

# SANTA BARBARA GAZETTE.

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## THE GAZETTE.

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### LITTLE THINGS.

Scorn not the slightest word or deed,  
Nor deem it void of power;  
There's fruit in each wind-wafted seed,  
Waiting its natal bower.  
A whispered word may touch the heart,  
And call it back to life;  
A look of love bid sin depart,  
And still undo its strife.

No act falls fruitless; none can tell  
How vast its powers may be,  
Nor what results unfolded dwell  
Within it silently.  
Work and despair not; give thy mite,  
Nor care how small it be;  
God is with all that serve the right,  
The holy, true, and free.

### RELATIVE VALUE OF LIMBS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

The composition of the British army is a singular anomaly in the military world. The line of demarcation which so widely separates the officers from the rank and file is traceable, although in a more minute form, throughout the higher grades. Even amongst the officers themselves, titles and aristocratic connections exercise their respective influences, and the value of their services is regulated according to the power which their relatives and friends can bring to bear at the Horse Guards, or the courtly favoritism which they are able to command in other quarters. In the British army, at a period not very remote, the mistress of the Duke of York could dispense commissions at her will and pleasure. Although the same sinister influence does not openly prevail at the present time, still the system of promotion continues unchanged. Merit is invariably passed over, and incompetency, age, decrepitude and lordly connections seem to be the only passports to promotion in the English ranks. But, as the battle field levels all distinctions, and as all are supposed to share a common danger, it is but reasonable that the injuries sustained in action should be compensated according to their nature and extent, particularly if there be no very wide distinction between the grades of the suffering parties. We hold that the leg of the private soldier is as valuable to the owner as the leg of a field-marshal is to him. But it would be out of all propriety, according to the ethics of military rewards in England, to think of equalizing the compensation in such cases. The private who has marched and fasted, paraded and fought, dug the trenches and stormed the breach, may stomp about on his wooden pin, "shoulder his crutch and show how fields were won," and live on six-pence a day for life, whilst the officer is awarded, even for the slightest wound, liberal compensation and a pension capable of supporting him in ease and affluence. The widow of the officer has also her pension for life, and this is only just and proper; but the widow of the private soldier may beg, starve, or end her days in the poor-house, and bear the injustice and cruelty which aristocratic influence perpetrates upon the class who are the true bulwarks of a nation.

This terrible war in the Crimea is likely to make sad havoc not only with the British army and British prestige, but also shocking inroads upon the time-honored monopolies of Aristocracy, and probably destroy those cherished institutions which sprang up under the shadow of the throne in the dark times of feudal ascendancy. The compensation awarded by the Horse Guards to the officers wounded at the battles of the Alma, Inkermann, &c., now form the subject of severe comment in the British Press. The loss of legs, fingers, arms, teeth and tongues, belonging to different officers, does not appear to have been appraised by the authorities in accordance with the relative value of the article itself, but in proportion to the social state of the owner, and in accordance with the influence he possessed in high official quarters. It is thought rather hard that the strapping leg of a portly captain, or the manly limb of a stalwart ensign, should be set down at a price far beneath the great toe of a gouty old major, or the dexter thumb of a dandified sprig of some noble house. The list of compensations lately published in England forms such glaring contrasts, and displays such unaccounted favoritism, as to create a storm of public indignation against that system which has already sapped the foundations of Britain's strength, annihilated her formidable army, and laid her fawning at the feet of her deadliest enemy. A mere scratch upon an officer of distinction—distinction, however, not in the field of battle, but in the field of heraldry—brings the lucky nobleman more hard cash than the loss of both legs can obtain for the unfortunate subordinate who may have captured colors, spiked guns, and sacrificed whole hetaombs of the

enemy. A few examples will suffice to prove the rottenness and injustice which pervade and control the whole British military system.

The Earl of Errol received a slight wound in his right hand, causing the loss of a finger, which, however, does not incapacitate him from service. The noble sufferer received, as compensation for his aristocratic digit, \$1056 90. The Hon. H. Annesley, an Ensign in the Scotch Fusilier Guards, received a musket ball in the mouth, which displaced twenty-three of his teeth and cut away a portion of his tongue. His compensation was only \$501 80. It may be asked, do not both these wounded officers belong to the aristocratic circles, and why is there such distinction made in remunerating them for the injuries sustained? The solution of this question is plain, and exposes the favoritism to which we have alluded. The Earl of Errol is a son of Lady Fitzclarence, who was a natural daughter of William the Fourth by the celebrated Mrs. Jordan, and he is consequently the Queen's cousin. The Hon. Mr. Annesley is the second brother of the Earl of Annesley, an *Irish Peer*, who also represents an English borough in the House of Commons. He is a Tory, belongs to the Earl of Derby's party, and is consequently in opposition to the Ministry.

Brigadier General Torrens, who has many influential connections, received a musket ball in the left side of the thorax, which wound is classed equal to the loss of a leg, and he got \$2,600, while Sir Thomas Trowbridge, son of the distinguished Admiral of that name, was struck by a thirty-nine pound shot, which rendered amputation of the right leg and left foot necessary—crippling and maiming the gallant officer for life—and he only received \$2,920. There must be something wrong in the awarding of compensation, when such a discrepancy exists between what he receives and what Gen. Torrens obtains for a comparatively trifling wound.

Ensign Brabook, whose promotion depended upon his sword alone, got \$239 34, for having received a musket ball in his right thigh; but Capt. Berkeley is awarded \$1,414 20, for a musket ball in the right leg—both officers being set down as "severely wounded." Now, Capt. Berkeley, who holds a commission in the Scotch Fusilier Guards, is a son of Maj. Gen. Berkeley, and served as aide-de-camp to his father at the Cape. He had influence at the Horse Guards, and hence the liberal compensation which he receives, as contrasted with that of poor Ensign Brabook.

Lieutenant Cahill, of the 49th, received a ball in his right foot, and was allowed \$359 10. Captain McDonald, of the 92d, got \$1,056 90 for a musket ball in the left foot. But Lieutenant Cahill is an Irishman, without either aristocratic connections or political influence, and Captain McDonald is the son of Major-General McDonald, who has powerful friends at head-quarters. The distinctions thus arrived at, even among the officers, cannot fail to have a disorganizing effect upon the British army, and to render it utterly unavailable for any great military undertaking, after it has been taught by adversity to abandon all belief in its own invincibility.

But if injustice be done to some officers in the meting out of rewards, how fares it with the miserable private soldier, who returns a mangled remnant of humanity from the scene of carnage? He is sometimes adjudged a fit recipient for a pension of 12 cents per day, and is more frequently consigned to the almshouse for the remainder of his painful existence.

John O'Shaughnessy, of Limerick, who returned home from the Crimea, and is now in Portsmouth Hospital, states: "The sinews of my arm fell out at Scutari Hospital, and others were obliged to be dragged out by the doctors. The arm is not worth a brass pin ever again." James Magrath, of Clonmel, said to the Reporter of the London Dispatch: "Look at my legs, sir—I am ashamed of them. I'll never get rid of the pains in my bones!" These two Irish soldiers get no compensation. They are not aristocrats—they did not belong to the privileged class. They were only private.—*N. Y. Times.*

THE CORK TREE. The Patent Office has distributed the seed of the European cork tree throughout a number of the States, in order to test its adaptation to our climate. This tree, in its native country, is an evergreen, and usually grows to a height of twenty or thirty feet. The substance familiarly known to us as cork is the outer bark, and sometimes grows two or three inches thick. Should the experiment succeed, it will be the subject of great national importance that plantations should be established in various parts of the country for the purpose of growing this useful substance. If India rubber could be afforded as cheap, stoppers made of it would answer as well as cork.

### IRON FOR BUILDING.

The Railroad and Iron interests of the country are intimately connected, consequently the present check to railroad improvements has been severely felt by that large portion of the community engaged in the manufacture of iron. The manufacture, in itself the most essential branch of industry, its producers furnishing an article of universal consumption from the inexhaustible stores of it that are at hand, has only from time to time, and that for a short time, owing to some unusual emergency, been highly remunerative to those engaged in it, and that in spite of the generous protection that has been at different times accorded to it.

The protection extended to this interest has not been steady and uniform, and the demand for the article has been extremely fluctuating; these two causes are abundantly sufficient to account for what at first sight may appear inexplicable, the precarious prosperity of a trade offering such general benefits to society and such advantages to the consumer.

A new demand is being now, however, created for iron, which, if it increases as rapidly in other sections as it has done in those in which it has been introduced, will be likely to dissipate the gloom that hangs over this branch of business. Iron is coming daily more and more into use for architectural purposes, and may, if the proper efforts be made to point out its advantages, in a great measure supplant the materials which have heretofore been used in construction. The government at Washington, following the example of Great Britain in this respect, has just completed the erection of a public building entirely of iron, except the exterior walls; these would have been of the same material, but it was doubted at the time when the plans and specifications were made whether walls of this kind could be made fire-proof; it has since been demonstrated that they can, and that in this respect iron houses may be made to vie with any fire-proof safes.

Throughout France and England iron has for some time been gaining ground as a material for building; the facility with which it is transported has led to its being sent for this purpose to the British colonies in very large quantities. In our own large eastern cities, and especially in New York, the last year has witnessed the erection of many buildings wholly of iron. These signs and its own intrinsic merits render it probable that iron will be found in a short time supplanting all other materials for purposes of modern architecture.

The age of building for posterity has passed. In our age every thing moves fast, every thing changes; there never was such a building age as our own. The whole face of cities is changed with us in a space of time that to our ancestors would appear incredibly short. What we must look at, then, in selecting a material for building, is saving of material, labor and time. Iron does all this. We have it in abundance at a moderate price, and it is by its nature easy of transportation. It occupies less space than brick or stone; is capable of a greater degree of ornament at a less expense, and combines, more than any other substance for building purposes, the essential elements for strength and cheapness.

Another very important advantage which iron has is the fact that its intrinsic value is not destroyed by fire. An iron house, when burnt, would not be by any means destroyed; the material would remain diminished in value only by the loss of the labor bestowed in bringing it into shape. This, in consideration of the tremendous conflagrations which visit our great business communities from time to time, is by no means to be overlooked.

These facts, for they are indisputable facts, are urged with great earnestness by the journals in Pennsylvania attached to the iron interests, and it is suggested that the General Government, taking them seriously into consideration, adopt iron as the substance for the construction of public buildings from this time forth. Such a step would be of great importance; the introduction of iron into the public architecture of the country, could not fail to contribute to hasten its general adoption, and thus economy to the government would be joined to an accidental encouragement to an interest which the legislation of Congress has so often been invoked to protect. These considerations are certainly eminently worthy of attention in future appropriations for public buildings, and should they receive it, an immense and increasing demand for iron must at once be created, which would raise the iron interest from its present depressed and embarrassed condition, and be of incalculable benefit to our State, rich as it is in this precious ore.—*St. Louis Intelligence.*

MODERN. "Blanchy, my son, run to the store and get me some sugar." "Excuse me, ma, I am somewhat indisposed this morning. Send father; and tell him to bring me a plug of tobacco."

ROBERT CUSHMAN, THE PILGRIM. The descendants of the Rev. Robert Cushman, the Pilgrim Ancestor, will celebrate, on the 15th day of August next, at Plymouth, Mass., the 255th anniversary of the day when he first sailed for America on the Mayflower. It is estimated that there are now living about two thousand by the name of Cushman who are his descendants, and nearly as many more of other names who are connected with them by marriage, or are the offspring of Cushman mothers, all of whom are invited and many of whom are expected to be present at the celebration.

Rev. Robert Cushman was the first agent of the Leyden Pilgrims; the purchaser of the immortal ship Mayflower; the principal patentee of one of the first charters on Massachusetts Bay; the preacher of the first sermon in the United States that was ever printed. "The Historical Genealogy of the Cushman's" has been prepared and published by the Hon. Henry W. Cushman, of Bernardston, Mass. One of the objects of the meeting will be to take measures to erect a suitable monument to the memory of Robert Cushman.

The following is an outline of the exercises expected on the occasion: A procession will be formed under the direction of Maj. Gen. Gustavus G. Cushman, of Bangor, Me., as Chief Marshal, and will proceed to the first church (where Thomas Cushman served as Ruling Elder for forty years), where a discourse will be delivered by Rev. Robert W. Cushman, D. D., of Boston, accompanied by the singing of original hymns and other religious exercises. After which, the company will dine together, and addresses will be delivered by several distinguished clergymen of the Cushman race, and Rev. Isaac Allerton, of Cheunago, N. Y., (now 71 years of age,) a descendant of Isaac Allerton, who came over in the Mayflower in 1620—and whose daughter Mary was the maternal ancestor of the race. The afternoon and evening will be spent in visiting the places of historic interest in the town, and in forming an acquaintance with each other. On the following-morning the company will meet at 9 o'clock, at Pilgrim Hall, proceed in a body to the Old Burying Hill Cemetery, and visit the grave of Elder Thomas Cushman and his wife, Mary Allerton, the last survivor of those who came over in the Mayflower, where addresses will be delivered; after which the committee previously appointed on the subject of a Monument to Robert and Elder Thomas Cushman, will make a report, and an association will probably be formed for that purpose.

The occasion cannot fail to be one of exceeding interest. A visit to the venerated Plymouth Rock and to Pilgrim Hall, on the anniversary of the day of sailing of the world-renowned ship Mayflower, must inspire thoughts and feelings of a pure, holy, and lofty character.

There are several of the descendants of Robert Cushman residing in California, and in Oregon and Washington Territories. Our fellow-citizen, Charles D. Cushman, Esq., is one of them. We understand it was his intention to have been present at the celebration, but as he cannot make it convenient to be there, his lady, Mrs. Sarah L. Cushman, who leaves on the steamer of July 1st, will represent California.—*Alta California.*

A REPUBLIC IN AFRICA. Our readers are aware that the Boers, or descendants of the old Dutch colonists of South Africa, dwelling north of and contiguous to the British Cape Colony, and only separated therefrom by the Orange River, have, with the approbation of the British Government, organized an Independent Republic. Very late news from that quarter states that the Volksraad (Legislature) of the New Free State, or Republic, was opened on the 5th February. This Assembly consists of twenty-nine members. The message of the President, M. Hoffman, is published entire in the Cape papers, for its "generally interesting character as a Republican message." It is not quite half a column long. The President says that "sundry difficulties have beset the New and Independent State, which can only be surmounted by an adherence to law and order." He also says that they have the most cordial relations with the British Government. He implores the Assembly to keep up a harmonious spirit.

It appears, however, that his good advice was not followed, a letter of the 12th stating that the President had resigned to prevent being turned out, and that all the other officers of the State had been obliged to follow his example. The cause of this sudden downfall is not plainly apparent, but the ex-chief was charged with selling powder to the native chiefs, and there was also a jealousy of him on the ground that he was favored by the English. Serious results are apprehended from these dissensions.

A married lady, finding her two sons quarreling, said to them: "If you do not desist, I'll tell both your fathers!"

SINGULAR SUPERSTITIONS. In Berkshire, England, there is a popular superstition that a ring made from a piece of silver collected at the Communion is a cure for convulsions and fits of every kind. Another curious British superstition, by way of charm, is recorded: that a silver ring will cure fits if it be made of five sixpences, collected from five different bachelors, to be conveyed by the hand of a bachelor to a smith that is a bachelor. None of the persons who give the sixpences are to know for what purpose or to whom they gave them. While, in Devonshire, there is a notion that the king's evil can be cured by wearing a ring made of three nails or screws which have been used to fasten a coffin that has been dug from out of the churchyard.

There is a medical charm in Ireland to cure warts. A wedding-ring is procured and the warts touched with a gooseberry thorn through the ring.

A wedding-ring rubbed upon that little abcess called a sty, which is frequently seen on the tarsi of the eyes, is said to remove it. In Somersetshire, England, there is a superstition that the ring-finger stroked along any sore or wound will soon heal it. All the other fingers are said to be poisonous, especially the fore-finger. In Suffolk, England, nine young men of a parish subscribed a crooked sixpence each to be moulded into a ring for a young woman afflicted with fits. The clergy in that country are not unfrequently asked for sacramental silver to make rings of, to cure falling sickness; and it is cruel to refuse. There is a singular custom prevailing in some parts of Northamptonshire, and probably there are other places where a similar custom exists. If a female is afflicted with fits, nine pieces of silver money and nine three-half pennies (i. e. 13 1-2d.) are paid to the maker of the ring, an inadequate remuneration for his labor, but which he god naturedly accepts. If the afflicted person be a male, the contributions are levied upon females. In Norfolk, a ring was made from nine sixpences, freely given by persons of the opposite sex, and it was considered a charm against epilepsy. "I have seen," says a correspondent in "Notes and Queries," "nine sixpences brought to a silversmith, with a request that he would make them into a ring; but 13 1-2d was not tendered to him for making, nor do I think any three half-pennies are collected for payment. After the patient had left the shop, the silversmith informed me that such requests were of frequent occurrence, and that he supplied the patients with thick silver rings, but never took the trouble to manufacture them from the sixpences."

COLORADO CANON. The San Francisco Herald gives the following interesting description of the great canon of the Colorado river, on the southeastern borders of the State:

This highly interesting geological feature in the topography of the eastern frontiers of California, situated in the northeastern portion of the county of San Bernardino, has been lately, through the explorations of Capt. Sitgreaves in 1851, for the first time accurately located on a map. It lies very near the latitude of 35 deg. north, and about 114 deg. 30 min. west from the meridian of Greenwich, as laid down on the map of Capt. R. B. Marcy, 1854, lately published by order of the Secretary of War. Capt. Sitgreaves, it appears, only explored a small part of the southern portion of the Great Cañon. It is asserted by the few old hunters and trappers who have strayed into its desert and inhospitable vicinity, to be about one hundred and thirty miles in length. Through its whole course the Colorado river, from the north, is violently forced through a rocky, narrow bed, or rather box of volcanic formation of basalt and igneous upheavals. This highly curious feature of our physical geography is one of the great wonders of the world, and a theme of marvel and daring exploit at the camp of every hunter of New Mexico and California. Old Mother Nature appears to have been in a desperate fit of ungovernable rage when she made this part of the earth's surface. It lies across the Eastern Sahara, about three hundred miles in a north by east direction from the Mormon settlement of San Bernardino, or some four hundred miles from Los Angeles. On Capt. Marcy's map aforesaid, is laid down also for the first time with any approach to accuracy, that other curious physico-geographical feature of our new western territories, called by the Spaniards the Llano Estacado, or Staked Plain. It lies at the altitude of 2500 feet, and between the meridians of 102 and 104 deg. west of Greenwich, and is enclosed by the parallels of 32 and 36 deg. It is said to be entirely desert, and is composed, like many parts of California, of hard beds of clay, and on its edges of sulphate of lime or gypsum. Capt. Marcy in 1852 explored along its center, on the line of the Red river of Louisiana for a distance of over one hundred miles.

The policy of fear keeps many virtuous.

# THE GAZETTE.

SANTA BARBARA:

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1855.

SAN FRANCISCO AGENCY. Mr. B. WILCOCKS is our authorized Agent for San Francisco. Mr. W. can be found in the office of the "Citizen," on Merchant street, between Montgomery and Sansome.

## AGENTS.

Carpenteria..... HENRY J. DALLY  
San Buenaventura..... DON JOSE ARNAZ  
Los Angeles..... C. R. JOHNSON  
San Luis Obispo..... ANDREW MURRAY

## THE NEWS.

The late arrival of the steamer from San Francisco has brought us some extremely interesting news, although nothing of actual moment.

In our own State, the most important is the nominations of the Democratic Convention, which are as follows: Governor, John Bigler; Lieut. Governor, Samuel Purdy; Judges of the Supreme Court, Myron Norton and Chas. H. Bryan; Comptroller, Thos. Flournoy; Treasurer, B. F. Keene; Attorney General, B. C. Whiting; Surveyor General, S. H. Marlette; State Printer, George H. Crossett; Directors of State Prison, Wm. H. Bell, Sam'l Austin and C. F. Powell. Such is the Democratic Ticket for the coming campaign, and the nominations appear to give general satisfaction to the party throughout the country. At all events, the ticket is a stroke of policy on the part of those engaged in getting it up, and it bids fair to be successful in its object—the harmonizing of the different branches of the Democratic Party and effecting an election. We look with some interest for the nominations of the other parties.

From the upper country we have details of destructive fires both in San Francisco and Sacramento, the particulars of which may be found in another portion of our paper. At Crescent City the steamship America has been totally destroyed by fire; the loss is estimated at \$140,000. The burning of this steamer is particularly to be regretted by our citizens, as she was shortly to have resumed her trips upon the Southern Coast.

The Political news from the Atlantic States is somewhat interesting, chiefly from the elections lately held in several States which have resulted altogether in favor of the Democratic party.

From New York we learn of the departure of the Expedition fitted out by government in search of Dr. Kane. According to all accounts the sum appropriated—\$150,000—has been judiciously expended, and the expedition has left fully prepared to undergo the severe trials of an Arctic winter. Amongst the officers is a brother of Dr. Kane, who goes as Assistant Surgeon.

In Europe, the aspect of matters and things is assuming a very different shade from that possessed a few months since. Austria has refused to join the Allied Powers, and the German States follow her lead. Before Sebastopol there is nothing doing of consequence; several unsuccessful attacks and sorties on either side have been made without, however, very great loss of life. The English press have ceased to speak of the assault or even of any hope for the termination of the war. The question is no longer when will Sebastopol be taken, but whether the Allied forces will be able to sustain their position before it. England is undoubtedly in a very peculiar state, and if we may judge from the signs of the times on the eve of a great political change. Republican speeches have been made in Parliament by leading members; the English Press preaches only in revolutionary articles, and even Queen Victoria has condescended, through a species of conciliation, in person to give medals to soldiers in the streets of London. Such is the general state of affairs, and it is extremely doubtful whether it can last long as it is.

The steamer Emilie arrived in our harbor on the 5th inst., after a passage of 11 days from Mazatlan, and we publish in another column the news of the destruction of a large number of vessels at that place, on the evening of June 1st. After taking in a supply of wood, the Emilie sailed for San Francisco on the night of the 8th inst. This steamer was in a most filthy condition, and considerable sickness existed among her crew.

During the past three or four days, several parties of Mormon Missionaries have passed through our city on their way from San Bernardino to the upper country. We understand that the number of missionaries sent out by the Mormons during this season is very considerable.

We are happy to state that no news of robberies or murders in our county have reached us for some time past, many suspicious characters having left the neighborhood.

The few items of general interest in our county, have induced us to offer this week to our readers the foregoing summary.

## ARRIVAL OF THE SEA BIRD.

The steamer Sea Bird, Capt. Haley, arrived in our harbor on the 9th inst., from San Francisco.

We publish the following list of passengers, for which we are indebted to Jos. A. Fort:

Judge Scott, Don Juan Forster, O Stearns, Lt Col W Barnham, A M Crane, O B Low, Judge Norton, W H Carter, Judge Ord, J A Watson, Mrs Bland, T W Moore, S Fenner, Gen Covarrubias, Chas H Brinley, Mr and Mrs Mariama Lazard, Vail Thomas, Jos A Fort [Pacific Express], D G Gardner [Wells, Fargo & Co], H Wappers, mail agent.

GEO. BONNY, Purser.

From the Express Companies we have received full files of Atlantic and California papers. The dates from New York are to June 5th, and from New Orleans to June 7th.

From the San Francisco Herald we extract the following extremely interesting summary of news.

DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION IN SAN FRANCISCO. About four o'clock Wednesday morning, July 4th, the rear portion of the Crystal House on Bush street, one door east from Kearny street, was discovered to be on fire, and although the alarm was promptly given from the City Hall bell, and as promptly responded to by the Fire Department, such was the inflammable character of the material opposed to the devouring element, that before the firemen were well at work, the destruction of the entire square seemed inevitable. The fearful progress of the flames gave but little opportunity for the removal of furniture, and it was with much difficulty that the sleeping occupants of the burning houses were aroused from their slumbers in time to escape destruction. Very few were able to save the wearing apparel that they had put off upon retiring to bed. From the corner of Bush and Kearny streets, the flames swept towards Pine street like a driving storm, leveling with the ground every building fronting on Kearny street. About the centre of the block, an alley-way, called Belden street, runs north and south between Pine and Bush streets; the fire was arrested on Bush street, at the corner of this alley. On Pine street, the fire extended to Sharp & Co's Steam Flouring Mills, situated about the centre of the block. At the height of the conflagration, the cistern at the corner of Kearny and Bush streets failed, and several engines stationed in that quarter were forced to abandon the fire and seek for other supplies of water. The large engine, Monumental No. 6, had been doing great service at this point, and her removal was immediately noticed. The appalling rapidity with which the flames spread, and the intense heat, often compelled the firemen to suspend their work for a few seconds to avoid certain destruction. To one who witnessed the conflagration in its highest stage, it is almost incredible that the flames were confined to the block in which the fire originated. Nothing but charred timbers remain upon the site of the fire, which embraces little more than half the square. It is estimated that about twenty buildings were consumed. The loss is set at \$75,000.

BURNING OF THE STEAMSHIP AMERICA. The Crescent City Herald of June 27th, says: "This splendid steamer sailed into our bay and came to anchor about twenty minutes past three o'clock, on Sunday afternoon, June 24th. The weather was fine, the sea calm, and everything indicated a brief visit, and a speedy resumption of her trip to Puget Sound, to which point she was steering with a company of U. S. Infantry, numbering 132 men, under the command of Major Prince. After the Mail and Express matters had come ashore, an unusual quantity of smoke issued from the vessel, and conjecture was busy for a few minutes respecting the cause. But conjecture was soon solidified into certainty. The vessel was on fire, and a scene of excitement, both on shore and at sea, followed, which we have but feeble powers of painting. Lighters, boats, and canoes surrounded the fated vessel; we could see from the shore that those on board were making exertions to master the threatened calamity. All the soldiers who could be spared from the vessel were soon sent ashore, and in about half an hour after the extra smoke was first perceived, we could see the paddle wheels beginning to move, and this fine ship was run aground in the shallow water about one hundred and fifty yards from shore. Buckets, ladders, ropes, and every thing deemed useful, were sent on board with a rapidity and an energy truly surprising, and to which no praise can do justice. Human power was vanquished. The vessel from stem to stern was soon a mass of flame, whose brightness was painful to the eye. She was left to her fate. We have just learned from Captain Wright, the proprietor of the lost vessel, that there was not a dollar of insurance on the vessel, and that he estimates his loss at \$140,000. No lives were lost. It was singularly fortunate that the fire did not break out when the steamer was at sea, for such was the rapidity of the fire, the probability is that the sacrifice of human life would have been dreadful. All the freight destined for Crescent City was safely landed. The America was built by Wm. H. Brown, in New York, in 1853, and registered 923 tons, and was brought around Cape Horn by Capt Mitchell. She arrived in San Francisco in 1854, and was bought by Captain J. T. Wright on the 2d of August of the same year; since which time she has been employed in the

coast trade, the principal portion of the time running to Crescent City and the balance to San Diego. Capt. J. T. Wright, the owner, reports that the fire was purely accidental, and is supposed to have originated in the coal bunkers from spontaneous combustion.

## DOMESTIC NEWS.

ATTACK ON THE TURNERS IN OHIO. At Columbus, Ohio, on the 30th May, a procession of German Turners, while peaceably passing through the streets, was attacked by a mob of rowdies, and several of the foreigners badly beaten by the rioters. The Turners were dressed in white coats, and throughout the day and night every person who was so unfortunate as to wear a garment of that color was set upon and beaten by the rioters. The assailants are said to have evinced an unbounded admiration of the American flag, and a corresponding dislike of a banner fabricated by some young German ladies, and carried by the Turners.

W. G. Kendall, formerly Postmaster at New Orleans, found guilty by the Grand Jury of purloining money from letters passing through his office and held to bail in the sum of \$10,000, has published a letter, asking a suspension of public opinion until the case can be thoroughly investigated. According to the document alluded to, Mr. Kendall is a victim of conspiracy, and a man more sinned against than sinning.

The cholera is raging as an epidemic in New Orleans, and the Board of health of the city has made public declaration of the melancholy fact.

WASHINGTON, June 5. Buckingham Smith has been appointed Secretary of Legation at Madrid vice Horatio J. Perry, recalled.

The Baltimore Sun says the Kinney Expedition has been abandoned for the want of means to defray the current and immediate expenses.

The expedition in search of Dr. Kane sailed from New York for the Arctic region on the 2d of June.

## EUROPE.

By the arrival of the Pacific at New York on Wednesday the 30th of May, we have dates from Liverpool to the 13th of the same month.

The siege of Sebastopol was progressing very slowly indeed, and as the telegraph was in the hands of the government exclusively, it was difficult to decide from the imperfect hints supplied whether the besiegers or besieged gained the most advantage.

A force of 25,000 Turks, French and English hastily embarked on board all the available ships near Sebastopol, and stood away in the direction of the Sea of Azoff. In a day or two they returned and as hastily disembarked, Omer Pacha and his Turks making all speed to ensconce themselves again at Eupatoria.

A Vienna despatch, of doubtful authority, says that Austria has agreed with the Western Powers on a final ultimatum to be presented to Russia. This is at variance with reliable advices. Count Nesselrode has issued a new circular; contents as yet unknown.

Russia has directed her representative at the Court of Darmstadt to notify all the German governments that Russia will only hold to the first two points of guarantee, on condition of the perfect neutrality of Germany.

Count Corinini, Austrian Commander-in-Chief, has proclaimed martial law in the principalities.

Constantinople letters of the 10th say that the capitation tax on Christians is finally abolished. Christians are liable to military service, but will form separate corps.

A new Imperial manifesto has been issued at St. Petersburg, in which the Czar orders a new levy of twelve men per thousand throughout the seventeen western provinces, and to be completed by the end of July.

France and England have presented an ultimatum to Sweden, to which the Swedes have replied by incorporating their militia.

In England many incidents tend to mark the democratic change that is coming over the nation. The Queen has condescended publicly to bestow medals on private soldiers in the streets of London.

Rumors of dissension in the British cabinet gain ground. Lord John Russell is said to be the impracticable subject.

In Parliament, on the evening of Friday, the 18th, Lord Panmure stated the details of certain proposed reforms in the army, having for their object to consolidate the "civil departments" of military affairs.

The clipper ship Great Republic has arrived at Marseilles to embark troops.

The extensive premises known as the Atlas Iron Works, London, and employed in the manufacture of shot and shell, had fallen to the ground, and injured several of the workmen.

The King of Sardinia is rumored to be negotiating a marriage with Queen Victoria's eldest daughter, the Princess Royal of England.

Gen. Canrobert has resigned, and has been succeeded by Gen. Pelissier. Our European advices intimated, some time since, that Pelissier would ere long succeed to Canrobert's command.

The Italian Pianori, who attempted to assassinate the Emperor Napoleon, has been tried and executed. He made no confession.

Perhaps he was like Salcedo—waiting succor from his friends.

SMART ACTION BY A FRENCH FRIGATE. A letter from Kamiesch, of April 28, in the *Moniteur de la Flotte*, recounts a smart action of the little French frigate Megere. It was anchored off Eupatoria, near the wreck of the Henry IV., when the watch discovered a party of Russian cavalry on the tongue of sand which separates the lake from the sea. The brave Iskender Bey, who is happily cured of his wound, advanced to meet them at the head of about twenty horse. The enemy, counting the Turks, continued the March in fancied security, when suddenly the Megere pitched a couple of cannon balls into the middle of their front column. The group thus unexpectedly assailed, fell back in confusion, leaving some of their body stretched on the field. The whole force turned and made off with all speed, but the Megere, raising her anchor, chased them as if she had been a horse. It was a wonderful sight to see her scudding along the shore and watching her opportunity to fire a shot upon the retreating Russians whenever the slightest break in the ground gave her gunners a chance to see them. On returning to her anchorage the Megere received the congratulations of the garrison of Eupatoria.

## LATER FROM MEXICO.

DESTRUCTION OF VESSELS AT MAZATLAN.

By the arrival of the steamer Emilie, we have received news from Mexico to June 9th.

The Emilie arrived in our harbor on the evening of the 5th inst., after a passage of 11 days from Mazatlan.

From the officers of the steamer we learn of the destruction of six vessels in Mazatlan on the evening of the 1st of June.

According to the accounts received from passengers, which we have no doubt are authentic, we publish the following report of the tremendous loss of vessels in Mazatlan: French ship Manuet, English brig Tartar, English ship John Elkin, Peruvian brig Miguel, clipper ship Water Witch, (lost at Ypala,) American brig Copeland, English ship John Paget; 22 lives lost.

As far as we are able to learn from the passengers of the Emilie who have been in this city, the loss of vessels at Mazatlan on June 1st was occasioned by a heavy swell, which was probably caused by a gale at sea. The sight is described by those who witnessed it as awful—ship after ship driven ashore without any possibility of saving them.

The clipper ship Water Witch, Capt. Plummer, was engaged in loading Brazil wood at Ypala, and was driven ashore by the same swell which destroyed the vessels at Mazatlan.

## MEXICO.

From Mexico we learn that on the day the Emilie left Mazatlan, a report reached there that Santa Anna's forces were surrounded at "Arias," near Morillo, by the army of General Comonfort, and there was every probability of success for the revolutionists.

The robbers are described as being numerous in Mexico, and from "*El Herald*" of June 9th we learn that a diligence was attacked between Vera Cruz and the city, and robbed of money and jewels to the amount of \$2000.

## EASTERN MEXICO.

By news which had reached Mazatlan previous to the sailing of the steamer we learn that Gen. Caravajal was in possession of the States of Nueva Leon and Coahuila, and from the disposition of the people it is supposed he will retain his power.

Numbers of murders have been committed on the road between the city and the coast.

The whole state of affairs in Mexico is described as being unsettled, and there is every probability of another revolution in the country.

The Emilie has made a rather long passage, but we are indebted to her passengers for the news we have received.

## POLITICAL.

DEFEAT OF THE KNOW NOTHINGS IN VIRGINIA. At the recent election in Virginia, Henry A. Wise, Esq, the Democratic candidate for Governor is elected by about 10,000 majority. The Democrats have carried every Congressional District in the State, the same men who were in the last Congress. The Legislature will be Democratic by four majorities. The *Richmond Enquirer* has returned from all but fourteen counties, and makes Mr. Wise's majority, so far, 10,572. It says his majority in the State will be about 11,000, as the strong Democratic counties of Scott and Lee are among those not heard from. The *Dispatch* makes the majority only 9,235, and thirteen counties to be heard from, which gave Pierce 910 majority.

At Norwich and New Haven (Conn.) the Democratic candidates for city officers were chosen by handsome majorities. Only six weeks since the Know Nothings carried Norwich by three hundred majority. On the 4th of June they were beaten by two hundred votes, showing quite a lively political reaction in that section.

THE GREAT NATIONAL KNOW NOTHING CONVENTION. The Know Nothing Convention was to assemble in Philadelphia on the 5th of June. Two hundred and ten delegates were reported in that city on the day preceding, and every State and Territory is said to be represented. The first day of the session will be as private as possible, but the subsequent session will be held with open doors.

ICE. Those of our citizens who are fond of cool drinks in warm weather will be able to find that greatest of luxuries in warm climates—ice—at the Santa Barbara Exchange, on State street.

In another column will be found a vote of thanks returned by the Riflemen to the officers of the U. S. schooner Ewing, and to the Common Council of this city, for favors shown them on the 4th inst.

CITY ELECTION. The election for Mayor of our city takes place to-day, and we trust that an efficient and competent man may be chosen for the office by our citizens.

## DISTRICT COURT.

Monday, July 9th.

Present—Joaquin Carrillo, Judge.  
Cases passed to the foot of the calendar: Maria de Jesus Olivera de Cota vs. Gregorio Lopez; L. T. Burton and E. C. Robbins vs. Jose Ma. Joaquin; S. B. Brinkerhoff vs. Joaquin Estrada; Joaquin Armat vs. Jose Lorenzano; Ma. A. R. de Poli vs. A. Columbia, passed for the term.

Tuesday, July 10th.  
H. Infanzon vs. Gancheron & Abadie Brothers. Action for work and labor done. Cause tried by jury. Verdict in favor of plaintiff for the sum of \$800 and costs. Atty' for plff, Fernald; Huse for def't.

Wednesday, July 11.  
Francisco Caballero vs. Angelo Pertica. Jury empanelled.  
Court adjourned to Thursday, at 10 A. M.

## U. S. LAND COMMISSION.

July 5th, 1855.

CLAIMS CONFIRMED.  
No. 401. Andres Pico et al, for La Habra, a half square league in Los Angeles county.

No. 378. Eulogio de Celiz, for the ex-Mission of San Fernando, fourteen square leagues in Los Angeles county.

No. 96. Juan Jose Castro and Victor Castro, for a Sobrante, 11 square leagues in Contra Costa county.

No. 176. Andres Castillero, for the island of Santa Cruz, opposite the roadstead of Santa Barbara.

No. 306. Antonia Maria Cota et al, heirs of Tomas Olivera, for Tequesquit, two square leagues in Santa Barbara county.

No. 241. Petronillo Rios, for Paso de Robles, six square leagues in San Luis Obispo county.

No. 170. Henry D. McCobb, for Corral de Tierra, in Monterey county.

No. 697. Rufino Castro et al, for lands near San Juan Bautista.

No. 593. Maria Z. Berrysa et al, for one square league in Santa Clara county, near the Pueblo of San Jose.

## CLAIMS REJECTED.

No. 619. Jose Noriega, for four suertes in Santa Clara county.

No. 37. Gustavio and Jose Ramon Valencia, for 200 varas square at the settlement of Dolores.

CLAIM FOR THE LANDS CONTAINING THE NEW ALMADEN MINE.

In case No. 503, the claim which was confirmed by Commissioner Thompson, includes the New Almaden Quicksilver Mine. The decision, however, does not pass on any new questions of law. There is also another distinct claim on the docket for the mine, which must be decided on its own merits.

CONDITIONAL SALES BY THE GOVERNMENT.—NATURE OF MORTGAGES.

The claim of Eulogio de Celiz to the ex-Mission of San Fernando, referred to above as No. 378, was based upon agreement made by Gov. Pio Pico, on the 17th of June, 1846, in consideration of the payment of \$14,000. The grant contained a clause reserving the right of the Government to annul the same at any time within eight months from the date thereof, by refunding to the grantee the consideration money, together with the usual rate of interest thereon.

Notwithstanding the sale was so conditioned, and the purchase money was to bear interest, Commissioner Farwell decided that the transaction could not be regarded as a mortgage. If the transaction had been between individuals, it would have changed the nature of the grant to that of a mortgage. But to apply the doctrine in this case would be in effect to compel the grantee to remain a mortgagee, without power to foreclose the mortgage against the Government, inasmuch as the Government stands upon its sovereignty, not acknowledging the right of individuals to have their actions of law against it, in cases where provisions are made by special statute.

THE POWERS OF THE PREFECT TO GRANT LANDS.

The claim in No. 619, in the list of those rejected, was based upon a grant purporting to have been issued by Manuel Castro, Prefect of the Second District.

By the Commissioner.—The powers of the Prefect to grant lands are limited within and confined to the common lands within the limits of Pueblos, within their respective districts. In order to constitute a grant valid issued by a Prefect, it must be affirmatively shown that the person was a Prefect, or acted as such at the time, and that the place granted constituted a part of the common lands of some Pueblo within his district. In the absence of proofs to sustain the above propositions, the claim, we are of opinion, that the claim is not entitled to confirmation.

The Board, after disposing of a short motion list, took its usual recess for a week.

## U. S. DISTRICT COURT.

CLAIMS CONFIRMED.

No. 23. Thomas S. Larkin et al, for the Simco Ranch, 11 square leagues in Colusa county. Opinion by Hoffman.

No. 28. Charles D. Semple, for Rancho de Colos, two square leagues on the Sacramento river. Opinion by Hoffman.

No. 34. George C. Yount, for La Jota, one square league in Yuba county. Opinion by Hoffman.

No. 74. Juan Manuel Varet et al, for Las Putas, ten leagues in Solano county. Opinion by McAllister.

No. 7. Augustin Narvaez, for San Juan Bautista, two square leagues in Santa Clara county. Opinion by McAllister.

## THE FREMONT TITLE AGAIN.

The Court heard a short argument on the motion by the District Attorney for an order of appeal from the decree entered in the Fremont case. Mr. Lockwood opposed. The Court reserved its decision as to whether an appeal might be taken.

PACIFIC EXPRESS CO. To Jos. A. Fort, Esq, the attentive messenger of the Pacific Express Co., we are under extreme obligations for an enormous quantity of Atlantic, European, and California papers, by the Sea Bird. The scarcity of news in this portion of the country makes these favors doubly acceptable, and but few of our readers are aware how much they are indebted to our indefatigable express messengers, for the supply of news we furnish them. To the friends of Mr. F. it is unnecessary to commend him, but those who have not yet had an opportunity of testing his ability and versatility as an express messenger, will find that, without invidious comparison, he is at the "head of the heap."

WELLS, FARGO & CO. Mr. Gardner, who has been for some months engaged as the messenger of Wells, Fargo & Co., has placed us under extreme obligation for full files of papers received by the late steamer. Mr. G. is well known on the coast as being ever ready and attentive to his duties as a messenger. Those having occasion to transact any business with the house of Wells, Fargo & Co., or their messenger, Mr. Gardner, will have no opportunity to complain.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. We are especially indebted to J. W. Sullivan, of San Francisco, for full files of papers, including the pictorials received by the late steamer.

## Shipping Intelligence.

SANTA BARBARA, JULY 12, 1855.

### ARRIVED.

July 5th. Steamer Emilie, Russ, 11 days from Mazatlan.

July 8th. Schr Laura Bevan, Morton, 1m San Pedro.

July 9th. Steamer Sea Bird, Haley, 24 days from San Francisco.

### SAILED.

July 5th. Schr Theresa, Campbell, San Francisco.

July 8th. Stmr Emilie, Russ, San Francisco.

July 9th. Schr Laura Bevan, Morton, S Francisco.

Stmr Sea Bird, Haley, San Pedro and San Diego.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

At a meeting of the SANTA BARBARA MOUNTED RIFLEMEN, held on the 7th inst., the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Company be tendered to Captain McRae and Lieut. Stone of the U. S. schooner Ewing, for their kindness and liberality in supplying us with powder on the occasion of the Celebration of the 4th inst.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Company be also tendered the Hon. Common Council of the City of Santa Barbara, for the liberal appropriation made by them for the Celebration of the Fourth.

HENRY CARNES, Captain.  
S. D. JOHNS, Clerk. j12 1

# LA GAZETA.

POR KEEP Y HUBBARD.

SUBSCRIPCIONES. La Gazeta por un año, \$5; por seis meses \$3; invariablemente adelantado.  
AVISOS. Diez líneas o menos, por el primer vez, \$3; cada vez siguiente, \$1.50. Se hará una reducción a los que publiquen los avisos por trimestre.

## AGENTES.

SAN FRANCISCO: Mr. B. Wilcocks, oficina del "Citizen."  
CARPENTERIA: Don Henrique Dally esta el Agente en la Carpentería por recibir suscripciones y avisos por la Gazeta.  
SAN BUENAVENTURA: Don José Ariza será nuestro Agente autorizado en la Misión de San Buenaventura, por recibir suscripciones y avisos.  
LOS ANGELES: Mr. Chas. R. Johnson, Agente por suscripciones y avisos.  
SANTA INEZ: Augustus Jamison.  
SAN LUIS OBISPO: A. Murray.

## SANTA BARBARA.

JUEVES, 12 DE JULIO, 1855.

### NOTICIAS DE MEXICO.

Por el vapor Emilie que llevo en este puerto el 6 de corriente tenemos noticias de Mexico hasta el 9 de Junio, y de los Estados Unidos hasta el 1 del mismo mes.

Las noticias de Europa son hasta el 12 de Mayo.

Publicamos el resumen siguiente de las noticias del *Heraldo* de Mexico.

Sebastopol no ha sido tomado. Los rusos han hecho diferentes salidas y han sido constantemente rechazados. Los aliados reclaman haber adquirido algunas ventajas y haber mejorado su posición. Estos siguen recibiendo refuerzos. Se han perdido enteramente las esperanzas de la paz. Austria se niega a unirse francamente con los aliados. Prusia sigue observando la misma diplomacia que desde el principio de la guerra. Se ha diferido por ahora la salida de Luis Napoleon a Crimea.

Han sido presentados al Parlamento inglés todos los documentos relativos a las conferencias de Viena.

El italiano Pianori, que trató de asesinar al emperador Luis Napoleon, ha sido condenado a muerte.

El vapor "John," que iba de Plymouth a Quebec cargado de emigrados, naufragó y perecieron muchos de aquellos.

En la mañana del 10 de mayo los rusos hicieron una salida con un cuerpo fuerte de tropas, dirigiéndose contra la trinchera mas avanzada de los aliados. Como de costumbre, fueron rechazados, así como en un segundo ataque de la misma especie que verificaron. Dícese que el valor é intrepidez de las tropas empeñadas en esa lucha han sido dignos de la admiración de todos. Parece que la pérdida de los rusos ha sido de bastante consideración.

Un corresponsal del campamento de los aliados, ocupándose del sitio dice que estos avanzan poco a poco contra las fortificaciones de la ciudad, y que si continúan trabajando con la misma constancia, no queda duda que al fin saldrán vencedores.

El general Canrobert ha manifestado que cuando haya recibido los refuerzos suficientes dará mas estension al círculo de sus operaciones, lo cual hace suponer que atacará á los rusos en campo abierto. El mismo general ha escrito á Luis Napoleon con fecha 28 de abril, diciendole que la situación del ejército inglés ha mejorado notablemente, así como el estado de salubridad, y que se hallan cada dia mas de acuerdo con los franceses.

Toda la prensa inglesa reconoce que se han perdido enteramente las esperanzas de ver restablecida la paz, y que no debe esperarse ninguna ayuda de Austria. Los otros países de Europa se manifiestan poco dispuestos en favor de los aliados; así es que Inglaterra y Francia tendrán que sostener solas la lucha. El *Times* de Londres ha publicado sobre el mismo asunto un extenso artículo. El mismo periódico en otro artículo de fondo anuncia á nombre del gobierno que es imposible recorrer los documentos oficiales de la conferencia de Viena sin reconocer que Rusia nunca ha tenido intenciones sinceras de hacer la paz; sin embargo, no falta alguno que piensa de diferente modo. El conde Gray hizo una moción el 21 de abril en la cámara de los lords, para que se dirigiese un mensaje á la reina, en el cual se le manifestara el sentimiento de las negociaciones, expresándole como opinion del Parlamento que las proposiciones de Rusia debían haberse tomado en consideración, sin renunciar á la esperanza de conseguir la paz, con todas las ventajas de los aliados que estos podían racionalmente exigir de Rusia.

Corren rumores de otros cambios ministeriales. Dícese que el almirante Hamelin, ministro de la guerra, ha renunciado, y que será reemplazado por el actual ministro del interior Mr. Villant, Mr. Boucher, ministro de obras públicas, reemplazará al último en el ministerio del interior, y M. Richemond, director del camino de hierro de Orleans, ocupará el ministerio de obras públicas.

Del Báltico se sabe que la flota inglesa se dirige hacia Gothland, segun el hielo se lo permite. Dícese que Francia ha solicitado permiso para establecer un campamento en el territorio sueco; en caso de negativa será ocupada Bomarsund y fortificada por los aliados.

El 10 de mayo salieron tres buques, con el fin de bloquear el Mar Blanco.

El *Standard* de Londres da las siguientes noticias:  
"Se ha sabido por cartas de San Petersburgo una noticia muy extraordinaria, que se tiene de fuentes seguras. Parece que una hermosa fragata americana ha llegado á un puerto del Báltico.  
"Se decía que dicho buque tenía á b. d.

800 balas de algodón; pero el corresponsal de quien nos comunica la noticia ha visitado el buque, encontrado entre el algodón 50,000 fusiles y 6,000 revolvers. Los rusos se burlan de nuestros cruceros por haber dejado escapar una presa tan importante. MM. C. . . , de Boston, eran pasajeros, y se supone que han obrado en calidad de sobrecargo."

Los periódicos ingleses publican la mayor parte de los documentos de la conferencia de Viena, que escitan una viva curiosidad. Lord Palmerston ha eludido responder á la pregunta que se le hizo, de si las conferencias se habían roto definitivamente; pero se dice que los representantes acreditados de todas las potencias, comprendida la Rusia, continuaban residiendo en Viena. Los elementos de la conferencia existen siempre, para el caso en que Rusia ó Austria, en nombre de Rusia; hiciera en alguna época proposiciones que ofrezcan esperanzas de arreglo.

Se ha dirigido una nota rusa á todos los Estados alemanes. Manifiesta que teniendo el Czar confianza en la política que han seguido hasta el dia, se adhirió á la solución dada a los dos primeros puntos de garantías en las conferencias.

La comision de M. Roebuck sigue sus sesiones. Corría el rumor en Berlin de que Austria iba á declarar su neutralidad y la de todos los Estados alemanes.

Segun dice la *Espana* de 26 de abril, tuvo lugar en el real palacio el enlace de la distinguida poetisa doña Gertrudis Gomez de Avellaneda con el comandante de artillería D. Domingo Verdugo. La Sra. marquesa de Santa-Cruz hizo de madrina, en representación de S. M. la reina.

En la sesion del congreso de 2 de mayo, el Sr. Aveilla declaró en nombre del partido democrático, que este no había tenido nunca ningunas relaciones con M. Soule, concernientes a la venta de la isla de Cuba.

Aquí la noticia que mas excitacion ha causado es la derrota de los Know-nothings en las elecciones del Estado de Virginia. El candidato demócrata para gobernador ha sido elegido por una mayoría de 10,000.

Los demas candidatos para el congreso, igualmente demócratas, han sido elegidos tambien, así como los demas empleados de menor consideración. Este resultado se ha celebrado con gran júbilo por el partido demócrata, causando bastante desaliento entre los Know-nothings, que parece habían trabajado mucho para asegurar su victoria en un Estado tan importante; victoria que consideraban tan segura, que la habían comunicado á toda la Union por despacho telegrafico.

### MEXICO.

INDIOS BARBAROS. El comandante del escuadron activo de lanceros de Cerro-Gordo dirigió al gobierno de Durango la siguiente nota:

Exmo. Sr. Tengo el honor de poner en el superior conocimiento de V. E. que en virtud del aviso que participó el Sr. D. Cirilo Jose Elorduy de que los indios habían asaltado a unos pastores del Torreon en el cerro de San Javier, me puse en marcha en su persecucion con cuarenta y cinco hombres de tropa, y a las seis de la tarde del dia 8 del actual llegué al Tascate, y solicitando algunas noticias me aseguró el caporal de aquel punto Antonio Tarin que no habían sufrido los pastores algun asalto de los indios, pues lo que había sucedido era que habiendo tenido el descuido de que se les revolviesen los ganados, tramaron aquella mentira. En tal virtud dispuse contramarchar y que el capitán encargado del detall de este cuerpo D. Jose Murga siguiese con un piquete de tropa en persecucion de de unos desertores que se decía andaban cometiendo algunos excesos en las inmediaciones de la hacienda de Canutillo.

Hoy ha regresado el espresado capitán, manifestandome haber logrado la aprension de Guadalupe Castro, Concepcion Ibarra, Crispin Moreno y Tomas Martinez, los mismos a quienes perseguia, y que les encontró un rifle y una cañana.

Los dos primeros de estos desertores estan incurso en la pena impuesta en el artículo 7º de la ley penal, lo que pongo en conocimiento de V. E. para que se sirva indicarme lo que fuere de su agrado.

Dios y libertad. Cerro-Gordo, mayo 14 de 1855.—Francisco Navarro.—Exmo. Sr. gobernador y comandante general del departamento de Durango.

La prefectura Santiago Papasquiaro ha comunicado lo siguiente:

Dígnese V. S. elevar al conocimiento superior del Exmo. Sr. gobernador del Departamento, que una partida de hombres barbaros sin saberse su verdadero número, se dejó sentir adela te del rancho del Pachon del dia 10 al dia 11 del corriente por la mañana, y en la cuesta conocida con el nombre de la Madre Juana para subir á la sierra, quitaron la vida á Teodoro Gandarilla, y en el punto del Alamito, al pie de lo cuesta, á Pantaleon Soto y Trinidad Leiva, dirigiendose los barbaros por el camino de los minerales de Gavilanes y San Dimas, sin que hasta hoy se sepa cuantas mas desgracias se hayan ocasionado.

Dios y libertad. Santiago Papasquiaro, mayo 15 de 1855.—J. Antonio Diaz.—Sr. secretario del despacho del superior gobierno del Departamento de Durango.

ROBO DE DILIGENCIAS. Las dos diligencias que venian de Toluca á esta capital el sabado 2 del corriente, fueron robadas en el llano de Salazar, por cinco hombres montados. El robo ascendió como á \$2,000. Los pasajeros no fueron maltratados.

Dos años hacia que no se había cometido ningun otro robo semejante desde el último, cuyos autores fueron perseguidos por las autoridades de esta capital, hasta que aprehendidos sufrieron el condigno castigo. No dudamos que el señor gobernador de Toluca y el Sr. Luque, jefe de la policia, desplegaran toda su actividad hasta lograr la captura de los salidores. Si así no sucede, y quedan sin ser castigados, nos esponemos á que vuelvan los desgraciados tiempos en que continuamente eran víctimas las personas que transitaban por nuestros caminos.

### HISTORIA DE LA ANTIGUA O BAJA CALIFORNIA.

Por el Padre Francisco Javier Clavijero. Traducida del Italiano, por el Presbítero Don Meolas Garcide San Vicente.

#### CAPITULO VII.

Pocas son las plantas utiles por sus hojas ó sus ramas. Cerca de los torrentes y arroyos abunda la salvia, y tambien los juncos y estoques, cuyos tallos y raíces comen los californios, y con las hojas hacen esteras desde que se les enseñó á hacerlas. Cuando llueve en el estio abundan las verdolagas; pero de ellas no comen los indios mas que la semilla. El estafiate, ó sea el ajeno de los mejicanos, se da copiosamente en los campos cultivados; pero si nace en ellos, como sue, el trebol, le sofoca con el trigo.

El orejano de la California no se parece al verdadero sino un poco en el olor. Es un arbusto que se da en los llanos secos, y crece hasta la altura de casi cuatro pies: sus hojas son chicas y de un verde heroso, y se usa de ellas en lugar del verdadero orejano para condimentar las viandas. Se dice que es muy sabrosa la carne de las reses que se alimentan con esta planta.

El tabaco nace espontaneamente en varios lugares de aquella peninsula, y los indios se sirven de él para fumar.

Los jesuitas llevaron á ella lechugas, coles, endivia y otras plantas semejantes, que han prevalecido en los lugares donde son cultivadas.

#### CAPITULO VIII.

De los arboles que suministran madera para fabrica y labrar, ó al menos leña, hay *guaribos*, pinos, encinos, palmas, madreños, alamos y otros socos; y de las plantas cuyo sirve para comer, ó se aplica á otros usos utiles á la vida, hay *mezcal*, *batamote*, *nomo* y otros en cierto numero.

El *guaribo*, arbol del mas grande de la California, es tan semejante al alamo, que á primera vista no pueda distinguirse de él; sin embargo, es bien diferente en la calidad de la madera, la cual es muy buena para vigas y para toda clase de labor. La desgracia es que este arbol no se halla sino en pocos lugares escabrosos y casi inaccesibles, como sucede tambien con los sinos en la parte austral.

Las palmas rojas de aquellos montes son allí apreciadas por su madera roja y fuerte; pero esta es tan delgada, que apenas tiene ocho dedos de diametro, de suerte que para sacar vigas de la palma es necesario aprovechar el tronco entero con su corteza, la cual es, como en las otras palmas, de color gris. De estas hay á mas de la de cocos y de la de datiles, otros dos especies, la una de maderita blanca, menos fuerte que la roja, y mas facil de apollillarse, y la otra apenas tiene debajo de la corteza dos ó tres dedos de maderita sólida, y dentro de esta una medula ligera y fofo de cuatro dedos de diametro. Antes que los españoles entrasen en la California había en ella muchos y hermosos palmares, porque los indios no hacían de ellos ningun uso; pero despues que por el trato con los habitantes de Sinaloa aprendieron á comer los retoños de las palmas y los españoles comenzaron á sacar de ellas madera para fabricar, se exterminaron algunos de aquellos palmares. Los retoños son, tanto para los indios como para los españoles, una comida deliciosa; pero al mismo tiempo despensioso, porque las palmas se secan luego que se les cortan.

Dos especies de acacias hay en la peninsula, diversas en el tamaño del arbol y en la calidad de su fruto: la de fruto amargo es grande y nativa de la California; la de fruto dulce es mas pequeña y extranjera. Los indios comen este fruto y los animales el otro, del cual, así como tambien de las ramas, gustan mucho los caballos, las ovejas y las cabras. Las dos acacias dan unas veinas largas, tienen el tronco y las ramas tortuosos, su madera es muy propia para las partes curvas de un navio, y sus retoños, machacados y aplicados á los ojos, se creen eficaces contra la oftalmia. Este arbol abunda en los planios estrechos que hay entre los montes y la costa del golfo. Los cochimies le llaman *guatro*, los mejicanos *mizquill* y los españoles *mezquite*.

El *palo chino*, así llamado por los españoles no se por que, es un arbol nativo de la parte austral de la peninsula, grande y recto; sus hojas son pequeñas y de un verde que tira á conciento, la corteza de su tronco y ramas gris, y su madera roja y propia para labrarse; pero pierde el color cuando se maja ó con solo el discurso del tiempo. En la parte setentrional hay otro arbol que tambien es conocido con el nombre de *palo chino*, el cual tiene la madera blanca y facil de apollillarse, y no da ningun fruto comible.

El *ghokio*, llamado palo blanco por los españoles á causa del color de su corteza, es un arbol de mediana altura, poco fallaje y muy pocas ramas que se da cerca de los torrentes. Su madera es tambien blanca al principio; pero en llegando á cierta edad, la parte mas interna del tronco llega á ponerse casi negra y muy fuerte y dura. De ella solían hacer los neofitos algunas piezas

que parecían de ebano, curiosamente trabajadas y embutidas de concha.

La *uña de gato* es un arbol leguminoso, cuyas hojas son chicas y angostas y de color verde que tira á blanco y da su fruto en vainas. Sus ramas estan erizadas de espinas curvas semejantes á las uñas de los gatos, por cuyo motivo se le dio este nombre, con el cual es conocido en todo Mejico. La parte mas interna del tronco, ó sea la medula, se pone tambien negra, con algunas listas amarillas que la hermocean; y como por otra parte es dura y pesada, hacen de ella piezas trabajadas á torno. Mas si el arbol se deja crecer hasta cierta edad, se le consume aquella medula de modo que queda hueco.

El *mangle*, aunque no es arbol muy grande, extiende mucho sus ramas horizontalmente, de modo que algunas tocan el suelo. Sus hojas son chicas, oblongas, recortadas, lisas y de un verde claro muy agradable, y su madera dura, y se usa de ella para remos. Los mangles se dan cerca de las costas, con tal que el terreno no sea arenoso.

El *corcho* es un arbolito que vive en los planios que hay al pie de los montes, en donde se le ve por lo comun sin hojas; pero á pesar de eso forma un bellissimo ramillete de flores de un color de purpura muy vivo. Su tronco cuando seco se vuelve tan ligero y fofo como la corteza del alcornoque, y por eso se le dio el nombre de corcho. Con él forman los indios las balsas en que van á pescar, como despues diremos; y sirve tambien en lugar de la corteza del alcornoque, y aun mejor que ella, para tapar botellas y otras vasos.

El *nomo*, es un arbusto de tallos largos, rectos, flexibles, de corteza blanquiza y por lo comun desnudos. Solo cuando llueve se ven de unas hojas mas anchas que largas; pero apenas pasa un mes despues de la lluvia, cuando vuelven á quedar desnudos. De esta planta no se hace ningun uso en la California; pero podrían ser utiles sus tallos, tanto para hacer costos como para la tintura, porque contienen un humor de color de sangre que tñe tan tenazmente los lienzos, que por mucho que se laven no puede quitarseles del todo la mancha. ¿Que sería si aquel jugo estuviera convenientemente preparado?

Hay otro arbusto (de cuyo nombre no se acuerda el autor de los manuscritos de que nos servimos) semejante al *nomo* en la flexibilidad de sus tallos y en la carencia de hojas; pero mas util á los indios, porque hacen de él los especíes de utensilios muy usuales entre ellos, esto es, ciertas conchas y escudillas de que hablaremos despues.

El *batamote* es otro arbusto que nace en las orillas de algunos torrentes, y tiene los tallos rectos y de tres ó cuatro pies de longitud, y las hojas largas y agudas, pero muy delicadas y de un verde muy fino. Esta planta es eficaz para restituir el movimiento á los miembros tullidos, bañandolos con el cocimiento de sus tallos, ó dando frías á las coyunturas con los mismos tallos asados, y poniendolos despues un emplastro de ellos.

En algunos partes se dan cerca de los torrentes cañaveras chicas y del grueso del dedo pequeño, ó cuando mas como el indice, de las cuales escogen las indias las mas delgadas para sus vestidos, como adelante diremos. Esta cañita es en la California la unica planta en que se ve que el mana, sustancia dulcisima y blanquecina, que los cochimies llaman *cadese*, esto es, zumo de caña. El mismo nombre dieron á la azucar cuando la conocieron y probaron, en lo que se ve que, aunque barbaros, pensaron acerca del origen del mana mejor que nuestros antiguos filósofos, que le tuvieron por rocío. Al presente hay en la peninsula cañaveras gruesas llevadas de otros países.

La planta mas apreciada por los indios á causa de su tallo, es el *mezcal*, planta del genero de los aloes, semejante al magney en el modo de echar el tallo y las flores; pero mas pequeña, mas espinosa y de un verde mas intenso. Cuando se le deja crecer echa, como el magney, un tallo recto, del grueso del brazo de un hombre y de diez á quince pies de largo, y en su extremidad unos racimos de flores amarillas, y despues el fruto. Estas flores estan llenas de un humor demasiado dulce pero desagradable, y es tanto el que tienen, que los indios recogen una cantidad excesiva de él para alimentarse. El *mezcal* que ha crecido hasta este punto, no sirve ya mas que para multiplicar las plantas de su especie, produciendolas, ó de sus raíces ó de su semilla esparcida al rededor; pero los indios no le dejan crecer, sino que luego que las hojas interiores comienzan á separarse del centro, le cortan el tallo cuando tiene apenas dos pies de altura, y reuniendo varios trozos de este porte, los llevan á su habitación. Hacen despues en el suelo un hoyo en el cual encienden lumbre y meten algunas piedras; y cuando la leña se ha consumido y las piedras estan inflamadas, ponen entre ellas los trozos de *mezcal*, los cubren bien con tierra, y los dejan allí hasta pasadas veinticuatro, treinta ó treinta y seis horas. Este modo de cocer el *mezcal* y otras viandas, llamado por los mejicanos *tlamati*, está en uso entre los barbaros chichimecos desde antes que fuesen sojuzgados por los españoles. Cocido el *mezcal* de esta manera, adquiere un sabor dulce y agradable, y era el principal alimento de los californios desde octubre hasta abril, tiempo en que son muy escasas las frutas silvestres con que solían alimentarse. No es esta la unica utilidad que sacan de aquella planta, pues de sus peneas extraen hilo para hacer aquellas redes que les sirven en lugar de sacos, espaldas y cestos para llevar á cuestas cuanto quieren. Por lo regular no se da el *mezcal* sino en los montes y colinas; le hay de varias especies, de las cuales algunas tienen el zumo

amargo, y otras causan dolor de estomago. Un misionero hizo transplantar allí mezeales de la Nueva Galicia, que son mas grandes, y mejores que ninguna de las especies, de la California. En algunos lugares de Mejico extraen del *mezcal* un aguardiente, que aunque á primera vista parece agua natural, es muy fuerte: algunos le toman para embriagarse y otros por medicina, pues se tiene por diuretica y bueno para el estomago.

1 Actualmente se le da en Mejico el nombre de *barbacoa*, y es muy usado. E. T.

### CORTE DE DISTRITO.

LUNES, 9 de Julio 1845.  
Pleitos traspasado al pied de Calendario:  
Maria Jesus Olivera de Cota vs. Gregorio Lopez.  
L. T. Burton y E. C. Robbins vs. Jose Ma. Covarrubias.  
S. B. Brinkerhoff vs. Joaquin Estrada.  
Joaquin Armart vs. Jose Lorenzana.  
M. A. R. de Poli vs. A. Colombo, pasado por el termino.

MARTES, 10 de Julio.  
R. Lafontaine vs. Gancheron y Abadee Hermanos.  
Fayo por el mandante por \$800 y los cuestras.  
MERCORES, 11 de Julio.  
Francisco Cabelleri vs. Angelo Portica.

COMISION DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS, PARA LA APROBACION DE LOS TITULOS DE TERRENOS. 5 de Julio 1855.

APROBADO.  
No. 401. Andres Pico et al, por La Hebra, medio legua en el condado de Los Angeles.  
No. 378. Eulogio de Celis, por ex-Mision de San Fernando, 14 leguas cuadradas en el condado de Contra Costa.  
No. 366. Juan Jose Castro y Victor Castro, por El Sobrante, 11 leguas en el condado de Santa Cruz.  
No. 176. Andres Castillero, por la Isla de Santa Cruz.  
No. 206. Antonia Maria Cota et al, herederos de Tomas Olivera, por "Teguquet," 2 leguas cuadradas en el condado de Santa Barbara.  
No. 170. Henry D. McCobb et al, por El Coral de Tierra, en el condado de Monterey.  
No. 607. Rufina Castro et al, por terrenos cerca San Juan Bautista.  
No. 503. Maria Z. Berreyesa, por una legua cuadrada en el condado de Santa Clara.

DESAPROBADO.  
No. 619. Jose Noriega, por cuatro suertes en el condado de Santa Clara.  
No. 33. Gustavio y Ramon Valencia, por 300 varas. Dolores.

CORTE DEL DISTRITO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

APROBADO.  
No. 23. Thos. O. Larkin et al, por Simeno, 11 leguas cuadradas en el condado de Colusa.  
No. 22. Carlos D. Temple, por el Rancho de Colus, dos leguas cuadradas Rio Sacramento.  
No. 34. Jorge C. Yont, por la Jota, una legua en el condado de Napa.  
No. 74. Juan Manuel Vara et al, por Las Patas, 10 leguas en el condado de Solano.  
No. 7. Augustin Narvaez, por San Juan Bautista, 2 leguas en el condado de Santa Clara.

### Avisos.

#### AVISO ELECTORAL.

UNA ELECCION TENDRA LUGAR EL DIA 12 de Julio, proximo, para elegir un Mayor de esta ciudad, para llenar la vacante ocasionada por la renuncia de Don Pablo de la Guerra.  
La urna de votos se abrirá en el corredor de la casa de Doña Joaquina Alvarado á las 8 de mañana y quedará abierta hasta ponerse el sol.  
Las personas siguientes se han nombrado oficiales de dicha eleccion:  
Inspector—JOAQUIN DE LA GUERRA.  
Jueces—DAVID B. STREKETT,  
JUAN M. FARRAGAT.  
Por orden de Concejo:  
VALENTIN W. HEARNE, Secretario.  
Santa Barbara, Junio 19 de 1855. jy 5 2t

### A VENTA.

EL QUE SUSCRIBE ofrece a vender un RANCHO, que contiene tres sitios de ganado mayor, y situado cerca la Misión de San Miguel en el condado de San Luis Obispo, con la mitad de las tenencias de la Misión. Los terrenos tienen suficiente de agua y muchas robles y son adaptado por ganado. El Rancho está cruzado por el Rio Salinas. El título ha sido confirmado por los Comisionados de los Estados Unidos. Ocurrirá al Señor W. J. GRAVES, o al sucesor en San Luis Obispo. JOHN WILSON.  
San Luis Obispo, 2 de Julio, 1855. jy 5f

BILLAR NOMBRADO DE OREÑA. El que suscribe pone en conocimiento del publico haberse separado de la compañía de este establecimiento JOAQUIN ARMADA, y quedando el solo cree; servir á las personas que se dignen honorarlo con su existencia con el mayor esmero facilitandoles el mejor surtido de lo que se expone en el mencionado Billar. ANTONIO LANDIN.  
Santa Barbara, Junio 26 de 1855.

#### BOTICA DE SANTA BARBARA.

EL QUE SUSCRIBE ofrece al pueblo de Santa Barbara un surtido completo de toda clase de medicinas a precios muy equitativos. Tambien siempre habrá un surtido de los medicamentos del pais, &c., &c., y remedios de todas clases para curar caballos. Ocurrán a la Botica en la calle del Estado.  
BENIGNO GUERRAZCUT,  
Boticario y Farmaceutico.

WASHINGTON STORE,  
TIENDA DE WASHINGTON,  
En el centro de Santa Barbara, calle del Canon perdido.

EN ESTE ALMACEN HAY SIEMPRE UN surtido completo a precios muy equitativos, de  
Ropachea; Abarrotes,  
Calzado; Licores,  
Tijidos; Efectos de toda clase,  
Mercaderia; Vinos,  
Quincalleria; Silleria,  
Muebles; Baquetas,  
Arados; Espaldas,  
Frenos.

Por todos los vapores recibimos mercancías nuevas. Compramos tambien REPOS por mercancías.  
GERONIMO GAUCHERON y ABADIE HERMANOS.  
my 24 3m

LOS SUSCRITORES TIENEN EL HONOR de poder en conocimiento al pueblo de Santa Barbara y condado que siempre hay en su almacén un surtido de mercancías de la mas fina clase como los siguientes.  
Ropachea,  
Zapatos, Botas,  
Abarrotes,  
Licores,  
Efectos de toda clase.

Nosotros podemos vender nuestros generos mas barato que cualquier otro tienda y suplicamos a los compradores que vengán acá antes de ocurrir a ninguna otra parte.  
my 24 3t  
BAUMAN Y Ca.

GUILLERMO HECHT,  
GENEROS FINOS PARA SENORAS Y VESTIMIENTO DE HOMBRES.

EL ABAJO FIRMADO ACABA DE RECIBIR por el ultimo vapor, un surtido completo de los efectos designados incluyendo Botas y Zapatos. Los que quisiesen comprar harán bien de ocurrir á su almacén antes de comprar en otra parte. my 24 1y

EN VENTA.  
SACATE POR MAYOR Y MENOR.  
Ocurrirá á LUTHER FERNALD.

#### CALESAS.

EL QUE SUSCRIBE ACABA DE RECIBIR de Nueva York, CALESAS y CARRIETAS de la mas fina clase, los que ofrecen a precios muy equitativos. Tambien, habrá siempre un surtido de pinta y llantas y de todas cosas pertenecientes a las Carretas.  
WM. S. THOMPSON,  
Calle de Market,  
entre las calles de Montgomery y Kearny,  
San Francisco.  
my 24 3m

