one of the best dailies published in Philadelphia, and is deserving of extensive patronage. Long may it prosper.

A HINT TO ADVERTISERS.—The leading partner in a publishing house, who was rapidly pushing his advertisements during the dull season, being interrogated by the editor in regard to the policy, replied. The very time of all others to crowd, sir; gives us the field where few advertiser occupy it, and we care not how hard the times are; it pays us well at all times, because we know how far to go, but especially it pays us in times like the present when the most of business men in our line have taken their books out of the water, thinking no bites to be had; we are satisfied that nothing has kept us a constant run of trade for the last ninety days but pushing our notices through this dull season.

The undersigned has withdrawn from all connection with the Huntingdon Journal. To friends, and foes—if such there be—bids an affectionate farewell.

'To all and each, a fair good night,
And rosy dreams, and slumbers bright.'
The circumstances which induced us to withdraw from the establishment, are of no interest to the reader.

SAM. G. WHITTAKER.

HARD TIMES AT PITTSBURG.—There are sixty steamboats, worth at least a million of dollars. There are four thousands hands from the manufacturing establishments out of employment.

DOUGLAS DENOUNCED BY THE SOUTH.

Senator Douglas has been fairly bathed from the Administration party. An elaborate leader in the Washington Union and in the Richmond South, have done the business. He is hereafter to be classed among apostates, "to stay out in the cold" with Black Republicans, and stoners that is, unless the President and his friends are mistaken as to their strength, about which point there is still some reason to doubt.

We subjoin the following passages from the editorial of the South, on the defection of Douglas. They are peculiarly rich:

"By all the mysterious rites appropriate to the celebration of so signal an apostasy, Stephen A. Douglas renounces the faith of the Democracy, and is received into the communion of the Black Republicans.

"We cannot affect indifference at the treachery of Senator Douglas. He was a politician of considerable promise. Association with Southern gentlemen has smoothed down the rugged ruggedities of his early education, and he had come to be quite a decent and well behaved person. (We call that good—very good.) In the beginning of his career he was identified with some of the obnoxious measures of the anti-slavery party, but the same salutary influence to which he owes the improvement in his manner wrought a wholesome change in his political opinions.

"Judge Douglas was rapidly growing in the confidence of the Southern Democracy, and after a little more trial he might have been thought worthy of his high ambition. But his impatient desire would endure no further postponement of gratification. He has taken the fatal step; he has passed the Rubicon, and must now be regarded as an enemy to the South and the Democratic Party.

OREGON AS A STATE.

A late California paper says that the total result of the Oregon election will vary much from these figures—majority against slavery, 2500; majority for the Constitution, from 2500 to 3000; for excluding free negroes, nine-tenths of the whole vote. This is based upon a verbal statement of a passenger just from Oregon, who said that the lower portion of the territory which was not heard from was believed to be strongly pro-slavery. Another account informs us that returns received from seven counties give the following majorities—against slavery, 6112; for the Constitution, 443. A report not included in the above puts down Marion county as giving 800 majority for the constitution, and about the same against slavery. We find in a late number of the Sacramento Union the following paragraph:

"McCormick's Oregon and Washington Almanac states that the aggregate value of the taxable property in Oregon as assessed for the year 1857, is \$17,046,716. Total population, 43,207. Number of voters, 11,665. Males, 25,594. Females, 16,993. Acres of improved land, 150,000. Unimproved, 300,000. Farms valued at, 2,500,000.

Now if there be only 11,668 votes in the territory, as it is not probable they have all voted, the 6112 majority against Slavery is decisive. But are the statistics quoted by the Union, those of the present year, or only the latest at hand? If Oregon has now only 43,207 inhabitants, the question might be seriously raised whether it ought to be admitted with so limited a population. We are inclined to think the aggregate given is from the census taken two years since, and not the result of a recent enumeration. Florida comes nearest to the case of Oregon. That State had only 45,135 whites and free colored inhabitants in the year 1850. The colored portion numbered 932, leaving the whites 47,203. Florida was admitted as a State in the year 1845. In 1840 it had but 27,942 whites. In view of these figures it is quite clear that Florida had not near as many white inhabitants as the total above quoted for Oregon when she was admitted into the Union as a State.

DREADFUL MURDER IN LANCASTER COUNTY.

We learn from the Lancaster papers that on Tuesday last two women residing near Neffsville, Lancaster county, were murdered in broad day light. The persons killed were Mrs. Garber, wife of Conrad Garber, supervisor and tax collector of Manheim township, and Mrs. Ream, an elderly lady and relative of the Garbers. It appears that the women were at the time, alone in the house, which is situated on a by road—the husband having been absent on some business. Mrs. Garber was 55 years of age last October, and Mrs. Ream was aged about 60. Mr. Garber, who is Supervisor of Manheim township, left his home between 6 and 7 o'clock in the morning, to supervise the repair of a road about two miles distant. Mrs. Garber was alone in the house in the early part of the day, but was joined by Mrs. Ream, who lives with her son on the hill, about one hundred and fifty yards from Garber's. The families are connected by marriage. A daughter of Mrs. Garber is married to a son of Mrs. Ream. At one o'clock young Mrs. Ream started down the hill for the purpose of keeping the old people company, and on entering the house was horrified to find her mother and another-in-law stretched cold and lifeless upon the floor, and watching in their own blood—she had presence of mind enough to immediately give the alarm, arm within half an hour the neighbors came in from every direction.

Two men, one a negro, and the other a white, were seen to enter the house about fifteen minutes before eleven o'clock, and no other person was seen near or around the house until about one o'clock, when Mrs. Garber's daughter made the discovery. Pursuit being made by the police, the negroes, named William Richards, and Alexander Anderson, were arrested. They are residents of Lancaster, and have long been known as thieves—spending the greater portion of their time in the county prison. When searched upwards of \$90 in gold and silver was found upon their persons, which amount corresponds with that which Mr. Garber says was in the possession of his wife. They were also seen in and around the premises by Messrs. Geist, Kauffman, Buckwater and other neighbors of Mr. Garber. There is no doubt that the object of the murderers was to get possession of the money said to be in the house.

There was also considerable blood upon their clothing. The evidence against them is of such a character as to leave no doubt of their guilt. The feeling against the murderers was so great while they were undergoing examination, that fears were entertained the excited crowd would inflict summary vengeance upon them. A few moments, however, served to calm the excitement and the officers were allowed to convey them to prison without lot or hindrance.

TESTIMONY OF RESPECT.

A few months ago the name of WILLIAM GRAPES appeared in the list of those who had taken passage, at Aspenwall, for New York, in the ill-fated steamer Central America. We his brethren of Loring Lodge No. 286 of the I. O. O. F., his relatives, the many hearts in this community that held him in fine remembrance could not realize that he who had gone from our midst full of life and vigor with a bright future before him, endowed in a high degree with the rare qualities of head and heart which made him useful and beloved, that he had died and gone down into the depths of the sea. We hoped and continued to hope that he might be saved; we have continued to hope until time has worn away, without any such glad tidings coming to us,—and hope has died, and given place to the sad conviction that our friend and brother must be numbered among the victims of that greatest disaster—the hand of that God who doeth all things well has denied us the mournful privilege of following his body to the grave, and depositing there the last token of that evergreen memory in which he ever shall behold. We can only mingle our sorrowing voices with the roar of the wave that sweeps o'er him, and perform our last duty in expressing the feeling which his death has occasioned in our midst—Therefore to that end be it

MORE ABOUT THE MORMONS AND THEIR SACRIFICES.

Correspondence of The Alta Californian. LOS ANGELES, Nov. 9, 1857. All other subjects with us become unimportant when compared with the politician which the Mormons and their Indian allies in Utah have assumed. Our latest dates from Salt Lake are to the 5th of October. The Desert News contains the sermons of Brigham Young, Herber C. Kimball, Bishop Taylor, and others. And as it is by means of published sermons of prophetic declarations "in the name of the Lord" that the Mormons leaders instruct the world as to their intentions, it cannot be denied that "a state of war" already exists; that martial law prevails throughout Utah, and that it is unsafe for any person not a Mormon to travel through that Territory. These sermons are filled with hatred of all that is American, and express a determination to resist any and all attempts of the Government to exercise any jurisdiction over the Territory. So great is their trust in Joseph, and so ferocious their fanaticism, that according to their sermons, they will raze their towns and villages burn the grass, and destroy everything that can afford sustenance or shelter to man or beast, flee to the mountains and make predatory war with the Indians upon all the world, sooner than to be governed by any rules save those of their own choice. According to Brigham Young, he has been engaged ten years preparing for a war. On his arrival in Utah, in 1846, he promised his followers that in ten years they should defy the United States in arms. The years are accomplished, and he is now prepared to fight. There is a vein of furious denunciation of American running through the sermons that shills the blood, and taken in connection with the recent massacres and outrages, clearly established not only his complicity in them, but his determination to destroy all that comes in his power. The war now raging—civil war—a war of religious fanaticism—which can only be finished by the extermination of Mormonism from the country.

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. William Gratus this Lodge has lost a worthy and honorable member and beloved brother, one whose life was a constant illustration of the virtues of Friendship, Love, and Truth. Society has lost an active and useful citizen, his profession has lost one whose talents and energies would ere long have placed him in its highest rank, and his family and friends have lost a "thor" in a less which words cannot with and which their hearts alone can feel.

Resolved, That to his aged and bereaved parents, and relatives we tender our earnest sympathies, and if there were sorrows that could be lessened in being born by the many, we can assure them, that our hearts, but the hearts of the whole community have mourned with them over this sad mysterious Providence.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings signed by the Officers, be furnished to the relatives of our deceased brother, and be published in the county papers.

E. J. JONES, N. G.
D. S. HAYMOND, V. G.
G. W. HAWITT, Sec.

FROM KANSAS.

St. Louis, Monday, Dec. 14, 1857. The Special Session of the Kansas Legislature organized on the 8th inst, by electing C. W. Babcock President of the Council, and G. W. Deitzler Speaker of the House.

Secretary Stanton in his Message says that "in consequence of recent events having produced a profound agitation of the public mind, and a sense of wrongs and injustice, whether well or ill founded, and an apprehension of greater evil arising therefrom have aroused the people of the Territory to their consideration, and to dangerous excitement; I find myself compelled by a sense of duty to call you together, that you may adopt prompt legislative measures to arrest the calamities which threaten the public peace."

After reviewing the formation and action of the Constitutional Convention, Mr. Stanton recommends the passage of an act directing the election to be held under different officers on the same day and at the same places, as are provided for in the proclamation of the President of the Convention, authorizing the people to vote for a Constitution in either of the forms presented by the Convention. The Governor also recommends the passage of a law making a fraudulent return of votes a felony, with suitable punishment.

Kansas letters to the Republican state that intense excitement prevails among all classes of people in the Territory, and the probabilities are that the party opposed to the Leocompton Convention will not permit the election of the 21st.

Gen. Lane, and 300 or 400 men, were encamped near Leocompton; and threats had been made of driving Gen. Calhoun and the members of the Convention out of the Territory, but no outbreak had yet been attempted.

IMPORTANT FROM KANSAS.

Hereafter the Mail train of cars going West will leave this place, as follows: Mail train going West at 9 minutes after 6 o'clock P. M. Fast train 35 minutes after 9 o'clock P. M. Express train 11 minutes after 7 o'clock A. M.

GOING EAST.—Express train at 7 minutes after 4 o'clock A. M. Fast train at twenty minutes after 3 o'clock P. M. Mail train at twenty seven minutes after 9 o'clock A. M.

Mr. John Martin, of London, is being put in possession of the "Jennens property," which for so long a period has been without a recognized heir. The sum in cash he inherits amounts to the inconvenient sum of \$80,000,000, while his income will be \$1,250,000 per annum. The inheritor has been wretchedly poor all his preceding life.

The Locomotive Legislature of Missouri refused to charter a University for the Methodist Church, North; whereupon a Mass Meeting at Jefferson City, the Capital, endorsed the project, and Col. Gardenhire made a capital point blank Anti-Slavery speech. Missouri is fast becoming Free Soil.

THE MORMON CAPITAL.—Great Salt Lake City is laid out on a magnificent scale. It is four miles in length, by three in breadth, the streets running at right angles, and one hundred and thirty feet in width, with side-walks twenty feet in width. Each building lot contains an acre and a quarter of land; and a stream of water running through the city is made, by an ingenious plan, to flow on each side of every street, and irrigate every lot.

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COMMUNICATED.

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News Items.

WALKER, THE FILLIBUSTER.—Walker, the Fillibuster, who it will be recollected, took his departure from Mobile Bay on the 13th ult., in the steamship Fashion, landed at Punta Arena in Nicaragua, on the 25th of November, with 150 men. The United States sloop-of-war Saratoga, was lying in the harbor, and the Fashion passed under her stern at full speed, with only ten men on deck, and before any suspicion was entertained as to the character of the Fashion, or the company she had on board, landed her men at the Transit Company's wharf at Punta Arena, opposite Greytown. After accomplishing this feat, the Fashion, it would seem, was suffered to steam out of the harbor with a little interruption from the Saratoga as she had gone to Aspinwall to take in coal. Such is the account of the affair given by those on board the Fashion. It is further stated that Commodore Paulling, lying at Aspinwall in the frigate Washburn, overhauled the Fashion, but finding her papers regular, omitted to seize her. The British and American naval forces had sailed from Aspinwall for San Juan, and would very probably take part in the scenes in that vicinity, or at least prevent the landing of any more Fillibusters. It was supposed that the difficulties between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, alluded to in previous accounts, would be settled without a resort to hostile measures. Walker, from present appearances, is likely to be again in a tight place. But all his movements so far have been rash and reckless, trusting apparently to lucky chance to befriended him, and neglecting to provide beforehand the means necessary to accomplish the object of his ambition.

ARRIVAL OF LAMAS.

The brig E. Drummond arrived at New York on the 10th inst, with forty-two lamas. Seventy-one were originally shipped on board the Drummond, but owing to the heavy weather on the passage, twenty-nine died. The brig put into Key West on the 4th inst, where the animals were much recruited. They are now in good condition. They were purchased by a French gentleman, sent out by a New York company to South America last spring, and are a choice lot. The importation is a speculation, the design being, no doubt, to introduce them among the elevated portions of New England, where sheep and alpacas flourish. The animal is extremely hardy and is said to breed rapidly. They will be valuable only for their fine wool. The lama differs from the camel in being destitute of humps on the back. The legs are shorter than in the camel. The neck is long and more vertical. The ears and hoofs are long. The toes are separated and not united, as in the camel, by a callous sole. The actual species of this genus being to this continent exclusively, where they represent the camels of the East. They are confined to the mountainous regions of South America.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—The Star of the West, arrived at New York, brings the California mails of November 29, and \$2,280,000 in gold. The news from California present no features of startling interest. The principal items relate to the business affairs of San Francisco, and the damage caused by heavy rains on the interior. The financial difficulties which were experienced on this side of the continent did not seem to take as deep root on the Pacific coast, as was anticipated, and as early as the sailing of the last steamer we have indications that the shock was passing off without materially affecting the ordinary channels of trade. The treasure brought by the Star of the West is the largest shipment during the present year by nearly \$400,000. The frequency of accidents to ocean steamers occupied public attention, and the Oregon, running between San Francisco and Portland, was examined and condemned by the Port Wardens. The banking house of Messrs. Sutley & Church have settled up their business satisfactorily, paying dollar for dollar, Heavy rains throughout California have drawn great impediments in the way of river mining.

RESUMPTION OF SPECIE PAYMENTS.—The Banks of New York City, Albany, New York, Boston, Massachusetts, Hartford, Connecticut, Honesdale, Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia, New Jersey, have resumed specie payments. The New York country banks as well as some of the New England banks are following the example. The banks of New Orleans have been paying specie for some time. Those of Mobile did not suspend. The Banks of Philadelphia and Baltimore are not yet in a condition to resume, but it is said that the Banks of Philadelphia will probably anticipate the time fixed by the suspension law, the second Tuesday of April, and resume also.

SORGHUM MOLASSES.—Mr. Jacob Clarke, of Clermont county, Ohio, has manufactured 2,830 gallons of molasses from twelve acres of the Sorghum, equal to 236 gallons per acre.—He has had ten of the 71 barrels refined by a sugar refiner in Cincinnati, and it meets with a ready sale at 60 cents per gallon. The quality is pronounced excellent—as good or better than the very best New Orleans. At 60 cents per gallon, the product of twelve acres of land for one season will be \$1700.

DIVISION OF TEXAS.—A subdivision of Texas into two or more States is warmly advocated by some of the leading public journals. No State in the Union has increased in population and wealth more rapidly within the last few years, than Texas. Her estimated population at this time amounts to more than half a million, and when the next census is taken, it will be found sufficient to entitle the State to six or seven representatives in Congress. Several reasons are given for a division.

THE FUR TRADE.—Furs to the amount of \$180,000 have been exported from Minnesota the past year, being an increase of \$3000 over that of 1856. The fur trade is an item of considerable importance to that territory, and is continually increasing.

OREGON.—At the election held in Oregon on the 9th ult, the State Constitution was adopted but the slavery clause was rejected. Free negroes are to be prohibited from emigrating to the State of Oregon.

Pencil Notes.

A chief's answer to a visitor's notes. And faith, he'll print it. Be at peace with all mankind, but at war with their vices. The Man who was filled with emotion "hadn't room for his dinner."

It is a mistake to suppose every man you see with a brick in his hat to be a Mason.

Hope—a sentiment exhibited in the ways of a hungry dog's tail, when waiting for a bone.

Dr. Franklin says: "If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it from him."

Three things to be despised—a brawler in a workshop, a fool in fine clothes, and a slanderer.

Long words, like long dresses frequently hide something wrong about the understanding.

Knowledge is proud that it knows so much, wisdom is humble that it knows no more.

Hay is selling in Portsmouth, N. H., loose for \$8 and \$10; pressed, for \$10 and \$12 per ton.

Honesty is a term formerly used in case of a man who paid for his newspaper and the cost on his back.

Unpleasant—a fast-rate appetite, and nothing to eat. Quite as agreeable—plenty to eat and no appetite.

What animal has the greatest quantity of brains? The hog, of course, for he has a "hog'shead full."

Is that a lightning bug? asked a short sighted lady. "No," said the Miss, "it's a big bug with a lighted cigar."

A schoolmaster down east has been fined ten dollars for whipping the girls in his school. A high prize for flogging lasses.

Somebody says a wife should be like roasted lamb—tender, and nicely dressed.—Somebody else adds, "and without spice."

Some one says of a certain congregation, that they pray on their knees on Sundays, and on their neighbors the rest of the week.

"What are you writing such a large hand for, Pat?" "Whir, you see that my grand-mother is deaf, and I'm writing a loud letter to her!"

The happiest man in the world is the one with just wealth enough to keep him in spirits, and just enough children to make him industrious.

Robert McFae, a Scotchman, was killed on Saturday last, by the explosion of a blast at Hutchison & Co's coal mine, on the mountain west of Altona.

A man came into a printing office to beg a paper. "Because," said he, "we like to read newspaper very much, but our neighbors are all too stingy to take one."

Swift held the doctrine that there were three places where a man should be allowed to speak without contradiction, viz: "The bench, the pulpit, and the gallows."

Mr. Baker showed us an egg yesterday which was seven inches in circumference. Can anybody beat this?—Syracuse Gazette. Certainly break the egg into a bowl, and beat it with a spoon.

The best bank ever yet known is a bank of earth. It never refuses to discount to honest labor. And the best share is the plowshare—on which dividends are always liberal! That's so.

"Pray, Mr. Professor, what is a periphrasis?" "Madam, it is simply a circumlocutory cycle of oratorical sonority, circumscribing an atom of idleness, lost in a verbal prolixity." "Thank you, sir."

Some one says it is better to be poor, than to live upon the hard earnings of the unsuccessful. Bank "suspension" will please to notice. Nonsense.—They don't believe in such a doctrine!

"O Mary! my heart is breaking." "It is, indeed, Mr. Closefast? So much the better for you." "Why, my idol?" "Because, when it is broken out and out, you may sell it for gun-flints."

Snooks was advised to get his life insured. "Won't do it," said he, "it would just be my luck to live forever, if I should." Mr. Snooks merely said: "Well, I wouldn't, my dear."

"Matrimony," said a modern Benedict the other day, "produces remarkable revolutions, here an I, for instance, in ten short months, changed from a sighing lover to a loving sire."

Love not your children unequally; or, if you do, show it not, lest you make the one proud, the other envious, and both foolish. If nature has made a difference, it is the part of the tender parent to help the weakest."

A country youth came to town to see his intended wife, and, for a long time, could think of nothing to say. At last, a great snow falling, he took occasion to say, that his father's sheep would be all undone. "Well," said she, talking him by the hand, "I'll keep one of 'em."

The other day, a Jew was quizzing an Irishman, and kept at him until he was somewhat aggravated, when, turning round, he tartly remarked: "Yes, don't you see, if it hadn't been for the likes of you, the Saviour would be a bin alive now, and don't well."

A Dutchman was relating his marvelous escape from drowning, when thirteen of his companions were lost by the upsetting of the boat, and he alone was saved. "And how did you escape their fate?" asked one of his hearers, "I did not go in to put!" was the Dutchman's placid answer.

HORRIBLE.—A telegraphic despatch from Washington dated last evening says: Yesterday afternoon the wife of a planter, named Basil Hall, residing 5 miles from here, across the Potomac, got into a quarrel with a slave, who at last seized her mistress and held her in the fire till she was burned so badly that she soon died.

AN IMMENSE REVENUE.

It is estimated that the aggregate amount of revenue derived from tobacco, almost wholly of American growth, by the governments of Great Britain and France, to whom it is a great monopoly, for 1857, which is about an average year, would reach the sum of \$38,376,090, of which \$34,000,000 would be for France, and \$4,376,090 for Great Britain.

TO FATHERS