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News of the Fortnight.

Since the sailing of the steamers of the 1st inst., the State has furnished but few topics of discussion or interest, aside from the weather in the interior and the consequent suspension of business of all kinds, the scarcity of provisions, the suffering and embarrassment.

The Legislature met on the 3d inst., but up to the present time have done nothing of moment. The Executive Message and accompanying documents have been referred to committees, but whether the important questions brought before the two Houses will receive further consideration or be allowed to sleep out the session in committee-rooms, remains to be seen. It is probable, however, that after the final settlement of the apital controversy, they will go to work and do something.

The old project of calling a constitutional convention is once more on the tapis. The ostensible object, as set forth by the Executive in his message, is to abolish certain offices created by the constitution;

It the real end is the abrogation of the anti-slavery cause and the division of the State. The first, if it aims at the accomplishment of any definite object, contemplates the introduction of slavery here—a scheme which all men whose intellects are not clouded by prejudice know to be the wildest and most chimerical that was ever entertained by intelligent men. As for the division of the State, after more than a year's investigation, we can discover no plausible reason for it. The advocates of the measure have never yet shown what was to be gained by it, in a political or financial point of view. But the business of the session will turn upon the Constitutional Convention, which will most probably be called. The intended changes, however, will not be

called. The intended changes, however, will not be effected when it is called.

The proposed Miners' Convention is engaging the earnest consideration of the people throughout the State, and discussion is bringing about a degree of definiteness and tangibility in its purposes. It will be a very important body when it comes together, and will leave a permanent impress upon every interest of the commonwealth.

Our latest intelligence from the southern mines represents a great improvement in the weather and the winds. The extreme stringency in the provision market is relaxing as supplies come in, and there is every prospect that the end of the next fortnight will find the mining population prosperous and happy.

Mr. Beale, Indian agent, was at last accounts in the Tulare country, where he had been most successful in his negotiations with the Indians. He has restored peace and satisfaction to the savages, who seem willing to work for their own support, now that they see they are compelled to do so.

We have dates from Oregon to the 7th inst., but no news of consequence. The affairs of the Territory remain in a quiescent state. The winter there, as here, has been very severe.

The long immunity enjoyed from disaster by steam on this coast, was broken in upon on the 6th, by a collision between the *J. Bragdon* and *Camanche*, in which the latter was sunk, and three lives lost.

In our columns will be found a great variety of intelligence from our own coast, from the Islands, the East, etc.
