

## THE EVENING NEWS.

Thursday, March 19, 1874.

Washington Excited over a California Butter Churn.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Budd Smith and a party of Californians are here making a vigorous effort to procure a patent for one of the most remarkable inventions of the age. He has invented a churn by which he converts milk into butter in a few seconds, without the aid of any mixture, and with a loss of only a small quantity of pure water. One gallon of milk, which weighs a little more than eight pounds, is converted into three pounds of butter. His invention has created a sensation in the Patent Office. The churn is constructed in three parts, one fitting into the other. It is composed of metallic structure, the top part being the lid which is secured by the inventor. When the milk is placed in the churn it is believed the transformation into butter is caused by a galvanic action. It is impossible to distinguish it from ordinary butter.

It appears also to have the same amount of fatty matter that is found in general butter. The scientists of the Patent Office confess themselves puzzled. Smith says he dreamed out the invention about six years ago. He has sold several rights to the counties of Shasta, Siskyou and Tehama, in northern California where he lives, in order to procure funds to enable him to get the patent. The process is being secretly worked with great success and profit. He has sold the right for California and several other States and promises to put every person who uses his churn under heavy bonds not to let it go out of his possession, or to allow any other person to use it or obtain the secret through any means of the metallic substance. Private exhibitions have been given to a large number of prominent Senators. He has been invited to exhibit it before the public, and offered \$1,000 a week to exhibit it in one of the leading theaters here, but has declined. As soon as he gets his patent he will sell the rights for all large cities and States, and expects to realize several million dollars on the sales. His brother is Vernon Smith of San Francisco, a lawyer. The opinion has been expressed by one scientific man, who has watched the process of making butter with this churn, that it is a kind of soap, caused by the combining of particles of water and fatty matter of the milk. The matter has been conducted very secretly heretofore, but now the inventor is believed with applications for a patent. Last night the parties interested gave an exhibition of this wonderful churn to correspondents of the various papers throughout the country. The right for San Francisco is disposed of to Mr. Martin, owner of the ice patents, for \$50,000. —San Francisco Chronicle.

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