

SAN FRANCISCO CORRESPONDENCE.

Special Correspondence to the Herald.

SAN FRANCISCO, NOV. 18.

To attempt to write you a letter without mentioning anything about horses or races would be almost an impossibility. I will not go into the details of the great race; telegraphic advices and newspaper clippings will have done all that, long ere this reaches you. All are glad that "old Thad" has come out victorious, but I am inclined to think that if the truth were spoken in plain language many are very much disconcerted at the result. It is no good denying the fact, things looked very fishy for the Californian until "True Blue" came to grief, and then our favorite had it all his own way. "Thad Stevens" was not himself at all, and even after the second heat did not sweat half enough to please either trainer, rider, or owner. The accident to "True Blue" is greatly to be regretted, not that any one can be blamed, but then ill-natured people will talk. One newspaper boldly asserted that the horse put his foot in a hole, hence the stumble; another attributes the accident to the disgraceful condition of the course, and so on through the whole chapter. Be the cause what it may, I can only say that it is to be regretted. Mr. Chamberlain bears up with his disappointment most stoically; the vets. anticipate the horse will be fit to travel in six months time, and as the owner intends remaining by his favorite until a recovery is effected, his loss will be our gain, inasmuch as he has made himself very popular with all whom he has become associated. But enough of horses; just a line or two with reference to

Coming Home From the Races.

It was the "Darby" all over but divided by ten; such a jumble, such break downs, such swearing I have not seen for many a day; and then the turnpike alias the toll gate, it reminded me of Old Kennington Gate in the days of my childhood. There were the same attempts to bilk the gate keeper, the old dodge of throwing bad money and then trying to drive through, but all to no avail, the pike-man was up to snuff and not many got on the blind side of him. At that time the last man returned I should not like to say, but as late or rather as early as four o'clock on Sunday morning I heard the teams going by my bachelor abode. Rather an amusing incident happened on the course between the heats, one that I have not seen mentioned in the papers. Some fellow had transported to the race track, a fine old specimen of the rabbit order, and during a lull started it along the course; an equally ancient member of the grayhound stud in pursuit, and was very speedily joined by all the surrounding curs; great fun was the result. The old rabbit was good on the double, and gave the dogs good sport for a long time before he was nabbed. With so much racing other excellent news has been overlooked. We have had

A Most Romantic Suicide

Which may be summed up in the following brief manner: Two young men, courted the same girl, Enoch Arden fashion; the two young men remained constant friends, notwithstanding the fact that Cupid had pierced them with the same shaft. Which way the young lady's affections tended this deponent knoweth not, but the brace of lovers were sensible enough not to quarrel over their mutual adoration. A few evenings ago, the pair visited a popular place of amusement, and after the manner of the rising generation, between the acts adjourned to a neighboring saloon for the purpose of imbibing. On their return one of them was suddenly stricken with death, and almost before assistance could be procured, the grim tyrant overtook him. His companion was naturally very much affected, so much so that his brain must have become turned, for on arriving home he committed suicide in a most deliberate manner, by shooting himself in the head, whilst lying beneath the bedclothes. Previous to his death he wrote two or three letters, in one of which he stated that his reason for putting an end to himself was, that he feared that the world would think that he had poisoned his friend, to rid himself of a rival. A post mortem examination proved that the cause of the first death was the bursting of a blood vessel in the region of the brain. The joint funeral was largely attended yesterday afternoon, and the two were buried in one grave.

The Amateur Operatic Performances

Referred to in my last, was a gigantic success. The hospital netted close on \$3,000 for the great event. The press spoke in highest terms of the efforts of the various amateurs, and all who witnessed the performance were delighted. Now that it is all over, the question is mooted as to the desirability of our charities being benefited in such a manner, the money part of the question is in order, but then how about the fulsome praise lavished on the performers? That they all sang and acted well for amateurs none can deny, and their efforts in so good a cause are highly to be appreciated. The great thing to be considered is, will they not become infatuated with stage life, madly rush to the footlights as professionals, under the pleasing hope that they must be a success, and what follows: after failure, disgust, and what follows: until they retire back to their families and their homes, unfitted for the ordinary duties of life.

Italian Opera.

We are having another turn at Italian opera. The indefatigable Tom Maguire has engaged California's own prima donna, Agatha States, who in conjunction with Baccé, (tenor), Rigo, (bass), and others, gives opera every Sunday and Thursday evenings at the theatre on Bush street. Ernani was given at the initial performance on Sunday evening, and a very creditable representation of this favorite opera was the result, notwithstanding the many disadvantages attached to an opening night. For Thursday evening, *Il Trovatore* is announced, when something fine may be looked for, inasmuch as both soprano and tenor have been very successful in

rendering of the music allotted to their voices in this time honored opera. Other

**Amusements**  
Are a little slack. The new combination at Platt's Hall, after doing *Rip Van Winkle* for a number of nights on their miniature stage, now present new novelties. The Irish element has been withdrawn from the California plays in which the stock company take the principal characters. Ella Wesner and the burnt corkites still draw good houses at the Alhambra, whilst at "they" the Galton Lee Opera Bouffé Company jams the house nightly.

**Miscellaneous.**  
The vegetable war is over, the gardeners have given in.

Ship board cruelties are the rage, another ship in yesterday, fresh cruelties, summonses, etc.

An unknown man committed suicide assisted by a pistol, out at Fort Point. Cause not known.

City politicians are greatly troubled over what is known as the China Basin Grab. City politicians need not trouble themselves, as the Mayor will veto the grant made by the Supervisors.

Seannell, ex-Chief, and next Chief of the Fire Department, returned from a visit to the east, greeted with music, fireworks and torchlight procession. Bosh. Otis next Mayor of San Francisco came back on the same train, but wisely cleared off at Vallejo to escape the rag, tag and bob tail.

New Senators and Assemblymen meet civic officials twice a week, to hold a palaver as to contemplated alterations in laws; too much pow wow. All cry and no wool. Yours, as ever, GOLDEN GATE.

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It is proposed that the HERALD shall be an unbiassed advocate of every interest pertaining to Southern California and Arizona, and a zealous worker in all things that shall tend to benefit the State. In a word it will be in close communion with the People. In its columns, from time to time will be found matters of interest to the California Farmer, Mechanic, Merchant, Laborer, and all classes of Producers; and it will also contain reading matter suited to the Home Circle.

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While the HERALD will treat Slavery as a dead issue, it will earnestly advocate the right of every State to be either Northern or Southern—Massachusetts or South Carolina—to govern itself as it pleases, and to withdraw its people, and the dictates of the Federal Constitution, without national interference.

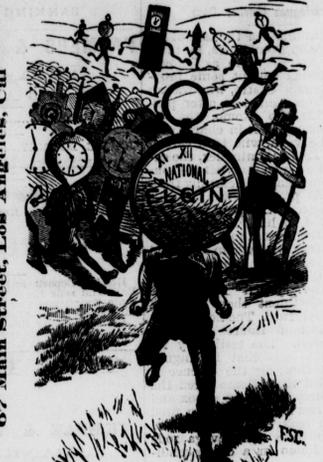
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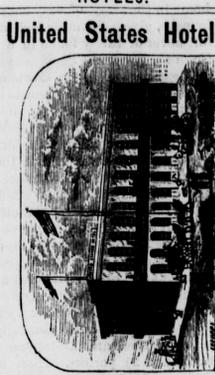
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