THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

SATURDAY...... ....JUNE 2. 1883

All communications for publication, and all letters upon business with this office, should be addressed RECORD-UNION, WEEKLY UNION, or The Sacramento Publishing Company.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

In New York Government bonds are quoted at 119½ for 4s of 1907; 112½ for 4½s (ex interest); 102⅞ for 3½s; sterling, $4 85½@4 89; 103½ for 3s; 103 for 5s; silver bars, 109⅜.

Silver in London, 50⅛d; consols, 101 11-16d; 5 per cent. United States bonds, extended, 105½; 4s, 121⅞; 4½s, 114½.

In San Francisco Mexican dollars are quoted at 87½@87¾ cents.

Mining stocks were still weaker in San Francisco yesterday, and lower on the second than on the first call. There was a break all along the line, with the exception of Hale & Norcross, which sold at 37½c higher than Thursday, but went off on the second call. Sierra Nevada fell $1 25 from the best price Thursday, Union Consolidated $1 37½, Alpha $1 25, Utah 80c, Mexican 62½c, and other Comstocks from 5c to 25c.

A house was burned at Carson, Nev., yesterday morning.

One year ago yesterday the first star route trial began in Washington.

Seventeen persons were arrested in a New York opium joint Thursday night.

The Chinese Government has opened a Consulate in New York city.

Three loggers were drowned at Hersey, Mich., Thursday.

John Bailey and Henry Wimbach (colored) were hanged yesterday near Macon, Ga.

A boiler explosion near East Saginaw, Mich., yesterday, destroyed a shingle mill, killed three men and injured three others.

The Turkish troops have completely subdued the Arabs at Benghazi, Tripoli.

Von Moltke has returned to Berlin from a tour in southern Europe.

The ladies of Dublin are appealing for a commutation of the sentences of Thomas Caffrey and Timothy Kelly, the Phœnix Park murderers.

The Prussian Ministry have decided to take the regulation of church matters into their own hands, independent of Rome.

The dynamite conspirators pleaded not guilty in London yesterday, and their trial was fixed for the 11th inst.

In a shooting affray at Duncan station, N. M., both participants were instantly killed.

The hearing of the prisoners charged with the murder conspiracy in County Mayo, Ireland, began yesterday at Castlebar.

Victoria, B. C., is to be lighted by electricity.

A row occurred at the walking match in Baltimore Thursday night, in which one of the pedestrians received a black eye.

Charles Fisher met with a horrible death Thursday at Washington, N. Y.

Max Strakosch, the impressario, has leased Salmi Morse's theater in New York for five years.

The Pennsylvania Senate yesterday passed the railroad anti-discriminating bill.

The public debt was decreased $4,890,473 during May.

From 6 A. M. until noon yesterday 48,000 persons crossed the Brooklyn bridge.

Mrs. Eveline Adams hanged herself near Santa Cruz yesterday.

The Free Trade Conference finally adjourned at Detroit last night.

Hereafter eight policemen will patrol the East-river bridge on the New York side.

The much-advertised anti-monopoly meeting at San Jose occurs to-day.

Work is suspended on the Mexican National Railroad.

Robert Henderson was executed for murder at Oxford, N. C., yesterday.

Mrs. Susan E. Douglass cut the throats of her three children in Cumberland county, Pa., and then killed herself.

W. L. Scott has given $20,000 to two hospitals in Erie, Pa.; also large sums to other charitable institutions.

J. Proctor Knott, Democratic nominee for Governor of Kentucky, is quite ill at Louisville.

The fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of Iowa was celebrated yesterday in Burlington.

The readers of the RECORD-UNION will find much interesting and valuable reading matter upon the inside pages of to-day's issue.

THE STORY OF A CANDIDATE'S PAPER

We have pointed out the valueless quality of the journal founded and conducted solely to foster the low and gross ambition of an office-seeker, who is at the same time its owner. Such sheets amount to very little more than placards. Now the San Francisco *Examiner* is one of these. It is a placard. It reads in every line, "I am George Hearst. I want office. I have the money requisite to buy the toy, and I will have it." Let us look for a moment at the situation of the paper. It has now attained a position where it is within $1,000 a month of paying expenses. For a paper situated as it is, that is bad, and it is not bad, just as the proprietor may choose to consider it; just as he may estimate the future to which, and his own ambition, he has mortgaged the journal. Mr. Hearst was a rich man; he is a rich man still; if he continues to bleed for the *Examiner* his financial rating must of necessity be newly written. Mr. Hearst, having acquired wealth, desired to gratify a lofty ambition. Not being possessed of the intellectual qualifications that command the attention of men, he turned to his wealth and was moved by a common error to believe that if with it he could control a newspaper he could "whoop up" supporters sufficient to plant him safely in the southwest corner of the Capitol. "A newspaper," he reasoned, "is the exponent of public opinion. If I possess a newspaper I can control public opinion, or at least direct it to my advantage." To that end, then, he bent his energies, and he soon possessed the *Examiner*, and, contemporaneously with the change of ownership, this "exponent of public opinion" entered upon more or less adroit advocacy of Mr. Hearst's candidacy. But he did not receive the nomination at the hands of the Democratic Convention. Disappointed and exasperated by his failure, he charged it upon the railroad companies, on the principle that it is popular to strike a corporation, and according to the maxim, "In a scrimmage hit the first head within reach." He had the "exponent of public opinion" on his hands, and immediately its guns were directed to open upon the railroads. This was not on account of the love the owner bore the people, but because he so hated the railroad corporations. He had encountered the risk of becoming great, and failed to appreciate his happy deliverance. The public has from all this assumed that had he been nominated and elected his "exponent of public opinion" would have been the friend of the railroad corporations. But it takes money to run a newspaper devoted solely to the political ambition of any man. This man had $30,000 locked up in the sheet; some $32,000 more had gone into its eager craw in the way of running expenses. Maligning railroad companies did not visibly enlarge the income of the paper. He therefore offered the sheet to certain parties, agreeing to put up $30,000 more, they to pay him back in a given time the whole $92,000. The parties considered, took advice, slept on it, and declined. Thereupon Mr. Hearst, true to the maxim of the political gambler, "nothing venture nothing have," started his exponent of public opinion upon the scent of a United States Senatorship for its owner, and to that trail it now keeps its nose, emitting daily howls as it follows the game, about "railroads and soulless corporations," with intermittent whines concerning alleged wrongs and sufferings of the people, for whom its soul is apparently moved by such deep concern. Now this has been the legerdemain by which the *Examiner* has been manipulated in the interest of a rich man, whose only possible qualification is his wealth. To continue the imposture and work out the possibilities of this "exponent of public opinion," its proprietor has sunk about $120,000. All its loud-mouthed protestations of concernment for the rights of the people which are being so ruthlessly crushed beneath car wheels, are gammon, hypocritical and shams. They have not even the quality of artfulness. There is no diplomacy in the manner in which the scheme is worked; the insincerity, duplicity and cant of the whole business is plain to be seen.

THE JUDGMENT OF A SINGER.

Christine Nilsson has written for a leading review a few words about singing. From one so gifted and experienced we should expect many thoughts of originality. But such expectation has not been realized. The paper is a very gentle and harmless, and quite an insipid production. She tells us that to the public singer, more than any other artist, sympathetic appreciation is a necessity, and that the audience exhibiting the most appreciation gets the best music. This, however, is true of all things. Human energies are stimulated, and human capacity is enlarged by appreciative recognition; genius always responds with its best to approbation. She says there is no power in mechanical singing. But this is not a new truth, and applies to all arts. The mechanical performance is never effective. The spirit of a musical, dramatic or other effort appealing to human sympathies or passions must give warm and breahting life to the form that human beings are asked to embrace. There are one or two statements, however, in Nilsson's paper which rise superior to the ordinary level of the essay. Referring to the frequent repetition of a musical part, she testifies that while it is accompanied by a certain amount of tediousness or weariness, yet a song which gives fitting expression to any genuine emotion of the human heart is one of the most durable of all things in art. The artist finds with each rendering an experience more or less peculiar to itself. Different audiences, different stage companionship, different acoustic properties, the varying experiences of the private life of the singer, all have their effect upon her performance. Thus each rendering has something new in it. She might have gone beyond this expression. The lady so gifted in voice is evidently unable to express in words all she feels. She might have expressed the fact that the emotions are quickened by their exercise; fine sympathies never refuse an appeal; the melodies that speak to us never speak wholly in vain. A gifted singer, who was renowned in California for her genius and the erratic life she led, and who never knew what a true home was, but was possessed of all the qualities that would have made a home a sacred shrine and a castle of strength and peace and joy, achieved her highest triumphs in the popular heart by the singing of "Home, Sweet Home." She once remarked to the writer: "I have sung the song from the footlights of the grand opera houses, before the most brilliant and cultured audiences in many places, in music halls and melodeons and theaters, in wild mining camps, at public festivals and in the concert, and I never sang it yet, sick or well, sore at heart or gay, that I did not feel its sweet influence or that my hearers did not come into full sympathy with my own feelings. I have sung it thousands of times, but it was always new to me and to them." Nilsson explains that at times the singer, for no apparently adequate reason, is able to outdo all her previous efforts; then, again, the least unexpected event may make her hoarse, and, despite her desire, her vocal organs will refuse to respond. The voice, she believes, cannot be trained to overcome such causes of depression. She believes the Americans thoroughly appreciate good music; they travel much, have money to gratify their tastes, deliberate with good judgment and refuse to patronize that which does not suit their tastes. Appreciation of good music in the chief cities of the United States is fully equal, she declares, to that of the European capitals. This is but cumulative testimony, but she does go a little beyond her colleagues in art in distinguishing between the judgments of sections. Thus she accords to the Eastern and Middle State audiences more deliberation of judgment, and to our Western and Southern audiences heartier responses and those that are quicker in expression. There is little provincialism in America, and as a consequence society is pretty much the same in all parts of the country, and so with the advantages the Americans possess they have arrived at a point where they know what is fine in the music art. The pride of perhaps one locality may be touched by the remark of the lady that it may almost be said there is no intellectual metropolis in this country, our institutions, education and degrees of refinement being substantially the same in Boston and San Francisco, Chicago and New York, St. Louis and Philadelphia. She loves to sing, she remarks. She thanks God for the gift of melody and enthusiasm for its exercise; it is her life and enjoyment, and if her auditors in America have received any genuine pleasure from it, it is in a great degree due to their own responsive sympathy, which has made the benefit and the obligation mutual. This is a very graceful compliment; but if Nilsson is so disinterestedly pleased in giving pleasure and in gratifying an elevated taste, why should she not have afforded broader opportunity to the people to manifest their "sympathetic appreciation?" She held her talents at such a price when in America that only the few, and those well to do in the world, were enabled to hear her. She confined herself to the greater cities, because her demands upon managers would not permit them to venture beyond the centers of wealth, and even then her concerts cannot be said to have been in the broadest sense popular, for the masses of the people were not given the opportunity to hear her. Her "gift of melody" was not only limited in its exercise to the metropolis, but was unheard by the mass of the metropolitans who would have been most benefited by it, and who would have responded, if not with the most cultured appreciation, at least with the sincerest sympathy. Our great singers unfortunately permit themselves to be monopolized by greedy managers, and they in turn by an unjustifiable competition shut art within moneyed walls. The masses of the people who should benefit by the ennobling influence of art in song as interpreted by the great artists, are afforded small opportunity to avail of it. The music hall of the ordinary character is a more potent influence with the people than the grand opera houses; music in the cheaper resorts, in the beer garden and the popular concert room, receives the sympathetic response upon which Nilsson places so high a value. The cultured few enjoy the gifts of melody of the great singers, but the masses are locked out with a silver key. The musical queens and princes of the day appear to care very little indeed for the verdict of the masses, since they neither seek it nor give opportunity for it to be pronounced.

THE THREATENED STRIKES.

It now appears that most, if not all, of the threatened strikes among the workers of the Western and the Central States have been averted. It is to be sincerely hoped that the news is true. Had the strikes prevailed some 22,000 workmen would have been thrown out of employment. As it is, some 7,000 are already out of the mills, though it is believed that as the backbone of the strike has been broken these men will soon return to work. But if these 7,000 men shall hold out it will be cause for deep regret on the part of all thoughtful citizens and well-wishers of the workingmen of the country. Loss may be—must be, indeed—visited upon capital and the mill and mine owners; but they are better able to bear it; the heavier loss is that of the workers. If it is admitted that the strikers can be successful, it will only be, as we the other day pointed out, after long suspension of labor, and whatever advance is secured will not compensate for the loss, as we have already demonstrated by arithmetical statements. We know of no instance in which a great strike has been a paying investment for the workingman. Indeed most strikes have been downright failures. They seldom secure an increased wage, and when they are conducted by "unions" the members with means lose a goodly share of their treasure laid up by hard labor and pinching economy, in order to support those without money. The money of the "union" is made up of dues drawn from the wage-winners, and which they had far better have invested in home, or in such a way as to give them some degree of independence. The really skilled and deserving workman is most injured by the "union" and strike system, since it prevents his skill from commanding a higher reward than that of the laggard and incompetent, for in "unions" all in a given class receive a like daily wage, regardless of ability. The undue advance of wages paid out to produce an article adds to its cost and lessens its selling ability, and consequently narrows and restricts the demand. Of high-priced products there is less consumption, and if the advance is upon necessaries then the consumption of luxuries will be limited, no matter if the workers who produce the luxuries suffer, and so it is that the equalizing process goes on. The man whose necessities increase in cost spends just as much less for things he can do without, but in which he has before indulged. And this rule extends to capital, which, when it does not find reward, is disturbed, and the effect is felt along the whole line of trade and values. An equitable adjustment and even balance between labor and its reward is the one desideratum, and the reward must no more be disproportionately low than disproportionately high. But has a strike—the forcible work of a striking union—ever brought about this adjustment? In the nature of things, can it ever do so? Has a strike ever regulated a demand for an article, prevented over-production and consequent panic, or has it, or can it, ever swerve the laws of trade one iota from their line of action?

FRANCE.

According to the Paris *Figaro* France is surrounded by bayonets, walled in by the orders of Bismarck, and is a victim to his caprice. The tripartite alliance, it declares, was intended as a barricade from behind which an assault upon France is to be made. Italy, Austria and Germany united and hating the republic; the latter at war in Senegal, Madagascar and far distant Tonquin; her people averse to any conflict with European powers; the administration on the eve of a rupture with the Vatican; her citizens doubtful of the wisdom of the Ministry, there certainly appears to be reason to believe that France has arrived at a very critical period in her history. The outcome of the present complications none can now foresee. All sorts of speculations and prophesies are made by European correspondents, but they are all conjectural. However, let us see how far conjecture may reflect probability. France has a powerful navy, second only to that of England. Her army was never stronger or in better condition. But her people, however distant a hope they may entertain of a sweet revenge upon the men over the Rhine, a revenge congenital with their nature, realize that any immediate provocation of Germany to a conflict of arms would be the hight of madness, since the German Chancellor has bound to either hip Austria and Italy as trusted allies. They realize, in fact, that Germany will now dictate to Europe. Consequently, all pretext for embroilment will be carefully avoided by the French for the present. On the other hand, Germany, having gained what she desired by the new alliance—the restraining of France—has no desire for an open conflict. She has nothing to gain by it whatever. Her new position will enable her to reduce her armament and husband her resources, for the military activity of France has compelled her heretofore to keep in readiness an equally as strong force. France is thus bidden to keep the peace, and dare not refuse, and Germany occupies the position of dictating her behavior. Both Austria and Italy gain by the alliance into which they have entered. Austria is insured domestic peace, and Italy, which has anything but a kindly feeling for France, is gratified by a position that enables her to snub her neighbor with impunity. The situation, therefore, does not appear to be inviting for war; the nations glower upon each other, but more than that we do not believe they intend to do. But, as we said in the outset, the situation is by no means pleasant, and a single mistake may provoke a serious change of affairs; and so we come back to the conclusion that France has reached a very critical period in her history.

NEW YORK'S SUNDAY LAW.

New York has a new Sunday law, amendatory of the old provisions of the Penal Code. It prohibits on Sunday all labor except for works of necessity and charity. This leaves a doorway that, so far as Sunday labor is concerned, is as broad as a barn door, and through which any violator may drive with impunity. The old law prohibited "all manner of servile labor," except, etc. The amendment is defined to mean "labor needful during the day for the good order, health or comfort" of the community. But as to what is for the "comfort" of the community is a question so exceedingly liberal that it amounts to a nullification of the section, and perhaps it is just as well. The Democratic Legislature of New York never intended that the law should be effective. The old law prohibited all trades, manufactures and mechanical employments on Sunday; the new forbids "all trades, manufactures, agricultural or mechanical employments, except they are works of necessity," when they may be performed in an orderly manner, "so as not to interfere with the repose and religious liberty of the community." Of course this sets free the great armies that contribute to the necessities of the people, and these range from the blacker of boots to the agents of the Sunday excursion train, from the picnic promoter to the hiring of the fast teams by gay youths. Shooting, hunting, fishing, playing, horse racing, gunning and other sports, exercises and the like are prohibited, and all sales, except articles of food furnished prior to 10 A. M. and meals by caterers served to order, or meals eaten on the premises where prepared. Goods of tobacco (except where liquors are sold), fruit, confectionery, newspapers, drugs, etc., may be sold on Sunday. All processions are prohibited except for funerals or in religious services, and no bands of music, fireworks, discharge of cannon or arms must accompany such. But in military funerals a band may play, but not within one block of any house of worship, when religious exercises are being held. All kinds of dramatic, athletic, minstrel, musical and other kinds of performances as amusements are forbidden, and those who aid to advertise any such exhibitions, or lease houses or grounds for the same, are held to be violators of the law. The penalties affixed are ridiculously low, being a maximum fine of $10, or five days in jail. One of the paradoxical features of the new law is seen in the permission to tobacconists to keep open shop, but florists are forbidden to sell flowers, even for church decorations, funerals or weddings. Of course flowers do not contribute to the joys of mankind so highly as does the noxious weed. Fruit peddlers may set up their stands on every corner, but no flower girl must delight the eye of the Metropolitan with a bouquet. These are but a few of the absurdities of this model Sunday law—a law entirely worthy a Democratic Legislature, and which is no improvement upon the law it displaces.

NOT WANTED.

The New York *Star* sneers at General Grant because he was not elected an officer of the Army of the Potomac Society. It is what might be expected from a Tammany sheet. None of that kind admire the man who fought for the Union and whipped their friends. Grant, it says, is "not wanted." But it forgets that he was "wanted" once, and came at the call. That he is a Presidential aspirant is not believed. As the Albany *Express* says, "it added nothing to his fame that he was twice made President." What made him honored among his countrymen was the fact that they wanted him in the hour of peril, that they found him ready and that he responded to their "want." Party wrestling there may be with the man in politics, but the soldier who saved the nation is always "wanted" by his grateful country.

A DIVIDED ARMY.

The New York *Herald* sent a reporter to glean from Governor Ben Butler his views of political matters. He was communicative to the news-gatherer, and frankly informed him that there is but one chance, according to his belief, for the Democracy to win in 1884, and that is on the tariff question. But he went on to specify that it must declare for a tariff limited in amount to a sum necessary and adequate for revenue. But here is the *Courier-Journal*, declaring just as emphatically that an absolute free trade policy only can save the party, while Mr. Randall is more urgent for "protection of American industries" to be made the Democratic war-cry. The truth is, that the Democracy is hopelessly divided on the tariff question.

INEXPLICABLE NEGLECT.

The Health Commission of the city of Baltimore reports that the alarming prevalence of diphtheria there is due in a great measure to the imperfect construction of filth vaults, which are not properly cleansed or ventilated. Precisely a like condition of pits prevails in Sacramento, and it need not surprise any if the result is the same as in Baltimore. When diphtheria becomes alarmingly prevalent perhaps the authorities will heed the request to require householders to ventilate pits and cesspools, and cut off from house connection all drains by escape pipes for noxious gases. The refusal or neglect of the Trustees to require these ordinary sanitary precautions to be enforced is inexplicable.

THE Springfield *Republican* views with concern the platform of the Detroit Brewers' Convention in regard to politics. To it it sounds like an open and formal declaration of war in which the liquor interest proposes to engage. But the New York *Times* is less concerned, and says that if the liquor interest declares war, it will find that there has been decided progress made by public opinion toward a conservative regulation of the traffic, and that if the war is made against the Republican party, while it will lose some votes, in the end it will be strengthened rather than weakened, and that neither the Republican nor the Democratic party can afford to take a stand against all regulation.

A SCHEME is on foot among members of Parliament in England to send copies of Mr. Gladstone's great speech on the affirmation bill to every minister of religion in England. A good plan. It will be found by the gentlemen of the cloth to be one of the ablest documents of the day, and full of truths.

BOOK REVIEW.

HISTORY OF THE PACIFIC STATES OF NORTH AMERICA. By Hubert Howe Bancroft. Vol. IV. Mexico. Vol. II. 1521-1600. San Francisco: A. L. Bancroft & Co.

Volume I. of this work, which was issued in the intermitted course of the history of Central America, took up the first of the four great periods of American history, the conquest by Cortez, and left us at the capture and occupation of the City of Mexico. The present volume, continuing on the plan already explained, of deviation from numerical order of the State histories, and by which the annals of the several States are brought down by parallels, opens with the year 1521 and the rebuilding of Mexico, and carries the record down through the rule of the viceroys to the year 1600, and the termination of the sixteenth century in New Spain, "the opening of which had beheld at the zenith of its glory the most advanced and powerful Empire in America." Mr. Bancroft's present volume avoids some of the causes of criticism directed against its predecessors, those which except to his frequent classical references, and his rather studied attempts at rhetorical finish, which at times become florid and lose effect from the pause they command in the order of recital. The historian must be the commentator, but in a judicial sense, and except he is making his records essays, in which the fullest indulgence may be allowed the fancy, he must expect the modern reading public to prefer detail and comparison. Mr. Bancroft's works, too, have for an object the correction of history, and the exact compilation and arrangement of facts, and therefore he does well, and will do better still to move as little as may be upon the line exciting the criticisms. But he should not be deterred by those who have analyzed his style from continuing his judicial commentaries and reflections, and even such classical similies as will illumine the subject and forcibly impress upon the reader's mind the importance of events, and the significance of turning points in history. None are more frequent than historical parallels, and that work which claims to be exhaustive and makes no reference to them is at fault. But if it be admitted that Bancroft is to an extent "pedantic," and that his sharp assaults upon previous recitals may by some be construed into "sneers," these are minor matters, above which rise the great features of his work and overshadow and eliminate from just estimation all the defects that may be charged to style and literary execution. And what are these features? Froude says that the historical inquirer demands proof of sufficient force and certainty to convince a British jury in a criminal case of a state of facts. The fact feature is the chief one in these coast histories; the collection of proofs, the array of evidences, the marshaling of truths that convince the jury of readers, has been the one great work of the author whose latest volume we have just closed after a very careful reading. One of Mr. Bancroft's severest critics was compelled to admit, on the appearance of the first volume, that "he has rectified numerous errors of date, has separated events and actors that have been hitherto described as identical or confounded with others, has given the real sequence of occurrences that have been spread confusedly over longer or shorter periods than the facts warrant, has credited to their true authors transactions that have been mistakenly attributed to others, and has accumulated a multitude of minute but interesting facts that escaped the notice of previous investigators, which throw a new and strong light upon nearly every step * * * * and which introduce us more fully to a knowledge of the motives, the character, the aims and policies both of the conquerors and conquered." A stronger and more satisfactory verdict could scarcely be formulated, and it is hardly intensified by the statement which we adopt, that "as to the correction of inaccuracies, it is undoubtedly the most perfect of any of the histories of the conquest." In the volume before us the same accuracy in detail prevails; it sets in order the historical house heretofore in confusion; it treats events in their proper relation to each other, and presents them in that orderly array that is most acceptable to the historical reader, because truest. The author is happy in a degree especially noticeable by the reader in analyzing the labors of Cortes subsequent to the conquest, in which the farseeing victor strengthened himself by development of the country and the introduction of the arts and industries of Spain, rather than by searching for treasures and mines. There is no concealment made of the cruelties of the invader, no curtain drawn over the unmerciful treatment of the chieftains; but these are not permitted to blind the vision to the reforms introduced by Cortes, and to his sincere efforts to lift the country to a better condition. After the graphic recital of the humiliation and deposition of the conquerer, to whom Mendoza succeeded, we are carried on to the domination of the viceregal government and the plans, contests, labors and achievements of the religious orders. In the treatment of such a variety of subjects as the period embraced by the greater part of the sixteenth century presents, Mr. Bancroft gives evidence of greater self-possession and ease; his style has become more vivacious, his judgment clearer and quicker, and his application of proofs and deduction of facts more rapid and incisive; but there are no evidences of haste or lack of fairness. On the contrary, the spirit of judicial consideration and calm judgment is plainly evidenced. It is scarcely necessary to remark that the same breadth and depth of research is manifest as in the previous volumes. It has indeed been, if possible, more exhaustive. The authorities consulted were not more numerous, rather less, but were of a character demanding closer consideration, more careful comparison and greater labor in untangling and setting in order the facts confused so long. They embraced not only the writings of the soldier chroniclers, but the reports of officials and municipalities, official collections of historical documents, the writings of the monks and of the natives and mestizos educated at the convents, and who imbibed from their priestly teachers the love for writing. Thus there is quoted freely Camargo and his sketches of events during the Spanish rule; Chimalpain, who translated Gomara; Ixtlilxochitl, the native Cicero; and a score of others, including treatises on special episodes and States by such as Alaman, Ramirez, Icazbalceta, Orozco y Berra, Bustamante, Romero and others. In his use of the monk chronicles Mr. Bancroft points out that the writers gave their attention chiefly to religious topics, miracles and biographies of friars, but they narrated also political and kindred topics, although not with much connection, thoroughness or impartiality. They nevertheless, he adds, form a check on statements from the opposite side, and in this their very antagonism becomes valuable to the student in sifting the truth from varied testimony. No others who have written on Mexico have had such access to authorities as the present historian. The most of them, however brilliant, have not fortified their work as is that of Bancroft. There has been no such exhaustive research made as he has undertaken. This sifting of the truth from the world of error, and the obscurity of tradition, gives him, as he proceeds, more and more of confidence—quickens his perceptions and strengthens the force of searchers and collaborators by which he has surrounded himself, and by whose aid only could the task he has laid out be achieved. Perhaps the most interesting chapters in the volume are those on the death of Cortes, in which an exhaustive review of his character is made, and which tends to modify the opinion of the reader considerably concerning the conqueror; secondly, the chapter on "The Ordinances and Statesmanship of Cortes," in which his administrative ability is considered, and the judicial qualities of his mind analyzed. It is a vigorous review, and one that does credit to the analytical powers of the reviewer. As a whole the second volume of the History of Mexico fulfills expectation, and takes its place even in advance of its predecessors, since it is marked by greater confidence on the part of the historian in the treatment of his theme, and since the opportunities of the era treated afforded wider scope for the exercise of his spirit of justice and the evident purpose to be true to fact, despite the collisions that may result with other writers, and despite the assaults others may have made, or defenses they may have set up concerning characters whom Mr. Bancroft's researches prove to have been misrepresented in the past.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

"James Nasmyth, Engineer. An autobiography." Edited by Samuel Smiles, LL. D., author of "Lives of the Engineers," "Self Help," etc. Illustrated. New York: Harper & Brothers. The interest in Colonel Roebling and the Brooklyn bridge, for the moment, makes all records of engineering attractive. Mr. Smiles has written an excellent preface to this autobiography, and the frontispiece, a picture of Nasmyth, recalls a little the forward droop of Sir Walter Scott's head as seen in some pictures of the poet. The autobiography proper does not begin till the fourth chapter, but the writer has a family to be proud of, and his history of his ancestors is made very readable. His father was called by Sir David Wilkie the founder of the landscape-painting school in Scotland, and the near alliance of science and art is well illustrated in the records of this family. The book is not a dry list of inventions, but the story of a happy, earnest, useful life, whose bent was toward mechanical contrivance, but which one feels would have been equally ambitious, single-hearted and successful if the inclination had been in some other direction. While he was an enthusiastic student, Nasmyth had plenty of humor and an artistic appreciation of out-door life. He enjoys the public notice at the inn, that "The coach will set out from the Grass Market ilka Tuesday at two o'clock in the day, God wullin', but *whether or no* on Wednesday," and also his father's shift of painting his bare legs with black and white stripes to resemble the long silk stockings worn by the swells, when he was to take his sweetheart to Ranelagh, and his last pair of stockings was singed with being hung too near the fire to dry. Nasmyth speaks most affectionately of all his family, but with the greatest admiration for his father, for whom he has invented the word "resourcefulness" to describe his chief mental characteristic, and an interesting illustration of this trait is Nasmyth Sr.'s device to make the inaccessible face of a bluff on the Duke of Athol's estate bear trees and plants, to relieve its grimness. Nasmyth filled a number of canisters with suitable seeds, two small cannon in front of the castle, used for firing salutes on great days, were loaded, and the canisters fired up against the high face of the crag. The seed was scattered in all directions, and a few years later trees flourished in the recesses of the cliff. While he duly notes his first interest in tools, his first work in his father's shop, his turning his own bedroom into a brass foundry, his studies at the Edinburgh School of Arts and Edinburgh University, he also gives quaint sketches of the city life in his youth, like his picture of the Edinburgh fish-market and the thrifty dames filling their creels, not forgetting the bunch of flowers for the top; or memorable events, like the destruction of the Old Tolbooth in the High street, which had degenerated from a palace to a jail, and into which was built the nine-foot-square iron chest, the condemned cell of the Tolbooth, with the sentimental name of "The Heart of Midlothian." The dislodgment of this chest, Sir Walter Scott's presence, and the artist John Linnell's singular souvenir, a mummyfied rat, are very graphically described. Nasmyth's great inventions, those that the world knows him by—the steam hammer, the steam pile-driver, and the powerful telescopes for investigating the moon—are all described by him simply and carefully, and two appendices are added to the main body of the work, one a chronological list of Mr. Nasmyth's mechanical inventions, and the other a digest of his speculations on the sun-ray origin of the Egyptian pyramids, and the origin of the arrow-head or cuneiform character, an influence from which latter he traces in later Greek inscriptions. There is an excellent index. For sale by A. L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco.

"English Literature in the Eighteenth Century." By Thomas Sergeant Perry. New York: Harper & Brothers. Mr. Perry is an instructor at Harvard, and states in his preface that the volume contains the substance of a course of lectures delivered in Cambridge. It is one of those books about books which are godsends to busy people with no time to read the writers of any century, or by taking thought finding out the feeling of any past era about its literature. Mr. Perry is widely if not deeply read, and refers frankly to Ward's "English Poets," Morley's "English Men of Letters" series, and other current books about books where his own subject is treated. He quotes much, and aptly, for a little illustration will often establish what whole chapters of definition could not; but his strength is in short, pithy sentences which make a resume of what has already been dilated upon: "A proper understanding of the absence of a reading public is necessary for understanding the literature of the last century." "Germany was going through the motions of having a literature." "This deliberate wooden imitation of classical models was then, so to speak, the sober second thought of the Renaissance; the first was one of delight and it inspired great works." The view of Pope is very complete and tolerant, and Mr. Perry has a very interesting subject to treat in the first faint streaks of the dawn of the English novel. He makes a new classification of the early novel, the picaresque novel as he calls it, from the Spanish word *picaro*, a scamp; not necessarily a thief or an impostor, but one that will steal and cheat under the slightest provocation. The adventures of heroes like Gil Blas are the subject of the picaresque novel, which originated in Spain, but was translated and eagerly caught up and imitated in England, Defoe's less known novels being English examples of the class. In a note Mr. Perry remarks that the name of Richardson's heroine Pamela was frequently pronounced with the accent on the first syllable, which will probably be news to many readers. The beginning of journalism in England also belongs to this interesting period, and the political pamphlet which was dispossessed by the daily paper is explained. A parallel between the so-called medieval poems brought forward by a Frenchman, M. de Surville, as written by an ancestress of his in the fifteenth century, and proved to be forgeries, and the Rowley manuscripts of Thomas Chatterton, is mentioned in a note. There is a good deal of criticism on current literature, which the subject continually suggests by comparison, which gives the book a living interest. For sale by A. L. Bancroft & Co.

"Landmarks of English Literature." By Henry J. Nicoll. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Mr. Nicoll begins his book with a chronological index of authors and their works. He gives first, without dates, the chief names of the period treated in each chapter, and then adds a list of those and lesser lights, with the dates of their birth, of the production of their principal works, and of their death. He begins with the dawn of English literature—Mandeville, Wickliffe and Chaucer—and ends with the publication of Tennyson's poems in 1881. In the respect that it resolves writers into groups and labels them, it is an excellent work; but in that it is uncritical, it is naught. As a history of literature it is comprehensive and serviceable; but Mr. Nicoll's strictures on writers and their works are commonplace in the extreme. For sale by James T. White & Co., San Francisco.

"An Honorable Surrender." By Mary Adams. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. Miss Adams is clearly a great reader; that is, she reads much, and what she reads impresses her. The mottoes and quotations through the book are those dear to a thoughtful person. She tells the story of a restless, imaginative girl who simply does not know what she wants. She finally marries, but the honorable surrender is not to the General, who could appreciate the sword given into his hands. There are some excellent touches in the book, as when the heroine feels that her lover wrote a letter in a furious passion, because it is so beautifully courteous and gentle. For sale by A. L. Bancroft & Co.

"The Modern Age" has been received for June. Its contents are: "A Love Marriage," by Ludovic Halevy; "The Last Days of a Dynasty;" "The Californians," by Rudolph Lindau; "Canada and Annexation;" "Nino and Maso," by Paul Heyse; "Books," by Wm. Allingham; "Mr. Almayne's Escape;" "Irish Murder Societies," by Richard Pigott; "Sayings and Doings;" "Books and Book Men;" "Stage and Studio." Published by the Modern Age Company, New York.

"The Magazine of Art" (Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., New York) has, as a frontispiece to its June number, Rosetti's "Rosa Triplex," in color. The contents of the number are: "Bastien Lepaye," "A Modern Cosmopolis" (with five scenes in San Francisco), "Women at Decorative Work," "More About Benvenerto Cellini," "Out of Doors in Surrey," "Musical Instruments as Works of Art," "Ultimus Romanorum," "Art Chronicles," "Monthly Record of American Art," etc.

The "Art Amateur" presents in its June number fully its usual selection of choice designs, engravings and reading. Its extra sheets of designs are: Design for a dessert-plate, "Columbine;" for vertical lines of decoration in wood carving; for an Egyptian vase, "Honeysuckle;" South Kensington embroidery, for curtain or mantel valence border; design for ecclesiastical embroidery; for monogram "B;" and suggestions for jewelers' use. Issued by Montague Marks, New York.

"Xenophontis Libri Socratici." Harper Brothers, New York. This new edition of the Memorabilia is the latest of the series of Harpers' Greek and Latin Texts. It includes the Œconomicus and the Apology. In a Latin note at the end, S. R. Winans, who prepared the work, states that he has done so from the Berlin edition of Carl Schenkl, of the year 1876. For sale by A. L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco.

"The Wheelman" for June opens with an illustrated article on the "Massachusetts Bicycle Club," besides which there is the continuation of C. R. Dodge's "Shadow Love," and among the notable contributions is a paper entitled "The Bicycle and Tricycle for Physicians and Patients," by George E. Blackham. The number is full of matter which will be found interesting to the devotees of "the wheel."

"St. Nicholas" for June contains fully the usual variety of bright, attractive and instructive matter for "little folk," much of it handsomely illustrated. The table of contents is too long for reproduction here, but it will be commendation well understood by everybody simply to say that the number is quite equal to those which have gone before.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

A. L. Hart returned from Colusa yesterday.

Mrs. C. T. Jones has gone for a brief visit to Maxwell.

Judge Thompson, of Sonoma, was in the city yesterday.

P. F. Scott returned yesterday from Portland, Oregon.

Howard R. Johnson has returned from a trip to the mountains.

Miss Claude De Forest, of San Jose, is visiting her mother in this city.

L. Hecht and family, of San Francisco, returned from the East yesterday.

S. E. Carrington left yesterday for a visit to the bubach farm near Merced.

B. C. Brier has been in Auburn the past week as official reporter of the Superior Court.

H. S. Graves, of Sutter county, who went East some time ago, will arrive home to-day.

Misses Annette and Minnie Marden, of Davisville, are visiting Miss Fannie L. Cornwell, of Napa.

Mrs. F. L. Sowthack and family, of San Francisco, are visiting Sacramento for a few weeks.

W. B. Hall, of this city, leaves this afternoon for a tour to Tahoe and other lakes of the Sierras.

Senator Edmunds and party have returned from the Yosemite valley, and are in San Francisco.

Miss Mamie Drew, of Gridley, Butte county, is spending a few weeks with friends in San Francisco.

Arthur Brown, Superintendent of Railroad Bridge Construction, came down from Marysville yesterday.

Mrs. T. H. Moore and her daughter Nellie leave Grass Valley in a few days for a visit to the Eastern States.

Josiah Stanford, of Oakland, eldest brother of Leland Stanford, left Thursday for a visit to the Eastern States.

Among the Sacramentans who returned last evening from San Francisco were A. C. Freeman, N. L. Drew and Dr. Gardner.

Miss Josephine Legre, sister of Mrs. Fred. Wager (nee Stuckenholz), will arrive this morning from Europe by the overland train.

George W. Rice, agent of the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company, with a party of eight friends, went to Lake Tahoe last evening.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Fagan, of Gridley, were present this week at the graduation of their daughter Mamie at the College of Notre Dame, San Francisco.

Mrs. A. Powell, of Vallejo, with her daughters—Misses Florence, Eva and Blanche—has taken rooms at the Windsor Hotel, St. Helena, for the summer.

Jennie L. Green, George E. Knott, K. M. Lawson and Edith C. Smith, of this city, are among the recent graduates of the State Normal School at San Jose.

A very enjoyable birthday surprise party was given Tuesday evening to Martin Boyle, at his residence, Twenty-first and M streets, by a number of his friends.

M. D. Fairchild has retired from the management of the Oroville *Daily* and *Weekly Mercury*. Mrs. DeMott, the proprietress, will henceforth conduct the business.

A. D. Glace, of Rocklin; J. M. Wilson and Miss Loria Wilson, of Red Bluff; D. E. Sparks, C. A. Bierce and A. H. Burrell, of Oakland, came to the city yesterday.

Governor Stoneman will deliver an address at the Triennial Conclave on August 20th, on the occasion of the reception of the Grand Master upon the arrival of the Grand Encampment of the United States.

Captain Fred Neary yesterday received word that the steamer for the Sandwich Islands will sail from San Francisco this afternoon, and he will leave for the Bay this morning to take passage for the Islands. He will be absent about two months.

Arrivals at the Golden Eagle Hotel: Wash. Marion, Chicago; Miss Millie E. Walsh, San Jose; M. L. Hammer, city; Naph. B. Greenfield, F. D. Johnson, L. Van Heit, S. E. Blakely, John S. Mitche U. S. Brewster, W. F. Reynolds, G. W. Simmons, Adolph Mack, W. H. Brown, San Francisco.

Among the recent graduates from the State Normal School are George P. Ahlf, of Colusa; J. J. Beaty, of Yuba; Lizzie M. Clark, of Amador; E. Belle Fairlee, of Sutter; Susie M. Gilmore, of El Dorado; Katie Johnson, of Yolo; Mary L. Jones, of El Dorado; Effie J. Kelsey, of Sutter; Annie O. Murphy, of Placer; R. J. Sinott, of Sierra; Mollie E. Walsh, of El Dorado; Dora B. Washburn, of Calaveras; Kate F. Watkins, of Placer; Fannie P. West, of Nevada; Nellie L. Wicktram, of Napa.

The graduates at the Young Ladies' Seminary, Benicia, were Miss Julia L. Belding, Stockton; Miss Flora H. Carroll, Sacramento; Miss Belle A. Ellis, San Quentin; Miss Martha C. Pyle, Yreka; Miss Daisy A. Ryan, San Francisco, and Miss Minnie A. Sperry, of Oakland. "Farewell" was the subject of the essay read by Miss Carroll, comparing school life to the tiny beginning of two Alpine streams, which separating, ended in the mighty waters of the Rhine and Rhone. With deep affection she spoke of the school and teachers, also the beloved Principal, passed away, gone to her rest where there are no farewells. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Carroll were present at the commencement Wednesday, as were also a number of the young lady's friends from this city. The party returned to Sacramento accompanied by Miss Carroll on Thursday evening.

SUPERIOR COURT.

FRIDAY, June 1, 1883.

DEPARTMENT ONE—ARMSTRONG, Judge.

Ah Lee (assault to murder)—Convicted as charged.

Estate of H. P. Osborn, deceased—Due notice declared given.

DEPARTMENT TWO—MCFARLAND, Judge.

Ida E. Andrews vs. O. R. Runyon and P. J. Van Lobensels—Motion that execution issue was denied and overruled.

Emma Taylor vs. B. C. Taylor—Defendant allowed to file answer.

P. A. Miller vs. P. J. Van Lobensels—Tried and six days allowed to file briefs.

Huntington, Hopkins & Co. vs. Roseville Business and Manufacturing Association et al.—Decree in favor of plaintiff.

Robert Hector vs. Durham Sprague—On trial.

THE DAIRY IN THE CENSUS.—The published report by the United States, as furnished by the Census Bureau, places the number of milch cows in this country at about 12,500,000, an increase in ten years of nearly 4,000,000, or about 39 per cent. The production of butter for 1879 is figured up at 806,672,000 pounds, and of cheese, in round numbers, 243,000,000 pounds. The amount of cheese made upon the farm is put at 27,000,000 pounds, but the farm production of butter was 777,000,000 pounds. If the figures do not lie, by either improved methods, better cows, or perhaps both, there was a gain of about 12 per cent. per head in products over the census of 1870, making the actual increase in ten years almost 50 per cent. Since 1879 there has been a most wonderful development of the butter manufacturing industry, the census of 1860 making no note of factory-made butter, whole States, as it were, going suddenly over to the business, and our best judges now place the butter product—not including oleomargarine—at over 1,000,000,000 pounds, which, with the cheese, will make the dairy outrank in cash received any other of our single industries, and the business is but "just commenced," so to speak.