

Meeting of the Legislature.

The second Legislature of California will meet at the Capital to-day, and as there are already a sufficient number of members of both Houses present to form a quorum, we anticipate no difficulty in perfecting an organization.

The first subjects that will claim and receive the attention of both houses, will be the contested seats, particularly those of Messrs. VAN BUREN and ADAMS, in the Senate, and Mr. SANDERS, in the House.

News From the Santa Clara Valley.

We received yesterday afternoon, the first number of the San Jose Daily Argus, published on Saturday, at the State Capital.

From the Argus we learn that on Monday evening last, as Col. Davis, of Santa Clara, was returning home, he was assailed by two men, one of whom attempted to throw him down.

LADIES' FAIR.—We have heard some talk in relation to a FAIR in this city, in aid of the funds of the Presbyterian Church, of which Rev. J. H. BRAYTON is Pastor.

A CARD FROM DR. BUEL.—We published on Wednesday last, a communication from our intelligent San Jose correspondent, making some statements in regard to the alleged neglect on the part of the physician of the steamer Panama, on her trip up previous to the last.

ANOTHER SAFE ROBBER.—Some time during Friday night, the grocery store of JAMES DOWS, in the basement of the Merchant's Exchange Building, corner of Montgomery and Washington streets, in the rear of the Courier printing office, was entered by robbers, and the inner portion of the door of the safe completely forced off, and the door thus opened.

THOSE MEDALS.—The question as to who ordered "the medals," still agitates the community, and has become second only to the Senatorial election. We understand that the manufacturer of these beautiful presents, so liberally bestowed, will put the matter in a shape to be settled in a legal way.

THE MAIL STEAMER.—The Tennessee may be expected at any hour, in case she left Panama on the usual day—the 15th. If she waited until the 18th, as is suggested, her arrival need not be looked for before to-morrow night, or Wednesday morning.

BENFORD & Co. furnished us our correspondence and package at an early hour yesterday afternoon. The state of the roads make but little difference with the speed of their express line between this city and San Jose.

DISCHARGED.—G. L. STARR, the man arrested for robbing the store of S. McKAY, Portland, Oregon, was discharged from custody on Friday, the city courts having no jurisdiction over the case.

SAN JOSE CORRESPONDENCE.—An interesting letter from our San Jose correspondent, in relation to Monterey Bay, and other matters, is unavoidably crowded out.

San Francisco at the Close of Eighteen Hundred and Fifty.

We published a few days since, an article giving a number of highly interesting incidents connected with "San Francisco Fifty Years ago," which has suggested a contrast with "San Francisco at the Close of Eighteen Hundred and Fifty." At the period to which the first article refers, the only evidences of human improvement, or of the fact that the hand of man had fashioned into shape any thing appertaining to this locality, was the Presidio at the northern extremity of the borders of San Francisco, and the Mission at the southern line.

Look at San Francisco now! Had a dweller hereabouts of "fifty years ago," taken a Rip Van Winkle sleep, and awaked at the close of "eighteen hundred and fifty," he would have fancied that the black art of magic had eclipsed itself in working a change scarcely less surprising than though the whole locality had been bodily transferred to another region.

We have neither time nor space to extend the contrast to the entire State, but must confine ourselves to the principal city, where the changes which have taken place are more marked than in any other locality; where "fifty years ago" the extent of population did not exceed one thousand, but which number may be multiplied at the "close of eighteen hundred and fifty," by at least thirty-five.

As the Mines of California, and the shipments of Gold Dust are the principal features of attraction here and at home, we first enter upon that field, and annex the amounts which have been sent forward during each month for the past year, as taken from the manifests at the Custom House, and which of course does not include that taken by private hands.

Table showing Amount of Gold Dust shipped from January 1st to December 31st, 1850. Columns include Month of January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, and Total amount for the year.

This statement is a sufficient answer to the too often expressed opinion that the mines were becoming exhausted, and that California must prove a failure by and by. For the two past seasons the summer months have produced the greatest amount of gold, the wet diggings being worked then to a greater extent than the dry.

Fixing the amount of gold exported, and which was regularly shipped and entered, for the period named above, at \$30,000,000, in round figures, and add to it an estimate of \$12,000,000, as having gone forward in private hands, and \$6,000,000 retained for circulation, and the aggregate shows the enormous sum of \$48,000,000; an amount exceeding one third the total of all the products of the United States exported during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1849, and nearly one third the amount of imports; \$12,000,000 more than the exports of the State of New York or Louisiana; \$35,000,000 more than Alabama; \$38,000,000 more than South Carolina; \$40,000,000 more than Massachusetts or Maryland; \$41,000,000 more than Georgia; and \$43,000,000 more than Pennsylvania. And while viewing this statement, it will at the same time be borne in mind that the States which show the largest amount of exports, are those which possess the advantage of having ports situated on the sea-board, and which do the carrying trade of States more remotely located.

The eight States above enumerated, in fact do the labor of transporting to foreign ports, not only their own products, but those of the remaining twenty-two.

From the same source of information, the Custom House books, we have compiled the following monthly receipts of Bullion, at this port for the year.

Table showing Amount of Bullion received from January 1st to December 31st, 1850. Columns include Month of January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December, and Total for the year.

The largest proportion of this amount of

bullion has been received from the Atlantic States, though a no inconsiderable amount has found its way from the old world—sent hither from both localities, for the reason that in no country in the world does an investment of money pay as well. Securities are ample, and the losses small, in comparison with the flood of disasters which sweep over other localities. Individuals may be ruined by fire in an hour, but the money loaned at from three to ten per cent per month interest, generally comes in but for a small proportion of the loss.

As connected with the subject of currency, we will here take occasion to say that in no other section of the globe, are the generalities of Bankers more careful, judicious and business-like, than in San Francisco. The rapid changes which are noted every day, necessarily compels them to watch the course of events with a careful regard for their own interests; and the exceptions to the general classification for integrity and business capacity, are but few. It is but a short time since most of them, in San Francisco particularly, passed through a panic that would have shaken the commercial circles of other cities to their centre; and all but one or two came out unscathed, meeting every demand upon them promptly, and to the last dollar.

The names of the principal Bankers of San Francisco, are as follows: BERGOVINE & Co., Montgomery street. WELLS & Co., Montgomery street. F. ARGENT & Co., Montgomery street. HOPKINS, BARON & Co., do. E. E. DUNBAR, do. T. J. TALLENT & Co., cor. of Clay and Montgomery. W. F. YOUNG, Washington street.

The following houses represent parties located elsewhere: B. DAVINSON, represents the Rothschilds, London. WELLS & Co., represent Willis & Co. Boston, and Drew, Robinson & Co. New York. PAGE, BACON & Co., represent Page & Bacon, St. Louis. JAMES KING, of William, represents Corcoran & Riggs, Washington, D. C. S. BEEBE LUDLOW, represents Beebe Ludlow & Co. New York. GODEFREY, SILLEM & Co., represent J. C. Godefrey & Co. Hamburg.

In addition to the above, there are other smaller operators, whom it would not perhaps be proper to classify amongst the leading bankers of the city, their transactions being mainly confined to the purchase and sale of gold dust, and do not do a legitimate banking business.

For the time included in the period for which all our statistics have been made up, viz: the twelve months past, there has entered our harbor, from all foreign ports, 1743 vessels. During the same period the number of vessels which cleared, was 1461. The vessels arriving have landed upon our shores, 35,333 males, and 1248 females. The number which have left by sail vessels and steamers, during the same time, was 26,593 males and 8 females.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury on commerce and navigation, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1849, shows the number of clearances from the port of New York to have been but little more than twice that of San Francisco for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1850, and the number of arrivals at that port—the same periods compared—to have been 268 less than twice the amount. As compared with New Orleans, the difference in favor of San Francisco is, in clearances, 330, and in arrivals 645. When the comparison is made with Philadelphia, we find the difference still greater in favor of San Francisco, being in clearances 922, and in arrivals 1137. The same would be the result were the comparison made with any of the sea ports in the United States.

The total value of merchandise received by foreign vessels, from Nov. 21, 1849, to Sept. 30, 1850, was \$3,351,962 65. The tonnage of the vessels was 151,604.

The total value of merchandise received during the same period, in domestic vessels, was \$797,275 10. The tonnage of the vessels, 82,949.

It has been frequently asserted by persons unacquainted with the facts, that California has imported more goods, and contracted a larger aggregate of debt elsewhere, than her shipments of gold dust would pay for. To show the error in this statement, a comparison of the figures above need only be made. The total value of all the merchandise received here, of every nature and description, from foreign and domestic ports, from Nov. 21, 1849, to Sept. 30, 1850, was \$4,149,257 75. By reference to the table of gold shipments, in this article, it will be seen that the aggregate sent forward during either of two months in the year, was more than enough to wipe out the entire debt incurred on account of California for merchandise!

In the month of March, 1849, the pioneer steamship in the trade between this port and Panama, entered the "Golden Gate." With what demonstrations of rejoicings was the staunch old vessel "California," received, may well be imagined. In less than twenty-two months from that date, we find the following noble steamers traversing the waters of the Pacific, arriving and departing with the regularity of a train of cars upon a New England railroad.

Table showing Pacific Mail Steamship Company Line. Columns include CALIFORNIA, PANAMA, UNICORN, OREGON, NORTHERNER, SARAH SANDS, CAROLINA, LAW'S LINE OF PACIFIC STEAMERS, ISTHMUS, COLUMBUS, REPUBLIC, ANTELOPE.

In addition to these, belonging to the regular lines, are the steamers New Orleans, Ecuador and Constitution, which have been engaged in the Panama trade, and also the Gold Hunter and the Sea Gull, which have recently been upon the route between this port and Oregon. This number of steamers, running between this port and Panama, is greater than the number employed in the trade between New York and Liverpool, and New York and Havre, combined.

journey that is now made by many of the vessels named below, in from seven to ten hours. There is now employed in the river trade, the following steamers:

Table showing Steamers Employed in the River Trade. Columns include Name, Tons, and Class.

In addition to this list of steamers, there is also engaged in navigating the rivers and the bay, 270 craft of various kinds. There is also now lying in port, many of them abandoned and others used as store-ships; between five and six hundred vessels, not a few of them of the largest class that can be found in any of the waters of the globe.

The auction business of San Francisco bears no unimportant relation to the trade of the city and the State. The number which we propose to name as the principal individuals and firms legitimately engaged in this branch, is seventeen, without including the score or two whose "going, going" disposes of goods in smaller quantities. The names of the more extensive houses are as follows: MIDDLETON & HOOD, Washington street. KENDRICK, WAINWRIGHT & Co., Montgomery street. H. B. LAFITTE & Co., Montgomery street. W. H. DAVIS & Co., Montgomery street. JAMES B. HITE, Montgomery street. JONES, CARTER & Co., Montgomery street. J. S. RIDGEL & Co., Montgomery street. STARR, MINTERN & Co., Washington street. CALDWELL & EMERSON, Montgomery street. NEW YORK, Washington street. GARNISS & Co., Washington street. FREDERICK DUNBAR, Washington street. KETTELER, HARSH & Co., Washington street. GOWER & Co., Montgomery street. BACKUS & HARRISON, Montgomery street.

These comprise the principal Auction Houses in the city, and for correct business habits, liberality and integrity, will not suffer in comparison with those of any other city. Many of them occupy rooms far more spacious than those required for the business of the long-established and most extensive houses of the Atlantic cities.

Neither time nor space will permit us to enumerate in detail many kinds of trade which are followed with satisfactory success in our midst, and which form no small item in the trade of California. In addition to what has already been mentioned, we will add that San Francisco, with a population of over 35,000, sustains seen daily papers, while New York, numbering half a million, can boast of only double that number! We have eight Express Companies, the principal ones being ADAMS & Co., and J. W. GREGORY; over sixty brick buildings were six months ago there was not one; eight or ten first class Hotels, at the head of which stand the "Union," (just erected by SELOVER & Co., and under the management of ISAAC M. HALL), the "St. Francis," "Delmonico's," the "Revere" and the "National."

But a few months since, the boundaries even of San Francisco were hardly defined with sufficient definiteness to guide the inquirer in his search. Now we have one hundred and seven miles of street laid out, one quarter of which is built upon and occupied, and over seven miles of it substantially planked, and most of that distance properly sewered. We have now a semi-monthly mail, where a year ago it was only an occasional one—reaching our shores now and then, and half the time not as often! One Marine Insurance Company has already been formed, with a capital of \$500,000, and another in progress of organization.

Such is a bird's eye glance at San Francisco, at the close of "Eighteen Hundred and Fifty," as compared with "San Francisco Fifty years ago." The change is wonderful and surprising, but when we add that nearly all this has been accomplished within two years and a half, it is no secret that the world look on and wonder. Civilized and uncivilized nations have witnessed, in some degree, enticing specimens of her mineral treasures. But she has a mine of wealth in her broad acres yet undeveloped—agricultural riches that lack only the hand of industry, the energy of the people into whose hands Destiny has placed the country, to make the wilderness "blossom like the rose" and her plains and valleys to yield riches far more lasting and stable than even the glittering ore that she exports to the mines rich, exposed to the broad light of the morning sun.

But California is not "for a day." The history of the Past, her position in the Present, assures us that there is a Future in store for her more glorious than has marked the progress of any state, or even any nation, whose history has been written. We do not speak enthusiastically: we say what we believe time will fully warrant us in penning. The germ of a mighty people on the shores of the Pacific has been planted; it has grown into a stately, proud nation already; and although the past we witnessed much that appears like a dream, the future, as developed by time and energy, will give birth to yet many fold more astonishing results within the GOLDEN GATE of San Francisco.

THAT REWARD.—The Picayune says the reward of \$1,000 offered for the recovery of the \$5,000 stolen at San Jose, has not been withdrawn. One of the parties says it was withdrawn privately, but as it was not done as it was offered, the parties must still be bound by it. The man Jeremiah Rainer, arrested for the alleged robbery, claims that he came in possession of the money by a fair business partnership transaction, and his statement is not without a coloring of truth.

"STOP THIEF."—Some three or four hundred individuals rushed through Montgomery street, Saturday afternoon, crying "stop thief," in pursuit of a man suspected of picking a pocket at one of the gambling saloons on the Plaza. He was finally arrested near Sacramento street, and taken before the Recorder. It was with great difficulty that the crowd could be restrained from the application of "Lynch law," by hanging him up on the Plaza.

RAIN.—After a long succession of dry weather, we were on Saturday, and yesterday, favored with copious showers of rain, though a still greater quantity would be acceptable. We trust that the storm extended to the mountains. To the miners, an abundance of rain is as necessary as to the husbandman.

The Police and the Common Council.

That the city of San Francisco should have an efficient, effective and adequate Police force, for the protection of the lives, property and honor of its citizens, and the preservation of the public peace against all disturbances, was, we believe, a prominent measure at the organization of our present municipal government. The Mayor, in his first message to the Common Council, strongly recommended such an organization, and that body devoted a greater share of attention to the subject than to that of any other, passing various ordinances for the organization and regulation of the department, and placing at its head a capable Chief. Under the laws thus "made and provided" for its government and maintenance, the Police Department went into operation on the 10th of July last, although it had a previous existence of several months under the Alcaidship of our present Mayor.

Praise and censure has been bestowed on the operations of the department, not only by the public press, but also by the citizens generally, and we are happy to add that considerably more of the former was merited and freely uttered, than was the latter. True there may have been instances of derelictions and errors which justify condemnation, but on complaint, the evil has been promptly remedied, by the application of the governing laws of the department. Many persons are disposed to a feeling of censure, whether deserved or not, and ready to pass judgment without a moment's consideration of the case. Let any one reflect on the heterogeneous mass of human beings thrown upon our shores—the number of criminals of all nations flocking in upon us, and the licensed influences that induce to crime and outrage which are supposed to exist in our very midst, and then compare the records of crime and lawless acts with those of any city of the other States of like magnitude, and then deny, if he can, our avowal that San Francisco will suffer nothing by the comparison. That we are not completely overwhelmed by the destruction of property, violence and rapine, and every way at the mercy of hordes of the most desperate ruffians that are suffered to exist, is owing mainly to the surveillance and protection afforded by our police department. Let our citizens think of this, and then demand, in tones not to be misunderstood, that the Common Council shall do justice to the men thus engaged in protecting our city, and that, too, without further delay.

The salary of the policemen was fixed at \$8 per day, and in Sec. 31, of the ordinance "for the organization of the Police Department," we find the following: "The salaries of the captains, assistant captains and patrolmen, shall be paid semi-monthly."

And how has this unqualified pledge been kept? Has the Common Council fostered and encouraged the police department by its single act tending to a performance of its obligations as set forth in the above extract? We briefly refer to a few facts as the answer: Since the first session of the Common Council, not one dollar has been paid in cash to the police, and its members have received city scrip only, which they have been forced to sell on one half its face or less; and for the last two months they have not received a dollar of their salary, although they have petitioned for it time and again. What care the Common Council for the police department in this matter? Do our "City Fathers" imagine that a policeman can devote his time night and day, hazarding life and health in guarding the city, and receive therefor only four dollars per day, or less, and wait the leisure of the Common Council to get even that? Can a man support a family, or even himself decently, on such wages? Indeed, unless the Council affords some speedy relief to the policemen, it will be impossible for the captains to enforce that part of the 12th Sec. of the police ordinance which enjoins them to "require the policemen to be decently attired."

Our San Jose Correspondence.

Editors of the Pacific News: SAN JOSE, JAN. 5, 1851. Knowing the great interest which you personally feel, and also that felt by the intelligent public of San Francisco, who look to your columns for important and reliable daily intelligence from this place, during the session of the Legislature, respecting all that transpires at the capital, I shall endeavor to prepare for your columns, as far as my ability will permit, a carefully written daily letter, in which I may be able to keep you advised of many points of the great public concern, which might otherwise be less known because less accessible to the mass of readers.

At a late hour on Friday night, or I might say, at a very early hour on Saturday morning, a large delegation of members belonging to both branches of the legislature, together with some others, arrived at this place, and took lodgings at the various hotels. Among these, I noticed, in addition to those previously mentioned, Col. B. F. Lippincott, from Tuolumne, T. B. Van Buren, Esq., from San Joaquin, E. Heydenfeldt, Esq., and several others of the Senate; together with a large number belonging to the lower house.

In a number of instances, there are duplicates of those who claim to be elected from certain districts. In this category may be classed the Senators from Butte county, Adams and Stout, who cannot, of course, both expect to be considered rightfully elected. Another of these contested seats, and in the same county, will be claimed by Sanders as Representative, but whose claims will be contested by Smith.

Among many others whom interest or inclination has called to the capital, I observe several who are considered to be among the candidates for the office of United States Senator. I am aware that you have drawn a brief outline in the News, of the qualifications which a candidate for the Senate should possess; and I am inclined to believe, if purity of character, long residence in this State, with a view to making it a permanent home for himself and family, joined to a thorough acquaintance with its wants, just notions in regard to an economical expenditure of public funds, as his past history amply shows, and an elevated and noble character as a man, entitle any one to the consideration of those who will be called upon to make the selection for this office, they will all be found harmoniously blended in the character of Hon. John W. Geary, Mayor of San Francisco.

A quorum of both houses is now in the city, and should not the delay occasioned by the contested seats, prevent, we may expect an organization to-morrow. C. M. B.

A WOMAN UNDER BONDS.—The women are certainly taking great liberties! Mrs. W. H. TILLET was on Saturday bound over for threatening to kill Dr. Byron.

POCKET PICKED.—A gentleman had his pocket relieved of \$600, at the Parker House, on Friday evening.

From the Northern Yuba Mines.

Mr. GEORGE PIERSON, Secretary of the Northern Yuba Mining Company, arrived in town on Saturday, having spent several weeks in the region of the Yuba and Feather rivers, especially upon the quartz veins of the former.

We learn from him that the miners upon the rivers in that section, are doing very little in the way of washing, for the lack of water. The rivers are very low, and the miners have taken out an immense deal of dirt, but are waiting for rain.

Those engaged upon the quartz vein of the Northern Yuba Mining Company, have excavated to the bed-rock, a depth of forty feet, and find the quartz full as rich at the bottom as at the top, and in some places richer. Mr. Pierson brings down with him about 250 pounds of the rock, amongst which are some beautiful specimens, which can be seen at the office of S. BRANNAN, Esq., south side of Commercial street.

It will be recollected, that pieces of quartz from this mine, in which no gold was visible to the eye, was assayed by MOFFAT & Co., of this city, and yielded thirty-seven and a half cents to the pound; seven times as much as the Virginia mines, which pay a large per cent. on the investment. A company has been organized in this city, for the purpose of working this claim, with a capital of \$300,000, and arrangements are now making for the necessary apparatus. A contract has been made for a machine having twelve hammers, of 600 pounds each, with which it is designed to crush twenty tons of the quartz daily. Should the quartz yield but five cents to the pound, it will pay a good profit upon the investment, but the probability is, that it will average from twenty to thirty-five cents to the pound.

News from the Sacramento Valley.

Freeman & Co. furnished us Sacramento papers of yesterday morning.

The miners in the region of Coloma, Hangtown, &c., on the American Fork, are all doing well. Extensive dry diggings have been discovered on the road to Auburn.

At the present time there is comparatively little snow upon the Sierra Nevada. It can be seen extending from the summit, about half-way down the mountains, but below it is entirely bare.

An attempt was made to carry off a trunk belonging to a gentleman named Lemon, at Louisville, on the American River, a few days since. The trunk contained \$8,000, which the thieves secured by setting fire to a haystack in the neighborhood, and thus getting the owner out of his tent. They were caught, however.

From the report made by Mr. Binney, the engineer for the construction of the Levee, we learn that the entire cost of the work was \$147,026 97.

LATER FROM THE PILOT HILL INDIANS.—We understand that the most intense excitement prevails at Pilot Hill, in consequence of the late Indian difficulties. The son of the Chief who was brought in as a ransom, has confessed since his father has been hung, that the tribe had killed three other whites on the same day that young Avery was missing. This has incensed the whole mining community, and they have vowed vengeance on all the Indians. Parties are forming for the purpose of going in pursuit, and we may expect shortly to hear of bloody work, if an engagement takes place. [Transcript.]

A Sacramento paper gives the following account of a daring robbery in that city on Thursday night. The principal losers were Messrs. Whipler and Clements:

"It appears that six large bags, containing 500 ounces in silver dollars, were abstracted from the wooden chest, located in the rear of the Exchange, 70 feet back from the street. The Williams entered from J street, and entering under the building to the place over which the box was, commenced their work by cutting away the planks until they had reached the safe, when by the means of small augers, they effected an entrance sufficiently large to remove the bags. These were so bulky, that the thieves were compelled to use ropes to drag off their booty, as appeared by the marks left upon the ground. There must have been the most systematic arrangements made, and much time was probably elapsed since they commenced their labors, as not only clothes, but boxes of sardines, bottles of champagne, and edibles of all sorts, were found secreted under the building."

News from the San Joaquin Valley.

We have Stockton papers of Saturday, the 4th inst.

The Times states that Capt. Colebrook was knocked down on Wednesday evening last, in the street, and robbed of \$600.

The steamer "Erastus Corning" advertised to bring down deck passengers on Thursday for \$1.50. The San Joaquin immediately offered to bring them for nothing! Who pays the expenses of running the boat at such rates of fare!

LENCH LAW.—On Monday last, a few miles distant from Stockton, on the Calaveras road, a man was caught in the act of horse stealing. We are informed that the man was a Kentuckian, and gave his name as Jesse Dinwiddie. A jury was empaneled, and the man sentenced to be hung. A gentleman begged his life, but the fellow received fifty lashes, and was branded "Horse Thief." [Times.]

The Indians come from the mountains very frequently, and drive off the miners at work on the Merced river.

THE INDIANS.—Further intelligence from the Fresno, brings information that the tribe which Savage held control over, have united with the Four Creek Indians, and that they now form an army four or five thousand strong.

A Card.

At a late hour yesterday, a friend called my attention to an article in the Daily Pacific News, of Jan. 1st, written from San Jose, over the signature of "C. M. B.," in which it is directly asserted that "the death of the child of Mrs. Teft, of San Jose, on board the steamer in which she took passage from Panama in September last, was occasioned purely by the culpable carelessness and neglect of the Surgeon of the steamer."

I am now, and was then, Surgeon of the Panama, the steamer in which this lady and her child were passengers.

I indignantly deny the charge, and pronounce it false and calumnious in every particular. There is abundant evidence in this city to prove that the death of that child was caused by no neglect of mine.

WM. P. BURL, M. D., Surg. Steamer Panama. San Francisco, Jan. 5, 1851, on board Steamer Panama.

