

**SACRAMENTO SUBSCRIBERS.**—Our subscribers in Sacramento City can have the *Alta* served at their residences, leaving their names at the store of Still, Corner & Co., in the Placer Times Building, Second street. Subscriptions and advertisements will be received by them.

**SAN JOSE.**—Mr. BOWEN, (of Bedford & Co's Express), is duly authorized to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the *Alta California*. Subscribers will find their papers at his office, City Hotel and Mission House, upon the arrival of the Express line of stages, daily.

**The Peruvians.**

We understand, from a conversation with Captain Robinett, the gentlemanly and intelligent Peruvian Consul, that nearly all the Peruvians, or, as they are generally known, Chileans, have left the country for their old homes. The proscription course pursued against foreigners, many of them innocent and worthy persons, has compelled them to leave a land which has proved any thing but a hospitable one to them. Fearful that many of their subjects would be destitute of means to return, the Peruvian Government instructed their Consul to pay the passages of all those who were unable to do so from their own resources. Capt. Robinett has accordingly expended upwards of \$15,000 in passage money, and he expresses the opinion that there are not more than twenty Chileans or Peruvians in the country. All who have left entertain, and not unreasonably, the most hostile feelings against Americans, and those of our countrymen who are thrown in their way will have reason, we fear, to learn that they are a revengeful people and do not forget injuries. The Peruvian Government are highly indignant at the treatment their subjects have received, and will unquestionably represent their grievances at Washington. The policy which has been pursued here is so utterly at variance with the American principles invariably maintained with regard to immigration, that we cannot but be filled with regret that it should ever have been enforced or obtained the least show of encouragement.

**RELIEF MOVEMENT IN SAN JOSE.**—The success which attended the exertions in San Jose for the relief of the immigration has been unexpectedly good—about \$2000 in money and provisions have been collected. This speaks well for the citizens of our sister city, the capital of the State.

We understand that the contributions were in many instances exceedingly liberal. Mr. Reed (one of the survivors of the Donner party,) subscribed immediately \$300 to the work, and his lady advanced from her own means the sum of two hundred dollars. Mr. Young, of San Jose, placed his team at the disposal of the Relief Committee, and subsequently collected an amount of provisions and started in person for the Sacramento on the noble mission of charity.

**Relief Movement in San Jose.**

Pursuant to the request of the Mayor, the City Council of the city of San Jose assembled at their Chamber on Friday, the 23d instant. Col. Bigler was present, by invitation, and addressed the persons present, when, on motion of Dr. B. Corey, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, Reliable news has reached us that great numbers of persons who are travelling the northern route to this country are suffering immensely from the want of the common necessities of life; and whereas, a deep sympathy pervades this city for the sufferers; and whereas, true sympathy ever prompts to benevolent action—therefore

Resolved, By the Mayor and Common Council of the city of San Jose, that the citizens of San Jose will cordially co-operate with those who are engaged in the benevolent enterprise of sending relief to the starving immigrants upon the Plains;

Resolved, That we will act as a committee to solicit subscriptions in money and provisions to be forwarded by the hands of the Hon. John Bigler to the Sacramento City Immigrant Relief Committee, to be used promptly for the benefit of the suffering immigrants.

Resolved, That Messrs. James H. Reed, Charles White, John H. Horstine, F. D. Moore, Charles Campbell, and Isaac Brannan, be appointed to co-operate with the City Council in this work.

Resolved, That the Hon. Josiah Bolden be appointed Treasurer of the Committee, and F. B. Clement be appointed Clerk.

J. BELDEN, Mayor.

WM. BARTLEY, Clerk of Common Council.

We perceive by the *Marysville Herald*, of Friday last that a meeting to consider means of affording succor to the immigrants, was held on Wednesday, at which a small sum was collected, and ordered to be added to the common relief fund.

At Nicolaus, the evening previous an assemblage was called for similar purposes. Capt. Waldo addressed the meeting; a committee was appointed, who the next day canvassed the town and procured the handsome sum of two thousand dollars, with prospects of additional contributions. This speaks well for Nicolaus. It shows the want of spirit evinced by the upper towns when the appeal was made to them.

If any part of California is to be benefited by the occasional influx of large numbers overland to this country from the States, it will most assuredly be the region of the upper waters. The immigrants arriving late are forced to winter at the first settlement reached, where provisions may be obtained and their cattle pastured. The country about the Feather and Yuba is therefore the first land in California that offers the facilities required. The location, however temporarily, of new comers in the neighborhood of the new towns growing up on the river banks, will be sure to bring permanent good upon the prospects of each place. Trade will flourish even in the long, dull winter season, and improvement will go briskly forward. Are the people of Marysville and Yuba city blind to these things? Do they still hug the delusive hope of becoming great commercial marts, at the "head of navigation," in a few short months, and expect to enjoy an intimate connection with commerce, and to derive their chief sustenance from this branch of wealth. They had infinitely better look to their inward resources. There is vastly more property and common sense in encouraging immigration overland to flow to those points. And if they do not desire to witness the plan of yearly immigration by the northern route from the States to California, entirely ruined, let an effort be made to assist in bringing in this year's threatened immigration.

**THE NEW WORLD.**—This fine steamer has been undergoing such important alterations and improvements that we should hardly know her for the same craft that steamed into our harbor some few weeks since. Our friend Charles Mintum has "laid himself out" in order to afford fine and abundant accommodations for the traveling community, and give them an elegant as well as a comfortable boat. She will run between this place and Sacramento City, forming a regular daily line with the Senator. Yesterday she steamed up to Benicia, with a large company of invited guests, all of whom we doubt not had a most delightful time, as the proprietors are people who understand how to cater to perfection. We were much surprised that our duties prevented us from accepting the invitation to form one of the party and to participate in the pleasures of the trip.

**THE CALIFORNIA.**—The steamer California left for Oregon, at noon yesterday, with the U. S. mails.

**California Minerals.**

The last mail from the United States brought us the annexed communication from Homer Holland, M. D., of Westfield, Massachusetts. It was addressed by him to our friend and associate Mr. Gilbert. It contains some highly interesting facts touching the probable mineral resources of California, and we invite the attention of all connected with the mining interest to give it a careful perusal:

WESTFIELD, MASS., June 24, 1850.  
Hon. E. GILBERT, Dear Sir:—I have been desirous of addressing the California Miners a few words through your connection with the press of this interesting region. Since the official report upon the specimens of minerals sent by Col. Mason to the Government, the public have heard nothing further of platinum, and this valuable metal and its compounds and associates osmium, iridium, palladium and rhodium are doubtless overlooked by the gold washers and entirely rejected, with to various ferrous sands.

A few days since a dentist was filing a piece of gold plate, melted from California gold in granules, in which some minute, hard grains were found that he could not file with a fine, hard file.

I viewed them with microscope and found them firmly set in the gold and having the appearance of platinum-iridium. Whether the gold was collected by simple washing or amalgamation, I could not learn; it was collected in California by Mr. Eldridge and forwarded to his brother, a goldsmith, in Springfield, this county and State.

Where the collection of gold from the gravel, silt and clays, is made by mercury, some of the compounds of platinum would mix, mechanically, with the amalgam of gold and mercury and would be by the relative specific gravities and might be separated.

Platinum and its compounds, in native state, will not "marry" or amalgamate with quicksilver. Much platinum has been collected in St. Domingo, where it occurs, when found, with chertite of iron and it is also found in New Granada and Brazil, but how it is separated from its associates and collected is not described in any mineralogy within my knowledge. When it does occur with the ferruginous sands, my impression is the granules and bits (pepils) would mix and subside, if shaken with mercury, and the iron would float. Its associates osmium, iridium, palladium and rhodium have various and uncertain specific gravities and it would be somewhat more than could be reasonably expected, of ordinary miners, to detail and separate it.

Through the kindness and generosity of Mr. Geo. W. Eggleston, of San Francisco, I have sundry valuable minerals from California, and among others the black iron sand, collected on the South Fork of American River, by the gold washers, from which it is requisite to pick the gold grains, as they are too large, to separate cheaply, by amalgamation.

This sand is interesting, as mingled with it, in fragments, are the variously colored (largely red or crystal of iron), visible by microscope; some with perfect facets, limpid and as brilliant as the real diamond, for which it is a very good substitute in breast-pins, rings and for jewelry watches. I mention this only to call the attention of the miners to the larger limcons which they would reject with the coarser gravel in "panning" for gold.

I regret that a good and eminent geologist were not appointed to survey California, last year, and wait with some impatience for Mr. Tyson's Report. Mr. Tyson's last personal survey, must of necessity be brief and imperfect. Dr. Lord's committee of printing reported and withdrew it, but subsequently re-reported, and it was ordered printed by the Senate, several weeks since, and must soon be out.

I have imported your colleague, the Hon. Geo. W. Wright, for a sample of the gold bearing quartz, to which report speaks of his having tested as well as surveyed extensively; he has been severely afflicted and is presently occupied in business and has forgotten me.

I have a piece of the tufa or pumice stone from the volcano on the American River, which is marked by talcose; a sure indication that this slate, the immediate matrix of gold bearing quartz, is as deep as the vent. This pumice is like the tufa of the Sandwich Islands or the Mediterranean Sea or Indian Ocean, and is significant to the geologist and mineralogist.

I have recently perused the puerile "six months" book, on California, by E. G. Buffum, and so far as the mineralogy and geology is alluded to, it is not worth any more than its valueless predecessors.

There is more in the last trip down the Gila, recorded by Col. Emory, than in all the reports that have been given of California, including those of the eminent pioneer, Col. J. C. Fremont, House Doc. 41, Thirtieth Congress, First Session.

I have written you in detail, without the formality of introduction, which I will not have, through your former friend, Asahel Bush of this place, soon for Oregon. I have seen several numbers of the *Alta California*, through friends. This town and county is better represented in California than any other in the state, except Nantucket and New Bedford.

You are interested in all that concerns the State of California, and may deem the foregoing hints to miners of sufficient moment to give them in an abbreviated article. I never could revise a letter and improve the writing. Yours respectfully, HOMER HOLLAND, M. D.

**The China Meeting.**

In accordance with our suggestion, thrown out sometime since, Vice Consul Frederick A. Woodworth, Rev. Albert Williams, Mr. Buel, and other gentlemen, have united and made preparation for a meeting of our Chinese fellow citizens for the purpose of distributing the books and pamphlets recently received from Canton. All the "China Boys" are to assemble and walk in procession to the rostrum in the plaza, where, after some little speaking, explanatory of the purposes of the meeting, the distribution will take place. The Chinese are all very anxious to turn out, and will muster very strong—probably two or three hundred,—and the occasion cannot be otherwise than interesting. The dissemination of scriptural truths among the members of a nation otherwise highly civilized, is a great and good object; and when we consider the remarkable intelligence of the Chinese, their aptitude and capacity for acquiring knowledge, we cannot do less than believe that the happiest results will follow this praiseworthy attempt to diffuse among them Christian doctrines and useful knowledge. The ceremonies will come off on Wednesday afternoon.

**The Indiana Expedition.**

We are informed by a gentleman from camp Far West, that Capt. Lyon, with about twenty men of the U. S. Infantry and Dragoons, has returned upon the famous hunt after General Wilson's Carpet Bag, cached "somewhere" on the immigrant trail. The Captain had but recently returned from a continuation of the Clear Lake expedition to punish the murderers of Capt. Warner and endeavor to find his remains. In the vicinity of the place where Captain Warner was killed, the troops had several skirmishes with the Indians, who hovered around the camp and endeavored to steal the animals of the command. One of the infantry soldiers was killed with an arrow, and fifteen Indians were shot. No trace of Captain Warner's remains could be found, and probably all attempts with the same view will be equally futile. We shall record the earliest intelligence of the carpet bag expedition from time to time.

**THE FUNERAL PROCESSION.**—In the programme of the funeral procession to take place on Thursday next, we see the Fire Department are enumerated, and we hope that they will exert themselves to make a full turn out and a good display. We have now four engine and three hook and ladder companies, composed of a numerous and fine body of men, and if they choose they can add a most interesting feature to the pageant. We hope that they will all turn out, as is customary on like occasions in the old states, with their machines, appropriately craped, and that the members will all be uniformed.

**THE KNICKERBOCKER.**—The last mail brought us the July number of that capital, spirited and ever welcome magazine, the *Knick-Knacker*. It is the number of the thirty-sixth volume, and the last we have seen for some time. We are glad that it may long continue to flourish, and that our friend Clark may always preside over its destinies.

**LOCAL MATTERS.**

**TESTIMONIAL.**—We understand that the shipmasters design presenting to Mr. Delmonico a service of plate in testimony of their appreciation of his kindness in generously tendering to them the use of his house on several recent occasions.

**MUTINY.**—The police were called yesterday to suppress a mutiny on board the Danish ship *Indianian*, Capt. Holm. With the assistance of the officers of the revenue cutter, the mutiny was quelled, and the participants taken into custody.

**FOR HUMBOLDT BAY.**—The schooner *Crescent City*, of the "Commercial Line," sails for Humboldt on Thursday. This vessel is a fast sailer, and possesses good accommodations for passengers.

**FRUIT.**—The vendors of pears and melons took possession of the plaza, yesterday, and were busy all day in distributing the tempting fruit to the lovers of such delicacies. Competition seems to have reduced the price wonderfully, and two rials will purchase as much as is wholesome.

**THE MODEL ARTISTS.**—Dr. Collyer's exhibition last evening was well attended, more persons being present than could be comfortably accommodated. Familiar scriptural scenes were represented, and the Doctor assured the company that the drapery was a perfect copy of the original. The representation, this evening, is for the benefit of suffering immigrants. We hope Dr. Collyer's philanthropic proposition will meet with a generous response from the community.

**San Diego Correspondence.**

**Military Post on the Colorado.**—Mission of San Luis Rey—Indian Agency—Court Martial.

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 16, 1850.

The anticipated orders for the "Gila" have come to hand, and Bvt. Major Heintzelman is directed to move, like shot off a shovel, for the Colorado, at or near the junction of the two rivers. His command consists of two companies of 2d Infantry,—that of his own and Lieut. E. Murray's,—numbering about fifty men. The Quartermaster's Department is entirely bankrupt, and the means of transportation very limited, which may detain him for some time. The Major designs establishing a depot at San Felipe, and as soon as this is accomplished, to put the command in motion. The battery of Lieut. Col. Magruder is to relieve Capt. Davidson, 2d Infantry, who is to take post with his company at Rancho del Chino. Lieut. Courts, with his company of 1st Dragoons, was ordered by Gen. Riley to accompany the command destined for the Colorado, but Gen. Smith, who relieved Gen. H. in command of the department, countermanded the order. Major Fitzgerald, with the squadron of 1st Dragoons, now very weak, is to remain in charge of San Luis Rey, and protect it from the talons of our special agent. The Mission evidently belongs to the Indians, and Gen. Smith appears desirous of securing it for them,—at least until the government finally disposes of the same.

Capt. Hunter, late of the Mormon battalion, and sub-agent for the Indians under Ex-Governor Mason, is now in San Luis Rey, claiming to be the sub-agent of the surrounding tribes under this old appointment, and a request from Gen. Wilson to continue his duties until he hears from the Home department. Inasmuch as Capt. Hunter has been absent for a long time, and neither holding an appointment from the General or State Government, Major Fitzgerald refuses to acknowledge him as a government agent, and has referred the whole matter to Gen. Smith, under whose specific instructions the Major is now acting. In the mean time, Major F. has quartered Capt. H. and his family in the Mission building, who is ready and willing to abide the decision of the General.

A general court martial is ordered to assemble at San Diego on the 10th proximo, for the trial of the Quartermaster, named, Bvt. Maj. Justus McKintstry. He has one strong friend on his court.

The schooner *Woodside* is advertised for Gila City, on Monday, 19th inst. It is the intention of the government to send a steamer as early as possible up the Colorado to this point, junction of Gila and Colorado.

Yours, &c.

**DEPARTURE OF SUPPLIES.**—Captain Waldo will leave this city for Johnson's Ranch, on Bear River, this morning at nine o'clock, en route to meet the immigrants with supplies. He takes with him a large train of beef cattle and mules.

The *Transcript*, Sacramento City, from which we clip the foregoing, argues the necessity of sending funds instead of absorbing all in the purchase of provisions, for the relief of the immigrants. We cannot discern the propriety of the measure advocated. It is certain that every dollar that can be raised for their benefit will only be available to them in provisions, and it is here that the purchases should be made. There will be no freight on relief stores to Sacramento City, and here flour can be bought in packages suitable for transportation, and much more readily than in the valley. The plan of our committee, we believe, is to forward to the care of the Sacramento Relief Committee the provisions purchased, reserving the Relief Fund, two or three thousand dollars in money where-with to procure animals for transportation. Let us send no more money in our expeditions to afford relief than barely enough to meet contingent expenses and provide for the necessities of travel and the road. Mr. Johnson, it appears, paid four or five thousand dollars to traders for flour, at one dollar, and one dollar fifty per pound. The Relief Fund would not go far towards feeding the famished immigrants, at this rate.

We are happy to find in the *Transcript* a warm advocate of the relief movement, and trust that they will not allow their earnest to slacken. We find a notice of the action taken in the upper towns, in Saturday's number. Captain Waldo has been among the up-river folks. "As an evidence of the interest which is manifested, Captain W. relates the fact that several ladies in those towns have contributed as much as \$100 each."

**ITALIAN THEATRE.**—Senior Rossi, and the charming Fanny Mauten appear again this evening. Each night of their performance among us, they have been hailed by delighted crowds; and, indeed, the applause showered upon the ingenuity of the Senor, and the dancing of Fanny, has so pertaken of favor that the manager has been forced to strengthen the floor of his exhibition room. We learn that Senior Rossi has sent to San Francisco for a talented company which has just arrived in our State. To-night he enacts some of his best tricks, and Fanny Mauten will again delight her admirers by her graceful motions in the mazy dance.—*Stockton Journal*.

**FORTY POUNDS OF GOLD.**—We are credibly informed that one man, at one haul, took out a forty pound lump of pure gold, on the Yuba, about fourteen miles from Marysville, the day before yesterday. We have not seen it. Other and better men have. It is here.—*Marysville Herald*.

One hundred mules, in one train, well packed at one store, passed by our office last evening, bound to the mines. Four or five trains, of from ten to thirty, went up in the morning. The mules speak for Marysville, and Marysville speaks for herself.—*Id.*

**THE FUGITIVE SLAVES.**—Very early this morning, Sunday, a party of five or six persons were discharged in memory of the President of the United States. From the sound we presume they were fired in San Jose.

**Independent Government.**

We have received the following communication from our esteemed fellow citizen, "Ben Jonson," as he is usually styled, the subject matter being strictures upon an article which appeared in the *Pacific News*, a few days since, relative to the establishment of an Independent Government for California, in the event of her not being admitted into the Union as a State. The document will speak for itself. We do not agree with the writer in his opinion as regards a desire for a Territorial Government, but we cheerfully afford him an opportunity of expressing his ideas on the subject, as we do all who solicit the like opportunity:

[From the *Pacific News* of the 21st inst.]

"The question resolves itself into the simple proposition whether our present Constitution will be accepted. We prefer to have it adopted, but if it is not, with slight amendments adapted to such a change of affairs, it would answer admirably well for *Independent Government*. With our custom house and post office revenues, a strong organization could be maintained and a thriving government executed. We do not intend these remarks as suggestive of such a course, but simply to foreshadow what might be the result, in case the question of admission be permitted to go over to the next session."

Does the editor suppose that in uttering the implied threat contained in the above article, he will find a response in the bosom of any true American in California, or does he mean to prepare the public mind for such a result, should it be desired by the office holders and political wire pullers who exist like a plague in our midst? If the latter is his intention he may as well drop such tactics;—the art of manufacturing public opinion is too well understood. If the former is the correct supposition, let him be assured that if any response be given it will be one of execration and disgust; that the subject is revolting and will not be entertained by our people for a moment with any feeling of satisfaction.

The experience that we have had thus far in the (so styled) self-government, has been of a most unsatisfactory nature. We find that while we have been busily engaged attending to our own business, a parcel of unprincipled and hackneyed politicians have rushed in and secured all the public officers, and now seem intent upon nothing but to make "their pile." We feel that such self-government, however pleasing to the mind, pretty in theory, or republican in principle, is a luxury scarcely to be indulged in at such a cost; and although our voice has never been heard, still should the question be brought to an issue, I am satisfied that a very large and respectable class would declare in favor of a Territorial Government.

In this country an efficient government must necessarily be an expensive one. Men cannot afford to leave their daily occupations to serve the state without adequate compensation, and upon the amount of that compensation must depend the character and ability of those who serve. When common laborers can get \$5 and \$6 per day we must expect to pay double and treble that amount for men capable of originating and enacting a good and wholesome code of laws. Why then should we strive for the empty bauble of self-government when we can for the next five years be governed equally well without it?

The revenue derived from our imports ought to be appropriated to the support of our Government, but if we take it out of the hands of the General Government and attempt to apply it ourselves, we shall find expenses entailed upon us for the support of an army and navy, which would probably absorb it all; and it must be apparent to the dullest apprehension that without the protection of the American flag we should need a strong arm of defence against the rapacity of the world. We are but a heterogeneous mass at best, and in case of a rupture with a foreign power it is difficult to say how we should conduct.

But I hold that a severance from the Union is a thing impossible, and not to be contemplated. I hold further that the people have had enough of state government for the present, and when the matter shall be properly understood I am satisfied the clamor will be, not to be admitted, but to be rejected.

**Duties on Sugar and Molasses.**

The Secretary of the Treasury has just issued to the collectors and other officers of the customs the subjoined circular in relation to the duties on sugar and molasses.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, July 5, 1850.

The Supreme Court of the United States, at its last session, has decided, in the cases of *Marriott vs. Brune et al.*, and the *United States vs. Southmayd et al.*, that in the estimate of duties charged on the laws on importation of sugar and molasses, allowance should be made for loss or deficiency occurring on the voyage of importation, the weight or quantity arriving in the United States consequently governing in the assessment of such duties; that the words "invoice value" in the proviso to the 8th section of the act of 30th July, 1846, were to be regarded as meaning "invoice price"; and that if that price be fixed too low in the foreign country from which the articles are exported, "or lower than it should be on the quantity likely to be saved and to arrive here, it is the duty of the appraisers to raise the price."

In compliance with the rule thus finally established by the highest judicial tribunal of the country, it becomes the duty of this department to direct that on all future importations of sugar and molasses the duties are to be levied upon the actual quantity arriving in the United States.

The regulations heretofore prescribed, so far as they relate to weighing and gauging for the purpose of verifying invoices, and to the payment of expenses, are still to be observed.

Upon the application, in writing, of the importer of either of the articles above mentioned, with a view to ascertain the loss or deficiency occurring during the voyage of importation, the same is to be weighed or gauged by the appropriate officers, at the expense of such importer; and on the weight or quantity thus ascertained as actually brought into the United States, and on the value or price thereof as fixed by the appraisers, the duties are to be assessed.

From representations made to the department it would appear that, in consequence of the difficulty of ascertaining, with accuracy, the true market value or wholesale price of foreign merchandise, or from other causes, great irregularity is found to exist in appraisements, and that notwithstanding the instructions heretofore issued, cases of manifest fraud by under valuation continue to occur. It becomes therefore necessary to repeat that the Department will expect the exercise of the utmost vigilance on the part of the appraisers in the discharge of their important and responsible duties, as they relate to all importations coming under their notice; in the appraisement of the articles more especially the subject of these instructions, their attention being particularly directed to the explicit declaration of the Supreme Court, that, if the price of articles, as appeared on the invoice, has been fixed too low in the foreign country from which it is imported, "or lower than it should be on the quantity likely to be saved and to arrive here, it is the duty of the appraisers to raise the price."

It has been represented that, in many cases, the appraisers have felt restrained in the discharge of their duties, by the result of frequent appeals from their decisions. In order, therefore, to secure a just, faithful and impartial appraisal of all goods, wares and merchandise imported into the United States, the following rules and regulations are established:

1. That the period of the exportation of merchandise is the time at which the value or price of any article is to be fixed by the appraisers.
2. That, in ordinary cases, the date of the bill of lading may be regarded as the "period of exportation."
3. That in all important cases the appraisers will pursue the course indicated in the 17th section of the act of 30th of August, 1842, and the collector will preserve the evidence and papers in each such case, to be transmitted to the department when called for.
4. That in all cases of appeal from the decision of the appraisers, the result of such appeal, with all the papers connected therewith, and the views of the collector thereon, are to be forwarded to the Department immediately.

5. That in order that the Department may be informed, as far as may be, of the appraised value of the principal articles imported, and with a view to secure the greatest practical uniformity, a monthly report shall be forwarded according to the form herewith (A.)

6. That where merchandise shall be entered at ports where there are no appraisers appointed, the foreign value is to be ascertained, in the manner before prescribed, by the revenue officers to whom is committed, by the laws, the estimating and collection of duties in such cases.

W. M. MERRITT,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

**Professor Webster.**

A Committee of Executive Council on pardons, met at Boston, on the 10th of July, to hear any and all persons who might have any remarks to make in the case of John W. Webster.

Petitions from all parts of the United States were being circulated for signatures.

Before the Committee some very curious, and often inconsistent statements and affirmations were made, among some of the petitions read, Lt. Gov. Reed remarked that the Committee had received every variety of petitions, among which were three or four in which the signers said that they and not Professor Webster had committed the murder.

The following letter from Prof. Webster was read:

Boston, Saturday, July 6.

Hon. JOHN REED, Chairman of the Committee on Pardons of the Honorable Council:

The subscriber having read a statement in the newspapers of this date, that there is no pipe conveying the Cochituate water to the place in the Medical College where it was allowed to flow over the parts of the body of Dr. Parkman, and desirous that all the facts should be known, begs leave respectfully to present the following:

In the small private room is a large reservoir for water, capable of holding several barrels of water. From this reservoir the water was drawn when wanted, through a lead pipe issuing from the bottom of the reservoir, terminated by a cock. This pipe is on the right hand; and on the same side, in the corner of the sink, below the reservoir, is an exit pipe, which passes down through the floor and in the angle formed by the wall of the furnace that warms the lecture room and the partition separating the lower laboratory from the dissecting room entry.

The reservoir was filled with water in October, preparatory to other arrangements for the lectures. It was filled by attaching one of the long flexible hoses, kept in the College, to the Cochituate water-pipe. Very little of the water had been drawn from the reservoir, as the sink in the small room was used only as a place for washing my hands.

It was the water from this reservoir which was first used and allowed to flow over parts of the body. After some of the discolored water had been found to escape from the sink and not pass freely down the exit pipe, the pipe appeared to be obstructed. The exit pipe passes down through the floor in the corner, and on examination the ceiling of the laboratory below was found to be stained. The stain probably remains, although from the action of the lime it may have been rendered fainter than at first. That it escaped the notice of the officers and others who examined the lower laboratory, must have been owing to the circumstance that attention was not directed to anything above, but to the furnace immediately below.

As some water remained in the reservoir and if a cock was not tight, I placed a pail under it to receive the droppings and prevent more water passing down the exit pipe.

The well in the lecture table was kept full by a hose connected with the Cochituate water pipe on the left of the door between the two rooms. Two short hoses have always been kept in the upper laboratory, to be connected with this pipe and with each other, when water was required in or upon the lecture table.

From the well in the lecture table the discolored water flowed through a cock below, into a wooden conductor, running along the ceiling of the room below. This water was delivered into the sink near the stairs. An examination of the well and conductor may yet confirm what is stated.

From the Cochituate water-pipe over the sink in the lower laboratory, water was conveyed into the well in the table in that room. The discolored water was allowed to flow from the cock below, directly under which there has always been an aperture in the floor, for the passage of water from this well when it became necessary to change it.

In consequence of some imperfection in the power cock of this well, the discolored water flowed out faster than it escaped through the aperture in the floor; the water was allowed to run from the hog-head, near by, for the purpose of cleaning the floor of the colored water from the well, and on leaving the room the water was left running. As the discolored water from the well seemed likely to spread, and might, I thought, even extend outside the room, I removed several pails full and poured it into the sink upon the floor. To remove any traces of it from the sink I laid a spout from one of the hog-heads and let clean water flow from it into the sink.

With great respect, J. W. WEBSTER.

The Committee decided that time should be given, as requested by the friends of the prisoner, for circulation of petitions in this Commonwealth in his behalf, and accordingly adjourned to Thursday, the 18th inst.

**THE PHILADELPHIA CONFLAGRATION.**—From the New York Herald we take the following:—

The lists are still very incomplete, but we give below all that we can hear of:

**Killed.**—Marcus Marcus, aged 16; Caroline Marcus, Isaac Marcus, David Mulford, Northern Liberties Hose; Miss Collins, West street; Jesse Gillam, aged 10; Miss Ellen McKee, 193 N. Front street; Dorothy Hand, aged 25; Thomas Donohue, 12 Crosson's alley; Miss Abigail E. Drake, David May two unknown at Cherry street Station house, one unknown boy, aged 9, and two unknown bodies at the Hospital; unknown white man, aged 40, at the Green House, and two others.

**Missing, Supposed Burned or Drowned.**—George Smith, aged 9; Mary Anna Alexander, aged 3, 201 N. Front street; Isaac Brown, Weccacoa Hose; Samuel Reeve, aged 38, Wharton street; Hartman Leichtenhahn, aged 19, 327 S. Second street; Samuel McKee and Mary McKee, 198 N. Front street; child of John Gilligan, aged 2, Water, below Vine street; three members of Assistance Engine; George McGinnis, Hibernia Engine; and a number of others, whose names we have not learned.

**Wounded.**—Anson Steel, Reliance Engine, cut in the head; Larry Brown, do. do.; John Hance, do. disabled; Felix Jacoby, do. do.; David Donmaker, do. do.; Thos. J. Rogers, do. do.; Daniel Jones, do. finger blown off; Thomas Dillon, do. leg injured; Victor Arasey, do. slightly; Jesse Hartsell, Humane Engine, severely; Thomas Fry, do. badly burned; Theodore Buck, do. do.; another member of the Humane Engine, arm broken; Mr. Smith, Humane Hose, hand crushed; John Farrell, Resolution Hose, skull fractured by a fall; J. W. Burkart, do. badly; D. P. Ray, Robt. Oldham, and G. W. Regnault, of same company, slightly injured; Robert Russell, Hope Hose, arm cut; W. R. Backus, United States Engine, slightly; Alexander Simpson, United States Engine, hands burned; Jno. Shillingsbrough, badly; Floss Hammiers, fatally; Charles Smith, Phoenix Engine, arm injured; James W. Parkinson, South Eighth street, injured in head and body; Peter A. Keyser, arm wounded; H. Gorgas, seriously; Geo. Kelter, badly; Mary Farley, arm broken and otherwise hurt; Sarah Donnelly, severely burned; Mrs. Callahan, do.; Mrs. Hays, do.; young girl, arms broken and body burned; Wm. L. Backman, both legs broken; Myers Flesham, severely; John Patterson, lad, dreadfully burned; Cornelius O'Brien, arm broken; Thomas Steel, badly; Wm. Mills, both legs broken; Henry Gorgas, collar bone broken; Thos. McNeely, arm broken; Robert Craig, badly; Jas. Hammell, Hibernia Engine, badly; Patrick Doyle, do. badly; Michael J. L. Burthe, leg broken; Moses Jordan, Washington Hose, hand crushed; Adam Lee, Penn. Hose, slightly; Charles McKee, do. badly injured; Joseph Carr, U. S. Engine, slightly.