

The Call

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1898

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C. C. CARLTON, Correspondent.

BRANCH OFFICES—527 Montgomery street, corner Clay, open until 9:30 o'clock.

615 Larkin street, open until 9:30 o'clock.

1941 Mission street, open until 10 o'clock.

2291 Market street, corner Sixteenth, open until 9 o'clock.

2518 Mission street, open until 9 o'clock.

1050 Polk street, open until 9:30 o'clock.

N. W. corner Twenty-second and Kentucky streets, open until 9 o'clock.

AMUSEMENTS.

Baldwin—"Mysterious Mr. Bugle."

Columbia—"1012."

Alcazar—"The Dandy."

Morse—"The Upper Hand."

Tivoli—"The Wild O'Brien."

Orpheum—"Vandeville."

Auditorium, Mason and Ellis streets—Recitals of Scotti.

Song and Story Monday evening, March 21.

Olympia, corner Market and Eddy streets—Specialties.

The Chimes—Chiquita and Vaudeville.

Special Excursion to San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley Saturday, March 26.

CLEARER COMMERCIAL SKIES.

THE business situation is better than a week ago. At that time it was marked by a pronounced uncertainty, susceptible of development in almost any direction, favorable or unfavorable.

Commercial reports from New York show that the backbone of the situation is the excess of merchandise exports, more than \$41,000,000 in February, with an increase of \$2,200,000 in miscellaneous products.

In fact, the aspect of affairs is decidedly bullish all over the country. As one trade authority tersely puts it, "neither peace nor war reports have changed the onward current of business."

The usual barometers of trade show continued high pressure all along the line. The bank clearings of the country last week were 35.4 per cent larger than for the same week last year.

On this coast the weather continues to engross attention. Light scattering showers in the San Joaquin Valley have kept the grain crop growing fairly.

Heavy frosts have almost wiped out the apricot crop and damaged the peaches more or less here and there, but all other fruits have thus far escaped and promise good crops.

When the Loud bill providing a means for making the postal service self-supporting by putting an end to the costly abuses which have grown up in second class mails was defeated.

Professor Wenzell sets forth that other cities burn gas as dangerous as that furnished to San Francisco. However, something more than scientific dissertation is necessary to establish firmly the theory that two wrongs make a right.

Complaint is often made that some people talk too much, but complaint about the local telephones is based on the opposite grounds. They do not talk enough after they have absorbed the nickel supposed to woo them into a communicative mood.

There seems to be an idea that an American ship would be in danger if anchored off Havana, but it would be easy to put enough American ships there that the danger could be spread so as to not be confined to the white navy.

PREPARED FOR PEACE OR WAR.

THE report of the Naval Board of Inquiry appointed to inquire into the cause of the disaster that wrecked the Maine will soon be in the hands of the President, and it is reasonable to assume that he will at once transmit it to the Senate and thus make known to the people the information they have so long desired.

It has been more than a month since the wreck of the Maine at Havana startled the country, roused patriotic sensibilities and stirred the people with something of the passion of battle.

It goes without saying that the same spirit of determined resolve which has kept the country free from any manifestation of undue excitement for all these weeks will have the same effect on the public mind during the remaining days of waiting.

As a nation and as a people we are fast losing patience with Spanish sovereignty and Spanish barbarism on any part of this hemisphere.

As for the poolroom keepers, their immunity seems to be dependent upon the juries that try them. The law on the subject is sound enough and the police have in the past made many arrests.

THE SEASON OF FETES AND FLOWERS!

THE season of singing birds and blossoming orchards has come. The roses, heliotropes and geraniums, which at all times of the year lift up their beauty to adorn our gardens.

Already reports of preparations for these entertainments come to us from many parts of the State. Santa Clara County is to lead off with a festival unique in its nature.

After that display the fetes in other portions of the State will follow thick and fast. One of the most notable of these will be that for which preparations are now being made at San Rafael.

For all of these fair things to come we may rejoice to-day. San Francisco is near enough the center of the State for her people to visit every fete that comes.

THE POSTAL DEFICIT.

WHEN the Loud bill providing a means for making the postal service self-supporting by putting an end to the costly abuses which have grown up in second class mails was defeated.

This is the result of a difference of opinion among reformers. It seems clear that a considerable majority of the members of both houses of Congress is in favor of an economical postal service.

There is no reason except the kindness of Providence preventing some of the dangling wires which kill horses occasionally from trying the powers of mankind to resist electric shock.

That "the colored troops fought nobly" is a matter of record, and their chances of doing it again were never brighter than now.

When a lawyer peddles a "confession" it is not too much to ask that it be one concerning his own deeds.

The threat of Spain to stir up revolt in the Southern States does not seem to strike terror.

INDIVIDUAL THOUGHTS.

The deficit in our postal revenues is the more aggravating because the postoffice service in Great Britain, France and Germany is not only self-supporting, but actually yields a surplus.

POOLROOMS AND OPIUM JOINTS.

DURING the past week The Call exposed the extent to which opium joints and poolrooms are being conducted in this city.

On our statute books there are laws against each of these evils, but the laws are not enforced. The police know of the existence of the poolrooms and opium dens.

So far as the opium dens are concerned it seems clear that the defect is in the law, which requires for conviction a degree and kind of proof that cannot be obtained.

As for the poolroom keepers, their immunity seems to be dependent upon the juries that try them. The law on the subject is sound enough and the police have in the past made many arrests.

Spain would, as she could, coal her ships en route if we were at war with her, which we are not and are not likely to be.

It is not a neutral power the occupation of Hawaii by a friendly power is impossible? The independence of the islands is already guaranteed, and our energy, no matter what nation it might be, that would choose to incur the wrath of either Germany, Great Britain or any other first-class power by seizing an independent State.

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HAS GONE TOO FAR.

PLAY has been received by The Call. It consists of one reprehensible act. The author is Colonel Joseph A. Nunez, who apparently is not ashamed of being caught in the act, for he sends the thing with his own compliments.

Attempt to pass upon the merits of the Nunez soar would be to reach out after the unattainable; there are no merits excepting the single one of brevity, and of this there is far too little.

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NEWS OF FOREIGN NAVIES.

Electricity is being introduced in the Russian navy for raising ammunition, loading and working guns on board ships.

The British battle-ship Illustrious has passed through her full power trial of eight hours under natural draught, and developed 10,241 horsepower, an excess of 241 horsepower over the contract.

It is reported that the Japanese have by this time laid a number of torpedoes off the Pescadore Islands, near Formosa.

The British torpedo boat destroyer Violet passed through her coal consumption trials last month. Steaming at the rate of 13 knots she used one ton of coal to make a distance of 30 knots.

Experiments have been made at Kiel by German naval officers with a contrivance regulating the movements of torpedoes discharged from a ship.

The Woodlark, one of the latest built light draught turbine twin screw gunboats for service in Egypt, has had a successful trial.

The British sloop-of-war Algernine is at the present time in drydock at Tung-Kadoo, China, making good the damage she sustained in a collision with a junk.

The experience which the British cruiser Edgar recently had with a tramp steamer indicates that it is more difficult to sink a merchant vessel than a ship of war.

Clouds are gathering quickly in the sky—An ugly storm is swiftly drawing nigh—Let the timid but secluded places where the smoke of battle may not scent the air.

The time for empty parleying is past, The enemy has dropped his mask at last—Burnish up your gun and load it for the fray.

Let the foeman be the first and last to run—Uncle Sam has ugly wrinkles on his brow! Be prepared to quit the anvil and the plow!

The Lord is still above to speed the right—Trust the Lord, but don't forget that you must fight—Though our arms be strong and though our hearts be true.

COLLECTED IN THE CORRIDORS. E. H. Clark of Portland, Or., is at the Lick. E. de Reynier of Sanger is the guest at the Grand.

E. W. Baddier is registered at the Lick from Healdsburg. F. S. McComber, a wealthy miner of Sonora, is a guest at the Palace.

William M. Bates is a traveler from Boston, who is at the Occidental. R. S. Ritchie, a mining man from Golconda, Nev., is registered at the Baldwin.

R. L. Anderson of San Ramon arrived in the city yesterday and went to the Lick. N. Woodward of Vancouver, B. C., is a one of yesterday's arrivals at the Occidental.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Crosby of Chicago are guests at the Palace, where they arrived yesterday.

W. F. Scatten and wife of Detroit are staying at the Occidental, where they arrived yesterday on the overland.

F. M. Johnson of St. Louis and F. S. Kerry and P. R. Lance of Cleveland, O., are all registered at the Palace.

W. R. Macdonald, general freight agent of the Canadian Pacific, is registered at the Palace, on his way to Del Monte.

E. W. Sells and C. W. Sells are two railroad men who arrived at the Palace last night on their way to Del Monte.

Clyde W. Miller, a wealthy banker of Osage City, Kans., is at the Grand, where he is staying on his wedding tour to the coast.

C. E. Chaffee, a Chicago railroad man, is at the Palace to attend the meeting of the freight men at Del Monte to-morrow afternoon.

Charles F. Schieffelin, the Los Angeles mining man, who, together with his brother, now dead, discovered the famous Tombstone mine and founded the city of that name in Arizona, is a guest at the Baldwin.

"Close the door and allow no one to enter unless he can produce a satisfactory discharge and show a foul anchor schrimshawed on his left forearm," said Captain Lacy.

"I was reading in the papers to-day of a fashionable wedding that took place from the Palace Hotel, and it brought to my mind a wedding that once came off at Point Barrow, in the Arctic.

A man by the name of O'Hara had been left in charge of some bone that was ashore, and had taken up with a native woman, with whom he had been living for some time when the revenue cutter, with Missionary Sheldon Jackson, the same fellow who has played the Government for a trip abroad to procure reindeer when he could get them on this side at half the expense and far less trouble, came along.

"The man might object," replied the missionary. "Object!" exclaimed the commander. "I'd like to see any fo-castle son of a tar-bucket object about this ship. I am the law here."

"Send O'Hara aft." That individual soon appeared, and the captain, addressing him, said: "O'Hara, report at 10 o'clock to-morrow with your woman for marriage directly."

"The wedding stood, for when O'Hara came down to civilization he took a little 2-year-old boy with him, which he now sends to school, and every time the whaler goes north he sends one to keep Mrs. O'Hara through the ensuing year."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS. PRICE OF BONES—C. H. C. Casmalla, Santa Barbara, Cal. The market price of bones in San Francisco is \$10 per ton.

ON TAMALPAIS.—Subscriber, City. The velocity of the wind on Mt. Tamalpais on February 27, 1898, was between 11 and 12.30 miles; 12 to 1, it was 26 miles, and the maximum velocity was 49 miles per hour at 1 P. M.

BALDHEADEDNESS.—G. S. E., City. This correspondent submits the following: "It is claimed that insane asylums contain more baldheaded men than men with a fair head of hair."

Genuine eyeglasses, specs; 15c up. 33 1/2 Cal. grape fruit 50c per lb at Townsend's.* Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 510 Montgomery street. Telephone Main 1042.

One inch of rain falling upon one square mile is equivalent to about 17,500,000 gallons of water.

"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 Diarrhoea, whether arising from teething or other causes. It is the most perfect and safe part of the world. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. 50c 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, \$6; longer stay, \$2 per day. Apply to New Montgomery street, San Francisco, or A. W. Bailey, manager, Hotel del Coronado, late of Hotel Colorado, Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

The largest theater in the world is the Grand Opera House of Paris. It covers more than three acres of ground and cost \$2,000,000 francs.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Cook who uses

is sure of the

Finest Food