DR. LEVINGSTON'S ANSWER

He Defends Himself Against Charges of Corruption in Office.

HE WANTS SPECIFIC PROOF.

Civic Federation Committee Think Officers Should Be Above Reproach.

The following special committee of the Civic Federation, which has in hand the work of gathering evidence concerning the record of Dr. Marc Levingston and presenting it to Governor Budd in support of the denunciatory resolutions against Dr. Levingston, adopted by the federation, met to hear the doctor's defense last evening: I. J. Truman, Rev. E. R. Dille, C. C. Terril and John M. Reynolds.

R. Porter Ashe appeared as the friend and counsel of Dr. Levingston and read the following statement from type-written manuscript, explaining that it constituted Dr. Levingston's defense and answer to the charges of corruption which were made by different members of the federation at the time the resolutions were passed:

In response to the accusations brought by certain individuals regarding my administration as Coroner, I would state that these accusations were thoroughly investigated at that time by the Grand Jury and the following is their complete report:

This report was published in all the daily papers at the time, August 16, 1883, and the CALL of August 17, in speaking of the personnel of the jury editorially states: "It may be observed that several of the gentlemen comprising the Grand Jury have had personal experience in the workings of our municipal machinery, while all are more or less familiar with the abuses practiced and the reforms needed. Any recommendation from so respectable a source claims deliberate consideration."

Report of Grand Jury, August 16, 1883.—An investigation was made of the Coroner's office; result nothing; no witnesses coming forward to testify under oath to any of the street rumors and charges on which our examination was based. The entire matter appears to us to commence and end in business jealousies.

The Grand Jury's examination of the office brought it to the conclusion that it is as good as any in the United States and compares favorably with some of the better ones in Europe. This is from evidence of parties who have examined many of them.

In 1884 a second Grand Jury examined (as is their duty) my office. This jury had no charges to investigate, as there were none. However, in their published report, they adopted all the recommendations made by me in my official report to the Board of Supervisors, dated July 15, 1884. These recommendations were a public Morgue, photographing the unknown dead, suggestions on the prevention of asphyxiation from gas, the closing of the openings in wharves through which drunken people would fall. There were other suggestions that required legislative action, and all these suggestions were carried out, the last one being passed by the last Legislature.

While I do not wish to make this reply a personal matter, as I am only answering the attack on me simply to satisfy my friends, who have repeatedly demanded that the public be enlightened, I cannot refrain from calling attention to the fact that one of my detractors, Mr. Max Popper, was a member of that Grand Jury. From this you may draw your own conclusions.

I cannot refrain from going over that battlefield in detail, more perhaps on the ground of enlightening the public, that they may do a little thinking for themselves, rather than from any feeling that any explanation is due them. I do this in the hope that if I have influenced one single individual not to rely on hearsay evidence I have been amply rewarded.

These charges are: First—Robbing the dead; second—Orgies held at the morgue; third—Trafficking in the dead; fourth—Buckleyism; fifth—As to the alleged slate.

"Robbing the Dead"—In reply to this charge, I will state that during the fiscal year 1883-84 I paid to the proper authorities (Public Administrator, Treasurer, etc.) $61,913 26, and an endless amount of jewelry and other stuffs. These figures represent an amount nearly five times greater than that of any other Coroner; not that I wish to detract from any other gentleman who may have held that position.

Second—"Concerning the orgies said to have been held at the Morgue."—This is a lie, pure and simple, instigated by rival and disappointed business concerns. This was particularly investigated by the Grand Jury. To explain the rivalry of the various undertaking establishments: San Francisco never at that time had a public morgue. It was the custom to hold such morgue at one of the undertaking establishments. The undertaker at whose place such morgue was held naturally had the first chance at "getting the funeral," as it is called; result, a score of disappointed undertakers whose enmity resulted in abuse of the office. It was to avoid this very thing that I so strongly advocated a public morgue. Another argument: The morgue built by me was copied after the Paris morgue, and among other things I had was a stream of cold water flowing over the bodies. This was to keep them from decomposition. I seriously doubt if any one were willing to engage in shower-bath orgies, particularly as the Morgue was open to the public at all hours of the day and night. There was, and I think there still is, a class of persons whom, during my term of office, I designated as "Morgue lollers," whose mania consisted of lolling around the Morgue; they were never absent, the press has even written about them. These "lollers" certainly could have furnished material enough for scandal, had there been any. I don't use this as an argument, but simply call attention to the fact.

Third—"Trafficking in the dead."—To show the absurdity of this charge, I would state that the codes provide that the public institutions (City and County Hospital, Almshouse, etc.) should supply the scientific institutions with dissecting material from the unclaimed indigent dead. This demand, at that time, was more than supplied by the City and County Hospital alone, so that no necessity or occasion ever arose to "traffic in the dead."

Fourth—"Buckleyism."—Those who are familiar with municipal politics will remember that the Democratic Convention held at Union Hall in 1882 was free from "boss" influence, Buckley, at that time, having only an influence in his own district. This was the convention that nominated Governor Bartlett for Mayor. At this convention I received 141 votes out of a total of 151 votes. In the succeeding convention, held in the Blaine campaign years, no one wanted the nomination on the Democratic ticket, and being the incumbent, and after earnest solicitation, I accepted the nomination. In evidence as to my position regarding Mr. Buckley, I will simply refer to my action in the municipal contest of three years ago, held in the Forty-third Assembly District, where I openly opposed such well-known supporters of Buckley as Matt Fallon, Sam Newman, Ed Casserly, Dave Magner and a host of others.

Fifth—"As to the alleged slate published in the CALL."—I deny any acquaintance with Senator Percy Henderson, Ed Reddy, Peter McGlade, Senator Billy Dunn and Assemblyman McCarthy. Of the other gentlemen mentioned I would say that I know Dr. S. S. Kahn. I have never at any time spoken to him, or to any friend of his, nor to any other person, about any political matter concerning him. To Doctors Gavigan and Mizner I have spoken at various times of politics. Dr. Mizner, with whom I have had a long friendship, is a gentleman who would dignify any position in the gift of the people, being a man of honor, whose uprightness, honesty and character are beyond question. Of Dr. Gavigan I can say that if there were more like him the world would be better off. Any young man who, after a terrible effort, succeeds in overcoming an alcoholic mania and devotes his life to the relief of his poor unfortunate fellow dipsomaniacs deserves the highest encomiums.

Mr. Ashe amplified the argumentative matter contained in the manuscript and urged that his friend should be charged with specific acts, and these acts proved by witnesses who knew of them personally, or that the federation should place Dr. Levingston where he was before the agitation commenced. Dr. Dille interpolated that Judas Iscariot betrayed Christ, but no one could prove it nowadays.

Mr. Ashe believed that a man who was charged with the awful things cast in the teeth of the doctor should be faced by his accusers, and referred to the fact that he himself had been charged with all sorts of wrongs against Sarah Althea Hill when she was in St. Louis and when he returned he was fully exonerated by the court and given a "clean bill of health."

Mr. Terrill suggested that a libel suit against the daily papers which attacked him would have been the proper thing under the circumstances, and that Dr. Levingston could sue for libel if he considered himself aggrieved.

Mr. Ashe waved this aside with the statement that he, like the doctor, had consulted the other members of his family and out of deference to their wishes had concluded to forego a libel suit. He had not been asked by the doctor for his opinion in the matter, but if he should be would advise against a libel suit.

Concerning the charge of Buckleyism it was counsel's opinion that even if the doctor had been under the influence of Christopher a long time ago he had purged himself in 1892, when he opposed Buckley and all his supporters in the Forty-third District. Mr. Terrill was inclined to think on that point that the City was full of people who used to belong to Buckley and had "reformed."

Mr. Truman remembered that all the daily papers during Dr. Levingston's term as Coroner had attacked him and his "lollers" repeatedly, and Dr. Dille added that a woman, who was crushed in an elevator, had $1000 on her person when she met her death, and hadn't a cent when Chief Deputy Simmons reached the Morgue with her body. Of course no one could undertake to prove that Simmons got the money, but there were lots of things that didn't require proof, such, for instance, as the hold of Chris Buckley over some politicians.

Mr. Ashe deprecated reference to newspapers as authority for any charges, and Dr. Dille said that, all in all, newspapers represented the trend of public sentiment.

Mr. Reynolds thought the charges were quite specific enough and required something more than denials on Dr. Levingston's part.

Mr. Terrill, at this point, thought that as "Cæsar's wife should be above suspicion" so Dr. Marc Levingston should be a man with a distinctly good reputation, or he wasn't a safe man for the position of Health Officer. Citizens who desire decency in government can't afford to waste much time on men whose reputations need to be defended. There are good men for official positions whose reputations are clear.

At the conclusion of the conference it was agreed that the committee would prepare their report in the matter and furnish Mr. Ashe with a copy thereof before sending it to the Governor so that Mr. Ashe would be enabled to present his side of the case to Governor Budd.

A PATRONAL CELEBRATION.

Seven Days of Spiritual Recreation in St. Joseph's Church.

Three Thousand Persons Receive the Sacrament—Many Eloquent Sermons.

The "Te Deum" in honor of St. Joseph, the patron of the parish, was commenced in St. Joseph's Church, Tenth street, Wednesday morning, May 1, at the 9 o'clock mass, celebrated by Father Scanlan, rector of the parish. When mass commenced the church was filled to overflowing. Masses every morning were attended by all who possibly could be present. The afternoon services were thronged. At night the standing-room of the church was often taxed to its utmost. The music morning and afternoon was by a trained chorus of 150 girls, under the leadership of Professor Sullivan, and their rendition of the beautiful English hymns was devotional and inspiring. The music at night was by the now celebrated choir of the parish and the programme reflected great credit on their efficient leader. Members of the Young Men's Sodality acted as ushers each evening.

After the 9 o'clock mass Wednesday morning Father Cummins of St. Charles Church outlined the aim of the "Te Deum," and then delivered a beautiful, instructive and persuasive sermon on the "Home of Nazareth," in which he gave a graphic portrayal of the relation of the members of the holy family.

The afternoon services consisted of the rosary, spiritual reading, the beautiful litany of St. Joseph and the canonical prayers to St. Joseph. After the rosary Wednesday evening Father Scanlan, rector of the parish, occupied the pulpit. His subject was "Delayed Conversion."

Commencing Wednesday confessions were heard in the church daily from 8 to 9 A. M., 3 to 6 P. M. and both before and after the night services, the priests being kept busy some nights until almost midnight.

Thursday morning the sermon was delivered by Rev. P. Duffy of the Youths' Directory, who spoke of "The Powers of St. Joseph."

The church was thronged Thursday evening to hear the eloquent pastor of St. Paul's, Rev. M. D. Connolly, who was billed to preach on "Loyalty to Christ."

The sermon Friday morning was by Rev. Joseph P. McQuade of Holy Cross, whose subject was 'Correspondence With God's Grace."

Friday evening, although the competitive drill of the League of the Holy Cross cadets attracted great numbers, the church was filled to overflowing. Rev. Joseph M. Gleason of St. Joseph's spoke on "St. Joseph Our Patron."

The last sermon of the Triduum proper was delivered by Father Cullen of St. Rose's Saturday morning, his subject being "The Seat of Mercy."

Confessions were heard every morning, afternoon and evening during the Triduum, and in order to accommodate the vast throngs no services of any kind were held Saturday evening. One thousand persons received holy communion on Sunday morning alone, the Feast of the Patronage of St. Joseph. Although this day closed the Triduum it also began the forty hours' adoration of the blessed sacrament. The parishoners contributed flowers in profusion for the decoration of the sanctuary, and the taste with which everything was placed made the chancel look most beautiful. The ladies of the sanctuary circle deserved all the encomiums heaped upon them by critical observers.

The solemn nigh mass of exposition was sung at 10:30 o'clock. Father Scanlan, rector, was the celebrant, Father Doran deacon, Father O'Neil subdeacon, and Father Gleason master of ceremonies. The superb choir of St. Joseph's outdid itself in the rendition of Mercadante's mass. The procession of the most blessed sacrament after mass was headed by Father O'Neil as cross-bearer. Nearly 200 little girls of sweetest faces, clad in the white garments of their first communion, followed, scattering flowers in the way of their Lord. The entire force of altar boys preceded the censer-bearers, who filled the air with sweet aroma as they incensed the blessed sacrament in the hands of the celebrant of the mass. The blessed sacrament having been placed upon the throne of exposition the Litany was sung and the gorgeous ceremonial of the morning was at an end.

Thousands paid visits to the eucharistic savior during the day. Sunday evening Father Doran preached on "The Blessed Sacrament."

The sermon was followed by benediction of the most blessed sacrament. Solemn mass of peace was celebrated Monday morning at 9 o'clock, and the choir rendered Rossi's mass in D. Monday evening Father Griffin of St. Francis Church preached a grand sermon on "The Real Presence."

The solemn mass of Reposition was celebrated Tuesday morning, May 7, and the choir sang Affranchino's mass in G. The procession was identically as on Sunday, and was followed by solemn benediction, which closed one of the grandest celebrations ever held in St. Joseph's Church. The Triduum and the forty hours' adoration were a happy concurrence; but it is not only in the outer show that the parish, clergy and laity alike, need pride itself, but in the spiritual fermentation that went on. This period of devotion, extending over one week, was more successful than any mission ever before held in the parish.

By actual count 3000 people approached the sacraments during this short space of time, and this is by far the best testimonial to success. The priests of the parish who inaugurated the celebration and the priests of other parishes who helped by their eloquence to bring about its success are to be commended.

THE SPRECKELS BUILDING

Among the Best Edifices for Office Purposes in This City.

ITS ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES.

Glimpses of This Imposing Structure Which Do Credit to Its Builders.

The new Spreckels building on Market street, between Sixth and Seventh, completed and thrown open for occupancy a few days ago, takes rank among the foremost office structures of San Francisco.

It is a seven-story building of Oregon graystone, the style of architecture adopted being a free treatment of the Italian renaissance.

The principal entrance is through a spacious archway with pilasters at sides, and surmounted with cornice and balustrade. The second story is of massive rusticated work of simple design. From the third to the sixth stories, inclusive, the windows are ornamented with architraves and pediments of appropriate design. The seventh story is of a very elaborate character, the window openings being richly molded, with balustrades in front and richly carved panels between openings. Over the seventh story is an ornamental frieze nine feet high and finished with a projecting cornice ornamented with medallions and dentil course.

The building is provided with two passenger elevators, which are operated from 7 o'clock A. M. to 11 o'clock at night.

There are 165 offices finished in quartered oak, with washbasins and coat-closets in each room and lighted with incandescent lights, with perfect ventilation throughout.

Mail chutes are provided at each story and elegantly furnished toilet-rooms on the eighth floor. In the basements are dynamos, engines, boilers, elevator pumps, etc., with everything in duplicate as a provision against accidents or in case of repairs.

STONE WORK.

The stone work is an example of the advance made in this branch of the building trade.

The building was originally designed for terra cotta, but bids were taken on stone also, and, as McPhee, Groliere & Co.'s bid was as low as others in terra cotta, stone was adopted because it was preferred.

The reduction in the cost of stone just during the last year or two in San Francisco is chiefly due to the use of such improved machinery as the above firm has introduced, viz.: steam saws, rubbing beds, planing and joining machines, as well as steam derricks for the quick hoisting and setting of stone in buildings such as this new office building.

A visit to the works of McPhee, Groliere & Co., at 1219 Market street, will be well repaid just at this time, for the full capacity of the plant is being brought into service in turning out the stonework for the new home of Claus Spreckels on Van Ness avenue, which, when completed, will be the only absolutely fire-proof residence in this City.

One great drawback to the use of stone previously has been the delay in quarrying and cutting it. With the resources and facilities of McPhee, Groliere & Co. no such obstacle now exists, which is a source of extreme gratification to architects. Pedestrians on Market street doubtless noticed the rapid rate with which story after story was added to the Emma Spreckels building. Less than eight days was consumed on a story after each floor of iron work was completed, which is something new to the builder's art. The previous experience of these stone contractors, coupled with the best equipment of machinery in the country, enables them to handle such work to the best advantage and give complete satisfaction to supervising architects. The name of this firm will be found among the list of builders of several of the most prominent public buildings of the Northern States.

The stone they used in the Emma Spreckels building was shipped from Oregon by water, another item which reduces the cost, and an item which all persons interested in building matters may profitably note.

This stone is especially adapted for the particular use made of it in this instance. It is capable of being readily molded and carved in any relief required. The carving was all done after the rough stone was set in the building. Henry Maddock of this City was the artist who executed this feature. His ornamentation greatly enriched the finish of the front, gave an appearance of lightness which was before lacking in the plain surface of the stone. Clay models were made from the architect's designs before carving. Good critics say this relief work reflects admirable taste on the part of the architect and exceptional skill on the part of the sculptor.

While inspecting the works of McPhee, Groliare & Co. yesterday Mr. McPhee observed that the erection of this building was noted for its progress or lack of delay, owing in a great measure to the furnishing of full-sized and accurate details of the ornamentation and figures to be chiseled on the stonework by Reid Bros., the architects. He predicted the adoption of stone for residence purposes in more and notable instances in the near future. To this belief he had been somewhat led by the favorable criticisms he had heard upon the mansion now being built of stone on Van Ness avenue by Claus Spreckels.

The imposing and pleasing effect of the stonework in this handsome office building will be calculated to induce other architects and capitalists to give stone more serious consideration in deciding upon building materials for either business or residence structures.

THE ELEVATORS.

The two rapid Crane elevators embrace all the latest devices and improvements in elevators. They have been the subject of much favorable comment from architects and builders. Mr. Holtslander, the representative of the Crane Elevator on this coast, whose agency is located at Nos. 23 and 25 First street, said yesterday: "The elevators in the Spreckels building are up to date in every particular, and doubtless the smoothest running elevators in the city. Among other buildings in which our elevators may be found are the Mills and Chronicle buildings."

INTERIOR FINISH.

The interior is finished in solid oak. Throughout the whole structure there is a delightful absence of paint and veneer, all the woodwork being finished in a massive and enduring style, which 100 years from now will look as it does to-day, except that the polished woods will grow richer with age.

A well-known architect said yesterday: "In all my travels I have never seen in any of the fine office buildings superior fittings and finish. There seems to be no thought of economy anywhere. The interior finish is a fitting complement of the imposing and elaborately carved stone front."

The woods were all cut and carved expressly for this building. The carpenter work on the edifice was done by the well-known contractor and builder, J. W. Hansbrough, whose brother is the builder of Mayor Sutro's new baths at the Cliff House.

INTERIOR MARBLE-WORK.

The interior is a blossoming in marble harmoniously set in a field of usefulness for the admiration of the public. The rich tone of this Italian marble from the quarries of Carrara, properly developed by the finish given, can only be compared to the God-given beauty of the flower. The use of the marble in this structure is one of the most pleasing examples in this City. Should the reader visit the marble warehouses and mills of Ruffino & Bianchi on Bryant street, near Sixth, from which the marble supply of the Spreckels building came, he would realize that earth's quarries never yielded a more pleasing bit of color.

This visit would afford an inspection of one of the most completely equipped marble-mills west of New York, notable features of which are the rubbing-beds, nearly a dozen saws and the only marble-planer west of Chicago. The Union Trust Company and the Donohoe buildings are among those supplied with marble from these mills. In the Spreckels building, above the first story, $27,000 worth of marble was used.

DURABLE HARDWARE.

The hardware was furnished by Dunham, Carrigan & Hayden Co., according to special designs by Reid Bros. The finish is adapted to such buildings, and is not affected by moisture or exposure. The knobs, escutcheons, butts, etc., are of plain yet attractive patterns of the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Company.

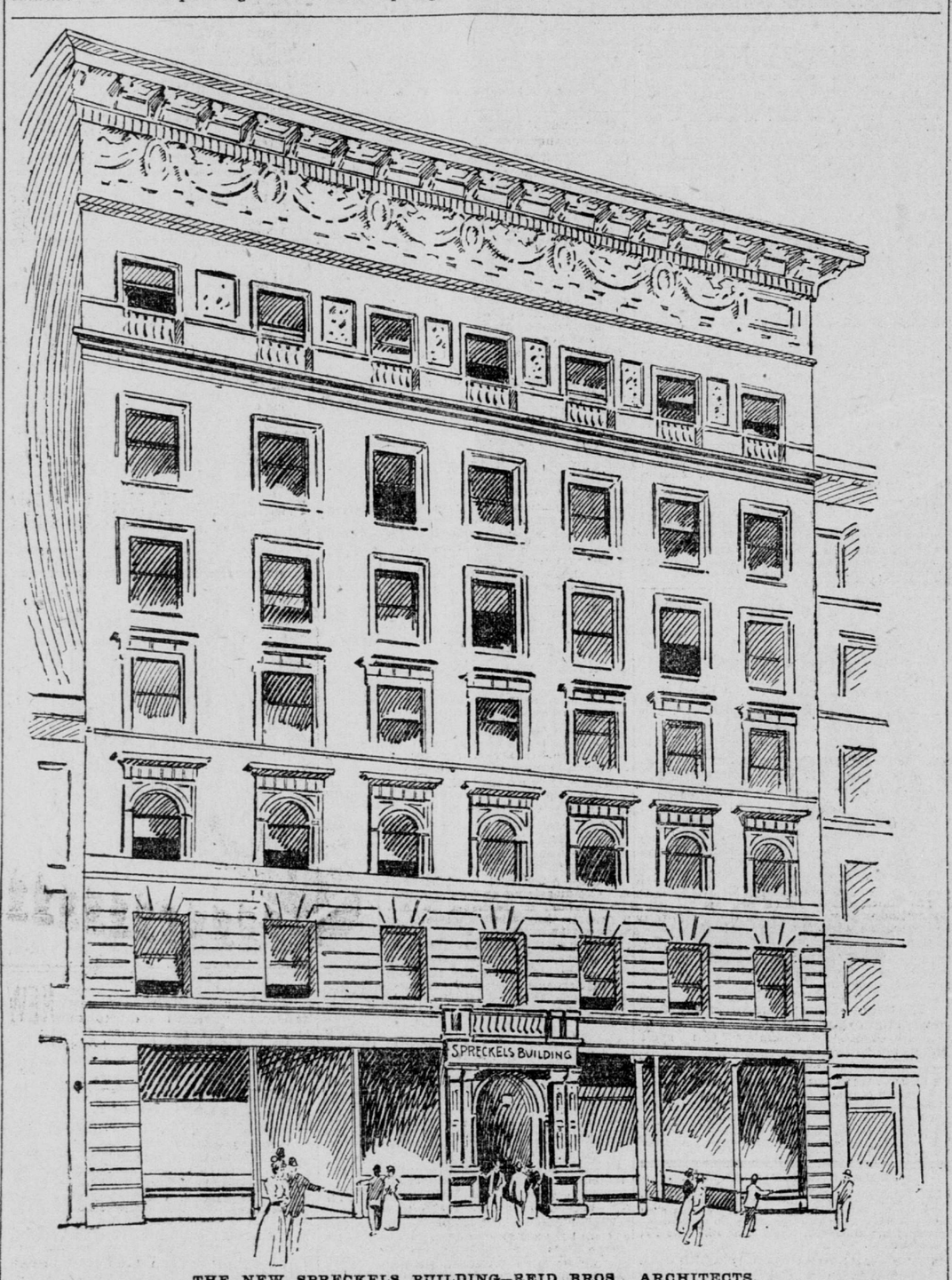
The Yale lock has been furnished by this firm for most of our office buildings, the Mills, Union Trust Company, Olympic Club building, Mutual Life of New York, and others. Upon the Yale office lock there are perhaps more patented improvements than any other lock manufactnred. Among its features are several adjustments of value. From a dead lock impassable with janitors' keys, it may be with the turn of a thumb-screw made passable from the inside without a key and passable from the outside with the head janitor's key only. By pressing a second button it may be rendered passable from both sides. The hardware of the Spreckels building is of the very best workmanship, and has been admired by our very best architects.

HEATING AND VENTILATION.

In the erection of this building no feature received more forethought than the subjects of heating and ventilation, the contract for which was awarded to W. W. Montague & Co. The system adopted has received the unqualified indorsement of the leading sanitary and heating engineers. It is in vogue in all the modern office buildings of the day. It is concisely described as the direct-indirect system of heating with fresh air brought to every room, and foul air taken through ventilating ducts to and through the roof. The boiler-room contains two Heine safety boilers of 90 horsepower each. They are of home manufacture, and are similar to those in use in the Palace Hotel.

PLUMBER'S WORK.

This feature is the very best and embraces the most modern sanitary appliances, some of which are new to the coast and were specially made for W. F. Wilson of 204 Stockton street, to whom the order for the plumbing work was given. Mr. Wilson has in this instance good cause to feel proud of his work. It has given eminent satisfaction to the architects in this instance. Mr. Wilson is in every respect a practical mechanic, and it is said of him that not the slightest detail in any contract he may accept is left unconsidered or unscrutinized. In these days special thought and attention is given sanitary plumbing by architects and owners. Wilson's excellent system of plumbing has been introduced into most of the fine buildings of this city, notably the California Hotel, Union Trust Company's banking building and the Palace Hotel, the latter contract being estimated the largest ever executed in this country. The finest building ever erected is not fit to live in unless scientifically drained and ventilated. In this respect the Spreckels building is absolutely perfect.



THE NEW SPRECKELS BUILDING—REID BROS., ARCHITECTS.

Charcoal-Making for Gunpowder.

Charcoal-making for gunpowder is a much more complicated process than the ordinary field kiln manufacture. Only certain kinds of wood are used—usually the young shoots of elder and willow—and it is cut in the spring, so that the bark may be stripped off. It is then piled under airy, open sheds, and allowed to remain several years, until it is thoroughly dried. When the powder-maker is ready for a new supply of charcoal, the wood is cut into lengths of three feet and placed in tight iron retorts, under and around which a fire roars continually. The dampers and pipes are so arranged that the workmen have complete control of the heat. At the end of the retort a hole is left for the escape of the inflammable gases resulting from the charring process. A pipe catches them as they leave the retort and conveys them into the furnace, where they take the place of a good deal of fuel. When the flame of the gases becomes a deep blue color the workmen know that the wood is sufficiently charred, and the retort is cooled down as quickly as possible. The charcoal is then left for a week or more before grinding, because if placed in the machine at once there is danger of spontaneous combustion. The best charcoal is jet black, and fractures show velvety surface.

The grinding machine is like a huge old-fashioned coffee-mill—two roughened cones turning one inside the other. As the powdered charcoal comes out it falls upon a screen, and all that goes through it is taken to the powder mill, and the residue "tailing over" is returned to the grinder.

Five thousand seven hundred and thirty telegrams, containing about 134,000 words, arrived at Friedrichsruhe on Prince Bismarck's birthday, and 634, containing 58,000 words, were dispatched from there on the same day.

A FEVER OF LA FIESTA.

The Unequaled Procession of California's Floral Carnivals.

WILL THEY RETURN ANNUALLY?

Advertising to the World How Well Worth Living Is Life in the West.

The fever of the fiesta that is running its contagious course up and down the State is not so much a harbinger of better times to come as it is an epidemic of good feeling already here. The people of California are feeling quite well, and have taken to throwing floral snowballs at one another merely because the blood which they feel in their finger-tips, quick from the heart, impels them to it. They feel that something ought to be done, something that will express the temper they are in; something nice and kind and glad and pretty, having the warm touch of nature in it. So they smother their carriages deep in roses and carnations, put wreaths of smilax about their horses' necks, strew the streets with moss, cover their houses with flowering vines, throw arches of evergreen across the highway, and then ride out to meet and salute each other with a battery of blossoms.

An advertisement? Certainly. Just as October is advertised by the grape, turned purple.

The analogy between an added 10 per cent to the price of real estate and a flower carnival is quite as close. A man who finds such pleasure in living as the carnival expresses will want to continue at it right along indefinitely. In order to do that he must have some place to live. If he has a house to his ambitious liking he will not sell it, and if he has none he must save up and buy one. This sort of thing cultivates the 10 per cent just as certainly as so many days of sunshine bring October and the purpled grape. A rose carnival community advertises the fact that it is immensely well pleased with itself.

And the "confidence restored," which is the current phrase for explaining the fiesta epidemic, becomes cumulative and results in the ——, but the word "boom" is barred.

As Governor Budd remarked to the CALL the other day, while the enthusiasm of Santa Rosa's floral battle was still on him: "A few years ago such a demonstration would not have been attempted. Now every city in the State seems to be eager to enter the list against every other city in preparing the most attractive festival that shall be characteristic of the peculiar bounty of the State and its own especial district. It is an indication of returning good times that is full of encouragement and glad tidings."

To be sure these festivals cost money and much labor in their preparation, but the fact that every city of the State that has once tried its hand at festival-giving has repeated it tells plainly enough how well the effort has been repaid one way or another.

Santa Barbara has the distinguished honor of introducing the battle of flowers to America. She did it to entertain a President four years ago, and was so well entertained herself in so doing that she repeated it with interest next year, and then the next and the next, excelling each previous effort, until she has eclipsed in the abundance and beauty of her display any that her Italian teachers ever made—say those who have seen and claim to know about it.

Then a year ago Los Angeles caught the festival fever, and invited the world at large to come and see what she could do, and those who accepted came away saying they had had a great time and seen a beautiful thing. Los Angeles was not satisfied, however, and this year started in to break a few records in fiestas. And she certainly did it—especially her own.

The display this year wholly outclassed that of the year before, and has set the standard for the Pacific Coast if not for the entire country for an all-round festival of its character. In spite of the fact, Los Angeles is not satisfied. The Merchants' Association, under whose auspices the festival was held, knew what they had set out to do. The aim seems to have been very much higher than the realization attained. The members of the association, and especially those directly in charge of the affair, are the severest critics of the festival and its features that I have met—they are the only critics in fact, disposed in the least to be severe.

"Next year," they say, "La Fiesta de Los Angeles will be a distinctly National affair that shall be worth crossing the continent to see. Something of the advertising element crept into our street pageant this year in spite of the precautions taken to keep it out and because the committee could not withstand the plea of business men who prepared their floats at considerable expense. These things do not pass without leaving their lessons however, and next year we will know how to begin right. La Fiesta de Los Angeles is as much a fixed institution as is the New Orleans Mardi Gras or the Baltimore Oriole. It will next year be as much in advance of this year as this year was in advance of last."

And that is just the same jubilant and ambitious air that the citizen of Santa Rosa assumes to-day. Santa Rosa has also a little history in the matter of carnivals. She can refer away back to last year when she had a very pretty floral parade and miniature battle of flowers and a ball, etc., all of which covered one day's festivity. With this experience to start with and the year 1895 instead of 1894 to build on—a very material difference—she undertook to set the standard in floral shows for the upper end of the State. And the standard is flying high. She was ambitious, and whether she accomplished all that she undertook or not, she began to talk over the plans for next year before her Rose Queen had laid aside her crown.

I think Santa Rosa was a little surprised herself at the ready acceptance with which San Francisco and the surrounding country took her word for it. The city was so thronged with visitors that even her newspapers offer them as sufficient excuse for a brevity in their reports of the affair—they were crowded out of office room, they say, by their city and country cousins. But they are already talking about how they will eclipse this year in next year's display. The floral carnival has become a fixed institution at Santa Rosa also, you see.

Now comes Healdsburg, with all these examples before her, with an effort this week to bid for Santa Rosa's palm. And after that comes Santa Cruz with her water carnival. Will these also become institutions? And what of Oakland? Certainly they form a procession of unequaled festivals that must carry the very best impressions of California to every corner of the country as the reports of these things go over the wires.

S. W. WALL.

For Memorial Day.

The G. A. R. Memorial Day committee met at department headquarters last evening. Communications were received from the G. A. R. Cemetery Association asking that the case of the records of the committee be deposited with the association for safe custody for future use.

The parade committee was instructed to wait in person on the Governor and invite him to participate in Memorial day services.

Invitations were directed to be sent to various bodies and persons to take part in the parade and exercises on May 30.

The meeting adjourned to next Wednesday evening.

Victim to the Heat.

Thomas Sexton, a teamster, was prostrated by the heat last evening. He was working in Jefferson Square, and drank copiously of ice-cold water. Congestion resulted, and he fell in a fit. He was removed to the Receiving Hospital, and was attended by Dr. Redding. He was so violent that it took four men to hold him down on the operating table. He was soused with cold water for some time before he showed any signs of improvement. He remained in a semi-conscious state, but it is expected that nothing serious will result. Sexton lives at Haight and Laguna streets.

Fraudulent Applications.

A warrant was sworn out in Judge Low's court yesterday for the arrest of Thomas L. Newport on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses. The complaining witness is Theo Saling, manager of the Fidelity Mutual Aid Association, 316 California street. The complaint alleges that Newport, by fraudulent applications for insurance, obtained $7 50 from the association. One of the applications purported to be signed by James Byrne, who denied signing it.

NEW TO-DAY.

FREE FOR THE FAMILY.

Drs. Copeland and Neal's Special Prescription for the Liver, Blood and Kidneys.

An Expensive Spring Medicine Given Free for the Family to All Beginning Treatment Before June 1.

Every person, sick or well, needs a good spring medicine at this season of the year to prepare the system for the severe change from winter to spring.

The newspapers are constantly filled with advertisements of patent medicines that have varying virtues with varying seasons. Always the same medicine, in one season they are advertised to cure rheumatism, in another catarrh, in another Bright's disease or nervous prostration. Just now all of them are being advertised as "spring medicines," and are alleged to be the great cures for "the blood."

Any one with half an eye can see the absurdity of these claims for medicines made after one formula in great tanks or vats, and any physician knows what danger, even greater than disease itself, is the introduction into the stomach of a miscellaneous lot of drugs applied without professional advice.

Thousands of people are buying patent medicines at random in a reckless attempt to give the system the medical assistance it requires.

In view of the fact that a pure professionally prepared and administered spring tonic is a necessity to every one at this season of the year, Drs. Copeland and Neal have concluded to prepare and give to every patient beginning treatment before June 1 a full 16-ounce bottle of Drs. Copeland and Neal's Special Prescription for the liver, kidneys and blood, in addition to their regular treatment. This bottle to go to themselves or any member of their family in need of a spring tonic.

This preparation is especially requisite for those who have suffered from the grip, influenza or other winter malady to aid the general catarrhal treatment to get the poison out of the blood. It removes all accumulated poisons from the system, improves the circulation, enriches the blood and strengthens the liver and kidneys, as well as all the other vital organs of the body. At this time of the year no medicine could be more beneficial or more exactly in the line of their regular treatment. The offer is as follows:

All patients beginning treatment before June 1 will be given a full 16-ounce bottle of Drs. Copeland and Neal's Special Prescription for the Liver, Kidneys and Blood, in addition to their treatment; this bottle to go to themselves or any member of their family in need of a spring tonic.

Drs. Copeland and Neal's Liver, Kidney and Blood Cure is worth alone $2 a bottle. This is a splendid inducement for those who require the treatment of Drs. Copeland and Neal to begin now, as it enables their families to share the benefit of their treatment.

Apply at once.

NOON HOUR FOR BUSY PEOPLE.

WORSE THAN THE DISEASE

Is the cruel treatment given to sufferers from Catarrh by the old-school physicians and specialists of this City.

There is not a man or woman in San Francisco who ever took treatment for catarrh from the old-school specialists of this city who does not indorse every word that Drs. Copeland and Neal say against the cruelty and barbarity of the methods employed by these alleged pillars of the profession.

How would you like to have the diseased mucous membrane of the nose burned out by acids or caustics, or, worse still, by the electrode, a red-hot iron pushed up into the nose and applied to the inflamed or congested membrane? Yet this is a part of the regular treatment of the old-school specialists. They were taught it, their books recommend it, their teachers sanctioned it, and they naturally practice it.

How would you like to have an obstruction or growth in the nose removed by a forceps, wrenched out with blood and agony, like an aching tooth? Yet this is what sufferers from nasal polypi have had to submit to from San Francisco physicians.

The whole thing is wrong. It is barbarous, monstrous. Instead of curing a patient, these methods injure him and leave him in a worse condition than ever. The worst cases that Drs. Copeland and Neal have to handle are those who have been to "our best specialists." The delicate mucous, soft as velvet and glistening like satin, is scarred, dried up and parched—scorched out with fiery acids and burning sprays.

The true theory of medicine is that nature must be assisted, not forced. This theory is the basis of the Copeland system of treatment, which has revolutionized the old methods of treating this disease. It is mild and gentle, cleansing, healing and soothing, palliative and tender. And naturally it is opposed to the old, heroic methods.

HOME TREATMENT.

Every mail brings additional proof of the success of the home or mail treatment.

M. S. Weeks, Santa Margarita, Cal., writes: "I visited you last November and had you prescribe for me, and now I am happy to say I am entirely well and have been for several months."

If you cannot come to this office write for a symptom blank.

$5 A MONTH.

No fee larger than $5 a month asked for any disease. Our motto is: "A Low Fee. Quick Cure. Mild and Painless Treatment."

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PERMANENTLY LOCATED IN THE

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SECOND FLOOR,

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Over Beamish's.

W. H. COPELAND, M.D.
J. G. NEAL, M.D.

SPECIALTIES—Catarrh and all diseases of the Eye, Ear, Throat and Lungs. Nervous Diseases, Skin Diseases, Chronic Diseases.

Office hours—9 A. M. to 1 P. M., 2 to 5 P. M., 7 to 8:30 P. M. Sunday—10 A. M. to 2 P. M.

Catarrh troubles and kindred diseases treated successfully by mail. Send 4 cents in stamps for question circulars.