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SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1895

Vetoes are in demand.

The people watch the Governor.

Fireman Budd, turn on the cold water.

Brace up, Mr. Mayor, and make the beggars go.

The Gaiety girls are gone, but the girls that remain are gay.

Vacaville cheers the linden diet with the luxury of fresh fruit.

The new era is coming in with a rush, and cherries are ripe.

Fewer beggars and more flower-stands would improve the streets.

Traffic will never move easily so long as it has to move over cobblestones.

It is a pity that Gresham hasn't some of Bissell's sense of wholesome resignation.

Congress left Democracy with nothing to stand on, but it can sit down on Grover.

We defend Republicanism when we denounce the representatives who disgrace it.

Fat fees and high taxes make a good living for tax-eaters, but are death to taxpayers.

Street begging is a public nuisance that a little well-directed energy would soon remedy.

Swearing at the tariff-tinkers is virtually taking an oath to support the industries of the country.

A coal-miners' strike in Pennsylvania is getting to be as much of an annual racket as house-cleaning.

Party men are organized to support political principles, but what do non-partisans get together for?

Everybody boasts of representative government, but very few are proud of what their representatives do.

It matters little which route the San Joaquin road takes so long as it gets there and is able to branch out.

If there was even a single bubble of reputation left to the fiasco Congress, the report of Cannon exploded it.

Whether we are to have an extra session of Congress or not depends very largely on how Grover likes the fishing.

Patience, practice and perseverance will do anything; they have even succeeded in electing a Senator from Idaho.

A Cuban revolution always seems to be made of some kind of stuff that ends in smoke, but is never up to snuff.

Breaking the Republican campaign pledge on the part of a legislator is equivalent to breaking with the party.

Mud roads in the country and cobblestones in the city have long been out of date and ought to be out of sight.

If Grover should manage to get his book caught in his coat-tails he could boast of catching the biggest sucker on record.

If the Fresno raisin men will stick to it, they will find as much profit in cultivating co-operation as in growing raisins.

Democratic extravagance in Congress is no excuse for Republican extravagance at Sacramento, but it is a very strong warning.

It is altogether probable that Tariff Reform Wilson will give us free trade in foreign stamps and a deficiency in the postal revenues.

It appears bad to have so many frauds in various parts of the country exposed every day, but it would be worse if they were not exposed.

There is no good reason why the city should not issue bonds, pay its creditors, improve the streets and proceed to be an up to date metropolis.

Although the late Congress did nothing in the way of statesmanship, it managed to get away with more money than any other Congress on record.

Since the legislators were so generous in dividing the spoils with the attaches, it is probable the attaches will now declare dividends for the legislators.

Li Hung Chang once more bows up as the greatest man in China and points with pride to the fact that though his country fell he saved his peacock feather.

Perhaps the Mayor and the Chief of Police were not aware that there were any beggars on the streets, or any ordinance against them, until they read the CALL.

The prompt conviction of Hayward for the murder of Miss Gung scores a good point for the law of Minnesota, and the next thing is to see how promptly it can be enforced.

The proposed plans for beautifying the waterfront are good and when carried out will form an attractive feature of that new and better San Francisco that every good citizen desires to see.

Let us hope that the first step toward peace in the Orient will be a cessation of the verbosity of the war correspondents and a reduction of the reports from that country to the limits of legitimate news.

When the idle attaches shall have completed the work of sucking sparrows' eggs and jerking foreign blankets off California beds, they might be set to work to take up the cobblestones and pelt the silurians out of town.

The reappearance of the Conlin claim at Sacramento is another evidence of how hard it is to kill a bad measure so long as there is boodle behind it. Conlin has no claim against the city that can be enforced in equity or law, and the Supreme Court has already decided that any such demand would be to give away the money of the people in violation of the constitution. His claim is not large, but if paid would open the way for others of a like nature that would cost the city millions of dollars to satisfy. It should be promptly squelched by the Governor.

CLEVELAND'S COLLAPSE.

The industry of the country has been paralyzed, the revenues have been reduced below the needs of government, the expenditures have been raised to above a billion dollars, a spying income tax has been imposed upon the people, the pensions of honorable veterans have been diminished, the bonded debt of the Nation increased by \$150,000,000, Congress has abandoned the results of two years of Democratic supremacy.

For much of the evil of these two disastrous years Congress may be justly blamed, but the greater portion of the evil has been due to Grover Cleveland. This stupid, sullen, stolid man, vast of neck, vaster of stomach and vastest of all in his egotism, has been the destroyer of his party, the scourge of the people and the disgrace of the Nation. His rise to office was accidental and his course has been the inevitable course of a shallow man with a bare capacity for a Sheriff's office, to the august position of President of the United States.

Cleveland went into office for his first term as the result of a monumental lie backed by a party that demanded a right to see the books of the National Government and investigate the course of Republican administrations. The books revealed no errors, the investigation disclosed only facts that added to the honor of the long list of Republican Presidents from Lincoln to Arthur. Cleveland therefore had nothing to do but to sit back in his chair and pose for dignity. As the Senate was Republican he could do nothing to expose the full extent of his incapacity, but he managed to reveal enough of his domineering spirit to disgust the people, and at the next campaign he was beaten for re-election.

Four years out of office enabled him to make Mugwump alliances and he was re-elected. This time he was borne to power by a tidal wave of popular folly, and a Democratic Congress went into office with him. Then began the greatest exhibition of political imbecility, ignorance, partisanship and factious folly ever made in a representative government. The story of the two miserable years that have followed needs no reviewing. Our great Republic has been depressed at home and shamed abroad. From the management of the finances to the management of foreign affairs everything has displayed an impotence that has awakened mockery all around the world.

The able leaders of the Democratic party have endeavored in vain to check the folly of their President or to guide his obstinacy, but they have argued, cajoled and threatened in vain. Some of the more independent representatives of the Democratic press sought to save the party by fearless criticisms of the worst errors of the administration. Even so staunch a Democratic paper as the Examiner, the great organ of the party on the Pacific Coast, found it impossible to defend him and grew indignant in criticizing him. Nothing availed, however. The Democrats had to take the consequences of their folly in accepting such a leader, and they have now abundant chance to study out how they like him.

Side by side with the fat prophet of the White House has been the lean Mugwump of the State Department. Between Cleveland and Gresham the dishonors are easy. They have made the complications that involved Democracy in hopeless confusion. They have cheered one another in mutual blunders by mutual praise and have gone together deeper and deeper into the mire. Now they stand in the mud and stand alone. The Democratic Congress is gone. Their power is stripped from them. The people watch them with an amused contempt, and they fish for suckers, apparently unconscious that in catching one another they have each caught a sucker beyond all measurement or rivalry even in the pools of politics or the rivers of corruption.

MINING, NOT GAMBLING.

The mining revival which now promises to become a feature of California's prosperity will be on different lines from the methods recently pursued. Mining has become mainly a business requiring large capital and the application of scientific processes. The gold must be sought in quartz ledges and deep gravel beds. It is probable that the revival will stimulate the invention of new processes in the treatment of the refractory ores, which, however abundant, have defeated previous efforts at reduction as a business proposition. Possibly electricity may have a part to play in this connection.

All this requires money and time. If capital from home or distant sources is to take hold of the work it will look for substantial investment. Mining operation is one of the most legitimate of pursuits. Mining-stock operation is apt to be something very different. It is desirable for the credit and success of our new deal that the one should not degenerate into the other. We have had enough mining-stock booms; enough of Pine-street exploitation of the community. There have been, and are yet, substantial mining properties listed in the Stock Exchange, and handled by honorable dealers in accordance with legitimate speculative methods. But every old San Franciscan also knows that Pine street and Pauper alley have repeatedly been the scene of wild inflation of non-existent values, in which speculative manipulation, "inside points" and curbsome rummy have combined to boost up some airy structures until the kick of a porphyry horse has shattered the unsubstantial fabric and buried the hopes and fortunes of hundreds beneath its ruins.

We want no revival of that kind. Neither do we want a mining development that will result itself into great operating combinations of stock companies and "milling propositions." We want California, Eastern or foreign capitalists to go to the mines in person, or by their trustworthy experts and agents, to examine the ground, to investigate prospects, to go into shafts and tunnels with their eyes open, and to invest their money with a view of working a mine and not the speculative community. The best bullion-producing mines of California have not been listed at the Stock Exchange. They have been turning out gold year after year and enriching their owners as legitimate business propositions. There are opportunities for the development of hundreds more of the same kind, and that is what our prospectors, mining experts and capitalists should have in view in our auriferous era.

PARTY DUTY.

The business of condemning Republican legislators who ignore their obligations and violate their pledges to the party and the public is the proper function of a Republican newspaper. It is the duty of the press to voice the demand of the party for fidelity on the part of its representatives. The party is a political party in clean and high-minded. It expects like qualities in its representatives, and will be satisfied with nothing less. The CALL would be recreant to its party if it failed to denounce any member or representative of that party who violates

UP-TO-DATE IDEAS.

According to a cablegram received from London last week the Pope has received from the President of the Transvaal Republic a diamond weighing 971 carats. The stone was found in the Jagersfontein mines and is declared to be the largest known.

The cablegram states that the monster diamond is of a bluish-white cast and practically perfect, its only blemish being a tiny spot in the center, invisible to the naked eye. Why the President of the Transvaal Republic sent it to the Pope is not made clear. It is not to be supposed that he has made a present to his holiness of a stone valued at \$1,000,000. Probably his object was to get a free advertisement for his little republic and the big diamond found there.

The Jewelers' Circular this week prints a picture of the diamond, showing its actual size. This was received from a correspondent in South Africa. The Circular presumes that the diamond referred to is the one known as the Jagersfontein Excelsior. It was picked up by a native white he was loading a truck. Although a white overseer was standing near him, he managed to hide

It and keep it on his person for some time. It turned out, however, that he did not wish to steal it, for he delivered it personally to the manager. As reward he received \$750 and a horse and saddle. The exact weight of the diamond is 971 1/4 carats, or about seven and one-quarter ounces avoirdupois. It therefore weighs uncut nearly half a pound. A diamond of fair size for a ring might weigh one carat. In its present condition it measures three inches in length, one and a half inches in thickness, two and a half inches at its greatest breadth, and one and a third inches at its least breadth. It is of a beautiful bluish color, and is shaped like the broken-off end of an icicle. The flaw in it is believed to be more serious than is stated in the cable dispatch. It is a black spot near the middle. It could be cut in two, however, so as to leave out the blemish. It would then make two of the largest diamonds in existence. At the time of its discovery it was valued at \$1,000,000.



THE LARGEST DIAMOND IN THE WORLD. [Reproduced at its exact size.]

STREET BEGGARS.

No man who has within him a spark of the virtue of humanity can consider the lot of the street beggar without a feeling of sympathy, and if the poverty is associated with physical misfortunes or deformity the sympathy in generous minds is always prompted to immediate helpfulness. Out of this virtue there has grown an evil. Its generosity has prompted fraud to prey upon it and many a deserving unfortunate goes unhelped because there are so many undeserving beggars to rob charity of its alms before it reaches those who need it most.

The wide recognition of these truths has prompted enlightened communities to make suitable provisions for the deserving poor and to restrain impudent and unworthy beggars by the strong arm of the law. In this respect San Francisco has permitted the practice to fall below the level of her enlightenment. Her laws, as presented by law for the care of the poor and the suppression of street begging, her officials have enforced neither the one nor the other. We have not many street beggars, when compared with the cities of Southern Europe or of Oriental countries, but we have many more than should be tolerated in an American community, and the CALL has undertaken an exposure of them in the conviction that it is high time to rid ourselves of the stigma which their presence upon the streets affixes upon the community, its law and its officers.

If the street beggars are deserving of care and support, it is shameful that we do not provide it in the proper way and to the proper extent. If they do not deserve help it is shameful that we permit the practice fraud upon the generosity of the charitable. In either case their presence in conspicuous places on the streets is a disgrace to the City, and our laws are condemned. Why should the unfortunate who needs the help of his fellow men, be forced to seek it by daily begging upon the streets? Why should the man abundantly able to provide for himself, be permitted to gain his living by whining for charity instead of by work?

These questions admit of but one rightful answer. Street begging, under any circumstances, should not be tolerated. Citizens should refuse to make it profitable, and city officials should be resolved to endeavor to make it impossible. Our whole street policy in San Francisco is bad. It is the blot upon the metropolis that mars its excellence and defaces its attractions. It is time the policy should be changed and the streets made commensurate with the true dignity of the City. Let us clear away all the street nuisances from cobblestones to beggars. Let us provide comfortable homes and generous care for all upon whom the misfortunes of the world have fallen; and for the persistent, insolent, able-bodied street beggar let us provide a good wholesome cure in the form of work or punishment.

What are beggars and cobblestones doing on the streets of an enlightened community in this age of the world anyhow?

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Elsewhere in this paper appears an article published in a late issue of the CALL on the subject of bonding San Francisco for the purpose of making municipal improvements. The article is so general, so applicable to small interior cities as well as to San Francisco, that we are tempted to suggest that our own people can be awakened to the importance of municipal improvement to such an extent as to be willing to bond the city of Merced for that purpose. The time has come now when Merced must go ahead or else be distanced in the race for civilization by the cities of the interior. We hear no reasonable objections made to the idea of granting the use of Goat Island for terminal facilities to any and all transportation companies. In fact nature seems to have raised that bump in the bay for just that sort of occasion. There is no question, however, whether it is wise for the General Government to cede the island to the State and thus relinquish a title Uncle Sam should have and hold in time of war. Let the General Government insist on the retention of the island for the use of the island to railroad and steamship companies.—Napa Register.

The high price (\$501,000) brought by the gore lot at Stockton and Market streets, San Francisco, at the auction in Judge Slack's court last Monday is attributed to the valley railroad enterprise and the fact that it has inspired in the future development of that city. The property, though extremely valuable, would have realized much less, real-estate men say, if it had been sold six months ago.—Alameda Enquirer.

The railroad company seems to be getting in its work at Sacramento very effectively now. The Legislature will adjourn in a few days. The statesmen will have to get home and the railroad lobby will be in session. While speaking bills passed, and other railroad measures are expected to go through before adjournment.—Santa Cruz Record.

In our opinion a good newspaper should be more like a Judge than a lawyer—that is, it should be fair and judicial rather than one-sided and partisan. It should conserve the best interests of society, should never inflame a mob, incite to riot, or lessen the security of life and property.—Los Angeles Record.

The present lot of the average Chinese general is indeed a hard one. If he stands up and fights the Japanese he is sure to get kicked, if he runs his own Government causes him to be put to death, and if he suppresses insubordination or a desire to pillage among his own soldiers they behead him.—Vallejo Times.

Should San Francisco capture the Republican National Convention this year it would be a recognition of the growing importance of this State and that of California. While speaking in his eyeglasses, continued to slide from his perch. "But I wish," interpolated the speaker. "I wish we could get up some sort of an appeal for the negro which would insure a nose capable of holding spectacles."

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most uninteresting babies," always accompany the check Miss Gould sends each year for the support of two beds in the babies' shelter connected with the Church of the Holy Communion in New York.

Mrs. Henrietta M. King, a widow of Corpus Christi, Tex., owns 1775 square feet, or about 1,250 acres, of land in that State.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS.

George T. Arnold, an express messenger who runs on the Union Pacific between Denver and Kansas City, is at present visiting his brother, a Southern Pacific employe who resides in Oakland. Mr. Arnold has been in the express service for a number of years, and in that time has had several exciting experiences with train-robbers, of which he has several genuine men some particulars while loitering about the Palace yesterday afternoon. The discussion of train robberies led up to a statement by Mr. Arnold regarding the invention of the axle lock of the police to capture him, holding up a number of people and killing two or three men during his mad career. Large rewards were offered for the arrest of Whitehouse and these attracted the attention of Mr. Draper, who at that time was a piebald porter in a wholesale house. He saw him, and when he saw the fashion of his barrel pistol, started on the trail of the desperado and succeeded in running him to earth near St. Louis. Mr. Draper made quite a sum of money by his fortunate capture and this he put to a good use. Roller skates in the United States were first introduced here and he had an opportunity to buy an interest in the patent. A large machine soon grew up at Richmond, in that State, which gave its owners great wealth before this pleasant means of recreation fell from popular favor.

M. de Fernat, a wealthy plantation-owner of Cuba, is in the city and is making a tour of the world with a party of friends in a private car. He returned yesterday, and he said that the trade of Cuba was simply astonishing when compared with that of other nations and was to be explained on the ground that everything raised on the island was for export and all are articles of the first commercial importance. He said that the island produces more than any other country, and that the island was richer than England, but it is simply an illustration of how the exacting demands of the market have made the island over and over again every item of value in order to raise a revenue out of all proportion to the number of people subject thereto. The United States furnishes almost the exclusive market for Cuban products, but in return gets only a small amount of sugar from the island. Out of a total importation into Cuba of some \$35,000,000, the United States gets less than one-third, while England, which buys only half a million dollars' worth of Cuban products, gets that country almost as much as the United States.

F. C. Hubbard, who is connected with the one of the large locomotive works in the East, was at the Baldwin yesterday. He says that the tendency in engine-building at present is in the direction of larger and more speedy machines. "It has long been considered that a mile an hour was the limit of railway travel," said he, "but several Atlantic roads are now having great engines constructed which will run heavy trains at the rate of eighty miles an hour. There is a short stretch of track on the New Jersey Central road over which trains are run at the rate of 112 miles an hour, but with the engine now in use on the road must be nearly straight to accomplish such a speed. But with the enormous engines now in course of construction one and a third miles an hour can be easily accomplished over curves and grades, and being only one mile an hour, they will be able to run on a roadbed. Such a speed, however, will probably only be attained by special trains on the larger roads."

Alexander McDougall, the inventor of the "whaleback" boat, who was at the Palace several days during this week, is also largely interested in the proposed canal connecting the Duluth and Iron Range road, to both the Rainey Lake and Seine River goldfields, said he, when discussing the development of those regions, the other day. "The distance from the Duluth to the fields is 100 miles and the freight rate is \$1 per 100 pounds, which a year ago it was \$2.50 a hundred. The district has shown such remarkable richness that a strong effort will be made to induce the State to build a wagon-road to it."

PERSONAL.

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PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

The late Moses Kimball of Boston, who made his money as a theatrical manager in that city, was an interesting character. For many years his ambition was to be Mayor, but the politicians never took kindly to his aspiration. When he was elected Mayor, before he was voted and spoke against allowing Daniel Webster the use of Faneuil Hall to retort the abolition arguments of Wendell Phillips. Webster never forgave Kimball for this, and the incident practically ruined Kimball politically, though he was elected Mayor. The legislature after the occurrence. He made many public bequests in his will. Some years ago Frederick Douglass addressed a convention of negroes in Louisville. He said in the course of his remarks that he did not think an amalgamation of the white and black races desirable, the pure negro being, in his opinion, the best of the race. While speaking his eyeglasses, continued to slide from his perch. "But I wish," interpolated the speaker. "I wish we could get up some sort of an appeal for the negro which would insure a nose capable of holding spectacles."

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SAMUEL SIMON'S HEIRS CRY FRAUD.

THE EXECUTORS CHARGED WITH FEATHERING THEIR OWN NESTS.

A GREAT ESTATE VANISHES.

APPRAISED AT LESS THAN ITS ASSESSED VALUE AND BOUGHT BY THE ACCUSED.

One of the biggest land suits that was ever filed in this State is now under the hand of W. S. Barnes, the local District Attorney. If prosecuted to a successful conclusion several commercial heads that have been appraised for him and for his estate heretofore have been high will be lowered to the dust.

The suit involves land in Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Merced, Mariposa and Santa Cruz counties, and a large amount of city property in the heart of the county seat, Tulare. The allegations of the complaint, if established, will prove a system of fraud which was as bold as it was ingenious, and as nearly successful as was possible. The suit involves the estate of Samuel Simon, who died March 3, 1885.

It was supposed that Simon left an estate of great value, principally in lands, situated in many of the counties of the State. Under his will, beyond a few legacies of comparatively little importance, the property was bequeathed to his widow and his stepson, Jefferson Martin. The executors were his brothers, S. L. and Ephraim Simon, and they appointed as appraisers Adolph Zirkler and James Manasse. Zirkler was a relative of the Simons and Manasse was an employe of the firm of Simon & Jacobs, of which Samuel Simon was senior member. The appraisers, however, made no claim of each legatee was paid in cash, although the bulk of the testator's estate had been composed of real estate. The executors had turned everything into cash. The estate distributed was worth about \$111,000.

Some time after the death of Samuel Simon his stepson, Jefferson Martin, married. Jefferson died a few months after the union and to his widow a posthumous child, Jeffrey Martin, was born. The child and the widow were made legatees of his estate, which consisted of his legacy from his stepfather.

Soon after Jefferson Martin's death his mother, Mrs. Simon, found that she had her property, consisting of her interest in her late husband's estate, to Mrs. Martin, her son's widow, and to his child. This made Mrs. Julia Martin and her daughter Jeffrey the direct legatees of old Samuel Simon. Their estate amounted to about \$25,000.

In the meantime Adolph Simon, brother of Samuel Simon, and a legatee under his will, had become insane, and a guardian had been appointed for him and for his estate. The guardian found that notwithstanding his substantial claim upon his brother's estate, Adolph Simon had not enough property to pay his expenses at the asylum, and being unable to do so, he investigated. It was then that the facts upon which the big complaints are based were discovered.

According to the complaint Adolph Simon's guardian found that Samuel Simon's estate had been appraised at nearly \$200,000 less than the assessed value of the property, and the assessed valuation, as is always the case, was far below the actual value. He found that in Fresno County which according to the complaint was assessed at \$60,000 and appraised at \$7521.09. More land in the same county, assessed at \$50,000, was appraised at \$13,243.77. Land in the county of Merced, assessed at \$10,000, was appraised at \$3201.40; in another instance a piece worth \$10,000 was valued at \$524. In each instance it was only the interest of the deceased which had been assessed.

Before his guardian's investigations were completed Adolph Simon died, and his widow then brought suit in the Fresno court to set aside the purchase of the executors and to have the property returned to her. Barnes' suit is an intervention in this case.

Barnes' suit is brought in the interests of Mrs. Jefferson Martin and her daughter, Jeffrey Martin, who, as was explained, are practically the only legatees of Samuel Simon, through his descendants. In the complaint it is charged that the executors procured fraudulent apprais