

THE EMPIRE COUNTY ARGUS.

CURLE BROTHERS, Third street, Sacramento, are our authorized Agents for that city. All orders, for this paper, left in their charge, will be promptly attended to.

MR. JAMES C. DUNCAN, at the Bookstore of Leontine & Strong, San Francisco, will act as Agent for the Argus. All orders for this office left with him, will be promptly attended to.

MR. D. G. WALDRON, is our authorized Agent for this county.

J. Q. LADUE, Esq., will not act as agent for the Argus, at Manassas Hill.

Messrs. Pickering & Bradshaw are authorized to act as Agents for the Argus in Placerville. Persons subscribing at their News Depot, Main Street, will have their papers left at their residence or place of business, free of charge.

MAGISTRATES BLANKS of all kinds, Attachments, Subpoenas, Executions, &c., &c., constantly on hand and for sale at this office.

Coloma: Saturday, December 10, 1853.

In a number of our exchanges we notice the name of our esteemed friend, HON. JOHN CONNESS, mentioned in connection with the Speakership of the approaching Legislature. What that gentleman's views are on the subject we know not, nor do we intend to allude to them. Doubtless like most others, he is ambitious of acquiring an honorable distinction, but we doubt if the Speakership would add to his already proud reputation.

From the antecedents of our Representative we judge that this will be his preference. The Speakership may be a bone of contention, and we should dislike to see one of the most useful, active and honest members mixed up in any squabble that might impair his usefulness.

As far as the honor of having the Speaker from our County is concerned, we can dispense with it. El Dorado needs no adventitious aid to make its influence felt. It is powerful and magnanimous.

Without detracting the least from its high position, it can graciously yield a point. Other Counties may fight for the bauble, it should not condescend to enter the list for such a paltry prize.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—We are gratified to learn that the "Sons" again organized in our town on Tuesday evening last. Quite a number of applicants were initiated, and the society starts under the most flattering auspices.

The following gentlemen are its officers: James Johnson, W. P.; Thomas H. Hewes, W. A.; C. J. Rackliffe, R. S.; Joseph Miller, A. R. S.; Laban C. Burr, F. S.; A. L. McClung, T.; John McGonagle, C.; John Miller, A. C.; M. R. Reeves, I. S.; and Giles E. Still, O. S.

We have just heard it hinted by a friend that all the quarrelling between the State Journal and Times and Transcript amounts to this: They want the State printing and are willing to divide—support diverse sides of the Senatorial question, confident that one of the two will win and the paper of the side that wins will get the job—and all will be right between them.

TAKE OUR HAT.—The Coloma Argus, in an article deprecating the existence of a difference between the State Journal and Times and Transcript, pays our paper the following incidental compliment, which, as it is congenial, we cannot refrain from copying. It says:

"So far as the merits and usefulness of a campaign paper are concerned, the Union did much more damage to our party than the Transcript ever repaired. At least so think the Democracy of El Dorado."—Sac. Union.

Our hat being in a rather dilapidated condition 'twill be just in time. Send by Adams & Co's. Express.

On Tuesday night last the miners of this place held a meeting and resolved to prosecute their tunneling operations on the flat below town. They were compelled to suspend operations last summer in consequence of the river company refusing to allow their water and tailings to flow on their claims.

A gentleman from Coloma Creek informs us that it will be more extensively worked this winter than at any former time. A number of miners are at work throwing up dirt and impatiently waiting for water to wash it. It has heretofore paid remarkably well in the winter season, and many good claims were abandoned last spring in consequence of the scarcity of water.

The rains hold off much longer than usual, but it is reasonable to calculate on their falling in a short time.

The saponaceous editor of the El Dorado Republican in his last issue comes down on us in his usual "weighty" style. He, pretending to quote from our columns, makes us say that "the Democracy of San Francisco voted four or five times." If he will read the article he will note that we said no such thing.

His closing sentence is worth copying. "We think the modern 'Argus' has reversed his eyes, and, as with his brains, carries them like the peacock."

He admits that we have brains. We don't like to be outdone in complimenting, but we know that the people of El Dorado would not believe us if we were to assert that he had any. We regret it!

We cannot but remark on the "Protean" like power the editor of the Republican possesses of assuming the part of the Gods and Demi-Gods of old. He was the Ajax of the Miner and Settler fraternity. As Psychopomp he conducted the departed spirits of that body to the infernal regions. Now as Mercury he commences battle with "Argus."

We shall be expecting the aerial editor to make his appearance in our sanctum. He will come with his "petasus" and "talaria" on. He will also have his lyre (!) in his hand, prepared to lull our hundred eyes asleep. We rest in the hope that the new Mercury does not possess sufficient power for that.

We hope he will not wear the "helmet of Plato"; we do not have our invisible enemy to cope with. He certainly will have the "harpe" with which to cut off our heads—if he can. But we shall try to appease the God of grace, (our devil suggests grease.) If he comes we shall sacrifice a calf, (if we can get one) in his honor. He shall have the tongue. The ancients, when they sought to do special honor to Mercury, sacrificed a pregnant sow to him. This we cannot do—'twill cost too much.

Not being able to offer him "milk and honey," we shall tender him a "brick." We shall order a statue of clay to be erected at some cross-road—the form to be the same as that adopted by the Egyptians—representing him with the head of a dog.

A FACT.—An advocate of the Maine Liquor Law was progressing through our town during the week soliciting signers to a petition to our next Legislature for the passage of that law. He met us in the street and asked us to sign it. We declined, but as we were just going into Huntress' to take a drink, we invited him to accompany us. He pocketed the lengthy petition and took a gin cocktail! Strong advocate he!

COLOMA HOOK AND LADDER CO. No. 1.—This company have now nearly completed an elegant house on Main street for the reception of their implements and fire annihilators. It contains spacious and tastefully decorated apartments for holding their meetings, and is an ornament to the town and a credit to the enterprising company who have already by their exertions once saved Coloma from destruction.

EL DORADO COUNTY.—TREASURER'S REPORT.—We last week published the Report of the Treasurer of this county. We invite the attention of our readers to it. It exhibits a gratifying condition of the financial affairs of our county. The Property Tax paid into the Treasury during the fiscal year exceeds \$20,000. The amount derived from Poll Tax upwards of \$29,000; from Merchandize \$7,000; Foreign Miner's License, \$65,000, and from other sources \$67,765; in the aggregate amounting to the sum of \$147,235. The indebtedness of the county one year ago reached nearly fifty thousand dollars. This has been nearly all paid and money now in the Treasury to discharge the last dollar.

The contribution which the State receives from El Dorado this year will amount to nearly \$70,000. Now we ask with all due humility, which and where is the county contributing more? Where the county as much? Do not all speak at once, gentlemen. Three cheers for our faithful collectors and efficient county officers; and a full round for our law-abiding and tax-paying citizens! The people of El Dorado can celebrate the holidays with money in their pockets and CROW out of debt.

HON. S. BRANNAN, Senator elect from San Francisco, has resigned. There are already three candidates in the field ambitious of filling his seat—D. Mahony, one of the com. committee, A. A. Selover, a disappointed applicant for Post Master, (we hope the people will hold him in as high appreciation as did President Pierce, and let him vegetate in merited obscurity,) and Dr. Theller, the editor of a nondescript paper called the Public Ledger. It is a pity that in so large a city as San Francisco, where there are a number of good and able Democrats, such persons should have the presumption to become candidates. It lowers the dignity of office among reflecting men, to see such men selected to fill them. The editor of the Ledger deserves something for his straight-forward and consistent course, but that something is not the confidence nor respect of the Democratic party.

THE MARKETS.—There has been considerable doing in the Market during the past week. The roads between this place and Sacramento are in excellent traveling condition, and teams come up as heavily loaded now as they did at any time during the summer. There is a good demand for new flour at \$10; old, \$9; corn meal, 10cts; rice, 14; sugar, no. 1, 18; do. no. 2, 15; do. crushed, 20; pork, \$40 per lb.; bacon, 25 cts. per lb.; hams, 28; potatoes, 6; onions, 10; cabbage, 6; American beans, 10; butter, 45; lard, 25; brandy, American, \$1.25; do. French, \$5 @ \$6; whiskey, \$1.25 @ \$200; hay, \$65 per ton; barley, 5 1/2 cts; Pecks, \$2.50; Axes, (Collins,) \$2.50.

HEAVY FALL OF SNOW.—We learn that a few days ago snow to the depth of three feet fell in Antioch Canon, about thirty miles above Yankee Jim's. This Canon is one of the richest in California, and has been worked with success for the last three years.

McCormell & Co., the prompt and accommodating Agents of Wells, Fargo & Co., furnished us with a full supply of Atlantic and State papers.

We cannot omit to tender our sincere thanks to our friends and the "dear public," for the liberal share of patronage that has thus far been bestowed upon us. It has very much exceeded our expectations. Advertisements have been very liberally handed in, and our subscription list is large and rapidly increasing. Job work too has come in with a rush. We have had to work night and day to accommodate our customers.

TO THE LIMBS OF THE LAW.—We shall publish the rules of the District Court of this county, as soon as possible. His Honor, Judge HOWELL, will permit us to have a corrected copy shortly.

We are indebted to Adams & Co. for full files of papers and other favors.

The State Journal did us gross injustice in copying that part of our article on the "Address of the Democratic State Central Committee," which coincided with its views, and leaving out an important part, which condemned the personal allusions in it. The Democracy of El Dorado desire to be set right on the subject. They did not nor will they ever sanction any thing that has a tendency to breed disaffection in the Democratic ranks.—The subject is distasteful and we regret to allude to it again, but we will not be made even seemingly to approve what we heartily condemn.

ROBERT ELLIS, Esq., the accommodating proprietor of the Coloma and Georgetown Stage Line, will accept our thanks for the prompt delivery of the Argus to our subscribers above.

We regret to hear of the continued illness of our respected Senator Hon. G. D. Hall. We sincerely hope his health will be restored in time to enable him to take his seat in the Legislature.

Have you received an invitation to the grand Ball of the Coloma Hook and Ladder Co., to come off on the 21st inst.? This is the grand and exciting question of the time in this vicinity. The most prominent citizens of our county will be in attendance. Great preparations have been made, and the Ball will be the finest ever given in the mountains.

We had not time or patience to correct the communication of "Greecor," from Spanish Flat. We publish no communication unless the name of the author is given us, for our own use at least.

Another candidate for the Speakership is announced by the Sacramento papers, in the person of the Hon. J. M. McBrayer. Nearly every county in the State has a candidate and some have two or three. The more the merrier. There will perhaps be some warm work on the subject.

Law Intelligence.

District Court. Cases and proceedings in the District Court of El Dorado County, at the November Term, 1853, since the report in our last number.

John D. Gallbraith vs. Harry Heustis.—Set to the foot of the Calendar.

John D. Morrow vs. Richard Fossett.—Verdict for plaintiff, and motion in arrest of judgment taken under advisement.

G. L. & J. E. Cole vs. L. W. Strawbridge.—Dismissed at plaintiffs cost, by agreement of parties.

Jacob Singart vs. Wm. Sherman and others.—Judgment for plaintiff, by default, to be enforced against the joint property of all the defendants and the separate property of Sherman.

El Dorado County vs. R. A. Pearis and T. Baum.—Action against defendants for receiving money without Toll Bridge License.—Cause submitted on Dr. Bell's written report of the amount of tolls.

Vinson Benson vs. Robt. Fouke and Allen E. Robinson.—Judgment for plaintiff, and injunction made perpetual.

M. W. Hopper vs. Brownell & King.—Judgment in vacation for want of answer, and ordered by the Court that the attached property be sold, &c.

A. J. Marshall vs. O. B. Westcott and others.—Set to the foot of the Calendar.

Stanford & Brother vs. Vinson Benson and David Allen.—Judgment for plaintiffs, and order made for the sale of attached property, &c.

David Allen, Trustee &c., vs. M. T. Cromwell and others.—Service made on Geo. W. Wertz, one of the defendants, and no answer being filed, judgment was rendered for plaintiff, to be enforced against the joint property of all the defendants, and separate property of Wertz.

E. T. Veach vs. Elisha Keith.—Judgment for plaintiff, and decree for the restitution of property.

B. R. Nickerson, appellant, vs. Cardwell & Brock, respondents.—Ordered that the motion to dismiss abide the decision of the Supreme Court upon the question of jurisdiction.

L. Bradley and others, appellants, vs. P. Perkins and A. Abbott, respondents.—Same order.

The People vs. A. L. Chilton.—Defendant tried and acquitted.

South Fork Canal Co. vs. Scruggs and others.—Judgment for plaintiffs.

George Calderwood vs. South Fork Canal Co.—Cause continued to next term of Court, on application of plaintiff.

John McCullum and others vs. John Tripp and others.—Cause settled and dismissed by the parties paying their own cost.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP CORTES.

Continued Warlike Preparations. ASPECT OF THE TURKISH QUESTION.

The steamship Cortes, of the Nicaragua line, arrived at half past 11 o'clock Friday evening, with five days later accounts direct from New York, seven days later from New Orleans and three days later from Liverpool. The Cortes brings 600 passengers, including 44 ladies and 53 children.

The Russo-Russian question assumes only a more warlike aspect, while no material change is discovered in the relations of the two powers. Actual hostilities are not yet known to have commenced, but the probability of a resort to arms seems stronger than ever, and an engagement can hardly be avoided.

While the Sublime Porte exhausted all means of conciliation to maintain at once peace and its own independence, the Court of Russia has not ceased to raise difficulties in the way of any such settlement, and has ended with the violation of treaties—invading the two Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia, integral parts of the Ottoman Empire.

True to its pacific system, the Porte, instead of exercising its right to make reprisals, confined itself even then to protesting, and did not deviate from the way that might lead to an arrangement.

Russia, on the contrary, far from evincing conciliatory sentiments, has ended by rejecting the proposals recommended by the august mediating courts, proposals which were alike necessary to the honor and to the security of the Porte.

There only remains to the latter the indispensable necessity of war. But as the invasion of the Principalities and the violation of treaties which have attended it, are the veritable causes of war, the Sublime Porte, as a last expression of its pacific sentiments, proposes to your Excellency, by my intervention, the evacuation of the two provinces, and grants for your decision a term of fifteen days, to date from the receipt of this letter.

Voluntary gifts of all descriptions continued to flow into the Turkish treasury. Jewels, money, houses and lands to an immense amount, were offered for the national service. Eight thousand "Redifs" were armed, clothed and equipped from the proceeds of one day's offering.

Military preparations continue with unabated spirit. The Turkish steam frigates Faidi Bahri, Taif, Feride, and Medjidie, have been sent to Beyrout to take on board 12,000 regulars of the army of Syria. Orders have been given to call out 50,000 more "Redifs" exclusive of the reserves.

The Russian commissariat is said to be wretchedly managed, whilst the Turks have an abundance of everything. Omar is busily employed in organizing corps of pontoniers, but may not attempt to cross the river for some time to come. A contract for 6,000 horses had been made in Persia for the Turks.

The Russian ambassador at Paris has felt it necessary to contradict the statement that the Czar had threatened "a war of extermination" against the Turks. The latest rumor now is that the Czar will in two or three days issue a new manifesto, bemoaning that all his efforts in favor of Peace have been disregarded by the Turks!

The Turkish force now in arms is estimated, though somewhat loosely, at 300,000 men, namely: 120,000 between the Danube and the Balkan, 15,000 in Bosnia, 6,000 near Pristina on the Servian frontier; 50,000 who will be mustered within twenty days at Adrianople, and from 80,000 to 100,000 men on the frontier of Asia.

The Russians on their part are actively increasing their forces on the Danube. Immense barracks are being built on its banks, the expense of which Gortschakoff makes the Hospodars pay, and to such a length has the Russian carried his demands that the Wallachian government has been compelled to borrow six millions of piasters.

A command in the Turkish army has been offered to Abdel Kadir. But previous to accepting it he asks the opinion of the French government.

AFRICANIZING CURIA.—The Havana correspondent of the Union writes as follows—late 20th October: "It seems now that the corps of secret agents of the Captain General are employed in making as many presettles to the apprentice system as possible. Their exertions are faithfully employed, and in many instances that I have heard of, favorably received."

The fog was dense, but weather calm, and by half past one the boats were lowered, and first filled with women and children, who were safely landed, the beach being but a short distance off. In this way all on board were taken ashore, and they were amply supplied with provisions from the wreck.

A terrible conflagration occurred in New York, on the 30th of October, causing the destruction of six houses, being part of the edifices known as Fowler's Buildings, and extending from Fulton opposite the Herald Building, with the larger portion of their valuable contents. The loss may be estimated in round numbers at four hundred thousand dollars.

STATE AND CITY ELECTION.—The New York Times, (Whig), has the following: "The result cannot be considered doubtful. The Whigs will sweep the State by from twenty to thirty thousand majority. They cannot fail to elect their whole state ticket, with a large majority in each branch of the Legislature. We are inclined to think also that a majority in both branches of that body will be in favor of the Maine Law, and that its securing a place on the statute book will depend on the Governor. In this city, so far as the Charter election is concerned, the Reform ticket seems likely to succeed. There is reason to believe that the Native American element will enter into the contest to a greater extent than has been anticipated. We trust that in all cases, voters will look to the characters of the candidates, and to their claims on public confidence, rather than to the party name they may happen to own."

WASHINGTON, Friday, Nov. 4. We understand that Messrs. Spence, Minister to Turkey; Mason, Minister to France, and McLane, Commissioner to China, are expected to receive their instructions to-morrow.

The former is to sail with his family in the U. S. steamer Saranac, direct for Constantinople on Monday or Tuesday next. The two latter sail on the 18th inst.

Gov. Seymour, of Connecticut, is expected here in a few days to receive his instructions for St. Petersburg.

Senator John Stewart, of Michigan, brother of Senator Stewart, died at Detroit on the 27th ult.

POLITICAL GATHERINGS IN NEW YORK.—On Nov. 3d, a very large and influential meeting of the national democracy of this city was held at the Metropolitan Hall, John M. Brandhurst in the chair, to ratify the national democratic ticket for the city and county nominations. The chief speeches of the evening were made by Mr. James T. Brady and Mr. Carrigan of Philadelphia.

The Van Buren free soilers, under the name of the Young Men's Democratic Club, held a meeting at Tammany Hall, on the 4th. Mr. Surveyor Cochran presided, and Mr. Jno. A. Dix, Mr. Lorenzo B. Shepard, and Mr. John Van Buren made speeches. Mr. Van Buren answered Mr. Brady's remarks at Metropolitan Hall on Tuesday night. He gave in his cohesion to the resolutions adopted at the Syracuse convention, and called for three cheers for Lewis Cass.

ELECTIONS.—The election in Maryland, on the 2d Nov., resulted in the democrats electing their State officers, from the Governor down; the whigs are believed to have secured both branches of the Legislature, thus giving them the choice of a U. S. Senator in place of Mr. Pearce. The Congressional delegation will probably stand four democrats to two whigs, being a gain of 2 by the former party.

The political complexion of the next Legislature of Ohio will be as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Party, Seats. Demos. Free Soilers. Senate: 26, 7, 2. House: 79, 17, 9.

Total: 96, 24, 11. —giving the democrats a clear majority of sixty-one on joint ballot over a combined vote of both the other parties.

The Legislature of Vermont, by a majority of fifteen, has selected Mr. Robinson, democrat, to the Governorship.

Governor Foote, of Mississippi, it is confidently believed, will be returned to the United States Senate.

The Pork crop of the West is said to be generally about one fourth larger than usual this year. "The Hards" propose to run Judge Bronson, who has been removed from the Collectorship, for the U. S. Senate.

TEXAS SENATOR.—The Washington Union of the 30th ult., publishes the following: "We have just received a telegraphic dispatch from Nashville, stating that John Bell was re-elected to the Senate, having received fifty-one votes. As a Whig, had to be elected, we will be excused for expressing our gratification at the result."

ELIOT, the astronomer, had made an ascent at Baltimore on the 29th Oct., landed near Christiana, Lancaster county, Pa., going 80 miles in an hour and ten minutes. The last 30 miles was done in the almost incredible time of twenty minutes. He says he reached an altitude of 4 miles, and was hurried along by a heavy gale nearly the whole distance.

WASHINGTON.—The Washington Star asserts positively that James Gordon Bennett's application for the French Mission is on file in the State Department.

Secretary Marcy, on behalf of the President, has written to Commander Ingraham, approving of his conduct in the Koszta affair.

Major-General Twigg was telegraphed for by the Secretary of War, on Saturday, to repair immediately to the Creek Nation, and inquire into the difficulties there, also to endeavor to prevent Indian hostilities.

Quartz Rock Jewelry

BARRETT & SHERWOOD beg to announce the arrival of a celebrated Lapidary Artist, engaged especially in the east for them. The machinery for this exquisite branch of their business, is of the most improved and perfect description, being ordered to their establishment here without any regard to cost. They are now able to cut and test all kinds of precious stones and gems; no longer, therefore, need the curious treasures of our soil and mines remain unregarded and undeveloped. Quartz rock mixed with gold, when cut and polished, makes the most beautiful and unique style of jewelry.

Rings, pins, studs, seals, ear buds, coat buttons and a hundred different things, can now be manufactured from it, that for beauty of design and elegance of finish, would be highly appreciated in the eastern States, rendering them above all other souvenirs most superior for home presents. Call and see them. BARRETT & SHERWOOD, Argenta's Building, Montgomery street, one door from Commercial street, San Francisco.

NOTICE TO MINERS. SAN FRANCISCO ASSAY OFFICE AND MINER'S SAVINGS BANK, Montgomery st., No. 103, on Dr. Nuttall's Fire Proof Building, next door to Adams & Co's. Express. DR. A. S. WRIGHT, Agent.