

The Call
 San Francisco
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 Editor and Proprietor.

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THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1895

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

While the condition of the City finances precludes the undertaking of any extensive work in the way of improvement at present, the time is nevertheless opportune for considering the subject and impressing its importance upon the public mind. The bill for National Water Politics gives occasion for an undivided attention to municipal affairs and permits of the fullest and fairest study of the conditions and needs of the City. It is with more than ordinary satisfaction therefore that every progressive citizen can note what is being done by various civic organizations to make a campaign of education in street improvement; aided, we are glad to say, by our vigorous contemporary, the *Examiner*.

Any comprehensive study of the subject will, we believe, lead all intelligent men to the conclusion that the improvements needed in the immediate future will require the bonding of the City to raise the money required for the work. It is to this policy that progressive citizens must sooner or later be committed, nor do we know of any reason why they should hesitate to adopt it at once. The affairs of a growing city cannot be administered like those of a town which has ceased to grow and where there is no demand for new streets, new sidewalks, new sewers and new improvements of every kind. The ordinary revenues of the City are sufficient for its ordinary needs if economically administered, but they are not sufficient for those great works of permanent utility whose first cost is great simply because they are permanent and are not mere matters of yearly repair and maintenance.

which not even the most sophisticated rhetoric among the reformers can gloss over sufficiently to delude the people. The revival of the time is an improvement only when compared with the conditions of the last two years. If the comparison is made with the conditions that existed before Cleveland came into office, it will be found we are still living in the lowlands of the great Democratic depression. There is a long uphill journey yet before we reach the standard of prosperity set up by the Republican system of taxation; and nothing but a return to that system in its full completeness of protecting every American industry from foreign competition will enable either the capital or the labor of the United States to attain it.

The revival will be of permanent value to us only if we rightly understand its causes and accurately estimate its extent. It is a revival brought about by American energy, despite the obstacles of bad tariff laws and a bad system of finance. It is the outcome of the restoration of public confidence by the great Republican victories of last fall. In the assurance of the steady return of the Republican party to power, the business of the country is able to face even the deficit of the National treasury and the diminished revenues resulting from the panic tariff without fear. This fact is too well understood for the tariff-thinkers to succeed in deluding the people into the belief that the Wilson bill is the cause of the revival, and their efforts in that direction are about as futile as the chattering of jays.

FOR SACRAMENTO VALLEY.

The meeting of the editors of the Sacramento Valley and the organization thereof of an editorial association may prove to be an occasion from which will date a comparatively new era in the development of the valley. This possibility does not arise from any new ideas advanced at the meeting, nor from any new enterprise suggested there, but from the fact that it will put a greater force behind the ideas and enterprises already entertained, and thereby will more effectively put them into action and push them forward toward a successful realization.

It is in the highest degree creditable to the editors of the valley that they have not only caught the enthusiasm for progress which pervades the State and have expressed it with vigor in their columns, but that in forming this association among themselves they have set an example in the direction of right action. It may be said of them, they "have allured to brighter things and led the way." Certainly the first effective step toward material progress which any community can take in these days is that of a co-operative organization among its people; and it is because the editors have set so good an example of this kind that their meeting is likely to prove something of noted consequence in the industrial history of the State.

UNREASONABLE ENCORES.

Like most other great artists, Ysaisse has responded generously to the enthusiastic encore which his wonderful playing has called forth. It is fortunate for him that with his astounding good nature he has so strong a physique. For audiences are often utterly heedless of an artist's comfort and physical capabilities, and hence often those performers who do not wish to appear ungracious must submit to torture.

There is not a true artist, no matter how long he has performed in public, but that must feel a certain swelling of the heart as he listens to the generous applause of his performance and a clamorous demand for a repetition. It is an appreciation which is personal, immediate and spontaneous, and differs wholly from the praise which an author, a sculptor or a painter may read in the cold, sharp and severely studied lines that a critic pens. This is one of the reasons why the stage, whether in music or the drama, has so powerful a hold upon its devotees.

THE "WEEKLY CALL."

The WEEKLY CALL, issued this morning, commends itself particularly to readers of the rural and mining districts of the Pacific Slope. Its agricultural and mining pages are replete with valuable information with reference to California's imperial industries, its commercial quotations are fresh and reliable, and its condensation of coast news is an excellent summary of the week's happenings in States west of the Rockies. It presents a faithful picture of California as it is, and no better advertisement of the resources and advantages of this favored State could be sent to friends in the frost-bitten East than the WEEKLY CALL.

Among other features in the issue of this date may be mentioned articles descriptive of Lodi and Livermore, two prosperous California towns; a carefully prepared household column; queries and answers; news of the various fraternities; a page for children; a scientific department and a review of manufactures. Another installment of that deeply interesting serial, "Fort Frayne," is presented, and, in addition to a page of timely, able editorials, the brilliancy of many coast writers is reflected in the "Spirit of the Press." The latest and most important telegraphic news is given, and, on the whole, the WEEKLY CALL is just such a newspaper as will be cheerfully welcomed in every home.

PERSONAL.

R. D. Stephens of Sacramento is at the Palace.
 C. H. Dentell of the Oroville Mercury is at the Grand.
 Dr. J. J. Stephens of Petaluma is at the Grand.
 V. C. Richards of the Chico Record is at the Grand.
 W. B. Dunning of the navy is at the Occidental.
 Senator Thomas Flint Jr. of San Juan is at the Grand.
 Philo Hersey of San Jose registered at the Palace yesterday.
 R. M. Green, a merchant and mine-owner of Oroville, is at the Grand.
 O. O'Connell, a merchant of Goos Bay, registered at the Lick yesterday.
 Dr. C. W. Chapman and Mrs. Chapman of Nevada City are at the Palace.
 A. Malpas, a vineyardist from Los Gatos, registered at the Grand yesterday.
 J. J. O'Brien and wife are making a short visit to the southern part of the State.
 James D. Hoge Jr., manager of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, is a guest at the Palace.
 Allan Towle and his family of Towle came in on the Australia yesterday from the Hawaiian Islands.
 Commander George F. Kutz of the navy and Mrs. Kutz came down from the navy-yard yesterday, and are at the Occidental.
 David Lubin of Sacramento, corresponding secretary of the Equitable Protective League, is at the Grand. He will address the Chamber of Commerce Thursday of this week on the subject of "Export Bounty for American Agricultural Products."
 Colonel Volney V. Ashford, who was accused of participation in the late attempt at revolution in the Hawaiian Islands and sentenced to imprisonment, and was released on condition of leaving the Islands, came up by the Australia and is staying at the Occidental.
 State Senator E. C. Voorhees of Amador County is a guest at the Baldwin. He says that the mining counties of California are really prosperous. Amador is particularly progres-

sive. The mines in the vicinity of Jackson disburse about \$40,000 monthly and the result is good times in that town.

Ex-Speaker John Lynch of San Bernardino County is at the Baldwin. When he left home the prospects for a large crop of lemons were very gratifying.

Julius A. Palmer, who has been for many years a correspondent of the Boston Transcript, and who has lately been to the Hawaiian Islands, is a correspondent for the New York Evening Post on the Australian steamer yesterday, and is a guest at the California, where he will stay several days.

PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

William Hope Harvey, the author of "Coin's Financial School," was born in Buffalo, N. Y., in August, 1851. His father was a Virginian of Scotch-Irish extraction, a descendant of the famous Harvey who discovered the circulation of the blood. His mother was Miss Hope of Irish descent. He received a slender education in a country loghouse school and a rustic academy, doing farm work between times. At 16 he taught school, and later studied law.

The French sculptor Jules Bouleau died in Paris the other day at the age of 40. In the opinion of many he was at the head of the school of return to the Ancien Regime. His best known works is the statue of Joan of Arc at Chateau, near Tours. At the time of his death he had about finished the monument to the memory of President Carnot for the city of Noyai.

THE REV. CHARLES H. STRONG, RECTOR OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SAVANNAH, GA., HAS BEEN ELECTED TO THE CHURCH OF THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY.

The Rev. William J. Petrie, who has been pastor of the Church of Our Savior, Chicago, for twenty years, has resigned, and will travel in Europe.

The latest description of the Chinese Empire portrays him as "looking about 17, a thin-shouldered, narrow-chested, frail, worn-out boy."

Charles Dickens, the younger, has succeeded the late James Sims as a partner in the house of Macmillan & Co., in London.

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

Sensible people, who are neither radicals, criminals nor agitators, find out that hardiness consists in contentment and resolution to make the best of things. There is no greater fallacy, nothing that is more stirring the dregs of dissatisfaction, than the fancy that plenty of means is the key to a greater pleasure and broader satisfaction in life. Let no one run away with the idea that there is not plenty of joy without wealth; that the man of modest means may not be as happy as the rich, and that the very poor man may have reasons of a very high kind for not wishing to exchange lots with the very rich.—Record-Union.

The Watchman suggests that it would be well to call general meetings of the citizens of Humboldt County to discuss the matter of recontingential railroad. The thought, the wish, the desire for direct communication with the East is rapidly gaining ground; our people appreciate the fact that a real benefit to the State and the country can only come from outside connection and through roads. Such meeting could do not otherwise than to awaken deeper the public interest in an earnest effort to get Humboldt out of the woods.—Blue Lake Advocate.

The subdivision of our large ranches is a matter which should not be allowed to slumber. Mendocino needs a large population in order that her vast resources may be developed. In comparison with European countries and many of the Eastern States this county could well support ten times the population it now contains. There is scarcely a hillside in the county that has not fertile soil, and its hundreds of fertile valleys are but to be touched into life and prosperity by the magic wand of industry.—Ukiah Republican-Press.

Lincoln's birthday, just as much as George Washington's, should be made a legal holiday throughout the country. His memory is entitled to all the respect and grateful people can pay him. We do not believe there would be a dissenting voice to the proposition, certainly in the Southern States, where he was respected and esteemed for his purity, magnanimity and boundless patriotism.—San Francisco Spirit of the Times.

SUPPOSED TO BE HUMOROUS.

Printers are threatened with a greater danger than they need fear from the introduction of machines. A \$3,000,000 hearse of Boston has inaugurated a new fad by marrying a type tourist. Head for the woods, boys, when you go to the road, for there will not be a "corpse" left of you after the epidemic has taken a good hold of the hearsees. There are many of them and few of us—who would make the sacrifice.—Pacific Union Printer.

Fuddy—You say that Cheffery has slain his thousands. Has he been a soldier or are you only joking and mean that he is a physician?

Duddy—My dear fellow, I never was more serious in my life. No, sir, he is neither soldier nor doctor. He is the publisher of a cook book.—Boston Transcript.

Mr. Togogood—I don't see how it is that men find so much pleasure in such a brutal business as prize-fighting.

Broken Face Bill—Don't see how we can help it, lady. The women is crowdin' us men out of the professions and they ain't nothin' but the law for us. The only reason I'm in it, lady.—Boxbury Gazette.

She—One can judge the character of a man by his opinion of women.

He—Yes. Now what kind of a man would you say always held women in the highest esteem?

She—A bachelor, I should think.—Detroit Free Press.

Sizzer—The "Star of Russia" would make an awful good money, wouldn't it?

Whizzer—What makes you think that?

Sizzer—Because he hates plots.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

"Why, she actually out Mr. Storffington, and Storffington, you know, is one of the better sort."—Boston Transcript.

"Nay," said the young editress, coldly, to her penman, "ask me not to break every tradition of my class as long as I cannot turn your love, for it is unaccompanied by stams."—Life.

Music and Musicians.

The following is one of the latest criticisms on the French composer, Saint-Saens, who is at present wandering in the Orient to seek inspiration for his "Brunnhilde": "Saint-Saens is a wonder-working fellow, a spouting volcano of new forms, new effects, each more bizarre, less expected than the last. He writes for orchestra as if it alone had been his lifelong study; for organ or piano, or violin or cello, as we have hitherto supposed they could only be written for by specialist virtuoso. Apparently he is acquainted with and master over the highest and newest devices in the mechanism of composition, and he certainly knows well how to mix every shade of orchestral color used on the modern music-painter's palette. He works marvels, yet one cannot resist the suspicion that his artistic personality

anything of the mysterious problem of struggle for the first time with a powerful orchestra. In addition to this there is the emotion of finding oneself for the first time the cynosure of two thousand pairs of eyes.

A lady whose name is withheld from a curious public is said to have written an opera under the inspiration of Beethoven's ghost. This work is to be presented in London in the course of the season. Beethoven, it appears, has been distressed for a good while because he could not find a mortal capable of executing his ideas. All the music that has been put up in him since he died will, no doubt, come out in the opera, which has already been gravely accused by some spiritualists in London as a serious undertaking.

Music says: "It was rather an ill-natured man who, when asked how he had liked 'Tristan and Isolde,' said he liked it extremely and did not remember ever before having attended a grand opera where there was nobody who could sing that he had enjoyed so well. As vocal criticism, this was not quite wide, and as an appreciation, also, it was rather close. For in 'Tristan' it is not a question of singing, but of orchestral throbbing, singing and soul-striving."

Cyril Taylor, a boy soprano no longer, says that while he was visiting Patti in Wales she promised to sing Juliette to his Romeo when his voice shall have changed to a tenor, as it possibly will. As Patti seems truly perennial, perhaps her promise may be fulfilled.

An Italian paper, the *Carriere della Sera*, announced with all seriousness that Mascagni is about to visit Paris—not for musical purposes, but to challenge the French champion, M. Vignaux, to a billiard match.

Zaitan Dome, the Hungarian tenor who is engaged to marry Mme. Nordica, has been engaged by the Paris Grand Opera-house. He will make his debut there in November.

"The fairy opera, 'Hansel and Gretel,' has reached its hundredth performance in London and shows no diminution in popularity.

Gilbert's comic opera, "His Excellency," is going to Berlin and Vienna.



M. CAMILLE SAINT-SAENS. (From an engraving.)

is wholly fictitious. This is not merely because extraordinary facility, accomplishment without effort, always arouses suspicion. However favorable a first impression of his music may be, his charm soon wears shabby; we soon feel that it is entirely without depth, is more uniformly shallow than any music of the century, except, perhaps, Meyerbeer's, and we resent having been cheated by a composer who never writes an original or sincere bar, and never a bar that is not a miraculously clever imitation of real music. Wagner, indeed, beyond the sincerity of the shopkeeper may one expect of an artist who in his mature years writes a 'Samson et Dalila,' and by the side of figures written after Bach at his august, lays on gorgeous episodes of the voluptuous colorism of Wagner in his most royal mood? Saint-Saens is always for the moment some one else; he lacks the higher sincerity that keeps the artist true to himself."

It is announced, on what seems excellent authority, that Abbey and Gran have engaged Antonio Seidl to conduct two nights of German opera each week during their next season. Seidl has been proposed for the forces and has signed with Ellis of the Boston Symphony orchestra for a series of concerts. Sembrich, about whose voice there have been all sorts of rumors since he was in America last, has been secured by the forces of the Metropolitan, both the De Reszkes, Plancon and Maurel remain, and Tamagno goes. Whether Seidl will have a contingent of German singers for the Wagner works is not yet settled, but it is almost certain that he will conduct Italian as well as German opera. Walter Damrosch has also engaged the Metropolitan for a term of German opera next season, and apparently means to go right ahead in the face of this serious opposition. Next season will be a happy one for the lovers of opera in New York whatever it may be for the managers.

Otto Foerstein, writing of the new opera "Our Country," says: "Americans may well be proud of the production at Hamburg of Bruno Klein's music-drama 'Kenilworth.' It means that Poland, the cleverest of European opera-house intendants, has found sufficient merit in an American opera not only to produce it, but to produce it with the same care to identify himself with it." Foerstein, after seeing the opera, adds: "My anticipations, great as they were, have been far surpassed. The work held me spellbound from first to last. The staging was so great, and the interest created in the listeners so intense that in the final and most touching scene—Amy Robert's self-destruction by poison—I was so affected that tears streamed from my eyes, and I can assure you that the effect was not brought on merely by the cleverness and superb singing of Mr. Klefsky, but in the main by the tenderness and sympathetic character of Oscar Bruno Klein's music."

Dvorak has gone to Europe to spend the vacation. Before sailing he is reported to have said in regard to the colored pupils whom he has been instrumental in introducing into the National Conservatory of Music: "The plan has worked very well, though but few of the new students have been my immediate pupils. A few weeks ago there was a great ado because I took two colored pupils into a box with me at one of the concerts of the Philharmonic Society. I am glad I took them. What I like about our colored people is that they are respectful. The Americans, I mean the white Americans, are also respectful and polite. Of the young men the Americans always are gentlemen, and the manners of the girl pupils are charming."

Julien Tiersot, in an article in the *Revue Musicale*, communicates an interesting discovery made with regard to Berlioz. Tiersot has found in the library of the Paris Conservatory the almost complete music of the famous fanfare of the "Tuba Mirum," from the "Requiem," and it was sent by Berlioz from Rome to the conservatory. Now the composition of the Requiem dates from 1837, and the fanfare of the solemn mass, his first work, was sent from Rome fifteen years before. One sees by this how long Berlioz was haunted by the idea of the "Tuba Mirum." Tiersot remarks: "This page represents the dominating idea of his youth, if not of his entire life."

At the present moment works of the modern Russian school are in great favor in Paris, and as British composers can make no headway in the gay French capital a writer in the *Strand Magazine* makes the following suggestion: "If some of our leading native composers were to adopt Muscovite terminations to their names they might perhaps succeed in obtaining a hearing in Paris. Sullivanski, Covenok, Mackeozkoff, Stanofordtscheff, Parrykine, would look very imposing on a programme, and it is to be hoped that they would be successful in their efforts." The writer adds: "The above composers to throw off his Russian disguise."

Finck, writing in the *New York Evening Post*, says: "Franz Bata, who had the honor of being the first Hans Sachs and the first Wotan in Wagner's operas, celebrated his sixtieth birthday on March 19. He is still one of the best singers in the Berlin Opera, and it is one of the facts that Wagner's music does not injure the voice." Finck, however, has overlooked the fact that to be one of the best singers at the Berlin Opera-house does not necessarily imply that one is a good singer, nor does the capacity of one sexagenarian artist to sing Wagner prove that Wagner does not injure the voice.

When a pupil of the Paris Conservatory makes his or her debut at the Grand Opera it is done without having had a single rehearsal with the chorus and orchestra, the debutant has not been on the stage before the performance, and does not know how far he is going to find himself from the public, how many steps it will take to cross the immense stage, nor

Luigi Chini metti ha sud Markov, J. Einstein and Ghiesbregt for \$15,000, and that defendant, Mark Levy, be imprisoned for fraud until the same is paid. The plaintiff avers that he lent the sum asked on the security of a warehouse receipt and fire insurance policy, and that the receipt was fraudulently delivered to defendant Levy under a false pretense urged on the latter's behalf.

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TO ELECT NEW TEACHERS.

The School Board Is Divided Over the Method to Be Adopted.

TWO EXTREMES ADVOCATED.

But a Compromise Plan is Likely to Be Finally Agreed Upon.

The Board of Education has struck a snag in the work of revising the rules. The snag is concealed in the rule providing the manner of appointing new teachers. There is a disposition to run to extremes one way or another and as a result the board is all at sixes and sevens, so to speak.

Director McElroy has introduced a resolution providing that where teachers are to be appointed each Director shall nominate his candidate and the lady receiving seven votes shall be called fortunate. No competitive examination is required in this plan—nothing but a pull.

Director Murdoch, on the other hand, advocates the reference of all applicants to the Board of Examiners, to secure their appointment only through a competitive examination, followed by actual trial at teaching with approval of methods and ability. This, it is claimed, takes the power of appointment out of the hands of the board entirely, but it is said by the opponents to it that it would place very onerous duties upon the shoulders of the board. "The board would have its hands so full that its members could attend to nothing else," said a member of the board yesterday.

Dr. Clinton has a plan which is midway between these extremes and which he expects will receive the approval of both, and be adopted perhaps with some modifications.

It provides that the Directors shall nominate the candidates, but that twice the number shall be named that there are vacancies. For instance, if there is room on the extra substitute list for thirty teachers then each of the twelve Directors shall name five candidates, or sixty in all. These shall go before the Board of Examiners and thirty be chosen from them upon their merits.

"Under this plan," said Director Clinton yesterday, "the Board of Examiners will not be thronged with applicants all the time. They will have a certain number, like a class, to deal with, and will know when they are through. Neither is there any element of the one-man power, such as is advocated by some of the members, where the Directors name the teachers without regard to competitive examination, but simply take their place in line by lot.

"On the other hand the members have something to say in the appointments, as I think they should, but they are compelled in order to place good material in nomination in order that the candidates shall stand any chance at success. For every one of the sixty say, I nominated in competition with fifty-nine others.

"The candidates so chosen, you understand, take their place in the extra substitute list without pay. They pass on the substitute list. They are paid as vacancies occur, and on this list they stand in line for regular appointments. Ordinarily about sixty teachers are appointed every year.

"The fixing of this rule, it is expected, will call out the warmest kind of a debate in the board and the advocates of the several methods are set in their notions.

Another meeting of the board in committee will be held in a few days to give this rule its undivided attention.

Conference of German Baptists. The German Baptist churches of California and Oregon will hold their first annual conference, beginning next Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. An introductory sermon will be preached at the First German Baptist Church, Second and Dehorn streets, near Sanchez, by Rev. William Rabe of Portland, Or. Sessions will be held the following days and preaching every evening, including Sunday.

ON ITS TENTH BIRTHDAY.

Mission Council of the Young Men's Institute at Table.

An Enjoyable Evening Spent With Toasts and Speeches, Wine and Laughter.

Gay with waving palms and banners, filled with music and the sounds of laughter and revelry, the Mission Parlor Hall was an attractive place Tuesday evening, and one where the guests stayed late and drank their wine with the satisfaction born of a successful event. It was the tenth anniversary of the formation of Mission Council No. 3, Y. M. C., and all the prominent people of the order were there to drink a glass and say a word on the future success of the council of which they were guests.

It was a reunion and banquet, a gathering of friends and a time of story-telling, merriment and merriment. The tables were set in the form of the capital E, and at the cross-table at the head sat the officers of the banquet and the honored guests of the evening.

James E. Kenny, president of Mission Council, was toastmaster of the evening, and among those who responded were some high in the ranks of the Young Men's Institute and others who have been the grand officers.

The toast "The Young Men's Institute" was responded to by Frank J. Kierce, the grand president. He was followed by Rev. F. J. Cummins, who responded to "Mission Council No. 3," "Fraternity," "California," "Our Motto—Pro Deo, Pro Patria," "Pioneer Council No. 1," "The Future of the Young Men's Institute," "James E. Kenny" and "The Ladies." In that order they were announced and responded to, the respondents being representative men of the bar, the mercantile circles and the clergy.

The Harbor Commissioners met yesterday, and engineers submitted plans and specifications for a coal platform for the San Francisco and North Pacific Railroad Company.

The board was unable to decide on the merits of the collision between the General McDowell and the State's nudosow, on account of the conflict of testimony between the captain of the McDowell and the Markham, and it was finally agreed that the State should pay one-half the loss, amounting to \$90.

The board agreed to pay for the damage to the cars of San Francisco and North Pacific Coast Railroad Company, incurred on the belt road.

Alex J. Roseborough of Oakland was appointed wharfinger, vice J. F. Thomas, term expired. J. B. Hyslop was reappointed.

A communication was received from Governor Budd, asking for the postponement of the conference with the Valley road directors from Monday until Wednesday at 10 o'clock A. M. The postponement was agreed upon.

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