The San Francisco Call

CHARLES M. SHORTRIDGE,
Editor and Proprietor.

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SATURDAY.....DECEMBER 7, 1895

THE CALL SPEAKS FOR ALL.

Show yourself at the mass-meeting to-night.

Don't forget that this is the day to leave orders for THE SUNDAY CALL.

Every citizen should help to swell the voice of San Francisco against the funding bill.

The Armenians may yet take a contract to settle the Turkish problem while Europe waits.

John Bull might as well be made to see that the Venezuela chip is on Uncle Sam's shoulder.

Municipal reform is bound to come, for the tendency is in that direction all over the Union.

The Dunraven act was not very dignified, but it was safer than the play Salisbury is trying.

The steelhead may be a big trout for science, and still serve as a little salmon for the market.

This is the time to take the hoarded money out of your stocking and get the stocking ready for Christmas.

The Philadelphia *Record* says the railroad lobby at Washington "is very strong," but it probably meant "rank."

No city can show a finer variety of holiday goods than ours, and none a more prosperous people to enjoy them.

The action of the Republican majority in Congress may be conservative, but with Tom Reed to direct it is sure to be vigorous.

Uncle Sam must have impaired eyesight if he cannot recognize independence even when it comes so near to him as Cuba.

When the New York people hear that we call it "the Hobart show" they will think he is the man who wore the best clothes.

Cleveland's message is at any rate safe from the charge of being pleasing to fools, for, as a matter of fact, it was pleasing to nobody.

Pittsburg can see through her smoke clearly enough to perceive that San Francisco would be a better convention city than Chicago.

In trying to get what they call reason into his head the diplomatists of Europe have run the Sultan crazy, so they were evidently successful.

Paris must be very dull since James Gordon Bennett can apparently find no other amusement than that of setting the *Herald* to boom Cleveland for a third term.

North Carolina boasts of manufacturing all the cotton she produces, but the country won't kick as long as she doesn't undertake to eat all the peanuts she raises.

Officials who cannot see the difference between legitimate sport at Ingleside Park and fake poolrooms for gambling downtown must have been blindfolded with a sack.

The proposal to retire greenbacks will not be found hereafter in the field of practical politics, for it has been wrapped up in Cleveland's message and laid on the back shelf.

As both the Spaniards and the Cubans claim every battle as a victory the United States should insist on having the dispute settled by arbitration to keep them from fighting about it.

If we gain the Republican National Convention we must not take all the credit to ourselves, for we have many stalwart friends in the East who are working zealously and effectively for us.

Whether there is any truth in it or not there is certainly a fine poetic force of expression in the prediction of the *Courier-Journal* that when Democracy "has unloaded the Cleveland bandersnatch and got rid of its jub-jub birds it will live again."

It is worth noting that no distrust is anywhere expressed concerning what will be done by Congress this winter. The Republican majority in the House gives confidence everywhere and all are assured that every step taken will be in the direction of protection and prosperity.

We have heard nothing of late of the proposed celebration of the anniversary of the first Republican convention in Philadelphia. The idea is too good to be lost. If the East is backward about it the pioneer Republicans of California should take it up and start the ball rolling.

Senator Chandler's bill providing for the free coinage of silver whenever similar laws have been passed by England, France and Germany might be a good subject for a debating society, but it is hardly worth while to take up the time of the United States Senate in discussing a measure whose enforcement will depend on the governments of other nations.

Although Kentucky is generally associated with whisky and the people are supposed to use bourbon as a steady drink, there are thirty counties in the State where no saloons are allowed and the use of spirituous liquors, except for medicinal purposes, is strictly forbidden. The whole South, in fact, is rapidly changing from old conditions, and the popular ideas of a few years ago concerning that section will have to be abandoned.

THE MEETING TO-NIGHT.

The mass-meeting to be held at Metropolitan Hall this evening has been called by the Mayor, in order that the people of this City may protest against the passage by Congress of any measure for extending or refunding the debt of the Central Pacific Railroad to the United States. It is just and in good taste for the people of San Francisco to express themselves in this way. They are in the best possible position for understanding the whole subject and for taking intelligent action concerning it. The merchants, particularly, know what grievous and unjust burdens have been placed upon them by the maintenance of this monopoly. For that matter every interest in the City has suffered from the oppression.

There is one prevailing and overshadowing sentiment among the people—a dread of a continuance of the evil which has held their progress in check. The danger is that many strong citizens, aware of the comprehensive extent of this sentiment, will remain away from the meeting, believing that a sufficient number will be present to lend an overwhelming influence to the occasion. It is every one's duty to be on hand and lend the weight of his presence to the meeting.

The proposition is a very simple one. The aided company, having failed to discharge its obligations to the Government, and having acquired incredible wealth by withholding from the Government what was honestly owing, and by levying heavy tribute upon the wealth and industry of California, is seeking in Congress to secure an indefinite extension of the time in which it may pay its debt. Grave as that proposition is, it is inconsiderable, so far as California is concerned, in comparison with the proposition which it carries—that of perpetuating the burden which now rests upon the State. The debt being now due, it is within the right and power of the Government to enforce its collection. It is in the exercise of this right that a reasonable prospect of relief to California exists.

That is the simple proposition. It is one of justice, as well as self-preservation. Any citizen who neglects his duty in the premises not only may be assisting to fasten upon himself the chains that bind him, but may be inflicting a serious injury upon his neighbors, his City and his State. The voice of San Francisco, when spoken this evening, will be heard at Washington. There need be no fear on that score.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The indications seem to be that we are on the eve of a general breaking up of the hard winter of political corruption that for so long has held the City in its grasp. It is now reported that because Chief Sullivan of the Fire Department has made war on Buckley the blind boss is pursuing the Fire Department through the agency of the Grand Jury and proposes to show how it has neglected its duty for politics.

The Grand Jury wisely accepts any clew to mismanagement that may be offered, even though it come from the man who originally fostered the evil. For years the City has had to face the shame of maintaining a Fire Department controlled by corrupt political bosses. Chief Sullivan is an able fireman and has conducted the department with more decency than has been known for years. But if Buckley's charges are true that Sullivan's lieutenants have used their positions and the City's time for political purposes, whether with good or bad motives or in the interest of decent or corrupt politics, he should be made to suffer the punishment which such conduct deserves.

It may be expected that he will retaliate. That he knows a great deal which would make interesting reading these long winter evenings can hardly be doubted, and that he could if he would assist the Grand Jury in discovering many criminal political practices of the past may be taken for granted. It is his duty to do so. Buckley and others of his ilk have not begun to realize that a revolution is afoot. With the same old cynical, sneering smile they are watching the present movement in a bored way and waiting patiently for the time when it will end. He and others like him have seen such movements begun before and have witnessed the collapse of them all. They know, too, that Canada is convenient and that we have a statute of limitations.

The present Grand Jury seems to be even more searching than the famous Wallace jury, which sent Buckley flying to Canada. It is going far deeper and taking a much more comprehensive course. In all these matters it is supported by the sympathy of the decent elements of the City and by the active assistance of some fearless and public-spirited citizens who have pride in the City and are weary of being plundered. The situation is more menacing for boodlers than it has ever been before, and the wonder is that they have not the intelligence to note the fact.

PAVE FOLSOM STREET.

The residents south of Market street have the sympathy of the whole City in their efforts to secure an appropriation from the Board of Supervisors for the paving of Folsom street with bituminous rock. The Market-street Railway Company has already promised to do its share of the work if the Supervisors will do theirs. The estimated cost to the City is only $65,000. The benefits would be great.

The only drawback to the proposition is the fear that the money will not be honestly expended nor the work faithfully done. The improvement will have to be made by the Street Department, which has been already discovered to be incompetent, if not corrupt. The Grand Jury is securing evidence going to show that, besides permitting private property-owners to be swindled by rascally contractors, the Street Department has done public work in a most shameful manner.

But the knowledge of a danger suggests means for avoiding it. The improvement clubs interested in the Folsom-street pavement can prevent any approach to crookedness by exercising a sleepless vigilance in watching the work from the moment the specifications are drawn to the payment of the warrants for the completed work. This may reduce the perquisites of the Street Department and of the corrupt political influences which direct its operations, but the people will not grieve over that. Corruption in the City government cannot be successfully carried on if the people are watchful, and public improvements cannot be permitted to cease through the fear that the revenues will be stolen.

A REMARKABLE CASE.

Tuolumne County has furnished a peculiar instance of passion, haste, cupidity and murder combined and confused in a singularly complex fashion. A popular young man named George Morris, the Wells-Fargo agent at Chinese Camp, was found dead recently. The indications were that he had been murdered, and as a young man named Wesley McReynolds was said by certain private detectives to have boasted of the crime and threatened to kill the brothers of Morris he was suspected by the public. Morris had been very friendly with Ada McReynolds, a sister of Wesley, and only 17 years old. Shortly after the murder (if it was a murder) Ada astounded the community by signing a declaration to the effect that her two brothers, Wesley and Albert, had committed the deed in punishment of Morris' bad treatment of her.

This added the finishing touches to a movement which had started to lynch Wesley McReynolds. All the telephone and telegraph lines in the county were monopolized for the assembling of a mob for that purpose. Wesley and Albert were at once lodged in jail and a guard was established. Ada, their sister, likewise was placed under arrest. The Grand Jury of the county promptly took the matter in hand and through its intelligent efforts has discovered and exposed an amazing condition of affairs.

When the young girl was pressed for a full statement of the matter her conscience came into play and she confessed that her declaration charging her brothers with the murder was untrue, and that it had been secured from her by two private detectives named Brown and Reilly, who had been engaged to discover the murderer and who were pursuing her brothers. They convinced her that Morris had insured his life for $5000 in her favor, and that if it should be shown that he had committed suicide she could not secure the money. She refused to inculpate her brothers at first on that showing, but did so when the detectives swore a solemn oath that her brothers would not be molested, but that the statement from her was wanted merely for the purpose of getting the insurance. Thus deceived, the girl consented and filed the dreadful charge.

The Grand Jury summoned the detectives and they admitted that what the girl had said was true, but justified themselves on the ground that they had acted in the interest of justice, believing the McReynold boys guilty. That this extraordinary view of justice has shocked the people of Tuolumne is not surprising. Such methods of securing evidence in murder cases ought to be made a penal offense. This case is aggravated all the more by the possibility that no murder was committed at all, as it may be a simple case of suicide.

A remarkable development of the case is the suicide of Albert McReynolds. He left no statement or explanation. The bearing of this tragic incident on the mystery of the crime must be largely a matter of opinion. The value of such an opinion would depend on the extent and intimacy of knowledge concerning the suicide's history and temperament.

"THE SUNDAY CALL."

With the approaching admission of Utah to statehood public interest in that commonwealth has been largely increased and all who share it will be gratified and instructed by the entertaining paper on the subject by Nephi Anderson in THE SUNDAY CALL of to-morrow. Under the title of "Utah, the New State," he furnishes an able account of the conditions prevailing in that flourishing community and adds much to public information concerning it.

"The Illiteracy of Ambrose Bierce" is discussed with incisive vigor by William Greer Harrison. W. C. Morrow contributes a local story of a striking character in "A Revelation From the Demon of Goat Island." A chapter of personal history in the days of the pioneers is given in "Reminiscences of an Argonaut," by Henry B. Livingston, and the interest is enlivened by several new anecdotes of noted characters of the time.

An amusing character sketch of a Mohammedan priest is given in a clever story entitled "The Karamojah, or the Big Book-man of the Gallinas," by Branscombe Ashley, and will be found the more attractive because it deals with a portion of the world that has been but little described in our literature. A delightful story for children will be found in "A Fifty-Dollar Dog," by Mary Woodward Edwards. And both young and grown folks will be pleased with "The Adventures of Maaroof."

The regular departments of the Sunday paper are filled, as usual, with bright and notable matters of current interest, and all classes of readers can find something suited to their particular tastes and interests. THE CALL can be had generally wherever newspapers are sold, but as there is always an enlarged demand for the Sunday paper, the best way to make sure of getting it is to leave orders for it to-day.

A FOOL AND HIS ERRAND.

Hermann Ahlwardt, the noted "Jew-hater" of Germany, has arrived at New York and is reported to have announced the intention of delivering lectures for the purpose of starting an anti-Semitic crusade in this country. Under our laws it is impossible either to send him back where he came from or to make him behave himself while he is here. Alien though he is, he will be in this land of liberty protected in the same freedom of speech that is the birthright of Americans, and we must make up our minds to bear with him with what patience we can while he strives to awaken among our people the prejudices and spites that are found among the most illiberal and narrow-minded of his own countrymen.

The coming of such a man with such a purpose raises the question whether in amending the immigration restriction bill it would not be well to shut out such vicious agitators from the right to make public speeches in this country. American liberty ought not to be made an open door for the entrance of old European intolerances into our homes. American freedom should be free from all the hates and prejudices that linger in the Old World as the surviving embers of medieval barbarisms and superstitions. Liberty of speech we value too much ever to restrict among our home people who have grown up in freedom to cherish American ideas, but it should not be left free to every alien agitator and mischief-maker who comes here with the avowed purpose of venting his malice and stirring up strife.

It is not likely that Ahlwardt will have any great success in his mischief-making plans. The Jews with us have grown to be a part of the American people and are everywhere esteemed among their neighbors. Many of them have been elected to offices of trust and responsibility by the people and rarely has one of them ever been found to be a false or unworthy official. They are honored in all the walks of life and have weight and influence in every department of commerce and finance. It would be hard to find an American who does not number some member of the Hebrew race among the friends who have been helpful to him. Against the strong sentiment of American justice and the personal feeling of individual friendships Ahlwardt, the "Jew-hater," will rave in vain, but all the same he should not be allowed to disturb us by doing his raving in this country.

THE "GLOBE REVIEW."

The initial number of the *Globe Review*, formerly published in Oakland but now of this city, appears in its new form and dress this morning. It merits unqualified approval, not only from the press, but from all who have at heart the development of Pacific Coast industries. The number is replete with good things of interest to lumbermen, miners, builders, real estate dealers and wheelmen. The mechanical features of the paper are excellent, and exhibit the careful, skilled hand of Jesse S. Halstead, its editor. James Kip is associated with Mr. Halstead in the enterprise as business manager, and his twenty-five years' experience in mining and general commercial pursuits will insure the permanent success of the *Globe Review*.

PERSONAL

Leonard Coats of Napa is here.

E. A. Cutter of Arizona is at the Baldwin.

G. E. Shaw, a merchant of Hollister, is at the Grand.

John M. Barbour of Lisburn, Ireland, is at the Palace.

Arthur Lezinsky, the attorney, of Stockton, is in the City.

E. G. Burkan, a business man of Sioux City, is at the Grand.

I. de Turk, the vineyardist of the Sonoma Valley, is in town.

J. H. Rucker, the real estate dealer of San Jose, is at the Palace.

Prison Commissioner Robert T. Devlin of Sacramento is in the City.

C. F. Ainsworth, a business man of Phœnix, Ariz., is visiting this City.

Michael Ohl, a mining and cattle man of Wilcox, Ariz., is in the City.

Charles H. Dodd and E. May, merchants of Portland, arrived here yesterday.

John E. Matzke, a banker of Palo Alto, is in the City, accompanied by his wife.

State Librarian Dana Perkins came down from Sacramento yesterday for a short stay.

H. A. Laugenour, ex-Assemblyman from Yolo County, came down from Woodland last night.

John Nichols, the well-known gold-mine owner of Dutch Flat, was among last night's arrivals.

M. Page Minor of Fresno, who is interested in real estate in that part of the country, is at the Occidental.

Ross C. Sargent, the millionaire land-owner and cattle-raiser of San Joaquin County, arrived here yesterday and is at the Grand.

L. W. Shinn, a mining man of Alaska, who is interested near Sitka, with Superintendent Tom D. Lane of the Utica, and other Californians, is in town.

D. S. Fish of Leemore, director of the Sunset Irrigation District, in which he resides, is in the City. Mr. Fish was the candidate of the people and won by a handsome majority.

Frank X. Cicott, who was formerly a resident here and occupied a position in the United States Mint, has arrived from New York, where he has been living since leaving California. He is at the Palace.

H. S. Warner, for some years past a fruit-grower near Albany, Or., is at the Grand, accompanied by his wife. They have sold their property in Oregon and are en route to San Bernardino County, which they will hereafter make their home.

Armand Decourtieux Jr., the well-known member of the French colony, has been seriously ill with inflammation of the bowels and pleurisy for some time past. Dr. Gallwey has been in constant attendance and now thinks his patient is out of danger.

C. L. Webb, one of the leading grain and commission dealers of Seattle, who for many years was engaged in business in Des Moines, Iowa, is at the Palace. He went to the Sound country about six years ago. Mr. Webb is here on a short trip for both business and pleasure.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 6.—Mr. and Mrs. William Alexander of Santa Barbara were among the guests who sailed on the Kaiser Wilhelm II for Genoa via Gibraltar, Algiers and Naples. San Francisco people in New York: J. C. Iles, Imperial; F. W. Lawrence, Coleman; P. D. Morgan and wife, Mrs. W. P. Morgan, Miss Morgan, Holland; W. W. Weller, Plaza; S. Armstrong, Union Square; Dr. W. J. Gorringer, Hoffman; L. K. Smith, Everett; Miss Crocker, Netherland; S. McNear and wife, Savoy. Sacramento: H. J. Kelgariff, St. Denis. Oakland: Miss Jeghers, Mrs. Isaac L. Requa, Miss Requa, Netherland.

A FANCY SILK WAIST.

The Marie Antoinette fichu is one of the accepted accessories in waist trimming. It is especially liked for theater and evening waists and for house dresses. A perfectly plain dress is made into quite an elaborate affair by the addition of a soft, graceful fichu. And such a plain waist should be owned by every woman

who likes variety, and especially those whose income does not allow of the many waists which are such a comfort. A simple trimming of ribbon may be made adjustable by taking one strip for the center front; this is joined to the ribbon collar and the ribbon belt, which are both finished by enormous bows in the back; two other pieces of ribbon, four inches longer than the shoulder-seam, are sewn to the collar at the shoulder; the other ends are laid in points which extend over the sleeves. This trimming of ribbon may be made very elaborate by sewing bright spangles on all the edges. Or mark ends, with a spool for guide, down the center, and outline these with spangles or beads.

Another mode of trimming is to have revers and a sailor-collar made removable. A black satin or crepon waist may be made very useful in this way. Have collars and revers of a fancy silk in bright colors with an edging all around of black chiffon.

The ribbon trimming may be of geranium velvet ribbon with black spangles or of black satin ribbon with bright blue or green spangles.

A fichu may be of the black crepon edged with pleatings of yellow china silk, or use a bright china silk with ruffles of mousseline de soie.

CHANGES IN JOURNALISM.

Chicago Times-Herald.

Within a year or two there will be important changes in the mode and means of newspaper making.

The reporter will send both description and picture by telautograph; and the reporter of the future is going to draw as well as to write.

The editor, whether in his office or temporarily residing at a distant point, will telautograph his orders and ideas, and, by an improvement now being perfected, he will receive telautographic proofs in return.

Writers on newspapers will become users of a machine in process of construction by which the present typewriter keyboard will not only set their ideas into print, but also instantaneously put them into type, eliminating the machine type-setter as the machine itself has eliminated the hand compositor and as the steam press eliminated the hand press.

These are only a few of the changes in the near future of journalism. These and others bound to come will not injure any one, but will divert to other profitable fields labor now occupied intermediately between the writer and the press. By cheapening the cost of a newspaper these changes will improve the business and make it more beneficial to mankind.

MCAFEE BROS.' auction sale of Brittan Ranch, San Mateo Co., sure to-day. See advertisement.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS.

All bohemia was pained yesterday that Otto Norman was forced to the wall. If Mr. Norman could have heard the many good things that were said of him, coupled with the regrets that his place should have passed into other hands, he would no doubt have been gratified, although mere words do not always help a man the most.

For nearly fifteen years Mr. Norman has conducted this noted place at Bush and Kearny streets. During that time it has been the resort of actors, musicians, artists, newspaper men, and also of foreigners from France and Germany especially. Many is the good time they have had there, and many a glass of lager, Pilsener, Culmbacher and wines have they had over the strange and amusing stories that were told.

Then the steaks that were served, the roast beef and the countless other things that could be had at the moment's call to refresh the inner man, served to round out the attractions of the unique place.

There was sawdust on the floor when it rained, but dry or not outside Norman's was always a place where bohemia could gather in the most informal way. When cheering viands were discussed one could form a circle in a card game, if he wished, and he might stay as long as he wished, for it ran like a clock—day and night.

If in the late hours the visitor desired two chairs he would usually manage to get them together despite the crowds and thus stretch his feet out and recline at ease while he smoked and imbibed beer till he was entirely comfortable. Here, while watching the curling smoke, he could build air castles, without which life is after all scarcely worth the living.

Thus it transpired that Norman's came to have a very tender place in bohemia's heart. Before the Press Club was organized Norman's was almost the sole place of meeting of many of the working newspaper men. The reporters gathered, after finishing the evening assignments, and discussed their scoops, excepting always those of the morrow till it was too late for rivals to get them.

There they waited oftentimes till the first editions of the dailies were out, and then eagerly scanned them, each to see how his favorite story appeared.

If the story was "butchered" by the cynical sphinx who wielded the blue pencil there were sometimes comments that might have made even his hardened ears tingle had he heard them. Talk about how no two of such judges of copy could "cut" alike was also heard, and this was not infrequently considered a justification of the story as originally written.

In that candid place at times, too, one might hear comments about the "skates" in the business, and all the phases of local and New York journalism might sometimes be discussed. As the newspaper man, however, is, for the most part, a soldier, obeying orders always, any dissatisfaction was apt to be soon calmed.

Through all the varying scenes Mr. Norman came and went, bestowing pleasant greetings on everybody. He was never perturbed. If he ever was angry nobody knew it. Nothing troubled him apparently, and many is the man he helped, if the stories told about him yesterday are true. No doubt he did.

Many German and other societies have held their banquets in the rear of the place from which the viands were directly served, and in the rooms above.

Athur McEwen got much of the material for some of his best stories there. Ned Townsend was so impressed by his experiences there at odd times that he has embalmed some of them in his books. Charles Michelson, the Cuban war correspondent, and Pete Bigelow were frequently there. There it was that the man who interviewed Evans and Sontag in their mountain fortresses drank his biggest and most numerous glasses of beer. Billy Hart, lately carried away by a malignant cancer, and known as the Samoan war correspondent and best water-front man San Francisco ever had, Joe Ward and a host of others were often seen there.

Every visitor has called Norman that. "Here, Norman," a visitor would call out, "zwei glass beer," or "eine glass," according to the number to be served. In this way the place was aided to obtain a wider celebrity. But it would take columns to tell of the many odd features of the place.

Norman was an officer in the German army. One day he met with an accident. His arm was broken, and no longer being able to serve in the field his mind turned to America, and hither he came.

Bohemia hopes he will be able to start again, for the old place will never seem quite natural with him away.

Among the arrivals at the Russ is F. E. Doyle, who for ten years past has been foreman at Butte, Mont., of the Belle of Butte mine. He thinks the Butte district is one of the most marvelous ever discovered.

"It is the biggest camp on earth," he said last night, with the enthusiasm of the usual Montanan. "Take the towns of the district. Anaconda has a population of 25,000 people and Butte 40,000. The payroll of the Anaconda Copper Company alone is over $150,000 a month, and there is enough gold and silver in the copper to pay for all the mining and milling, leaving the copper free.

"Down at Butte things are humming right along. I don't know how many companies are at work, but there are lots of them. In both camps things are very active. It gets cold there in winter. It was 6 degrees below zero one morning recently, but it got warm the next day. Sometimes the thermometer drops to 60 below, and it is sharp enough then, you may be assured. Take it all in all, though, as I said, it's a big camp."

Mr. Doyle is taking things easy for a time in the land of sunshine.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

A RIVAL FOR SUNSET COX.

To the Editor of the San Francisco Call—SIR: One of the most beautiful as well as one of the most novel spectacles was accorded the passengers on the different ferry-boats crossing the bay this morning just before sunrise. As witnessed from the ferry-boat Tiburon the view was extremely gorgeous. The whole sky toward the south, west and north was shrouded by a veil of almost inky blackness, and the City could hardly be discerned through this ebony shroud; but over toward the east, just a little above the horizon, was presented such a grand and magnificent sight that it excited the keenest admiration of all beholders—a spectacle that shall remain permanently fixed in the memory of all who beheld this admiration-inspiring scene. It was just before the god of day peeped his fiery eye beyond the apex of the Coast Range mountains. It required no cudgeling of the brain or effort of the imagination to behold, planted in the eastern sky, a veritable scene of enchantment.

The sun, before beginning his daily patrol around this portion of his domain, shot his preliminary rays among a number of fragmentary clouds that had lodged in the eastern heavens, and the effect was magical. There were presented to view long and serpent-like creeks and rivulets, winding through extensive and level marshes, apparently running as far as the eye could reach and losing themselves in distance and space. Forests of trees could be plainly discerned in various places, of all sizes and shapes, in clumps, and here and there solitary ones standing majestically alone, and occasionally some monarch of the forest standing supremely above his kind. Lakes as of liquid silver nestled between mountains of extraordinary height and covered with luxurious growths of vegetation, and giving to witnesses of this resplendent scene a birdseye view of all this gorgeousness at one and the same time. Then there were bays of sparkling gold, studded with numerous isles, some apparently connected with the mainland by natural bridges, and traversing on its smooth surface might be seen graceful boats and crafts of fantastic shapes, and now and then a steamer could be imagined, with curling smoke puffing from a perceptive smokestack. And farther off in the far distance was an ocean of unnatural calmness, spreading seemingly without end, until the eye could not follow it to where it joined itself with the horizon. A little toward the north, where Sol's rays were not so penetrating, could be distinctly seen distant cities, with growths of trees, and smoke issuing from tall chimneys of specter manufactories, while from fancied roads leading thereto, clouds of dust enveloped their entire length as if caused by the tramp of armies of men and charge of heavy dragoons. Indeed, no picture of fairy land, even by the most masterly and versatile brush, could equal the magic picture portrayed in the eastern sky this morning by that great and irreproachable artist, the sun, and as if dissatisfied with his work, on taking one glance at the whole picture as he peeped over the hills, and not deeming it worthy his artistic taste, he shed his full rays over the scene and gradually dissolved the spectacle from view. Respectfully, SAN RAFAEL.

THAT CALAMITY.

OAKDALE, Stanislaus County, California, December 4, 1895.

To the Editor of the San Francisco Call: I wrote to you a few days ago in regard to Dr. Close's alarming statement that the planets will all be in alignment in December, 1901.

I shall make a statement here which I am willing to leave to the decision of Stanford, California University, or to the observatory, as follows:

First—The planet Neptune is now in the constellation Taurus, and will not reach that line of alignment for 100 years.

Second—The planet Uranus is now in the constellation Libra and could not reach that proposed alignment for twenty years.

Third—That the planet Saturn is now in the constellation Libra, and will not reach that proposed alignment for eight years.

Fourth—That Mars and Venus will not be in that proposed alignment in 1901.

Fifth—That Mercury and Jupiter are the only two planets that will be in said alignment in December, 1901.

Sixth—That admitting that there was such an alignment at Noah's flood such alignment could not possibly happen again in less than 4620 years.

It is wrong to create false alarms and frighten ignorant people.

I could make other statements in regard to Rev. Allen's sermon published in Tuesday's CALL, but will content myself by saying that it is mere badinage.

Finally if such alignment would take place it would not affect the earth's motion or increase its centripetal force. Neptune is about 2,828,000,000 of miles from the sun and Uranus is about 1,862,000,000 of miles from the sun and cannot have much attractive force at such a distance. Jupiter and Saturn have been in opposition to the earth. They are 2200 times the size of the earth and yet they did not affect its orbital motion at all. Yours, S. B. MCCORMICK.

WHAT "JEHOVAH" DENOTES.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 5, 1895.

To the Editor of the San Francisco Call—SIR: In your Tuesday's edition of this week mention is made of a discussion that took place among a concourse of clergymen as to the origin and signification of the biblical word "Jehovah." As the result of their deliberations is not disclosed I venture, with your kind permission, to make some comments upon this subject.

In the Hebrew language, in which the Bible was originally composed, the word "Jehovah" (which, by the way, the German pronunciation, with the "j" sounding like "y" in English, corresponds with the Hebrew), includes letters which denote the eternity of our Creator, namely: "Hoyoh," "Hoveh," "Vyhyeh," which signify respectively "Always has been," "Is at present" and "Ever will be."

I should be exceedingly grateful to the gentlemen concerned for information as to what conclusion they reached in this matter. Very respectfully, VICTOR HARRIS.

5½ Falmouth street.

MACHINERY AND LABOR.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 6, 1895.

To the Editor of the San Francisco Call: I see in your issue of this date the report of a lecture entitled "Man vs. Machinery," delivered by Professor Edward A. Ross of Stanford University last evening in this City. He maintains:

First—That machinery is beneficial. (Which is undeniable.)

Second—That it displaces skilled labor. (Also undeniable.)

Third—That this displacement results in an evil, detrimental to the well-being of society. (Which is undeniable.)

Fourth—That socialism would cure this evil, but that it would not be advisable to cure the evil in that manner. (Which may be questionable.)

Fifth—That he believes that society can provide a cure by once more training labor up to the point of skill!

Is this the kind of logic that comes from the mind of a university professor?

If skilled labor can be supplanted by machinery, what earthly benefit will it do to train skilled labor? Yours truly, OLIVER EVERETT.

OPINIONS OF WESTERN EDITORS.

Railroad Discrimination Against Bicycles.

Los Angeles Times.

The ridiculousness of checking a hundred-pound trunk for railway passengers free of charge and charging the man who has only a twenty-pound or a forty-pound bicycle for carrying his wheel as baggage, is so apparent that it ought to appeal to even the understanding of the people who make railroad rules. Bicycle-riders can get even with the corporations by riding on their wheels more and on the cars less. They may also find it convenient to patronize more freely the lines which do not make this senseless and unfair discrimination, in preference to those astute corporations who have adopted this penny wise and pound foolish policy. Probably the railroads can explain, however, why a hundred-pound trunk is easier to carry and takes up less room in a car than does a wheel that weighs a fifth as much and occupies infinitely less space. Or is this intended as a punishment for the crime of riding wheels?

A Western Democratic View of It.

Portland (Or.) Telegram.

Mr. Cleveland's message is heavy in language and light in practical value. It advances no new truths nor does it clarify any old ones. Its utility consists chiefly in its absorption of newspaper space and most of it squeezes out more interesting matter. The real interest of the country would be just as well served if its author had abandoned usage and substituted a single-line greeting to the new Congress for those eleven laboriously built columns of language.

How Cuban Cigars Are Corrupted.

San Jose News.

It is said that in the cigar factories in Cuba there is employed what is known as a "reader"; one whose duty is to read aloud to the employes while they work. The reader sits on an elevated platform in the center of the factory and reads all day. The matter selected is the news of the day, history and fiction. Judging from some of the cigars alleged to be of Cuban production some of the literature must be of a very low order.

Digging Through Silver for Gold.

Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise.

A hasty glance over the State proves that Nevada is a great gold region, and that it may be that we are but standing upon the threshold of disclosures which will fill the world with astonishment. It looks as though the work of a few years more would justify the old assertion that Nevada was full of gold, but that the miners had to dig through masses of silver in order to reach the more precious metal.

New York Will Have a Jay Celebration.

San Jose Mercury.

The 19th of the present month will be the hundredth anniversary of the day on which the Jay treaty between the United States and Great Britain was signed, and it will be celebrated in New York as the centennial of American commercial liberty. It has been suggested that a general observance of the day would be appropriate, but the celebrations will undoubtedly be confined to the commercial classes of a few Eastern cities.

THE IDEAL JOURNALIST.

Rev. A. D. Mayo of Boston took for the subject of a lecture last week, "The Journalist." He said:

"It was never such a privilege as now to be an American citizen on the shady side of 60. Other great periods in the world's history have been of equal importance and even more picturesque, but the present generation of elderly American people has enjoyed the only supreme advantage of reading the history of every week, brought up to date by the journalist.

"Until seventy-five years ago nine-tenths of the intelligent people in Christendom lived in almost complete ignorance of what was going on beyond their own horizon circle. The change from such a condition to that where, especially in the northern portion of the United States, the great mass of the people can read and at least once a week are in a way informed of the main facts in the history of the past week, is incalculable.

"Until 1860 the newspaper meant the editor, usually an influential public character, who appeared once or six times a week in the capacity of public oracle, presented his own opinion and writing upon the news to correspond.

"To-day the great metropolitan daily aims to be a picture of the world's doings up to the hour of going to the press. The ideal journalist of to-day has a more responsible and difficult office than his predecessor, for he must so arrange his picture of the world's affairs that the light of the new civilization shall not be extinguished in the shadows.

"It is simply stupid journalism to make a newspaper that sends its readers from the breakfast table disgusted, despairing and skeptical concerning life and the outcome of history."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TO BRITISH COLUMBIA—F. S., Smartsville, Yuba County, Cal. The most direct route from San Francisco to British Columbia is by steamer to Victoria, V. I. This point can also be reached by rail from San Francisco to Tacoma, and from there by steamer to Victoria. At present cut-rates, as advertised in THE CALL, the cost of transportation is very reasonable. The climate of British Columbia varies according to locality, owing principally to four causes: 1. Greater or less distance from the sea; 2. Greater or less distance from the mountain ranges; 3. Difference in the variety and growth of vegetation; 4. Elevation of the level. The low portions near the sea and on Vancouver Island have a moderate climate, with a temperature ranging from 20 deg. in winter to 80 deg. in summer. The spring is short, lasting from early March to early May—summer till September. The next two months are autumn, of which winter is merely an aggravation, the snows being light and the frosts far from severe or lasting.

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF 1864—A. W. D., Oakland. The California delegates to the Republican National Convention held in 1864 were James Otis, William S. McMurty, William Ritter, O. H. Bradbury, Nathan Coombs and Robert Gardner. These, two from each district, represented the First, Second and Third districts. The delegates at large were Thompson Campbell, M. C. Briggs, John Bidwell and Phineas Banning. The alternates were W. H. Culver, A. P. Jourdan, C. P. Huntington, C. C. Myerson, A. J. Snyder; at large, David Mahoney, Samuel Brannan, John F. Merrill and Amos Kendall. These were chosen March 24. The delegates to the Democratic National Convention, chosen September 7, were John B. Weller, John Bigler, John G. Downey, Thomas Hayes, S. B. Stevens, J. S. Berry, C. Witheral, C. D. Semple, C. L. Weller and S. G. Whipple.

DEMI-FRANC—Suscriber, Estrella, San Luis Obispo, Cal. There is no premium offered for a half-franc coined during the first empire of France. Dealers who have such coins for sale offer them for 25 and 40 cents, according to the state of preservation the coin is in.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT—N. M., City. The strongest argument in favor of capital punishment is that it has been found necessary to restore it in those countries, or in nearly all, in which it had been abolished as a penalty for murder.

SISTERS OF CHARITY—H. A., City. Sisters of Charity ride free on the streetcars of this City by courtesy of the directors of the several companies. Priests are required to pay just the same as other passengers.

CANDY canes and baskets. Townsend's. *

BEST printing, best prices. Roberts Ptg. Co.*

NICE present for Eastern friends—California Glace Fruits, 50c lb., Jap. baskets. Townsend's*

FAMOUS broken candy, 10c a lb. Townsend's.*

CHRISTMAS Cards, Calendars and California souvenirs now ready. Sanborn, Vail & Co. *

SPECIAL information daily to manufacturers, business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 510 Montgomery. *

Barry's Star.

Take the Southern Pacific! The so-called "Message." Mayne and Boss Buckley. *

Better the Class Than the Standing.

Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

The young men who expect to enter college next year are beginning to wonder if their class will be known as '00.

THOUSANDS of people have found in Hood's Sarsaparilla a positive cure for rheumatism. This medicine by its purifying action neutralizes the acidity of the blood and builds up the system.

CHICAGO LIMITED.
VIA SANTA FE ROUTE.

A new train throughout begins October 28. Pullman's finest sleeping-cars, vestibule reclining-chair cars and dining-cars. Los Angeles to Chicago, via Kansas City, without change. Annex cars on sharp connection for Denver and St. Louis. Twenty-seven hours quicker than the quickest competing train. The Santa Fe has been put in fine physical condition and is now the best transcontinental railway.

A COUGH, COLD OR SORE THROAT requires immediate attention. "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" will invariably give relief. 25c a box.

AFTER a sleepless night use Dr.