topics having a bearing on the general welfare of the State, as he might deem it proper to discuss."

Owing to the state of his health, Col. Weller was unable to comply with this request, until the 10th inst., when, on board the Daniel Webster, in a very able speech, of about one hour's duration, he gave his views on the several points propounded. He stated, substantially, that the time had not come when the federal government could draw revenue from the mineral lands. The proper course was, to cede these lands to the State, and for the State Legislature to pass such laws for their regulation as their wisdom might suggest. The National Legislature can do nothing that will be satisfactory. He was opposed to either selling or leasing the mineral lands; but was in favor of some regulations to secure to the holders of quartz veins the possession of their just claims. The balance of the mining districts he would leave free as the winds of heaven.

As to the Indian treaties, Col. W. said, that from four to five hundred thousand dollars had already been expended by the agents, and reservations, including nearly all the valuable agricultural and much of the valuable mining lands, had been ceded to the Indians. He would not vote for treaties securing to the Indians these valuable reservations—they were calculated to result in incalculable mischief, and it would be impossible to enforce them. He was in favor of the establishment of military posts, around which the Indians should be gathered in agricultural pursuits. Destiny had marked them, and all we could do was to take measures to prolong their existence as a people.

Col. W. was in favor of the compromise measures of the last Congress. Though born in a free State (Ohio) he had no prejudices against slavery. We were as much bound to secure the institution of slavery as any other—it was a right guarantied by the constitution, in regard to which he would recommend a strict observance of the eleventh commandment:—"Mind well thine own business, and fret not thyself about thy neighbor's."

Col. W. adverted to the Central American difficulties, in regard to the transit across the Isthmus, to and from the Atlantic and Pacific. We want a route there, he said, and we're bound to have one, for what we want we generally take. In some of the Central American States, slave labor would be profitable, and the people should be left to decide hereafter whether they will or will not have slavery.

The acquisition of California, Col. W. argued, in conclusion, had been the result of the policy of the democratic party. The Union could only be preserved by a strict observance of the rights of each State. He had been called a Western man with Southern principles. He was not a Western man with Southern principles, but a Western man with constitutional principles.

The Democratic State Convention for the nomination of delegates to the Baltimore convention, was to assemble at Sacramento on the 23d February. This convention will probably also nominate such State officers as are to be elected at the next general election, in August, and perhaps two members of Congress, to succeed Messrs. McCorkle and Marshall. It is by no means improbable that these gentlemen may be renominated, though such was not general impression when the Pacific left San Francisco. H.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 1, 1852.

Sailing of the Tennessee and North America—California Emigration—Prospects of the Miners—Political Intelligence—Kossuth in California—Railroads Projected.

The steamers Tennessee, of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company line, and the North America of Vanderbilt's line, leave this day—the former with 350 passengers, and $1,500,000 in treasure, for Panama; and the latter with about 300 passengers, for San Juan. Among those leaving to-day are Col. Fremont and family; Col. Geary, ex-Mayor of San Francisco; M. D. Boruck, of the Sacramento *Union*; A. A. Sargent, of the Nevada *Journal*; F. Marriott, of the Merchants' Exchange, and others. Emigration to the States from California is decreasing, and the arrivals to our shores greatly preponderate. A large number of those leaving to-day do so with the intention of returning for a permanency, bringing with them their families and friends.

Since the sailing of the last steamer, there has been but very little business transacted; and what has been done, has not been very remunerative to the seller. As I predicted in a former letter, we have had but very little rain, in comparison to what was anticipated; and the winter, thus far, has been a repetition of that of last year. There is an immense quantity of rich earth thrown up throughout the mining districts, which the miners have not been enabled to realize, in consequence of the want of water. It is to be hoped, however, a sufficient quantity of rain will yet fall this winter, to allow the miners to operate to advantage.

The Whig State Convention, for the election of delegates to the National Convention, is to be held on the 19th of the present month instead of the 21st. It is impossible to conjecture, even at the present time, what will be the ingredients of the platform adopted by the whigs. I presume, however, that "freedom of the public lands to actual settlers," the Pacific railroad, intervention, and the "Union" will form the principal part, or underpinning. The whigs hold their convention a few days before the democracy hold theirs, so as they will not be enabled to steal any whig thunder.

A few days since, Dr. Tucker, a young member of the Legislature, from Sacramento county, introduced a resolution into the Assembly, sympathizing with Kossuth and Hungary. The resolution was laughed at and ridiculed to such an extent, that the mover of the same was glad to withdraw it. The amount of the matter is, the people of California, generally, belong to a society called the Anti-poke-your-nose-into-other-people's-business Society, and, therefore, through their representatives, saw no benefit likely to accrue from the visit of Kossuth to the United States; on the contrary, they believe that it will be productive of much mischief, and will do a great deal toward embroiling Americans in family quarrels. Although Californians honor and respect Kossuth for his patriotism and love of country, yet, at the same time, they see no reason why the government of the United States, now at peace and in friendly relations with all ther nations, should break up that *entente cordiale* now existing, and plunge the country into a profitless, bloody, expensive, and agonizing war. If the government of the United State intercede by an appeal to arms for the relief of Hungary, then so sure will it be obliged to intercede in the same manner for every other nation laboring under the same disadvantages that Hungary does. God knows that I should be delighted to see the stars and stripes of republicanism floating over the whole world, but not brought about in the manner sought after by Kossuth. I cannot think that a general interference into the affairs of other nations is the proper or just policy for our government to pursue. Charity should always begin at home, and we have greater evils existing amongst ourselves which require eradication more than the despotism and iron rule now exerted over Hungary. Kossuth's domineering manner, since he has been in the States, is not the kind to win over to his side the reflecting portions of our community. His pettishness, impatience, and arrogance at imaginary slights from government officials, were, in my humble judgment, rather out of place for a man in his position, seeking aid and comfort from the very people to whom he showed his asperity of temperament, notwithstanding the efforts that are being made to bolster him up in his endeavors to engulph the United States in a war with Austria and Russia. I hope and trust that they will not succeed, and whatever aid Kossuth may receive from our country, will come direct from the people.

Great efforts are being made throughout our State for the construction of several lines of railway to connect certain portions of the State; those that are spoken of at the present time, are the most feasible, and I have no doubt that in two years, some of them will be in operation. There are now seven different lines before the public, as follows, viz.:—From Sacramento City to Marysville, about fifty-six miles; from Sacramento to Nevada, eighty miles; from Sacramento to Auburn, about sixty miles; from Sacramento to Benecia, fifty-five miles; from Sacramento to Culloma, forty-five miles; San Jose to San Francisco, about forty miles; Benecia to Stockton, about seventy miles.

We have had a perfect avalanche of river steamboat accidents lately. The "oldest inhabitant" does not recollect the time of the same number happening in so short a period. On the 21st January, the Wilson G. Hunt, when in Suisun Bay, being heavily loaded with freight, broke her shaft, which will probably lay her up a month. On the same day, the New World damaged her piston rod, and was obliged to remain over one day. On the 23d, while going up the river, and when opposite Tree Island, she was run into by the schooner Cecil, and had her whole side, guard and upper larboard works, torn off. On the 24th, during a dense fog, the Confidence struck on some rocks at the south end of Carquinez Straits, and knocked a hole in her bottom, the S. B. Wheeler being obliged to take off a large quantity of her freight. On the 26th, while lying at her dock, loading for Sacramento, she sank at the wharf, owing to some defect in the stop cocks of her boilers. On the 23d, the steamer Express struck on a snag above Sacramento, badly damaging herself. On the 26th, the Santa Clara ran into the bank, and tore off about thirty feet of her starboard side. The clipper Hornet arrived on the 23d, and brought the information that the Senator's new boilers, with which she started, were thrown overboard immediately after a heavy gale, in order to save the ship, as they had broken loose, and were dashing from side to side upon the deck; and yet, strange to say, when the Hornet arrived not a single scratch was visible on her decks. Mr. Charles Minturn, the agent of the Senator, has libelled the Hornet for $20,000. In consequence of the loss of her boilers, the Senator will be laid up for eight months, until other boilers can be brought from the States. The boilers on board the Hornet cost $18,000, in New York, and

the putting of them up here would have cost $6,000 more. To build the same boilers here, and put them up, would cost $40,000. Therefore Mr. Minturn thought best to send back to New York for boilers, in the construction of which he could depend. It is an unfortunate affair altogether, and will result in a loss of at least $150,000 to the owners of the Senator.

A week ago, Sunday, a Methodist minister, named Stratton, delivered a politico-religious sermon, and in the course of his discourse, made use of the following sentiment: "That the Fugitive Slave bill and the Compromise resolutions were conceived in sin and passed in iniquity." Immediately on the rendition of this liberal and magnanimous assertion, some seventy of those present got up and retired from the church, a large number being members of the Legislature. As a matter of course, the affair was noised throughout the town, and considerable discussion ensued. On the following day the worthy author of the offensive sentiment came out in both the whig and democratic journals, to defend himself, but met with no success. When the question came up in the House to appoint a chaplain, the members, on account of the above, refused to appoint one, and up to the present time no anointed one prays for the Legislature of the State of CALIFORNIA.

Summary of Events in California.

[From the San Francisco Herald, February 18.]

Since the sailing of the last mail steamer the community has been startled by the occurence of a most melancholy disaster, involving the loss of forty-two lives. We refer to the wreck of the steamer General Warren, plying between this port and Oregon, and commanded by Captain Thompson, a gentleman greatly beloved for his many personal and professional accomplishments, and for a gallantry, coolness and skill which distinguished him as a first-class seaman. The Warren was lost on the night of the 31st of January, inside the bar at Astoria, on a sand drift known as Clatsop Split, where she was beached as the only means of saving the lives of the passengers. A boat was despatched to the shore for succor, but before assistance could reach the doomed vessel she had broken up and gone to pieces, carrying down forty-two officers, passengers and crew, among whom was Captain Thompson. The ten who manned the boat to procure assistance from shore were the only persons saved. The names so far as ascertained are as follows:—

LOST.—B. J. Freyin, Thomas Mickle, —— Benson Randolph, of Oregon city; Alanson Pomeroy, of Tualatin Plains; —— Stanley, —— Montgomery, —— Miller, Mr. Fuller, John F. Duncan, of Mo.; Mr. Luther, of Clyde, N. Y.; Mr. Shiloss, of Humboldt; A. Cook, D. A. Buck, Humboldt; George Hatch, porter; —— Nelson, steward; Jennison, steward; —— O'Neil, engineer; Augustus Stanley, Marietta, Ohio; Captain Charles Thompson, —— Johnson, purser; John Bellon, Musquitine county, Iowa; W. H. Hart, late of Vancouver, formerly of Iowa; W. Bruen, seaman, of Germany; Pierce Turan, seaman, of England; G. Williams, seaman, of England; T. Harvey, first cook, (colored); R. E. Hutchinson, second cook.

SAVED.—George Flavel, pilot; Edward Beverly, first officer; Wm. Irons, second officer; James Murray, seaman; Isaac Sparrow, seaman. Passengers.—Joseph Hall, E. L. Finch, Henry Marsh, Matthew Nolan, James Nolan.

The steamer had a cargo of produce on board worth $60,000. She is said to have been owned by Garrison and Fritz, of Panama.

A melancholy accident, of a somewhat similar character, occurred at the port of San Luis Obispo, on the 6th inst. A small boat from the steamer Ohio, on attempting to land was wrecked in the breakers, and of six persons in it, four were drowned, viz.—

Hon. H. A. Teff, Judge of the Second Judicial District; Thomas McCullen, 2d mate and Wm. Parsons, and Wm. Jeston, seamen.

Immediately following the news of the wreck of the Warren, we have an account of the loss of the steam propeller Sea Gull, Captain Tichenor. This vessel was also engaged in the Oregon and North California trade, and was lost on the bar at Humboldt Bay. She, like the Warren, was beached in order to save the lives of the passengers and crew, and fortunately with more success. All were landed in safety. The cargo and machinery were saved, although the vessel is a complete wreck.

Two other vessels were cast away on the same inhospitable coast—the brig Almira, Captain Gibbs, went ashore on the 9th ult., about one mile north of Umpqua city; and a government vessel with troops and supplies for Port Orford, at the mouth of the Kowes. No lives lost.

From San Diego we have intelligence of the arrival of the Boundary Commission, officers and men. Mr. Bartlett arrived a few days since from Guaymas, having been detained by a severe fever. General Conde, the Commissioner on the part of Mexico, has fallen a victim to the same disease. The general, who was an accomplished soldier, and a gentleman of great talent and address, had won the esteem of those of our officers with whom he came in contact, and his death has caused universal regret among them. Those attached to the commission who came across the desert, arrived in a starving condition, having lost their animals, and some of them being without food for several days. There must have been culpable niggardliness on the part of the department, or some very serious mismanagement somewhere to induce this unpleasant state of things. We are happy to learn that the operations of the commission have been prosecuted with great success, considering the difficulties with which the officers were beset the whole route. Mr. Gray is soon to set out from San Diego to complete the survey.

The Mormons at San Bernardino, in Los Angeles county, the only settlement in California, appear to be studiously prosecuting their agricultural enterprises, and do not seem disposed to participate in the agitations said to exist among their brethren of Great Salt Lake. It is quite certain, however, that the colony of San Bernardino has been founded mainly with the view of commencing a line of settlements between Salt Lake Valley and the ocean.

The Indians throughout the State are generally peaceable.

A new and highly important enterprise has been commenced in this city. Two clipper ships are up for Panama, to carry passengers and freight—and expecting to make the trip in nearly the average time of steamers. The Trade Wind, of the Empire City line, commanded by Captain Wm. H. Osgood, sails on the 1st of March, taking the place of the steamer New Orleans. The Trade Wind is fitted up so as to accommodate eight hundred and fifty passengers. She is furnished with a surgeon and purser, and every effort is made by her agents to give her all the advantages of a first class passenger vessel. The Hornet, of the Dispatch Line, commanded by Captain Wm. W. Lawrence, sails on the 28th inst. She, too, is fitted up with every comfort, is provided with a surgeon, and expects to make the trip down in twenty-five days.

Since the election of Senator, the Legislature has done nothing of much importance further than the passing, by the Assembly, of the Fugitive Slave bill, by a vote of forty-two to eleven. The measure is designed mainly to give facilities for the prompt fulfilment of the requirements of the act of Congress in regard to fugitive slaves.

The arrivals of emigrants from the East continue unabated in numbers, and among them a large proportion of ladies and children.

Our theatrical companies, already good, are also receiving constant additions. Mrs. Alexina Fisher Baker and husband, who arrived in the Pacific, have made a very successful *debût* in this place. The New Orleans Serenaders have drawn crowded houses.

[From the San Francisco Picayune, Feb. 17.]

An attempt is being made to procure some legislative action condemnatory of the course adopted by the Indian Commissioners, in reference to the treaties made by them. Whether it may succeed or not, remains to be seen. Nearly every question brought before the Legislature is made to assume a party complexion.

Another attempt is being made to have a convention called to revise the constitution, and it is thought that the object of the supporters of this movement is to make California a slave State. The movement has been generally condemned.

It would be difficult to describe the feelings of satisfaction, which the appearance, not less than the performance, of our clipper ships, have very justly inspired in the breasts of our citizens.

There have been several fatal affrays, burglaries, and robberies throughout the State, during the last fortnight. We doubt, however, if there could be found in any portion of the world a population among whom, considering their peculiar circumstances, there exists less crime. News reached here, last night, that two men were hung in Calaveras county, on Tuesday last. Two tents had been broken into at Murphy's Camp, from one of which four hundred dollars had been taken, and from the other but twenty-five. An Englishman and an Irishman were arrested on the charge. The people were infuriated beyond control, showing by their excited actions that nothing but the lives of the criminals would be allowed to expiate their guilt. Accordingly, they seized them from the sheriff, and with shouts of passionate exultation, launched the unfortunate culprits into eternity.

Trade is remarkably dull at present. It is confidently expected, however, that in another month, at furthest, it will revive.

The mines are continuing to give a steady yield, and new discoveries are being made daily—although there are loud complaints of the want of rain. Owing to the defective machinery employed in extracting gold from quartz, nearly all the companies organized for that purpose have failed to realize their expectations.

Agriculture has received a large share of attention during the last fortnight. Immense crops of barley, onions, potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables, will be raised this year in all parts of the State. Indeed, it is expected that we shall be able to produce as much as will be required for home consumption.

Although the winter is nearly over, very little rain has fallen, and the weather continues very delightful. In this respect there is but little difference between this season and last.

[From the Alta California, Feb. 18.]

The Quartermaster's schooner Capt. Lincoln, wit a detachment of U. S. troops, and supplies for th post at Fort Orford, was cast away on the 2d ult. near the mouth of the Cowes river. No lives lost.

We have reports, by a recent arrival from Oregon, of several shipwrecks on that coast. The brig Almira, the schooner Georgiana, brig Una, and (it was supposed) the schooners Exact and Harriett, have gone ashore within the past month or two, at different places on the coast. We do not hear of any loss of life. Two of the wrecks were at Queen Charlotte's Island, where parties had gone for gold. The Cape Flattery Indians treated the wrecked gold seekers with rudeness.

These disasters are mainly attributable to the heavy weather and dense fogs which have prevailed on our coast for a succession of weeks and months.

An attempt has been made to get up a feeling favorable to the early calling of a convention, to revise the present State constitution, and lay open, probably, the question of slavery to those who desire the introduction of slaves into California. As the project opens with an unconstitutional measure, it will probably end after running a tilt against that instrument; opposed as it has been thus far by the press of the State.

The State Comptroller's second report, exhibiting the unsuccessful working of the present revenue system, has been laid before our Legislature.

The Board of Land Commissioners is quietly proceeding with business in this city. An important opinion of the majority, touching the question of the right of contesting claimants to the same tract of land, to intervene in the suit brought for confirmation of title by one or the other, was delivered by Judge Hall, on Thursday last.

Five clipper ships have arrived in our harbor since the sailing of the last mail steamer:—The Trade Wind, 120 days; the Golden Gate, 113 days; and the Sword Fish, 90 days, from New York; the Flying Fish, 98 days, from Boston. Yesterday, arrived the clipper Celestial, 105 days from New York. We perceive that the R. B. Forbes, clipper, has arrived at Honolulu, S. I., 99 days from Boston.

The country is quiet. Considerable apprehension is felt, in all the mining and farming districts, that the winter rains are over. Water was never more required in the mines than now. Appearances indicate that we shall yet have many days of wet weather before the long dry summer fairly sets in.

In Oregon all is quiet. The squabble between the Legislative body and the Judiciary, about the location of the seat of government, continues. Our dates are to the 7th inst.

We have advices from the lower country to the 15th, and from San Diego and from Los Angeles to the 14th. The news is unimportant.

Interesting Financial Intelligence.

[From the San Francisco Prices Current, Feb. 17.]

Since the sailing of the Tennessee, on the 1st inst., four ocean steamers have arrived at this port, bringing us dates from New York to the 10th ult., via Panama and San Juan del Sud. The money market is comparatively easy in all the great Atlantic cities, and with good security money is obtainable at fair rates: the panic has died off—not been removed to California.

Our money market, since the steamer of the 1st inst., has been unusually quiet—no extraordinary demand—and the rate of interest rather tending downward than otherwise. On prime security, short time, say sixty days to four months, money can be obtained at three per cent per month. Six months ago, five per cent was considered a very fair rate. The fact is, no safe and prudent man can now pay over three per cent on money, for any operation; and it is very questionable whether the majority of our business men could afford, in the regular course of trade, to pay even so much as three per cent per month interest on their capital.

Neither City nor State securities are much in favor at present. Affecting the former, the late change in city officers, and the uncertainty as to the course the new officials intend pursuing, may be stated as the most prominent cause. Should their administration prove economical, we see no reason why city bonds should not improve; always provided the Legislature give us a fair chance, which they do not seem disposed to do with the State creditors. Already they have made themselves preferred, and the State warrants, both fundable and unfundable, feel the influence of the $120,000 in cash which the members seem determined on appropriating for their per diem and mileage. The message of the Governor, placing the indebtedness at $2,242,339 74, has injuriously affected the credit of our State. True, one million of this is an estimated amount—the cost of half a dozen Indian expeditions; and true, too, that the committee to whom the Senate referred the statement of the Governor, report an over estimate of about $650,000; yet even if this latter report be correct, we find ourselves more than a million and a half dollars in debt.

If, as is confidently expected, the general government should assume our Indian war debt, and pay us the duties collected here by the military government, California would then be able to pay her expenses, and the interest on the balance due the State creditors.

By the Comptroller's report, it seems the amount now outstanding, of scrip bearing a monthly interest of 3 per cent, is | $147,075 00
Interest due on the same to Dec. 31 | 94,196 11

Total	$241,271 11

Exchange may be quoted as follows:—

Sight on the principal Atlantic cities	4 per cent
Thirty days	3 per cent
Sixty days	2 per cent
Sight and ten day bills on London	46 a 46½d.
Sixty day bills on London	47d.
Sight and ten day bills on Paris	4f.75 a 4f.80
Sixty day	4f.85

For remittances to any part of continental Europe, exchange on London is preferred. The balance of trade being usually in favor of that city, first class bills command a premium in the commercial cities of the continent.

In remitting to London, small sums should be remitted in bills, for small lots of gold dust are not received for coinage at the Mint of England, and the expense of assaying and refining by private parties, amounts to a heavy per centage. We copy two returns, as made by James Burt, Sons & Co., London:—

		Oz.	Dwt.
Deposit		312	11
Loss in melting		9	12
		302	1 9
Worseness		9	0 18
		£	s. d.
Standard ounces, 293 18 6, at 77s. 9d. per oz.		1,142	11 7
Silver in the above, 30 oz. 6 dwt., at 5s. 4d.		8	1 7
Freight from Panama, 1⅜ per cent	£15 16 9		
Melting 26 lbs., 1s. 6d. per lb.	1 19 0		
Assay	3 6		
Refining, at 4s. per lb.	5 4 0		
Commission, ½ per cent	1 8 9		
Melter's porterage	0 2 6		
Net balance	£1,120 18 8	£1,150	13 2

Second	Oz.	Dwt.	
Deposit	31	5	
Loss in melting	1	13	
	29	14	
Worseness	1	5 8	
	28	5 18, at 77s. 9d. per oz.	£110 10 7
Silver in the above, 3 oz. 7 dwt., at 5s. 4d.			17 10
			£111 8 5

Freight	1⅜ per cent.
Melting	1s. 6d. per lb.
Assay	3s. 6d.
Refining	4s. per lb.
Commission	½ per cent.
Melter's porterage	

The per centage of charges for assay, refining, &c., is nearly 1 7-11 per cent on the larger amount, and nearly 2 1-3 per cent on the smaller one. The aggregate per centage of charges at the United States mint, Philadelphia, for coining California gold, is about 7-16 per cent on large amounts; on small amounts there is no charge, when the sum deposited is not sufficiently large to warrant a separation of the metals; in this case, the silver remunerates the government.

The native silver in California gold will more than pay the mint charges, when the deposite is a large one.

The tariff of charges at the United States mint on gold bullion, is—1st, for refining, when below the standard, 3c. per ounce, on gross weight after melting, on so much of the deposite as is required to bring the whole up to standard.

2d, for toughening, when metals are in it which render it unfit for coining, from 1 to 3½c. per ounce, on gross weight after melting, according to the condition of the metal.

3d, for separating the gold and silver—

Proportion of gold	100 to 200 thous.	1½c.	per oz.		
"	"	201 to 600	"	2	"
"	"	601 to 900	"	3	"
"	"	901 to 935	"	4	"

During the last fortnight, gold dust has come in less freely than during the fifteen days ending Feb. 1st. This may be owing to the fact that no rain has fallen since that time, and not in any quantity for some time previously.

In San Francisco, gold dust is only offered freely when the miners are returning home in large numbers. The regular and steady influx is through the medium of the country traders, the bankers who have agents in the mines, and the regular speculators in gold dust, who purchase in the interior. Formerly this latter class had it coined; now they mostly sell to the merchants, for, as we mentioned in a previous article, no man can get his money back, to say nothing of any profit, in the purchase of dust at $17¼ per ounce, and having the same coined at 2¾ per ct. For example:

100 ounces, at $17¼, is	$1,725
Average loss in melting, say 4 "	
96 ounces; average fineness, 834—value	$1,754 30
Charges for coining 2¾ per cent	48 24
Net	$1,706 06

—Showing a loss of over 1 per cent.

The steamer Panama brought to Messrs. Moffat & Co., or Messrs. Curtis, Ward & Perry, the privilege of issuing ingots of the denominations of $10 and $20. The smaller piece made its appearance today. It is round, and on one side has an eagle similar to that on the $50 ingots; on the reverse is a plain band, bearing the inscription, "Augustus Humbert, United States Assayer of Gold, California, 1852." Around this it is engine turned. It claims to be 884 thous. fine.

Unless the price of dust falls below the present market value, or the charges of coining are reduced from 2½ per cent, there is no prospect of a large issue of these new ingots from the Assay Office. The necessities of some parties may make it for their advantage to have the new coin, although suffering a loss on their dust. This would be in limited quantities, however; and the amounts issued in January, from the assay office of Wass, Molitor and Co., who have now stopped coining, proves our assumption to be correct.

The coinage of Wass, Molitor & Co., for the month of January, was $150,000. Within the same time, Messrs. Moffat & Co. have issued, of their private coinage, $10 pieces, about $100,000.

In San Francisco, Sacramento, Stockton, and Marysville, dust may be quoted at $17¼ per ounce, paid by the bankers—the merchants, as usual, paying $17 50 per ounce.

We would caution the merchants against quicksilver amalgam, and gold dust with spelter intermixed. In relation to the amalgam, a number of lots have lately been sold, containing when assayed, only 725 thousandths of gold, and such a quantity of base metal as to give suspicion of fraud; 725 thousandths is only $15 per ounce after melting. In melting, quicksilver amalgam loses from three per cent to twelve per cent, depending on the process of preparing it for sale. The most simple manner is squeezing the quicksilver through a rag; and pieces prepared in this way are frequently brought to market, even showing the marks of the cloth.

Retorting is the only process by which the quicksilver can be thoroughly driven off; but in preparing for sale by the ounce, the temptation is strong to allow the poorer metal to remain.

Several lots of dust mixed with a small per centage of spelter, have been offered at our bank counters within a few days. An expert buyer can, however, always detect it by its color and shape.

The gold from different sections of California differs in fineness. The best comes from the Yuba river—the poorest from the quartz mines. The greatest loss from melting is on coyote dust from Nevada, and the most silver is contained in the gold from Tuolumne. Of this last fact we are not quite certain, although we have seen returns from the mint, of clean flake gold from Tuolumne, that only yielded $16 per ounce.

We would caution our friends away from California, to look doubtfully on the letters from this country, mentioning our quartz mines in extravagant praise—of their great yield—and of the fortunes being made and likely to be made in them; indeed, unless a person is living in the immediate vicinity of the works, to see for himself, his money is safer in his pocket than in experimenting in quartz. To this fact many of our citizens can testify.

Purchasers of exchange are cautioned against the chances of protested paper coming back to them, because the drafts via Nicaragua anticipate the dust, and the drawee may refuse acceptance for want of funds. Inasmuch as a large portion of the bills of exchange go forward via San Juan del Sud, as the opposition steamer usually leaves after the regular mail, it behooves buyers to be cautious, and have only first class bills—for the standing of most strictly California houses cannot be said to be A 1 in New York city. Of the one and one half million shipped per the Tennessee, one million was probably on account of exchange, one half which—$500,000—found its way home in anticipation of the dust.

The new route to New York seems growing in favor for the transportation of treasure. The Pacific, on Saturday, manifested $190,000, of which we perceive one of our largest banking houses shipped $105,000—the reason which induced them to do so is impossible to get at, because such as they do not need to make a shipment purposely to cover the amount of exchange which might happen to go that way. We have no doubt that when the rates of insurance via Nicaragua shall be reduced to a fair price, some considerable treasure will go forward by that route. The company depend on the prestige of a few days quicker trip, and, as our nation goes for speed, we may see a strong opposition.

VALUE OF GOLD AND SILVER.

Gold dust, $17¼ to $17½ per ounce.

Quicksilver amalgum, $16 to $16 75 per ounce.

Moffat & Co., and Wass, Molitor & Co.'s private coin, par.

Dollars (Mexican), 3 per cent premium.

Spanish ounces, 3 per cent premium over $16.

Other ounces, $16 each.

FREIGHTS.

On gold dust to Panama, 1½ per cent.

For transportation over the Isthmus, ¾ per cent.

Freight from Chagres to New York, 1 per cent.

Freight from Panama to London, 1⅜ per cent.

INSURANCE TO NEW YORK OR LONDON.

From 2 per cent to 3 per cent, depending on amount.

By Adams & Co.'s Express, through to London or New York, and delivered, 5 per cent, including insurance, on any amount over $1,000.

The Fugitive Slave Law in the California Legislature.

In the California Assembly, on the 5th of Feb., a bill was reported, entitled "An act respecting fugitives from labor, and slaves brought to this State prior to her admission into the Union." One section caused considerable debate. It was as follows:—

Sec. 4. Any person or persons held to labor or service in any State or territory of the United States, by the laws of such State or territory, and who were brought or introduced within the limits of this State, previous to the admission of this State, as one of the United States of America, and who shall refuse to return to the State or territory where he or they owed such labor or service; upon the demand of the person or persons, his or their agent, or attorney to whom such service or labor was due, such person or persons so refusing to return, shall be held and deemed fugitives from labor within the meaning of this act, and all the remedies, rights, and provisions herein given to claimants of fugitives who escape from any other State into this State, are hereby given, and conferred upon claimants of fugitives from labor, within the meaning of this section.

Mr. Ellis, of Nevada, contended that the effect of this section would be to establish a state of slavery in California for an unlimited number of years; that it would hold persons to labor who are not "fugitives," within the meaning of the act. He opposed it in an argument of great ingenuity and effect. He was answered by Mr. Peachy of San Francisco, and by Mr. Hammond (the Speaker), from San Joaquin.

A motion was made to strike out the fourth section, but disagreed to without division.

Mr. Ingersoll introduced a duplicate of the bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Cook, being a bill to amend the act to fund the debt of the State. It requires that all scrip issued for civil services, previous to January 1, 1853, shall be funded, provided the whole amount of the funded debt shall not exceed $700,000.

A communication was laid before the Senate from the Recorder of El Dorado county, stating that V. Daniels, late Judge of that county, had absconded from the State, after drawing $1,500, in advance for salary. The case was referred for investigation.

In the California Assembly, Feb. 10, Mr. Peachy presented a memorial from a number of farmers or planters of South Carolina and Florida, asking the privilege to bring their families and colored domestics into this State, and that they may be protected in their property. The memorial was referred to a Committee on Federal Relations.

Birth, Marriages and Deaths in California.

BIRTH.

At San Francisco, on Sunday, 8th instant, the lady of O. H. Boyd, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

At San Francisco, Feb. 13th, by Orrin Bailey, Esq., Mr. John Peter Schafer to Miss Marie Casen.

In Nicolaus, on the 29th January, by Rev. R. B. Stratton, Mr. Hiram R. Hawkins, of Auburn, to Miss Eliza B. Eckles, of Nicolaus, late of Evans, Indiana.

On the 5th February, near Martinez, Contra Costa county, by B. R. Holliday, Esq., Daniel K. Berry, Esq., of Suisun, to Miss Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Jos Estiss, of Contra Costa.

On the 4th February, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. Father A. Langlois, Mr. John B. Wa[illegible], of San Francisco, and Donna Marie Concepcion Arcadia Estudillo, second daughter of Don Jose Joaquin Estudillo, of San Leandro, Contra Costa.

At San Francisco, on the 8th February, by the Rev. A. Langlois, Vicar General, Mr. Charles B. Grant to Miss Mary C. Hickey. Both bride and bridegroom were formerly residents of Boston.

At Marysville, on the 8th February, by Judge Barnard, Mr. Joseph Pangborn to Miss L. J. Spencer, all of Brownsville.

In Clackamas county, Oregon territory, on the 6th ult., Mr. Samuel L. Campbell to Miss Amanda J. Matlock.

On the 12th ult., near Santa Clara, by the Rev. C. Maclay, Mr. M. Dameron to Miss A. Hartfield.

In San Francisco, on the 11th of February, by Justice Orrin Bailey, Mons. Charles Blaise, of France, to Mad'lle Annette Pellessiere, of New York.

DIED.

In Sacramento, on Sunday, Feb. 1st, Ella Gay, only daughter of Elhanan Gay, after an illness of ten weeks, aged 17 years.

At San Francisco, on the 3d February, Sarah Almira, infant daughter of W. R. and Mary A. Davis, aged ten months.

On Tuesday, Feb. 3, of inflammation of the bowels, Jas. Mullen, aged 21 years, formerly a member of Company I., 1st regiment New York Volunteers.

At Grass Valley, on the morning of Feb. 2, Mr. Thomas E. Shin, formerly of Illinois, aged 22 years.

In Sacramento, on the 6th Feb., Anna, daughter of John G. and Frances L. Bray, aged four years.

At Mormon Island, Feb. 6, of inflammatory rheumatism, David Ellis, of Cayuga county, N. Y., aged 30 years.

In Benicia, Feb. 8th, Mr. Stephen W. Luce, of Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard, aged 38 years.

In San Jose, Feb. 11th, Laura Jane, daughter of Zachariah Jones, aged 13 years.

At Spring Garden, on the Divide of the North and Middle Forks of the American River, Jan. 31st, Linn Cavert, infant son of Ezekiel and Lucilla M. Brown, aged one month.

In San Francisco, on the 6th inst., of apoplexy, Mr. Henry A. Swift, of Chicago, Illinois, aged 32.

At Big Oak Flat, Tuolumne county, Jan. 29th, of scarlet fever, Mr. James M. Miller, of Copiah county, Miss.

On board steamer Oregon, February 6th, Mr. L. Richards, from injuries received by a fall while in a fit. He was a native of Cornwall, England.

On Saturday morning, February 14th, of congestion of the brain, Edwina Shipman, second daughter of Hamlet and Amelia W. Jacks, in the 6th year of her age.

In San Francisco, at 5 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 17th instant, Newell Albert Palmer, youngest child of Mr. William A. Palmer, late from Charlestown, Mass.

At Collusi, on Saturday, February 14th, Mr. Osgood H. Evans, aged 39 years. Mr. Evans was an old Californian, and universally esteemed as an honest man and a consistent Christian.

At White Rock, Shasta County, Cal., on the 4th inst., Jerome Hart, aged 25 years, late of Cherry Valley, Otsego county, N. Y.

February 8th, at the house of Den. S. Simons, on the Middle Fork of the Calaveras, James Price, aged about 22 years. He said he was a son of Simon Price, of Newton county, Mo., and had a brother in this country.

In San Francisco, Feb. 15th, Mrs. Patience W., wife of Capt. John Van Pelt, aged 36 years.

In San Francisco, of consumption, February 14th, Mr. James Holland, of Manchester, England.

AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Feb. 2—John D. Lucas, aged 21, of New York.
" 2—Marie Amestica De Montalla, 50, Chile.
" 3—Eliza Kruse, 2, San Francisco.
" 3—Amelia Davis, 1, San Francisco.
" 3—Phillippa Soto, 35, San Francisco.
" 4—C. M. Pforr, 25, Germany.
" 5—John Branham, 35, Charleston.
" 5—John Brown, 34 New York.
" 5—Wm. T. Francis, 28, Mass.
" 6—Jonathan Taylor, 56, New Hampshire.
" 6—John R. Clerry, 33 Maine.
" 6—Jesus Torres, 28, Chile.
" 7—Augustin Perez, 30, Chile.
" 7—Louise Perpetue, 50, France.
" 9—John Robinson, 21, Australia.
" 9—A. McCreary, 22, Scotland.
" 9—S. A. Riley, 35, New York.
" 9—William Raper, 35, England.
" 9—John Skinner, 22, Bermuda.
" 11—John W. Budeker, 1.
" 12—Felix Benon, 43 France.
" 12—Rene Vandermassen, 45, France.
" 12—Thomas H. Ross, 35, Baltimore.
" 13—Frederick Arnold, 2.
" 13—William Creak, 45.
" 13—Joseph Stark, 40, Germany.

Markets.

San Francisco, Feb. 17, 1852.

Since our last report, trade generally has been moderate. In some few articles a slight advance has been established. We note some animation in the demand from the interior and up river districts; a fair amount of goods go forward daily by the river steamers. Local trade continues dull. The stock of general merchandise is moderate. We have arrivals since our last of five clipper ships from Eastern ports, three with assorted cargoes from foreign, and ten coastwise, chiefly with lumber and produce.

Of the amount of barley on the market, the principal portion has been taken up for seed, and as generally happens in a demand of this nature, price being comparatively of little moment, an advance was easily effected; within the last few days some sales have been made for this use at 12½c. a 15c. The demand, however, is now abating materially, and in a few days will cease altogether, as the grain sowing season is now drawing to a close. Some idea may be formed of the immense amount of land now under cultivation for this grain, when it is considered that, in addition to the amount known to be retained by last year's growers, a further quantity has been purchased out of stocks here, sufficient to sow 15,000 acres. These, of course, indicate only the rates obtained by first hands. Our review shows the current rates, at a considerable advance on this.

Beans.—The stock of old crop, 1850, still very large, and selling to be ground for feed, at 2c. per lb. New arrivals of crop, 1851, sell slowly at 3 for large, and 3¼ for small size bags, by the quantity; small lots at ¼ higher; stock very large.

Boots and Shoes.—The stock on hand of fine boots and shoes is moderate. A good demand exists; and well selected invoices have been sold, the past fortnight, at a profit over cost and charges. The stock of common goods in the market is very heavy, the sales of which are in a great degree confined to the auction houses.

We subjoin the average rate for the last two weeks, by auction:—

Men's short legged cowhide boots.......	75	a 1 00
do wax boots, 16 to 18 inch leg.......	1 37½	a 1 62½
do grain do 16 to 18 do do.......	1 37	a 1 62½
do do do 18 to 20 do do.......	1 75	a 2 25
do wax do 18 to 20 do do.......	1 75	a 2 25
do fine quality grain, 20 do do.......	2 50	a 3 00
do do do wax, 20 do do.......	2 25	a 2 75
do Hungarian wax and grain boots, 20 inch leg.......................	2 50	a 3 00
Gent's fine light calf p'g'd im. st'ch'd....	3 50	a 4 00
do do do do sew'd do do.......	4 50	a 5 00
do do do do do brogans.......	1 75	a 2 00
do do do do peg'd do..........	1 25	a 1 50
Men's kip peg'd brogans, fine article.....	80	a 1 00
do do do do common.......	60	a 75
do thick do do....................	35	a 45
Boys' and youth's fine calf boots........	1 30	a 2 00

Bricks, of California manufacture, are abundant, for present wants; we note sales at $27. Eastern are moderate in stock, prices ranging about the same as domestic, the extra size of the latter compensating for the superior quality of the imported article. Fire brick are scarce, and in demand; face do. in request—stock small. A very heavy trade in bricks is expected in the approaching season, from the arrangements already made for new public and private buildings. Preparations are now commenced to carry on the manufacturing to an unprecedented extent.

Candles.—The importations since the 1st January consist of about 2,035 boxes, chiefly from the United States, and prices are a shade lower. French and adamantine are in good demand; pure sperm, neglected, unless at prices disproportionately low to other qualities.

Chinese Goods.—The only silk goods in the markat, in this line, are held by Messrs. Tobin & Duncan. Shawls are selling at low figures, giving but a small margin to the importer. Sarsnets are in demand, and good styles bring from 55 to 65 cts. Satins—none for sale. Damasks are much called for, with a very limited supply. Lacquered ware and Chow Chow goods, ditto. Several cargoes are daily expected from Hong Kong.

Coffee.—The sales within the last month have been considerable, as well for speculation as consumption. Prices are at present firm, with an expectation of some advance on the part of holders. The stock in the market at the opening of the year, (since which time there have have been no importations,) has been estimated at 7,700 quintals Java, 2,300 do., Rio, 2,000 do. Costa Rica, 2,500 do. Manilla. The description most in request is Costa Rica, because of its lighter color. Manilla and Rio are in about equal favor. Java, by many deemed superior in quality, is less inquired for.

Coal.—The importations since the first of January, have been 3,318 tons. Prices have advanced gradually with the active demand for our large sea going and inland steam tonnage. Sydney has been sold at $20 a $25; Welsh, $40; English steam and Newcastle, at $30 a $35; patent fuel, at $30. Within the last ten days, a speculative movement has taken some 1,500 tons, at prices not transpired. Some of the river boats consume wood, and will continue to do so with the high prices of coal.

Cons., of good quality and condition, has been sold at 8⅝, ex ship, an advance of 33 per cent over rates of a month past. We note the last importation per Walter Claxton, from Sydney, of 100,000 lbs., sold from first hands, price not stated, and held at 9½c., with some sales at this figure.

Drugs.—The market is well supplied with most descriptions of drugs. In some fine articles, however, there is a present scarcity, and prices rule high. The jobbers are doing an active business. We refer to our prices current for quotations.

Dry Goods.—Since our last report, a considerable quantity of staple dry goods has been received, which have gone off readily, at remunerating prices to the shippers. Amongst these are brown drills, which have readily commanded 10 to 14c., and twilled ship ducks 20 to 24c. Heavy ducks have not paid so well, but have still paid remunerating profits. Brown domestics are still sold at about home cost, and not much in demand at that. White shirtings are sold at about home cost. White 5-4, 6-4, 8-4, 10-4, and 12-4 sheetings are scarce, and in demand at remunerating profits.

Prints still continue dull, at less than home cost.

Blankets have remained about the same as at former quotations.

Flannels are dull at 25 per cent less than home cost, with the exception of fine white, which is in demand at 25 per cent advance.

Linseys are in demand, and none in market.

Tickings in demand; none in market.

The jobbing trade has been much better than at the same period lost year, on account, principally, of the increased demand.

Flour.—The market, at present, for this article, shows a further decline from its condition at date of our last review. The importations since then amount to 22,633 (200 lb.) bags, from foreign, and 9,634 bbls. from domestic ports. We are cognizant of sales in bbls. at $9 50; in sacks at $8 50.

Liquors, generally, are very dull.

Sugar.—The market is at present, firm, with an apparent tendency to a slight advance over present rates. The importations from the Eastern States, within the last month, have been light.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Nearly a Month Later from Sydney, New South Wales.

INCREASE OF GOLD ARRIVALS:—THE EXPORT OF GOLD DUST.

Advices from Sydney from November 24, 1851, to the 6th of December, have been received, via San Francisco. They show an increase of gold arrivals from the interior. Markets were greatly depressed, and exportations large. Hundreds of gold diggers have had surprising success, and yet men work for £1 per week, and rations.

Mr. Benj. Boyd, of Sydney, a Scotchman of refinement and intelligence, in an *attempt to purchase two or three of the Solomon group of the Pacific Islands, was murdered, in December last.*

In commercial affairs there appears to be very little activity; and the markets are not much, if any, improved. A private letter to one of our principal houses, from Sydney, (from which we have been kindly permitted to copy,) gives the following items:—

Our miners still prosper. The export of gold to date (Nov. 24) is £329,000. Since the date of my last, we have had numerous arrivals of wheat, flour, and Eastern produce, and a further large decline in prices has taken place. Almost all descriptions of goods are selling at considerable loss to the importers. The Architect's cargo was tried by auction, but a small portion only sold; the sugar, flour, and coffee was withdrawn. The Burlington, from your port, arrived a few days since. I doubt if £10 per ton can be obtained for her flour. I cannot recommend any shipments from your quarter. I am inclined to think that the industrial pursuits of the colony are not likely to suffer much from the discovery of gold. The graziers obtain sufficient labor, though at slightly increased rates; and the farmers will undoubtedly secure the coming crops of grain, the yield of which is likely to be very large. The downward tendency in our market still continues. The Burlington's cargo of flour (917 tons) has been sold at £7 6s. The cargo ex Home was tried at auction, and bought in at £8 15s. The Home has left for your port without breaking bulk. 150 tons, ex Architect, has been sold at £9 2s. 6d. The crop of wheat throughout the colonies will be very large. The Architect takes on her sugar and coffee, and will probably leave for Hobart Town for a cargo of potatoes.

The above is substantially corroborated by a letter received by another of our large commercial houses, which has been politely shown us.

The news is of no special importance. The excitement caused by the gold discoveries has conside rably abated, and the mines have become a resort for the industrial classes, and a steady and abundant source of wealth to the colonies. Indeed, the condition and prospects of New South Wales, it is asserted, were never more flattering than at the present time. The masses are busily and profitably engaged, and the revenue derived to the colonial treasury has been greater for the past year than ever before. An abstract of the colonial revenue for the quarter ended Sept. 30th, 1851, shows a net increase in the public income of twenty per cent.

The crown revenue also shows an astonishing increase in land sales and occupation licences; the revenue derived from the gold discovery amounting for the quarter, to £10,300, of which the licenses to search for gold produced £9,433, and the charges for the escort and conveyance of gold £874.

Some dissatisfaction is created among the diggers at Bathurst, at the existing system of government taxation and licensing, and public meetings have been held, declaring the licensing practice unjust in principle, being a tax upon labor and not upon produce.

The quantity of gold sent through the Bathurst post office, (irrespective of mis-sent gold,) from the 27th of May to the 31st September, was 25,644 avoirdupois ounces.

The products of the several gold mines of South Australia are sent to the seaports principally through government conveyances by trains.

The Legislative Council are urging on the parent government the want of an Assay Office and Ingot Foundry in the colonies.

The government escort brought down from the gold mines to the Colonial Treasury, Nov. 13th, 5,175 oz. 17 dwts. gold.

There is no other news in the Sydney papers to occupy the reader's attention, and we finish our abstract with the annexed portions of mining correspondence, from the *Herald* of the 20th November.

A writer, in presenting the state of affairs at Ophir, says:—

A government surveyor was on the grounds last week for the purpose of marking out allotments in the proposed township at Ophir, contiguous to the junction.

The price of carriage and provisions has greatly fallen during the past fortnight, flour being little more than half the cost per 100 lbs. demanded a month ago—good first being obtainable on the creek at 35s. Beef and mutton remain still at a high figure—for quarters and joints 2½d. per lb. being the price. This is high, considering that we have the animals grazing all around us, and the slaughterers having only a license rent of 30s. a month to pay. Carriage from Sydney to Bathurst, and thence to Ophir, may be readily had at from 18s. to 20s. per cwt.; but these rates are much too high, and infinitely more than storekeepers, and especially diggers, can afford to pay. Nov. 18.—I noticed in my communication of yesterday's date that Northwood's party, located on the Lewis Ponds Creek, was a successful one, and since then I have had occular proof, viz.: the gatherings of three weeks amounting to 109 ounces—worth about £350—which gives more than £1 a day, reckoning by the number (sixteen) of licenses issued for this month to that party. This gold (which is consigned to Cooper, Brothers) is well worthy the inspection of the curious, for a more unique lot of specimens have, I am confident, never been sent to Sydney from any of our numerous diggings. There are, in the whole amount, a very few pieces weighing less than a pennyweight. Several of the specimens are singularly beautiful.

The Turon Gold District mining affairs are thus described.

Neale's Point, Nov. 17.—The river still renders most of the claims almost unworkable, unless a considerable amount of labor is expended upon them, and a large loss submitted to from the waste occasioned by the escape of gold consequent upon the working of flooded claims. The weather, too, is so unsettled, that I much fear some time will yet elapse before they can be beneficially worked, as hardly a day passes without our being visited with a heavy shower of rain.

MARKETS.

Sidney, Dec. 6th—The Mills—The price of wheat remains quite nominal. Flour is steady at last quotations, £12 per ton of 2,000 lbs. for fine, and £10 for seconds. Bran, 1s. to 1s. 2d. per bushel. In wheat there have been no transactions, holders of imported not being disposed to sell at the present reduced rates. A good demand exists for flour, owing to the low price, and no further change may be expected. Fine, £11 to £12 per ton; seconds, £10. Bran, 1s. 3d. per bushel.

Gold—The price of gold during the week has ranged from 64s. to 64s. 9d., and for a very few fine samples 65s. to 65s. 2d. has been paid.

Total gold shipped to this date, £329,797 16s. 3d.

Exchange on London—Drafts against gold, 6 per cent discount; freight, ½ per cent.

THE HAWAIIAN KINGDOM.

One Month Later from the Sandwich Islands.

[From the Alta California, Feb. 18.]

By the schooner Gazelle, Capt. Stoddard, twenty-five days from Lahaina, a month's later Hawaiian intelligence has been received. We have Honolulu papers to the 17th ult.

Gloomy accounts of the condition of business continue to reach us from the Islands. The *Polynesian* complains that no prospects of an export demand for their productions yet cheer the planters or solace the merchants. The market is largely overstocked, and arrivals of foreign goods are still looked for. Prices rule low in everything.

We have produce to sell, says the *Polynesian*, but there is no one to buy. Could the coffee, sugar, syrup, molasses, potatoes, and other vegetables poultry, stock and fruits, now on hand, find a market, at fair rates, the depression now existing would instantly vanish, and the consumption of merchandise increase fifty fold.

The *Polynesian* has an article on the state of trade between the Islands and our coast. It proposes that for the relief of the existing business pressure, the 30 per cent duty on sugar into our ports should be lifted, and recommends that the business men and planters of Hawaii hold a convention to devise means to accomplish this removal of tariff.

Considerable interest is manifested among the planters of the island in the project of cheap labor, by the introduction of Coolies from China. This subject has engaged their attention for several years, and the experiment seems never to have been satisfactorily tried. The British bark Thetis, Capt. Cass, arrived from Amoy, China, during the first of the month, with a cargo of Coolies, most of whom were contracted for by planters and others at the island.

The *Polynesian* chronicles the arrival of the fine clipper ship R. B. Forbes, ninety-nine days from Boston. She arrived at Honolulu on the morning of the 5th of January, in command of Capt. Doane. This was a fine passage.

The attempt to bring a swarm of bees from Boston around the Cape, in the ship R. B. Forbes, has failed. They came very well until entering the tropics, on the Atlantic side, when the wax melted, and they were destroyed. Their introduction is considered very desirable, and beside the satisfaction of succeeding, the Agricultural Society has offered a premium to the person who shall first introduce the honey bee into the islands.

The elections had taken place at the islands. Honolulu, which last year was represented by two naturalized foreigners, has this year two native representatives in the lower house.

The total eclipse of the moon in January was observed at Honolulu.

A new paper, called the *Weekly Argus*, had made its appearance at Honolulu, edited by Mr. M. K. Smith. It opposes the policy of the government in many things, and urges on the long demanded reform in the disposition of the lands, rights of foreigners, &c., &c. It claims considerable patronage.

Great complaint about stagnation in business, in consequence of no market for their produce. The revenue for support of the government and of foreign residents is doubtless derived through the same channel as usual--the Wahines—these islands having been, for thirty or forty years past, the great brothel of the Pacific.

A cargo of Coolies from Amoy, China, numbering 180, had lately arrived to work on plantations. They are engaged for five years at $36 per year and provided for. Better get negros.

Mr. Wyllie, Minister of Foreign Affairs to his Kanaka majesty, is trying to have a law passed preventing the clergy sitting as members of parliament.

This brings the missionaries down on him, who, no doubt, are highly indignant that a mere creature and tool of their own government should make such a high-handed move. Wyllie had better *qui vive*, or he'll be ousted instead of the reverend gentlemen.

MARRIED,

In Honolulu, Feb. 13, by Rev. T. E. Taylor, Edward P. Bond, of Kauai, to Miss Sarah Wight, of Massachusetts, U. S. of America.

In Honolulu, Feb. 10, by Rev. T. E. Taylor, Louis Adolphe Dronsart to Mrs. Sophia Cape.

DIED,

In Honolulu, Feb. 11, at the English Hospital, of dropsy, John Owens, of Swansea, Wales, aged about 30 years.

In Honolulu, Feb. 11, Ayung, a native of China, aged 29 years.

In Bath, England, on the 9th August, 1851, Caroline, the wife of E. R. Bassett, Esq., and youngest sister of H. H. French, Esq., a resident of these islands. Also, on the 11th August, 1851, Lelina, the wife of Captain W. R. Webster, Ra. Art., and eldest sister of the above H. H. French, and eldest daughter of the late J. D. P. French, Esq., of Ripple Vaile House, county of Kent, England.

At Lahaina, Maui, S. I., on the 7th of January, 1852, of consumption, Erastus D. Lord, in the 35th year of his age, formerly of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U. S.

At Lahainia, on the morning of the 20th January, Mrs. William Broom, of consumption, late a resident of Sacramento City.

MARKETS.

Honolulu, Jan. 1, 1852.

The tone of our market has not improved since our last issue; business still continues very dull, and sales are with difficulty effected at extremely low prices. Money is disappearing, and from 3 to 4 per cent per month, is the current rate of interest. Boots and Shoes.—The stock is ample, and they are difficult to sell. Building materials are in but little request. Coals are in much the same state as last month, and are not inquired for. Coffee.—Prices have fallen, and it goes off slowly. Clothing.—The stock continues large, and prices are gradually declining. Dry Goods are lower than last month, with no prospect of improvement. Flour is also lower, and the demand moderate. Provisions are generally in moderate demand. Native produce, however, has fallen still lower. Soap has declined, and the stock is pretty large. Segars are in demand; good No. 2 Manillas are scarce. Sugar is dull, and holders are anxious to sell. Wines and Liquors—The sales during last month were at low rates, and they are now not much inquired after.