THE DUTCHMAN'S SONG.

THE DUTCHMAN LOSETH HIS DOG AND SINGETH.

Oh, vare! and oh, vare!
Hash ter leetle toggy gone?
Oh! vare! and oh, vare!
Can ter raschal tog pe gone?
He's gone unto ter tivel,
He's gone mit him I fear;
He may pe von pig sassage—
Mine tog—oh, tear! oh, tear!

Oh! vare! and oh, vare!
Can ter yaller tog pe gone?
Oh, vare! and oh, vare!
Hash ter scoundrel tog pe gone?
I vood give von good tollar
To him ash tells to me
Vare I can fint ter toggy,
Or shows me vare he pe.

His park vas full ov mushick,
It goes just like ting tong;
His ears vare cut off short,
His tail vas cut off long;
He ush'd to trive ter shickens,
And say to tem pow-vow;
But he'sh gone into the dickens—
Vy here comes Schnappo now!

Oh, vare! and oh, vare!
Hash ter good-for-nothin' peen?
Oh, vare! and oh, vare!
Can ter rashcal toggy peen?
I tink he'sh peen koon hunting—
I tink he has goot koons,
Cause tere's nothin' else he'sh goot for
Under ter stars and moons.

Come here, you von tam wagabone!—vere you peen, eh? O mine noshe! you smells vorse ash von schunk; I vips you now mit ter proom, for having to do mit so pad people ash schunks. Iv you runs avay agin I puts you in ter papers, and you ish ruined for ever.—*Sunday Mercury.*

RUSSIAN AMERICA—OUR PACIFIC SETTLEMENTS.

Russian America, the only part of our continent held by the Sclavonic race, has to our Republic been almost an unknown land. Still an American is there, Mr. Moore, whose employment is to instruct the native born of Russian parents how to build steam engines, and steam vessels for that far distant coast. This steam voyaging will connect them with Oregon and California, and thence by our new line with Panama, and thence again by the present existing line with Valparaiso in Chili. The western coast of America, both North and South, will then have a continuous line of steamers from near Behring's Straits, down to near Cape Horn! though the eastern coast of our continent has no such continuous line by steam.

"Westward the Star of Empire takes its way;" and the West coast of America is destined to witness mighty things, overlooking the virgin Pacific to China, Japan, Siberia, and the Australian shores beyond. A voyager entering the port of New Archangel found there the following mercantile fleet. It speaks of life, of energy, and of the speed of civilization:

1. Helen,	350 tons.	10. Morischold,	80 tons.
2. Alexander,	300 "	11. Quia-pak,	80 "
3. Sitka,	300 "	12. Nicholas, steamer,	60 horse power.
4. Richal,	200 "	13. Moore, steamer,	7 horse do.
5. Constantine	200 "		
6. Ochotsk,	150 "		
7. Chichakoff,	150 "	14 & 15. Two other small steamers.	
8. Polyphemo,	150 "		
9. Promysle,	80 "		

This would do credit to many a proud port in Europe or the United States. We must learn more about that land. Her fleet is occupied almost exclusively on those northern shores—above the famous 54 40, running to the Aleutian isles, to the Kutile isles which reach to Japan, to Kamschatka, and to Ochotsk in Siberia, except an occasional trip to Oregon for flour, or to the Sandwich islands for sugar and other supplies.

Sir George Simpson, governor of the great northern British portion of our continent, speaks of the establishment of Mr. Moore, the American in the employ of Russia in terms of high commendation; the entire work of an engine, the casting, forging and finishing being finely done. "He is a man of superior ingenuity, and has taught five or six of the natives to do the work almost as well as himself."

New Archangel, the capital of Russian America, is situated on the island of Sitka, which is separated from the main land by a narrow arm of the sea. Its population is about 1500, besides two Indian suburban villages. Smaller posts are stationed at many points along the coasts all the way to the peninsula of Alaska, and thence even along the chain of Aleutian islands, which form natural stepping stones to Siberia. Recently some posts have been formed on Behring's Straits! to protect the fur trade on the east side from the Schuktchi. These are the dwellers on the western side, and once a year at the great fair at Ostrovnoye, in Siberia they purchase tobacco and other articles, and with these they are powerful competitors, every summer, with the Russian company, among the extreme northwestern Indians of our continent.

The climate of Russian America is mild for its latitude, like Western Europe,—in both cases the prevailing westerly winds from the ocean temper the land. No part of the coast north of Oregon grows wheat, but potatoes and other garden vegitables are abundant, even to Cook's Sound and Aleshka.—Cattle thrive well. The forrests are filled with game, and the waters swarm with fish, especially the salmon. That extremity of our continent is destined to support a considerable population, though their flour must come from Oregon.

Our northern neighbors there are a social people. "New Archangel," says Sir George, "notwithstanding its isolated position, is a very gay place. Much of the time of its inhabitants is devoted to festivity; balls and dinners run a perpetual round, and are managed in a style which, in this part of the world, may be deemed extravagant." Their Easter holidays are especially full of life, and then our own ancient fashion of sporting colored eggs, delights the children of Sitka, though the custom has travelled the other way round the globe.

No people in the world possess a constitution equal to the Russians, and when once their intellectual powers shall be developed, we may well be apprehensive that they will rise superior to any other nation the world has yet seen. Speaking of the sailors, Simpson says, "they are decidedly the stoutest body of fellows I ever saw." This from a John Bull is much. And again, "the officers appeared to be each more skilful and vigilant than another; and the men were fine, steady and active, with voices seldom heard. The Russian sailors are conspicuous for their good conduct; and as an eminent proof of this, they are rearly guilty of desertion, though they have more liberty than those in any other service, and are never watched, being considered to be upon their honor." Of the Alexander, one of their merchant vessels on that out-of-the-way coast, he says, "her accommodations for her officers, crew, and passengers, were superior to those of any merchantmen I had ever seen." Such things should be known, for the character of the Russian nation is not generally appreciated.

The clergy of Russian America are numerous, and they are supported wholly by the government. The Bishop, whose diocese extends from Japan to near Oregon, is thus portrayed: "He looks as if destined by nature for the bishopric of two worlds, being a man of gigantic frame. His appearance impresses a stranger with something of awe, while on further intercourse, the gentleness which characterizes his every word and deed, insensibly moulds reverence into love; and, at the same time, his talents and attainments are such as to be worthy of his exalted station. With all this the bishop is sufficiently a man of the world to disdain anything like cant. His conversation, on the contrary, teems with amusement and instruction; and his company is much prized by all who have the honor of his acquaintance." We have no room for the portraitures, given by Sir George, of eminent civilians and others among our Russian neighbors.

The names of the days of their week, have marched eastwardly around the world, and hence their Sunday is the Saturday of the Oregonians. It is curious how the same day is called, and with propriety, too, both Sunday and Saturday, from America westward to China. Through the CENTRE of the Pacific, civilization has travelled westward, and hence at the Sandwich Islands, the Ladrone Islands, and the Phillipine Islands, the day is Saturday; while both through the Southern Pacific, from the Society Islands to Australia, and through the Northern Pacific from Russian America, through the Aleutian and Kurile Islands to China, civilization has travelled eastward and the day is Sunday. These facts will always stand as eloquent historical monuments; they show that the eastern and western streams of civilization have overleaped each other more than 6600 miles! Their explanation to centuries yet unknown will make lucid the history of the past—that great point in past history when Christianity first belted the globe!

Russian America brings forcibly to our minds the problem of man's first arrival in America. Behring's Straits have been found by the familiar observations of our Northern neighbors, to be at the remotest point only 45 miles across, with continuous chains of islands from side to side; the widest space between them being only seven miles! And the depth of the water is nowhere more than 30 fathoms! Covered telegraph wires may therefore easily be laid across, and much before we are generally aware, the lightning lines will flash from New York to London for a distance of 9,000 miles through the Russian Empire! These two races—the Anglo-Saxon, and the Russian—will occupy nearly the whole volume of future history. Their two languages will be spoken by much more than three-fourths of the human family! But let us not digress from Behring's Straits. It is crossed every summer by numerous native canoes. Still there are reasons for believing that the Northern inhabitants of our continent, crossed originally over the Aleutian Islands. The passage is quite as easy, and the mountains, and rivers, and climate of Siberia are such as naturally to have led them the latter way.

The aborigines of South America have originally crossed from the Malayan Islands through the South Pacific. This is evident, among other things, from their language in many points. For instance, the Malays double a word to form the plural. "Rumma" means a house; "rumma rumma" means houses. The following are examples of the same thing from Tschudi's work on Peru;—he has given them accidentally in mentioning the names of things, without probably being aware of the fact; "Colo, colo," "cache, cache," "huay huay," "huajra huajra."

To return to Russian America. The oldest settlement on the western coast of America, north of California, is the village of Kodiak, containing 400 inhabitants, and situated on an island, at the extreme north. It was founded in 1783, just at the close of our Revolution, and as we began to settle the valley of the Mississippi. What a coincidence! The great west was entered upon almost simultaneously by the Spaniards in California on the south, by ourselves on the east, and by the Russians on the northwest. These extensive movements of the masses of mankind to "replenish the earth and subdue it," have ever been plainly under the direction of Providence, as when the Israelites migrated from Egypt, under the guidance of the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. At the present date, the Russian American Company, who have the entire government of the country, do not encourage emigration, as it tends to destroy their monopoly of fur. But a change must come with the general increase of population, and that boreal region will be filled with human life, and enjoyment. Mr. Moore, the ingenious American there, will have many companions speaking his own language.

Newark Daily Adv.

The seasons at the Isthmus of Panama are thus described in a letter from F. H. Hassler, esq., formerly American Consul at Panama:

In reply to your letter of the 25th ult., asking information in regard to the Isthmus of Panama, I have to say that the seasons are divided into dry and wet; the first commences about the end of December and lasts three months, the latter continues from April to December. The quantity of water falling, during this period, far exceeds the annual quantity of that upon a like extent of surface in any part of Europe or of the United States, and is probably as much as ninety inches; the estimated average for middle Europe and America is about forty inches. In April, the weather becomes cloudy at meridian, but after drizzling for an hour clears up. In May, 9 to 11, it is dull, with slight rains, the afternoon being still fine; as the season advances, the rain gradually increases, and is incessant throughout July, August, September, and October. In November, the nights are always wet and cloudy, but through the day the sky begins to break. December brings further improvement, and in January, February, and March, rain is uncommon, or about as frequent as in your city, but not much at a time. At Panama, the thermometer in the rainy season does not rise higher at night than 82°, nor in the day than 87°; the winds are variable and cool; no stagnation occurs in the air, consequently no epedemic sickness. In the dry season the thermometer rises to 90° and 93°, but at night the land breezes are cool, and render the nights quite as agreeable, in fact, more so, than is often the case with us.—The unhealthy season is the wet, and fevers of different kinds are prevalent; but I do not think that the cases are more numerous than in many parts of our western country, (I mean Panama,) and in most cases are consequent upon some negligence, but it is certainly the contrary at the village and on the River Chagres, it being always, and under all circumstances, very sickly.

DAILY NATIONAL WHIG.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 15, 1849.

Had I committed my own wishes, I should have much preferred to retain the office I am now about to vacate, and have remained among you; but the people have, without my solicitation, seen fit to elevate me to another, and although I fear I am not qualified to discharge the great and important duties imposed upon me, yet be assured, fellow-citizens, I shall endeavor to fulfil them *without regard to fear, favor, or affection for any one.*—*President Taylor's Farewell to the People of Baton Rouge, January 23, 1849.*

THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRESS.

Gen. Taylor will leave Frankfort to-day for Cincinnati, by way of the Kentucky river.

Reception of Gen. Taylor in Nashville.

The Knoxville Tribune's Nashville correspondent thus notices, in advance, the reception of President Taylor at Nashville, by the people *without distinction of party.* Tennesseeans understand and appreciate old Zack!

"The proceedings are not to be of a *party* character; this is as it should be. Gen. Taylor has said he would not be a party president—that he was no party man—he has said that he has no friends to reward, no enemies to punish, nothing to serve but his *country*—he has said that he would not labor to advance the interests of any particular party, but would look to the interest and advancement of the whole country. Coming among us while these lofty and patriotic sentiments are still ringing in our ears, it would be highly improper to let party feelings influence us in any degree; and I am happy to see that it is not so, for I notice that the committee of reception consists of both Whigs and Democrats."

NOMINATION OF Mr. JUSTICE McLEAN.

We are exceedingly gratified to learn from Columbus, that the Whig members of the Legislature of Ohio have nominated his Honor, Mr. Justice John McLean, for United States Senator, in place of William Allen, for six years from the 4th of March next. His election, we consider, will follow without fail, for he will not only get the whole vote of the Whigs but that of the Free Soilers. The Whigs have done themselves immortal honor by this act.

Emancipation in Tennessee.

The Knoxville Tribune has been publishing a series of very able papers in favor of gradual emancipation and colonization in and from Tennessee. The writer concludes one of his numbers thus:

"Let us then have a convention of representatives of the people for amending the constitution, and provide, if the people in their wisdom so determine, for *gradual emancipation and colonization.* With this as our principle of action, as advanced in the terms of the resolution before quoted, we may, under the blessing of God, open the way for the full and final redemption of the state."

We must be permitted to doubt, whether the legislature of New York—a State of which Major Bliss is not a native, would be asked to confer a special sword of honor upon him, if he were not aid and son-in-law to the President elect.—*Mobile Reg. (d.)*

We protest against the Register's judging of other people's motives by its own! Col. Bliss has won honor and fame enough to entitle him to a sword from every State in the Union, and each giver would be doing itself credit by voting him a sword.

Some how or other it is taken for granted that Major Bliss writes better military dispatches than any other man in the army.—*Mobile Register, (d.)*

Always excepting General Taylor.

The Mobile and Ohio Railroad.

The stockholders of this road recently held a meeting in Mobile. They resolved that the road should be forthwith commenced at Mobile amd continued northward as rapidly as possible. The city council of Mobile have voted $300,000 towards the work to be raised by a direct property tax.

HIGHWAY ROBBERIES.

Our city is infested with a gang of desperate robbers, at the present time, whom the police seem utterly unable to arrest.—They have succeeded in knocking down and robbing some half dozen people within the last week. We advise every person walking out after sun-set, to arm himself, and if attacked, to use his weapons freely, for the police are too feeble to afford protection.—The Mayor should, without delay, call upon the Councils to increase the police, so as to meet the emergency.

LATE NEWS FROM THE GOLD REGIONS.

We republish to-day a mass of interesting news from the gold regions.

It would appear that there has been a deal of exaggeration, in regard to the ease with which gold could be picked up, in regard to its abundance, and in respect to the high prices of living. Mr. Atherton's account looks more like sober truth than any thing we have yet seen from the new Ophir.—The letters of Commodore Jones are not so subdued as Mr. Atherton's accounts, but we may hope, in due time, that the official despatches from California will get down to the zero of calmness.

We sincerely trust that Congress will wake up to their duty in relation to California and hasten to admit her as a State, so that she can get a government of her own making. The condition of things in the gold regions demands prompt action on the part of the present Congress, and we can see no better plan for settling the difficulty, than for all parties to take up and make Mr. Preston's bill a law forthwith.

By the fifteenth of March we shall probably be in receipt of intelligence from San Francisco to the 15th of February, by the steamship California, which we are glad to see has arrived upon her station.

JNO. M. FORBES, esq., received the nomination for Congress, in the 8th Congressional district, Virginia.

Col. WM. R. JOHNSON, the turf man, is dead. He died at New Orleans.

☞ Mr. Roberts, the tragedian, makes his first appearance this evening at the Adelphi, in the character of Richard III.

It is expected that the personal relations between Gen. Taylor and Mr. Polk will be of the most courteous character; and that upon Gen. Taylor's arrival in Washington, he and his family will receive every proper attention from the President and his family.—*Alexandria Gazette.*

We have no doubt that the most courteous relations will prevail between these high officers and distinguished men.

Mr. Polk and his family will remain until after the inauguration. But we understand his purpose is to leave Washington on the 6th March, with his family and some of his friends, pass through Richmond, and take the Southern route to New Orleans, and thence to Nashville. This is a portion of the country he has never visited.

General Taylor is expected to arrive in Washington on the 21st or 22d instant.—*Union, Feb. 13.*

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, February 14, 1849.

On motion of Mr. Allen, the Secretary of the Senate was directed to withdraw from the House the bill passed yesterday granting to certain States the right of way through the public lands, with certain donations and grants, for canal and railroad purposes.

The Senate then proceeded to the hall of the House of Representatives, to meet there in convention, for the purpose of counting the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States.

The Senators, on returning from the House, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion of Mr. Barrow, it was resolved that the Clerk inform the Senate that the House is ready to receive that body, to open and count the votes for President and Vice President of the U. States.

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, for his colleague (Mr. Johnson, who is sick) asked, but did not obtain leave, to introduce a bill to give to every poor man and widow, the head of a family, a hundred and sixty acres of land, "without money and without price."

Several gentlemen in vain endeavored to introduce resolutions.

Mr. Cocke offered one, to admit the ladies on the floor of the House, but it was not agreed to.

The Senate soon after entered the hall of the House of Representatives, two abreast, preceded by their Sergeant-at-arms, who was succeeded by their President, the Hon. George M. Dallas, and Secretary, Asbury Dickens, Esq. The Senators took seats prepared for them in the central area of the House, and the President of the Senate took the chair of the Speaker, (the Hon. R. C. Winthrop,) the last named officer being seated on his left. The tellers (the Hon. Jefferson Davis, of the Senate, and the Hon. Messrs. Barrow and McCellan of the House of Representatives) took their seats at the Clerk's desk, assisted by the Secretary of the Senate and J. J. Campbell, Esq., the Clerk of the House.

The galleries were densely crowded in every part, a large number of the auditors being ladies.

The President of the Senate rose when the members of the House and the Senators were all seated, and stated the object of their thus assembling to be to count the votes cast by the electors of the respective States of this Union for President and Vice President of the United States; and handing to Mr. Davis, (one of the tellers) a sealed packet, he said, "I deliver to the gentlemen tellers the votes of the electors of the State of Maine for President and Vice President of the United States, in order that they may be counted."

Mr. Davis received the packet; and having broken the seals, the tellers examined the votes, which were announced to be nine in number, all of which were given for Lewis Cass, of Michigan, as President of the United States. The same number of votes for the Vice President were given for W. O. Butler, of Kentucky.

The President next delivered to the tellers the votes of the electors of New Hampshire, and of all the other States of the Union in succession, in the same manner, and they were examined by the tellers, and the result was announced with the same formalities.

The President of the Senate rose and said that the whole number of votes given was 290; of which 146 makes a majority. Zachary Taylor, of Louisiana, had received 163; Lewis Cass, of Michigan, 127; and the state of the vote for Vice President is—for Millard Fillmore, 163; for W. O. Butler, 127. He then added, I do therefore declare, that Zachary Taylor, of Louisiana, having a majority of the whole number of electoral vote is duly elected President of the United States for four years, commencing on the 4th day of March, 1849; and that Millard Fillmore, of New York, having a majority electoral votes, is duly elected Vice President of the United States for four years, commencing on the 4th day of March, 1849.

He afterwards stated that the business for which the Houses had been convened having been accomplished the Senate would return to its chamber

The House accordingly rose, the Speaker resumed the chair, and they remained standing until the Senators had retired in the order in which they entered the House of Representatives.

A Committee of two on the part of the House, to act in conjunction with a Committee of the Senate, was ordered to be appointed, to wait on the President and Vice President elect, and inform them of their election. The House then adjourned.

SUPREME COURT, UNITED STATES.

WEDNESDAY, February 14, 1849.

Charles T. Cromwell and Heman B. Ely, Esqs., of New York, were admitted attornies and counsellors of this court.

No. 1. The State of Missouri complainant, *vs.* the State of Iowa. The argument of this cause was continued by Mr. Green for the complainant, and by Mr. Mason for the respondent.

Adjourned until to-morrow 11 o'clock, A. M.

OFFICIAL.

We are indebted to the Secretary of the Navy for the following very interesting letter just received from Commodore Jones. They were forwarded from Mazatlan by our consul, Mr. Parrot, thence across land to Vera Cruz, and transmitted to Pennsacola, thence by mail to Washington:—*Union, Feb. 13.*

[No. 44.] FLAG-SHIP OHIO, San Francisco, December 22, 1848.

SIR:—My letters from Nos. 33 to 42 inclusive, despatched from Monterey by Lieut. Lanman, and from this place by the Lexington, will fully inform you of the operations of the squadron since our departure from the Gulf of California. Nothing material has occurred since my last date. Desertions are less frequent, the Ohio having lost but one man since her arrival here, and I think the disposition to desert is not so general; but that may be owing to the inclemency of the season, which, for a while, must suspend the digging and washing for gold, except by such persons as are most amply supplied with good houses, and *all the necessaries* of life requisite for a winter's campaign in a rigid climate, affording nothing for the use of man *but gold.* Incredible quantities of gold are even yet daily collected; and scarcely a week elapses without some new discovery of the precious metal more startling than any previous one. It is said that a small party of five or six persons, a few days past, struck upon a *pocket*, as they term certain deposites, from which, in two days, they obtained $30,000 of pure gold!

I have been living on shore at San Francisco now two weeks, and have had ample opportunity for examining the subject, and I am more than ever satisfied that the disposal of the gold regions in the territory of California is the best, if not the only practicable disposition that can be made of them in the present disorganized state of society out here.

* * * * * * *

The worst forebodings of evil consequent upon the want of certain and energetic administration of justice in this territory are almost daily realized. Within the last three weeks we have certain accounts of fifteen murders. In one instance an entire household of ten persons—a respectable ranchero, his wife, two children, and six servants. The man, whose name is Reed, had been very successful in the diggings during the summer, and had returned to his home, near Santa Barbara with a large amount of gold. His house was surprised by an armed party, and the whole family, as above stated, were barbarously murdered, and the house rifled of its golden treasure. The perpetrators of this horrid deed are still at large; of the other five cases, four are highway robberies, committed upon persons returning with gold from the mines. In a word, I may say with truth, that both persons and property are insecure in Upper California at this time; and I am sorry to add that, in in all cases of outrage and violence, as yet discovered, emigrants from the United States, disbanded volunteers, runaway sailors, and deserters from the army and navy, are believed to be the perpetrators.

The mutinies, attended with murder to which I alluded in my letter No. 43, have been fully confirmed, and—not without good reason—has caused much uneasiness to shippers of gold from this coast.

To guard each and every vessel sailing hence with large sums in gold dust, would require every ship of the navy. The best that I can do is to keep the vessels of this squadron at sea as much as possible, plying between the ports most frequented by our mercantile marine. Enclosed is a copy of a circular (No. 6) which I have found it necessary to issue and make public, in the hope that it may have some tendency to prevent a repetition of such acts as have recently occurred on board the English schooner Amilia and the Chilian barque Adelina.

A recent arrival from Callao reports that the Adelina had been taken into that port, and the mutineers, eight in number, promptly secured.

I had received a request from the Governor of Valparaiso, through Mr. Moorhead, our consul at that port, to arrest and safe-keep the Adelina should I be fortunate enough to fall in with her on the Mexican coast, where it was supposed the mutineers might take her.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,
THOS. AP C. JONES,
Commander-in-chief U. S. Naval Forces,
Pacific Ocean.

The Hon. JOHN Y. MASON,
Secretary of the Navy.

P. S. Since the above letter was written, we have accounts of more murders—one in the town of Sonoma, and another in the vicinity.

December 25, 1848.

NATIONAL INAUGURATION BALL,

WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF PARTY.

To the Editor of the National Whig:

As all the necessary arrangements have been made for getting up this ball with unsurpassed elegance and refined taste—to which cards of invitation for the ladies and privileged guests will in a short time be issued—it may not be uninteresting to the citizens and sojourners of the metropolis, and to those who contemplate attending the inauguration, to have an inkling into some of the particulars.

It is understood that the committee charged with the duty of selecting suitable rooms for the ball, after a careful examination of the several buildings appropriate for such assemblages, unanimously reported in favor of the Washington Assembly Rooms, Jackson Hall; and that the Managers, composed of both political parties as well as of others independent of either, concurred in the selection with equal unanimity.

It has been determined to fit up the capacious room on the *first* floor of this building as a supper room, instead of the one on the third floor, which has hitherto been used for that purpose. The second floor, as every body knows who has attended the Washington Assemblies—overhung with gigantic chandeliers and all the accompaniments for shedding brilliancy upon beauty, is the dancing room. Its full-length mirrors at one extreme, its carpeted ladies' dressing room at the other, its cushioned sofas on either side, and its smooth, elastic floor, leave nothing for the most fastidious taste to desire.

The third floor is designed for the accommodation of such gentlemen (if any there be,) who have a weakness for sparkling wine rather than for sparkling eyes; or, to speak with more circumspect gallantry, who pay homage to both.

It would be in consonance with the inclinations of the Managers that not another word should be added; but as there is good reason to believe that assiduous efforts have been made to excite prejudice against the "National [Inauguration Ball, without distinction of party," it is respectful to the community that the gentlemen interested in it should explain their motives.

It is distinctly disavowed that this is an "opposition ball," in the common acceptation of the term; or that it has been got up in any such spirit. No one had the slightest objection to committing all of the arrangements of the Inauguration Ball to the supporters of the incoming President; and if they desired it, to them alone—provided it gave promise of being conducted in a spirit of liberality, and with entire freedom from political intolerance. But when it was seen that every citizen of Washington, who was ever suspected of entertaining opinions different from their own, and every Democratic member of the Senate and of the House, *except from States where there were no Whig representatives*, were carefully excluded from the list of managers, there was no doubt left upon the mind of any unprejudiced observer, that it was to be nothing more than a mere *party ball.*

Its party character, at least, so far as its management is concerned, has been distinctly admitted in one of the city newspapers; and a justification has been attempted on the plea, that, in confining the management to Whigs, the committee of appointment only followed the usage on such occasions—that, to place Democratic citizens on the management, might have compromised them with their party, &c., &c.

The gentlemen who have been instrumental in getting up the "National Ball, without distinction of party," do not recognise that such has been the usage in regard to Inauguration Balls. They find that a number of Whigs were managers at Mr. Van Buren's Inauguration; and they recollect that several gentlemen, regarded at the time as Whigs—certainly not as Democrats—were managers at Mr. Polk's. The same liberal spirit, it is understood, prevailed at Gen. Jackson's.

But, admitting that it has been the usage at any time to make an Inauguration Ball a party demonstration, it is held to be a bad practice, which ought not to be continued; and more particularly if it is designed as a compliment to the Chief Magistrate elect, who has proclaimed that he will not be the President of a party.

Seeing the party character of all these arrangements, a number of liberal Whigs and Democrats, who have some stake in the society of the Metropolis, determined to resist the introduction of a new and pernicious element into their social relations, the necessity for which they could not perceive and would not recognise. They, therefore, concluded to get up another ball, which Whig and Democrat might attend without *compromising* themselves with their party, as has considerately been apprehended might be the case if a Democrat had been made a manager of the other ball.

As circumstances have rendered it necessary that there should be two balls—one a party ball, and the other "without distinction of party," an opportunity will, at least, be offered to every gentlemen, who is so inclined, to indulge his own taste. It is hoped that both balls will be conducted in kind feelings.—If we cannot unite in giving a national welcome to the Chief Magistrate of the nation, let us at least separate in mutual good will; and if there be any strife, let it be which ball will contribute most to the Orphan Asylums.

A MANAGER,
Of the National Ball.

From the New York Herald.

Singular Diplomatic Affair--The American Charge d'Affaires and the Austrian General, Windischgratz.

BERLIN, January 7, 1849.

One day last month, Kossuth, the Hungarian General commanding the insurgent troops, employed a naturalized American citizen of Hungary to proceed to the American Charge d'Affaires at Vienna, Mr. Stiles, with a letter to that gentleman, requesting him to address a letter to the General commanding the Austrian army in Hungary, and solicit, in the name of humanity, a suspension of hostilities, that an arrangement might be made for settling the unfortunate war.

Mr. Stiles accordingly wrote the Austrian General, and offered his intervention to aid in accomplishing this desirable end, and sent his despatches to the Austrian General by this naturalized Hungarian American, giving him a courier passport.

This bearer of despatches proceeded to the Austrian army and delivered his despatches to the commanding General.

The General asked him who he was, when he replied, that he was a Hungarian by birth, but now a naturalized citizen of the United States. The Austrian General then said to him:—

"I give you ten days to leave the Austrian territories, at the expiration of which time, if you are to be found within my reach, you shall have a snug home for your future residence.

This naturalized American immediately left Austria, and came to Berlin. Some time after this, the Austrian General addressed a communication to our charge at Vienna, Mr. Stiles, with this laconic reply:—

"Austria, sir, never treats by negotiation with rebels."

Thinking that this little diplomatic incident might be lost to the world, and hid away in the recesses of some bureau, unless published in the *Herald*, I concluded to detail it to your readers. It is too good to be lost.

A Good Samaritan.

The Montgomery *Journal* tells an incident of the steamboat "interest" which is worth putting on record. Steamboat men, in the money way, partake of the character of their brother sailors of the other branch of the service. Indeed, no one marvels or seems to think it strange when a man that follows the water does a generous act. It is too common to excite wonderment. The *Journal* says:

A poor woman, a short time since, embarked at this place with her husband and a family of small children, for a home in Arkansas. They took deck passage. Shortly after leaving this place the husband was seized with sickness and before arriving at Mobile, died, and was buried at the expense of the captain. The children were then taken sick, and the distressed mother, under these circumstances and having but little money, had no heart to attempt to proceed further.

The captain learning these facts, had the family removed from the deck to the cabin and carefully nursed and attended to—brought them up on the return trip, and on arriving here refused to receive any fare from them, and moreover, hired a conveyance and stowed it with provisions to take them to their homes in Talladega, paying twenty dollars from his own pocket. We mention this instance out of scores of similar deeds which we have heard performed by the same individual, from a sense of justice to a class of men who are often blamed without cause.

When we state the name of the captain, of whom the above is related, the incident will not seem strange or unusual, (and he must pardon us for mentioning it,) it was the noble-hearted fellow, Frank Johnson, of the Montgomery.

A New York letter says:—"The Pacific steamer Panama is all ready for a start. She will leave on the 15th for Panama, under the command of Lieutenant David D. Porter. She is to pass through the straits of Magellan, and will stop at Rio, Valparaiso and Callao on her way to her destination, which she is expected to reach by the 1st of May, barring accidents.

From the New York Herald.

The latest news from California—Highly important and Authentic from the Placers—The confirmation of previous accounts—Newly discovered gold mine in Oregon—One month later—Shipments of gold—to the United States, &c. &c. &c.

We are pleased in having it in our power to place before our readers this morning, authentic and reliable intelligence from San Francisco, California, to the 16th December last, which is four weeks later than any news which we were previously in possession of. This news is very important and interesting, and is entitled to full credence.

It was brought to this city by Mr. Robert Atherton, who arrived in town yesterday morning, with the New Orleans mail, and confirms in a great degree all the accounts which we have previously received from the newly discovered El Dorado—the modern, if not the ancient, Ophir.

Mr. Atherton is now staying at the Clinton Hotel in this city, and will remain here for two or three weeks. He has brought with him a number of letters for people in this city, and a file of the *Californian* newspaper, published at San Francisco, to the 18th of November last, a number of extracts from which we publish in this day's paper, at the end of this verbal intelligence. He arrived at San Blas from San Francisco on the 20th of December last, in the brig Laura Ann, Captain Blanchard, which vessel left San Francisco on the 10th of that month. This news is therefore nearly four weeks later than any intelligence which we have received from the famous gold regions of California. Mr. Atherton came via the city of Mexico, and arrived at New Orleans on the 31st ult. in the brig Irwin, from Ver Cruz.

By this intelligence, which, as we have before remarked, is authentic, and entitled to full credence, we learn that the yield of gold dust from the soil of California, is as great as it has been heretofore represented to be, and that emigrants from the Sandwich Islands and South America were pouring in there. The extent of the gold region, as far as it has been explored, is three hundred miles in width, by one thousand in length, and new discoveries are being made from day to day. To the time when Col. Atherton left, there were never more than fifteen hundred persons engaged in digging the precious metal at any one time, the average result of whose labor was about three ounces per day, to each digger. This gold is found in flakes or scales in what is termed the wet diggings, and in lumps and in crevices of the rocks in the dry diggings. Various reports were in circulation as to the size and weight of those lumps—some persons asserting that they have been found to the weight of twenty-three pounds. These are, however, only rumors; but Mr. Atherton, our informant, himself saw a piece which weighed seven pounds, and which was found by one of the adventurers. Both the dust, or flakes, and the lump gold, has been assayed and tested by Mr. Forbes, in Tepic, the proprietor of the extensive quicksilver mines, and the former was found to contain twenty-one and a half carats of pure gold, and the latter nineteen and a half.

There has not been as much sickness at the place as we were led to suppose, neither is the state of society there as bad as had been intimated. Fever and ague prevails there to some extent, and attacks those who are careless in regard to their health; but with ordinary prudence, persons can get along without any sickness.

About a dozen people have died, among whom are Mr. H. P. Richardson, of Boston, who was taken sick at the placer, but removed to San Francisco; Mr. Wm. McDowell, of the West, and a Mr. Dickinson, of Philadelphia; about a dozen have died at the gold diggings, principally from want of prudence and exposure.

At the time when Mr. Atherton left San Francisco, the United States store ship Lexington had not sailed, but was to do so in a day or two. She had on board gold dust to the value of half a million of dollars, which was destined for New York, and consigned to several houses here. The Lexington will take Messrs. Wells and Dewitt as passengers. They belong to New York, and have gold on board as freight. They were attached to the New York regiment.

The ship-of-the-line Ohio, Com. Jones, was also in the harbor of San Francisco.

One of the greatest features of the news brought by this express, is the fact of the discovery of a gold mine, of great extent, in Oregon. This discovery was attracting the attention of the people of that territory, who were flocking thither in great numbers, in preference to going to California.

The whole value of gold which has been gathered in California, is estimated, by those acquainted with the matter, at three millions of dollars, two of which left there in various ways, and the remainder is on its way to the United States. It is supposed that it would take one hundred thousand diggers ten years to exhaust the gold in this region. It must not be supposed, however, that every one gets rich on the moment; for the work of getting the gold dust and washing it, is very arduous. Capt. Daly, of San Francisco, organized an expedition of ten men, who went to gold digging, and were absent three weeks; but they did not gather enough to cover expenses, and were disbanded.

The precious metal exists there, however, in extraordinary abundance, as is proved by the fact that the Captain of the French brig Perseverance, with one half of his crew, gathered ten thousand dollars worth in three weeks, as well as by the large prices for which merchandise of every kind is sold. A pair of boots costs twenty dollars, of which, however, there was but a small stock on hand when Mr. Atherton left; common blanket coats are worth forty dollars, and fine frock coats fetched a hundred dollars readily. Mr. Atherton, himself, sold a coat which he had worn at intervals, for two years, at eighty dollars. Liquors sold at twenty-five cents per glass, and champagne was worth four dollars a bottle in San Francisco. Real estate, too, was selling at enormous prices—lots in San Francisco, containing 25 yards square, selling for ten thousand dollars.—Provisions were very plenty at San Francisco and the diggings. Flour poured in in great quantities, from Chili and Oregon, and came down in price, from twenty-five dollars per barrel, to sixteen, at San Francisco. The probability is, that that article has fallen still further—perhaps to ten dollars per barrel. Board in San Francisco was $10 per week.

Great as the discoveries of gold are, they are equalled by those of quicksilver. That metal is found in various parts of California, and the quantity is as abundant as it is in the mines of Spain. Mr. Forbes, the proprietor of the mines, had thirty thousand dollars worth of the article on hand at Tepic, ready for market. It is found even within three miles of San Francisco.

About two thousand emigrants had arrived in California from Oregon, the Sandwich Islands, and different parts of South America and Mexico. In fact, the gold fever rages as fiercely in Mexico as it does in the United States, and there, as well as here, expeditions are being formed to proceed to El Dorado. Mr. Atherton says that it is not advisable for large armed parties to take the overland route through Mexico, as the authorities will be likely to interfere with them and prevent their passage. Small companies can go with impunity and with security.

There were about a dozen vessels, of various kinds, at San Francisco when Mr. Atherton left. The ship Rhone, Captain Hill, was to sail soon for Panama. Mr. Finley, her supercargo, was to go with her.

The ship Huntress was sold for $40,000, and her purchasers intended to send her to Valparaiso for a cargo. At that place there was, at the last dates, great excitement in regard to California. Every one was leaving, or talking of leaving, and so many clerks were emigrating to California, that the merchants feared they would not be able to conduct their business, as their clerks were all going in the same direction. They accordingly held a meeting, and agreed to advance the salaries of those in their employ, in order to induce them to stay at home.

The cargo of the ship Undine, which was reshipped at Valparaiso, was sold at Francisco at five hundred per cent profit. This vessel was wrecked in the Straits of Magellan, and Captain Baker, her master, arrived in this city with the proceeds of the cargo in gold bars. The vessel was sold at Valparaiso for $12,500, and afterwards re-sold at San Francisco for $25,000.

Captain Phelps, of the bark Moscow, and Captain Lindsay and Mr. Mellows, are on their way to the Atlantic, with one hundred thousand dollars' worth of gold dust.

Edward H. Hanson has been appointed Collector of the port of San Francisco, by Col. Mason. He will prevent the ingress of spelter into that port.

The bark Tasso sailed from San Francisco for Valparaiso, but could not engage a crew under $50 per month to each man, and $75 to the steward, with an agreement to take them back again to San Francisco.

The *California Star* and the *Californian* are united, and the new paper is issued under the name of the *Californian.*

The brig Mary was to leave San Francisco for Mazatlan, about the first of January, with gold dust.

Captain Stout, the agent of Howland & Aspinwall, had left San Francisco for Van Couver's Island, for the purpose of arranging for a supply of coal for the Pacific steamers.

We learn, by this arrival, one very important fact, viz: that the Sacramento river is navigable for vessels drawing eight feet, from the ocean to Sutter's fort, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles