

THE BALLOONING MAIL SYSTEM.

The ballooning mail system, adopted by the present French government, will be likely to give a great impetus to this branch of art, and, if continued, may lead to the invention of some apparatus by which the problem of aerial navigation will be solved and rendered easy.

The first balloon ascent took place in June, 1783, the aeronauts being two Frenchmen, the brothers Gondolfier. These upward flights soon became very common, and several of them terminated fatally to the voyagers.

The idea of turning balloons to account during the present Franco-Prussian contest, but was formerly turned to good account by both French and Austrians; recourse was occasionally had to the same method of obtaining information during the late civil war between the Union and Southern Confederacy.

The balloon post is of great service in France at the present time, as thousands of letters are sent, and information imparted by its means, which it would be otherwise impossible to convey or obtain.

"The rule of the road," in this mode of traveling, when the current is drifting in the machine in a direction not desired, is to throw out ballast and rise until a more favorable current is reached.

A LATE number of Reynolds's Newspaper, contains an extract from a letter written by a Liverpool man, working in the African diamond fields, from which it appears that diamond prospecting is about as uncertain as the prospecting for gold.

The writer of the letter says that the country is rough and barren, made up of a series of hills, intermixed with what is called the granite, a compound resembling gravel mixed with ironstone, lime, Jasper, mica, ruby, garnet, and here and there a diamond.

Before the prospecting commenced, the country, he says, belonged to no one, having neither laws nor government; now the Free State and the Transvaal Republic, as well as native chiefs, have put in claims, and there is likely to be some fighting before the ownership is decided.

A CO-OPERATIVE manufactory is being fitted up and will shortly commence operations under the management of the shoemakers of the city of Philadelphia. A week last Tuesday evening the members of the Crispin Society of that city met for the furtherance of this object, at which it was stated that all the machinery necessary to keep a large number of hands going, had been secured and put in position ready for the workmen to commence operations; all of whom, it is said, will be able to earn good wages.

By you will be able to run. We believe the shoemakers of Utah are as well supplied with brains and skill as the shoemakers of Philadelphia.

A LUDEROUS case recently came before a New York magistrate, in which a man (I) named Wm. Voss was complainant, and the defendant, his son, a little fellow twelve years of age. The charge was assault and battery; and the child had been arrested by the police at the instance of this precious specimen of a daddy.

A RECENT number of the New York Sun contains a sensational article, describing the discovery of the buried treasure of the noted pirate Captain Kidd, which has been sought by so many parties at different times, and in different localities.

THE UTAH EXECUTIVE. THE appointment, by President Grant, of Gen. Vernon H. Vaughan, to the responsible position of Chief Executive of the Territory of Utah, has elicited much comment from the press in various parts of the country, some of which was sent west in the dispatches of the Associated Press, over the wires of the W. U. Telegraph Company.

Colonel Howard, "Phœnix" is a man who has been, we believe, intimately acquainted with Gov. Vaughan, in former years; and his close intimacy with a paper as reliable as the Herald, together with what we have seen of the Colonel, leads us to believe that he is an honorable man, and that his letters, on this as well as other subjects, are reliable.

What business has Vincent Vaughan, the confederate ex-Colonel, to be holding such a responsible position as that of Governor of Utah? He was a political failure at home in Alabama, and so incompetent to fill a Professor's chair in a small university.

Now is the first place, the editor who indicated the above was so ignorant as not to know the name of our Governor, instead of "Vincent Vaughan," it is "Vernon H. Vaughan." And I am saying in saying that he never was an officer in the confederate army, nor was he ever a candidate for any political office in his life, and therefore could not be the "political failure" alluded to above.

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Speaking of the appointment of Secretary Black, the same writer says: "And while I am one on the defense of the poor fellows who come here to administer the government, let me pay a passing compliment to George A. Black, Secretary of the Government of Utah. He will be remembered by many of the boys of the Army of the Cumberland as a Quartermaster's sergeant, who always gave them their full rations. When General Sharpe was appointed Governor, he made Mr. Black his private secretary, and in this capacity he came to Utah. It remains to be seen whether the Secretary of the Territory will be able to do his duty in the world which he is only thirty years of age.

At that age Geo. Washington, Esq., was in his prime, popular and patriotic, and Alexander Hamilton wrote the Federalist. Black is a young man, his true, but he is old enough to catch "Valley Tan," or any other noxious drink, and he is a gentleman enough to conduct with becoming dignity all the duties of his office. It may sound strange in the ears of the democratic readers of the Herald to hear a Federal official honorably mentioned, but the truth is, Omaha and Senator Thayer are directly responsible for the good faith and fame of governor, secretary and marshal, and it is my pleasure to record how honorable these latter filled their trusts.

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