

The Call
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A DANGEROUS BAIT.
THE CALL'S information concerning the efforts of the Southern Pacific Company to make three-year contracts with San Joaquin Valley shippers comes from a trustworthy source and points to an interesting condition of affairs.

The Republican party effectually to discourage, by proper safeguards, encroachment upon the Nation's grain from Europe's hordes of cheap and pauper wage-people. It is a fundamental principle of Republicanism that our industrial enterprise and their armies of wagemen shall not be overrun or driven out by foreign competition, and how well this has been done may be ascertained by comparing the prosperity of all lines of trade, commerce and labor with the Republican party directed affairs of the people with the uncertainty, hesitation and bankruptcy that came upon the country contemporaneously with the accession of the Democratic party to authority in 1892.

While gold mining is receiving so much attention there is uncommon activity among the copper miners at the head of the State. The Yreka Journal has this to say: Several claims of copper lodes have lately been located at the head of Indian Creek, above Happy Camp, in this county, along the Coast Range divide.

The Mirror is a bright new paper which is working ably to make known the resources of Morgan, Utah. Bourguignon & Bourns have started the California Garden at San Jose. It is exceedingly valuable, as it treats horticulture in California, which is very different from the arts as followed in the Eastern States.

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Work and wages is the workingman's issue in this campaign. It is never too early to begin bringing in recruits for the campaign. Democracy, like an old carpet, cannot be cleaned without being beaten.

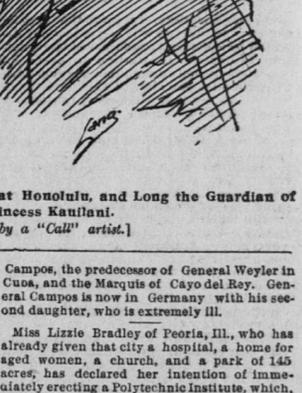
These efforts to shut out competition are never made unless the new invader of the field shows a formidable power. The Valley road is backed by men of great wealth, ability and determination, and it is the most serious threat that the Southern Pacific has ever encountered.

Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota has introduced a joint resolution which seems to offer the simplest and most direct solution of the railroad question that has yet been presented. It embodies the policy upon which THE CALL has insisted.

Mr. Elmer of the copper mines is to be back from Baltimore about May 1, when a bustle will begin at Walden. The company has bought the Strong farm, which lies across the mouth of the river upon which the mines are situated, and this will be used as a base of supplies.

The Kern County (Bakersfield) Echo has reduced its subscription price to 25 cents a month and expects an enlarged subscription list. H. A. McCroney, formerly editor of the Lakeport Advance and lately deputy clerk of the Supreme Court, has started the Sacramento County Ledger at East Park, a suburb of Sacramento.

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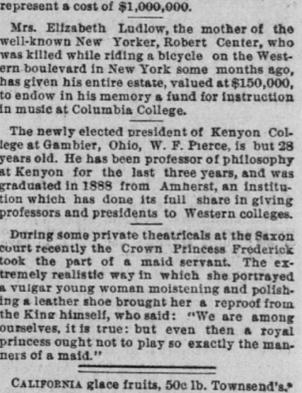
Such a development as this has doubtless been expected by the Valley road promoters and they are not alarmed. They have confidence in the wisdom of the people and do not believe that any considerable number of shippers can be induced to pursue the suicidal, unbusinesslike and unpatriotic course that has been opened to them.

The resolution covers every point involved in the case, including the protection of the first-mortgage bondholders. Conspicuous among its merits is the fact that it takes the matter out of the hands of Congress and places it in those of the President, where it has longed all along.

The people at Hanford evidently appreciate the value of the Valley road, as is witnessed by the following paragraph from the Hanford Democrat: C. J. Hooper and B. A. Fassett, the latter representing the W. W. Bateman estate, have made tender of sixteen lots to the Hanford Valley railroad committee.

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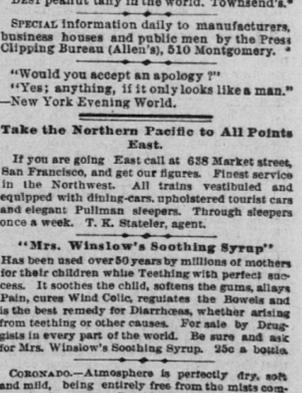
It needs no very careful analysis of the present condition of the Democratic party to see that it is a house divided against itself in deadly strife for supremacy, nor is it hard to see how it is that Cleveland is the logical and, in fact, the only available candidate for the gold-money wing of the party.

The measure completely destroys the bugaboo of the first-mortgage debt. A successful issue of the suits requested to be brought, added to the amount which would be secured at foreclosure sale, would produce a sum more than sufficient to extinguish both the first and second mortgage debts.

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The remarkable success attending the development of the petroleum industry in the southern part of the State is leading to important discoveries and the extension of operations. The San Bernardino Sun says: O. Roberts, a resident of the San Timoteo Canyon, near El Casco, is the possessor of an oil well without the prospect of being for it.

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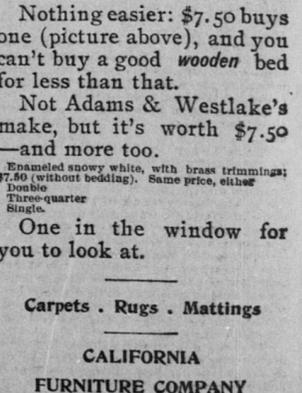
The time has come when industrial wage-earners should actively devote themselves to politics. We do not mean that those who are fortunate enough to have employment should give it up and engage exclusively in politics.

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