

See Third Page for CITY NEWS, & Co.

Reception of Ex-President Polk.

Ex-President Polk, on his journey from Washington, has been greeted throughout with manifestations of public respect, which must be highly cheering and gratifying to him, on retiring from his distinguished station to private life.

THE EX-PRESIDENT.—Mr. Polk and his accomplished lady received visitors at the St. Louis Hotel yesterday afternoon, and crowds of ladies and gentlemen waited on them to pay their respects.

LADIES' FESTIVAL.—The ladies of St. Paul's Church offer something new in the way of spending an agreeable evening; they have prepared a festival, with the greatest skill and taste, together with an abundance of good things, which will be ready this evening, at the late Merchants' Bank, opposite Lafayette Square.

USEFUL AND IMPORTANT WORK.—We are informed that our friend E. J. Gomez, of La Patria, is about to publish a new Spanish and English Dictionary, on the arrangement and formation of which he has devoted almost four years.

WE last evening saw at the "Pelican" a portrait of Gen. Andrew Jackson, taken in 1830, by Inman, which is acknowledged to be a very good likeness. We understand it is to be raffled. It is well worth seeing, and much more worth possessing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Smith & Brother, 52 Common street, have all kinds of Gutta Percha and India Rubber Goods, including air-beds, tents, etc.

RACES.—The Birmingham Course.—The races advertised for the Birmingham Course to-day will, in all probability, be one of great interest.

FOR CALIFORNIA.—The three-masted schooner Sacramento will leave this evening for San Francisco, California. She is altogether one of the best adapted vessels for the voyage that has yet left this port.

WE call attention to the advertisement in another column of Messrs. P. R. Fell & Co., No. 84 Common street, dealers in China, Glass and Earthen Ware. To those in want of articles in his line, we cheerfully recommend his stock as being varied and as reasonable rates as any other in the city.

NEW FORTIFICATIONS.—The late Secretary of War, previous to his retiring from office, gave the following names to the new fortifications now being erected by government:—"The fort at the narrows of the Penobscot River, Maine, Fort Knox; fort on Governor's Island, Boston Harbor, Mass., Fort Winthrop; fort at Rotten's Point, New York, Fort Montgomery; fort at Black Rock, N. Y., Fort Porter; fort at Spring Wells, near Detroit, Michigan, Fort Wayne; fort at Grand Island, Platte river, Oregon, Fort Kearney.

There was quite a heavy hail-storm in Mobile on Sunday afternoon. The ice fell in lumps as large as a pigeon's egg.

RIVERS.—The following we take from the St. Louis Organ, of the 15th: "The Upper Mississippi has risen at the rate of 18 inches in 24 hours, and is still rising. It is full of floating ice. Gorge reefs between Burlington and Oquaka. Steamer Corka gone over the rapids. The Illinois is higher than in '44, and rising 5 inches in the 24 hours. Over the banks all the way down. The Missouri is said to be falling slowly. The Oage has 7 feet water in the channel and falling rapidly."

SHIP FEVER.—The British ship Cambria, which put into the Delaware Breakwater a short time since, arrived at New York on the 13th. She had 150 passengers; 78 deaths occurred on board after she left Ireland, and 52 were sick on board with the ship fever when she arrived.

FROM PORT AU PRINCE.—An arrival at New York from Turk's Island confirms the previous advice of an engagement between the Haytian and Dominican forces, in which the former were beaten. Sir R. Scarborough is said to have gone to Port au Prince, to act as mediator.

SCIO TO VALLEY RAILROAD.—The Legislature of Ohio has chartered a company to construct a railroad from Portsmouth to Newark, Ohio, via Chillicothe, Circleville, and Lancaster, through the Scioto Valley.

LAKE SUPERIOR STEAMERS.—Canadian steamers will ply on Lake Superior the coming summer, so that persons desirous to go from the Sault Ste. Marie to the mining districts on the Canadian side will not be detained at the Sault.

Auction Sales This Day.—Wagon and horse will sell at 11 o'clock, at 141 Magazine St. Street near the Common.

There is, on certain subjects, a set of stereotyped phrases which float about over the surface of society, picked up by almost every one, and in turn rejected by nearly all as utterly worthless.

Dr. Riddell's Lecture.—The fifth lecture of the series for the benefit of indigent females was delivered at the Medical College last night, by Dr. Riddell. The subject was one of peculiar interest at the present time, being the all-absorbing topic of gold.

The alloys in which the metal is generally found do not materially affect its malleability and ductility. But antimony, bismuth, or tin, even in the 2000th part, will render it as brittle as to be unfit for coining, until the foreign ingredients are extracted.

The methods of assaying by the touch and by specific gravity were explained. Experienced assayers can detect gold in an alloy where it exists only in the 2000th part. Some remarks were then made on the method of extracting gold from the earth by smelting and washing, by which it appears that the former method sometimes produces 87 times as much as the latter.

Senator Houston to his Constituents.—The Senator from Texas has issued an address to his constituents in reply to the charge made by Mr. Calhoun, that himself and Mr. Benton had, in the vote on the Oregon bill of last summer, deserted the cause and the interests of the South.

THE BRIDE OF LAMMERMOOR.—The BRIDE OF LAMMERMOOR, a grand Theatre, will be accompanied on the Piano-forte by Miss Jones.

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