ANTARCTIC SCENES.

THE HASSLER IN THE PACIFIC.

THE LAND OF THE FUEGIANS—SNOW-COVERED MOUNTAINS, ICE-COVERED PLAINS—GLACIER EXPLORATION—A BIRD FOLLOWS THE EXAMPLE OF CAPT. SCOTT'S COON.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

BORJA BAY, March 22.—From Sandy Point, the Chilian settlement in the eastern half of the Straits of Magalhaens, during one of the loveliest of autumnal days, we enjoyed exceedingly the passage down to Port Famine. Our chief attention was drawn toward the beautiful snow-covered mountains in the south: the lofty double peak of Sarmiento showing both below and above a layer of clouds, the symmetrical cone of Buckland and a massive dome in the direction of Sherrard being in a cloudless sunlight. We left Sandy Point about noon, and reached Port Famine in time to go ashore and collect a few plants and animals. We set, also, the fish-trap, and caught great numbers of the curious myxine which we had found at Sandy Point. We raised our anchor early on the 20th, and were under way at 6h. 10m. Sarmiento hid his face from us, and threatened us with rain. But we moved on, and the sky grew somewhat clearer. The day proved to be a day of flying clouds and light squalls, never rain enough to drive us from the deck. We should have preferred a little more sunlight and fewer clouds; yet we could not but esteem ourselves fortunate in getting such bright patches of sunlight and so dry an air while doubling Cape Froward in March, yea, on the very day of the equinox. We turned the point and began our northward course, "homeward bound." Yet our faces were turned southward toward Gabriel Channel, where many of us for the first time saw a glacier; and even Agassiz, who of all living men knows glaciers best, had never seen such a glacier as this. It seemed to present on the precipitous edges of the channel, a wall of greenish blue ice miles and miles in length, and to extend its snow-covered surface back over a rising country, until lost in a cloud, but so far as to make it appear that the whole peninsula from Buckland to Hurt Mountain was covered with one great sheet of ice.

MOUNTAIN AND SEA-COAST SCENERY.

Since that time glaciers and snow-fields have become very familiar to us. I was greatly surprised at the number of glaciers on the mountains all around us; easily distinguished at this season of the year from mere snow-fields by the translucent greenish blue color of their lower extremities. As the ship approached Cape Froward I began to make slight sketches of the remarkable and picturesque outlines of the mountains, but soon after turning the Cape I found that every part of the horizon line was remarkable and picturesque, and constantly changing, by the motion of the ship, and the variable sunlight and shadow, mist and rain, and I ceased sketching from mere weariness. How can I describe in words the delicious and long-during surprise which we all felt at the varied beauty of the scenery? Conical mountains, rounded domes, jagged peaks, long sierras, high unbroken ridges, isolated mountains, with valleys around them almost sea level; islands, bays, broad sounds; bare and smooth rocks; peaks of the roughest, most fantastic, splintered character; hills covered with verdure, and magnificent forests at their base; hills bare as a sea-beach; mountains white with "snow five thousand Summers old;" these whirled by us in rapid succession, until the eyes ached with excess of delight. We entered Port Gallant and anchored early in the afternoon. Of course, all went ashore. One of our party found glacial scratches on a quartz vein in the side of the hill; others bagged some birds, others gathered shells. I rambled into a peculiar spot in the woods which is alluded to by Cunningham—a tract of many acres, on a little plateau, between a larger brook and a marshy brooklet. This plateau is covered with scattered trees and bordered with thicker forests. But its peculiar feature is the hummocks, which cover the whole so thickly that there is barely room for a man to crowd between them, and they are frequently connected by ridges over which one must climb. The whole plateau seems wet and springy, covered with mosses and hepaticæ. The hummocks are four and five feet high, and as many in diameter, and seemed to have been formed about the stumps and branches of fallen and decayed trees. The materials of the hummocks are various shrubs and vines, among them bearberries and a very showy pink flower somewhat allied to lilies and somewhat to Solomon's seal. Botanists call it box-leaved philesia. It grows about like huckleberry bushes where it has no chance to climb, but when it can find a tree to lean on it runs up eight or 10 feet. The glossy dark green leaves of this plant and its large pink flowers (a bell 2½ inches long) contracted yet harmonized wonderfully with a luxuriant orange-colored lichen (a Sticta), which spread its broad leaves among the vines and over the trunks of the trees in a marvelous way. Some kinds of lichen I have seen but little of, in the Straits, but the two genera, Sticta and Nephroma, are luxuriant beyond anything I ever saw outside of West Tisbury, Mass.

A VISIT OF FUEGIANS.

On the other side of the harbor, on a little island, other members of our party found magnificent thickets of Fuschia in full bloom, and, by rare good luck, found there also a perfectly sound Fuegian skull. I have taken quite a fancy to these Fuegians from the few specimens which I have seen. Soon after we left Port Famine a canoe came from the beach (where we saw an arbor and a fire) to intercept us and sell us skins. Three men and two women, each with a baby at the breast, all seven being very imperfectly clothed, were in the boat. They had raised a bandanna handkerchief as a flag, and when we drew near, one man held up a guanaco skin, and shouted, "Stop boat! stop boat!" We were anxious to get round Cape Froward, and into a harbor while the weather was good, and we did not care to stop and trade. The Fuegians entreated, and motioned, pointed to their comfortable fire, and arbor, and said most earnestly, "Stop boat! stop boat! Fire! fire!" Their faces were intelligent, expressive; much superior, I thought, to either the Patagonians, or the Western Indians that I have seen.

On the morning of the 21st (yesterday), we started out of Port Famine to go to Glacier Bay and Playa Parda Cove. The weather was like that of the 20th, but the contrasts more violent—brighter sun and heavier squalls. The mountains were so glorious, and the outlines so fine and so instructive, that, although we were on a small steamer fighting her way through furious gusts of wind, and the clouds and squalls constantly increasing, our amateur photographers got out their camera and tried to catch the scenes. By dint of having a stout young sailor hold the camera from blowing over, and watching a little for more light and less hurricane, they managed to get about 30 plates through, of which rather more than half are worth having. The failures were those taken with a large camera while the little one was being repaired, after having been blown out of the stout boy's grasp. The motion of the ship, under the combined influence of steam and wind, was so incessant and fitful that only the shortest focus and briefest exposure were available.

A SHORT STAY AT BORJA BAY.

When we got fairly into Crooked Reach, the gale became so fierce that we could scarcely make head against it. We attempted to get under the right bank for a little shelter, until we were far enough up to pass into Swallow Bay, but finding the gale too much for us we turned about and ran back four or five miles, and put into Borja Bay, where we now lie. This was soon after noon. Toward evening, when the wild waves were a little less savage, some of us went on shore. There we gathered several seaweeds that we had not seen, among them D'Urvillea. These specimens were eighteen feet in length; the older part is six or eight inches broad, and an inch-and-a-half in thickness; the young ends run out like stout whip lashes. The Chilians dry this sea-weed, roast it, crack it up fine, and stew it with potatoes, and think it delicious. One of us found five bushes of Desfontainea, the elegant foliage and flowers of which make it a worthy companion of the Fuchsia and Philesia. The leaf is like the holly, the flower a scarlet tube, two inches long.

To-day the gale has continued, with snow on the mountains and rain in the valleys. Two of our number this morning climbed the hill, 1,500 feet high, just east of our anchorage, and brought down a few specimens. They reported the wind on the summit as something terrible. About half-past four this afternoon the English steamer passed down the strait, and, as wind and tide were both with her, she went at the rate of 14 or 15 knots. We raised our colors and sounded our whistle, that they might see us and report us as safely anchored. All of us fervently wished her goodspeed, and hoped that she would carry our letters safely from Sandy Point. The barometer has been steadily rising all day, but the gale continues, and as I write, at 9½ p. m., I feel our ship once in a while tremble, as a fierce gust, or williwaw, strikes suddenly down upon us from the hills.

SAILING ON GLACIER BAY.

PLAYA PARDA COVE, March 25.—We left Borja Bay early on the 23d, the wind having veered to the south of west, and become much weaker. The sky was not perfectly clear, but the clouds and squalls were very light, and added to the beauty of the panorama. By 10 o'clock we were at Glacier Bay, and sent a boat on shore, with the three Europeans of our party, the ladies, and some of the officers. The ship turned back to North Cove, and sounded in vain for a good anchorage. It was a lovely, land-locked sheet, and from the entrance to it were some of the finest views I have seen in all this beautiful region, but the water was 50 to 60 fathoms, and a rocky bottom. We returned to Glacier Bay (the amateur photographers had their camera at work on the deck all the while, trying to snatch views as we whirled about) and went ashore to join the moving party, took them off, and before sundown were hidden in this secluded cove, where even the williwaws (that are raging again to-day) are hardly felt. As we came in the clouds dispersed, the barometer still rose, and we prepared ourselves for a second visit to the glacier on the morrow.

In the morning yesterday we started precisely at 5 o'clock, in a whale-boat towed by the steam launch. The dawn in the east and the moon in the west had not dimmed the constellations. We saw the Scorpion, the Crow, the Virgin, the Centaur, and the Southern Cross, vying with Venus in a cloudless sky to make our way plain before us. There was the sentiest breath of air in the Straits as we emerged from the cove, but as we went with it easily and we could scarcely feel it. The frost was very slight; it had not skimmed over the cove, and had barely covered the Glacier Bay in its inmost recesses. Wild fowl were startled at our approach, and took to the water or the wing earlier than their wont. The kelp goose, with two-thirds her feathers as black as a crow, started frequently from a rock, always accompanied by her snow-white gander; and the steamer ducks started out also in couples, making the water fly by the rapid motion of their wings, thus leaving a wake of foam behind them. Five or six kinds of birds in these antarctic regions evade the difficulty of williwaws and gales by using the wing in water instead of air, but none, I believe, attain a greater speed than the steamboat duck, called by earlier voyagers race-horses, and said to attain a speed of 12 or 14 miles.

EXAMINING A GLACIER.

We entered Glacier Bay as the sun was rising. The work was, as usual, assigned beforehand. One of the officers took measurements of the motion of the lower end of the glacier. From this it appears that the ice was moving downward eight or nine inches in 24 hours at this season, which would be about double that of the glacier of the Aar at its extremity. Count Pourtales and two others climbed the hills with a barometer and compass, and took sketches of the topography. The glacier takes its rise in vast fields of hardened snow, covering domes and peaks, culminating in a peak 3,500 feet in hight, about four miles back from the Straits. As it descends it divides into three. The western division ends in a glacier feeding a beautiful lake, which empties by a cascade near the foot of the central glacier. The most eastern division comes a little lower, and gives rise to a smaller cascade. The central division then makes two or three plunges over steep places, where it is split into splendid pinnacles among deep crevasses, and ends in a terminal wall of nearly a mile in length. This wall is divided into a thousand gigantic plowshares, plowing every Winter in the terminal moraine, and melting away every Summer. The terminal moraine is a bank of coarse and fine gravel, and huge pebbles and stones, stretching along the front of the terminal wall, the whole mile in length, 25 or 30 feet in hight, and 150 feet or so in breadth. From the terminal moraine to the water in the bay the distance is about half a mile; the descent is, perhaps, 100 feet, the ground is covered with a forest of tangled, moss-covered trees, and traversed by numerous streams from the glacier, which unite to form two large streams before entering the bay.

A PICTURE OF THE GLACIER.

The Professor himself, assisted by the captain, went around the bay in the steam launch, and ascended the lower hights, examining the marks which the glacier had made in the days of its greater extension. The amateur photographers pitched their tent on the terminal moraine and attempted to get photographs of the stratification; but the alternate lines of blue and white, although showing splendidly on the ground glass, refused to show well on the negative, the blue photographing as white as the white. Incidentally, in attempting to show the stratification, the peculiar forms of the moraines, and the polishing and grooving of the rocks, they obtained some picturesque views, but they aimed only at getting copies of scientific value. No photograph, however, even by the most skillful hands, and taken from the best position, could do justice to the wonderful beauty of this glacier. As I approached it through the woods, even on the second day, I mistook it for the blue sky appearing through the trees. In some parts it seems simply like a crusted field of snow; go nearer, and you will find it is ice, pebbles of ice, packed into a solid mass. Its two principal brooks emerge from splendid caves, arching over them, and glowing within with a deep blue light. It is split at its termination by great fissures, running far up into the mass, into tongues varying from one or two feet to 30 or 40 feet in thickness, and of an altitude so great that I did not care to venture far up into the fissures between them, lest a fragment of ice falling above should crush me. I suppose the mass of ice a mile wide, and perhaps two miles long, must be in its deepest parts two or three hundred feet thick, possibly much more. It was a great delight to us to see this huge mill and examine its freshly-ground grist, and note the ease with which it ground the veins of hard jasper porphyry down to the same surface with a softer granite. The most beautiful sight about it was a portion of it shivered by passing over a steeper place into a thousand of the most fantastic pinnacles, made more fantastic by the melting during the past summer, and now lighted for me by the cloudless morning sun. The valley around the bay is grandly beautiful, and if the mail steamers could only be sure of such fine days as we enjoyed, it would pay for them to cut a path through the half-mile of forest, and advertise that passengers would be allowed to stop and see the glacier and its surroundings.

MUSCLES GATHERED FROM GLACIER STREAMS.

At 3 o'clock we all gathered and started on our return to the ship, leaving the bay at 4 o'clock and reaching Playa Parda Cove at 5. Over this cove there is a glacier, and there are two others between this and Glacier Bay. We were tired enough to enjoy our dinner, and inclined to turn in early to bed, with the consciousness that we had not only had a day of rare enjoyment, but done enough of real work on and about the glacier to be entitled to give it a name; and we propose to call it after our vessel, the Hassler Glacier.

This morning the day opened with rain, snow, and wind, so that we thought it prudent not to venture out of this snug harbor. I have said that there is a glacier above the cove; its waters come first into a lake, then into a singularly clear cascade, and so to the cove. We noticed on the first evening after our entrance that the surface water in the cove was fresh, and at three feet deep was as salt as the ocean. The surface water was also cold, 42° F., while the deeper water was 55°. We therefore filled our tanks with the water of the cascade. The men also gathered muscles and we have eaten them in every way—raw, roasted, soup, chowder, curry, &c.—and in every way find them delicious. They are the principal food of the Fuegians, and without them I see not how the Fuegians could live. In writing from Sandy Point, I spoke favorably of the agricultural capabilities of the land, and I spoke also of the possibility of reclaiming the Patagonian deserts. But of the Straits from Port Famine I should say it is impossible for civilized man to settle here.

CHURRUCA AND THE PASSAGE FROM IT.

SHOLL BAY, entrance of Smyth's Channel, March 27.—We left Playa Parda Cove yesterday morning at early day, with a pleasant air, and rapidly improving skies. I have spoken of the multitude of glaciers here, and I noticed a notable instance of it in looking back toward Playa Parda; six glaciers were in sight at once, without turning the head; and as many more could be found on the other quarters of the panorama. The scenery continued wild and beautiful all the morning, and soon after noon we entered the port of Churruca on the Isle of Desolation, the most beautiful harbor we have seen. The Island of Desolation is not more barren than the rest of the country in the neighborhood; it is all barren, from Port Famine to Cape Pillar, the forests being only in narrow valleys and sheltered spots, and the soil, even on the hill-tops, consisting apparently only of wet moss. The country seems sacred to beauty, and incapable of ministering to lower uses than the spiritual needs of the soul.

I was greatly interested yesterday, as we skirted the southern side of the Straits, to observe that there is a perceptible difference in the polishing and rounding of the rocks on the two sides, the northern side being the smoother, indicating that the abrading force came from the south. The difference is not great and striking, but it is distinctly and unmistakably perceptible. Finding no scientific opportunity offering in the first aspect of the port of Churruca, we did not drop the anchor, but turned round and came out, bringing only two or three photographs of the scenery, and stood immediately for Sholl Bay, that we might take advantage of a still, clear afternoon to pass Cape Zamar, a rough and ugly place when there is a westerly breeze. We cast anchor here just at sundown. The passage from Churruca was enchanting, and we only regretted that a low wall of fog hid the Pacific and the entrance to Smyth Channel. Yet this very wall of fog was beautiful, imitating, in the sunshine, a bank of dazzling snow. We thus seemed to be in a lake surrounded by picturesque mountains on every side.

A WONDERFUL SNOW-BANK.

In the north, Mt. Burney, 30 miles distant, lifted a great truncated cone of snow; to the north-west, a similar but much more distant mountain showed itself. In the south, on the Isle of Desolation, just west of Churruca Bay, a vast glacier and snow-field, there were large and striking objects in the grand panorama of mountains round our seeming quiet lake. But most wonderful of all was the mass of snow and ice to our north-east, and now as we lie at anchor, just east of us, on Snow Sound. The whole side of a long chain of mountains is white from summit to base with glittering snow and rifted ice, and became rosy in the early twilight. I am puzzled to account for its deposit there. Usually, we can see why the snow accumulates in one spot rather than in another; it falls on the lee side of obstacles to the prevailing drifting winds. But here this immense snow-field is on a side exposed to the prevailing winds, and its coating is a mystery, unless we suppose that, in such proximity to the ocean, the snow is very abundant and very moist, so that it catches and accumulates on the higher levels without drifting. If so, this is a measure of the great moisture and heavy snow-falls of this region. It was a clear evening, and I could not but notice the position of the stars, so strange to one accustomed only to Northern skies. Jupiter was almost touching the northern hills, Sirius half way down the northern sky, and Fomalhaut, approaching his lower culmination, was yet far above the southern horizon.

THE FUEGIANS WANT TOBACCO.

This morning we were up early, a large party going ashore for various scientific purposes, and the others taking the ship out in the channel to do a little dredging; both parties were very successful, and added much to our collections. As we on the shore were about ready to come off, we were visited by a party of twild Fuegians, five men, four women, and nine children, with three dogs. They came in an English-built boat, stolen or lost from some English ship. The men and dogs landed and came toward us with great frankness of manner. They could talk neither English nor Spanish, except the few words, boat, fire, tobac, galleto, arco. But they understood the imperial manner of one of our officers, who said quietly, but firmly, "Keep back those dogs," and immediately drove back the barking curs with sticks and stones. They warmed themselves at our fire, and seemed disposed to be very civil and friendly. We gave them our remaining biscuit, and what little tobacco there was in our party to spare. One of them accepted a pinch of snuff and pretended to sneeze, crying "Hatchee!" with mock solemnity. An old man sat down on a stone and sang to us a low, sweet recitative, or chant, in a wild key, or mode, ending on a rising melody with each stanza. They followed us to the ship, and we gave them some calico, and beads, and tobacco, and also bought bows and arrows, and a sea-urchin, paying them in tobacco. They clung to the ship as we got under way, men and women crying "Tabaca," and frantic to catch any fragment of the precious weed thrown to them. But at length they let go, and we left the bay in which I began this letter, and started up Smyth Channel. These Fuegians were nearly naked. The men wore simply a small seal-skin or otter-skin thrown over the shoulders and tied around the waist; not usually large enough to extend much below the hips, not to meet in front, without effort. The women had also a little bit of fur about the hips. The children were naked. One would suppose that with this want of clothing, with a latitude in the fifties, and perpetual snow, within 1,000 feet of sea level, they might suffer with cold. Yet, they were fat, even corpulent, and looked contented and happy, with certainly a better expression of face than some of the Indians on the Sierra, and in Nevada. The young men and young women, if washed and dressed, might easily pass for southern Europeans; two of them in particular had very sweet, amiable faces. They live, as I have said, largely on muscles, but also on limpets, sea urchins, chitons, cormorants, and any fish or fowl they can catch. Their canoes and their bows and arrows exhibit more mechanical skill than one would expect from their want of clothing, and their wicker work arbors.

THE RECORDS OF THE ROCKS.

TALCAHUANO, Chile, April 13.—When we left Sholl Bay, at noon of the 27th ult., we ran up to the Otter Islands and anchored a little before sunset. The water was smooth; several whales passed us; the mountains on either side still gave us the same picturesque scenery as the Straits. Mt. Burney, which is near the Otter Islands, chose to put on his night-cap, and we saw only the snow-clad top of his head. On the 28th, the reversing lever of our engine snapped, owing to a flaw in the casting, and we were obliged to make a short day's run and lie to to repair. We reached Mayne Harbor about sundown. The scenery between Otter Island and Mayne Harbor was the culminating point of the voyage. The cordillera of Sarmiento, and a cordillera a little north of it, were of dazzling whiteness and brilliancy, sunlit, and seen over a foreground of wood and water and rugged hills, lying in the deep shadow of a cloud. Good Friday, the 29th, was spent in repairing the engine, but it was too rainy for us to do much on shore. On the 30th we started late, and were obliged to do additional work on the engine, so that we only made Puerto Bueno that day. There we made collections of plants and animals, as usual, and examined the geological records. On the way up I observed one place where some peculiarity of the rock or of its position left the record unusually legible. A bold mountain wall on the east side of the channel was for a half mile buttressed in a peculiar manner by projections of rock, rounded and polished to a marked degree on the south side, while on the northern sides they were notably ragged. On the 31st (Easter Day) we ran up, with fine weather and romantic, beautiful scenery, to Tom Bay, but a thick fog and drizzling rain made it impossible to find the spot. We therefore lay to all night, building a bonfire on shore and simply holding on by that.

WHALES AND ICEBERGS—SHOOTING STRANGE GAME.

On the 1st of April we started at daylight, and sped joyously up the wide channel, with weather constantly improving and the scenery gloriously beautiful. Two or three great whales passed us, and a fleet of miniature icebergs came floating along, near the entrance to Eyre Sound. The amateur photographers succeed in getting better results from the scenery than ever before. In the middle of the afternoon we anchor in Eden Harbor, a lovely spot, and yielding us some very fine specimens in botany and zoology. The foreare here showed a very decided improvement over anything we had seen since leaving Port Famine, the trees ran further up upon the mountains, and several new species, one allied to the yew, which would make a handsome addition to our list of ornamental evergreens. On the 2d, it was too foggy in the morning to move early, we could not stir till 10 o'clock, and thus were only able to reach Connor Cove. The way was still beautiful, and we caught some very good views of the scenery in the photographic camera as we passed. We anchored in Connor Cove while at dinner, and, on going on deck, concluded it was too late and too cold to send anything ashore; a boat for fresh water had already gone. Some gentlemen discharged their carbines and pistols, to hear the echoes, and one fired a ball at a large bird which he saw swimming near the shore. The bird immediately turned about, swam deliberately up to the ship and around the ship, thus allowing the men in the water-boat to catch it in their hands and pass it up to the Professor on deck. It was wounded very slightly, but, like Crocket's coon, had concluded to come in as soon as it was assured the Professor wanted it. It proved to be a *rara avis*, a gigantic petrel, and a fine specimen. The 3d of April was cloudy and threatening, but we passed out amid magnificent scenery into the Gulf of Peñas. The 4th was stormy all day, and the Pacific belied its name to us. The 5th was much better, and improving all day, in the afternoon we sighted the Guayatecas Islands. On the morning of the 6th we found the Island of Huafo on our left, and the beautiful two-tipped peak of Melimoyu ahead of us. We passed up the Gulf of Corcovado, and anchored in San Pedro channel, the three mountains on our coast changing their glorious show continually until their snow crimsoned in the sunset, and then faded in the violet shadows of advancing night. Melimoyu is a flattened dome, surmounted by little tips or cones. Nantcles is a larger mass with serrated top. Corcovado is a single cone of great sharpness. The fourth mountain, Minchinmadiva, was too far north to show much that day. These peaks are from 6,000 to 8,000 feet high, while none of the surrounding hills exceed 3,000; and they are made more conspicuous by being covered with snow, and with immense glaciers. We went ashore at San Pedro, and found that since leaving Eden, four days before, we had passed from almost antarctic to almost semi-tropical regions. Here the forests ran up to the tops of hills 2,000 feet in hight; several new trees were added, among them the roble, or skew beech. But most striking were the brilliant leaves and pearl-colored flowers of a great bromelia, and a cane climbing up 20 or 30 feet among the branches. I could have spent a week on the shores of San Pedro. What could I do in one brief hour?

A HARBOR IN CHILI.

On the morning of the 7th we returned to the Pacific, and making the most of fine weather and favoring winds came to anchor early next afternoon in the harbor of San Carlos de Ancud. Here we were very glad to get fresh provisions cheap, for we had begun to tire of our ship fare. Ancud is a small town of 4,000 or 5,000 people, raising potatoes, poultry, mutton, and beef very successfully, and furnishing lumber and leather to other Chilian cities. A large proportion of the inhabitants are Chono Indians, or half-breeds, some of whom look like good material for a State, but most of them had a miserable, degraded, and unhealthy look. The scientific party found much to interest them. The town stands on a gravel bank overlying great beds of lava, and at the sea-shore erratic bowlders of granitic and porphyritic rock rest upon similar beds; the first instance, if I understand Agassiz aright, in which he has found direct evidence that the glacial period was to some extent coeval with the volcanic period; in other words, that the glacial period had not ended when this specimen of a modern vesicular lava was formed. We stood out to sea again before sundown, and made all haste to use the favorable wind and weather to make Lota Bay, our first available coaling station, 30 miles south of Talcahuano. The elements favored us. We passed over the smoothest seas and under the fairest skies, and anchored at Lota an hour before sundown.

Wednesday, April 10.—The next morning we had our coal aboard by 9 o'clock, giving us a very brief time, by early rising, to look at the plants and animals near the coal mine and copper smelting works which constitute the life of this busy little town. Starting before 10 o'clock, we dropped anchor in Talcahuana harbor at 4½ p. m. The replacing of our broken reversion rod will probably detain us here some days, which the scientific men are preparing to use in a diligent study of the natural history of the region.

THE COURTS.

ANOTHER CONTESTED GRAND JURY.

In the United States District Court, yesterday, Assistant District-Attorney Purdy said that he understood that motions would be made to quash the whisky indictments found by the last United States Circuit Court Grand Jury, on the ground that it was illegally impaneled, the names of the jurors having been indiscriminately selected from the Directory, instead of taken from the "body of electors;" and that, therefore, he desired to have this question passed upon by the Court before another Grand Jury is impaneled.

Judge Shipman—I don't propose to hear these motions alone, as there are many things connected with them which I do not think I fully understand. Judge Woodruff must be consulted relative to the time when he will either sit with me to hear them, or hear them himself.

Ex-Judge Pierrepont said that he appeared for three of the defendants in these cases; that he had consulted with District-Attorney Davis, and that they proposed to submit them upon agreed facts. It was finally settled that such submission should be made as soon as Judge Woodruff can attend to criminal business.

CRIMINAL COURTS.

James Marshal, an ex-internal revenue officer, indicted for bribery in connection with the alleged whisky frauds of 1866-'67, voluntarily surrendered himself, yesterday, and gave bail in $5,000.

In the Court of General Sessions, before Recorder Hackett, yesterday, Frederick H. Estel was sentenced to States Prison for three years, grand larceny.....Nellie Shannan, grand larceny, Penitentiary, one year.

Henry D. Cole, charged with having in his possession, with intent to sell, $3,000 in counterfeit bills, waived an examination, yesterday, and was committed, by Commissioner Shields in default of $10,000 bail, to await the action of the Grand Jury.

The statement circulated, yesterday, that the case of Thomas Ford, indicted for grand larceny, had been removed from the calendar in the Court of General Sessions, is untrue. Assistant District-Attorney Allen says that, on account of a clerical error, the case was not put on the calendar. Ford was tried and convicted, yesterday, and sentenced to 2½ years' imprisonment.

DECISIONS—MAY 17.

Supreme Court—Chambers—By Judge Ingraham.—Raynor, ex'r., agt. Benedict, jr., et al.—Memoranda. Thompson agt. Sickles.—Granted. Kellogg agt. Herbert et al.—Motion granted on condition. Wilson agt. N. Y. and Troy Steamboat Co.—Motion denied. Jaudon agt. Jaudon.—Motion granted, $10 per week alimony, and $100 counsel fee.

Superior Court—Special Term—By Judge Curtis.—Meyer agt. Badenhof—Default taken. Ford agt. Wallis—Order granted. Powers agt. Powers et al.—Lease on.

By Judge Monell.—Reinecke agt. Flecke—Case settled; (see mem. for counsel.) Stuyvesant agt. Grissler et al. Three orders denying motion to discontinue. Mallory agt. The West Shore Hudson Railroad Co.—Case settled.

Common Pleas.—Special Term—By Judge Loew.—Hadley agt. Fowler—Motion to vacate order for the examination of plaintiff denied; (see opinion).

COURT CALENDARS—THIS DAY.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT—IN BANKRUPTCY.—Involuntary cases.

2350..Robinson agt. Godefroy and others.
3364..Campbell agt. Andrus and ano.
2353..Haas et al. agt. Flanigan.
3370..Loose agt. Collis and ano.
3408..Gill et al. agt. Fallon.
3429..Carney et al. agt. The Tonkers and N. Y. Fire Ins. Co.
3447..Smith et al. agt. Derrickson and ano.
3469..Claflin et al. agt. Orchard.
3475..Pierson agt. Jones.
3468..Churchill agt. Wild.
3490..Cummings agt. Winfield.
3496..Bowness et al. agt. Shedden and ano.
3497..Lewis agt. Metz and others.
3498..Netter agt. Levy.
3499..Bishop agt. Wickham.
3500..Greene et al. agt. Conkling.
3501..Bernheimer et al. agt. Schaefer.
3502..Routledge et al. agt. Ferguson and ano.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMEOPATHY.

The 29th annual session of this medical Association will be held at Washington on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of next week. President and Mrs. Grant will give a reception to the delegates on Wednesday, and Gov. and Mrs. Cooke one on Thursday. Among the delegates from this city are Dr. C. Dunham of the Homeopathic College, Dr. E. M. Kellogg, Dr. W. J. Helmuth of the Surgical Hospital, Dr. J. W. Dowling, Dr. F. Seeger of the Hahnemann Hospital, and others.

XLIID CONGRESS—IID SESSION

DISCUSSING THE KU-KLUX BILL IN THE SENATE—FURTHER PROGRESS MADE WITH THE TARIFF BILL—AN ADVANCE TOWARD SPECIE PAYMENTS—ONE-THIRD OF THE CUSTOMS DUTIES TO BE PAID IN LEGAL TENDERS.

SENATE.....WASHINGTON, May 17, 1872.

The House resolution for a final adjournment on June 3 was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CHANDLER (Rep., Mich.) reported from the Committee on Commerce the River and Harbor Appropriation bill, and gave notice that he would call it up on Tuesday.

Mr. CHANDLER, from the Committee on Commerce, reported the River and Harbor Appropriation bill, with amendments, and it was made a special order for next Tuesday. The following appropriations are increased: Pentwater Harbor, Mich., from $10,000 to $50,000; Calumet Harbor, Ill., from $30,000 to $40,000; Black River Harbor, Ohio, from $10,000 to $20,000; Huntington Harbor, L. I., from $10,000 to $27,500. The following items are inserted: For Edgarton Harbor, Massachusetts, $20,000; for Ice Harbor, New-Castle, Delaware, $27,000; North-East River, Maryland, $10,000; Wharton Harbor, Maryland, $12,000; for removing Red River raft, $150,000; for dredging the bar of St. Johns River, Florida, $10,000; Cedar Keys, Florida, $7,000; Big Sodus Harbor, New-York, $15,000; Accotink Break, Virginia, $5,000.

The House, bill to amend the act to provide for the greater security of life on vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam, was passed.

Mr. SPRAGUE (Rep., R. I.) submitted the report of the Committee of Conference on the West Point Appropriation bill, which was concurred in.

THE KU-KLUX BILL.

At the expiration of the morning hour the Habeas Corpus Suspension act came up as unfinished business.

Mr. STOCKTON (Dem., N. J.) sent up and had read a telegram from Senator Bayard, who was absent on account of illness, expressing the hope that the bill would not be disposed of until Monday, when he expected to be present, and discuss it.

Messrs. THURMAN and CASSERLY proposed to postpone the consideration of the bill.

Messrs. CONKLING and MORTON urged Mr. Scott not to consent to the postponement.

Mr. SCOTT (Rep., Penn.) then addressed the Senate at length in advocacy of the bill, and read largely from the testimony taken by the Ku-Klux Committee to show the disturbed and lawless condition of society in the Southern States, and the necessity for continuing in the hands of the President the power to suspend the writ of habeas corpus as a means of protecting the peaceable citizens against the Ku-Klux outrages.

Mr. PRATT (Dem., Ind.) followed with an argument for the bill. He had no doubt as to the right to pass it. The only question was whether there existed at the South a state of things which would justify Congress in continuing in the President the power to suspend the habeas corpus. Mr. Pratt argued that such a state of society did exist there and said that the passage of this bill was necessary for the protection of the loyal colored men. It was a remarkable fact that a negro who voted the Democratic ticket never was Ku-Kluxed. The corruption charged upon the Southern State Governments was an excuse sometimes offered for the Ku-Klux. No doubt great corruption did exist in some of these States; but what had that to do with the Ku-Klux outrages? If those outrages had been committed on the faithless public servants who were guilty of corruption, the connection between these things would be plain; but how could bribery at the capital of South Carolina or Georgia excuse or account for the whipping of innocent negroes 100 miles away?

At the conclusion of Mr. Pratt's speech, an order was made, on motion of Mr. Sherman, that the pending bill shall be taken up again at 12 o'clock on Monday, and that the session of Tuesday shall not end until the bill has been disposed of.

Mr. COLE (Rep., Cal.), from the Committee on Appropriations, reported, without amendment, the annual Fortification Appropriation bill.

Mr. COLE also called up the Conference report on the Indian Appropriation bill, which was agreed to.

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. WEST having called up the Army Appropriation bill, it was proceeded with.

Mr. STEWART (Rep., Nev.) raised the point of order in the amendment reported by the Committee on Appropriations, repealing section 9 of the Army Appropriation act of March 3, 1871, that it was not germane to the bill.

The effect of the repeal is to allow the Secretary of the Treasury to retain the amounts due by the Government to the various Pacific railroads on account of transportation of troops, freight and mails, and to apply the same to the payment of the interest on the bonds of said roads guaranteed by the Government.

The VICE-PRESIDENT sustained the point of order, but said that he would submit the question to the Senate.

Pending a vote on the question, the Senate went into Executive session, and then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. HALE (Rep., Me.) presented the report of the Conference Committee on the Naval Appropriation bill, which was agreed to.

THE TARIFF AND TAX BILL.

The House then, at 11:30 o'clock a. m., went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. SCOFIELD (Rep., Penn.) in the chair, on the Tax and Tariff bill.

Mr. BROOKS (Dem., N. Y.) offered an amendment to the item on paper, which was fixed yesterday at 90 per cent of the existing duties, providing that the duty on printing paper, whether sized or unsized, shall be equal, and 20 per cent ad valorem. Agreed to by 80 to 76.

Mr. SHELDON (Rep., La.) moved to insert the following: "On vermuth, 40 per cent ad valorem." Agreed to.

Mr. DAWES (Rep., Mass.) moved to insert the following: "On mustard, ground, in bulk, 10 cents a pound; in glass or tin, 14 cents; also, the following: "Mustard seed, brown or white, free of duty." Agreed to. Also, the following: "On Zante or other currants, 1 cent a pound; on figs, 2½ cents; on raisins, 2½ cents." Agreed to. Also, "to amend the items taxing acids, by making acetous and pyrolygneous acids of the specific gravity of 1.047 or less, 5 cents per pound, and over that specific gravity, 30 cents a pound." Agreed to.

Mr. KERR (Dem., Ind.) moved to insert the paragraph making the duty on copper in ores 2½ cents per pound. Of fine copper, &c., on all regulus or block or coarse copper, 3 cents; on old copper, 3½ cents; on plates, bars, &c., 4 cents; on copper in rolled plates, &c., and on all manufactures of copper, 40 per cent ad valorem. Agreed to—76 to 65.

Mr. FRYE (Rep., Me.) moved to insert the following paragraph: On emery ore $6 a tun, and on emery grains 2 cents a pound. Agreed to—74 to 71.

Mr. FARNSWORTH (Rep., Ill.) moved to insert the following: On preserved or condensed milk, 35 per cent ad valorem. Agreed to.

Mr. BECK (Dem., Ky.) moved to insert a paragraph authorizing one-half of the customs duty to be paid in legal-tender notes.

Mr. BUTLER (Rep., Mass.) suggested one-third.

Mr. BECK accepted that modification, and the proposition as amended was agreed to—94 to 63.

Mr. SARGENT (Rep., Cal.) offered a proviso that national bank notes required to be redeemed in gold may be received for import duties. Agreed to.

Mr. BLAIR (Dem., Mo.) moved to make the duty on type, type metal, and stereotype plates, 10 per cent ad valorem.

Without a vote upon it, the Committee rose, on motion of Mr. DAWES, (Rep., Mass.,) because it was so difficult to get a quorum to vote; and Mr. Dawes moved to revoke all leaves of absence after Monday next, and to grant no more during the present session.

After considerable debate, Mr. DAWES offered a resolution directing the Clerk to request all absent members to return to the House. The resolution was adopted, and the House again went into Committee on the Tariff.

Mr. DAWES moved to make the duty on plate glass 90 per cent of the existing duties. Agreed to.

Mr. FARNSWORTH moved to add the following: "On tin, in sheets or plates, 18 per cent ad valorem." Agreed to—87 to 45.

Mr. BURCHARD (Rep., Ill.) moved to make the tax on wood screws 2 inches or over in length, 4 cents a pound; less than 2 inches, 6 cents; and less than three-quarters of an inch, 9 cents. Agreed to.

Mr. DUELL (Rep., N. Y.) moved to make "moisie" iron made from sand ore $10 a tun.

Mr. CONGER (Rep., Mich.) moved to make it $6 30. The amendment was agreed to.

The Committee then passed to the next section, which, on motion of Mr. MERRIAM (Rep., N. Y.), was amended so as to read:

"That all acts requiring duties to be assessed upon packages, commissions, brokerage, cost of transportation, shipment, transhipment, and other like costs and incidental charges incurred in packing and shipping merchandise, are hereby repealed."

The Committee then passed to the next section, enumerating articles to be