The San Francisco Call

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TRADE IMPROVING AGAIN.

CONTRARY to expectations in some quarters the opening of Congress, so far from discouraging business, has stimulated it. Public interest in speculation has revived somewhat, and on the New York Stock Exchange the most determined onslaughts of a powerful bear combination during the past few days have not met with the success expected by the organizers, the decline being comparatively slight. The bond market has ruled firm and the tendency in high grade bonds has been rather upward than otherwise. When it is considered that the London stock market has been depressed of late, the insignificance of the break at New York is gratifying, as it indicates an undercurrent of strength. Indeed, it is observed that there is an increased and growing demand for good bonds and stocks, in which the larger earnings of the great railroads are the ruling factor.

The usual statistics, on which observing financiers base their views, continue to make a good showing. The gain in bank clearances last week was the largest for some little time, being 26.7 per cent, and not a single important city in the country showed a loss. The failures last week were 292, against 381 for the same week last year. Collections are reported better in many localities. Jobbers and retailers report a good and increasing trade for the holidays. The export movement from both coasts of the United States is large and shows no tendency to decrease. This, of course, swells the railroad earnings, which, during the past three months, have been larger than ever before.

Another satisfactory sign is the improving demand for some of the leading staples. The woolen trade is reported more active and quotations as a rule are maintained. There is more call for iron and steel products, largely due to extensive preparations for railroad work, bridges and buildings next year, and it is the general impression that this activity will be so pronounced that the capacity of the different works throughout the country will be seriously crowded after the New Year opens.

On this coast business rules more or less quiet, but it is larger than at this time last year, as indicated by the steady gain in the local bank clearings. A rushing business on Alaskan account is expected after the turn of the year, and judging from present indications San Francisco is going to have its share of it if push and enterprise and natural facilities can bring it about. Of course, prompt work will be necessary, but the reward is so large that it will amply repay the most strenuous exertions. Already the wholesale grocers, provision packers, manufacturers and other commercial houses whose product will be wanted for the far north are actively preparing for the rush which they say is bound to come. If their opinion is worth anything, and it surely ought to be, there will be lively times in trade circles in San Francisco next year.

The general markets show no particular change. Wheat continues unsettled, in sympathy with the governing markets of the world, and moves up and down with more than usual sensitiveness. The general rains have weakened barley, as they usually do, and the other cereals are dull and weak. The wool market is still inactive, but there is no decline in prices. Hides and leather are firm and in good demand. Hops are still neglected at nominal quotations. Pork has declined somewhat during the week. Dairy products are off, as usual at this time of the year, when the production of butter and eggs makes a marked increase. The market for all kinds of fruit, including oranges, rules dull, and prices are weak as a rule. Dried fruit, raisins, nuts and honey are neglected at the old quotations. Provisions show no change and business is inactive. Merchandise quotations are generally unchanged.

The money market continues well supplied with loanable funds at the usual rates of interest, but the demand for loans is not over brisk. Collections are about as they generally are at this season. Failures are small, those last week being only seventeen for the whole Pacific Coast.

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.

AMONG the recommendations of the President's message to which the country has a right to expect Congress will give prompt and favorable consideration is that urging legislation in the interests of our merchant marine. This great industry is exposed to the competition of foreign subsidized ships and is fighting a losing battle for the carrying trade of the country.

On this issue the President is in full accord with the broad principle underlying the policy of protection to home industry. Every argument that sustains the upbuilding of factories on land is equally efficient in sustaining the upbuilding of the shipping interests on the sea. Commerce and manufacture work in harmony together, and it is expedient that the Government should promote the one as earnestly as the other.

As the President points out, the best way to extend our foreign commerce is to enlarge and improve our merchant marine. We should do our full share of the carrying trade of the world instead of leaving it to foreigners to carry our goods for us. The existing condition of affairs is humiliating to national pride as well as a severe drain upon the revenues of the people. Public sentiment is in full accord with the statement of the message, "the Government, by every proper constitutional means, should aid in making our ships familiar visitors at every commercial port of the world, thus opening up valuable markets to the surplus products of the farm and the factory."

It was the intention of Congress to aid American ships engaged in foreign trade by the discriminating duty clause of the tariff act, and while the intent failed of its purpose it gives encouragement to the belief that a better devised plan for promoting the industry will be enacted at this session. A measure aiming at that object is one on which all Republicans can agree, and it is to be hoped that one will be enacted and put into force before the close of the first year of the administration chosen to restore prosperity to the republic and all the interests of its people.

As a question of ethics it would be interesting to know if the epithet "liar" was ever passed between Fillmore of the Southern Pacific and Dickinson of the Union Pacific, and if so what effect it will have on the rate of speed maintained from the Missouri River to San Francisco.

Comment on the report that Spanish soldiers in a spirit of jocoseness exposed the bodies of their victims in the market-place as if for sale need not be extended. To say that the correspondent who sent it is undoubtedly a disgusting liar, would seem to cover the case.

It may be hoped that after the police have cleared the streets of the flower-venders they will turn their attention to the daylight footpads, who are even more dangerous than the crippled peddlers.

THE COOLIES' ADVOCATE.

THE *Chronicle* insists that a popular vote of this coast would ratify the annexation of Hawaii by a two-thirds majority. What evidence has it?

As far as California is concerned there is none. Here the evidence is the other way. This State voted on the freedom of our territory to Asiatic coolies as a separate proposition in 1879, and only 800 votes were cast for it. What has changed that insignificant minority into a two-thirds majority?

The *Chronicle* says the Legislature which elected Senator White passed an annexation resolution. True, but that resolution restricted annexation to the use of "honorable means." Every consideration of honor repudiates the means put in action by the Dole conquest. It would be like a Methodist conference advising circuit riders to use all honorable means to get saddle horses, and at its next session rebuking them for not stealing the animals, to impeach Senator White for opposing the present treaty.

The Legislature which elected Senator Perkins refused to pass and rejected an annexation resolution. So that method of expression is neutralized.

The *Chronicle* says: "Hawaii, as a field of purely tropical production, is bound to depend upon the Pacific Coast for the most of what it eats and wears, except sugar," and then proceeds to demand annexation lest Hawaii be lost to us commercially, "because it is the ambition of Japan to make it a commercial dependency." If a field of tropical production must depend upon the Pacific Coast for what it eats end wears, that dependence is caused by natural conditions—by our complementary production of what it wants. Japan produces what Hawaii does, and the *Chronicle's* economic proposition is like Tom Marshall's two farmers who raised potatoes and nothing but potatoes, and could not trade, for one had nothing to give the other for his potatoes but potatoes.

The trade of Hawaii is and will remain ours, as the nearest country which can take her surplus at a profit and exchange for it our surplus of what she needs.

The *Chronicle* says that Senator Perkins was compelled by public opinion here to lay aside his prejudices against the treaty. He had none. His opposition to the treaty, as phrased by himself, was on the lines of fact, reason and judgment. As a merchant and navigator, he showed that the path of our Asiatic commerce lies 1600 miles north of Hawaii. That in strategy we would better fortify one of our islands in the Aleutian Archipelago, in reach of our commercial highway, rather than Hawaii.

The *Chronicle* then proceeds to have a war with Japan, in which Hawaii is seized by the Mikado, and one with England, in which Esquimalt is captured by Uncle Sam.

Against all this gory rot lies the plain common-sense of Senator Hoar's proposition to let Hawaii retain her autonomy, remain independent and neutral, by international agreement becoming the Switzerland of the seas. Then take the $5,000,000 for Dole's debts the treaty compels us to pay and expend it in fortifying San Francisco, until it equals Esquimalt, gun for gun and battery for battery.

Mr. de Young wants our Gibraltar 2800 miles away in the tropics, to which we must carry coal, to be seized en route by an enemy. As strategy it is equal to sawing off the limb between us and the tree.

Let this harbor and the heights around be our Gibraltar, with coal supply safely reached by railways that no invasion can cut.

FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD.

ONCE more in the performanc of the duty of protecting the public against the practices of rascals THE CALL has exposed the *Examiner* in the commission of a fraud, petty in itself, but so malicious in motive and unscrupulous in execution as to constitute a serious menace to the welfare of the community.

By the exposure made yesterday we showed that the *Examiner* conceived the idea of injuring THE CALL by circulating a libel concerning it, and that, in order to injure the Alaskan Trade Committee at the same time, it issued the libel in the form of a circular, bearing an address so cunningly worded as to deceive the public into the belief that the Alaskan Trade Committee was responsible for it.

Though the double blow had no force other than that derived from the cunning of small minds it was not without effect. Some merchants were induced to believe that THE CALL, in outfitting the Bear for the relief of the Arctic whalers, had ignored home trade, while others, who knew the truth of the conditions under which the outfitting was done, were deceived into believing the Alaskan Trade Committee had engaged in the contemptible practice of circulating slanders through the mails.

While the majority of intelligent men recognized at a glance the fraudulent nature of the anonymous circular and perceived that the address given, "Headquarters San Francisco Merchants' Committee on Klondike Outfitting," was but a counterfeit imitation of the address of the Alaskan Trade Committee, nevertheless the unwary were likely to be deceived by it, and steps were taken at once therefore to discover and expose the rascals who issued it. The Alaskan Trade Committee offered a reward of $500 for the conviction of the perpetrators and THE CALL employed detectives to ferret them out.

It was natural that suspicion should be directed to the office of the *Examiner*. The absentee proprietor of that paper is well known to be virtually a fugitive from justice. Safe in his New York residence he mocks at those who seek to sue him for any of the offenses of his paper in San Francisco. That journal therefore has long since thrown aside all scruples, and being beyond legal penalties has mocked at honor, morality, decency and even law itself.

The unscrupulous means employed in carrying out the cunningly devised attack upon THE CALL and the Alaskan Trade Committee are worth noting as illustrations of the viciousness of the *Examiner* managers. Too cowardly to take risks themselves, they put young boys to the task of the dirty and risky work. One of these boys, sent to obtain copies of THE CALL, represented himself to a newsdealer as having been sent from THE CALL office. Had his story been believed and his lie successful he would now be guilty of obtaining goods under false pretenses. The *Examiner* managers would, of course, disclaim responsibility in his lie, as they disclaimed responsibility in the falsification of the dispatch from Captain Tuttle, which Mrs. Tuttle denounced as a forgery. The boy would then have had to bear the penalty, and Mr. Hearst would have continued free and easy, as usual, in New York.

The exposure made in this case is a matter of concern to every citizen. Who can say how many anonymous circulars, false, vicious and malignant, have been issued from the *Examiner* office? It is not likely that the Alaskan Trade Committee and THE CALL are the only institutions in the city that paper has sought to injure by similar means. When blackmail cannot be levied by an open hold-up a cowardly villain never hesitates to stab in the back.

Without going far back in its history or taking note of small fakes and frauds in the way of so-called news, this is the record of the *Examiner*: It has been exposed extorting a subsidy from the Southern Pacific; it has been caught hiring a boy to commit the petty larceny of stealing a copy of THE CALL from the pressroom so that the *Examiner* might steal THE CALL news; it has been exposed in falsifying a dispatch from Captain Tuttle; it has been discovered imitating so closely as to amount to a counterfeit the title of the Alaskan Trade Committee; it has been shown to be the circulator of slanders through the mails.

With such a record the *Examiner* is the publicly known employer of fakers, liars, petty larcenists, slanderers, blackmailers; and still the absentee proprietor lives safely in New York, while the merchants, the society and all the institutions of San Francisco remain the prey of his predatory hirelings and the victims of his cowardly malice.

Since the *Examiner* is so fond of exploiting crime it might grasp the opportunity to indulge in autobiography. It is in a position to score a scoop as to many details.

THE COAST PRESS.

Redlands has another new paper in the *Record*, edited by J. A. Whitmore, a newspaper man of considerable experience. It is replete with well-written news items.

Increase in advertising patronage is the excellent reason for the enlargement of the Bakersfield *Echo*. The people of Kern County's capital appreciate enterprise, as well as the value of printer's ink in an up-to-date paper.

The San Bernardino *Sun* announces that early in the spring it will issue an illustrated souvenir edition devoted to the interests and industries of San Bernardino County. It will be a 50-paged booklet, magazine form, and the edition will consist of some 5000 copies.

The *Calistogian* has celebrated its twentieth birthday by discarding its "patent outside" and appearing as an all-home production. The paper is meeting with deserved success, and is doing valuable service for the advancement of the interests of Calistoga and vicinity.

J. W. Tinker and F. H. Fowler are the new editors and managers of the Hemet *News*, and they propose to devote their best energies to the growth of Hemet and settlement and development of San Jacinto Valley. The gentlemen candidly admit that they are novices in the business, but assert their high purposes, and ask that criticism be tempered with justice.

The Hanford *Sentinel* has issued a special edition, descriptive of that city's advantages of location, its fine climate and the productiveness of the surrounding country. It shows in a concise way just what Hanford and Kings County have to offer for the investment of capital, establishment of manufacturing industries and the culture of all kinds of fruit and vegetables.

The Los Angeles *Herald* was "at home" to a multitude of guests last Thursday, invitations, handsomely printed on fine paper, having been issued for that occasion. The new, spacious and elegant quarters of the paper in the Hellman building were inspected, and the extensive, complicated and costly equipment of the *Herald* was doubtless found quite up to the metropolitan standard. The paper has made astonishing progress under its present management.

Charles A. Lucas has assumed the editorial management of the *Elevator*, the organ of the Afro-Americans in this city. The birth of that paper was simultaneous with the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation by the immortal Abraham Lincoln. The founder of the *Elevator* was the late Philip A. Bell, a colleague of Fred Douglass in the battle for the freedom of the colored race in America and a man of great moral force. Success has attended the publication of the paper from its very inception, and it ranks to-day as one of the leading journals devoted to the interests of the colored people. A number of improvements in the *Elevator* are contemplated for the near future, the same being justified by the liberal patronage accorded the paper.

The Humboldt *Standard* has rendered material assistance toward the upbuilding of the redwood shingle industry of Northern California. The outlook for a large Eastern demand for this product is very promising. Humboldt manufacturers may be counted on to steer clear of the suicidal policy of sending inferior redwood shingles to the Eastern market to be sold as the first-grade article. Says the *Standard*: "By way of caution our shingle-makers should take the greatest care to ship nothing which is not true to grade and name. This county will yet gather in millions for her redwood products sold east of the Rockies. The best market for the present and near future will be found in shingles; but, if we ever secure a railroad, a demand for first-class redwood will spring up, as the supply of clear pine is meager, even in the Southern States, and will soon be exhausted. In this era of 'hustling for trade' the redwood mill men ought to keep up with the procession. They should push their products into every available market and not wait for buyers to come after lumber and shingles. This apathy, this waiting for trade to come to, us in the past has worked injury to the redwood mill men, and they should learn from experience what must be done to win and hold trade."

NEWS OF FOREIGN NAVIES.

Parsons, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the builder of the famous Turbinia, has taken the contract to build a torpedo-boat destroyer to make a speed not less than 36 knots and of which he anticipates as high as 40 knots.

The Spanish torpedo-boat destroyer Pluto, built in England, has attained a speed of nearly 30¼ knots under forced draught over the measured mile course. During a continuous run of one and a half hours the speed was just 30 knots per hour. In a two-hour run with natural draught the boat steamed at the rate of 22¾ knots per hour.

Gibraltar is evidently to be made the key to the Mediterranean, as vast improvements are being pushed forward and the place has changed its appearance entirely within the past five years. A huge protected harbor and dockyard, with graving dock, storehouses and workshops, is in course of construction, and will make the old rock still more difficult to capture than ever before.

Four French battle-ships of the Charlemagne class have been launched from one to two years ago and are approaching completion as fast as the peculiar methods of French dockyards will permit. It appears now, however, that the turrets and heavy guns will not be ready until 1899, and thus four vessels, representing a final total cost of $24,000,000, will be useless in the interim. When finally completed in 1899 the Charlemagne will have taken five years to build, and she is now being severely criticized for lacking adequate protection for her gun crews.

The British battle-ship Illustrious passed through her thirty hours' coal-consumption trial last month. The performance was under half boiler power, and with 142 pounds of steam and 83 revolutions 6155 horsepower were developed, giving a speed of 14.51 knots. The coal consumption was only 1.77 pounds per horse per hour, or at the rate of nearly 116 tons during twenty-four hours. The Illustrious displaces 14,900 tons on her normal draught, but she was not down within one foot of her draught, and therefore displaced about 14,330 tons, or 3300 tons more than the United States battle-ship Iowa, which last month passed her final acceptance trial, making about 14 knots with 8250 horsepower.

Further details of the Baltic-Black Sea Canal give better ideas of the route and magnitude of the work. It will start at Riga, where work has already begun, and follow the course of the River Duna to Dunaburg, thence to Lepel on the Beresina to the junction with the Dnieper, and thence to Cherson on the Black Sea. Of the total canal route of 1500 miles only 125 miles will be artificial navigation, the remainder being along the rivers indicated above, which will be deepened and widened where required to make a uniform width at the top of 216 feet 8 inches, 116 feet 8 inches at the bottom, and a depth of 28 feet 4 inches. Fifteen seaports will be developed along the route, and it is expected that the canal will be opened for business in 1902.

An interesting story of the vicissitudes of a former Royal English yacht, Victoria, comes from Japan. She belonged to Queen Victoria, and was presented by her to the Japanese Government in 1859, when she was renamed the Banryo and fitted out as a vessel-of-war. On the outbreak of the restoration war in Japan the Banryo deserted from Shinagawa, with other of the Fokugawa Government vessels, and arrived at Hakodate after a very stormy passage. During the subsequent troubles she participated in nine engagements with vessels of the imperial navy, and in the last fight, when her ammunition gave out, she was beached and set on fire, but the flames were put out before serious damage was done. Subsequently she was purchased by an Englishman, who had her repaired and brought back to Hakodate, where she was sold to the Kaitakushi Company and named Raiden Maru. Later on she was commissioned as a gunboat in the navy, to be condemned a few years later and presented to Mr. Hiromatsu to be used as a whaler. The latter again sold her to Fukunaga of Osaka, who transferred the old hulk to Nagoshi, who is now pulling her to pieces.

TEN cents for a bottle of Low's horehound cough syrup, 417 Sansome st. *

UNIQUE POSTAL SERVICE IN FRANCE.

In the southwestern part of France, stretching along the Bay of Biscay for some seventy miles and running back along the rivers emptying into it, between Bordeaux and Bayonne, is a strange tract of open country called the "Landes." It formerly consisted of low sandy plains, mostly covered at high tide by the sea, but now much of it has been reclaimed and planted with pine trees, which are cultivated for the sake of the resin extracted from them. The soil of the plains is naturally very sterile, being composed of a mixture of sand, clay and organic debris resting on a subsoil of tufa, which is impermeable to water. Consequently for three-fourths of the year the abundant rainfall, about fifty-five inches, unable to filter

DELIVERING THE MAIL.

through, rests on the almost level surface and transforms the country into vast marshes and morasses, which later, under the heat of the summer sun, partially dry up and become breeding places for malarious fevers.

For these reasons the population is very sparse and confined to a few scattered villages and groups of dwellings or huts, the inhabitants of which are almost wholly devoted to the care of their flocks of sheep, which in season find sustenance on the coarse gorse and broom sedge which cover the best part of the plains. For this service and traveling from place to place the peasants make use of long stilts, which are tied to their legs. Mounted on these, eight or ten feet above ground, they can watch their flocks over a wide extent of the marsh and cross the sloughs, pools and bogs without difficulty. They carry with them a long pole, which serves as a balance when walking and a support when resting. This country is provided with a regular mail service, and the postmen make use of the same contrivances in going their rounds from village to village, both in summer and winter, only in the latter season when the marshes are covered with snow and ice they fasten to the bottom of the stilt a kind of wood shoeskate by which they are enabled to walk and glide along the snow crust without breaking through. With his mailbag and his large white cloak or "capol" lined with sheepskin, with which his legs are also covered, stalking along through the marshes, miles away from any habitation or human being, he presents probably as unique a figure as is to be seen in official life anywhere in the world.

PERSONAL.

William Roche of Kansas City is at the Grand.

R. M. Gilt of Stockton is at the Cosmopolitan.

W. O. Barnes of Astoria, Or., is at the Cosmopolitan.

Mrs. N. Schofield of Sierra City is at the Cosmopolitan.

John Campbell of Georgetown, Colo., is at the Cosmopolitan.

W. W. Burtin, the capitalist of Santa Barbara, is at the Pleasanton.

J. M. and George H. Guffy of Pittsburg, iron merchants, are at the Palace.

Lieutenant Herbert Winslow of the United States Navy and wife are at the Pleasanton. Mrs. Winslow has just returned from a trip to apan.

CALIFORNIANS IN CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—At the Wellington, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Oliver, San Francisco; Leland—Mrs. Daniel J. Loveland, R. C. Glover, D. Daniels, Miss E. Loveland, San Francisco; Palmer, T. F. Livingston, San Diego.

LULLABY.

Oh, listen, little Dear-My-Soul,
To the fairy voices calling,
For the moon is high in the misty sky
And the honey dew is falling.

To the midnight feast in the clover bloom
The bluebells are a-ringing,
And it's "come away to the land of fay"
That the katydid is singing.

Oh, slumber, little Dear-My-Soul,
And hand in hand we'll wander.
Hand in hand to the beautiful land
Of Balow, away off yonder.

Or we'll sail along in a lily leaf
Into the white man's halo—
Over a stream of mist and dream
Into the land of Balow,

Or, you shall have two beautiful wings—
Two gossamer wings and airy,
And all the while shall the old moon smile
And think you a little fairy.

And you shall dance in the velvet sky
And the silvery stars shall twinkle
And dream sweet dreams as over their beams
Your footfalls softly tinkle.

—Eugene Field.

NOTES ABOUT NOTABLES.

The salary of the Archbisop of Canterbury is $50,000 a year, and yet he talks of resigning.

The Marquis of Bute, who is an extensive landowner in South Wales, is having his three sons taught Welsh.

Manuel Ferraz de Campos Salles, candidate of the Governmental party for President of Brazil, is a lawyer and editor, 57 years old. He has traveled widely in Europe.

A friend having declared in Mrs. Siddon's hearing that applause was necessary to actors—that it gave them confidence. "More," interposed she, "it gives us breath."

William Sloan Green of Portland, Ind., who has just celebrated his 110th birthday, is the oldest man in Indiana, and, dispite his great age, his hearing and eyesight are good.

Russell Sage denies the report that he is to retire from Wall street. "Why?" he said, aghast at the rumor, "I have added largely to my holdings this fall." All of Mr. Sage's early associates in business are either dead or bankrupt.

Stephen Horsey, one of the celebrated Knights of the Golden Circle, who was arrested in Indiana in 1864 on suspicion of conspiring to aid the Confederacy, is dying in the asylum for the poor in the little town of Shoals, Ind., forgotten by friends and enemies.

FLASHES OF FUN.

"Do you consider it healthful to sleep after eating?"

"I don't know; but I've found it mighty healthy to eat after sleeping."—Detroit Free Press.

Jean—Why do you never speak to Mr. Outre? He is uncouth, but I feel sure he is a diamond in the rough.

Katherine—So do I. That's why I am cutting him.—Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune.

She—I don't see what draws you men into politics. As for me, I can't make anything out of it.

He—It is the hope of making something out of it that makes so many men go in.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"It's too bad they didn't have judges in Adam's time."

"Why?"

"Think of the trouble he might have saved by getting an injunction to restrain the angel from driving him out of the garden of Eden."—Chicago Daily News.

"A dike is a sort of dam, isn't it?"

"Yes; why?"

"Then I think that in view of the amount of profanity the Klondike has provoked its name should be changed to Klondam."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

A CALIFORNIAN'S PROTEST.

To the Editor of the Call: Permit me as a native of California to enter a most solemn protest against the sentiment which gives rise to such incidents as the protests against the elevation of the Hon. Joseph McKenna to the Supreme Bench. The busy men of our land may not realize the prevalence of the spirit of jealousy and selfishness which inspires such unseemly conduct. These characteristics are largely local. California is conspicuous for want of State pride, appreciation of the true worth of her sons and fidelity to those who serve her faithfully.

Other States have their favorite sons, their citizens unite on great public questions and they work together for a common good.

In California we can have no favorite son, no matter how general a good may be at stake. Our people divide instead of uniting to promote a common good. A large minority can always be relied upon to try to defeat the will of the majority.

In older Eastern States, Senators, Congressmen, Judges, are re-elected term after term, until they command enormous influence for good. In one term the most able man cannot secure a standing such as enables him to accomplish anything for his section; he cannot even equip himself to be useful to his country. California has hardly ever returned a Senator, seldom a member of Congress.

Our State to-day is a quarter of a century retarded in development, the great Northwest, which should have been built up only as the result of a legitimate overflow from California, has become a formidable rival.

It is the apathy, indifference, jealousy and selfishness of our people which have caused this.

No public man of merit can be advanced no public measure promoted, but vicious, unreasonable opposition destroys both.

Once the writer asked Mr. Huntington if he did not believe a more generous policy toward California shippers would eventuate in greater profit to his railway in the long run.

Mr. Huntington said:

"No; you do not know your people as I do. Their prevailing characteristic is to cry 'whip behind.' They have no appreciation of generous treatment."

The writer was a candidate for appointment as Commissioner of the General Land Office in 1884. Whatever may be said to the contrary he had been selected for that office.

The Stockton and anti-Stockton convention tribes were in Washington, each with a blue book with all the offices apportioned. They filled the lobbies with their complimentary allusions each to the other. Each asked the writer "Are you with us?" He declined to join either. Both cliques then united to encompass his defeat—and succeeded.

California could have had honor and glory galore had it not been for the unfortunate failings which inspire this letter.

Justices of the Supreme Court, Cabinet officers, Ministers to foreign countries, potent Senators and members of Congress we could have had were our people only as patriotic, wise, generous and unselfish as are those of the older States.

The same characteristics which keep down our public men serve to retard all development.

Had San Francisco merchants and others had half as much enterprise and energy as have the newcomers in Southern California, Portland, Seattle and Tacoma would now be in embryo and all of the trade of the Pacific Coast would gravitate to and radiate from San Francisco.

Irving M. Scott struck the keynote which sends the truth resounding throughout the land when he said: "The basis for nearly all of our trouble lies in the lamentably low ebb of personal integrity. Lower and lower has this become, until no man who has any self-respect dare seek political preferment, however pure and good he may have been."

We should be proud of Judge McKenna. He is a credit to us. Not one true word has been spoken to his discredit. He is only "not able," "not distinguished" enough. How many of the Justices of the Supreme Court were known to possess greater ability and distinction than he when they were appointed? How do we know that Judge McKenna may not become another Taney, Marshall or Field? How do we know that circumstances may not arise which will enable us to enroll his name among those of our greatest men?

Grant was not a great man in our opinion during the days when he was one of us.

No man can become greater than his environments will permit of.

With such surroundings as one has here in California, greatness and distinction are almost unattainable; but when men of such sterling character, native ability and grand ambition as Judge McKenna reach a position of limitless scope, what may we not expect of them? As a unit all of the people of this State should unite in helping every honest, pure, true man to attain eminence, either at home or abroad.

Do not by your acts educate your sons to believe it respectable to keep crying "whip behind"; honorable, to try to tear down; just, to seek always for the weakest spot in a fellow man; then expose it. Teach the boys that ability, integrity and energy are sure passports to public favor, and insure them the opportunity to become great, if they have it in them.

H. I. WILLEY.

San Francisco, December 12, 1897.

IT WAS A MODEL ACCOUNT.

Alameda Encinal.

THE CALL'S account of the hanging of Allender was a model of what such things should be. It was brief, devoid of any attempt at sensationalism, was not accompanied by illustrations and was confined solely to a recital of the plain facts. It is a pity that all papers could not follow the example thus set for almost the first time on this coast.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

VIRGINIA CITY FIRE—A Reader, City. The great fire in Virginia City, Nev., occurred on the 26th of October, 1875.

FISH AND GAME—W. L. B., French Gulch, Cal. As it is unlawful in the State of California to catch trout at any time, except by hook and line, and as it is also unlawful to trap quail and other game, this department will not give any information on the subject of trapping such.

ART INSTITUTE—O. J., City. This department was misinformed in the matter of the open day at the Hopkins Institute of Art, consequently the answer given last Thursday was not correct. The institute is open free to the public on the afternoon and evening of the *first*, and not the *last*, Friday of each month.

MADAME ANNA BISHOP—S., City. Madame Anna Bishop gave a farewell concert in the city of New York at Steinway Hall on May 2, 1873, and then came West, arriving in San Francisco July 15, 1873, and gave the first of a series of concerts in Platt's Hall, on Montgomery street, near Bush, July 17 of that year. In this she was assisted by Alfred Wilkie, the well-known tenor, now a resident of Oakland, L. M. Gottschalk, barytone, and Frank Gilder, pianist. Her final concert in San Francisco was on July 27 in Pacific Hall, on Bush street, between Kearny and Dupont, the concert being a grand sacred one.

MONTENEGRO — Subscriber, Alameda, Cal. Montenegro belonged to the great Servian kingdom, but after the dismemberment of this and its conquest by the Turks at the battle of Kossovo in 1839, the Montenegrins, under their Prince, who was of the royal blood of Servia, maintained their independence, though compelled to relinquish the level tracts about Scutari, with their chief fortress of Zabliak, and confine themselves in 1485 to the mountains. The Porte continued to assert its claim to Montenegro and included it in the pashalik of Scutari, but the country was not conquered till 1714, and, on withdrawal of the Turks soon afterward, it resumed its independence. In 1860 the Montenegrins excited an insurrection against the Turkish rule in Herzegovina, which was soon suppressed, and, in return, they were so hard pressed by the Turks that they were glad to agree to a treaty in 1862, by which the sovereignty of the Sublime Porte over Montenegro was recognized.

FEDERAL OFFICERS—C. C. C., City. It is to be presumed that the question asked refers only to Federal officers who do not come within the civil service rules and who are connected with those departments that are under those rules. They are as follows:

Departmental service—Private secretaries or confidential clerks (not exceeding two), to the President or to the head of each of the Executive departments. Indians employed in the Indian service at large, except those employed as superintendents, teachers, teachers of industries, kindergartens and physicians.

Custom-house service—One cashier in each customs district. One chief or principal deputy, or assistant collector in each customs district, whose employes number as many as 150.

Postoffice service—One assistant Postmaster, or chief assistant to the Postmaster, of whatever designation, at each Postoffice. One cashier of each first-class Postoffice when employed under the roster title of cashier only.

Internal Revenue service—One cashier in each Internal Revenue district.

That is these are exempt from examination or registration under the rules. Then there are certain laborers who are not under the rules.

MOTHER SHIPTON—R. C. M., Napa, Cal. The so-called Mother Shipton prophecy, which is as follows, was never written by Mother Shipton:

Carriages without horses shall go,
And accidents shall fill the world with woe,
Around the earth thoughts shall fly
In the twinkling of an eye.
Water shall yet more wonders do,
So strange, yet shall be true.
The world upside down shall be,
And gold be found at root's tree.
Through hills man shall ride
And no horse nor ass be at his side.
Under the water man shall walk,
Shall ride, shall sleep, shall talk.
In the air man shall be seen
In white, in black, in green.
Iron in the water shall float
As easy as a wooden boat.
Gold shall be found mid stone
In a land that's now unknown.
Fire and water shall wonders do.
England shall at last admit a Jew,
And this world to an end shall come
In eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

Mother Shipton lived more than 300 years ago, and she prophecied many things, some of which came true and others did not. In 1862 Charles Hindley of Brighton, England, published what purported to be a chap book version of Mother Shipton's prophecies, and that included the one quoted. It was charged that "the prophecy" was a forgery. In 1873 Hindley wrote a letter confessing that he had written the prophecy to make a sale for his book. Consequently "the prophecy" has no value.

CALIFORNIA glace fruits, 50c lb. Townsend's.

SPECIAL information daily to manufacturers, business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 510 Montgomery.

Hospital Day in Our Churches.

An interdenominational conference of the ministers of this city is called to meet at the Young Men's Christian Association, corner of Mason and Ellis streets, Monday, December 13, at 2 P. M.

The purpose of the conference is to agree upon a Saturday and Sunday when an annual collection shall be taken in all places of worship for the benefit of the hospitals having free beds.

To this meeting are invited the ministers of whatever faith or creed. It is desired to establish a humane and charitable custom, which shall appeal to the whole city. A large representation is expected.

Toilet Articles.

All the best makes of perfumery put up in the nicest bottles with prettiest labels and elegant boxes. Celluloid, Cosmian and sterling silver sets of mirrors, combs and brushes. Atomizer manicure sets, traveling sets, hair, clothes and tooth brushes. The very best moderate-priced goods in the world. Sanborn, Vail & Co., 741 Market street. Open evenings. *

"You are short a cent," said the conductor, as he leaned forward and breathed heavily.

"You are not," said Briggs, as he caught an agonizing waft of garlic.—Cleaveland Plain Dealer.

"Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup"

Has been used over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while Teething with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays Pain, cures Wind Colic, regulates the Bowels and is the best remedy for Diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. For sale by Druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. 25c a bottle.

CORONADO.—Atmosphere is perfectly dry, soft and mild, being entirely free from the mists common further north. Round-trip tickets, by steamship, including fifteen days' board at the Hotel del Coronado, $60; longer stay $2 50 per day. Apply 4 New Montgomery street, San Francisco, or A. W. Bailey, manager Hotel del Coronado, late of Hotel Colorado, Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

Hicks—You say that he sighed and then she sighed. It was a regular circus for the rest of you.

Wicks—No; only a sighed show.—Boston Transcript.

NEW TO-DAY.

Fat is absolutely necessary as an article of diet. If it is not of the right kind it may not be digested. Then the body will not get enough of it. In this event there is fat-starvation.

Scott's Emulsion supplies this needed fat, of the right kind, in the right quantity, and in the form already partly digested.

As a result all the organs and tissues take on activity.

50c. and $1.00, all druggists.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, New York.