

# PLACER TIMES.

Sacramento City, Monday, May 20, 1850.

J. E. Lawrence, Editor.

MR. RIPLEY A. EDDY will hereafter be our Agent at MARYSVILLE. His store is next to the U. S. Hotel, where advertisements and orders for job work may be left.

## Outstanding Claims.

A good deal of feeling is manifested regarding the action of the Council in reference to the provision for the recognition and payment of the debts "contracted by the President and City Council of Sacramento City, under the charter adopted by the people of said city on the 13th day of October 1849."

Section 23d of the new act of incorporation, which we have unanimously accepted and organized under, provides that the said debts shall be presented for allowance to the common council, created by that charter, "and if said council shall be satisfied of the justice of any such claim, it shall allow and audit it, and make provision for its speedy payment." It is moreover provided, that, "if any claim be rejected, the party offering it shall have the right to bring suit thereon against the corporation in any court of competent jurisdiction, and if adjudged to be just and equitable, in said court, the corporation shall pay the same, with the right to either party to appeal as in ordinary cases."

No course should be adopted at this juncture that will defer beyond the time actually necessary therefor, the conclusive action of the council on these claims, and least of all is it just that the unavoidable postponement of the payment of them should be allowed to operate in any wise unfavorably upon their validity after the proper forms of recognition provided, shall have been complied with.

It is maintained, by interested parties at least, that the tone of the preamble and resolutions lately presented to the common council by Mr. Tweed, chairman of a special committee on these outstanding claims, is calculated to place them in a prejudiced light before the people. They say moreover that any distinction as to the provision for payment between these and other city debts and obligations is not recognised by the terms of the charter or by a sense of right. In regard to this, section 8th of the charter says that all accounts and demands against the city shall be audited by the President of the Common Council, and no money shall be drawn from the city treasury unless upon the certificate of the President, or by order of the council. Whenever any demand is just and payable, he shall issue his certificate in favor of the person to whom the same is payable, signed with his hand, upon the Treasurer of said city, specifying the fund out of which the same is payable, and the Treasurer shall pay the same out of any money in his hands belonging to said fund. The following language of the preamble before referred to in connection with the well known opinion of the legal gentleman who is its author, is that at which the principal exceptions are taken. This is to the effect that the city council deem "the assumption of these liabilities a matter of grave importance, and one, as to which, it is eminently necessary that the people should be consulted." Now although it is evident that a special fund must be created for the ultimate satisfaction of these debts, and to that end the propositions presented will be well adapted, still it by no means maintains that any thing should be insinuated which might militate against the public conviction of their duty to make ample and early provision for such payment. The expressions quoted may be charged with such a tendency.

They are used as we understand them, to apply to the claims as audited and approved by the commissioners and endorsed by the action of the council, in the state indeed, in which they are to be liquidated if the necessary funds are voted by the people. We do suppose that every principle of honor and equity would be violated by the refusal of our citizens then to sustain them, and we have the confidence to believe that the presumption of any other course on their part is as thoroughly repudiated as we are equally convinced that such a construction was not intended by the framer of the said preamble and resolutions. It will be apparent in the anticipated action of the board upon them this evening.

P. S.—Since the above was in type, we learn that the whole matter was laid on the table and an addition made to the committee who are requested to report anew at the next meeting.

JUSTICES AND CONSTABLES.—The following gentlemen were elected to these responsible positions on Thursday last: Justices in 1st District, Charles C. Sackett and George S. Fake. In 2d District, D. D. Bullock and Charles Swift.

Constables, 1st District, John A. Tutt, 2d District, Ira T. Smith.

## From the Mines.

There is no deception in the subjoined letter, although the writer speaks in rather a "forked tongue." The simple facts, without ornament, are what we wish to get at, and here we have a fair instalment:

'FORKS' OF THE NORTH YUBA, }  
May 2, 1850. }

Can you guess where the 'Forks' are? I fear not; for there are so many of them, that a stranger in these parts may well be bewildered with their number and variety. But these are the 'Forks,' *par excellence* and *per se*, as you shall see. The Yuba, like the American river, has three main branches, known, in the abundant scarcity of proper names for the rivers of this great country, as the North, Middle, and South Forks. The South Fork *debouches* about 35 miles above Marysville, and the Middle Fork about 20 miles further up. The North Fork, however, is the larger of the three; and at this place—about 95 miles above Marysville—it 'forks' again, about equally. Above here, the South Fork 'forks' again at a distance of 8 miles, while the North branch 'forks' twice within 5 miles, little more than mountain rivulets remaining above.

David and I reached Marysville in the evening of the day we left Sacramento. Stopping there a couple of days, we started for Foster's Bar, about 50 miles above; but our packer had some very uncivil horses, and two of them ran away within a mile of Marysville, scattering their loads in distant fragments over the plain, and it was night before they were gathered up again—the horse remaining ungathered. We encamped on the plain; and the next morning started off again, our plunder piled on one lonely mule; and as we were told, during the day, that the snow was six feet deep at Foster's Bar, and that mules could not get there, we concluded to stop at Rose's Bar, 25 miles above Marysville, where we arrived about sundown. Here we stopped all through the month of March. The snow above prevented travel up the river, or working if one were up. At Rose's I took my first lesson in mining; and from an old, deserted claim, David and I got out about \$300 in three weeks. But the river rose, and prevented farther operations. On the 30th of March, I left David to take care of the house, and started, with three others, on a prospecting tour up the river. We wandered along through bottomless canyons, and over snow-covered mountains for four days, but found no place to locate on, all the bars, that were not covered by water, being already taken up. We finally reached this place—8 miles above Good-year's Bar. Here we stopped and prospected about for a couple of days; but nothing could be done—the water was too high for digging on the bars, and bank diggings were scarce, as the mountains rise abruptly from the water's brink, almost the entire length of the river. Considerable gold was being taken from the banks at this place, and in the vicinity, however, and it was thought that the bed of the river would be very rich when the water should fall; so a portion of our party returned to Rose's Bar, to bring up their traps, and be ready for operations here when that event does take place. And so, in about ten day's time, they returned—David, picks, pans, and all; and we built us a very comfortable brush house and sat down to wait the moving of the waters. But while some folks think the water will be low enough to permit digging early in June, others say it will remain up till the first of August. I say nothing, however—except to admit, perhaps, that I have come to the mines a month or two too early for practical operations, though not, I think, for my general good in the end, as I have enjoyed the most robust health since I left Sacramento, and am getting seasoned gradually to the labor of mining. I have dug a little in the banks here, and have got out enough to pay for what I eat as I go along. David became discouraged on Monday last—didn't like to work for nothing, he said, and so sold out his share of the concern to me, and turned his face toward Rose's Bar again, where, he thinks, he will be able to make more than he can here. So I am entirely on my own hook here now, with not a very flattering prospect before me, I must confess, but yet not without hope for the future. When I first arrived here, there were not more than 30 or 40 men here, and provisions were rather dear—flour and pork \$2 per lb., sugar, coffee, potatoes, dried apples, beans, salt, &c. \$3 per lb.; but since then, things have changed a little. There are now some 4 or 500 men here, and in the vicinity, I should think, and provisions have fallen a full half—more in some articles. Traders are as plenty here as miners, and do pretty much all the business at present.

You may possibly hear great stories of the enormous quantities of gold that are taken out in this vicinity, but the truth will doubtless be greatly exaggerated. A few individuals, it is true, have been very lucky, and have taken out from \$500 to \$1,000 in a day, in spo's; but these rich places

are very scarce, and are soon worked out. And it is only at random intervals that gold is found at all in the banks, up here. Yours, &c. E. E. P.

THE INDIANS.—Brigadier General A. M. Winn has received a letter from Major Gen. Thomas J. Green, 1st Div. Cal. Militia, forwarded by Brigadier Gen. Eastland, and enclosing one to his Excellency Peter H. Burnett, Governor of California. We have been favored with the perusal of these letters. They are dated at Oro, the head quarters, at present, of Gen. Green. Serious Indian troubles are announced on that frontier. A volunteer company, under command of Capt. Nicolaus Alliger, had prepared to march against the savages, and other parties were being formed. The Indians are reported to number several hundred and to be headed by white men and some Chilians. An engagement is said to have taken place on Deer Creek a few days before, in which four whites and fifteen Indians were killed. Gen. Green has very wisely determined to take the field, both for the protection of the citizens and to prevent excesses on their part. He recommends that the Adjutant General should be ordered to his head quarters, with instructions and authority to make a further call upon the militia and U. S. troops, should the emergency require it.

We are further advised that some 200 Indians were seen near Johnson's Ranch, on Friday. A party of 30 went out from Nicolaus and killed four of them, one of the party being slightly wounded in the forehead. A teamster from Nicolaus was found dead in the neighborhood with 14 arrows in him. His wagon and merchandize had been burnt up and four pair of oxen killed.

The repeated outrages in every direction will induce a more general militia organization throughout this part of the State. We learn that a volunteer company of young men is being now formed in Sacramento City. They will be the first to tender their aid should future developments require the further call upon the militia which is anticipated in the above correspondence.

THE STOCKTON TIMES.—Our allusion in Friday's paper to the wonderful yields reported in the Southern mines, has caused considerable excitement and a general desire to hear further from that quarter. Several have called upon us for the loan of the Stockton Times, and others have made liberal propositions for its purchase. As we have only a single copy, we prefer to dispense the interesting items through our own columns, and trust that the concern for like news may not abate. The editor has in reserve some intelligence from the head waters of the San Joaquin which he deems it improper as yet to lay before his readers, but he adds that a gentleman from the office is at present in those parts and will enable them to give a full report next week. We condense a few more items from Mr. White's paper. The powerful and commodious steamer *Aetna* is making regular trips between Tualumne City and Stockton. Another boat took up one or two capitalists from Stockton and other places a few days since, who are reported to have made large investments; indeed the eyes of all men of intelligence in the commercial world are concentrated on this new town, and it is the reigning wonder that they did not see what a great place it was to be before. "Lots of Land" is selling, and the cry is for more. Three Iron Houses (10 by 12?) are in the course of erection. The editor feels assured that something of importance is stirring in his county; he also has an eye to our movements, and notices that we are going to try to have the seat of government at Sacramento City, and makes the pertinent remark that San Pablo Bay would be about as proper a place, which is not so bad either.

FOR COLOMA.—We were much pleased to see Mr. Birch's new and splendid coach flourishing around a day or two ago. There is nothing finer of its sort anywhere, and the general accommodations of this line are unsurpassed.

Angle & Co. have made arrangements with the steamers Senator and Gold Hunter, by which the advantage of a daily communication with San Francisco is secured through their efficient expresses.

## City Affairs.

MRS. KIRBY'S BENEFIT.—By the card in our columns, this evening is announced for the long deferred event. Our citizens will gladly welcome the opportunity at last presented, of bestowing their unanimous testimony of approbation upon the services of this distinguished actress and highly esteemed lady, who has so successfully presided over the dawning destinies of the drama in California. With the delicacy of the true artist she has not selected the more pretentious entertainments often set forth on similar occasions. The character of Wilford, the page, has been deemed worthy of the talents of Ellen Tree, and was with her a favorite part. It demands the most refined taste and close appreciation for its effective portraiture. That it will receive this at the hands of Mrs. Kirby we cannot doubt. The play of the Iron Chest is one of absorbing interest. It is well adapted to the abilities of the company, and will be one of the most perfect representations yet given at the Tehama. The farce of "A Day in Paris," in which the Hambleton's appear to great advantage, concludes the entertainments.

IMPORTANT SALE OF IMPROVED REAL ESTATE.—The large Stores lately erected by Capt. Soule, on the Levee, between L and M street, were disposed of on Friday, by J. B. Starr & Co., one of them at \$11,100, the other \$10,550—the lots 21 1-4 by 150 feet each. A great deal of interest was manifested in the large attendance upon the occasion, and the prices obtained have been much commented on. The general opinion is that real estate will still continue to enhance in value in consequence of the great demand for business localities throughout the summer.

AUCTION SALES.—By J. B. Starr & Co., this day, at 10 o'clock, from store, large invoices of sugar, wines and other liquors, potatoes, pork, butter, &c. At 9 o'clock, 2500 feet of lumber, &c., frame houses.

By order of the Marshal, on the 29th of May, J. B. Starr & Co. will sell all the unclaimed property remaining on the levee at that time.

By Barnell, Stout & Co. this day, at 11 o'clock, 8 lots on the corner of L and 12th streets.

At San Francisco, on Wednesday, 22d inst. J. L. Riddle & Co. sell two large cargoes, just arrived from China. For particulars see advertisements.

The Pacific Theatre is closed for a few evenings to prepare a stage and make other arrangements for the appearance of the Ballet and Rope Dancers and Signor Rossi, the Magician. It will open on Wednesday evening with Mr. Rowe and his Equestrian troupe in connection with the above.

JUDICIAL.—At a meeting of the board of Justices for Sacramento County, on Saturday, the 18th inst. Dr. Charles H. Swift and C. C. Sackett, Esq. were elected Associate Justices of the Court of Sessions. This Court convenes this day at 9 A. M. for the transaction of business, and consists of Hon. E. J. Willis, County Judge, and the above named Associates.

ELECTION.—To-morrow a common councilman will be chosen to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. C. H. Miller's resignation. As usual, several excellent candidates are in the field, all but one of whom are sure to be defeated.

THE SENATOR.—This peerless steamer withdrawn a few days for necessary repairs, came up on Saturday and will resume her regular trips, leaving as usual this day at 2 o'clock.

A. M. Winn, Esq. is, we are informed, appointed agent for Capt. Sutter for the disposal of real estate.

DISTINGUISHED MOVEMENTS.—Major Dickey and suite will visit the Tehama this evening. Judge Grant has gone down below.

A Hindoo law says: "Strike not even with a blossom, a wife, though she be guilty of a thousand faults."

The revenue of the established church of Mexico is \$250,000,000 per year.

The population of England is 27,000,000. The adult population, in 1841, was 5,873,772.

The friends of W. N. DOUGHTY will support him for the office of Alderman, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of C. H. Miller.