THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

PITTSBURGH.

MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 31, 1849.

☞ ADVERTISERS are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 6 P. M., and as early in the day as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a specified time will invariably be charged until ordered out

☞ SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LOCAL MATTERS TELEGRAPHIC NEWS, &c.

FOR MAYOR OF PITTSBURGH,
ROBERT McCUTCHEON.

FOR MAYOR OF ALLEGHENY,
HUGH S. FLEMING.

Our correspondent, "Junius," like his prototype of old, holds a caustic pen, but one which bears the impress of an honest indignation against all truckling and meanness. His letters we give to day may be thought severe, but let them be weighed by the acts which excited their indignation, and who will say that their severity is not that of justice? This is no time to be mealy mouthed, when the chosen representatives of the people cringe and fawn, and meekly submit to the bidding of their Southern masters. The opinions of "Junius" on the President's Message are just, and are held in common with all the best informed and leading minds in the country. It cannot be asked, hereafter, what are the principles, and what is the policy of the administration. They are now, at the proper time, known and read of all men.

REPORTS OF THE WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENTS.—We bring to a close, to day, the voluminous, but exceedingly interesting report of the heads of our national government. They afford the people a clear, intelligible, and necessary means of understanding how their money is expended, their rights cared for, their army and navy employed, and may other things connected with their honor, interests, and welfare.

The reports we give to day, although in a condensed form, will be read with no little interest. They are able and lucid documents, evincing a thorough acquaintance with the interests confided to their charge, and an ardent desire to promote the welfare of the service. The Navy, always dear to every American heart, is usefully and actively employed, and our little army is scarcely large enough to fulfil its exceedingly arduous duties. Both should receive the fostering attention of Congress.

NEW HAVE.—We have had the pleasure of trying a very fine one, of this year's curing, by Evans & Swift, of Cincinnati, and sold by Sellers & Nichols, of this city.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.—In our notice of this valuable Miscellany, on Saturday, we forgot to mention that Mr. Lockwood, on Wood Street, will supply subscribers with the work, free of Postage.

Intelligence from the Pacific Coast.

HIGHLY INTERESTING NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA AND THE GOLD MINES—ARRIVAL OF THE EMPIRE CITY WITH $500,000 IN GOLD DUST.

The steamship Empire City arrived here on Tuesday afternoon, from Chagres via Kingston, Jam., having left the former port the 15th, the latter the 18th instant. The steamer has 277 passengers, and gold dust to the amount of near half a million of dollars in consignments.

We have received the "Pacific News," of the 15th, by which we are able to lay before our readers the details of the news. The papers are full of appeals to the voters in behalf of their respective candidates.

The New Constitution was adopted in San Francisco by a vote of 2051 to 5.

We have not received full returns of the election, but there is no doubt of the election of Peter H. Burnett, for Governor, and John McDougald, for Lieutenant Governor. In San Francisco, G. B. Post is elected to the State Senate, and Wm. V. Voorhies for the Assembly.

Before the result is known for Congressmen, there must be a latter arrival, which will reach us by the steamer of the 1st instant.

Among the importations by the Empire City are several cases of China ware, chests of tea, and packages of Silks, direct from China, and consigned to Haven and Livingston, San Francisco, and thence to Livingston, Wells & Co, New York. This is the first China importation, by way of California.

CALIFORNIA CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence of the Express.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 15, 1849.

The Steamship Panama sails to morrow for the Isthmus, and I improve the opportunity to drop you a line or two,—though, since the sailing of the last steamer, nothing of particular importance has transpired.

By the accompanying papers, you will see how the Election has resulted. Parties were pretty tightly drawn in this town, and a good deal of excitement was visible. There were several Taylor-Democrats from New York, who worked in many manners from the "party" away out here, as hard as they used to work in the Old Wigwam, at home. Hon. Thomas Butler King, the sugar nowy are, as I write this, will not be sent as Senator to Congress. However, do not stop this as a fixed fact. You will recognize among the list of candidates for the various offices, named below, many estimable New Yorkers,—among them Francis J. Lippitt, Esq., who came out here, as a Captain (Company E) in Col. Stevenson's Regiment. There are others you will be able to recognize at sight.

Burnett I think is elected Governor. It is pretty clear, also, that John McDougald is elected Lieutenant Governor. This latter sentence is from Indiana, and formerly resided in Indianapolis.

Fremont and Gwin, in all probability, will get the U. S. Senatorships,—but if the heads of Wilder and Stevenson play their cards well, they may be able to diminish the chances of success, if they do not succeed in electing their own candidates.

Our constitution, you will remark, has been adopted almost unanimously, by the people of San Francisco. There were not *five more* cast against it! There has been a similar decision in its favor, I doubt not, through the rest of the state.

A word or two now, and in haste—for the mail is just closing—about gold, gold diggings, and the chances of getting rich.

The precious metals are said to be as plenty as ever, in the country, but you would do well to take these "on dits" with considerable allowance, for the exaggerated reports set afloat by speculators and others, who want to sell their clothing and provisions to the poor devils they decoy to the diggings.

No doubt there is plenty of gold yet, in the region of the head waters of the Sacramento, but it is likewise beyond doubt that it is in less times as hard to get as at the "original" washings. We hear of some very tall stories of big lumps, and all this; but the individuals who have them, I assure you, are "low and far between."

Provisions of all sorts, and articles of clothing, plenty all summer, and cheap as dirt, (comparatively speaking) are getting enormously dear again. Prices, in the face of winter, are likely to be still higher even than at present.

There is a good deal of sickness, not only here in San Francisco, but at the mines, and throughout the whole territory. We have rumors of the cholera, below, but trust the cold weather will stop its progress.

Thus you see California in reality is very different from California in theory—or El Dorado, as seen through the medium of some of your New York papers, at home. Somebody is responsible for a good deal of *lying* in the *couleur de rose* account published in one or two of the journals I could name.

I am glad to announce the arrival at this place, on the 9th, of Col. Collier, the newly appointed Collector for San Francisco. He came up in the Mail Steamer from Mazatlan.

You have no idea of the indignation of all parties here, in reference to the frequent miscarriage of the mails. And no wonder—for what can be more provoking or irritating than to be told, when a steamer arrives that there are no letters for us—that the mails are all lying on the Isthmus, somewhere between Chagres and Panama! Do stir up the "officials" whose business it is to see to this matter. Public meetings have been held here, to see if some remedy cannot be applied.

The weather, at this writing, is wet, and so it is likely to continue for six weeks at least. The atmosphere is temperate, but the winters here, at least, are ruinous to weak constitutions and especially to the unacclimated.

We are looking forward with no little anxiety to the reception our constitution will meet from the Solons at Washington. Anxiety I said—but I should have written curiosity, for we are not at all anxious about its adoption. We have made it our business, our people with one voice, have adopted it, and it is now a law of the land, that Congress cannot undo. Now, if this new Constitution of ours, not conflicting with the Constitution of the United States is turned away from the Capitol at Washington, it will be a virtual repudiation of us, out here on the Pacific, which may be followed by unpleasant results. If Congress won't consent to take us, on the terms we offer, why we are big enough, able enough, rich enough, and independent enough to act up for ourselves. Mark that. Congressmen may scratch each other's eyes out about the antislavery clause, but what's done can't be undone," (as Mr. Macbeth says.) The *clause is clear*, and it will be of no use trying to expunge it. Mind only 5 votes against it.

Yours truly, in a hurry,
SPECTATOR.

In some of the first printed copies of the President's Message, issued from the Washington press, the opening sentence of the third paragraph was thus erroneously given:

"We are at peace, with all the world, and seek to maintain our cherished relations of amity with the rest of mankind."

The true reading of the sentence in the Washington papers of Tuesday, is as follows:

"We are at peace with all the other nations of the world, and seek to maintain our cherished relations of amity with them."

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25, 1849.

President's Message and Documents—Northern and Southern Democrats—Contemptible conduct of the former—Diplomatic Appointments—Col. Webb—Mr. Morris.

At the close of this Christmas day, I sit down to indite you a short epistle upon matters and things at large. It is not often that I read Presidential Messages, but I have read old Zack's, not because I expected to find in it any thing peculiarly interesting, but because the face of the document bore a certain unhackneied original expression, which attracted my regards, and because it was very short. It is a great thing to know how to say what you have to say, and then to stop talking. Gen. T. appears to know how. He tells the story of his administration, in respect to the foreign relations, himself, and having so done, he omits to send the report of the Secretary of State, from which he prepared this part of the message, as superfluous. He assumes that Congress will examine the documents by which the message is accompanied, and therefore rather refers to, than collates and repeats the contents of the reports from other Departments. But all these papers will be laid before your readers, and they will make their own comments upon them.

I have not written you since the consummation of the miserable scenes of the past three weeks in the election of Cobb. My moral, intellectual, and nervous system then received a shock, from which I have hardly yet recovered. You know I have a latent weakness, a sneaking kindness and favor, as it were, towards the Democrats. I would love them if I could. I would respect them, were that possible, after the lamentably insignificant and paltry exhibitions they will persist in making of themselves. But well do I know that just

"this is the respect
That makes calamity of so long life,"

with us in the north, politically speaking, and for one, I will not consent to stifle that feeling of contempt which the conduct of the Democratic Representatives from the Free States, in voting for Cobb of Georgia, on Saturday last, has excited. If I die for it, I must do all that in me lies in presenting that picture in its true light to their constituents. It may irritate, but it must do good. The time has arrived when we must resolve to send other sorts of men to Congress, from our northern districts, than now go there. It is painful to have to say it, but the pusillanimity, the easy yielding temper, the utter moral imbecility of some of them, when brought into action with their exacting, overbearing southern associates in legislative duty, is a positive disgrace to the northern part of this Union. I have never known a more flagrant or lamentable instance of it than has been exhibited here, in this contest for the Speakership. The northern Democrats came here flushed with spirit and confidence. They said their principles were defined and well understood by their constituents, who would insist upon their being carried out at any cost whatever. About half of them judiciously refused to go into caucus at all. But the half who did go gave a tame and sullen assent to Cobb's nomination for Speaker, though he was known to belong to the extremest sect of slavery extensionists. But they said the nomination was a mere thing of form, and would be abandoned. It was defeated and abandoned, and its defeat was hailed at the north as the dawning of a better day, the beginning of an era of manliness and independence. But southern arrogance, and craft, and love of domination were freely aroused, and every conceivable means were resorted to to intimidate and lash back into obedience and docility these rebellious serfs. The spirit of the conflict was illustrated in the fact that not the slightest effort was made to conciliate nor offer to concede on the part of the task masters. They bullied and blustered in caucus. They talked and threatened disunion and disorganization in the House, and did every thing else to evince their determination still, as ever before, to rule all and to have all. This was conduct well calculated to put men of spirit upon their mettle, and so in the personal relations of life it would have done these same gentlemen who now in their representative capacity could do nothing more befitting their station than get frightened, look disconcerted and foolish, and finally yield up every thing.

Most of them seek to palliate and excuse their backing out, by saying that they were forced by the plurality rule to choose between Cobb and a northern Whig. Nothing could be more contemptible than this excuse but the conduct that made an excuse necessary. Why did *they* not force their southern allies to choose between a moderate northern Democrat and Mr. Winthrop. They had once thrown their full vote for Potter of Ohio, a gentleman in contradistinction to Brown, and as a politician not exceptionable to either branch of the party. Why, when they saw a plurality must choose, did they not revert to Potter, or to Wm. Strong, of your state, and force the southern men to vote for him, or elect Mr. Winthrop! Simply because they *dared not*,—they lacked the courage and the will. They feared Cobb's southern backers more than they did their constituents, more than they respected themselves or their principles. So confirmed has this habit of obedience and subordination become, that the thought of thus forcing the responsibility upon the south, of electing a Whig, never once occurred to a single Democrat from the free states.

But these plastic instruments of a grasping and degrading system of party machinery, which enures only to one portion of the Union, and operates to the disgrace and humiliation of the other—these mere waxen noses on faces of dough should be marked and punished by their respective constituents; I therefore here insert the names of the gentlemen of the Pennsylvania delegation who voted for Mr. Cobb. They are—

MILO M. DIMMICK,
ALFRED GILMORE,
WM. BMANN,
J. X. McLANAHAN,
JOHN ROBBINS,
THOMAS ROSS,
WILLIAM STRONG,
JAMES THOMPSON.

Thank heaven there were but eight of them out of the state's twenty four to present themselves in this pitiful plight before their constituents and the country. But it is further said in their defence, that Cobb was the party candidate. This was in no sense and at no time true. Cobb was not, when elected, and had not been the party candidate. Cobb's nomination, so called, was voted in caucus by only forty seven, which was not near a majority of the party in the House, and was only agreed to as a matter of complaisance towards him, and he was permitted to reach his highest vote on the first ballotings, only in the same spirit of compliment. It was pretended that he was renominated on the Friday night preceding his election. This was not so. Just as the caucus was dispersing, John Wentworth, of Illinois, called out that he nominated Cobb, in the event of the plurality rule being adopted, and this was apparently assented to by some thirty persons.

No more of these shuffling excuses should be listened to for one moment. The slavery propagandists have gained a great triumph by steadiness, energy, and cunning. Freedom and the north have been defeated and betrayed by the weakness and the paltroonery of those to whom her interests were entrusted. Some day this thing will be looked upon by all in the light in which I now present it.

You will have heard that E. J. Morris, of Philadelphia, has been appointed Charge to Naples, in place of Mr. Powers, declined on account of ill health. No better appointment could have been made than that of Mr. Morris.

There will be some rejections on the part of the Senate, not now generally expected. I think I could name at least two nominations to important diplomatic stations that will be certainly thrown out. The confirmation of Col. Webb, of New York, is most improbable. It appears likely that the plan of letting him sleep till the close of the present very long session, will be adopted, and the best mode of easing his descent from his new position.

There will be a little squabbling on Thursday next, about clerk, door keeper, &c., but Forney or French will be elected without much difficulty, as the other Democratic nominees will be defeated or elected without much ado. JUNIUS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.

Christmas was generally observed among us as the anniversary of the foundation of our faith ought to be. We now return to business and to politics.

The Message has been read—that did not consume much time; but, what is much better, it appears to command, after attentive consideration, the almost entire approval of the community. It is chiefly confined to a clear and thorough exposition of the foreign relations of the government. There is no report from the State Department, the necessity for one being superseded by this portion of the Message. As to matters pertaining to the internal administration, the President wisely refrains from a mere iteration of those facts and arguments advanced in the reports from the several departments. In this respect the Message presents a most commendable contrast to those of Mr. Polk; in the last of which, column after column was occupied with imputations upon the memory of the dead.

In brevity, conciseness, and simplicity, in clearness of arrangement, and the modesty of its tone, the Message strongly resembles some of those famous despatches which won the admiration of such men as Benton and Silas Wright. When the old General desires to say a thing, he goes directly at it, without circumlocution, and when he has said it, he stops. Thus the Message is a succession of paragraphs, each of which contains a statement of interest an l importance.

The accompanying reports are somewhat more elaborated. That of the Secretary of the Treasury will command more attention, and will operate as a surprise and a damper to the opponents of the administration. Mr. Meredith was described by some of them, when he entered the Cabinet, as a sort of free trade Whig. Desirous as they were of conferring upon him such a reputation, they will now be compelled to do him the justice of admitting that he is as good a tariff man as could have been selected from Pennsylvania, or elsewhere. He recommends that the rates of duty upon foreign imports be raised, not only because their exists an alarming deficit in the revenue to be supplied, but because such increase would protect national industry. He also distinctly declares his opinion that the Sub Treasury should be either wholly abrogated or essentially modified. These frank and explicit declarations cannot fail to administer relief to the Washington Union, which has been rending the air of the seat of government for nine months and twenty two days, with agonizing notes of interrogation addressed to Gen. Taylor, concerning the policy of his administration. Where are your measures? bawled the Union; yes, tell us your principles, scream a hundred minor organs in the States. Will you veto the Proviso? howls the Union; sure enough, yelp the minors, how about slavery? And thus, from the top to the bottom of the catalogue of doctrines and measures, the Union has growled and mumbled, and the parrots of its flock have chattered and cackled, because Gen. Taylor would not develope his policy, would not erect a platform, nor follow the system of dictation, bribery, and browbeating practised by some of his Democratic predecessors towards Congress. He has adopted the first opportunity for a constitutional expression of his opinions, and has laid them before Congress. He is for the admission of California without slavery, he is against the tariff of 1846, and for a more protective tariff; he is for a modification of the Sub Treasury, he is for paying the debts left, though not acknowledged by Polk and Walker, and he is for the union of the States as it is, now and forever. Here is the administration platform, how does the Union like it? How do the minor organs like it? How does Pennsylvania like it? How does the country like it? The Union will shake its learned heads, and propound in the morning. I thought I would ask its respected Senior Editor no more questions, but while in a chatacheical humor he must permit me to ask him when he intends to give the Northern Democracy a turn upon the "sole organ." In his prosleveryism, his anti tariffism, his anti harbor and river improvementism, and his disunionism—he has presented only the Southern exposure of Democracy. Turn the hurdy gurdy Northward, and give the neglected brethren of the North and West a chance. The *elite* of the Richmond Democracy have really held the front seats a little too long. The *elite* of Harrisburgh, Columbia, and Detroit, to say nothing of Albany and the Eastern Capitals, are waiting with cap in hand to come in. Come Father Richie, now that Gen. Taylor has developed, let us hear what you have to say to and for these interesting disciples of your universal, Catholic Democracy!

But without any *badinage*, were one side of the Union newspaper to bear a faithful record of Northern Democratic opinion, instinct, and sympathy, what a wonderful contrast would it exhibit to that compound of heresy, malignity, scurrility, and impudence which now presumes to call itself the sole organ of one of the great parties that divide this country!

We have nothing to do to day, it being a time of general rest and stop-at-home-attiveness. Some of the Democrats are grumbling in private, at the prospect of having Forney and the other caucus candidates crammed down their throats, by a plurality, as Cobb was. They may grumble, and twist and flounder, but they cannot jump out of the Southern harness, nor save themselves one stroke of the lash which their arrogant and contemptuous conquerors holds over them. Like the Pharisee, they can thank God for what I am not.

Bless Him that He has not made me that creeping thing called a "Northern Democrat," a thing that crawls to lick the foot that spurns it, that fawns upon the hand raised to smite it. Faugh! My heart sickens at the very thought of the scenes I have witnessed here during the last month.

JUNIUS.

FROM NEW YORK.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26, 1849.

The most acceptable Christmas present made yesterday was the message of Gen. Taylor, which has found its way to all hearts except those of the Locofocos, who would not be pleased could Jefferson himself return to address the descendants of the once honest Democratic party. The manes of all parties are perfectly satisfied, and there stands on record no message more capable than this, whether it is regarded as an exposition of what is proper to be done to advance the national progress, or what is to be avoided to secure our permanency. The Treasury Report, too, comes in for a large share of commendation. Unlike Mr. Walker, Mr. Meredith prefers the good of his own countrymen to that of the poverty stricken laborers of Europe. His definition of commerce is worthy to be written in letters of gold, and his whole document deserves to be made the political horn book of all who would see the internal wealth of the nation developed. The President and his Cabinet have suddenly assumed the proudest position with people here, and have given the Whig party as much cohesion as when it united to drive their predecessors from power.

Our "oldest inhabitant" has been caught in fault, at last, and does not remember when we had such a cold night as the one just past, or when the tide was ever so low. The water in the harbor ran out so much that the Fulton, and, indeed, all the Brooklyn boats, could neither run, or, in fact, land. Many curious accidents happened to visiting parties, who, instead of the merry carol of Christmas, by a ruddy fire, were obliged to content themselves by drifting round the harbor, in the cabin of a ferry boat, from 10 P. M. to 5 A. M.

Talking of troubles and water reminds me that a trade phrase, in a recent letter, has subjected the New York State Prison to the unjust imputation of aiding and abetting the liquor traffic, and of replenishing itself with convicts. "Prison whiskey" means the extract of corn in barrels made in the prison, as distinguished from other casks of poorer quality. The censure of "A Friend of Prison Reform," under his apprehension of the facts, was deserved, but I am glad to relieve the prisons of our State from so vile a charge as the manufacture of so baneful a poison.

Speaking of manufactures, reminds me to say that Dr. S. P. Townsend has sold out his famous "*Sarsyparilla*," good will and all, for one hundred thousand dollars. He receives twenty thousand dollars in cash, and thirty thousand in "Sarsyparilla," at four dollars a dozen; the retail price is twelve. People who think this patent stuff will cure all the ills that flesh is heir to, should read Dr. Dixon's "Scalpel," and be undeceived.

The news from California, received yesterday, has been very acceptable, but people are exasperated at the failure of the mail, which was left at Cruces. Every exertion was made to have it brought across the isthmus, but the friends of the mail line prevailed, and insisted that all should wait until the Falcon arrived. There is a good deal of competition in passage tickets to the diggins, and first class tickets range from $350 to $425, the latter in Howland & Aspinwall's ships, and the former in a transient line made up of the Ohio and the Isthmus.

There is open in Broadway a fine show of Canary Birds, and, no doubt, the most diminutive collection of animals ever collected. Ladies are there in abundance to show their own favorites, and examine those of others, and are generously supplied with music really beyond criticism. The artists do not know the meaning of a scale, or the difference between a cheat note and one from the throat, yet they please all.

Financially there is little doing. The election of the Speaker, aided by the official documents of the Cabinet, has given more activity to Stocks, and a firmer tone to affairs generally. Upon the 1st of January, the money market cannot fail to be very easy, and remain so for a long time. Should Congress show signs of altering the tariff we may have an influx of goods, and a disturbance of the currency from that cause, but nothing else will have much effect.

Cotton—Buyers prefer holding off for the steamer, before operating largely. Holders are firm. Flour—The market continues steady, with moderate demand. About 2,000 brls. changed hands. The range for common brands is $4 75@4 87½.—There is no pure Genesee now to be had under $5 37½. Of Southern, the sales are 200 brls. Georgetown at $5 75. Grain—There is scarce any thing doing. Corn is a trifle firmer, with sales of 7,000 bushels, including new Southern, at 59c., and New Jersey at 57½@58c. Oats are better, and 12,000 bushels sold at 35@35c. Provisions—The California news has caused holders of Pork to feel quite stiff, and they are not disposed to operate except at an advance. Other Provisions are quiet. Whiskey is 27c., with sales of 50 brls.

Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 1, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to present to you the annual report of the condition and operations of this department of the public service.

The home squadron, under the command of Commodore Parker, consists of the flag ship frigate Raritan, Capt. Page, the sloop of war Albany, Commander Randolph, the sloop of war Germantown, Commander Lowndes, the steamer Vixen, Lieut. nant Commanding Ward, the steamer Water Witch, Lieutenant Commanding Totten, and the schooner Flirt, Lieutenant Commanding Farrand. The steamer Allegheny, commanded by Lieutenant Hunter, was temporarily attached to this squadron, but has been recently withdrawn and placed in ordinary at the Washington navy yard. The sloop of war Saratoga, Commander Nicholson, has also been withdrawn, and placed in ordinary at Norfolk.

The vessels of the home squadron have been actively employed among the West India Islands, in the Gulf of Mexico, and along the Atlantic coast.

The squadron in the Pacific ocean, under the command of Commodore Jones, consists of the ship-of-the-line, Commander Stribling, the frigate Savannah, Captain Voorhees, the sloop-of-war St. Mary's, Commander Johnston, the sloop-of-war Warren, Commander Long, the sloop-of-war Preble, Commander Glynn, the sloop-of-war Falmouth, Commander Pettigru, the sloop-of-war Vandalia, Commander Gardner, the sloop-of-war Vincennes, Commander Hudson, the store-ship Fredonia, Lieutenant Commanding Neville, the store-ship Southampton, Lieutenant Commanding Handy, and the steamer Massachusetts. The razee Independence, bearing the broad pennant of Commodore Shubrick, returned from the Pacific ocean on the 22d of July last, after distinguished and important service in the war with Mexico. The vessel was taken out of commission. The sloop-of-war Dale, Commander Rudd, also returned from the Pacific; she reached New York on the 23d of August, and was placed in ordinary. Orders have been given for the return of the Ohio, the Preble, and the store-ship Southampton, in consequence of the expiration of the periods of enlistment of their crews. On the 12th of January, 1849, Commodore Jones was ordered to exchange the Ohio for the Savannah, as his flag-ship; the Ohio was ordered to proceed, under the command of Captain Voorhees, to China, to relieve Commodore Geisinger in the command of the East India squadron, and Commodore Geisinger was ordered to return to the United States in the Ohio, by the way of Bengal. The terms of service of a large number of her crew having expired, it was deemed expedient to remove that order, and instructions were accordingly sent to Commodore Jones, on the 23d of June, to direct the immediate return of the Ohio by the way of Cape Horn; she sailed from the coast of California on the 15th of September, on her passage home. Captain Geisinger has proceeded to China in the sloop-of-war St. Mary's, for the purpose of relieving Commodore Voorhees. The Falmouth sailed from the United States on the 16th of May, the Vandalia on the 5th of September, and the Vincennes on the 13th of November, with orders to join the command of Commodore Jones in the Pacific. The store-ship Supply, Lieutenant Commanding Kennedy, is under orders, and will shortly sail with supplies and stores for the squadron in the Pacific. Commodore Jones reports that the crews of the vessels under his command have been greatly reduced by desertions, and by the expiration of terms of service of the men; he states also that there exists an unwillingness to reenlist for the navy. The temptations held out by the prospect of obtaining gold, and the great demand for seamen, render it impossible to enlist men on the coast of California for the navy pay of from $10 to $12 per month, while the merchant service is paying from $55 to $150 in the same ports. The evils resulting to the naval service from these causes are severely felt. Great efforts have been made to remedy them, and every exertion that authority and discipline could enforce has been made with but partial success.

The squadron in the Mediterranean sea, under the command of Commodore Morgan, consists of the flag ship razee Independence, Commander Randolph, the sloop of war Germantown, Commander Lowndes, the steamer Vixen, Lieuten