

## **The California Congress.**

The interesting and important gathering of the amateurs of the Pacific coast was finally concluded on the evening of May-day. The distribution of prizes was made at that time ; these prizes were presented, with some appropriate remarks, by Mr. B. F. Voorhees. The first prize, in the First Class, awarded to Mr. Selim Franklin, consisted of a costly gold watch; the second prize in the same class, awarded to Mr. Edward Jones, was an inlaid rosewood chess-table. John S. Ellis won the first prize in the First Division of the Second Class, a beautiful marine chess-board and set of men; the second prize in this division fell to Mr. R. H. Bacon, and was a fine gold watch seal. In the Second Division of the Second Class the first prize was taken by Mr. J. H. Gardiner and the Second by Mr. George F. Sharpe ; they consisted of elegant quartz seals. The prize offered by the Committee of Management for the best seven chess stratagems was gained by Mr. William R. Wheaton, lately Secretary of the Pioneer Club. After

the delivery of the prizes, the evening was concluded by a social festival.

The winner of the first or grand prize, is a gentleman well-known for his powers as a player and for the warm interest he has so long taken in the game. He has been challenged by Mr. John Shaw to a match of twenty-one games, and as the present champion of Pacific chess we presume he will accept the challenge. The games, proceedings, etc., are to be published in a pamphlet, whose appearance we shall gladly hail as the first production of the chess-press west of the Rocky Mountains. One of the consequences of the Tournament had been the formation of a new and enlarged club, in the capital of California, under the name of 'Cosmopolitan.' Its influence will of course be felt in many other directions. We congratulate the chess lovers of the Golden State upon the entire success of their first general assemblage.