

Congressional Proceedings.

WASHINGTON Dec. 8, 1848.

The weather to-day is very unseasonable—more like July than December. Mr. Douglass, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Territories, I learn, will introduce his California and Territorial bills on Monday—certainly the former of these. Many of the Washington correspondents have mistaken, in some important point, the features of the proposed bills, last referred to, for the admission of California, as a State, into the Union. A careful perusal enables me to say, that, if it shall become a law, in its present shape, it will include within its boundaries all territory acquired by the late treaty with Mexico—New Mexico as well as California.

Mr. Duffless, I understand, when he gave notice of this important bill, intended to include only California. Since then, for reasons deemed invulnerable, he has concluded to include New Mexico.

The permanent boundary of the new State, will be the Sierra Madre, or California mountains, and the coast from the boundary of Oregon north to Lower California, south—but until other States shall have been formed from the territory not included within this permanent boundary also will constitute part and parcel of the State of California.

This new State, it is proposed, to divide into two judicial districts—the eastern and the western—with two distinct judges, attorneys, &c.—one of these in the eastern, (New Mexico,) and the other in the western, (California)—these courts to be held annually. In addition to two United States Senators, it is proposed two representative in Congress—one from the east and the other from the west.

By uniting California and New Mexico, at this time, as one State, it is believed the interest of both will be promoted. California would always be the "big-card" of such an union and her representatives, from the inevitable direction of emigration would always have the preponderance in the legislature.

The representatives from California, in that legislature would always be American—those from New Mexico, Mexican. This union of the two in one State, therefore, would give to the inhabitants of New Mexico time to study the character of our institution before other States were formed from territory lying east of the Sierra Madre.

Another difficulty would also be overcome by this "Union"—that in regard to the requisite population for the admission of a new State into the federal union. The two territories would contain that requisite population.

The territorial bills for Minnesota and Nebraska will contain no provisions in regard to slavery. In the former, slavery is now prohibited, in one half, by the ordinance of 1787, and in the other half, by the 8th section of the Missouri compromise Act in Nebraska slavery is now excluded altogether by the terms of the Missouri Compromise.

December 10.

After some unimportant business in the Senate, Mr. Benton rose and presented a petition, received by himself and the Senator from Delaware, (Mr. Clayton) from a convention of the people of New Mexico, signed by the President and Secretary of that Convention, and dated Santa Fe, Nov. 14, 1848, addressed to the Congress of the United States, and praying that a Territorial Government, purely civil in its character may be provided for them. The petitioners state that the law in force in September, 1848 would be acceptable to them—protest against dismemberment, in favor of Texas, or in any other manner—and express their opposition to the introduction of slavery. The conclude with the remark that as the territory now contains from 75,000 to 100,000 inhabitants, they trust that their prayer may not be deemed unreasonable. [A printed copy of the laws referred to accompany the memorial.] Mr. Benton moved that the petition be referred to the Territorial Committee, and printed.

Mr. Calhoun said he should vote against the reception, for the reasons stated heretofore, and because of the reasons now assigned by the Senators from Florida and Mississippi.

The question was then taken, by yeas and nays, and the memorial received, 33 to 14, as follows: AYES—Messrs. Allen, Atchison, Atherton, Badger, Baldwin, Benton, Braddy, Brees, Butler, Cameron, Clarke, Clayton, Corwin, Dayton, Dickinson, Dix, Dodge, Douglass, Felch, Fitzgerald, Hale, Hamlin, Johnson of Md., Johnson, of La., Metcalfe, Miller, Niles, Pearce, Spruance, Sturgeon, Underwood, Upham, Walker—33.

NAYS—Messrs. Berrien, Borland, Calhoun, Davis of Mississippi, Downs, Fitzpatrick, Foote, Houston, Hunter, King, Rusk, Turney, Westcott, Yulee—14.

It was then referred to the committee on territories, and ordered to be printed.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Sun.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

Important action of the Government in Reference to the Gold Region.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.

GENTS.—It is rumored, and I have every reason to believe that the rumor is true that the Government in Cabinet Council on Saturday last, decided to send immediately a number of small vessels of war, brigs and schooners, to enforce an embargo upon all merchant vessels going into the harbors of Monterey, San Francisco and other parts on the coast of California, requiring them to come under bonds not to receive on board for transportation, any part of the Gold ore dug from the public lands or mines on the Sacramento or other parts of the Gold region in Alta California.

This decision has been come to doubtless, to prevent European vessels, as well as those of South America, from transporting vast quantities of the Gold ore to be coined in foreign mints without paying the rightful tax or per centage to the Government of the United States. This prompt action of the Government will have the effect to secure the greater part

of the ore for our mints, and followed up by the establishment of a mint in California and the organization of an efficient revenue department, will prevent the drain of millions which would otherwise ensue. The Government is fully awake to the importance of the Gold region, and the Cabinet undoubtedly regret that a mint for California was not acted upon at the last session, before the close of which they had an inkling at the Gold region. A State Government will undoubtedly be at once organized in California, and the mines taken possession of by the United States troops. The fiscal methods for securing the mining regions to the Government have not yet been decided on.

The opinion of all intelligent men here is, that we must have a Railroad from the Mississippi to the Pacific at once, and that the building of it can be readily accomplished within five years, if we strike now, while the iron is hot. Messrs. Howland and Aspinwall, and Stevens of your city, have a bill for a route across the Isthmus of Panama, asking mail contracts for twenty years and other monopolies, but Congress will probably reject it in favor of a road on our own soil. There is no doubt about the gold. I have seen pounds of it at the Patent Office, brought over by a government officer. It is the greatest gold discovery on record, and will make the United States the richest nation on earth, if we lay it out in great internal works. Truly, SENECA.

From the Correspondence of the Mercury.

WASHINGTON Dec. 13, 1848.

The slavery question has been the principal topic in the House to-day—the topic debate in the Senate, and of action in the House.

The hall was opened in the Senate by Mr. Benton, who presented a memorial from New Mexico, asking for the establishment of civil government, the exclusion of slavery, and the non-mutilation of their territory by incorporating any portion of it with Texas. He thought this was a very reasonable, and proper, and pertinent petition, and that it ought to be referred to the Committee on Territories.

Mr. Calhoun, on the other hand, thought it was an insolent and unreasonable petition, and that it came under the class of Abolition petitions, the question of receiving which had always been laid on the table in the Senate, and hoped that course would be pursued with this.

Heteupon arose a very spirited and somewhat tart debate, wherein Messrs. Benton, Calhoun, Westcott, Berrien, Foote, Clayton, and Hale participated, and which was finally terminated by the reception of the petition, by a vote of 33 to 14 nays, and its reference to the Committee on Territories.

It is said that President Polk and his accomplished lady will pass through your city on his way home, after he has laid down the honors, of the Presidency. I am sure the people of Charleston will be glad of the opportunity of taking by the hand one who has been so faithful to the South, so true to Democracy. His Administration has been more truly Republican in its policy than any Administration since the days of Jefferson, and has closed with brilliancy unsurpassed by any of his predecessors. That he has been reviled and denounced; is most true, but so was Washington, so was Jefferson, so will any man be who does his duty, and is true to the Constitution. President Polk is probably more hated by the Federal party than any man who ever entered the Presidency, excepting Jefferson. The reason is obvious. Jefferson first laid down the principles of the Democratic party, and Polk has sustained and approved them, with most entireness.

December 18.

In the Senate, memorials were presented asking aid for the construction of a Railroad and line of Magnetic Telegraph from the Mississippi to the Pacific.

On motion by Mr. Douglass, the bill for the admission of California as a State into the Union was taken up, and he moved its reference to the Committee on Territories.

Mr. Berrien moved that it be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. An interesting debate ensued in which Messrs. Berrien, Douglass, Butler, Yulee, Bright, Westcott, and Niles participated, when the question was taken on the motion of Mr. Douglass to refer the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The importance of this result is derived from the fact that the Committee on the Territories consists of four members from the Free States, and but one from the Slave States; whereas the Committee on the Judiciary has a majority from the Slave States.

The President this day transmitted to the Senate the nomination of Hen A. H. Sevier as Commissioner, and A. B. Gray, as Surveyor, to run the Boundary line between Mexico and United States.

THE ISTHMS OF DARIN.—As this is the most direct route to California and as the United States Mail Steamers will soon form a monthly line from New York to San Francisco via Chagres and Panama, we have made some inquiry in relation to the journey across the isthmus. The whole distance is sixty miles, forty of which is up the Chagres river, and is performed in canoes, the balance of twenty miles is made on mules—the whole journey takes about two days. We understand that the steam boat Orus has been purchased at this port, and will be placed permanently on the Chagres river in connection with the mail steamers, and thus will reduce the journey time across to sea to ten hours.—N. Y. Express.

A DELICATE HINT.—The Secretary of the Navy recently received a letter, in a lady's hand-writing, which enclosed the announcement, cut from a newspaper, of the marriage of a young officer in the Navy, and a reference to the twenty-fourth chapter of Deuteronomy, and the fifteen verse, which is as follows

"When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business; but he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken." Very delicately done. It is doubtful if the Secretary can get over Scripture.

From the Daily Telegraph.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

COLUMBIA, Dec 18.

The Senate was occupied during its morning session with the transaction of business of an unimportant character.

The Senate adjourned at 3 o'clock to participate in the funeral solemnities in honor of the late James A. Black.

In the House, the third reading of the Appropriation Bill consumed most of the morning session, which gave rise to some discussion on certain appropriations therein contained.

The proceedings of the session of the night preceding, were rendered nugatory on one fell swoop, by the abrogation of the appropriations made for sundry Court Houses and Jails on that occasion by the efforts and eloquence of the members representing the interests of the Districts for which they were intended.

Mr. Memminger, as Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, rose on the first reading of the Bill, and declared if those amendments were adopted, the appropriations for the next year, would create a deficit in the Treasury of \$31,000, and suggested the propriety of lopping off some of the more recent appropriations, so as to make the liberality of the State commensurate with its means. The propriety and force of this suggestion were so obvious, that the House reconsidered its previous action, and withdrew the appropriations for the construction or improvement of Court Houses at Edgefield, Newberry, and Marlborough, as well as for the Marion Jail, which reduced the sum appropriated, to a reasonable limit.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, the House adjourned.

From the Daily Telegraph.

LIST OF ACTS.

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE AT ITS SESSION OF 1848.

- 1. An Act to incorporate the King's Mountain Rail Road Company.
2. An Act to incorporate the Laurel Falls Manufacturing Company.
3. An Act to abolish the office of Superintendent of Public Works, and for other purposes.
4. An Act to confirm a grant to James M. Harris, which by mistake was issued to Jas. W. Harris.
5. An Act to aid in the construction of the Wilmington and Manchester Rail Road Company.
6. An Act to incorporate the town of Winnsboro'.
7. An Act to afford aid in constructing the Rail Roads from Columbia to Greenville and Charlotte.
8. An Act to authorize and empower the Commissioners of Free Schools, of the Parishes of St. Philip's and St. Michael's, to raise a fund, for the building of school houses and for other purposes.
9. An Act to amend an Act, entitled "an Act more effectually to prevent free negroes and other persons of color from entering into this State, and for other purposes," passed 19th December, 1835.
10. An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to grant the use of a vacant lot in the Town of Columbia, to Palmetto Lodge No. 3, of the Independent Order of Old Fellows.
11. An Act to declare Polk Swamp in St. George's Parish, a navigable stream.
12. An Act to establish the allowance of days of grace, upon bills of Exchange.
13. An Act to vest the right and title of the State in and to the estate of Elizabeth Kerr, deceased, in Hamilton Boland.
14. An Act to alter the sittings of the Courts of Equity in the third Circuit, and to establish a Court of Equity in Marlborough District.
15. An Act to authorize the United States to purchase a sufficient quantity of land in this State, for the erection of a Custom house and for other purposes.
16. An Act to raise supplies for the year, commencing in October 1848.
17. An Act to incorporate certain Societies and Companies, and to renew certain charters heretofore granted.
18. An Act to amend the charters of the Spartauburg and Union Rail Road Company.
19. An Act to authorize the admission of persons of color into the Lunatic Asylum and for other purposes.
20. An Act to incorporate the Greenville Rail Road Company.
21. An Act to amend an Act, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Laurens Rail Road Company.
22. An Act to incorporate the Keowee Turnpike Company.
23. An Act to amend the law in relation to the education of the deaf, dumb and blind children of this State.
24. An Act directing the Census to be taken of the free white inhabitants of this State.
25. An Act to provide for a special election for Tax Collector, for Laurens District.
26. An Act to provide for funding of the debt of the South Carolina Rail Road Company to the State.
27. An Act to establish certain Roads, Bridges and Ferries.
28. An Act to produce conformity in the charters granted to the Charlotte and South Carolina Rail Road Company, by the States of North and South Carolina.
29. An Act to increase the powers of the Town Council of Columbia.
30. An Act to make appropriations for the year, commencing in October, 1848.
31. An Act to incorporate the Bradford Springs Female Institution, &c.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF SOUTH CAROLINA.—Both branches of the Legislature adjourned on the 20th, after a session of 24 days.

The Bank.—The following Joint Committees have been appointed by the Legislature to examine into the condition of the Bank and branches during the recess of that body: For the Parent Bank—Messrs. Mazyck and Marshall of the Senate; and Messrs. F. D. Richardson, B. J. Johnson, Charles Macbeth, of the House.

For the Columbia Branch.—Messrs. Gist and Caldwell of the Senate; and Messrs. John S. Preston, E. P. Smith, and W. A. Owens, of the House.

For the Camden Branch.—Messrs. I. D. Wilson and Barnes, of the Senate; and Messrs. G. W. Williams, J. B. Witherpoon, and James Cantey, of the House,

From the Charleston Courier.

ARRIVAL OF THE CANADA.

LATER FROM ENGLAND.

POLITICAL NEWS.—At a late hour a second dispatch came to hand, giving us the heads of the political intelligence furnished by the Canada.

FRANCE.—The state of affairs in this country remain unchanged, in any important degree, from what they were when the previous steamer left.

La Martiniere has again been brought forward as a candidate for the Presidency of the French Republic.

The French funds rose on Thursday, 23d ult., on account of the probability that one of the Presidential candidates would receive two million of votes, the number necessary to elect. In this event the Assembly would elect General Cavaignac.

The movements of the red republicans and socialists are closely watched, and much fun entertained as to their effect. Gen. Cavaignac is urgent to present and adopt a law forcing the closing of the clubs and the government declined. Great excitement prevailed in Paris, on account of fears of another insurrectionary movement.

CONTINENTAL AFFAIRS.—The indications are that it is about the beginning rather than the end of the general struggle between the Ministry and the Democracy. Each are convinced that the sword must be the only arbiter. Berlin and Vienna are both ripe for revolt. Efforts were making on the part of the people to secure the Constitution, and restrain monarchical power. The King, meanwhile, was concentrating all the available military forces to sustain his power and authority.

The Prince of Prussia makes the declaration that if the throne must fall that it shall fall with honor. There is a slumbering insurrectionary feeling existing, which the most trivial act would awaken into fearful energy.

CHINA.—By the overland mail we have advices from Hong Kong to the 25th September. The overland Friend of China notices a disagreement between the Imperial Commissioner at Canton and Mr. Davis, the American Commissioner there.

Moore specific details are contained in a postscript to the following letter from Canton, (dated the 27th September,) to the editor of the Straits Times at Singapore: CANTON, Sept. 27.

The new Governor of Canton, who affects a supercilious bearing towards all foreigners, and refused some months ago to grant an interview to the Spanish ambassador, has contrived to get into an awful squabble with the Minister of the United States. For some time the Governor refused to fix a day for receiving Mr. Davis, and when he at last appointed one, he did so while that gentleman was absent at Meaco.

Mr. Davis, as soon as the intimation was conveyed to him, sent word that he would wait on his Excellency at the time appointed, and left Meaco without delay, but was retarded in his progress up the river by contrary winds, and reached Canton a day too late. He sent an explanation and expression of his regret to the Governor, (Seu,) requesting that another day might be fixed.

To this application an answer was returned of so insolent a tenor, that Mr. Davis deemed it inadmissible, and returned it with a note to the following effect:—"I shall wait a few days more for an apology, and if that is withheld, it remains for me to decide whether at once to blockade the river or to proceed to the northward to see what I can do there.—The Plymouth and Preble (ships-of-war) now here, and the Ohio, line-of-battle-ship, the Dolphin, 10 gun brig, and the Princeton, steamer, shortly expected, afford ample means to enforce my demands."

VIENNA.—The city is partially tranquil. It has passed through an awful crisis. The details furnished by English residents are terrible.

Wesselausser, the Commandant of Vienna was shot on the 15th ult. The accounts of executions in the streets of Vienna, are confined, and caused great excitement.

BERLIN.—The complete state of siege is maintained, and the people subjected to martial law, but no blood has yet been shed by Gen. Wrangel.

The Diet has been again and again dispersed at Brossau and other towns. Gen. Wrangel steadily follows up his determination to break up the Burger Guards. In the mean time deputations have been borne back and forward begging the King to retract his steps.

PRUSSIA.—It is supposed the King will grant a Constitution similar to that of Belgium, which is highly liberal. Dusseldorf was declared in a state of siege on the 22d ult. The civic guards were ordered to give up their arms, and troops occupied the city.

Another conspiracy has been detected in Lisbon, and those engaged in it were punished.

Turkey is all tranquil, nothing of moment transpiring.

AN INTERESTING ENTERPRISE.—We are happy to learn that a new and important experiment has been commenced in this vicinity, which, in its results, may prove advantageous to the upper country of this State, than any enterprise hitherto attempted. We allude to the cultivation of the Tea Plant. A gentleman is now on a visit to this place for the purpose of testing the adaptation of our soil and climate to the production of Tea, and has but little doubt of succeeding. He has brought on 500 plants and a box of seed, and is preparing the ground for their reception. He is an intelligent and enterprising man, and we need scarcely remark that we wish him ample success in his undertaking.—Greenville Mountaineer.

RE CHARTER OF THE BRIDGE.—In the Road and Ferry Bill passed at the late Session, were two clauses, granting the charter of the Augusta Bridge, which expired on the 18th instant, to Henry Shultz, and John McKinney.

We understand that Mr. Shultz has obtained a twelve pounder, and intends firing off a salute from Shultz's Hill, at Hamburg, in honor of his success in obtaining this re-charter.

The great benefits which have accrued to this State from the energy of the Founder of Hamburg, have entitled him to the thanks of all, who have so largely benefited by it.—Telegraph.



The Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD C. H.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27 1848

A PROPOSITION.

We propose to all our Subscribers who will obtain us one additional Subscriber, or before the commencement of our new volume in February next, to reduce the subscription of our paper to TWO DOLLAR per annum. Will our friends accept our offer? We also propose to procure new Type and enlarge our paper if our patronage should warrant it.

Some original articles are postponed for the want of room.

Extraordinary spell of Weather.—For some weeks past, the weather has been uncommonly warm for the season. We have scarcely had more than three or four days of cool weather at a time.

Notice to Delinquent Subscribers.—We find it absolutely necessary to remind our subscribers, who are in arrears, that we must have money, or we may be forced to take steps for collecting our dues—equally unpleasant to us and to them. We earnestly request them to settle without delay. The New Year is rapidly approaching, and we think it a very good time to pay all old debts, and then to make new ones. Money we must have, our credit is pretty low—we want cash to pay our hands, for our hired servants, for printing paper, for new type, new ink and various other matters, for our office. Besides, we must eat, dress, though on the cheap scale, school our children, pay the parson, and a hundred other things too tedious to mention. Come then like gentlemen, and pay us, and we will remember you with gratitude. If we cannot obtain our dues from you, before the commencement of the next volume, we must charge the full price of subscription, that is three dollars a year. This rule we shall be compelled to follow most rigidly in future. We would much prefer receiving from our subscribers the lowest subscription price, cash, instead of the highest figure on a long credit.

The New York Tribune.—This an old and able paper of the Whig school of politics. It is one of the most useful Northern papers upon our exchange list. It is published at New York, by Greeley & McCrath. The Daily Tribune is published on a fair royal sheet, of which three editions are issued every day, but Sunday, at \$5 per annum. The Semi-weekly is published on a smaller size for \$3.

The weekly Tribune is printed on a large double medium sheet, making eight pages of six columns each, containing the choicest matter of the daily, nearly destitute of advertisements. The correspondence of this paper is of a very valuable character. The latest and most important European news, will always be found in its columns. A summary of domestic news and various other matter will also be found in the Tribune. Clergymen will be supplied with the weekly Tribune at \$1 per year.

Work on Insanity.—We have on our table, 'A treatise on insanity, the only work of the kind in the United States, or perhaps in the known world, founded on general observation and truth, by G. GRIMES an inmate of the Lunatic Asylum of Tennessee.' Such is the somewhat pompous title of a strange pamphlet which we have recently read. The following are the subjects treated in the work before us:—"The author's case, its cause and treatment; insanity; general remarks; idiocy; jurisprudence of insanity; suicide; apostasy from religion; youth and future life."

The work contains a portrait of the author, and a grim looking mortal he is. The author himself lately favored us with his company, following the business of peddling his books. It must be confessed, that there are some very good suggestions on the subject of insanity in the book before us. The author seems to have dipped into the works of some celebrated writers on the subject, and has at his tongue's end, Combe, Pinel, Esquirol, and other great names. We must say however, that Mr. Grimes says many strange and sometimes absurd things. There can be no doubt of his craziness when he wrote the book. The work bears indubitable marks of the peculiar state of his mind when he composed it. The writer complains very much about the ill treatment which he for years experienced from various persons.

It seems that he was defrauded of his property by swindling partners, and that when he was evidently deranged, he was badly treated by near relatives and others. In consequence of this, he makes strong appeals throughout his book in behalf of this unfortunate class of his fellow creatures. He is certainly right in urging that their cases as soon as insanity shows itself, should not be neglected a minute, but should be entrusted to the care of skillful and experienced physicians in an asylum of character.—The most enlightened persons on the subject of lunacy all concur with him in this matter.—Among other kinds of oppression to which the author was subject, he suffered from calumnious reports. The following are some. He says:—"I see another writer charges me with having shipped twenty millions of souls to Jamaica, and thus betrayed my country. I never shipped a soul to Jamaica or any other government in my life; nor was I ever beyond the limits of the United States, either in person or correspondence. I would be a strange phenomenon in a man's life if he could do all these things and be in his own country all the time. I have been told that other writers have asserted that it was me who brought the cholera from another country to this, which is erroneous, and would be equally strange to even suppose that a man could bring the cholera from France to this country when the wide ocean is between the two governments, and the man

never out of the United States. I will leave their broad and unfounded assertions and problems for themselves to solve. The very face of their assertions bears the color of falsehood."

These are wicked charges surely, and none of us would patiently endure them. Throughout the pamphlet is a sufficient quantity of rhymes, and on different subjects. The author set his book for the support of his family—a praiseworthy object. We will close with the following verses of our own, which will serve for the epitaph of Mr. Grimes, when he dies:—

Poor Grimes is dead, that man insane, On earth we ne'er shall see him more; He wrote a book on crazy men, Its like was never seen before.

The following gentlemen were appointed as the Board of Visitors for the ensuing year, by the Trustees of the South Carolina College, at their last meeting: Hon. J. C. Calhoun, President, Hon. D. Johnson, Union, Hon. S. Gilman, Charleston, Rev. S. S. Davis, Camden, Rev. C. C. Jones, Columbia, Rev. M. A. Curtis, Society Hill, Hon. W. Elliott, Beaufort, Dr. T. Smith, Society Hill, Dr. R. W. Gibbs, Columbia.

The Charleston Courier, of the 20th inst. says: "A despatch from our Columbia correspondent, received last evening, informs us that the appropriation of \$50,000 for the erection of a monument to the officers and privates of the Palmetto Regiment, killed in battle in Mexico, was laid on the table, together with other various other propositions for appropriations. The reasons given in debate for pursuing this course was that the state of public treasury was such as not to warrant the expending of such an amount of money as was called for by the various bills offered."

The appropriation of \$15,000 for the Lunatic Asylum has passed. The measure was advocated by Mr. Preston, of Richmond, in a most eloquent speech. The funeral ceremonies of the Hon. J. A. Black, late member of Congress, took place yesterday afternoon, at half 3 o'clock at the Presbyterian Church. Both Houses of the Legislature and a numerous audience were in attendance.

From the Constitutionalist.

THE GOLD MANIA.

It would seem to the enthusiastic candidates for a voyage to California like initiating the fox in the fable, for any one who is fixed by circumstances to his present location, to cry out "sour grapes," and raise a warning voice against being carried away by the gold mania. But we will at that hazard venture the opinion that thousands who are flocking to California with glowing anticipations, will return, if they return at all, dejected and disheartened.

The emigration is already immense, and a vast population will soon be on the mining district producing a degree of competition in labor, that must soon greatly bring down the price of gold. There is a large area of country yielding the precious ore, yet of this, the favored spots, where very large daily returns are realized from labor, must be limited and will soon be monopolized. Then from the nature of the case, the expenses of living will continue to be very great. Those who make but little who have to pay as much to live as those who make a great deal. The fascination of the pursuit, however, will keep the great mass employed in gold digging to the neglect of every thing else, and the struggle for the means of subsistence will be very severe. While, therefore, many poor men are doubtless destined to be successful, there will be a great deal of suffering and disappointment, and many will come back as poor as they went away. It is not every one that will come back laden with gold dust after paying all his expenses, and debts, and contracts into which necessity in part, and in part the infectious spirit of speculation will tempt him.

We cordially wish all such who go will meet with success. But we think it is a step to be taken only after much cool deliberation. There are always two sides to a picture. Some, after getting to California, may look back with longing eyes towards the homes they have left, and may find it toilsome and difficult to get back. Even sailors' wages will not always remain at \$75 or \$100 per month for the homeward voyage, and many landsmen will be glad to work their passage back for nothing.

DIAMONDS, TOO!—Extract of a letter received by Mr. Buffum of this city, from his son, Edward Gould Buffum, dated Pueblo de los Angeles, Upper California, July 21:

Persons who have been to the "placers" say there is ample room for fifty thousand people to work fifty years. It is doubtless the richest place in the world. Within a week or two past, diamonds and plaius have also been found. These stories, strange as they may seem, are strictly true. I know them to be so. There will probably be a great emigration to the country as soon as the news gets spread at home, and I wish you would show—this letter, and recommend to him to come by all means. There is no humbug about this. New places are being discovered every day, and Peru and Mexico will ere long sink into insignificance compared with California. Everything connected with mining, as well as all goods and provisions are selling in the mining region at most exorbitant prices. Pickaxes are worth fifty dollars each. Shovels twenty-five dollars. Hoe's ten dollars. Flour \$100 a barrel. Cotton cloth \$1 50 a yard, and everything else in proportion.

OHIO LEGISLATURE.—The latest despatch dated Friday, 6 P. M., states that an organization had not taken place at that time. In the Senate a motion had been made to take up Mr. Ashbold's resolution, recommending the non payment of taxes—rejected by a vote of 6 to 30, on which the mover—

"Mr. Goddard said that it made but very little difference whether the resolution was taken up or not. The fiat had gone forth, and nothing short of the bayonet could collect taxes during the present disorganization of the Assembly."