The Call
San Francisco

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Editor and Proprietor.

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Are you going to the country on a vacation? If so, it is no trouble for us to forward THE CALL to your address. Do not let it miss you for you will miss it. Orders given to the carrier, or left at Business Office, 710 Market street, will receive prompt attention.

FRIDAY.....AUGUST 16, 1895

THE CALL SPEAKS FOR ALL.

The exposition is good and is growing better every day.

The Democratic silver meeting in Washington is small, but perhaps it means big business.

Sausalito, having seen Belvedere's "Venetian Night," will go her one better on a "Night in Naples."

The best evidence of the new movement in California is to be found in the way the Valley road goes ahead.

After all, the Democrats might as well renominate Cleveland and crawl out by the same hole they went in at.

We may have to rely on the Half-million Club to get enough people in town to make up the Durrant jury.

The promised reduction in grain rates would not be a cinch on the railroads, but the breaking of a cinch on the people.

It seems that Collis Huntington did not break the interstate commerce law, but merely showed his willingness to do it.

If you wish to sing the grand old anthem, "America," without any British air about it, you can get the music in THE CALL next Sunday.

Now that the Railroad Commission shows signs of coming out of innocuous desuetude, let us hope it will not fall into a pernicious activity.

With two police boards disturbing the peace of the community, the people of Omaha would be glad if either one of them would arrest the other.

As we have had a Venetian festival and are going to have a Neapolitan fete, there will be nothing left for San Francisco but to do as the Romans do.

With the issue of statehood and the election of two United States Senators at stake, the campaign in Utah promises the chance of big Republican victory this fall.

According to the past masters of high culture in New York, it is very bad taste to place statues in a public park where there is any desire to preserve the aspects of nature.

Scarcely a week passes without a disaster of some kind to Eastern farmers. This week the corn crop of a wide region of Minnesota has been destroyed by a terrific hailstorm.

The Mayor of Havana, who is now in New York, declares the Cuban revolt is not serious, but the world will take notice that General Campos continues to call for more troops.

According to Mulhall, the wealth of the United States increases at the rate of $7,000,000 a day, and yet the Democrats cannot run the country a single year without running into debt.

Economy in the schools is of course necessary, but the public would be well pleased if the Directors could devise some method of economizing that would not rest altogether on the teachers.

There can be no doubt that Senator Butler of North Carolina was correct in saying: "If we had an honest man for President he could make times easier in ten days by calling Congress together to furnish relief."

The fact that Governor Budd's illness has been aggravated by the annoyance of persistent office-seekers will increase public sentiment in favor of adopting civil service rules for the State as well as the Nation.

The number of American volunteers to the Cuban cause is so much smaller this time than in any former fight that there is reason to believe the spirit of adventure is at a lower ebb in this country than ever before in our history.

If it be true as reported that Railroad Commissioner Clark said "the idea of the public is to cinch the railroad," then he has a serious misconception of the situation. The idea of the public is that the railroads are cinching the people.

Cyclones that destroy property and life in the Middle and Western States have become so common that the sufferers, reconciling themselves to a fate which they can escape by coming to California, facetiously speak of them as "twisters."

There may be a question in some quarters whether the street railways were designed for the benefit of the people or whether the people were born for the benefit of the railways, but the Market-street Company has no doubt on the subject.

Mr. Huntington states that he subscribed $75,000 to the East African Company to help open up that country, and put $50,000 into the Congo Railroad, but he makes no statement of any money subscribed to promote the development of California.

As the domestic servants of London have organized a trade union and demand not only shorter hours of labor, but also damages from employers for injuries received in service, it is evident that household accidents in that city will not be laid on the cat so much as formerly.

AN ANXIOUS FORTNIGHT.

The people of the State will be under a tense strain during the two next weeks. Railroad Commissioner La Rue, in partial fulfillment of the pledge under which he was elected, has introduced a resolution proposing a reduction of 15 to 20 per cent in freight charges on wheat. It happens as a somewhat unfortunate coincidence that he is a large grower of grain, and hence that the proposed reduction would be of great personal benefit to him. If his investigation and resolution had gone into the whole subject of freight charges, covering all the products on which the prosperity of the State is based, his loyalty to the people and his partial fidelity to his pledge would have had a better look.

This is all the more prominent, in view of the fact that the finer and more profitable crops of the State, on which the Southern Pacific Company makes its heaviest charges, have nearly all been moved under the burdensome freight charges that were in force when the Democratic candidates for Railroad Commissioners took their famous pledge, and that since their election, nearly eight months ago, there has been ample time for just such investigation and proposed action as that which we have seen in the case of wheat. It seems strange, also, that although Mr. La Rue called attention to the fact that in other States and countries flour is moved at the same rates as wheat, he has not included that commodity in his resolution.

We are not finding fault with Mr. La Rue for his apparent desire to secure a reduction of freight charges on wheat, but it is well that the whole situation should be understood. To that end it should not be forgotten that as yet neither Mr. La Rue nor his Democratic coadjutor on the board has exhibited any intention of keeping a single item of the pledge made before election. These were that they would reduce freight charges over the Southern Pacific in this State at least 25 per cent, that they would reduce the number of freight classifications at least 50 per cent, that they would institute such other reforms as were needed, and that they would give their whole time to the duties of their office, allowing no private business whatever to intefere.

Mr. La Rue certainly deserves credit for having mastered even a small part of the problems which he assumed to attack. That is to say, he evidently has given close attention to the matter of freight charges on wheat. The others give no sign that they have done even that much. Mr. Clark frankly admits that he has given the subject no study, but whatever may be expected of him in the way of duty his position is very different from that of the two Democratic members, who have bound their loyalty under a pledge. Dr. Stanton's position is the most deplorable of all. The fact that he "wants time" to look into the matter, and that he is so desirous of giving the Southern Pacific an opportunity for preparing an elaborate defense on a subject with which it is already perfectly familiar, has an unfortunate look for him.

But it is too early yet to surmise what the action of the Democratic majority on the wheat resolution will be. Dr. Stanton's virtual expressions of contempt for newspaper criticism, which is only the criticism of all the people of the State not owned by the Southern Pacific, is discouraging. Mr. La Rue displayed a very different feeling. He realized that the newspapers are right. It would be a great pity if Dr. Stanton should fail to realize that the power of the Southern Pacific to defy public opinion and control every public officer of easy conscience and eager purse is waning under the persistent moral force of a public sense of wrong, and that those who are not openly and fearlessly for the people will inevitably be regarded as the paid servants of the great monopoly.

AN EXPLODING MINE.

The results which may follow an obscure exhibition of bad taste in the obscurest cemetery on the peninsula cannot be foreseen at present. The monument erected over the graves of the soldiers killed by the derailing of a train near Sacramento during the great railroad strike of last year charges that the men were "murdered by strikers." This is taken quite seriously not only by the friends of the strikers but also by many who never sympathized with their course but who have felt the heavy hand of the railroad in many ways and have observed the tender regard with which its interests are protected by the officials of the State and the Nation.

The first thing already arranged for is a mass-meeting at Metropolitan Hall tomorrow evening, called to denounce the inscription, its author, the sentiment which inspired it and the railroad company which made it possible. At this meeting it is proposed to appoint a committee of fifteen stanch men, known to be with the people, whose duty it will be to organize a determined movement to overthrow the hold of the Southern Pacific on the public officers of California and to provide against the election of railroad tools in the future. This is a very large contract.

The two things now to be guarded against are intemperance of speech and conduct and the intrusion into the movement of any but cool, honest men, in whom the sense of righteousness is tempered with calmness, patience, discretion and wisdom. Let all cranks, malcontents, fire-eaters, adventurers, professional agitators and incompetents and incorrigibles of all kinds, to say nothing of railroad tools posing as patriots, be kept sternly in the background, for it is such a movement as this that most strongly stirs their activity. By the character of the men leading the movement its merits and prospects of beneficent performance will be judged. That the people have a right to inaugurate this movement and carry it through temperately and with wisdom and justice is the plainest of all propositions. That the very highest good might be brought forth from it is evident and that it might be ruined and the hold of the monopoly strengthened on its collapse is as plain a fact as any other.

In the meantime the conduct of General Graham and the Government which he represents should be a factor in the movement and will enable us to determine with certainty some matters at which the more cautious of us are only guessing.

A BIG ERROR.

It is reported from Washington that an error has been discovered in the consular reports for August recently issued by the State Department, which makes a material difference in the showing of the effects of the Wilson tariff upon the trade relations of the United States and Canada, and is therefore one of considerable importance to American farmers, whose products are subject in our own markets to Canadian competition.

According to the report sent out by the State Department, the total exports from the province of Ontario to the United States for the quarter ending March 31, 1895, were $2,623,301, being an excess over those of the corresponding period of 1894 of only $146,539. This showing was not unfavorable to us and caused a belief that Canadian competition was not seriously affecting our markets. It appears, however, that the figures given were wrong, and that the increase in exports from Ontario to this country for the period named, instead of being less than $150,000, was really $722,979.

The error is so large that suspicions have been aroused in some quarters that it was a deliberate falsification for the purpose of deceiving the people in regard to the effects of the lowered duties on farm products. It is hardly likely, however, that such was the case. It is probably only another evidence of the blundering of this incompetent administration. The serious point in the matter is the evidence shown in the corrected report of the injury done to our farm industries by the new tariff. Our imports from Ontario consist of eggs, barley, beans, potatoes, seeds, sheep, wool, horses and lumber. It is no slight thing, therefore, to note that in a single quarter of the year they have increased by nearly three-quarters of a million dollars in value. This money gained by the Canadians is a distinct loss to the American producer and indirectly to our workingmen.

HOKE SMITH'S OPPORTUNITY.

The Honorable Secretary of the Interior now has a splendid opportunity to display his patriotism and sense of justice. Greatly to the surprise and delight of the California Miners' Association, E. F. Best, acting Commissioner of the General Land Office, has notified A. H. Ricketts, attorney for the association, but in this case addressed as attorney for a private protestant, that the appeal of his client, E. H. Benjamin, from the office decisions of the Los Angeles, San Francisco, Visalia and Marysville districts, which were in favor of the Southern Pacific's application for patents for lands claimed to be agricultural, but strongly surmised to bear precious metals, had been transmitted to the Honorable Secretary of the Interior.

This means that the General Land Office does not care to take the responsibility of deciding the appeal and has referred it to the highest authority in the land, and that Mr. Hoke Smith will have to determine a matter which deeply affects the welfare of California. It is taken for granted that the highest praise is due the California Miners' Association for its plucky fight in the face of the stubborn attitude of the General Land Office in Mr. Huntington's favor, and that Mr. Ricketts has done the work of a hundred yeomen in battling untiringly to win a hopeless cause. These matters understood, we are brought directly face to face with the opportunity of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior.

It is pleasing to observe the cheerful optimism with which Mr. Ricketts regards the situation. His faith, evidently born of hope, sheds its light even in the stronghold of gold syndicates and free trade and "sound money," and all the Government caverns where are hatched the numerous brood of reasons for defending the helpless rich and strong against the powerful weak and poor. But Mr. Ricketts is wise and patient as well as hopeful, and he will know how to make Mr. Hoke Smith's position as uncomfortable as possible.

This does not mean to say that Mr. Hoke Smith is not expected to do his duty. Every public officer is expected to do that, and he may not be altogether to blame for being, like Secretary Carlisle, so willing and useful an organ upon which the President is pleased to play the tunes he likes best. Georgia expects something from its loyal Democratic citizens.

AN INDIGNANT CUBAN.

Senor Segunde Alvarez, Mayor of Havana, is enjoying a vacation in New York, where he is not only relieved of all danger that might accrue to him if his arm were as loyal as his tongue in defending the interests of Spain in Cuba, but where he is also making dark hints of Spanish retribution on the United States. In the name of Spain he is outraged because the Mora claim was pushed at a time when his country needed all its money for the Cuban war, and because American adventurers are leading the rebellion and we are permitting men, arms and money to leave our shores for enlistment in the insurgent cause.

Senor Segunde Alvarez seems not yet to have penetrated the mysterious sensational journalism in America. Our most "enterprising" newspapers have crowded the ocean between Florida and Cuba with pirate ships laded to the gunwale with fierce filibusters, but doubtless they have all gone to the bottom of the sea, for none of them has ever succeeded in reaching the Cuban shores. Senor Segunde Alvarez seems to have an imperfect understanding of every intrinsic and extrinsic element of the revolution. In view of these facts his assertion that "the insurrection in Cuba is not a serious matter" loses all the value which might ordinarily attach to the utterances of the Mayor of Havana, and must be taken contrariwise, like dreams.

Nor can Senor Segunde Alvarez convince any intelligent American that Spain is eager to call our Government to account for anything, much less for errors which have never been committed. As that splendid country has not yet developed a power sufficient to put down the handful of "American adventurers" and native "niggers" who constitute the rebellion, but has already sacrificed thousands of soldiers and millions of treasure with no result other than to strengthen the rebellion, it is hardly to be expected that America should fear any sort of conflict with Spain. And it is likely, moreover, that Spain is well able to guess that a part of the indemnity which we would claim is that for which it is fighting so desperately and hopelessly to-day.

This is all idle and foolish talk from Senor Segunde Alvarez, and he would better return to the mayoring of Havana. There is no likelihood that Spain will practice the folly which he suggests or that it will do anything but remain the great and dignified country which it has always been, and take no silly chances with the prehensile power of the eagle's claws.

KEEP YOUR BEACON BURNING.

There was once a farmer who sought to plow without a yoke of oxen or team of horses. He said he knew he could do it. In making the effort he burst a blood vessel—the pirate ship of the brain—and had a large agricultural funeral.

I am reminded of this foolish fellow by the action of certain hotel proprietors who try to get along without advertising, especially in the dull season. That is the time when advertising should be most abundant and continuous. You have got to let the public know you are alive and doing business in these days of many hotels and razor competition. The public will not take a lantern, hire a guide and go about looking for you. Keep your beacon brightly burning, as if on top of a high hill.—Hotel Mail.

AN INDEPENDENT EDITOR.

In offering for sale a controlling interest in the Hickory (N. C.) Press and Carolinean, E. Thornton says: "I desire to sell because my health is so very bad that I cannot longer continue in business. A good 'ring' man can make a fortune with this plant in a few years and probably go to Congress, or somewhere. I am too independent."

Governer Matthews of Indiana is an expert rider, and may be seen almost any afternoon in Indianapolis on his favorite horse, Corncracker, a valuable animal bred in Kentucky.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS.

A. M. Duncan of Ukiah, one of the Supervisors of Mendocino County, speaking of the proposed railroad from Ukiah through Low Gap to the north fork of the Navarro River, last evening at the Grand, said: "I was informed last evening that $97,000 of the $100,000 required had been subscribed. Robert Dollar has put his name down for $33,000 and several others have subscribed for large amounts. The San Francisco and North Pacific Coast Railroad and its president, A. W. Foster, are giving it every encouragement. It will be a feeder to that road, as you know. The road, which will be twenty-four miles long, will open up a very rich timber and tanbark country, and will do Mendocino County a great deal of good."

It would be hard to find as many millionaires in one hotel as are housed under the roof of the Palace Hotel at the present time. Senator John P. Jones, D. O. Mills, John W. Mackay and Fred Sharon are the heaviest weights financially. Then there are any number of smaller fry worth only a million or two each, such as W. A. Nevills, owner of the Rawhide mine, Timothy Hopkins, ex-Judge John Curry, W. E. Dean, H. M. Yerrington, A. L. Tubbs, Harrison P. Bridges of Boston, George W. Prescott and John Finnell, the big landowner of Tehama.

PERSONALS.

J. M. McPike of Napa is at the Baldwin.

T. F. Burgdon of the navy is at the Palace.

L. M. Lasell, a merchant of Martinez, is at the Grand.

G. Pacheco, a big land-owner from Ignacio, is a guest at the Grand.

Dr. and Mrs. Victor G. Veckie of San Jose are staying at the Palace.

Dr. F. A. Hesler of the navy registered yesterday at the Occidental.

David Jacks, a big land-owner of Monterey, is a guest at the Occidental.

A. W. Simpson, a big lumber man of Stockton, is staying at the Occidental.

James D. Hoge Jr. of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer is a guest at the Palace.

John Nicholls, a merchant of Dutch Flat, registered yesterday at the Grand.

G. H. Fancher, a banker of Merced, was one of yesterday's arrivals at the Lick.

R. C. McCreary, a leading flour miller of Sacramento, is a guest at the Grand.

C. H. Dwinelle, a horticulturist of Fulton, was one of yesterday's arrivals at the Grand.

O. A. and E. W. Hale, leading merchants of Sacramento, registered at the Baldwin yesterday.

D. O. Mills and his son, Ogden Mills, arrived from New York yesterday for a stay of two or three weeks and are guests at the Palace.

John Drew, the actor, arrived here yesterday morning on the overland, attended a rehearsal at the Baldwin and went down to Burlingame for the night.

Judge J. D. H. Chamberlain, a prominent attorney of Eureka, and Mrs. Chamberlain, came in on yesterday's steamer and are staying at the Grand.

W. M. Breakenridge, the Southern Pacific detective at Tucson, who ran down Grant Wheeler, the train-robber, several months ago, is at the Grand.

Miss Barrymore, Miss Virginia Buchanan, Miss Anna Belmont, Mrs. Adams and Miss Adams of John Drew's company arrived yesterday and registered at the Baldwin.

CALIFORNIANS IN UTAH.

SALT LAKE, UTAH, Aug. 15.—At the Knutsford—E. Otten and family; W. Kathol, Los Angeles; J. L. Field, San Francisco. At the Cullen—M. Howard, San Francisco.

OPINIONS OF EDITORS.

Enthusiastic love of your locality is the first and all-important feature and it is bound to develop the necessary rustle and energy to do the rest. It is this awful apathy, this lack of "pull together," this "all is gone" feeling, that is the greatest stumbling-block to progress. Trace back this oppression and you'll find that the first to go was enthusiasm and all the rest followed. Enthuse, enthuse.—Woodland Mail.

The Republican party has ever responded to public expectations; it has kept faith with the country's creditors, and it met its financial obligations on the day of their maturity in the best currency existing. It can be trusted in the future, as in the past, to manage the difficult and complex questions of National finance.—Phœnix (Ariz.) Republican.

Spain granted belligerent rights to the Southern States within forty days after the first gun was fired at Sumter. It might be well for the administration to remember some of these incidents of Spanish animosity toward the United States while so much energy is being spent in preventing aid reaching the Cubans from this country.—Portland (Or.) Telegram.

The Eastern newspapers are poking a great deal of fun at Oregon's horse-canning industry. But Oregon can make the retort courteous that while it is true that she cans horse, it is also true that it is the East that eats the canned product. Horse on the East.—Spokane (Wash.) Spokesman-Review.

It is quite probable that San Francisco will succeed in securing one or more of the National conventions. It will be a great thing, not only for the City, but for the delegates. San Francisco weather will prove an agreeable surprise to the heat-oppressed Easterner.—Lake County Bee.

A man who will roll up the sleeves of a silk shirt, loosen a pair of embroidered suspenders and take the job of splitting a cord of wood for 75 cents makes no mistake in coming to Oregon, even if he is broke.—Portland (Or.) Telegram.

SUPPOSED TO BE HUMOROUS.

Pastor Toogood—Don't you think that the great number of Sunday fatalities is a judgment on the American people for abandoning the Sabbath of the Puritans?

Deacon Hardhead—Well, I don't know. The Puritans had a good many Sunday fatalities themselves whenever the Indians got up an excursion.—New York Weekly.

Money Made Easily—Wife: Where did you get so much money?

Husband—Made it in a blind pool.

"What's that?"

"I equipped a lot of beggars with 'Pity the Blind' cards, and they divided with me."

She—Tell me, when you were in the army were you cool in the hour of danger?

He—Cool? I actually shivered.

Friend—Say, old boy, how in the world did you, with your small income, get such a reputation as a great philanthropist?

Sharpp—I announced far and wide that I would pay the railroad fares of all the unemployed who wished to go to work on farms.

"Well?"

"Well, total expenses so far, ten cents."—New York Weekly.

Of Undoubted Gentility.—Mrs. Newriche (patronizingly)—Were any of your ancestors men of note, Mr. Cynic?

Mr. C.—Yes, madame; I should say so. One of them was the most famous admiral of his day, and commanded the allied forces of the world.

Mrs. N. (with altered tone of deep respect)—Is it possible, Mr. C., and what was his name?

Mr. C.—Noah, madame.—Life.

She—No, George, I like you, but I can never be your wife.

He (haughtily)—Never mind. There are others.

She—I know there are, George. I accepted one of them this morning.—Spare Moments.

"So you do not think that Shakespeare had an original mind?" "No, I do not. Why, just look over his writings and you'll find thousands of instances where he used whole sentences that are in everybody's mouth, and as common as household words."—Boston Transcript.

Fond Father—I hardly know what business to put my son into. I know practically nothing about his ability.

Friend—Take him for a sea-voyage. That will show what there is in him.—Philadelphia Record.

Laura—What a quiet young man Mr. Timkins is!

Flora—Have you invited him to dinner?

"No, not as yet."

"Before you call him quiet wait until you hear him eat."—St. Louis Humorist.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BUSINESS LETTERS—E. L., City. It is not the correct thing in writing a business letter to a single woman, either old or young, to address her as "Dear Miss." As a business letter is always a formal one, such an affectionate word as "dear" has no place there. The proper way to commence such a letter is "Sir," "Madam" when written to a woman, married or single, and "Miss" when addressed to a young girl. The word "madam" is derived from "ma" (my) "dame" (lady), and is certainly a courteous and complimentary way of addressing a woman, be she old or young, single or married.

ALUMINUM—C. C., East Oakland, Cal. Aluminum occurs in the products of decomposition of minerals and in other forms. One of the most important of these is clay, which is found in all conditions of purity, from white kaolin to ordinary dark-colored clay. Kaolin is the aluminum salt of orthosilicic acid. The name aluminum has its origin in the fact that the salt alum was known at an early date, and the metal was afterward isolated from it. There are different processes of extracting the metal from the clay. The specific gravity of the metal is from 2.5 to 2.7, according to the condition.

CANARY BIRDS—R. W. M., City. Canary birds are often annoyed with small red lice. The birds may be effectually relieved of them by placing a clean white cloth over the cage at night. In the morning before sunrise there will appear upon the cloth a number of small red specks, so small that they can hardly be seen with the naked eye. These are the insects that are the source of annoyance to the birds. If the cloth is allowed to remain on the cage after the sun has risen the insects will return to the birds. There are also powders that are used to destroy the insects.

THE MAYFLOWER—E. E. O., City. None of the historical records of the State of Massachusetts or those of the Pilgrim Fathers which the Query Editor has been able to find in this City give the nationality of those who landed on Plymouth Rock, consequently it is impossible to give the information asked for.

GAS METERS—W. A. V. G., City. There is no law that requires gas companies in this City to demand a deposit before furnishing gas to a customer, but the companies demand a deposit to protect themselves against possible loss from persons who would move away before a collector could call for the amount of the bill due.

HOYLE ON GAMES—J. J., Antioch, Contra Costa County, Cal. In the United States Hoyle is the recognized authority on cards and dice, so long as it applies to games mentioned in the book. The paper you mention is looked upon as an authority in the absence of any better, but its rulings are often disputed.

THE MINING COMPANY—T. L., Oakland, Cal. The company organized for the purpose of developing mining property intends to operate not only in California and Nevada, but in all mining States. Irwin C. Stump, 15 Broad street, New York City, is one of the prominent members of the company.

SAN JOAQUIN ROAD—Subscriber, Oakland, Cal. The following are the names of the directors of the San Francisco and San Joaquin road, now building: Claus Spreckels, John D. Spreckels, W. F. Whittier, J. B. Stetson, Robert Watt, A. H. Payson, Charles Holbrook, Leon Sloss, Alvinza Hayward, Isaac Upham and Thomas Magee.

CRITTENDEN'S DEATH—H. P. H., Oakland, Cal. A. P. Crittenden, an attorney, was shot by Laura D. Fair on board the ferry-boat El Capitan, on the 6 o'clock trip from Oakland to this City on the 3d of November, 1870. Crittenden died from the effects of the wound on the 5th of the same month.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING—R. A. B., Woodland, Yolo County, Cal. A person who desires to take a course of study in electricity or electrical engineering in a university should have a good knowledge of advanced algebra, solid geometry, trigonometry, physics, drawing and either French or German.

PREHISTORIC—H. A. B., City. In the reference-room of the Free Public Library in this City there can be consulted a catalogue of books that treat of prehistoric times of Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Austria and Switzerland; also of relics of these countries.

JUROR'S FEES—W. H. McA. and A. B., Crescent City, Del Norte County, Cal. The act of the last Legislature that allows fees to all jurors in the Superior courts does not apply to cities and counties, consequently jurors in criminal cases in San Francisco are not paid fees.

SAWMILL OUTFITS—W. R., Clipper Gap, Placer County, Cal. The best way to obtain a list of the firms in San Francisco that deal in sawmill outfits is to examine a San Francisco directory. This column does not advertise any business firms.

ENGLISH RAILWAYS—O. R. M., Haywards, Alameda County, Cal. Shares of the Great Western Railway and of the London and Southwestern Railway are sold in the London market. The latest quotations for the first named were 167 and for the latter 194.

THE ARTIST—An Old Subscriber, City. The artist who sketched the picture of the Relay race cup that was on exhibition in a Market-street bicycle store show window several months ago was F. H. Bushnell of this City.

GOLD IN SEA SAND—C. C., East Oakland, Cal. The reason that gold in the sea sand is not dissolved and collected is because it is exceedingly fine and covered with an oily substance that prevents dissolution. The specific gravity of gold does not change.

ROYAL ENGINEERS—A. S., City. The duties of a captain of the Royal Engineers, English army, correspond to those of a captain of the army of the United States. The pay of such an official is 11 shillings 6 pence per day.

O'DONNOVAN ROSSA—A. O. S., City. O'Donnovan Rossa was in San Francisco during the summer of 1876. Clark Lubby and Colonel Francis Burke were here in June, 1871.

THE CYANIDE PROCESS—C. C., Oakland, Cal. Cyanide of potassium is the dissolver used in the reduction of metal by what is known as the cyanide process.

THE PRESIDENCY—S., City. A native of the United States, no matter what his religious belief may be, can become a candidate for the office of President of the United States.

CALAVERAS COUNTY FAIR—G. H. W., City. There will not be any Calaveras County fair at San Andreas this year.

PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

The Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir presumptive to the Austrian throne, who visited this country last year, has given his diary to the press. He dislikes Americans.

Somebody has been kind enough to make a list of the eligible English Dukes now in the marriage market, with their respective ages: Richmond, 77; Grafton, 84; Norfolk, 84; Marlborough, 24; Roxburghe, 19, and Manchester, 18. Grafton seems to be the most desirable "catch."

James Whitcomb Riley says that much of the dialect poetry in the newspapers to which his name is attached was not written by him. The editors have a way of crediting him with any unidentified verse of this character.

Prince Khilkoff, Russian Minister of Ways and Communications, is a practical engineer of skill and experience. He worked as an ordinary mechanic and as a locomotive engineer in Canada and the United States, and later spent several years with an engineering firm in Liverpool.

H. Clay Merritt of Kewanee, Ill., if reports be true, is probably tired of game. A fine of $23,600 has been imposed upon him, says the Louisville Courier-Journal, for illegally dealing in game, "and other offenses, involving 2700 quail and ducks, are pending that will increase the fines to $110,000."

A foreign paper says that Cecil Rhodes, the most interesting man in the Cape House of Assembly, is as "restless on his seat as a spring doll." Rarely does he retain the same attitude for two minutes in succession. He, however, sticks closely to his place, and though he does not give one the appearance of being interested in the proceedings, yet it is surprising to note his immediate change from an air of being utterly bored to one of close watchfulness when an expression is used or an argument propounded which is of interest to him. When he speaks he comes to the point at once, but he is somewhat difficult to follow, nevertheless. The statement that he thinks aloud is a very apt description of his style of address. The ending of his speech is usually as abrupt as his introduction.

Fruit Express Managers.

C. B. Smith, who has been prominently identified with the California fruit industry, has been appointed to succeed W. V. Newlin as president of the Continental Fruit Express and general manager of the California Fruit Express Company. His headquarters will be in Chicago.

THEY PRAISE "THE CALL."

Opinions of Editors Regarding Its Attitude on Public Matters.

A STAND FOR CLEANLINESS.

Does Not Pander to the Lovers of Sensational Criminal Literature.

THE CALL, alone among the newspapers of the coast metropolis, stands up and demands that the State Board of Equalization, now in session, assess the railroads of the State, more particularly the Southern Pacific, at something like their actual value. THE CALL in its issue of Monday gives a page of statistics bearing on the question, and points out the unfairness of the board in assessing a valuation on the Southern Pacific less than a fourth of the amount fixed by the officials of the road in their annual report to the directors. THE CALL is to be commended in this work it has undertaken, but the railroads are not the only sinners in the matter of dodging the tax levy. There is not a large property-owner in the State who pays anything like his just proportion of the taxes. This is the glaring evil of our present system—irremediable it would appear as long as public sentiment does not demand nor seem to expect common honesty in making returns. The small property-owner practically pays his full quota of taxes, and in this lies not only the injustice of the present system, but the hardship entailed in imposing the burden upon those least able to bear it.—San Bernardino Review.

If we are not mistaken the San Francisco CALL, if it has not already done so, will make the Examiner and Chronicle think there is another paper in San Francisco. Under the management of Shortridge THE CALL has been steadily advancing in the art of journalism and now stands neck and neck with the two leading City papers. It will soon erect a splendid building on the block on the southwest corner of Third and Market streets, which will be its future home. The building will be situated directly opposite the Chronicle building.—Mendocino Beacon.

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THE CALL is rapidly looking toward supremacy in San Francisco journalism, and its refusal to pander to a vitiated public taste in publishing all the wild rumors afloat in the Durrant case, has earned it the esteem of all respectable journals. THE CALL keeps an eye on all the leading interests of the State and sounded the key note, the other day, when it said that "as long as fruit-growers are divided, the other fellows will get the profits." Here is something for our producers of apricots and prunes to read and remember.—Ventura Democrat.

Then there is the old well-known Widber drugstore, now at 14 Ellis street. It also had to be removed from the corner of Third and Market to make room for that enterprising newspaper, THE MORNING CALL, of which Charles M. Shortridge is editor and proprietor. Not long ago the southwest corner of Market and Third streets was purchased at an enormous figure, and the old landmark is to be removed for a magnificent structure for California's friend, THE CALL.—San Francisco Commercial Traveller.

THE CALL composing-room is now lighted by electricity. Heretofore about sixty coal-oil lamps did the illuminating, and the change from the heat and foul air they produced to an even temperature made the boys feel as if they had stepped from hades into paradise. This shows that the proprietor of the paper has a proper regard for the health and comfort of his employes.—Pacific Union Printer.

The San Francisco papers are deluging us with a mass of stuff about the Durrant trial, illustrated with pictures in the poorest style of engraving. THE CALL, however, is an exception to the rule, having avoided catering to the morbid, sensational desires of the class of readers which some of the other papers seem to be making such desperate efforts to please.—Weaversville Record.

THE CALL is a champion of the people's rights. The course it is pursuing places it in a position that it will be appreciated by the people of California. Great efforts have been made by that paper to compel the State Board of Equalization to investigate and abate the rascality of the Southern Pacific Company in the valuation of their property offered for taxation.—Anderson News.

THE CALL did an excellent thing for the taxpayers of the State when it exposed the manner in which the various State Boards of Equalization had continuously decreased the Southern Pacific assessment. Taxes would be much lighter were we to elect honest boards who would assess the holdings of the octopus at their full cash value.—Ukiah Republican-Press.

J. M. Shawhan of the San Francisco CALL has been in town during the past week looking after the interests of his paper. THE CALL has distinguished itself by being the only paper having headquarters at the encampment and the only San Francisco paper giving a full report daily of the happenings at the camp.—Santa Monica Outlook.

THE CALL is to be complimented on the stand it has taken in the Durrant case. Its reports are free from sensational matter, and the plain, unvarnished facts are given. Criminal cases are "boomed" too much nowadays, and the pandering to the morbid curiosity of the public is demoralizing to journalism.—Suisun Republican.

The San Francisco CALL is to have a handsome home of its own. That is another evidence of prosperity on the part of a paper which richly deserves it. THE CALL has demonstrated the possibility of publishing in San Francisco a clean, popular and newsy paper. That is quite an achievement.—Los Angeles Express.

Thanks to the wise action of the San Francisco CALL in publishing the facts regarding former assessments of the Southern Pacific Railroad, the State Board of Equalization did not decrease the assessment of the road, but rather added $250,000.—Hanford Democrat.

THE CALL has taken a praiseworthy stand for cleanness and against vicious sensationalism in journalism.—Lakeport Avalanche.

Protecting the Fruit Industry.

H. Weinstock, president of the California Fruit-growers' and Shippers' Association, has written a letter to Secretary Lelong of the State Board of Horticulture suggesting that the next November convention of the association be held in Sacramento. The most important subject at the coming meeting will be the continuation of the discussion on marketing California fruits in the East. As a result of the discussion the association has begun to establish several reforms and the wiping out of the evils of glutting the market, Eastern auction salesrooms putting California fruit into needless competition with itself and the closed auction-rooms that make it possible for Eastern buyers to form combinations.

Too Much for Fruit.

To the Editor of the Call: Seeing that divine Providence has favored this great State of California with an abundant fruit crop, can there and ought there not to be some way opened whereby it can be obtained at something like a reasonable rate at the restaurants?

The prices charged at present are unreasonable. For instance, strawberries and blackberries have been and are selling at from 10 to 15 cents a drawer of over four pounds; raspberries, from 15 to 20 cents a drawer. Now, then, let any one call for either of these at the restaurants and they will get a small bowl, containing about thirty berries, charge 10 cents; peaches, plums and other fruits which are equally as cheap in the same proportion. Who can afford such extravagant charges? There are many persons who would be glad of a fruit lunch, with a little bread and butter, but are in no wise inclined to pay the price of a "French dinner" for a fruit lunch.

My living is principally fruit, and I am in good health, and 71 years of age. The use and consumption of fruit ought to be encouraged. It is the most natural and the most wholesome food a man can eat. It is cheering and exhilarating, and the more this is proved by the eating of it the less desire there will be for whisky. I say then put it in the reach of all at reasonable rates. Who will start a fruit restaurant? Yes, a dozen of them.

Passengers on the overland trains complain of the exorbitant charges asked for fruit on the trains, for instance 5 or 10 cents apiece for a peach, and other fruits in proportion. This, however, is the effect of railroad monopoly. This railroad system ought to be exposed and remedied. HENRY K. ANDERSON.

JOHN DREW ON LONDON.

The Popular Actor Tells of His Delightful Experiences Abroad.

Pinero and Anthony Hope Write a Play for Him—The Bicycle in Europe.

John Drew, the well-known and ever-welcome actor, whom San Franciscans have delighted to honor for many years, arrived in this city Wednesday morning, direct from London, where he enjoyed a most pleasant three months' rest from the exacting duties of his profession. Mr. Drew has been most fortunate in establishing himself firmly in the affections of the Old World as well as the New.

While in London he was the recipient of the highest honors, in a professional sense, by receiving the special attention and favorable consideration of Henry Irving. On the occasion of the testimonial tendered Mr. Irving, as a special mark of favor for his eminent work on the stage, Mr. Drew was accorded all honor as a worthy member of the profession in this country.

Mr. Drew left London but two weeks ago, stopping long enough in New York to pick up his company of players. He will open the season at the Baldwin Monday evening in a very strong and attractive play entitled "The Bauble-shop," by Henry Arthur Jones.

"You may say," said Mr. Drew, "in connection with my recent visit to London that I called upon Pinero and Anthony Hope and engaged them to write for me a play based on the lines of an American gentleman's experience in London society. I think the play is now quite finished, and I expect that it may arrive in New York any day. I expect that this play will bring out strikingly the best features suited to my special line of delineation, as it has been written to that end.

"I found the most cordial feeling existing in London toward American actors, as I have ever found it for a number of years past in many visits to that metropolis.

"I feel at home here in San Francisco, for I know I am among friends. San Francisco has always greeted me in a most cordial and friendly spirit and in return I have ever found my visits here to be of the most satisfying nature."

Several representatives of the best society of the City met Mr. Drew on the other side of the bay and welcomed him to the City.

"In the matter of cycling," said Mr. Drew, "you would be surprised to learn how general the