

America, where they will enjoy institutions and self-government of English origin, and will not be liable to have their prospects impaired by the ignorant and capricious interference of distant and irresponsible authorities, or of their ill-selected instruments. Within the last five-and-twenty years, as I have already said, about two millions of persons have emigrated from this country. One million have gone directly to the United States, and about 800,000 to our North American colonies—of the latter, more than one-half have re-emigrated to the United States. Therefore, in all probability, three-fourths of the emigration from this country during the last five-and-twenty years has been to the United States (in fact, last year, three-fourths of the emigrants from this country—188,000 out of 248,000—went directly to the United States). It is not improbable, therefore, that the number of persons now living in the United States who were born British subjects, is as great as the whole number of persons of British and Irish descent in all our dependencies. I ask, why do emigrants prefer the United States to the British colonies? I ask this question not from any feelings of jealousy of the United States. For I look upon those States as the greatest, the most glorious, and most useful children of England; for their inhabitants I entertain the strongest regard and affection. I rejoice that we are assisting them in peopling their Far West. I rejoice at every thing which promotes their interests and redounds to their honor. I believe these feelings are entertained and returned by the instructed and reflecting men of both countries—I believe that trade, emigration, and similarity of institutions are daily strengthening the ties between Great Britain and her independent colonies; and thence I augur the happiest consequences to our race.

FRENCH SCRAP.—The Paris Court of Appeals has decided that the condition *not to marry*, attached to a legacy, is contrary to the freedom of marriage, and must, therefore, be held as if not written.

The artificial French guano, made by M. Didioux is pronounced, as manure, nearly equal to the natural or real. The chief director of the Hospital of the city of Sens has devised an easy method of expelling the scrofula, the ravages of which pest he estimates at twenty million of dollars annually in the farms of Europe.

Monsieur Reinard has issued from the National printing office, in a quarto of 400 pages, with a map by d'Avesac, a geographical, historical and scientific memoir on India before the 11th century of the Christian era—from Arabi, Persian, and Chinese writers; a truly erudite performance. It is remarkable how little, either in Europe or America, Salvador's History of the dominations of the Romans in Judea, has been noticed; and yet these two octavos are among the most important and well executed works of this era, with strong attractions of matter and style, and superior skill in narrative.

On the 4th of July, all the American vessels at Havre were decorated with the star-spangled banner. On the news of the death of Mr. Polk, the flags were hung at half-mast; the sign of mourning was a proper homage for the eye of the world, to the dignity of the deceased. Most of the Paris journals subjoined to the mention of his decease, a lofty tribute to the success of his administration, and to the abilities and patriotism which it seemed to imply. One thing is certain—that the American Union and character rose more in Europe during Mr. Polk's administration, than under any other since Washington. The conquest of Mexico was at the same time a victory over the European mind and spirit, as to the United States. The aggrandizement of the Republic Empire, along with the peace, stability and prosperity within, filled the world with admiration of our destiny.

"In antiquity the men whom posterity has embalmed as model Republicans, though they had luxury and dissipation were moral foes to political liberty, and that religion was its bane. Nothing is truer; it is truth for all ages and countries. Lo, here, a population suddenly boasting of being Republican, and crying with stentorian lungs, *Vive la République*. Do not trust these vociferations. Feel the pulse and sound the veins of the multitude. If you discover that they have lost religious faith, that scepticism has gangrened their souls, that there are but few choice spirits with even the light of philosophy, which is imperceptible for the vulgar eye—conclude roundly that the pretensions to Republicanism are mere vaunt. Or, if what strikes you at once and at first, is that morals are relaxed, that the rich prefer opera-girls to wives, that, even among the working classes, a considerable number—those especially who affect most enthusiasm for the Republic, live in concubinage and debauchery—you need not hesitate; you may forthwith decide, that the Republic is a chimera or a fiction. How can he who knows not God, the source of all duty, regularly discharge his obligations to his country with the spontaneous zeal due to a Democracy? How can he steadily tread the rugged or slippery paths of political liberty, who stumbles and falls on the high road of common morality? How can men, on Sunday and Monday, squander all their wages, be good citizens of a sincere, honest, orderly Republic? Without great moral springs, every attempt to found a Democratic Republic, must be vain and even self-destructive."

Among the inventions deserving of notice in the Fair, is the "Dolce Campana Attachment," for the Piano, invented by Mr. Gray, of Albany, and attached to Boardman & Gray's Pianos, manufactured in that city. This attachment, which is brought to action by an extra pedal, produces a soft, clear, and delicious music, like the organ, harp, and guitar blended. Unlike the *Adiantum* attachment, which strains and untunes the piano wires, the Dolce Campana does not press upon the wires at all, and in no way affects them except in tone. It is the only invention that has ever brought the Piano-forte to a Piano. The specimen instrument (Piano) in the Fair, is a noble one in structure and tone, and the attachment is not only an exquisite improvement to its music, but an ornament to the instrument. Messrs. Boardman & Gray have been awarded the medal of the Institute for the attachment, and have secured a patent in England, whither Mr. Gray is about proceeding to introduce it to the English public.

The preliminary expenses of watching a street in New York cost \$24,392 36, of which attorney fees were \$15,490 56!!

The receipts of the American Board of Missions, from the 1st of August, 1849, to July 31st, 1849, were \$289,702 70.

A National Common School Convention was to be held in Philadelphia on the 17th Oct.

THE POLYNESIAN.

HONOLULU, SATURDAY, JAN. 19.

THE LATE COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES.

Though we have been forbearing towards Mr. Ten Eyck, even to a fault, it was our purpose to have still forbore, and we were in hopes he would quietly have left the kingdom, without doing or saying any thing, that would demand notice at our hands. But we cannot in justice, allow the speech, made by him at the late entertainment where he was the honored guest, to pass without a remark; though we regret its publication did not give us an opportunity to say what we shall now give publicity to, before his departure.

If Mr. Ten Eyck was capable of making such a speech, it is evident to any unprejudiced mind that he was incapable of filling the station he has left vacant.

Dr. Wood, who has at times acted as Mr. Ten Eyck's Secretary, since his arrival here, and during his absence as his substitute, and who is the brother-in-law of one of the late firm of Ladd & Co. made the introductory remarks, and gave the toast which called for the reply of the late Commissioner.

Mr. Ten Eyck set out by complaining that some evil minded "person or persons" have industriously circulated the slander "abroad" that he had been engaging himself in the practice of his profession while commissioner. We know of no complaint having been made against him in this respect "abroad," that has not been openly and repeatedly charged here—and we do not believe that any complaint has been made here or "abroad" against Mr. Ten Eyck for engaging in his profession, except in the celebrated case of Ladd & Co. with the Hawaiian Government. Does he mean to say he did not act as counsel in that case? It is to be inferred from his speech, that he intended to create that impression "abroad." The printed report of that trial, shows that soon after his arrival, he was employed and did act as counsel in that case against the Government to which he was accredited, and with which it was his duty to cultivate the most friendly relations, and that during that investigation, he indulged in harsh and abusive epithets against the Government and its officers, wholly unworthy of his station. He soon necessarily imbibed all the bitter feelings of his clients; under the operation of which, he wrote the notorious letter published in the "Plain Dealer" of Cleveland, and which has been before copied and reviewed in this paper.

To be sure, at the time, he denied the authorship of that letter, as it will be recollected, and subsequently, it will be remembered, it was conclusively established that it emanated from his pen. It is therefore a fact, not to be disputed, that Mr. Ten Eyck has, while Commissioner, been engaged in the practice of his profession—and that the necessary consequences have followed, that it unfitted him for his official duties.

But the "Plain Dealer" letter is not the only result that followed his professional acts. In October last, he wrote and caused to be published in the "Sandwich Island News," the Artaxerxes letter, in which he attacks the King and all of his Ministry, Com. Shubrick and others, and modestly made use of the following language in speaking of himself:

"Why does not Mr. Ten Eyck come here at once, where he has made 'troops of friends,' who are ready with open arms to welcome him amongst them, and who can and do appreciate his integrity, his talents and his moral worth. I know his disinterested and conscientious motives for remaining at his post of duty until relieved, and give him all credit for them, but I do not myself believe in that virtue which would influence him to submit to indignities from the men who govern at the Islands for the benefit of other people, especially when he can come here and acquire an honorable name and fame, and a fortune too, amongst his own countrymen and on his own soil."

When is Mr. Ten Eyck coming here? Were I in his place, I would leave my honor behind me and his better, where he has already excited a most favorable impression, and where he could not fail to make a fortune."

And it will not be forgotten also, that when called upon formally by the Minister of Foreign Relations, to declare whether the letter emanated from his pen, that in a shuffling manner he denied the allegation, and for the purpose of strengthening his word, procured from Dr. Wood and another, a certificate, that a person, then in California, was its author, well knowing at the time, that the certificates were false. It is not publicly known what means were used to procure that false certificate of his innocence, and we shall not stop to make them known. But we are authorized in saying he knew the certificates were not true, and it has since come to light that the original manuscript from which the letter was published is in the hand-writing of Mr. Ten Eyck, and because he has since been compelled under very peculiar circumstances to admit, as he has admitted over his own signature, if he did not write every word, he did write a large portion of that epistle, and particularly those portions we have quoted above. Now having stated these simple facts, we should perhaps dismiss the subject, and leave the man who can be a party to the publication of such self-adulation, to whatever pleasure he can derive from uttering "my own conscience, however, is clear, and tells me I am right!"

But aside from Mr. Ten Eyck's misdeeds, what has he done as Commissioner of the United States to meet the approbation of the subjects of this kingdom, and secure the commendation of the citizens of the United States residing here? We answer, nothing. So far as his acts have operated at all, they have produced a contrary effect. He came here to conclude a treaty, mutually beneficial to the citizens of the United States and the subjects of this Government, and he did not even commence a negotiation upon the subject until some eight months after his arrival, during most of which time he had been acting as counsel against the party with which he was to negotiate, and had thereby unfitted himself for his duties. And during the last eighteen months he has been absent from the Islands nearly half of the time, and we cannot but think, American interests were as well protected as while he was here. Besides he was a portion of his time, a zealous co-worker with the French consul, as was apparent at the audience at the Palace on the 13th Dec, 1849, and though he was not present when Admiral Tromelin arrived and may not have approved of the final steps taken, still we believe his previous conduct had an influence in inducing the aggressions from which

this Government has suffered much and other interests materially.

Now what is there in all these facts, which affords an object of commendation? We confess we can find nothing—and with them before the world, and the history of the late complimentary ball and supper to Mr. Ten Eyck, as published in the late Honolulu Times, we leave it to others to draw their own inferences in relation to the manifestation of good will shown to him by his friends.

FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES.

Through the kindness of a friend we have obtained the perusal of the New York Weekly Herald of the 29th Sept. last, containing the correspondence of M. Guillemin Tell Poussin, Minister of France, and the Hon. J. M. Clayton, Secretary of State at Washington, ending in the dismissal of the said Minister.

The correspondence originated in a demand of M. Poussin, by order of the French Government, of \$5,500, to M. Port, claimed by him as compensation due to him for loss of profit and damages, as he alleged, occasioned by the abrogation of the sale at auction, in Puebla, (Mexico) by an officer of the United States army, of five hundred bales of tobacco, in consequence of the subsequent discovery that that tobacco was the private property of M. Domercq. A court of inquiry, composed of American officers, and held in Puebla, had decided that as the tobacco had been taken away from M. Port, the money he had paid should be returned with interest, but they disallowed his claim for profit and damages on the ground of circumstances leading them to believe that M. Port, at the time of the purchase, was aware that the tobacco was private property. But M. Port was allowed a right of appeal to a higher authority, and Col. Childs sent the whole circumstances of the case to the Secretary of War at Washington.

Mr. Clayton took the view that M. Port had no just cause to be dissatisfied with the award of the military court of inquiry at Puebla, and that there was no sufficient reason to disturb that award.

The correspondence was again renewed upon another subject, which was a claim of salvage made by Com. Carpenter, of the U. S. steamer Iris, for having saved the French ship Eugénie, of Havre, which had grounded on the bank of Rio, near the anchorage of Antonio Lisardo—M. Poussin contending that as the salvor was a U. S. vessel, no salvage ought to be claimed—and Mr. Clayton, with the advice of Mr. Reverly Johnson, the Attorney General of the United States, contending that a national vessel had as good a right to salvage as a merchant vessel.

In debating these very simple questions, among other expressions offensive to Mr. Clayton, M. Poussin made use of the following:

"To Col. Childs' second allegation that M. Port owed \$1,000 to Mr. Wengierski at the time of his death, I answer in Mr. Port's name by a formal denial, and Col. Childs is summoned to demand that sum of M. Port, provided that he can establish the indebtedness of M. Port to Mr. Wengierski."

It would however be very easy at any time to get rid of a contract and to put down just claims, if nothing more were necessary for the purpose than to reply to the claimant by insult and defamation.—"Despatch of 30th March."

"This military court which permitted Col. Childs to carry out without interruption his string of calumnies incredible, was certainly by no means over favorable to M. Port, yet it refused to recognize in M. Port that fair faith, which, in your opinion, might relieve the United States Government from the charge of returning to the Frenchman the sums paid by him into the American coffers, and employed for the support of the army."

"And you will also see that the legation of France, which would never consent to become the organ of a criminal accusation without proofs, does not venture without proofs, to advance the assertion of a fact of the most innocent nature."

"Allow me to hope, Mr. Secretary of State, that this letter may be the last of a correspondence which has been already too long on an affair so clear. The Government of the United States must be convinced that it is more honorable to acquit fairly a debt contracted during war under a pressure of necessity, than to avoid its payment by endeavoring to brand the character of an honest man."—"Despatch of April."

"You will easily comprehend, Mr. Secretary of State, how important it is that such occurrences should not be repeated; and that severe blame at least, should be laid on those who have allowed themselves to be misled by the arbitrary measures for justice; and I doubt not that you will, without delay, give satisfaction to the just complaints of the French Republic."—"Despatch of 12th May."

If it be a rule of good breeding among gentlemen, which we believe it to be, never to impugn your antagonist's motives, any deviation from the same principle in diplomacy, must be bad taste, to say the least of it. We consider that in "imputing error to a man, whether in public or private life, you only proclaim an imperfection inseparable from fallen man; but when you impugn his motives, you proclaim his deliberate wickedness. We had thought that such imputations were reserved only for the Government of the Sandwich Islands, where audacity gives itself all the license that a dignified contempt for weakness can assume. But we now see that a great and powerful government may have sometimes to tolerate such imputations."

It will appear from the following note, that President "Rough and Ready" does not relish such official acquaintances:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
Washington, Sept. 14, 1849.
Sir—The President has devolved upon me the duty of announcing to you, that the Government of the United States will hold no further correspondence with you, as the Minister of France, and that the necessity which has impelled him to take this step, at the present moment, has been made known to your government. In communicating the President's determination in regard to yourself personally, I avail myself of the occasion to add, that due attention will be cheerfully given to any communication from the Government of France, affecting the interests of our respective republics, which may reach this department through any other channel. Your own government will be able to explain to you the reasons which have influenced the American Executive in delaying the present communication until this period. The President has instructed me further to say, that every proper facility for quitting the United States, will be promptly given at any moment when you may be pleased to signify your desire to return to France.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your most obedient servant,
JOHN M. CLAYTON.
MR. WILLIAM TELL POUSSIN, &c.
We do not find that Mr. Clayton anywhere impugns the motives of M. Poussin, though he is very plain in his exposure of M. Poussin's misapprehensions. But we certainly think that Mr. Clayton might have concluded his note to the Minister of France, of the 31st April, 1849, in a tone less imperative than the following:

"Under these circumstances, after a perusal of your note, which was laid before me this morning, I beg not a moment in requesting you to repair to this city without unnecessary delay."

The same paper speaks of a similar correspondence between Mr. Clayton and Mr. Cramp-ton, the British Minister, upon the Nicaragua question.

Something is said also of a hot polemic between Mr. Clayton and the Chilean Ambassador, Señor Carrillo, in the Daily Picayune of New Orleans, of the 6th of October.

An English gentleman remarked to us a few days since, that it was with the utmost amazement that he witnessed the virulence and absolute injustice with which Americans—through the S. I. News, Honolulu Times, Cleveland Plain Dealer, etc., etc.—set themselves to oppose their countrymen, the American Missionaries, at these Islands. We have ceased to wonder, and are well content to allow all who are so disposed to "rail on." Their illiberal slanders are not worth refuting. A conscience void of offence, and the approval of the wise and good, are a sufficient solace under the lash of ridicule, the sneers of the vile, or the contempt of the bigoted infidel. History will do them justice, and an approving Master confer their reward. The eighth and ninth centuries are peculiarly theirs.

It is, however, gratifying to find in the secular press of the day, sentiments like those contained in the following article from a recent American paper. They prove that the popular feeling, in the most enlightened countries in the world, does not require that religion be ridiculed, or the enterprise of Christian Missions be held up to contempt or opprobrium. In behalf of those who are engaged in the benevolent work, therefore, we would express our thanks to the writer in the New York Sun, for the "Good-speed" so heartily bestowed upon this class of our fellow-men. Such sympathy is cheering to their hearts, and encouraging to them in the midst of the opposition of enemies.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.—The obligations of the world to Christian Missions, presents a theme of peculiar interest to a contemplative mind. Much as yet remains to be accomplished, how glorious have been the results already achieved in the amelioration of human suffering and the promotion of the best interests of mankind. The insipient germ of this stupendous machinery now in operation, whose object is the moral conquest of the globe—first developed itself in the person of Carey, the once unknown shoemaker of Leicester, England. The earnest zeal and energy of purpose which stirred Carey, although at first regarded as the dreams of a disturbed intellect, yet ultimately tended to destroy the castles of the Hindu, sealed the walls of China, and carried into the dark lands of heathenism the light of life, and the blessings of civilization. Dr. Carey it is known, achieved amazing triumphs in several of the sciences, especially in the philology, history, natural history, mineralogy, ornithology and geography of the great Eastern empire. Few names on the scroll of the world's history have made mankind their debtors to so great an extent as his; luminous and distinguished as has become the long catalogue of his benefactors.

In speaking of the benefits accruing to mankind from the efforts of the Missionary enterprise, we do not mean to indicate exclusively Protestant missions; on the contrary, how much has been done by such devoted men as Loyola, Venice—or Hennequin and Elliot, among our Indians, whose names will ever live as the synonyms of Christian charity and philanthropy. What shall be said of St. Augustine, who proselytized the early British, baptizing, it is said, several thousand converts at one time—like St. Patrick in Ireland, and St. David among the Welsh. What again shall be said of Eusebius in Africa, and a host of other heroes, whose heroic piety and splendid devotion of character—as in the case of the Moravian Missionaries—will ever attract the admiration of mankind. It was the warm heart of the Moravian Missionary, who will be recollected, that first penetrated the ice-bound and isolated shores of the Northern—cheering him amid eternal snows, and the dreary desolations of ignorance and vice.

Dark as are still large portions of the globe, yet how bright has been the light developed by the changes throughout the numerous Sovereignities and States of Europe—throughout the great Empires of the East—and the numerous Isles of the Eastern and Western hemispheres. If so much has been accomplished within the brief interval of its first organization, in its infancy and with its limited resources—what may not be anticipated for the future, with the full benefit of its increasing patronage, and the vast reflex influence of civilization, which carries in its train, the blessings of science, and the arts of life. The ancient deluges in their chronicles of battles and sieges—in contests for affluence and dominion over their fellows; Christianity, in her Divine mission to the earth, seeks to allay all strife; to harmonize all inequalities of condition and to fraternize mankind. Heathenism moved men down like cattle; Christianity not only taught the lessons of universal peace, and the true value of human existence, but she also points the way to heaven—radiant with immortal hopes; and her teachings, every where elevate the aims and character of mankind. The sword exterminates races of men. Imagination would vainly attempt to picture forth its terrific horrors. To the efforts of Missions are we to ascribe the wide spread advantages of progressive civilization, which have opened every port and mart of commerce to the reciprocal interchange of national handicraft; and thus bound together in one common interest, the entire human family. In addition to which, it has not only solved the problem of the soul's immortality, but by its grand experiments on human nature in its various conditions of being, by bringing it into contact with social and civilized life, it has given to us new developments of mind. The harbinger of peace and good will to the world, we bid God-speed to the Missionary—in his heaven-appointed and glorious enterprise—and wait with hopeful and earnest longing for the entire subjection of the world to his blessed and potent influence; rather than repose trust in the doctrines of optimists and vague philosophers.

THE U. S. SURVEYING SCHOONER EWING, which left San Francisco on the 6th Dec. having on board the mail for these Islands, arrived here on Thursday, 17th inst. after a stay of some two weeks at Hilo, Hawaii. She brought all the letters and papers for the Islands, remaining at the Post-office at the time of her sailing.

The following is a list of her officers:
WM. P. McARTHUR—Lieut. Commander.
JAMES H. MOORE—Jacking Master.
B. Rush Mitchell—Assistant Surgeon.
Charles C. Simms—Passed Midshipman.
Ebenzer D. Denney, " "
James S. Thornton, " "
William Gibson, " "
The following gentlemen connected with the Coast Survey, came passengers in the Ewing:
Bremer Major R. P. Hammond, U. S. Army.
Capt. J. I. Williams, Coast Survey.

Late and Important FROM CALIFORNIA.

By the *Anonymous*, which arrived on the 15th, in eighteen days from San Francisco, we have received the *Alta California*, Extra, of the 28th ult. This paper contains an account of the organization of the first Legislature of the new state of California, at San Jose, the capital of the state. The Governor's Message is published, but is too long for us to copy entire, although for some reasons, we should like to do so. We make the following extracts, however, which is all our limits will allow.

GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY.—The circumstances under which you have assembled, are most new, interesting and extraordinary—demanding our devout gratitude to the Supreme Being, the Creator and Father of us all.

You compose the first Legislature of the first free American State organized upon the distant shores of the Pacific. How rapid, astonishing, and unexpected, have been the changes in California. Twelve months ago California was inhabited by a sparse population—a pastoral people—deriving their main sustenance from their flocks and herds, and a scanty cultivation of the soil—their trade and business limited, and their principal exports consisting of hides and tallow. Within that short period has been made the discovery of the rich, extensive and exhaustless gold mines of California; and how greatly already has been the effect? The trade and business of the country has been revolutionized and reversed—the population increased beyond all expectation—commerce extended—our ports filled with shipping from every nation and clime—our commercial cities have sprung up as if by enchantment—our beautiful bays and placid streams now navigated by the power of steam—and amidst all this unprecedented bustle and excitement, the energetic, intrepid, and sensible people of California have framed a constitution for our new state—the Pacific Star.

You have assembled as the representatives of the people to put the state government into practical operation; and the duty you have before you is a sublime but difficult task, requiring great unanimity, vigor and wisdom in your councils.

After arguing the question, whether the State is competent to proceed to act, legislatively, until admitted into the Union, and deciding it in the affirmative, Gov. Burnett recommends the adoption of

- 1 The definition of crimes and misdemeanors contained in the Common Law of England.
- 2 The English Law of Evidence.
- 3 The English Commercial Law.
- 4 The Civil Code of the State of Louisiana.
- 5 The Louisiana Code of Practice.

The next question taken up is that of revenue—how shall it be raised? By loan or by taxation? The Governor is opposed to the former mode, but says in relation to the other—

The only available and just mode of procuring the indispensable means of supporting the state government, is by a system of direct taxation; the most fair, simple, and just mode of taxation ever resorted to. The people then know distinctly what the blessings of government cost them, and which is the most desirable—a plain republican government, administered upon economical principles, or a more extravagant system of expenditure; and if they should not be willing to pay enough to carry on an economical government, it would at once solve the great problem, whether they are capable of self government or not. The people of California may be safely trusted upon this subject; for there are no people more able and willing to pay the just taxes necessary to support the government than they. What property they have commands a high and ready price, paid in the precious metals; and labor meets such ample reward, that no healthy man can complain of poverty. The law protects every man in his person and property. For the protection it gives his person he ought to pay a capitation or poll tax; and for the protection it gives his property, he ought to pay a tax in proportion to its amount and value.

I recommend, therefore, the imposition of a poll tax, and a tax upon real and personal property, in proportion to its value. I also recommend that provision be made, that no individual who shall refuse to pay his taxes, being able, when they shall be legally demanded, shall be permitted to bring a civil suit in any court in this state, for the period of one year; and not then, until all arrearages are paid. This may seem a harsh measure, but it is not. The honest individual, who pays his taxes, will not feel it, and he who wishes to evade the payment of the just dues of the state, ought to feel it. There are some individuals in California who intend to remain here only while they extract her gold, and enjoy the protection of her laws, and who would willingly return without paying anything. This is particularly the case with respect to the great mass of foreigners in the country. In remote sections of the state, it may be very difficult to enforce the collection of the revenue by levy and sale. Many individuals perfectly able to pay, would find means to avoid the collector. But the silent and sure operation of the provision I recommend, would ensure the collection of the revenue promptly, and with but little expense. There are few men who would, by their own voluntary act, exclude themselves from the courts of justice.

It is recommended that taxes be received in gold as well as coin; and that uncultivated agricultural lands be taxed, in proportion to their value, as a means of compelling large holders to sell out to those who will improve them. A good idea to be adopted at these Islands.

The Governor thinks the constitution has wisely prohibited slavery, and recommends that free blacks, also, be excluded from the state, where, if allowed to settle, they would be consigned, by the usages of society, to a subordinate and degraded position, which is in itself, a species of slavery.

After making many suggestions of local bearing and interest only, the Governor concludes with the following paragraphs:

You have before you a great amount of labor, and you will have to assume great and weighty responsibilities. The first legislature of a new state under ordinary circumstances, have a difficult duty to discharge. But our position upon the Pacific coast, and the relation we bear to the other states of the Union, and to the civilized and semi-civilized, would impose upon us peculiar responsibilities. We have to develop the great resources of our new country. Our commercial advantages are greater than our mineral, great as those are. The latter will supply us the necessary capital to build our commercial cities and to carry on the most extended commerce.

We shall soon be in close commercial intercourse with the teeming population of the old world. The rich and cheap productions of Asia are already pouring into our ports, and a few years will give us the whole-sale trade of the entire Northwest coast. We have a new community to organize—a new state to build up. We have also to create and sustain a reputation in the face of the misconceptions of our character that have entertained elsewhere. But we have the most ample and the most excellent materials of which to construct a great community, and a great state. The emigration to this country from the states east of the Rocky mountains, consists of their most energetic, enterprising, and intelligent population, while the timid and the idle, who had neither the energy nor the means to get here, were left to rot in their native land.

Either a brilliant destiny awaits California, or one the most sordid and degraded. She will be marked by strong and decided characteristics. Much will depend upon her early legislation. To confine her expenditures within due bounds—to keep the young state out of debt, and to make her punctual and just in all her engagements,

are some of the sure and certain means to advance and secure her prosperity. I hope we may be able to build up for her a reputation that will bear the just criticism of the sensible, fair, and candid of all parties, and the errors and misdeeds of her enemies, and the errors and misdeeds of her friends. Be all your efforts directed to accomplish this great object. You may expect upon my most cordial co-operation in all measures as I can conscientiously approve. And now relying with sincere, but humble confidence upon the favor and protection of the Supreme Ruler, who governs nations as well as individuals, I subscribe myself Your fellow citizen, PETER H. BURNETT.

The following is a list of the officers of the new State of California. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Representatives in Congress, having been elected by the people, the others appointed by the Legislature.

Governor—Peter H. Burnett.
Lieut. Governor—John McDougall.
United States Senators, { John C. Fremont, {
{ William M. Gwin.
Representatives in Congress, { Geo. W. Wright, {
{ Edward Gilbert.
Secretary of State—Wm. Van Voorhis.
Treasurer—Richard Roman.
Comptroller—J. S. Houston.
Attorney General—Edward J. C. Kewen.
Surveyor General—Charles J. Whiting.
Chief Justice—S. C. Hastings.
Associate Justices, { H. A. Lyon, {
{ Nathaniel Bennett.

By the returns of the recent elections in California, it appears that the aggregate vote was nearly 15,000. Another feature is, that Edward Gilbert, Esq. one of the editors of the *Alta California*, is elected a Representative to Congress. This speaks well for California.

DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION IN SAN FRANCISCO.

From the Extra *Alta California*, of Dec. 28, we extract the following account:—

"Our city has been visited by fire, and for the second time within the twelvemonth we are called upon to witness the disastrous career of conflagration. That we have dwelled in inexpressible fear of this calamity during the year which is nearly closed, we confess, and that a dread of its terrible results, we have in conjunction with most of our citizens, should also be acknowledged. Averted by a power superhuman, through a succession of days and months during which its appearance would have entailed upon our city utter ruin, it came at last, and though never again to be feared, it has nevertheless left its place under circumstances so especially favorable to the escape of life, we have to deplore the destruction of one of the finest and most flourishing portions of San Francisco."

The fire originated in Dennison's Exchange, and it is said, in the second and upper story. At about a quarter before six o'clock on the morning of the 28th, it was discovered by an inmate of the house, and almost immediately, also, the alarm was communicated by a watchman in the Parker House adjoining. Before water could be procured the blaze had reached the painted cotton ceiling, and streaming through the sides ignited the roof. The alarm was sounded, and the neighborhood aroused, but by the time that was accomplished the entire building was one mass of smoking flame.

The morning was still, scarcely a breath of air sweeping the fiery volumes; soon came thronging to the scene our afflicted citizens, and then commenced the dire work of destruction. The crash of property, the jingling of lattice windows, the quick succession of axes, piled vigorously in cutting away cumbersome timbers; and yet, above this roar of the devastating element, which now surged wildly around the Parker House, to the north, again sweeping furiously across the street, and then turning to the south of the Exchange. Both these buildings were soon on fire, and as the blaze traversed the rear balcony of the former establishment, dense clouds of smoke rolled from the doors and windows, at either end, barely giving time to permit the escape of the occupants. Portsmouth Square, in front of the burning buildings, was crowded with anxious spectators, when a small fire was created of stored powder in the Parker House. A stampede of six thousand human beings that added to the terrors of the spectacle.

Meanwhile the proprietors of Delmonico's Dining Saloon had assembled upon their roof and that of the Florence saloon, adjoining, a strong and effective force, and by dint of the most incredible perseverance and industry, prevented their buildings, which form the corner of Clay and Kearny streets, from taking fire. The Exchange fell in, and the United States nearly consumed, was rapidly kindling the grocery store of the United States and Florence Dining Saloon, and the United States and Florence Dining Saloon, which was a crash, the store was pulled down; and the flames were arrested on the south.

On the corner of this block of buildings, stood the El Dorado, a two-story building, the second story of which was connected with the Parker House, by lines of iron rods and doors was seen to issue the thick, black smoke, premonitory of a burst of flame. Ladies were reared, the glass crashed in, and the El Dorado shot forth darts of fire, followed by an ignition of a part of the house of C. Graham. It was when the flames of this towering pile rose into the air, that the people, quickened and the hearts of the thousands, a smothered throbbled wildly with fear and anxiety. Intense was the heat that men were forced to abandon the roofs and windows of the row of buildings looking up from Kearny street, where they had been standing and smoking. This mass of water, by lines of men extending to the neighboring walls.

The Veranda, opposite the El Dorado, was several times on fire, and the blankets protecting a roof of the Miner's Bank, Bella Union, and the House were successively scorched and crashed. Although the United States was made to keep them from burning, the fire continued to rage on Washington street, and the fifth edifice from the corner opposite the Parker House, was heated to a degree scarcely permitting hands to rest for a moment upon the window casements. From Kearny street down Washington, stores and other houses on the north side of the street were protected, at great labor, and suffering, by parties spreading wet blankets upon the roofs and fronts of the buildings.

The city authorities during this time had not been idle. Powder had been collected and a train laid to the store of B. Ayres, in rear of the El Dorado, was during the burning of this establishment, was exploded, and the store partly demolished. The fire was making rapid progress in the building, below, however, this was achieved. Very soon the El Dorado frame fell in, and the citizens of the upper part breathed free again.

The two-story house of Dunbar & Gibbs, the corner of which stood at a Merchants' Exchange Reading Room, was the next to be blown down by the city authorities. Without removing much of the property this was done, but the vacuum left was insufficient, and still the flames rolled on. At 10 o'clock the store and the Parker House, and Central Bank, both restaurants, were one sheet of flame. The store of Washington Arcade, consisting of five houses, was added to the conflagration. The auction store of Ladd & Co. in the rear of the fire, was then pulled down at the instance of the proprietors, followed by the demolition of a new bowling alley, the property of Mr. Gaylord, which was torn down by order of the city. This mass of water, by lines of men extending to the neighboring walls.

The fire continued to rage on Washington street, and the fifth edifice from the corner opposite the Parker House, was heated to a degree scarcely permitting hands to rest for a moment upon the window casements. From Kearny street down Washington, stores and other houses on the north side of the street were protected, at great labor, and suffering, by parties spreading wet blankets upon the roofs and fronts of the buildings.

