

The San Francisco Call. CHARLES M. SHORTRIDGE, Editor and Proprietor. SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Postage Free: Daily and Sunday Call, one year, by carrier \$0.15...

WONDERFUL AUDAACITY. The coolness with which the majority of the Board of Supervisors violates the law in a manner that leaves no room for a charitable belief in its incompetency is one of those spectacles which make the visiting subjects of the better-governed cities of Europe marvel.

His own good sense, and the wisdom of the law. It is presumed that every public officer does his duty. If he is found neglecting or betraying it, he should be punished, and the law directs the Grand Jury to proceed to that end.

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Here in San Francisco we have a condition against which it will be extremely difficult for the progressive agencies to exercise an adequate countervailing influence. The Board of Supervisors can do harm which will counteract the efforts of the Half Million Club, the Manufacturers' and Producers' Association and all the other similar bodies combined.

Now and then, however, a Grand Jury grossly abuses the privilege of the custom, and in doing so works grievous wrongs for which there is no redress. An instance of this was the recent report of our Grand Jury on the Supreme Court, which Chief Justice Beatty exposed by pointed statements.

OAKLAND OFFICE: 908 Broadway. EASTERN OFFICE: Pacific States Advertising Bureau, Rhetlander building, Rose and Duane streets, New York City.

The board refuses to obey the law by offering the franchise to the highest bidder. It violates the law by regarding the franchise as an "extension" instead of a new matter, and proposes to sell the "extension" privilege for \$500 to the company of its choice, thus shutting out the competition in bidding which the law requires.

It was this outrage that has opened the eyes of the public to the abuse of power and privilege on the part of grand juries, and Judge Sanderson has dropped a hint that may prove of service to the Judges of the Superior Court in future.

THE CALL SPEAKS FOR ALL. The holiday season, flies. Remember home-made goods to-day. Trade will soon be picking up for the fall.

When, thereupon, Mr. Jost asked for a franchise over another route to the same destination it was refused him because there was no assurance that he could secure a franchise over Mr. Sutro's intervening land, when there is good reason to believe that he could have secured it, and when that has nothing to do with the matter at hand and is no reason whatever for the refusal.

There is a cause for general rejoicing in the fact that the steamship Washnetaw arrived in port yesterday with 200 tons of rails, spikes, fishbars and bolts for the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad. The vessel was greatly delayed by stormy weather at Cape Horn, and at one time her loss was reported.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE FITS THE NICARAGUA CANAL PROJECT AS IT FITS THE ORDER. The more hopeless the prospects of Democracy become, the brighter grow those of the country.

As the antagonism between Mr. Sutro and the Southern Pacific makes it impossible for the Market-street Company to secure a right of way through his land, not only was there a stronger reason, if any at all, for refusing that company the franchise on that ground, but there was all the more reason to sacrifice the Ocean road to the Market-street Company when there was every reason to believe that Mr. Jost could have got the road through without it.

Meanwhile, the company's surveying parties are at work in the valley and rights of way are being rapidly secured. The first spike will be driven in a few days, and that will be one of the most important events in the history of the State. It will mean the beginning of a movement to deliver California from a bondage which has operated so effectively against her progress and development, and will be an invitation to public-spirited citizens to show their pride in the State and their willingness to advance her interests and their own.

AN ADVERTISING IDEA. At a meeting of the Santa Clara County Board of Trade the other day Mr. Stevens reported a novel scheme for advertising, which had produced most excellent results; and as it is so sensible and simple it ought to serve as a suggestion.

While it is gratifying to learn from Chief Crowley that "since THE CALL'S crusade against the lottery traffic began the sale of tickets has fallen off 50 per cent in this City," we are as yet unable to say that the evil has been suppressed. Chief Crowley explains the partial reform by saying that THE CALL has awakened self-respect and a regard for the laws, but that the greater effect has been produced by THE CALL'S exposure of the swindling operations of these outlawed concerns.

It happened in this case that the grower had a brother, an advantage which all growers do not enjoy; but the essential fact is that a simple distribution of samples of the fruit informed the people of its superior quality and induced them to order it for their use. Something like this was done by the Southern Pacific when it sent out its train called "California on wheels," but the main object of that enterprise was to induce people to settle in the State by showing them the superb quality of our products.

A RECEDING EVIL. The discovery of lubricating petroleum at Pleasanton is another of those delightful surprises which a study of the natural resources of the State is constantly bringing.

If the efforts of one paper have proved so beneficial, it is easy to imagine what the combined efforts of all the dailies might accomplish. Regarding the matter from a strictly business point of view, without reference to its moral side, the newspapers which advertise the lotteries and induce their readers to buy tickets are depriving the community and themselves of a considerable amount of money.

California should never lose sight of the fact that the finding of a market for our products is the first and most essential factor in the prosperity and development of the State. On that proposition and the one of profit hanging upon it, depend the strongest arguments for the growth of the State by an increase of its population. In spite of the fact that the growers have accomplished wonders already in this direction, there are now selling fruit in the East in quantities that make us stare at the profit, they have as yet reached but an exceedingly small proportion of the consumers and have not sufficiently educated those whose territory they have invaded.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS ARE NOT EQUAL TO THE POSSIBILITIES OF AMERICAN ENGINEERING SIMPLY BECAUSE THE EARNINGS ARE USED IN PAYING DIVIDENDS ON WATERED STOCK INSTEAD OF HAVING A SURPLUS TO BE EMPLOYED IN IMPROVING THE ROADS.

What more forcibly illustrates the folly of the habit of buying Eastern articles than the shipment here of a carload of step-ladders from Michigan? With all the various cheap woods and tile carpenters on the coast it would seem that the necessity for the importation of step-ladders might be overcome.

The simple action of the Santa Clara grower carries a whole volume of suggestion. Every grower has some friend or can secure some reliable agent to do just as the Santa Clara grower's brother did, and thus secure a market for his own products. Some of the best profits in the State have been made by building up a private clientele. A few winemakers particularly never place their products on the open market, but have worked up a private trade that relieves them from all anxiety and secures them a larger price than could be otherwise found.

THE ARABIC SAYING THAT ALL WHO HAVE SOUGHT ALIAB HAVE ALREADY FOUND HIM IS APPLICABLE TO THE RESNO COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL START TOMORROW TO RAISE \$30,000 OR \$75,000 FOR THE VALLEY ROAD, BY THE ASSURANCE THAT THE AMOUNT WILL BE QUICKLY RAISED OUGHT TO MEAN THAT IT IS ONLY WAITING FOR THEM TO CALL FOR IT.

Until Judge Sanderson pointed out the fact nobody seemed to reflect that there is no law either requiring or authorizing grand juries to make such reports as have been customary. "The law," says the Judge, "contemplates action by that body and not the expression of opinion. If public officials had been guilty of offenses cognizable by the Grand Jury, it should proceed against them by indictment or presentment in the manner prescribed by law, and not by the filing of a report concerning them, nor, for that matter, praising them."

Alfred Ross Colquhoun, the well-known explorer and first Governor of Mashonaland, who has just returned to London after making an inspection of the Nicaragua and Panama canal routes, has, in a recent interview, confirmed the hopes of those who have had the most sanguine expectations of the Nicaragua project.

GRAND JURY REPORTS. Judge Sanderson thus shows not only

the fact that the Grand Jury is not a judicial body, but a body which is to be used for the purpose of expressing the opinion of the community on the conduct of public officials, and that it is not a body which is to be used for the purpose of expressing the opinion of the community on the conduct of public officials.

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lished, but it must be remembered there was sufficient doubt raised on the subject in the last Congress to induce the Government to appoint a commission to make an inspection of the route to satisfy Congress of the advisability of passing the canal bill. The commission is now in Nicaragua. Mr. Colquhoun, while there, met the members of it and speaks of them very highly. It would seem that he must have drawn his information largely from the sources whence they will obtain theirs, and it is likely therefore that the report of the commission will be about as favorable as that which Mr. Colquhoun has made public.

Of the benefits to be derived from the canal the British investigator has no doubts. The climate of Nicaragua he found to be healthful, pleasant and fit to enable a European to work during the hottest season of the year. The canal, when completed, will be, he says, universally greater than the Suez canal and will largely revolutionize the shipping routes of the world. The Southern States and the Pacific will, in his judgment, derive the most profit from it, but all the great region of the Mississippi will be benefited.

The greatest interest in this report from a competent expert is the promise it gives of a favorable report from the Government commission to Congress. Public opinion is ready to support the Government in undertaking the great work, and as Congress is now in the hands of the Republican party—always favorable to American development and progress—we may reasonably look forward to the passage of the canal bill next winter, and after that the prompt prosecution of the vast enterprise to completion.

PERSONAL. Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Griffin Jr. of Merced, are at the Grand. Commander J. J. Read of the Olympia is at the Occidental. H. Hirschfeld, a capitalist of Bakersfield, is a guest at the Lick. A. B. Glasscock of Yosemite Valley is a guest at the Occidental.

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LOVE, LABOR AND NOVELS. A Brave Japanese Student Who Is Making and Writing Romance. GLIMPSES OF HIS NEW BOOK.

Shigal Morikubo Spurns Family and Wealth for His Love and His Ambition. San Francisco is full of Japanese students, and many of them are bright and promising, but not one of them is as interesting as young Shigal Morikubo.

Morikubo is a high-born little fellow who is fighting with desperate resolve a hard way toward fame and he is in love with a pretty and cultured young American girl who makes every minute of his life a season of rapture and a spur to high ambition.

Shigal Morikubo, the ambitious young Japanese author. [Drawn from a photograph.]

from Tokio, twenty years ago. His father was the Nanoshi or chief officer of the Mula of Takahata, a political division of the Province of Kanagawa. The family had held the hereditary office for generations and his grandfather attained some eminence as a writer during the time of "old Japan."

Men and Women. Experts value Mrs. Langtry's jewels at over \$850,000. Queen Victoria detests the odor of tobacco and smoking is therefore forbidden at Windsor Castle, Balmoral and at Osborne.

Lillian Russell, who is spending the summer on Long Island, has rented a yacht named Take Me. According to the matrimonial record, Lillian has already been "taken" pretty often.

Rev. Father Field, a young Oxford-bred ritualistic clergyman, is devoting his life to work in the negro slums of Boston. He is going to celebrate his birthday, July 10, by giving a gigantic picnic to the colored children of Boston.

J. Sterling Morton is the most approachable member of the Cleveland Cabinet, just as his predecessor in the agricultural department was the most approachable of Harrison's Secretaries. Morton likes to talk and is also a good listener, caring little with whom he carries on a conversation.

King Oscar is said to be the only European monarch who possesses the ideal kingly dignity. He is a very tall and handsome man, with a good and easy carriage, a striking courtliness of manner and possesses a most impressive appearance of dignity.

named "Transient Tears" that would seem commonplace at their best on pages written by some men, but which are at least surprising when found in the manuscript of an untutored Japanese boy. Scattered through the pages, that of course are but the monument to raise boyish hopes, are such things as these:

Strange is the human conception that in it they make Light dark and Dark darker. Error begins its start at curiosity and ends in illusion. While no one can see in the dark every one would step into it and after a fruitless search they return and pretend that they had seen something. This is called philosophy and religion.

A Japanese proverb says: Even the rustling of the sleeves has some consequence, so our inconspicuous conversation with strangers brings us warm friends and cold enmity. Poverty and hunger are ever life's concomitants, sighed the fisherman. The blood is ever so cheap and the bread so dear.

There are some roads which might well be paved with crushed rock all the way out to the city limits, such as the San Bruno and Mission roads and San Jose avenue. They have some crushed rock coming, and a few holes and very uneven. Now, if these great arteries to the southward could be put into first-class condition, like Folsom Avenue is, with the best returns without allowing State labor to complete unfavorably against our own labor.

UP-TO-DATE IDEAS. A novel street-sweeping machine was put into actual work last Monday night, says the Philadelphia Times. It is called the Philadelphia Sweeper. The decided novelties of the machine are that it carries its own sprinkler—the rear part of the tank holding water; that instead of sprinkling the street in order to keep the dust down the revolving brush is kept dampened all the time, thus avoiding the mud and water on the streets necessary in the old methods; and the most important of all that the dirt taken up is thrown directly upon the endless carrier, which takes it up and empties it into the tank composing the front of the machine. This tank is removable, and when filled is lifted out and an empty one substituted, while the filled one is carted away, dispensing with all shoveling and dust. The machine weighs but 1900 pounds, and in its trials has demonstrated its merits in a way very gratifying to those interested.

The difference in valuation of property at the last census was very remarkable. In some States the assessment was no more than 25 per cent of the real value of the property, while in other cases it is believed to have been as high as the selling price.

In 1880, according to the returns of the tenth census, the United States was the wealthiest of all nations, Great Britain being second, where he is a servant, and dashes off page after page during five and ten minute spells.

The completed first novel is crude, generally commonplace, and the manuscript is entertaining largely because of the odd use of English, but a hasty glance through the immense stock of manuscript reveals an astonishing abundance of incident, invention and almost wild imagination, together with flashes of originality and genius that make one pause and wonder.

Upon the pleasant shore of a river, under a weeping willow casting a quivering shadow on the blue waters, stood a cottage. Within it he saw the fairest of women, and he declared, around sweet and serene, the family.

There are noble words and noble acts, and men in the second chapter is a glimpse of a noble but outcast follower of the late tyrant, Shogun, whose dynasty was overthrown in the last civil war. This valiant Kato, true to the fallen dynasty, dwells amid rocks near the "dews of Veno," where the last hope of the tyrant was crushed.

A HELP FOR GOOD ROADS. Cheap Crushed Rock From Folsom Will Encourage Improvements. WHAT A. B. MAGUIRE THINKS. State Rock Should Not Compete Unfavorably With Labor San Francisco.

The announcement in the dispatches yesterday that the rates offered by the Southern Pacific for the transportation of crushed rock from Folsom to San Francisco had been approved by the Governor and the State Prison Directors, and that the rock-crushing plant at the prison would be erected immediately, was received by the good roads enthusiasts of this city with much satisfaction.

"It means," said one of them yesterday afternoon, "that the expense of street improvements will be materially lessened. At present the cost of rock for street improvement purposes is about \$4 a ton. Under the rates quoted for the Folsom rock it will cost laid down in this City not over \$1.05 a ton, and that allows 85 cents for hauling and 20 cents for the cost of getting it out at the prison.

There may be some opposition to the use of the rock on the ground that it is crushed by convict labor, but I do not think such opposition would be well founded. At present the cost of rock for street improvement purposes is about \$4 a ton. Under the rates quoted for the Folsom rock it will cost laid down in this City not over \$1.05 a ton, and that allows 85 cents for hauling and 20 cents for the cost of getting it out at the prison.

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When it comes to properly paving the streets, the fact of the matter is that the City ought to have a big crushing machine of its own to convert all the old, worn-out basalt blocks and discarded cobles into splendid macadam. You know that I am interested just now in only one thing, and that is the bituminizing of Folsom street from the wharf to Twenty-ninth street. The only thing that can save some of the other streets whose need of improvement is imperative is that if the City cannot afford to buy other bitumen or basalt blocks the best thing it could do would be to properly macadamize them like the roads in Golden Gate Park. To macadamize them would cost about a tenth what it would to lay basalt blocks.

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