

KEOWEE COURIER.

"—TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW, AS THE NIGHT THE DAY, THOU CANST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

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THE KEOWEE COURIER,

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TERMS.

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CALIFORNIA CONVENTION.

The following is an abstract of the proceedings of the convention assembled in California to form a State Constitution. The Convention had been three weeks in session.

The bill of rights, as adopted in committee of the whole, embraced twenty sections, of the usual character of such provisions. The only point upon which it was supposed a controversy would arise—the question of slavery—passed without debate, and unanimously, utterly prohibiting slavery. Some few were in favor of submitting the matter to the people for a separate vote; but it was not contended for with any show of strenuosity, and was voted down almost unanimously.

The suffrage question was the source of considerable debate; but was finally disposed of by admitting all male citizens of the United States, six months resident in California, and twenty-one years of age, (Indians, Africans, and the descendants of excepted) to the privileges of electors.

The Legislature is to consist of two branches—an assembly and a senate; with such general powers, privileges and duties as are usually given to such bodies. Banking corporations and lotteries are prohibited; and all other corporations, except for municipal purposes, are to be established under general laws, the stock holders to be individually liable for all debts. Some considerable debate occurred upon a provision which allows corporations to be formed for receiving deposits of gold and silver. It was urged that under such a provision, an irresponsible system of banking might grow up; but the section was finally so amended as to answer all objections, and in that shape passed.

The members of the assembly are to be elected annually, and the members of the senate are to hold their offices for two years. One half of the Senate is to be elected each year. No person can be a member of the Legislature who has not been a resident of the State one year in addition to other qualifications.

The number of members of assembly is never to be less than twenty-four nor more than thirty-six, until the number of inhabitants of this State shall amount to one hundred thousand, and after that period at such ratio that the whole number of members of assembly shall never be less than thirty nor more than eighty. The senate is never to consist of less than one-third nor more than one-half of the number of the assembly.

Some division of opinion arose on a proposition made by Mr. McCarver to prevent free persons of color from settling in California, and also to prevent slaveholders from bringing slaves into the State for the purpose of liberating them. It finally passed into committee of the whole; but it has been looked upon since as jeopardizing the ratification of the Constitution by Congress, and as this feeling was gaining ground, the house probably will strike it out.

A governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, comptroller, treasurer, attorney general, constitute the executive department. They are all to hold their offices for two years. The governor and lieutenant are to be elected by general ballot; the secretary of state is to be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate; the comptroller, and three other state officers, are to be elected by the Legislature in joint ballot for the first term, and afterwards by the people at the general state election. An effort was made in the committee of the whole to strike out the office of the comptroller, but it failed. It will, however, be again pressed in the house, and as the office is wholly unnecessary, we trust the motion will be successful. The governor has the usual powers, including the veto, and the privileges and duties of his office do not vary materially from those of all other states of the Union. The other state officers correspond in duties and powers with those generally ascribed them.

The article relative to the militia, as passed in committee of the whole, is substantially such as is found in other state constitutions, as is that also relative to amendments.

The boundary, judicial and educational questions were not decided upon at last advices, but it was supposed the convention would adjourn in all the first week in October.

FURTHER INTELLIGENCE BY THE CAMBIRA.

England.—Abbot Lawrence, the American Minister, has had an audience with the Queen, and delivered his credentials.

The European Times says that the fears of a general war growing out of the Turkish and Russian question have subsided. The Czar on learning the attitude taken by France and England on this question, immediately lowered his tone.

Lord Palmerston introduced to her Majesty Sir Henry Bulwer, who took leave preparatory to departing on his mission to the U. States.

Ireland.—Nothing of additional interest from this country, which still remains in a distracted and unhappy state.

France.—In the French National Assembly, on the discussion of Roman affairs, M. Pentelan gave De Tocqueville the lie, which caused great commotion and confusion in the Assembly at the time. The matter was subsequently adjusted. The Monitor and Republic have been seized for publishing letters from Louis and other refugees in London.

The Cholera at Paris has entirely ceased.

The Emperor of Austria has refused to permit the remains of the Duke of Reichstadt to be brought to Paris to be interred alongside of his father.

Spain.—The wretched system of passports is fully shown by the following incident. The police agents on the frontiers stopped the new American Ambassador to Madrid from entering Spain, because his passports were not signed at Bayonne.

Turkey.—Letters from Malta state that there is no doubt but the English fleet have left the Adriatic for the Dardanelles. The Austrian fleet is also under sail for the same place. A Turkish fleet of 26 vessels is anchored only four hours sail from the mouth of the Bosphorus. The Turkish fleet across the Bosphorus at the narrowest point, to defend its passage. A large fleet and 8,000 men and 600 guns is under way for the Dardanelles.

Italy.—Several young men have been arrested in Rome for singing the Marseilles hymn. It is said that Venice is not going to be a free port, and that Verona is henceforth to be the capital of the kingdom. Two American frigates, the Independence, Capt. Blake, are in port, under Com. Morgan.

Hungary.—The Emperor has granted to the officers of Peterwarden garrison who surrendered unconditionally, the same privileges which were awarded to the officers of the Comorn garrison. A council has arrived at Pesth from Vienna to stop the butcheries in that city.

Gen. Haynau has resigned his post in consequence of the Emperor ordering Count Bathiany to be shot when Haynau had directed him to be hung. One hundred and sixty Hungarian officers are to sail from Bremen for New Orleans—among them General Klappa.

Spain.—The Narvaez Ministry, which had been dismissed and reconstituted, has been again dismissed. The country still continues in a general state of commotion.

LATER FROM HAVANA.

The steamship Isabel, Capt. Rollins, arrived yesterday forenoon from Havana, with dates to the 8th inst.

The Isabel reached Havana on the 4th at 9 a. m. sailed on the 8th at 4 p. m. arrived at Key West at 1 a. m. next morning and left at 8 a. m.

Her Britannic Majesty's ship of war Trincomalee, arrived at Havana about the 30th ult. and was to sail on the 9th inst. All well.

Madame Augusta and troupe were to commence an engagement at the Tacon Theatre on the 10th inst. The opera had commenced to a very brilliant season and was crowded nightly.

The commander of the Round Island Expedition, Col. White, arrived at Havana on the 4th in the steamship Ohio, but was not permitted to go on shore, as the authorities placed him under the surveillance of two soldiers on board. — *Char. Mercury*, 12th inst.

TERRIBLE STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY LIVES LOST.

From a telegraphic despatch received at a late hour last evening, we learn the following painful particulars of a terrible catastrophe. The despatch is dated at—

New Orleans, Nov. 16th, p. m.—A terrible steamboat explosion took place last evening, on board the steamer 'Louisiana,' bound to St. Louis.

When about starting her boiler burst; shattering the steamers Storm and Boston, which were alongside, and killing many of their passengers, as well as her own.

The Louisiana had a large number of passengers on board, as well as the Storm, which last had just arrived.

Sixty dead bodies have already been discovered, and it is estimated that no less than one hundred and sixty perished by the explosion.

The Levee, after the accident, was strewn with dead bodies, and mangled fragments of legs and arms, presenting a most affecting spectacle.

The precise number of lives lost has not been yet ascertained.—*Telegraph*.

New Mexico—Interesting Discovery.

Lieutenant J. H. Simpson, of the Corps of Topographical Engineers, has addressed a letter to Colonel J. J. Abert, giving an account of his expedition from Santa Fe with Colonel Washington to the Navajo country. He describes a series of ruins in the canon of Chaco, which, doubtless, from their locality, appearance and numbers, are the veritable remains of the Aztecs of the 12th century; the locality of which, on the authority of some of the maps, Humboldt has ascribed to the vicinage of the very spot where they were found. The Indians of the present day know nothing of them except that, according to tradition they were once inhabited by a people which came from the North; that Montezuma was the Governor of this people; and that after living here for a period they dispersed—some eastward towards the Rio Grande, and others southward towards the city of Mexico.

Each pueblo is a single structure, covering in some instances as much as two acres in extent; discovering in places, by the still standing walls, four stories in height, and contained as many as three and four hundred rooms. The main walls plain surfaces throughout their whole extent, are very nearly three feet thick at the base, and retreat on the inside by a series of small jogs from bottom to top, thus lessening the thickness gradually from the bottom upwards.

Another object of interest discovered was a rock, of magnificent proportions and of fair surface, upon which were found inscribed, in some instances, in beautiful and deeply graven characters, the names of a number of persons of rank and distinction, in connection with the dates of their passing by the locality, and some other incidental allusion to occupation and history. One of these dates reaches back as 1606, and there are a number of others of this and the preceding century.

The most important discovery made by expedition, however, was the discovery of a middle route between the southern detour made by Colonel Cooke, from Santa Fe, and the northern one, called the Spanish trail route, which will shorten the distance to San Francisco three to four hundred miles, if not more.

Singular and Mysterious.—The Lake Providence (La) Republican of the 23d instant, relates the following singular circumstance:

Some time ago, when the cholera was raging to such an alarming extent in our Parish, a gentleman residing a short distance from Providence, determined to remove his wife to a more secure locality, and accordingly sent her to New Orleans. The husband soon received the fatal news that the tender partner of his bosom had fallen a victim to the dreadful pestilence in the city of New Orleans.

Months, however, rolled by, and time, the great physician, assuaged the first violence of his grief into a pensive and melancholy remembrance of his departed saint. Soon he formed the acquaintance of another lady who attracted his respect by her many fine qualities, and at last woke to life his sluggish and broken heart by her quiet and modest preference for him. Suffice it to say that about four weeks since they were married, and the clouds of sorrow fled from their conjugal bowers.

About a week since the first wife appeared and threw herself into the arms of her husband, to the great dismay of the new bride.

We have heard many explanations given of reasons of her long absence, and many conjectures as to the course the parties will now take. We cannot at present state them, as the matter may be investigated in the Courts of Justice.

CONSTANTINOPLE.

The Seraglio is no longer inaccessible to strangers, and by aid of a firman, purchased at a high price from the government, I have visited, with a small party of French and English, this far-famed palace. Crossing the Golden Horn from the Suburb Topkane, we landed at the Gardner's gate, one of the twenty-eighth entrance of Stamboul, and a few minutes' walk brought us to the Sublime Porte, the spacious unornamented archway from which the Ottoman Empire first derived its name. Escorted by a couple of very consequential State constables, we passed through into the outer court of the Seraglio, a large plain area surrounded by buildings formerly used as infirmaries for the sick and as lodges for the menials of the palace. From this we proceeded to the inner court, which was laid out in verdant grass plots and intersected with paved footways. Around were arcades leading into various offices and kitchens, and at the extremity was the justice hall, where the Grand Divan formerly held its sittings. Entering a narrow vestibule, the gentlemen of the party were made to exchange their boots for slippers, and we were ushered into that confused mass of building so long the residence of the Ottoman Sultans. We were conducted through all the audience halls and saloons of the palace, and the baths and private apartments of the Harem. Though many of the rooms were rich enough in appearance, they presented little of that extraordinary splendor with which travellers have been accustomed to invest the unknown interior of the Seraglio. The walls and ceilings generally were wainscoted and gilt, in the Moorish style, and the floors were covered with elegant palm-leaf matting. The furniture was far less sumptuous than that I have seen in other places, and there were no statues or paintings. Almost the only works of art were a few French engravings representing the battle scenes of Napoleon, and certain tablets inlaid with gold and porcelain, and diversified with flowers, miniature landscapes, and inscriptions from the Koran. The window-latticed halls of the Harem, and the sky-lighted chambers where the 'Father of all the Sovereigns of the Earth' used to go to sport with his women and mutes, displayed no ornament. The throne of his Serene Highness was quite an ordinary affair, and in interest was far out-matched by the twenty golden and magnificently jewelled State keys of the Sublime Porte. The gardens around the palace abound in many Oriental plants and flowers, but are much exceeded in beauty by many private grounds in England. In short, the Turkish Seraglio has been indebted for its fame more to the unequalled superabundance of its natural situation, and the jealousy with which its precincts have been guarded, than to anything actually done for it by human taste and skill. The present Sultan has never made it his residence, preferring one of the new palaces on the Bosphorus to a place associated with so many private intrigues and public iniquities.

The same firman, aided by a goodly supply of *buch-sheesh*, admitted us into Santa Sophia, the great boast of the eastern capital. Entering a small side door, we descended several steps, and traversing a short vestibule, were at once in the body of the church. As my eye ranged through the stupendous arches, whose vistas were bounded by brazen gates, and up the polished walls, benched with tier on tier of colonnaded galleries, and still mounting, swept along the ceiling, from cupola to cupola, and half-dome to half-dome, till, finally, it reposed on the great central vault, which, 180 feet above, sprang from the shoulders of four seraphim; and spanned the distance of 115 feet at an angle fearfully disproportionate to the immensity of the leap, I saw much that was truly grand and imposing; but nowhere could I discern that richness of material, or magnificence of decoration, that stimulated the Emperor Justinian to exclaim over his work, "I have surpassed thee, O Solomon!" Since the old Constantinople Cathedral, dedicated to the Eternal Wisdom, has been degraded into the metropolitan temple of the False Prophet, it has been despoiled of most of its Christian ornaments, and Santa Sophia owes its present celebrity infinitely more to what it has been than to what it now is. In harmony of outline, purity of style, and perfection of individual parts, it is exceeded by other mosques of the city, and especially by that of Suleiman the Magnificent.

THE SHADOW POLICE OF NEW YORK.

The following description of the 'shadow' of the New York police, as given by a gentleman writing from that city on the 24th ult. to the Philadelphia Inquirer very amusing:

'Did your readers ever hear of that department of our city police called the shadow system? I suppose not, so I'll explain it. The chief police has in his employ a number of trustworthy men, who are acquainted with all the pickpockets and rogues in the country, of foreign as well as domestic growth. Their province is to watch every steamboat and railroad arrival, and in case any of these gentry make their appearance they are to follow and dog them wherever they go, and to report progress two or three times a day to Mr. Matsell. One of the most skillful burglars in the United States, who in his day has picked any quantity of locks, but I believe has determined to sin no more in that way, arrived here a few days ago from a neighboring city, in company with his counsel, a highly respectable and well known member of the bar. As soon as they were espied by the shadows, they were traced wherever they went, and the limb of the law being looked upon as a pal of the buglar, was accordingly watched as the other.

'Soon after his arrival he got shaved—the shadow followed him into the barbershop. He went to see a friend—the shadow waited outside. He walked about town for a mile or so—the shadow was behind him. He went to the theatre—the shadow was in the seat next to him. He went to his hotel and read the papers—the shadow was at his elbow reading too. He registered his name at the hotel—the shadow looked over his shoulder. He went to bed—the shadow inquired the number of his room.

'In this way he was harassed and dogged for three days, at the end of which time he thought he would call on the chief of the police in reference to the business of his client; and lo! and behold the shadow was there too. As soon as he made himself known, of course the shadow was withdrawn, but Mr. Matsell told him that he could tell him everything which he had done since he came to the city—what he had eaten, the description of wine he took at dinner—where he visited—in fine everything connected with his movements from morning till night. The gist of the joke is that Mr. Matsell issued directions for his arrest the next day, and he would have been brought a prisoner to his office as sure as fate if he had not called there.

'Such is the shadow police in New York. Criminals dread it, and I am informed that they have, ere this, knelt to the chief of police and begged of him to cease persecuting them in that way, promising everything. The result of this system is that New York is too uncomfortable for such people, and they manage to give it a wide berth. It may be added that after little explanation the legal gentleman and the chief of police had a hearty laugh over the matter. The reason the shadows are termed such is because they will stick as close to a suspected character as his own shadow will.'

Immense Immigrant.—The Burlington (Iowa) State Gazette says:

'It is estimated that between fourteen and fifteen hundred wagons have crossed the Mississippi at this place within the last five weeks, bringing immigrants from Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, and all of them seeking homes in Iowa. They have generally gone to the new counties on and west of the Des Moines river, where, we know, they will find lands and other agricultural advantages equal to any in the world. Allowing five persons to a wagon, there have crossed at this place alone between 7,000 and 8,000 persons. We are told that the same extraordinary influx of immigrants has taken place at all other crossings along the river, from Dubuque down to Keokuk. It is therefore reasonable to suppose that from 30,000 to 50,000 persons have been added to our population within the last month and a half, and the tide is still pressing towards us.'

A Singular Discovery.—While some workmen were engaged in digging away a hill belonging to Mr. Williams at Green Point, L. I., last week, they discovered a cell made of cedar, six feet wide and eight feet high, containing some salt, hay, and bottles filled with a liquid resembling brandy in appearance, but of an oily taste. No entrance to the cell could be discovered, and the oldest inhabitant was not able to account for how it came there. Some skulls were also found near the same place, to which oysters had attached themselves, and grown firmly.