ARRIVAL OF THE NORTHERN LIGHT.

ONE WEEK LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

$568,270 in Gold Dust.

TWO ATTEMPTS TO MURDER, CAUSED BY JEALOUSY

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT VALLECITO.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL.

News from Oregon and Washington Territories and Carson Valley.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

MARKETS,

&c., &c., &c.

The steamship Northern Light, E. L. Tinklepaugh, commander, arrived early yesterday morning, from San Juan via Key West, with two hundred and twenty-seven passengers and $533,270 in gold dust on freight.

The Northern Light connected with the steamship Cortes, which left San Francisco on the 23d ult. The following is the specie list of the Northern Light:—

Duncan, Sherman & Co.	$328,000
Adams & Co.	153,000
Wells, Fargo & Co.	51,670
W. Seligman & Co.	25,000
Newhouse & Spatz, Philadelphia	10,600
Total	$568,270

The following is the specie list of the Cortes:—

Page, Bacon & Co.	$345,000
Adams & Co.	118,000
Wells, Fargo & Co.	51,670
J. Seligman & Co.	25,000
Spatz & Newhouse	10,600
Total	$550,270

We are indebted to Mr. Thomas E. Hatch, purser of the Northern Light, and to the expresses of Messrs. Wells, Fargo & Co., J. W. Sullivan, and Adams & Co., for files of California and Oregon papers.

Matters in Central America remain as at last dates. Chomorro still continues successful.

The American frigate Columbia left San Juan on a cruise Jan. 6.

The Northern Light left at San Juan the British brig of war Rapid and mail steamer Dee.

The committee appointed at the railroad meeting in San Francisco have decided that a stage route across the Plains is the most practicable means of securing the speedy completion of the railroad, and that the State Legislature will probably be called upon this winter to make an appropriation for that purpose.

Miss Sarah Pellet has declared her intention to bring five thousand respectable New England girls to California.

The City Marshal of Oakland, John Hogan, had absconded with $20,000 of the city funds.

The question of locating the State Capital was to be decided immediately. Sacramento, it was said, would undoubtedly be the place.

Yankee Sullivan had been arrested on a bench warrant in Nevada, for his recent participation in a prize fight.

The steamer Uncle Sam arrived on the 21st ult.

Adele Hubert, a young French woman, residing at the corner of Pike and Washington streets, attempted suicide by taking poison, but did not succeed.

Asa Coombs, confined in the city prison of San Francisco, awaiting examination for robbing the United States bonded warehouse, on Union street, attempted to put an end to his existence by shooting himself with a pistol.

Michael Hickey was instantly killed, on Wednesday last, by the falling in of a portion of the bank of Hook and Ladder Company's tunnel, near Placerville, in which he was a laborer. Mr. H. was an Irishman, lately from Ohio, and was aged about twenty-one years.

William B. Lee was found guilty of murder in Los Angeles.

The New England Society of San Francisco celebrated the 234th anniversary of the landing of the pilgrims, on the evening of the 22d December, at Wilson's Exchange. Mayor Webb presided. The speakers were the Mayor, Judge Tracy, Joshua Haven, Colonel Baker, Mr. Parker, Rev. Mr. Benton, Capt. Keyes, Mr. Stow, F. Soule, Mr. Washburn and Nr. Buffum.

The Board of Supervisors of San Francisco county have authorized the purchase of a plot of 180 acres of land, about six miles from the city, for $15,000, and the erection of a building thereon at a cost of $65,000, for a House of Refuge for juvenile delinquents.

Yankee Sullivan had been arrested and imprisoned at Nevada, upon a bench warrant issued on an indictment found against him as one of the principals in the late brutal prize fight in that county. He was anxious, by change of venue, to have his case tried in Sacramento.

The Columbia Clipper tells us of a French woman who has recently been mining near San Diego Hill. She was using the pick and shovel as dexterously as the sterner sex.

A Police Officer Stabbed by a Woman—The Wound Probably Fatal.

[From the San Francisco Alta California, Dec. 19.]

A tragical affair took place last evening, at the corner of Merchant and Kearny streets. The particulars, from a well authenticated source, are as follows:—Henry Kerrison, a member of the police force, had formed an acquaintance with Elizabeth Sullivan, the proprietress of a segar store on Clay street, near the Sazerac House. Kerrison, being under an engagement to be married to a young woman residing in this city, has been endeavoring for some time past to rid himself of Elizabeth Sullivan's acquaintanceship. Prompted, as it is supposed, by the demon of jealousy, she yesterday came up to Kerrison, who was standing on the corner of Merchant and Kearny streets, and, with no other warning or salutation than merely exclaiming "Harry," she plunged a bowie knife into his breast, just above the region of the heart; the knife glancing from the rib, passed between, and entered the left lobe of the lung, inflicting a wound about one inch and a half in depth in the lung, and from the outside about three inches. The force with which the blow was struck caused her to stumble. Kerrison immediately started off for the Marshal's office; the woman, having recovered her feet, pursuing him, he rushed into the office, exclaiming "hold that woman." Officer Monks seeing the blood flowing from his breast, called to him to run down to Captain McDonald's room. The woman again struck at her victim with the knife, and officer North, in attempting to arrest it, received a wound between the thumb and forefinger. She was arrested and lodged in the station house. Kerrison was conducted to the room of Capt. McDonald, and surgical aid instantly obtained; but the nature of the wound almost precludes the possibility of recovery. Kerrison is well known as having been an efficient member of the police, and his conduct has always been such as to command the respect of those who were acquainted with him. Elizabeth Sullivan was formerly an actress at the People's theatre, under the assumed name of Howard.

Assistant Captain Morton subsequently visited her cell and obtained a letter addressed to Mr. Kerrison, of which the following is a copy:—

HARRY—For the last time, Harry Kerrison, I now write to you. You have embittered my whole life; you have given me no choice but a life of prostitution; and, Harry, God will not let me be unavenged. You will say to the latest moment of your existence, when I first saw you if any one had even hinted to me that I would fall so low as to associate with you I would have considered it an insult. Perhaps you remember when I would scarcely deign to notice you when you came where I was; and then I was happy, and, I may add, innocent. See now, through your cursed, cursed wiles, to what I am brought! Why are such men as you allowed to live? You're a curse to the world. Now, mark my words—I am about entering into a life than do which I would gladly prefer death, and God knows my heart—knows how hard I have struggled against it. By your dastardly treatment I am driven to it. Now, Harry, to tell you that I have loved you—that I would have laid down my life for you—that if sickness had laid you on a bed I would have worked for and tended you as tenderly as the fondest mother would her child—that if crime or reproach had been yours I would have clung to you and have loved you through all—that nothing on earth would have damped my love for you, so closely had I entwined you round my heart—this, Harry, has been my love for you—this, Harry, has been the heart you have thrown from you. Your own heart will best tell you why;—if from the caprice of a moment, or from a passing fancy of your fickle nature, it matters all the same. The die is cast; if now you were about to offer, in the right of man, to woo me as your wife—if you were to lay a fortune at my feet, I would refuse it all, for a stronger passion has laid hold of me—and a sweeter one. Have patience, Harry, and read. When I left home my mother gave me a Bible. Since that I have never looked at it till last night. Do not treat this as the fancy of a moment. I am very calm—the cool calm of hate—deadly hate; and I knelt on my knee on the cold earth, with no other witness but the stars above me—and, Harry Kerrison, I took an awful oath on that holy Book—an oath which would make your blood run cold to hear. 'Tis you have known my love—now you shall feel my hate. Months may elapse, but my revenge will overtake you. No sudden, open act of violence, for my late fury has settled down into deep, calm revenge. If I meet you openly, I will meet you with a smile—I will meet you proudly. If you leave this city, I will leave too. I will have those watching that you little dream of. You need not, if you can, avoid coming near me—it is all the same.

Now, if you will, show this letter around to your friends! My own writing—this letter—will, no doubt, one day be shown against me. I can bear it all, and more, when I am revenged; I would willingly die for it; I will devote my life to the accomplishment of it. Did you ever think, Harry Kerrison, that it would ever come to this? Did you ever think that she who was loving, and easy to forgive you, had such feelings within her? An old saying—the strongest love sometimes turns to the deadliest hate. Yes, my dear love, this affair, with this romance, as you have styled it, will have quite a romantic termination—a subject for a novel writer—ending in a tragedy of death and a scaffold! Well, I can think of no more for your amusement in this letter—all, all comes from the heart. Now, go on, Harry; go, with the deep, deep curses of a broken, blighted heart! Go! for you are doomed; for, so sure as the sun rises and sets, so sure will my words come to pass.

She was removed to the county jail. Since her arrest, she has refused all food or nourishment, and has declared her intention to starve for the purpose of haunting her victim hereafter.

Man Stabbed on Sacramento Street—Alleged Cause, Attempt at Seduction.

[From the San Francisco Alta California, Dec. 20.]

Yesterday afternoon, about two o'clock, another tremendous excitement was raised on Sacramento street, between Leidesdorff and Montgomery streets, in front of the What Cheer House, occasioned by a young man named David B. Ackkey stabbing James McCabe, or Judge McCabe, as he is called. He was formerly Probate Judge in the State of Michigan, and for several years a member of the Senate of that State. The particulars as accurately as they could be obtained are as follows:—Ackkey states that he has resided in this State for some time, has labored hard and saved his earnings to send on to his wife and child to pay their expenses out to this country. His wife and daughter arrived here in the *Cortes* on her last trip from Panama to San Francisco. Judge McCabe was passenger on the steamer at the time, and, as he states, made improper overtures to his wife, which have been repeated since his arrival. At the request of his wife, Ackkey removed from San Francisco to Marysville, and a few days ago Mrs. Ackkey left her home at Marysville and came to this city. Ackkey followed her, and yesterday succeeded in ascertaining that she was boarding at the What Cheer House. McCabe was also boarding there. Ackkey upbraided his wife with infidelity, which she strenuously denied, stating that her love for her husband was unalterable, and freely confessed that McCabe had endeavored to cause her to swerve from the right path and break the vows plighted to her husband. Ackkey exasperated beyond control, on ascertaining these particulars from his wife, purchased a dirk knife, and on McCabe's making his appearance on the sidewalk in front of the "What Cheer House," ran out and making a pass at him, succeeded in inflicting a severe wound on the right wrist. McCabe fled across the street; at the door of Schleiden's book store was overtaken by Ackkey, who plunged the knife with such force into his back, between the shoulder blade and back bone, that the force of the blow shivered the handle. The wound, however, is not considered a serious one. It is probable that the weapon came in contact with a bone. Surgical aid was immediately obtained, his wounds dressed, and the man conveyed to the hospital. Ackkey instantly surrendered himself up, calling out to the crowd that he was ready to be hung, but did not want to go to the station house. It is said that McCabe denies having acted improperly towards Ackkey's wife, and states that he never saw him before to his knowledge.

At a late hour last evening McCabe suffered so much from his wound that he became slightly delirious.

Destructive Conflagration in Vallecito—Half the Town in Ashes.

VALLECITO, Dec. 22, 1854.

A destructive conflagration occurred here last evening, destroying the largest portion of the business part of the town. The entire lower end of the town is in ashes, with the exception of the store of Mr. Jones, which escaped by pulling down some smaller buildings adjoining. The fire was first discovered about 9 o'clock bursting from the rear of the Polka Saloon, occupied as a fandango house, and spread with such rapidity that the adjoining buildings were soon enveloped in flames. A high wind prevailed at the time, and in less than twenty minutes the buildings of the east side were in flames. The flames were arrested on the east by pulling down two small buildings adjoining our office, and the constant application of buckets of water; in the west by the Shades Saloon. Had it caught at a late hour, the entire town would have inevitably been consumed. It is impossible to arrive at anything like a correct estimate of the loss. Messrs. Dolheguey and John A. Walker & Co. were the heaviest losers, having lost their entire stock, amounting to $10,000 or $12,000. The fire was probably the work of an incendiary.

Dramatic and Musical.

[From the San Francisco Alta California, Dec. 23.]

Signora Barili Thorn had a benefit at the Metropolitan last Saturday evening. The house was crowded. The first act of "La Sonnambula" and a portion of "Ernani" were performed.

On Monday evening a benefit was given to Mrs. Voorhees, on which occasion the first act of "Lucrezia" and the last act of "Nabuco" were performed.

The Italian Opera company are soon going to Sacramento, where they will give six performances.

At the American theatre Mr. and Mrs. Stark have been playing, in conjunction with Mr. Neafie, to good houses. The "Merry Wives of Windsor" has been produced, Mr. Stark playing Sir John Falstaff, and Mr. Neafie, Ford.

On Thursday evening a benefit was to have been given to Mr. Bochsa, on which occasion "Robert the Devil" was to have been produced in English. Owing, however, to the indisposition of Herr Mengis, it was not performed, "Martha" being substituted.

Four of Christy's Minstrels have remained here and joined Bachus' troupe. Eph Horn is among the number. A suit for salary was brought against Mr. Christy before his leaving, and he left $6,000 here to abide the issue.

A grand benefit is to be given to Mrs. Sinclair this evening. All the company and many other artists have volunteered for the occasion. She will renew her lease of the Metropolitan.

Miscellaneous.

DECREE OF CONFIRMATION IN THE PUEBLO CASE.—In this case, on hearing the proofs and allegations, it is adjudged by the Commission that the claim of the petitioner is valid, and it is therefore decreed that the same be confirmed.

The land of which confirmation is made is that known by the name of the Pueblo Lands of San Francisco, and is bounded as follows:—Beginning at the little cove to the east of the Fort, and running across to the beach, so as to leave the Fort and Casamata to the north; thence running along the beach to Point Lobos, on its southern part; thence a straight line to the summit of the Devisadero, continuing said line to the east as far as the "Punta del Rincon," including the "Canutales" and "El Gentil," the said line will terminate within the Bay of the Mission of Dolores, the estuary of which will form a natural boundary between the municipal jurisdiction of that Pueblo and the said Mission of Dolores; thence along the shore of the Bay of San Francisco, as it existed in the year 1834, to the point of beginning.

THE DEBT OF SAN FRANCISCO.—A petition has been for some time in circulation, and is now signed by all the bankers and leading firms in San Francisco, praying the Legislature to pass at the earliest possible moment an act to authorize the funding or discharge of the present floating debt of the city, upon such a basis that the city bonds shall be at par in the Eastern States. The petitioners pray, moreover, that such further measures may be taken as will ensure the entire extinguishment of this debt and place the financial affairs of the city upon an economical cash basis, with effectual precautions against future embarrassments.

SUIT FOR LIBEL.—The suit of George Thatcher and wife against the publishing committee of the *Christian Advocate*, resulted in a vertict of $3,000 for the plaintiffs. The suit was for libel, the defendants having published a letter written by Rev. M. C. Briggs, in which he charged the plaintiffs with living together without being married, and performing very immoral acts. It is understood that another suit will be brought against Mr. Briggs.

REPORTED REVOLUTION IN SONORA.—The *Californian* says:—"Rumors are afloat to the effect that letters were received in our city, containing news of a revolution in the Departments of Sonora and Chihuahua. Whether it be true or not that notices to this effect are here, it is certain that parties in our city have been expecting such advices, and from the well known feeling of dissatisfaction pervading throughout the State of Sonora especially, on account of the arbitrary acts of Santa Anna, we are warranted in anticipating a general rising of the country against the present government.

Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

MARRIED.

In Illinoistown, Dec. 10, by Rev. Mr. Rogers, John W. Baldwin to Miss Josephine Brickell.

In Illinoistown, Dec. 10, by B. B. Brickell, Esq., Benj. Way to Miss Louisa Thompson.

In Illinoistown, Dec. 13, by B. B. Brickell, G. W. McAdams to Mrs. Sarah Robinson, both of Dutch Flat, Placer county.

At Amador, by S. S. Manon, Esq., Thomas S. Hoyt to Miss Caroline Scott, all of Amador.

In Nevada, Nov. 30, by Rev. J. H. Warren, John W. G. Smith to Miss Kate M. Taylor.

On Dec. 19, by the Rev. William Speer, Mr. James S. Hutchinson to Miss Coralie D. Pearsall.

In Mud Springs, by the Rev. S. W. Davies, Henry C. Bullard, formerly of Missouri, to Miss Eliza R. Cowie, late of Dunsee, Scotland.

At Sacramento, by the Rev. Horace Pratt, Mr. J. Grainger Hyer to Miss Josephine, daughter of Joseph H. Nevett, all of said city.

In Sonoma Valley, Nov. 20, by Rev. Mr. Hunter, Mr. William Goodman to Miss Cynthia Acres, all of Sonoma.

In Napa Valley, Dec. 10, by Rev. Mr. Riley, Mr. James R. Peters to Miss Mary E. Sensbaugh, all of Napa county.

At Eureka City, Dec. 14, by Lloyd Frizell, Esq., Jacob Snow to Martha A. Ballard, all of Craig's Flat, Sierra county.

Oct. 31, D. G. Clark, of Corvallis, O. T., to Miss Elizabeth M. Gray, of Lane county, O. T.

In Salem, O. T., Joseph Gardner Wilson and Elizabeth, daughter of the late Rev. J. P. Miller, formerly of New York.

In Linn county, by Rev. Geo. C. Chandler, Mr. Christian Clymer and Miss Rachael Thomson.

In San Francisco, Dec. 21, by Rev. F. E. Prevaux, Mr. Alexander H. Todd and Miss Flavilla H. Tibbets.

At McDowellville, El Dorado county, Dec. 16, by Rev. A. Bigbie, Mr. C. H. Fancher and Miss Ann Martin, both of McDowellville.

At Eureka, by H. Henderson, Esq., Mr. Ellis Scoles, late of Knox county, Ohio, to Miss Pamelia G. Williams, of Eureka.

BIRTHS.

On Dec. 19, the wife of Wm. H. Johnson, of a daughter.

At Shasta, Nov. 21, the wife of W. S. Hughes, of a daughter.

DIED.

Edward Cook, aged 33 years, late of Lancaster county, Penn.

In San Francisco, Dec. 20, after a lingering illness, Julia, wife of Edward Stanley, late of North Carolina.

In San Francisco, Dec. 19, Charles F. Winslow, youngest son of Captain David and Rachel Van Pelt, aged 5 months.

At the residence of her brother, B. White, Polk county, Sophia White, in her seventeenth year.

In Jackson, Matthew Williams, son of A. C. and Philipia Brown, aged 9 months and 16 days.

In Nevada, Dec. 11, of inflammation of the lungs, John G. Gardner, aged 29, formerly of Philadelphia.

In Nevada, Dec. 12, Edward M. Wright, from Shiwassa county, Michigan, aged 31 years, 6 months and 4 days.

In Placerville, after an illness of ten months, Joseph H. Morgan, in the 26th year of his age, late from Iowa.

In Los Angeles, on December 1, in childbirth, (twins,) Elizabeth Hardy, aged 25 years, wife of Alexander Crabb, printer.

In Los Angeles, on Nov. 30th, George Parkhurst, in the 48th year of his age.

In Weaverville, Trinity county, of consumption, Capt. John Fuller, aged 49, formerly of Louisville, Kentucky, and Captain of the Montgomery Guards, of the Louisville Legion, during the Mexican war.

At Pennsylvania Bar, Canon Creek Trinity county, John McKinnin, aged about 35 years, formerly of Australia.

In San Francisco, Dec. 18th, Emily Newhall Sullivan, only daughter of Wm. H. and Mary E. Sullivan, aged 4 years and 7 months.

At Iowa Hill, Dec. 16th, Jas. S. Carpenter, aged 26 years, formerly of Dutchess county, N. Y.

In Sacramento, on the 19th inst., John Babcock, of Schenectady, N. Y., aged about 40 years.

At Eureka, on the 16th inst., James S. Marzin, aged 34 years, formerly of New York city.

In San Francisco, Dec. 22d, Mrs. Mary W., wife of J. C. Johnson, in the 28th year of her age, formerly of Newark, New Jersey.

Markets.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22, 1854.

There has been a little more animation in general trade to-day, though there are few new features worthy of remark. It will be perceived that there has been an advance in polar oil. Barley is less active, one of the heavfest purchasers having retired from the market. There is a disposition among jobbers to advance the rates of domestic flour, the present price of wheat leaving no margin for profit.

FLOUR.—Jobbing sales of 100 bbls. Gallego, at $14 per bbl.; 300 qr. sacks Golden Gate, at $8 50 a $9; 2,000 qr. casks Chili, at $8 50; 300 do. Atviso, at $8 50; 400 do. Magnolia, at $8 50, and 300 do. Ashley, at $10 50 per 200 lbs.

WHEAT.—Sales of 430 sacks fair California, at 2½c. per lb.; 340 do. good do., at $2 60 and 300 do. do., at $2 65 per 100 lbs. Also a lot of 1,800 sacks smutty, on private terms.

BARLEY.—Sales of 250 sacks California, from wharf, at 1¾c. per lb.; 108 do. do., at $1 92 per 100 lbs.; 410 do do.; and 5,000 do. do., from store, at 2c. per lb.

OATS—Sales of 111 sacks California at 2¼c. per lb.; 521 do. do. at $2 82½ per 100 lbs., and 310 do. do., in two lots, at 2¾c. per lb.

BRAN—Jobbing sales of 250 sacks domestic at 1½c. per lb.

BEANS.—Sales of 100 sacks California Bayos at 6½c. per lb.

POTATOES.—Sales of 800 sacks in lots, at 1½c.; 250 do. at 1¾c.; and 100 do. very choice, jobbing, at 1¾c. per lb. The brig William Henry is taking on board at Pajaro a cargo of 2,500 sacks for Australia.

RICE.—Sales of 90,000 lbs. Peruvian at 6¼c., and 1,200 mats China at 8¾c. per lb.

TEA.—Sale of 30 cases orange Pekoe on private terms.

SUGAR.—Sales of 18,000 lbs. China, No. 1 at 10c., and 200 half bbls. Stewart's crushed, ex Flying Eagle, on private terms.

SYRUP.—Sale of 68½ kegs, to arrive, on private terms.

CANDLES.—Sales of 175 boxes bright Cincinnati at 49c.; 100 do. fair adamantine at 47c.; 75 do. dark do. at 45c.; 250 do. bright do. on private terms; and at auction 170 do. do. at 46½c. a 49c. per lb.

SOAP.—Sale of 100 cases Castile at 12½c. and at auction 100 boxes pale No. 1, at 6½c. per lb.

STARCH.—Auction sale of 60 boxes at 8c. a 8¾c. per lb.

SALERATUS.—Sale of 205 cases ex Flying Eagle, on private terms.

CREAM TARTAR.—Sale of 18 cases, in 1 lb. papers, at 40c. per lb.

DRIED APPLES.—Sale of 100 half bbls., ex Flying Eagle, at 11½c. per lb.

CHAMPAGNE.—Sale of 150 cases Piper's Heidsick on private terms. Quarts are jobbing at $25 per dozen.

TOBACCO.—Sale of 200 gross Goodwin's smoking, per Flying Eagle, previous to arrival, at $4 per dozen, and 30 cases Pride of the Union, ex same vessel, at 35c. per lb.

LARD.—Sale last evening of 50 kegs, at 14½c., and to-day, at auction, 100 kegs pure leaf, at 14¼c. per lb.

BUTTER.—Sale of 50 firkins, ex Flying Eagle, on private terms, and at auction 150 firkins sold at 10c. a 13¾c. per lb.

BACON.—Sale of 14 hhds. clear, ex Flying Eagle, at 13½c. per lb.

HAMS.—Sale of 25,000 lbs, in brine, ex Wild Duck, at 16c.; 20,000 lbs. do. from store on private terms, and 85 bbls. Billings' on private terms.

PAPER.—Sale of 1,300 reams single and double crown wrapping, ex Wild Duck, on private terms.

DRY GOODS.—Sales of 5 cases woollen undershirts, at 10 per cent advance on invoice, and 6,500 yards madder prints, at 11½c. per yard.

REVOLVERS.—Sale of 50 Colt's navy, at $25 each.

POLAR OIL.—Sale of 15,000 gallons crude, to arrive per Vaquero, at 75c.; 4,500 do. do. from store, at 80c.; and 2,000 do. refined, at $1 15 per gallon.

From Oregon.

We have dates from Oregon to the 17th of December. The Legislature assembled at Salem on the 4th ult. The following is the list of officers elect of the present session:—President of the Council, J. K. Kelley; Chief Clerk, B. Gencis; Assistant Clerk, James Costillos; Enrolling Clerk, Mr. Edwards; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. K. Deloshmutt; Door Keeper, Mr. Gwinn; Speaker of the House, L. F. Cartee; Chief Clerk, Victor Trevitt; Sergeant at-Arms, Mr. Hammonds.

THE HUDSON BAY COMPANY.—We learn from the *Standard* that meetings of the citizens along the Columbia river are soon to be holden at different places, to agitate the question of the Hudson Bay Company's claims to large tracts of land in Oregon and Washington Territories, to throw more light upon it, and to devise ways and means to legally protect the rights of American settlers upon the lands claimed by this company.

It is well known that a large number of the dependants of that company, immediately on the passage of the land law, availed themselves of the privileges of that law, and declared their intentions to become citizens of the United States, and as claimants under that law, settled upon some of the best lands in Oregon. To this no reasonable objection can be urged.

From Washington Territory.

The Legislature of Washington Territory organized on the 4th December, by the election of the following officers:—President of the Council, Seth Catlin; Chief Clerk, Butler P. Anderson; Assistant Clerk, A. J. Moses; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. L. Mitchell; Doorkeeper, Mr. Culleson; Speaker of the House, Henry R. Crosbie; Chief Clerk, R. F. Kendall; Assistant Clerk, R. M. Walker; Sergeant-at-Arms, Milton Mounts; Doorkeeper, Wm. Bailey—all democrats but one.

INDIAN HOSTILITIES.—The *Standard* says that rumors are afloat in town that the whites have killed a Cayuse Indian, above the Cascades and Dalles, and that the Indians about the Cascades and Dalles, together with the Cayuse and Snakes, were evincing hostilities to the whites. Much alarm is felt for the safety of the whites at the Dalles. The troops at Vancouver are ordered to go up there as soon as possible.

From Carson Valley.

The Sacramento *Union* had received a letter from Mr. Thomas Knott, of Carson Valley:—

Mr. K. says a meeting was held in the valley on the 3d of December, to determine whether to organize a kind of independent government, or remain as they are until they could be connected with California. Those present decided unanimously to remain for the present as they were. He writes as if the people considered themselves under the laws of Utah Territory. From his account we judge society to be in rather an unfortunate condition so far as law and the collection of debts are concerned. Nr. K. speaks in high praise of the numerous valleys by which they are surrounded.

He also speaks of the new route from Salt Lake—says Col. Reese and his company had returned from an exploring trip on it, and reports it 300 miles nearer, with good grass and water most of the way; he thinks the route will be fully opened during the coming season.

A company was packing up to work the Southern road as far as the east end of Walker's Lake.

The hope is strongly expressed that California will be up and doing to have Carson Valley annexed to the State.

From Guaymas—Movements of Troops.

From Guaymas we learn that large numbers of troops were expected at Mazatlan, sent by the government to put down any insurrection that might occur, as the election was to take place on the 1st of December; but it is generally believed that the soldiers were for the purpose of deterring the citizens to vote in favor of Santa Anna. Gen. Yanez had been recalled to the city of Mexico. His popularity was too great at Mazatlan—therefore his recall. Gen. Avellano has been appointed in his place.

Canadian Items.

The municipal election in Toronto stirred up much excitement, and riots grew therefrom. In one ward the close of the poll, says the *Examiner*, was marked with scenes of violence more characteristic of a savage than a civilized people. Mr. Sheard, as one of the city aldermen, in attempting to arrest one of the rioters, was himself abused and narrowly escaped losing his life. The same evening, Samuel Reid, a carpenter, was murdered in the streets, and his death may be traced to the prior excitement—the drunkenness and violence displayed at the close of the election. The murderer of Reid has not yet been identified, though a number of persons have been arrested on suspicion.

On Monday evening a large meeting was held in Toronto, under the auspices of the St. Andrews Society, to raise funds for the relief of the widows and orphans of those who have lost their lives in the war with Russia. The proceedings were attended with religious ceremonies. The sum of £300 was raised. Warm sympathy was expressed on the side of the allies.

The policy of a prohibitory liquor law is warmly discussed in the Canadian papers.

The Cobourg and Peterboro Railroad was opened a few days since, and twelve cars, drawn by two locomotives, conveyed 1,000 persons from Cobourg to Peterboro, when congratulatory addresses were delivered by the Mayors of both places on behalf of the citizens, and a large company were entertained at a sumptuous dinner in the Town Hall. The bridge across Rice Lake was thoroughly tested on this occasion, and is said to be a solid, durable structure.

The Toronto *Examiner* says a rumor of changes in the ministry has been afloat, and on Tuesday last it was said Sir Allan McNab was going out, and Mr. Hincks coming in.

A corps of Quebec cavalry have intimated their readiness to proceed to the theatre of war; and Arthur Rankin, Esq., M. P. P., is reported to have offered his services to raise a battalion of infantry in Upper Canada for the same purpose.

Dr. Burnside, of Toronto, lately deceased, bequeathed his estate of £30,000 mostly to charitable and educational purposes.

Our Albany Correspondence.

ALBANY, Jan. 12, 1855.

Desperate Attempt to Destroy the Know Nothings—Will their Courage Ooze out?—Anticipations that William H. Seward will Obtain their Votes for Senator—Any Quantity of Bribery Offered—Any Amount of Corruption Practised.

The opinion is fast gaining ground that Mr. Seward's strength in the Legislature increases every day. The whig silver grays, who professed to be his opponents, boldly asserted that the Know Nothing strength of the members was able to, and certainly would, defeat him. The members of that invisible order among the people were inspired with the highest confidence that they had elected between forty and fifty members of the lower house, and also claimed ten Senators who stood secretly pledged to the order, to vote for "Ullman or nobody." A show of strength was expected at the organization of the House. Mr. Littlejohn was on Seward's slate for Speaker. A caucus of the Know Nothings was held in the afternoon of Monday, previous to the whig caucus in the evening. The whig and democrat Know Nothings met together. The consultation with regard to opposing Mr. Littlejohn resulted in a conclusion, generally conceded, to vote for Ambrose Stevens, of Genesee, a democrat Know Nothing, for Speaker. Is this expectation the caucus dissolved. But the honest Know Nothings became disappointed and surprised on finding nearly all the conspicuous whigs who had attended the afternoon caucus and decided to support the nominee then agreed upon, taking the most active part in the coming caucus for Mr. Littlejohn, and in which the entire whig strength of the House was cast for him. The whig Know Nothings deserted Mr. Stevens because he was a democrat.

When Mr. Leigh offered the usual resolution for the appointment of chaplains—inviting all having charge of Christian congregations—a pretended Know Nothing member offered an amendment giving the Speaker the power to invite such clergymen as he in his discretion might think proper. After much shuffling, this amendment was finally adopted. It was intended as an exclusion of the Catholic priests; everybody believed that to be the object, though there was nothing direct or pointed in it. This again showed the cowardice of the Know Nothings. They were willing to vote by implication, but they dare not show their hands, dare not face the music and vote directly for excluding from the Assembly chamber. Nevertheless, they will be sooner or later brought to a test vote, and then the Know Nothings outside will find how egregiously they have been deceived by nine-tenths of the very honorable gentlemen whom they elected to the Legislature.

The appearances, at present, clearly indicate that the same cowardice, the same treachery, will become disclosed upon the vote for United States Senator. The Know Nothings work in secret; all that they have as yet accomplished has been through secret agency. If the election of Senator was to be done by secret ballotings, then probably the Know Nothings would vote independently. They might so scatter their strength as to prevent an election, or they might enter into a secret understanding with the democrats, and agree upon a man for United States Senator, and thus elect him. But such is not the case; the election for Senator in each house must be by *viva voce*, each member rising in his place and voting audibly for the candidate of his preference. There can be no skulking behind paper ballots—no chuckling in secret—no invisible, mysterious by-words or secret sign passing from one to another—no silence, no evasion, no prevarication, or shuffling, grumbling or cavilling. Each member must announce in public his preference, and there is no way in which he can avoid it. After thus voting openly, if the two houses shall agree upon the name of Wm. H. Seward, then both houses meet in joint ballot and confirm the election. But if the Know Nothings shall adhere to their faith, carry out the express instructions imposed upon them at the polls, and vote for Ullman, or any other man true to the principles which they profess, they will thus cast between forty and fifty votes in the House, the party whigs about as many more, and the balance, some thirty, will be democratic. If such results shall be arrived at, the House will be unable to agree upon a candidate for Senator, no election can be held, no joint ballot, and, consequently, the question will be carried over to the next Legislature; and on or about the 4th of March Governor Clark will appoint William H. Seward to serve in Congress until the Legislature shall fill the vacancy.

But the indications now are that the most firm Know Nothings, or those who pretended the most firmness, will yield to the party pressure now so strongly being made upon them. The Seward convention, just closed at Schenectady, composed of his ablest friends in every county in the State, was called together as a spurious Know Nothing organization, to thwart the originals. The most prominent members of that convention are now at the capital, and have taken quarters here until after the Senator question is decided. The daily trains are bringing together the strongest and most powerful, most influential of Mr. Seward's friends. Night and day caucuses are held, to which the obnoxious Know Nothings are invited. Every species of argument is enforced—the slave power, Nebraska outrages, Southern dictation, Northern pride, power and patriotism, together with all the beauties and excellencies of the mighty whig party of the North. Each prominent supposed Know Nothing has a committee of advisement. If the arguments used by one committee are not convincing, the assailable points of the member are ascertained. If he wants office, it is promised under the most solemn engagements; if hints are given that "material aid" would be acceptable, then that all-powerful agent, that ever convincing argument, is supplied indirectly, through a friend. By these and numerous other appliances, there seems now not the least question but all the excitement which the Know Nothings have raised from one end of the State to another, in respect to their determination to defeat Wm. H. Seward, will terminate in thin air, and as complete and unconditional a capitulation ensue as was ever accomplished by political strategy.

Upon this question of United States Senator there is an unprecedented, aye, a wild excitement. No prospective occasion of the like ever enlisted such universal anxiety. No party was ever aroused as are Mr. Seward's friends now. The subject is in every one's mind and on every tongue. The activity of the fall election bears not the least comparison. Then, there was only the usual degree of energy for a day or two. Now, from the commencement of the session up to this time, and will be for three weeks longer, the Legislature is besieged. Neither day or night have whig members any repose, and many are prevented from appearing in their respective houses during the short hours designated for business. The pressure upon the Know Nothings comes from every portion of the State. Many of them, unused to such complimentary attention as is now paid to them, wonder why they are introduced into society different from what their ambition ever sought—partaking of dinners, invited to hospitable parties, made lions of, flattered on account of the influence they possess among their brother members, wondered at why such conspicuous talents have not long since been discovered by the people, and that certain political prosperity awaits them. We say many members thus seduced will be made to believe really that William H. Seward is the patriarch of the Know Nothings, and will vote for him upon that ground.

RESCUE OF A CAPTIVE INDIAN GIRL.—The St Paul *Pioneer* gives an account of the capture and inhuman treatment of a young Chippewa girl, by Sioux, into whose possession she fell, and her rescue from a horrible death, by a white man. Last summer a hunting party of Chippewas encountered a band of Sioux, who were out upon the war path. The former were defeated, and all except three, who made their escape, and this young girl, were massacred. The maiden endeavored also to make her escape, and jumping into a canoe, put out upon Otter Tail lake. The pursuers followed and overtook her, when she threw herself into the water, and endeavored by diving and hiding in a cluster of weeds to elude them. The chief threw his tomahawk and wounded her badly in the side, and afterwards stunned her by a stroke upon the head with a paddle. The "brave" resolved to retain her as his wife, and brought her to his wigwam, where he had already two wives. Their jealousy was aroused, and the young Chippewa girl was constantly maltreated, the squaws literally putting coals of fire upon her head and cutting her with knives. She resolved to commit suicide, to end her trouble. But this idea was not liked by her savage retainers and they resolved to enjoy one of their ancient rites by burning the captive at the stake. This fact becoming known to Joseph Campbell, the Sioux interpreter, he determined to effect her rescue, and going to the village, found and carried off the girl, who was subsequently placed in the charge of the commanding officer at Fort Ridgely, and after her wounds were healed conveyed to Fort Snelling, and thence home to her band.

GREAT FIRE IN LAFAYETTE.—TWO MEN BURNED.—On the 8th inst., a fire broke out at Lafayette, Ind., in the block of buildings near the canal, occupied by Messrs. Rose & Son, and E. M. Weaver & Co., which destroyed the warehouses of those gentlemen, and the stores of two or three other persons in the same block. The warehouses were full of produce, and the damage to property caused by fire it is thought cannot fall short of $50,000.

Two men are said to have been burned up, Mr. Rose, the proprietor of one of the warehouses, and an Irishman attached to the establishment of Messrs. Weaver & Co. Both were in their stores at the time the fire broke out, but were unable to effect their escape

Pennsylvania Politics.

OUR HARRISBURG CORRESPONDENCE.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 12, 1855.

State Treasurer—American Candidate—Incidents of the Caucus—Case of Dr. Beale of Philadelphia—The Attorney Generalship of the State—Bribery Investigations.

Monday next, the 15th, is the day fixed by law for the election of a State Treasurer, to serve for one year from the first of May. As many of the members are in the habit of going to their homes on Saturday after adjournment, and returning on Monday before the hour of meeting, it was deemed best to settle to-day the person to receive the votes of the members of the American party for that office. A caucus was accordingly held this afternoon, which did not terminate its session until almost seven o'clock. A number of preliminary questions were raised, which led to considerable debate, and it was not until late in the afternoon that the ballotting was commenced. One of these preliminary questions was the right of certain members to vote for candidates, who were biassed and friends of the new administration, but not members of the order. These gentlemen had been invited to the meeting, but were invited out, after a discussion of the question. A controlling reason in the case was, that these gentlemen would not have felt themselves bound to support the nominee of the caucus, without regard to person, and they were therefore not considered fit to assist in the selection of a candidate.

Four ballots were had, the fourth ballot resulting in the choice of Eli