

GENNADEION MONOGRAPHS II

SCHLIEMANN'S FIRST VISIT
TO AMERICA

1850-1851



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EDITED BY

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PREFACE

AMONG the copy-books, diaries, day-books, and letters of the late Henry Schliemann on deposit at the Gennadeion,¹ not the least interesting and important is the account of his first trip to America in 1850-1851. It is contained in a thin volume of eighty pages, written in a fine calligraphic hand. At the beginning are some eight pages of autobiography which contain details of his life not reported elsewhere, and for that reason they are included here.

Schliemann kept his diaries not only to preserve a record of his travels and impressions, but also to give himself practice in writing foreign languages, languages suggested to him by the country through which he was traveling, or by some fellow traveler whose language he wished to learn. For example, in the diary of his world-cruise, a chance meeting with a Russian on the ship gives the impetus to several days of diaries written in Russian. In the present diary, as he approaches Panama, the diary goes into Spanish. It is a very practical idea, and fits in very well with his method of language-study, of which he gives an outline in his *Ilios*, pp. 9 f.² Thus he kept his languages fresh in his mind, and attained great facility, if not perfection in all those that he studied. If his mastery of the other languages was as good as that of English, it is remarkable, for the English is excellent. To show his proficiency, the text of the original has been disturbed as little as possible, changes or interpretations being made in brackets where the sense

¹ Deposited through the kindness of the Schliemann heirs, Mrs. Andromache Mela, and Mr. Agamemnon Schliemann. The Tagebücher are being studied at the behest of the heirs by Prof. Dr. Ernst Meyer, of the University of Berlin, and will eventually be published in German, in which language most of them are written. For a fuller description of these papers see Emil Ludwig, *Schliemann*, p. vi (English translation by D. F. Tait, Boston, 1931).

² He mentions thirteen languages which he learned, beside his native German, and his diaries give examples of most of them.

demanded the correction of a *lapsus calami*. As will be seen, his errors, even in spelling, are not numerous. The punctuation has been altered a little, to conform with English usage.

In this, as in his other diaries, Schliemann appears as a citizen of the world, with no strong loyalty to any country, except to Russia, the country which started his fortunes, and gave him his first wife. This enthusiasm for Russia seems to have cooled off later, after he had visited the Classical lands, and divorced his first wife. The diary presents the young Schliemann at the outset of his career, with an indomitable determination to attain his goal—namely, to make his fortune. While he decries the lust for gold displayed by his fellow Californians, one suspects that he decries it the more because he is touched with the same vice. Nothing is said in the present diary of his yearning to explore the ancient Homeric sites of which he makes so much in his *Ilios*, which appeared when he had reached the age of fifty-eight. When he wrote the autobiographical matter in the preface of that work, he viewed his youth covered with a rosy glow, and it is quite likely that his yearnings for archaeological research developed after his first visit to Greece.

In this connection a word should be said about his American citizenship which he proudly claimed in *Ilios*, p. 12.³ Schliemann did become an American citizen, but not, as he states, on July 4, 1850,⁴ when all the inhabitants

³ "Happening to be in California when, on the 4th of July, 1850, it was made a state, and all those resident in the country became by that very fact naturalized Americans, I joyfully embraced the opportunity of becoming a citizen of the United States."

⁴ California became a state on Sept. 9, not as he states, on July 4. By the treaty of Guadeloupe-Hidalgo, which closed the Mexican war, the Mexicans who lived in California at the time automatically became citizens of the United States. I am indebted to Professor H. I. Priestley, Director of the Bancroft Library, Berkeley, for a copy of the pertinent sections of the treaty.

of California, by the admission of the new state into the Union, automatically became citizens of the United States. Records in the United States Legation at Athens show that in his application for a passport, filed Jan. 17, 1889, he declared that he arrived for the first time in the United States at New York in February, 1851, lived the requisite five years in the country, and obtained citizenship in March, 1869.⁵ Our present diary shows that he did not arrive in California until the Spring of 1851. Thus did his enthusiasm for the spectacular distort the facts.

The purpose of this work is not to publish another life of Schliemann, of which there are adequate ones already, but to set forth the vivid picture he presents of travel in the early '50's, of the journey across the Isthmus, of New York and California, all viewed with the eyes of an alert young foreigner. Schliemann's name and fame rest on the achievements of his later years, and for that reason material like that presented might easily be overlooked in spite of its value to the local historian; hence it has been seen fit to publish it.

Some use has been made of this diary in a very peculiar way by Emil Ludwig in his *Schliemann*. On pages 56-58 of the English translation several sentences have been quoted from the diary (pp. 25-26, 55, 58, 64, and 65 of the present edition) which bear a certain resemblance to the text reproduced here. The text was apparently transcribed into German from the original in Athens. Later, when the work was prepared for the English edition by D. F. Tait, the latter, not having access to the original, translated from the German transcription; hence the discrepancy between Mr. Ludwig's quotations and the present text. There is no Portuguese in the diary, as Ludwig states, but Spanish is used in two places.

⁵ These facts have been kindly supplied by the U. S. Consul-General at Athens, Mr. Leslie E. Reed.

The following books have been of most use in preparing this diary for publication:

Schliemann, Henry. *Ilios, the City and Country of the Trojans . . . Including an Autobiography of the Author . . .* London: John Murray, 1880.

Schliemann, Heinrich. *Selbstbiographie bis zu seinem Tode vollständig*. Herausgegeben von Sophie Schliemann. Leipzig: F. A. Brockhaus, 1892. 2nd. ed., 1936.

Meyer, Ernst. *Briefe von Heinrich Schliemann*. Berlin und Leipzig: Walter de Gruyter & Co., 1936.

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**SCHLIEMANN'S FIRST VISIT TO AMERICA
1850-1851**

(FROM SCHLIEMANN'S DIARIES)

- (i) I WAS BORN on the 25th December, 1821/6 January, 1822,¹ in Ankershagen, a small village in Mecklenburgh Schwerin, Germany, where my father was clergyman. Like all or nearly all clergymen, my father had nine children and no money, and his time being very much taken up by his duty, he was unable to procure me or to give me any education. So it happened that I went to school at the village sexton's together with the peasant boys, the constant companions and associates of the earlier part of my life. I lost my mother when I was 9 years of age. At the age of 13 my father put me as apprentice in a small grocer's store in Fürstenberg in Mecklenburg Strelitz, where I served 6 years, of which 4 years as apprentice without any salary, the following year as clerk with 28 SRubles ² per annum, and the last year with 56 SR salary per annum.

Our business was on a very small scale indeed, the sales of a whole year amounting scarcely to 4000 SR. As I was my principals only assistant, it happened that I had to work very hard. I was to open the shop at 4 o'clock every morning, to sweep the ground floor, to clean the counter and the weights, to clean my principals boots, etc. My principal used to rise at 8 A. M., and whilst he took his turn to attend in the shop, he sent me to the distillery to grind potatoes with the servant, or to do some work in the cellar. After having served 6 years in this most miserable business it happened that my father, who in the meantime had retired from office on account of feeble health and old age, and got

¹ The early part of the diary was written some time later in Russia, hence he uses the double system of dates for Old and New Style.

² A Russian silver ruble was worth about 50¢ U. S. before the War of 1914-1918, but its purchasing power was much greater.

from the Mecklenburg government 8000 Prussian dollars cash instead of a pension for life, was swindled out of this money by some sharp fellows, who promised him very high percentage and never returned to him neither the principal nor one single copeque of the interest. Thus my father was with his whole family thrown into a state of utter destitution and misery. At the same time it happened that by lifting too heavy a cask of cichory, a blood-vessel sprung in my lungs and I got a heavy blood-spitting, which rendered me incapable for all sorts of hard work. My patron, seeing that in my broken health I could not [be] of any more use to him, took an apprentice in my place, and turned me out. In spite of my small emoluments I had spared about 30 Prussian dollars, which besides a few old clothes were all the property I could boast of in this world. Half in despair, I walked off for Hamburgh, which distant only 30 German miles (or 210 wersts), and nevertheless I wanted 10 days (ii) to make this tour. When on the tenth day of my tiresome footjourney I saw from afar the Hamburgh churchsteeples, separated from each other by a large distance, which indicated to me the largeness of the town, I was seized with wonder and amazement and I thought Hamburgh to be the largest city of the world, and when on entering the gate I saw the great bustle and life in the streets, I did not cease, full of enthusiasm to cry, Oh! Hamburgh! Hamburgh! It was the 13th September, 1841.

I took my lodgings at a small inn at Altona, and by force of enquiries I got on the 27th September a place as clerk in the shop of E. L. Lindemann, Junr., on the Fishmarket in Altona, with a salary of 60 Prussian dollars per annum. In spite of my most strenuous endeavors, I could not make myself useful to my new employer, because the work he gave me was too hard for my ruined health; I got the blood-spitting stronger than ever before, and was again turned

out after a fortnight's vain efforts to fill up my duty, with a gratification of one dollar.

After 4 weeks' vain endeavor to obtain a new situation, I got a place as clerk in Hamburg in the shop of E. L. Deycke, Junr. My new employer seeing that the work in the shop and in the store exceeded my forces, he wanted to employ me for bookkeeping and other writings, but alas, I was entirely ignorant and hardly able to write my name, and so it happened that after a fortnight's service I was again dismissed with 1 kr 16 sgr (about 1 SR 25 kop.) gratification. In this extremity of my position I remembered that my father had once told me of a certain Mr. Wendt, who had once been his pupil and who was now shipbroker in Hamburg. I therefore applied to this gentleman and, representing to him the horror of my situation, I requested him to procure me a place as cabin boy on board a ship for America. Mr. Wendt, a very kindhearted good man, received me very friendly, and told me that on account of my bloodspitting I was unable to serve as cabin-boy, but that he was [to] use his endeavors to get me away as passenger on board the Hamburg-bark-ship "Dorothea," Simonsen, Master, which was to sail on the following day for Laguayra in Venezuela, South America.

(iii) Mr. Wendt spoke on the same day with the owners of the vessel, Messrs. Wachsmuth & Krogmann, and succeeded to persuade them to take me as passenger in their ship for 20 Prussian dollars. My trifling savings having meanwhile vanished away to 10 r/, I sold my silver-watch for 3 dollars, and having obtained 9 dollars for 3 shirts, a coat and a pair of trowsers, I was enabled to pay off the passage-money of 20 r/, and having purchased for the remaining 2/r a mattress and a blanket, I went on board the ship the same day in the evening. We started only on the 24 Novbr. 1841, but were retained 4 days in the river Elbe near Blankenese

on account of contrary wind. At last on the 28 Novbr., at 4 A. M. the wind turned favorable and we started. We passed at 10 A. M. Cuxhafen and got already at 2 P. M. the English island Helgoland in sight. We reached at 4 P. M. the height of Helgoland, when suddenly the wind turned from Southeast to Northwest, and compelled us to tack and to ply to windward. Towards evening a heavy gale sprung up, causing the vessel to roll and to shake very much. The gale continued without interruption till Sunday, 5 December, and during all this time I lay on my mattress suffering from seasickness and unable to take any nourishment. On the 5th Decbr. we had a perfect calm, and feeling much better I could for the first time take some victuals. But on the 6th the stormy weather set in again and continued unabated till the 11th. All the day of the 11th it was blowing quite a hurricane and the vessel rolled and pitched tremendously. During the whole of our voyage we had never seen the Sun, and were thus unable to ascertain our exact position. On the 11th the sky was thicker than ever covered with clouds, only at abt. 4 P. M. the clouds separated a little in the West and we saw for a few moments the setting sun, which beamed upon us in all his splendor as if he wanted to wish us a last farewell.

No sooner had the Sun disappeared when it became suddenly dark night. I went down to my birth to rest, and never since we left Cuxhafen had I slept so well as that evening. Suddenly (it might be about midnight) I was awoke by a horrible cracking of the vessel and by a simultaneous exclamation of the Captain: we are lost! save yourselves! Seized with trembling horror, I jumped out of my birth in the Cabin half filled with water, into which I plunged up to the middle of my body. It was with difficulty I reached the staircase and crawled on deck, where a mighty wave from the right board of the vessel threw me with fury to the opposite side, and

- (iv) I should inevitably have been thrown over board, had it not been for the rigging, which I happily got hold of. I then endeavored to get again to the other side, where I attached myself with a downhanging rope to the board. I was almost naked, and a woollen shirt was all my covering. The waves went continually over me, and every moment I expected death. The cracking of the vessel increased, and the vessel sunk more and more with each succeeding wave. The captain had entirely lost his command over the crew, and all was confusion and horror. The one cried, the other prayed, the other blasphemed, the other endeavored to get courage by drinking. Some of the crew tried to launch the large boat, but such was their confusion, that the boat was launched perpendicularly and of course instantly swallowed up by the waves. The second boat was launched on the wind-side, but immediately smashed to pieces by the fury of the waves. Thus there only remained to us the small stern-boat, which to make use of it in the last extremity was attached between the two masts. In consequence of the immense cracking and rolling of the vessel, the ship's bell rang continually, and its doleful sounds seemed to proclaim our watery grave. We might have been two hours in this awful situation, when the Capt. and crew sought refuge in the masts. It was a very dark and very cold night and snow fell in fine flakes upon us. Suddenly the wrack fell completely on one side on the sandbank and was dashed a few seconds afterwards in a thousand pieces. Seeing the decided moment coming, the crew threw themselves in the small stern-boat, I plunged headlong in the water and was dragged in by the second mate. The ropes which retained us to the masts were cut and a tremendous wave took us away with it. Like a shittlecock we were thrown about by the mountains' high waves, whose cold spray dashed continually upon us, and with the hands we shoveled the water out of the boat. Two

(v) of the crew were drowned. We were 14 persons in the small boat, and it was a wonder indeed that we did not sink, for we had hardly a hand's breadth of board. We had no oars and were thrown about a play-thing of the wind. We looked with terror to each wave, which threatened to capsize our boat or to swallow it up. In this horrible situation we passed 7 hours, when we were thrown by the waves on the beach of the island Texel, whose inhabitants were busily engaged in stealing what had been washed ashore of the vessel and the cargo. A small waggon was procured and we were conveyed to the house of a dutchman of the name of Jan Brans, where a large fire was kindled in the chimney and we were treated with coffee and blackbread. The owner of the house gave me a pair of large wooden-shoes, a pair of old torn linen trowsers and a nightcap and we remained 3 days with him. I felt not sick after the shipwreck and the loss of 3 teeth which were knocked out to me in some way or other; [otherwise] I had not to complain of any injury. On the 15th December we were ordered to walk off to another village on the island called "Burg-Texel," where the consuls Sonderdorp & Ram live. I was told by the latter, that I had to proceed on the following day in company of the crew over Harlingen by the Hage to Hamburgh, but I insisted on going to Amsterdam, against which they at first remonstrated but afterwards they consented and gave me a letter for the Consul of Mecklenburgh at Amsterdam, whose name is Quack. According to their directions I left on the following morning by a small craft for the capital of the Netherlands.

The contrary wind retained us three days on the Zuyder-lake, and as the craft-shipper had neither bed nor stove on board, I had to suffer cruelly in my miserable garments. We stopped on the 17th at Enckhuysen and arrived on Sunday morning the 19th December at Amsterdam. I went

(vi) immediately with my letter to the Consul's, but when I rung the housebell and the servant opened, she thought by my dilecerated clothes that I was a beggar and shut the door immediately. I rung again, and as soon as the servant opened I threw my letter in the corridor crying at the same time that she might give it to the Consul. She did so, whereupon the Consul sent me 2 guilders (about 1 Silber-rubel), informing me at the same time that I might never address myself again to him. I then went back to the shipper who had brought me from Texel and who recommended me to a sailors' tavern in the street called Raamkooy where I boarded and lodged 2 days at the rate of one guilder a day. Having thus spent the money got from the Consul, I found myself in the last extremety, because the landlady of the tavern, "Widow Graalman," having remarked that I had no more money, wanted to turn me out, and I was at a loss what I was to begin in my state of utter destitution, in the depth of winter, without any means for subsistence. In this dilemma I resorted to a trick, and feigning to be very ill I requested the landlady to send to the Consul and to get for me a certificate of admittance in the hospital (gasthuis op de Ouderzydsachterburgwall). The landlady who was afraid that I was really sick, and that she might be forced by the police to keep me till my recovery, hastened to procure me said certificate and I was on the same day admitted in the hospital and got the bed no. 66.³

Already on the day of my arrival at the island Texel, at my request the captain of the vessel had written to Mr. Wendt in Hamburgh and, representing to him my intention

³ The author seldom omits such details as the number of his hotel-room, the amount of the reckoning, the railroad fare, together with the times of arrival and departure of boats and trains. Reluctant to mutilate the text, I have left these in at the risk of boring the reader, for they reflect the personality of the writer.

to go to Amsterdam, requested him to send me a letter of recommendation for that place. It happened that Mr. Wendt got the letter when he with a large number of friends was sitting at a banquet; Mr. Wendt read the letter aloud, and he made immediately a collection in my favor, which produced f. 240 (or about 130 silver rubles). This brave man sent me the money in a letter of credit of Messrs. Kleinworth Brothers of Hamburg on Messrs. Hoyack & Co. of Amsterdam. These latter learned from the Consul Quack that I was in the hospital and immediately sent thither to inform me of my lucky fate. It was after having lain for eight days in the hospital, that I got the happy news and immediately went to the office of Messrs. Hoyack & Co., who paid me some money on account of my Hamburg credit and procured me a place as office-boy in the counting-house of Messrs. B. H. Schröder & Co.⁴ I bought some shirts and a suit of clothes and entered my situation on the following day. My occupation was to carry the letters to the postoffice, to present bills for acceptance, etc.

- (vii) It happened that in the beginning of 1842 there was in Amsterdam a celebrated caligraph of the name of Magnée from Brussels. Mr. Schröder kindly offered to pay the lessons for me if I wished to learn writing, to which I joyfully consented, and in 20 lessons I advanced so far that I could make myself useful as copying-clerk. I then took lessons in the German language, which I learnt to speak and write correctly, learnt then the Dutch language, afterwards the French, English, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese languages. Meanwhile Mr. Schröder advanced me almost every month in his office, and in less than 2 years I became

⁴ According to the account in *Ilios* (p. 9), his first position was in the office of F. C. Quien, which time he spent industriously acquiring languages. Here he skips directly to his entering the employ of B. H. Schroeder & Co., in 1844.

the first clerk in the house, got "full power" and had already 15 clerks under me. The wet climate of Holland had a most favorable influence on my former pectoral disease, which soon disappeared entirely. In the third year of my stay in the counting-house of Schröder & Co. I learnt the Russian language, which indeed I found the most difficult tongue of all, the more so as there was in Amsterdam nobody who knew a word of Russian, in consequence of which I had to study it from books. But by reading much aloud I soon accustomed myself to this beautiful language, and after having studied it for 6 weeks I was already enabled to write commercial letters to Russia, which correspondence proved extremely advantageous to my principals and became the cause that after a stay of four years I was sent by Messrs. B. H. Schröder & Co. as agent to St. Petersburg.

In the beginning of my stay in Amsterdam I had very hard times, my emoluments being only fl. 300 (155 SR) per annum (from which I had to pay my board and lodgings as well as my clothes and lessons, and so it happened that during the first year I hardly ever got anything but dry black bread and water. During the first year I occupied a small furnished room, for which I paid fl. 4 (2¼ SR) per month, but afterwards when my salary increased I took a fine furnished room at fl. 10 (5½ SR) per month, but I continued to observe the utmost economy and throughout the whole time of my residence in Amsterdam I never spent (viii) more than 20 cents (10 copeques silver) for my dinner. All my savings I sent to my poor family in Germany, whom I have sustained ever since the end of 1842.

I arrived here in St. Petersburg for the first time on the 30th January, 1846, and 7 days afterwards I went to Moscow.⁵ In both places my endeavors were crowned with

⁵ This part of the diary, to the end of the paragraph, seems to have been written in Russia at a later date. With the next paragraph the

good success, so that after a few months I was enabled to establish myself here in Petersburg as wholesaleddealer on my own account. I have ever since been very lucky in my operations. In 1846 I was 4 times on business in Moscow, and on the 1st October of the same year I went, with a view to extend my mercantile connexions, via Lübeck, Hamburg, Bremen, Amsterdam & Rotterdam to London, visited subsequently Liverpool, Havre, Paris, Bruxelles, Cologne, Coblenz, Düsseldorf, Crefeld, and returned by way of Amsterdam, Hamburg and Berlin to St. Petersburg, where I arrived on the 14th December, 1846. At the end of 1848 I went for the 5th time to Moscow. On my return journey, which I made in an open sleigh with a cold of 33 to 36 degrees below the freezing point, I took cold and lay nearly 4 months on the sickbed. In June, 1849, I fell dangerously ill from nervous-fever and lay 1 month in a most desperate state. On the 18th February, 1850, I started for the 6th time for Moscow and on the 4 March I left from hence by way of Kovno, Gumbingen, Königsberg & Berlin for Amsterdam, where I stopt one week, and went then by way of London to Edinburgh in Scotland, visited Glasgow, and went thence by the steamer via Greenock to Liverpool; thence to Chester and Bangor to see the Brittainia bridge; thence by way of London, Havre, Paris, Amsterdam, Hamburg & Lübeck back to St. Petersburg.

- (1) THE IRRESISTIBLE desire to travel and to see the world prompted me to leave St. Petersburg again on the 10 December, 1850. It was a cold day; the Neva-river had already from the beginning of October off been covered with thick ice, and all over the metropolis the best sledge-

tale of his travels begins, and after leaving New York for California the entries seem to have been made, if not from day to day, at least shortly after the events.

road had been established for many weeks past. When after the parting dinner, which I gave to my friends, I rode in a sledge over the Isaac's-place, I saw once more before me the grand Imperial palace, the Admiralty, the equestrian statue of Peter the great and the Isaac's church, and these magnificent masterpieces of art presented to me the most imposing aspect, as I thought that this was perhaps the last time I should see them in this life. My friends, Lischin and Meline, accompanied me to the postoffice, where two of my servants awaited me with my baggage. At 7 o'clock precisely I started. I had 3 fellow-passengers, true Englishmen, that is to say, most polite, amiable and interesting persons, and we passed the time very agreeably together. Soon we passed the "Triumphant Gate," and the last tie which bound me to Petersburg had flown. We had rows to our post-carriage and could therefore proceed but slowly through the deep snow. The next day at 2 P. M. we arrived at the fortress Narva, which Peter the Great won from the Swedes by the memorable battle of Narva. On the following day we passed Dorpat, which is celebrated for its excellent university and

(2) on the fourth day of our journey we arrived at Riga on the Duna, capital of Curland, and stopt for dinner at the Hotel "London." The ice of the Duna not being strong enough to go over with the post-carriages, a passage for boats had been cut some days previous, and we were with our baggage rowed over the river. On the opposite side we found another post carriage and horses. On the fifth day we arrived at Tauroggen, and an hour afterwards we passed the Russian frontier and found ourselves in Prussia, where the nicely cultivated fields and the neat villages formed an immense contrast with the snowy deserts and isolated towns of Russia. On the 15 Decbr. at 11 o'clock in the evening we arrived at the Prussian town Tilsit and proceeded immediately for Königsberg, where we arrived on the 16th

Decbr. at 7 o'clock P. M. At 8½ o'clock we departed again, after a fine dinner at the Hotel "du Nord," where we enjoyed at the same time the beautiful singing and music of some strowling Tyrolians; at 7 o'clock in the morning we breakfasted at Elbing, at 11 o'clock we passed Marienburg and at 4 o'clock P. M. we went at Dierschau on a large floating bridge over the Vistula. On the 18th Decbr. at noon we arrived at Woldenberg, where we got a bad dinner and at 1 o'clock we started by the railroad over Stargard to Stettin, where we arrived at 5½ o'clock P. M. At 6½ o'clock we started again by rail and arrived at 9½ o'clock at night at Berlin, where I seperated from my three most amiable English fellow travellers, Latham, Smith, and Ellis, with whom I had come down from St. Petersburg.

(3) Knowing that the Cologne train was to start at 10 o'clock, I drove thither as fast as possible and was fortunate enough to arrive a few minutes before the train started. At 11 o'clock we passed Potsdam, at 4 o'clock in the morning Magdeburg, then Braunschweig, Hannover and Minden, and at 6 o'clock in the evening I arrived at Overhausen, whence I started at 7 o'clock by the stage-coach for Wesel, Emmerich and Arnhem, where I arrived the next morning at 7, and took immediately my departure by rail for Amsterdam. At 11 o'clock I arrived in the capital of Holland and took up my lodgings as usually in the Hôtel des Pays-Bas. With great delight did I walk along the beautiful canals and clean streets, which brought to my mind thousand old and agreeable reminiscences; though in the past time we may have had to struggle with thousandfold difficulties and hardships, yet when we think of it at a subsequent period of life, it looks all so agreeable and pleasant as if it were covered with a rosa veil. The chimes, which play every quarter of an hour on all church-steeple of Amsterdam, had now a peculiar charm to me,

and involuntarily the thought sprung up in me, that though in architectural point of view St. Petersburg beats any other place in the world, most surely Amsterdam presents much more comfort of life than your Russian capital, the grand coloss of the North. Having been 9 days and 10 nights continually in stage coaches and railway carriages I felt very much excited, so that even in the ensuing night

(4) I could not shut an eye, and I wrote therefore all night long to my friends at St. Petersburg.

After having settled my business at Amsterdam, and provided myself with many letters of recommendation for America from my friends, B. H. Schröder & Co., of Amsterdam, I departed on 21 Decbr. at 4½ o'clock by the railway for Rotterdam, where I stopped at the Bath Hotel and on the 22 Decbr. at 8 o'clock in the morning, I started by the steamer "Oceanic" for London. I had about 12 fellow passengers, among whom was Mr. Schmidt, partner of the house, P. & C. van Notten & Co., an amiable and very interesting man. After a splendid passage of 20 hours, we arrived at 4 o'clock next morning in the mouth of the Thames, where we ran ashore, and were compelled to await the tide, which came up at 10½ o'clock. At last we got off and with increased speed we proceeded up the river. Nothing can be more delightful than the majestic river Thames covered with thousands of vessels of all possible sizes of all possible nations, nothing more charming than its beautiful banks, particularly that of the County Kent, presenting as far as the eye could reach, nicely cultivated fields, intersected with neatly looking villages and splendid cities. Soon were we at Gravesand, where the Customhouse-officers came on board, then passed we Greenwich, Woolwich, and ere I could imagine, we landed at the "Catharine-dock" at London. I took up my lodgings again with Mr. Keizer at the "Royal Hotel," Blackfriars Bridge. It was Sunday,

the 23 Decbr., and as usual on holy days the bustly busy London presented a dead appearance. On the 24th Decbr. I attended to my business, discounted the bills on London which I had brought with me from St. Petersburg, sold my gold in the Bank of England, and deposited half my money (5) with Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co., London, who gave me a letter of credit on James King & Son of New York, whereas for the remainder I bought at the rate of 49 United States coupons and bills on New York. Having regulated my business I visited the great Crystal palace in the Hyde Park and could not satisfy my eyes in inspecting this stupendous masterpiece of modern art. The Crystal palace is being built almost entirely of iron and glass, and its enormous extent is in proportion to the immense amount of pieces of industry from all nations which are being exhibited during the ensuing summer. The great exhibition will doubtless tend to universal advantage; through the congregation of people from all parts of the world nations will loose in a considerable degree the prejudicial opinion which they entertain against each other; they will become more amalgamated and greatly stimulated and encouraged by looking on each others' masterpieces of workmanship.

On the 24 Decbr., Christmas eve, I was invited to the country seat of Mr. Schmidt, my fellow traveller from Rotterdam to London, in whose family circle I spent the evening most agreeably, and came home only at 2 o'clock. On the 25th (Christmas day) I attended divine service in Westminster Abbey and went afterwards to the Zoological-garden, where I saw an immense collection of animals, to which had recently been added a Hippopotamos, presented by the Pasha of Egypt. On the 26th Decbr. I visited again my several commercial friends, who provided me with numerous letters of recommendation both for New York and San Francisco; afterwards I dined with Mr. Schwartz and

- (6) Walter and went with them to the Princes' theater, where I saw the celebrated tragedian "Macredy," who played for last time before retiring from the stage. On the 27th Decbr. I departed by the express train for Liverpool, where I stopt again at the Adelphi hotel. I went then to Messrs. Brown, Shipley & Co., agents of the United States mail steamships' Co., and engaged my berth on board the "Atlantic," Captn. West, which was to leave Liverpool on the following day for New York. On the 28th Decbr. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon we sailed. It was blowing a complete gale and thus utterly impossible to put off the pilote, who consequently went with us.

The steamer "Atlantic" is assuredly the most magnificent and grandest steamer in the world; she is of more than 900 horses' power and about 3000 ton burthen. Her accommodations for passengers, of whom she can take about 150, are most splendid. The mahogany walls of the three immensely large saloons are ornamented with hundreds of gigantic looking-glasses and beautiful paintings; the sofas, chairs, tables are all most rich and magnificent; the ground is covered with gorgeous carpets.

- (7) Our splendid steamer behaved admirably well during the severe westerly gales, against which we had continually to contend, but on the 6th January it was blowing quite a hurricane, and at 6½ P. M. a mountains high wave came to strike the larboard wheel with so formidable force, that the main-shaft broke and both our engines all at once disabled. Dismay spread over all passengers, and none of us had the least hope that we might be safed, for we were in the midst of the Ocean, 1800 miles from Liverpool, and 1400 miles from New York; as soon as the wheels were stopt by the engines, the steamer began to roll immensely, and lying then on the one, then on the other side, she threatened to capsize at every moment. Captain West, not in the least daunted

by the imminent dangers, which threatened us with immediate destruction, set without loss of time to work to make sails; four days and four nights was this gallant officer uninterruptedly on deck, and by dint of superhuman exertions he was lucky enough to create a provisionary main-sail and maintopsail. When all was ready we contrived to make for any port in the West, but all our endeavors remained fruitless; the continual westerly gales drove us more backward than forward. In a meeting of passengers on the 10th Jany. it was therefore resolved to request Captn. West to return, which he did incessantly. In spite of our small sails, which looked like handkerchiefs in comparison with our immense craft, the latter went admirably well before the wind, averaging 6 knots an hour and making sometimes as much as $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots. Nothing binds people more than common misfortune, and so it happened that we passengers became all most intimately acquainted with each other; when the weather permitted, we were walking about and amusing ourselves on deck, whilst when the weather was bad, we sat in the smoking room and discussed upon all possible topics. My fellow passengers were: Wadsworth, Reese, Alexander, Louri, Lorin, Mackenzie, Walker, Griffin, Case and lady, Hatch and ditto, Wheellock and ditto, Butterfield, Easter, Pottenger, Harris, Klaener, Goldschmidt, Benjamin.

(8) Although we had provisions to live upon for 35 days after the misfortune, yet in the uncertainty as to the period of our ultimate arrival, Capn. West deemed it prudent to put us to small allowance, and instead of 4 meals a day, which we got before, we received from the 6th Jany. off only 2 meals a day.

In consequence of the severe weather most of our passengers were cruelly suffering from sea-sickness, but when on the 6th Jany. the misfortune happened, when we became aware of the impending dangers, our sea-sickness was all

at once absorbed by more serious considerations, and we felt ourselves from that moment off first rate. Most singularly, during the whole of our voyage we did not meet a single sail. At last in the morning of the 22 January we arrived in sight of the rocky Irish coast, and on the same day at noon we landed in the harbour of Queenstown, whence we were taken by small steamer up the Lee river to Cork. The entrance to Queenstown and eventually to Cork proffers the most grand and splendid view; everywhere the eye meets with colossal rocks covered with underwood of pine and oak. In the evening at 6 o'clock we arrived at Cork, a very dirty and poor place with about 80,000 inhabitants. Whilst some of the passengers remained for the night at Cork, I went with several others on by rail to Dublin, where we arrived in the morning at 4½. Wishing to see as much as possible of Dublin, which I had to leave again at 6½, I took a carriage and drove through the town in all directions. Dublin is a very fine place, and one of the streets, "Sackville Street," is one of the most beautiful streets I ever met with; in it I saw the vast building of the Bank of Ireland, Nelson's monument, and numerous beautiful mansions. Arrived at Kingston at 7 o'clock, I went (9) up to a hotel for breakfast, and started at 9 o'clock by the steamer for Holyhead, where we arrived at about 12½ o'clock. At 1 o'clock we started by the express train, crossed whole Anglesea island, passed through the beautiful Britannia-bridge over the Menai street, Bangor, Chester and Birkenhead, whence we immediately proceeded across the Mersey to Liverpool and I took up my lodgings again at the Adelphi Hotel. It was 23rd Jan. at 8 o'clock P. M. when I found myself fairly installed in my hotel. I went immediately to the theater, and on the following day I, together with 3 fellow-passengers visited Messrs. Brown, Shipley & Co., who returned us our passage money of £35

each, and in the evening at 8½ o'clock I departed by the mailtrain for London, where I arrived in the morning at 5 o'clock. I slept a few hours, and called at 11 o'clock upon my agent, from [whom] I learnt with greatest displeasure that certain business which I entrusted to a party at Amsterdam had not been executed. Therefore I decided to ascertain the cause of the delay, and so departed without loss of time for Amsterdam. The direct Rotterdam steamer having already left, I went by rail to Dover. On the railroad I met with Mr. Duke, shipbuilder from Dover, who told me a good deal of California. In the evening of the 25th Jany., I left by the steamer for Ostende. The sea being very high, and the steamer lying a good end out in sea, it was not without great difficulty and not without repeated shower baths, that I could get in a boat on board of the steamer. In the morning of 26th Jan. we arrived at Ostende, and I left immediately by way of Gent for Antwerp, where I arrived at noon.

- (10) I visited Mr. Engels, whose brother in San Francisco had been particularly recommended to me, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon I departed by the stage coach of van Gent & Loos for Rotterdam. We had to pass several broad waters and arrived at 9 o'clock in the evening at Breda, where we slept for the night. The next morning at 5 o'clock we started again, had to cross several very broad rivers, passed Delft, and arrived at 12 o'clock in Rotterdam, whence I immediately proceeded by rail to Amsterdam, where I arrived at 2½ o'clock and took up my lodgings this time at the "Rheinische[r] Hof," where I was to pay immensely dear for bad victuals and miserable accommodations. I contrived to settle at Amsterdam my business as well as it possibly could be, and left on the 28th Jany. at 4½ o'clock together with J. H. Schröder and B. H. Schröder for Rotterdam, where we stopt for the night at

the "Hotel des Pays-Bas." In the morning of 29 Jany. at 5 o'clock Messrs. Schröder left for Antwerp, whilst I went by direct steamer (Ocean) straight on to London, where I arrived on the 30th Jany. at 5 o'clock P. M. I left by the express train for Liverpool and stopt again at the Adelphi Hotel, where I found all my fellow-passengers of the "Atlantic" ready to start on the following morning by the Africa, Captn. Rynie, for New York. In the morning of 1st Feby. at 10 o'clock, we departed under the continual firing of the canons. The splendid weather then prevailing prognosticated us a prosperous and pleasant journey.

(11) We had on board about 115 passengers, among whom were very nice and most interesting men, whose company proved most delightful to me; my very intimate friend was Mr. D. Klaener from Galveston, with whom I had already been together on board the Atlantic, and with whom I was now again in the same stateroom together on board the Africa. I was rather disappointed regarding the accommodations which I expected to find far superior to those of the Atlantic, whereas they proved to be far inferior. On the 2nd Feby. we passed Cape Clear, when all at once the thereto fine weather changed; a heavy gale sprung up and lasted about 6 days, during which time it was quite impossible for us passengers to go on deck. On the 11th Feby. we came on the Banks of New Foundland, where the water assumed all at once a green color. We passed the Banks in 2 days.

ON THE 15TH at 4 o'clock in the afternoon we came in sight of Zandy-hock and entered the Bay of New York. When about 3 miles from New York-City we began to fire canons and to throw rockets, in order to give to the inhabitants to understand that we brought some highly joyful intelligence. Though it was about 9 o'clock P. M. when we got into the steamer's resting-place at New Jersey-City,

many thousands of people had gathered together on shore in anxious expectation to learn the news we brought and immense was the joyful excitement when one of our officers proclaimed through the speaking-trumpet: "The Atlantic is safe." This joyful intelligence spread with the swiftness of lightning from mouth to mouth, in a few minutes it was known by every inhabitant of N. Y., and [with] equal quickness was it conveyed by the electric telegraphs to Louisiana and Mississippi, to Cincinnati and Michigan. It was an outburst of feeling in which every member of the Union participated with equal sympathy, with equal cheerfulness. No sooner had the favorable report become known, when hundreds of printing-presses were put to work to bring it to paper, and when at 11 o'clock I rode through the town, newspapers with the recital of the Atlantic's fate were everywhere cried out for sale. A newspaper, which costs only 2 cents, was sold for and eagerly paid with 50 cents.

(12) I stopt at the "Astor-house," the grandest and most gigantic Hôtel I ever saw; it is provided with more than 300 bedrooms, besides many large saloons, smoking and private chambers. There is a large reading-room for the sole use of the boarders of the house, furnished with papers from all States of the Union. Patriotism does not allow any foreign papers. Each boarder pays \$2½ a day for bedroom and attendance, breakfast, dinner, tea and supper. Wine is paid extra. I find the American table extremely comfortable and tasteful to me; in the morning I use to take Ham and eggs, Buckwheat cakes, fried Hominy and Chocolate. At dinner, Oysterpies, Soup, Roastbeef, roast Turkey, game and Pudding. At 6 o'clock P. M. weak tea, and at 11 o'clock at night for supper cold Turkey and Ham. The 16 Febry. was a Sunday and I went to Church, where I was delighted to hear the Thanksgiving rendered to the

Almighty for the safety of the Atlantic. Afterwards I went to C. D. Behrens, 335 Houston Street, the former partner of my unfortunate brother, who was very much surprised to see me; I invited him to dine with me in the Astor-house. On my return to the Hôtel I found still Mr. Wirths and Frankel, who, having seen my name among the arrived passengers of the Africa, had hastened to find me out, and I therefore invited them likewise to dine with me. After dinner they both departed for Philadelphia, and I went to see the town.

- (13) New York is a very regularly built, nice, clean town and has many many elegant and even colossal buildings; but as a new city it can in no way be compared in architectural point of view to any of the grand European capitals. The houses are generally of brick, not covered with chalk. Of the streets, which are all very regular and well paved, the broadest and most elegant is the Broad-way, which is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, and passes the whole town. There are 4 theatres, all of which are small, badly decorated, and little attended to, for the bustling busy spirit of the Americans does not permit them to think of theaters. The only place of amusement most attended to is Barnum's Museum, where all sorts of ludicrous humbug is represented. Fellow's minstrels' concerts are also much visited; the musicians are all negroes, who contrive to amuse the public by their music, their songs, and by all sorts of burlesque humbug. I cannot say that I like these American amusements, in which the Yankees find to great delight. On Monday, the 17th Feby. I visited the various houses for which I had letters of recommendation. On the 18th I was invited to a grand Ball, which the Light-Guard gave in the Astor-house, and which lasted till 5 o'clock in the morning.

There was a large congregation of Yankees' ladies. Be it that the American beauties do not take enough exercise

(14) in the open air, or be it for the quick change of the temperature, the fair sex fades here extremely soon, and usually at the age of 22 they look just as old and worn out as they are beautiful and symmetrical at 16 and 18. The men are with few exception of good constitution, but thin and weak as compared to the English; they are, if properly approached, very frank and communicative, and regarding industry and assiduity, there is hardly a people on the earth's surface who surpass them; the fair sex, though a little more solid than the French, is here by far lighter than the daughters of fair England, and an overvivacity and a very great tendency to the frivolous and amusing are the chief characteristic of the yankees' daughters.

Having after most careful investigation ascertained, that the best investment for funds for exportation to California is Gold coin, I entrusted all my funds to the care of Messrs. James King & Son, giving them at the same time all necessary instructions how to act in my behalf. On the 20th Febry. at 9 a. m. I left by the railway for the South, and arrived at 1½ o'clock at Philadelphia and at 7½ o'clock in the evening at Baltimore, where I stopt for the night at Barnum's Hotel. The American railroads are merely laid out with the design to make money, and not the least notice is taken as to convenience and accomodations for passengers; you see here neither station-houses nor watchmen, and everywhere only one track of rail on the railroads. Alas! but too frequently great misfortunes happen in consequence.

The cars are very long, and the entrance is from both ends; in the midst of each car is a small iron stove. There is little or no regularity prevailing, which is the more awkward and proves the more frequently fatal, as there are numerous broad rivers to pass, where the cars stop and the passengers are taken over by steamers; on these occasions

the rush is always immense, and as if a race were to be won, the passengers storm on with mad fury out of the cars on the steamers, and from these again into the cars. These latter are roughly made; the entrance is from both ends, and a long corridor, as it were, conducts through the cars, so that you can walk through 10 or 12 cars without interruption. The seats are on both sides, and on each bank sit 2 persons. The leaning can be turned over, so that 4 can sit together if they choose proper. In each train there is a smoking-car.

(15) In Baltimore I enjoyed a good oyster supper, and the following morning a good oyster-breakfast, and on the 21st Febry. at 9 a. m. I started by rail for Washington, together with Mr. Klaener, who had seen my name in the book at Barnum's Hotel, and called at my room in the morning at 4. On my arrival at Washington, I went immediately to the sessions of the House of Representatives and the House of Congress in the Capitol, a magnificent building on the top of a hill. With the most vivid interest and the sincerest delight, I heard the powerful speeches of Henry Clay, Senator of Kentucky, Hale of New Hampshire, Mason of Virginia, Douglas of Illinois, Davis of Massachusetts, etc. The chief topic of discussion was the late negro-riot at Boston. I left the Capitol at 4 o'clock, took then my dinner (together with Mr. Dean, whom I had previously met with on the railroad) at the ladies' table at the National-Hôtel, and in the evening at 7 o'clock I drove to the President of the United States, to whom I made my introduction by stating that the great desire to see this beautiful country of the West, and to make the acquaintance of the great men who govern it had induced me to come over from Russia, and that I now deemed it my first and most agreeable duty to pay my respects to the President. He received me most kindly,

presented me to his wife, daughter, and father, and I had 1½ hours conversation with them.

The President is a very plain and friendly looking man of about 50; his name is Fillmore. His wife is about 46, a very noble and friendly looking lady; his daughter may be 17 years and is looking rather green. At 8½ opened the "levee" with the President, and there assembled more than 800 persons, from all parts of the Union, all eager to see and speak to the President. This latter introduced me to Mr. Webster, Secretary of State; to Mr. Clay, Senator of Kentucky, and to several others. The President's palace is a most magnificent mansion; there are no sentinels to watch and bar the doors; there exist no ceremonies to which the stranger has to submit to be presented to the first Magistrate. I staid there till 11 o'clock.

- (16) On Saturday, 22nd Febry. I visited the great Patent office, where patterns are exhibited of all inventions upon which a patent has been granted by the United States government. At 10 o'clock a. m. I went in a coach from the Capitol to the Potomac River, where I embarked on board a steamer to go down and see Mount Vernon. It being Washington's birthday, there were numerous passengers. We arrived at Mount Vernon at 12 o'clock, and remained there about 1½ hours. Washington's mansion is a plain building, 2 stories high, erected in his plantation called Mount Vernon; close to the house are the tombs of him and his wife. He died in 1799. The house is occupied and guarded by a negro family, slaves to W. Here and there in the gardens are stationed negro boys, offering for sale limons and sticks, which, according to their assertions, were pluck and cut from trees planted by the great Washington. My fellow-passengers bought of these objects with great eagerness, and were anxious to pick out from the wall which surrounds Washington's tomb little stones which they regarded

and were going to preserve as holy relics. We then visited Fort Washington, a small fortress on the Potomac-river, and returned to town at 3½ o'clock. After dinner I went to the National Theater, which had only been recently erected for the concerts of Jenny Lind; a roughly made building, with still worse decorations. The house was thronged, for the celebrated actrice Davenport was to play. The actors and actresses knew their parts very well by heart, and I must avow that I never amused myself better. In the American theaters there is no prompter.

(17) On Sunday the 23rd Febr. I went 2 times to church, and visited also the grand marble monument which is now being erected by wilful contributions to the memory of great Washington. As the necessary funds can be collected but very slowly, the construction of the monument proceeds also very slowly, and it will take still more than 21 years to complete it. Every state of the Union has contributed one large piece of marble, upon which is marked the name of the state. When completed the monument will be 576 feet high, and will resemble an immense pyramide. On the 24 Febr. I visited once more the sessions of Congress, where the cheap-postage bill was discussed, and after dinner at 5 o'clock p.m. I departed over Baltimore to Philadelphia. In passing Baltimore the corpses of several workmen were carried through the streets, who had a few minutes previous been killed by the falling of a wall.

In the morning of the 25 Febr. at 3½ o'clock I arrived at Philadelphia and took up my lodgings at the "United States" hotel. After breakfast the landlord procured me tickets of admittance to the States' prison, Girard's College, and Laurel Hill Cemetery, and I therefore went to see these remarkable places. I went down by an omnibus to Girard's College, which is an institution for orphan children, founded in 1779 by the will of a certain Girard, Frenchman by

birth, who, having by successful operations accumulated a fortune of 30 millions of dollars, bequeathed 1 million for the construction of said edifice, which is quite of marble and surrounded by immense columns in the way as the Exchange of Paris. I ascended to the very top, from whence I enjoyed a marvellous view upon the town and the adjacent country. Then I went to the Laurel Hill Cimitery, which is beautifully laid out on the immensely high and rocky bank of the Schuylkill River, which is tributary to the Delaware-stream. Afterwards I went to the Penitentiary, a huge stone building surrounded by mighty walls. From (18) the center of the building, where some gaolers constantly watch, the visitor sees 6 immense corridors, of which each is provided with hundreds of small cells, each of which contains one prisoner. These cells are well aired, and each is provided with a small garden, in which the inmate is allowed to walk every day for 1½ hours. Each prisoner is set to work in the profession which he has learnt; what he performs is sold in public auction; from the net proceeds the institution gets a certain part and the remainder belongs to the prisoner, who by assiduity can thus during a few years' detention accumulate a little fortune of some hundred dollars. A mighty effect is produced upon the prisoner by the policy of sole-imprisonment, and they leave the prison with seldom exception greatly improved, and it almost never happens that a prisoner appears a second time between the same walls. The town of Philadelphia is regularly built, and the streets in general present a neater and cleaner appearance than those of New York.

In the evening at 5 o'clock I departed for the latter place, where I arrived at 11 o'clock. On the 26 Febry. I went again to the several parties to whom I had been introduced by letters from Europe, gathered from everyone some subsequent introductions for San Francisco, settled my money

matters with Mr. King, and on the 28 Febr. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon I went on board the "Crescent City" with destination for Chagres. Thousands had gathered together on the pier, partly to bid a last farewell to their parting friends, and partly led by curiosity. Such was the throng of the multitude, that with the utmost difficulty only I could get on board the steamer. Wirths and Frakel accompanied me to the steamer. On the pier I found Mr. Dean from (19) Tranton, of whom I spoke in writing of Washington. I further saw on the pier Mr. Behrens, my unfortunate brother's partner, who had equally come to say me a last farewell.

AT 3 O'CLOCK we departed under the loud and uninterrupted cheers of the multitude. The weather was beautiful and spoke fair in favor of a prosperous journey. We had on board about 180 cabin and 80 steerage passengers; of the latter, about 60 who had engaged to work on the Panama railway, hoping during 6 months' labor to spare sufficient means to get to California. They will certainly be successful in this respect, since they get \$35 per month and victuals besides, but certainly for the most part they will die away on the Isthmus, because the climate there is the most unwholesome of the world. Among the cabin passengers there is very mixed society, and it would be difficult indeed to find out from among them more than one dozen persons whose society was desirable or agreeable to me. Till to-day 12 o'clock (7 March) we have had a splendid run and most beautiful weather. Since 4 days it is very hot and every morning take I a fresh seawater-bath. Yesterday we had during the whole day San Domingo with its high coast in sight. To-day at noon we were on the 16 degree latitude and 57 longitude and had only 470 miles to Chagres.

Nada de mas terrible que el calor;⁶ contra el frio puede cubrirse con espesos vestidos pero contra el calor no hay ayudo ninguno. Por mas legeros que sean mis vestidos yo debo sufrir horriblemente, aunque tomé un baño cada mañana. Se puede ver que el baño es muy poco usado, porque no cae ningun agua de la douche. A bordo del vapor de Panamá a San Francisco yo contractaré dos o tres baños al día para todo el tiempo que quedaremos en el mar.

Nuestro Capitan Tanner es ombre muy sencillo, y parece que entiende muy bien su empleo. El deprendiente parece ser ombre rico arrogante. Las accomodaciones son muy malas, los comunes son sucios, pero casi no se puede esperar otra cosa a bordo de un buque de 260 pasajeros. Hay a bordo poco mas o menos de 20 mujeres; entre ellas unas como 16 casadas y 4 mozas que van en California a buena ventura para buscarse maridos. Estas 4 doncellas parecen muy stupidas, y son muy feas, ademas que son ya de edad avanzada y tienen poco mas o menos de 30 años. Pero sin duda alguna ellas hallaran en California lo que desean, por ser aquel mercado muy poco provisto del bello sexo. En mi camera hay 4 camas, de las cuales yo ocupo una; otra ocupa un Judio Sueco con cara muy fea y un poco suspiciosa; otra ocupa el capitan Poustand y la ultima es tomada por un gordo americano habitante de San Francisco. Hay dos puentes, de los cualos el uno es llamado quarterdeck y sirve a los pasajeros en el tiempo de gran calor, o de llovía por ser abrigado por el puente superior contra los rayos del sol y del mal tiempo. El puente superior sirve por paseo por la tarde o por el tiempo, cuando el cielo es cubierto de nubes. Abordo de este vapor no se mesura la distancia por el echar del "log," porque tenemos el sol casi durante todo el dia. La comida es muy inferior

⁶ An English translation of this Spanish section will be found in the Appendix.

a lo que teníamos a bordo de los vapores de Inglaterra à Nueva York, no hay agni ni chocolate, ni jambon con huevos, ni muchas otras cosas. Me dicen que sobre el Isthmus de Panama los viveres son muy raros y por consiguiente yo compraré algunos a bordo de nuestro vapor para llevarlos conmigo.

- (21) Una viesta muy buena ofrecen los pezados volantes, que proseguidos por otros mas grandes se levantan fuera, volan alguna distancia y desaparecen de nuevo en el agua; son largos de media pié hasta un pié. Los movimientos de este vapor son un poco diferentes de los de los vapores ingleses. Estos ultimos se echan con el cabo en el agua, y vacillan en toda la largueza, mientras que los vapores americanos oscilan siempre de un lado al altro. Nada puede igualizar la magnificenza del firmamento por la tarde, cuando la brillante luz de millones estrellas proclaman la gloria de Dios; nada de mas hermoso que el aspecto del mar cuando el sol brilla con sus rayos ardientes.

On the ninth March at 5 o'clock in the morning we discovered the coast of Central America and at 10 o'clock a. m. we landed 1 mile from Chagres. There came immediately boats alongside, but it took nearly two hours ere I could get away with my baggage, the rush of the passengers being very great. The sea was going very high and not without great danger to loose my luggage or to crush my skull did I get ashore.

Among all the miserable places I have met with, and it happened to me to see many in different parts of the world, I must give the palm to Chagres. On the left-hand side of the Chagres River live the natives; their houses are mere huts or shelters; four poles are rammed in the ground and intertwined with bamboo-cane, of which equally consists the thatch. One or two hammocks and an iron pot, that is all you see in the interior. On the other side of the

(22) river are established a few small wooden houses, occupied by Americans; the whole ground-floors of these houses are filled up with stores of liquors, fruits, clothes, etc. I was immediately busy to engage boats, in which, however, I could not succeed, my fellow-passengers who went before me having taken away all good boats, and therefore thought it best to go by the steamer, its possessors having engaged to dispatch us without the least loss of time in small boats from the place where the steamer would stop. I left Chagres at 1½ o'clock; I had about 23 fellow passengers; though we went at the rate of only 2½ knots an hour, we soon passed the boats, which had advanced us. The Chagres River is very narrow, and so shallow, that with the greatest difficulty only it is possible for small boats to go up, the more so as thousands and thousands of snags (old stems) look up out of the water at every step, and impede the progress.

Nothing more imposing and charming can be imagined than the banks of the Chagres River, covered with incessant and impenetrable forests of Corozo de Lola,⁷ orange- and limon trees, cocanut palms, palms of corozo de Lola, guayabos, bamboo-cane, leaves of chichica and thousands of others. We stopt for some refreshment at Gatun village, consisting of two or three miserable huts of natives. In the evening at 6½ o'clock we stopt for the night at Vamos Vamos. Eight of my fellow passengers sat gambling the whole night, whilst 12 others went to sleep under a carrozo tree close to a house, and myself with two others, we got hammocks for which we were to pay about 3/6 each. Though the house where we stopt was without any walls and had but a very light cover of dried leaves, yet the heat was insufferable, and I was perspiring the whole night, as if I were lying in a Russian steambath; besides, the

⁷ A species of palm, as indicated in the next line.

(23) noise was immense all the night long, and when at last I feel asleep for one moment, I was immediately again awoken by swine or children who hurt against me. After the heat of the day and the first part of the night, a cold dew rises towards 3 o'clock and from then till sunrise it is quite chilly. In the night I saw many sinister looking natives around me and had consequently continually my revolving pistol in one hand and my dagger-knife in the other. We started in the morning at 5½, but scarcely had we proceeded for 1 mile farther, when, owing to a rapid and the shallowness of the water, we were to stop with the steamer altogether and got into the 2 boats, which had been attached to the steamer; it was at that time raining very hard and we got very wet.

The large boat in which I was with about 12 others and the most part of the baggage was rowed by 4 suspicious looking negro-Spaniards, whilst the other boat was managed by 2 negro-Frenchmen, natives of Domingo. At 6 o'clock we met an opposition steamer, 3 times larger than ours and quite differently built, for she had an enormous wheel behind, and had two large decks the one above the other. She had no passengers, for as it takes merely 12 hours to go down from Gorgona to Chagres in open boats, everybody prefers the latter to steamers. Shortly afterwards we came to a point where the railway touches the river, and where a few wooden houses were erected for the accomodation of the railway workmen; about 40 of these came out when we passed; their pale and emaciated faces clearly denoted their sufferings under the horrible effect of this poisonous climate. Under the influence of frequent rain and of a constant heat during the day time of from 100 to 110 degrees (scale of Farenheit) the growth of the vegetation is extremely rapid and causes a strong miasma, which together with the evaporation of the thou-

sand swamps and ponds with standing water, and the miasma arising from the discomposition of animal and vegetable matter infests the air, and certainly this climate is the most unhealthy on the globe. The constant tremendous thirst, which torments the new arriver, can in no way
(24) be quenched, for the water is as warm as the air, and full of insects; to kill these latter and to make the water drinkable, it is always being mixed with brandy, which keeps the nerves in continual excitement and weakens the body. The most beautiful fruit of the tropical clime grows here in wilderness, but it is poison to everyone except to the natives, who are accustomed to it from their earliest youth up.

The natives of this country may be divided in three classes, viz., in Indians of fair brown complexion, usually regular features and long beautiful hair; in negro-Spaniards, who are a mixture of negroes with Spaniards, with curled short black hair, very irregular monkey-like features and thick projecting lips; and finally, in Creoles, or descendents of the Spaniards, who settled here in the beginning of the 16th century. These Creoles have not mixed with any other blood, they are general speaking of fair complexion, but of course sunburnt. The Creoles speak the Spanish language with a beautiful accent, and even in old Spain I never heard this language better spoken than here. The Indians speak also very good and at all events better than the northern provinces of Spain, whilst the negro-Spaniards speak a sort of mixed language.

The railroad (ferro-carril) is being built not from Chagres, but from a bay 3 miles below it, where vessels of every burthen can land. The natives being too lazy for such work, all the laborers are Americans, who come here under an engagement of free passage, housing and victuals and a pay of 35 dollars or 7 pounds sterling per month,

and an obligation that after 100 days' work they are to be transported to California or to any other port of the U. S. which they may desire. But with very rare exceptions the Americans cannot stand the climate here for 100 days; for the most part, they catch the fever within the first month (25) after their arrival, and die away ere they are 6 weeks here. The survivors are of ruined health and disabled for life from enjoying the happiness. We can therefore say that this railway is being built upon the bones of the Americans.

On the 10 March at about 11 o'clock a. m., we landed at some Indian huts to take refreshments; wishing to give to my body a little wholesome exercise, I climbed up at a hundred feet high coconut palm tree and threw down some fruit to my thirsty fellow-passengers; afterwards I went up in orange-tree and shook off hundreds of oranges to my comrades. The Indians charged us a picayune⁸ ($\frac{1}{2}$ dime) for each cup coffee or milk. The farther we went up the river, the more difficult became the passage, and almost every 5 minutes the negroes were to jump in the water and to drag us over some sandbank. I should certainly not have liked to follow their example, for the river is full of alligators (caymanas) and iguanas (these latter are very like the alligators but have a much longer tail and are of less size). Alligators in the Chagres River are usually from 3 to 10 feet long and seldom more; in a river near Panama they are said to be to 40 feet long by 4 and 5 feet broad. The rays of the burning sun were falling perpendicular upon us, and extenuated by thirst, we landed at 4 o'clock again at some huts for refreshments; all what we could get was some bad black coffee of the worst description. Gorgona was said to be only 4 miles off, and about 9 fellow passengers and I resolved to go afoot. But not being

⁸ Originally a copper-piece from Piedmont, Italy; later the name was applied in the southern U. S. to a five-cent piece.

(26) acquainted with the road we soon missed the way and found ourselves in the thicket of the wood without being able to find our way either forward or backward. With immense pain we broke our way through thorny bushes and bahuco and at last we came to some place in the river, whence we saw our boat not far off. I went in it again, whilst my companions went anew for Gorgona conducted by an Indian boy. At last at 10 o'clock in the evening we arrived at Gorgona, a most miserable place consisting of a few wooden houses with gorgeous denominations of "Union Hotel," and "Panama Railroad Hotel." I stopt at the former and received victuals and accomodations of the worst description, though I was to pay very dear; beef is very bad, and I cannot eat it at all; ham is so salted that I were to drink myself to death if I touched it. The only thing I could take was sour stewed apples and weak tea. They located me for the night in a small garret in which besides me slept upwards of 30 persons; the miasma and heat arising from so many people gathered together in a small apartment prevented me from sleeping. In the morning of the 11th March I hired 3 mules, of which one a saddle mule for me and the other two for my baggage; the owner of the mules, Debursio Haramillo went afoot with me. We started at 6½ a. m. Although I was to suffer cruelly under the perpendicular rays of the burning sun, yet this journey from Gorgona to Panama is most surely one of the most interesting that I ever made in my life. The way is just broad enough for one mule to pass, but from time to time the traveller encounters little windings and open places, which make it possible for two mules to pass. To prevent embarrassment which would be caused by the encountering of mules going to or coming from Panama, the mule-driver, on entering a narrow pass, always cries at the pitch of the noise in order to give a signal to those

- (27) who might come in opposite direction. The way leads over the Cordilleras Andes mountains, which are extremely steep and covered with innumerable stones of all possible size, between which it is very difficult indeed to penetrate. They say that Fernando de Cortes has in 1516 established a turnpike road across the mountains, but its traces have almost entirely disappeared. After having with the greatest difficulty reached the top of a steep mountain, the traveller involuntarily shudders when he looks down into the valley which lies 2000 feet down under his feet and into which he is led by a rough path one foot broad and every now and then interrupted by large stones and deep holes. Nothing more beautiful can be imagined, than to behold from the top of one mountain the magnificent production of nature down to the bottom of the deep valley, and abruptly up again 2000 feet high to the top of another mountain. These thousands of feet high and many many miles long amphitheatres made by the hand of nature are filled up with every specimen of southern vegetation. In all their grand majesty the higuera, the corozo de lola, rice palm, coconut palms, and a thousand others are lifting to the clouds their gorgeous tops, whilst the beautiful orange and limon trees and chichica leaves, as if humbling themselves before their grand neighbors, are offering to the fatigued and exhausted traveller their beautiful fruit. Parrots, cacadous, canaries, paraos, and thousands of other birds of the most beautiful plumage were flying around us. Thousands of monkeys from one foot in size to man's height were playing about and crying in the trees, and the whole nature seemed to sing the praise of the Almighty. The Isthmus of Panama is an immense Eden in which the descendants of Adam and Eve seem to have retained the manners and customs of their primitive forefathers; for
- (28) they go quite naked, and live upon the fruit which the

splendid tropical vegetation puts around them in magnificent abundance. Their chief characteristic is a horrible laziness, which does not permit them to occupy themselves with anything; they cannot find themselves happier than lying in their hammocks and eating and drinking. They are very fantastic, but ready to commit any crime which might tend either to enrich their property or to take vengeance for what they think offence. Nobody goes here without being well armed with a 5 or 6 barrelled pistol and a long dagger knife. In coming up the river Chagres, and crossing afterwards the Cordilleras Andes from Gorgona to Panama, the traveller is at every moment disgusted at the horrible smell of animal matter which strikes his organs; this smell arises frequently from the decomposition of mules which fall on the road, or of wild beasts such as iguana, but alas, still much more frequently from the decomposition of travellers murdered on the road by the hand of the natives. When these latter stop for the night with a boat full of passengers, they use to select for their halt a place little above some snag and some rapid; then in the night when all are asleep, the boatmen fling with all their power suddenly the boat down the rapid upon the snag, so that the boat capsizes and all hands perish with the exception of the natives, who are prepared for it and share their spoil. Often, when they are unsuccessful in their attempts to drown their passengers, they stab or shoot them to death and throw them over the banks of the river in the thicket, where the corpses are consumed by insects and by buzzards, which can be seen in myriads on the way from Chagres here.

On the way from Gorgona to Panama they equally shoot or stab them, and throw them down in the abyss, where never a living human being has put his foot. About 16 or
(29) 18 individuals of great respectability and very large for-

tune having a few days ago been killed in the most atrocious manner by the natives on the Chagres River, and their bodies partly thrown in the river and partly buried on the bank of the river, so that the arms and legs looked wide out of the water, and were horribly mutilated by the buzzards, the scorn of the Americans residing in this place was roused to the highest degree; a petition was made to the governor, and a party of Americans accompanied by some soldiers went immediately down to Chagres in pursuit of the murderers. They got hold of the latter, who were brought in here on the day of my arrival (11 March), and will be shot in a few days. Had it not been for the stringent exertion of the Americans, nobody here would have taken the slightest notice of the murder.

The Tropics seem to be the fatherland of the vegetable world; every plant, every tree of Europe I find here, a thousand times more grand, more beautiful. The butterflies have here almost the size of a pigeon, and are of the most beautiful colors in blue and yellow.

I arrived here at Panama on the 11 March at 3 in the afternoon and stopt at the Louisiana Hotel, which (except in Chagres and Gorgona) is the dearest and worst I ever met with in my travels, but the best in this city. Panama is a most miserable dirty place, with about 2000 inhabitants, of whom certainly $\frac{1}{4}$ are Americans, $\frac{2}{4}$ negro- and Indian-Spaniards, and $\frac{1}{4}$ Spanish Creoles. The streets are narrow, and have the common sewer in the midst, which is very convenient in the rainy season. The houses are all built so as to hang some six to eight feet over in the streets in order to protect against rain and against the burning sun. It is indescribably hot here, and all day long I perspire as if I were sitting in a Russian steam bath. The perspiration excites the thirst, and I know no means to quench it; for the only thing I can drink here without fear to poison myself is brandy and water.

(30)

Panama was built about 8 miles from here in 1516 by Fernando de Cortes, and about 250 years ago it had a flourishing commerce and about 100,000 inhabitants. About 200 years ago it was overtaken and devastated by pirates, and the whole population was murdered; only a few fled and rebuilt afterwards the present miserable town. The soldiers here are all colored people and are said to be the greatest rascals: as their employ is to contribute to public safety, so their crimes pass under the mantle. They go barefooted and look like rovers with their old roasted [rusted] guns. The government seat is in Bogota, about 1000 miles from here. Here are printed twice a week two English papers (called the Panama Star and the Panama Echo) and one Spanish (called el Panameño). In my hotel I have to sleep together with 6 other persons, and the heat of the apartment is certainly 110 degrees, though we keep all doors all the night wide open. Windows and window-glass are things quite unknown here in Panama. Every room of the houses opens by large doors upon galleries. Good Panama straw-hats cannot be bought here.

On the 13th at 7½ p. m. I went to the theater, a small roughly made building, which resembles more a barn than a theater. As usual in Spanish theaters I was to pay first for admission and then for my seat (6 reals for the former and 2 reals for the latter). I got a place in the pit, which instead of chairs was filled up with bad banks.⁹ They represented "El Alcalde de Salamanca" and "La familia improvisada," and the play being to the benefit of the poor, the house was crowded to excess. There were many Spanish "belles" in the theater; they have black hair, black eyes, yellow pale complexion, but generally very interesting features. There were equally a large number of stout colored ladies in the house, who, with their blunt strong

⁹ Benches.

features presented a great contrast against the fine and thin Spanish ladies. Under the influence of this burning climate the Spanish beauties fade still far quicker than the Americans. On my left were sitting two young Spaniards, and I employed all my power of conversation to gather from them as much as possible useful information about this country and the mode of its government. But I found their education on a very low degree, and all I could learn from them was, that a president stands at the head of the government; that the country is divided into about 30 provinces, and that each province sends 2 representatives and 1 senator to Congress, which takes place once a year at Bogotà, and lasts 3 months. This latter place, though only about 1000 miles from here, takes about 20 days to the traveller, for the way leads continually through the Cordilleras Andes, and is connected with immense danger and hardships, as it goes sometime over 12,000 feet high mountains through eternal snow, and then again through desserts under the burning sun of the tropics. The characteristic of the Spaniard in this country is a great inclination to the frivolous and amusing, a great laziness, and a great lightness of character. Everybody wears night and day a dagger-knife with him, and besides a pistol, when going out of town. As could be foreseen, the actors and actresses plaid very bad, knew very badly their parts, and the prompter's voice could always distinctly be heard. In the coffe-house opposite the theater I got the best coffee that I ever tasted since I left Liverpool; in the coffee-room is written "Aqui non se fia."¹⁰

On the 14th March early in the morning, I hired together with a fellow passenger two mules for \$3 a peace, and set off to the place where the city of Panama had formerly been. With the utmost difficulty and cruel sufferings under

¹⁰ "No trust here"; i. e., no credit given here.

(32) the burning sun we traced the mules' tracks through forests, underwood and thickets and arrived after 1½ hours ride to the sea-shore in sight of and not far from the ruins of old Panama. On the sea coast we had again to battle and struggle with thousands of difficulties and hardships; the heat of the sun was so great, that we could scarcely breathe; our mules were always sinking deep in the loose sand; sometimes we came to places where our beasts fell to the belly in the mud, then again had we to find our way through large and pointed pieces of rocks, where a single false step of the mule would have brought instantaneous death to his rider. Then again had we to descend and to drive our mules over high and steep rocks. At last we arrived and were very disappointed to find but very little to satisfy our curiosity. The old city has about 200 years ago entirely been devastated and destroyed by the Buccaneers. In this burning heat, the decomposition is as it were keeping pace with the vegetation, and thus little or nothing can be seen of the old city. Here and there was visible something of an old wall or the ruins of some houses; then a stone bridge over a small canal and at last a steeple; the walls, though composed of granite stones and cement, were covered with thousands of trees of all dimensions and I saw them to 100 feet high.; I don't know how trees can grow from out a stonen wall, and I cannot cease to wonder at the splendid vegetation of the Tropics. The walls of the steeple were equally all over covered with underwood. Judging by the ruins, the old town must have had from 80 to 100,000 inhabitants. Fatigued and exhausted by hardship and thirst, we found with the utmost difficulty our way to the end of the ruins, where we rested ½ hour in a forest of orange-trees, which had certainly formerly been a park, and had served as place for refreshment and recreation to the inhabitants of old Panama. In a moat near the wall

- (33) I saw an alligator of more than 7 feet length. Myriads of musquitos trouble here both men and beasts, and thousands of iguanas which come forth at every pace disgust the view of the visitor to this country.

On the way home we met still much more difficulty than on going out, for the tide was fast running up, and sometimes it rushed upon us with great fury. At last, at last, we reached an Indian house, where we put up for some refreshment; but there was no fruit to be got, and all we could obtain was a little bad water which we swallowed away to satisfy our burning thirst. At 2 o'clock we came home; our beasts were quite exhausted with fatigue, and no spurring with the heels or beating with the whip could prevail upon them to go anything faster than at a slow pace.

On the 15th March, [1851], at 10 o'clock in the morning I got my luggage carried down on negroes' back to the sea-coast; another negro brought it in the boat, and as the latter could not quite come up to the shore, I got myself also carried on negroes' shoulders in it. We had to wait about 1 hour in the boat, and only came on board the steamer "Oregon" at 11 $\frac{3}{4}$. This steamer has very good accomodations, and pleases me a good deal better than the Crescent City. There is only one deck, covered with canvass, and no supper deck; the saloon serves all at once as assembly-room and dining hall. The staterooms and berths are very nice and clean.

16 March. We started yesterday by 5 $\frac{1}{2}$, for it took a long time to take all the passengers and luggage on board. We steered S. W. Taboga island in sight. It was a delightful evening. A fresh sea breeze had cooled the air. Full moon was shining perpendicular upon us, and such is her brightness here in the Tropics that hardly a single star was perceptible on the cloudless sky.

- (34) Nothing excells the beauty of Taboga island with its

thousands of feet high mountains covered with forests of palm trees, orange trees, when seen from on board a steamer in a moonlight night; nothing more majestic than the aspect of the calm ocean when reflecting the full moon in the Tropics. Till a late hour all passengers were on deck and enjoyed the fresh evening air together with the splendid spectacle of nature. I asked for a bath, but had no little difficulty to get it, the colored man, who takes care of it, being just as indolent as he is lazy and arrogant. The table on board the Oregon is far from what it was on board the Crescent City, for there being no ice on board, we have no means to preserve fresh meat; all dishes of meat which are brought on the table consist therefore of salt porc and corned beef. But I see we have got 3 living oxen on board, which most likely will be slaughtered to supply us when we run shorter of meat. We have about 100 passengers in the first and about 40 in the second cabin; we have all to take the meals at the same table, and the latter being but very short, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the passengers sat first and the rest afterwards. The tea and coffee is most excellent on board this steamer. The staterooms are very small; I have F where I am together with two others.

(35) In the night the heat was intolerable, and neither of us could sleep, though we all lay naked. Unfortunately, we could not open the window, owing to the spray of the sea, our stateroom being close to the wheel. Though ventilators have been put to operate all through and over the ship, yet the heat is awful. We all go in the thinnest possible close and with large straw-hats. Our Captain Pearson and a lady-passenger are caught by and suffering from Panama-fever. This morning I experienced again much difficulty to get a few buckets of seawater for my bath, for which I have now agreed with the negro to pay always 50 cts. All the morning we have been in sight of the moun-

tainous coast of the American continent, and I think by 12 o'clock we shall come out of the Bay of Panama and come in the open ocean. It is a hot and calm day. Off Panama we met yesterday the English ship "Antelope," formerly a steamer, now converted into a sailing-vessel, which arrived in 70 days from San Francisco with passengers.

During my stay at Panama I visited the Mass in the Catholic church, and was not little disgusted at the blind fanaticism of these ignorant people. The Catholic priests of this country are said to be all greatly subjected to despondencies and dissipation; nothing more shocking than the stupid features of a Catholic priest, worn out and emaciated by prostitution. One of the ecclesiastics who officiated had about 4 months ago made an attack upon the pudor of a girl less than 9 months old and effected to rape her. For this outrage he was merely condemned to 3 months' imprisonment, and had only last week left prison to continue his profligate life. In the foregoing pages I forgot to insert that on the 13th inst. I visited the Governor of Panama, who received me with great politeness, and with whom I had a long conversation. To-day (Sunday 16 March) we were according to the bulletin stuck up on deck latitude $7^{\circ} 16'$ N., long. $81^{\circ} 03'$ W. and the distance run from Panama was 170 miles.

(36) Monday 17 March. Very hot; gentle breeze from N. W. From early in the morning till about 6 in the afternoon we had alternatively the main land and islands in sight. To prevent confusion at table, the cabin passengers on producing their tickets, had to draw the lot who should dine on the first, and who at the second table. I drew 2 table, No. 11. I had a long conversation with Capt. Pearson, who has recovered from his sickness and is just as gentlemanlike as he is plain and communicative. He told me that on each of the two last voyages the Company to

which the "Oregon" belongs had lost \$25,000 but that they would make money this time. He is little afraid of competition, since millions are required to set up a line of steamers on the Pacific.

We were to-day, 17 March, at noon, lat. $8^{\circ} 33'$ N., and long. $84^{\circ} 34'$ W.; distance run, 222 miles, and thus 392 miles from Panama.

Tuesday, 18 March. We have to-day a fine north breeze, and as the vessel shakes and rolls a little, many of my fellow passengers are suffering from seasickness. We saw this morning a great many black fish¹¹ of great size, which moved forth in the water like porpoises, though they were by far larger than the latter. Lat. N. $10^{\circ} 22'$; long. $87^{\circ} 30'$ W.; distance run, 202 m., from Panama, 594 miles.

Wednesday, 19 March. Since writing the above, we have had four stoppages owing to some little reparations being made in the machinery. Last night I slept upon a bank in the dining-room. All around me on banks, as well as on the ground-floor were taking the night's rest lady passengers, who could not sleep in their berths on account of the great heat. This morning at $4\frac{1}{2}$, the negro came to tell me that he had prepared my bath, and I consequently went on deck to take it; in coming to the stair-case I was compelled to laugh heartily at the great number of ladies and gentlemen, who half naked were lying *pêle-mêle* together and sleeping on the staircase. A sea voyage requires particular concessions and allowances in the shape of fashion, for if we were to observe here the etiquette of northern decency, we were
(37) to dye here under the horrible heat. This morning at breakfast I got acquainted with a very interesting person, partner of Fill & Co., of San Francisco, with whom I conversed more than 3 hours; he is a man who has travelled much and possesses much knowledge and experience.

¹¹ A type of whale, much sought after for its oil.

Thursday, 20 March. No alteration neither in the wind nor in our progress, nor in the temperature of the weather. To-day at noon we were Lat. $13^{\circ} 54'$ N.; Long. $94^{\circ} 05'$ W. and the distance run was 210 miles.

Friday 21. At noon Lat. $15^{\circ} 09'$ N. and $97^{\circ} 07'$ Long. W.; distance run, 190 miles. At 4 p. m. we got land in sight. At $6\frac{1}{2}$ p. m. we saw on shore a fire, which we supposed to be produced by the burning of a dry grass field kindled by the burning sun.

Saturday, 22 March. All the morning we had land in sight, and at 10 o'clock a. m. we landed in the harbour of Acapulco. The entrance to the harbour is most beautiful and picturesque; on both sides thousands of feet high mountains covered with large stones and pieces of rock, and with forests of orange, coconut, banana, and other trees. The little bay is very deep, so that we could throw anchor at the very shore. There are 7 other large sailing vessels in the harbour, which have brought coal from England, and besides, 3 old vessels, which serve as depositaries for coals from which the steamers are supplied. Seen from the bay, the city of Acapulco presents the appearance of an African village, for with few exceptions the houses are mere huts or shelters made of 4 or 6 poles rammed in the ground and covered with shingle and cane; some of the houses have walls of the same material, but for the most part they are open; the space between the houses is filled up with palm, coconut, and orange trees. There are but a few stonem buildings, occupied by Spaniards or Yankees; one church and one fort. I went on shore at $10\frac{1}{2}$ and entered into more than 30 huts and houses. The inhabitants of the cane houses or huts are all a mixture of Spanish and Indian blood, and I saw at every pace very nice and regular female features. They speak very good Spanish. In the street I met 4 soldyers who led 2 prisoners,

(38)

who were put together by chains; on enquiry I learnt that the prisoners had only a few days ago committed murder and robbery, and that they were now to undergo 3 years imprisonment. The chains by which they were fastened were so light, that without pain I should be able to tear them to pieces. The criminals had a false and ready to any crime look. The 4 soldjers were miserable looking colored wretches and mere vagabonds; their rifles mere roasted [rusted] toys. I could get no admittance to the fort, a mere heap of stones armed with a few guns and occupied by a few wretchedly looking soldjers. This fort is on the point to fall in ruins, and the Mexican laziness does not permit of repairs. There was formerly much sickness in Acapulco, it being entirely surrounded by enormous mountains, which intercepted all wind and besides there being close to the fort a large swamp which incessantly spread out bad miasma. But a French engineer has drained out the swamp and made a large cut in a mountain, so that the wind can come in and the state of health of the town is thus considerably improved. Acapulco was formerly an important place, when Mexico belonged to Spain, for at that time all East Indian produce destined for the City of Mexico, Vera Cruz, and other ports of the interior was brought in here by Spanish vessels from Manilla, which took then in return from the numerous and abundant mines of this country gold, silver, and inferior metals such as copper, iron, etc., but since Mexico fell off from Spain, this intercourse has ceased and the mines are entirely abandoned. The Mexicans are false, ignorant, arrogant. The government seat is Mexico, about 120 leagues or 280 miles from here.

They have 1 President, and each of the 18 states of this country sends to Congress 1 Senator and 2 representatives. But it is all merely pro forma, for by bribing everything

(39) can here be rendered possible. With money in hands and by bribing the Collector, the Treasurer, and the clerks, whole cargoes can be smuggled here. Any rogue who wishes to enrich himself at the expence of the country merely goes to the President and offers him 10,000 pesos to make him Collector, which is immediately complied with, and the rogue cheats then this sum 10 fold in one year. All offices of government are here sold by the first magistrates, who act like despotic rogues, controlling the country with the army. I added a few words to my letter to Mr. G. Ellis and gave it then to the Mailmaster to forward it. In the market I bought a great many oranges and some pineapples and went on board again at about 2 o'clock. Acapulco is Lat. $16^{\circ} 42'$ N. and Long. 98.

22 March. During our stay at Acapulco we had on board a customhouse officer, a fair specimen of Mexican stupidity and indolence. Yesterday evening came several Mexican officers on board to take prisoner a young man, native from Ohio, who a year ago had been in partnership with a Spanjard at Acapulco and suddenly run away with £600, after having previously seduced the daughter of his partner. He first hid himself somewhere on board, but when the officers after vain research after him had given him up, he all at once instituted himself their prisoner.

This morning came many Indian boys swimming to the steamer, and by diving and playing in the water all sorts of tricks they endeavored to gain some dimes. Thousands of fish were seen swimming around the ship and contriving to catch some little of what was thrown overboard. At 1 o'clock we left our anchoring place and taking the passage to the right, we passed through immense heaps of stones wonderfully thrown together by the hand of nature. All the day we had the beautiful Mexican coast in sight, presenting 2 and sometimes even 3 and 4 ranges of huge moun-

(40) tains which hid their tops in the clouds. The country is here more barren, and hardly produces anything for about 20 miles from the coast. This evening we saw on shore 2 fires, very likely originated by the natives.

Pacific Ocean, the 24 March. The coast is this morning much farther off, and the high Mexican mountains look like dark clouds. At 9 o'clock we past a steamer supposed to be the New Orleans coming from San Francisco. Lat. N. $17^{\circ} 50'$; Long. $103^{\circ} 02'$; distance run, 190 miles.

On the 25 March. Lat. $19^{\circ} 32' N.$; Long. $106^{\circ} W.$ distance run, 197. No land in sight. We are to-day in the longitude of the Bay of Lower California.

On the 26 March. A steerage passenger having died last night from dysentery, his body was this morning sowed up together with a piece of old iron in linen, then covered with the United States flag and laid upon a plank. The ship's doctor read then a short prayer and the dead was committed to the deep, where it disappeared instantaneously. It is to-day much cooler. To-day at noon we were $21^{\circ} 30'$ Lat., and $109^{\circ} 04'$ Long.; distance run 209 miles.

On the 27 March. It is again very cold, and passing last night upon a bank in the great saloon, I suffered very much from cold and want of comfort. Henceforth I shall sleep again in my state-room. The negro having stirred me at 4 o'clock, I went up to get my bath; the water was very cold, and from this day off I shall bathe at noon. From 4 till $9\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock we had Cape Lucas, the most southern point of Lower California, in sight. The Fourth Mate having lent me his quadrant, and explained to me its use, I tried to measure the altitude of the sun, and to determine our latitude. Supposing the whole sphere of the hemisphere divided into 360 degrees, and a line drawn from the point where we are to the canopy above, the number of degrees from the top of this perpendicular to the edge of the sea

(41) must necessarily be 90 degrees, and making an allowance of 12 minutes for the height of the vessel, there remains $89^{\circ} 48'$. I measured the height of the sun, which was $68^{\circ} 41'$, and deducting these two cifers and adding $2^{\circ} 36'$ (distance from the sun to the equator), I found our latitude to be $23^{\circ} 41'$. Our longitude was this morning $111^{\circ} 08'$, and the distance run 174 miles. We are steering North West half West, and have since yesterday strong head wind. Mrs. Roberts having lent me the 3 volumes of Thomas Dick, L. L. D. of astronomy, I read almost all the day long in this beautiful book, which affords me immense interest; my fellow passengers are amusing themselves by tickling each other in the neck with a piece of paper rolled together, and persuing then each other to inflict punishment for the offence. It being too cold in the saloon, I slept this night for the first time again in my stateroom. This afternoon we passed Margaret's Island and a peninsula; both barren land full of rocks. A ship having wrecked here last year, the crew saved themselves on this island, but perished from starvation, not being able to find any food. Between Margaret's Island and the coast is a large and deep bay, celebrated for whale-fishery.

28 March. This morning it was so cold, that I was compelled to put on winter clothes. At about 8 a. m. we saw a great many large fish called "black fish," which move in the water like porpoises. No land in sight. To-day at noon we were Lat. $25^{\circ} 45'$ North, Long. $113^{\circ} 36'$ West, and the distance run 184 m.

Saturday 29 March. Cold weather. Strong breeze from NNE and high sea. Lat. $27^{\circ} 44'$ north, Long. $115^{\circ} 11'$ West; distance 115 m. This afternoon we passed 5 islands, of which only the largest one, called Cerros, is on the map. All these islands consist of high and barren rocks, and offer a splendid scenery.

Sunday 30 March. The weather is again colder with a strong breeze from north; I was compelled to sleep last night with two woollen blankets. This morning we had divine service. Long. West $116^{\circ} 29'$; Lat. $30^{\circ} 08'$ North.

Monday 31 March. This morning at $10\frac{1}{2}$ we stopt in the port of San Diego, a miserable little place under Lat. $32^{\circ} 40'$, Long.¹² San Diego is divided into 3 parts, of which a few wooden houses are built on the bank of the harbour, a few more a little farther up the coast, and the bulk of the town about 4 miles from the stopping place of the vessels. The harbour is but small, however 30 to 50
(42) feet deep and enclosed by huge rocks. The surface of the water is covered with a sort of very long yellow seaweed, called "kelp," which grows sometimes hundred feet long. Having only one passenger to put ashore, and to deliver the mail, we did not throw the anchor and went on again after $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours stoppage. During the whole day we had the coast in sight, covered with very high rocks, amongst which we discovered one covered with snow. These mountains are called the Coast Range; the Sierra Nevada is about 120 miles from shore in the interior of the country. Towards evening we passed 2 islands, of which one is called Catalina.

Tuesday 1 April. This morning at 5 we passed the beautiful island Santa Barbara, consisting of 7 huge rocks, and presenting the most grand and picturesque sight. At first comes a high quadrangular rock forming an immense arch or thoroughfare, large and deep enough for any man-of-war to pass, then comes a high rock in the form of an immense cone, then a mountain, then again a cone, again a mountain, again a cone and again a mountain. Shortly after this we saw the island Santa Cruz, then San Miguel, and then Santa Rosa, all of them consisting of high rocks.

¹² Longitude omitted.

The whole morning we see to our left¹³ the rocky coast of America. It is a fine morning, and much warmer than during the last days. At 11 o'clock we past Point Conception. We saw on shore innumerable herds of cattle, which run off at all speed when we past. The coast presented continually broad and beautiful valleys (plains) covered with wild oats. From the beach to the mountains about 5 miles. We were at noon 201 miles from San Diego and Lat. 34° 31' North, Long. 120° 10' West.

(43) Wednesday 2 April. This morning at 6½ we met 2 steamers, viz., the Tennessee and the Mc Kim. The former being too far off, we went to meet and to stop the latter in order to put on his board a passenger who had secretly come on board at Panama and not paid his passage. When a few days ago the Captain and Storekeeper asked round for the tickets, this man hid himself among the pickles, where he was found by one of the stewarts. Another passenger who had also come on board without payment, had hidden himself between two mattresses, whence he was dragged out. He got through by paying \$100. The man whom we put this morning on board the Mc Kim had come out from New York without a farthing in his pocket; but he had been more lucky on board the Crescent City. Now he returns by the Mc Kim to Panama. He was on board our steamer secluded for two days in the bathroom with water and bread. The Mc Kim and Tennessee left San Francisco yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

This morning one of the steerage passengers, an elderly man, having died from fever, he was sowed up in canvass and committed to the deep, whilst one of the passengers, Fögginsen, read a funeral sermon. We see this morning the Californian coast involved in a thick fog, which is said to be peculiar to the environs of S. F.

¹³ This of course must be a mistake.

In the afternoon at 2½ o'clock we entered the Golden Gate (consisting of 2 immense pieces of rock in the form of a gate), and proceeded at a fast rate in the harbor of San Francisco, which is enclosed and sheltered by huge mountains, and large enough to contain all the fleets of the globe. Soon we saw the outskirts of the city of S. F. and soon afterwards the city itself. More than 800 large 3 mast ships of all nations were lying close to the city, and presented a grand and beautiful appearance. Owing to the innumerable masts, little could be seen of the town ere we landed in a boat.

(44) The rush of the passengers to get off was so great, that not without difficulty and danger could I get away from the Oregon. For putting ashore I was to pay \$1.50; for carrying the luggage to the hotel, \$2.50. I put up at the Union Hotel, which is the best in this city. For a small bedroom on the 4th floor, 6 feet long by 5 feet broad, have I to pay \$7 per day, board included. The streets are paved with planks; the houses, for the most part, of wood. The new arrival is amazed when he looks upon this bustly busy city of 40,000 inhabitants, and when he thinks that it has taken existence only 18 months ago, for before that there were only a few frame buildings.

SACRAMENTO City, April 26. Almost four weeks have past since I wrote the above, and great changes have taken place in my position. I stopt at the Union Hotel only one day, and took then my lodging with Dr. Stout, to whom I paid \$20 for board and lodging. After having looked around and come to the conviction that I ought to take several weeks in order to get well acquainted with the locality and the mode of doing business in this quarter, I thought I should do as well to go for a couple of days to Sacramento, to look after the affairs of my unfortunate brother, who died here May 21 last year. I therefore crossed again the bay

in a steamer and went up the Sacramento River, which is much like the Chagres River, but much deeper and broader. After much difficulty I found out the tomb of my brother, and gave \$50 to the undertaker to get made a beautiful marble tombstone with inscription thereon, which has since been executed in San Francisco, and the tombstone stands now on the grave.

(45) Having looked here to business and ascertained that I do better to invest my capital in this city than at San Francisco, I decided to settle down here and therefore went back to S. F. on the 7th April to fetch my luggage. On the 9th inst. I returned to Sacramento and have lived here ever since. I must avow that the climate agrees perfectly well with me—the days are hot, the nights cool and refreshing, and I like it much better than at S. F., where a strong gale blows all the day long. Sacramento lies in the midst of the Sacramento Valley, which comprizes abt. 360 square miles and resembles an immense garden covered with beautiful trees and underwood green at all seasons of the year. An immense levee or dike has been erected at great expence to protect the city from inundation, which would otherwise occur almost every year, for from the melting of the snow in the mountains the waters of the river assume a vast magnitude. Though this city is still in its infancy, still it contains already abt. 10)m inhabitants and the population is daily increasing. The streets are broad and very regular, but of course not paved and with very few exceptions all houses are of wood. The americans are extremely smart in the art of tracing out towns, and to this city they have given 55 immense streets, commencing northward by A and terminating southward by Y; beginning westward by 1st and terminating eastward by 31. Thus it is no wonder that most part of our city is covered with meadows, trees, and underwood, and offers to the sports-

man an inexhaustible stock of rabbits, cayotes, and quails. The great plague of this place are the rats, of which there are millions.

(46) I thought to find here great wealth, but I was much mistaken; the wild speculations of various kind, but especially those in real estate, have killed almost every body, and men worth a year ago hundred thousands have now nothing. Under these circumstances it is not all wonderful that money is very tight and commands the high interest of from 5 to 10 and 12 per ct per month. But very little security can be had here and the utmost care and precaution is requisite in loaning money. In no country of the world have I found so much selfishness and such immense love of money as in this Eldorado. With an american, money goes over everything in the world, and the desire to attain it as fast as possible brings forth his indispensible, his boundless energy. His enterprizing spirit, too hot for mature consideration, boldly goes ahead, and however frequently defeated by miscalculations, he as often tries to go ahead again; an american can never become daunted.

April 27. To-day I took my bath in the Sacramento river, went to church and visited then Dr. Carpenter (I. on 12th str.) who wishes to make a loan. He is one of those few men of this city who inspire me confidence; for he acts with caution, has a good character and a monthly income of abt. \$4000. The foreigner who comes to this country is lost in admiration and esteem for the american race, in contemplating the wonder works, which have been achieved here in less than two years. But these sentiments soon disappear, when the new arriver becomes thoroughly acquainted with the character of the californian yankees, when he sees himself surrounded by a gang of scoundrels, when he sees that all is based here on swindling, that all is abominable falsehood, fraud and humbug, or in plain californian: that all is calculated to "shave."

May 2d. Every day furnishes me new and striking proofs of the sharp and cunning character of the people I am doomed to live with. At first they surround me with politeness and civilities; make me the trustee of a thousand little confidences and when they think they have inspired me with the fullest confidence then they make an attempt to cheat me. As I use to think here every one to be a rogue, and as I have all my eyes about me, so they fail in their attempt, but not yet daunted they try a second time to impose upon me. Being again frustrated in their hopes, they leave me entirely. So some time ago a man of very gentlemanly appearance endeavored to make me his confidential and to inspire me great friendship. When he thought he had attained his aim, he came to my office and asked me if I knew Dr. so and so, and when I answered in the negative, (47) he began to speak in the most favorable manner of this man's character and his immense wealth and thereupon he asked me if I did not wish to make that eminent person's acquaintance. I acceded to it and shortly afterwards he presented his great friend to me. The Dr. began to talk to me of a thousand nice things, enlarged then upon the immense and inexhaustible treasures of California, upon the great rise which is necessarily to take place in the value of real estate in this town, brought then the conversation upon his own immense riches both in real estate and in houses, talked then a long string of the noble character and the great treasures of another person (whom I accidentally knew to be a light-minded, broken, and poor man), and then suddenly by striking himself on the forehead he remembered that he had that man's note for \$260, and drawing it out of his pocket, he requested me to discount it at any rate I choose proper, for by an unforeseen accident it happened that he had run short of cash just that day. He was so perfectly sure to take me in, that he appeared

immensely struck and disappointed, when in answer to his request I told him that I would not give five pence for his note, but that he could get any amount of money from me by affording sufficient undoubted security.

(48) 14 May. Having determined to settle down permanently in Sacramento City, I thought it the greatest duty incumbent upon me to travel through the country, to visit the various towns and villages in the mining districts, to inspect the diggings and the different ways in which gold is won, in order to gather at least some superficial idea of this country's wealth and to see the resources of this city. With this intention I started on the 14 May at 9½ o'clock in the morning by the steamer "Dana" to Marysville. It was a fine but very cold day and I froze, though wrapped up in 2 blankets. After having gone up the Sacramento river for 30 miles and left to the right hand the American river, we went up the Feather river, leaving the Sacramento to the left. Having proceeded in the former for 20 miles, we entered the Yuba and after having run in it for ½ m. we landed at Marysville. Fare on the steamer \$5. We passed on the road the cities of Nicolaus, Plumas and Suttersville, of which a year ago were entertained very high ideas, but which have never become and will never become anything. At Suttersville I saw a great many of the native Indians, who half or entirely naked were running about their dwellings, consisting of heaps of earth. I stopt at Marysville in the City Hôtel, where I had very bad accommodations and victuals, though I was to pay very dear. Marysville is nicely situated on a hill on the river's side and the climate is considered extremely healthy. Store-keepers are doing a very good business as they have to supply the miners all along the Yuba river; but Marysville is thought to become a very dead place when for want of sufficient water the rivers become unnavigable. On the

15th at 6¼ a. m. I went off afoot to the Yuba diggings, and after having passed Long-bar, I came to Parkisbar, where I stopt for the night at the National Hôtel, a small canvass-house with awful accomodations, but good victuals. After dinner I went down to the river to see the miners working; they cannot do much just now owing to the high water. Every one has his claim, but usually 4 or 5 individuals join together in a company; sometimes one man hires workmen; one of them loosens the earth; two others put it with shovels in wheel-barrows and carry it to the seves, which another man shakes continually; water is brought into the seves either by pumping or by means of long hoses, which are placed in the river in places where it forms a little fall, so that the power of the stream forces the water along the hoses into the seves. From these latter dirt is brought into the pan and gradually cleansed more.

(49) Parkis Bar city offers a splendid view on the river and the adjacent mountainous country. Across the rapid Yuba stream is established a ferry which is drawn by means of a tow; fare 25 c. I departed on the 16th at 6¼ a. m. from Parkis Bar, crossed the river and went up the road to Nevada City, then ascending immense, steep hills, then descending into deep valleys. For abt. 8 miles I travelled together with 3 Chinamen, with whom I could in no way make myself understood. On the top of a high mountain I saw an indian ranchee. Quite fatigued and exhausted I arrived in the evening at 6 o'clock at Nevada City, a small and extremely nasty place in the midst of a pine-forest, and took up my lodgings at the french Restaurant of Gaudin, where I made the acquaintance of the professor of languages P. Kowalewski, who spoke marvellously well the russian language. On the 17th at 6½ a. m. I went from Nevada to the Gold Run, a large valley, where plenty of gold is found. I inspected there a great many tunnels from

which the waste dirt and lead is drawn out either by horse-power or by handwork. The lead is cleaned by sluicing and yields fair profits. This valley seemed to be extremely rich of the pure-stuff, for gold was glimpsing everywhere and even in the mud which hung to my boots I saw many particles of this precious metal.

I proceeded on to Grass valley (abt. 6 m. distant from Nevada) where I visited the various Quartz-mills, of which three are already in full operation, whilst three others are nearly completed. As I understood from several of the proprietors and their workmen, Quartz-grinding pays exceedingly well, and Wetzlar assured me that he could easily clear \$1000 per week above all expences. The Quartz is dug in several places on the hills, brought in wagons to the mills, burnt, put under the stamps; water is running continually on it and brings the pulverized Quartz through fine seves into two large basons, from which the water runs of, whilst the mud remains. Thence the mud is under the influence of water put into large seves which are shaken by the machinery; the mud is gradually taken off and the pure stuff remains. Between the Quartz mills I found a frenchman at work with the gaitly so characteristic in his countrymen; he was working in a small creek and made, according to his assertion, 6 to 7 \$ a day. Close to him (50) stood some seven indian women and children, who were beseeching the frenchmen to put into the pans, which they were stretching out to him, some of the dirt which he dug out; he granted their request and they eagerly run then to the canal to wash the gold out from it. One of the women being in mourning, she had her cheeks painted black and her hair full of pik. I dined in Pickham's Hôtel and proceeded then by a wagon to Rough and Ready, where we paused for the night, though we arrived already at 2 p. m. We stopt with Miss Downey in the "Western Exchange,"

which was all the day long crowded to excess, there being three women in the house. Women have a great charm for men, which is particularly perceptible with those who have been excluded from female society for some time; even the society of an old and difformed woman has then something gratifying in it.

The night was very cold and I suffered much being located just under the roof; it was blowing a strong gale accompanied by heavy rain. Our team set off at abt. 9 a. m. and though we had a canvass-cover we were to suffer much from the rain and cold.

Llegabamos ¹⁴ a Sacramento el Lunes 19 Mayo. Deseando ver al hermoso valle de Sonoma, lo que me habian mucho ponderado, yo me fui a San Francisco el Lunes 26 Mayo a las dos despues de medio dia, y paré en la fonda llamada Rasette-house donde encontré a un criado holandés. El vapor habiendo sido anunziado en el periodico para el 27, yo me fui a las seis por la mañana al lugar de donde debia despedirse, pero no habia alla vapor ninguno y me dijeron que yo habia salido al vapor el día antes. Por consiguiente yo era forzado de quedarme en San Francisco el dia entero. Debia sufrir mucho del fastidio, porque no tenia yo asunto ninguno. En fin el 28 Mayo a las 9 de la mañana nos despedimos. Teniendo un fuerte viento contrario, ibamos muy lentamente, y ciertamente me hubiera fastidiado mucho, si por dicha mia no hubiese encontrado a bordo el Profesor F. G. Reeger de Sonoma, hombre muy interesante, que habia viajado mucho y visto gran parte del mundo. Jamas de mi vida he visto hombre cosi amable, afable y prudente que el Snr R. Con igual facilidad hablaba el ingles, frances, aleman, italiano, portuguez, español, holandés, y sin duda alguna es tambien profundamente

(51)

¹⁴ An English translation of this Spanish section will be found in the Appendix.

versado en las lenguas griega y latina. Como me han siempre proporcionado mucho gusto las lenguas extranjeras, imenso gusto me dio el hablar con Snr R. en diferentes idiomas y così el tiempo se pasó muy pronto. Llegamos al embarcadero a las cinco de la tarde, y de allá fuimos llevados por un carruaje a Sonoma aldea pequeña con quatro o cinco cientos habitantes. Mucho me gusta el hermoso valle de S. ensemado co millones flores y el aire fresco y sano que se respira. La tierra es muy fertil y el Snr Vallejo ha producido en un pequeño jardin para quinze mil pesos de vino. Ciertamente, si las minas de oro no hubiesen sido descubiertas las tierras se vendrian aqui muy caras, pero, como ahora el trabajo cuesta sumamente caro, ninguno no piensa aqui de agricultura y las tierras no tienen precio ninguno. Por mi parte yo no querria vivir a Sonoma, pero hay algunos que prefieren la soledad de los campos al ruido de las grandes ciudades.

(52) Yo despedi me de S. el Sabado 31 May por la diligencia a Napa, donde tomamos la comida y a la cinco de la tarde llegamos a Benicia, de donde yo parti a las seis y medie de la tarde por el vapor Senator y llegué a Sacramento a la una y media.

Mio sola ocupacion aqui siendo el prestar dinero sobre hypotecas de tierras y cases, tengo casi nada que hacer, y como desde mi niñez soy acostumbrado de trabajar desde la mañana hasta la tarde, no puedo yo describir la impaciencia y el fastidio que me atormentan. Ademas el calor durante el dia es insuportable y mucho me hace sufrir, porque yo tengo mucha sangre. La sociedad de Sacramento es compuesta de aventureros, cuyo sola ambicion y deseo es el enriquecerse a costa agena; no hay aqui compañia de mi gusto, no hay pasatiempos que me recrean y de todo mi corazon deseo yo volver cuanto antes en Europa. Pero como el viaje de San-Peterburgo por aqui, como tambien

el transporte del dinero me han costado mucho desearia yo recobrar mis enormes gastos y volver despues por la China.

Si Dios quiere yo me embarquare a San Francisco al fin de esto ano para Canton por un buque de vela, visitaré despues todos los principales puertos en las Indias y proseguiré mi viaje por Egipto y Italia en Alemania. Despues me colocaré a S.Petersburgo porque de todos las ciudades que he visitado de mi vida prefiero Petersb., sus amables y afables habitantes, sus hermosas y muy limpias casas, sus bellas calles, su delicioso clima, todo me gusta mucho a Petersburgo. Jamas he encontrado un estrañero que no hubiese hablado con los mayores elogios de Petersb. Todo es muy barato a Petersb. y viviendo en la primera fonda y teniendo coche y caballos no se puede gastar mas de dos mil duros al ano. En verdad Petersb. esta al cabo de mis deseos, pero antes de verle tengo de visitar muchos otros paises. Si hago el viaje por la China y las Indias, en tal caso visitaré tambien Jerusalem, no por preocupaciones religiosas, sino para satisfacer mi curiosidad.

(53) San Francisco, June 4th, 1851. A most horrible disaster has befallen this City! a conflagration greater than any of the preceding fires has reduced nearly the whole city to ashes.

I arrived here last night at 10½ o'clock and put up at the Union Hôtel on the Plaza. I may have slept a quarter of an hour, when I was awoke by loud cries in the street: "fire, fire" and by the awful sounds of the alarm-bell. I sprung up in all haste and looking out of the window I saw that a frame building only 20 or 30 paces from the Union Hotel was on fire. I dressed in all haste and run out of the house, but scarcely had I reached the end of Clay street when I saw already the Hôtel on fire from which I had just run out. Pushed on by a complete gale the fire spread with an appalling rapidity, sweeping away in a few

minutes whole streets of frame buildings. Neither the iron houses nor the brickhouses (which were hitherto considered as quite fireproof) could resist the fury of the element; the latter crumbled together with incredible rapidity, whilst the former got red-hot, then white-hot and fell together like card-houses. Particularly in the iron-houses people considered themselves perfectly safe and they remained in them to the last extremity. As soon as the walls of the iron houses getting red-hot the goods inside began to smoke, the inhabitants wanted to get out, but usually it was already too late, for the locks and hinges of the doors having extended or partly melted by the heat, the doors were no more to be opened. Sometimes by burning their hands and arms people succeeded to open the doors and to get out, but finding themselves then surrounded by an ocean of flames they made but a few paces, staggered and fell, rose again and fell again in order not to rise any more. It was tried in vain to arrest the progress of the fire by the blowing up of houses with gunpowder. Wishing to avoid dangers I went up Montgomery street and ascended "Telegraph hill" which is a mountain abt. 300 feet high close to the city. It was a frightful but sublime view, in fact the grandest spectacle I ever enjoyed. The fire continued to spread in all directions sweeping away the whole of Washington street, Kearny street, Montgomery street, California street, Sansome street and many others, and, except a few houses on Battery street, Bush street, and on the Hillside, the whole beautiful city was burned down. The roaring of the storm, the cracking of the gunpowder, the cracking of the falling stone-walls, the cries of the people and the wonderful spectacle of an immense city burning in a dark night all joined to make this catastrophe awful in the extreme. A report having spread out among the people that the fire had been caused by french incendiaries, the

scorn of the enraged populace fell upon the french and many a poor french chap was thrown headlong in the flames and consumed. I remained for the night in the restaurant on Telegraph hill and went at 6 in the morning down to the city. It was a horrible sight to see the smouldering ashes and ruins of this a day before so flourishing city. Whilst I saw a great many germans, frenchmen, englishmen and other foreigners half in despair sitting and weeping on the ashes of their destroyed property, the americans never daunted, laughing and joking among themselves just as if nothing had happened, went boldly a-head to construct new houses and I saw them in many places at 6 o'clock in the morning busy to lay on the still hot ashes of their former buildings the foundations for new ones. In the morning from 6 till 10 it is very hot in San Francisco; then all at once a strong gale springs up and from 10 a. m. off the cold increases till 3 o'clock in the morning, so that it is impossible to walk here during the day after 10 or during the night without a very thick overcoat.

(55) July 31. Since writing the foregoing pages my position in the world has undergone a most memorable change to my advantage.

Having during my recent excursion in the mining districts fully satisfied myself as to the enormous wealth of this country and the immense resources of Sacramento City, I established here already in the beginning of June a banking-house for the purchase of Gold dust and the sale of "Exchange" on the United States and Europe. I have got two clerks, one an american of the name of A. K. Grim and native from Cleveland in Ohio; the other a spanjard Miguel de Satrustegui native of San Sebastian in Biscaya (Old Spain); to each of them I pay \$250 (abt. 360 Rubles Silver) per month. My office is in the house on the corner of Front and J. streets, which being built entirely of stone

and iron, is considered perfectly fireproof. Availing myself of an opportunity offering I bought from Barton Lee & Co. (bankers of this city who recently failed with nearly 2 millions of Silver-rubles) an immense fire- and thiefproof safe weighing nearly 200 Puds,¹⁵ but I had great difficulty in conveying it to my office. I had 20 men and 12 yokes of oxen one whole day at work to bring it only across the street. Gold dust comes in plentifully and I buy on an average 5 Puds per day. My purchases go for the most part to the house of Rothschild at London, whose branch-establishment at San Francisco supplies me by every night's steamer with the necessary Coin. The continued great heat from (56) 100 to 125 degrees Fahrenheit which accelerates the decomposition of animal and vegetable matter, and the exhalation of the many swamps and ponds with stagnant water all around the town—all this contributes to infest the air and to produce much sickness. Ague, isthmus-fever, diarrhea, dysentery, erysipelas, etc., are taking away hundreds of hopeful men and quickly people our cimitery, whose number of graves is several times larger than the number of the population of our city, though the latter was only founded some 3 years ago.

The thieves of this country having invented the slung shot, which ensures additional success to their criminal industry, great caution is now requisite and my 2 clerks and myself we go night and day armed with Colt's revolving-pistols (each of which can kill 5 men in as many seconds) and long bowie-knives. I always get up at 5 o'clock in the morning, take at 5½ my breakfast at the Orleans hotel and open my office at 6 o'clock to shut it at 10 o'clock in the evening. During the whole day my office is crowded with people and I seldom get my dinner before 8 o'clock at night.

¹⁵ Pood, a Russian weight of the old system, abolished in 1927; equivalent to about 36 English pounds.

1 September. Since writing the above I have taken one more clerk, a certain Doctor Lewis Saynisch, native of Germany. Dr. Saynisch is reputed to be the greatest geologist of modern times and has written many valuable books about Geology; after having travelled many years in company of the Duke of Newwied in geological pursuits both in Southern Europe and America, he came after a lang serie of misfortunes and misery to California to try his luck at the mines. But not being able to stand the hardships and fatigue connected with mining, he came exhausted in body and mind to Sacramento to offer himself to me as clerk and I took him more from compassion than from want for an additional clerk. Unfortunately D. S. is a bad calculator and makes many mistakes.

(57)

My business is now on an enormous scale and my profits are large. If in former years I had known that I should one day gain only one quarter of what I earn now, I should have thought myself the happiest of men, but now I feel myself very unfortunate, since I am seperated by a distance of 18)m versts ¹⁶ from St. Petersburg where all my hopes, all my desires are concentrated. In fact, in the midst of the hurricanes on the roaring oceans, in dangers and hardships, in toil and difficulties, in the whirlwind of amusements and in the bustle of business my beloved Russia, my charming St. Petersburg is constantly before my eyes. Whilst here in Sacramento I can every moment expect to be murdered or robbed, I can in Russia sleep tranquilly in my bed without any fear for my life or property, for thousand eyes of justice watch there over the peaceful inhabitant. Whilst nearly the whole western Europe is constantly alarmed by impending disturbances, Russia (by far the most powerful and the largest of all empires that ever existed or that will ever exist) beams with the bright ray

¹⁶ A little over a kilometer, which is about 5/8 of a mile.

of eternal peace thanks to its wise and most glorious emperor Nicolas. It is not without immense gratification and pride that I witness the great admiration and reference [reverence] with which the americans speak of our great monarch.

(58) My bank is from early till late constantly jammed, crammed and rammed full of people from all nations and I have to speak all the day long in 8 languages. In fact if I knew a hundred languages it would not be sufficient to speak to every one in his native tongue. The people I have most to deal with are americans, mexicans and chinamen, but the last mentioned bring but little gold to market and I have never been able to buy from a Chinaman more than 5 oz. at a time. The Chinamen who come to this country are a very harmless, honest and industrious set of people, and I never heard of any fraud being committed by any one of them. They have founded in this country 4 chinese cities to which they have given the names: Peking, Hong Kong, Canton & Nanking, and thousands of people continuing to pour in from the Celestial empire, the aforesaid cities are fast gaining in extent. The Chinamen wear immense straw hats, fully as large as a ladies' umbrella, a wide jacket which reaches to the knees, wide trowsers and very high shoes, of which lower part is of wood and furnished with enormous heels and the upper part of thin cloth. The mexicans are a lazy and false class of people without the least education and I never saw any one of them who was able to write his name; the lower and middling classes of mexicans cover themself instead of coat and waistcoat with gaudy colored, embroidered blankets called "sarapas," which mode of dress is peculiar to all spanish races of South America, but of different color. The mexican "sarapas" are red, yellow, green and blue, the new granadian gray and blue, the peruvian & chilian blue and white. From New

Granada, Peru & Chili there have also many thousands come over to California. The new granadians are of the same character and habits as the mexicans, whereas the Peruvians and Chilians are a good natured very industrious race of people, particularly the latter who are celebrated for their great assiduity, perseverance and gentlemanly behaviour. Alas! the Chilians are the only nation which has derived great profit by their independence from Spain. The Kanakers, inhabitants of the Sandwich Islands, of which likewise thousands have made this country their asylum, are of brown color; their extreme laziness and ignorance does not allow them to apply themselves to any work whatever and they live from robbing and marauding. But the meanest and most disgusting people I ever saw are the Californian indians, who are of copper-red color and stand but very little above the beasts, of which they have the habits. They are of small height and have most difformed features; they have thick black hair of which also the forehead is overgrown as far as the eyes. They are extremely dirty and live like ants in heaps of earth in which they literally roast, the fire being kindled in the midst of the earthen hut and only a small opening practized at the top for the passage of the smoke. They are constantly armed with bows and quivers filled (stuck) with arrows and are a thievish miserable race. All of them are attacked by venerian sickness, which the baby sucks with the milk of the mother, or, as medical men affirm, of which he is attacked in the mother's womb.

(59)

1 November. I have just recovered from a severe fever which has confined me to bed for nearly 3 weeks. I caught it on the 4th October with frequent vomiting and chills in quick succession with great heat. On the 5th my whole body was covered with yellow spots and from the 6th to the 20th I was lying in continual ravery. My accomodation

and attendance was most miserable indeed my bed being in the office of which the fore- and back-doors are constantly open. My physicians did not administer me any thing but quinine and calamel, but in spite of this poisonous medicine my strong constitution triumphed at last and I am now again feeling quite smart. My brother died here 1½ year ago from the very same sickness and according to the doctors assertions there is no chance for my recovery if the fever catches me a second time. My clerk the geolog L. Saynisch having got from his daughter in Ploosburg near Philadelphia the news that his wife was severely ill, he left me on the 4th October.

(60) San José in Santa Clara Valley, Janry. 20, 1852. On the 4th inst. I was again seized by a malignant fever and despairing of my life in case I remained in the poisonous climate of Sacramento, I went forthwith by the steamer down to San Francisco and thence to San José in the beautiful valley of Santa Clara, where I stopt at the house of Dr. Davini, an italian, who paid particular attention to me at the trifling fee of \$5 (abt. SR 7) per diem. Be it for the skill of the doctor or for the purity of the air, or for the change of climate, I soon becam convalescent and now feel strong enough to return tomorrow to Sacramento after having only for a single week been confined to bed. The Santa Clara valley is surrounded by huge mountains, in which however no gold is found. The temperature is exceedingly mild and during all the time that I have been here the thermometer stood abt. 20 degrees Reaumur. The recent rains have moistened the earth, and fields, meadows, and trees are in the flower of spring and offer a most beautiful aspect. Since I have left the bed, I am every day making an excursion on horseback and pay one dollar for each hour. In company of a gentleman who is likewise residing at Dr. Davini's and who is a native from the

Argentinian Republic in South America, I took yesterday, in a gig which I had hired at \$10, a ride to Quicksilver-mines, which are about 12 versts from here. This Quicksilvermine is asserted by far to exceed in richness both of quality and quantity the celebrated "Almaren" quicksilver-works in old Spain. It belongs to a company in San Francisco, who are realizing immense treasures out of the mines, inspite of their tremendous expences which amount to more than \$5000 (SR 7000) every day. There are 500 workmen constantly employed and each of them gets \$8 (SR 11. 40 cop) per day the labor being very unwholesome. The inspectors get 20, 30 & 40 \$ per day. I entered the shaft for a considerable distance and fully satisfied myself that the mine is inexhaustible. The pieces of rock are all pregnant with Quicksilver. The shaft is nearly on the top of a 2500 feet high mountain, whence the rock is brought down by oxen-teams to the manufacture where it is distilled. For miles around the mines are springs of Soda-water, which exceeds in flavor and purity any artificial Soda water I ever tasted.

(61) Sacramento, February 17th. I had to day the visit of Alexandr Tavrilovir Rotschef from St. Petersburg, and I invited him to dine with me. Mr. Rotschef is a very talented man who has travelled much and seen a great deal of the world. He speaks and writes with the greatest fluency spanish, english, french, portuguese, german, italian, dutch and russian and is deeply versed in literature and many other useful sciences. I enjoyed till a late hour the most interesting conversation of Mr. Rotschef and I must avow that I never my life saw an abler or a cleverer man than him. After having spent a day in the society of such a beautifully educated man as Mr. Rotschef, it will appear double onerous and disgusting to me to morrow to converse with the people I am doomed to live with in California.

Mr. Rotschef is constructing on the Yuba river a mill for the washing of Golddust, and I do not in the least doubt that with his iron-will and the steadiness of his capacious mind he will succeed to accumulate large wealth in this country.

A heavy rain-storm has set in upon us a fortnight ago and has continued since without intermission, in consequence of which the miners in the drye-diggings have now a great abundance of water and are reaping rich harvests. The waters both in the American and Sacramento rivers are rising rapidly and if the storm continues but for a few days longer, the artificial embankments which surround the city will be put to a severe test.

I believe that no where in the world gambling is carried on to a more alarming extent than in this city and the gambling-houses, of which there are a dozen, are night and day crowded with people, principally miners, who are losing here in a few minutes what they have accumulated during years of hard labor and privations. How immense the persons is who make gambling their profession is evident from the fact that when I first came to this city \$8000 (11.500 SR) *monthly* rent was paid for one gambling-table in the Eldorado Saloon.

Every thing is very dear here. Clerks in banking houses get \$250 to \$300 a month; in shops from \$150 to \$250. Waiters get \$100 to \$150 per month. Cooks get from \$100 to \$350 a month. Female servants are very scarce and it is very difficult to get even a negress at \$150 a month.

Eggs are exceedingly scarce here and are paid \$1 (1 R 40 Cop Silver) *each*. Butter is sent out here from the eastern States (Massachusetts and New York) and though it has to make the immense voyage round the Cape Horn it is still well preserved and was sold here \$2 per pound; but now it has fallen to \$1. Milk costs \$1 per bottle. Veal,

(62) turtle, pork, salmon, cayotes, rabbits, and venison costs \$1 pr pound, whilst beef varies between 30 and 50 Cents per pound. The wages of laborors here in the city are from 5 to 8\$ per day, whilst common workmen by the hour get \$1 for each hour.

Sacramento, March 8th. Since writing the above the incessant rain had caused the waters of the rivers to rise uninterruptedly, till they reached last night an awful height being in different places level with the "levee." Last night at 12½ o'clock we were suddenly awoke by the tolling of the alarm bell and made aware of the impending danger. The levee on the Sacramento had given way in one small place, and the opening became every moment larger. I run to the place of the disaster and assisted in stopping the opening, but all endeavors were fruitless and the water widened it every moment more and more and gushed through with increasing impetuosity. All at once a large piece of the levee on which we stood was loosened under our feet and gave way with a tremendous crash. I was with a number of others thrown into the water and taken away with the current for a considerable distance. We had some difficulty to get out after a most disagreeable bath of muddy water and some bruises and contusions. The streets of the city filled with great rapidity; in some places the water stood 10 to 12 feet deep and people had to save themselves on the 2d floor of the houses. The loss of goods damaged or lost by the fire was most enormous. The house where I lived being built upon a small elevation, I had in the bank no water, the latter coming only up to the level of the ground floor. As soon as the terrors of the first impression caused by the flood had passed, people thought of diverting themselves and to make the best of it. A great number of small flat boats were made in all haste of planks; rafts were put together and soon the communication was

every where restored. The streets presented a most burlesque appearance; here a horse dragging a raft with people, there a man in a cask rowing with some pieces of wood, there some boats capsizing, etc. Some people are said to have made a hundred dollars in a single day by conveying people across the streets.

16 March. The flood stood at its extreme height only 4 days and then quickly abated but large ponds of stagnant water remained both in and around the town, which under a constant dealy heat of from 30 to 40 degrees Reaumur produced a poisonous miasma and much fever, ague, dysentery, etc.

- (63) San Jose, March 30. I was unfortunate enough to catch the fever again on the 17 inst. and after having for several days been tormented by chills and vomiting, with yellow spots over all my body and in the impossibility to get up from bed, finding myself in a complete state of exhaustion and frequent ravery; my clerks in conformity to the directions previously given by me for such an event, wrapped me up in blankets and sent me in a senseless state under the attendance of a servant by the steamer down to San Francisco and thence by a coach to San José. Till the 28 inst. I have been lying in a most desperate state and in almost continual ravery, but at last my strong constitution bore off the victory and already today I have been able to get up for a couple of hours. If my convalescence continues I shall probably return the day after tomorrow to Sacramento, give over my business to Mr. B. Davidson, agent for Rothschild at San Francisco and return as soon as possible to my beloved Russia, for I feel I should not survive if I caught another time the fever.

Sacramento, April 7th. On passing through San Francisco on 2 inst. I represented to Mr. B. Davidson the impossibility of my remaining any longer in the poisonous climate

of Sacramento and requested him to take over my business without any further responsibility for myself, to which he consented and he came up yesterday to settle our accounts. Every thing having now been settled and arranged between us, I go by this day's steamer with aforesaid friend down to San Francisco and leave to morrow by the steamer "Golden Gate" for Panama.

PACIFIC OCEAN, Latitude North 38°, Longitude [West] 125°. On board the United States mail Steamer "Golden Gate," April 8, at 8 o'clock at night. I returned last night and took this morning my ticket for the steamer. Feeling myself still very ill, I preferred taking a Stateroom in the upper cabin for myself, for which I had to pay \$600 (SR 840). (64) We started this afternoon at 2 o'clock under the thunder of the canons and passed at 6 o'clock the entrance to the bay of San Francisco called "Golden Gate." With full steam and a fair wind we are now dancing fast over the waves of the Pacific Ocean with direction to the South.

In spite of my frequent severe illness and the frequent pretty large deficiencies which I found in my Cash, and which I can only attribute to the dishonesty of my Clerks, I have all reason to be perfectly satisfied with my success in California and most assuredly among those who leave this Country there is hardly one in a hundred thousand who has done as well as myself. Nothing exceeds my joy and exultation in finding myself away from California, which seemed destined to become my grave.

Acapulco in Mexico, April 15, Latitude North 17°, Long. 102½°. We arrived here this morning after a splendid run of only 7 days and stop here to take Coals and refreshments. Our noble steamer is crowded to excess having on board just 1300 passengers, representatives of almost any nation of the globe. She is of 4000 tons burthen, of 1500 horses power and is certainly the largest and quickest

steamer in the world. To day whilst we were lying here in the harbor there arrived three ocean-steamers from Panama with passengers from New York and New Orleans; namely the "Wilfried Scott" (which has completed the run from N. York round Cape Horn to Acapulco in 45 days) with 700 passengers, the "New Orleans" with 650 passengers and the "Northerner" with 800 passengers. These three steamers were lying alongside of us and it struck me most wonderfully, what a difference exists in the disposition of those passengers who go out to and those who return from California. On board the above mentioned steamers the passengers were dancing and singing all the day long on deck, talking of nothing but of the golden mountains which they were going to accumulate in California—all was joyful enthusiasm and hilarity. On board our steamer however things looked quite different; out of 1300 passengers there was not a single one whose physi-
(65) onomy evinced joyful excitement, no body of us sung or danced, all of us appeared equally serious or downbeaten in spirits. Because the mind of the most part of us was taken up by the consideration what long and sour faces the friends at home would make on seeing them return with disappointed hopes and empty pockets, whilst those few of us who had realized fortunes in California were absorbed by the most serious considerations how to bring the money safely home and how to employ it afterwards to advantage.

Pacific Ocean, Latitude North 13. April 18. Yesterday at 4 o'clock p. m. we experienced in the Gulf of Teuantepec a most frightful Typhoon from the West South West and such was the fury of the wind that it knocked down the waves; in fact there was no wave visible and the ocean presented to the eye one immense sheet of boiling foam. The typhoon lasted 4 hours, during which our steamer lay completely and nearly motionless on one side, so much that

the crossmasts and the tops of the mainmasts were continually bathed in the sea. The roaring & howling of the typhoon was of such frightful force that even in the Cabin it was impossible to understand what we cried each other in the ears at the pitch of the voice. Even the boldest of our seamen lost all hope and all expected every second that we should be set upside down. After 4 hours of cold and trembling horror the typhoon abated gradually, which we could observe by the increasing rolling and shaking of the steamer. At midnight it was again perfectly calm, but the waves which had commenced rising when the typhoon abated were still rolling mountains high. To day it rains very hard and I am afraid that the rainy season has fairly set in.

(66) Panama, April 24th. We anchored this afternoon at 6 o'clock in the bay of Panama abt. 2 miles from the city and were immediately surrounded by a large number of boats to take us off. But we could not leave the steamer before the harbor-master came on board, which lasted till 7½ o'clock. I did not get away before 8 o'clock. I was with six other passengers in one boat. When we were abt. 200 paces from the shore some twenty naked natives threw themselves in the water, and approached us swimming tendering their services to carry our luggage to any place in the town where we might wish to stop. But when we refused to let take it before reaching the shore, they seized our things with impetuosity, the one taking a trunk, the other a carpetbag, the other a hatbox, and having swum with them ashore they run then away with them and disappeared in the dark of the night. Several of my fellow-passengers were robbed in this way of all they had earned in California. But as to myself, I was prepared for these tricks and sitting on my luggage with my revolving pistol in one hand and my dagger in the other I threatened to shoot or stab the first man who attempted to carry off any-

thing of my luggage. After having fairly landed I engaged to [2] men at 1 dollar each to take my trunks to the Hôtel and watching them closely and menacing to blow out the brains of the first who would attempt to run away, I at last got safely to the "American Hôtel," where I got very bad accommodation for the night and stinking victuals.

(67) Hoping to find a steamer on the Atlantic side and being afraid that the rainy season would soon render the roads across the mountains impassible, I and Mr. Livingston in company of many hundred others set off on the slippery and perilous way. I had 3 mules, for which I paid \$40. The rain continued to pour down in torrents so that soon we had not a bit of dry cloth on. The small mountain gulches, brooks, and rivulets had grown up to rapid streams, and the narrow mules-track was slippery in the extreme, particularly on the declivity of the mountains. The mule is a wonderfully clever beast; when we came on mules' back to a mountain gulch or rivulet resting on large slippery stones, then the mule looks attentively for a few seconds in the water, draws his four legs together and slips down the stone, and then putting his foot on some crevice or inequality of the opposite stone he jumps out of the dilemma with great agility. Sometimes my bridle tore and then the mule feeling himself free, immediately jumped into the thicket to feed on some foliage and I had then to glide instantly backward down to avoid certain destruction, for I should have been literally hanged in the thick branches intertwined with ivy.

Quite exhausted by fatigue we at last reached Gorgona by 6½ p. m., and I with many others put up at the Railroad Hôtel, where I slept on my trunks. Next morning (26 April) at 5 o'clock I was awoke by the cries of an Irishman who, having drunk rather too big a draught the night before, was robbed of his trowsers containing a purse with

sum 500 dollars. The city-police was called in, but all searches were in vain. The Irishman came from St. Thomas and wanted to go to California, where he said to have made a considerable sum on a previous visit. At abt. 8 o'clock I with some 7 other passengers hired at the rate of 2 dollars each a boat made of a hollow tree and went down on the Chagres river to "Frijol," whence we proceeded by the railway to a spot called "Aspinwall" on Navy Bay which is part of the Carabian Sea. On the way down to "Frijol" we saw a great many Crocodiles, which like old stems of trees were lying on the banks of the river. We also killed a large Alligator with the oars on the ground of the river. We had to wait for the railway train till 3 o'clock and only at 3¼ we started. The whole way from Frijol to Aspinwall leads over continual swamps covered with an impenetrable forest of palmtrees and thousands of other trees of the tropical climes. Though the distance is only 20 miles, we wanted 3 hours to perform it and only arrived at Aspinwall after sun-down. In stead of Coals we used for fuel the wood of palm-trees. This railway small as it is, is a most stupendous work. Hundred thousands of immense piles had to be driven in the ground and at the top of them were then again laid beams across and were heaped up with earth to render the ground solid. At Aspinwall the railway goes for a long distance through the water of the bay on a sort of bridge formed by long rows of immense piles rammed in the ground, and on which the rails are laid out with great skill. This railway can be said to have been built on the bones of many many thousands of americans and europeans, who fell victims to this most poisonous climate. The white man cannot stand the hard work on swamps under the perpendicular rays of the sun, and out of one hundred labourers often 50 or 60 die from fever, disentry, diarrhea, or ague ere they are one month here.

The directors of the Panama railway not being any more able to engage workmen in the United States, they have now directed their attention to Carthagena, Santa Martha, and the various ports of the island Jamaica, whence they bring the negroes and natives to work here, and indeed with great success, for these people having been born under a similar climate, are able to live and work here.

We expected for certain to find a steamer in Navy Bay, but to our utmost vexation and disappointment there was none, the "Crescent City" having gone the same morning. We found ourselves in the most miserable situation imaginable, for the rain poured down in torrents and no house was there to give us shelter, only one house having as yet been erected for the American consul. Thus we made the best of it and camped under palmtrees. I spread my blankets on my trunks and slept on them in spite of the incessant rain.

(69) Next morning our first care was to obtain something to eat, for not having got anything since we left Gorgona, all of us experienced an awful hunger. But, alas, food was nowhere to be got and in the extremity of our position we killed an immense lizard, which we ate raw with the same voracious appetite as if it had been a roasted turkey. The lizards, called here "Iguanas" exceed here the ordinary size of the alligators and crocodiles and I have seen the former to the length of 40 feet. On the 27th we made of palmleaves and palmbranches some huts or shelters, through which however the rain filtered incessantly. On the same day at 6 o'clock p. m. the railway train brought the remainder of the passengers per "Goldengate" amounting in all to abt. 1300 persons, which number was increased by the arrival at Panama of two more steamers, the passengers of which were brought down on the 28th and 30th April by the railwaycars and thus on the 30th our number altogether might amount to abt. 2600. The incessant rain ren-

dered it utterly impossible for us to kindle fire and unable to procure us any other victuals we fed on the raw meat of lizzards, monkeys, turtles, mules, and crocodiles, which latter is considered as a great delicacy among the natives of this country and particularly the tail. Our position was the most horrible immaginable and our sufferings encreased every moment. Ever since we left Panama none of us had any dry clothes on and we had no means to protect ourselves against the rainstorm which continued to pour upon us in all its intensity. Hundred of us were attacked by the isthmus-fever, diarrhoea, dysentery & ague and died after a day or two of cruel suffering. The dead remained where they were, because none of us could or would bury them. The fetid odor and poisonous miasma arising from the quick putrifaction and dicomposition of the dead bodies of men and beasts infested still more the unwholesome state of the atmosphere. But all the above torments and sufferings were but trifling to the pain we had to endure from the musquitos, which surrounded us night and day by myriads and did not cease to torment us by their atrocious sting. Like a crazy man have I frequently weltered in the mud without being able to free myself of this most horrible of plagues. Many of my fellow-passengers rubbed themselves the whole body with mercury in order to get rid of the musquitos, but I would not do it. Already at the end of January, in consequence of the great deal of mercury which had been administered to me by the Californian physicians, a small wound sprung up on my left leg, to which however I paid no attention to it as it did not cause me any pain. Even when I left California the wound was but trifling; but as soon as we passed Cape Lucas on the Pacific Ocean and entered the Tropics the wound became much worse and grew daily more dangerous until the Isthmus of Panama, where it assumed a most serious character and caused me

(70) the most atrocious pains, which I contrived to linger a little by rubbing with mercury. The wound enlarged daily and the flesh fell off for a considerable distance and the bare bone was visible.

Many of my fellow-passengers were killed by the bite of scorpions and snakes (particularly rattle-snakes) which abound in these regions.

Thus I spent fully 14 days in wet clothes and camped 12 days (from 26 April till 8th May) on a swamp, being night and day exposed to the rain which continued to fall upon us in torrents and against which we had no means to protect ourselves; being deprived of all food except the raw meat of lizzards, crocodiles, turtles, monkeys, etc., with which my fellow-passenger Livingston supplied me; being brought to despair by the musquitos; expecting every moment death either by gangrene which seemed going to join my wound in the leg, or by the multitude of sicknesses to which I saw hundreds of my fellow-passengers falling victims, or by the bite of snakes and scorpions, of which I saw so many a poor fellow perish—thus thousands of miles from my beloved St. Petersburg, thousands of miles from those dear to my heart. I lay more dead than alive and without being able to move on account of my leg-wound. In this horrible situation all human feeling forsook us and we sunk below the beast. We became so familiarized with death, that it lost for us all its terror, that we began to like it and to look upon it as a lingering of our sufferings. Thus it came that we laughed and amused ourselves at the convulsions of the dying and that crimes were perpetrated among us; *crimes so terrible!* that now at a later date I cannot think of it without cold and trembling horror.

At last on the 8th May at abt. 4 o'clock in the morning a canonshot apprized us of that a steamer was approaching and nothing could exceed our joy and enthusiasm. It was

(71) the United States steamer "Sierra Nevada" which at 6 o'clock was followed by the steamer "Illinois" and in the course of the morning further arrived the "Georgia" and the "New Orleans." Thus there was room for us all. Those who had taken at St. Francisco through tickets to New York were obliged to go by the mailsteamers "Illinois" or "Georgia," whilst the others who had no tickets could choose their birth where they liked. With the assistance of some seamen I was brought on board the "Sierra Nevada" where I took a Stateroom with two beds in the upper cabin entirely by myself and had to pay \$130. I gave the wet clothes which I had on and those which were in my trunks to one of the waiters to get them dried, and having got my wound dressed by the ships physician and taken some beef tea and wine I slept for the first time since the 24th April in drye bedclothes. We left the same evening for Kingston capital of the british island "Jamaica," where we arrived on the 11th May in the morning. The sun stood just 10 degrees latitude north and shone thus perpendicularly upon Kingston. My friend Livingston stopt at Kingston. Among the other passengers who went with me to New York were Horsmann from Philadelphia, Dr. Albers from New Orleans, Fink from Kingston and his brother from St. Domingo. A young spaniard from Panama, Caporal vice Consul from Panama.

This is a fine place surrounded as far as the eye can reach with fields of Coffee, Sugarcane and forests of palms and orange-trees. At the entrance of the harbour is a pretty strong fort and the view of the city and environs is most picturesque. The city has abt. 40,000 inhabitants, of whom $\frac{1}{8}$ th are negroes. The streets are broad and part of them are paved. The houses built for the most part of brick and one to two stories high, intersected by gardens filled with all the splendour and luxury of the tropical vegetation. My

(72) health and strength having a little improved, I hobbled with a crutch to an apothecary-shop in town to get some mercury ointment. Most strange to relate, the apothecary having heard from me that I came from California asked me if I was by accident Mr. Schliemann from Sacramento, and when with great surprise at his knowing me I answered in the affirmative, he showed me a bill of exchange for £10. drawn by myself on Baring Brothers & Co. in London in favor of Mr. M. A. Cohen, who had remitted it to the apothecary, who is a native from Vienna. The kind attention paid to me by the apothecary and his boys, the cheapness of the medicine, the comfort of the houses—every thing formed here an agreeable contrast against what I met with in California and I could not remember of this latter country without a sigh. I bought on the wharf 2 baskets with oranges at the rate of 50 cents each.

This colony has lost much and is nearly ruined since the emancipation of the slaves, the colored men being an arrogant and lazy people, and without them the work cannot be done, because no white man is able to work in the open air in this hot climate. Thousands of scotch, german and irish workmen have been sent out hither, but they all found their grave here in a few months, because the heat is to awful and the rhum to cheap, a whole gallon ($\frac{1}{3}$ beg pa) being sold here for 25 cents (abt. 32 cop.).

After a quick run of $6\frac{1}{2}$ days we arrived on the 18th at 4 o'clock in the morning at New York, where I put up at the "New York Hôtel" on Broadway. New York is a paradise for a man who comes from California, and full of enthusiasm I cried out oh New York! New York! I visited my friend G. Janssen, partner of Schmidt & Co., with whom I went at night to the farewell Concert of Jenny Lind in the Metropolitan Hall. This celebrated cancatrice had recently got married at Boston in Massachusetts to a

jew of the name of Goldschmidt, a pianist from Hamburgh, who for that purpose had adopted the christian faith. Jenny Lind intended to start on the 29th May by the steamer "Atlantic" for Europe and she therefore gave her farewell concerts on the 18th, 20th, and 22d May; admittance tickets 3\$, 2\$ and 1\$. Jenny Lind has an income of £20,000 a year.

(73) ON THE 19TH May, to the great disappointment of my friend Janssen, I left by the steamer "Europa" for Liverpool. The harbor of New York is the most beautiful I ever saw, being surrounded by splendid islands, covered with numberless somer mansions of the New York inhabitants. We had abt. 125 passengers, among whom the names of Caporal, native of Smyrna, Janey Widder from Toronto, Arnold Taylor from Manchester, Knauth and lady with sister from Leipzig, and Colonel Giugi from Toronto. The irishman Feargus O'Connor, member for Nottingham, was also my fellow passenger. Feargus O'Connor is certainly one of the most eminent men ever produced by Ireland and the greatest orator that ever spoke in the House of Commons. Having a few months ago been accused of the embezzlement of a large sum of money, of which he was unable to give account, he went in a deranged state of mind to New York, whence he now returned in a complete state of craziness, and he annoyed us very much by taking the one or the other's wine and drinking it out, by throwing the one or the other's hat over board, or tormenting us by his insane jokes or blows. Our passengers were for the most part fine people and formed the best society I ever met with on board a steamer, and if not my wound in the leg had caused me so much pain, I should certainly have enjoyed this trip very much. On the 30th May at 5 o'clock a. m. we got Cape clear in sight and passed then the South coast of Ireland, which we had for more then 8 hours clearly

in sight. At 2 p. m. we past Holyhead and at 6 p. m. we saw the coast of Old England. At 7 we entered the river Mersey and $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour afterwards we landed at the wharf in Liverpool. It was painful for me to separate from several of my fellow passengers, for whom I felt a very strong attachment. I stopt for the night at the "Adelphi Hôtel" and left the next morning at 4 o'clock together with Col. Giugi and a young american from Philadelphia by the mail-train for London, where we arrived at 11 a. m. We stopt at "Morley's Hôtel" on Trafalgar square. After having given over to Baring Brothers & Co., what funds I had brought with me from California in Golddust and bills of Exchange, I applied to Dr. G. F. Collier of Springgardens, London, who after having burnt out the foul flesh of the wound with "lapis infernalis" dressed it and ordered me to remain quite in my room, keeping the leg always in a horizontal situation. Having lived 3 days in Morleys Hôtel, I took at the doctor's advice a private lodging just opposite his country-seat at Chiswick. But being accustomed to active life, the inactivity and particularly the loneliness brought me nearly to despair, and thus after having lived 7 days at Chiswick, I left by the steamer via Boulogne for Paris, where I put up at the "Grand Hôtel d'Angleterre," Rue des Filles St. Thomas, and 2 days afterwards I took private lodgings on the Boulevard Bonne Nouvelle No. 11 at Mme Rambeau's. Under the attendance of Dr. Monot, the first physician of Paris, the state of my wound improved daily, and already after 15 days I was able to go on horse-back and to walk much afoot. From that time off I began (74) to amuse myself and the time appeared to me less tedious. I rose in the morning at 5 o'clock; took at 5½ my bath in the "Natation Henri IV," went then two hours on horse-back in the "Champs Elysés" and in the "Bois de Boulogne," breakfasted at 8½ in one of the Cafés in the Palais

Royal, went then to a literary society of which I became a member and where I stopt till 3 p. m.; rode then to the Café de l'Horloge in the Champs Elysés where I took my second breakfast, dined at 6 o'clock in the "Hôtel des Princes," and spent the evening either in the "Grand Opera," or in the "Opera Comique," or in the "Theatre Français," or in the one or the other places of amusement in the Champs Elysés.

Having got an invitation from Mr. Ch^s Ellis in Maidstone, with whose son I had travelled 2 years ago, I left again by way of Havre and Southampton for London, whence I proceeded by way of Gravesend and Stroof to Maidstone, a fine little city situated in a beautiful valley. I stopt there only for one day and returned then by Gravesend, London, Newhaven and Dieppe to Paris.

My wound was in the meantime pretty nearly healed up, but there still remained a small open spot, which I could not get healed, and having at the same time got wearisome of the idle and dissolute life at Paris, I went at the invitation of Dr. Collier on the $\frac{6^{\text{th}}}{18}$ July by way of Calais Dover (where I visited Mr. Duke) and London to his Country-seat at Chiswick, where I stopt 4 days, got my wound quite healed up, and left then on the $\frac{11^{\text{th}}}{23}$ July from London by the steamer "John Bull" for Hamburgh, whence I immediately proceeded by the railway over Schwerin to Rostock. At the Bützow rail-way-station I met two of my sisters, of whom I recognized only the one who had been with me two years ago in St. Petersburg; but the other I did not recognize at all, not having seen her for more than 20 years. My two sisters were going to enjoy the sea-bath on the island Rügen, and as their way led them over Rostock, so we travelled together to that city, whence my sisters left the next day for Stralsund and Rügen, whilst I went over Wismar and Grevismulen to Kalkhorst to visit

(75) my uncle the reverend F. Schliemann, whom I had not seen for 20 years. I staid a couple of days with him and left then by way of Wismar again for Rostock to visit my old friend Mr. Schreiber at Doberan and my cousin Counsellor at law A. Schliemann at Güstrow. Having made these visits I returned to my uncle at Kalkhorst, with whom I staid this time only one night and left then by way of Boltenhagen, Wismar, Schwerin, Ludwigslust, Parchim, Lübs, Malchow, Waren, and Möllenhagen to Ankershagen, the little village where I was born and raised.

It is impossible for me to describe the impression produced upon me by the sight of the places, where I spent the happy years of my early childhood, and where every house, every tree, every stone and every bush brought to my memory a thousand agreeable reminiscences of years long gone bye. It must be that every object appears in gigantic proportion to the eye of the child, because the churchsteeple which formerly appeared to me of immense hight and which I always thought the highest in the world, the lindentree in the midst of the orchard which formerly seemed to touch the Clouds—in fact every thing appeared now only in miniature to me, except the balsam-poplars and the cherrytrees before the door, which must have grown up considerably, for they seemed to me of the same hight as 21 year ago. I found the initials H. S. of my name a hundred times on the glaspanes of our former dwellinghouse, or on the trees in the garden and in the court, where I had the habit to cut it when a child, and on the large linden-tree where I had perpetuated myself with a hatchet in 2 feet long initials, the latter appeared so fresh as if made only a month ago. On the door of the pavillon in the garden I still found an inscription made with pencil by my father and dated 7 May, 1827. The present vicar Conradi showed me every kindness, accompanied me to the church

and to my mother's grave, the railing of which was in a very decaying state, and having satisfied my curiosity as much as I could in a couple of hours, I hired from the inn-keeper a waggon with a pair of horses and left for the village Viperow on the lake Muritz to visit another sister of mine, who lives there in the family of my uncle Wachenhusen. I arrived there at 9 o'clock in the evening and left the next morning at 4 o'clock by way of Roebel, Waren (where I visited Bahlmann, an old friend of my father); Teterow & Gustrow to Rostock, whence I started the ensuing morning by the steamer "Erbgrossherzog Friederich Franz" for Cronstadt and St. Petersburg. Today, ^{23 July}/_{4 Aug.} at 6 p. m. we arrived in this beautiful capital of Russia, in this charming St. Petersburg, and nothing exceeds my joy (76) to see myself here again.

July 24th, 1852. I was today on 'change, where all my old friends received me with enthusiasm. I also visited Miss Catherine Lyschin, to whom I vainly paid my addresses in former years, but who now received me most kindly and every thing appears to promise fair.

December 31, 1852. Since writing the above a great change has taken place in my position in life, because on the 12th October I became the happy husband of Miss Catherine Lyschin, who is a russian lady of great accomplishments both of body and mind, and I enjoy now all the comforts of a quite domestic life. I have travelled much and seen certainly a great deal of the world, but never have I seen a country which pleased me so much as my heartily beloved Russia, never have I seen a city which pleased me one thousandth part as much as my charming St. Petersburg, never have I met with a people for whom I felt only one thousandth part of the liking and love which I cherish for my adopted brethern the russians. I shall therefore make St. Petersburg my home for the remainder of my life and never think of leaving it again.

January 3d, 1853. By this days mail I got from Mr. Grim, one of my former clerks the following printed report of a terrible Conflagration which had on the 2d November reduced the flourishing city of Sacramento to a heap of ashes and smouldering ruins:

“ Sacramento State Journal Extra . . . for the Atlantic States, by the Golden Gate.

Awful conflagration.

Sacramento city Burned to the Ground.

Ten Millions of Dollars worth of Property totally destroyed! Loss of Life

(77) “ As chroniclers of passing events, we are again called upon to record a terrible calamity to one of the proudest evidences of California energy and enterprise. In a single night our beautiful city has been swept away by the terrible element with which we are accustomed to associate the end of all earthly things. The morning of the 2nd inst. dawned bright and beautiful and never did the streets of Sacramento present a more stirring and lively scene than during the entire day. Though the interest felt in the first Presidential contest in the State was intense, the struggle of parties was conducted with the most perfect good humor, and closed without a single instance of riot or disorder. Wearied with the excitement of the day, the majority of our citizens had retired to rest by eleven o'clock, when the unusual quiet was interrupted by the alarm of fire, and a frame building, near the north west corner of J and fourth streets, was discovered to be on fire. Though long exemption from anything more than false alarms, had rendered many indifferent to a cry so startling in almost any other city, the fire companies rushed to their posts with an alacrity worthy of better succes; but in consequence of a strong breeze, the flames spread with such appalling rapid-

ity that their efforts appeared almost hopeless. Within the space of five minutes, the fire had reached several buildings on either side of J Street, and fairly commenced its awful career. At the same time, the wind came in rapid and continued gusts from the north west, sending a shower of sparks and burning brands along J and K streets, as if eager to complete the work of destruction. House after house was thus kindled in quick succession, and the roaring flames rushed on with such speed that many of the flying inhabitants had barely time to escape with life. In attempting to save property, several perished and many were seriously injured. With the exception of the buildings on I street, and a few beyond 9th, almost the entire portion of the city east of 4th st. (embracing about twelve squares) was consumed in a space of time incredibly short. West and south from the starting point, the devastation went on more slowly, and when the eastern half of the city was a mass of blazing ruins, some hope was still felt that the remainder and better built portion might be saved. Between 4th and 3rd streets there was but one brick building on the north and none on the south side of J to check the flames which moved steadily down to 3rd street, and crossed it, though every effort was made to save the fine new brick building known as Overton Block, and the one occupied by Scudder, Carroll & Co. These shared the common fate and the complete ruin of the city became evident. Here and there a desperate stand was made by the few who had the heart to contend with the devouring element; but the wind blew almost a hurricane, shifting so frequently that fiery arms appeared stretched in every direction, and the most splendid edifices in the city blazed for a few moments and then fell into piles of glowing ruins. In less than four hours left houseless hundreds with nothing but the clothing upon them. As yet it is impossible to make anything

like an accurate estimate of the value of the property destroyed. Within the range of the conflagration, there were many buildings which had been considered fire-proof; but of the number only five were left standing. With two or three exceptions, the walls of the brick houses consumed fell in soon after the flames enveloped them. Gentlemen well acquainted with the value of property in the city place the entire loss at 10,000,000. It has been ascertained that seven persons were consumed, and in all probability others will yet be discovered to have perished.

(79) “When the sun rose on the morning of the 3rd, where the evening before stood our flourishing and busy city, nothing remained but a few scattered houses and a waste of blackened ruins. But even before dawn, messengers had been despatched in every direction to procure the materials for rebuilding. Even the heaviest losers, with that dauntless energy peculiar to California at once commenced preparations to rear again their homes and places of business. In many instances, our business men cleared away the heated and smoking remains of their old stands to lay the new foundations. Two days were sufficient to restore the cheerfulness of all, and our streets began to present a scene of bustling industry unequalled in the past. During the last four days, the sounds of the hammer and trowel have been ringing in every quarter. Long ranges of temporary buildings have sprung up, and again we recognize the familiar streets. Strange as it may appear, property has advanced considerably since the fire, and vacant lots now readily rent for more than when the buildings were upon them. No one who has witnessed the tremendous energy displayed by our citizens, during the last week, can doubt that in a few months Sacramento will be restored to its former prosperity. Many of our people have lost splendid fortunes, but the same enterprise and industry which

won is at work to restore them. We confidently predict that on the 2nd of November, 1853, Sacramento will be a better built and more flourishing city than ever before."

(80) February 15th, 1853. The last american steamer brought again awful tidings from California. The heavy rain-storms which had set in in the latter part of November and continued uninterruptedly during two months had swollen the rivers to a never-known height and the whole Sacramento valley was one immense sea. The artificial embankments around Sacramento city had in several places given way, the whole city was again under water and the loss of goods had been most tremendous. The communication with the mines having been entirely cut off, famine arose every where and thousands starved to death with hunger. Victuals of all kinds rose in the mining districts to fabulous prices and flour was paid as high as 2\$ (2R 80 Silver) per pound.

March 2. The news, which came to hand to day from California, are again of a more cheerful character; the rain-storm had ceased, the flood had subsided, victuals had receded to their former prices and mining pursuits were again carried on with increased vigor.

APPENDIX

I. TRANSLATION OF THE SPANISH SECTION ON PAGES 30-31

NOTHING is more terrible than the heat. Against the cold one can cover himself with thick clothing, but against the heat there is no help. Although I wore light clothes, I suffered horribly, even though I took a bath every morning. It is evident that the bath is little used, for no water comes out of the shower. On the steamer from Panama to San Francisco I shall arrange for two or three baths a day for all the time that we spend at sea.

Our Captain Tanner is a very unpretentious man, and he seems to understand his business very well. The First Mate appears to be rich and arrogant. The accommodations are very bad, the lavatories very dirty, but one can expect nothing else on board a ship with 260 passengers. There are on board about 20 women, among whom about 16 are married, and four girls who are going to California on a chance to find husbands for themselves. These four girls seem to be very stupid and very ugly to me; they are well along in years, being about 30 years old. But without doubt they will find in California what they wish, for that market is very little stocked with the fair sex. In my cabin are four berths, of which I occupy one; another is occupied by a Swedish Jew with a very ugly and somewhat suspicious face. Captain Poustand occupies another, and the last is allotted to a fat American who lives in San Francisco. There are two decks, of which one is called quarter-deck, and the passengers use it in time of great heat or rain, for it has the advantage of being covered by the upper deck against the rays of the sun and bad weather. The upper deck is used for strolling in the evening or in cloudy weather. On board this steamer the distance is not measured by casting the log, for we have

the sun in sight all day long. The meals are inferior to those which we had on the steamers from England to New York. There is neither chocolate nor ham and eggs, and not much of anything else. They tell me that on the Isthmus of Panama provisions are very scarce, and for that reason I shall buy some on our ship to take along with me.

A very pleasant sight is that of the flying fish, which being pursued by other larger fish, rise and fly a little distance, and disappear again in the water. They are half a foot to one foot in size. The motion of this boat is a bit different from that of the English boats. The latter plunge forward with the bow in the water and quiver from stem to stern, while the American ships roll from one side to the other continually. Nothing can equal the splendor of the heavens at night when the brilliant light of millions of stars proclaim the glory of God; nothing more beautiful than the aspect of the sea when the sun shines with its burning rays.

II. TRANSLATION OF THE SPANISH SECTION ON PAGES 61-63

WE ARRIVED at Sacramento on Monday, May 19. Wishing to see the beautiful Sonoma Valley, which I had heard highly praised, I went to San Francisco on Monday, May 26, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and put up at the Hotel Rasette-House [Russ House?], where I met a Dutch servant. The steamer having been announced in the newspaper as sailing on the 27th, I arrived at the place from which it was to start at six in the morning, but there was no steamer there, and they told me that I had come a day early. An so I was forced to wait in San Francisco the entire day. I had nothing to do, and was completely bored. We left finally at 9 o'clock in the morning, May 28. There being a strong contrary wind, we proceeded very slowly,

and I should have been bored to death if I had not met on board Prof. F. G. Reeger of Sonoma, a very interesting man, who had traveled a great deal and seen much of the world. I don't think I have ever seen a man so likeable, affable and wise as Mr. Reeger. With equal facility he spoke English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, and without doubt is as deeply conversant with the Greek and Latin languages. Inasmuch as foreign languages have always given me great pleasure, I took extraordinary delight in speaking with Mr. Reeger in different idioms, and thus the time passed very quickly. We arrived at the landing-place at five in the evening, and were taken in a carriage to Sonoma, a little village with four or five hundred inhabitants. The beautiful Sonoma Valley delighted me with its millions of flowers and the fresh healthy air that one breathes there. The land is very fertile, and Señor Vallejo produced in a small garden more than fifteen thousand pesos worth of wine. Certainly if the gold-mines had not been discovered, the land here would sell at a very high figure, but since labor now costs very much, no one thinks of agriculture, and the land has no price at all. For my part, I would not wish to live in Sonoma, but there are some who prefer the quiet of the fields to the bustle of the large cities.

I departed from Sonoma on Saturday the 31st of May by the stage for Napa where we had lunch, and at five in the evening arrived at Benicia, which I left at half past six in the evening by the Steamer Senator, and arrived at Sacramento at half past one.

My only occupation here being to lend money on mortgages on land and houses, I have nothing to occupy myself with, and since from my youth I have become accustomed to work from morning till night, I cannot describe the impatience and boredom which torment me. At the same time the heat during the day is unbearable, and causes me to suffer a

great deal, because I am very full-blooded. The society of Sacramento is composed of adventurers, whose sole ambition and desire is to enrich themselves at another's expense. There is no company here to my taste, there are no ways of amusing myself, and with all my heart I wish to return to Europe as soon as possible. But since the journey from St. Petersburg and the transportation of the money here has cost me so much, I should like to recover the large expense, and return via China.

God willing, I shall sail from San Francisco at the end of this year for Canton on a sailing vessel, visit all the principal ports in the Indies, and continue my travels via Egypt and Italy to Germany. Then I shall settle in St. Petersburg, for I prefer it to all the cities that I have visited in my life: its pleasant affable inhabitants, its beautiful and very neat houses, its fine streets, and its delightful climate all please me very much. I have never met a foreigner who hasn't spoken the highest praises of St. Petersburg. Everything is very cheap there, and living in the best hotel and keeping a coach and horses cannot cost more than two thousand duros a year.¹ In truth Petersburg is the end of my desires, but before I see it, I intend to visit many other lands. If I make the journey via China and the Indies, I would in that case visit Jerusalem as well, not with religious intent, but to satisfy my curiosity.

¹ Peso duro, the Mexican or Central American peso or dollar, valued at about 50¢ U. S.

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