

## Steam Boat Explosion.

On Sunday morning, April 3d, the OAKLAND and CONTRA COSTA, two rival steam ferry boats, left San Francisco about nine o'clock, on their first day across the bay to Oakland, the former having some 300 and the latter about 75 passengers on board.

The CONTRA COSTA, at the time of leaving the wharf, got under weigh a little the quickest and took the lead, the OAKLAND following a few lengths astern. The two boats kept nearly the same position relative to each other, till they reached Oakland bar, 18 minutes from the time of leaving, running at the top of their speed.

At the time of reaching the bar, the CONTRA COSTA was about twenty rods ahead. Having to slacken steam a little while crossing the bar, the OAKLAND began to lessen the distance between the two boats, at which most of the passengers on board the CONTRA COSTA went aft to watch the motion of the other boat more closely, the which was fortunate for them, for in a minute after the boat was a perfect wreck, the starboard boiler having exploded, was blown upwards through the deck a hundred yards from the boat into the bay, and the work of death and destruction, the usual result of such lawless proceedings had been accomplished.

The OAKLAND immediately came alongside and made fast to the wreck and commenced taking off the passengers that were uninjured, together with the dead and wounded. There was a scene of wild confusion, and in despite the exertions of those who had self-possession enough to make the best of a bad matter, and take care of themselves and others, some five or six jumped overboard to save their lives after the danger was over.

The steam tug GOLIAH, which had fired up for the purpose of towing a vessel into harbor, started immediately for the wreck, taking on board Capt. Winturn, owner of the CONTRA COSTA, several surgeons and other gentlemen who went to the assistance of the sufferers, the explosion having been witnessed by those on the wharf who were anxiously watching to see which of the boats would win the race.

The steamer SAN ANTONIO also left Pacific wharf soon after for the scene of the disaster, taking several hundred persons who were anxious to learn the particulars of the sad catastrophe.

The OAKLAND took the passengers, the dead and wounded to shore, then returned and towed the wreck out into deep water. The GOLIAH then took it in tow and returned with it to San Francisco.

The following account we take from the *Alta*:

## KILLED.

David W. Cady, a street contractor, formerly Deputy City Surveyor, aged 34 years, a native of New York. Mr. C. was blown into the air and fell into the water; he swam to the boat and was taken on board the Oakland, but died soon after; the property found on the person of Mr. Cady was turned over to Edward Hoskins, Esq., Justice of the Peace, at Oakland, there being no coroner qualified for the county.

Michael G. Smith, the barkeeper of the boat, was engaged in opening a basket of wine at the time of the explosion. The bar room was entirely carried away, and the unfortunate man was never seen afterwards. It is rumored that a hand was subsequently found which, by a ring upon one of the fingers, was recognized as belonging to Mr. Smith.

Henry L. Ostrander, one of the crew, was dreadfully scalded, and was brought to this city and taken to the Marine Hospital, where he died soon after.

Albert Winship, one of the firemen, was dreadfully scalded, and taken on board the steamer Oakland and conveyed to the shore, where he died in a few minutes.

George McDowell, the head fireman of the boat, a native of New Jersey, and a son of ex-Alderman McDowell, of Sacramento. His remains were brought to this city on the wreck of the Contra Costa, but re-taken to Oakland for a coroner's inquest.

Also another man, name unknown, who is said to be a keeper of a boarding house on Pacific street.

## SCALDED AND WOUNDED.

Joseph Holsterr, an employee of the annealer's department of the U.S. Mint; badly scalded. He was brought to this city and taken to St. Mary's Hospital. He died on Monday.

T. W. Fenn, boarding-house keeper on Broadway street; badly scalded.

Matthew Mulqueen, boarding-house keeper on Market street; severely scalded in hands and face.

Benjamin Hilliard, late of the Herald; severely scalded in face and hands.

Mr. ——— Smith, brother of the bar keeper; badly scalded—not dangerous.

Jose Garcia; scalded in the face and hands.

Jose Maria; badly scalded in the head.

Dolores Garcia; badly scalded.

Frank Smith, mate of the steamer; slightly scalded.

Nicholas Knowlton, a deck hand; badly scalded, but not dangerous.

Wyatt Birdsall, chief engineer; slightly scalded in the face and hand.

Capt. John Lewis; slightly scalded.

Mexican woman, name unknown; hand scalded.

Henry Toomey; slightly scalded in the face.

Mexican man; severely scalded.

Mr. Quinn, one of the crew, badly scalded.

A splinter from the boat knocked the hats off of three men, and struck a Mexican woman (name unknown) in the face, badly injuring her left eye.

A little Jew boy, named Charley, was blown into the air twenty feet, and had his wrist broken.

A German, name unknown; brought over late in the evening, in care of Dr. Sawyer, and taken to Silver's Hotel, on Broadway. He is very badly scalded.

Mr. Raymond, clerk of the boat; slightly scalded.

George Wilson, a passenger; scalded in the left hand severely.

Henry Adams, passenger; slightly burned.

Wm. Mayne, passenger; slightly injured.

Williams, a mulatto man; had his shoulder dislocated by a blow from a splinter.

Soon after the return of the GOLIAH with the wreck of the ill-fated boat, Mr. Burke, chief of police, went on board and arrested the captain and engineer, who were put under \$2500 bonds each for their appearance to await the result of the coroner's examination, which would have to be held in the county where the explosion took place, either in Contra Costa or Alameda county, not certain which, and the question would have to be decided before any further proceedings could be had.

**MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.**—We have been informed that on Thursday, the 21st inst., a detachment, consisting of one company of dragoons and two of infantry, left Camp Floyd, with some fifty wagons, for the Santa Clara, to meet and escort in Major Prince, who went to California some time since to raise money to pay off the officers and soldiers of the army in the department of Utah, who have not received any pay for a long time, and of course are hard up.

Judge Cradabaugh accompanied the detachment, but in what capacity our informant did not know, but presumed as a committing magistrate, though it might be possible that he had started for California or Arizona, in one of which places, he informed a gentleman not long since, he intends ultimately to locate.

When this detachment meets Major Prince, the escort that accompanies him from California, as reported, will return by way of the Colorado, to join the forces sent into that region to protect the emigrants on the southern overland mail route, and keep in awe the Mohave Indians.

**TRUTH TRIUMPHANT.**—From the following, taken from an exchange, we infer that some more of the lying reports and statements made concerning the people of Utah by correspondents and interested persons have been found to be untrue:—

WASHINGTON, March 13.

The War Department received advices from Gen. Johnston, at Salt Lake. He represents the army as healthy and the Mormons as very civil. Letters have also been received from Governor Cumming. The report that the Mormons would not submit to the civil authorities is untrue.

**HIGH WATER.**—The snow has been melting away slowly for the last two weeks, and the mountain streams have swelled considerably. The Weber is said to be higher below its canyon than it has been before, during the last four years. The prospect for an abundance of water for irrigating purposes the coming summer could not be better than at present, and should there be much rain on the mountains in May and June, all the low lands will be overflowed, and more or less damage accrue to the roads and bridges in this part of the Territory.

**IN PROSPECTIVE.**—An extensive mud-hole at the lower end of North Temple street, and unless some other disposition is made of the surplus water of City creek running in that direction, the Territorial road, east of Jordan bridge, will shortly be impassable for teams, if not for the herds that are daily driven to the range west of the river.

How it can be avoided, we do not pretend to say, but if some way could be devised to conduct the water to the Jordan without doing so much damage to the road, it would certainly be a good thing and much inconvenience avoided.

**THE WEATHER** for the last few days has been cold though pleasant. Frost nearly every night and on Tuesday morning ice could be seen in the lower part of the city a half inch thick.

## From California.

The Western mail arrived early on Wednesday morning, April 20th, some two days sooner than usual, making the quickest trip yet.

We received the *Alta* of the 9th and one or two other papers, but the balance of our exchanges and other mail matter that should have been received was missing on the opening of the mail in this city.

That was not of course the fault of the contractor, nor of the carriers, but most likely some of the post masters, assistants or clerks, either on this side of the Sierra Nevada, or beyond could tell, if they would, something about them, and other papers and packages that had been directed to us by friends and correspondents in California, within the last few months; that were either not forwarded from the mailing office, or taken out by the way, as they never came to hand.

From the few papers received, we extract a few items, which may be of some interest to our readers.

The Legislature of the Golden State continues grinding away.

A Bill passed the Assembly on the 25th of March, and was sent to the Senate for concurrence, providing for a division of the State.

If the bill should pass the Senate, and become a law, by the approval of the governor, at the next general election, the people of the Southern counties are to vote on the questions and if two thirds are in favor of the measure, in the language of the bill "the consent hereby given shall be deemed consummated."

The next step in the programme, will be to provide a territorial government for the detached portion. Some office seekers can then be accommodated with places for political operations. However, the scheme will probably fail.

**LATEST FROM WASHINGTON.**—No extra session of Congress will be held—that question has been settled.

The new Post Master General has been making some changes in relation to the management of the Post Office Department, retrenching its expenditures considerable—about half a million.

Some difficulty was reported to exist in the Cabinet, and Mr. Secretary Toucey had intimated his intention to resign.

**NEW STORES AND NEW GOODS.**—The attention of our readers will, of course, be directed by the advertisements in to-day's paper to the new goods that have lately been received from California, and now offered for sale in this city.

It cannot be expected, from our known predilection in favor of home manufactured articles, and aversion to importing what can be produced at home, that we should feel as joyous on account of the recent accessions to the stock of merchandize on sale in this market, as some others.

However, we have no hesitation in advising those who have to buy what they cannot produce themselves or go without, to purchase where they can the cheapest, according to quality, and so if they choose, they can step into the new store of Bassett & Needham and see what they will do in the premises.

**BAD ROADS.**—The State road between the city and Mill creek is said to be very bad, in consequence of the abundance of water flowing from the mountains, the channels of the streams being insufficient to carry it off.

The County road, by the Sugar House, from present appearances, will have to be used for a time to come by those traveling to and from the south, as it is on higher ground and can be kept in repair at less expence, and traveled when the State road is impassable.

**INFORMATION WANTED.**—by Mr. S. B. Aden, Paris, Tennessee, of the whereabouts of his son William A. Aden, who is about 21 years of age. Mr. Aden is very anxious to learn the whereabouts of his son William, and any one knowing it can furnish the information to Pres. B. Young's office, or directly to Mr. S. B. Aden, as may be most convenient.

A Mr. FARLEY of Ogden in fording the Weber river near that place with a load of grain or flour a few days since, had both his horses drowned.

**THANKS** to Mr. C. H. Bassett for the fine orange from the gardens of the San Gabriel mission, Lower California, whence it was obtained during his late visit to that state.

## TABERNACLE.

Sunday, April 24th, at 10 a.m., Elder John Taylor addressed the congregation on the imperfect state of the sciences, the diversity of opinions entertained on theological questions, and the consequent lack of union amongst professors of Christianity; spoke at length on the history of the origin of governments, their object and design, argued that the world by wisdom knew not God, and that no man could know God except by revelation, without which no man could be saved in the celestial kingdom.

In the afternoon, Elder O. Pratt spoke on the efficacy of the prayer of faith, the condition of the Saints, the necessity of having in their possession all the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit. He contended that the ministrations of angels was necessary for the perfection of the Saints and the accomplishment of the latter day work; then reasoned on the text, "Shall not the living inquire of the Lord concerning the dead," and exhorted the Saints so to live that they might not be brought into captivity, when they got to the spirit world, by those spirits that are seeking to bring the people of God into subjection to their will. If once brought into captivity, he said, we must then do the will of the devil and be in bondage for hundreds and thousand of years; that then, if those spirits wished us to go and tip a table, ring a bell or be a writing medium, we should be entirely subject to their will.

**MILITARY ROAD.**—We learn from a friend, who recently visited Camp Floyd, that it is the intention of Gen. Johnston to send Capt. Simpson, of the Topographical corps, in the course of a few days, to complete the survey of the military road, leading from Camp Floyd to Carson valley, commenced last fall.

**JAPANESE AMUSEMENTS.**—A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, writing from Japan, says:—

"Before leaving Japan we saw a most interesting display of a 'winter evening amusement for children.' I relate it to show how far advanced these people are in some things, while in others they are almost savages, particularly as regards their freedom of costume. One of our Dutch friends had presented us with a small box containing what looked like several hundred pieces of broom-straw, from three-eighths to an inch in length.

"Throw one of those in that cup of hot water!" he said. We did as desired, and it had no sooner touched the surface than it expanded into a perfect representation of a Japanese woman in full dress. Another proved to be a very buffalo-like cow, a third was a sword, and a fourth quite a handsome walking cane. "Throw in a dozen at a time!" said our friend. Of course we complied—picking them up at random—and they all proved to be different. There were houses, dogs, short-tailed cats, horses, trees and flowers; and I suppose had we thrown in half of the box we should have seen duplicates of almost everything known to the Japanese. As it was, however, we curbed our curiosity, divided the contents of the box between us, and stowed them away in our rooms for the purpose of astonishing the natives at home."

**THE DIABLERIE OF AN ARAB MAGICIAN.**—Caleb Lyon, of Lyonsdale, in his lecture on Egypt, relates some remarkable tricks that were performed by an Arab magician:—

A cane was handed to the party for inspection, and proved to be a plain stick, on which the knots of limbs were visible; on returning it to the conjurer, however, it became a serpent, which wriggled about for a few minutes and then suddenly became a stick again. This trick which is said to be a common one with the Arabs, was repeated several times. The next trick was more startling. A black liquid was poured into a boy's hand, and in it, as in a mirror, one of Mr. Lyon's companions, a native of South Carolina, beheld a rice plantation of his own state, and his father who had been dead many years, riding through the field on horseback.

**A BETTER ACQUAINTANCE.**—The Piqua (S.C.) Register relates the following:

Quite a revival is now in progress at the African church in this city. We were present a few evenings since, and witnessed, with much gratification, their earnest devotion. Of the incidents we cannot fail to note one. A brother was supplicating the throne, eloquently, when another brother called out in stentorian voice:

"Who dat pray'ng ober dar?"

The response was, "Dat's Brudder Mose."

"Hold on, dar, Brudder Mose!" was the dictum of the former; "you let Brudder Ryan pray; he's better 'quanted wid de Lord dan you am."

Brudder Mose dried up, and Brudder Ryan prayed.

**TO REMOVE MILDEW FROM CLOTHING.**—Take soap and make it thin enough to rub into the cloth well, then lay it in a hot sun for two or three days. If one application is not enough, wet it again. You will find it a sure method to take stains of any kind from white cloths.—[*Rural New Yorker*.]