### BITS FOR CHANGE.

While at San Francisco, many of our party observed what is certainly a striking characteristic of an early custom still remaining in California. When a single copy of a certain morning paper was purchased of news-boys for nominally "one bit" they received a 25 cent piece, and returned a dime and a paper, thus really taking 15 cts. for a single copy of a paper, whose published subcription price was 12½ cts. a week. This results from the fact that a dime is the smallest coin in circulation throughout the West Coast.

-Eager friends, who were in waiting to meet our excursionists on their return, were somewhat surprised and delighted to see bronzed faces and rugged looks in place of the delicate ones, from which they had separated but a few weeks before. Our excursionists have returned without a single case of serious illness, having been in the enjoyment of uninterrupted good health.

-The little antelope, brought on board our train between Laramie Plains and the Rocky Mountains, after riding with us 2,000 miles, was taken sick at Framingham, when only twenty miles from Boston. He was left in careful hands to recuperate if possible, and to be forwarded, should he recover, to Hon. Alexander H. Rice, our President.

### BUSINESS CARDS.

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#### OUR PARTY.

The following list of names compose the party from the Boston Board of Trade, now on an excursion to the Pacific coast:

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This invention in the first place so modifies the construction of Grand Pianos that a greater and a better quality of tone is produced thereby than by the construction usually adopted; in the second place, it gives the instrument a much more beautiful and convenient form than that usually given to Grand Pianos; and, in the third place, it renders either side of the instrument equally desirable for a front side in a room of whatever shape—that is, the case of this grand piano, instead of being hollowed out on one side, is made so that both sides are alike. This brings the bridges into the centre of the board, securing nearly one-third move of the sounding board than has been heretofore attained. Its action is light and delicate, while its power is marvelous. Its tone is remarkable for sweetness, clearness and brilliancy. Its singing qualities very closely resemble the richness of the human voice, and its tenor is unexampled in any instrument yet produced,

The Orchestral Grand Piano is an entirely new invention, differing at once in arrangement of case and scale from anything hitherto attempted. It has commanded the admiration of all artists and critics who have examined it, and testimonials in its favor are abundant and enthusiastic.

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