COMMERCE WITH PARAGUAY.

American Geographical and Statistical Society—First Public Meeting—Paper on the Importance of Commercial Relations with Paraguay and Bolivia.

There was a considerable audience last night at the rooms of the New-York Historical Society, in the University, on the occasion of the first public meeting of the American Geographical and Statistical Society.

Mr Joshua Leavitt, Vice President, in the absence of Henry Grinnell, President, called the meeting to order, and in a short speech set forth in distinct and pertinent terms the object and value of geographical and statistical knowledge, which had been called the two eyes of history. This Society had been formed for the purpose of collecting all such knowledge as might be valuable to the people, and, in proper time, to give these facts to the world in annual reports. Mr. L. closed by introducing Mr E. A. Hopkins, late United States Consul in Paraguay.

Before the reading of the paper of Mr. Hopkins thanks were voted to the Historical Society for the use of their rooms.

On motion of Mr. S. Dewitt Bloodgood, the thanks of the Society were voted to Foreign Consuls present at the meeting, which compliment was acknowledged by the Consul at this port for Belgium.

Mr. Hopkins was then introduced, and proceeded to read his very interesting paper, the more material portions of which we give below.

PARAGUAY—SKETCH OF THE COUNTRY.

The vast territory, formerly known by the appellation of Paraguay, comprised all that portion of South America which was bounded on the north by the northern frontier of the provinces of Santa Cruz de la Sierra and Chiquitos, in 16° south latitude; on the south by the Straits of Magellan; by Brazil on the east, and by Chili and Peru on the west. But the country now distinguished by that name is entirely contained within the shores of the Paraguay and Parana Rivers, from an undefined boundary with Brazil, in about 17° S. L., to their junction in 27° S. L. The maps of these regions are manifestly incorrect in comparison with those of the better known portions of the world; still they are sufficient to give the student a correct geographical idea of the sources and channels of these noble rivers. The Rio de La Plata is formed by the confluence of the Uruguay with the Parana; and, from thence to the ocean, it is remarkable for its great breadth and shallow waters, and should properly be considered an estuary of the sea.

The River Parana rises in the western slops of the highlands near the seaboard, to the northwestward of Rio de Janeiro, and flowing westerly and south-westerly to its junction with the Paraguay, continues a southerly and south-easterly course to the ocean. In this course, through 16° of latitude and as many of longitude, its navigation is only interrupted in one place at latitude 23° 40'. Here the river flows for 30 leagues through a narrow gorge, which it has burst through the chain of mountains running from the province of San Paulo, in Brazil, westward till they are lost before reaching the Cordilleras. Probably no living white man has ever seen these extraordinary rapids. They were described in 1808 by D. Felix d'Azara, from hearsay; because, owing to domestic dissensions, barbarism has greatly encroached upon the frontiers originally conquered from the Aborigines by the Spaniards.

Immediately above these rapids the river is 12,000 feet wide, but this enormous width is suddenly reduced to a single channel of 180 feet wide, down which the whole mass of water is precipitated with tremendous fury. The water falls on an inclined plane of 50°, forming an immediate descent of about 58 feet, and the noise is heard for 18 miles. Senor d'Azara is of the opinion that next to Niagara, this is the most remarkable cataract in the world, from its extension, and the amount of its waters. Both below and above this cataract, numerous tributaries, many of them larger than the largest rivers of Europe, send their waters to swell its gigantic flood. But the largest and most important of them all is the river Paraguay, which empties into the Parana at 27° 20' south latitude.

This river is undoubtedly the most perfect, for the purposes of navigation, of any in the known world, and its position, in reference to different countries, is of the utmost importance. Its first sources are in 13° south lat. and 12° long. west from Rio de Janeiro. Thence it increases rapidly and majestically. In fact, its primitive fountains are so plentiful, both in number and in water, that in a very short distance from them it is already fully navigable. Its bed, spotted with gold and brilliants, indicates that it is to be the great channel of the immense riches of South America. On the east lies the rich Brazilian province of Matto Grosso, whose capital, Cuyaba, contains 30,000 inhabitants, and is situated in lat. 15° 36' upon the banks of the San Lorenzo, a navigable tributary of the Paraguay.

The city is surrounded by agricultural establishments, well stocked with cattle of enormous size, and by mines of gold and diamonds. The population of this province is estimated at 150,000. On the west, descending, we meet with the three most populous provinces of Bolivia, Moxos, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, and Chiquitos, from whence the celebrated Peruvian Bark is chiefly procured. From thence it is at present carried on mules westward, over the Andes, and exported from Cobija, the only seaport possessed by Bolivia, and finally finds its way to our shores, by doubling Cape Horn.

Floating further down, we meet with the river Jauru, which is navigable up as far as the heart of the province of Chiquitos; and, still further down in latitude 23 deg. the river Verde. From thence on the western bank, down to the city of Santa Fe, on the Parana, all is a primitive wilderness, inhabited by the aboriginal savages. But we meet, in this part of our course, two magnificent rivers, which are of the utmost importance. They are the Pilcomayo and Bermejo, both navigable, and the valleys of both are thickly populated by the descendants of the white man—the lands along their banks being of unsurpassed value in production.

The Pilcomayo rises on the eastern slope of the Andes, near the silver mines of Potosi in Bolivia, and flowing south-eastwardly, near Chuquisaca, the capital of Bolivia, enters into the Paraguay, three leagues south of the City of Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay. The Bermejo takes its rise, also, from the eastern slope of the Andes, and, flowing through the populous provinces of Salta, Jujui, Catamarca and San Juan, also empties into the Paraguay, in 27° S. L., opposite the commercial port of Villa del Pilar, and near the embouchure of the Parana. The voyages of discovery on the Pilcomayo and Bermejo, accomplished by the Senores Cornejo, Espinola and Soria, demonstrate on every page the ecstatic enthusiasm of their authors at the richness and beauty of the country on their banks, and fully prove that the regions through which they flow are among the most beneficent gifts of Providence to man. In the year 1820, companies were formed for the purpose of introducing European emigration in those regions, and several useful industrial establishments were set in operation, for the manufacture of a very superior indigo. But civil wars, upon which I shall touch by-and-by, destroyed all.

Descending the Paraguay from the River San Lorenzo, on the eastward, we find constantly an uninterrupted line of white population. In Paraguay, itself, the population amounts to 1,200,000 souls, and the country is intersected by many rivers, all more or less navigable—that is to say, from ten to fifty leagues. The River Tibicuari is the most important. It was fully explored in 1785 by d'Azara as well as last year by myself, and is navigable for steamboats of light draft for eighty leagues. Its banks are thickly populated throughout its whole extent. Descending still toward the ocean we find the eastern shores of the Parana, lined with thirty-eight cities, towns and villages, and in the provinces of Corrientes and Entre Rios, a population of an hundred and fifty thousand souls. A rough calculation, according to the best authorities extant, would place the extent of river navigation within Cape St. Mary at not less than ten thousand miles, all of which, in a state of nature, is unobstructed by any impediment to steamboats. Upon the banks of these streams, is found a population of 2,000,000, entirely dependent upon this navigation for their imports and exports.

[Mr. H. here gave a minute and interesting view of the Political History of Paraguay under the extraordinary and suicidal policy of the Dictator Francia, whose monstrous crimes were vividly delineated. It is well known that Francia shut Paraguay from all intercourse with the world, and that after his death, his fellow villain, Rosas of Buenos Ayres, the present incubus of South America, quite as effectually continued the embargo by holding possession of the rivers, which are the only road from Paraguay to the world. Mr. H. also detailed many of the cruelties of this demon, Rosas.]

PRESENT CONDITION OF PARAGUAY.

After some description of the late wars and their effect, Mr. H. said:

The political condition, therefore, of Paraguay, Brazil, Corrientes, Entre Rios and Montevideo is one worthy of our utmost attention, sympathy, and respectful regard. They have published their intentions and determinations, which are in entire accord with the most humane principles; and their actions have been perfectly consistent with their professions. They have invited foreigners, with their capital and commerce; published decrees regulating tariffs and custom-houses; and offered special rewards and exclusive rights for the introduction of steam, and all useful machines and implements of every kind—the product of the industry of other countries.

In reference to the present condition of these countries, it may well be imagined that there is room for great improvement. Yet if we speak of the elements to improve upon, it would be difficult to imagine any part of the world where they exist in greater or more spontaneous profusion. Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay, are the agricultural regions which must chiefly nourish the richest commerce, while the regions near the Atlantic Ocean yield all the productions of an enormous extent of pastoral countries. It is in the higher lands, up the rivers, where European emigration must find a home and a field for congenial pursuits, which would not interfere with those of the native inhabitants. The knowledge which prevails among them about agriculture, is meagre in the extreme; and although in Paraguay they are principally an agricultural people, they know very little of the science. They are in the greatest want of all agricultural implements, upon each of which the introducer would receive a patent for ten years.

PRODUCTIONS OF PARAGUAY.

Beginning with the head waters of the River Paraguay, we find the productions upon the Brazilian side to be gold and precious stones, sugar, molasses, hides of extraordinary size, hair, tallow, wax, deer and tiger skins, with rice, corn, and the different manufactures of the mandioca root; in Bolivia, gold and precious stones, silver, coffee, considered by good judges to be equal to Mocha, and Peruvian bark. Though, undoubtedly, we could draw from these two countries many other productions of tropical America, yet it is in Paraguay that we find the greatest wealth of all these valleys. Of this country and its commercial resources, I can speak with the greatest certainty, from my own personal knowledge. Almost divided by the tropic of Capricorn, its surface is like a chess-board, checkered here and there with beautiful pastures and magnificent forests. Unlike all other lands with which I am acquainted, it seems destined especially for the habitation of man.

Here, in the easterly portion of our own land, the first settlers found the whole country covered with woods. West of the Mississippi the other extreme exists, in the vast extent of prairie, destitute of timber. In the north of Brazil, in a similar manner, are unbroken forests; in its Southern parts and throughout the Banda Oriental, Entre Rios, Corrientes, and the Argentine Republic, we find continuous pampas, like our prairies, in many instances without bearing the necessary fuel even for household purposes. Not so in Paraguay, where, added to a sufficiency for building fleets of a thousand steamers, its forests teem with every description of ornamental and useful woods.

The vegetable kingdom of Paraguay presents the richest attractions, not merely to the professional botanist, but to that important class which addresses to mercantile enterprise. The medicinal herbs which abound in the greatest profusion are rhubarb, sarsaparilla, jalap, bryonia, indica, sassafras, hollywood, dragon's blood, balsam of copaiba, nux vomica, ipicacuanha and ginger. Of dye-stuffs, too, there is an immense variety—the cochineal, which is indeed an insect, but requiring for its food a species of the cactus plant; two distinct kinds of indigo, vegetable vermilion, saffron, golden rod, with other plants producing all the tints of dark red, black and green. Many of the forest trees yield valuable gums, not yet familiar to commerce or medicine, and they comprise some of the most delicious perfumes and incense that can be imagined. Others, again, are like amber—hard, brittle, and insoluble in water. Some cedars yield a gum equal to gum Arabic; others a natural glue, which, when once dried, is unaffected by wet or dampness. The *seringa*, or rubber tree, the product of which is now almost a monopoly with Para, and also the Palo Santo, which produces the gum guiacum, crowd the forests, ready to give up their riches to the first comer; and the sweet-flavored Vanilla modestly flourishes, as if inviting the hand of man.

Upon the hills, the celebrated Yerba Matte, which is the exclusive beverage of one half of South America, has only to be gathered. Its preparation is in an exceedingly crude state, and could be beneficially improved by employing some of our corn-mills; and probably its use could be introduced into this country with advantage.

Upon the fertile alluvial banks of so many large streams, sugar cane, cotton, tobacco of a superior quality, rice, mandioca, Indian corn, and a thousand other productions, vegetate with profusion, while seven varieties of the bamboo line the river banks and dot the frequent lakes with islets, of touching beauty. On the plains quantities of hides, hair, horns, bones, tallow, &c., are lost for want of transportation. If we go to the forests, we find two or three kinds of hemp, vast quantities of wax, the *nux saponaca*, or soap nut, the cocoa, and vegetable oils in abundance, with two kinds of wild cotton, admirably adapted for the manufacture of paper.

But it is with the forest trees of Paraguay that I love most to dwell. Giants! there they are, vast and noble in their aspect, and able, as it were, to utter for themselves the sublime music of the wilderness. Sixty varieties already known, furnish timber of all kinds and colors and degrees of durability, elasticity and buoyancy. I have seen timbers of the Lapacho that have supported the roofs of houses, in Buenos Ayres, for more than two hundred years. They are now as sound as ever, and to all appearance, capable of performing the same service to the end of the world. A door sill of the same wood, half imbedded in the ground, and marked "1632," belonged to the front door of the house which I inhabited in the city of Asuncion. Upon the closest inspection, it was in a state of perfect preservation. Several other woods of this same variety are so heavy as to sink in water, and all, while difficult to burn in houses, form, under a strong draft, a fire almost equal to stone-coal in intensity.

Another tree, the Seibo, when green, is spongy, and soft as cork, and can be cut like an apple; but when dry, it is so hard as almost to defy the action of steel. Again, we have the Palo de Vivora, or snake tree, whose leaves are an infallible cure for the poisonous bites of serpents. The Palo de Leche, or milk tree, may be called a vegetable cow, and the Palo de Borracho, or drunken tree, a vegetable distillery. The Isica resin is found at the roots of trees, under ground, and is a natural pitch, ready prepared, to pay the seams of vessels.

PEOPLE OF PARAGUAY.

Of the Anthropology of Paraguay I have said nothing. Blumenbach himself, would be puzzled to tell the original of some of the mongrel breeds to be found there. But the upper classes have ever been more regardful of their blood than in any other part of Spanish or Portuguese America. They are brave, stout and healthy, hospitable and simple-hearted in the ordinary relations of life, and exceedingly intelligent and keen in business affairs. Perfect confidence in the Government, and subordination to the laws, are two of their cardinal virtues; and security for life and property is the blessed consequence.

Tyranny enough they have already suffered, to have learned to escape its toils in future; and their chief desire is, to learn those arts which may conduce to their comfort and happiness, and elevate their country to its proper position among the nations of the world. In return for that knowledge, their commerce will bring to us much that we have never seen, and will cheapen, for our manufacturers, what we already import from other parts of South America; while, to the naturalist and the historian, the most extensive fields of undeveloped richness and inexpressible beauty will open at command.

As for the character of Carlos Antonio Lopez, the President of Paraguay, I must not quit his country without passing a just eulogium upon his talents and patriotism. For a man who has never passed the frontier of his country, he is really remarkable. He has been stained by no arbitrary bloodshed, and even under the circumstances, which I have described, of isolation from all the world, he has reformed and advanced his country in no ordinary degree. Its whole constitution, civil, political and religious, is the work of his hands; and his decrees for the furtherance of commerce and agriculture, show a spirit of enlightenment rarely exhibited under similar circumstances. However, much remains to be done; he knows that it must be done slowly; that too rapid an improvement must stand upon an insecure basis, which may crumble away and leave but its ruins behind.

COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE.

Under a free navigation for these delightful regions, their exports must double within six months, and a new impulse be given to all their affairs. The commercial tendencies of all this section of country lean toward the United States for many reasons. In the first place, we are, for our numbers, beyond all comparison, the greatest consuming people on the earth. While commerce with us leads to their wealth and comfort, that of England, our only rival, differs from them their very lifeblood. We require barter, or exchange, and many times have to pay the difference in specie; while the English sell their manufactures for good paper, on time; and when the hard money is paid, it is not long in leaving the country and becoming embalmed in the vaults of the Bank of England.

These regions produce spontaneously many valuable articles of commerce, for which we are now almost exclusively dependent upon the British East Indian possessions, paying for them such a price as the English choose to demand. It is for this reason that the British Government has regulated its policy so as to support the barbarous system of slavery, whilst, at the same time, she has endeavored to make such exertions as would secure her the precedence, should he ever fall from power.

Again, all these productions of these valleys which European commerce requires, could be furnished to Europe, by way of the United States, in less time, and consequently at less expense, than they can be by going direct, no matter whether we use steam or sailing vessels. But so long as England uses steam, and we use only sails, then we can communicate in less time (that is to say, once a month with Monte Video and Buenos Ayres), by way of England than direct from this City.

A study of the wind and current charts of my distinguished friend, Mr. Maury, of the National Observatory at Washington, as well as the statistics of voyages from the Rio de La Plata to New-York and any point of Europe, will amply prove this assertion.

Then, again, all the productions of Bolivia, which reach any Atlantic market, are obliged to be carried across the Andes on mules, and exported at Cobija, the only port which she possesses; and, doubling Cape Horn, at length they reach us, loaded with such expenses as almost completely kill any attempt of that fertile country to produce anything which may compete with similar productions in the commerce of the world.

[Mr. Hopkins discussed for a moment the political considerations which should induce us to pursue the commercial policy indicated in 1824 by Messrs. Clay, Monroe and Adams, but suddenly abandoned by Gen. Jackson. These countries all naturally lean to the United States. Rosas is now the great obstacle to the opening of the great rivers to our commerce—he declines to make treaties with us, saying that he has not the power, while at the same time he has signed treaties with England and France. There is now a steady emigration from France and Germany to Paraguay and the adjoining countries, and the unsettled state of Europe is likely largely to increase this emigration.]

DUTY OF THE UNITED STATES.

That the people and Government of the United States may be properly represented in the future of these magnificent countries, now that they have the opportunity of so doing, they should move the *first and foremost* in the matter. The order of Providence seems to have constituted us the protector and teacher of the other parts of our hemisphere; and it is a duty which we have hitherto but poorly performed. Again, it is the evident policy of our Government to protect all small States from the encroachments of their more powerful neighbors, *as far as they can do so by diplomatic action*; and the more especially, when they desire it themselves, as in the case of Paraguay and Montevideo. In reference to this latter State, I have said nothing. But to make more evident still the great eminences of some of our past Administrations, I will state that Montevideo has always been the last refuge of civilization, and the only constant upholder of constitutional government on the shores of the Plata. Yet, although such has been her character, as I am amply able to prove, she has never met with any notice or favor from us, but the contrary.

I have now among my papers some records, procured from the files of the Oriental Legation at Paris during my late visit there, which cannot lie. They are a correspondence, under date of Dec. 14, 1841, between Senor Ellauri, the Oriental Minister, and Gen. Cass, our Minister at Paris, in which the former, in accordance with special instructions and powers, which he had received for that purpose, offers to make a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation with the United States. This, be it remarked, was in a time of profound peace for the Banda Oriental, and while Gen. Rosas was engaged in subduing the upper Argentine provinces. Gen. Cass states his want of instructions, and applies to his Government. His Government—that is the Government of the United States.—answers him, and he replies to the Oriental Minister, under date of March 5, 1842:

"I have been instructed to inform you that although the United States are desirous to extend and improve commercial and friendly relations with the Governments of the Western Hemisphere, and to place them under the high sanction of conventional stipulations, yet, under existing circumstances, and particularly while war continues between the Argentine Republic and your Government, and while that region is in an unsettled and unquiet state, the moment does not seem favorable to the development of its resources, nor to the formation of new diplomatic relations with other countries. The President of the United States, therefore, thinks it necessary to defer to a more favorable opportunity the further expression of his amicable disposition toward the Oriental Republic, and the negotiations for the regulations of its intercourse with the United States."

In a letter to me of Oct. 20, 1851, Senor Ellauri says: "I ought to make you notice a very especial circumstance. It is, that the only nation with which my nationalities taken the initiative, to invite them to celebrate treaties of friendship, commerce and navigation, has been that of the United States; with all the others, we ourselves have been the invited parties, even by England."

Thus, then, we have seen that the Banda Oriental sought our connection in 1842. Paraguay in 1811—*both of which States have been treated with complete indifference.* For this we owe them at least some reparation, and to call the attention and speculation of all persons to beautiful and fertile South America, it is only necessary for the Government of the United States to give to these countries that impetus which is the indispensable element of civilization and of Christianity. With such friendly aid as it can supply, a sudden metamorphosis will transform the face of these countries.

The power of steam will reproduce upon their waters the wonderful results which have marked its introduction among ourselves, and which, to our benighted brethren of South America, appear but the phantasy of a dream. If we lead them to adopt those modes of commerce for which they have such unsurpassed yet unexplored advantages, we shall open to them a new era of grandeur and happiness, of which they cannot form as yet any adequate conception.

In four days a steamboat could run up from Montevideo to Asuncion and in eight days to the interior of Bolivia and Brazil. A shorter time will carry the return voyager to the mouth of the Rio de la Plata, after having touched, in both trips, at the many cities and villages upon the banks, leaving to them the spirit of life and wealth, and through these the benefits of education and refinement.

The time has arrived when all things tend, in the Old World and in the New, to the realization of these most magnificent projects; in a word, to the opening of an entire new world to our enterprise. Why let the opportunity slip from our grasp, to be certainly seized upon in a few months, by our only rivals, the English?

The best commercial statistics fully prove what I advance. For in 1849, when not half a dozen individuals in each port of the United States had a dollar invested in the Rio de la Plata, the American tonnage which had arrived in the port of Montevideo for the seven previous years amounted to 110,000 tuns, and fell short of the British by only 37,386 tuns. For the year 1852, a year of peace, the total of the imports and exports of Montevideo, with only a small back country, and without any aid from Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Corrientes or Entrerios, amounted to $22,856,109, of which the Americans had the third share. Thus if, under circumstances of governmental abandonment and general want of confidence, we did this much, what might we not do now!

I do no not surpass probability when I say that the appearance of an American river steamboat in those waters would increase our exportations to these regions a million of dollars the first year, and that this amount would double every six months thereafter, for a considerable period of time. This boat would procure the exclusive right for the navigation of these waters, from Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay; and the company, during the existence of their monopoly, could control in every respect all imports and exports.

In vain has a third of a century passed since we conferred upon these people the blessing of national independence. In vain have opposing interests labored for a long time to efface the remembrance of this our noble act. In vain have our own errors come in aid of those interests which are opposed to us. The name of Henry Clay, as the champion of South American independence, still survives among them. It is only necessary to give to this remembrance a proper tendency, and it will revivify and spread abroad—it will infuse itself into the ideas and the manners, into the material and moral wants of those people who love us, that we may become the law of their interests: for this is what their sympathies demand.

Contrast opportunities and feelings like these, with the proportionate dislike of the snares of monarchical influences, from which they have suffered so much. Consider, in addition, the hopeless debt and consequent oppression, in one form or another, under the oppressions of which all the nations of South America, except Paraguay and Chili, so heavily labor—and our view into the future, of what we ought to do and can do, becomes clear and distinct. The time for talking is over, if we do not wish to be distanced, anticipated, superseded—we must act and act *without delay*.

If we follow on in the path thus open before us, emigration and steam will speedily call into action those sympathies of which we just now spoke. Incomparable instruments of peaceful revolution, they promise to these magnificent countries the most abundant development for the happiness of the human race. Under their vigorous impulses, solitudes will be peopled, merchants will become active, and the earth will yield its fruits an hundred-fold. The travels and investigations of scientific men, the introduction of machinery and new means of labor, together with a new spirit of energy and enterprise, will bless all persons with new discoveries of unbounded usefulness, before unknown. Thus, resting upon those solid foundations which alone can give a permanent existence to liberty, a new *terra firma* of prosperity and peace will rapidly loom up from among the sinking billows of discord and civil war, which have so long swept in all their fury over some of the finest regions on the face of the earth.

The American people seem to be desirous at the present moment to extend the area of freedom. Some have gone to Cuba and the Sandwich Islands. Others would like to go to Hungary, and even to Moscow, notwithstanding its bad reputation as a winter residence for an invading force. And it is only a little of this spirit differently applied which I have desired to see extend itself to South America.

At the conclusion of this interesting paper, Mr. H. was warmly applauded. On motion, the thanks of the Society were voted to him, and a copy of his paper asked for the archives.

The meeting then adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA.

Markets and Stocks.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1852.

The weather is bitter cold. The Schuylkill River is again frozen tight; and the Delaware is fast following suit.

At sunrise this morning, the thermometer at the Pennsylvania Hospital stood at 11 degrees above zero.

The case of Samuel Williams, charged with giving information of the intended arrest of the alleged slaves of the late Edw. Gorsuch, was continued today.

The Jury in the case of Rev. Richard W. Thomas, charged with fornacy by his wife, are out. They find a difficulty in rendering a verdict.

CLOVER SEED is in better demand, and prices are firmer; sales of 300 bushels good quality at last 75 @ 80 lb, and lot of prime at $4 87½. The COTTON market is quiet. There is some inquiry for QUEENSTOWN BAGS, and small sales of No. 1 have been made at $23 50 ₱ ton. The FLOUR market is exceedingly dull and inactive, and prices have declined 6@12c. ₱ bbl; sales of 2,000 bbls. standard and good brands at $4 12½@$4 18¾, but mostly at the latter rate. The sales for city consumption are limited within the range of $4 25 for common and extra brands, as to quality. In RYE FLOUR and CORN MEAL no sales have been reported. There is but little WHEAT offering. Good Red is steady at 99c., and White at $1 ₱ bushel. RYE is wanted, but there is none here. There is more CORN arriving, and it meets an active demand at the late advance; sales of 6,000 bushels new Southern Yellow at 55c. Oats are scarce; sales at 40c ₱ bushel. WHISKY is dull; bbls. are being at 23c, and hhds. at 21½c.

RATES OF STOCKS.—*First Board.*—161 Girard Bank, 17; $607 State 5s, '59, 85½; $2,500 do 6s, 95; 7 Far. and Mech. Bank, 59; 50 U. S. Bank, 8½; $9,000 Reading Railroad 6s, '70, 77½; 11 Man. and Mech. Bank, 37; 39 N. A. Coal, 9½; 50 Long Island Railroad, 8½; 175 Lehigh Interest, 63; 24 Penn. Railroad, 40½; 1 Philadelphia Bank, 124½; $1,000 Sch. Nav 6s, 73 15.

Second Board.—42 Girard Bank, 12; 50 Long Island Railroad, 8; 55 Mech. Bank, 20½; 2 Man. and Mech. Bank, 27; 100 Sch. Bank, 1; 5 Penn. Bank, 100½; $2,500 City Railroad 6s, '56, 100½; $5,100 City Gas 6s, '72, 100.

Passengers Arrived

In steamship Florida, from Savannah—Thomas Beadel, W. G. Black, J. Dunbrax, B. Darling, R. H. Gibson, L. P. St John, J. B. Bond, H. P. Waring, E. F. Word, L. G. Harkness, L. D. Wilcoxson, Dr. Benson—and 12 in the steerage.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.....THIS DAY.

Sun—Rises... 7 23 | Sets..... 4 56 | Moon—Sets..... 0 37m
High Water.....Jan. 14
Sandy Hook..1 52m | Gov. Island....2 42m | Hell Gate.. 4 12m

MARINE JOURNAL.

PORT OF NEW-YORK.....JANUARY 13.

Cleared.

Steamship—Falcon, Rogers, Chagres, M. O. Roberts; Africa, (Br.) Harrison, Liverpool, E. Cunard, Jr.

Brigs—Tylla, Tobiasson, Copenhagen via Charleston, French & Meincke; J. W. Ruddock, (Swm.) Clodius, Aguadilla, Simes & Huffer.

Schooners—Hiram Gerard, Hammond, Richmond, Mailler & Lord; Cataract, Price, Savannah, N. L. McCready & Co.; New Regulus, Walters, Norfolk, Sturges, Cleaman & Co.; R. H. Moulton, Farley, Trinidad, Cuba, H. D. Brookman; Uranus, Ames, Aux Cayes, H. D. Brookman; Asa Eldridge Lowden, Baltimore, J. W. McKee; J. R. Randall, Blackwell, Guadaloupe, M. M. Freeman & Co.

Arrived.

Steamship Florida, (U. S. M.) Lyon, Savannah 70 hours to S. L. Mitchell. Jan. 11, 7 50 P. M., off Hatteras, exchanged signals with steamer Alabama; 8 45 P. M., exchanged signals with steamer Marion; 15 miles S. of Lookout exchanged signals with brig Alfred Exall.

Ship Adrian, Scott, Savannah 6 days, mdse. to Brigham & Carhart.

Brig Frederick Eugene, (of Thomaston) Clinton, Jacksonville 18 days, lumber, bound to Bridgeport. Jan. 1, in lat. 32 26, lon. —, in a gale from N. W., lay to 14 hours, sprung a leak, and made 700 strokes per hour. On the 8th, in lat. 33 06, lon. 72 40, spoke ship Rebecca, of New-York, from Norfolk, bound to Rio de Janeiro.

Brig Harriet Newell, Warren, Darien 12 days, mdse. to Peck & Church.

Brig David Dudley, Podger, Wilmington, N.C., 8 days, naval stores to E. S. Powell.

Schr. Henrico, Tuttle, Richmond and Norfolk 46 hours, mdse. to C. H. Pierson.

Schr. Gazelle, Nelson, Richmond and Norfolk 46 hours, mdse. to C. H. Pierson. The G. has carried away her foremast, and was yesterday afternoon at anchor inside of Sandy Hook.

Schr. Oregon, (of Cape May) Godfrey, Plymouth, N. C., shingles. Dec. 25 left Ocracoke Bar. Dec 26, while lying to in a gale from N. W., in endeavoring to secure the foresail, the boom suddenly jibed over, striking the mate, Theophilus Carson, who was knocked overboard and lost.—Came to anchor Monday night under Jersey City, and lost both anchors, and drifted into the East River.

Schr. Excelsior, (wrecker) Clock, arrived this morning from the ship Champlain, (new) from Philadelphia for this port, aground on the S.W. side of Roanoke Shoal. Capt. Clock reports having reached her last Monday night at about 7 o'clock, but from the lateness of the hour, and the cold and boisterous state of the weather, anchored under the Hook and remained there till this morning, at which time it was found still to be impossible to approach near enough to render the vessel any assistance. He then bore away for the City in order to eat more men and wait till the wind abates sufficiently to enable them to commence the necessary operations for relieving the ship. She is reported to be of about 800 tuns burden, and lies 5 or 6 feet aground; 2 other ships are anchored near the C., and 2 are also at anchor about 3 miles outside.

Schr R. Hinds, (of Gardiner) Perry, Wilmington, N.C., 6 days, naval stores to Parr & Shallcross.

Schr. Splendid, Barber, Virginia 3 days, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Colorado, Burt, Washington, N.C., 6 days, naval stores.

Schr. Columbia, Winslow, Norfolk 3 days, mdse. to Starges, Clearman & Co.

Schr. Daniel Baker, Patterson, Virginia 3 days, wood.

Schr. David Risley, Haines, Virginia 3 days, wood.

Schr. Richard Law, Chappell, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Catharine Thomas, Woodhouse, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Village Belle, Wedmore, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Mail, Cropper, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Chas. W. Bentley, Mills, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Mary Adelaide, Avery, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Levi Rowe, Wedmore, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Emma Hotchkiss, Farren, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Mary Eliza, Smith, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Maxson Rodgers, Farren, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. A. Heaton, Thomas, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Sea Flower, Dayton, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Chas. A. Stetson, Miller, Virginia 24 hours, bound to New-Haven.

Schr. Hunter, Parker, Virginia 3 days, wood. When coming to at her pier in the East River, was so smeared with ice as to be scarcely manageable, and in consequence ran afoul of the bulkhead and carried away larboard cat-head and head rail.

Schr. Virginia, Worthington, Philadelphia 2 days, bound to Fall River.

BELOW—4 ships at anchor on the Bar, no signals flying.

WIND—At sunset, N.W., with snow.

☞ Ship Obed Mitchell, Morton, arr at Talcahuano previous to Oct. 11, with a cargo of guano, in a sinking condition, was condemned and sold; her cargo was transshipped on board the bark Rio, and sold. Sacramento, for Philadelphia; she was afterward repaired and changed her name to Kate Napier, and sailed for New-York where she has arrived 10th inst. This will account for the exposure thrown upon the Captain by some of the newspapers, for reporting this vessel as the "Kate Napier."

☞ The ship reported ashore on the West Bank is most probably a mistake (the James Open). There is but one ship ashore, and that is a new ship, Champion, of Philadelphia. She is on the top of Romer Shoal.

☞ The rivers and bays are very much obstructed by large fields of ice. The Br. schr. Margaret, from N.S., lyine at anchor off the Battery, was carried over to the South Ferry yesterday afternoon, with both anchors down. The bark Marmion, from Cronstadt, has also been carried away from her anchors from the same cause.

☞ Pilots who came up to the City this morning report some 10 or 12 large two-and-a-half schooners at anchor under the beach outside the Hook.

☞ Steam tugs Hector, Alex. Hercules, and Achilles have gone below. The two latter went to the vessels off shore.

By Telegraph.

BOSTON, Jan. 13—Arr bark Arno, New-Orleans; brig Montreal, Port au-Prince. Cleared, steamship Eastern State, New-York; ship Thorndike, Havana; bark Elm, Philadelphia; brigs Anzie Seaton, Trinidad; Mexican, Charleston; schr. Jasper, New-York. Sailed, bark Falcon.

NORFOLK, Jan. 12—The schr. Ann Eliza, from Baltimore for Portsmouth, N. H., put in in distress, having been run into. Arr. Onset, from Canton, Me., has experienced south westerly, and had to throw over part of her deck load; bark E. Hatfield, and schr. Independence, N. York. 9th, brig Brooklyn and Royal Sailor, for the West Indies; schr. Pinta for Charleston.

HOLMES HOLE, Jan 13—Arr schrs. Woolsey, J. Cheney & Co., and Charles Carroll, Boston for New-York. 10th, bark Orline, St. John, Washington, N. C., for Boston; brigs Forest Prince, Curtiss for Boston; E. Holden, Chase Hayden for do; schr. Thomas Hunt, Rockland for New-York. 11th, bark F. S. A. Hobart, Messina for Boston; brig Susan Soule, Bonsa for Portland. Ship Argonaut, New-York for Boston; bark Loveland, Savannah for do; brigs J. G. Whipple, Cardenas for do; scows Mansfield, Hoadley for do; Walter K., Atlantic Ocean for Providence, with ice rafts, spars, &c. Maria Jane, Redbeach, New-York for Eastport; Amanda, New-York for Jonesport. Noble Boston for New-York; J. R. Keeler, New-York for Machias; Lucinda, do for do. 12th, brigs Gleaner, Cayenne for Salem; schrs. Kate Phillips, Aux Cayes for Boston; Eva and Cornelia, New-York for Boston.

All remained in port at 1 P. M. on the 13th.

BOSTON—Jan. 8, lat. 37 40, lon. 73 30, bark B. Cosher, from Rockport, N. C., for the West Indies. Jan. 11, Block Island, N. 10 miles, schr. N. Freeman, of Rockland, on a cruise supplying vessels.

From our Correspondent.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 13—Arrived—Schr. E. H. Stevens, New-York.

Cleared—Brig Esther Elizabeth, Shackford, Trinidad de Cuba; schr. Susan Houston, McCurdy, Mayaguez, P.R.

Disasters, &c.

LOSS OF BARK GUSKY.—The bark Gusky, Capt. Kelling, of Rockaway, N.J., for San Francisco, arrived at San Juan del Sud Dec. 15. On the night of the 24th, after having discharged passengers and while Capt. E. was endeavoring to obtain a more favorable position for taking in water and provisions, the vessel was struck aback by a blow of wind from the southward, which drove her on the rocks, where she became a total wreck. All hands barely escaped with their lives, and nothing else.

MOBILE, (Ilsed.) Dec. 5.—This part of Central America has recently been visited with a severe gale of wind, and two slight shocks of earthquake. The gale, or hurricane, as it ought to be called, was indeed severely in the islands of Ruatan, Utilla, Bonacca, Barbaret, and on the coast of Honduras, where great damages have been done to the plantations and shipping. The most serious is the loss of the bark Batholdi, (Br.) captain and crew. She was loaded at the mouth of the Rio Grande River, and had started on her voyage to England. It is supposed that she was lying to in the gale when she struck on Michael's Rock, on the Island of Bonacca, and with the captain and crew became a total loss. Her cargo was found floating with the bodies of the crew, on the rocks and beach, most horrible among the cargo. The vessel was remembered by the masts and rigging on the carcass of the bark Archibald, which is the only mast as yet found to tell what vessel they belonged to. The gale did great damage to the various settlements on the islands and main—blowing down and destroying houses, trees, plantations and every kind of property. The schr. Dart is here on the middle Reef, near the Southern Triangles—will be got off without much damage. The brig Arab ran on the Ambergris Key, owing to an error in her chart, where the reef on which she run was laid down sixteen miles from its actual position. The bark W. O. Allen, Bates, master, is at the Southward loading for New-York. Report says that two large barks at the South are on shore. I think it needs confirmation before it is credited. The places where these vessels load are exposed to the sea, and the Northers come down so suddenly that they are not able to get under weigh and to sea, and consequently are driven ashore.

Brig H. B. HYLER, ashore at New Inlet, has split fore and aft. A lighter arrived here 11th inst. with 100 sticks of Spanish cedar and mahogany.

SCHR. OAK LEAF, trading along the coast from California to Panama, was seen, Oct. 20, lat. 20, lon. 107 30 W. to the southward of Cape St. Lucas, capsized. The fate of those who belonged to her is unknown. Brig Lowell, at San Juan, was the vessel which fell in with her.

BR. SCHR. TRIAL, (of Arichat) Gerrior, hence for Charlottetown, P. E. I., before mentioned lost, was wrecked at Little River,