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VOL. XIV. NO. 61.

WASHINGTON CITY, TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 1858.

TWO CENTS.

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

DEFEAT OF COL. STEPTOE BY THE INDIANS.

We have been favored by Gov. Stevens, the delegate from Washington Territory, with copies of papers from that Territory, furnishing the only particulars that have yet reached us of this important and disastrous event. No official confirmation of this news has reached the department, but we are assured that the sources of information concerning this affair are entirely trustworthy, and that there is no room to doubt its general accuracy. A correspondent of Gov. Stevens at Olympia, Washington Territory, under date of May 28th, says: "I hasten to drop you a line as the steamer is hourly expected. I have only time to say that the news relative to the defeat of Col. Steptoe is doubtless true. Three gentlemen just from Vancouver have arrived and confirmed the report of yesterday. I have no doubt but that the Colville, Spokane, Couer d'Alene, Palouse, Yakima, Nez Perce, Walla-Walla, and Cayuse lands have combined, and received a letter from Colville valley this morning in which was informed that the Colville Indians are now on the march, and have captured a company of dragoons stationed there last summer, and had captured from Col. Wright, through Col. Steptoe, that they should at least visit that country, but without any good reason in my belief, they failed to comply. If they had even visited the country I believe that it would have had the effect to quiet the Indians."

LIBERTY, THE UNION, AND THE CONSTITUTION.

to consider the Fremont claim. They adopted a series of resolutions, declaring that there was no authority to locate the grant upon the mineral lands within the Sierra Nevada mountains—that the rights, privileges, and claims of the miners and settlers are prior and paramount to those asserted by John C. Fremont, denouncing and condemning the means by which said Fremont and his confederates procured possession of that "Pine Tree Vein," not only as fraudulent and wrong, but contrary to every principle of fair dealing and fair occupation of mining claims—that the decision of the Supreme Court of California is a vindication of the rights of the miners and settlers against the claims and pretensions of said Fremont. A central committee was appointed for the transaction of business. The news from Washington Territory, of the defeat of Col. Steptoe by the Indians, is construed here as an indication of a probable general war among the tribes of Oregon, Washington, and perhaps of Utah Territory. The Red Bulla Beacon of the 26th ultimo gives the following particulars of an Indian outrage in Utah Territory: "Mr. J. L. Adams and six others arrived here on Sunday last, direct from Honey Lake, which place they left on the 17th inst. "Mr. Adams, with a party, consisting of seven gentlemen and five ladies, left Yreka on the 10th of April for the Atlantic States, and proceeded as far as Goose Lake without interruption, but here their fortune took a turn, and the party found themselves suddenly attacked by about 400 Indians. A desperate fight ensued, which resulted in the loss of all the animals belonging to the company, and the wounding of two of the men. G. G. Higgins received ten wounds, nine of which were from arrows. Rufus Elliott was shot in the head with an arrow. Neither of these gentlemen is considered dangerously ill, although they are seriously injured. "Mr. Adams' party took fifteen scalps, and they supposed killed five Indians. They left five of their party, including the two wounded ones, in Honey Lake valley."

NEW GRANADA.

We have news from New Granada, dated at Bogota on the 27th of May, and at Panama and Aspinwall on the 17th of June. The San Hieron treaty was adopted by the House of Representatives with a slight modification in the article relative to the establishment of a coal depot in the New Granada waters by the United States. On debate in the Senate it was proposed to postpone its further consideration until after the new constitution—signed by the President on the 22d of May—was in force. It was finally passed by the Senate on the 27th of June. A project of a law authorizing a war against Ecuador had been presented to the Senate with the concurrence of the government. THE SOUTH PACIFIC. We have advice from the South Pacific dated at Valparaiso 16th and Callao 26th of May. A difficulty had arisen between the captain of the American ship Monsoon and some Chinese sailors, who formed part of the crew, which led to a trial in the Supreme Court. This was still pending, and the United States consul at that place had got into some trouble with the local authorities owing to his action in the matter. Large quantities of goods had been sent to Valparaiso during the month of May, and the markets were still dull. Chile was, however, quiet. In Peru active preparations were being made for the election of President, Vice President, and congressmen. Negroes who can read and write may vote. A close contest for the presidency would be between Gen. Castilla and Sr. Elias. Trade was very flat at Callao, and the markets were still dull. In Bolivia President Linarez had still to struggle against revolutionary parties. The American expedition for the exploration of the leading rivers of the republic was expected, and would be well received by the government.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM UTAH.

We learn through the medium of the telegraph, that intelligence reached St. Louis, from Camp Scott, on June 25th, the mail party having arrived at St. Joseph's on the 22d instant. Mr. H. F. Mayer, who accompanied the mail party, furnishes the following memoranda of the trip: "The supplies which Col. Hoffman had despatched in advance of his train had reached Camp Scott, and provisions were plenty. On June 12th the mail express left McCarty's train unloading at Fort Laramie. They met Perry's train fifteen miles below the fort, on the 13th, and another of Perry's trains fifty-five miles below the fort. They passed two empty trains of Mayer and Russell's train to the Bluffs, returning to the States. They met McCarty's train ten miles below Chimney Rock, and passed two trains—Chentone and Avery's, and Mayer and Russell's—in camp at Lavant's Fork. On the 14th they met the Quartermaster for Fort Laramie at Rush Creek, and Price's train at Smith's Fork. On the 15th they met two trains of Mayer and Russell's, waiting to cross the south fork, which was high, but falling. They met Major Sedgwick's command of cavalry sixteen miles below the south fork. On the 16th they met Major Graham's command of dragoons ten miles below Fallow's Bluff, and Ward's train of five miles below. They passed several trains of the road in camp, the names of which they could not ascertain. When six miles above Cottonwood Springs they met Capt. Roberts's command. On the 17th they met Col. Manvol's command ten miles above Plum creek. Also three trains of contractor Jones. On the 18th they met Irwin and Young's train eight miles above Fort Kearney. They left three companies of the first cavalry under Col. Sumner at Fort Kearney. They saw three trains on the upper road above the fort, and two trains on the upper road below Kearney, but did not ascertain their names. On the 19th they met a train on the eight-mile stretch on Little Blue river, name unknown. On the 20th they met Rusik's train four miles from the Big Sandy river. Also, met Col. May and six hundred head of beef cattle for Salt Lake. Also, nine hundred cattle of Russell, Trudell, & Douglas. On the 21st they met the Big Blue river they met Lehon's train and Gen. Harney and escort. Gen. Harney was travelling rapidly, and only that day learned his appointment to the vacant brigadier generalship. On the 21st they met the Salt Lake mail, thirteen miles east of the Big Blue river. Wason and Dyer's train was in camp at Vermilion. On the 22d they met trains at Grasshopper. Names unknown. The grass was never better, as far as Sweetwater. From there to Camp Scott it was very poor. All the trains and troops were getting along well. The cattle were looking in fine order. The mail contractors were pushing forward their arrangements with great energy and perseverance. When the stations are arranged we contemplated the time will be reduced to sixteen days with ease and certainty. Mr. Mayer does not furnish any general news either from Camp Scott or Salt Lake.

CALIFORNIA.

The city during the past fortnight has been unusually quiet in regard to the more serious transgressions of the law. There has been an evening fight in one of our saloons, named Sheilds kept a hotel in Hawkeye, Calaveras county, and the negro had been in a white man's house as a cook. It is alleged that the negro drugged and outraged the wife of Sheilds, and the shooting affair is a consequence of the assault. Four persons were recently murdered in cold-blood at a ranche in Tulare valley by robbers. The wife of one of the murdered men, Mrs. Barstler, escaped. Subsequently one of the perpetrators was identified at San Louis, in Ohio, was arrested, confessed the crime, and hung by the excited populace. Fires have been numerous and destructive. On the 21st inst. the Adelphi Theatre, on Dupont street, was burnt down. Several other buildings in the immediate neighborhood were partially consumed. The building was erected in 1854 for the Museum Company, and up to the time of opening the "Jenny Lind" Theatre, it was the fashionable resort. Subsequently a French company occupied it, then the "Bad Maquie," and finally the cock-pit claimed it. On the 30th ultimo, fourteen frame buildings were destroyed, making a total loss of \$50,000. The next evening, however, occurred at Nevada city on Sunday, the 23d of May. The frame buildings on several squares were entirely consumed, causing a loss of property of over \$200,000. The fire-proof brick buildings, thirty-three in number, escaped, and also a number of fire-proof cellars. San Andreas is also reported to have been totally destroyed by fire on the 24th instant. As the office of the telegraph line was destroyed, full information of the extent of the loss has not yet been received. The news from the Frazer river mines continues to attract attention and emigration. Some three thousand miners have already departed for the land of promise, and from the latter there are indications that a large number will be satisfied with success at home, propose to try the glittering fields on Frazer's river. The denigrating convention will be held on the 4th day of August next. There is nothing of much moment in the political world of California. The friends of the administration are rejoiced to learn that the election of Fremont, and the settlement of this element of disturbance in the party. The Broderick men are, of course, disappointed, and instead of belonging to the victors, now count themselves among the defeated. An amusing effort was made on the 1st instant to get up a sort of "mass meeting," which proved to be a very solemn affair for the participants. Judge Campbell, late of the Superior Court, was called to the chair, but as no chair could be found, he concluded to administer his duties standing. A few persons only participated in the meeting, and it is described generally by the papers as a dull affair. No dieth anti-Leocomptonism in California. A meeting of miners and settlers was recently held

FRANZES RIVER GOLD MINES.

From a passenger who arrived by the Commodore, we learn that the existence of extensive gold deposits on Frazer river was no longer doubted. He had worked on a bar one mile below Fort Yale, but was obliged to quit on account of the high water. He says the river is still rising rapidly, and that it will be impossible to work to advantage for at least two months from this time. The snow on the mountains in the interior and surrounding country is said to be from 15 to 30 feet in depth, all of which must find its way to the ocean, through Frazer river, before the mines can be worked to advantage. Our informant says he saw three men wash out over two ounces of good gold in less than one hour with a common