The San Francisco Call

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Editor and Proprietor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Postage Free:

Daily and Sunday CALL, one week, by carrier	$0.15
Daily and Sunday CALL, one year, by mail	6.00
Daily and Sunday CALL, six months, by mail	3.00
Daily and Sunday CALL, three months by mail	1.50
Daily and Sunday CALL, one month, by mail	.65
Sunday CALL, one year, by mail	1.50
WEEKLY CALL, one year, by mail	1.50

BUSINESS OFFICE:
710 Market Street,
San Francisco, California.
Telephone.....Main—1868

EDITORIAL ROOMS:
517 Clay Street.
Telephone.....Main—1874

BRANCH OFFICES:
530 Montgomery street, corner Clay; open until 9:30 o'clock.
339 Hayes street; open until 9:30 o'clock.
717 Larkin street; open until 9:30 o'clock.
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THURSDAY.....DECEMBER 12, 1895

THE CALL SPEAKS FOR ALL.

To retire Mr. Cleveland is simple, to retire the greenbacks is another proposition.

The press should carefully see to it that Dr. Ahlwardt pays regular advertising rates.

The only frost in San Francisco this winter may be found in the hearts of bribe-takers.

As a rule Congress doesn't warm up till after the holidays, but this one has started in red hot.

As Speaker, Tom Reed follows the famous rules of Demosthenes: "Action, action, action."

Don't fail to see the poultry exhibit at the Pavilion. It is the biggest thing in town this week.

Jingoism is the natural reaction against the exasperating un-American policy of the administration.

Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad, and the downtown poolroom fakers are certainly mad.

Do your Christmas shopping while the sun shines, for there is sure to be rain before the big day gets here.

The position of Embassador Bayard proves that a cuckoo, like a parrot, can sometimes talk too much.

The Grand Jury is not camping on the trail of the Solid Eight. It keeps moving on their works right along.

We have the satisfaction of knowing that our delegation fought grandly and the greater West stayed with us to a finish.

The railroads that opposed the holding the National Convention in this City may call themselves trunk lines, but they pursued a gripsack policy.

The great West had enough pull to bring the National Convention across the Mississippi this time and next time it will bring it across the plains.

California is not kicking; she will send the convention next summer lots of lemons, wine and refreshing fruits to temper the St. Louis hot stuff.

In the courts the Government intervenes on the side of the railroad, but in the halls of Congress we may expect to see it intervene on the side of the people.

Our army is not without attractions apparently. The only son of Millionaire Deering has enlisted as a private after failing in his examination at West Point.

It is not worth while to impeach Cleveland or any of his Cabinet before the Senate. Their own words and actions have already impeached them before the people.

Should the Grand Jury put a few boodlers in the City's Christmas stocking and tie the string tight the present will be gratefully appreciated and used to the best advantage.

The one surprising thing in the vote on the convention contest was the willingness of Chicago to run a little side show to St. Louis instead of rising to the opportunity of reaching out across the continent.

If local Democrats will now cease their faction fights and make a united effort to bring their National Convention here they will find as loyal support from the City as was given to the Republican movement.

If California should acquire the habit of making as hard a fight for National conventions in the future as the Republicans have just made, it will soon become the fashion to hold all the conventions here.

Barrett of Massachusetts, the new member of Congress who led the attack on Bayard in the House of Representatives, has attained distinction quickly, and he has only to keep on as he has started in order to attain a National reputation before the session closes.

In describing the people of this country as "violent men who desire to have their own way and who need to have their way frequently obstructed," Bayard was guilty of something more than a breach of propriety, but he was right enough in referring to Cleveland as an obstruction.

The test case in regard to the constitutionality of the act creating the Election Commission should be pressed to a speedy decision, for the Republican National Convention is to be held June 16 and the preliminary convention in this State will have to be held early, so there is no time to lose.

It was right in the American Federation of Labor to request Cleveland to remove Carlisle for violating the eight-hour law, but the request will be in vain. Cleveland knows that if some of the employes of the Government were not made to work overtime he and the heads of departments would not have so much time for junketing.

The native Californian's love of the beautiful, begotten of his perpetual sight of Nature's rarest beauties, from babyhood to old age, is strikingly shown in the Christmas shopping now in full swing. The sturdy miner and stalwart rancher exhibit as delicate a taste in the selection of a seasonable present as the most cultured member of Sorosis, or the most advanced pupil of the School of Design for Women.

LOOK OUT FOR THE BOSS.

It is hoped that the Grand Jury, in its search for evidence that the Solid Eight of the Board of Supervisors have accepted bribes from various sources, will not overlook the fact that very often the tools whom corrupt political bosses put in office are not the direct beneficiaries of the "boodle" paid for corrupt legislation or the neglect of proper legislation. Generally these unscrupulous tools dare not make any corrupt bargains on their own account. More than that, it is much safer for them to have no direct dealings with bribers, as not only would that bring them in bad odor with the bosses who control them, but it would vastly increase the chances of their discovery and punishment.

The boss is usually the agent who attends to all that sort of business and gives his instructions to his tools in office. They may trust him explicitly for evident reasons. Another safeguard against exposure is often found in the person of an attorney, who operates between the bribers and the boss. If cornered he can always shield himself behind the position of "privileged communication," with which the law has invested him, and there the investigation stops. In such a case the only possible punishment is political ostracism.

It will thus be seen that the difficulties of tracing bribery are very great. We see corrupt office-holders and shady bosses growing rich, and, coupling it with the character of the legislation done and avoided and the known political affiliation between the office-holder and the boss, there is an unavoidable presumption that bribery has been resorted to, but its legal detection is another matter. To destroy the power of such bosses is to extirpate the evil at its source.

The Lexow committee of New York discovered fortunes which certain officers of the city had made out of positions paying small salaries. Our Grand Jury might make important discoveries of a similar kind if it should pursue that course. But to confine the effort to an attempt at tracing corruption money to the hands of the Solid Eight is to take the least promising method.

THE GREATEST NEED.

In its issue of yesterday THE CALL enumerated the matters of vital concern to this coast upon which it was desired that the Nation should acquire proper information through the holding of the National Republican Convention in San Francisco, and which now will have to be urged before Congress with harder effort in view of our failure to secure the convention. The most important of the items of that enumeration was the railroad debt and proposed measures for refunding it. That being the most important, it should receive first and exclusive attention until it is out of the way. There will be time enough after that for taking up the other matters.

The preliminary ruling by Judge McKenna of the United States Circuit Court to the effect that the United States has the right to intervene in the suit brought by the Southern Pacific Company to enjoin the California State Board of Railroad Commissioners, adds to the gravity of the situation and the need for earnest and unremitting activity. In general terms Judge McKenna takes the ground that this right of intervention proceeds from the fact that State regulation of charges made by the Southern Pacific Company for service performed by the Central Pacific Railroad, which it operates under lease, may or may not interfere with the ability of the Southern Pacific, as the successor in interest of the Central Pacific, to meet the obligations imposed by the Thurman act; if it be shown that the reduction proposed by the State will render the provisions of the Thurman act, with reference to the sinking fund which it creates, inoperative, the reduction may not be made.

This will make it incumbent on the parties to show whether or not the proposed reduction will have such effect. In that showing the railroad company will have every advantage, as the matter of its accounts is wholly within its hands. It was proved in the famous Colton suit that when the company is called upon to produce its accounts, which, if produced, would lead to a rectification of the wrongs which it practices, the books have an accommodating way of losing themselves. There can hardly be any doubt that the Southern Pacific will be able to show, with the infinite and tortuous resources at its command, that an enforcement of the reduction proposed by the State Board of Railroad Commissioners will make it impossible to comply with the provisions of the Thurman act.

It is true that the company has found no difficulty in evading the terms of that act, as the insignificant amount of its contribution to the sinking fund shows. It is never difficult for the company to operate any one of its lines in a way to prove that it has not earned a net profit from which contributions to the fund might be made. The significant part of it all is that the company prefers to take its chances with the National Government rather than with the State, where it is better known, and that its whole policy is to use the Government as an instrument to perpetuate the power which for nearly thirty years it has exercised against the best interests of California.

UNWISE MR. BAYARD.

With insignificant exceptions, and even they occurring in a perfunctory and half-hearted manifestation, the Democrats of the House concurred in the demand of the Republicans that the President take steps to ascertain if Thomas F. Bayard, Embassador to the court of St. James, made certain highly offensive public speeches abroad, in which he exhibited a bitter partisan spirit by characterizing the American people as "violent" and requiring the firm control of such a master hand as that of President Cleveland, and in which he denounced the protection idea as the "insatiable growth of a certain form of socialism." It was a remarkable incident in Congress, and compels the President either to recall Mr. Bayard or hold himself responsible for his utterances.

However much American citizens may differ at home on questions of public policy it has always been deemed a proper expression of patriotism to defend the country as a whole abroad. That refers to the conception of private citizens. An Embassador occupies a position of so much greater responsibility that the restrictions on his conscience and conduct are much more severe. Mr. Bayard has seen fit to sweep all these considerations aside in his yielding to a spirit of partisanship that renders a conception of patriotism on his part impossible.

All this is bad enough, but it is made worse by the fact that in pursuing the course which he adopted he violated the rules governing the conduct of American representatives abroad. He has shown himself lacking not only in loyalty to his people and patriotism to his country, but also as a violator of the condition of his incumbency. He not only made himself offensive as an American in a foreign country, but his conduct has been subversive of the common-sense regulations imposed upon the representatives of this country abroad for the preservation of international peace, good will and business reciprocity.

But why has it been necessary for Congress to call the attention of the executive to this gross breach of patriotism and law? By refusing to take the initiative he has already made himself responsible for the utterances of the agent whom he selected to represent the United States in Great Britain. The attitude of the House is more a rebuke to him than to Mr. Bayard; that is a fact, whether or not it was so intended.

The truth is that Mr. Cleveland's utterances in his messages to Congress and letters to friends have been almost bodily quoted by Mr. Bayard in his offensive speeches in Great Britain, and it seems a reasonable presumption that in repeating the President's views Mr. Bayard did so with some sort of assurance that they would please his model of American citizenship in the White House and strengthen the friendship existing between him and the aristocrats of Great Britain.

THE DEMOCRATS NEXT.

One good effect of the fight made so earnestly to bring the Republican National Convention to San Francisco has been in a measure to educate the country upon the matters of National interest involved in a better knowledge of the needs of the West. Another good effect has been to lighten the labors of the Democrats, should they decide to make an effort to bring their National Convention hither. It may be too late now to organize a campaign of the completeness and vigor which the Republicans evolved, but any kind of hard fight would have an important effect four years hence.

The struggle which the West made for San Francisco and the large vote which this City received in the National Republican Committee have greatly advanced the chances of San Francisco in the fight which will occur four years from now, and have placed the National party under obligations which never existed before. A similar result would be secured by the Democrats if they would make a similar hard fight. In these struggles the efforts put forth by one party assist those made by the other.

It is proper at this time to indulge in a little self-congratulation over the manner in which the fight was made for San Francisco. We can afford to lose the convention in view of the discovery that the people of the West, and particularly of California, have the public spirit, pluck and money to throw into an important struggle which concerns their prosperity.

An exceedingly pleasing feature of the matter is that while the Republicans displayed a fine order of ability, leading and wealthy Democrats came to their assistance with financial and moral support in abundance. Whether or not the importance of the occasion gave birth to this spirit of wise and patriotic confraternity, or whether it merely brought to the surface that which is latent, it would hardly be worth while to inquire. That we know such a spirit exists is sufficient and eminently gratifying. If properly encouraged and directed it will lead to results of the greatest importance, in which those of all political beliefs are equally concerned. In short, our people have shown themselves possessed of a most commendable public spirit and an intelligent sense of co-operation. This discovery consoles us greatly for the loss of the convention.

THE CALL, without wishing to appear officious, but speaking merely as a newspaper devoted to the interests of California, pledges its support to any efforts which the Democrats may make to bring their National Convention to this City. In this it is confident that it will have the earnest co-operation of the Republican party.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

A HARVESTER OF 1848.

To the Editor of the San Francisco Call: J. Fenimore Cooper in one of his novels, "Oak Openings," describes himself as traveling in the State of Michigan in the fall of 1848, and this is what he saw in operation on a large farm. The description of the machinery, whether fictitious or real, closely pictures one of our California harvesters.

On page 494 (Darley) it reads: "The peculiar ingenuity of the American has supplied the want of laborers in a country where agriculture is carried on by wholesale, especially in the cereals, by an instrument of the most singular and elaborate construction. This machine is drawn by sixteen or eighteen horses, attached to it laterally, so as to work clear of the standing grain, and who move the whole fabric on a moderate but steady walk. A path is first cut with a cradle on one side of the field, when the machine is dragged into the open place. Here it enters the standing grain, cutting off its heads with the utmost accuracy as it moves. Forks beneath prepare the way, and a rapid vibratory motion of a great number of two-edged knives effects the object. The stalks of the grain can be cut as low or as high as one pleases, but it is usually thought best to take only the heads.

"The impelling power which causes the great fabric to advance also sets in motion the machinery within it. As soon as the heads of grain are severed from the stalks they pass into a receptacle, where, by a very quick and simple process, the kernels are separated from the husks. Thence all goes into a fanning machine, where the chaff is blown away. The clean grain falls into a small bin, whence it is raised by a screw elevator to a height that enables it to pass out at an opening to which a bag is attached. Wagons follow the slow march of the machine and the proper number of men are in attendance. Bag after bag is renewed until a wagon is loaded. As respects this ingenious machine it remains only to say that it harvests, cleans and bags from twenty to thirty acres of heavy wheat in the course of a single summer's day! Altogether it is a gigantic invention, well adapted to meet the necessities of a gigantic country." B. P. BAIRD.

BAYARD'S EDINBURGH SPEECH.

Boston Transcript.

Minister Bayard's characterization of protection in this country as a form of socialism, although it is anything but new, will undoubtedly call down upon his head the severe denunciation of those who are wont to regard socialism as the sum of all that is evil or dangerous. But what is the bad socialism and what things are socialistic in the destructive sense in this hour of the century? Our ex-United States Census Commissioner, Robert P. Porter, under Republican rule, and one of the American authorities on protection, has instanced these developments of the "municipal spirit" in England, in a recent review article as among the triumphs of protection.

He is consistent in admiring such an extension of the protection policy while deploring the rapidity of its development in England, while Mr. Bayard as a Democrat is consistent in decrying it.

Mexican Herald.

The socialistic aspect of protection consists in this, that the money of the great body of taxpayers is artificially turned into the maintenance or the fostering of industries which are only kept alive or initiated by state aid. But if a nation deems it wise to aid by protection a new industry, in the reasonable expectation that that industry will within a few years become self-sustaining and able to meet foreign competition, there is adequate excuse for the extension of assistance by the great mass of the taxpayers through their Government. The unreasonableness of protection comes when products are not cheapened and wholesale competition is shut out.

Chicago Record.

As Embassador Bayard is supposed to represent the whole people and his address was an attack upon the views of part of them, the propriety and taste of the speech is well open to question. But it is especially important at the present time that the more vicious features of extreme protectionism be emphasized. The advocates of extreme tariffs are obviously endeavoring to read in the Republican victories of the last election a sanction of their theories.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS.

J. J. McGrath, the Alaska pioneer, who has lived at Juneau since 1882, and who knows much about the Yukon River country, has arrived here to remain for the winter. Mr. McGrath is a hotel proprietor and is known to almost everybody in Alaska or who have visited that Territory.

He has been busy during the summer in erecting buildings on some of his Juneau town lots. Another Alaskan, who was alluding to the efforts of the Canadian Government to control the business of Forty Mile, said at the Commercial yesterday that as a matter of fact the miners of the Yukon were not opposed to the British.

"They put on their mounted police," he said, "and now, as you notice by the dispatch from Seattle to-day, the Canadians are going to have a mail there during the winter, with at least two deliveries, though it is 800 miles from Juneau to Forty Mile.

"Why wasn't our Government equally anxious to serve the interests of the people? Why not look out a little for the Americans? The miners up there are seeing that the other Government is doing more for the people than ours, so they are not, as a rule, dissatisfied with the new conditions that have been inaugurated.

"The two mail deliveries in the dead of the long winter will be great things for the miners, even though they do have to pay 50 cents a letter in addition to the support given by the Canadian Government."

Lum On, the noted Chinese clam fisherman and dealer, whose catches in the bay are among the biggest made, was at the Russ yesterday. He says the clams this year are unusually fine.

"The Alameda clams," he said, "are unusually large, and there are a great many of them. I take them by the aid of long nets, and have no trouble these days in making big hauls. The clams are very fine. I take them all in the daytime."

Lum employs a number of men. He is an expert at clam-catching and furnishes large quantities to the hotels and boarding-houses.

While there are many prominent, some wealthy and other well-to-do people visiting San Francisco now, largely because of the low railroad and steamship rates, there are a great many more here who have all they can do to make both ends meet.

Many of these have left Oregon, Washington and British Columbia for this City, merely because it was cheaper to travel than to stay at home. Some them will never get back. They are the flotsam and jetsam, who only want an opportunity to continue their wanderings.

A proprietor of one of the third-class hotels said yesterday:

"Take sixty or seventy who arrive here on each steamer and you will get that many dollars from them. A good percentage of them are entirely broke. Two steamers ago there was a lot of 200 out of 420 that were little less than hoboes, if the term may be used. They were nothing else—the scaliest lot of people you ever saw.

"When they can get steerage passage and board for but $2 50 and the pleasure of a trip, why, they simply manage to raise this and come on here and take chances.

"Then, too, the cabin passage, including board, being but $10, this has brought many others who equally enjoy a nice trip, and that too is cheaper than staying at home. In this class are many as good people as can be found anywhere.

"At the north no doubt the same mixed conditions may be noted of the travel from California. The people, however, who are short of money would be better off where they are, without traveling."

"For some days I have been engaged in marketing a crop of olives and olive oil produced at the orchard near Placerville," said J. Hoffman last night at the Lick. "I find that the olives grown there command a higher price than from any other section of the State. The soil is peculiarly adapted to this growth, and the touches required otherwise by nature all unite in a manner to make the olive reach its highest perfection.

"Then there are no scale there—no disease, in fact, of any kind—to retard the trees and injure the olives. In some sections a good deal of attention has to be given to the diseases of olive trees. Then, the trees do not cost a cent from one year's end to the other. They grow and thrive in a phenomenal way. The dealers I have met have been exceedingly pleased with both the olive oils and olives that I have shown as samples of the product, and I had no trouble in making advantageous sales."

WORDS OF PRAISE.

Rocklin Representative.

We received this week on our exchange table the San Francisco CALL. San Francisco's cleanest, brightest and newsiest daily paper. Long may it live and prosper.

Eastland Marin Press.

The San Francisco CALL is publishing more Marin County news than all the other dailies put together.

San Francisco Voice of Labor.

Those cowhide boots of Charley Shortridge are kicking up a devil of a dust in all directions. Keep a-stomping, son.

LADY'S WAIST WITH BOX-PLEATED BLOUSE FRONT.

The waist shown here has a fitted lining, over which the material is laid in box-pleats in front, the back being smooth at the top, with four tiny pleats at the waist line. The lining fastens in the center front, the box-pleated front hooking at the shoulder and under-arm seam on the left side. The sleeves are leg-o'-mutton shape, and are shown here with a trimming of lace. The same lace is laid over the back at the top in yoke fashion, and is placed between the pleats in front to simulate a yoke.

The model is much used for silk waists, with lace trimming as shown here. A green and

black taffeta, with tiny black figure, is exquisite to wear with black skirts, using black lace for trimming.

Violet silk trimmed with black or ecru lace is exceedingly pretty, and blues of the bluet shades are much used in the same way.

Crepon makes up very well after this model, with lace, as illustrated. Or the trimming may consist of a row of buttons on both sides of each pleat, from the neck to the bust, using twelve buttons on the central pleat and fourteen on the side pleats.

The latter mode of trimming it makes it appropriate also on woolens of light weight. A gown of rose and black novelty goods was trimmed in this way with black buttons and black belt and collar.

Another pretty mode of trimming is to lay a piece of ribbon between the plaits, turning the lower edges up at the bottom to face points. The ribbon is also laid between the side pleats and the arm-size, extending over the shoulders and meeting at the waist line in the back.

NAMES FOR DUNRAVEN.

Let us call Lord Dunraven no more hard names than is absolutely necessary. His case is one that may be more advantageously dealt with in sorrow than in anger. He seems to most of us a wrong-headed person, who had, to be sure, some hard luck, but who brought the worst of his sporting misfortunes down by his own unwisdom on his own head. He seems still to be piling up troubles on himself, and he may certainly be trusted to give himself all the discipline he may need. There are plenty of good sportsmen in England who have shown that they have tried hard to judge Dunraven's conduct and his charges and complaints on their merits, and not a few of them have censured his course. It is worth some time and pains to convince such men, if possible, that their representative yachtman got just and sportsmanlike treatment here, and that such of his misfortunes as were not due to bad luck are attributable to his own folly. It is difficult to carry so much conviction so far across the seas, but with the Earl's own assistance, which seems to be singularly efficient, it may possibly be done.—Life.

PERSONAL.

Charles J. Fox of Hollister is here.

Prescott Ely of Cleveland is at the Palace.

J. H. Flickinger of San Jose arrived here yesterday.

Ex-Judge J. M. Walling of Nevada City is at the Russ.

L. J. Maddox, the attorney, of Modesto, is at the Grand.

J. F. Chiles, a ranch-owner of Davisville, is at the Lick.

Dr. Alex T. Leonard has gone on a visit to Grass Valley.

A. Ekman, a business man of Oroville, is at the Grand.

J. C. Campbell, a merchant of Marysville, is at the Grand.

George Dannenbauer, a business man of Vallejo, is here.

C. R. Bowe of Hood River is among recent Oregon arrivals.

C. E. Blake, a hardware-dealer of Los Angeles, is in town.

Charles Francee, a general-goods dealer of Salinas, is in the City.

J. A. Webster, a fruit-grower of Vacaville, is here on a business trip.

E. P. Colgan of Sacramento, State Controller, arrived here last night.

Dr. J. Carrosso Fraser of Pasadena is here, accompanied by his wife.

R. B. Oullahan, a real estate dealer of Stockton, arrived here yesterday.

A. N. Butts, the mining superintendent of Angels, is paying a visit here.

John McMurry, the well-known mining man of Weaverville, is in the City.

E. B. Yerington of Virginia City arrived here yesterday and is at the Palace.

Fred Searles, superintendent of gold properties at Nevada City, is in town.

C. D. Boyd, an attorney from San Diego, is among the arrivals at the Grand.

Edward Dekum, one of the best-known business men of Portland, is at the California.

James O'Brien, the wealthy mine-owner and old resident of Smartsville, is at the Russ.

Frank H. Buck, the fruit-grower of Vacaville, is at the Lick, accompanied by his family.

Chester Rowell, editor of the Fresno Republican, who has been in the City some days, left for home yesterday.

F. Howard of Kansas City, who some time since became interested in mining in Nevada County, is in the City.

C. M. Coglan, secretary of the State Board of Equalization, came down from Sacramento last night and is at the Lick.

A. Heilbron, the wealthy cattle-grower of Sacramento, who has been in the business many years and owns large herds, is at the Grand.

Mrs. J. M. Gillette of Portland, wife of the general traveling agent of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company, is at the Russ, accompanied by her mother.

F. J. Kiersel, one of the most successful merchants of Ogden, Utah, who has lived in that mountain town for many years, is here on a business trip. He is at the Lick.

H. K. Moulthrop of this City has been commissioned deputy national president of the National Association of Stationary Engineers. He has opened an office at 220 Fremont street.

W. M. Wallace, James W. McClelland and W. G. Thompson Jr., of Lexington, Ky., and among the leading fast-horse growers of the Blue-grass State, arrived here last night and are at the Palace.

Dr. Rupert Blue and Mrs. Blue will leave for Galveston, Texas, Saturday to spend Christmas with Mrs. Blue's parents. Dr. J. H. Oakley will take Dr. Blue's place at the U. S. Marine Hospital during his absence. Mrs. Blue's father is P. C. Downs, the master of transportation of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 11.—C. Aronstein and W. E. Taverner Buchanan are at the Grand Union; W. P. Pammett at the Belvidere, L. Webb at the Coleman, H. Jones at the Windsor and P. Casserly at the St. James.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

EXAMINATIONS FOR THE BAR—Lex and J. T., City. The following is the rule that governs the examination for practice in the courts of this State:

Applicants for admission to practice law will not hereafter be examined in open court at the sessions held in Sacramento and San Francisco. In pursuance of the recent amendment to section 276 of the Code of Civil Procedure three of the Supreme Court Commissioners will be designated by the Chief Justice to conduct public examinations of all persons who present their applications in due form. Such examinations will be held at the Supreme Court building in San Francisco on the fourth Mondays of April, August and December. Unless otherwise ordered applicants who are bona-fide residents of any of the counties of the Los Angeles district will, if they so desire, be examined at the beginning of each session of the court in Los Angeles, as heretofore.

The Commissioners who are to conduct the examinations have not yet been named.

PHOTO-ENGRAVING—J. M. H., City. There are a number of processes for photo-engraving, but the finest for the reproduction of pictures at this time is one that those who use it have had to pay a high price to learn, and for that reason they refuse to give any information about it.

AUTHOR OF A HYMN—Constant Reader, San Jose, Cal. The hymn in which occurs the line, "O Jesus! lamb once crucified," was written by J. W. Eastburne, and can be found in "The Plymouth Collection of Hymns and Tunes for the Use of Christian Congregations."

SUGAR-BEET CULTURE—A. R. C., City. In the issue of THE CALL of Sunday, December 1, page 28, there is given all the information asked for on the subject of sugar-beet culture, in an interview with Claus Spreckels.

BRET HARTE'S ADDRESS—E. H. P., Fowler, Fresno County, Cal. The address of Bret Harte is "Postoffice, care of A. P. Watt, 2 Paternoster Row, London."

CLIPPING WINGS—J. E. J., Fort Bragg, Mendocino County, Cal. The clipping of the wings is not injurious to laying hens.

A BACK DATE—C. A. M., City. The 23d day of December, 1865, fell on a Saturday.

FROM WESTERN SANCTUMS.

Sensible Suggestions to Prune-Growers.

San Jose Herald.

There is no sense in talking about overproduction of prunes, apricots, etc., in Santa Clara Valley, so long as there are great cities and sections in the East that do not know them. Our representative at the Atlanta Exposition found a great deal of such ignorance. What is needed is the production of superior articles, thorough advertising, reasonable freights and the elimination of the middleman as far as possible. The market will then be all right.

Business Vs. Buncombe.

Portland Oregonian.

All this talk about maintaining the Monroe doctrine and asserting our proper place among the nations of the earth is puerile nonsense so long as we let our rich and populous cities lie open to the first attack. If we really mean to assert the Monroe doctrine we should pass naval and fortification appropriation bills instead of buncombe resolutions.

The Show Will Be Something to Crow About.

Los Angeles Herald.

It is stated that the entries are all in for the State Poultry Fair to be held soon in San Francisco. 'Tis well; it would never do to have an affair of that kind go off half cock.

Where Democracy Succeeded.

Los Angeles Times.

Senator Hill says that "the Democrats tried to do too much." Yes—they not only tried, but they succeeded.

WESTERN EDITORS.

Watsonville Pajaronian.

In an interview in THE CALL, Claus Spreckels advocates a bounty of 1½ cents per pound for American produced sugar. Such a law would give the beet sugar business a wonderful boom.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

Oscar Hammerstein is introducing some innovations at his new Olympia that have startled New York music-hall circles, but what has startled them most is the Olympia Sunday concert, directed by Fritz Scheel. The New York Sun says: "An audience accustomed to 'Sunday sacred concerts' assembled at Oscar Hammerstein's Olympia last night and got a surprise. Most of them went there with the idea of hearing tenors, with diamond shirt studs and sorrowful voices, sing about the desirability of keeping fresh sod on mother's grave, or of hearing a shapely soubrette singing "Nellie's Flew the Coop," "Sister's Hair has Bleached Out Green," and similar popular and topical ditties. Such were the expectations with which they gathered after reading 'Sunday Popular Concert.' An idea of this most remarkable of music-hall concerts will be gained when it is stated that the programme began with Beethoven's "Lenore" overture No. 3, and ended with Massenet's "Scenes Napolitaines," including selections from Wagner, Mendelssohn, Liszt, Tschaikowski and Thomas. A rather small audience evinced more surprise than enthusiasm for the programme. The concert was signalized by the first appearance here of Herr Fritz Scheel. He has an orchestra of seventy-five men, and with little more practice together they should do justice to any music and make these events a success artistically. Whether a music-hall audience will take kindly to that style of thing is a problem that Hammerstein has set himself to solve."

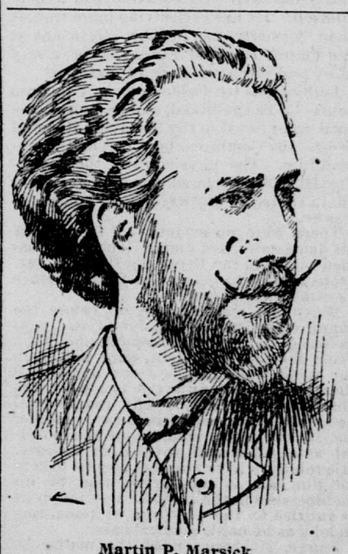
The other New York papers speak in praise of Scheel's conducting, though they are not enthusiastic over his orchestra. The Herald says: "Although several experienced musicians are members of the band, many of the numbers were above the capabilities of the orchestral players. This is much to be regretted, as Hammerstein has secured an exceedingly talented conductor, Fritz Scheel, who made his first appearance last evening, and who is capable of directing an orchestra of the best players with positive authority."

It seems that the Philadelphia season of grand opera is likely to end in fiasco. The guarantee of $50,000 was not enough to achieve good results (New York guarantees $250,000), and it has been all that society could do to keep awake during the performances in the City of Brotherly Love. Speaking of the cause for the first outburst of enthusiasm, and the succeeding lack of interest, Footlights says: "The critics came to the first performance. 'Sigurd' was the opera, and the poor critics were divided between their duty and their patriotism. If they damned the opera and the cast, woe be it to Philadelphia's hope of equaling New York's season. If they told the truth, then those sarcastic Gothamite scribes would say nasty, mean things about Philadelphia chickens and Philadelphia butter. And so the critics buttoned up their coats at a quarter to 1 in the morning, went to their respective offices and ground out superlative adjectives of praise for Hinrichs, the company and for Philadelphia. No finer bit of imaginative writing can be found in modern fiction than those selfsame criticisms. The Philadelphia Call was the only paper to speak the truth about the operas, and the opera management immediately took their advertisement from that paper. Of course it isn't Mr. Hinrichs' fault that the disappointment attendant upon the opera season is so universal. He attempted too much with too little, but why keep up the farce? Why not acknowledge that the grand opera we have been having is not grand opera at all, but a travesty?"

The Parisian papers are chuckling over a little trick which the New York Herald recently played upon Lillian Nordica. It seems that this distinguished singer labors under the impression that artistic successes won in America are hidden under a bushel and their light is not seen by the world at large. This lady, who is singing with the Metropolitan Opera-house Company, recently addressed a letter to the New York Herald, in Paris, to ask if it was not possible to reach a business arrangement by means of which the European public could be kept informed of her success in America by dispatches addressed to the Parisian edition of the Herald. Commenting on this Le Menestrel says: "Our contemporary, the Herald, was mischievous enough to print this letter 'in extenso,' and naive enough—was it really naivete?—to ask with astonishment what sort of arrangement Mme. Nordica meant. Parbleau! Business is business." The Maine widow evidently knows what business means. She is a rich woman, and she is said to be willing to part with a fraction of her treasure to let her recent success as Isolde be "Heralded" to the Parisian public.

A manuscript libretto of "Lohengrin" will soon be put up at auction in Berlin. It is not written by Richard Wagner, but several passages are corrected by his hand and the title is in his writing, as well as the list of dramatis personæ; all of which is considered a proof that he made use of the book. What interests musicians in the libretto are the differences that exist between it and the edition of "Lohengrin" finally adopted. The MS. contains 160 verses which are not found in the published edition, and the published edition contains fifty-eight verses not in the MS. These variations are of great interest, especially those relating to the famous swan. Ortrude recounts at great length why and how she metamorphosized the crown prince of Brabant into a swan, and afterward the bird sings six verses before resuming the form of the prince. It seems a matter for real regret that Wagner should have suppressed this swan's song.

"Many are called but few are chosen" is particularly true of the foreign virtuosos who come flocking to America. The failure of several of these gentlemen this season seems to be proof of the fact that the public will not always be beguiled by the voice of the press agent, laud he never so loudly. There is Martin P. Marsick, for instance, a thoroughly good violinist, who had to get leave of absence from his class at the Paris Conservatory to undertake an American tour. But Marsick could not live up to such advance notices as "Marsick is among the leaders of musical art in



Martin P. Marsick.

France": "Marsick has given a series of concerts which have quite revolutionized Paris"; "alone Marsick has climbed the Tarpeian rock of musical art," etc. The Tarpeian rock is a dangerous thing to climb; offenders used to be hurled headlong from it in Roman times. Marsick has had something of a fall from the rock himself now. He arrived in New York in October, gave his concerts, and will probably return to Paris a sadder and a wiser man.

The first performance has just been given at the Marie Theater, St. Petersburg, of a musical trilogue in eight tableaux, entitled "Orestes." The libretto is by W. A. Wankstein, after the tragedy by Eschylus, and Serge Teneiew made the music. The public received "Orestes" with cold disapproval, for it seems that the librettist has dug out of Eschylus' tragedy a very ordinary book, and while the composer has adorned the verses with scholarly music, his score would fit a modern story better than a Greek drama. So much for one of the new Russian operas which have been looked forward to with so much interest this winter. There are several more to come, however.

Although Materna's voice has ceased to be a thing of beauty, it seems that the first Brunhilde is not to disappear from the German stage. A niece of Frau Materna, Fraulein Hedwige Materna, has inherited the voice and the dramatic talent of the former star of the Vienna Opera. The young girl has accepted an engagement at the Opera in Leipsic, and the public are receiving her with acclamations in the role of Brunhilde.

At Frankfort recently the singer Joseph Lederer shot himself fatally with a revolver. He was not a great artist, but he was celebrated for having been instrumental in causing the arrest of Kullmann, the instigator of the attempt on Bismarck's life in 1874 at Kissingen. Poverty was the cause of the singer's suicide.

The Emperor William has invited to his court a Swedish singer, Scholander Stoccola, who enjoys great popularity in his own part of the world. In addition to Swedish national melodies he sings ballads in French, German and English, accompanying himself on the lute, an instrument which he plays with rare proficiency.

Mascagni is making a great name for himself in Austria and Germany as an orchestral conductor, where he is directing vocal and instrumental concerts, as well as performances of his own operas.

Leoncavallo has intrusted to the tenor Benedetto Lucignani the creation of the title role in his new opera, "Thomas Chatterton," which will be produced this winter at the Scala.

At the Ducal Theater of Schwerin a new opera, "The Hunter of Trent," by Albert Thierfelden, has just been played for the first time with marked success.

Edward Grieg is composing the score of a new work, called "Hang Tussa." It is for solos, chorus and orchestra, and its performance will occupy an entire evening.

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Mark Hopkins Institute of Art.

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They Injure the Cause of Silver.

San Jose Mercury.

It is unfortunate for the cause of silver that its most prominent advocates cannot refrain from doing things that place them in the role of charlatans. Stewart some months ago organized the Hifalutin Order of Silver Knights, or something of the kind, and now William H. Harvey feels called upon to institute the order of "Patriots of America." These silly side-shows do more to injure bimetallism than all the vociferations of the goldbugs.

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Reuben (telling of his visit to London)—Wun day I sat right against two burglars in a bus.

Cynthia—How did ye know they wuz burglars, Reub?

Reuben—Waal, wun sez t' the other, "I'm going to Rob Roy t