

AGENTS FOR THE PACIFIC NEWS. Sacramento City, J. J. JOSEPH GRANT. San Jose, J. J. JOSEPH GRANT. Berkeley, J. J. JOSEPH GRANT. New York, J. J. JOSEPH GRANT.

AGENTS WANTED IN every City, Town and Village to whom liberal advantages will be given. Orders for the PACIFIC NEWS will be duly attended to, if addressed to us post paid, and enclosing the cash.

TO THE WHIGS OF SAN FRANCISCO. At a special meeting of the Whig General Committee of San Francisco, held Friday evening, March 21, 1851, it was resolved, That the Whigs of the city be requested to meet at their headquarters in their respective Wards, on WEDNESDAY evening, the 28th of April, for the purpose of nominating a ballot for their respective Wards, one candidate for Alderman, one candidate for Assistant Alderman, and two candidates for Assessors; and also, at the same time and place, to elect three persons as delegates to a General Convention, to be held on SATURDAY evening, the 12th of April, to nominate candidates for city officers at large. The Polls to be opened at 7 P.M. and closed at 10 P.M.

JAMES E. WAINWRIGHT, Chairman. S. W. HOLLADAY, Sec'y. R. B. HAMPTON, Sec'y.

An "Independent" Movement.

We learned last evening that a movement is on foot, having for its object the organization of an "Independent" party, and the formation of a mongrel ticket, made up of Whigs and Locofocos, to be supported at the approaching city election. This movement has its origin mainly in certain disaffected "Democrats," and is encouraged by others who intend to go the straight party nominations, and who hope by this means to draw off a sufficient number of votes from the Whigs to the Independents, to elect the Locofoco ticket. To the call which has been circulated, we understand there are a number of names of persons who have generally acted with the Whig party, but who are now lending themselves to defeat us at the coming election.

We warn all good Whigs who value the success of their party, and thereby the success of the great principles so long cherished and so dear to all, to beware of this insidious attempt of a disguised enemy to introduce disaffection into our ranks, under the specious guise of "Independent" nominations. Let the Whigs who mingle in and countenance this movement beware of their action, if they value party integrity and political consistency. These movements always draw more votes from the Whig party than from our opponents, and knowing this fact, the Locofocos usually resort to some scheme of this kind to accomplish their ends where there is little hope of success with an open field and a fair fight, with the party principles inscribed on the banner of each.

We say again to the Whigs of San Francisco, discountenance this "Independent" humbug. It originates in bad feeling, is encouraged by those who wish us evil, and must result disastrously. Touch not the unclean thing." Examine its origin, and mark its progress, and enough will be discovered to satisfy all that it is the enemies, and not the true friends of Whig principles who are thus banding together under so plausible and specious a guise.

A New City Charter.

Two bills are now before the Legislature, proposing an act of incorporation of the city of San Francisco, containing material amendments to the present City Charter, providing for the boundaries of the city, the power and duties of the several officers, duration of office, manner of election, &c. In one of these bills is a section authorizing the Common Council to cause an election to be held for the purpose of choosing five persons to represent each Ward in a City Convention, which shall subsequently meet and frame a Charter to be submitted to the people by popular vote, and accepted or rejected by them, as the laborers of the Convention shall merit, or meet with favor with our citizens.

If such a proposition is likely to be favorably regarded by the Legislature, we would suggest a plan much more feasible, and which will dispense with at least one election by the people. Instead of passing either of the acts of incorporation before that body, let the Legislature immediately enact a bill authorizing the choice by ballot at the approaching April election for city officers, of three individuals from each ward, instead of five, who shall assemble in the manner proposed, and frame a charter, to be submitted for acceptance to a direct vote of the people. Three from each ward would make a convention of twenty-four, a body less objectionable than the number proposed by the Legislature, and we would even go farther and suggest the number from each ward should be reduced to one, to which, if thought advisable, the Mayor might be added as chairman of the convention. A small body would perform much more labor and act more in harmony, than a large one, and would therefore be preferable on the score of economy, if no other.

As this subject is now before the Legislature we make these suggestions, and trust that the committee having the new acts of incorporation in charge, will give them a serious thought. The present charter requires amendment, and perhaps a body of delegates such as has been named, would better understand what is demanded by our citizens, than a Legislative body whose members are selected from remote sections of the State.

SMOKING IN THE LEGISLATURE.—It seems that smoking in the House of Assembly, has got to be so much of a nuisance, and so generally practised, as to call for some action of the house to put a stop to it. The habit is exceedingly indecorous, and we regret to see included in the list of those who practice it, members of the press. Smoking in the Legislative halls is really an indignity worthy of serious attention, especially, if the members smoke poor cigars.

Address to the Whigs of Yuba County.

We are glad to see that the Whigs of some of the counties are moving in the matter of organization with reference to the coming campaign throughout the State. Yuba county is leading off in a way that cannot but be productive of the most gratifying results.

In the Marysville Herald of the 27th, we find the proceedings of a meeting held at the office of James Cushing, Esq., at which L. W. Ransom presided, and Dr. S. T. Brewster acted as Secretary.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to draft an Address to the Whigs of Yuba county:

H. P. Watkins, John C. Fall, S. B. Mulford, J. O. Goodwin, S. T. Brewster, J. T. McClarty, F. W. Shaeffer, E. Woodruff, A. T. Farish, J. Cushing, D. W. C. Rice, J. V. Barry, W. C. S. Smith, A. D. McDonald, S. T. Watts, C. G. McLeod, P. H. Pierce, J. L. Eaton and W. W. Smith.

This Committee reported an able Address, which was adopted by the Convention, and from which we make the following extracts, appealing to the Whigs to arouse themselves to action.

It is your duty as good citizens, attached to law and order, to arouse yourselves into an efficient, active, and energetic organization, for the purpose of wresting the power out of the hands of those who have proven themselves unworthy of exercising the administration of our government. You have the power and numerical strength to elect all the officers in this state, and there cannot be the shadow of a doubt, if you will but act with all the zeal of our opponents, our party must succeed, and prove victorious. If, therefore, you neglect to organize, for the purpose of active exertion in the coming campaign, and our party is defeated, it will be the result of our own wilful neglect. Whigs of Yuba, you reside in a county, only second in importance to any other in the state, we shall probably be called upon to elect five members of the Assembly and two Senators under the new appointment law. Thus you can see, that you can, if you but will, exercise a most important influence in reforming the government of this state.

We would therefore in the name of the Whig party, in the name of its patriotic and conservative principles, solicit you in every town, wherever you may be—upon the hill top or in the valley, to assemble in your township and appoint a corresponding committee of five, for each town, for the purpose of corresponding with each other concerning the business of the coming election, and that after the election of said town committees, they select the committee of said one town as the central corresponding committee.

And we would also request the Whigs of each township to elect five delegates for the purpose of attending a county convention to be held at the court house in Marysville, on the third Saturday of April next, for the purpose of a better organization of the Whig party in this county, and for the transaction of such business as may be deemed expedient.

ADMITTED TO BAIL.—Charles Duane was yesterday admitted to bail by Judge Parsons of the District Court, in the sum of \$5000. His securities are Alphonso Brooks and Grove C. McMickle. He was tried a short time since upon the charge of an assault with an intent to commit murder, and the jury after deliberating all night, were unable to agree, and were discharged.

The community will be astonished that the bail has been fixed at so low a sum. The Recorder, on the examination of Duane, demanded \$15,000, and in the face of the understood opinions of eleven of the jury on the recent trial, it is a matter of surprise that a less sum should have been thought adequate now. The accused was either guilty of a deliberate attempt at a foul wrong, or else he acted in self-defence, and until that question is determined by a jury of his countrymen. He should have been kept in close confinement, or put under such bonds as would have secured his presence when demanded by the Court. We say again, the people will be surprised that the bail has been fixed so low, where the charge is of so grave a nature.

THE MURDER OF MR. JARVIS.—A partial examination of Slater, arrested on suspicion of having murdered Capt. Jarvis, was had yesterday before Judge Morrison and Justice Brown. The testimony thus far, though mainly of a circumstantial nature, bears strongly towards the guilt of the accused, and if uncontradicted, would no doubt be sufficient to convict. What the nature of his defence will be, is not yet known, but it is supposed an attempt will be made to prove an alibi.

The examination will be resumed at the District Court room to-day at 12 o'clock. The immense crowd in attendance yesterday evinces the feeling of the community in reference to the foul deed.

RICH GOLD VEIN.—We were yesterday shown a quantity of decomposed rock, found in a vein from one to four feet in width, running through Broad street, at Nevada city, some portions of which have yielded as high as \$2 per pound. Some of this decomposed rock was washed in our presence in a pan, and from it were taken particles of gold nearly as large as a pea. The vein from which it was taken is generally known as the "Gold Tunnel," and was sold a few days ago by the Messrs. Baker, to M. G. McKim, for \$130,000.

ALDERMANIC CANDIDATES.—By cards in another column it will be seen that the name of HENRY HAIGHT, Esq., of the firm of Page, Bacon & Co., is suggested as a candidate for Alderman of the third ward, and that of EDWARD BYRNE, of the firm of Kendig, Wainwright & Co., for Assistant Alderman of the same ward. Both are gentlemen of sound practical ability, and should they be nominated by the Whig Ward Caucus, and elected, will make efficient members of the City Council.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—The Coroner held an inquest Thursday morning on the body of an Englishman named John Whittle, who was found dead on the road leading to the Mission Dolores. The jury rendered a verdict "that the deceased had come to his death by a visitation of God."

The Steamer Gen. Warren arrived last night from Trinidad and Humboldt, bringing 80 passengers.

Our Mountain Correspondence.

Editors of the Pacific News. NIVADA CITY, March 29, 1851.

Believing that a correct, if not a perfectly scientific account of the mines in this vicinity will be interesting to you, and to a large majority of your patrons, I am induced to send you as I have been able to gather while working in the mines, and while examining the geological and mineralogical situation and formation of the country in the immediate vicinity of this city.

So far as I have examined I find that local volcanic actions have taken place at some remote period of the world's present state of existence, which threw up from below the gold now found in the placers, more commonly known as the river, ravine and hill deposits. These need no description. All are acquainted with them, either by reading or from personal observation. But I do think correct information is needed in relation to the real mines of the country. I refer to the quartz veins or dykes, which are just beginning to attract the attention of the hardy and practical miner, and which promises each a fair remuneration for his labor.

I find this section of the country is traveled with veins of quartz, and talcose or mica state, some of which bear gold to the surface, and others do not. The quartz veins will no doubt, as a general thing, be found to contain more or less gold, but all will not pay for working, and but few of them will be found to do so at present. That some of them will be already beyond a doubt. Any one at all acquainted with minerals and their formation, will be convinced of this if he will take the trouble to visit the quartz vein now being worked a few rods below the city of Nevada, on the north bank of Deer Creek, known as Gold Tunnel, where an adit is being driven in under the superintendence of W. H. Tippitt, Esq., whose ability is only equalled by his practical experience as a Cornish miner, aided by five or six years' experience in working the mines of Lake Superior since 1845 where I first met with him, and also calling on Capt. Wm. Stevens, one of the proprietors of the mine,—which I had the pleasure of again visiting to-day, and was highly gratified to find that my previously formed and expressed opinions were more than realized in the richness of the vein. This vein I traced last summer, about half a mile on the east side, and found it running into one of the richest Cretaceous Hills ever worked on this range. I mean the Oregon Hill. But I was not aware of the value of the vein until it was laid open by the perseverance of Mr. Tippitt, Captain Stevens and others. Captain Stevens was formerly the agent of the famous "Cliff Mine" on Lake Superior, and few are his equals in working mines.

I have lately explored the course of this vein, which is nearly north and south, over a mile. It is regular and well defined, varying from one to several feet in thickness. Its dip is to the east, at an angle of twenty-five or thirty degrees from a vertical line. The wall rock is granite, generally soft or decomposed.

The quartz is very much broken up, filled with sulphuretted and red oxide of iron, in which the gold is found, as well as in solid pieces of quartz. I have seen a portion of it that I judge certain a portion of the mineral would have yielded not less than fifty dollars. Solid masses of bright crystallized sulphuretted iron, on burning, and have been found filled with gold. The vein has its arms, or branches, running from it on either side, and it has this advantage over most veins I have yet seen,—it will require but little machinery to crush the ore, as a large portion of it is the red oxide of iron, so soft as to be easily crushed between the fingers. The gold is in small scales, cragged pieces, and fine dust, though I believe it grows coarse as the vein is followed down. There could not be a more desirable situation for a mine, as the adit, or tunnel, commences within a few feet of the creek, which affords an abundant supply of water—an indispensable element in collecting gold. The lead is brought out on a small railway and emptied at the creek, ready for washing.

This vein has been dug into at various points, for the distance of half a mile, and found to contain gold, even to the surface. That this species of mines must very soon constitute the principal mining of the country, I have no doubt. And that the gold found in the placers must have been thrown out, or through other veins or dykes, from the "E. D. Dolores" below, is certain. And I consider it equally certain, that perseverance in working these veins properly, will ensure the operators handsome fortunes. For they must increase in richness, like all other mines, as they are followed down. The great specific gravity of the gold must have caused much the largest portion of it to remain in the vein; and these veins will be found to emanate from the lowest mineral region. Trappery and other volcanic rocks are scattered over the country, but I have not yet seen any limestone or other calcareous substance in this section.

Auction Sales This Day.

Henry B. Laffite & Co., at 10 o'clock, beef, pork, raisins, &c. Rising, Cassell & Co., 10 1/2 o'clock, a large cargo invoice of printing materials. Emerson & Dabner, at 10 o'clock, boots, shoes, clothing, etc.; and at 12 o'clock, paints, spices, pickles, sugar, etc. Jones & Carter, at 10 1/2 o'clock, tea, coffee, sugar, flour, syrup, etc. Kendig, Wainwright & Co., at 12 o'clock, valuable city property, printing press, type, etc.

STEAMER COLUMBUS, OF LAW'S LINE.—This beautiful ship leaves on the 1st April, for Panama, and is expected to make the run in fourteen days. She is one of the fastest ships in the Pacific, or indeed anywhere else. She has been refitted complete, and really presents comforts to passengers that are equalled by few steamers on any ocean. We predict for her passengers a most agreeable voyage, with her princely commander, Capt. John McGowan.

DEFINITE ANSWER.—During the examination of Slater yesterday, a witness in giving his testimony, was unable to specify the degree of intoxication that the prisoner was in. The Judge, wishing to present the question in an easy and plain form, asked if the defendant "was moderately tipsy, or about half seas over." The witness after studying some time, replied with the utmost gravity, that "he thought he probably was."

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR.—In another column we publish the act concerning the office of Public Administrator, and making it elective, with the amendments, as the bill passed the House of Assembly. The act provides for the election of this officer, on the fourth Monday of April next, in the county of San Francisco, and the general election for State officers in all the other counties.

DISTRICT COURT.—The District Court adjourned yesterday morning, until Monday, April 7th. The great amount of business transacted in this court, requires that the officers should have some relaxation.

Record of the City Courts.

FRIDAY, March 28.

ST. PIERRE COURT.—Hon. J. C. Smith, Associate Justice. Buckeye.—Cause continued by consent of counsel until Friday next. Duocing vs. Claresta.—Cause continued by consent of counsel. Oliver W. Easton vs. Nathaniel Thompson.—Tried before a jury who rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiff in the sum of \$745 65, which is claimed on book account, and \$75 for his one half of stock that is in defendant's possession. Kirchner vs. Hart.—Ordered that it be set specially for Friday next, unless settled before.

Before Hon. D. O. Shattuck. Reed, et al vs. Cronise & Co.—In four cases judgment was rendered by consent against W. H. Cronise, in the aggregate of \$2621 61. Russell vs. Burgoyne & Co.—Tried before a jury, who returned a verdict for the plaintiff in the sum of \$888 95. A. J. Hart, et al.—Cause set specially for Wednesday next. Richardson vs. Sinclair.—Cause argued and submitted to the court.

COUNTY COURT.—Hon. R. N. Morrison and H. S. Brown, presiding. William Slater, was arraigned upon the charge of being concerned in the murder of Capt. Elijah M. Jarvis, at the Mission Dolores, on the evening of the 20th. For the prosecution appeared Henry Byrne, T. W. Freelon, and E. P. Tracy. For the defence, Judge McHenry.

After considerable argument, the witnesses, both for the defence and prosecution were ordered to leave the Court, and not converse with each other, nor make their appearance until called. Adl. Chas. V. Stuart, sworn.—Resides at the Mission Dolores, was acquainted with Elijah M. Jarvis and saw him about five o'clock, on last Wednesday, for the last time. About a quarter after nine of that evening, we were alarmed at the Mansion House by the cry of a woman in distress outside, who turned around the corner of the building, and I followed her to the door of Capt. Bell. As we came near the door, we made a halt and requested Capt. Bell to go into his own house, and see what the matter was, which he did. About the time he came out, I saw a man lying upon the ground, about six feet from me. In turning round with a light I recognised the body of Capt. E. M. Jarvis. A physician was sent for at my request, who examined the body and pronounced that life was extinct. There was a wound in the back near the spine about three inches in length.

William B. Magoon, is a physician, and resides at the Mission Dolores, and saw the body of Capt. Jarvis. Knows nothing more. Warren C. Norris.—Is a barber at the Mansion House at Mission Dolores, and is acquainted with the prisoner; was at the Mansion House last Sunday evening when Capt. Jarvis and Mr. Slater were present; Slater was very drunk and disorderly; Capt. Jarvis endeavored to persuade prisoner to go to bed, when prisoner told him he could whip him. Capt. Jarvis told the prisoner that if he got mad, he would have nothing to do with him, and went to another part of the room; the prisoner followed him up, when deceased pushed him towards the stove, the deceased picked up a stick of wood and struck the prisoner twice over the head; I then took the prisoner into the back yard for the purpose of washing him; when he returned, Capt. Jarvis laid out; prisoner asked me who had struck him; I answered that it was a stranger; prisoner then stated that he would be the death of the person who struck him; he repeated similar threats several times in a very angry tone; I then left him and went into the dining room, when prisoner came in and made additional threats; he shortly afterwards went away, and I did not again see him until we met on the following day at the race course; he then asked me if Capt. Jarvis was there, and I replied that I did not think he was, when he again made threats, saying "if he would let me see the means of him," have not seen prisoner from that time until this morning.

Cross examined.—The stick which the deceased struck the prisoner with, was about two feet long, and about an inch and a half or two inches thick; the deceased was a much larger man than the prisoner, both in size and stature; has known the prisoner for some time, and never knew him strike weapons; when sober, the prisoner is a very inoffensive man. Joseph S. Connelly.—Is a contractor and builder, and resides at the Mission Dolores. On last Sunday evening saw prisoner at the Mansion House, who had a difficulty with two or three persons respecting a bet. Capt. Jarvis interfered in Slater's favor, and prisoner turned against deceased and wanted to fight him. Jarvis told him to go away—he did not wish to have anything to do with him.—Deceased then walked towards the stove and picked up a stick and struck prisoner twice over the head.—When prisoner returned from the backyard, he said that "he would be d—d if he didn't kill the man who done it." Prisoner further stated that the blows had made him sober and that he would yet have revenge. He then called for some paper—asked for the name of the man who struck him—folded the paper and left it on the table. Saw him again at the races next day, but did not speak to him.

Cross-examination.—Prisoner did not at any time state in what manner he would take his revenge. When he left the house I think he was perfectly sober. The deceased was a much larger man than the prisoner, and about 45 years of age. Would like to see the murderer hung. William B. Carroll.—Keeps a livery stable on the corner of Kearny and Bush streets, and is acquainted with the prisoner. The prisoner stopped at my stable last Sunday night and asked if he could put up his mule. He made threats that he would kill the man who struck him, and left immediately. I did not see him again until yesterday about five o'clock and paid me for the keeping of his mule. He then stated to me that Captain Jarvis was killed and asked who done it. Nothing further was said about the death of the deceased. Prisoner was a little intoxicated when he came to my stable. Have known the prisoner about eight months, and have never heard aught against him until this transaction.

William Niblo.—Is a bar-keeper at the Pavilion beyond the race course. Saw the prisoner at the race-course last Wednesday. Does not know the prisoner and has only seen him once or twice. Col. B. B. Wood, resides at the Mission and is acquainted with the prisoner. Saw the prisoner at the Mission on last Monday between 9 and 10 o'clock, at the Mansion House and heard him ask Robert Ridley if he knew the man who struck him. Ridley replied that he did not, when prisoner said "we know the man, and have got him marked." On Wednesday evening, saw two persons approaching from the direction of the "Hole in the Wall," one of them, who I identified as Slater, went into the lower saloon, sat down, but had not been there but a few moments when I heard a screech at the door. We immediately ran out and found Captain Jarvis' body on the ground. He was lying in a great puddle of blood. We took him into the house when I observed that he still had life enough left to move his eyelids.

Cross-examined: has known the prisoner some eight or nine months, and have never seen anything against him. Charles H. Sweetser, sworn.—Lives at the house of Mr. Brown at the Mission, and on last Wednesday night about 9 o'clock, saw two men standing together talking near a post. As soon as they saw me they went away. Cross examined.—Does not believe that he ever saw the prisoner before. The tallest man I saw I think is as tall or perhaps a little taller than the prisoner. Had on dark clothes and was well dressed. The court then adjourned until to-day at 12 o'clock.

RECORDER'S COURT.—Hon. F. Tilford, presiding. Thomas Mann, being drunk in the streets,

was sentenced to be imprisoned on board the brig ten days and fined \$25. James Fossett, quarrelling with his wife and resisting an officer was discharged upon paying for the damage done to the officer's clothing. Pat Malony, for discharging a pistol in the street, was fined \$20. William Thomas, for same offence, was fined \$20.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE.

(REPORTED FOR THE PACIFIC NEWS.) MARCH 27th, 1851.

IN SENATE.—Mr. Heydenfeldt, from the committee on claims, to whom was referred the bill to provide for the compensation of certain officers, reported the same back and recommended its indefinite postponement.

On motion of Mr. Heydenfeldt, the bill concerning courts of justice and judicial officers was taken from the table.

Mr. Heydenfeldt offered another amendment to the bill.

The question being on the passage of the bill, it was passed.

On motion of Mr. Robinson, the Governor's message, relative to his veto upon the bill authorizing the district attorney of the seventh judicial district to enter a nolle prosequi in certain cases, was taken from the table.

Mr. Broderick moved to refer the message to a select committee.

Mr. Heydenfeldt stated that the message had been mutilated by the erasure of a word in it, and consequently it was not subject to the action of the senate.

A long discussion here took place, during which the merits and demerits of squatterism, and the justice of the course taken by the squatters at Sacramento, were pretty generally discussed.

Mr. Broderick withdrew his motion to refer and moved to lay on the table.

On motion of Mr. De la Guerra, the senate adjourned.

IN ASSEMBLY.—The Senate bill to re-incorporate the city of San Francisco, was read the first and second time, and referred to the delegation from that city.

The House took from the table and considered in committee of the whole, a short time, the bill to protect settlers on lands belonging to the United States.

The amendments made in committee of the whole were then concurred in, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Bradford moved to reconsider the vote on the final passage.

The motion prevailed, and on motion of Mr. Field, the bill was then referred to the select committee, consisting of Messrs. Field, Bradford, Bodley, Wilkins and Murphy, with instructions to report on to-morrow.

The Senate bill to exempt certain property of the United States from taxation was read the first time and rejected.

Mr. Carr, from the committee to whom was referred the bill to provide for the collection of a capitation tax, reported that the committee had in preparation a general revenue bill which would be reported in a few days, and asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the bill. Granted.

Mr. Randall introduced a bill authorizing persons to change their names, which was read the first and second times, and laid over until the rules.

Mr. Cook in the Chair. The House then considered, in committee of the whole, the bill authorizing the keepers of warehouses to sell goods on storage after a certain time.

Mr. Bigler submitted a substitute for the whole bill which was adopted.

The committee rose and were discharged, and the house concurred in the amendment.

On motion of Mr. Lind, the bill was then referred to a select committee.

Mr. Thorne in the chair. The House considered in committee of the whole, the bill to amend an act concerning the office of County Treasurer, and after having made sundry amendments thereto, the Committee rose and were discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

The amendments were concurred in, and the bill was read the third time and passed.

Mr. McCandless in the chair. On motion, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, to consider the bill concerning free persons of color.

The bill was read, when, on motion of Mr. Merritt, the Committee rose and were discharged.

Mr. Campbell moved its indefinite postponement. Lost—ayes 7, noes 20.

On motion of Mr. Merritt, the bill was then referred to a select committee.

Mr. Bodley gave notice of the introduction of a bill to amend the act to regulate proceedings in criminal cases.

The bill to prevent indecent exhibitions, was taken from the table, read the third time and passed.

The bill supplementary to an Act concerning the office of County Surveyor, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Cook introduced a resolution prohibiting smoking in the House.

He stated that he had seen not only members of the House, but Senators, members of the press, and others smoking repeatedly within the bar and during the session of the House, and he was desirous of having a stop put to it.

Mr. Lisle moved to amend the resolution by inserting after the word "smoking," the words "and chewing." Withdrawn.

Mr. Covarrubias moved the indefinite postponement of the resolution. Not agreed to. Ayes 11, noes 19.

Mr. Covarrubias moved to amend the resolution by striking out the word "smoking" and inserting therefor "chewing." Agreed to.

SOIREE DANSANTE.—A select entertainment comes off this evening at the Frescati Club House, on Sacramento street. A splendid orchestra are engaged, who will play between the dances, the richest and choicest selections from the most celebrated operas. A distinguished company of artists who have recently arrived from Paris will greatly add to the amusements. We doubt not but that the beauty and chivalry of our city will attend in full force.

MASQUERADE BALL.—The lovers of a rich and pleasing entertainment should not forget that a Fancy Dress and Masquerade Ball comes off this evening at the California Exchange. The proprietor is introducing some new and interesting feature at every party, and has spared neither pains or expense to contribute to the comfort and enjoyment of the visitors.

NEW WORLD SERENADERS.—This highly popular and favorite band of minstrels give a concert to-morrow evening at the New World Hotel, on Long Wharf. They offer a rich and entertaining bill, and those who go to hear them will have the pleasure of seeing the negro character fully delineated in the "Old Virginia" style.

THE WEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.—In 1840 the whole real and personal property in Massachusetts State was valued at two hundred and ninety-nine millions. It will not be less than five hundred millions. This is an immense increase.

We are indebted to Messrs. Wetherell, Bennett and General Winchester for Legislative documents.

BY LAST NIGHT'S BOAT.

News from the Sacramento Valley.

Freeman & Co., furnished us with a file of Sacramento papers at an early hour last evening.

From the Times we learn that a new paper will shortly make its appearance at Nevada City. The proprietor, is Mr. Warren Ewer, a gentleman of known abilities, and who has a thorough knowledge of the management of a paper.

A flourishing town is now growing up at Bitwell's bar, on Feather river, which promises to do the most of the business on that stream.

The Transcript says that the Chile Hotel, on Sixth between J and K streets, was entered and a trunk containing \$1200 in gold, ten gold rings, three specimen breast-pins and a gold watch stolen. The thief was not discovered.

The Union says, that we gave an account of one of the most natural occurrences that happen—the robbery of a Sydneyite on his return home.

The Marysville Herald has a very amusing and interesting article on pack mules. It says that an immense amount of provisions are being daily conveyed from that city to the mines. They are to the miner what the camel is to the traveller of the Arabian desert. Every thing, and in every shape—trunks, boxes, barrels, kegs, demi-johns, rockers, and sacks of other things are stowed upon their backs by the Mexican mule drivers, with as much ease as the Alcade uses to dispose of his suits. It is not an uncommon sight to see one running through the streets, his saddle turned, a dozen different articles hanging behind him, each by turn receiving the impression of his heels.

A BILL.

For an Act concerning the office of Public Administrator, and making it elective.

To the people of the State of California, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Sec. 1. There shall be elected, in and for each of the organized counties of the State, by the electors thereof, a Public Administrator, who shall continue in office until his successor is qualified.

Sec. 2. Before entering upon the duties of his office, he shall execute a bond, with sureties, to the approval of the probate Judge, in a sum not less than thirty thousand dollars, and which may, at any time, be increased in the discretion of the probate Judge, conditioned for the faithful performance of all the duties enjoined upon him by law, and particularly that he will account for and pay over all moneys and property that may come to his hands as such Administrator.

Sec. 3. He shall perform such duties, and receive such compensation as may be prescribed by law.

Sec. 4. No Public Administrator now in office, or hereafter elected under this Act, shall be interested directly or indirectly in expenditures of any kind made on account of any estates of deceased persons; nor shall he be associated in business, or otherwise with any person who shall be so interested; and he shall annex to his report every six months as required by this Act, an affidavit taken before a County or District Judge to that effect.

Sec. 5. The Public Administrator shall, once every six months make to the Probate Judge under oath, a return of all estates of deceased persons which have come into his hands, of the value of the same, the expenses, if any, paid thereon, and the balance, if any, remaining in his hands; said return to be published six times in some newspaper in the county, or if there be no newspaper, to be posted, legibly written, or printed, in the office of the County Clerk of the county.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the present Public Administrator, each, to account for, pay over, and deliver to his successor, within twenty days after he shall have qualified, all moneys, papers and other property belonging to the estates of deceased persons, which may have come into his possession as such Administrator, or be held by him by virtue of his office. Said report shall be made under oath, and shall contain a full and accurate statement of all the estates which have been administered by him; showing what moneys or effects, have been received in each case, and from what sources; the sums expended and for what purposes.

Sec. 7. If any person now holding the office of Public Administrator, shall fail to comply with the requirements of this act, he shall be liable on his official bond to any person injured thereby, and may be indicted as for a misdemeanor, and punished by fine not to exceed the sum of five thousand dollars, or imprisonment not to exceed two years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Sec. 8. The first election under this act shall be held in all the counties of the state at the general election for state officers, except in the county of San Francisco, where the said election shall be held on the 4th Monday of April.

