

## LATEST FROM CALIFORNIA.

By the California mail, which arrived on Monday afternoon last, we received dates to August 11.

The San Francisco *Herald* of the 9th announces to its readers a dissolution of the co-partnership heretofore existing in the proprietorship of that paper. The former firm was composed of Messrs. Guthrie, Nugent & Page—John Nugent, editor. Nugent and Page have retired and the name of G. W. Guthrie appears at the head of the editorial column as "publisher and proprietor."

The reasons for this change are briefly stated in a leading article in the *Herald* of the above date and are traceable solely to political differences. Mr. Guthrie, we infer, was the principal owner of the establishment and, when the irreconcilable breach occurred in the ranks of the "harmonious democracy," an alienation at once took place between the hitherto confiding partners of the *Herald* establishment—Nugent and Page inclining to the Northern or Douglas and Guthrie to the Southern or Breckenridge wing—the scales poised, but the money interest predominated, Guthrie obtained the controlling balance and raised the flag for Breckenridge and Lane as the "only true exponents of sound national democratic principles."

Relative to the nomination of Douglas, Mr. Guthrie says that he looks upon "Stephen A. Douglas as the candidate of a section. His pretensions were repudiated by seventeen reliable democratic States in solid column. His nomination by less than a real majority was the result of trickery and fraud."

The downfall of a house divided against itself, has been long since predicted and, as if to evade such a disastrous sequel, the disjointed members of this firm wisely decided to go it alone. We are not fully persuaded that this policy will answer as good a purpose among political parties as in private enterprises. At all events, it cannot be disguised that the "national democracy" now exists only in name. How long the present anomalous condition of affairs, which seems to have more or less distracted all ranks and classes, social and industrial as well as commercial and political, may continue, and what the result will be, in minutia, time will more fully determine; yet it requires not the seer's ken to discern that those things are the legitimate sequence of palpable causes, which must work out their inevitable and speedy end.

Seventeen anxious seekers after light, says the *Herald*, had called upon General Denver, formerly Governor of Kansas, to furnish them with that subtle and mysterious element to guide them in the support of a candidate for the Presidency. With that "kindly disposition for which he is noted, the general attempts to illuminate their groping understandings," through the medium of a two and a half column response in the *Sacramento Union*.

Regarding the General's response as "shadowy and uncertain" in its character—rather calculated to lead astray than to properly direct—the *Herald* makes an attempt to "clear up the mist and disperse the gloom" by a critical review of the response and the substitution of what the editor deems a true version of the political romance—all founded in the vagaries of the "Territorial question," out of which, the General assumes, "have sprung all the present existing differences in the democratic party." The man who possesses sagacity sufficient to reconcile the discordant elements now so largely entering into the ingredients of politics in our country, would be a sage indeed.

On August 8th, the colored population of San Francisco celebrated the anniversary of the emancipation of negro slaves in the West Indies, by music, orations, comic, sentimental and tragic dramatic performances.

Ex-Lieutenant Governor Anderson was shot at Genoa, by a man named Lufkins, supposed to be mortally.

Considerable excitement prevailed in Carson county at the annual election on Monday, August 6, to elect their several precinct officers and member of the legislative assembly.

There were two conventions held at Carson city. One was in favor of making nominations pledged to support the laws of the Territory, notwithstanding they were "passed by a majority of Mormons."

The other, entitled the "Anti-Mormon Nominating Convention," was opposed to all alle-

giance to the Territorial laws and authority, and sustained the following nominations:

For Member of the Legislature—J. K. Trumbo, of Genoa. Sheriff—B. T. Brown, of Silver City. Selectmen—A. Curry, of Carson City; W. Musgrove, of Washoe; and E. J. Mathews, of Virginia city. County Treasurer—B. L. King, of Carson city. County Surveyor—James Sturtevant, of Washoe.

The law-abiding nominations were as follows:

For Member of Assembly—John C. James. Sheriff—John L. Blackburn. County Recorder—Edward C. Morse. County Treasurer—R. P. Bland. County Surveyor—S. H. Marlette. Selectmen—J. Williams, J. J. Codrington and W. Alford.

The following resolution, passed by the law and order convention, will show the principal point at issue:

Resolved: That the silly effort now being made by the posting of hand-bills, headed "Anti-Mormon," to defeat a county organization, is an absurd device to impose upon the credulity of the people, and an insult to their understanding, there being few or no Mormons in our midst, and few sympathisers with them.

## LATEST FROM THE WEST.

By the Pony express from the west, which arrived early on Monday morning last, we received advices from as far as Butte station, up to the 14th instant.

That our readers may be kept posted in the affairs and occurrences in that quarter we publish a brief synopsis of the most interesting items contained in the dispatch.

About the first of August, the express riders from Ruby valley to Deep creek were shot at in Antelope canyon, but fortunately without injury.

A company of emigrants were attacked in the same canyon. One of the emigrants had his horse shot dead under him, by the Indians.

Upon the emigrants arriving at Ruby, Lt. Perkins, being apprised of the attack, on the morning of the 11th inst., twenty six soldiers, under command of Lt. Weed—Lt. Perkins being very ill with mountain fever—were dispatched to chastise the Indians in Antelope canyon. When within eight miles of Egan canyon, the detachment were overtaken by the Express rider from the west who, passing on in advance of the troops, upon coming within sight of the station, discovered that it was surrounded with Indians and the door closed. Seeing this, he hastened back and informed Lt. Weed, who immediately took the mounted men with him—eighteen in number, leaving the balance with the wagons—and hastened on to the relief of the station.

After an unsuccessful attempt to surround them, the Indians, opening fire, poured a volley of balls among the regulars, giving them bold and convincing proof that they were in earnest; nor was it certain that they would not be able to hold possession of the station, until the detachment charged on them, when they fled to the rocks.

During the skirmish corporal Mitchell was shot in the thigh, private Conley was mortally wounded, and private Hertsog was wounded in the neck, probably mortally. Two horses were also shot.

It was thought that there must have been upwards of one hundred and fifty Indians—seventy five of them armed with good rifles.

The number of Indians killed is reported to be about fourteen, with the same number wounded.

Peteetneet is at Ruby. He and Shocub think that there were Ban acks in the melee.

Our informant says that the soldiers "found it anything but fun to fight well-armed Indians, when ensconced behind rocks and trees.

The Indians would get behind rocks, or on top of them when they considered themselves out of danger, and whoop and yell like fiends, daring the troops to follow them. One of them, while thus amusing himself was laid low by a ball from a Sharp's rifle in the hands of one of the station men, at an almost incredible distance.

Lt. Weed's arrival was very timely, as there were only two men at the station, together with four emigrants going to California, the latter being very inefficiently armed. The Indians had already got all the provisions of the station house and, undoubtedly, but for the arrival of Lt. W. and those with him, would have destroyed both the men and the station.

The express from this city had not yet arrived on the 14th, tho' due a day or two.

—It is said that there are thirty six men now living at Eastport, Me., between the ages of 70 and 90 years.

## Road to the Weber Coal Mines.

At the last session of the Legislative Assembly an appropriation of two thousand dollars was made, to be expended under the direction of the Territorial Road Commissioner, in locating and opening a road by way of Big Canyon creek to the valley of the Weber, in the vicinity of the coal mines; but from some cause, the commencement of the work has been delayed till the present time, and some who are more or less interested in having the road opened have expressed an opinion that the work would not be completed the present season.

Within the last ten days Commissioner McKean, in company with Gen. Wells, Col. Burton, Capt. Sharp and others, has made an exploration of the contemplated road; and he informs us that the work will soon be commenced with the intention of prosecuting it to its completion at the earliest practicable date.

While the party were out viewing the country between this city and the Weber they made an exploration of the coal region on the east side of that stream, between Echo canyon and Chalk creek, and they report that there is unquestionably an inexhaustible amount of coal there, and that they found a place where it is much more easy of access than where Mr. Spriggs has been tunnelling into the hill, which in one instance he has done to the distance of one hundred and ninety feet, and the coal of a better quality.

Gen. Wells informs us that he is satisfied that that region is one vast coal field; but, from the up-heavings of the earth when the mountains were formed, the strata are very irregular, often, as at the place where the tunnels have been made, having a great dip.

At the point where the future operations will be directed, the vein, which is said to be four or five feet in thickness, lies very favorably for getting out the coal and, as soon as the road can be made passable, wood as an article of fuel will doubtless rapidly go into disuse in this city.

## Return of the Surveying Party.

Col. Stambaugh, U. S. Surveyor General, and party, consisting of Messrs. Mason, Jones, and Miller, of his staff, Territorial Surveyor General Fox and several others, who left this city on the 27th of July to make an examination of the surveys made when Gen. Burr was in office, in Juab, Cedar and Millard counties, returned on Saturday afternoon, much fatigued after such a long tramp over that sandy desert region, where, excepting in a few places, there is nothing belonging to the vegetable kingdom but sage and greasewood.

Examinations were made in Chicken creek, Sevier, Round and Fillmore valleys, contract number nine, Mogo's survey, and Cedar valley, Troskaloski's survey. Some of the corners of townships, sections and quarter-sections were found and some were not, as reported, which the official report, when made, will unquestionably set forth.

One of the party with whom we have conversed, says that the weather on those scorching sands was extremely hot in the day time, but during the night time it was more tolerable.—He is decidedly of the opinion that the United States will not soon replenish its depleted coffers by sales of land in that region, and we think that, upon an average, the land throughout the Territory will never pay for surveying, as Col. Stansbury reported in 1851.

For the incidents that occurred during the tour, see the letter of Mr. Fox, which was received too late for insertion last week.

THE WEATHER.—Wednesday the 22d inst., was the hottest day we have experienced this year, the thermometer marking 95 degrees in the shade for nearly three hours. For several days during the past week the thermometer has averaged 88 degrees from one till three o'clock in the afternoon.

On Monday evening at midnight there was a fine thunder shower, which moistened the dusty ground with a quarter of an inch of water over the whole surface.

The above figures are given by the "weather clerk," who has all the modern appliances for making accurate observations, and undoubtedly are correct according to the system adopted, but other thermometers, hanging in the shade in various parts of the city have indicated a degree of heat as high as 101 and an average of from 6 to 8 degrees above his figures.

## A Father in Israel.

We had the pleasure of an interview, a few days since, with Elder Gibson Smith, father of Mrs. N. K. Whitney, who arrived in this city, in Capt. Walling's company, on Thursday the 9th instant, who altho' in his eightieth year is more active and lively than most men are at sixty.

Father Smith has been a member of the church almost from the beginning, having been baptised in Kirtland, Ohio, in 1832, while on a visit to that place from Canaan, Litchfield county, Conn., where he then resided, to see some of his kindred who had emigrated to the Western Reserve in the early settlement of that portion of the Buckeye State.

Having received an ordination to the office of an Elder, he returned home to Connecticut and commenced preaching the gospel to his neighbors and soon raised up a branch of the church numbering thirty two members, some of whom are now in this Territory; several have died, a few have turned away from the truth, and some eight or ten, from various circumstances, have never gathered with the Saints, who are yet firm in the faith.

His wife dying in 1851, the old gentleman remained in that country with some of his children, living most of the time with a widowed daughter at Ashley Falls, Berkshire county, Mass.; but for the last year resided principally at Hempstead, Long Island, about twenty miles from Brooklyn, which place he left, in company with Mr. A. Pettit and family, early in May, and on the 7th of that month left New York city on a steamboat for Albany, thence by railroad to St. Joseph, Mo., where he again took passage on a steamer up the Missouri river to Florence, N. J., on his way to Utah.

From Florence, which place he left on the 30th of May, he came across the plains in Capt. Walling's company, walking from choice about one half the distance, and in one instance walked twenty three miles in one day. He arrived here in good health and excellent spirits, thus proving the falsity of the predictions of some of his old acquaintances in the east, who, affecting to believe that the old man was deluded, and not possessed of good sense, prophesied that he would never live to see these valleys, but, to use their own expressions, would be "settled down by the way."

He seems remarkably well pleased with his reception and the kind treatment extended to him by his old acquaintances, relatives and friends, and especially by President Young, who baptised him twenty eight years ago. His meeting with his daughter—sister Whitney, eight grand children, and twelve great grand children, affords him much pleasure, as well as the prospect of his spending the remainder of his days in this probation, be they few or many, in the society of the Saints.

## Drenching Shower.

On Monday afternoon, the air became sultry, dark clouds gathered from the south and there was every indication of rain. The thunder was too distant to break up the rain-fountains and all apparently passed off with but a slight sprinkle—the effects of which could scarcely be discerned an hour afterwards.

Some of the weather prophets predicted that the rain would come yet, before long; and, in this instance, their predictions were fulfilled within a most remarkably short time; for, about midnight of the same night those ominous clouds again gathered blackness suddenly and, accompanied with vivid lightning flashes and quick succeeding peals of thunder, the heavens shed forth in grateful torrents, cooling the sultry air, refreshing man and beast and giving renewed life to all nature.

Vegetation, which has hitherto seemed almost parched from extreme heat and lack of moisture, presented, on Tuesday morning, a truly improved appearance. Such a shower at such a time was as propitious as it was uncommon.

APPLES.—We notice that this wholesome fruit is beginning to make its appearance in market. Some of the very earliest—the red June, for example—were ripe some time since; but we saw none of them for sale. Those now offered are readily disposed of at 75c @ \$1 per dozen. Peaches would unquestionably be in great demand if there were any to be had in this region.