

black, with a white streak, that she had two small guns, and something like a gun covered up amidships, and that she was about one hundred and fifty tons burthen. With respect to the latter item (the amount of tonnage) allowances must be made for the state of alarm into which Capt. Butman was thrown, and Mr. Peyton has told you how difficult a matter it is to judge of the tonnage of a vessel; he has told you that himself and messmates were, in one instance, unable to decide within fifty or sixty tons the amount of burthen even of the vessel in which they were sailing.

Then with regard to the schooner's armament. The Panda had two small guns, and one pivot gun. Perez said the small guns were six and nine pounders, and Mr. Quentin, a naval officer, made a similar mistake in his estimate of their calibre. Capt. Butman, however, described the guns as "neither long nor short," and a singular corroboration of his opinion has come out in the course of this investigation. In the roll of equipage of the Panda, read a few days ago, the small guns are represented as gunnades, and these pieces are, as Capt. Butman said, neither "long nor short guns." Is not this proof of Capt. Butman's accuracy, of far greater importance than the mistake which he made in relation to the metal of the guns? A mistake, too, very easily made; for who has seen guns at sea in the same state of brightness as those exhibited in a park of artillery? And who has not noticed the dark and bronze state of the guns which lie in our navy yard. Remember the perfect agreement which existed between the testimony of the crew of the Mexican and the witness Perez in relation to the colors of the Panda. Reed, the mate, stated that when the piratical vessel came up with them she hoisted patriot colors. And Perez says that when they fired a gun for the American brig to heave to, they hoisted the Columbian flag. The description given by Capt. Butman of the manoeuvres of the piratical vessel at the time of the Mexican's capture, also correspond with Perez's account of the movements of the Panda at the same period. There are also numerous other coincidences between the testimony of the crew of the