The San Francisco Call

SUNDAY.....NOVEMBER 17, 1895

AMUSEMENTS.

BALDWIN THEATER.—"Wang" to-morrow evening.

CALIFORNIA THEATER—"The War of Wealth."

COLUMBIA THEATER—Haverly's Minstrels.

MOROSCO'S OPERA-HOUSE—"Money Mad."

TIVOLI OPERA-HOUSE—"Madame Favart."

ORPHEUM—High-Class Vaudeville.

GROVER'S ALCAZAR.—"The Private Secretary."

MARK HOPKINS' INSTITUTE OF ART.—Winter exhibition of Paintings.

MECHANICS' PAVILION—Annul Elks Carnival, Thanksgiving Eve., November 27.

MECHANICS' PAVILION—Great Festival Concerts in aid of Children's Hospital, commencing Tuesday, November 19.

METROPOLITAN TEMPLE—Commencement exercises of the California College of Pharmacy, to-morrow evening, at 8 o'clock.

AUDITORIUM—Corner Mason and Ellis streets—Song Recitals, given by Willis E. Bacheller, on Saturday afternoon, November 23.

BEETHOVEN HALL—Corner Post and Powell sts. Pianoforte Recital by Otto Bendix, on Tuesday evening, November 19.

ODD FELLOWS' HALL—Grand Prize Masquerade, given by the Knights of Golden Banner, on Saturday evening, November 23.

SHOOT THE CHUTES.—Daily at Haight street, one block east of the Park.

BAY DISTRICT TRACK.—Races to-morrow.

CENTRAL PARK.—Baseball.

GOLDEN GATE PARK—Golden Gate Park Band.

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF.

Dr. W. W. Case will speak this evening on the Barbary Coast infamy.

There are still ten fine boxes for the Children's Hospital concerts for sale.

Many prizes won at the Goethe-Schiller fair remain unclaimed at 120 Sutter street.

Miss Caroline Little sang yesterday afternoon at the Carr-Beel concert in Golden Gate Hall.

A convict has written Mrs. Ballington Booth from San Quentin expressing ardent appreciation of her work.

Vallejo is to have a new independent paper. It will be run by two Native Sons and be called the Vallejo News.

John Goetze is suing to have his marriage to Dora Winter annulled because, he says, he was forced into it.

Beatrice, Bob Tucker, Marionette, Goodwin II, Little Cripple and J O C were the winners at the track yesterday.

The Master Plumbers' Association of San Francisco gave a banquet at Golden Gate Commandery Hall last evening.

Trouble between rival fish-dealers in the Clay-street market has resulted in a suit against Maurizio Batiano for slander.

Golden Gate Commandery No. 16, Knights Templar, gave a chrysanthemum jinks at the commandery banqueting hall.

The second grand ball of the combined Carpenters' and Joiners' Unions was held last evening in the Turk-street Temple.

The Republican Executive Council of California will give a reunion and banquet at the Zinkand cafe on Thursday evening.

"Increasing cloudiness and probable showers Sunday night; cooler," is the prognostication of Forecast Official McAdie for to-day.

Ben E. Rich, editor of the Idaho Silver Hammer, will discourse on the principles of Mormonism at Pythian Castle this evening.

Dr. Julius Koebig delivered a lecture on "The Beet-sugar Industry in California and Its Importance to the State" at the Mechanics' Institute.

The programme for Tuesday evening's concert for the charity fund has been prepared, and all of the parts are filled by talented artists.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is considering a plan for the establishment of a free temporary shelter for men without work or money.

Miss Marian Nolen, the "California Venus," demands $2500 for the recent use of her picture as an advertisement for a brand of whisky.

T. W. Lockland, who demanded $500,000 from Claus Spreckels Friday, will be examined by the Commissioners of Insanity to-morrow morning.

What is now known as the Sanders bribery case is to be thoroughly ventilated by the Grand Jury. It will be taken up during the coming week.

Adjutant-General Barrett says Governor Markham consented to the payment of $5 a day to the directors of the Los Angeles District Agricultural Society.

The executive committee of the Thirty-fourth Assembly District Republican Club met on the evening of the 13th inst. and effected a permanent organization.

Edna Joslyn, a pretty girl 12 years of age, was arrested yesterday afternoon by Policeman T. B. Gibson and booked at the City Prison for the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society.

San Francisco won from Oakland, six to three, in a six-inning match at Central Park yesterday. This afternoon San Francisco will play the Olympics at 2 o'clock and Oakland at 3:45.

Congressman Loud states that he will use his main efforts during the coming session of Congress in advancing the passage of the Nicaragua canal bill, and he is confident it will pass.

Jennie Jones, better known as Jennie Lind, the famous circus rider, was taken to the Receiving Hospital yesterday suffering from morphine poisoning, but when or how taken she did not know.

The San Francisco councils of the Junior Order United American Mechanics took part in the dedication of the new hall of Paul Revere Council at Berkeley last evening. It was a brilliant occasion.

The Southern Pacific and the Oregon Railway and Improvement Company have begun a passenger rate war between this City and Portland. Tickets are selling for $5 second class and $7 50 for first class.

The Southern Pacific, its associated corporations and officials and the Crockers, Huntingtons and Stanford estate paid nearly quarter of a million dollars in taxes at the City Hall yesterday under protest.

One of the jurors in the trial of Frank Kloss says that the verdict of murder in the first degree should have included a life sentence, but by mistake it did not. Kloss may secure another trial on the point.

A vicious bulldog bit several people on Bush and Kearny streets last evening. After driving the treasurer out of the box-office at the California Theater it was caught by Officer Jerry Dinan and killed in an alley near by.

Henry Peterson, champion oarsman of California, returned from the international regatta at Austin, Tex., yesterday. He speaks well of the Englishmen, who gave the Americans a high character for fairness and sportsmanlike conduct.

J. Beovich committed suicide off Howard-street wharf yesterday morning. He left a note stating he died from hunger, but his friends assert that he was crazy. Beovich has a wealthy brother in Vienna and another who is a priest of the Catholic church.

In the North Beach scandals case yesterday Leon Meyer was held for trial in bonds of $20,000, Eugene Pardini, a shoemaker on Washington street, was arrested, and it was determined that an indignation mass-meeting of women should be held in Metropolitan Temple to-day.

Mrs. Olivia McMurphy is suing Frederick W. McMurphy for a divorce upon the ground of cruelty. Her principal allegation is that he banged her head against the wall until a hairpin was driven through her scalp, and then he pulled her through a looking glass, all the time using foul language.

The British bark Sharpshooter is again in trouble. After being dismantled and towed to San Francisco there is a row over the insurance money. The Fireman's Fund wants the towage bill paid by the ship and Captain Watts objects. In the meantime Grace & Co. will not pay any freight until the matter is settled.

George Brugger, who claims to be a partner of Gustav Walter in the Orpheum, has brought suit against Walter for an accounting of the profits of the place. He charges that Walter has kept him excluded from any knowledge of the workings of the partnership, and that he has made away with the profits himself.

The Salvation Army is establishing a shelter for women where a bed in respectable quarters and a breakfast may be secured for a nickel. The plan was suggested by Mrs. Ballington Booth during her recent visit to this City and has the approval of local philanthropists. About $2000 is needed to carry out the enterprise.

The collateral heirs to the estate of James Kelly are suing to set aside the probate of his will on the ground of undue influence. Before his death Kelly deeded to Catherine B. Russell, otherwise known as Sister Mary Baptiste, two pieces of property, one on Fourth street worth $35,000 and one on Tenth street worth $20,000, each for $1. Possession was given by the will, and now the heirs want to break it.

At the Coroner's inquest held yesterday on Fred Larsen, who committed suicide at 279 Jessie street, Tuesday morning, by cutting his throat with a razor, the jury returned a verdict blaming the "World's Christian Co-operative Society." Larsen had sunk $350 in it, and this, it was testified, had made him insane. The president of the society, G. W. Wilderman, was arrested last night on a charge of embezzlement.

WHY DID LARSEN DIE?

Result of the Inquest Held by Coroner Hawkins.

WILD UTOPIAN SCHEME.

Money Sunk in the "World's Christian Co-operative Society."

ARREST OF THE ORIGINATOR.

On Complaint of Some Members of the Society He Is Charged With Embezzlement.

Two things happened yesterday that were not agreeable to George Washington Wilderman, the originator of the "World's Christain Co-operative Society," with a capital stock of $50,000,000. One was the result of the inquest held by Coroner Hawkins on the body of Frederick Larsen, the other was a warrant issued by Police Judge Campbell for Wilderman's arrest.

On Tuesday morning Larsen's body was found in his little back bedroom at 279 Jessie street with the throat cut from ear to ear. The head had been almost severed by a razor Larsen had used. It was necessary for Policeman Phillip E. Freher to break in the door to make this discovery.

Among the dead man's effects were a receipt from Attorney W. W. Allen for two bank accounts with the People's Home Savings Bank amounting to a total deposit of about $600, and there was also a certificate of deposit for $120 on Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Bank.

Investigation developed that Larsen had put $350—about all his loose money—into a communistic scheme known as the "World's Christian Co-operative Society," of which G. W. Wilderman had been the originator and was until about three weeks ago the president. Wilderman's home is at 1041 Mission street, with people of the same religious faith. He is an old man, with a face that resembles somewhat that of George Washington

Both Wilderman and Secretary Donald McRae of the society were at the inquest yesterday and closely questioned by Coroner Hawkins. Their testimony was in effect that Larsen had put the money into the society to supply it with ready cash, paying the cash subscriptions of himself and Directors Knutsen and Spencer and half of another member's subscription, amounting to $350 in all, and that the fear of never getting his money back drove him to insanity and suicide.

He was a frugal man, had been a ranch laborer, and paid only $1 a week for his room. For six weeks he had been employed as a dishwasher at the society's restaurant at 917 Mission street, just for his board, and after that, upon his demand for wages, he had been allowed a compensation of $3 a week. He had to work from 4 A. M. to 9 P. M.

From the evidence given by Mr. McRae it was learned that what most worried Larsen and conduced to his insanity was his thinking over Wilderman's big land scheme in Lower California, by which men had been induced to join the society. The organization was based upon two ideas, one being of a religious nature and the other apparently practical in its way. Each member was to have a positive belief in the divinity of Christ, and each was to put up $100 cash. According to Wilderman's representations he and William McCrindle of Oakland had secured title from the Mexican Government to about 50,000 acres of land in Lower California, near Ensenada, and 20,000 acres of this they had donated to the society.

Larsen had taken the trouble to consult Attorney Allen after sinking his money, and Mr. Allen had informed him that the title of Wilderman was not valid, and that the society did not own a foot of the 20,000 acres of land supposed to have been donated to it. McRae and others say that the title of Wilderman and McCrindle was based upon no more solid foundatien than the statements of a spiritualist medium.

Wilderman, McCrindle and a man named M. E. A. Lassley began their propaganda for the "World's Christian Co-operative Society" last spring. Its first charter was granted June 4, but the members of the society, becoming dissatisfied, a reorganization was effected and a reincorporation, the date of the second charter being August 16. Mr. McRae stated that $210 was all the money paid in up to July 16, and debts amounting to $200 90 had been contracted for propaganda work and Mr. Wilderman's private bills.

Before the reorganization Wilderman claimed to have 285 members. The society elected eleven of its members to reincorporate on July 17, as follows: G. W. Wilderman, D. McRae, Louis W. Spencer, Mrs. R. Kincaid, H. D. Deerbaum, J. D. Moreland, C. K. Welch, J. Knutsen, Mrs. A. Anderson, N. E. Anderson and T. J. Weaver. These eleven became the new directors, Wilderman being chosen president, McRae secretary and Weaver treasurer. The old secretary, Lassley, disappeared, and is charged by Wilderman with carrying off $8 of the society's funds. Wilderman remained president until about three weeks ago, when he was removed and Weaver elected in his place.

There has been a constant fight between Wilderman and the other ten directors, Mr. McRae leading the opposition to him. McRae did not have any confidence in him, so he states, and strenuously objected to the society taking his donation of land instead of the $100 cash subscription. McRae thinks he ought to have paid.

The eyes of the members of the society were opened when Rev. Jonas Bushnell, a Baptist minister of Port Angeles, Wash., came here last July to lecture for the society and began to investigate. Rev. Mr. Bushnell openly accused Wilderman of unreliability at a stormy meeting and withdrew entirely from the society, changing his programme from Wilderman's propaganda to temperance work. Since that time there has not been a meeting of the directors at which there has not been one or more turbulent scenes.

Eventually the plans of the society were modified. The original scheme of Wilderman was to have a colony in Lower California engaged in the manufacture of graham flour by means of a crude mill, which was a centrifugal gold-ore crusher that he and a millwright named Crosby had adapted, as they thought, to a milling purpose. Altogether $1100 was paid into the society, and it tried successively a laundry on Valencia street and the Mission-street restaurant it now runs.

Larsen began showing symptoms of insanity about two weeks ago. Before then he asked Attorney Allen to proceed against the society and Wilderman for his money. McRae got together $196 50 and paid it to him. Out of this Larsen paid Mr. Allen $50 fees and a doctor's bill and deposited the balance with Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Bank.

The verdict of the Coroner's jury was that the death of Larsen was due to the sinking of his money in the society and the insanity it caused.

Wilderman was arrested for embezzlement last evening, on Secretary McRae's complaint and Judge Campbell's warrant. A meeting of the directors of the society was in session last evening at Golden Rule Hall, at 946 Mission street, waiting to hear if he obtained bonds. He had not procured bail at a late hour. The amount specified in the complaint of embezzlement is only $80, but it is expected that other charges will be made.

A DOG ON THE RAMPAGE.

Killed for Taking Possession of the California Theater Box-Office.

There was great excitement on Bush and Kearny streets last night, caused by the loud reports of three pistol shots in the little alley below the engine-house. Many supposed that another murder had taken place, and while hundreds gathered near the engine-house no one entered the alley. A minute later Officer Jerry Dinan emerged from the alley and said, "He is dead." A thrill of horror ran through the crowd, but it changed to disgust when it was learned that the policeman had only killed a dog.

The animal was a large, vicious creature of the bull-terrier breed and it had caused a vast amount of trouble before its life was ended by Dinan's bullets. It started on the warpath in a saloon near by and bit the calves of several men before it was kicked into the street. Prompted no doubt by terror and viciousness it started to run-a-muck.

Several fled for safety and went into dark doorways to pin up more or less damaged garments.

At last the dog bolted into the California Theater, and with a sort of Sheriff's instinct entered the box-office.

Al Morgenstern and A. Pincus were nearly knocked off their perches by the beast, which at once took possession of the premises.

Morgenstern escaped and slammed the door, but Pincus, it is said, got stuck while trying to crawl out through the ticket window.

Then it was that Officer Dinan appeared upon the scene and lassoed the savage brute with a balerope. He dragged the dog down into the alley and fired three shots from his revolver into its vitals.

A TRIBUTE TO SPRECKELS.

Dr. Koebig Says California Needs More Men Like the Sugar King.

Future of Beet Sugar Industry in California Depends Upon Tariff Legislation.

"Beet-sugar Industry and Its Importance to California" was the subject of a scientific lecture by Dr. Julius Koebig at the Mechanics' Institute last evening.

"Germany, the cradle of the industry, still stands against the world in the production of beet sugar," said the speaker. "It was 150 years since Margrave delivered his famous lecture before the Academy of Sciences at Berlin, in which he claimed that the product of the beet might become a successful competitor with that of cane. How true these claims are is shown by the success of the beet-sugar industry to-day."

Dr. Koebig gave a detailed description of the operation of the extraction of sugar by means of the ordinary process of the diffusion of liquids, and gave a clear exposition of the subject from a chemist's point of view.

The speaker continued: "I want to deny a statement as erroneous as it is frequently repeated. That is that the sugar extracted from the beet is inferior to cane sugar. The juice of the beet is, it is true, not so pleasant to the taste as is that of the cane, but properly cured beet sugar is in no particular inferior to the product of the cane.

"Can the industry of beet sugar manufacture be made an extensive one? The answer depends upon the consideration of two others. Is it possible to raise the amount of beets necessary to carry on the industry? This has been answered by actual experiment. It has been shown by scientific farming that a tonnage of twelve tons per acre is within the possibilities.

"Another is as to the practicability of its manufacture. I believe out representatives in Washington will see to it. It cannot be denied that the inducements offered for its manufacture at present are inadequate. Proper legislation would make it possible to successfully compete with the European sugar trade.

"Wherever the beet-sugar industry has been started it has drawn a larger population about the scene of its activity. Watsonville is an example of this. More such energy and knowledge as Claus Spreckels, the pioneer in the enterprise on this coast, has shown in so admirable a degree and more favorable tariff legislation, would make California a peeress in the industry.

"It is true we have in California a climate unexcelled, fruit and flowers unsurpassed, but we have few such men as Claus Spreckels."

HE MISTOOK THE VERDICT.

What Juror Leipsic Says That He Did in the Kloss Case.

He Thought He Was Voting for a Life Sentence, but Now Realizes His Error.

It may be that Frank Kloss, convicted of the murder of William Deady, may not be so near the gallows as the verdict would indicate. In fact, it is claimed that the verdict is not a proper one, but was rendered under the belief that it included a life sentence as an extreme penalty. The verdict rendered is simply one of murder in the first degree, and the court must sentence the prisoner to death.

Isaac Leipsic of 2335 Washington street, one of the jurors, is responsible for the story which has just come into the case. He says that when the jury went out he and two others were in favor of a verdict of murder in the second degree, while the remainder of the jurors were for murder in the first degree. Then one of the three went over to the other side, and after a deadlock for some time it was agreed, Leipsic said, to return a verdict of murder in the first degree with life imprisonment as the extreme penalty.

Leipsic says this verdict was written down, or at least one which the foreman of the jury said carried with it a life sentence, and each of the jurors signed it. In court afterward the proceedings did not inform the erring juror of what kind of a verdict had really been entered, but the morning papers did, and now Leipsic is busy explaining why it is that the verdict was wrong.

"The man was crazy from drink," he said, "and I would not have voted to hang him if we had stayed out all night. They wanted me to come over to the other side, but I would not, and the verdict that was rendered I thought was one which included a life imprisonment."

Under the circumstances it is probable that when a motion for a new trial is made the statement of Leipsic and the juror who stood out with him will be taken and made a part of the motion and that it will prevail. Kloss will come up for sentence next Friday and the motion will be heard then.

Young Deady, the man who was killed, was a fine young man who stood well in the community. His friends will object to any leniency to Kloss, and cite the cases of the Hesper murderers to show that a new trial will probably not be granted.

THE DEATH OF G. W. GIBBS.

Sudden End of a Successful and Eminently Useful Career.

WAS ONE OF THE PIONEERS.

Prominent in Church Work and a Generous Benefactor of Worthy Charities.

George W. Gibbs, one of the most prominent of San Francisco's merchants, and well known in social and religious circles, passed away at his beautiful new residence, 2622 Jackson street, late Friday night. Mr. Gibbs had been unwell for nearly two years. He was troubled with fainting spells, and his physician had predicted his sudden demise.

Last January his ailment became so serious that he decided to lead a less active life than had been his custom. Accordingly he ceased the personal management of his extensive importing business and resigned the presidency of the Young Men's Christian Association, the position of senior warden of the Grace Episcopal Church and director of the Home for Feeble Minded, at Glen Ellen.

Since that time his principal occupation was directing the progress of the beautiful mansion which has just been completed.

Thursday Mr. Gibbs was at the office of George W. Gibbs & Co., of which firm he still retained the presidency. Friday he remained about home, directing the preparation of his grounds. He took considerable exercise, but was not apparently suffering from the results until shortly after 8 o'clock. Then he dropped into a chair and complained of faintness. Unconsciousness followed and efforts to revive him proved futile. Dr. Hirschfeld was summoned, but his skill did not avail, and with his faithful wife and his two brothers, Charles and Cornelius Gibbs, by his side, he breathed his last.

George W. Gibbs was born in Albany, N. Y., March 24, 1824. His father, William Channing Gibbs, was for several terms Governor of Rhode Island, and traced his descent back to the Pilgrim fathers. The subject of this sketch was sent very early to school at Pittsfield, Mass., and afterward to the famous Bartlett Academy in Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Upon leaving the Bartlett Academy he entered the great commercial shipping house of Barnard, Adams & Co., Commercial wharf, Boston. Here he received the first lessons in practical business by which he so well profited.

After serving one year with this establishment he became connected with the New York house of the East India establishment of S. T. Nicholl & Co. Here he remained for four years, at the expiration of which he went into the tea business for himself.

After four years as an independent merchant he determined to seek new fields. In January, 1849, he formed one of a company that set sail for California.

After a rather eventful voyage the travelers reached San Francisco April 24, 1849. It took just two days to cure Mr. Gibbs of the gold fever, and then he began looking about for a suitable business enterprise. On June 1, 1849, he formed a partnership with Charles B. Loomis, and they opened up a general merchandise business on Washington street, between Kearny and Montgomery. This firm remained intact for three years, during which time their place of business was thrice destroyed by fire.

After dissolving the partnership Mr. Gibbs entered the firm of George C. Johnson & Co. as junior partner. In 1876 he bought out the entire interest in the firm and reorganized it as George W. Gibbs & Co. Of this firm he was president at the date of his death.

He had been married twice, but neither union was blessed with children. He leaves a widow, three brothers, Charles Gibbs, Cornelius V. Gibbs and Major T. K. Gibbs, U. S. A., and a sister, Mrs. Sarah T. Thompson of New York City.

Mr. Gibbs was prominently identified with many of the leading charities of the City, to which he contributed bountifully. He was one of the main supports of the Y. M. C. A., of which for many years he was president.

He was an active member of the Grace Episcopal Church, of which he was senior warden until recently. Although a Republican in politics he has never figured as a prominent partisan, the directorship of the Home for Feeble Minded being the only public office he ever held. He had hosts of friends in every avenue of life in which he trod, and his demise is universally mourned.

The funeral will take place from the Grace Episcopal Church, Monday, at 11 A. M. The funeral services will be held to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock in Grace Church, California and Stockton streets. The interment will be private.

TO DISTRIBUTE TURKEY.

The Mission of the Good Samaritan Will Gladden Many Hearts.

Under ordinary circumstances there would be many turkeyless homes south of Market street this Thanksgiving. The Mission of the Good Samaritan at 249 Second street has brought the rich Episcopalians of the City into closer touch with the unfortunates of that quarter, and as a consequence there will be much more cause for thanksgiving than there would otherwise have been.

The mission has its men's club and its boys' club. There are many social benefits that bring the people of its vicinity to the rooms for evenings of pure and innocent amusement. It has also brought to light the wants of those who, though poor, would be too proud to ask for any assistance.

These people are the ones the mission designs to help this year. Many turkeys have already been promised, with other dainties, and the ladies of the mission will be on hand all Wednesday afternoon, the day before Thanksgiving, and on Thursday morning to receive contributions.

A list of those to be helped will be sent to the other charities in order that no families will be visited by two organizations.

GEROME'S PERSONALITY.

An Affable Man With a Military Manner and a Distinguished Air.

In person M. Gerome is a wiry, medium-sized man, with a fine presence, and very soldier-like in his erect carriage. His face is strong and full of character, his snapping eyes are searching and stern, and his fine head of gray hair and military mustache give him quite the appearance of a cavalry officer. Courteous manners, great affability and a most distinguished air make him an ideal type of gentleman. At an absurdly early hour, when only milkmen, bakers and laborers are stirring, he may be seen in the Bois de Boulogne or on the Champs Elysees, astride of a handsome horse, taking his morning exercise; but long before the gay world of Paris is idling over its morning cup of coffee the artist has returned, and is busily engaged before his easel, or with his modeling tools.

Twice each week he gives his forenoon to his pupils at the Government School of Fine Arts on the Rue Bonaparte. His presence is eagerly awaited and his arrival is the signal for absolute silence. On his entrance, and after his hat and coat have been taken by one of the scholars, without loss of time he at once goes at the work of criticism, in which he is a model of brevity and conciseness. His unerring eye at once detects the faults and wrong tendencies of each student, and nothing whatsoever escapes him. A pupil may deceive himself, but not the master. Kindly advice to the serious, stinging rebukes to triflers, pleasant encouragement to hard workers, and useful counsel to progressive men—such are the results of his visits. He is very liberal in his ideas and gladly welcomes any style of work, so long as it is healthy, honest and sincere. He takes great pride in the efforts of the pupils under him and does not hesitate to climb many pairs of stairs to the most humble little studio to correct and advise some poor, struggling chap at work on a picture, and Gerome will sit and chat with him and give him the benefit of his years of experience. His kindness and consideration to Americans in his studio are proverbial.—St. Nicholas.

SEVEN NEW SMALL BOATS

The Navy Department Becomes Generous to the Naval Battalion.

It Orders a Big Addition to the Equipment of the Reserves of This State.

Before two weeks more have passed the divisions of the Naval Battalion in this City expect to have five boats in their boat-house instead of the one that rests there now. The boats have been ordered, not alone for this City, but for the divisions in San Diego and Santa Cruz, and as the promise comes from the Navy Department it is reasonably certain that the boats will soon be in service.

The following letter has been sent to battalion headquarters in this city:

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, Oct. 28, 1895.

Sir: In reply to your request for certain boats for the use of the naval militia, said boats being at the navy-yard, Mare Island, the department begs leave to inform you that the estimated cost of making the boats serviceable is something over $3000. The department has directed that the sum of $500 be expended upon the boats to prevent their further deterioration.

When this has been done the department will direct that certain of these boats be loaned to the State of California for the use of the naval militia, as requested by you. Any representative you may accredit is at liberty to consult with the commandant of the navy-yard, Mare Island, and with the Naval Constructor at that yard, as to which boats are most desirable. Very respectfully,

D. MCADOO, Assistant Secretary.

His Excellency the Governor of California, Sacramento.

In pursuance of this permission the following boats have been selected by the officers of the battalion.

One 10-oared cutter for San Francisco; one 14-oared sailing launch from the old Monadnock for San Diego; one 12-oared cutter from the Marion for San Francisco; one 12-oared whaleboat from the Bennington for San Francisco; one 5-oared whaleboat from the Albatross for San Francisco; one 10-oared gig for San Diego, and one 12-oared cutter from the Philadelphia for Santa Cruz.

The second divisions in San Francisco have now a 16-oared barge from the old frigate California, and this, with the other boats will make quite a fleet. The output, $5,000, represents the money necessary to put the boats in a condition as good as new, so an expenditure of $500 means more than a mere comparison would suggest. The 12-oared whaleboat which will come here is a double-bank boat, light enough to be pulled at any time with six men single banked. The small whaleboat is a single-banker, and the two cutters and the big barge now in possession of the battalion, are all double-bank boats.

FROM COLON TO PANAMA.

A Glimpse of the Isthmus and Passing Impressions of Its Decadence.

WORK OF FEVER AND CLIMATE.

Still, It Is the Opinion of Officials That the Great Canal Will Be Finished.

J. C. Fellman, a New York newspaper man who has just arrived from the isthmus, where he was the guest of the local officials of the Panama Railroad Company, gave yesterday some interesting facts concerning the canal and the ruin which now marks the French quarter of Colon.

"Now, if you wish to know all about the condition of affairs on the isthmus of Panama," said Mr. Fellman, "I think that I am capable of giving you information. I came down from New York on the Panama Railroad Company's steamer Alliance and one of my fellow-travelers was J. C. Warren, who is second in command to Colonel Rives on the Panama Railroad. On arriving at Colon I was entertained at the headquarters of the officials of the railroad, and, thanks to the courtesy of Mr. Warren, I made the trip of forty-seven miles from Colon to Panama in the superintendent's special engine. Mr. Warren accompanied me and pointed out the various points of interest along the line.

"In the first place, Colon consists of three different quarters. Washington Colon is directly at the eastern end of the town, and is almost entirely given up to the buildings and offices of the railroad company and to the residences of its officials and employes. The system adopted by the company is a most excellent one. Believing that the health and usefulness of its employes must be carefully looked after in a climate so pregnant with fever, the company has sought to keep the residents of its own colony separated from not only the natural but the moral atmosphere of the native quarter of the town. With that end in view it has established a club for employes, and this has been made as attractive as possible. There are reading-rooms, cardrooms, and even a cafe connected therewith, and in the dining-room substantial meals are served at a moderate monthly tax on every employe. The officials of the company—that is to say, Colonel Rives, Mr. Warren and J. S. Gilbert, the auditor of the road—occupy a three-story villa overlooking the harbor, and maintain an establishment on a somewhat elaborate scale, each having his own servants and apartments, and dining together in a salon on the ground floor. There are some very delightful people in the American colony, and take it altogether life at Washington Colon is far from intolerable.

"Christopher Colon, the old French quarter of canal times, is in sad contrast to the American end of the town. The magnificent three-story villa, which was built for the occupation of Ferdinand de Lesseps during his brief visits to the isthmus, is going to ruin. Already the penetrating dampness of the tropical climate has had its effect upon the deserted palace and has begun to rot the woodwork of the interior as well as exterior of the building. The smaller and less pretentious villas which were the residences of the lesser officials of the canal are also rapidly falling into decay. It is only in its natural beauty that Christopher Colon has not deteriorated. The climate, which has proven so destructive to its artificial features, has rather served to advance its natural claim. The rows of palm trees which were set out on both sides of the avenues of the colony have attained growth and perfection of beauty without the aid of the landscape gardener, and the vines and flowers in the little gardens of the villas have grown in such exuberance as to do much in places to hide beneath them the ruin and blemish which time has made upon the houses themselves.

"It would be utterly absurd to talk at any length about the isthmus," continued the speaker, "without mentioning the fever. Although the subject is made light of by the residents of the isthmus, nevertheless the Chagres fever—so named after the river from the marshes of which it emanates—is an ever present and menacing terror to the dwellers in Colon. Even in the literature of the isthmus the fever is an ever fertile theme. Mr. Gilbert, the auditor of the railroad, who is a poet deserving of more than local recognition, in a volume just published, continually harps on the scourge, and closes one very powerful poem on the subject with the words:

Behind the Chagres (Fever) River
All paths lead straight to hell.

"The line of the Panama railroad from Colon to the Pacific side of the isthmus mainly follows the line of the canal, and is through a jungle of such tropical denseness that one is instantly impressed by the fact that the completion of the Panama canal must be a fierce struggle between man and nature. Not only must its completion be a very difficult matter, but even holding from month to month the ground already gained will in itself be an arduous task.

"Slowly but surely the almost irresistible advance of the tropical jungle is obliterating the progress made by the workmen in the canal trenches, and nature is claiming back the territory wrenched from her for a time by the ingenuity of man. Along the railroad one sees everywhere the ruined vestiges of the millions of France. On the side tracks constructed for the conveyance of material and paraphernalia to the canal ditches are hundreds of cars filled with tools and machinery almost hidden from view, as it were, by rust and moss, while the tracks and parts of the cars have sunk into the soft earth of the marshes of the river Chagres. In the main trench are the huge dredgers, inert and deserted, their ironwork covered with rust, the woodwork rotten and soft, the structures themselves gradually sinking downward into the soft, rich bottom.

"And amid all this ruin—this representation of an outlay of hundreds of millions—there is absolutely no sign of man. Not a laborer occupies a place on the dredges, and the trenches are as deserted as if the beasts of the jungle had never had to share their territory with any living mortal. Near the Pacific entrance to the canal some 700 or 800 men are at work, but these are merely striving to hold from the encroachment of nature the work already done.

"It is the opinion of the Panama Railroad officials, Colonel Rives and Mr. Warren, that the canal will ultimately be finished, but not by the French. It will require the unyielding substantial grit of an Anglo-Saxon race to push through an enterprise filled with such colossal obstacles."

ACTIVE REPUBLICANS.

Organization Effected by the Thirty-Fourth Assembly District Club.

The executive committee of the Thirty-fourth Assembly District Republican Club met last Wednesday evening for the purpose of effecting a permanent organization.

The following officers were appointed: Charles Mayer, chairman, and S. M. Williams, secretary. Having completed the organization of the club the committee proceeded to appoint nineteen vice-presidents, one from each precinct, to act as organizers of their respective precincts under the jurisdiction of the committee.

Following are the appointments:

J. Cella, A. M. Hushfield, Charles Alphis, George Burkhardt, C. W. Baker, John Hansen, W. J. Kirkwood, John Linahan, William Humphreys, Joseph Laroff, Fred Grimes, F. M. Zeising, D. J. Kelly, G. H. Umbsen, William Cairns, P. E. Lamar, George Dietterle, A. F. Adams, Dr. E. L. Mulligan.

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Boys' Reefers, $5.00

4 to 15 Years.

We are very anxious to have the mothers of San Francisco see our exclusive line of $5 Reefers. We make this standing offer: If you don't find our

All-Wool Chinchilla Reefer At $5.00

As good value as anything sold elsewhere for $7 50, we will not only refund purchase money, but will give you a Reefer for nothing, besides. We have them with both velvet and plain collars.

An elegant line of Boys' Single and Double Breasted Long Pants Suits from $6 50 upward.

Reefer Suits, Long Pants Sailor Suits, Josie Suits and Boys' and Children's Clothing in profusion, at wholesale prices.

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$1.00, $1.50 and $2.00 a Yard

46-INCH BOUCLE SUITINGS, Black Mohair Curl on Blue, Red, Green and Brown Grounds—
90c a Yard

41-INCH CANICHE SUITING, two-toned effects—
90c a Yard

46-INCH ILLUMINATED MOHAIRS, in all the new colorings, very rich effects—
$1.00 a Yard

52-INCH NOVELTY BOUCLE SUITINGS, very stylish—
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And steadily growing popularity and increase of business is the natural consequence of selling the best goods for the least money.

We have earned the reputation at home and abroad that our house is the cheapest and best place to purchase one's wants.

Cape Cod Cranberries, per quart.....10c
New Mixed Nuts, 10 lbs. for.....$1
Lemon and Orange Peel, per lb.....12½c
Cooking Raisins, 10 lbs. for.....25c
New French Prunes, 5 lbs. for.....25c
Nice Dried Plums, 8 lbs. for.....25c
Crosse & Blackwell's Chow-Chow.....30c
Crosse & Blackwell's Lucca Oil, large size.....55c
Seal of North Carolina Tobacco, per lb..45c
"Good Smoke" Tobacco, per lb.....25c
Gordon & Dillworth's Tomato Catsup, per bottle.....20c
Sliced Dried Apples or Pears, 8 lbs. for.25c
Richardson & Robbin's Boned Chicken or Turkey, large size.....45c
Burke's Irish or Scotch Whisky, per bottle.....95c
Canadian Club Whisky, per bottle....$1 25
Monogram Whisky, per bottle.....$1 20
10-lb. pail Rex brand Lard.....75c
Sugar-cured Picnic Hams, per lb.....7½c
Eagle Milk, per can.....15c
Royal Baking Powder, 1-lb. cans.....40c
Genuine Imported French Sardines, 3 cans for.....25c
American Sardines in Oil, 5 cans for....25c
Bates' Malt Whisky, formerly 85c, now.75c
Hostetter Bitters, per bottle.....85c

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