

"The Gold of that Land is good."

T. A. HAND, Publisher.

AGENTS.—William J. Osborn, Tucson; Charles A. Phillips, La Paz; A. M. Hunt, Santa Fe; L. Dukas & Co., Ft. Mohave; William H. Tobey, San Francisco

THE PRESIDENCY.

Before the issue of another number of the MINER the presidential election will have occurred. At this remote point but little is known of the contest as waged in the States, but even there the campaign is said to be attended with less excitement than usual. Now that Colonel Fremont has recovered his senses and retired from a field where he stood no possible chance of winning either honor or success, the struggle is narrowed to two candidates—Abraham Lincoln and George B. McClellan. We believe both to be good and true men, and that the triumph of either will be a triumph of patriotism. We are not of those who question the loyalty or the ability of General McClellan, and we much regret that there should be anything like antagonism between him and President Lincoln. Both have done much to help the Republic in its hour of calamity, both deem the preservation of the Union essential to the existence of free government and constitutional liberty upon the western continent. The candidates are worthy of the times and the people, and when we express the belief that the election of Abraham Lincoln will be the most conducive to a speedy and satisfactory restoration of peace to our troubled nation, we do it with no ordinary appreciation of the merits of his distinguished competitor for the first office in the gift of the people.

The superior fitness of Mr. Lincoln is (in our judgment) to be found in his experience. Elevated to the Presidency, at the most momentous moment in the history of the Republic he has passed through years of unparalleled trial and responsibility. He has inaugurated and maintained a defensive war of gigantic proportions. At his call more men have entered the field than at the beck of any ruler of modern times. Grant it that some of his steps as commander-in-chief of the army and navy have been unfortunate. Allow for the moment that he was at times too slow, and at others too fast—that he has removed good generals and promoted bad ones, that he has kept poor advisers in his cabinet and made indiscreet appointments, has he not on the whole pursued a wise and a humane course? Have not his forbearance with the border States, so much disliked by the radicals, and his measures with the negro, so repugnant to the conservatives, borne good results? Has he not followed a wise, middle ground?

Even in Europe, where we expect but little to be said in favor of our government, or its executive officers, his administration has received hearty commendation. The London Spectator lately used the following words of compliment:

Mr. Lincoln has been tested as few governors have ever been tested, and though he may not always have risen fully to the level of a great emergency, he has seldom failed to display a noble impartiality, a great firmness of purpose, and sagacious, if somewhat utilitarian, judgment. * * We believe a juster man never held the reins of government.

With a ripe experience in public affairs, and a reputation for honest and prudent statesmanship, equal to that enjoyed by any of our Presidents since the days of Washington, Mr. Lincoln certainly has excellent claim to the continued confidence of the American people. He has held the reins of government wisely and well. Having served a severe apprenticeship, he is now the competent master workman. Four years are not more than enough to acquaint the chief magistrate with the duties of his great office—in time of war this is particularly the case. When the Executive is best qualified to act is it the part of wisdom to inaugurate an inexperienced successor? The inquiry can have but one answer, and the country will have occasion to rejoice, and its enemies to tremble, if on the evening of the 8th of November it is announced to the world that Abraham Lincoln is re-elected President of the United States of America.

Hon. Geo. W. LEHR, of the Council, who was not present at the opening of the Legislature, arrived on the 25th inst., and took his seat. He brought the resignation of Hon. Jose M. Redonda, on account of his not being a citizen of the United States. A motion to admit Mr. Eakins as the candidate having the next highest number of votes, was lost in the Council by a tie vote, and the seat will probably be vacant until a special election is ordered.

APACHE RANGERS.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Governor in his message a bill has been prepared, and will doubtless be adopted by the Legislature, authorizing the raising of not more than six companies of rangers, to fight the Apaches.

It is proposed to raise a fund by the issue of territorial bonds, and there is reason to believe that the friends of the Territory in California and in the Atlantic States will quickly furnish the means necessary to put the rangers in the field. The constant raids of the Apaches, with the inadequate number of troops in the Territory force our citizens to the conclusion that they must take immediate and systematic measures for their protection from the red thieves and murderers. Extermination is the cry, and we trust it will arouse every man to action. Certain it seems that if we do not conquer the savages they will not only deprive us of our property but drive us from the country. Our friends abroad will, perhaps, be surprised at such a statement. They must remember that we occupy the outer frontier, the wildest of wild countries, a region untroubled by the white man until very recently, a stronghold of the worst Indians upon the continent. Neither the nature of the Apache nor that of his country can be understood by a knowledge, however intimate, of other Indians, and their habits and haunts. As a California paper says, "They (the Apaches) are the most treacherous, blood-thirsty, implacable fiends that roam anywhere upon the surface of the earth. They murder, burn and torture, it would seem for mere diabolism. As well might a philanthropist expect to domesticate a hyena as to reclaim these red-devils."

Extermination is our only hope, and the sooner it is accomplished the better. The number of the scoundrels slaughtered by the military and civil expeditions during the summer is large. The Mexican captive, who lately escaped to Prescott, reports that of the Tontos a great many warriors have been killed. We know the same to be true of the Pinals and the Coyoteros. Let the necessary work go on. The uprising of the so-called peaceful tribes on the Arkansas river is but a fresh evidence of the treachery of the savages. So long as an Indian has life and power he is dangerous, and this is peculiarly true of the fiendish Apache. There can be no hope of peace or prosperity in Arizona until he is exterminated or forced to accept a reservation. The vigorous steps of the rangers, with the co-operation of the military authorities, will, we believe, soon drive him to death, or a life of honest toil under the supervision of the white man.

SILVER MINING AS A BUSINESS.

While the gold in this land, both in placer and lode, "is good," we are still of the opinion that our chief prosperity is to come from silver mining in the southern portion of the Territory, and upon the Colorado, it will undoubtedly be the leading interest. As it is generally known, silver mining is attended with much expense, and like other business it requires knowledge, judgment, and attention. It is not all chance, and success is far from a certainty. While the most incompetent may blunder upon the greatest fortunes, there is no occupation which in its ordinary course requires more prudence and study.

The Alta California, in a recent article, alluded to the fact that many of the rich men of San Francisco have suffered from entering the business of silver mining without an adequate preparation. Many of them had not the money to spare, but needed all their means for other business; many of them knew nothing of mining; many of them never went near the mines; many of them purchased shares for the purpose, not of mining, but of speculating in stock. It gives some good advice:

Men should engage in silver mining as in other business—that is, after they have studied it, after they have examined the mine, after they know it will be worked properly and economically, and after they have determined to attend to it, and see for themselves that it is properly worked. When the Gould & Curry, Savage, Potosi and Ophir fall into the hands of such men, there will be no fear of panics; and until they do there is little safety.

He who becomes the owner of a silver mine should not imagine that his career must thereafter be one of uninterrupted prosperity. Although he should discover a great deposit of rich silver ore at the surface, and find that it extends a long distance, he will surely also come upon poor mineral. If he prosecute mining on a large scale, he must expect to be bothered by the expense of digging deep shafts, and of pumping out considerable quantities of water. The risks are serious, the delay long, the difficulties numerous,

but, with all that, there are vast rewards for those who persist judiciously. Consider, for instance, the following extract from Ward's Mexico, about the rich vein at Real del Monte, not far from the City of Mexico:

"The Biscaina vein had been worked, almost uninterruptedly, from the middle of the sixteenth to the beginning of the eighteenth century, when the two principal mines, El Xacal and La Biscaina, which in 1726 had produced \$4,341,000, were abandoned by their proprietors in consequence of the difficulty of keeping down the water with the very imperfect machinery employed in those early days. The mines were then only one hundred and twenty varas in depth, and the known richness of the ores in the lower levels induced an enterprising individual, Don Jose Alejandro Bustamante, to commence them anew, and to attempt the drainage by the adit [tunnel, as we say] of Moran, a part of which he lived to complete. On his death-bed he bequeathed his hopes and his works to Don Pedro Tereros, a small capitalist, who had supplied him with funds to continue his operations, and who, sharing in all Bustamante's anticipations of success, immediately removed to Real del Monte, and devoted his whole remaining fortune to the prosecution of the enterprise. From the smallness of the capital invested, the work advanced but slowly, and was not completed until the year 1762; but in the twelve succeeding years Tereros drew from his mines a clear profit of \$6,000,000. He obtained the title of Count by the munificence of his donations to the Court of Madrid, and never was title more dearly bought, for he presented Charles III with two ships of the line, (one of 112 guns) constructed at Havana of the most costly materials, (much of the wood was mahogany,) entirely at his own expense, and accommodated him, besides, with a loan of \$1,000,000, no part of which has yet been repaid. He likewise built the two great haciendas of San Antonio and Regla, which together have not cost less than \$1,200,000."

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

We continue our extracts from this document, begun in the last number of the MINER. Referring to mining matters His Excellency speaks as follows:

The most extensive and important interest of this Territory is its mineral wealth. Its development will be greatly promoted by well considered and liberal legislation. The miners may with propriety be permitted to adopt regulations for the placer mines, which are soon exhausted, under such restrictions as will prevent a monopoly of claims. The interests of those engaged in silver, gold, and other mines worked by machinery, as well as the advancement and prosperity of the Territory, require the adoption of a mining code, and, if practicable, one that has received judicial interpretation. Moreover, if the mining States and Territories regulate the possessory rights to such mines, as they may legally do, by laws which are equitable, adapted to their peculiar situation, and calculated to secure the development of the mineral, one argument for the interference of the federal government is removed. The people of these communities have regarded with the greatest solicitude the propositions which have recently been made for the taxation, sale or exclusive possession by government of the mineral lands. That abuses now exist which should be remedied by legislation is very apparent. Mining districts in this Territory are created and divided by the votes of a few persons, records are imperfectly kept, and the regulations of adjacent districts differ in material points, without any sufficient reason for the variance. This state of things must produce, in this as it has in other countries, under similar conditions, protracted and ruinous litigation whenever the claims become valuable. Uniformity in the ordinances, and a legal authentication of titles, should as far as practicable be secured.

The scheme of taxation and seignorage proposed in Congress would effectually drive the people from the mineral lands, without expressly providing for their exclusion. The whole country will be vastly more benefitted by encouraging by its policy the discovery and constant working of the mines, thereby permanently increasing wealth and the sources of revenue, than it would be by any sum which might be realized by the present or prospective sale of the mineral lands. Moreover such sale would result in monopoly—it would put this important interest beyond the control of Congress, and would drive from the frontier the prospector and the pioneer—the vanguard of that army of occupation which has built up an empire on the shores of the Pacific. The mining law of Mexico gives to the discoverer of a mine the right to open and work it, and makes his title absolute and perfect so long as it is worked. If this policy be adopted I believe that the discovery and development of our mineral wealth will be assisted and secured. It gives full scope to the enterprise and energy of our people, and would have fully vindicated its wisdom in Mexico for the distracted condition of that unhappy country. The ordinance is liberal, equitable and just. I recommend that you make it the basis of a code, conforming to the proper extent the rights previously acquired under the laws of mining districts, making their records evidence in the courts. A majority of you are miners, and have the experience and practical knowledge which will enable you to make such modifications in the details as our laws and condition require. I suggest that you make the decision of mining rights

as summary as is consistent with the administration of justice, and in the nature of proceeding in equity. It is for the interest of litigants and joint owners that there should be a speedy determination of conflicting claims, and the Territory cannot afford that the development of its resources should be suspended while the time and money of its citizens are consumed in unprofitable litigation. And in order to furnish information to our citizens of what property is claimed and has been conveyed, all conveyances of mines and real estate, made since the country was acquired by the United States, and all grants should be recorded within a specified time, in the county in which the grant is situated. I advise that such record be required to be made within one year from the time fixed in your law, and that it shall operate as notice, and the conveyance, though defective in form, be received in the courts as evidence of title and transfer.

DEATH OF THE HON. HENRY D. JACKSON.—We regret to announce that the Hon. Henry D. Jackson, member of the House from the First District, whose illness we referred to in our last, died in this place on the 16th inst. Mr. Jackson reached Tucson in January last, from California, where he has resided for some years. He was a native of New York, and though little known in the Territory, had won a good name. He was a wheelwright by trade, and connected with the quartermaster's department at Tucson. His death was announced in the House on the 17th instant by Mr. Hopkins, in a few feeling remarks. Mr. Aldrich made the announcement in the Council, and both houses adjourned. The funeral of Mr. Jackson took place on the afternoon of the 17th instant. Appropriate services were conducted in the Hall of Representatives, by Speaker Jones and the Rev. Mr. Read. Messrs. Hopkins, Harte, Capron, Giles, Appel, and Higgins, who had been appointed a committee of arrangements for the funeral, acted as pall-bearers. The body was followed to the grave in the Prescott cemetery by all the members of both houses, by the Governor, Secretary, Judge Allyn, Lieut. Barr, and a large concourse of citizens. The Tucson delegation will probably erect a railing about the last resting place of their lamented colleague, who died in the service of the Territory, and who will be remembered as an upright and deserving citizen.

POST OFFICE BUSINESS.—MONEY ORDERS.—Several new and important reforms are being introduced into our national postal system. Among the most important of these is the new money order system, which has been in process of preparation in the department for some time past. It is thought it will be fully matured and in operation by the first of November next. The necessary blank forms, books, instructions, etc., are now being rapidly prepared. Mr. Charles F. Macdonald, an old and experienced attaché of the department, is placed in charge of the work, and a force of seven clerks detailed to assist him. Arrangements are also being perfected for the distribution of the mails while in transit, similar to the system so long pursued in Great Britain, France, and other European countries. It has been a matter of surprise to business men why the system of distributing mails for way points, and of sorting through letters while en route, was not facilitated their early and certain delivery has not been adopted sooner. Travelling post offices have constituted an important branch of the postal arrangements of England ever since their railroad system was completed, and ever before that period. It has been found to work well, and there is no reason why it should not operate to equal advantage in this country.

Greenbacks are worth 57 1-2 cents in California. They should pass for that, if not for more, in Prescott. All our business interests demand that they should be kept at the highest figure. Indeed it is much to our loss that they are not received at par as in all of the States and Territories east of the Rocky Mountains. As we have before stated the California and Nevada papers are now nearly unanimously in favor of their adoption as the business currency. The Old State, a Nevada paper, says:

Greenbacks are a blessing to the people of the East, and why should they not prove the same to our people, as they will, if our people would only band together and recognize them as the currency. We believe that if this is done \$20,000,000 will find its way to our Territory from the money surfeited East, for investments of a permanent character in our Territory. We favor the paper currency, for the reason that there is a great stringency in our money market at the present time, and from the force of those circumstances which carry all the specie and bullion to the great money mart of New York City, the stringency in our market is bound to become greater, unless we accept the greenbacks at an early day. A present the bulk of the specie in this Territory is controlled by a few speculators, who loan it out at exorbitant rates of interest, in some instances reaching ten per cent. per month, and on the very best collateral security.