

into the exclusive hands of Mr. William Biven, who continued the publication more as a neutral local sheet than as a political organ, until the spring of 1862, when he determined to make the Argus a participant in the fierce political struggle in which the whole country was at that time engaged. He accordingly engaged the services of Mr. A. C. Russell, a pronounced anti-war Democrat, as editor of the paper. Under the new management the Argus proceeded to assert and support its views of pending questions with, perhaps, more vigor than discretion. However that may be, before the year was out a peremptory order from the Secretary of War excluded the Argus from the United States mails, and forbade its transportation as freight or otherwise by any vessel, vehicle, or other conveyance carrying mails, or over any body or stream of water, or any road or highway over which mails were carried. The publication was immediately suspended, never to be revived. Mr. Biven, who owned the presses and materials, subsequently adventured two or three small and unpretending publications which, carefully eschewing all political or other public questions, eventually developed the

THE EVENING HERALD.

That paper, like its immediate predecessors, was content to pursue a negative and unaspiring course until the death of Mr. Biven in 1874. The publication was continued for a time without any responsible head, until Mr. Fred. Biven assumed control in the fall of 1875. Under his intelligent management the paper promised to speedily become an able and useful journal. During the winter of 1875-6, the property was purchased by Messrs. Preston & Bell, the present proprietors. Though strangers in the city, and comparatively young in the profession of journalism, these gentlemen at once addressed themselves energetically and with good judgment to the task of making the Herald a good, useful and influential paper; and they have succeeded. They made it a conservative but decided Democratic sheet, but holding its allegiance to party subordinate to devotion to the general public interests. The Herald is now well established on a solid basis, and has before it an apparently long and unobstructed career of usefulness and prosperity.

STOCKTON DAILY INDEPENDENT.

On the first of August, 1861, the first number of the Stockton Daily Independent was issued, Armour & Claves publishers, and Sam Sea-