The San Francisco Call

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THURSDAY.....MAY 7, 1896

THE CALL SPEAKS FOR ALL.

All hail! McKinley.

The platform suits the people.

Harmony is the watchword now.

The convention did its work well.

As goes California so goes THE CALL.

It was a victory for straight politics.

The delegation is one the State can be proud of.

We asked for a stem-winder platform and we got it.

Sacramento was a storm center, but San Jose is an aurora borealis.

There is no uncertainty about the money plank. It means business.

There are no complaints heard in these days of "nothing in the papers."

McKinley, protection and free silver coinage make a good combination.

Martin Kelly has been dropped into a cavity, but he never will be missed.

Every step toward woman suffrage is a step toward purity at the ballot-box.

The platform is broad enough and strong enough for all loyal Republicans to stand on.

The woman's suffrage plank is first in the platform, and will not be last in the campaign.

The voice of the Senate is the first in peace, the first for war and the last for coast defenses.

San Jose might as well make Queen Lilian's reign a permanent thing and be a paradise forever.

Indiana is evidently willing to give Harrison a chance to guess again on the Presidential conundrum.

The full report of California's gold product has never been told. We are richer than the records show.

The action of the convention will uncork Republican enthusiasm, but it will prove a corker to Democracy.

The campaign for protection should make Californians more earnest in supporting California industries.

Politics and festivals make a combination sufficiently stimulating to give the whole State a cocktail atmosphere.

The second Mrs. Harrison knows no reason why she should not be the lady of the White House as well as the first one.

Cleveland has already become something of a back number, and public attention turns away from him for the coming man.

Neither those who see the Healdsburg fete, nor those who see the San Jose rose carnival will envy any other crowd in the State.

Auburn is not straining herself for a carnival, but she has gladdened her people with one of the best flower shows of the season.

We can count on the delegation to advance the interests of California at St. Louis, and maintain the cause of the Greater West.

Kruger is making the British telegraph lines not only score diplomatic victories for him, but furnish him with evidence for gaining more.

Judging from the comparative degree of public interest in the two events the Chicago convention will hardly be a sideshow to that at St. Louis.

What each nation would like most just now is to see two other nations get into a naval war and put the modern battle-ship to a test before any more are built.

The motion for an investigation of the bond deals moves slowly, but it may yet reach the White House in time to find Cleveland out by finding him at home.

There was, of course, a good deal of seeming discord at Sacramento while the party instruments were getting into tune, but now comes the triumphant harmony.

Senator Pettigrew expressed a widespread public sentiment in saying the bond deals seem "rotten, dishonest and corrupt to the core, and therefore ought to be investigated."

Really we might as well arrange a midsummer festival in San Francisco, just to return our compliments to the interior and show a willingness to get into the State procession and be a good fellow.

Between silver monometallism and gold monometallism, there is a broad safe road along which the Republican party marches, but the Democrats of both factions have become bewildered and taken to the woods.

It should need no argument to convince anybody that the ferry depot which is to be the grand entrance gate to the metropolis of California should be constructed of California stone and be a monument to her resources and her workmanship.

WORK WELL DONE.

The Sacramento convention has done its work well. While the action taken may not as a whole be in accord with the wishes of any particular individual, it will be in the highest degree satisfactory to the party generally. The platform is a strong, ringing declaration of principles, dealing courageously with every issue before the people. The delegation to St. Louis is made up of able, earnest and loyal men, and while we believe they could accomplish more effective work had they been left unpledged, yet they are men of such eminent ability and influence that even with the restrictions upon them there is no doubt they will be able to do much to advance the interests of California and maintain the great cause of bimetallism.

The marked characteristic of the convention was the earnestness with which the members engaged in the work before it and the orderly manner in which all was accomplished. Differences of opinion existed among the delegates on many subjects, and there were many contests for seats to be decided. These, under management of less skillful leaders and organizers, or left to the arbitration of men less devoted to the great principles or less loyal to the welfare of the party, might easily have occasioned excitements that would have resulted in antagonisms and bitterness. They were, however, dealt with in the right spirit and settled with a true political wisdom. Every step taken tended to the establishment of a satisfactory basis of agreement, and the result is a harmony in which the whole party is united.

The instructions given will place the California delegation among the supporters of McKinley as long as there is a chance for his nomination. In taking this action the convention undoubtedly intended to voice the general sentiment of the Republicans of the State, and none can question its right and its ability to declare what that sentiment is. To the expression thus made all California Republicans should give a willing approval. There must be harmony and unity of action in this as in all things else. The highest authority of the party in the State has spoken, and while there is a prospect of his nomination at the National Convention California will cast her vote for McKinley.

Out of the proceedings of the convention, as out of every other political event in these times, auguries can be drawn bright with promise that the Republican party will achieve in the coming campaign the greatest political victory of this generation. There is harmony in the party everywhere. There is energy, enthusiasm and unity in the rank and file. The cry of patriotism, protection and prosperity thrills every heart, and it is with ardor the grand old party waits the day when it shall overwhelm its foes at the ballot-box.

THE PLATFORM.

The Sacramento platform vindicates the claim of the Republican party to be not only the party of the people, but the party of liberal ideas, of progress and of reform. It does not content itself with reaffirming the principles of the past, but it goes forward to new things. It asserts with an undiminished fidelity its devotion to the policy of protection and bimetallism and then proceeds to carry the cause of American advancement further yet by declaring for woman's suffrage and the direct assistance by the Government of the great interests of shipping, mining, dairying and farming.

The strong declarations in favor of protection to all forms of American industry were of course expected. This will constitute the chief issue of the campaign, and the attitude of the Republican party toward it is too well known for any great interest to be felt in the renewal of its declarations of loyalty to the principles of complete protection. The salient features of the Sacramento platform therefore will be found in the planks supporting woman's suffrage, the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, the restriction of pauper, criminal and contract immigration, Government aid for the transportation of agricultural products, the encouragement of hydraulic mining where it can be carried on without injury to other interests, and the commendation given to the efforts made by our delegation in Congress to defeat the funding schemes of the Pacific companies.

It is not to be expected that the National Convention will adopt or accept all of these California ideas. Nevertheless their presentation at St. Louis will have a marked influence upon the platform to be adopted there.

It is the progressive and courageous States that in the end rule the country. It is because there were such things as New England ideas and Southern ideas that those two sections for so long a time divided with one another the control of the Government. It is time now for Western ideas to be put forward and California is charged with the duty of asserting them. Our State platform, therefore, is none too radical. It is suited to the time and the problems of the time and should be supported with vim and vigor.

THE NAPA VINEYARDS.

Every grape-grower in the State is deeply interested in the new vine disease that has appeared among the vineyards of Napa Valley. Intelligent growers who have inspected the affected vines are of the opinion that the trouble arose from the fact that the Riparia, a native vine immune from phylloxera, has a habit of keeping its roots near the surface, and that the long hot spell of last summer in the Napa Valley, combined with the porosity of the loamy soil, caused the heat to injure the roots. This seems to be a rational conclusion, as the Lenoir, another resistant stock, sends its roots deeper and escaped injury. This is true also with non-resistant vines which are perfectly healthy. The assumption is strengthened by the fact that in those parts of the State where the climatic and soil conditions were unlike those at Napa, the Riparia was uninjured.

The value of these considerations is apparent when it is reflected that they point away from any assumption that the Riparia has developed a specific disease. If it has done so the situation might be regarded as serious. It is difficult to imagine how such could be the case, as the vine is growing in its native habitat, and the rule in the domestication of wild plants is that care and cultivation improve their quality and strengthen their vigor. It cannot be expected, however, that a wild plant will thrive if the conditions which heredity have fixed upon it are severely strained. A plant accustomed in a wild state to a moist soil will have difficulty in growing in a dry situation.

If the theory advanced to explain the damage at Napa is correct the simple remedy is surface irrigation in the case of vineyards already grafted to Riparia stock when a long, hot stretch of weather occurs, or, in the case of new plantings, the use of vines which send their roots deeper. As the Riparia is an excellent stock, it may be expected to thrive in soils and climates which approximate those to which it is accustomed in its native state.

Of course the vineyards of Napa represent but a very small proportion of the area in the State devoted to vines, and hence the damage to the State is too small for consideration. At the same time the condition of affairs there demands the most careful study. No threat to any of the vineyard and orchard interests of California has ever arisen but that means were promptly found to avert it. This will be the case with the Napa vineyards.

A GREAT VICTORY.

The Republican party of California in convention assembled at Sacramento did a mighty work for itself when it wheeled upon Martin Kelly and the would-be bosses of the party and routed them horse, foot and dragoons. Those men traveled to Sacramento for the one purpose of carrying away the district machinery of the party in their pockets, but they did not carry it away. In fact, they were not permitted to touch it. And the squelching of them was undertaken with so much determination and the work was so thoroughly done that the party may be assured that no little or big rings will attempt to put on the robe of dictator for awhile. It was a great victory for the party over an element that has no loftier purpose than what "boss" and "the spoils of office" stand for.

Although this good work was accomplished by the splendid generalship of John D. Spreckels, it must not be forgotten that he was seconded and loyally sustained by men as determined as himself to save the party from the ward boss and the for-revenue-only politician.

The professionals were sanguine of victory an hour before they were vanquished. Their plans had been carefully and adroitly laid and they already had begun to strut about and with condescension permit suggestions to be made to them. But their self-sufficiency so blinded them that they did not see the host of indignant and determined Republicans moving down upon them to smite them hip and thigh, and when they were struck they fell like autumn leaves all withered. It was a great victory for Republicanism in California, and it is the kind of a purification that will make the party healthier and stronger every way. Besides, the fact has been emphasized that there is no room anywhere in the Republican party of this State for "dictator," "boss" or office broker.

THE TRANSFER NUISANCE.

The transfer system at the junction of Market and Powell streets has been in operation sufficiently long for an estimate of its value to be made. In all fairness, it should be considered that as yet the people are not thoroughly used to it; that the hardships and inconveniences arising from it may be mollified by time, and that the human family has a happy disposition to submit to evils which there is no earthly power to correct. Under no circumstances of habit or custom, however, can the system be otherwise than exceedingly annoying. This is how the matter must always be regarded from the citizen's point of view.

There is another side to the story—that of the street railway company. The system was established for the alleged reason that passengers approaching the junction with no intention of pursuing their journey beyond it took transfers and gave them outright to the newsboys assembled at the junction. The boys then gave away the transfers to purchasers of papers, so that two persons were enabled to travel over the company's roads on one fare.

The company pretended to have made a careful estimate of the number of transfers thus fraudulently imposed upon it, and arrived at the conclusion that it would be cheaper to maintain four or five transfer agents at the junction and compel the City to furnish a number of policemen at its own expense to prevent outbursts of anger over the impossibility of the transfer agents to handle the business. It will be observed that the main point in the matter was not taken into account for a moment by the company. That was the convenience of the public. The scenes of crowding, scrambling, swearing, hustling and bruising of women and the tearing of their clothes, to say nothing of the confusion and errors and loss of money on the part of the people who had not mastered the intricacies of the system, found no place in the consideration of the company.

That the revenues of the company have been largely increased by the new arrangement cannot be doubted. Aside from the extra nickels it secures through errors and misconceptions on the part of the passengers, there are undoubtedly many who would rather pay an extra fare than enter the scramble for a transfer ticket at the junction. That is the whole case as it stands at present. The one great principle involved in it is that the people, either individually or in municipal organization, have not the least word to say in the premises. That is the one serious feature of the matter.

USE HOME MATERIAL.

In holding up the hands of the Harbor Commissioners in their purpose to use Colusa stone for the new ferry depot, the Manufacturers' Association indorse the sentiment of the people of California generally. It is freely admitted on all sides that Colusa rock is as well adapted for that use as any foreign stone; besides, the ferry depot is a State work, and certainly material that is the product of California should be used when it is as good as the best that could be obtained elsewhere.

There is another aspect of the question of where the stone shall be procured that is to be considered. If Colusa stone is used the money paid for it will immediately enter our own channels of trade and be carried to home dealers in merchandise, provisions and other articles of commerce, while on the other hand if the money is paid to an outside stone company it will be carried beyond our own trade circles, and California would then be a party to building up foreign quarries and merchants at the expense of her own people. It is not the business of a commonwealth to do anything of the kind with money it expends on public improvements for which the people are taxed.

On general principles, therefore, home stone quarries, home merchants and home wage-earners should have all the benefit possible from the construction of this public work. In fact, it would be a reflection upon our business sense and capacity to do business to go away from home for material that is no better, at least, than we have at our door. Besides, the ferry depot is an enterprise of the State and at the expense of the State, and in all reason the people of the State ought to have the benefits accruing from this expenditure of their own money.

The Detroit *Tribune* in defending the funding bill and Huntington's reputation for honesty says: "The courts in California are open for business every day in the year. They stand ready at all times to try criminals of all sorts who come within their jurisdiction." Exactly so, but the *Tribune* forgets that Huntington has been wary enough to get a Kentucky franchise and escape California's jurisdiction.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS.

George A. Steele of Portland, who for years has occupied a high place in the politics and finances of Oregon, is at the Grand.

He is one of the alternates to the Republican National Convention at St. Louis, has been Treasurer of Multnomah County, Postmaster at Portland, Deputy Collector of the Port, member of the State Senate, and was chairman of the Republican State Central Committee which went out of office at the time of the State Convention just held. He had been chairman of the Republican State Central Committee before.

Mr. Steele has lived in Oregon thirty-three years. He went there by way of San Francisco, from Ohio, when but 16 years old. Since then he has acquired large property.

He is president and superintendent of the East Side Electric Railway, a road which he thinks is the best and longest on the Pacific Coast. It reaches from Portland proper, over the Willamette River and through what used to be East Portland, to Oregon City, and it also has a line to Mount Tabor, the entire length being twenty-two miles. Said Mr. Steele:

"I think it is the finest electric road on the Pacific Coast, and we take a good deal of pride in it. It is very solidly built, and altogether it is a splendid electric system.

"In regard to business in Oregon it is fair. It is picking up a little. It can't be any worse than it was for a time, and I think now that it will gradually improve till we get back on the good basis we were a few years ago. It has been a delightful winter there, except in April, when it got quite unpleasant.

"In Oregon we are for what is called sound money. We are not for free silver coinage, or approaching it, as the Republicans are here. Only the Populists are for that there. We want protection there more than anything else, and unless the country gets it, in my judgment, we are going to see very hard times. With it we will gradually come out of our financial difficulties.

"I only came down for a brief stay. I must get back soon to fix up the road between Oregon City and Gladstone, the latter being a mile and a half from Oregon City. There is a magnificent grove of fir and other trees there, capable of accommodating 50,000 people. It is there that the Chautauqua Association meets. An egg-shaped auditorium has been built there which holds 3000 people alone, and besides this there is an enormous platform capable of accommodating large numbers."

Mr. Steele was Postmaster of Portland for nine years and served in the State Senate four years. He is one of the solid representative men of Oregon, and is known to almost every one in the three or four Northwestern States.

George A. Steele, the Noted Republican and Financier of Oregon, Now Here, Who Is One of the Alternates to St. Louis.
[*Sketched from life by a "Call" artist.*]

THE X RAY.

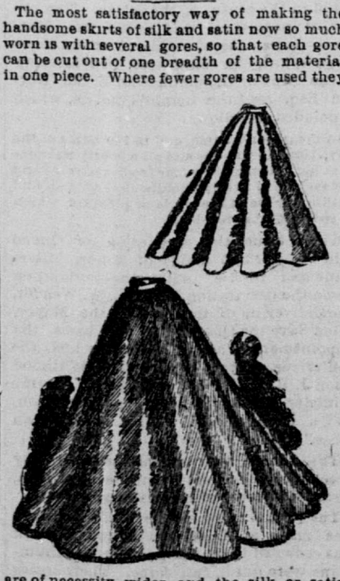
If you can penetrate a purse
And "take" the coins within it resting;
If you can photograph one's bones
Inside the flesh that's them investing;
Forebodings must perforce arise,
Lest as your wondrous skill advances,
You may be able to expose
Views of our inmost thoughts and fancies!

'Tis bad when rude "snap-shottists" take
Our features, all complaints deriding;
'Twill be much worse when they can "snap"
The motive which our breast is hiding;
And when some new development—
For, doubtless, you in time will score it—
Will make our heart as visible
As though upon our sleeve we wore it.

Should politicians then display
For cryptic speeches any leaning,
A Roentgen negative or two
Would soon elucidate their meaning.
Vain would their special pleadings be,
Which candor rules so oft transgresses,
Unless 'twas found their words agreed
With "photos" of their minds' recesses.
—London Truth.

AN ELEVEN-GORED SKIRT FOR SILKS.

The most satisfactory way of making the handsome skirts of silk and satin now so much worn is with several gores, so that each gore can be cut out of one breadth of the material in one piece. Where fewer gores are used they are of necessity wider, and the silk or satin must be pieced out to get the width.



A skirt which is six and a half yards round the foot and has eleven gores is shown above. It is designed especially for silks and narrow fabrics, none of the gores measuring more than twenty-two inches at the widest part. It is a delightfully graceful skirt, and looks equally well in any fabric, and never gets out of shape, as the gores are cut with a straight edge to meet a bias one at all the seams, excepting in the back, where the gores are straight through the center, with a stay at each seam.

A skirt of Dresden silk in reseda green with bright colored flowers and leaves in shadowy outlines, and narrow stripes of black satin at intervals of two inches, was worn with a black satin coat of the Louis XVI style. This had a vest of chiffon which harmonized with the skirt, having the same design of roses and leaves woven in. A bright green satin stock with four larger loops at the back finished the neck, with a belt of the same at the full vest front.

A skirt of white taffetas with narrow black stripes had two-inch bands of black satin ribbon down each seam. This was overlaid with a heavy white band of lace not quite so wide. The effect was chic in the extreme, this being worn with a waist to match.

A skirt of black grenadine lined with tender-leaf green silk, had a piping of the silk at each seam.

A black satin skirt had a handsome applique design in jet and green spangles, which crossed the foot of the front breadth, and reached to the waist in a graceful tapering design over the seams of the front breadth.

Some of the new skirts are trimmed with narrow braid at the foot, set on in straight rows, or forming a small design at each seam.

Four of the eleven gores in this skirt are gathered at the back, or may be laid in box pleats.

PERSONAL.

J. M. Brawley of Fresno is in the City.

A. K. Smith of Juneau, Alaska, is at the Russ.

L. E. Mosher of Los Angeles is at the Palace.

Hakra Isono of Japan was among yesterday's arrivals.

Thomas R. Minturn of Minturn is at the Occidental.

L. E. Hunt, a business man of El Paso, is on a visit here.

George V. Studd of Macon, Georgia, is at the Cosmopolitan.

H. L. Pickett, a mining man of Silver City, N. Mex., is in town.

E. F. Hill, a Bodie mine-owner, is registered at the Cosmopolitan.

George D. McLean, the mining man, of Grass Valley, is at the Lick.

Rear-Admiral L. A. Beardslee of the United States navy is in town.

Philip L. Abbott of Cambridge, Mass., is a recent arrival at the Palace.

M. M. Griggs, a wealthy cattle man of Monterey, reached here yesterday.

Tom F. Lane of Angels, superintendent of the Utica gold mine, is in the City.

E. T. Albert, trainmaster of Prescott, Arizona, is staying at the Cosmopolitan.

T. G. Shaughnessy and G.-O. Macdonald, railroad men of Toronto, are at the Palace.

Louis Dean, a wealthy cattle-owner of Reno, Nev., is among recent arrivals at the Russ.

W. W. Irish, a business man of Fresno, is at the Russ. He is accompanied by Mrs. Irish.

Eugene de Gabla Jr., the mining man, of Nevada City, has arrived here for a short stay.

George L. Arnold of Los Angeles, member of the State Board of Equalization, is in the City.

Count A. M. Merkhoff of Austria is here on a tour of the interesting places on the Pacific Coast.

Mayor W. H. Carlson of San Diego was among yesterday's arrivals here. He is at the Grand.

George T. Rives, a mining man of Inyo County, is at the Grand, having arrived yesterday.

A. C. Buell, the contractor, of Eureka, who built the jetty at the mouth of the harbor, is at the Lick.

Matthew Gage, an orange-grower of Riverside and a widely known capitalist, is at the Occidental.

Alexander Ballantyne, a wealthy resident of Lead City, South Dakota, is among the arrivals at the Russ.

Judge Belcher is yet confined to his home by illness. He is said to be threatened with an attack of the grip.

W. E. Rogers of Amalie, and who is extensively engaged in mining there, is among the arrivals at the Lick.

H. M. Larue of Sacramento, State Railway Commissioner, is among those who are registered at the Occidental.

W. H. Avery, ticket agent of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, is ill with pneumonia and is confined to one of the hospitals.

Ex-Governor John H. Kinkead of Nevada is in the City. Mr. Kinkead was Governor of Alaska after serving his term as Governor of Nevada.

Ellwood Cooper, the olive-grower of Ellwood, Santa Barbara County, long one of the leading officers of the State Horticultural Society, is among recent arrivals here.

J. M. Baltimore, a well-known newspaper man, formerly city editor of the Portland Oregonian, is in the City. Mr. Baltimore has been making an extended tour through some of the most important cities of California.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, N. Y., May 6.—Sailed per steamship New York for Southampton: Joseph Bee, Mrs. Bee, Mrs. Florence Cavell, Miss Sibyl Cavell, George A. Pope, Mrs. Pope, Mrs. Caroline Taylor, F. R. Webster. At the Hoffman, J. P. Cladius, J. Trounson; Imperial, A. A. Grant, I. S. Aubry; Ashland, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Kaverne; Belvedere, A. Neschraity; St. Cloud, W. H. Crauss; Metropole, J. Hodges; Astor, C. Shaw, C. Williams.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

Early in June San Francisco will have an opportunity of judging whether Ellen Beach Yaw is one of the most remarkable singers of this or any other age, or whether she is only a vocal freak. Papers all over the country have devoted columns and columns to Miss Yaw. The immense range of her voice has been heralded from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and there is no disputing the fact that musical history does not record anywhere a range that equals Miss Yaw's, for she can sing E above the high E. This girl, who hails from Los Angeles, is said to possess a unique personality. She is slender, graceful, a decided blonde, with a classic face and clear blue eyes. There is something spirituelle in both her appearance and her voice. She is said by those who know her to be unassuming, and not anxious for the many "puffs" which her press agents have thrust upon her. At the close of her present tour Miss Yaw will probably make a long visit to her mother in Los Angeles.

A Florentine newspaper tells of an exploit achieved by a pianist which is remarkable, though the virtuoso might have devised better means for employing his time and talent. It says: "Camillo Baucia of Cuneo proposed to play forty-six hours consecutively, only taking three rests of ten minutes each. A jury was convened to mount guard over him, and on Saturday at 4 o'clock M. Baucia commenced his feat by playing the 'Royal March,' after which he gave selections from 'Faust,' 'Carmen,' 'Mignon,' etc., as well as sonatas by Schubert, and a number of ballabilli, all the time talking to visitors without any apparent preoccupation. During the whole of his tour de force, he took nothing more solid than the yolks of eggs, though he drank a good deal of Marsala and coffee. On Sunday morning he felt out of sorts and was twice obliged to take ten minutes' rest, but he set to work again, confident that he would accomplish his task. The citizens crowded to see him, especially in the afternoon of Monday, when at 4 o'clock Baucia completed his forty-eight hours' record. His health was good and his pulse regular." The pianist has succeeded in getting himself a good deal talked of, but art has certainly not benefited by his feat.

German singing, and German singers seem to have been getting the cold shoulder lately. The Damrosch Opera Company, brought into sharp contrast, as it was, with the Abbey, Schoeffel & Grau Company in New York, called down the maledictions of the critics on the singing of the principals, for their "school" contrasted very poorly with the finished vocalization of the singers of the French and Italian schools, and now a wail is heard from Germany that even Bayreuth, the temple of Wagnerian opera, is rapidly being invaded by foreigners whose school of singing is not of the German variety. Nordica reaped a good many laurels there, and it looks as if the De Reszke brothers were going to take more glory from acknowledged Wagnerian singers. Some of the German newspapers are waxing wrathy and pathetic over this invasion of foreigners into the very citadel of German art. There is a very simple remedy, however. If the rising Alvarys, Klafskys, etc., would study the art of singing, instead of relying on their magnificent natural voices and their acting, there would be no need of foreigners at Bayreuth.

Under the title of "Music in Prison," Le Menestrel is giving an interesting series of articles showing how many distinguished prisoners have whiled away the weary hours of imprisonment by singing and playing. "In the study which we have given to this subject, which was before the Napoleonic craze broke out in the libraries and the magazines," says Le Menestrel, "we have found by investigation that the First Napoleon enjoyed a dilettantism for music which has generally been denied him. During his captivity at Saint-Helena he devoted a small portion of each day to the study of music, but could not spare much more, for he had to defend his glory, and death did not even leave him time to do that. When his health began to give way he suffered from attacks of delirium, but during these attacks he sang incessantly a number of arias, and always in the Italian language, for before the end he turned again to the language of his youth." It seems that the Third Napoleon was helped to support the incarceration which followed the disaster of Sedan by listening to the music of Offenbach, of whom in his days of prosperity he had been one of the warmest patrons.

The day following the death of Ambroise Thomas the directors of the Paris Grand Opera resolved to raise a monument to his memory at their own cost. The work was entrusted to the sculptor, M. Falguieres, and that gentleman has just submitted his model. It represents Ambroise Thomas seated on a rock, no doubt in memory of his great affection for his rocky island of Iliec, where he composed so much of his music. At the foot of the rock Ophelia, in white marble, is holding him a bunch of flowers. The work is effective and artistic, but one would like to see Mignon figure there, too, for if "Hamlet" is the most popular of Thomas' works with artists, "Mignon" is the opera which made him popular with the masses.

Catulle Mendez, a well-known writer of French stories, many of which are seasoned with vice, recently gave a lecture in Paris at one of the Colonne concerts on Berlioz and Wagner. He commenced by wandering off to an address on the Apochrypha, and the audience, which was waiting to hear about Berlioz, made such a disturbance that the police forbade him to continue till after the concert. A great many people stayed, and in a relative calm Mendez talked about Wagner, whom he compared, without mincing matters, to the Divinity. This gave great offense to the listeners, particularly as most of the audience were impatient to hear Berlioz praised.

American pianos are generally supposed to be the most brilliant in the world, and it is partly to intensify this brilliancy that they are frequently pitched so high. If singers realized the strain that the very high pitch puts on their voices we should hear something in this country of the agitation which has been going on in England in favor of the adoption of a lower pitch. The agitation has been lost in England, as to adopt a lower pitch would mean a great outlay in purchasing new wind instruments for the bands. In private homes, however, there is no need to adopt a pitch which makes vocalists sing the music of some of the older masters a semitone higher than it was written.

A society has been formed in London for the suppression of useless noises in the street. It aims especially at "the most costly and the most useless of noises," which is, according to the well-known definition, the noise of music. The strains of hand organs and German bands which infest the United Kingdom are to be regulated or suppressed by act of Parliament, if the society can get its way. A law to that effect is now being framed, and it will be presented next session.

A Florentine newspaper, Lo Staffale, tells the following rather extraordinary piece of musical news: "An original idea of the maestro Giordano has been carried out in his opera 'Andre Chenier,' which has met with a favorable reception in Milan. The work from the first to the last note is all written in the same key." If Lo Staffale is correct in its information "Andre Chenier" must be a very monotonous opera.

EIGHTY THOUSAND FRIENDS.

That Is the Number Gained by "The Call" on Woman Suffrage.

To the Editor of the San Francisco Call—SIR: In saying that THE CALL has gained eighty thousand friends among the Populists of California by openly and earnestly declaring for woman suffrage I am certain it is a conservative statement, and I shall refer to the Populist votes polled next November, every one of which will be for the proposed amendment to grant the elective franchise to woman, as proof that my statement is conservative. Populists themselves believe that their whole contention as a party is based on simple justice, and no argument is needed to convince them that justice demands the right of the elective franchise for women as well as men and on exactly the same terms. There is no other party, there has never been another party, that has at once accepted woman suffrage as a matter of course, and the explanation is found in the fact already intimated that the whole plea, purpose and spirit of the People's party find expression in the demand for social justice.

The bitter experience of the People's party in Colorado on the suffrage question was naturally a good deal taken to heart by Populists all over the country. It is assumed that the readers of THE CALL and especially Miss Anthony, Miss Shaw, Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper, Miss Severance and other noble women who are especially enlisted in the advocacy of this plain measure of justice, are familiar with the fact that the Populists of Colorado gave women the right to vote and that noble old Roman, Governor Waite, affirmed the action of the Legislature with his official signature. It is equally certain that it could be demonstrated, if this were the place for it, that the women thus enfranchised "turned down" the Populists at the next succeeding election and returned the party to power which for thirty years have refused the ballot to women. While this is a bitter experience and is somewhat exasperating, I think I am safe in saying that it has not changed a single Populist vote in opposition to woman's claim to political equality with man at the ballot-box. If this should seem incredible to some readers, they may find a basis for credulity in the intense feeling ever present in the heart of a true Populist that there is no hope for the future of the Republic except in a return to the rule and actual practice of social justice by the Government of this country.

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Miss Ellen Beach Yaw, the Los Angeles Singer Who Will Be Heard Here Next June.

ALLEGED HUMOR.

"Hannah," said the mistress to the new girl, "everything is eaten now with forks. Here are the strawberry forks, the ice-cream forks, the orange forks and the bread forks."

"Yes'm," said the girl attentively.

A few days later, when a company dinner was in progress, the first course came near being a failure. Hannah explained:

"I hunted everywhere, ma'am, but I couldn't find the soup forks."—Detroit Free Press.

Mrs. Wallace (sympathetically)—Ah, well, poor man, "into each life some rain must fall."

Wayworn Watson—I don't think they could of much fell into mine; I allers feel so dry.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"Swipesy, doesn't yer sister go to de Sunday-school?"

"You bet. An' she sings wid de push in front o' de big organ."—Chicago Tribune.

Bozzin—Jabjins will be appreciated as a poet after he's dead; see if he doesn't.

Rozzin—That's not unlikely; he won't write any poetry then.—Roxbury Gazette.

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"I'll teach you how to lie to me," roared the rate old gentleman, reaching for a strap.

And so he did. It only took three or four such lessons to teach the youth to lie so well that he was no more detected.—Indianapolis Journal.

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