The Weekly Observer.

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The Observer.

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MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THIS Company is prepared to receive applications for Insurance against FIRE upon Buildings and other Property, at the Office of the subscriber.
I. WOODWARD.
St. John, Nov. 11, 1846. *Secretary.*

NOTICE.

ALL Persons indebted to JAMES AGNEW, late of the City of Saint John, deceased, Watchmaker, are hereby required to make immediate payment to the undersigned: and those who have demands against his Estate, are requested to leave a statement of the same with her, within Three Months from date, in order to their adjustment.
ELIZA AGNEW,
St. John, Dec. 24th, 1850 *Administratrix.*

NOTICE

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of The Honorable HUGH JOHNSTON, deceased, are requested to present the same, duly attested: and all those indebted to the same Estate, are required to make immediate payment to JOHN M. ROBINSON, one of the undersigned.
HARRIET M. JOHNSTON, *Executrix.*
HUGH B. JOHNSTON, } *Executors.*
JOHN M. ROBINSON, }
St. John, May 7, 1850.

FLEWWELLING & READING,

Prince William Street,
—(Corner of Church Street)—
Are now receiving from London, per ship 'Lisbon,
112 CHESTS Fine Congo TEA;
5 do. Orange Pekoe do;
25 Hhds. GENEVA;
16 Do. Martell's BRANDY;
5 Qr. Casks Old Brown SHERRY;
30 Kegs Coleman's MUSTARD;
6 Cases do. Best STARCH;
2 Casks Mixed PICKLES;
20 Bags Black PEPPER;
10 Do. PIMENTO.
October 1, 1850.

JUST RECEIVED,

Ex Brig 'Victor,' from New-York—
20 BARRELS New York City Mess PORK.
Ex Sheet. 'Cuba' and 'Elizt Jane,' from Boston:
10 Bales BATTING: 5 bags FILBERTS,
5 Sacks Jordan ALMONDS,
20 Bags Porto Cabello COFFEE,
50 Boxes RAISINS: 25 half do Raisins,
25 Quarter do. do: 25 boxes Layer do.
10 Kegs GRAPES,
10 Half-barrels SALERATUS,
10 Casks Cooking RAISINS,
2 Boxes Castile SOAP,
3 do. LEMONS;
1 Barrel CANARY SEED,
1 do. HEMP SEED,
1 Box Patent Yeast POWDERS,
½ Barrel Ground CASSIA,
12 Mats CASSIA,
20 dozen Corn BROOMS,
3 Agricultural FURNACES,
3 Eagle PLOUGHS: 1 Road SCRAPER, Patent FLAILS, &c., &c.
Nov. 19, 1850. JARDINE & CO.

19th October, 1850.

Received per recent arrivals from Liverpool and Glasgow—
8 ROLLS SHEET LEAD, 2 casks SHOT, 100 bags SPIKES—4 to 9 inch,
3 cases Hoole, Stainforth & Co's Mill SAWS, &c.
Pots, Bake Ovens, Spiders, Griddles, Boilers, &c.
Cart Boxes and Waggon Boxes: Barrow Wheels,
2 cases Thomsons's SCREW AUGERS,
1 case CAST STEEL, for Axes,
1 cask London GLUE, 25 bags Horse NAILS.
1 cask TRACES; Ploughshare Moulds,
LEAD PIPE; 1 cask SAD IRONS,
2 crates Japanned COAL SCOOPS,
121 bundles SHEET IRON,
A VARIETY OF SHELF GOODS;—
Files, Cutlery, Nails—and a good assortment of HARDWARE expected daily.
C. & W. H. ADAMS.

Grocery Goods.

Just Landing, per "Edward."
111 Packages Grocery Goods,
—COMPRISING—
INDIGO, Split PEAS, Pearl BARLEY, English CHEESE,
PICKLES and SAUCES, Black PEPPER, Writing and Wrapping PAPER,
POLAND STARCH, Hall's Patent STARCH, Fancy SOAP, Coleman's MUSTARD, INK, NUTMEGS, CURRANTS, and FIGS,
CANDIED PEEL, SUGAR CANDY, CREAM TARTAR, White Wine VINEGAR, GINGER—ground and whole,
PIPES—assorted,
SCOTCH OATMEAL, &c. &c.
For Sale by JAMES MACFARLANE.
Oct. 8.

Oil, Nails, and Tin.

By the Ship "Avon," from Liverpool—
11 PIPES Raw Linseed Oil,
25 boxes DC Charcoal Tin Plates,
25 do IX do. do.
25 do IXX do. do.
60 casks rose-head Wrought NAILS—4d, 6d, 8d, 10d, 12d, and 14d;
10 casks 6d. and 8d. clasp-head Nails:
40 casks 8d. and 9d. HORSE NAILS;
For Sale by JOHN KINNEAR.
August 27th, 1850.

Ships' Provisions in Bond.

Ex 'Cuba' from Boston—
40 BRLS. Boston Inspection Prime PORK;
40 do do Prime MESS BEEF.
—ALSO—
1 Hhd. Sugar Cured HAMS;
20 Barrels Boston CRACKERS; 10 do Soda ditto: 3 do Sugar do; 2 do Butter do; 5 do Extra Family Pilot BREAD, all newly Baked and best in Market.
GEO. THOMAS.
Nov. 12. South Market Wharf.

SUGAR, &c.

The Subscriber has just received, and now in course of landing:—
25 CHESTS Souchong TEAS, of superior quality, suitable for family use;
50 chests London Fine CONGOU;
10 hhds. Bright quality SUGAR.
JOHN V. THURGAR,
Nov. 5 North Market Wharf.

JAMES BURRELL,

Corner of King and Germain Streets,
Has received per *Lisbon* from London, *Olive* from Liverpool, and *Aurora* from Glasgow, an excellent assortment of Fancy and Staple DRY GOODS, suitable for the Fall and Winter Seasons, consisting of—
LADIES' DRESS MATERIALS, in great variety:
Gala Plaid and Tweed CLOAKINGS;
SQUARE and LONG SHAWLS;
5-4 Printed COTTONS;
GINGHAMS; Grey and White COTTONS;
Red and White FLANNELS;
SHIRTING STRIPES and BED TICKS;
LINENS, LAWNS; HOLLANDS;
DAMASK TABLE LINEN;
TOWELLINGS; Toilette COVERS; LAWN HANDKERCHIEFS;
WOOLLEN YARN:
PELERINES; COMFORTERS;
Ladies' and Gent.'s GLOVES and HOSIERY;
Children's Fancy and Plaid SOCKS;
Do. Fancy Woollen HOODS;
Do. Woollen POLKAS;
Do. Victorines, Mantillas and MUFFS;
Black and Col'd Silk and Cotton VELVETS;
Bonnet and Cap RIBBONS;
Black GRO. DE NAPS; THREAD;
Cotton and Egyptian LACES: Edgings and Insertions; Nun's Lace, and Muslin RIBBON;
MUSLINS:
White and Coloured STAYS;
Sewed HABIT SHIRTS and CHEMIZETTES
Infants' Frock BODIES, Robes and CAPS;
Sewed Insertions and Edgings:
Gent.'s SHIRT FRONTS and COLLARS,
Do. Silk Pocket and Neck HANDK'FS,
Cotton Batting, Pound Cottons, Combs, Brushes.
Whalebone, Small Wares, &c. &c.

MILLINERY.

The Subscriber feels grateful for the liberal support he has hitherto received, and hopes by strict attention and *low prices*, to merit a continuation of past favors.
JAMES BURRELL,
Nov. 5. *Corner of King and Germain Sstreet.*

HOWARD HOUSE.

Fall & Winter Goods.

THE Subscriber has now ready for sale a large lot of OVER COATS, in all shades and textures, together with a good assortment of
WINTER PANTS AND VESTS.
The above Goods having been made in the Establishment, the subscriber has no hesitation in recommending them, and they will be sold at reduced prices for CASH.

CLOTH DEPARTMENT.

J. MYLES begs leave to call the attention of persons purchasing CLOTHS to his Stock, which consists of Whitney, Beaver and Pilot Cloths, West of England Cloths and Doeskins, in all shades; French, German, Victoria, and Albert CLOTHS, together with a splendid lot of Fancy Doeskins and Tweeds, in all shades and textures.
☞ Parties wishing to purchase Wholesale will be liberally dealt with.
October 22. JAMES MYLES.

Fall & Winter Goods.

Wholesale and Retail Warehouse,
Prince William Street.
J. & J. HEGAN
Have received per *Lisbon, Thetis, Edward, Olive,* and *John S. DeWolf*, the whole of their
FALL IMPORTATIONS,
which have been carefully selected in the best Markets, and purchased for *Cash*:
—CONSISTING OF—
LINEN, WOOLLEN, COTTON and SILK Manufactures, of every description:
LADIES' DRESS GOODS, in the *newest materials and latest designs,*
Irish POPLINS and TABINETS,
PLAIN GLACE and BROCADED SILKS and SATINS, in great Variety,
Haberdashery, HOSIERY, GLOVES,
RIBBONS, SHAWLS, LACES, TRIMMINGS, &c.
Pilot, Beaver, and Broad CLOTHS,
Cassimeres, Doeskins, Tweeds, Vestings, &c.,
Gents. STOCKS, Handkfs., Mufflers, Scarfs, &c.,
CARPETINGS, Hearth Rugs, and Drugget,
MOREENS and DAMASKS, with Trimming to match,
LINEN and Cotton SHEETINGS,
Bed Ticks, Counterpanes and Quilts.
☞ The public are respectfully invited to an inspection of the above, as the proprietors are determined to clear off the whole STOCK, at as low prices as can be afforded by any House in the Trade. ☞ *Terms, CASH.*
West side Prince William Street,
St. John, 5th Nov., 1850.

WINTER GOODS.

Received per Ships "Harriott," "Thetis" and "Olive," "Lisbon," "Faside," "Edward" and "Aurora"—
A VARIETY of GOODS, suitable for the coming season, comprising—
Superfine CLOTHS, Doeskins, Kerseys,
PILOTS and BEAVERS; fancy VESTINGS,
STOCK, Braces, Umbrellas, Shirt Collars,
DRESS MATERIALS in every variety,
Long and Square Wool SHAWLS,
Fashionable CLOAKINGS,
Victorines, Muffs, Cuffs and Trimmings,
Black and Colored SILK VELVETS,
Bonnet and Cap RIBBONS,
GLOVES and HOSIERY, all kinds;
BLONDES, NETTS and LACES,
Lace and Blonde Demi VEILS,
Cambric, Silk and Cotton Handkerchiefs,
White and Colored STAYS,
MUSLINS of every description,
Twilled and Plain Regatta SHIRTING,
Grey and White COTTONS,
Printed COTTONS and FURNITURES;
Red, Blue, Yellow, Pink and White FLANNELS,
Rose and Witney BLANKETS,
Cradle BLANKETS,
Irish LINENS, Lawns, Diaper, Hollands,
Damask TABLE LINENS and TOWELS,
Osnaburg, Canvas and Duck,
Ladies' BOOTS and SHOES;
Gent's HATS and CAPS—which together with sundry Small Wares, will be disposed of at the lowest market prices.
Nov. 19. W. G. LAWTON.

Horse Nails; Paper, &c.

By the Perseverance, from Liverpool, just arrived,—
40 KEGS 8, 9, and 10dy. best HORSE NAILS;
50 Reams of WRAPPING PAPER;
½ ton WIRE RODS, No. 5 and 6. For Sale by JOHN KINNEAR,
January 14. *Prince Wm. Street.*

Miscellaneous.

JOY.

There's joy when the rosy morning floods
The purple east with light;
When the zephyr sweeps from a thousand buds
The pearly tears of night.
There's joy in April's balmy showers,
Mid gleams in sunshine shed;
When May brings forth a thousand flowers,
To deck the earth's green bed.

There's joy when the lark exulting springs,
To pour his matin lay;
From the mill-bank thorn, when the blackbird sings,
And the merry month is May.
There's joy in the swallow's airy flight,
In the cuckoo's blithesome cry;
When the glancing clouds reflect the light
Of evening's glowing sky.

There's joy in childhood's silvery voice,
When the laugh rings blithe and clear,
And the sounds that bid young hearts rejoice
Are music to the ear.
There's joy in the sweet romance of youth,
Ere care a shadow throws
Across the radiant brow of truth,
To mar the soul's repose.

There's joy in the youthful lover's breast,
When his bride by the altar stands,
When his trembling lips to hers are prest,
And the priest has joined their hands.
There's joy—deep joy—in the mother's heart,
When she clasps her first-born son;
And the tears of holy rapture start
To bless the lovely one.

There's joy above, around, beneath,
But 'tis a fleeting ray;
The world's stern strife, the hand of death,
Bid mortal hopes decay.
But there's a deeper joy than earth,
With all her charms, can give,
Which marks the spirit's second birth,
When man but dies to live.

ARE THE PLANETS INHABITED.

Are the planets inhabited? is a question which naturally presents itself to the human mind, and for a solution of which we as naturally look to the science of astronomy. But when the immense distance which separates us even from the nearest of the planets is remembered, it can scarcely be a matter of surprise when the telescope affords no direct evidence of the question, whether the planets like the earth are inhabited globes. Yet though it gives no direct answer to the inquiry, modern astronomy has collected together a mass of facts, connected by the positions and motions, the physical character and conditions, the parts played in the solar system by the several globes of which that solar system is composed, which form a vast body of analogy, leading the intelligent mind to the conclusion, that the various planets are worlds fulfilling in the wise economy of the universe the same functions, created by the same Divine hand, for the same moral purposes, and with the same destinies as the earth. Thus, for example, we find that those orbs like our own, roll in regulated periods round the sun; that they have nights and days, and successions of seasons; that they are provided with atmosphere, supporting clouds and agitated by winds; and thus, also, their climates and seasons are modified by evaporation, and that showers refresh their surfaces. For we know that wherever the existence of clouds is made manifest, there water must exist; there evaporation must go on; there electricity, with its train of phenomena, must reign; there rain must fall; there hail and snow must descend.

Notwithstanding the dense atmosphere and thick clouds with which Venus and Mercury are constantly enveloped, the telescope has exhibited to us great irregularities on their surfaces, and thus proved the existence of mountains and valleys. But it is upon the planet Mars, which approaches nearest to the earth, that the greatest advances have been made in this department of inquiry. Under favorable circumstances, its disc is seen to be mapped out by a varied outline, some portions being less reflective of light than others, just as water would be less reflective than land. Baer and Meadler, two Prussian astronomers, have devoted many years' labor to the examination of Mars, and the result has put us in possession of a map of the geography of that planet, almost as exactly defined as that we posess of our own; in fact the geographical outlines of land and water have been made apparent upon it. But a still more extraordinary fact in relation to this planet, remains to be considered. Among the shaded markings which have been noted by the telescope upon its disc, a remarkable region of brilliant white light, standing out in bold relief, has been observed surrounding the visible pole. This highly illuminated spot is to be seen most plainly when it emerges from the long nights of the winter season; but when it has passed slowly beneath the heat of the solar beams it is found to have gradually contracted its dimensions; and at last, before it has plunged into light on the opposite side, to have entirely disappeared. But the opposite pole then coming into similar relations, is found to be furnished with a like luminous spot, which in its turn dissolves as it becomes heated by the summer sun. Now these facts prove to us incontestibly, that the very geographical regions of Mars are fac similies of our own. In its long polar winters the snows accumulate in the desolation of its high northern and southern latitudes, until they become visible to us in consequence of their reflective properties; that those are slowly melted as the sun's rays gather power in the advancing season, until they cease to be appreciable to terrestrial eyes. The fact is a most striking one in reference to the present question.

If the moon has proved to us incontrovertibly that one of the celestial luminaries is a solid sphere, carved into elevations and depressions analogous to those familiar to us, as the mountains and valleys of the terrestrial surfaces, Mars teaches us emphatically that another among them is a world, filled with its rains, and snows, and clouds, and seasons suited to the purposes and wants of organic life, which is intimately dependent upon such adaptations for its being.

"THE HALF CENTURY."—Extracts from an eloquent Discourse by the Rev. E. H. Chapin, of New York, on the great changes and progress of the last half century:—

Science the Pathway of Good.—Briefly, it may be said that the past half century exhibits colossal traits both of good and of evil. These stupendous achievements in the physical world have perhaps aided the tendency towards a widely existing materialism. As nature opens new fields for his enterprise and new incitements for his passions, man is attracted from his own inward life, and absorbed in these mighty agencies of our time, which interrupt the most sacred meditations, and beat and jar against every sanctuary. The spread of trade and commerce, the increase of luxury, the recent enormous developement of wealth, have an influence in binding us to higher relations, and in erecting false criteria. It has been, it *is*, an era of gigantic materialism. The age of Faith, the age of Chivalry, the age of Kings has gone by. Out from glittering mines and granite warehouses there comes a new Genius, with golden front, and lungs of flame and sinews of iron, and points to its smoking factories, its million wheels, its nimble agents in every zone, its flocks of ships on every sea, and says—"Lo! this is *my* age—the age of money-power and of material aspiration." And he who perceives how feebly the appeals of religion are responded to; how faint the realities of the spiritual world shine through this yellow atmosphere of traffic and indulgence, and how the claims of truth and of absolute right are beat down by gross and conventional standards, cannot deny that it is so.

And yet, in the might and the commotion, the gigantic life of these material agents, who does not recognize unlimited capacities for moral results? Who does not see that these material vehicles may be, and are, the equipped and harnessed ministers of truth and goodness, adding strength to the natural limitations of man in the service of righteousness, as well as of evil? Who does not see that the fruits of science, multiplying material comforts, are thus clearing the way for moral results? Though vice is too apt to increase with civilization, still there appears to be an improvement from the gross and swinish indulgences of the preceding epoch. Moreover, though our practice may be more intensely materialistic, owing to the increase of agents, our philosophy is better. There is a reaction from the sensuous and fatalistic theories of that time, and in the very existence of a nobler ideal there abides a great hope.

Material Achievements.—Considering more specifically some of the constituents of this peculiarity, we remark that it has been an age of astonishing *material achievements*. This is illustrated by that series of brilliant triumphs which man has gained over Nature. It has been, emphatically, the era of *science*. Almost coeval with the commencement of the century, a new life and vigor were poured into every department of discovery and invention. Physical Geography and the Science of Races may be said to be the births of the period. The progress of Chemistry has been such as to render the books of fifty years ago comparatively worthless, and all the present phases of Geology belong to this time. The strange features of Electricity and Magnetism begin to reveal themselves; the earth is explored to its barriers of Arctic and Antarctic ice, while Astronomy has extended its golden links from Ceres to Neptune, and summoned up from unfathomable deeps the awful pomp of firmaments. All the scientific phases of the era, in fine, are marked both by extent and subtlety of research, improvement in the instruments of investigation, and a progress from vagueness and hypothesis to exhaustive accuracy and practical power.

From these attainments, among countless others, have proceeded those two great agents which have themselves acted upon the time with immeasurable effect—perhaps with more sudden and apparent influence than any other. Steam, although in use as a motive power at the end of the last century, as the agent of communication, trampling the waves or chained to the rushing car—aiding, with incalculable speed, the efforts of the press—binding continents and jostling nations together—is the product of this. So, too, is that other agency which outspeeds steam, as thought outspeeds the feet, and leaps on telegraphic nerves along the globe.

CELEBRATION OF FRANKLIN'S BIRTH-DAY.

The 145th anniversary of the birth-day of Benjamin Franklin was celebrated in New-York on the 17th of January, by a grand Banquet and appropriate literary exercises, under the auspices of the New-York Typographical Society. The literary exercises were of the most entertaining character, in which some of the most celebrated names in our literature were partakers. Among the guests were the poets Bryant and Halleck, side by side with Washington Irving and James the novelist, Hon. Charles King, Dr. Rufus Griswold, and Dr. Francis. After the conclusion of the exercises, which consisted of an address from Mr. James White, an oration from Hon. John W. Edmonds, and several highly beautiful odes, the company adjourned to the banqueting-room. After supper, Mr Nesbit officiating as President, the regular toasts were read, and responded to by the eminent gentlemen present. We have not room to provide our readers with all the speeches given on the occasion, although all possessed great interest and spirit; but we cannot refrain from presenting them with the following synopsis of the speech of the celebrated novelist, Mr. G. P. R. James, made in response to the toast:

Authors of England and America—Embellishing a common language with the gifts of their genius; may their only strife be, who shall add the choicest flowers to the garland of literature.

Mr. G. P. R. JAMES was cordially greeted on rising to respond to this toast. He commenced by remarking that he found a word in it which he could not for a moment conceive to exist between the authors of this country and England—the word "strife." There may be emulation between them, but no strife. It was an Olympic struggle for obtaining one out of many prizes, but the wreath to be won should be hung up with the trophies of commerce, science and letters, achieved by one common race, speaking a common language. He would be ashamed to place on his own brow, or the brow of any Englishman, a garland he was not willing to share with the children of this land. [Applause.]

There can be no strife but a strife of friendly zeal as to who shall carry our language and literature to the highest point of perfection. Base must be the man who could contemplate, without enthusiasm, the magnificent spectacle of a race creating a greater than Roman or Grecian literature, and planting on this coast a branch which may erect a temple more glorious, and perpetuate the crowning works of the English language to the last syllable of recorded time. [Cheers.] How can I think of strife, said Mr. James, when I see sitting there one of my oldest and dearest friends—need I name the name of Irving?—[Great applause]—when I think of Bryant, of Halleck, of my friend Bayard Taylor, of Prescott and Ticknor, whose hospitality I have enjoyed—of the solemn majesty of Bryant and the sparkling satire of Holmes—names which echo as strongly in the hearts of Englishmen as of any man present? We Englishmen claim great and high renown for our authors. We rejoice in our Chaucer, our Spenser, Shakspeare and Milton; but are these English alone? Does not every one around me claim them as part of his inheritance? [Applause.]

When I come here to celebrate the birth day of Franklin, I think of two things—Franklin the Printer and Franklin the Philosopher. To the Printer we owe much—to the Philosopher more. His genial philosophy has opened the minds of men to more genial relations towards each other. No man is more indebted to Franklin than I. And here let me find one fault. I am a sad truth-teller. In travelling through this country, from Boston, the birthplace of Franklin, to Philadelphia, his residence, I have seen no monument, no record of his life, but this meeting to-night. Let tyrants raise monuments to military men and the beastly glory of war, but let a great and free people raise a monument to the noble memory of Franklin.

THE HABIT OF READING.—The young should always cultivate a habit of reading, for it may be to them, not only the means of information, but the perennial source of many of the finest enjoyments of life. They who make good books their constant companions, will never want good and faithful friends in their prosperous days, or those who will sympathise in the seasons of reverse. There can be no blank in the lives of those persons, who, from active love, hold daily fellowship with the wisest and best of the race. We think we could hardly be tempted to exchange our habit of reading for any other friend it may be our fortune to find on earth. And we are sure that any who will make this habit a friend, will ever esteem it among the wisest steps of their lives, and so we counsel the young, from our own experience, among all their gettings in this world, to getting the habit, the love of reading—and always to have at hand a good book with which to fill up every leisure hour. In this way they may come to know that the gems of life are found in its waste places.

BARON ROTHSCHILD.—The Paris correspondent of the *Courrier des Etats Unis* contains the following anecdote of Baron Rothschild.

"The splendid New Year's fetes which were to have been celebrated at the Hotel Rothschild have been put aside on account of a family sorrow, a very young child, a grandson of Baron Rothschild, having recently died. The Baron was so much affected by this affliction, that for some time he gave up the care of his affairs and neglected his vast enterprises.

"A few days since a friend came to offer him his condolence, the Baron recalled with a melancholy tenderness the winning ways of the poor little child. "They brought him into me every morning here, in my cabinet" said he "and I think I see him now, upon my table overturning all my papers."

At this period an agent from the exchange came in. It was the hour when he came to take the orders of the prince of finance, and render him an account of the movements in the funds, and the aspect affairs on the Bourse had taken since the day before. Interrupted in the overflowings of his memories and regrets, M. de Rothschild fell into a melancholy reverie, while the agent launched bravely into the subject of his habitual visit and continued with the most minute detail his expose of the state of financial matters, without being disconcerted by the silence of his auditor, which he attributed to continued and deep calculation.

After having finished his report on the state of all the stocks negotiated on 'Change, the agent added: A new advance in the public funds is expected, do you believe in it, M. de Baron?

M. de Rothschild aroused from his reverie, raised his head and replied with an accent full of sadness and gravity

"I, sir, I believe only in God."

SCARCITY OF LADIES IN CALIFORNIA.—A correspondent of the *New-York Herald*, writing from Sacramento, thus descants upon the scarcity of the fair sex in the land of gold:

How strange it appears to one accustomed to walk in Broadway and the streets in New-York, and to meet thousands of "Heaven's last best gift to man," to take a promenade up J street, the principal street in this city, and not to meet one female in the street—nothing but men, without the least cessation—one constant stream of long-bearded and mustached men, Christians, Jews, Turks, Sandwich-Islanders, Chinese, Arabians, and a delegation, in fact, from every nation of the world, with a specimen or two "from the rest of mankind," all brought hither by that magnet which attracts the world—gold. Society, for the present in this city, is by no means in a very advanced state, there being such a scarcity of ladies in the place—I believe, not, over forty or fifty at the extent.

When we used to read the accounts in the papers of the miners dancing around an old bonnet which they found in the road, we set it down as fiction; but I can assure you that there is a young physician living on the Tuolemne river, who has made an independent fortune by exhibiting a dress worn by a female; it is said, with how much truth I do not know, that every Saturday night the door of his ranche is besieged by the miners, like the doors of a theatre, every one endeavouring to procure a front seat, and a good view of the exhibition. I trust, however, that a steady emigration of ladies will now commence, and continue; for I assure you, I never before had so forcibly exemplified to me the truth of the line—"Woman—without her, man would be a savage." California is destined to be a great and powerful country; but with all her beauties and riches, stands in need of the presence, in her cities, of refined women, whose virtues and amiabilities are sure, at all times, to exert a healthful and improving influence over the interests of any country, but especially over the feelings of those of the sterner sex."

THE FIRST WEDDING.—MAJOR NOAH thus pleasantly and philosophically discourses, upon the "first wedding." He says:—

"We like short courtships, and in this Adam acted like a sensible man—he fell asleep a bachelor, and awoke to find himself a married man. He appears to have popped the question almost immediately after meeting Md'lle Eve, and she without any flirtation or shyness gave him a kiss and herself. Of that first kiss in this world we have had, however, our own thoughts, and sometimes in a poetical mood have wished we were the man 'what did it'. But the deed is done—the chance was Adam's and he improved it.

"We like the notion of getting married in a garden. It is in good taste. We like a private wedding. Adam's was private. No envious beaux were there; no jealous maidens; no chattering aunts and grumbling grandmothers. The birds of heaven were the minstrels, and the glad sky flung its light upon the scene.

"One thing about the first wedding brings queer things to us, in spite of its scriptural truth. Adam and his wife were rather young to be married—some two or three days old, according to the sagest speculations of theologians—mere babies—larger but not older—without experience—without a house—without a pot or kettle—nothing but love and Eden."

AGRICULTURE IN OREGON.—The *Oregon Spectator*, in speaking of the occasional excitements breaking out there in consequence of exaggerated reports from the gold mines, remarks:—

We have an agricultural country superior to any on the continent; it is worth all the gold mines in America. The farmer here is the most independent we have ever seen. Although he labours but little, he has the wherewithal to obtain anything that he may desire. A farmer can make more money from one acre of land in Oregon, when wheat is worth only fifty cents per bushel, than he can in any of the States, off the same quantity of land, when wheat commands one dollar per bushel. The yield per acre is not only double that of the States every year, but it is a never-failing crop. For the raising of wheat, rye, barley and oats, Oregon can challenge (we might almost say the world, but our knowledge is not sufficient to warrant the expression,) to a competition, the agriculturists of the entire continent.

Remarking of the climate, it says:—

No country in the world could have had a more pleasant fall than the Oregonians have enjoyed this season—the heat congenial to health—the mornings and evenings delightful. The rainy season, which constitutes our winter, seems to have set in; during the week past it has rained about half the time, and the atmosphere continues lowery.

MEXICO.—GOLD AND SILVER.—The production of these two precious metals in the Republic has arrived to a state of prosperity unknown in former epochs, and this prosperity would yet be more considerable if the high price of quicksilver were not an obstacle to the extraction of the silver from the inferior ores taken from the mines.

According to the report presented to Congress by the Minister of Finance in February of the present year, it appears that in the 18 months from the 1st of January, 1848, to the 30th of June, 1849, the total amount of gold and silver coined in the Mints, without including Hermosidlo, in which none was coined during that period, was as follows: Gold, $1,351,416; silver, $27,003 989; total, $28 355 405.

Adding now to this sum nine or ten millions of dollars for the six or six and a half millions that, according to certain data, are left uncoined, and which in virtue of pernicion, or are fraudulently exported, the result is the whole amount extracted during the period above cited exceeds $38,000,000.

QUICKSILVER.—From the information given by the Committee appointed in 1844 by the "Board for Encouraging Mining Operations," it appears there existed at that time twenty-five mines of this metal in the States of Queretero, Guerrero, Guanajuato, San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas and Jalisco, to which there must be added others which have since been discovered. The annual product of all those that are now worked is estimated at from 2,000 to 2,500 quintals, a quantity very much below that needed for the mining operations of our country, the annual consumption of which now amounts to 8 to 10,000 quintals. The richest of these mines of quicksilver is that of Guadalcazar, in the State of San Luis Potosi, which produces more than 1,000 quintals a year.

Keep it before the people, that advertising has enlarged many a small business; has revived many a dull business; has saved many a lost business; has preserved many a large business; has created many a new business.

SCHOOLMASTER.—Bill *Tomkins*, what is a widow? Bill—A widder, sir, is a married womait, that hant got no hus-band, cause he's dead. Master—Very well. What is a widower? Bill—A widderer is a man that runs after the widders. Master—Well, Bill that is not according to Johnson, but you'll pass.

We find the following "arithmetical" toast, by a schoolmaster, in one of our exchange papers:—"The fair daughters of America—may they add virtue to beauty, subtract envy from friendship, multiply amiable accomplishments by sweetness of temper, divide time by sociability and economy, and reduce scandal to its lowest denomination."

THE DEAF AND BLIND.—Dr. Darwin was of opinion that if a deaf person dreamed of hearing, the internal parts, essential to the function, were unimpaired. The same remark, says Dr. Smith, of Boston, is applicable to the blind. I have invariably found that the incurably deaf, as well as incurably blind, never dreamed of hearing or seeing.

OF one thousand infants fed by the mother's milk, not above three hundred die; but of the same number reared by wet nurses, five hundred die.