

TELEGRAPHIC.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Scott's bill supplementary to the act incorporating the Texas Pacific Railroad Company ratifies and confirms the consolidation heretofore made of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company and the Southern Texas Transcontinental Company as authorized by the laws of the State of Texas, and provides also that these roads so consolidated and east of Fort Wood, shall be deemed part of the Texas and Pacific Railroad, and shall hereafter be subjected to the limitations and provisions of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1871, incorporating the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company.

The Secretary of War has telegraphed to the commandant at Little Rock to withdraw his forces to the arsenal as soon as the danger of bloodshed is over, and leave the matter to be settled by the contestants in the courts.

LITTLE ROCK, April 25.—Brooks this morning refused to recognize the Secretary of State, Johnson, and ordered him to vacate and surrender his office on the ground that he signed Baxter's proclamation, last night, convening the Legislature. Johnson addressed to Brooks two letters stating his position and the necessity of his taking possession of the office. Brooks denies Baxter's authority to convene the Legislature. The people, however, are generally satisfied with the means of settling the difficulty. Brooks this morning announced to the troops his determination of holding the State House regardless of consequences.

LONDON, April 25.—Arrived at Liverpool, bark Alton, from Portland, Oregon. Sailed from Liverpool, ship City of Sparta, for San Francisco; also bark Vale of Nith. The steamship Teutonia, disabled, has passed Lizard Point in tow.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—The ship James Chester, which sailed for Naniamo last night drifted ashore near Ocean View. Two tugs are at work, with a prospect of getting her out.

Greenbacks 80, @ 80 1/2. Wm. C. Henn, who cut his throat yesterday, will probably recover.

About 150 persons attended the Union Temperance Prayer Meeting last night. The pledges circulated by the ladies are numerously signed.

G. B. Denmore's dramatization of Mark Twain's "Gilded Age" has proven very popular at the California Theatre.

Owing to the prevalence of typhoid fever in the county jail a large number of prisoners will be immediately removed to the old county hospital.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—In the House, to-day, Mr. Hurlbut, from the Committee on Railways and Canals, reported a substitute for the bill previously reported by the committee in aid of the Portland, Dalles and Salt Lake Railroad and also a telegraph line. The bill provides that the United States shall guarantee and pay interest on five per cent, ten-year bonds to be issued by the railroad company to the extent of \$8,000 per mile, amounting in all to \$5,600,000, as each section of twenty-five miles shall be completed, to aid in the construction of the road from the Columbia River to some point on the Pacific Railroad between Ogden and Kelton.

When this portion of the road shall be finished, similar aid on the same conditions is to be extended to the remainder of the road between Portland and the Columbia River. In return the railroad is to transport the mails, troops and Indian supplies, and also to send Government dispatches free of charge, forever. No discriminations shall be made against freight and passengers at any point, and pro rata charges between any specified points are omitted.

The Senate passed the bill authorizing the construction of a bridge over the Willamette River at Salem, Oregon.

Captain Chas. H. Baldwin is detached from the command of the Naval rendezvous at San Francisco, on June 1st, and placed on waiting orders.

Vice President Wilson is on the way from Boston to Washington. On his return to Boston he will leave on a Southern and Western trip, which will probably extend to California.

The Government engineer's report on the surveys of the mouth of Coquille River, Oregon, says the difficulties to be overcome and the great cost have led the officer in charge to the conclusion that the best outlet to the sea would be secured by cutting a canal to connect the river with the waters of Coos Bay. The cost of the canal is estimated at \$250,000.

BOSTON, April 24.—General Butler was interviewed on the veto and said he had not read it, but could not see how President Grant could get around his own act in issuing \$30,000,000 reserves; in fact he did not understand it, unless Grant had gone back on himself. He added: "Well, if the President will deny his own acts, let him do it."

LITTLE ROCK, April 24.—The situation is essentially unchanged. Baxter has notified the President that he has convened the Legislature, to meet May 15th. Brooks denies Baxter's authority to convene the Legislature, and is erecting barricades around the State House.

MONROE, La., April 25.—It is impossible to give an idea of the extent of the overflow. The water here is the highest ever known. The town is an island two and a half miles long and a half mile wide, from which there is no exit except by boats. Business is almost suspended, and fully 1,000 people have not had rations for three days, no money to buy any. The town is full of starving stock of every description. The river is still rising. The plantations in the vicinity are all submerged, and there are no prospects of crops. What the people are to do God only knows.

LONDON, April 24.—The new steamship Furdy has begun to load the new Atlantic steamer.

A correspondent at Plymouth reports that the Amerique has been freed from water and examined. The hull was found to be tight, but the valves open. Her crew have been telegraphed for, and she will proceed to Havre on Monday. The Admiralty Court have fixed her bail at \$125,000.

NEW YORK, April 24.—A letter from Havana says it is rumored that several decrees will be issued by the Captain General; one of them will fix the price of gold at fifty per cent premium, and any one suspected of having taken part in any transaction above this figure will be tried by Court-martial. A forced loan of \$7,000,000 is also

talked of, as well as the payment of duties in gold.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—At last accounts the tugs had not succeeded in hauling the ship James Chester off the ocean beach where she drifted to-day. She lay easily and may yet be got away. She had no cargo on board. Her Captain lost the ship Panther a few weeks since on the Northern coast.

Prominent merchants and business men of this city have sent a message to President Grant, congratulating him and the country on the veto of the Finance Bill.

The trial of Bartlett Eret, for the murder of Ned Allen, was concluded this evening. The jury found him guilty of murder in the second degree.

Greenbacks, 80, @ 80 1/2. The steamer William Taber will soon be sent to the Sound to run in connection with the mail steamers to Alaska ports.

The Grangers' Bank was incorporated to-day. Directors—T. McConnell, Sacramento; G. W. Colby, Butte County; J. G. Hill, Ventura County; J. P. Christian, Contra Costa County; J. V. Webster, Alameda County; C. J. Cressey, Stanislaus County; F. J. Woodward, San Joaquin County; J. C. Merrifield, Solano County; A. T. Wolcott, San Francisco County; Carr S. Abbott, Monterey County; John Luelling, Napa County. Capital stock, \$5,000,000, in \$50,000 shares of \$100 each. Capital stock actually subscribed, \$532,200.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—The steamer Granada, from Panama, arrived to-day. Tugs have succeeded in hauling the ship James Chester off the ocean side beach, and are now towing her up the harbor.

SACRAMENTO, April 25.—Professors Whiteside and Martin made a successful ascension in the balloon "International" this afternoon from the Agricultural Park. The balloon is the largest ever constructed on the Pacific Coast.

BAKERSFIELD, April 24.—Under Sheriff Huntege received information to-day of a murder and robbery committed by Bill Daniel at Indian Wells Station, on the Owen's River road on Tuesday last.

SAN JOSE, April 24.—The five mile trotting race to-day was won by Lady Mack in 13:00; Norman Hall a good second, and John Stewart third.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Since no supplies can be had from military stations on the overland route of the Lower Mississippi the Secretary of War, after a conference with the President, has directed the Commissary of Subsistence to purchase 500,000 rations of meat, flour, beans and rice, and to carry into effect the Relief Bill. He asks an appropriation of \$90,000. The estimates are based on issuing rations to 20,000 for twenty days.

The Senate Finance Committee will this week consider the House Finance Bill. The Conservatives think a bill may be framed, acceptable to the Senate, combining the feature of redemption proposed in that bill, with the right to issue additional bank notes, on condition that a certain proportion of legal tenders be withdrawn simultaneously; and many believe that if such a bill is reported from the Senate Committee, with a provision authorizing free banking, it will pass the Senate and House, and receive the approval of the President.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—The following postal changes have been ordered for Oregon. Offices discontinued.—Trask, Tillamook county.

Postmasters Appointed.—Norman Darling, Damascus, Clackamas county. A private letter from General Sickles says he will return to the United States in two months.

NEW ORLEANS, April 27.—The river is falling, and is two inches below high water mark. Seven days' Northern, Western and Eastern mails are due. Three bridges are gone between here and Mobile and Jackson.

MONROE, La., April 25.—The river rose but very little last night. Another break poured much water on the back part of the city. Washington street is overflowed within three blocks of the river. The weather is fair. There is no intelligence from above or below.

ST. LOUIS, April 25.—The Times asserts that 2,000 Springfield rifles and 13,000 rounds of ammunition have been sent to Brooks at Little Rock.

NEW YORK, April 25.—The Federal Council of the Internationalists have resolved to disband the organization. It is a complete failure in the United States.

LOUISVILLE, April 25.—A steambot, with seventy-five tons of Government provisions, left here this afternoon for the Louisiana submerged district.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Governor Baxter telegraphs to the President denying that he has declared martial law outside of Pulaski County.

COLUMBUS, April 27.—The temperance crusade, which has been quiet here for some weeks, started to-day in a new direction. Some twenty ladies marched to the Saloon of Charles Wagner, who advertised a free lunch and new drinks, called the "Crusade Water," some hearing the names of ladies prominently identified with the temperance crusade, and demanded some of the water and a share of the lunch. Wagner refused either and forbade ejected the women, who have since been parading on the walk in front of Wagner's place, in spite of his efforts to disperse them by washing the sidewalk.

CHICAGO, April 27.—There was great excitement at Topeka, Kansas, yesterday over the arrival of the old man Bender and his wife. Thousands flocked around the jail to see the butchers, who were fully identified by many who had seen them when in Kansas.

MADRID, April 25.—A rumor is current that the Carlists have asked Serrano for an amnesty.

LONDON, April 25.—Advices from Constantinople says that the Suez Canal difficulty is settled.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 27.—The steamer Colorado, which arrived this afternoon, brings Yokohama dates to April 7th. Yeto, leader of the Saka Insurrection, is a fugitive in the islands of the Indian Sea, having vainly sought refuge in Satsuma.

An expedition has been organized by Japan against Formosa. Japan is disputing with China the right to possession of the island.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 27.—The steamer Tartar, of the British line, sailed to-day for Australia, with a full complement of passengers and a large English mail.

The steamer Colorado, from China and Japan, arrived this afternoon.

Female canvassers are busily engaged in the city soliciting signatures to the total abstinence pledges, and are meeting with fair success.

The wholesale liquor dealers of this city held a meeting this afternoon, and elected David Porter President. A committee was appointed to draft a Constitution and By-Laws. The object of the meeting is stated to have been to perfect means for protecting their customers in the interior of the State against the women crusaders and local option law. They have determined to raise a fund of \$10,000, to defray the expense testing any case that may arise under the latter in any county of the State.

ROSEVILLE, April 27.—Abram Link, an employe of the Western Hotel, of Sacramento, was run over by the cars and instantly killed at this place this evening.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—The Senate Committee on Commerce and Navigation reported

favorably on Senator Mitchell's bill granting Government aid for the construction of the Portland, Dalles and Salt Lake Railway. The bill provides for guaranteeing payment of interest on bonds of the Company to the extent of \$8,000 per mile, in return for which army and Indian supplies and United States mails are to be forever transported free.

Mr. Kendall presented resolutions of the Nevada Legislature urging the passage of a bill requiring patents to be issued immediately for lands granted to the Central Pacific Railroad in order that they may be subjected to taxation.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—Governor Baxter, of Arkansas, has telegraphed to the President that an armed insurrection exists in that State, and asks aid to suppress it. Brooks has already made a similar requisition, and has two lawyers here now representing his interests. Baxter's counsel is also on the way here, and the question of who is the actual governor will soon be presented for the President's decision.

NEW ORLEANS, April 27.—Three hundred families in West Baton Rouge are homeless. The town is entirely submerged. The United States Quartermaster transferred to the Distributing Committee yesterday 25,000 suits and 4,000 blankets. Advances from Teche County say the river continues to rise.

NEW YORK, April 28.—The Mississippi overflow has created 25,000 sufferers in Louisiana. The parishes in which the crops are ruined formerly produced over 100,000 hog-heads of sugar, nearly 14,000,000 pounds of rice, \$1,000,000 worth of molasses and 142,000 bales of cotton.

In the case of Michael Sampson vs. the Union Pacific Railroad Co., Jay Gould, Sidney Dillon, et al., an order has been issued directing the defendants to appear before the Supreme Court to show cause why an injunction should not be issued restraining the Union Pacific Railroad Company from disposing in any way of securities executed under indemnities known as the Sinking Fund Mortgage. The argument will be heard to-day or to-morrow.

LONDON, April 27.—The Khedive of Egypt took military possession of the Suez Canal before De Lesseps acquiesced in the decision of the International Commission.

HAVANA, April 27.—General Palacios Vallés, with 6,000 men, has taken possession of Ciego.

HAVANA, April 27.—General Concha has ordered a draft from persons between twenty-five and thirty-five years of age.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28.—George Williams, foreman at the Pioneer Woolen Mills, North Beach, was attacked at a late hour last night by three men, who threw a sack over his head and robbed him of \$700, beat him badly and threw him into the bay. He managed to escape, but was seriously injured.

SANTA CRUZ, April 28.—The stage which left San Jose this morning, at 10 o'clock, was stopped by two highwaymen at half-past two, about five miles this side of Lexington, and sixteen miles from Santa Clara. There were three men and two women, besides the driver, on the stage. The robbers stepped into the road in front of the stage, with double-barreled guns, cocked, and ordered the driver to stop his horses, which he did without hesitation, as the muzzles of the guns looked very large. They demanded Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express box, which the driver informed them he did not have, as it was not carried on that route. They then said that they wished to go through the passengers, who were ordered out, but as they hesitated, the robbers said to hand out what money they had, which the passengers proceeded to do. The collection was rather light, only about \$20 altogether being taken. A gold and silver watch were demanded and handed over.

The gold watch was worth \$100. The robbers were masked, and evidently new at the business—one being very young, while the other, a heavy-set man, was of more steady nerve, taking the money while the young man held his gun very nervously, and but little to say. The short, heavy-set man is supposed to be the same one who robbed the stage on this route a few weeks ago. The other was light complexion, slight build, small hands and feet. Both were well dressed in dark new clothing of fashionable cut. They were gallant enough to make no demand upon the ladies, who were somewhat frightened, but not molested in any way. After taking up the collection—which was carelessly done, the passengers retaining most of their money—the driver was ordered to go on. The following is a list of the passengers: H. Edleson, Geo. W. Converse and wife, William Brothers and Mrs. Brant.

VALLEJO, April 28.—The Co-operative Ship-builders Association commenced active operations this morning near Martin street wharf. Their executive committee will return from San Francisco to-night, and to-morrow will be known the tonnage, etc., of their first vessel to build. All connected with the association are of the choicest mechanics of the State.

YREKA, April 28.—Arthur Hill, aged 16 years, was thrown from a horse near Cottonwood, in this county, yesterday morning, and received injuries which he died last night.

TACOMA, April 28.—A survey was made last week of the route running into the new town of Tacoma. The estimates were brought into the office of the company last Saturday and work will commence immediately. The grade will be completed within a month, and the cars will be running into the town inside of two months.

CATHOLIC SOAP FOR INSECTS.—Mr. Fuller has experimented a little with this article in killing insects upon green-house plants, particularly the green fly aphids, which, as everybody knows, is a great pest, and one not readily destroyed, except by fumigating with tobacco—not a nice operation to perform upon parlor plants or in a conservatory attached to a dwelling. My first experiment with this soap was a decided success, operating upon two hundred roses just in bloom, and it was conducted as follows: Into a pail of warm water I put a lump of soap the size of a small hen's egg. The soap was cut into small pieces and the water agitated until it was all dissolved forming a warm suds. The water should not be too hot, but if not above 120° of thermost, will do no harm. Into this suds each rose bush was plunged holding the pot inverted in the hand and kept there a out half a minute. After plunging, the plants were set aside for a few minutes, then dipped again, shaking them about thoroughly, washing the leaves and then returned to their former place in the house. Whether it was the soap or the warm water that killed the green fly, I will not say, but there is one thing certain they, are all dead.

FOUR ASTORS.—Out of five children which composed the family of John Jacob Astor, only one—William B.—remains, and he is upwards of eighty. He is also one of the oldest native-born residents of the city, and has seen wonderful changes. He can remember the first settlement, and has seen the city increase from a population of thirty thousand to that of a million. He has also seen his father's estate expand from \$200,000 to \$20,000,000, and has beheld all the associates of his youth pass away, as well as his parents and their children.

STATE NEWS.

Mining is going on amid the ruins of La Grande.

Dwelling houses for rent are very scarce at Albany.

Knox Butte Grange, Linn county, has 54 members.

The crops are doing finely throughout the interior.

The ladies of the Episcopal Church at Oregon City propose giving monthly festivals.

Work has been commenced on the bridge spanning the Yamhill at McMinnville.

Dr. J. H. Mack, who was burned out in East Portland last Monday morning, has resumed business.

A number of people are in Portland waiting for the first boat bound for the Steeple mines.

The stockholders of the Albany Farmer's Company hold a meeting for the election of seven directors, in that city, on the 10th of May.

Between twenty and thirty Lodges, and members from numerous others will be in attendance at the Albany Odd Fellows' celebration next Monday.

The monument heretofore described has been placed over the grave of Oregon's pioneer printer, the late John Fleming, in the cemetery at Oregon City.

The Christian Sunday School at McMinnville has just received a new library of 197 volumes, and the teachers and scholars are highly pleased with the books.

An Episcopal Parish has been organized at McMinnville, under the name of St. James's Church. The Vestrymen are, H. V. N. Johnson, Geo. W. Snyder, Geo. Willis, Wm. Willis, A. R. Burbank and R. A. Lanson.

A meeting of those engaged in the salmon fishing business in the Columbia is to take place for the purpose of devising a method of protecting the salmon, and securing to the Columbia their continued presence and increase.

The Grangers of Washington county are contemplating a grand picnic excursion to St. Joe on the first day of May. From the preparations being made, there is no doubt that a most enjoyable time will be had and that a great many people will be there to see it.

The Evening News says that Captain Gilbert, with his corps of coast survivors, has planted his encampment in a beautiful pine grove on Nechanacum Creek. His beacons are rising along the plains southward from Point Adams. A trail will be cut over the mountains below the seaside, and a beacon placed on Saddle mountain during the Summer.

Butter is twenty cents a pound at Albany.

Small boys in Portland steal pig iron.

Sneak thieves infest Empire City, Coos Bay.

The Grangers of Dallas number one hundred.

Mrs. McCormick's residence was burned in Eugene City, Sunday, the 15th.

North Yamhill Lodge of Good Templars initiated sixteen new members last Saturday night.

E. M. Burton of Portland has purchased the ranch of James Force of Wasco county for the sum of \$1,500.

At Eugene City, last Monday, John Skinner's little girl swallowed a small lump of blue vitriol, and before the doctor arrived she came near dying.

A man named John Garrish was arrested and tried before Justice Stewart at North Yamhill on Tuesday last for assault and battery on the person of his wife.

Robert J. Ladd, late Clerk of School District No. 1, in Portland, has absconded, and it is understood that a partial examination of his books shows him to be a defaulter to the amount of \$13,000.

John Garrish, of North Yamhill, was fined \$20 and costs, amounting to \$30, for boating his wife.

The road over the Blue Mountains is now in such a condition that freight teams can cross over without serious difficulty.

A sailor by the name of Charles Wilson, a native of Holland, was found drowned yesterday, near Flander's wharf in Portland.

A number of Albany wheat dealers have telegraphed for a vessel to take a cargo of grain direct from Astoria to Liverpool.

Ladd, the defaulting and absconding Multnomah county School Clerk, was at the meeting between Williams and Dayenport at Oakland, on Thursday evening, and was called on by Williams to verify his (Williams') statement.

The following is the Curry county Republican ticket: For Joint Representative, H. G. Blake; Clerk, J. L. Evans; Sheriff, S. B. Gardner; Treasurer, John Thomas; School Superintendent, M. B. Gregory; Assessor, A. R. Miller; Surveyor, J. W. Canfield; Commissioners, Patrick Hughes and A. Miller.

The Oregonian says that Mr. Bigham, of Wasco county, will arrive in Portland by the steamer from San Francisco, now due, with three very fine stallions imported from the East. One of them is a chestnut stallion called George Wilkes, by Asteroid, out of Emma Wright, by Imp. Margrave. Another is a bay stallion called Luther, by Lexington, dam Belle Lewis, by Imp. Gloucester. A very fine sorrel stallion, seven years old, completes the list. He is also by Lexington, dam Verona, by Imp. Yorkshire. Mr. Bigham owns a large stock ranch in Wasco Co., and these horses will be a great acquisition to this State as well as the coast generally.

A great excitement was raised in Union, Baker county, a few days ago. A man passing through that town spent half a dollar. It has been the topic of conversation ever since, and the half dollar is now on exhibition.

Summit Mine, Baker county, is doing finely.

Down Portland way, little difficulties are settled by ring fights.

There is a call for a schoolmarm convention at Union, Baker county.

Jacksonville is to have three days' races during the close of next month.

A note of \$1,000 sold at auction sale in Pendleton on the 19th inst, for \$30.

Weston promises to become one of the liveliest towns in Umatilla county.

The closing exercises of the Baker City Academy were a grand literary treat.

The Jacksonville Red Men are going to give a grand ball on the 12th of May.

New buildings have been erected already on the burnt district of Jacksonville.

W. E. Webb, a stock raiser on Main Powder River, has lost over fifty cattle by their eating poisonous herbs.

The Jacksonville Literally Society are preparing an entertainment for the benefit of the sufferers by the late fire.

Heretofore the boats on the Columbia will leave Wallula on Mondays and Thursdays for the down trips, and going up will leave Celilo on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Another Chinaman has had his leg broken by the caving in of a bank. This time it is Portland.

Dick Williams was arrested for fighting in Portland and had to "fork over" \$5 and costs.

The crusaders are still on the streets in Portland.

A large number of cattle have died on Main Powder River this Spring from eating poisonous herbs.

Butter in Pendleton is now selling at 37c with a downward tendency; eggs, 13c; potatoes, 1c; beef, 56c to 60c.

A new voting precinct has been established in Jackson county, east of Klamath Reservation. It is called Sprague River Precinct.

Mr. George Stanbury, of Heppner, Umatilla county, had his leg broken last week by the kick of a horse, which he was branding.

A letter has been received from R. J. Ladd, post marked Oakland. Contents not made public.

A hundred guns were fired over the news concerning the P. D. & S. L. R. R., in Portland yesterday.

The citizens of Weston, one evening last week, were thrown into a little excitement by a pistol shot about 9 o'clock at night. The facts appear to be these: A certain person undertook, on last Wednesday evening, about nine o'clock, to visit a certain family, when the husband was absent. The lady, who slept with one eye open, discovered the gentleman's face up against the window pane at the head of her bed-room. She instantly called to the person to begone, at the same time discharging the contents of a pocket derringer at the receding figure.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The following items are gleaned from the Victoria Standard of the 22d instant:

In the Hudson County Court of Sessions, to-day, Judas Spero, convicted on sixteen charges of receiving stolen goods, was sentenced to seven years in the State Prison on the first charge and three years for each of the others—fifty-two years in all. He fainted on hearing the sentence.

On lightning Creek the wash up for last week was: Victoria Company, 350 ounces; Vancouver, 100; Van Winkle, 117. Total, 657 ounces.

An immense bell, weighing upwards of 1,500 pounds, has been shipped from England for the Tigor Company of this city.

About a hundred and fifty miners will leave per steamer Otter to-morrow morning for Cassiar mines. The steamer is also full of freight.

In order to perfect the efficiency of the fire department of this city three of Croft's life protectors have been imported from New York.

The ship Marietta, thirteen days from San Francisco, arrived in Royal Roads on Thursday evening. She will load with spars at the Hastings mill for Europe.

A letter received from Ottawa states that the railroad engineers would leave for Victoria about the middle of this month to resume the railroad work.

We understand that the members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellow will celebrate the fifty-second anniversary of the introduction of their order on the American continent on Sunday, the 23d inst., by attending divine service in a body, and by in a banquet and ball the evening of the following day.

The contract for supplying Government House with pure water has been awarded to Mr. George Lawrence, at 50 cents per hundred gallons.

A REMARKABLE INCIDENT.—The Marysville Appeal of March 28th gives this incident: In an item published on the 20th instant, we stated that during a thunder-storm, which occurred about twenty miles north of this city on the 16th instant, a large number of wild geese were killed. The statement of our informant was so remarkable that we gave it but little credence, and declined to publish it all. But the following from the Sutter Banner confirms the remarkable incident: "First, a small amount of common hail, and then followed sufficient snow to whiten the ground. As the hail began to fall, and the lightning flashed, thousands of wild geese, which were in the ponds of shallow water which exist in that locality during the wet winters, suddenly rose up in a great flutter, as if many hunters had discharged a volley among them. They went up and up, apparently to rise above the fearful cloud. It was nearly dark, and those who saw them rise thought no more of it until morning, when they began to find dead geese, and hear of hundreds being picked up by the neighbors. Some 700 had been found. One man picked up on his farm all two horses could haul, for their feathers. Their heads were badly torn and their bills split into fragments. Many of them had the feathers of their backs crisped and burned and their bodies burst open. The portion of country thus affected was about a mile and a half wide, and reached several miles into Butte county." The vivid lightning was remarked by a number of people in this city, and all remember the heavy rain which fell soon after, which occurred on the evening of the late city election.

HOW TO EXAMINE A WELL OR CISTERN.—In order to explore the bottom of a well, cistern or pond of water, to ascertain whether foreign substance and sediment have been deposited which it is desirable to remove, it is not necessary to descend to the place to be examined. If the sun is shining clearly, a common mirror may be so used as to reveal the profoundest secrets of the gloomy depth below. When held so as to reflect the rays of the sun upon the surface of the water, it will produce a bright spot within the limits of which the smallest object, even to a floating straw, can be plainly seen; and by moving the glass so as to change the illuminated spot, the whole bottom may be explored, if not hidden by intervening objects. If the sun does not shine upon the locality of the opening, its rays may be brought to the place by the use of two mirrors, or, if necessary, a series of them, one reflecting the light to the other until it reach the desired point, when it may be thrown downward. Light may be carried in this way around a house or through it for any distance, the only drawback being that it becomes less brilliant with each reflection. The trouble involved in the experiment is fully compensated by the amusement it affords, as well as by the timely discovery, in many cases, of unwholesome deposits in water which is daily used for domestic purposes.

The bridge over the Kentucky River on the Southern Railroad will be the highest on the continent. It is 275 feet above low water, and has a span of 1,294 feet. The towers erected by John A. Roebbing years ago cost \$100,000 and rise 365 feet above low water.

Messrs. J. and G. Gaches, of Laconner, W. T., intend enlarging wharf and also building a gran warehouse for the coming season's crop.