Britannic Majesty's Ambassador to th_ Court of Madrid. Commodore Wilkes, U.S.N., estimated it to be 9,550 feet above the ocean, and says that it 'may be seen from the sea when eighty miles distant.'* It is the only instance of the dome-shaped formation on the coast. Its smooth and sperical form, undisfigured by rocks or scars, captivates the eye. Humboldt's notice of it has been given in the first article on this subject, when treating of the volcanic activity of these mountains. Mr. Thomas J. Dryer of Portland, formerly editor of 'The Weekly Oregonian,' who first made the ascent of Mount Hood, was the first to ascend this mountain in the year 1850. He published an account of it in the above mentioned journal.

Some notion of the difficulties attendant upon mountaineering in these new countries may be formed from the fact that a party which started a few years since from Portland, for the ascent of Mount St. Helens, never even reached its base, and was obliged to return after an absence of about a fortnight, its time being limited.

Mount Adams is nearly due east of Mount St. Helens. It was named after John Quincey Adams. Little or nothing is known respecting this mountain. I believe that it has never been ascended. Professor Whitney, in the paper before quoted, states that Mount Adams, the next high point north of Mount Hood, was measured by Dr. Vansant, U.S.A., trigonometrically at 13,258 feet. Dr. Brown sets down this mountain at about 9,000 feet.

Mount Hood.—A careful measurement of the height of this peak was made by Lieutenant-Colonel Williamson, of the U.S. Topographical Engineers. His instruments consisted of cistern barometers, graduated so as to read to the 1-2000th of an inch, and wet and dry thermometers easily reading to the 10th degree. At the summit, the barometer estimated for a temperature of 32° Fahrenheit stood at 19·941 inches. Making the necessary computation, the height was found to be 11,225 feet.† It is the most conspicuous peak the traveller sees on his journey up the Columbia River, and is remarkable for its symmetry; consequently, it is a favourite subject with artists.

It was first ascended by Mr. Thomas J. Dryer, before mentioned, and W. Lake, in August, 1854. Humboldt's statement that it was ascended by 'Lake, Travaillot, and Heller' is wrong as regards the two latter, and wrong as

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* 'Voyage Round the World.'
† 'Scientific American,' January 18, 1868.