



#### Reported Cases of Cholera.

Thursday, June 21—30 new cases, 14 deaths.
Friday, " 22—26 " 14 "
Saturday, " 23—38 " 16 "
Sunday, " 24—38 " 21 "
Monday, " 25—47 " 28 "
Tuesday, " 26—73 " 38 "

It will be seen by the above that the disease is very mild, and many believe that the real cases of cholera are much magnified in the above list. The eminent physicians of the Board of Health have been very successful in treating the disease and they have said, that more might have been cured had they not been tampered with before coming to the hospitals. Many strangers have sought refuge in our city from the sickly places in the South and South West.

#### California.

Since the California excitement first broke forth in the early part of the present year, hundreds of the young men of this country have hastened with joyous anticipations and hopes to the glittering fields of "El Dorado," braving the dangers consequent upon the journey, and the privations of a newly discovered country, with the expectation that a fortune could easily be acquired and a return home sure. We have carefully watched these movements, and bid adieu to several cherished and never to be forgotten friends, not however without the unpleasant reflection, that some of them would "repose beneath the spot where the tear of kindred would never bedew," we were forced to this conclusion from the fact that they were so situated here that hardship and want scarcely dared venture to come near; indeed they were surrounded by cherished friends, and all that could render life comfortable.

We have never doubted the richness of the "placers" but we have doubted the ease with which they are made to yield up their treasures. Wherever we find large mineral deposits and mountains of wealth, we find them almost bidding defiance to the skill of man, and the surrounding country barren and unyielding in the extreme. A careful study of the resources and condition of California as developed in the late correspondence from that country, forces the conclusion that many of the adventurers are bound to be disappointed in their expectations, as extracts from several letters to the *Courier and Enquirer*, dated at San Francisco about the middle of April will show. We should think the correspondent was a shrewd observer of the condition of things as they actually exist.

"You will observe (says he,) that none but hale, hearty, stout, well knit and healthy men need come out here for gold. And two-thirds of these (let me warn them in time) will lay their bones where they go with the hope of accumulating fortunes. My reasons for thinking thus must be obvious enough to persons at all acquainted with the country.—When the unhealthy season sets in at the placer, the temptation for augmenting one's heap is too strong to be resisted. As each individual imagines that he will escape, or, at any rate, that the chances are somewhat in his favor, none leave until a raging fever has taken a strong hold, when, in most cases, it is too late to depart. But this is useless. No warning from me, or any body else will turn the tide; and I fancy that every person coming to California, intends to take this at the flood, feeling confident that it must "lead on to fortune." But I know, from actual observation, that the tide runs both ways out here. There is an ebb, as well as a flood.

"If any suppose that gold can be procured without labor, and that of the severest kind, they are, I assure you, very much mistaken. Why, laying water or gas pipes in the streets of New York is not half as toilsome work.—No man should come to this country with the expectation of making his fortune at the mines

by getting out gold, but such a one as feels fully able to dig about half a dozen graves a day, taking a cold bath every fifteen or twenty minutes during his work, and whilst in a profuse perspiration, and that without injury to the constitution. It would not be a bad plan to practice this, for a month or two, on the banks of some river, before leaving the United States."

The toils of mining are severe, the privation great, and sickness prevails throughout all the mining districts. "The same irregularity of life, which is almost a matter of course at the diggings, when the want of the right kind of food is considered with it, would produce sickness any where. It costs to be sick, with one visit a day from a physician, and without comforts of any kind, \$600 to \$1,000 per month. Some gentlemen are now talking of putting up a tent hospital as a speculation, at the mines."

Provisions of all kinds are very high, as the following statement will show: "milk, 5 shillings per quart; eggs, 4 to 6 dollars per dozen; beef, 1 to 2 shillings per lb.; raisins, 12 dollars per box; flour, 16 to 20 dollars; pork, 25 to 30 dollars per bl.; potatoes, which by the way have not found their way to our table, 10 cents per lb. Go to the Restaurant—call for beef steak and a cup of coffee, you pay \$1.50—add an egg, and you will be charged \$2.50. Buildings 12x14 ft. of common boards, bring 30 to 75 dollars per month.

"The gold washings (*oro placers*) continue to yield as rich a profit as ever. Industrious and economical laborers make very high wages, so much so as to enable them, in a couple of years, to retire with enough to make them comfortable. But the ease with which money is made in this country leads to the most horrible dissipation. Gambling, drunkenness, and other evils are the order of the day. As yet no serious difficulties have occurred in the country. Some few murders have been committed, but in nearly every instance the murderers have been caught and executed. The very little authority possessed by the present government has been judiciously exercised in the preservation of order; but I fear its power will not be sufficient for the vast population which is pouring in upon us."

#### The Mormon Manifesto.

This singular sect, who moved to the great Salt Lake valley after expulsion from Iowa, Missouri, and Illinois, have published their first manifesto to all their brethren throughout the world. It is a curious document, containing a strange admixture of sense, cant, shrewdness and impiety, together with many quite interesting details respecting the region in which they have taken up their abode.—They have commenced the erection of a city on a grand scale, which is divided into nineteen wards, consisting each of nine blocks, each three square. They are to have a council house, bridges, bath houses, schools, colleges, and all the institutions of civilization. A gold mine was discovered, it is said, by a party of them who had gone on an exploring tour through the northern part of Western California. John Smith, the uncle of Joseph, has been ordained "Patriarch of the church." The cultivation of large tracts of land had been commenced. No doubt a prosperous settlement will grow up in this distant region, opening up a fruitful subject for the speculations of those who are interested in such inquiries.

#### The Moustache.

The moustache, though of foreign origin, became naturalized among us during the Mexican war, and since then almost every one who trod the territory of the Montezumas, if it were only in the capacity of a mule-driver, delights to sport his bushy moustache. Even militia captains and corporals, who never crossed the Gulf, prodigiously affect this facial ornament. There are some men who defend the moustache upon principle, discomfiting all their opponents by the overwhelming argument, "nature placed the mous ache where it is for the purpose of being worn,"—excellent argument, and it would be well for all the moustachees to carry out the principle a little farther, such as to houses and clothes &c., nature did not produce them any more than a razor to clean a man's chin.

#### Magnets.

Mr. J. Prime of Washington, N. C., writes us in reference to the article from his pen on Mariners Compasses, represented in number 37 *Scientific American*. The engraving, as he supposes, was an artistic error. It should have represented a rectangular bar with square ends instead of the Surveyor's needle. The false lines of direction should have been represented within the bar not outside of it, and the new point lies in the discovery of the rectangular bar with square ends, sometimes becoming diagonal instead of the line of direction being always parallel to the sides of the bar. There is much in the magnet that is still mysterious; all the knowledge that has been gained on the subject has been by observation and experience. We regret that the figure in No. 37 was incorrect, but this will explain the matter.

#### Knowledge.

Knowledge is its own exceeding great reward. It is not the gift of colleges, particularly. It is what the mind produces whenever it acts. Great schools are chief appliances for the lazy, to furnish substitutes for knowledge by which they may make their way in the world. The youth who has a noble thirst for science is not so much benefited by a "liberal education" as he is apt to imagine he will be before trying it. If your parents are rich, and have nothing better to do with their money, let them board you at Cambridge or Yale for four years. But if they are poor, laboring people, stay with them and labor too. But don't the less strive for a liberal education.—Be liberal in supplying yourself with books and time. Journey on foot, and study nature and men.

#### Cotton Consumption in the United States

In 1642 the consumption of cotton in the U. States was 300,000 bales, and in 1848, 600,000 bales. Eighty-three years since there was not a spindle on the continent of America—whereas there are now in five of the New England States not less than two millions of spindles. Vast as the number is in the country, they promise to increase in full proportion to its growth. The cotton crop of 1848 was 988,099,083 pounds: supposing six cents per pound, which is liberal, to be returned to the planter, the sum realized from the crop is in round numbers, \$60,000,000. The capital required to grow this cotton, including the cost of land, negroes, horses, mules, gins, etc. etc. would be at least \$300,000,000.

#### Important Decision.

In the United States court in New Orleans, Judge McCaleb presiding, it has been decided that money in bank, deposited by an auctioneer, though in his private name, cannot be attached for his own debts. The auctioneer being a public officer, the money of his constituents cannot be made liable for any of his private engagements, agreeable to articles 2,582 and 2,583 of the civil code.

#### Snuff and Plants.

Tobacco dust (fine snuff,) is said by Prof. Mapes to be a complete preventive to plants against destructive insects. The way to use it, is to dust a little of it over the surfaces of the plants. The rose bug, and thrips on grape vines, he says, all yield to the influence of snuff, and the most delicate plants of the hot house are not injured by its application.

#### Coal in the West.

Capt. Dent on his tour to Santa Fe to Fort Smith, Arkansas, has discovered a mountain nearly all composed of bituminous coal.—Throughout the whole country there is abundance of coal.

The Edenton (N. C.) Sentinel speaks of having been presented with a fine ripe watermelon, a few roasting yams, ripe tomatoes and cucumbers.

Fans propelled by the steam engine have been set up in the New York Sun Establishment. This is a good way to ventilate large establishments in warm weather. It promotes health and comfort.

Lard, or tar, will cure cattle that may be hoven with eating clover. Put two or three table spoonfuls of tar in the mouth of the animal and it will be relieved almost instantaneously.

#### Extraordinary Hail Storm.

The Muncy Luminary and Broomsburg papers state that a hail storm passed over parts of the counties of Lycoming, Columbia and Luzerne, on Sunday last a week, which for the size of the hail that fell, is the most extraordinary that has ever occurred in that region. In Muncy and its vicinity, it was not uncommon to see them the size of a man's fist. They measured 8 and 9 inches in circumference, and weighed as high as 6 ounces. Glass in the windows was broken and the crops injured. There was but little wind with it.—In Columbia and Luzerne counties the crops were greatly injured by it. Some of the farmers lost their all.

#### Importance of Plank Roads to Farmers.

Scientific experiments have proved that the same power required to move one ton, in a common lumber wagon on a level earth road will move the same wagon with a load of 4 1-3 tons on a level wood surface.

#### Costly Boiler.

The steam boiler which is being made in Philadelphia, for the United States frigate now in progress of construction of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, is composed of 75,000 pounds of pure copper, and will cost \$30,000.

We believe that all the boilers of the Oriental Steam Company vessels are made of copper.

#### Discoveries in Constantinople.

A letter from Constantinople states that important repairs are making in the grand mosque of St. Sophia, which are to be completed by the approaching festival of Ramadan. In the course of this work, a large Mosaic was found representing the Virgin commending the City of Constantinople to the protection of Constantine, and the Church of St. Sophia to the protection of Justinian. This monument is in a perfect state of preservation.

#### Druidical Remains.

A curious monument of the religious rites of the ancient Gauls, has just been discovered at Suevres. It is an immense block of stone which various indications show to have been used at the human sacrifices of the Druids.—The little City of Suevres contains many other interesting monuments of the times of the Romans and of the middle ages.

#### Old Frescoes Found.

A discovery interesting to the friends of art, has been made by an amateur in the parish church of Bourg, at St. Michel. He has found frescoes of the sixteenth century covering the walls, and also the columns and perhaps even the arches, which have been long concealed by a thick coat of white coloring, that can be taken off by well-known processes without injury to paintings of this kind.

#### O'Connell's Library.

The sale of O'Connell's library greatly disappointed his family and admirers. The books hardly brought the average price of auction sales.

#### Sir John Franklin.

The board of Officers to whom was referred the proposition for fitting out an expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, have reported against its feasibility. The government has no vessel suitable for the purpose, and there is no authority to purchase new ones.

#### A Great Speculation.

The best speculation in California of which we have heard was that of a loafer who stole a hen, and invited four returned miners to dine upon her, at the reasonable rate of five dollars each. In preparing the hen for cooking our loafer found in her craw two ounces of gold. After partaking freely of the hen, the loafer found the following to be the profits of the transaction: For four guests at \$5 each, \$20 for two ounces of gold found in hen's craw, \$35—Total profits on hen, \$52.

A large Bald Eagle was captured alive last week in the Potomac, between Alexandria and Washington. He lit upon a stick in the river having a hook in it, which went through his foot.

The common article of dress in California is a coffee sack, with holes cut for the head and arms of the wearer. Another evidence of Anglo Saxon ingenuity and energy.