

ly the appearance of the Japanese or the order of their array. The building into which the Commodore and suite were ushered was small, and appeared to have been erected in haste. The timbers were of pine wood, and numbered, as if they had been brought from some other place. The first apartment, which was about forty feet square, was of canvas, with an awning of the same, of a white ground, with the Imperial arms emblazoned on it in places. The floor was covered with white cotton cloth with a pathway of red felt, or some similar substance, leading across the room to a raised inner apartment, which was wholly carpeted with it. This apartment, the front of which was entirely open, so that it corresponded precisely to the *divan* in Turkish houses, was hung with fine cloth, containing the Imperial arms, in white, on a ground violet. On the right hand was a row of arm-chairs, sufficient in number for the Commodore and his staff, while on the opposite side sat the Prince who had been appointed to receive the President's letter, with another official of similar rank. Their names were given by the interpreter as "TODA IDZU-NO-KAMI," Toda, Prince of Idzu, and "IDO IWAMI-NO-KAMI," Ido, Prince of Iwami. The Prince of Idzu was a man of about fifty, with mild regular features, and an ample brow, and an intelligent, reflective expression. He was dressed with great richness, in heavy robes of silken tissue, wrought into elaborate ornaments with gold and silver thread. The Prince of Iwami was at least fifteen years older, and dressed with nearly equal splendor. His face was wrinkled with age, and exhibited neither the benignity nor the intelligence of his associate. They both rose and bowed gravely as the Commodore entered, but immediately resumed their seats, and remained as silent and passive as statues during the interview. [To be continued.]

SENATOR GWIN.

We clip the following from the *Miner's Advocate*, a Northern paper. It tells its own story:

It is strange, indeed, how an impression should have gone abroad that the above distinguished Democrat was a bolter in the late exciting political contest. These rumors have been circulated either through gross ignorance or malicious design. In either case, injustice is done to this prominent Democrat, and it is nothing more than justice that the correction should be made. Senator Gwin took a very active part in the canvass, and made speeches in nearly every portion of the State. In our own county, he rendered gallant and efficient service; and spared no honorable means to secure the election of the whole ticket. At Murderer's Bar, Coloma and Placerville, he addressed large and attentive multitudes, and invariably with great effect. It was generally conceded that his effort at Coloma was one of the happiest and most effective made during the whole of the campaign in this county. Upon all occasions, Dr. Gwin took delight in defending Gov. Bigler and his official acts, and urged the people to the undivided support of the whole Democratic ticket.

Our distinguished Senator cannot be classed with those who proved unfaithful in an emergency, and lent aid and comfort to the enemy. We have yet every confidence in his integrity and Democracy, and believe that the imputation of bolting has been cast without the slightest shadow of a foundation.

FROM AUSTRALIA.

News from Melbourne to the 23d September and from Sydney to the 16th, have been received.

There is a great deal of discontent among the miners about the conduct of the Government.

The papers are discussing plans of independence. Some of the writers are particularly earnest in inveighing against the requirement of property qualification for freeholders.

Since the last summary a political crisis of no ordinary significance has arisen, originating in the opposition of the miners to pay the Government tax of 30 shillings a month, and to which Mr. La Trobe, the Lieut. Governor was compelled to yield—the tax is now fixed at 40 shillings for three months.

The California miners, who introduced sluice washing at the northern mines, are said to be very successful.

We make the following extract from some of the latest gold circulars given in the *Argus*:

The threatening aspect of affairs that was indicated at the gold-fields last week has passed over. In this instance, the "pressure from without" has proved most successful in gaining the object desired, aided also by the want of firmness and decision lately shown by the powers that be.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.—There is a lady in town, who, daily clothing herself in the "unwhisperables," industriously, and we hope profitably, follows the business of mining in this city.—*Echo.*

COLUMBIA GAZETTE.

JOHN C. DUCHOW, Editor.

SATURDAY, DEC. 24, 1853.

NOTICE.—Messrs Yancy & Roberts and Woods and Purdy, are our authorized agents in Sonora, to receive subscriptions, advertisements and job work, and receipt for the same.

NOTICE.—The mails for the Atlantic States and Europe, closes at the Post Office, on Monday morning, at 10 o'clock.

Columbia Gazette, for sale, in wrappers, for mailing, for sale at this office, and at the Post Office.

DINNER TO HON. JAMES W. COFFROTH.

On Saturday evening last, the citizens of Columbia gave a dinner at the American Hotel, to our valued and esteemed fellow-citizen, the Hon. JAMES W. COFFROTH, previous to his departure for Benicia, to fight the battles of the people, as their Representative in the Senate of the State. Early in the evening, a large procession of the friends of Mr. C. was formed, at the Columbia Exchange, under the direction of J. D. Patterson, Esq., and headed by our fine mountain band, marched to the American House, where a bountiful board had been spread by the host and hostess—who are *au fait* in such matters. The repast was elegant, and in magnificent abundance, as (although the room was crowded to its utmost capacity,) every one present could testify. Col. T. N. Cazneau was called to preside, assisted by R. A. Robinson, and John Leary, Esq's.

Ample justice having been done to the good things with which the table was loaded, and the cloth removed, the President, in an eloquent and appropriate manner, alluded to the Hon. Guest;—to his public services, his faithful adherence to his principles, to his friends, and to the welfare of the State; his open, frank and generous deportment towards his opponents, assuring him, that at home where he was best known, he was best loved. At the close of the President's remarks the health of Mr. Coffroth was given, followed by cheer upon cheer, with that hearty good will, which told they came from the heart. Mr. Coffroth's reply was chaste, eloquent, and affecting, and told how well he appreciated this tribute of respect and esteem by his friends and fellow-citizens. His address was received with cheering, and the most unbounded enthusiasm.

Many prominent members of the Whig party were present, and proved by their presence and enthusiasm, that although politically opposed to Mr. C., yet, as an honest man, they respected him, as a fellow-citizen they esteemed him, and as a friend they loved him. Every gentleman present, contributed to the enjoyments of the evening by speeches, songs and sentiments; and the occasion was one of the most pleasing and agreeable, that has ever taken place in Columbia. The company did not adjourn until the clock pointed to the wee hours of morning.

On Sunday evening, a procession of the citizens honored Mr. Coffroth with an escort beyond the town limits, while upon the lofty summit of Beacon Hill, the Columbia Artillery were waking up the echoes and reverberations of the distant mountains, with a little Democratic thunder.

PRaiseworthy.—It will be seen by their notice in another column, that Messrs. JAMES MILLS & Co., will close their Banking House, on Sundays, from and after the 1st of January. This is a good movement, and should be followed by all our merchants, and others, doing business on the Sabbath. For the accommodation of miners and the public generally, their House will be kept open on Saturday evenings, until 10 o'clock. Don't let them lose by it, boys.

MURDER.—Austin S. Bannister, of Tennessee, was killed by a man named Timothy Corrington, at Illinois Ranch, about a mile below Springfield, on Wednesday last. The deed was committed by a stab with a knife, in the vital regions. We did not learn the particulars.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE ARCHIBALD GILLESPIE, ESQ.

On Sunday night, last, the melancholy intelligence reached town, that Mr. Archibald Gillespie, of Woods' Creek, brother of our esteemed fellow-citizen, Col. C. K. Gillespie, had died from the sad accident that befel him some few weeks since. The numerous friends of the deceased and of Col. G., had entertained lively hopes of a speedy recovery of the wounded gentleman, and as some time had elapsed since his misfortune, all danger was considered as passed;—the news, therefore, of a fatal termination, was very unexpected, and created a general gloom. On Monday noon, Col. Gillespie reached our town with the remains of his brother, and the Masonic Fraternity, of which the brothers are members, took charge of the corpse.

The Brotherhood had assembled in large numbers, adorned with the striking and imposing Regalia of the Lodge, and were headed by a fine brass band. An elegant funeral hearse had been prepared for the occasion, draped in solemn folds of white and black—tastefully looped up with rosettes and bands of the same, presenting a marked feature in the funeral cortege, and reflecting much credit upon the Masonic body. The procession moved to the M. E. Church, south, where a large number of citizens were in waiting; the body was placed in front of the altar and the Masons, and Clergy of other churches having been seated, a most eloquent and touching prayer was offered up by the Rev. Pastor. A solemn Dirge followed, and then an impressive and highly appropriate funeral Discourse was delivered. The preacher seemed to throw his whole soul into his melancholy duties, in his allusions to his early acquaintance with the deceased and relatives, and to the State of Tennessee, from whence the Rev. gentleman and the Gillespies came to California, was very affecting, and commanded the sympathies and marked attention of his hearers. After the religious ceremonies, the procession reformed, and was joined by a large number of Ladies, the Children from the Public School, and a large line of our most respectable citizens. As the mournful train passed on, the dwellings were quietly closed, and the National Emblem was drooped at half-mast, hanging in solemn stillness against the flag-staff.

At the grave, the ceremonies peculiar to the Masonic fraternity were performed by the W. M., Dr. T. J. Oxley. At the head of the grave stood the generous and affectionate brother, deeply moved, leaning on his relative, Mr. W. D. Neilson, one of our citizens. The entire assemblage seemed to sympathize with them; the dead silence that pervaded, the uncovered heads of all, and the deep attention, told the general respect and feeling of the spectators. The noble brother had provided a most costly coffin covered with black velvet, encased in an outer strong plank box, committing the remains of his relative to the earth with the most sacred care.

In the evening the Exchange and other public buildings were closed, the festivities usually offered to the public were omitted, and our town seemed to wear a sombre aspect. Archibald Gillespie was not intimately known in Columbia, but the Colonel is one of our most esteemed citizens; his open and frank nature winning for him the good will and respect of all. His noble devotion to his brother during his sickness, and his affectionate care, even up to the closing of the grave, has elicited the warmest admiration of our entire people. May he reap the rich reward of his good deeds and find a happy consolation in the reflection that his Heavenly Father will smile upon his actions. C.

IMPROVEMENTS.—Some of our enterprising business men on Main and State streets, are causing the said thoroughfares to be put in a passable condition, by a plentiful top-dressing of "headings." The road at the foot of Broadway, also, begins to look as though our friends in that direction, were determined not to let the travel all go to "the other side of Jordan."

FILLIBUSTERISM.—The editor of the San Joaquin *Republican* has been favored with extracts from a letter received by a gentleman in Stockton from Mazatlan, which states that an Expedition against the Fillibusters was to sail from that place, with 250 regular troops, and expected to take them by surprise.

So far as heard from, the invasion has been a complete failure, not having ventured as yet, beyond La Paz and San Jose. In Guaymas they are making great preparations to receive the invaders, and the feeling of hatred toward them is universal, and no quarter will be given them.

The *Republican* says, it is to be feared that the *Anita* will arrive too late to save Walker's Expedition.

The news is important, as it is from the best authority, and shows a determination on the part of the Mexicans generally to resist invasion.

DEPARTURE.—The Hon. J. W. MANDEVILLE left Columbia, last week, for Benicia. Mr. Mandeville is well known and respected in Tuolumne, for his sterling honesty and strict integrity; and the Democracy of this vicinity place the utmost confidence in his watchfulness for the "Rights of the People." Their confidence will not be betrayed.

"We have been in California a "considerable spell," and in that time have been under the dire necessity of masticating a right smart heap of venerable masculine beef, and have heard much lamentation and gnashing of teeth occasioned by the demolition of the ancient fodder aforesaid. On Thursday morning, owing to a streak of good fortune, and the liberality of our friend, jolly GEORGE WILSON, we received, cooked, (for be it known we keep an *Y. B's Hall*), and partook of the finest fat, tender and juicy beef-stake we have taken an observation of since we have been in the country. "Mused Stock is some! Go ye, buy and eat."

By reference to the advertisement in another column, it will be seen that the renowned violinist and vocalist, JOHN KELLY, will make his first appearance, at the Theater, in Columbia, to-morrow evening, assisted by Mr. W. Scott.

As these gentlemen are artists of rare merit, they should be complimented by a crowded house.

SONORA HERALD.—We have forwarded the *Gazette*, by Adams & Co's Express, every week. It is strange that it does not reach its destination.

The *Times* says, the election on Monday, for Senator, resulted in an over-whelming majority for the regular Democratic nominee, David Mahoney, Esq. As far as returned, the vote stands 4554 for Mahoney, and 1107 for Mr. W. B. Farwell, the opposing candidate. The ballots in the 10th and 11th precincts no doubt will be found almost wholly Democratic. In the First Ward the vacancy for Assistant Alderman is filled by the election of Mr. Charles H. Corser, the Democratic, and only regularly nominated candidate.

THE MINSTRELS' CONCERT on Sunday evening last, was the finest of the season, and the Theater was filled to its utmost capacity, with an attentive and delighted audience. "DUCK" had a bumper and no mistake. Many new and amusing scenes were introduced, and "hits" flew thick, fast and furious. The Minstrels have announced their intention of leaving us; but it is to be hoped that their absence will be of short duration, for since we have been favored with their amusing entertainments, the breath of the sky-colored disease has not been wafted o'er our fair village. C.

FRIEND HUNNEWELL, with his usual promptness, supplied us liberally with all the substantial, light, and ornamental literature of the times, for which he will please receive our thanks.

P. S. Also, for that inimitable and interesting monthly, "*Harpers Magazine*."

The town of Jackson, Calaveras county, has been incorporated.

For the Columbia Gazette.

Mr. Editor,—Not seeing you at the Temperance meeting, last Sunday afternoon, I have taken the liberty to report for you, knowing that you are interested in the temperance movement. The church was well filled with ladies and gentlemen, each wearing a smiling countenance in favor of the temperance cause.

The order of exercises were as follows:—Singing by the choir; Reading the Scriptures and Prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Pendergrass; Song by the choir; Temperance Address, by the Rev. Mr. Gibbons; Total abstinence pledge circulated; Remarks by the Rev. Mr. Pendergrass; Song by the Sons; Presentation of petitions for a prohibitory liquor law; Song by the choir; Benediction by the Rev. Mr. Pendergrass.

I will briefly state that the singing by the choir was excellent, and had a good effect. Mr. Pendergrass read suitable portions of Scripture, in a solemn and impressive manner, and invoked the presence of Almighty God, and his blessing on the efforts put forth. The Address of Mr. Gibbons, was comprehensive, proving the evils of intemperance on society, individual and national. Also the result of the Total Abstinence Societies, and the Prohibitory Liquor Law. Jails and Poor-houses, which before were full, are now to let; crime on the decrease; drunkards reformed; society improved; and the *accursed chalice* banished from the family and festive boards; and peace, order, and blessings, following in their wake. Indeed it was replete with statistical information, proving to every candid hearer, the benefits of total abstinence from all that will intoxicate.

Brothers Gibbons and Brink were appointed to circulate the following Preamble and Pledge:

"We, whose names are annexed, desirous of forming a Total Abstinence Society, auxiliary to Columbia Division, No. 18, hereby pledge ourselves, neither to make, buy, sell or use, as a beverage any spirituous or malt liquors, wine or cider." The above was responded to by forty-five signatures in their own hand-writing. Nine of the above are ladies who were very much interested in the proceedings. Great struggle took place among the gentlemen some of whom had been in the habit of taking a little too much, *occasionally*.—Conscience dictated them to sign the Pledge, but appetite craved otherwise. We noticed one who had partly made up his mind to leave, and not have the Pledge presented, but he could not get away; conscience did her work, for, after much hesitation, he put down his name.

It is the great struggle of life, to conquer the appetite; which, like the *leech*, cries give, give, give; until the victim becomes entirely helpless. May all who took the pledge, hold on to the end of life.

The pledge made almost a clean sweep; almost every one in the house who had not previously signed or taken the pledge as Sons of Temperance, signed their names. Next time, I am in hopes no one will resist the opportunity to do good to himself and others, by his example.

While the Pledge was being circulated, Brother Pendergrass made some very appropriate remarks, and related some amusing anecdotes, which told well on the audience.

It was announced that on the first Wednesday in January, 1854, the officers of Columbia Division, for the coming quarter, would be publicly installed. The public are invited to attend.

The meeting closed with the Benediction.

Thus, the first meeting of the total abstinence Society ended, with 45 members; and we may expect much good to result therefrom, as nine were ladies;—and it has been said that one lady has the influence of one hundred men. Should any of her acquaintances not be Total Abstinence men, they must make up their minds to have no rest until they have signed the Pledge. So mote it be.

A SON OF TEMPERANCE.

SUICIDE.—A Frenchman, by the name of Buffet Rene Jean, committed suicide, at French Gulch, on Wednesday, by shooting himself in the head, with a double-barreled shot-gun, causing instant death. He was supposed to be insane. He had just returned to California, from home, where he had left \$8000, the product of his first sojourn in this country.

MINING.—The "Maine" boys have again reached the ledge, and are now doing well. On Wednesday they took out 15 ounces, and on Thursday 5 ounces.

Our thanks are due to Adams & Co's Express for full files of State papers and the delivery of our exchanges.

MASONIC NOTICE.

A regular meeting of Columbia Lodge No. 28 of F. & A. M., will be held at their Lodge room on Tuesday the 27th of Dec. at 10 o'clock A. M. precisely. All brothers of the order in good standing, are respectfully solicited to attend and join us, in the celebration of the coming anniversary of St. John the Evangelist.

PUBLIC.

The exercises will commence at 11 o'clock A. M. in the Church underneath the Masonic Hall, as follows:

- 1st. Music.
 2. Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. J. C. Pendergrass.
 3. Music.
 4. Installation of Officers.
 5. Music.
 6. Oration by the Rev. M. Evans of Sonora.
 7. Music.
 8. Benediction.
- THOS. J. OXLEY, W. M.
J. HECKENDORN, Sec.

We are indebted to Wells Fargo & Co's Express for the first delivery of Atlantic papers, by the John L. Stephens. Also, for many other favors.

We have received the first number of the San Francisco *Evening Picayune*, revived. It looks neat and inviting.

NEWS ITEMS.

... The Metropolitan Theater, at San Francisco, was to have been opened on Thursday last, by a grand Ball.

... A section of Cadets of Temperance have been organized in Nevada, with 20 charter members.

WOMEN AND BABIES.—The "Stephens" brings the valuable acquisition of fifty-nine women and thirty eight children.

LOW FARE.—Through tickets to New York per steamer *Unde Sam*, were sold Friday at the exceedingly low rate of \$25.

... One of Colonel Walker's Lieutenants has written a communication, to the *S. F. Commercial Advertiser*, from Margarita Bay, dated on the 14th inst., in which he states that they are now in the bark *Cutter*, running away from a Mexican Cutter, crowded with armed men, and that, if they do not soon get reinforcements, he very much fears he will ere long, be mounted on a scaffold, and dismounted on a rope.

... The San Francisco *Times & Transcript* says: "Mr. H. Charlton has promptly designed and engraved a seal for the new Republic of Lower California. The emblem is of the Pegasus order, illustrated with snow capped mountains, a *la Sierra*, upon a cerulean blue ground, presenting a highly progressive and pleasing ensemble."

... Joseph S. Bradley, Secretary of the Corporation of Bradley, Berden, & Co., and son of Dr. Bradley, committed suicide, at Diamond Springs, on last Sunday, in a fit of insanity, caused by annoyance in business, and unfavorable news from home concerning his intended wife.

... A printing press has been shipped, to Lower California, by the celebrated J. Judson Ames, Esq., who has received, from President Walker, the appointment of State Printer for the new Republic.

... A miner by the name of John B. Mitchell, says the *Shasta Courier*, formerly of Franklin County, Missouri, committed suicide in French Gulch, on the 22d ult., by cutting his throat with an old table-knife.

INFERNAL.—A man, or brute, or demon, says the *S. F. San*, named Stenning, formerly an *attache* of the American Theater, committed a rape on the person of a little girl aged six years, the daughter of a gentleman named Hall, who keeps a public house on Pacific street. The police are on his track, and it is scarcely possible for him to escape.

... The Masonic fraternity throughout the State are making preparations to appropriately celebrate the anniversary of their patron Saint.

... The firemen will give a grand ball in Coloma on the 21st, and the Masons in Placerville on the 27th.