

The Call WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1899 JOHN D. SPRECKELS, Proprietor. Address All Communications to W. S. LEAKE, Manager.

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL (DAILY AND SUNDAY) is served by carriers in this city and surrounding towns for 15 cents a week. By mail \$6 per year; per month 65 cents.

AMUSEMENTS. Columbia—"The Idol's Eye." California—"You Youngster."

NO NAMES ADDED. It is with great pleasure The Call can announce that the black list remains as heretofore published.

SENATORS. Bettman, San Francisco. Burnett, San Francisco. Hoey, San Francisco.

ASSEMBLYMEN. Arnerich, Santa Clara. Barry, San Francisco. Beecher, Shasta.

A BROKEN DEADLOCK. THE deadlock heretofore maintained between the Police Court and the Police Department over the arrest and prosecution of the pool-sellers engaged in violating the municipal ordinances has been broken by the issuance of warrants by three of the Police Judges.

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THE DEATH BLOW TO THE CIGAR TRADE. The recent ruling of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, by which dealers in tobacco are prohibited from selling the article in broken packages or small quantities, promises to make lots of trouble for those who are unable to purchase in original packages.

THE FLAG AND TRADE. DURING our Revolutionary War the Continental Congress made with France a commercial treaty offensive and defensive, pledging amity and comity and promising certain exclusive trade rights and a military alliance, with the use of our ports and prize courts for France in maritime warfare.

THE TIME FOR ACTION. If any argument in favor of the prompt passage of a bill to promote our merchant marine were needed in addition to that furnished by the demand for ships to carry our increasing export trade it would be found in an official report to the Treasury Bureau of Statistics of a recent subsidy agreement by which the German Government proposes to pay more than a million dollars a year for a fifteen year term for the establishment of steamship lines between German ports and those of Japan, China, Australasia and certain ports of Oceania.

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INTERNAL REVENUE LAW. SMALL MANUFACTURERS CAN NOT GET ANY TOBACCO. A Ruling That Appears to Have Been Made in the Interests of Those Who Would Monopolize.

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ONE YEAR'S RECORD OF PROGRESS. Views of Mr. Craig on Current Events. THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS AT ITS YEARLY MEETING. The Retiring President Believes the Semi-Centennial Exposition Will Be a Grand Event.

DR. O'BRIEN RETURNS TO HIS CIVIL DUTIES. THE GALLANT SURGEON OF THE FIRST AT HIS POST. Resumes the Position of Health Officer After Meritorious Service at Manila—Dr. Galloway's Self-Sacrifice.

BETROTHED TO A NOTED BELLE. George W. Boyd to Wed Miss Myra C. Noyes of Washington, D. C. An interesting engagement that has just been made public and which will shortly be followed by a magnificent Eastern wedding is that of George W. Boyd, general passenger agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Miss Myra C. Noyes, daughter of Crosby C. Noyes, owner and editor of the Star of Washington, D. C.

WAS ILLEGALLY IMPRISONED. Supreme Justices Make an Important Decision on Homestead Law. The Justices of the Supreme Court have given the Judge of the Court of Appeals of the Southern District of New York some interesting law ponder upon. The case in which this information was given was that of John J. Silvia, who made application for a writ of habeas corpus. A divorce case is pending between Silvia and his wife, and the Judge ordered the husband to give the wife \$200 alimony and counsel fees. Silvia failed to obey the order, claiming that he had no money, whereupon the Judge insisted that the money could be raised by the husband selling or putting a mortgage upon homesteaded land that he held. Upon the advice of his lawyer, Silvia refused to do so, and he was adjudged to be guilty of contempt of court and to be imprisoned in the County Jail for a period of 30 days. A petition for a writ of habeas corpus followed, which was denied by the court after hearing Silvia's release. Justice McFarland dissenting. In this case the first order of imprisonment did not contain a recital that the petitioner was able to pay the alimony in question, but upon a subsequent proceeding the writ of habeas corpus was granted, in which his ability to pay was the principal question to be determined, and the writ was granted. Silvia, who is now held, falls to show that he is unable to pay without selling or encumbering his homestead, and the question is presented whether or not he is entitled to be exempt from imprisonment to sell or encumber the homestead which under the Constitution and laws of this country is exempt from forced sale except in certain enumerated cases, of which payment of temporary alimony is not one. In our opinion this cannot be done. The prisoner having no means aside from his homestead in a legal sense has no ability to pay the alimony, and his continued imprisonment is unlawful. It is ordered that he be discharged from custody.

BRIDGE CONTRACTS LET. Directors of the Valley Railway Approve Two Important Contracts in the San Joaquin Valley. The board of directors of the San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railway at their regular meeting yesterday approved the letting of the contracts for two bridges and the piers for the same to be built across the San Joaquin, Middle and Old rivers. The contract for the bridge was let to the Keystone Bridge Company of Pittsburg, Pa., and the building of the piers to the Thompson Bridge Company of this city. The cost of the bridge will be about \$25,000. The new bridge will be about 232 feet long, that across Middle River 202 feet, and a sixty-foot approach span, and that across Old River 202 feet, with a forty-foot approach span.

THE HEART LIBEL CASE. Judge Morgan yesterday had again to postpone his decision in the libel case of Claus Spreckels against W. R. Hearst of the Examiner, but he intimated that he would positively render it Saturday.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS. C. R. Scott of Portland is at the Occidental. P. L. Young of Humboldt is a guest at the Grand. J. K. Iverson of Salinas City is staying at the Grand. H. S. Richards of San Diego is a guest at the Palace. Dr. C. R. Burr, U. S. N., is a guest at the Occidental. Ben Mock, a prominent citizen of Hanford, is at the Lick. G. F. Payne of British Columbia is a guest at the California. R. D. Crittenden, manager of Wrangell, Alaska, is at the Lick. Ex-Assemblyman T. A. Rice of El Rio, Ventura County, is at the Palace. William C. Geiger and Donald McMurta, U. S. A., are registered at the Palace. Colonel F. M. Munger, retired, U. S. A., of Augusta, Me., accompanied by his wife, is at the California. Mrs. E. Goodwin, Mrs. Van Nostrand and Mrs. Goodwin of Greater New York arrived at the Occidental yesterday.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK. NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—E. D. Scribner of San Francisco is at the Holland. George H. Davis of San Francisco is at the Imperial. Mrs. M. Friedman of San Francisco is at the Empire. Galusha R. Grow and wife of San Diego are at the Fifth Avenue.

CLEAR WEATHER. Professor Hammon said yesterday afternoon that everything pointed to clear weather for to-day. The wind—and there was very little of it—was nearly dead north all afternoon. The temperature had risen somewhat and the snow was not melting so much on the mountains as it was Monday. There were light showers yesterday at Fresno and north of Greater New York. A place did a quarter of an inch fall. The

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