

MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR THE FARMERS.

The San Joaquin Valley Will Yield Enormous Crops

Unless Something Occurs in the Future to Mar the Prospects.

Enough Rain Has Fallen to Permit Farmers to Seed Their Lands, and With the Usual Spring Precipitation a Prosperous Season is Predicted - Miners Also Greatly Benefited by the Downpour.

STOCKTON, Dec. 20.—The rainfall here for the storm measured 0.44 of an inch, making for the month one and a half inches and for the season 3.29, against 3.07 last year.

SAN JOSE, Dec. 20.—The rain which began to fall last night has continued with slight intervals through the day and evening, making a total for the season of 0.46, or 70 per cent of the 3.41 inches. More rain is expected.

FRESNO, Dec. 20.—Rain began to fall here at 6 o'clock this evening, and up to midnight there have been several showers. Indications are that there will be a heavy downpour tomorrow.

AUBURN, Dec. 20.—Over two inches of rain has fallen in this locality during the last forty-eight hours, and the fall continues to-night.

FRESNO COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE. FRESNO, Dec. 20.—The Fresno County Teachers' Institute has been in session here for the past two days.

JAMES TOWN, Dec. 20.—Rain commenced falling early this morning and continued throughout the day, the prospects being good for more to-night.

JACKSON, Dec. 20.—Over two inches of rain have fallen in the last two days and indications are favorable for more.

SUISUN, Dec. 20.—The rainfall during the past forty-eight hours amounts to 1.30 inches. A heavy downpour is expected to-night.

OAKDALE, Dec. 20.—A warm rain has been falling all day. It rained 0.21 of an inch up to 4:30 to-day, making 1.63 inches since December 14th; total for the season, 3.49 inches.

HAYWARDS, Dec. 20.—Fully an inch of rain has fallen here, making a total of 4.22 inches for the season.

HOLLISTER, Dec. 20.—The rain has continued all day, the fall up to 6 p. m. being 1.16 inches.

NAPA, Dec. 20.—It has been raining here steadily for two days, with no indications of an abatement of the storm.

PACIFIC GROVE, Dec. 20.—A gentle rain has been falling all day.

TRIAL OF MRS. BOTKIN.

Dunning Sent Back to Jail for Refusing to Answer Questions.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—At the opening of the Botkin trial to-day John P. Dunning was called on by Judge Cook to take the stand.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—Mrs. C. DeGarmo Grey committed suicide here this morning in a Main-street boarding house by shooting herself in the head.

SMITH WILL RETIRE TO PRIVATE LIFE. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—The resignation of Andrew J. Smith, Governor of the Soldiers' Home at Santa Monica, California, to take effect March 31, 1899, has been accepted.

FRESNO'S CLAIM AGAINST THE STATE. FRESNO, Dec. 20.—W. H. Welsh, an attorney for Fresno County, has petitioned for mandamus to compel State Controller Cogan to allow payment of \$38,597.31, claimed to be due Fresno County for services of its Auditor, Assessor and Tax Collector in connection with the collection of State taxes for the fiscal years 1893-94 to 1897-98.

DR. STEBBINS REPORTED DYING. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Dr. Horatio Stebbins, the most prominent Unitarian minister on the coast, and pastor of the First Unitarian Church of this city, is reported dying at his home of heart failure.

NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS GOING EAST. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Companies H, K and M, of the First New York Volunteers, the last of the regiment remaining here, will leave this city some time to-night for their homes.

LOU POSTOFFICE BILL. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The House Committee on Postoffices to-day authorized a favorable report on the bill introduced by Representative Loul of California, providing for the amendment of the laws relating to second-class mail matter.

written by Mrs. Botkin. He elaborately explained his reasons for this belief.

CARL EISENCHMEI, a local expert, gave evidence on the same lines as the testimony of Mrs. Botkin.

Court then adjourned until to-morrow.

JUDGMENT REVERSED. Supreme Court Decision in an Alameda County Case.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—The Supreme Court has reversed the judgment of the Superior Court of Alameda County in the case of the California Improvement Company against Geo. D. Reynolds and wife.

NEW STEAMERS FOR ORIENTAL TRADE. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—The Pacific Mail Steamship Company has given orders for the construction of two new steamers to ply between this port and Yokohama and Hongkong.

CHINESE RETURNING HOME. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—The ranks of the celestials in California are being depleted, owing to the desire of the sons of Confucius to celebrate the coming New Year in their native land.

SCHOOL DIRECTOR RAGAN. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—School Director D. F. Ragan surrendered himself to the police authorities to-night, on learning that a warrant charging him with soliciting a bribe, sworn out at the instance of ex-Teacher Stanton, had been issued for his arrest.

FRESNO COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE. FRESNO, Dec. 20.—The Fresno County Teachers' Institute has been in session here for the past two days.

JAPANESE CRUISER CHITOSE. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—The Japanese cruiser Chitose has sailed for Santa Barbara channel, where she will make her official trial trip.

SUICIDE AT LOS ANGELES. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—Mrs. C. DeGarmo Grey committed suicide here this morning in a Main-street boarding house by shooting herself in the head.

EX-FIREMAN DEMPSEY DISCHARGED. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Robert Dempsey, ex-fireman of the river boat T. C. Walker, informed the United States Inspectors of Hulls and Boilers that he had been discharged by the California Navigation and Improvement Company from their employment.

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER. ABSOLUTELY PURE. Makes the food more delicious and wholesome.

FATAL FIRE AT NEW YORK.

Flames Break Out in a Residence on West End Avenue, Resulting in Three Deaths and Probable Fatal Injury to a Rescuer.

TWO WOMEN LEAP FROM THE THIRD STORY OF THE BURNING BUILDING, ONE BEING INSTANTLY KILLED AND THE OTHER DYING LATER FROM INJURIES RECEIVED, WHILE THE CHARRED REMAINS OF A THIRD WOMAN WERE FOUND IN THE RUINS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Three women dead and a man so severely injured that he may die, was the result of a fire to-day at the residence of G. H. Raymond, at West End avenue and Seventy-third street.

SERIOUS FIRE IN NAPA COUNTY. NAPA, Dec. 20.—The wine cellar and barn of Antonio Carbona, with their contents, have been destroyed by fire.

DEPENDENT PAINTER SUICIDES. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—George Engle, a painter, committed suicide to-day by taking carbolic acid.

ARRIVED AT WASHINGTON YESTERDAY FORENOON. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Presidential party, after an absence of seven days in the South, arrived at the Pennsylvania station over the Southern Railway at 11:30 o'clock this morning.

THE NATION'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE WILL PLEASED WITH HIS TRIP THROUGH THE SOUTHERN STATES.

PROMINENT ALABAMA CITIZEN KILLED BY A DISCHARGED SOLDIER.

LADY COOK TO BECOME A BROKER. LONDON, Dec. 20.—Lady Cook, formerly Miss Tenn Claffin of New York, announces that she is going to start the new year as a stock broker under the name of "Lady Cook & Company."

TRAIN HELD UP IN MISSISSIPPI. GREENADA (Miss.), Dec. 20.—An Illinois Central express train, southbound, was held up half a mile south of Pope's Station by two men at 10:30 to-night.

SAMPSON SAILS FOR NEW YORK. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Navy Department is advised of the sailing of Admiral Sampson on his flagship for New York.

WANTED: A HOLOGRAPH WILL. A Canadian barrister is responsible for the following: One day a farmer came into his office and requested that a holograph will should be prepared for his signature.

FIRE NEAR FRESNO.

FRESNO, Dec. 20.—Fire broke out this morning about 2 o'clock at Captain W. A. Nevills' La Favorita vineyard, west of town.

WANT LOWER RATES ON FRUITS. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—The Orange Growers' Association of Southern California will hold a meeting here to-morrow for the purpose of preparing a petition to be presented to all the transcontinental lines of railways asking for lower freight rates on citrus fruits.

A ROBBER CAPTURED. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—The railroad station house at El Monte was robbed last night, and to-day the city detectives here captured Arthur Parker while he was trying to dispose of a pair of pants taken from the station.

FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE. SUISUN, Dec. 20.—H. Boynton has received judgment in the Superior Court here against J. H. Bauman for a foreclosure of mortgage executed by defendant as security for an indebtedness of \$30,884.

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CHILDREN'S TRIMMED HATS AT \$1.50. Fifty pretty styles of Winter felt hats will be ready for Thursday's selling; various colors and different styles of trimming, to suit the various styles of youthful beauty.

SPECIAL... CHILDREN'S WHITE ANGORA SETS, \$1.20. A set like this will delight the little girls. It consists of a muff and tippet, to keep the hands, neck and shoulders warm.

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THE NON-PARLOR STORE.

Handkerchiefs for Holiday Giving

Handkerchiefs have all seasons for their own, but more particularly the Christmas season, and it takes a multitude of handkerchiefs to be enough to select from and supply its demand.

Handkerchiefs, Special at 39c

We will place on sale to-morrow morning twenty-five dozen fine sheer linen embroidered and lace trimmed handkerchiefs, purchased by us at much below their worth.

AT 25c each Men's full size white silk initial handkerchiefs, with 1-inch hem; fine quality.

AT \$1.50 box Men's pure stitched initial handkerchiefs, sheer and fine, 1-inch hem and any initial.

AT 50c each Men's fine silk hemstitched handkerchiefs, size 22x22, one-inch hem.

AT \$1.00 box Ladies' pure hemstitched handkerchiefs, 11 x 11, 1-inch hem, 6 in a box, any initial desired.

AT 15c, 20c, 25c Children's colored border hemstitched handkerchiefs, 1/2-inch hem, put up in pretty fancy boxes.

AT 3 for 50c Men's full sized, splendid quality white linen hemstitched handkerchiefs, with 1/2, 1 and 1 1/2 inch hem.

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GOLD RINGS FOR CHILDREN, 25c each. Pretty gold rings for children's Xmas gifts are here in great variety; plain gold bands, engraved ones and many others with settings of various precious stones; your birth stone among the lot; at 25c.

FANS FOR XMAS GIFTS, 50c to \$1.00. A gift of a handsome fan will be just in time for the Inaugural Ball, and they're an ever necessary article for party and opera goers; our assortment of Empire and the larger size is very extensive; fancy wood and ivory sticks, gauze, silk, satin covered, plain or decorated.

PRETTY PICTURES FOR 75c. This style of picture is a novelty and quite popular; they are studies in black and white only, and have oak ebonyed frames, plain or with fancy scroll decoration; a dozen different subjects to choose from, principally portraits and figures.

HOLIDAY BOOKS. Year around friends—The book year has been one of the busiest in the house; books are elegant gifts, always acceptable and lasting mementos.

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MEN'S XMAS NECKTIES AT 50c. We've just opened a handsome new line of men's neckwear, and you can choose from the lot for the first time to-morrow morning; they are puffs, teeks, bows and four-in-hands; all at 50c.

FLANNELETTE NIGHTGOWNS, AT 90c. A warm and serviceable gift is one of these soft, fleecy, flannelette gowns; they're in neat colors and patterns, principally stripes on cream ground, finished with ruffles and braid; 90c each.

GRIP AND SUIT CASES. Make most acceptable presents and are a luxury appreciated by the man or woman who travels. We've many sizes and kinds of club bags and valises, and these dress suit cases hold a surprising lot of things.

MACKINTOSHES, FINE GIFTS. Many styles we show. One at \$3.75 is a pretty gray mixed, double texture garment for women; another line at \$5 and \$6.50, navy blue or black, twilled serge, with plaid linings and single or double cape, double texture; will withstand wind and rain.

MEN'S SLIPPERS AT \$1.25. Every man should have at least one pair of slippers, but not every man has some one to think to get him a pair.

AT THE GLOVE COUNTER. This section is always busy at every season of the year, say nothing of Christmas times, and if you've a gift thought in this line, you can purchase a glove order at any price—a pair of black silk mittens for 50c or \$1, black cashmere gloves at 25c and 50c, ladies' fur top gloves at \$1 and \$1.50 pair, boys' fur top gloves at 50c and \$1 pair, children's wool mittens at 20c and 25c pair, kid gloves from \$1 up.

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