

## POLISH MASS MEETING in San Francisco, 1863

Invitation from Committee of Arrangements for  
**Polish Mass Meeting**, San Francisco.

POLISH MASS MEETING.—We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to attend a mass meeting in favor of **Polish freedom and nationality**, to be held at Platt's Hall, San Francisco, on Friday evening, May 22d.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC, }  
San Francisco, May 21, 1863. }

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16th inst., inviting me to attend a mass meeting in favor of "**Polish Freedom and Nationality**," to be held on the evening of the 22d. I regret, gentlemen, that I cannot accept your invitation, as I am compelled to leave the city to-morrow, to be absent a few days. A nation battling for its "Freedom and Nationality" will always raise the cordial sympathy and best wishes of the American people.

With great respect, I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant.

G. WRIGHT,

Brigadier-General U. S. Army.

Capt. C. Bielowski, C. Piotrowski, and others.

SYMPATHY WITH THE **POLISH** REVOLUTION.—The Board of Supervisors last evening accepted an invitation, from the Committee of Arrangements, to attend a **mass meeting** in favor of Polish freedom and nationality, to be held at Platt's Hall on Friday evening next.

An enthusiastic **Polish mass meeting** is being held at Platt's Hall.

**Grand Mass Meeting  
In Favor of  
Polish Freedom and Nationality**

Platt's New Music Hall (now the Mill's Bldg.)  
Bush & Montgomery Streets, San Francisco  
**Friday evening, 22 May 1863**

**GRAND MASS MEETING**  
IN FAVOR OF  
**Polish Freedom and Nationality**  
WILL BE HELD AT  
**PLATT'S NEW MUSIC HALL,**  
ON  
**FRIDAY EVENING,.....MAY 22, 1863,**  
**At Eight o'clock.**

The following gentlemen have consented to address the meeting:

**CAPT. CORVIN PIOTROWSKI,**  
**W. HAMILL, ESQ.,**  
**HON. NATHAN PORTER,**  
**COL. J. C. ZABRISKIE,**  
**REV. T. STARR KING,**  
**HON. J. M. McSHAFTER,**  
**PROF. J. D. WHITNEY.**

The Galleries will be reserved exclusively for the Ladies.

**CAPT. CASIMIR BIELAWSKI,**  
**CAPT. CORVIN PIOTROWSKI,**  
**C. MEYER,**  
**L. J. CZAPKAY, M. D.,**  
**MARTIN PRAG,**

Committee of Arrangements appointed by the Central Polish Society of the Pacific Coast. my29-3

The unity of the [*Polish*] émigrés [*in San Francisco*], as well as their memory of Poland, and the enthusiasm with which they received news of the uprising in Poland, led them to organize on May 22, 1863, **the only successful public gathering** [about the Uprising] **in all the United States** on such a scale that many Americans took part in it, among which were the Mayor of the City and numerous political émigrés of other nationalities living in California...

...work on behalf of the uprising [1863-'64] took part among almost all of the **more than 50 Poles living in San Francisco**. The result, in comparison with other Polish committees, was great. **It collected more than \$8,000 [nearly \$300,000 in today's terms]**.

--F. Stasik. *Polish Political Émigrés in the USA, 1831-1864*, p. 191.

**FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO CITY DIRECTORY OF 1863**  
**CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS,**  
**From July 1st, 1862, to July 31st, 1863.**

MAY 22. A large mass meeting of sympathisers with the Polish Revolution was held at Platt's Hall, H. P. Coon presiding. A number of addresses were delivered and appropriate resolutions adopted.

Presiding: H.P. Coon, Mayor of San Francisco

## **Speakers & Supporters**

### **Grand Mass Meeting in Favor of Polish Freedom and Nationality**

**E.F. Beale** – Military General; Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the State of California

**Newton Booth**, US Senator from California, made his fortune as a saloon keeper; studied law. Booth was elected to the California Senate in 1862, serving in 1863, and was the 11<sup>th</sup> governor of California (1871-1875).

**Rabbi Elkan Cohn**, Congregation Emanu-El, San Francisco; elected in 1860

**William A. Cornwall**: lawyer; Secretary of State, 1855

**A.M. Crane**, Senator, 1862-1863

Irish-born **William Hamill, Esq.** was a beloved “pioneer teacher” and the founder and editor of *The Monitor*, a Catholic publication in San Francisco; he died of TB in 1866.

The **Reverend T. Starr King**, “Grand Orator,” was “devoted to the cause of humanity and civilization;” he died in 1864; flags throughout the City were placed at half-mast.

**N. Larco, Esq.**: importer

**E. Lazard**, prominent San Francisco banker

**Dr. Loehr** - physician

**F. MacCrellish** – publisher, the *Alta California*

**Judge James M. McShafter** was a civic leader, supreme court judge, and Republican nominee for Governor.

**C. Meyer**, merchant; prominent member and President of the First Hebrew Benevolent Society; member of the Polish Society of California; appointed as a designated Political Agent for Poland, charged to raise money for Polish causes

**Joseph Neumann**: Pioneer silk culturist

**D.J. Oliver** – Pacific Coast Steamship Co.

**George Oulton**, Senator 1862-1863; State Contoller, 1863-1867

**Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski**, immigration officer; language teacher; appointed as a designated Political Agent for Poland, charged to raise money for Polish causes; prototype for Sienkiewicz's literary character Zagłoba

The **Honorable Nathan Porter** was a lawyer and State Senator from Oakland, Alameda County; he was District Attorney in San Francisco in 1863; he died in 1878. "The name of Nathan Porter was a household word all over this commonwealth."

**T.A. Selby** – Smelting & Lead Co.

**C. Vellimiro**: Italian playwright, stage manager and orator

**J.H. Warwick**, Assemblyman, 1862-1863

**William H. Weeks**, Secretary of State, 1862-1863

**Josiah Dwight Whitney** (1819–1896) was an American geologist, professor of geology, and chief of the California Geological Survey (1860-1874). He was the foremost authority of his day on the economic geology of the U.S. Mt. Whitney bears his name.

**J. Wolfson**: Prominent member of B'nai B'rith, worldwide community Jewish service organization

***Daily Alta California***

SAN FRANCISCO, SATURDAY, **MAY 23, 1863**

CITY ITEMS

Mass Meeting of Sympathizers with the Polish Revolution

LARGE AND ENTHUSIASTIC DEMONSTRATION, ETC.

Pursuant to the call published in the daily journals of the city, a mass meeting of the friends of the revolutionists of Poland, now struggling against the tyranny of Russian domination, crowded in Platt's Hall last evening. And a mass meeting it proved to be in fact as well as in name. Whilst the audience was assembling, a fine band of music played a number of soul-stirring airs in front of the hall. At the hour the meeting was called to order the spacious edifice was thronged, a large number of ladies occupying the galleries and private boxes. The audience on the main floor was composed of the representatives of almost all nations. The Hall was tastefully decorated with flags, shields, streamers and banners. Conspicuously on the centre wall, and immediately in the rear of the stage, was suspended the flag of Poland—a white eagle on a red field. After the Hall had become packed, the band took their post in front of the stage and discoursed more music.

THE ORGANIZATION.

The immense assemblage was called to order by W. A. Cornwall, Esq., simultaneously with the advent of the President and other officers on the stage. The following named officers were elected unanimously:

*President*:--H. P. Coon.

*Vice Presidents* --E. F. Beale, A. G. Abell, D. J. Oliver, H. A. Cobb, Peter Davidson, S. C. Hastings, Nathaniel Holland, Louis McLane, Eugene Casserly, H. H. Haight, Louis Cohn, Sam. Knight, Eugene Sullivan, G. W. Bell, N. Larco, E. Lazard, M. C. Blake, Sol.

Heydenfeldt, C. A. Crane, J. A. Donahoe, W. H. Sharp, W. H. Culver, A. B. Forbes, Peter Donahue, James Paul, Delos Dake, Dr. Stoddard, H. Seligman, R. B. Woodward, John Middicton, Mr. Sabati, John Currey, George K. Pitch, Wm. A. Woodward, Dr. F. Loehr, E. Derbee, G. W. Guthrie, T.H. Selby, Thomas Bedley, Mr. Lesser, J. J. Ayers, Thomas Mooney, L. Sawyer, A. F. Babcock, P. Mebius, R. B. Swain, Col. Cazneau, A. C. Benham, Newton Booth, Gen. Kibbe, Jos. Mollitor.

*Secretaries*—W. A. Cornwall, F. MacCrellish, Edward Conway.

On motion of Col. Zabriskie the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee on resolutions, *i.e.*: Messrs. Zabriskie, Frank Sonle, Judge P. W. Shepherd, Solomon Sharp. Dr. Coon, on taking the chair, briefly thanked the audience for electing him to the Presidency.

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## SPEECH OF CAPTAIN PIOTROWSKI

This gentleman, a hero of oppressed Poland, made a thrilling eloquent speech, which at brief intervals was vociferously applauded. He said:

Mr. President – LADIES AND GENTLEMAN: -- Twenty millions of human beings this day, perhaps this very minute, are fighting for life or death. They are Poles. Who the Poles are, what right they have to their nationality and liberty, what services they have rendered to civilization, Christianity and humanity at large, stronger intellects than mine, far more eloquent voices of my distinguished friends who shall follow me on this stand, will tell you better than I can. But I am a Polander. I and my countrymen here are willing and anxious, as well as our brethren at home, to fight for our country, and to seal with our best hearts' blood, the love, the fidelity to our beloved Poland! To conquer or to die, is the wish of Poles at home! To conquer or to die is our wish here also! But broad lands and extended oceans separate us from the battlefields of our struggling brethren. Shall we then here remain quiet? Shall we stand here useless, cowardly spectators of this heroic struggle of our countrymen? No! Heaven forbid! Poles! we have a great mission to fulfill. We have a noble task to achieve here, and with the help of God we shall do it. The brave sons of Poland at home grapple unarmed with the iron-clad foe. We have to furnish them arms, and those arms must be, shall be, more powerful than the destroying powder, more terrible than the rifled cannon.

Those arms, brethren, are the potent voice of a free people, which is more effective than lightning, which is louder than the thunder of Heaven. Let us provoke the sympathy of Americans, of all free men of the world, and we have that voice. Let it then be heard beyond the continent and the seas! Let it thunder like a death-knell in the ears of our tyrants, and it will appall their hearts. It will palsy their arms! Let it be heard at home and every Pole will become a hero?

Mr. President— Polish liberty was murdered in the broad daylight, in the face of the world. But the Almighty God, in his goodness, gave an imperishable vitality to that nation. Seven times since that atrocious murder, the sons of Poland rose and battled with the oppressor; unsuccessfully it is true, but energized by their unspeakable wrongs, urged on by their undying love of liberty, maddened by their despair, they rise again and struggle anew for their freedom. May God Almighty bless their efforts this time! It is the first time that all the Poles, without distinction, united in this holy crusade. Tottering age, feeble childhood, manly youth and delicate women — peasants and princes, Christians and Jews, all are up, fighting for their nationality, for their liberty. Weaponless they fight, but their hearts burn with purest patriotism. Great as is the gigantic power of the tyrant, they are hopeful in the justice of their cause. They believe in the sympathies of freemen. They are confident in the goodness and mercy of the Almighty. They go willingly and shed freely rivers of blood on the altar of their adored country. Americans! Freemen of all nations! Shall you not be with them in this noble work? Shall you see the sword and fire annihilate a people and not help them? Shall you see Poland expire again before your very eyes and not stretch a helping hand? Oh, no! God will not permit it.

And now I address the noblest portion of the Creator's work, the ladies of America! You who are always willing and ready to succor misfortune, to dry the tears of sorrow, to help the sick and the sufferer. You who, like angels of mercy, bring consolation, hope, and even joy to the despairing. When, where will you find a broader, a nobler field for the exertion of your sacred ministry? Helpless age, desolate wives, heartbroken husbands, afflicted orphans, all in despair, by thousands, by millions, stretch their imploring hands towards you and call for help! Oh help them, they will bless you; help them, they will pray for you. And such prayers, believe me, will reach the throne of the Almighty.

Freemen of the whole world! Sons of the immortal heroes of your immortal revolution! Stand up manfully and give a verdict worthy of your fathers, worthy of

yourselves. Say boldly, that nationality and liberty shall rule the world! Say bravely, that tyranny ought and shall be annihilated! Say generously, say patriotically, that Poland shall live, that Poland shall be free!

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### MR. WILLIAM HAMILL'S SPEECH

Sir: Such a cause as called us here tonight cannot be imperiled or injured by the inefficiency of the advocate. The just of mankind, of whatsoever nationality, are the advocates of Poland, and wheresoever they are at liberty to pronounce in her favor, their utterance is distinct and unmistakable. Happily it is in our power to give some emphasis to the public voice, and to swell the cry which resounds through Christendom for the liberation of Poland. The oligarchs of the world looked coldly on whilst a nation was nominally effaced by a band of despots—the multitude must assert their might and compel their governments to a true representation of popular will. For Poland, the peoples of the earth are her diplomatists, and their sympathies are her only treaties.

It behooves us to perform our function in that behalf and zeal as best we may. The treaty by which the civilized of the world declare Poland a free nation, from the Ukraine to the Baltic, declare her dismemberment a crime against God and man which the people must efface and the tyrants of the world atone. Affix our sanction to the great decree promulgated throughout the world, and which may be read thus: By the visible ordination of Almighty God, and His manifest Providence in sanctioning the national soul of Poland, through trials the most terrible ever encountered by a people, Poland is entitled to a distinct nationality—inalienable and indivisible. The boundaries of nations cannot be made by protocols; they are assigned by God and sooner or later His laws will vindicate themselves. The line drawn on a map by such a character as Catharine of Russia across Lithuania and Volhynia, taking all the land east of it, is a poor barrier against the natural laws which give to the component parts of a body its affinities and power of cohesion.

It will detract nothing from general principles and established facts that the base traitor, Frederic Wm. of Prussia, by the most flagrant desertion that history records, from a sworn ally became the plunderer of the remaining portion of Poland, and despoiled the land he was bound to protect. Such partitions as these, you will readily agree, cannot last; but it is our duty to shorten their duration by all possible

means. And, Sir, to that end we can do much. Just as in a community or individual nation, "public opinion" is potent for good, so the aggregate opinions of nations make a power which no one country can long withstand. The measure of achievement possible by this public opinion is the earnestness and vigor with which it is pronounced and urged. And it is therefore, Sir, that it is not without hope of practical results that we meet here tonight. For I trust we will now inaugurate such measures as will make our voices heard and our sympathies felt.

There is an underhum which swells to a tornado, and tyrants have learned to distinguish its ominous mutterings. Let us swell the cry of liberty for Poland, until its power shall pierce the palaces of Petersburg and the dastard heart of the Prussian policeman who makes his realm a guardhouse for Russia. Austria, indeed, may not be soothed or terrified. The deep damnation of her part of the infamous spoliation argues such unutterable baseness that she is clearly beyond the reach of human feelings. As Wm. Cobbett once said of a similar ingrate, we, in pondering over her past and present relations to Poland, may say "We would suffocate with indignation if contempt did not come to our relief." Let us briefly glance at the facts. From the close of the seventeenth century, from 1880 to 1883, Europe was constantly in dread of falling a victim to the Turks.

The contest was fiercely and implacably waged between the Crescent and the Cross. The resistless Turk had carried fire and sword through the fairest provinces of Western Europe, and with 200,000 men besieged Vienna. Europe trembled, for the merciless Moslem was literally at her gates. With Vienna and the Danube in his possession, he would dominate all Germany and Italy, and his future there would be as the past in Asia. Day by day the hopes of the besieged waned fainter: dispatches are hurried to the Duke of Lorraine to advance with all the might of Austria, or the Crescent must inevitably wave over Vienna. The brave Starembourg, Governor of the unhappy city, "would not most surely surrender but with the last drop of his blood." But by the 10<sup>th</sup> of September, most of the garrison were either killed or wounded, and according to the chronicles of the time, "The grave continued open without ever closing its mouth."

The Duke of Lorraine is coming and near at hand, but in vain— all his efforts did not succeed in bringing over the mountains one single piece of ordnance. Three hundred Turkish guns have done their work, and on the 11th a large breach reveals itself through which the assaulting host can pour in overwhelming numbers. But on the midnight of the 11th on the heights of Calenberg,

overlooking the Danube and the countless host and terrible array of Turkish power, 70,000 men, who by stupendous efforts brought twenty eight pieces of artillery over a route still more difficult than that pursued by the Austrians--inspired only with the love of freedom and their fellow Christians--with no conquest to make, no territory to gain, no plunder to expect—lay grimly down until tomorrow's sun should give them light to save Christendom or perish.

At 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, the 16<sup>th</sup> of September, 1683, their leader descended to the plains, and that night installed his forces in the tents of the Turks. Fierce, indeed, but brief was the conflict. 70,000 Poles, with Sobieski for leader, in one hour vanquished utterly the renowned legions of Kara Mustapha, 200,000 strong.

On Monday morning, amid the hosannas of the rescued Austrians, Sobieski proceeded to the Cathedral of Vienna and himself intoned the *Te Deum* of thanks to God for a ransomed people.

What, then, but inextinguishable hatred does this perfidious and ungrateful Austria deserve from true men everywhere? Twelve thousand Polish lances charged Kara Mustapha's centre, vowing to reach Vienna or return no more. Austria sends 60,000 bayonets to murder the Poles on their own soil because they must live freemen or not at all. Thus has the self-sacrifice and heroic valor of a chivalrous people been rewarded, and in the treatment they have received has been recorded one of the most humiliating lessons which man can learn. For assuredly it is grievously humiliating to be compelled to admit that our species is the same with those who, debased by sordid passions, have not hesitated to commit the fiendish crime called the partition of Poland! But, sir, let us turn aside from the contemplation of this melancholy spectacle so aptly called "the bloodiest picture in the book of time," to dwell on a brighter phase of Polish history.

From the first day of her attempted assassination until this date, the world is constantly astounded by such prodigies of valor as no other land can boast. What in the annals of time can compare with the heroism of the struggle now going on? Whilst Russia is at peace with all the great powers, this charmed and proscribed race boldly defy the power of the Czar and his countless hordes of well-armed and disciplined troops. With such weapon as first as fury could devise, they rush on troops supplied with all the best enginery of war. Undaunted by the overshadowing greatness of their enemies' resources, they rush to combat for

freedom because they cannot live in bondage. Death is preferable, and they accept it freely. They stop not to calculate the cost of freedom; without it life is an unendurable burden, and they fling it away—not recklessly or in a spirit of bravado, but with the unfaltering purpose and resolute will of noble manhood.

Greece, in the days of her palmiest renown, does not outshine the glory which today gilds the banner of Polska. Amongst the current events of last month's history, is one which proudly rivals the feat of Thermopylae. The Polish army is surrounded, and apparently, by all military law, it must surrender—when, in hurried council, it is resolved that two hundred men can, by dooming themselves to inevitable death, keep the enemy in check until retreat is secured. Forth leap the nobles of the land, and claim it as their prerogative to furnish this holocaust to freedom. With joy, the dauntless two hundred range in close column, and charge the Russian host. They perished to a man, but their country's army was saved!

Can human power forge fetters strong enough to bind a race of such demigods as these? Can the heart of humanity long endure that these, the noblest exemplars of our divine lineage, shall be used only as hecatombs in the dreadful sacrifices which the molochs of Europe offer to the demon of despotism?

Surely, one at least will vindicate our national character, by demanding that the inhuman slaughter shall cease, and their country be restored to the men who have paid for it so fearful a price. We will not by assenting silence implicate ourselves and our children in the dreadful guilt of this monstrous iniquity. But we American citizens have a *special* duty before us.

What return shall this Republic make in Poland's hour of agony for the services of Kosciusko and the life blood of Pulaski? Shall that simple cenotaph at Savannah, of him "who had no country and found no grave"—the first Brigadier of Cavalry commissioned in the service of the United States, be our only memento of the hero of Brandywine? I know, sir, that it is not so, and I think I am not presumptuous in assuring the Polish Committee, and through them their gallant countrymen, that American citizens generally desire ardently to cooperate in any movement which will afford aid and comfort to their glorious compatriots in their present struggle.

We recognize the many claims which Poland has to the homage and gratitude of the human race. Not for her brilliant feat of arms and the example of exulted patriotism alone do we revere the name of Poland. The country which gave Copernicus to the world, and since then a host of historians, poets and most polished writers on every theme of modern science, commands respect as well as excites our admiration.

In perfection of language, in flexibility, richness, power and harmony, and in the completeness of grammatical structure and system, the Polish language is not excelled by any modern tongue and by few if any equaled. As might be expected, copious treasures of science, art and literature, effluent from the glowing mind of so great a people, have enriched our common civilisation, and received from the scholars of the world a fitting tribute to their intellectual greatness. And we, sir, will not deny claims of such a country to our grateful recognition and zealous support.

The history of Poland is the lexicon of liberty, and in its episodes we find the very classics of freedom. From the examples of her patriotism, the world knows how to teach the duties a citizen owes to his country. The evangel of patriotism which she has sent over all nations, shall fructify to her glory, and restore to her unsubdued children the inheritance of which they were robbed. Poland shall triumph by the blood of her martyrs.

"Like spectral lamps that burn before a tomb  
The ancient lights expire  
I wave a torch that floods the lessening gloom  
With everlasting fire!  
Crowned with my constellated stars I stand  
Beside the foaming sea  
And from the future, with a victor's hand  
Claim empire for the free"

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## MR. PORTER'S SPEECH

Nathan Porter made a brief, pointed and eloquent address, which was received with enthusiastic applause. The following are some of his remarks:

It is one of the instincts which every American has in his heart to sympathize with any nation struggling for its independence. [Applause] We cannot witness such a struggle as that in which Poland is now engaged without feeling in our hearts that we must sympathise. [Applause] But it is nothing new for us to sympathise with Poland. We meet men here tonight from Poland, and we have heard her story from the gentleman who last addressed us. We have heard how Prussia has seized one part of that unfortunate country, how Austria has seized another portion, and Russia another; how Russia, not content with depriving her of her nationality, seeks to deprive her of her religion, and to root out her language — doing everything to crush out the last remains of a nation which is now struggling for, and deserving, independence.

It is not for Americans, who owe so much to Poland, to forget the Poles now. It is not for naturalized Americans to forget her, or turn their backs upon her. It is not for Hungarians, whose native land suffers a similar oppression. It is not for Irishmen, who have felt the iron hand of the Briton. [Applause] It is not for the native American who remembers how much Polish valor, Polish sympathy, Polish genius, and Polish blood did for us in our struggle for independence. [Applause] America is not alone in her debt to Poland, that noble nation which once protected Christendom against the encroachment of the Mohamedan; that noble nation, which, while bigotry and persecution reigned elsewhere, alone practiced universal and genuine toleration, giving shelter and religious equality to the persecuted Jew, and when Cracow fell, one-third of the population there were Jews. Let not, then, the Jew in our land, forget this fact, but remember it in her hour of need. It is not for us Americans to forget that Polish blood flowed for our country; that Kosciusko, then expatriated, and fresh from the battle fields of his own county, sought us, and gave new courage and strength to our arms; that Kosciusko laid down his life to assist us under circumstances similar to those in which Poland now demands our sympathy, and so far as we can give it, our aid.

Do you men not remember that, as boys, thirty year's ago, seeing a lonely man [*Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski*] — a sober, serious, remarkable man— whom people pointed out as an expatriate from Poland — a soldier of liberty, driven from his own country, who had sought an asylum in this — a single man, without family [*Editor's note: he had a daughter in France*], cut off from all the ties of home — perhaps a noble in his native land—here felt compelled to support himself by his labor — a music teacher, a teacher of language, an engineer? The gentleman who first spoke here this evening, told me, a few days since, that he has been thirty years in the United States [*Editor's note: Piotrowski came to the USA in 1846, so in 1863 he would have been in the USA for about 17 years*]. He came here a young man, at seventeen years of age [*Editor's note: he was 32 years old when he arrived in the USA*]. He had left his university to take arms for his native land, and was made a captain; but all efforts were unavailing, and he escaped to this, the land of liberty, and here he has been waiting for thirty long years, in hopes to see his country once more free. And there are thousands of others in the United States and in Poland, waiting like him, hoping against hope, fearing to express the sentiments of their heart, longing for the day when the country shall again rise in her former glory, and take her place among the nations of the world. And there are men who wish to see the overthrow of Polish nationality made perpetual; so there are men who wish to destroy our nationality. May God speed the day when victory shall perch finally on the banner of the Union, and may we then have half a million of men ready to start for the battle fields of Poland, and show how Americans can sympathise with the countrymen of Kosciusko.

The speech of Mr. Porter was frequently interrupted by loud applause, and he was warmly cheered at its close.

## RESOLUTION

The following resolutions were presented by the Chairman of the Committee, Col. [James Cannon] Zabriskie:

1. *Resolved*, That the United States of America is the only government under heaven which secures to all it citizens equality of rights, and maintains the great principle of the sovereignty of the people.

2. *Resolved*, That in addition to equal rights and sovereign power, conferred upon and exercised by the people, our fundamental law authorizes and directs Congress to "establish an uniform rule of naturalization," which duty was early performed, and the act is continued to this day, thus opening the portals of governmental rights, and affording ample protection to the oppressed and persecuted of every land.

3. *Resolved*, That it has ever been the policy of the government and people of the United States to express their sympathy with the struggling patriots of every clime, thus evincing their high appreciation of an exalted duty, and encouraging the noble efforts of oppressed humanity to strike efficiently, and constantly, for the securement of the "inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness".

4. *Resolved*, That we not only regard Poland, like all other nations and peoples, as entitled to all the great rights which appertain to human happiness, but as preeminently entitled to national freedom and independence. For eight centuries, Poland presented an impregnable barrier to the advance of Russian barbarism, and Turkish fanaticism. Her indomitable valor hurled back the northern hordes and Moslem zealots, and preserved and promoted the civilization of Europe. Her history is replete with evidences of unrivalled progress in the arts, sciences, general literature, statesmanship and heroism. The sacred promptings of duty as well as the exalted obligations of gratitude should have interposed, to have prevented her segregation and absorption. Policy, as well as justice, demands her restoration.

5. *Resolved*, That we tender to the oppressed and struggling sons and daughters of Poland, our deep and heartfelt sympathy, in this, the day of their glory, as well as calamity. We bid them Godspeed in their Herculean efforts to achieve their independence, and trust, and pray that a benignant Providence will give them victory and liberty.

6. *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to make all necessary arrangements to aid the Polish patriots in their present struggle for independence.

After reading the resolutions, Mr. Zabriskie made some remarks, which were much applauded.

Mr. Starr King made an eloquent address, full of points. He commenced by calling attention to the amicable relations between Russia and the United States; how Russia had for a long time been the only Government in Europe friendly to us; how Catherine refused to let George the Third have troops to assist him in the American war; how lately Russia has been giving us a lesson in emancipation, and so on. But while the speaker acknowledged obligations to Russia, he would not be blind to obligations, to freedom, and to Poland, to humanity, and to the rights of man. As to the refusal of Catherine to let George the Third have troops, one reason was, no doubt, that she had need for her soldiers to watch Poland, and perhaps it was the uneasiness of that country which saved us. Mr. King made a number of points, for which we have not space, and closed by reciting passages from [Thomas Campbell's](#) reference to Poland in his poem on the "[Pleasures of Hope](#)." These came in with great effect, and electrified the house; he retired amidst great applause.

Oh! sacred Truth! thy triumph ceas'd awhile,  
And Hope, thy sister, ceas'd with thee to smile,  
When leagu'd Oppression pour'd to Northern wars  
Her whisker'd pandoors and her fierce hussars,  
Wav'd her dread standard to the breeze of morn,  
Peal'd her loud drum, and twang'd her trumpet horn;  
Tumultuous horror brooded o'er her van,  
Presaging wrath to Poland — and to man!

Mr. James M. McShafter made the closing speech. The resolutions were put to vote, and were adopted unanimously.

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The President announced the following committee as required by the last resolution: D. J. Oliver, Col. E. F. Beale, L.J. Czapkay, M.D., Capt. Korwin Piotrowski, Fred'k MacCrellish, C. Meyer, Nathaniel Larco, J.C. Zabriskie, Capt. Casimir Bielawski, E. Lazard, R. B. Woodward, T. A. Selby, Dr. Loehr

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Appeal for Poland.

FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA:

The Poles have again resolved to be free, and with noble resolve, have struck for liberty. It is not necessary to enter into a detail of their history and sufferings. The former is recorded in characters of living light, upon the indelible pages of European civilization; the latter presents the blackest page of diabolical barbarity ever written by fiends or men. This moment all classes, from the hoary-headed sire to feeble childhood, and even delicate and refined womanhood, are struggling against the barbarism of Russia, with all the energy which extreme cruelty and despair can prompt. They appeal to God for the rectitude and justice of their cause, and to humanity for sympathy and aid.

The people of England, Ireland, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, and Italy have nobly responded; and shall Americans fail to appreciate the sacredness of the cause, and the imperative obligations of freemen in an emergency like this? It cannot be. You have always sympathized with suffering humanity everywhere. You have relieved the distresses of the unfortunate of every land. You have contributed aid, and afforded encouragement to the struggling patriots of every nationality.

The Executive Committee now appeals to your generous and patriotic hearts, in aid of a devoted nation, whose very name is the synonym of liberty and chivalry. Messrs. Donahue, Ralston & Co. have consented to receive and transmit to the East, and to Europe, all contributions, under the directions of the Executive Committee. Collections in the different localities of the State may be made by committees appointed by the citizens, or by the Agents appointed by the Executive Committee. Act with promptitude and energy, and you will contribute to strike down the oppressor's power, and free a nation from bondage. At all events your generous, your patriotic deeds will receive the approbation of your consciences, your God and of posterity.

The following gentlemen have been appointed as the Executive Committee: E. Lazard, Chairman; N. Larco, D. J. Oliver, E. F. Beale, L. J. Czapkay, M. D., F. MacCrellish, C. Meyer, Capt. Corwin Piotrowski, C. Bielawski, R. B. Woodward, T. A. Selby, Dr. Loehr, J. C. Zabriskie, Secretary.

The following gentlemen have been appointed by the Executive Committee to solicit and collect subscriptions in this city [*San Francisco*] in aid of the cause of Poland: Capt. Corwin Piotrowski, Col. J. C. Zabriskie, Dr. L. J. Czapkay, C. Bielawski, Esq., C. Meyer, Esq., N. Larco, Esq., Messrs. J. M. McShafter, Nathan Porter, and Wm. A. Cornwall have been appointed to solicit subscriptions from the members of the bar.

E. Lazard, Chairman and J. C. Zabriskie, Secretary

California Farmer and Journal of Useful Sciences, Volume 19, Number 15, 5 June 1863

SEE NEXT PAGE

An inscribed cane was presented by Captain Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski to Col. James Cannon Zabriskie:

“Polanders of California, to their true friend, Colonel J.C. Zabriskie, San Francisco, 1863.”



The inscribed “walking stick” presented to Col. Zabriskie by Captain Piotrowski was lost in a fire [personal communication, Zabriskie family]. These photos match the description of the type of cane created in the 1860s and 1870s for ceremonial occasions.

*Americans! Friends of Universal Liberty!*

### **Appeal of the Polanders.**

Positive news of a general uprising of the whole Polish nation against the barbarous oppression of the Russian despotic Government has reached us by the latest telegraphic dispatches, and not the least doubt can now exist in our minds that all Polanders, without distinction as to their social position or religion, are endeavoring to throw off the yoke of the iron rule of the despotic invaders of their beloved country.

The time has therefore arrived for this Society of Polanders here organized to address you, American brethren, the Pioneers of enlightened, universal freedom, to show your sympathy for the oppressed nation now fighting for their liberty.

Remember that the present is not the uprising of the comparatively small portion of the Polish nation called the nobles, to regain their superannuated privileges; but all Polanders, even women and children, are spilling their blood in torrents, to gain a National Independence, based upon the same equal rights which your fathers, led by Washington, have so gloriously achieved for this, the country of freemen.

Has Poland an undeniable right to a national independence and self-government? She has! Because she possesses all the elements of a distinct and civilized people.

1<sup>st</sup>. She has her own language, which differs from that of her sisters, the Russian, the Czechish, and the Illyrian, as much as the Italian tongue differs from the Spanish or Portuguese.

2<sup>d</sup>. She has her own literature, eminent writers in every branch of it, and great men in all the sciences, as the copious libraries of Cracow, Leopold, Posen, and also those of London, Paris and also those of Leipzig can testify. (The principal libraries, those of Warsaw and Ulma, were confiscated and transferred to Russia.)

3<sup>d</sup>. Poland has her written history, the pages of which team with the great patriotic deeds of her sons.

4<sup>th</sup>. As the evidence of her power and achievements, she possessed, in the days of her nationality and glory, a territory embracing 392,000 square miles and 20,000,000 inhabitants. And,

5<sup>th</sup>. above all, the Poles have an unbounded love for universal freedom, and hatred for tyranny and oppression, not only for their own race, but of all freedom-loving nations.

Have you seen an uprising of people against oppression since your memorable Declaration of Independence, of 1776, to the present time, without a Polish Legion fighting with them for their cause? Led by Kosciuzko, Pulauski, Dombrowski, Bem, Dembinski, Wysocki, Kaminski, and Miroslawski, they bled for the freedom of America, France, Hungary, Italy, Germany and Turkey.

A distinct language, literature, history and an unbounded love for universal and enlightened freedom—all these elements of a free nation the Poles possess; therefore they have a right to be a free nation, and therefore they have an undeniable right to drive from their beloved country the ignorant soldiery, the barbarian instruments of the Russian Government, which, by all the means of a Machiavellian policy, is making the greatest exertion to annihilate the Polish nationality, and to convert the Poles to blind adherents and obedient soldiers in the execution of the gigantic plan of Czar Peter, the builder of Petersburg, that is, to conquer the whole of Europe and Asia.

Americans, listen to the proofs of the truth of our statement: the Russian Government has, since the subjugation of Poland, tried all means of an unrelenting, cruel and crafty policy to insult and annihilate her nationality. It abolished the Polish emblem which adorned Sobieski and his warriors in the battle for Christianity before the walls of Vienna. It confiscated the Polish libraries. It abolished the Polish high schools, the monuments of Poland's former glory, the witnesses of her advanced civilization.

It prohibited the teaching of the Polish language in the public schools, it diminished instead of increased their numbers, and forced the Polish youth desiring a higher education to travel to the distant universities of Russia.

It deported mercilessly thousands of Polish families to Russia, and replaced them by Russian colonists.

It ordered the predominance of the Russian-Greek church in Poland, that marriages between persons of different creeds should be made by Russian priests, and that their children should embrace the Russian Greek religion.

And it last began by a most arbitrary and barbarous execution of conscription laws, to rob Poland of the best of her sons.

American brethren, would you suffer a similar oppression? Are the Poles right to strike a blow against such tyranny?

Napoleon the First prophesied, after his downfall, that in this country yet, the whole of Europe would become either republican or be subject to the Cossack knout.

The great battle between the principals has now commenced. The Poles, led by Dembinski, Wysocki, Langiewicz, and Miroslauski, began it; they have scarcely any other arms the scythes, but they began it with the heroic determination to “conquer or die.” (Words written by a Polish lady to her son in the United States army—copied from the *Sacramento Union*.)

Other freedom-seeking nations will soon come up to the deadly strife. Our neighbors, the indomitable Hungarians, the brave Germans, the fiery Italians, are all ready, and watching impatiently for the signal of their patriotic leaders to join the fight for universal freedom. All the European nations, the Russians not excepted, (as their recent popular demonstrations in Petersburg and Moscow clearly prove,) express the greatest sympathy with the Polish cause. In France and England, all kinds of means are devised to provide the heroic Polanders with arms.

Americans! citizens of a mighty Republic, standing in the front ranks of civilized nations, we are certain that you also will unanimously manifest your warm sympathy for Poland, and an energetic disapproval of the barbarous and treacherous measures adopted by a despotic government to suppress the just and holy endeavors of Poland’s sons to regain her national independence. She will regain it, and throw off the yoke imposed upon her by the ambitious dynasty of the Romanoffs; Poland shall become a free nation because her sons are hardy and not afraid to fight and die for liberty; because her daughters are as patriotic as they

are lovely; and because public opinion of the civilized world, that mighty advocate of universal freedom, proclaims Poland's cause a just one.

For the **Committee of the Society of Polanders in California**

Casimir Bielawski, President  
J. W. Andrzejowski, Secretary

San Francisco, April 21, 1863

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Daily Alta California 17 April 1863

The gentleman [Piotrowski] advanced and read an address couched in elegant and fervent language, and replete with expressions of sympathy with the sacred cause of human liberty. He said at the outset that he was a soldier, but not a speaker—that this was his first attempt at addressing an audience—but that his heart was in the cause, although he could not now be where he once was, in the field. Poland, he continued, is in arms. Her blood flows in rivers, and the bleaching bones of Polish sons whiten Polish fields. They who fled from Poland to this western land of freedom and liberty, often sigh on account of their impotence to aid their fellows in bondage. Broad lands and deep seas separate them from their beloved land. Can we help them? Yes: and the speaker descanted at length on the encouragement which the hearty sympathy of our citizens would afford the oppressed Poles in their present war. He passed a stirring eulogium on Pulaski and Kosciusko, and expressed himself certain that the blood of the latter was as red today as when it crimsoned the walls of Savannah. He believed their cause to be just. He stood under the Stars and Stripes and he could ask their aid in this desperate contest for freedom. If gained, 30,000,000 of souls would bless America. The sons of Hancock, of Jefferson and of Washington cannot withstand his country's appeal for sympathy.

Daily Alta California 17 April 1863

[SAN FRANCISCO, FRIDAY, APRIL 17. CITY ITEMS. Daily Alta California. \[ARTICLE\]](#)

Meeting of Poles—Sympathy with their struggling countrymen, etc., etc. Last evening, a large number of the **Polish residents of San Francisco** assembled at the Russ House for the purpose of expressing sympathy with their countrymen, now fighting to free their land from the tyranny of Russian despotism. **A Committee had been previously elected**, whose duty it will be to devise ways and means of eliciting general interest among Americans resident in California, as will convince their struggling brethren that the popular feeling here is with them in their efforts to regain their national independence.

The names of this Committee are as follows: **President, Kazimierz Bielawski; Vice-Presidents, Francis Wojciechowski, Leon Czajkowski and Rev. Max Wolff; Acting Agent on Communications, Rudolf Korwin Piotrowski.**

**Besides the above, there are twelve other acting members of the Society.**

The President, in stating the objectives of the meeting, remarked that he was pleased to see such large representations from different nations present. They were there to express their sympathy with the heroic struggles of Poland to regain her national independence. Able speakers were present to address them, and he would introduce first, **Mr. Piotrowski.**

The gentleman [Piotrowski] advanced and read an address couched in elegant and fervent language, and replete with expressions of sympathy with the sacred cause of human liberty. He said at the outset that he was a soldier, but not a speaker—that this was his first attempt at addressing an audience—but that his heart was in the cause, although he could not now be where he once was, in the field. Poland, he continued, is in arms. Her blood flows in rivers, and the bleaching bones of Polish sons whiten Polish fields. They who fled from Poland to this western land of freedom and liberty, often sigh on account of their impotence to aid their fellows in bondage. Broad lands and deep seas separate them from their beloved land. Can we help them? Yes: and the speaker descanted at length on the encouragement which the hearty sympathy of our citizens would afford the oppressed Poles in their present war. He passed a stirring eulogium on Pulaski and Kosciusko, and expressed himself certain that the blood of the latter was as red to-day as when it crimsoned the walls of Savannah. He believed their cause to be just. He stood under the Stars and Stripes and he could ask their aid in this desperate contest for freedom. If gained, 30,000,000 of souls would bless America. The sons of Hancock, of Jefferson and of Washington cannot withstand his country's appeal for sympathy.

**Col. J.C. Zabriskie** next addressed the meeting in a speech of great power, vigor and beauty. Although evidently an extemporaneous effort, it was concise, pertinent and comprehensive. Attachment to country composed his exordium. This was the common instinct of humanity, and the duties of patriotism. The speaker next adverted to the great ignorance displayed by many with regard to the early history of Poland, the character of its people and especially of the high rank it has occupied amongst the leading nationalities of Europe. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the famous University of Cracow was founded, and here the great Copernicus received his education. The speaker aminadverted at length on the despotism of Russia, Austria, France and England. The former, it was contended, is friendly to America. So she is, and for two politic reasons. Firstly, her domestic institutions are in no danger of being disturbed by us, and secondly her commercial institutions are greatly benefitted by the non-interruption of friendly intercourse. She had freed many of her serfs. She deserves commendation for that, but the condemnation and execration of all lovers of freedom for her oppression of the Poles.

**The orator elucidated, very clearly and forcibly, the vast advantages accruing to this country from the immigration of foreigners to our shores.** We were becoming enervated, physically and morally. The infusion of this element has enabled us to recuperate, and the beneficial effects will continue to be felt by posterity for a century at least. **Col. Zabriskie expressed his pride at having Polish blood in his veins, and though mixed with other nations, yet he thanked Heaven the Polish predominated.** He next referred to our own rebellion, and dwelt on the question of “expediency” of making a movement at this critical juncture in our own history in behalf of Poland. He believed any cause, just and right, it was excellent to advocate and sustain. The present rebellion at home [Civil War] might last for years. The chivalry of the South was unquestionable, and their ability, tact and bravery had kept the North at bay for two years. He would die, if need be, to ensure the restoration of the Union, but there could be no disguising the fact that we are engaged in the suppression of a mighty rebellion. The ill-feeling of the Government of England toward us was referred to, as also the machinations of Louis Napoleon, as exhibited in his endeavors to alienate Texas. But the masses of England and France sincerely sympathized with American liberty. After a thrilling peroration, the speaker resumed his seat amidst vociferous and enthusiastic applause.

The president took occasion, on behalf of himself and the audience, to thank Col. Zabriskie for his stirring appeal in behalf of the Poles, after which a call was made for more speakers. None responding, the meeting was adjourned.

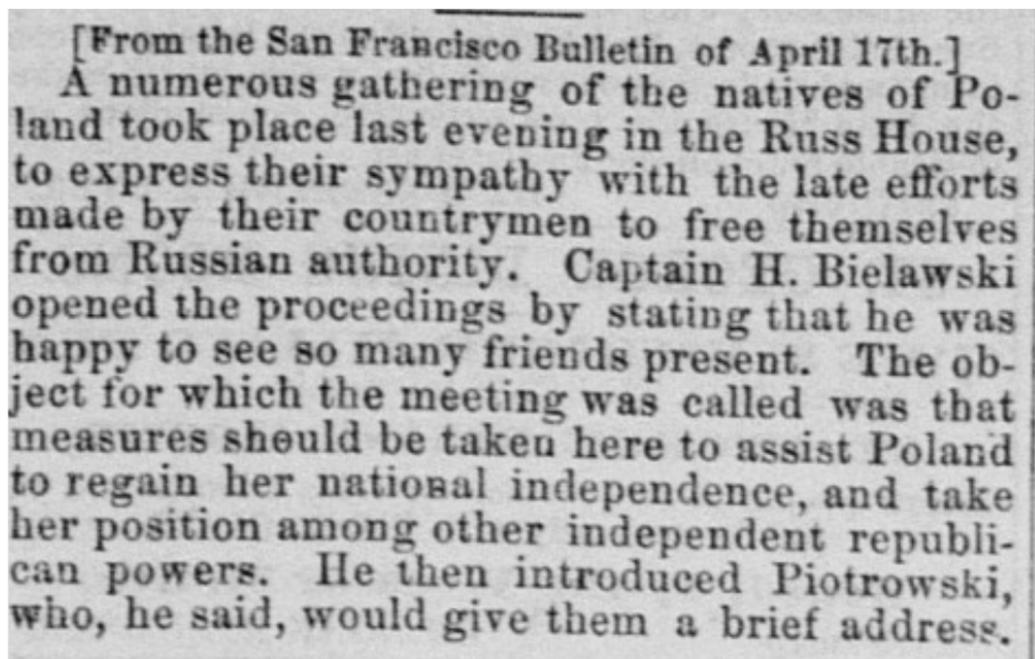
It is understood that the Polish Committee, above named, will confer with prominent American citizens, before whom the subject of the Polish troubles will be presented, and their cordial cooperation solicited. It is probable that, at no distant day, an address will be prepared and circulated throughout the State, in which the plans of this patriotic movement will be more fully set forth.

Daily Alta California 17 April 1863

**SAN FRANCISCO, FRIDAY, APRIL 17. CITY ITEMS. Daily Alta California. [ARTICLE]**

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Sacramento Daily Union, Volume 25, Number 3768, 20 April 1863 — MEETING OF POLANDERS IN SAN FRANCISCO. [ARTICLE]



[From the San Francisco Bulletin of April 17th.]  
A numerous gathering of the natives of Poland took place last evening in the Russ House, to express their sympathy with the late efforts made by their countrymen to free themselves from Russian authority. Captain H. Bielawski opened the proceedings by stating that he was happy to see so many friends present. The object for which the meeting was called was that measures should be taken here to assist Poland to regain her national independence, and take her position among other independent republican powers. He then introduced Piotrowski, who, he said, would give them a brief address.

CAPTAIN KORWIN PIOTROWSKI.

The speaker appreciated the honor conferred by calling upon him for an address, but he had to state that he was a soldier, not an orator; and had never made a public address even in his native language. He would endeavor, however, in a simple and homely way, to make some explanations, and in regard to the manner of his speech he trusted to their kind indulgence. Their object was the noble cause of Poland; Poland was in arms; her sons had struck another blow for freedom, and God grant this time a bountiful harvest of liberty. [Applause.] They, Poles in California who had fled from a despots chain, deeply sympathized with the efforts now being made by their countrymen, and their hearts beat high for the cause of their noble brethren at home. Tears filled their eyes, and their hearts throbbed with intensity of emotion, and they felt like spilling the last drop of blood for the cause of Poland. [Applause.] There were great obstacles to surmount, but while the Poles fought at home, could they not do something here? He thought

they could. Where did they stand? On Liberty's soil, among millions of freemen who were the natural born enemies of tyranny [applause]; whose duty should be to help and encourage those who were struggling for liberty, and if it were possible that the sympathy of Americans for their cause could reach Europe, it would freeze the hearts of the despots and add firmness and strength to the hands of their brethren. Let them go to work. He had lived seventeen years in America, and he assured them that the American interest was with them. It could not be otherwise. Had not the blood of Poland's sons been spilled on her soil in aid of her struggles for independence? and would the freemen of this land repulse their cause? No, never! The blood of Poland's heroes was as fresh in their memories as when they first fell, and they could never forget them. The name of Kosciusko was dear to the hearts of American soldiers. He believed in the justice of their cause, and hoped that so long as Polanders lived and breathed, no matter in what quarter of the earth they should be, that they never would forget it, and would be ready at all times to do their duty, and 30,000,000 of Americans would bless them in their efforts. Thousands of their countrymen in their native land were now stretching out their arms to them for help and sympathy, and he believed that the sons of Washington and Jefferson never could resist such an appeal. God could not permit them to pass it unheeded. ]Great applause.]

J. C. Zabriskie, who was present, was then called upon for a speech.

J. C. ZABRISKIE.

The speaker confessed that he felt somewhat embarrassed to address them, as his thoughts had not been especially directed with reference to the objects of the meeting, but the topic was copious enough for almost any person to say something, and he would proceed without reference to formalities. Attachment to country was a natural instinct of humanity, and it was also one of the noblest motives of patriotism, and when their countrymen assembled at the call of their country's hour of need, there was everything calculated to make the proceeding highly honorable. There was a vast amount of ignorance in regard to the past history of Poland. During her nationality she had made great progress in the arts and sciences, and at one period stood in the front rank of civilization. The University of Cracow was a noble institute of learning. It

of Cracow was a noble institute of learning. It was there the great Copernicus received his education. The very downfall of Poland was caused by too ardent attachment to liberty, not only national but individual. The despotic powers around her concentrated their hate in consequence upon her, until they eventually blotted her out from the list of living nationalities. People generally had not a true estimate of her former power and extent. Her territory once embraced 390,000 square miles, on which were the homes of twenty millions of people, and she has been partitioned from time to time until now all that there is of Polish nationality is the hearts of her people alone. [Applause.] He bore a name that indicated his nationality, and he felt proud to say that the Polish feeling still predominated. [Applause.] The Hungarians were another nation who had been treated very much after the manner of the Poles, and if there were any representatives of Hungary at that meeting, they might be sure of their sympathy, for the same power of despotism that crushed Poland kept Hungary in chains. The real object of that meeting need have no relation to country or land. They had met to encourage efforts for liberty; for liberty so justly cherished wherever known. [Applause.] It was always expedient to do right, and that was the time. Could there be any question in regard to their duties that night? Talk about Americans! Every man was an American who feels that patriotism and love of liberty is beating in his heart. [Applause.] Emigrants of exalted character had come over here from the various nationalities and races of Europe to benefit American posterity. Here was established the great laboratory of the principles connected with human liberty, and their experience should induce all who had come here smarting under oppression to strike a blow for freedom wherever tyranny exists. [Applause.] When a young man had left his home in Poland and had lived in America, he was enabled, after a due sojourn, to give his relatives at home a faithful account of the blessings and enjoyments of our Government, which they would know to be reliable testimony coming from an honest heart. And it was such home intercourse across the broad ocean that gave an impetus to European emigration. They brought their stores of knowledge with them and their physical peculiarities, and he contended that this country was indebted to-day in regard to advancement in her mental and physical qualifications by the admixture of what has come from abroad. [An-

plause.] The European emigration had recuperated their degenerate tendency, and it would continue to infuse new vigor for centuries to come. [Applause.] It might be asked if it was prudent at the present time to take an active interest in regard to the objects of that meeting. The country was then engaged in a tremendous struggle for national existence. They had come here from Poland to enjoy the protection which was accorded here, and they could appreciate it. There were desperate struggles and conflicts for victory now in the East, and the shock of arms and the tumults of the war were but little felt in California, and ought they not, from that very circumstance, to be more susceptible to sympathy with the Polish cause? He considered it his duty to sympathize with those who were then struggling for their liberty. During the national history of the past the country had so sympathized. There was the Grecian struggle for independence from 1820 to 1827. There was great feeling upon the subject all over America at that time, and the people not only expressed their sympathy but contributed money, clothing, etc., to the Greeks. So now he considered it their duty to aid Poland, and he felt assured that all American hearts would sympathize with and assist her in her present struggles. England had been generally favorable to the Polish cause, and yet there could be no doubt that her heart's desire was that the rebellion here should be successful. Louis Napoleon, though he was a professed champion of freedom, yet there could be no question that he too would be glad to give the South a helping hand, and would gladly second any such attempt on the part of England; but the great mass of the people both of England and France were inclined to sustain the principles of liberty. The former revolutionary wars of France were fought upon the principle that all men were brothers, and that it was their duty to aid them to throw off the incubus that had bound them down by despotic rulers. [Applause.] The Italians had just had a struggle for a nationality, and he doubted not that Hungary and Poland would yet successfully overthrow their despots, and rise to freedom and a name. [Great applause.] It had been said that Russia was the friend of the United States, and he would admit that she had generally manifested kindness to us, but she could well afford to do so. She was an absolute Power, and it was her intent to promote commercial intercourse with us. She had no

...intercourse with us. She had recently liberated her serfs, for which the cause of humanity was justly grateful; but while he approved of whatever she had done that was just and proper, he would never cease to condemn and execrate her barbarity toward Poland. [Applause.] Like the traitor who had once fought for freedom and was taken prisoner, when he asked what his sentence would be, was told that his leg that was wounded in the cause of liberty would be cut off and buried with the honors of war, but the rest of his body should be hung on the gibbet—just so with Russia. What she has done that is right, we will praise; and her wrong doings we will forever execrate. [Applause.] Your worthy President (Bielawski) had acted wisely and patriotically in inaugurating this movement, and he had no doubt the citizens here would respond, and aid them in their noble struggles whenever they should have an opportunity. [Great applause.]

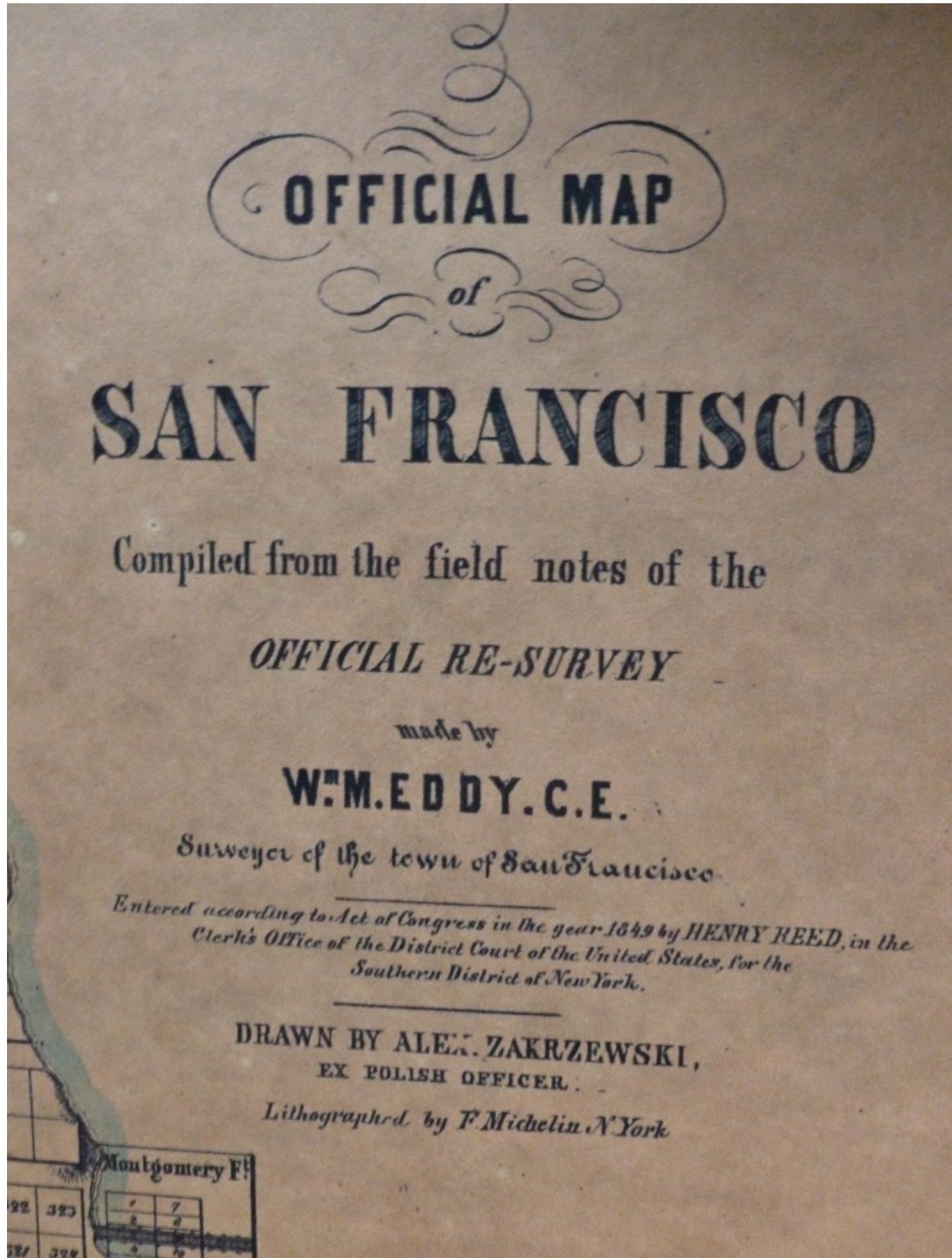
Zabriskie having concluded his remarks as

above, the President, Bielawski, then arose, and, after stating that he should be glad to hear further remarks from any others who felt disposed to favor them, and there being no response, said he thanked the persons present for their attendance, and hoped that the voice of the free American people would reach the Poles, bring joy and hope to their hearts, and lead them to exclaim: "The cause of Poland is not yet lost!" The meeting then adjourned.

The natives of Poland, in this city, have an organized association, of which the following are officers: President, Kazmier Bielawski; Vice Presidents, Francis Woyciechowski, Leon Czajkowski and Rev. Max Wolf; Secretary, J. W. Andrzejowski; Acting Agent on Communications, Rudolf Corvin.

Polish Pioneer Draws 1<sup>st</sup> Map of San Francisco

Official Map of San Francisco  
Drawn by Aleksander Zakrzewski  
Ex Polish Officer



**A NEW MAP OF SAN FRANCISCO.**—We have been shown the design of a new map of this city, designed, drawn and engraved by Alex. **Zakreski**, a gentleman well qualified to perform the task he has undertaken. The new map will be complete in every respect; every lot in the city, including water lots, being numbered. The execution of the map will be in the highest degree creditable to our city and the excellent artist. On the border of the map will be engraved the most prominent buildings of our city. We understand that it will be published in about a week by Mr. William B. Cooke.

**JUST PUBLISHED**—The new and complete edition of the Topographical Map of the City of San Francisco. For sale by **COOKE & LECOUNT**, and by **ALEX. ZAKRESKI**, at his Topographical Drawing Office, Washington street, corner of Montgomery, up-stairs.

This is the only Topographical Map that has been published, and gives a clear idea of the location of property with regard to hill and valley. On this account it will be found particularly useful to dealers in real estate and business men generally.

Those printed on fine cloth can be conveniently folded in a letter, and are very desirable for persons who wish to give to their friends at home a correct idea of the peculiar topographical features of our city.

may13-1m

**MAP OF SAN FRANCISCO.**—We have received from the publisher, S. H. Marlette, a complete map of San Francisco, compiled from the original map, the recent surveys of W. M. Eddy, County Surveyor, the western addition surveyed by S. H. Marlette, civil engineer. The map seems an excellent one, and is from the lithography of Zakreski and Hartman, and confers great credit upon all those who have been engaged in its production. It may be had of S. H. Marlette and of Alex. **Zakreski** & Hartman, Clay street, above the plaza.