A LINK BETWEEN PAST AND FUTURE

Bishop Newman's Sermon at the Howard-Street Church.

A Dissertation on Life, Suicide, Homicide and Various Sins and Crimes.

An Immense Throng Gathered to Hold "Watch Night" at the Close of the Year.

At the Howard-street Methodist Episcopal Church, W. W. Case pastor, there was but scant room last night at the usual services closing with each year.

The regular choir was not present, but in its stead other voices were raised in sacred song.

Professor Martin Schultz rendered Penfield's "Cujus Animam" as an organ voluntary. Stearns' "Father in Heaven" was sung by Mrs. W. E. Mayhew, Miss X. Roberts and S. Y. Wood. Miss Ester Needham of Oakland sang Vannah's solo for contralto "Abide With Me." Gounod's soprano solo, "Ring Out, Wild Bells" was rendered by Mrs. Martin Schultz.

Bishop Newman preached the watch-night sermon. It was a great effort and held the congregation spellbound to the close.

The text was from James iv:14: "What is your life?" The following is a synopsis:

Life is a gift of God; the beginning of man's immortality, the connecting link between the past and the future. It is a period of preparation, also a period of termination.

It is a grand thing to live. Whether in the ephemera of an hour or the eagle of a century, the flower of a day or the yew tree of a thousand years, the infant of a week or the man three score years and ten, life is a glorious fact.

Life is everywhere; it is the only thing of which God seems prodigal. There is life in the earth and on the earth, in the sea and on the sea and throughout the vast expanse of the atmosphere. There is life in the fungi, in the lichen, in the blood-rain, in the fire that sparkles on the summer sea, in the motes that dance in the sunbeam and in the dewdrop—Aurora's diamond. Give the microscopist more light and he will reveal the existence of more life. It is not possible to conceive of life devoid of grandeur. Whatever may be the misery incident to existence, to live is preferable to annihilation.

Among the mysteries of life is what scholars call the lease of life. No general law has yet been discovered either in the animal or vegetable kingdom fixing this limitation. The lease of life varies in animals and in plants. In some it is a song, a thrill of love; in others it sweeps through the centuries. The average life of a rabbit is eight years, that of a dog twenty-four years, that of the sagacious and docile elephant 150 years; the raven that croaks his coming lives through the century, and the whale a century and a half. The grains of wheat taken from the hands of a mummy germinate after 3000 years of captivity. The somber cypress flourishes through eight centuries, the cedars through 2000 years, the yew tree through three milleniums. There is at Calaveras, in California, one of the Sequoia Gigantea—or big trees, as they are sometimes called—that is 450 feet high and 100 feet in circumference. That tree sprouted when Solomon was in his glory; it was in its prime when Rome was mistress of the world; it stood in its majesty when Christ was a babe in Bethlehem.

What life is is one of the deepest of all mysteries. The answer has baffled the chemist, the biologist and physiologist, who have toiled in vain on this splendid theme. But the heart of nature's mystery has defied all research. Bichat may say: "Life is the sum of the functions by which death is resisted." Herbert Spencer may say: "Life is the continuous adjustment of internal relations to external relations." Aristotle may say: "Life is the form of organism"; but still we ask, "What is life?" Bichat merely tells us that life is not death; Spencer simply gives us the signs of life; Aristotle gives us a fact, not a definition. In a general sense we may say that life attests its presence by certain signs.

As we now understand, life is fivefold—vegetable, animal, immaterial, spiritual and eternal. Life in the vegetable kingdom is indicated by secretion, absorption and reproduction. When applied to animals its indications are sensation, motion, procreation. Ascending the scale to the higher animal—man—and in addition to these characteristics of the lower brute creation are the higher attributes expressed by intelligence, volition, consciousness.

That which we call the immaterial is differentiated from all lower forms of existence by attributes which never characterize matter. Life spiritual is that harmonious relation in which man lives in communion with his creator, while life eternal is immortality of existence in blissfulness of condition. But whatever may be our definitions, life seems to be an impartation rather than a creation.

There is but one life in the universe—the life of God. The Scriptures are accurate in the assertion that "in him is life," which has a depth of meaning to command our keenest thought and widest research. The old Hindus entertained this loftier conception of life as an impartation, and said that all human lives were parts of the infinite life, and as drops of water return to the ocean, so all souls return to the Infinite Father by absorption. Underlying this description there is a deep thought, but by them misunderstood and misapplied, for all imparted lives, whether of man or of angels, will retain their individuality forever.

The Scriptural history is that after man's body was formed the Almighty inflated his lungs and set his heart in motion by breathing into his nostrils the breath of his animal life, and added thereunto that which we call the soul, which is the changeless, immortal life of man. This is the final conclusion of Darwin and Wallace, compelled to this conclusion by Mivart, a Christian scientist. It may be that some scholars, commonly called atheists, have been misunderstood. Huxley would say that protoplasm is the basis of life, which is a fact; and Tyndall has said that all life is from antecedent life, which is an expression of the highest truth.

But life is of immense importance primarily to the individual, secondly to society at large. To the individual it is the beginning of his immortality, given for the noble purpose of self-development and for that probation from which he is to enter upon the exalted state of his blissful eternity. Who can contemplate a thought so sublime without placing the highest value upon our mortal existence? And as this life radiates the darkness of death it flashes its corruscations upon the materialism of the day and lights up the tomb to the great beyond. To the individual life is the unfolding of his character. It is the accumulation of those forces which enter so largely into his destiny, and to destroy such a life is to interrupt the great process of nature and cheat man of his inalienable rights.

Among civilized men there are two estimates of the importance and value of human existence, one of vanity and contempt, the other of dignity and power. The former estimate is largely due to the deplorable fact that some of our best poets and essayists have given expression to thoughts gloomy and contemptuous.

St. Paul gives a more exalted view in those memorable words, "For me to live is Christ," and the Master's conception is higher than the highest when he declares "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work."

In its grander aspect life is a web, time is a shuttle, man is a weaver. "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle." The principle of action is the thread in the web; but two things are true—that which enters into the web will reappear and nothing will reappear that has not been placed in the web by the deeds of man.

In our tapestry of life we may weave forms of justice, truth and holiness; of faith, hope and charity; of saints, angels and God, and that tapestry may cover the walls of one mansion of blessedness to excite the wonder and admiration of saints and angels. But in that tapestry we may weave the form of Silenus with the ears of an ass surrounded with laughing satyrs and dancing girls; of Bacchus holding in his hand the wine cup with swollen cheeks, bloated body, accompanied by the Bacchanles, frenzied and disordered, chanting the song of the drunkard, and followed by the tiger of destruction; of Mars, reeking with the blood of his fellows, ever attended with that horrid retinue, clamor, anger, discord, fear, terror, shame, death; of Mercury, filching the arrows of Apollo and the girdle of Venus.

The web will be all the man makes it. It may not always appear what we are weaving. The pictured side of life's web is turned toward the infinite; that which is seen by us is often a mass of confused knots and colors. Some fancy they are weaving angels; eternity will reveal a devil. The Greeks have given us the fable of the fatal sisters to illustrate the origin, progress and termination of life. Clotho held the distaff and attached the thread of life; Lachesis with the spindle spun off that thread; and Atropis held a pair of scales to weigh the thread, a sun dial to measure its length, and a pair of scissors to cut it off. These fatal sisters ever attend us. * * *

The crime of homicide consists primarily in three things: The destruction of the image of God—for every man is God in miniature, possessing the attributes of the Creator in limitation, and bears the likeness of the Almighty in a spiritual and intellectual sense; for one human being to lay his hand upon another is to lay that hand on the image of God and, in a certain sense, upon God himself. It is usurpation of the prerogative of the sovereign of the universe, who has the right to create and the right to destroy. It is also the interruption of the unfolding of that individuality to which all have an unquestionable right, and he who interrupts that unfolding commits a crime against mankind. It is robbing society of an individual life, the influences of which might have gone forth as so many beneficent streams issuing from the fountain of goodness. Society depends largely upon its individual component parts, out of which come public opinion and public conscience. It is thus the community is built up in its multiform relations, its education is advanced, its religion is promulgated and civilization attains its loftiest results. By the protection of the individual society reaps the golden harvest of purity, charity and devotion.

There is a looseness in public sentiment touching the right of suicide. The great masters of moral philosophy have borne no uncertain testimony against the right of self-destruction. There are times when despondency takes possession of men, when life seems a failure, and when men say, "The fates are against me"; that "life is not worth living." In such a supreme moment as this they dispatch themselves into the presence of their Creator unbidden, with life's duties undone and its responsibilities unmet. It is a mistake to suppose that suicide is largely from cowardice. The greatest characters in history have thus ended their existence. * * *

The Bible gives account of no thoroughly good man who has dispatched himself, but the great sufferers in biblical history have endured patiently, as when David says, "I waited patiently for the Lord"; as when Jeremiah declares, "It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait"; as when St. Paul triumphantly exclaims, "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Perhaps there is no part of that great epic, the Book of Job, that is more intensely affecting than when in his extreme agony, with children gone, wealth gone, health gone, his wife whispered, "Suicide, Job; curse God and die." But, rallying in the grandeur of his faith, he triumphantly exclaimed, "All the days of my appointed time will I wait till my change come." * * *

There is, however, a vaster sweep in this law of life, comprehensive of those sanitary conditions which are promotive of human existence. It is a startling fact that from one-third to one-half of all persons born into the world die before reaching the age of five years. This terrible reality, from another point of view, is more apparent in the fact that the child which has completed its fifth year actually has an expectation of life more than twelve years greater than it had at its birth. The younger the child the larger is the death rate.

More than half of those who die under five years of age die in their first year. In all the great cities of our own country out of every one hundred live-born children about twenty-five die before the end of the first year, and from forty to fifty before the close of the fifth year. The diseases by which infancy is thus swept from the face of the earth are traceable to causes that have their remedy in a sanitation by science. Among the fruitful causes of those earlier deaths are heredity, poverty, exposure to cold and wet, excessive heat, improper feeding, filth and overcrowding. The common tenement-house in our great cities is the charnel-house of infancy. Whatever may be the advantages of great cities, the death rate of infancy corresponds to the density of population. The remedy of these causes is within the reach of the wealthy, the philanthropic and the scientific. * * *

This earth is a battlefield. The mounds of Magenta and Solferino along the roadside between Turin and Venice are vast tombs wherein sleep the heroic dead who died for glory and for empire. Our earth is one vast cemetery, filled with the victims of men who have plowed the fields with the plowshare of destruction to gratify their thirst for glory, but whose names will go down to posterity the synonym of infamy to be execra ed to the last generation of time as those born to be a curse to virtue and mankind.

The verdicts of history are now being changed. The warriors whose names once awakened shouts of applause are now regarded as human monsters. Their sad end was merited by their bloody career. Behold the end of four of these greatest warriors: Alexander died in a drunken revel at Babylon; Hannibal committed suicide by poison in Bithynia, Asia, unwept and unhonored in a foreign land; Cæsar was murdered in Rome at the base of Pompey's Pillar; Napoleon died in exile on an island in an unfrequented sea. The time will come in the interest of a common humanity and in obedience to this ancient law, "Thou shalt not kill," when all nations shall revere its authority and bow obediently to its behests.

NEW FRENCH HOSPITAL.

A Noble Institution With the Latest Medical and Surgical Appliances Known to Science.

The progressive and generous spirit of the French residents of this City is fitly represented by the great work of the French Mutual Benevolent Society, the erection of the magnificent new hospital, occupying a healthful and commanding site, 240 by 600 feet, on Point Lobos avenue. It is accessible to cable and electric cars and is only a few minutes' walk from Golden Gate Park. Members of the medical profession pronounce it unsurpassed for medical and hygienic purposes in the United States. Every up-to-date improvement for the well-being and comfort of patients is in successful operation at the hospital.

The spacious grounds are admirably adapted for the benefit of convalescents, who receive the ocean's pure and health-giving ozone wafted from the near Pacific.

The medical staff is composed of men eminent for skill in their special lines, as follows:

Dr. H. B. de Marville is chief surgeon; Dr. Oscar J. Mayer, surgeon adjunct and gynecologist; Dr. D. L. Bazet, genito-urinary diseases; Dr. Leo Newmark, nervous diseases; Dr. C. G. Levison, pathology; Dr. de Chantrean, treating physician; Dr. E. L. de Corval, visiting physician; Dr. K. Pischl, oculist and aurist; Dr. Louis E. Brun, dentist.

The officers and directors are: O. Bozio, president; P. Carnes, first vice-president; J. A. Bergerot, second vice-president; J. Deschamps, recording secretary; Leon Bocqueraz, financial secretary; M. Fagothey, J. Bergez, J. P. Lartigan, T. Lacoste, M. Fabreque, M. Cotte, L. Carraine, F. Queyrel, E. A. Lemoine, D. Polidori.

While the rates are $2 per day in the wards and $3 and upward in private rooms it may be remarked that the medical attention and service are the same to every patient. At the hospital outside physicians are permitted to attend their own cases, their patients receiving every advantage of the institution.

Any person in health and under 50 years of age can become a member of the society on payment of a small entrance fee and $1 a month. Membership entitles one to free treatment in case of illness, either at home or at the hospital, and free consultations from the doctors of the society, which maintains two pharmacies, where medicines are free to members.

The most careful supervision is exercised by the directors, two of whom make daily visits to the hospital. Dr. Pachex is resident physician and there is a doctor in attendance day and night to receive patients, as well as three internes to take care of them in the absence of the doctors.

A large number of people have entered as life boarders. They have discovered that no hotel or home can possibly furnish the medical service, the scientific appliances and happy entourage to be found in the New French Hospital. The great success and popularity of the hospital is due in a great degree to the wise and careful management of the board of directors.

Senator Hall's Seat Is Contested.

D. J. McCarthy has filed a contest against Sidney Hall, Senator-elect from the Twenty-third Senatorial District. Mr. McCarthy says that the election officers in his district made a great many errors, and he adds that Mr. Hall violated the purity of election law by spending a great deal more money in his canvass than the law allows. Henry Dibble Jr. is attorney for the contestant.

FOR business men or country merchants the Russ House is the best place in S. F.*

CALVARY'S CHAPEL TO BE REMOVED

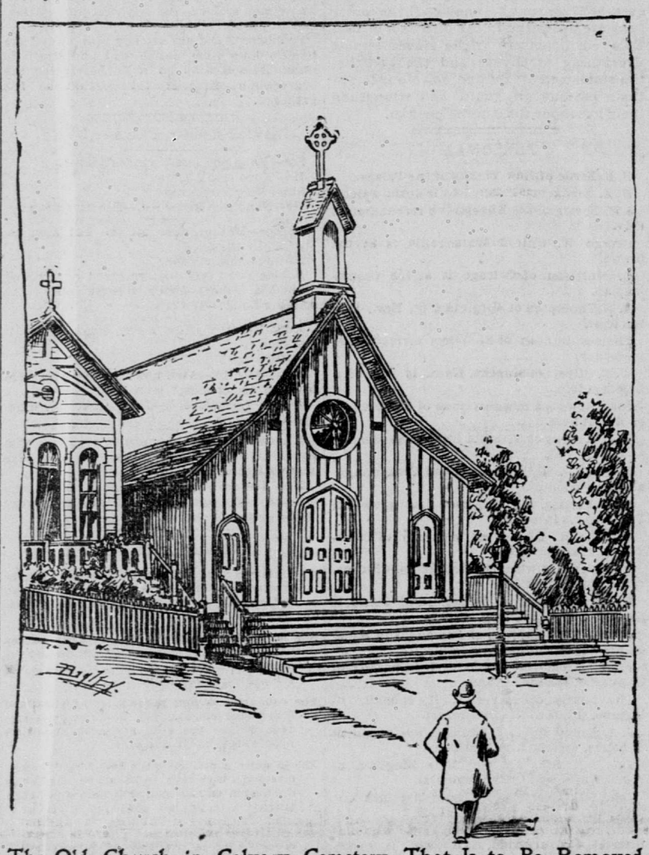
The Familiar Old Landmark Will Soon Disappear.

For Many Years It Stood at the Cemetery Entrance on Ellis Street.

In Its Place Will Be a Handsome Lawn and Fence—Its Varied History.

A familiar old landmark out at the end of Ellis street is to be removed to give way to modern improvements. In its place will be a handsome lawn and an ornamental entrance-gate. The landmark is the mortuary chapel in Calvary Cemetery.

For many years this unpretentious frame structure has stood at the end of Ellis street, where that thoroughfare terminates near the entrance to the cemetery, and has commanded a broad view of the Western Addition from its elevated site. Immediately after the holidays steps will be taken to either move the chapel to some other location or to tear it down. It has been condemned, in fact, as something of the past, and not an ornamental structure at the cemetery entrance, where first impressions are received of Calvary burial-ground.



The Old Church in Calvary Cemetery That Is to Be Removed.

Other cemeteries in the vicinity have been steadily improved in appearance by the removal of old-fashioned wooden structures and the substitution of artistic buildings, by planting hedgerows and fencing with concrete walls. So that they are now really handsome parks, at least in the portions round the main entrances. For some time past Calvary has been undergoing a general transformation. On the Geary-street side concrete walls have been constructed and sidewalks laid, and an ornamental fence has been run along the easterly boundary on Broderick street. Inside, the grassplats have been enlarged and the grounds otherwise improved in appearance.

The removal of the chapel will open a vista of green lawns and shrubbery beside the main entrance for carriages. For some time it has been regarded as a defect that marred the effect of recent alterations.

The little church building has a varied history. Originally it was intended for a chapel wherein services could be held over the remains of people to be interred in Calvary Cemetery. For a time it served as a church for Holy Cross parish, before the present parish church on Eddy street was moved out to Eddy and Scott streets. Then the congregation of Holy Cross worshiped in the new church, but as there were not sufficient accommodations for Sunday-school classes in it, the pastor, Father McGinty, utilized the building at Calvary gates for Sunday-school purposes. The children of the parish have met there every Sunday morning for religious instruction, and still continue to do so, and will hold their New Year and Christmas festival there next Sunday for the last time.

As soon as the building is removed the children will meet at the parish church between the hours of divine service Sunday mornings and there receive instruction in their faith.

There will not be a new mortuary chapel in Calvary Cemetery to take the place of the one about to be taken down. It is not needed now, and in fact the old building has not been used as such of late. The reason for this is a new order regarding Catholic funeral services in San Francisco. When a funeral takes place from the parish church with a requiem mass in the morning a priest accompanies the body to the grave, where prayers for the dead are recited. And if there is no requiem mass the office of the dead is said by a priest in the parish church.

WILL NOT GET THE BENEFIT

Mary Carlson Loses Her Suit Against the American Legion of Honor.

Mary Carlson will not get from the Supreme Council of the American Legion of Honor $2000 claimed by her upon a benefit certificate issued to her husband, Edward Carlson, who was a member of the order. This certificate was issued to Edward Carlson in August, 1892. He was a member of Livermore Council No. 1070. After his death Mrs. Carlson sued for $2000, but was defeated in the Superior Court. Yesterday the Supreme Court decided that the case should not be retried.

The defendants set up that Mr. Carlson failed to pay assessments provided for as a condition of membership, there being three assessments unpaid.

Carlson was dropped from membership in 1894 and his name has not since appeared on the books of the order as being in good standing. Mrs. Carlson contended that the contract did not provide for forfeiture until the expiration of 60 days of grace, the time afforded in which to be reinstated.

The decision says that assessment societies cannot meet their obligations unless the members make prompt payments. "Where, as in this case, suspension attaches by the operation of law upon an event named, and the member dies before the suspension can be set aside in conformity with the rules of the order, there can be no recovery on his benefit certificate."

OUT OLD AND IN NEW.

The Society of California Pioneers Hold a New Year's Eve Reception.

Pioneer Hall was crowded with the pick of the City last evening. The occasion was a New Year's eve reception given by the Society of California Pioneers to the members and their friends. From the appearances every invitation was accepted and a most enjoyable time was had.

The hall was beautifully decorated, potted plants, ferns and flowers, banners and flags setting off the ballroom in a most attractive way. The affair was informal to a very large extent. This was particularly so with regard to the entertainment. Between the dances those who felt disposed added to the pleasure by songs, recitations and stories. Miss Florence Fairchilds was called upon twice to sing and she freely responded. J. B. Swan told several of his original dialect stories; Miss Teresa Cleveland gave a recitation and W. H. Barnes delivered a short address.

Several others also contributed to the entertainment. The affair was under the management of the following gentlemen:

Floor manager, Robert Vandercook; floor committee—Dan O'Callaghan, C. T. Ryland Jr., J. M. Baker, Heber C. Tilden, Arthur Berling; reception committee—James Irvine, Charles M. Plum Jr., Peer Tiffany, Robert R. Russ, James L. Hawks.

The officers of the society are:

President, Elliott M. Root; vice-presidents—Niles Searls, Jacob Z. Davis, C. T. Ryland, T. L. Barker, Howard Havens; treasurer, John D. Tallant; secretary, John I. Spear; marshal, John F. Pinkham; directors—H. N. Tilden, Charles M. Plum, J. H. Jewett, Aylett R. Cotton, H. B. Russ, E. T. Kruse, Wakefield Baker, Leon Sloss, C. J. King.

This was the second entertainment given by the society during the winter season. The next will be held on the 24th inst. and will be known as Red Letter day, a sort of celebration of the discovery of gold in this State. The last will be held in March.

The Coast Failures.

The Bradstreet Mercantile Agency reports 1289 failures in the Pacific Coast States and Territories for the year 1896, with assets $5,090,601 and liabilities $8,893,432, as compared with 1076 for the previous year, with assets $3,534,543 and liabilities $6,503,400. The failures for the past year are divided among the States and Territories as follows:

STATE.	No.	Assets.	Liabilities.
California	919	$2,099,678	$5,025,223
Oregon	176	1,244,658	1,557,534
Washington	174	1,604,315	2,100,875
Arizona Ter.	17	116,650	158,800
Nevada	3	25,500	51,000
Alaska	.....	.....	.....
Totals	1289	$5,090,601	$8,893,432

THE CATHEDRAL ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

Archbishop Riordan Speaks to His People in Eloquent Strain.

He Gives Words of Good Advice and Points Out the Way of Life.

The Congregation Sings in English the Beautiful Hymn, "O Holy God!"

For the second time in San Francisco the congregation of St. Mary's Cathedral blended their voices in singing last evening. A year ago the first attempt at congregational singing was made after the sundown of the old year, but the chant on that occasion was timid and lacked the spirit and feeling which made the effect of last night's hymn exceedingly impressive. The whole congregation joined in the "Te Deum," in English, "O, Holy God!" and the hymn was sung in English as follows:

Holy God, we praise thy name!
Lord of all, we bow before thee!
All on earth thy scepter claim,
All in heaven above adore thee;
Infinite thy vast domain,
Everlasting is thy name.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn,
Angel choirs above are singing
Cherubim and seraphim
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heavens with sweet accord,
Holy, holy, holy Lord.

Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy spirit, three we name thee
While in essence only one,
Undivided God we claim thee
And adoring bend the knee
While we own the mystery.

The services were commemorative of New Year's eve, when thanksgivings are offered for the graces and benefits of the year and good resolves are formed for the coming one. St. Mary's Cathedral was crowded in every part. Christmas decorations of palms and masses of evergreen with bunches of the scarlet glory pea grouped about the magnificent white marble altar still graced the sanctuary, which was dazzling in its brilliancy. Thousands of lights in candelabra lent their luster to the peculiar beauty of the scene, and the whole interior was gloriously illuminated.

Solemn vespers began at 7:30 P. M. They were chanted by the Rev. Father Ramm. Handel's Pastoral Symphony was given as a prelude by Professor Harrison on the grand organ, and then the psalms were sung to Gregorian chant. Aloys Werner sang Adam's "Noel" as a tenor solo. The psalms were rendered by the cathedral chorus under the direction of Rev. Jerome B. Hannigan.

Archbishop Riordan delivered a beautiful sermon bearing especially on the going and coming of the years. His Grace's address partook more of the nature of advice and exhortation to his flock than it was sermonlike. His words were directed to the hearts of his people, and so fittingly that they reached every one.

He said that when the old year is about to close and the new one is at hand it is well for all to look back over the past year and see if a lesson can be gathered from its diversified days. A deep lesson would be found therein if people would take it to heart, and here the Archbishop presented a very happy and striking simile of man being cast in a loom and a man's heart as a shuttle. As it moves to and fro through the loom the heart picks up sometimes darkness, sometimes brightness.

And out of men's dark days and bright days Almighty God is weaving a garment of beauty fit to adorn the walls of the celestial home.

The Apostle Paul says all things work to the good of man. He looks over human things to say that they are all good; that they are all useful, all have a certain value. Are they valuable to all people? No. He does not say that all things are good for all men. Nothing has any absolute value, things are only a means to something that is good, and all depends on the use made of them. St. Paul means good that endures; the good that affects souls, and which men shall carry with them into eternity, the goodness of God as reflected in human life.

In human things as in divine, love is the prime force of our natures. If man loves the noble and the good he is moving in the direction of what is noble and good. "Show me what a man loves," said his Grace, "and I will tell you what he is. Unless we have love in our hearts, unless it penetrates our natures, it is not of the kind that would save our souls."

The Archbishop told his hearers that in the brief time still remaing of the old year enough pure repentance could be thrown into it to atone for deeds of the past. To Christian people, the closing moments of the year come with a solemn pathos. It was well at this time to ask how the year was spent.

On looking back too little of the spiritual will be found, and our faith has been strong only in words. "Let us turn and greet this new year," he added, "with firm resolutions of virtue, meet it as Christian people and say that what is left to us shall be spent as Christian children should live.

"Let us begin our days as Christian people should with at least a short prayer, think of our divine Lord during the day, and at night in prayer thank him for his graces; go to mass on Sunday and to our duties."

After the sermon the Archbishop officiated at benediction with the blessed sacrament, assisted by Fathers Ramm and Byrne and Rev. P. Mulligan as master of ceremonies. Miss Remington of St. Louis made her first appearance here. She is a soprano, with a rich voice, full of power and dramatic beauty, and her singing of Millard's Ave Maria was an exquisite interpretation of the beautiful hymn. The choir sang the "Salutaris" and "Tantum Ergo," after which the congregation sang the Te Deum. The choir was as follows:

Miss Grace Remington, solo soprano; Miss Mae Corlett, alto; A. Werner, tenor; Sig. A. Abramoff, basso; R. G. Harrison, organist.

Sopranos—Mrs. C. P. Troy, Miss Verdi E. Gilmore, Miss Grace McGuire, Miss T. Pauba, Miss Mary Stevens, Miss May Cook, Miss M. Higgins, Miss M. Quigley, Miss Jennie Nicholson.

Altos—Miss Blanche McGuire, Miss Josephine Gilmore, Miss Bre Peguillan, Miss M. Riordan, Miss Mae Corlett, Miss A. Conolly, Miss Emma Haas, Miss Grace Frances Morris, Miss Juliet Bertrand, Miss Leona Schiller and Mrs. J. W. Shanahan.

Tenors—Matt Brady, Edward Burns, Edward J. Deasy, Joseph L. Drake, Harry Smith, George Kelly, Aloys Werner, Joseph Pinkney, J. Laughlin.

Bassos—Daniel C. Deasy, A. R. Dunnigan Benjamin L. McKinley, John H. Wilson, Martin F. Rubanick, Emile Bournizeau, George J. Lowe, Fred F. Dunne, Walter F. Hofman, William P. Stevens, H. Mozart Simmons, Fred Paule, George J. Illidge.

LEVIN BROTHERS' DEBTS

Board of Trade Adjusters in Each of the Firm's Four Stores.

The Levin failure was the talk in mercantile circles yesterday. During the afternoon the Board of Trade sent out this notice:

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31, 1896.

To the Creditors of Levin Bros., San Francisco and Oakland, Cal.—GENTLEMEN: Your committee, appointed at the regular meeting of creditors, beg to report that they have secured assignment from Levin Bros. to Jacob Levi Jr., A. L. Whitney and J. P. Edoff of all their property, and now have adjusters in each of the four stores, with the Berkeley store closed up, its stock being moved to Oakland.

We shall furnish you with a full statement of affairs within a few days, and, at the same time, advise further with you as to the best course to adopt. Very respectfully,

J. Levi Jr., A. L. Whitney, Jesse W. Lilienthal, Louis Getz, J. P. Euoff, M. Samuel, J. J. Schutz, committee.

Several leading creditors were interviewed yesterday for THE CALL, and the opinion was expressed that the assets of the firm would not produce more than 40 per cent of the indebtedness. A representative of a prominent house said that his firm would cheerfully accept 20 per cent of its account with Levin Bros.

The adjusters of the board have now control of Levin Bros.' main store and the branches. An immediate inventory of the goods in hand and an examination of the books of such store will be made. Nothing of a definite character regarding the value of the assets can be obtained before Monday next.

Merchants who have seen the checks representing the payments of $30,000 to creditors between November 23 and December 26 say that the last large payment was made to H. Levi & Co. The next largest check was one for $1700 in favor of C. E. Whitney & Co.

It is remarked as creditable to the Levins that they have surrendered all their property, money in bank, real estate and life-insurance policies for the benefit of their creditors. The Anglo-California Bank, a creditor to the amount of $35,000, is secured to some extent by an equity in real estate on which the German Savings Bank holds a mortgage. C. E. Whitney & Co. are secured in a measure by assigned insurance policies.

A representative of a leading firm on Market street says that Jacob Levi was perfectly fair and just in his appointment of the committee. It was according to custom and right that Mr. Levi presided at the meeting Wednesday, as his house was the largest creditor. When a request was made to him that the dealers in dairy products should have representation on the committee he readily assented and appointed the merchants whose names were suggested.

There were no startling developments in the Levin failure yesterday. In the forenoon a number of creditors held a meeting at the Board of Trade rooms. The future action of the creditors was discussed in a general way, but it was decided to do nothing until after a report of the adjusters, which is expected to be filed on Tuesday. The main and branch stores were in charge of accountants yesterday, and the work of making an inventory proceeded without delay.

Julius Levin yesterday sent the following letter to THE CALL:

To the San Francisco Call: The report published in the daily press of an interview had with me and relating to the losses sustained by my firm, in so far as it reflects upon the integrity of any of our employees, does both them and me a great injustice. Nothing was further from my thoughts than to call in question the integrity of our present employees, whose fidelity to our interests, and strict integrity, have always commanded our fullest confidence and appreciation. JULIUS LEVIN.

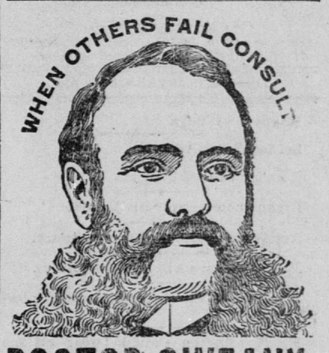
Woman's Best Friend

According to a celebrated physician, is a pure Malt stimulant, which he declares will cure Dyspepsia, prevent weakness and ward off a chill when she comes in from the cold. As a cure for weak nerves it has no equal.

That this statement is true has been proved by the experience of thousands, and it is also true that the best of all Malt stimulants is

Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey.

It is a sovereign remedy for a run-down condition of the system, which never fails to give new life and vigor. Taken promptly, it will always prevent or cure Colds, Coughs, the Grip, Pneumonia and other ailments of the Winter season. As a general tonic and appetizer it is unsurpassed. All Grocers and Druggists keep it.



DOCTOR SWEANY,

A physician whose reputation is established by ten years of successful practice at 737 Market St., San Francisco, Cal.

NERVOUS DEBILITY, caused through self-abuse, night emissions, unnatural losses or overwork of the body or brain. It is the curse of humanity, the unpardonable sin. It blights all the pleasures of youth. It deadens the spirits and weakens the brain. Its train of ills and evils tears down the strongest constitution and completely wrecks the mental and physical man. Thousands of young and middle-aged men through this scourge of humanity have found homes in insane asylums or filled suicide's graves. It unfits the sufferer for study, business or the social or married relations of life. It causes tired feelings, dizziness, despondency, fear of impending danger, bashfulness, pimples, loss of memory and a wandering mind. Among the married it creates discontent, disappointment, dissatisfaction and trouble. It has broken up more homes, caused more desertions and separations than all other evils combined. If you are a sufferer from this monster of all diseases you should consult Doctor Sweany. He can positively and permanently restore your wasted and weakened powers, your health and your manhood.

VARICOCELE, Hydrocele and all bladder difficulties treated with unfailing success.

RUPTURE, New method, sure cure, painless treatment, no knife, no truss, no detention from work, no experiment. A positive, certain and permanent cure.

PRIVATE DISEASES, Gonorrhea, Gleet and stricture cured. Syphilis, the leprosy of the age, positively and forever cured.

LADIES will receive special and careful treatment for all their many ailments.

WRITE, if away from the city. Book, "Guide to Health," a treatise on all organs and their diseases, free on application.

Call or address

F. L. SWEANY, M. D.

737 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

L. A. Berteling Pres. H. Nordman, Vice-Pres.
A. W. Kirk, Sec. Jos. Nordman, Treas.

BERTELING OPTICAL Co.

427 KEARNY STREET,

Is the very best place to have your eyes examined and fitted to glasses with instruments exclusively our own, whose superiority has not yet been equaled.

We have no rivals. We value our reputation; we guarantee satisfaction, and depend solely upon the merits of our work for success.

COSMOPOLITAN.

Opposite U. S. Mint, 100 and 102 Fifth st., San Francisco, Cal.—The most select family hotel in the city. Board and room $1, $1 25 and $1 50 per day, according to room. Meals 25c. Rooms 50c and 75c a day. Free coach to and from the hotel. Look for the coach bearing the name of the Cosmopolitan Hotel. WM. FAHREY, Proprietor.

DR. MARTIN'S GREAT PAIN CURER OF THE AGE

IS THE BEST KNOWN REMEDY

FOR

RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, PAINS IN GENERAL, DYSPEPSIA, DYSENTERY, Cholera Morbus, Diphtheria, Sore Throat, Pneumonia, Nervous, Liver and Kidney Complaints, Sciatica, Lumbago, Colds, Coughs, Local and General Debility, Headache, Earache, Toothache, Sickness in Stomach, Backache, Burns, Swellings, Boils, Sores, Ulcers, Colic, Cramps, Sprains, Bruises, Scalds, Wounds, Indigestion, Skin Diseases, Excessive Itching and many other complaints too numerous to name here. The most skeptical are convinced after trial.

Price, 25c, 50c, $1.00 Per Bottle.

For sale by all druggists. The trade supplied by Redington & Co., Mack & Co. and Langley & Michaels, San Francisco.

L. Callisch, Wholesale Agent for the Pacific Coast, San Jose, Cal.