

OVERLAND MAIL TO CALIFORNIA.

On Monday next the contract for carrying the mail through some point on the Mississippi river to San Francisco, in California, will be awarded.

Some little difficulty seems to present itself in the selection of a proper starting-point on the Mississippi river. To our view, this difficulty is not a very serious one, when considered in its relations to all the interests concerned.

Upon drawing a line east and west, passing over Saint Louis, it will be found that the great mass of population, business, wealth, railroads, and other influences, lie to the north of it, or within two hundred miles on the south side of it.

A strong northern sentiment would doubtless demand the location of the overland mail route from some town in the State of Iowa, through the South Pass; a strong southern sentiment would, in like manner, demand its location from a point in Louisiana or Arkansas, by way of El Paso.

But we deem it proper to all concerned to say that, on this subject, the President and the whole cabinet are wholly uncommitted except to do entire justice to all parties, and to all interests connected with this great public measure.

When we consider that the leading railroads of New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia were designed principally to secure the trade and travel of the valley of the Ohio, and of the Upper Mississippi, and that the railroads of those States, and of the States lying to the west of them, have an aggregate length exceeding 20,000 miles, and were built and equipped at a cost exceeding seven hundred millions of dollars, it excites no wonder that their owners should feel a deep solicitude that the national overland mail to California should start from a central and easily accessible point, and not from some town, situated amid the swamps of the Lower Mississippi, five hundred miles south of St. Louis.

To guard these large interests against any surprise, we understand that the leading officials and stockholders of the above-mentioned railroads will send forward, by train this Monday next, petitions to the President of the United States, requesting that the route of the overland mail shall not be fixed further south than St. Louis, but along a line at once central and accessible to all the great interests of the nation.

The following very reasonable and just remarks are from the New York Tribune:

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

STATE DEPARTMENT. Commerce of the Azores.—A correspondent at Fayal, under date of April 3d, laments its inability to announce any improvement in the commerce between the Azores and the United States.

From the island of St. Michaels there were shipped last season, just ended, an amount equal to three hundred thousand Sicily boxes of oranges, about forty thousand from Terceira, and about fifty-five hundred from this island; and of all that quantity only about fifteen hundred boxes were shipped to the United States.

Interior Department. Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.—Charles E. Mix, Chief Clerk of the Indian Bureau, has been appointed by the President of the United States acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs during the temporary absence of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Gen. Denver, who has gone to New York on business connected with his office.

Patent Bureau.—The following is an abstract of the business of this bureau for this month (May) under the act of March 3, 1855: Number of applications for bounty land received—1,933 Number of warrants or certificates issued—3,439 It will require 513,900 acres of land to satisfy these warrants, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Warrant number and Acres. Total number of applications received is 274,829. Total number of warrants or certificates issued is 205,058.

To satisfy these warrants will require 25,325,050 acres of public lands, as the following statement will show:

Table with 2 columns: Warrant number and Acres. Total number of warrants is 205,058. Total acres required is 25,325,050.

A bounty-land warrant for 160 acres was issued a few days since to ex-Governor Rodman M. Price, of New Jersey, for his services in the war with Mexico.

NAVY DEPARTMENT. The Navy Department has received an unofficial report from H. C. Caldwell, assistant surgeon, dated United States ship Independence, Panama Bay, May 8, 1857, in which he states he had been informed that there exists a practicable route for a ship-canal from the Gulf of San Miguel, Rio Sarana, to Fuerte del Principe, a few miles above where the tide reaches; thence northerly about north by east over low ground to the Atlantic, to Caledonia Bay, or a little north of it; and that the whole country is low, well wooded, watered, and abounding in game, and that a small party can cross from the Sarana to the Atlantic ocean and return, making a path or road as they go in less than ten days, without fear of Indians or disease.

Mr. Caldwell communicated these facts to Commodore Myrnie, who detailed a small party to accompany him. The report is highly interesting, and establishes the following important facts, namely: 1. That the summit level of a route from Principe northerly to the Atlantic is within eight miles of the Sarana, and would not prove insuperable to engineering skill in constructing a ship-canal.

THE NAVAL OFFICE.—Court No. 1 was not in session yesterday. The cases of Lieut. Carter and Capt. Newell, before courts Nos. 2 and 3, are still pending.

Mr. Editor: I hope that every good citizen—every one who entertains a desire to see the metropolis of this Union setting a proud example to the States in genuine patriotism; in that devotion and love of the institutions of our country through the influence of which we have become a great and powerful nation, whose course is still upward and onward in prosperity, power, and glory—will feel it incumbent upon him to go to the polls on Monday next, individually, as if he held the controlling vote, and exercise the proud prerogative of an American citizen.

LOCAL NEWS.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION.—On Monday an election will take place for collector, register, surveyor, and for members of the councils, and assessors. For several years past the majority of the councils have been know-nothings. Last June their power was broken in the election of Dr. Magruder, and now we anticipate a triumph in the municipal legislature, if every friend of civil and religious liberty will perform his duty.

GENERAL TICKET. For Collector—James F. Halliday. For Register—William Morgan. For Surveyor—William Forsyth.

WARD NOMINATIONS. FIRST WARD. For Alderman—George W. Riggs. For Common Council—John B. Turton, Charles J. Abert, R. A. Waters.

SECOND WARD. For Alderman—Dr. Thomas Miller. For Common Council—Thomas J. Fisher, Ferdinand Jefferson, William Orme.

THIRD WARD. For Alderman—Thomas Donohoe. For Common Council—Christopher O'Hara, Lambert Tree, J. F. Brown.

FOURTH WARD. For Alderman—J. H. Goddard. For Common Council—Zillah Edmondston, James A. Kennedy, Richard H. Clark.

FIFTH WARD. For Alderman—Edward Barry. For Common Council—Wm. Wallace, E. F. French, William A. Mulloy.

SIXTH WARD. For Alderman—Aaron W. Miller. For Common Council—Thomas Altemus, Thomas Champion, James W. Robinson.

SEVENTH WARD. For Alderman—William G. Flood. For Common Council—Samuel Pumphrey, John T. Caswell, John T. Bradley.

THE PLACES for holding the election are: First Ward—First precinct—Corner of Eighteenth and H streets. Second precinct—Corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Twentieth street.

Second Ward—First precinct—Massachusetts avenue, between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets. Second precinct—Corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Twelfth street.

Third Ward—First precinct—Seventh street, between New York avenue and I street. Second precinct—Corner of F and Ninth streets.

Fourth Ward—First precinct—Seventh street, between I street and Massachusetts avenue. Second precinct—At the City Hall.

Fifth Ward—First precinct—Corner of A street south and Third street east. Second precinct—Corner of Pennsylvania avenue and First street east.

Sixth Ward—First precinct—Truck-house of American Hook and Ladder Company, Eighth street, between F and G streets. Second precinct—Anacostia Engine-house.

Seventh Ward—First precinct—Seventh street, one door north of Maryland avenue. Second precinct—At Island Hall.

THE POLLS will be opened at 7 o'clock, a. m., and close at 4 p. m.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Treasurer's Statement table with columns: Amount on deposit, Drains hereof, Amount on hand, and various sub-items like Treasury of the United States, Assistant Treasurer, etc.

Table with columns: Debit monthly, Debit difference in transfers, and Not amount subject to draft.

PROSPECTUS OF THE WASHINGTON UNION. New Volume, New Types, and New Arrangements.

TO THE NATIONAL DEMOCRACY OF THE UNITED STATES. The undersigned takes this method of informing the members of the great national democratic party, that having assumed the sole proprietorship and editorship of the Washington Union...

WASHINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY. CHARTERED BY CONGRESS. Capital—\$200,000. This Company is now prepared to receive applications for insurance on buildings, merchandise, &c., at the usual rates, without any charge for policy, at their office, corner of Fourth street and Penn. avenue, over the Washington City Savings Bank.

INDIGENOUS RACES OF THE EARTH; or, New Chapters of Ethnological Inquiry, compiled by Alfred Maury. A drama of thrilling interest, illustrative of metropolitan life, and of the progress of civilization, will be for sale at TAYLOR & MAURY'S and JOE SHILLINGTON'S.

BY TELEGRAPH. Shipper. NEW YORK, May 30.—The big Rideout, from Boston, for the Virginia Capes, is now ashore at Squam Island. She will be a total loss.

IMPORTANT TO PRINTERS.—Having been appointed the sole proprietor of the Washington Union, I have the honor to inform you that the Union is now published weekly, and is published at the lowest possible price.

NEW STYLES OF Spring and Summer Silks, &c. 15 pieces Bayadere chene silk, entirely new style. 15 pieces French organdy silk, with delicate floral designs.

NEW YORK ADVERTISEMENTS.

Ben. & E. A. Whitlock & Co., 13 Beekman Street, corner of Nassau, opposite the Ador House. PROPRIETORS OF THE PREMIUM CHAMPAGNE, CREMANT CABINET, IMPORTERS of Cognac Brandy for druggists and medicinal use from Grand, Dreyer, & Co., Housay, Plant, Cassin & Co., and other houses of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

Woolens. 1857. WILSON G. HUNT & CO., IMPORTERS. 30 to 36 Park Place.

Wheeler & Wilson. MANUFACTURING COMPANY'S IMPROVED SEWING MACHINES. These machines combine all the improvements which have been invented, and are the most perfect and durable ever made.

Fashionable Dry Goods in New York. AN immense assortment of seasonable fabrics continues on hand, also a large stock of

Cyrus W. Field & Co., WHOLESALE PAPER DEALERS. No. 11 Cliff Street, New York.

Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. This company was organized in 1816, and has since that time been engaged in the business of insuring lives, and accumulating a large fund for the benefit of the insured.

S. C. Herring & Co.'s Patent Champion Saws. These saws are the most perfect and durable ever made, and are used by all the leading sawmills in the United States.

WILLIAMS HOTEL.—J. C. & H. A. Willard, Proprietors. 150 Broadway, New York.

SMOOTH, RUSSELL, & CO., Bankers, Leavenworth City, Mo. Dealers in exchange, discount, bank notes, and land warrants.

OFFICIAL.

TELEGRAPH ENGINEERS. Notice is hereby given to holders of stock of the United States Telegraph Company, that the department will purchase the same on the 1st day of June next, unless the sum of \$1,500,000 shall be previously obtained, and will pay in addition to the interest accrued from the date of the last semi-annual dividend of interest thereon, together with one day's additional interest for the money to reach the vendor, the following rates of premium on said stock:

For the stock of 1842, a premium of 10 per cent. For the stock of 1847 and 1848, a premium of 10 per cent.; and for the stock of 1850, commencing from Texas Indemnity Stock, a premium of 6 per cent.

NEW THEOLOGICAL WORKS.—The Bible and its History, an exposition of the Biblical Chronology and its relations to natural science; by John Henry Kurtz, D.D., translated from a third and improved German edition, by T. B. Stimpson, 1855.

FOR SALE OR RENT.—That desirable brick dwelling-house situated on the east side of Congress street, near the corner of Green street, containing ten rooms, including the kitchen and all necessary out-buildings. It is surrounded by a 1 1/2 acre front by 240 feet deep, with a 20-foot alley running the whole length of the south side of the same.

PATENT DAMASCENED PAPER.—This elegant and novel fabric, in letter and note sizes, with envelopes in various colors, is now on hand at TAYLOR & MAURY'S, Bookstore, near 9th street.

OUR stock of men's and boys' straw and felt hats for summer wear is now complete. Every style, such as Panama, satin braid, Leghorn, Canton, and all the latest styles, will be found in our establishment.

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