

The Call

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WASHINGTON (D. C.) OFFICE: Wellington Hotel, J. L. ENGLISH, Correspondent. BRANCH OFFICES: 227 Montgomery street, corner Clay.

AMUSEMENTS: California - "A Bachelor's Honeymoon." Columbia - "A Southern Gentleman." Grand Opera House - "Cinderella."

OUR TURKEY-CKOCK GOVERNOR.

GOVERNOR GAGE, through the war-sounding mouth of his jaw warrior, Adjutant General Seaman, known as the ornamental ass of the orange belt, has suddenly come forth from the secret places where he has been hobnobbing with the touts of Dan Burns and announced to the citizens' executive committee that he intends to take charge of the reception of the California Volunteers and direct both the naval demonstration and the parade on land.

His manifesto sets forth that he will not keep in line on the bay, but will take his tug where he pleases, cut across the course of the other vessel at his will, board the transport when he feels like it and leave the bay when he gets tired.

The citizens' executive committee heard the Governor's declaration from his gold-laced tonguester and at once proceeded to explain to him that turkey-cocks do not lead processions when the American eagle is on the wing.

All due honor will be shown to the Governor of the State and to his staff. To the tug which will bear them during the naval demonstration a leading position will be given in the line, but the tug will stay in the line and in the place assigned. It will not be permitted to "mix things." If those aboard do not like the ceremony and get tired and wish to quit, they can do so provided they can swim.

The assumption of the Governor would be ridiculous merely were it not for attending circumstances which rouse public indignation. During all the period since the first returning regiment of volunteers arrived in San Francisco Governor Gage has done nothing, said nothing, to show any interest whatever in the receptions accorded them.

The exhibition made in this case is characteristic of the man. When the ardor of the people manifested itself in the welcome to the returning regiments the Governor held aloof, for he has no sympathies with the people and shares none of their feelings toward the heroes of the war.

The testimony of General Mercier, which was promised at the trial of Dreyfus as a sensation of international interest, indicates that the general is as diseased mentally as he is unhealthy physically.

THE SULU TREATY.

THE country heard with some surprise the proposition to pay to the Sultan of the Sulus an annual subsidy for submitting to our jurisdiction and the transfer of sovereignty to his part of the Philippines from Spain to us.

This first surprise is increased by the report that General Bates is visiting the Sulus and making a treaty with them! If Spain passed to us a valid title why do we recognize the Mahometans as a nation capable of entering into the treaty relation?

The London Saturday Review sneeringly says that a few music hall ditties and after-dinner speeches represent the substantial benefits to England from the "Anglo-American alliance." England probably never will forget the ditty to which her troops marched in defeat forever from the American soil.

The Civil War was the costly means employed to put an end to slavery and all of its incidents, and when a million of men had fallen in battle and four billions of treasure had been spent in the struggle, it was by amendment written into the Federal constitution that slavery and involuntary servitude are forbidden in the United States.

We are spending eight hundred thousand dollars a day in a military adventure to establish our jurisdiction in the Philippine Islands. The Sulu treaty is for the avowed purpose of asserting our purchased sovereignty of that part of the Philippines and to extend our jurisdiction without the cost of conquest.

The Sulus now come under our jurisdiction and the stars and stripes fly there, but at the cost of legalizing and protecting both polygamy and slavery! A Lincoln Republican will despair of finding reasons for such a policy.

The Boers are unwilling, it is said, to free themselves of a grasshopper plague for fear of bringing down upon themselves the wrath of God. Yet they are complacently, almost eagerly, sowing fields of British bayonets.

Two Pasadena boys, who began their study of the fine art of burglary in yellow-back novels, are now in jail. They will probably take their post-graduate course in the State penitentiary.

THE STATE FAIR.

GOOD omens for the success of the State Fair are drawn from the fact that much larger sums were offered for the various privileges than were received last year.

It is not in the racing events only that the fair is to be a marked improvement over the accomplishments of the past. As has been pointed out by The Call, special efforts have been made by the directors to impress upon the people of each county and upon all leaders of industry of every kind, farmers, manufacturers, miners and merchants, the advantages sure to accrue from comprehensive exhibits.

The upbuilding of the State Fair is an enterprise in which all classes of Californians should take a warm interest, for it is a matter of concern to all. In the Eastern States where large cities are numerous a series of notable expositions take place every year and thus producers have many opportunities for exhibiting their products where consumers will see them and also of noting such improvements as have been effected during the year in their lines of industry.

The efforts made by the directors to achieve a marked advance in the work of the fair this year will have the effect of showing what a notable exposition the fair can be made when its advantages are thoroughly understood and fully made use of by the producers and manufacturers of the State.

Whatever may be the future of the fair, it is certain this year promises well.

The State is flourishing in all lines of industry and the people are prosperous. The directors have appealed in the right way to turn the attention of the producers and the manufacturers to the advantages of the fair to exhibitors, and the result can hardly fall short of something like a genuine triumph.

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THE SIEGE OF GUERIN.

BY all odds the cleverest display of strategy the Parisian police have shown the world for many a year is that by which they have turned Guerin's attempted revolution into a jest and a joke for the raillery of the boulevards and the merriment of the world.

The bellicose Guerin has long been able by the slashing tongue of him to talk valiantly as a leader in the movement to save France and the rest of the nations from the cosmopolitan plutocracy of the Jews.

The police declined to treat Guerin seriously. Instead of battering down his door and dragging him squealing through the streets to prison, they simply put a guard around his house, shut off his gas and water, refused admittance to his baker, his butcher and his groceryman, and left him to harangue his band on the virtues of holding the fort upon an empty stomach.

From the start Guerin has been dissatisfied with such treatment. He issued on the first day of the siege a manifesto to Paris in which he declared that on the day following the police, aided by the army, would storm his fortress home and the Parisians would see how a hero can die.

The great day came, but the police did nothing. Some of the more sympathetic of the crowd flung loaves of bread and canned luxuries through the open windows and Guerin feasted and talked and was well satisfied with himself.

"In the nineteenth century you try to starve people. It is disgraceful. You," he added, addressing the policemen, "you ought to have more heart than your masters and ought to give us back our provisions. In any case, I warn you that the first time my companions are hungry if a prefect of police passes along the street we will shoot him."

While this farce goes on in Paris the Dreyfus case drags on at Rennes. The tragedy and the opera bouffe move along together. Nature is no respecter of dramatic properties. She mixes the buffoon's antics with the sufferings of heroes, and holds steadfastly on her impartial way between the two; but as different from one another as is the rat in the pit from the lion in the toils, is the screaming revolutionist shouting defiance from his windows from the heroic prisoner asserting his innocence and confronting his foes at Rennes.

It is said that the court-martial will again find Dreyfus guilty of treason. This it can never do. It may convict the celebrated prisoner, but its power to prove him guilty has passed. More thoroughly perhaps than any other man of modern times Dreyfus has been judged by the civilized world and the verdict is innocence.

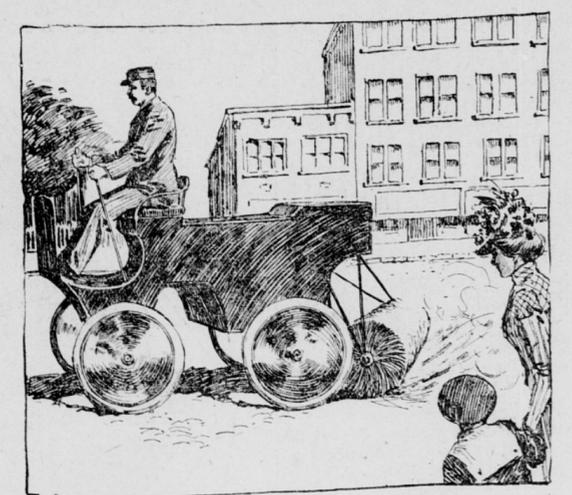
VANISHING SPRUCE FORESTS.

WHILE our forests are being destroyed so rapidly and to a great extent so wantonly, it is comforting to note the evil has become generally understood and is engaging a good deal of the attention of the press in every part of the country.

The Boston Transcript recently gave a review of the condition of the forests of New England, and among other things noted the vast amount of timber required to carry on American industries in their present form. A striking paragraph relating to the destruction of spruce forests for the paper trade says: "A cord of spruce wood is equal to 615 feet board measure, and this quantity of raw material will make half a ton of sulphite pulp, or one ton of ground wood pulp. Newspaper stock is made up with 20 per cent of sulphite pulp and 80 per cent of ground wood pulp."

The civilization which brings about a destruction of forests must provide for their reproduction or it will perish of the consequences of its folly. The devastation of spruce forests is but an item in the general account that is running against us in a treatment of the woods. Either we must enter on the work of preserving forests without delay, or the next generation of Americans will have to pay dearly for it.

AUTOMOBILE STREET-SWEEPER IS THE LATEST IN THAT LINE



St. Louis First in the Field With the New Device.

THE automobile street sweeper is the latest device in the way of horseless vehicle uses. To St. Louis belongs the credit of introducing the new contrivance, the automobile is operated by electricity, which is found to be more effective than if the brushes depended upon the wagon solely for propulsive power.

It was thought at first that the automobile sweepers would not be altogether practicable, and the first one was sent out as a sort of experiment. To the surprise of many the new device proved to be so efficacious that their general use in large cities is thought to be only a question of time.

In fact, the horseless sweeper is but one factor in a long line of mercantile uses to which automobiles will be put. The new sweeper is entirely satisfactory and performs its duties more thoroughly than the heavy, cumbersome carts which are hauling down and up our thoroughfares at night with the accompaniment of rattle of horses' hoofs on cobblestones and the hoarse shouts of men guiding them.

DOES ADJUTANT SEAMANS' BARBER NEED A HOLE.

ONCE on a Time there reigned in Phrygia a King named Midas. He was that Artemus Ward would have called "an Accommodating Case." He kept Open House for all the Gods of High Olympus, and made it a point to feed them like Fighting Cocks. He took every occasion to Tickle their Vanity and Fill their Stomachs. He made a Good Thing Out of It. In return for a Favor Midas did for the Satyr Silenus, Dionysus, who is the Latin Bacchus, endowed him with the Power of Transmuting Everything He touched into Gold.

Midas was greatly pleased with the gift, and put in most of His Time for the next Thirty Days making Klondikes out of the Waste Places of His Kingdom. By reason of the Fact, however, that he was compelled to drink Nitric Acid in order to digest the Doughnuts that His Touch had turned to Gold, He tired of the Favor and asked Dionysus to take it back. The God did as requested, and Midas might never have heard of again had it not been that His Fame had spread until He was all the Fashion, the Ward McAllister of Those Parts.

Adjutant General Seaman's Barber is, no doubt, a Religious Man. He should Obey the Scriptural Injunction and "Go and Do Likewise."

CALIFORNIANS PETITION THE GOVERNMENT Ask that the Expert Begin in This State His Investigation of the Irrigation Problem.

Thirty-five thousand dollars has been appropriated by the Government for the purpose of investigating the irrigation problem in the United States. Elwood Mead has been chosen for the work. The following petition has been sent on to Washington by prominent Californians to have the Government begin the investigation of the irrigation problem in this State.

J. J. Valentine's Position. John J. Valentine, president of Wells, Fargo & Co., and scurvy dodger of the war tax in his official capacity, has issued a pamphlet opposing the war in the Philippines and the Government's policy there. While a large percentage of our people hold views along the same lines, it is no gratification to them to find Valentine in their ranks. Of all men in this coast Valentine should have the grace to keep out of sight and hearing in this connection, and as he obviously does not possess that grace it might advantageously be inculcated—say with a club.