

Western News Items.

The Western mail on Wednesday last brought San Francisco and other dates to the 1st inst.

CALIFORNIA.

It seems that there is now and then a small "speck" of secession seen on the Pacific coast, but the Unionists are greatly in the ascendancy, and their demonstrations throughout the State have been on a large scale, evidencing great devotedness to the Government and that they decidedly prefer the old "Stars and Stripes" to the flag of the Confederate States, the latter being much detested, especially by those engaged in commercial pursuits.

There was a grand Union demonstration in San Francisco on the 11th of May, at which twenty-five thousand people, by estimate, were present. Political speeches were made by Senator Latham, General McDougall, General Shields, General Sumner and others, which were repeatedly and loudly cheered by the vast concourse of people that were assembled on the occasion. In the course of his speech General Sumner is reported to have said:

"But hold, I forgot. The Secessionists claim to be our superiors—they have all the chivalry, ferocity. They consider us a tame people, with a tame President at our head. With regard to the first, we can very well afford to leave that to the course of events. With regard to the last—and I speak now from my personal knowledge of the President—they will find in that very modest and very quiet gentleman, that they have caught a very devil of a tartar."

There was such a vast throng assembled that it was impossible for all to get within hearing distance of the principal stand, and two others were prepared, from which the multitude was addressed by many prominent speakers, who blew their "Union horn" long and loud to the great delight of their respective audiences.

The presiding officer of the day was the Hon. H. F. Teschemacher, assisted by thirty-five Vice Presidents. In the evening an immense concourse gathered around the main stand, when another organization was adopted by appointing Samuel Brannan, Chairman, and an additional series of speeches were made by some who did not get a chance to display their oratorical powers, and declare their devotedness to the Union, as it was during the day. There were over sixteen thousand flags displayed in the city.

A man came near being hung by a mob in San Francisco, a few days before the demonstration, for attempting to desecrate the American flag.

Before the adjournment of the Legislature, which took place on the 20th, resolutions were introduced and adopted, expressing the devotedness of the Golden State to the Constitution and the Union; their adoption, however, was not unanimous—five Senators and twelve Representatives voting in the negative. A serious difficulty occurred during the debate on the resolutions, between Charles W. Percy, of San Bernardino, who voted for, and Mr. Showalter, of Mariposa, who voted against the resolutions, which was afterward settled according to the "Code," and resulted in the death of Percy, the challenging party, who fell dead on the second fire, receiving the ball from his enemy's rifle, at forty yards, through the head.

The matter, as per report, was very honorably adjusted, strictly according to the "code of honor." Senators and Representatives, military and civil officers were seconds and attendants. There was much parade made at Percy's funeral: the body was attired in a full suit of black, and placed in a mahogany coffin thickly studded with silver nails, and on which was a silver plate with the inscription—"He sleeps an honorable sleep." The Rev. George B. Taylor read the Episcopal funeral service at the grave, and the remains were interred in a lot adjoining the one in which the body of Hon. David C. Broderick was buried.

Killing, not according to the "code," has been very frequent of late on the Western Slope. A short time since two Mexicans, a little "corned" at Honoros, proposed in the most friendly manner to have a pitched battle, with knives, and fought in the presence of a large crowd, till one was so badly cut that he died shortly, and the other could not recover. About the same time a cattle raiser, named Spittz, and Bixby, a sheep raiser, were found dead near Enchethe, in Monterey county,

with three or four barrels of their pistols empty. No expense to the State accruing. At Stockton on the 24th, there was a rencontre between the editor of the *Argus*, Mr. Biven, and one Crenshaw, a theatrical performer in which the actor came off second best. So progresses civilization in that State.

On the 15th of May, Gen. Sumner issued the following order:

Orders No. 6.—Headquarters Department of the Pacific, San Francisco, May 15, 1861.

I. Neither commanding officers of posts who avail themselves of leaves of absence of seven days, nor officers to whom such leaves are granted, will go to such distance from their posts that they cannot, in the usual mode of travel, rejoin their post by the expiration of the leave. No leave will be extended at these headquarters when this order is in the slightest degree violated.

II. All officers charged with the care of public property, will hold themselves in readiness, at all times, to protect it at every hazard. No public property will ever be surrendered in this department.

By command of Brigadier General Sumner. RICHARD W. DRUM, Ass't Adj't Gen'l.

Among the appropriations made by the Legislature, during the session, amounting in the aggregate to about \$488,000, were the following: For Postage and Express purposes, \$3,000; copying Legislative documents, \$10,000; expenses of Eastern Boundary survey, \$10,000; Deaf and Dumb Asylum, \$10,000; Orphan Asylum, \$13,000. Relief of Sisters of Mercy, \$2,790; Home of Insane, \$2,000; State Reform School, \$25,000. Included in the appropriations for the thirteenth fiscal year were—for Legislative expenses, \$230,000; Judiciary, \$111,400; Insane Asylum, \$92,000; support of State Prison, \$50,000; transportation of prisoners, \$25,000.

The per diem of the members during the session was \$152,950.

Governor Downey, in a letter to the Secretary of arrangements of the great meeting in San Francisco, explaining his reasons for not being present as per invitation, expressed his disbelief in the coercive policy of the Administration, which gave great offence to the extremists, and his former popularity was apparently on the wane in consequence. His chances for the office of Chief Magistrate of the State, by the Union party, were thereby materially lessened.

Arrangements were being made in all the principal cities of the State for grand demonstrations on the Fourth of July.

The corner stone of the State capitol at Sacramento was laid, on the 15th of May, by the officers of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons of that State, according to the rites and ceremonies of that order. The doings on the occasion were on a magnificent scale and the ceremonies are said to have been very imposing. Among the articles deposited in the corner stone, was a three-dollar bill, issued by the Continental Congress, Feb. 17, 1776.

Myriads of grasshoppers had made their appearance in Calaveras and Sonoma counties, and other parts of the State. They were doing considerable damage to the crops. A gentleman of Huntsville, hired a lot of Indians to kill the grasshoppers that were approaching his garden. They worked away six hours, at the end of which time he gathered up what he could of the slain insects, and weighing them, found the net proceeds to be forty-two pounds.

The exportation of wine from Los Angeles and other southern countries, to Mexico, was attracting much attention, and a profitable trade is expected to be carried on in California wine in that direction hereafter.

A destructive conflagration occurred in San Francisco, on the night of the 27th of May, destroying several stores and other buildings. The loss of stock, exclusive of the buildings, was estimated at about \$100,000.

Several shocks of earthquakes are reported to have been felt on the Pacific coast, in the course of the past month.

A company of wealthy Italians, who have for years resided in Calaveras county, recently took their departure for their former homes in Europe.

Mr. Mowry, United States Boundary Commissioner, had resigned his commission, and the survey had been suspended.

On the 19th of May some person in the absence of the workmen, set fire to the Cumberland coal mines, Contra Costa county, deep down, which was extinguished with great difficulty, and had not the fire been discovered shortly after it had been kindled, it is said that its extinguishment would have been impossible.

The shipment of treasure from San Francisco, in comparison with former years, has been quite limited of late, and it is asserted that if the existing state of things continues six months longer, there will be gold enough in that State to build the Pacific railroad.

OREGON.

The Union feeling in Oregon is reported to be very strong, and Union meetings were being held in the principal cities and towns in that State.

At a Union meeting in Salem, recently, some two hundred persons united in whistling "Yankee Doodle."

Late frosts in the southern part of the State, caused great injury to the crops.

The Jacksonville (Southern Oregon) *Sentinel*, says that General Lane was accidentally shot with his own pistol, while getting out of a wagon when about four miles from his own residence. The ball entered the lower part of the breast and came out at the shoulder. Later accounts stated that he had died of his wounds, but the report was not generally believed.

WASHINGTON.

Governor McGill, of Washington Territory, had issued a proclamation calling upon all the citizens of that Territory, capable of bearing arms and liable to military duty, to organize themselves into companies, elect their officers and report immediately to the Adjutant-General of the Territory; and earnestly desiring all loyal citizens to rally around the flag of their country, and sustain the Federal Government in the hour of trial.

NEVADA TERRITORY.

The assessor's report, showing that there were four hundred and thirty houses in Carson city, the population had been estimated at 2,570 souls.

In consequence of the scarcity of coin and high prices of freight, the people there were agitating the question of coining their own money.

Grasshoppers by millions had made their appearance in various parts of the Territory, spreading terror and dismay wherever they went, especially among those engaged in agriculture. Great efforts were being made to exterminate them by digging ditches and by every means the farmers could devise, but without much success. They were hoping for a storm to come to sweep away the unwelcome visitors.

The non-appearance of the Federal officers, particularly of Governor Nye, in the Territory had created some uneasiness, as they wished the organization of the new Territorial Government to be effected at the earliest practicable date. The coming of the officials had been delayed so long that some were apprehensive that they never intended to fill the offices to which they had severally been appointed, but trusted that they would resign in that event, before long, and that others would be appointed who would honor their offices.

The importation of officers for a Territory is attended with many inconveniences at best, and it should never be done when it can reasonably be avoided. If there are not men in Nevada as capable of filling the offices of Governor, Secretary, Judges, Marshal and Attorney, as those that will be imported, if the Territory is ever organized by appointees from the east or west, it is certainly more deficient in talent, learning and ability than any other Territory for which an organization has been provided.

A JUVENILE WANDERER.—On Monday evening last, a boy three years old, son of Joshua Midgley, residing in the 12th Ward, was missing, and all the efforts made to find him that night proved unavailing. The painful feelings of a fond father and mother under the circumstances can be imagined. The city having been searched through without finding the lost child, the quest was extended to points outside the city proper and the little wanderer was found about daylight on Tuesday morning, at a house near President Young's lower mill, some two miles from his father's residence—a man having heard him in a field near by, some time in the evening, and went to his succor. Not being able to elicit from the boy his father's name and residence, which all children should be taught at an early age, the man took the lad to his house, where he was found by the distressed father, and conveyed home, much to the delight of his parents, who were afraid that he had been drowned in some of the water courses passing through the city.

Visit to Springville.

On Friday last, the 21st inst., President Young, accompanied by Pres. Kimball and Elders Woodruff, G. A. Smith, J. V. Long and others, left this city, early in the morning, for Springville, where an appointment for a two-days meeting had previously been made. The party dined at American Fork, and arrived at Springville, a little after six o'clock p.m.

On Saturday, at 10 a.m., the meeting was commenced in the meeting house, which has been newly fitted up, repaired and repainted, and which, on the occasion, was filled to its utmost capacity, leaving fully as many on the outside of the building as were lucky enough to secure seats within.

The vast assemblage was addressed by Presidents Young and Kimball, in the forenoon, and by Elder Woodruff and President Young and Kimball in the afternoon.

In the evening, a stroll was taken about the town to view the gardens, orchards, etc., during which, Presidents Young and Kimball called it to see Thomas B. Marsh, formerly President of the Twelve, who has for some time been seriously insane, so raving at times that he has had to be chained. At the time of the visit, he was some better, but, as represented, was a miserable looking object.

The meeting on Sunday commenced at nine o'clock, and was more numerous attended than on Saturday, many from other settlements being present. Gen. Ferguson, Elders Ross and G. A. Smith and Presidents Young and Kimball addressed the congregation in the forenoon, and Presidents Young and Kimball preached in the afternoon. At the close of the meeting, some fifteen or sixteen persons were cut off from the church for deeds done and performed derogatory to the character of Saints.

The party returned to American Fork that evening, where a meeting was held at seven o'clock, at which Presidents Young, and Kimball and Elder J. V. Long preached.

On Monday, at about eleven o'clock, a.m., the party arrived on their return home, all well. For these items we are indebted to Elder Woodruff.

Sandwich Islands.

Lady Franklin and her niece, Miss Craycroft, arrived at Honolulu on Sunday, the 21st May, and were invited to Rosebank, the residence of His Excellency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to whom she had letters of introduction, and proceeded thither in Her Majesty's carriage, which was placed at her disposal during her stay there. Her ladyship and her niece were received by the King, Queen and young Prince in the palace. The meeting on both sides was cordial and pleasant. Her main object in going to the islands was to visit the volcano, on Hawaii, and the scenes in Kealakekua Bay, made memorable by the death of Captain Cook.

The raising of sugar cane and the manufacture of sugar is of late attracting much attention in the Islands, and it is confidently expected that a great and lucrative business in that line will spring up there. Satisfactory experiments have been made, and the principal difficulties existing to carry on the business extensively are want of capital, and to some extent, experienced directors.

A sample of fifteen stalks of cane, raised at Hanaloi, Island of Kauai, had been received by Col. Parker, U. S. Consul, at Honolulu, who intended forwarding it to the Patent Office, at Washington, the largest, six to seven inches in circumference and fifteen feet in length, one having fifty six joints, and others from thirty to fifty. Similar specimens had also been received by the consul, from Ulupalakua, east Maui and from Hilo. The soil and climate are represented as being peculiarly adapted to the growth of cane, and also of cotton, and it is said that there are tens of thousands of acres of land lying waste that will grow those crops to perfection, and a bright future for the Islands is confidently anticipated.

EMIGRATION.—Last Friday and Saturday, there was a large emigration passing through to California, on Saturday, particularly, the principal street of the city was crowded with emigrants. They had a large and fine stock of horses and mules.

The first of the emigrants from the west passed through at the same time; they were very few in number. The troubles in the east are decidedly favorable to populating the Pacific.