

present. If deemed necessary, details can be given at a future time.

Gleason's Pictorial continues to be increasingly interesting in illustrations.

The last No. of Godey's Lady's Book is unusually rich.

### Australian Correspondence.

Melbourne, Nov. 21, 1853.

MY DEAR FATHER:—The overland mail per "Chusan," has just arrived, but contrary to our expectations, brought us no letters from home, only a copy of the *Visitor*. This of course we were very happy to see, as we could glean from it, that our friends were well. The first that met my eye was the leading article, under the heading of "Australia as a Mission Field."

I need not say that the perusal gave me great interest, speaking as it did, the ideas of the people, in whom all my warmest sympathies are interested. You will allow me through you to say a few words on the subject.

From what I can infer from the *Visitor*, a strong feeling seems to pervade the Baptists of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in favor of forming a Missionary station in Australia.

It is impossible for one who has not visited this country, to have any conception of the advancement she is making towards the highest point of civilization. You have had statistical accounts of the rapid increase of population—of the weekly and monthly enormous returns of the gold fields—of heavy exports of the most valuable minerals and merchandize; but so far as I can learn, you have as yet, little idea of the rapid progress she is making in the most important of all matters, viz., christianity and learning.

In this densely crowded city of Melbourne, there are to be found churches of all creeds, sects, and denominations. Mahometans, Jews, Catholics, and Protestants, nearly all classes receiving more or less support from Government. Besides these, there are churches established all over the Diggings, and although these are as yet in an infant state, yet under God they are gathering great strength, and will roll back the tide of evil which seems ready to engulf the whole continent.

The Methodist denomination in particular, seem to be taking the lead in the religious matters of the country, and their efforts are patronised by the Government to a very great extent. Go where you will all over the Colony, in every township, you will find a Methodist church and School-house. I am sorry to say, the Baptists are backward in this respect.

Never in the history of the world was there opened, such a field for prodigious enterprise. People are pouring into the country by thousands, and one may say, the majority are men of education and refinement, as well as religious principle, with a head full of brains and ready primed for action, and by the continual mixing of society, diffuse knowledge and intelligence wherever they go.

It is not for us to speculate upon the future developments of this great Continent, but we may safely argue from the effects of the past, and the prospect of the present, that in a few years Australia will stand first in every respect, to any Colony of the Globe; and if she continue to progress for the next half-century as she has the last two or three years, it will be recognized by the nations of the earth as the Queen of the East.

The voice of Providence is speaking loudly to the Christian church in unmistakable terms, to see that the foundations of this mighty Empire, which may be seen already towering in the distance are founded upon the stability of religious truth.

With reference to the establishment of a Mission out here by the Baptists of America, I shall forbear making many observations, but I think that if the proper steps were taken it would be found that the people of Australia are more able and quite as willing to support Missionary labour as America, and there is little doubt, that such a Mission would be found self-sustaining, and would be responded to with great vigour by the people of this country. Good, true, whole-souled men are much wanted here; and if America could only spare some of her best men, they would find here an ample field for the development of their energies.

The state of society in Melbourne is vastly improving; good order seems to be fully maintained; multitudes are leaving the un-

certain speculative business of gold digging and forming for themselves quiet homes. Men of capital are spending money in public works—building mansions, churches, cathedrals, colleges and universities, in a style that would do honour to any country. Already are electric wires being laid down from place to place, and before another year has passed we hope to hear the whistle of the locomotive thrilling through the country, proclaiming the onward march of civilization.

Such, in a few words, is the state of the country and society of Victoria. There seems to be little change of the returns of the gold fields for the last few months. Although many new places have been discovered, men in the diggings are now contented with smaller wages and follow it with the same steadiness as any other business. Nothing can be more uncertain than this. I have known men who have spent twelve months at the diggings and have failed to make fair wages, while others, who have spent only a month or two have returned with moderate fortunes.

You must excuse for the present as the mail is closing. Meantime, I remain as ever,

Your affectionate Son,  
EDWARD M. BILL.

## General Intelligence.

### Arrival of the "Pacific."

New York, May 1.

The Collins steamship *Pacific*, Capt. Nye, from Liverpool 19th ult., arrived here at half-past 9 o'clock this morning.

Liverpool circulars quote Cotton firmer, with sales of 20,000 bales for the three days preceding the sailing of the steamer.

Flour has advanced 1a2s. Wheat is also 3d. per bushel higher. Corn 1s. lower.

McHenry quotes Bacon quiet. Good Beef scarce and wanted. Pork plenty, but sales dull. Lard is selling at 52s. Tallow declining.

At Manchester, trade has improved. Consols closed at 87½.

Admiral Napier's whole fleet had gone eastward, to attack the Russian fleet.

Navigation was open in the Black Sea, and the Allied fleets had sailed direct, with the intention of attacking Sebastopol.

By advices of 6th April, it is understood that sanguinary skirmishes occurred daily on the Danube.

Omar Pasha was said to be waiting the arrival of the Allied armies before he would make a general attack.

The reports of the Austrians having entered Servia are not confirmed.

England and France have entered into a treaty, offensive or defensive.

The recall of the Prussian Minister from London, was on personal, not political grounds.

A large Russian force was said to have entered Servia.

A portion of the English and French troops had reached Gallipoli.

No important actions have occurred on the Danube.

The *London Times* of the 17th says: "We have received from our correspondent at Copenhagen a despatch dated yesterday, with the following gratifying and important intelligence: 'The Tribune frigate has just arrived from Admiral Plumridge's squadron, having taken five Russian prizes, and a number of prisoners.'"

Russian advices state that additional reserves are called out to the extent of 125,000 men, and that a corps of Russian troops in two divisions is to be stationed on the Prussian frontier between Memel and Suwalki.

One mode of defending the entrance of Cronstadt is new and dangerous. Strong iron chains charged with powder and other combustible materials are sunk in the channel and connected by wires to a galvanic battery. Above the chests is some machinery, which, on being touched by the keel of a vessel completes the galvanic circuit and explodes the mine. 100 of these dangerous inventions are sunk in the narrow entrance to Cronstadt.

The vessels stated to have been captured by Sir C. Napier's fleet are said to have been laden with sulphur and other articles contraband of war. They had been under surveillance for some time past, and were last from Lubec, and on their way towards a Russian port in the gulf of Finland.

The expulsion of the the Greeks from the Turkish territory is going on; but a private despatch states that the Greek subjects who profess the Latin faith will be allowed to remain.

### Arrival of the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Raglan in Paris.

FRANCE.—The *Times* correspondent writes—"The Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by Lord Raglan, Lord de Ros, Colonels Steel, Tyrwhitt, and Somerset, and Majors Macdonald and Wellesley, and attended by a numerous suite, arrived in Paris on Tuesday morning, at half-past nine o'clock, by the Northern Railroad. The minister-at-war and the English ambassador were in wait-

ing to receive them. A guard of honour of the gendarmerie d'elite was stationed at the terminus, and the court carriages were in attendance. The duke and the officers who accompanied him proceeded to the British embassy. About half-past twelve o'clock three imperial carriages conveyed them to the palace of the Tuileries, with an escort from the regiment of the guides. The duke left the embassy at one o'clock. In the carriage he occupied were Lord Raglan, the English ambassador, and an officer of the staff; in a second, Lord de Ros and other staff officers; and in the third, the grand master of the ceremonies and officers of the imperial household. A detachment of guides preceded and another followed the carriages. The party was cheered on its way by the crowd which had assembled in front of the embassy, and followed to the palace, and cries of "Vive les Anglais" were frequent. On leaving the Tuileries the duke, Lord Raglan, and suite, visited Prince Jerome at the Palais Royal. The duke, it is said, is the bearer of an autograph letter from Queen Victoria to the Emperor Napoleon. Count de Toulangeon and one of the attaches of the English embassy had previously proceeded to Calais to receive the duke, who arrived at one o'clock in the morning at that place.

It is stated that a resolution was adopted at the last cabinet council in Paris for the formation of a fifth division of the expeditionary army, to be placed under the command of General Renault. The total of the expeditionary force to the East will not, it is said, be limited to 50,000 men. There is a probability that, before the war is brought to an end, it will be augmented to more than 100,000, some think to 150,000. 36,000 have already left, that is, about that number are already at sea, from France and Algeria, and the continued movement of troops in the direction of the respective ports would show that much more than 50,000 men are intended to act in Turkey. It is thought that no movement will be made from Gallipoli until the allied troops are assembled there in imposing numbers, and then they will probably proceed towards Adrianople.

A bouquet, composed of 10,000 violets and 3000 camillas has been presented to the Empress Eugenia by the Horticultural Society of Toulouse.

POSITION OF RUSSIA.—The *London Quarterly Review*, in a powerful article on the political condition of Europe, says:

"There is a point beyond which the tide of conquest cannot roll—a barrier against which its waters must dash with baffled rage, and then retire, broken and spent. That point Russia appears to have reached. Blind to the signs of the times, goaded on by an insatiable lust of conquest, she has deliberately decided on war. The quarrel is of her own choosing; and she is likely to be left alone in an unrighteous cause. Before the sword is again sheathed a host of monstrous evils will have been avenged; and, instead of pouring her wrath on a helpless victim, the aggressor may unexpectedly find, in a disrupted empire and a general European conflict, that an accumulated list of cruel wrongs has found a speedy and tremendous reckoning."

The advices from St. Petersburg state that an amount in gold equal to about six millions of silver roubles, or nearly £1,000,000 sterling, has been removed from the fortress for the purposes, it is to be presumed, of the war. Allegations were at the same time circulated that a total equal to about £19,000,000 or £20,000,000 sterling remained.

LIVERPOOL, April 1.—*Extraordinary Passage and Subsequent Wreck of the Marco Polo*.—That celebrated ship, the *Marco Polo*, after accomplishing another extraordinary run to Australia, and achieving, by a succession of quick passages a fame hitherto unparalleled in the annals of navigation, has come to an untimely end, by being wrecked on a sand-bank, off Melbourne, the day after her arrival. Her commander, however, Captain McDonnell stands acquitted of all blame, for the vessel was in charge of a pilot at the time of the accident. No lives were lost either, for the *Marco Polo* left here with 717 souls on board, and landed 716 at Melbourne—the single "one" having died on the passage. Captain McDonnell in a letter to the *Melbourne Argus*, January 28th, after referring to the former passages of the *Marco Polo* says:—"Her third voyage is now completed, in which she has been even more successful; her time being from land to land 69 days, and from port to port 71 days 12 hours. The voyage would have been considerably shorter, only for the fact that, owing to calms and adverse winds, we literally lost twelve consecutive days. Our best days sailing during the voyage was on the 7th instant, when we passed over 428 miles; but such figures as 370, 350, and 330 are very common in our log."

A circular has been issued from the Horse Guards, calling upon officers on half pay to state their age, service, and if fit and willing to serve again.

A grain of "mummy wheat," embalmed, it is supposed, 2000 years before the Christian era, was planted last year in the isle of Cumbrae, near Glasgow. Last harvest it yielded 517 grains, all healthy and good, which have been reown this spring. In three or four years a large crop is expected as the result of this single grain.

Through the kindness of Col. FAVOR, we have late American papers, from which we glean the following items:—

### MOVING.

Symptoms of the usual vernal hejira are manifest about town. The ladies, resolved into a committee of the whole, have been instituting a search—looking into each other's parlors, pantries and kitchens, finding out who every body is, what every body has, how every body lives. How things looked, furnished a delectable theme for conversation and "do tells," "you can't think," and "I declares," are formulas in great demand just now. Carpets begin to come up, curtains to come down, and bustling housekeepers are in their glory; cap borders flaring, cap strings flying, away they go from garret to basement, like the mercury in changeable weather. If it's not moving, why then it's cleaning, and quiet men have no peace of their lives. Closets are ransacked, their contents tumbled out into broad day light, dust rises, water falls, soapsuds foam; the subterranean forces venture boldly up; you meet them on the stairs, in the halls, just bounding out of one room, just breaking into another. You step upon something yielding; you think it is the lap dog; you look down, and there it is—a damp mop, "and nothing more."

You enter your room—your own private *sacredum*, ever held sacred from the intrusion of all outside barbarians, save under a strict statute of "limitations." The enemy are in possession; they tho' you had gone to Providence; providentially you are there in the nick of time. There is a rousing fire in the grate, and through the bars you see the charred ends of a half dozen of your old love letters; they are burning up your papers! They have just tumbled your boots, your slippers, your trunks, your coats, your unnameables and indescribables into one grand heap upon the floor, and the well filled closet is as empty as a friar's cell. Papers and letters litter "where a" carpet "has been," and a smiling, red-fingered Miesian is in the act of clawing them up into a basket as you enter. They have you at an advantage; you are defeated—in fact, *hors de combat*. You can't help it; you are ashamed to fly into a passion; you know, at least you think you know, these things must be done, and you are dumb. As you retreat you stumble over a pail of whitewash into the extended arms of an "Uncle Tom;" you meet a recruit just coming to the rescue, s'aying a broom, that mighty symbol of domestic power.—There is nothing for it but to fly incontinently, and away you go. But the grand movement of crockery and kettles, mirrors and mahogany, is yet to come—when the Penate shall be brought forth, borne a little way, to be again set up in a new shrine. Household gods jostle household *en route*, draymen are in their glory, while all ground, in cellar and garret, and brown-stone front, the rents go sublimely up.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

STAYD SOME TIME.—The longest pastorate ever held in New England, was by the late Rev. Samuel Nott, D. D., of Franklin, Conn., namely, seventy years; during all but three of these he discharged all the duties of pastor entirely unaided, and lacked but twenty months of one hundred years of age at his death.

The late storm was severely felt at New York, and among its results was the sinking of the caloric ship *Ericsson*. She had just returned from a trial trip, and was off Jersey City, when the water rushed in the lower port holes, and she sunk on the flats, the tops of her wheelhouses being above water.

Rev. T. Heath, who has been missionary to the Navigator's Islands and the New Hebrides, in the Pacific, for seven years, from the London Missionary Society, says that in one of these islands (Tanna) the people are peculiar in many respects. They follow the singular custom of burying a man in the sea, with his widow attached to his body! This differs somewhat from the custom of the Hindoos, where the woman is burnt on the funeral pile of her husband.

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF FLOUR.—The arrivals from Europe last week, and also of the Arctic on Sunday last, brought accounts of a considerable rise in breadstuffs in England. The Asia yesterday brought advices of a fall. The opening of the Erie Canal on the 1st of May, and the commencement of navigation upon the Lakes, it has generally been supposed would result in a decline in prices here, though there are some who maintain that there is not a large amount of first-class flour to come forward. The arrangements made between the Lake Champlain Navigation and the Rutland Railroad Companies, ensures that all the flour offered on that route will be promptly forwarded, and probably the same will be the case on other routes, so that whatever amount there is, will speedily, at present rates, reach the Atlantic ports. We notice that the value of breadstuffs exported from New York, last week, was a little over a quarter of a million of dollars.—*Boston Traveller*.

THE FIRE IN NEW YORK.—By the fire in Broadway, on Tuesday night, it is now ascertained that thirteen lives were lost, and twenty-one persons were wounded, many of them seriously. The names of the dead are as follows: James McNulty, John A. Keyser, Daniel McKay and his brother Alexander McKay, W. J. Degan, Michael Flynn, M. T. McRail, John O'Donnell, a son of Coroner O'Don-

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