

VIRGINIA FREE PRESS AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Virginia Free Press.

THURSDAY MORNING.

JANUARY 25, 1869.

THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

The Democracy of this District are in a "peck of trouble" in regard to their candidate for Congress...

We believe that the latter branch has the ascendancy in the District; if they possessed sufficient force to elect...

Mr. Bellinger has never been the choice of the Democracy of Jefferson. The vote has uniformly been for the other candidate...

Mr. Bellinger has appeared in a Card in the "Spirit of Jefferson" in which, patriotic like, he says: "If you desire me again to serve them, I will cheerfully do so."

Mr. Bellinger will, probably, be the nominee. In the way of competitors we have heard the names of Maj. O'Bannon, Mr. Byrd, of Frederick, Mr. Cooke, of Warren, and Mr. Jas. Castleman, of Clarke, suggested.

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THE GOLD DUST.

The late official accounts received by the government from Com. Jones and other officers in California, confirm the extraordinary statements heretofore published. Such immense amounts of gold are found, that it is almost impossible to keep either army or navy together. Lumps of from one to twenty-five pounds have been obtained.

Merchants' clerks are getting salaries of from \$1800 to \$2000. Board is \$4 a day, and washing \$5 to \$6 per day. Gold dust can be purchased for coin at \$20 to \$10 per ounce—worth \$16 in the United States.

There will be great difficulty in maintaining a government in California, unless at immense salaries.

THE CALIFORNIA COMPANY. The Company which has been organized in our State for California, numbers some sixty, and have, in addition, applications for membership from some forty other gentlemen in various parts of the State.

A general meeting of the Members of the Company is to be held at the Old Fellows Hall on Saturday next at 3 o'clock.

EXPEDITION TO CALIFORNIA. Agreeably to notice, those purposing to join the Company to migrate to California, (for the purpose of engaging in mining operations) met at the Old Fellows Hall on Monday evening last.

Mr. J. H. Kelly stated that the first business before the meeting was the supplying of vacancies on the committee to consider applications.

Mr. Kelly moved that a Committee of five be appointed to draft a Constitution and By-Laws for the regulation of the Company.

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THE LADY'S BOOK.

The February number of this Magazine has been received, and instead of diminishing, it interest, it presents still greater attractions than the January number.

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ACCIDENT TO MR. CLAY.

There has been but little news of Mr. Clay since he left the city for his tour of inspection in the West. The bill introduced by Mr. Worthington, for the purpose of amending the act...

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THE NATIONAL ARMORIES.

The Secretary of War has transmitted to Congress the following statement of the expenses of the National Armories, and number of arms and accoutrements manufactured under Government contracts during the fiscal year just closed, which we find in the Philadelphia Bulletin:

Table with columns: Description, Quantity, and Value. Includes items like muskets, rifles, and cartridges.

Grand total expense, \$1,486,078 33.

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IMPORTANT FROM CALIFORNIA.

Highly Interesting Gold Nest. Immense Gold Discoveries.

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