

The San Francisco Call. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1896. CHARLES M. SHORTRIDGE, Editor and Proprietor. SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Postage Free: Daily and Sunday Call, one week, by carrier, \$0.15...

It was a great Christmas. We had as much joy as anybody. To-day we recuperate and to-morrow we rest. There are still a few novelties on the bargain counter.

There would be lots of happy gossip if we only knew what the mistletoe could tell. Ten chances to one your presents will look prettier to-day than they did yesterday.

Now is the time to begin making up your mind as to what you will swear off on New Year's day. If you were too busy yesterday to send the Christmas CALL to your Eastern friends you can do so to-day.

It would be a big joke on the Senators if Cleveland should take it into his head to recognize Cuba before Congress meets again. If the Spanish butchers could succeed in chopping Cuba up into fish bait Cleveland would begin to take an interest in the matter.

The one objection to the anti-noise crusade is that it can never succeed until it makes more noise in the world than anything else. In dealing with our foreign relations Cleveland persistently ignores the fact that Cuba is near enough to us to be called a home relation.

William Lee of Boston, whose guest ex-Queen Liliuokalani will be while in that city, says she has made the trip simply for a change of scene, and in going from Honolulu to Boston at this season she will certainly get it. The Congressional recess is longer than usual this year, as Congress will not meet again until January 5.

The official returns of Arkansas show that eighty-six votes were cast in that State at the last election for Jefferson Davis for Presidential elector. As so many of that name was running for the office the votes were probably intended for Andrew Jackson. In order to make a metropolitan Boston that will rank with the biggest cities in the world there is a movement to incorporate with that city twenty-eight surrounding municipalities.

The Florida delegation in Congress are trying to get an appropriation to defray the cost of destroying the water hyacinth, an aquatic plant, which is said to be choking up the rivers of the State and impeding navigation. Thus while Uncle Sam is busy propagating plants in one place he is called on to whirl in and destroy them in another. The City Vigilance League of New York, in urging the election of its candidate for the United States senatorship, says of him: "He fills the angle in the general regard because of his native propensities and not because he has acquired the art of conspicuousness."

Senator Hill of New York not only stands no chance of re-election this winter, but it is said he will not even get the complimentary vote of the Democrats in the Legislature of his State. He crawled into a hole during the campaign and both factions of the party seem inclined to leave him there.

LEGISLATIVE WORK.

The near approach of the time for the assembling of the Legislature has given opportunity for utterance to all who have axes to grind, fads to promote, schemes to advance or reforms to advocate. Enough of these have already given voice to their desires to make it evident that this Legislature will not differ from former ones in the multitude of bills it will be asked to consider and the multitude of jobs it will have to investigate and avoid.

It is to be hoped that no considerable number of legislators will be inclined to give encouragement to faddists, jobbers or theoretical reformers. There is plenty of really important legislation needed by the State to give even the most industrious members of either house all the work he can rightly attend to during the session. It is to that legislation the members should direct their energies, paying no more attention than courtesy requires to that class of people which in default of a better phrase may be termed legislative nuisances.

Rarely in our history has a Legislature been called upon to deal with so great a number of issues of first-class importance as now await consideration. As a part of the business of the session our legislators will have to consider the work of the Code Commission, amendments to the irrigation law, a reform, a revision of the election laws and of the law of libel, and the question whether the Railroad Commission shall be given increased powers or be abolished as useless to the State.

There is also much hard work to be done in properly adjusting appropriations for the maintenance of State institutions and providing for the routine work of the State administration. It will be seen, therefore, that if the Legislature undertakes to devote much time to side issues or sets out to reform everything in sight it will have to neglect matters of practical importance and pressing urgency.

What is wanted is a business session devoted to economy where economy is needed and to the work of wisely amending such laws of the State as experience has proven to be unjust in their operations or injurious to the welfare of the people. If the Legislature will give us that sort of a session it will win golden opinions from all sorts of people. It will become known as the Legislature of a thousand virtues.

According to reports from Washington the principles of reciprocity and retaliation in trade will be important features of the new tariff bill, and will occupy a considerable part of the attention given to that measure. Some difference of opinion exists as to the way in which these principles should be provided for, and there is likely to be no little discussion on the subject when the bill is reported to the next Congress.

It has been suggested that the United States could with advantage adopt a system which it is said has been successfully tried by several European nations. Under this system the tariff law would provide for fixed rates of duties. The highest duty will be applied to all imports except when otherwise specified. The second duty will range from 25 per cent to 50 per cent less than the first, and will be applied to all imports from countries which make equivalent concessions. The third duty will be still lower and may be annulled altogether, in order to provide for imports from countries which admit our exports at equally low duties or without any duty whatever.

Another plan is that proposed by Representative Hopkins of Illinois, which divides all foreign countries and colonies into five classes, and arranges the tariff duties in accordance with the comparative rating of their trade with the United States. The classification as recommended divides various countries into the following categories: 1. Those whose exports to us are greater than their imports from the United States.

It is gratifying to the people to note that in this first skirmish of the great battle the victory was decidedly on the part of the supporters of the Government. Senator Morgan, who has made himself the leader of the opposition to funding the debts, did not have to fight the battle alone. He found an able and eloquent ally in Senator Pettigrew, whose speech in the debate gave promise that he will be one of the foremost, and most earnest champions of the people when the great contest comes to the closing struggle.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS.

Milo Potter, the widely known and wealthy resident of Los Angeles, who has recently created an elegant new hotel in that pretty and thrifty city, is among the recent arrivals at the Palace. Mr. Potter came on a business trip. His interests are large and it takes a great deal of his time to look after them.

The gentleman has acquired much of his property since coming to Los Angeles. He has had the advantage of the growth of the city, otherwise called the boom, and has made the most of it. It was thus that his investments became varied and he has made money out of all of them.

Mr. Potter thinks there is no place like Los Angeles. Like G. J. Griffith, the philanthropist, who a little over a week ago gave a 3000-acre park to that city, he is entirely satisfied with the place, considering it in all respects ideal. He will only remain here a few days, as he is desirous of getting back to his interests in the Southland as soon as possible.

T. H. Cone of Eureka is a visitor here. T. S. Minor of Coos Bay is at the Lick. Mrs. Dr. M. L. Pratt of Chicago is at the Lick. Mrs. W. Hepburn of Chicago is at the Palace. Mr. Colonel Meyer and son are at the Palace.

J. W. McClintock of Los Angeles is at a visit here. E. W. Manning of Los Angeles arrived here last night. G. B. Kingsburg of Boise, Idaho, arrived here last night. John D. Gray of Fresno registered at the Lick last evening.

John Keogh of Duttons Landing is stopping at the Cosmopolitan. J. H. Hill, a business man of Port Townsend, Wash., is at the Russ. Given Moore, a business man of Dayton, Ohio, has arrived here.

J. A. Vogelzang of the United States Geological Survey is in the City. William F. Coffman, an old resident of Merced, arrived here last night. T. L. Lillis of Tacoma is a recent arrival here. He is at the Occidental.

Charles Morris, one of the oldest settlers of Suisun, is at the Cosmopolitan. W. C. Swain, a lumber dealer and manufacturer of Marysville, is in town. Leo Freeman of Victoria, B. C., is among yesterday's arrivals at the Palace.

W. D. Haslan, a well-to-do merchant of Santa Cruz, is a recent arrival here. E. E. Briggs, the widely known banker of Gridley, came to the City yesterday. James Kelwar of Longport, England, is in the City, accompanied by Mrs. Kelwar. John McGrath, a wealthy ranch-owner of Placerville, is at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

H. W. Grinsky is down from Stockton for the holidays. He is a guest at the Occidental. Ex-Congressman James A. Lottitt of Stockton arrived here yesterday. He is at the Lick.

PERSONAL.

T. H. Cone of Eureka is a visitor here. T. S. Minor of Coos Bay is at the Lick. Mrs. Dr. M. L. Pratt of Chicago is at the Lick. Mrs. W. Hepburn of Chicago is at the Palace. Mr. Colonel Meyer and son are at the Palace.

J. W. McClintock of Los Angeles is at a visit here. E. W. Manning of Los Angeles arrived here last night. G. B. Kingsburg of Boise, Idaho, arrived here last night. John D. Gray of Fresno registered at the Lick last evening.

John Keogh of Duttons Landing is stopping at the Cosmopolitan. J. H. Hill, a business man of Port Townsend, Wash., is at the Russ. Given Moore, a business man of Dayton, Ohio, has arrived here.

J. A. Vogelzang of the United States Geological Survey is in the City. William F. Coffman, an old resident of Merced, arrived here last night. T. L. Lillis of Tacoma is a recent arrival here. He is at the Occidental.

Charles Morris, one of the oldest settlers of Suisun, is at the Cosmopolitan. W. C. Swain, a lumber dealer and manufacturer of Marysville, is in town. Leo Freeman of Victoria, B. C., is among yesterday's arrivals at the Palace.

W. D. Haslan, a well-to-do merchant of Santa Cruz, is a recent arrival here. E. E. Briggs, the widely known banker of Gridley, came to the City yesterday. James Kelwar of Longport, England, is in the City, accompanied by Mrs. Kelwar.

John McGrath, a wealthy ranch-owner of Placerville, is at the Cosmopolitan Hotel. H. W. Grinsky is down from Stockton for the holidays. He is a guest at the Occidental.

Ex-Congressman James A. Lottitt of Stockton arrived here yesterday. He is at the Lick. Among the arrivals here yesterday was Sidney W. Miller of Chicago, who is at the Palace. I. J. Good and wife of St. Charles, Minn., are among the latest arrivals at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Professor Earl Barnes of Stanford University came up yesterday from Palo Alto, and is at the Grand. Dr. Thomas Flint, a wealthy farmer of San Juan, is among those who yesterday registered at the Grand. Louis D. Reels, a thriving business man of Sonora, Tuolumne County, is a guest at the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

John A. Mitchell, who is interested in a mining enterprise at Telluride, Colo., is among the arrivals at the Occidental. H. Bamsey, a business man of Quesnelle Forks, British Columbia, is one of the frontier trading posts, is a late arrival here.

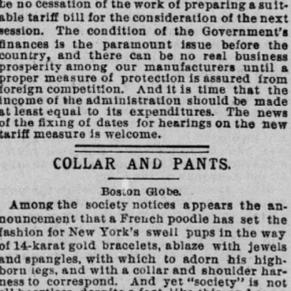
and wife the daughter of one of his most powerful vassals. As every one in Morocco most probably has a wedding present the people are much discontented. Phillip Hines, 106 years old, and his wife Rebekah, 96 years old, of Delaware, Ohio, celebrated the seventy-eighth anniversary of their wedding recently. They are both in fairly good health, though somewhat feeble.

It is figured out that Richard Croker's experiences on the turf have already cost him in the neighborhood of \$500,000. His English experiment is set down as costing him \$230,000. All this was the result of the advice of a physician to try outdoor life as a relief from insomnia and other ills that were annoying him.

The Kaiser's cousin, the Crown Prince of Sweden and Norway, has every one of his teeth barred. That is to say, a bar of bone runs through the roots of every one of his molars, and it has to be crushed before a tooth can be removed. He is a martyr to toothache, and spends considerable of his existence with a handkerchief tied round his head to relieve the pain.

The Washington Post says: "Rutherford Platt Hayes, youngest son of the late President Hayes, who was in the city during the last week, is even less of a politician than was his father, and his testimony before the joint committee on library, for which purpose he came to Washington, shows that his tastes are for literary rather than for public life."

LADY'S NIGHT ROBE. Night robes made in the old-fashioned sack shape, with very large sleeves and a big collar, are very pretty, and have the advantage of requiring less material than other shapes. The back may be made with a bias seam.



which avoids pleating at the bottom and cuts to better advantage. The ease with which these gowns may be laundered recommends them to many. Longing or bath robes are cut after the same model, being liked as they are less bulky than those with pleats or gathers at the top.

White lawn is used, and with a collar of the same material, and an insertion of Valenciennes lace, and beyond this a ruffle of the plain lawn or of embroidery is very desirable. A collar with embroidery set on with braiding, through which delicate colored ribbons are drawn, is also pretty.

These gowns may be made quite elaborate by tucking the goods down the back and front, and also tucking the sleeves. Heavy nightgowns of flannel or heavy muslin are better made than in the new style. The collar may be of china silk for flannel gowns, to give a dainty touch, for the silk weaves quite as well as the flannel.

TAKE TIME BY THE FORELOCK. New York Press. Though it is now apparent that the country may expect no relief from the present Congress in the matter of raising revenue, there should be no cessation of the work of preparing a suitable tariff bill for the consideration of the next session. The condition of the Government's finances is the paramount issue before the country, and there can be no real business until a plan is adopted to meet the situation.

terms and course of study than this department has space to devote to a subject that is answered at least a dozen times in a year. MINUET—J. P. K., Virginia City, Nev. The dance called the minuet is pronounced minuet. The minuet is a slow and graceful dance invented probably in Poitou, France, about the middle of the seventeenth century. It was brought to the eighteenth century it was very popular and was the most stately and ceremonious of dances. The music is in 3/4 time, and is sometimes danced at this time is the dance of old.

AN OFFICER'S NEGLECT—S. Snelling, Cal. If a county assessor is neglectful of his duty any citizen of the county may take steps to have him punished. The Penal Code says: "In addition to the penalty affixed by express provision in the Penal Code for the neglect of public officers—State, county, city or township—where it is not expressly provided, they may, in the discretion of the court, be removed from office. No person is punishable for the omission to perform an act where said act has been performed by another person acting in his behalf and competent by law to perform it."

WEST—Homo, City. Whist in America is generally played under the American Whist League code. The law quoted recently in answer to a question from a correspondent from Livermore was from Hoyte, but recently it has been changed, and is now recognized by players in the United States unless by special agreement. Under the laws now in force, a player who has been declared when a trick has been played that he sometimes again be seen until the play of that deal is over. The law is: "If a player has been turned and quitted it must not again be seen until after the hand has been played. A violation of this law subjects the player to the same penalty as in a case of a lead out of time."

BIGAMY—A. F. L., City. This correspondent wants an answer to the following question: "A woman married some years ago and had children after she and her husband separated by contract in writing, she returned to her native country and married another, the second husband dying in the other country without issue. The woman returned to the United States where the first husband was still living, but after her return they lived apart. Properly whose name should she bear—that of the first or second husband? Should not the children bear the name of the father?"

THE FACT THAT man and wife agree to separate and live apart, and sign a paper to that effect, does not give either, while both live, the right to marry again. In the case cited the woman, in marrying another while her husband was still alive, committed bigamy. Legally she has no other name than that of her husband, and all others seem to be wrong. Should not the children bear the name of the father?"

EYES THAT LIGHT—N. N., City. It is not known who it was that made use of the expression, "Let me light my pipe at your ladyship's eyes." It is recorded that during the celebrated Westminster election in 1784 the beautiful Duchess of Devonshire enthusiastically supported the use of Charles James Fox, going so far as to purchase the vote of a butcher with a kiss. On one of her canvassing tours, an Irish dustman paid her a famous compliment by saying, "Let me light my pipe at your ladyship's eyes." The Duchess was delighted and often said, "After the dustman's came to all the others seem to be wrong. Should not the children bear the name of the father?"

STRENGTH-TESTING MACHINES. Peril in the Tests When Applied to Blocks of Stone. One of the most interesting places in the city of Boston to one of a mechanical turn of mind is the engineering building of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and especially that part of it where tests of strength of different materials are made. The testing plant is one of the best in the country, and the strength of about anything, from twine to iron columns, can be made. It is not generally known, but it is a fact, that it was at this plant that the first test of large beams, columns, etc., for buildings were made, and as a result of the discoveries which were made by these tests the building laws all over the world were changed.

The most interesting discoveries were made with regard to the strength of wooden beams. Previous to this test the strength of beams had been figured by testing small pieces of the same kind of wood and then calculating the strength of the beam from the strength shown by these small sections. In making these calculations the small pieces which were tested were taken perfectly clear and free of knots and allowed to be made for the testing of the beams by the imperfections in them. As a result of the tests made at the institution on entire beams it was shown that this allowance was not nearly large enough and that for some time beams had been figured on to carry loads which would bring them dangerously near their breaking point.

The most imposing figure in the testing plant at present is the big machine which is used for crushing and tensile tests. The machine is an Emery patent and is of the same principle as the one at the Watertown Arsenal, although it is not so powerful, the latter being the biggest in the world. The machine has a strong steel frame, and is so constructed that it is strong for any tests which are made there, and, in fact, for the large majority of the tests which are made at the arsenal. This machine will crush a great iron column together and give in a powerful grip or will pull it apart as a confederate pulls molasses candy.

More spectacular than such tests as these are those made on wooden beams, when the great timbers, after resisting to their breaking point, are broken apart and then a tremendous, rending crash. The most dangerous tests are those made on blocks of stone, granite especially. A block of granite will resist almost to its breaking point without giving any sign, and when it goes it goes with a report like a small cannon, and is reduced almost to powder. The small fragments fly with tremendous velocity, and it is necessary in making a test of this kind to cover the objects with thick layers of cloth to prevent the wounding of the students.

never known to buy silver in any form. Weeks and months were spent each year in searching for these secret treasures. Occasionally the enthusiasm would mount to the height of sending far off somewhere to fetch back the "old hunters." More than once upon a time has been persuaded that there was more richness in his bullets than he had supposed; and, greeting vainly the many pounds of good silver-lead that he had shot away at deer, coons, geese and other game, he has been brought back to his old haunts. Then, with many a keen eye tracking his points with his perspiring friend, weeks would be spent in bush-beating, cliff-climbing and laborious search along rocky shores, about cavernous hills in fens, bogs and dismal dens in the deep woods, but only to the utter disappointment of all their fond anticipations. The "old hunter" finds that time has obliterated his waymarks; bush and tree and rock and rill lack the familiar aspect, and he whose confused recollections formed the basis of his searching, gains turns to his distant home dispirited and dishonored.

THE GOLDEN THROAT. Bell-Like Tones Not Always a Gift of Nature, but May Be Acquired. The power of the highest interpretation of music combined with the most favored favor of fortune and is not to be acquired by any amount of endeavor, if the true "golden throat," with finely adjusted choroidal vocal, be lacking, says a writer in the New York Journal. A voice of sweet and mellow quality in speaking, however, is not always a gracious gift of nature, but is a possible attainment to persons of the most ordinary musical capacity. A prima donna spends scarcely more time practicing her scales than an ambitious actress devotes to the cultivation of singing, which like intonation in her sentences, and public speakers and people of the theatrical profession understand the value of vibrant tones—the "brilliant, solemn, proud, pathetic voice," whose echoes linger long in the memory of the enraptured listener.

Among well-bred people low voices are the rule—low, but not always musical, a tendency to falsetto marking any effort beyond ordinary conversation, which is simply an evidence of the lack of proper training, or of a failure to practice those primary principles of elocution that are a part of the briefest common-school education. Lessons under a teacher are not an absolute necessity to the woman who would secure the grace of clear, sweet accents. Deep breathing and chest expansion are the first steps toward the desired end, and a systematic course of throat strengthening combined with enough discipline to decide between a nasal twang and pure tone, is about all that is needed to achieve a fair degree of success.

An excellent method of strengthening the throat is gargling with cold salt water in the morning, bathing it at the same time, first with very hot and then with very cold water. It thus gets a slight shock and is braced up and permanently benefited. LESSONS under a teacher are not an absolute necessity to the woman who would secure the grace of clear, sweet accents. Deep breathing and chest expansion are the first steps toward the desired end, and a systematic course of throat strengthening combined with enough discipline to decide between a nasal twang and pure tone, is about all that is needed to achieve a fair degree of success.

PRIZE FORUS PLASTER. An Old Lady's Novel Hiding Place for Money. Many people have curious hiding places in which they keep their savings, but there could hardly be a more ingenious or curious "savings bank" than that which recently came to light in the provinces. An old woman who lived alone in a little cottage was known to have amassed considerable wealth, and it was also known that she had no heirs, and that she was not as close to the skin as such plasters generally do. When the plaster was removed a large number of bank notes were found between it and the skin.

Two Paris aeronauts are going to try to beat the balloon record by remaining 24 hours in the air. The record is now held by M. Gaston Tissandier, who, in March, 1875, made a balloon journey of 20 hours and 40 minutes. SPECIAL information daily to manufacturers, business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 510 Montgomery.

Old Bates—My son, you would not be in debt if you would pay attention to your minor expenses. Remember, it only takes 100 cents to make a dollar. Young Bates—Great heavens, governor! you aren't going to start in to discussing the coinage question again, are you?—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Phillips' Rock Island Excursions. Leave San Francisco every Wednesday, via Rio Grande and Rock Island Railways. Through tourist sleeping cars to Chicago and Boston. Managers and porters accompany these excursions. Boston. For tickets, sleeping-car accommodations and further information, address Clinton Jones, General Agent Rock Island Railway, 30 Montgomery street, San Francisco.

THEOAT TROUBLE.—To allay the irritation that induces coughing, use Brown's Bronchial Trochoc. A simple and safe remedy. The fashionable ladies' corrective tonic is Dr. Siegel's Anagnum Bitters, the renowned South American Invigorator. AGE ROBBS US of the locks that grace our youth. To get them back with your youthful color and life, use PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM. AYER'S Cherry Pectoral, if used according to directions, is a speedy cure for colds. Ask your druggist for AYER'S.

Fond wife—What are you worrying about this evening? Husband—A young man in Chicago—An important client is in the city with me, and I can't take up my mind whether to try to prove the deceased was killed by some other person or is still alive. New York Weekly.

NEW TOY. Has for fifteen year recommended GHIRARDELLI'S chocolates and bonbons. Purest, freshest and best to the exclusion of all other brands. The enormous sales and continually increasing popularity of GHIRARDELLI'S Would seem to prove beyond doubt claimed for it by the Great American Importing Co. MONEY SAVING STORES: 1344 Market St., 400 North St., 251 Mission St., 517 Sixth St., 517 Kearny St., 749 Montgomery Ave., 3000 Franklin St., 823 Hayes St., 305 Mission St., 25 Market St. (Headquarters), S. F., 1023 Washington St., 610 E. Twelfth St., 1000 Public Works, 177 Broadway, Oakland, 1355 Park St., Alameda. Where you get a present with every purchase.