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BALTIMORE.

FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1858.

We publish, in another column, the detailed accounts of the Indian war in Oregon Territory, as we find them in the San Francisco papers brought by the steamship *Star of the West*. From a private letter, written by an actual participant in the late battle, we are enabled to furnish our readers with the most authentic information of the disastrous defeat of Col. STEPTOE, the rumor of which, a fortnight since, occasioned so much anxious solicitude for the fate of the gallant officers and men under his command. It will be seen that the force which left Fort Walla-Walla on the 6th of May, consisting of eight officers and one hundred and fifty-two men, had marched about one hundred and fifty miles to the northward, to the Spokane country, and on the 16th of the same month, was surprised and surrounded by twelve or fifteen hundred savage warriors. After a desperate fight on the 17th, lasting from noon until eight o'clock in the evening, they were compelled to make a precipitate retreat, with a loss of seven killed and thirteen wounded. Among the killed were Capt. TAYLOR and Lieut. GASTON, each a brave young officer, who has fallen nobly in the discharge of duty, and whose untimely death will bring sorrow and sadness upon many a happy heart. It gives us peculiar gratification to be able to state, that Captain CHARLES S. WINDER, of Maryland, who was at first reported to have been killed, has entirely escaped injury, although he led his company with distinguished valour during the whole engagement. That the life of this honourable and accomplished gentleman has been spared, is a source of private and personal rejoicing, in which all who know him will sincerely unite; that the gallant officer, who had already so signally displayed, in the hour of danger, the noblest virtues of his profession, should have been, again, reserved for future usefulness to the country, is a subject of public congratulation.

We suppose that we ought to be exceedingly thankful at the final settlement of the Utah imbroglio; but, the truth is, we are not yet perfectly satisfied that the Saints are disposed to yield obedience to the authority they have so long defied.—It is not easy, moreover, to understand how existing difficulties can possibly be adjusted, so long as the original cause of offence remains. Yet advices from Utah, which are said to be trustworthy, assure us that all our troubles in that quarter have been brought to a close, and that the Saints and the Gentiles, have completed their negotiations, with a degree of harmonious accord singularly at variance with what was expected from a people fanatical to excess, and not over delicate in the choice of the language wherewith they have been accustomed to denounce the Federal authorities in particular and the people of the United States in general. It seems, however, that a marked change has been recently visible in their deportment; and that all the fearful threats, which their leaders publicly swore to execute if the troops under General JOHNSTON should venture within the limits of Salt Lake City, were but so many idle words "full of sound and fury signifying nothing." This Utah affair has been exceedingly mysterious from the very outset. The people of that territory have been charged with a variety of offences, many of which are of the most sanguinary nature, and all of which were incompatible with our ideas of a well ordered community. During the past few years, it is well known that frequent collisions have occurred between officers of the United States and the followers of JOE SMITH. The authority of the Government has been repeatedly resisted, and its surveying parties have been cut off, under a strong suspicion that the Mormons were either themselves the murderers, or that they had instigated, and perhaps assisted the Indians to perform the bloody work. But whether they have been principals or accessories to the murder of American citizens, they have been guilty of many outrages which yet remain unavenged. How then is it possible to grant to these people, and to their still more dangerous leaders, a free pardon for the destruction of emigrants on the plains; their close affiliation with the Indian tribes; the mutilation of important public records; the expulsion of every member of the judiciary appointed by the Government at Washington; their treasonable proceedings, and their preparations for armed resistance to the forces sent from the States to reduce them to obedience. All these various acts render it of doubtful utility, in our opinion, to make terms with a people whom we know to be faithless, and believe to be criminal, and whose leaders, we have every reason to suppose, still meditate treasonable designs. Yet we are told that a treaty of peace has been ratified with the Mormons, who have consented to lay down their arms and to receive, peaceably, the troops which, by the latest accounts, were already on their march for Salt Lake City. We are also informed that, though Governor CUMMING and the Peace Commissioners were disposed to yield implicit credence to the assurances given them by BRIGHAM YOUNG and other leading Mormons, General JOHNSTON still persisted in refusing to repose any confidence in their protestations, or to relax that system of vigilance which has thus far proved effectual in preserving his command from the perils of secret ambush, or of open attack. But while General JOHNSTON believes it to be his duty to act vigorously and to doubt the sincerity of a people who have already given him but too much reason to doubt both their honesty and their loyalty, Governor CUMMING appears to be desirous of temporizing with difficulties he cannot overcome, and to trust to the representations made by BRIGHAM YOUNG, rather than surrender up all hope of establishing the Federal authority in Utah. It is, we admit, no cause for pleasant reflection, on the part of the newly appointed Executive and his associates, after a journey of over one thousand miles across the great Central Desert, to find the city where they expected to exercise their official functions utterly deserted of its former inhabitants. We cannot conceive a more deplorable picture than has been given us of the Federal authorities in Utah. They are represented as occupying the whole of Salt Lake City with every house closed against them; attended only by the Mormon delegates from Provo, or by the truculent fellows who had been left behind to guard the property yet remaining in the city; constrained to camp out in the midst of the deserted streets, and to speculate upon the dangers and privations through which they have already passed, and upon the possibility of inducing 30,000 fanatics to submit themselves to be governed by the laws they have so frequently denounced, administered by officers for whom they have declared their utter contempt and detestation. But the former inhabitants of Salt Lake City will scarcely be disposed to return at a time when General JOHNSTON is marching towards it. The great body of the people, therefore, still continue at Provo, where BRIGHAM YOUNG and the chiefs of the Mormon Hierarchy are waiting, like Mr. MICAWBER, for "something to turn up." If the next tidings from Utah confirm the statements we received yesterday, if peace has really been concluded between Governor CUMMING and the Peace Comissioners on the one hand, and the Mormon rulers on the other; if the past crimes of the latter have been forgiven them on condition of their becoming more moral and submissive in the future, we fear that the expedition so vigorously commenced, but marked in its progress by strange fits of vigor and irresolution, has been brought to a most lame and impotent conclusion, and that we have merely scotched the snake we set out so valiantly to kill.

ROTARY ENGINES ON A NEW PLAN.—We notice in one of our London journals an account of an improved rotary machine to be used as a steam engine, water-wheel, fire-engine, or pump—which consists of a drum revolving on a shaft or axis. The drum is contained in an iron ring, forming therewith a steam-tight circular passage, in which one or more pistons are fixed. Loose or sliding pistons are placed on and work in the drum in the direction of radii, and are carried round with it in its motion on its axis. Fixed combs on the side of the steam chest or passage engage with the sliding pistons, and draw them towards the centre as they approach and pass the fixed pistons. One of the sliding or loose pistons occupies the steam passage, while the other is being withdrawn to pass the fixed piston. The movable pistons are carried round by the steam as it passes to the exhaust pipe, and carry round the drum and shaft to which they are connected.—The machine is wholly covered by a steam-tight chest, or it may be inclosed in the boiler, excepting the exhaust pipe.

ARRIVAL OF THE STAR OF THE WEST.

$1,500,000 IN TREASURE.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA, OREGON AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

DEFEAT OF COL. STEPTOE CONFIRMED.

PARTICULARS OF THE INDIAN WAR.

The United States mail steamship Star of the West, Alfred G. Gray, Esq., commander, from Aspinwall 5th inst., with mails, $1,401,713.45 treasure and 250 passengers, to M. O. Roberts, arrived here this morning.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Co.'s steamer Sonora left San Francisco June 21st, arriving at Panama July 5, 8 A. M.

The clipper ship Phantom was met by the steamer Sonora, ten miles out from San Francisco. The Phantom was going in.

Saturday, July 10, at 1 P. M. in lat. 24 36 N., long. 74 13 W., the Star of the West spoke the steamship Moses Taylor, hence for Aspinwall, all well. Monday, 12th, 2 P. M., lat. 32 56 N., long. 73 48 W., exchanged signals with Br. bark Point, steering N. E. 3 P. M. same day, exchanged signals with American clipper ship Kalamazoo, standing N. W. Left at Aspinwall, English mail steamer Medway.

LIST OF TREASURE.

E. C. Knight & Co...	2,240	Chas. W. Crosby.....	26,260
Thos. Wattson & Son	1,600	J. H. Coghill	14,925
Butcher & Bro.....	8,000	Wells, Fargo & Co...	289,500
Thos. J. Hand & Co..	3,600	Freeman & Co.....	76,625
W. T. Coleman & Co..	58,900	H. A. Kelly.....	1,000
Crosby, Crocker & Co.	12,000	Frank Baker.....	6,000
Ross, Falconer & Co..	55,428	Medder & Adams....	13,500
F. Nickerson & Co...	13,000	Schode & Bro.....	24,700
J. Strauss Bros & Co.	51,340	Janson, Bond & Co..	10,000
J. B. Weir.....	22,430	R. S. Wade.....	1,211
Eugene Kelly & Co..	60,000	Treadwell & Co.....	29,000
Conroy & O'Connor..	10,000	H. L. Ritch & Co.....	2,607
James Patrick.....	55,000	W. Heller & Co.....	17,500
W. Seligman & Co..	43,000	Strauss, H. H. & Co.	4,095
Am. Ex. Bank.....	152,000	Turner Bros.....	1,930
P. Naylor.....	10,000	J. G. Parker & Sons..	6,600
J. H. Browning.....	10,000	Order.....	33,094
J. B. Newton & Co...	18,231	FROM ASPINWALL.	
Howland & Aspinwall	140,750	S. Lansburg & Bro...	2,794
Richard Patrick.....	41,000	H. Classon & Son....	3,062
Dewitt, Kittle & Co..	20,292	Lamuan & Kemp....	362
Duncan, Sherman & Co.....	41,631	J. Avezana.....	200
		Order.....	800
Harbeck & Co.....	16,100		

CALIFORNIA.

SUMMARY OF THE FORTNIGHT'S NEWS.

[From the Alta California, June 21.]

The law adopted at the last session of the legislature, to prohibit the opening of stores and business houses on Sundays, went into force on the 6th instant. In many places the law has been observed—in others numerous arrests have been made for its violation.

The survey for a route for a railroad from Folsom to Auburn was commenced on the 14th inst.

A party of white men murdered two Indians in Humboldt county on the 29th ultimo, because they would not give up their guns. Three of the whites, named C. A. Sherman, Wm. McDonald and "Billy the Rake," were arrested on a charge of murder. A few days afterwards, other Indians shot at two white men in revenge, and severely wounded one of them.

A great excitement is prevailing in San Louis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, on account of robberies and murders committed there by a gang of robbers. Several persons accused of complicity in the Barratier murder have been hanged by the people.

During the week the city has been thronged with strangers from the interior, bound for the new gold mines on the Frazer river, British Possessions, and our thoroughfares resumed the stirring appearance of the busy times of '50 and '51.

Thomas McNabb, on the 6th, accomplished the feat of riding two hundred consecutive miles over the Union Course in nine hours and forty-nine minutes.

The total coinage of the Mint for the week ending June 5th was $725,000. The gold deposits amounted to 23,233.13 ounces.

The steamer Republic left for the North on the 7th, with about 500 passengers, all bound for the new mines.

The steamer Commodore sailed on the 9th, with about 300 Frazer river aspirants. The steamer Panama left on the 13th, with 570 passengers; the Georgianna on the 12th, with 130; the bark Adelaide, same day, with 100; the steamer Pacific, on the 14th, with 700, and the Cortez on Thursday, with 1,000 souls on board. A number of other vessels will leave before the close of the week for the northern El Dorado.

The carpenters and hod carriers of the city have struck for higher wages, and their demands have been acceded to. The firemen and coalheavers on the steamer Columbia also struck just on the eve of the departure of that vessel. A number of desertions have taken place recently among the soldiers at the Presidio.

The steamer Senator arrived on the 13th from San Diego, with some two hundred troops, destined to the scene of the late Indian difficulties in Washington Territory.

Mr. F. A. Wheelock, late a member of the firm of W. C. Jewett & Co., was arrested on a charge of forgery, growing out of the transmission of certain drafts to New York.

On the 15th a great trotting race came off on the Pioneer Course, between the bay mare Princess and bay gelding New York; mile heats; best three in five to harness, for $2,000; half forfeit. The mare won all the heats. Time—2.32, 2.80, 2.31.

On the 16th there was another race between the mare Julia Aldrich and the horse Glencoe Chief—ten miles for $4,000; mare to sulkey, horse to harness. The former made the distance in 29.04½, winning the race and stakes.

Seven men, accused of being members of an organized band of highwaymen, have been arrested in Carson Valley, and are to be tried by an extra-judicial jury.

The San Francisco *Bulletin*, of the 21st ult., expresses much indignation at the conduct of Senator Gwin, in his advocacy of the attempt to induce the National Treasury to purchase a barren tract of land for fortifications at the entrance of the harbor of San Francisco, for the sum of two hundred thousand dollars. "It was," says the *Bulletin*, "very justly denounced in the Senate by Mr. Fessenden as an outrage. If, as that gentlemen stated, it is absolutely necessary to have a portion of this property sufficient to erect a fortification upon, the government has power to condemn, and obtain possession at a fair rate, and not to submit to so gross an outrage and exaction. Mr. Broderick stated that the whole ranch on which Lime Point (which we understand is directly opposite Fort Point) is situated, is not worth $7,000. It is our opinion that, if put in the market to-morrow, without the prospect of selling the site mentioned to the Federal Government, it would not bring $5,000."

[From the Puget Sound Herald of June 11.]

INTELLIGENCE FROM THE GOLD MINES.

The United States mail steamer Constitution, Capt. A. B. Gove, arrived on Wednesday last from Bellingham Bay, and all the intermediate ports on the Sound. From the purser we learn that the steamer Pacific, from San Francisco via Portland, arrived at Bellingham Bay, with upward of 500 passengers, all old California miners. Some thirty mules, a portion of a pack train of 200 arrived at Whatcom, were packed and left on Monday.

Mr. Peabody, one of the proprietors of Whatcom, has just come in from the trail and reports that it is nearly through, and that all those who have hitherto left will go through. He further reports that while in company with Mr. DeLacy on the Chillywack river, he saw a squaw wash out $3 in gold. This point on the river is west of the Cascades.

Some fifty-six French miners left Whatcom for the mines with their packs on their backs.

Frank Mathias, W. H. Wood, W. Tidd, Terry, and several others have just returned from the mines for more provisions, boats and mining implements. All previous reports of the richness of the mines have been confirmed. All these gentlemen have large quantities of the ore, and state that they dug from $20 to $48 every day they worked. Goods are very scarce and consequently very high at the mines.

The steamer Surprise had gone up Frazer River with Gov. Douglass. All steamers can navigate Frazer River by procuring a miner's license at a cost of $5 per man, for every one of her passengers, and conforming to certain "conditions of sufferance," among which are these: That no goods are to be shipped that are not bought of the Hudson Bay Company; that no arms or ammunition are to be carried which are not imported from the United Kingdom; that no miner is to trade with the Indians, etc.

Samuel McCaw, of Steilacoom, had some two thousand dollars' worth of goods confiscated by the Hudson Bay Company's officers at Fort Langley.

Money is plentiful at Bellingham Bay. Provisions are plentiful and to be had at fair prices.—Many buildings are in process of construction at Whatcom and Schome.

For the benefit of those unacquainted, we would state that Whatcom and Schome are situated not more than one and a half miles distant from each other. There are near one hundred men employed at Schome clearing land and constructing a wharf. The wharf will soon be in condition for steamers to land and discharge freight. A wharf is projected at Whatcom.

Mr. Wood informs us that repeated difficulties have occurred on Frazer river between the Hudson's Bay Company's officials and miners, in consequence of the former seizing the canoes and effects of the latter for infringements on the rights of the company.

A correspondent of the *Oregonian* gives the following as his experience in the navigation of Frazer river:

After two days' sojourn we started, six in each canoe, and arrived after ten days' travel at Bellingham Bay, where we purchased some more provisions. Next day we left and in two days arrived at Fort Langley, where we intended buying some flour, had not the fellows asked such a high price—$35 per barrel. After travelling fifteen miles above Fort Langley we encountered the first rapids, and, wherever it was practicable, we hauled our lines on shore. The current increased daily, and not being able to haul our lines on shore any more, we were compelled to get into the water, and God knows what we have suffered. For five days, from morning till night, we were dragging our canoes, waist deep in water cold as ice, and constantly in danger of being washed under and carried to hell.

Each had a rope fastened to him to pull up stream. One of our company would have drowned had I not at the moment thrown a rope to him. The other party then came out had their canoes broken against the rocks, losing everything they had; and I know of six persons who were drowned. All this alarmed us, and seeing the impossibility of our going up, we came to the conclusion to return. I have seen steamers and railroads in motion, but the way we rushed down beats the telegraph. Every minute I expected to be cut to pieces against the rocks which rise perpendicular on each side, leaving a space but 20 feet wide, through which we went like lightning, leaving me almost senseless. At last we arrived safely, and I am now stopping here, intending to await another chance to go up.

[From the Alta California.]

RESCUE OF JAPANESE SAILORS—INTERESTING DETAILS.

The *Alta* of Tuesday made a brief mention of the rescue of twelve Japanese from a rudderless junk, by Capt. Winchester of the ship Caribbean, on her voyage from China to this port. Yesterday, accompanied by Thoro, the Japanese porter of Wells, Fargo & Co., Mr. Van Reed and Captain Silvey, of Sweeny & Baugh's, we paid a visit to Capt. W., who is an old trader between our port and China, his last being his ninth round voyage.

The Caribean laid out at anchorage off Clark's Point, and taking boat at Meiggs' wharf, we were soon a-long-side, and welcomed on deck by Captain W. himself, who had but just returned from the city with the Captain of the Japanese junk—his first visit to an American, and we may say civilized city—which will ever be memorized from the fact that he had a daguerrotype likeness taken, which he exhibited to us with great pride, although evidently astonished and bewildered as to the means of its accomplishment.

THE APPEARANCE OF THE PARTY.

The Japanese were called upon deck, and received Thoro by bowing, at the same time folding their hands across the abdomen. They are a fine looking body of men, differing in feature, costume and habit from the Chinese. The majority are possessed of regular features, and several are really fine looking, conspicuous among which class are the captain and second mate. The first mate partakes of the Chinese type, while but one of the crew has the almond-shaped eye. They were dressed peculiarly, wearing blue cotton trowsers, *a la Chinois*, white cloth socks, to which sandals of straw are attached by a thong passing between the third and fourth toes and around the ankle; a loose wrapper style of an outer dress, with two or three under garments seemingly of similar shape, folded across the breast, the whole held together by a girdle, which, at the same time, permits the garments to become the repositories of the various articles and essential portables, answering for pockets.

They wear no cues, but the top of the head is cleanly shaven, allowing an outer edge of hair to grow long, which is carefully gathered up over the head in a knot, permitting only the centre of the frontal portion, a continuation of the forehead to be exposed. The hair is finer in texture than that of the Chinese, and all their visages were innocent of a beard or moustache. Capt. W. informed us that they were of very cleanly habits, bathing every morning, and that during the voyage they refused to associate with the Chinese passengers, and in using the culinary utensils of after them, were very particular to scour them thoroughly. On the ship they endeavored to render themselves useful, and always exhibited great alacrity in aiding the ship's sailing, by pulling at ropes, &c. Although unable to use any English words, from the intelligent expression of their countenances during the propounding of questions, it was evident to us they at least comprehended the meaning of many.

THE CALIFORNIA NEGRO EMIGRATION—ARCHY, THE FUGITIVE SLAVE, AMONG THEM.

Consequent upon the passage of a stringent negro law of the Legislature of California at its last session, prohibiting the further emigration of free negroes to that State, and compelling those now resident there to give bond for their good behaviour, large numbers of this class of people are now constantly arriving by every steamer from thence, with a view, we suppose, to permanent settlement, the laws of this territory not being opposed thereto. A large number are also planting themselves upon Vancouver's Island, where, we learn, they have met with a favorable reception from the authorities. Among them is the negro Archy, the famous "Dred Scott" of California, for whose special benefit, we have heard it said, this negro act was passed, the colored population of California having become very turbulent during his trial, threatening by force and violence to rescue him from slavery, in case the courts should decide that slavery could constitutionally exist under the laws of California. So far as we have been able to form an opinion of this class of our community, we must say that they are a quiet, orderly and unpretending people, none of whom have the appearance of being likely even to give the territory much trouble in governing them, while our laws shall permit their residence here.—*Puget's Sound Democrat.*

[From the San Francisco Herald, June 21.]

FROM THE FRAZER RIVER.

On Sunday we received a visit from Messrs. Edward Campbell and Joseph Blanch, both boatmen, well known in this city, who have just returned from the mines on Frazer river. They left this city on the steamer Commodore, and took a whale boat with them, in which they performed the remainder of the trip from Victoria to Hill's Bar, 150 miles above the mouth of Frazer River, and two miles below Fort Yale. They mined for ten days in the bar, until compelled to desist from the rise in the river, in which time they took out $1,340. They used but one rocker, and have no doubt they could have done much better with proper appliances.—There were from sixty to seventy white men at work on Hill's Bar, and from four hundred to five hundred Indians, men, women and children.

The Indians are divided in opinion with regard to Americans; the more numerous party, headed by Pollock, a chief, are disposed to receive them favorably, because they obtain more money for their labor from the "Bostons" than from "King George's men," as they style the English. They have learned the full value of their labor, and instead of one dollar a-day, or an old shirt, for guiding and helping to work a boat up-river, they now charge from five to eight dollars per day. Another portion of the Indians are in favor of driving off the "Bostons," being fearful of having their country overrun by them.

Provisions were exceedingly dear and scarce, flour selling for eighty dollars the barrel, bacon at seventy-five cents a pound, and butter at one dollar a pound. They reached Hill's Bar in twenty-one days from San Francisco, and recommended the Victoria route as the most favorable. Parties going by that route would do well to purchase a whale-boat in this city and obtain a clearance from the Custom House at Victoria, without which they will not be allowed to enter the river. The British steamer Satellite is stationed off the mouth of the river, and she has a launch manned by twenty men, stationed at Fort Langley, to search boats going up. They also advise learning the Chinook language, which is very easy of acquisition, and will prove exceedingly useful.

The winters are represented as being very severe, the river being frozen solid and the snow very deep. The present high stage of the water is expected to abate about the middle or latter part of July, till when mining cannot be carried on to advantage. A party of 20 miners have started to prospect for dry diggings in the interior. They were accompanied by Indian guides, who said there was hi-you (plenty) gold to be found. Salmon was very abundant, the season having just commenced. No game had been observed about the mouth of the river, but they learned from some half breeds that there were many bears in the hills.—One specie is described as a green color, not very large, but exceedingly fierce, active, and dangerous to hunt. The gold on Frazer river was first discovered by a man named Chas. Adams, who was afterwards shot and killed by his partner, Chas. McDonald during a controversy relative to some gold. McDonald is now at Whatcom. It is necessary to hire an Indian guide or pilot in ascending the river.—Our informants are of opinion that gold is most abundant all through that country, and they intend returning in about two weeks.

[From the San Francisco Bulletin.]

It is estimated that at least eight thousand people have already left California for the new mines since the breaking out of the excitement. Besides those intending to mine, of course quite a number have gone up to trade, and others to speculate in lots upon the sites of future cities, &c. Six steamers have been laid on the route between San Francisco and the new mines, beside eight or ten sailing vessels. Every ship leaves crowded with adventurers, and tickets are sold days in advance. The last steamer that left, the Cortes, is supposed to have carried off full 1,500 passengers, although only about 900 appeared on the Custom House returns. Among others, several gentlemen connected with the California press have gone up with the intention of starting newspapers at different points in the new country. One paper, the *North American*, by Williston, Bartlett & Towne, is already announced at Victoria, V. I., the capital of the Hudson Bay Company's possessions.

The assumption by the Hudson Bay Company of the exclusive right to the entire trade of the region, which will now soon be full of people, causes much comment and argument here. By the "license of trade," granted by the Crown, in conformity to act of Parliament, to this Company, they have the exclusive privilege of trading with the Indians of the territory until May, 1859. Under this clause the Company claim the exclusive right of trading with every body there—whether Indians or white men. Therefore, while they permit emigrants to bring with them any amount of supplies for their own consumption, they will not allow any person to carry merchandise into the interior to sell.

The Americans contend that the company have no exclusive privilege to the trade with the whites; but as said Company have an armed vessel, H. M.'s war steamer Satellite, stationed at the mouth of Frazer river, and an armed boat at Fort Langley, forty miles up, their demands are generally obeyed. One instance is reported where a small American vessel, disregarding the commands of the Company, entered Frazer river in spite of opposition, and it is said the British Captain dared not take the responsibility of firing upon her. This story, however, needs confirmation. The subject of our commerce with these new mines will be an important and difficult one, and will occasion doubtless some ticklish negotiations between the United States and Great Britain. The feeling here is that Uncle Sam sadly blundered when he yielded Lewis Cass' *ultimatum* of "54° 40'."

NEW MINES IN WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

It is reported that new mines have been discovered in Lummey or Nook Sack river, in Washington Territory, about eighty miles from Bellingham Bay, of which a correspondent of one of the San Francisco papers gives the following account:

The Lummey river empties into Bellingham Bay about six miles from this place. Mr. Charles Vail, Deputy Indian Agent, and myself, started from Schome on the 7th June, and proceeded to the camp of the Nook Sack Indians, the chief of whom had promised to take us up to the head of the river, where he said we could find plenty of gold. We went up about forty miles and found good prospects with a pan and vast quantities of quartz rock—enough to satisfy us that the diggings upon this river are as good if not better than those on Frazer river.

Mr. Vail having business which required his attention here, we were obliged to return sooner than we wished, but intend starting out in a few days to commence mining.

The advantages of this river over Frazer's are manifestly great, as the distance from Schome is much shorter, and the dangers, difficulties and expense is comparatively nothing, the whole distance from here to the upper mines on Lummey river being only eighty miles, besides being on American soil.

The trail from here to Thompson river is as fine as any in California, and is cut for animals and men. There are boats for crossing the rivers and lakes,

LATER FROM OREGON.

CONFIRMATION OF COL. STEPTOE'S DEFEAT

THE INDIAN WAR.

From the *Alta California*, of the 9th inst., we derive the following details:

The papers now received confirm the defeat of Col. Steptoe on the 19th May. He lost nine men killed, and one missing; and had nineteen wounded. Among the killed are Capt. O. H. P. Taylor and Lieut. Wm. Gaston. The *Oregonian* says:—We are led to believe that Col. Steptoe was decoyed into a position by the cunning treachery of Kamaikin, and the duplicity of friendly indians, in whom the officers of the regular army placed entirely too much confidence, where it was impossible to extricate himself. The attack was evidently unexpected by Col. Steptoe, and the disastrous consequences, the result of a well arranged *stampede assault*, by which the animals attached to the howitzers, ammunition and baggage wagons became unmanageable.

On the 6th inst. Col. Steptoe, with C, E and H. companies 1st Dragoons, and twenty-five men of 9th Infantry, with two mountain howitzers, left Fort Walla-Walla for Colville. The officers of the command were Col. Steptoe, Capts. Winder and Taylor, Lieuts. Wheeler, Fleming, Gaston, and Gregg. After marching eight days we reached the Pioneer river, and were about passing into the Spokan country, when we were informed by Indians that the Spokans would resist our entrance into their country. The Spokans have always been regarded as friendly to the whites, and when we left Walla-Walla, no one thought of having an encounter with them, or any other Indians on the march.

On Sunday morning, the 16th, on leaving camp, we were told that the Spokans had assembled and were ready to fight us. Not believing this, our march was continued until about 11 o'clock when we found ourselves in the presence of six hundred warriors in war costume. The command was halted for the purpose of having a talk, in which the Spokans announced that they had heard we had gone out for the purpose of wiping them out, and if that was the case, they were ready to fight us, and that we should not cross the Spokan river. The Indians were well mounted, principally armed with rifles, and were extended along our flank at the distance of one hundred yards. After some talk the Colonel told us we should have to fight, and we immediately put ourselves into position to move to better ground, determined that the Spokans should fire the first gun. After marching a mile we reached a sheet of water—it was decided to encamp and hold another talk with the Indians. Nothing resulted from this except the most insolent demonstrations on their part. We dared not dismount, and were kept in the saddle three hours, until the setting of the sun dispersed the Indians.

On Monday morning we left our camp to return to the Palouse, marching in the following order: H company in advance, C in the centre, with the packs, and E in rear. At 8 o'clock the Indians appeared in great numbers about the rear of the column, and just as the advance was crossing a small stream they began firing. In twenty minutes the fire became continuous. Seeing that we must fight, and that the action must become general, I was ordered to move forward and occupy a hill that the Indians were making for, and from which they would have a close fire upon the head of the column. After a close race I gained the hill in advance, on seeing which the Indians moved around and took possession of one commanding that which I occupied. Leaving a few men to defend the first hill, and deploying my men, I charged the second and drove them off.

At this time the action was general; the three companies, numbering in all about 110 men, were warmly engaged with five hundred Indians. The companies were separated, from each other nearly a thousand yards, and fought entirely by making short charges. At 11 o'clock I was reinforced by the howitzers, and the two companies began to move towards the position I held, the Indians pressing closely upon them. As E company was approaching, a large body of Indians got between it and my company, so that having it between two fires, they could wipe it out at once. Gaston seeing this, moved quickly toward me, having the Indians in his front, and when near enough, and I saw he was about to charge, I charged with H company. The result was that our companies met, having the Indians in a right angle, in which angle we left twelve dead Indians. After getting together, we kept up the fight for half an hour, and again started to reach the water, moving half a mile under a constant and raking fire, under which our comrades, Taylor and Gaston, fell. We finally reached a hill near the water, and occupied the summit, and the Indians having now completely surrounded it, we dismounted and picketed our horses close together on the centre of the flat inclined summit, and posted our men around the crest, making them lie flat to the ground, as the Indians were so close, and so daring as to attempt to charge the hill, but, although outnumbering us eight to one, they could not succeed.

Towards evening our ammunition began to give out, and the men suffering so much from thirst and fatigue, required all our attention to keep them up. To move from one point to another, we had to crawl on our hands and knees, amid the howling of the Indians, the groans of the dying, and the whistling of the balls and arrows.

We were kept in this position until 8 P. M., when as night set in, it became apparent that on the morrow we must go under, and that not one of us would escape. It was plain that, nearly destitute of ammunition, we were completely surrounded by six or eight hundred Indians, and the most of these on points which we must pass to get away. Therefore it was determined to run the gauntlet, so that, if possible, some might escape. Abandoning everything, we mounted and left the hill at 9 o'clock, and after a ride of nearly ninety miles, mostly on a gallop and without rest, we reached Snake River at Red Wolf crossing the next evening, and were met by our friends, the Nez Perces.

We had two officers, five men, and three friendly Indians killed; ten men wounded—Sergeant Ball, of H Company, missing. The sergeant had distinguished himself very much during the action, and we all hope he will yet come in.

Capt. Taylor was shot through the neck, Lt. Gaston through the body; they both fell fighting gallantly. The companies fought bravely, like true men. We brought our horses back in good condition, except about thirty, which were shot through the fight.

The Indians made no captures. Before the battle was near over, the Indians picked up nine of their dead; and how many of them were killed is not known, but I counted fifteen. They acknowledge having forty wounded.

It will take a thousand men to go into the Spokan country.

We also append extracts from an interesting private letter, received in this city from one of Col. STEPTOE'S command, who participated in the exciting battle:—(Eds. *Exchange.*)

FORT WALLA-WALLA, W. T.,
JUNE 2d, 1858.

A command left this post on May 6th, consisting of portions of three dragoon companies and twenty-five of the infantry, making in all eight officers and one hundred and fifty-two men. We moved in a northerly direction towards Colville, passing through the Nez Perce, Pelouse, and Spokane countries. For ten days the march was without incident of note, and scarce an Indian had we seen, except a few friendly ones; we had marched about one hundred and fifty miles, and to within twenty miles of the Spokane river, in the country of the same name, when suddenly, on the 16th, we found ourselves opposed by a body of Indians, painted and dressed for war, bows strung, and guns loaded. At first sight with my glass I could count but seventy; in a few seconds, as if by magic, the moment one or two rode up to talk, they appeared all around us, some 800, and in half an hour, from 1000 to 1200; the Indians here say 1600, which may be true. A talk was had, and they were determined on fighting. Evidently a large combination had been formed and our movements watched, awaiting our arrival at this place where they had the best position. They were painted and dressed in the most fantastic and savage style, and their horses were painted and dressed likewise. We formed for defence and marched two miles or more to water, the Indians charging around us, yelling, whooping and shaking scalps and such things over their heads, looking like so many fiends. Our little band behaved nobly and kept cool; waiting for them to take the initiative, though they dashed up, even to our lines, without doing anything, however, except yelling. This began at about 12 M., and continued until about 8 P. M., when, dusk coming on, they withdrew. This was Sunday, and on Monday morning we were up at 2 o'clock, and started to retrace our steps, as it would have been madness to go on. At first, not an Indian was to be seen, but shortly after we started, they were seen in masses, following, and getting on our flanks.—They began the performances of the previous day, keeping at a greater distance, and some times firing into the air. I was soon convinced we had to fight. In a short time they fired into our rear guard, and in a few minutes more the fight became general; the scene beggars description—one thousand of these infuriated devils, painted and dressed as I have said, charging in all directions, yelling and whooping, and firing on us. They fought well, but we moved on and got a good position on a hill. For six hours the firing was hot and heavy; it then abated, but continued until dark; it began at 8 A. M., and lasted near twelve hours.—Our loss was great for our numbers, though considering the force opposed to us, and the length of the affair, we were fortunate. Of five company officers, we lost two. Poor Capt. TAYLOR and Lieut. GASTON fell doing their duty nobly; the former received two mortal wounds, and was buried on the field; the latter fell into the hands of the Indians, as his company was panic struck at his falling. Lieuts. GREGG and WHEELER, and Dr. RANDOLPH, are gallant spirits and behaved nobly. We had 7 killed and 13 wounded on our side; the Indians acknowledge 9 killed (2 chiefs), and 20 wounded, many mortally. We feel sure there were more, for in our charge, 12 were left on the field. 'Twas a hard day's work, with nothing to eat. At night, our ammunition was nearly expended and the numbers around us increasing, so it was decided to abandon our property, and make a forced night march for the safety of the command. At ten we started, and by 8 P. M., the next evening, (Tuesday,) we had made 85 miles without sleeping or eating; 'twas a hard march, and exhausted all of us. We arrived at this post on the 22d ult., rather worse for wear and tear, and deficient in many things we started with, and having had a short, though rough campaign. All is now quiet, and we are waiting orders and an increase of our force. We want 1,000 men to operate successfully.

AN EASY DUPE.

Some time since, says a Paris letter to the Boston *Post*, a charity ball took place at the grand opera, and among the incidents upon that occasion occurred the following:

A marine officer discovered upon the floor near the buffet a richly embroidered handkerchief, edged with Valenciennes lace of great price. He proclaimed aloud his discovery, but nobody appearing to claim the valuable chiffon, he tied it to the handle of his sword, and, thus decorated, promenaded the foyer. His idea was a happy one, apparently, for soon a monsieur of most respectable appearance approached, and said the handkerchief belonged to a lady dressed in yellow silk, also of highly respectable appearance, whom he designated, seated upon a divan. The officer of course restored the article, and received the thanks of the monsieur, whom he saw soon after deliver it to the lady, after which both departed. But the next day what was his astonishment at receiving from the Baronne de V——, with whom he was slightly acquainted, a billet thus conceived:

"*My Dear Captain,*—You found, I am told, at the ball last evening, a handkerchief, which I had the misfortune to lose. Be kind enough to deliver it to my valet de chambre, who brings you this; I am happy that this handkerchief fell into the hands, as it belongs to my *corbeille de mariage*. I should have been desolated at its loss. A thousand grateful thanks. BARONNE DE V——."

The worthy mariner comprehended at once that he had been the victim the night previous either of an error or a robbery. What to do? Try and find the respectable monsieur and the lady in yellow silk, or conduct himself like a perfect gentleman towards the charming reclaimer, who addressed him as "my dear captain?" He chose the latter course, and commenced by giving the liveried domestic a louis, from whom, by avowing the case, he succeeded in obtaining the address of the fine linen establishment where the marriage articles had been purchased. It was in the Rue de la Paix, and thither he hastened. The valet, who accompanied him, selecting from among the many handkerchiefs presented by the officious clerks one which nearest resembled the object lost. The gallant captain paid four hundred francs for the luxurious trifle, remitted it to the baronne by the domestic, and immediately sought relief in tobacco and a stroll for his pecuniary suffering.—Four hundred francs! But oh! the wickedness of human nature! It was not the pretty baronne who had written to the officer, for she had not even been to the ball, much less lost a handkerchief. It was dropped by the wife of a foreign minister, who reclaimed nothing, and the mariner, innocent in worldly matters, had been twice duped by the same parties! This is the same young man who is about to marry the pretty glove merchantess of the Faubourg Montmartre!

In France the wild chesnut tree is grafted when three or four years old, and the product of the tree is a farinaceous nut which the people cook and serve as a dessert at their meals, finding it not only palatable but nutricious. The tree becomes very graceful, and is planted as an ornament, and for shade.

DIED,

On the 14th instant, EDWARD NORTH, SR., aged 80 years.

On the 12th inst., HENRY B. LAFITTE, in the 36th year of his age.

COAL! COAL!!

R. M. Janney, of our firm, has just returned from the collieries of the Locust Mountain, where he has selected and contracted for the delivery of the best article of that superior hard White Ash Coal