The Call

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AMUSEMENTS.

Orpheum—Vaudeville.
Tivoli—"Martha."
Columbia—"Marie Antoinette."
Alcazar—"The Idler."
Grand Opera-house—"The Drum Major's Daughter."
Chutes, Zoo and Theater—Vaudeville every afternoon and evening.
Olympia, corner Mason and Ellis streets—Specialties.
Sutro Baths—Swimming Races, etc.
Circus—Sixteenth and Folsom streets.
Mechanics' Pavilion—Mechanics' Fair and Philippine Exhibit.
Oakland Racetrack—Races to-day.

AUCTION SALES.

By Sullivan & Doyle—Wednesday at 11 a. m., Buggies, etc., at 327 Sixth street.

A PEEP INSIDE OF PROSPERITY.

FEW persons, even those in active trade, realize how many things have advanced in price during the past few months, and particularly during the past few weeks. Exclusive of the great staples, the list embraces all sorts of articles, even to writing paper, lead pencils and pins, so that it now costs more money to even order goods than formerly, not to mention paying for them. Almost everything that the housewife uses has gone up, as the head of the family is finding out to his disgust, and it costs considerably more to run the family than it did a year ago. And the end is apparently not yet. No such rise in commodities has been seen since the civil war, nearly forty years ago.

The money market is beginning to show signs of strain on account of this general advance in the necessaries of life. The circulation is being drawn upon to pay for goods and the New York banks find their legal reserves shrinking under the drain, especially as the interior banks are drawing on the New York banks for cash funds to move the crops. The Government has helped the situation by paying the October bond interest in advance, as on former similar occasions, and the banks themselves will find other means of relief, so there is no cause for alarm. The case is cited merely to show that even prosperity sometimes causes financial stringency, just as it threw a large number of men out of work a fortnight or so ago because the shipbuilding works could not get the raw material to work on, owing to the immense demand from all over the country. Both cases are peculiar, if not unique.

The present advance in prices has another curious feature. It will be news to many that the manufacturer, in spite of the general advance in his wares, is deriving very little benefit from it. It appears that the rise in raw products has been so sharp that the manufacturer has been unable to advance his selling prices for manufactured goods in a corresponding ratio, for while the latter are much higher than for some time they have not kept pace with the increased price of raw material, and, what is of equal importance, the rise in wages. This is prominently exhibited in the woolen trade and many other lines. Thus, while labor has advanced from 10 to 15 per cent boots and shoes have risen only 4 per cent, while leather has gone up 8 per cent. Wool has advanced 10.9 per cent, but woolen goods only 5.2 per cent, which, in view of the 10@15 per cent increase in labor, gives the manufacturer less benefit than appears at the first glance. Everything put up in tin has advanced, but the enormous rise in tin, combined with the increase in wages, cuts down the packer's profits materially. And so on, down the whole list of commodities. From this it would appear that the producer and wage-earner are getting much more out of the current prosperity than the manufacturer, who is popularly supposed to get the lion's share of everything.

For the rest the situation exhibits no new features. The weekly commercial reports sing the same unvarying song of marked gains in bank clearings, decreased failures, a great wholesale and jobbing trade in almost every line of goods, feverish activity in all branches of the iron and steel trades and their subdivisions, with prices for merchandise of all descriptions mounting skyward. Of the eighty-three American cities and towns reporting bank clearings only eight showed a decrease last week, while the average gain all over the country was 43 per cent, and every large city except Omaha recorded a gain over 1898. The failures were 147, against 182 in the same week last year.

The conditions on this coast are merely a reflex of the wonderful prosperity general throughout the other parts of the country. They are familiar to all who keep in touch with trade conditions and have been recounted time and again. Suffice it to say that business is better in California to-day than for a great many years, and that there are no complaints from any quarter.

Several prominent Democrats of Massachusetts have declined renominations for State positions. This seems to be another verification of the belief that there are some people that have conscientious scruples against taking anything that is worth nothing.

CONGRESS AND THE GOLD STANDARD.

WITH the opening of the fall campaigns, public interest in all political questions revives and renewed attention is paid to issues which have to some extent been overlooked by reason of the general concern in the questions raised by the war in the Philippines. Among these issues that of confirming the gold standard and reforming the currency laws of the nation naturally comes first, and it is gratifying to note that despite opposition from a certain class of Republicans, the sentiment of the party and its leaders and representatives is strongly in favor of the enactment of a comprehensive act upon the subject at the coming session of Congress.

Representative McLeary of Minnesota, who is one of the best informed men in Congress on currency questions and who is in close touch with influential Republicans in the House, has recently declared a sanguine expectation that the issue will be one of the first to be taken up during the session, and that the plan outlined by the Atlantic City conference will be substantially adopted. That plan it will be remembered includes a declaration for the gold standard so formulated that only by act of Congress can the monetary standard be changed, the protection of the gold reserve from what has been termed the "endless chain," the authorization of bank note issues to the par value of the United States bonds deposited as security, and the establishment of banks in less populated communities on a reduced capital.

The Republican State conventions which have been held this year have strongly and clearly declared for the gold standard and a scientific revision of our currency laws. Moreover these platform promises have been emphatically repeated by the candidates nominated upon them. From one end of the country to the other the voice of sterling Republicanism has been unmistakable on that point, and the few time-serving politicians who counsel delay or compromise have had no influence whatever either in the party conventions or in the campaigns.

In opening the Republican canvass in Ohio on Saturday Judge Nash reminded the voters of the State that the money question is still one of the issues of the politics of the country and could not be evaded either by the people or by Congress. "The Democratic party," he said, "continues to demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold as equal in primary money at the ratio of 16 to 1," and if Ohio give its vote to that party the effect would be to revive the whole agitation and once more disturb the finances and the industries of the country. "Our prosperity," he added, "is due to the determination of the American people to maintain inviolate and forever a sound financial policy in this land. By the elections in 1896 confidence was restored in the financial integrity of the people of the United States. Hence, those who controlled capital were willing to let it seek investment in railroads, manufactures and commerce. The unemployed are no longer idle. Those who worked only one-half time and for half pay are now reaping a full harvest."

These stalwart declarations for the right are the more gratifying because, as the Philadelphia Public Ledger has pointed out: "Certain Republican journalists and politicians profess that the currency laws are good enough as they are; that what is essential is the retention of the Republican party in power and the maintenance of revenue laws that shall avert a deficiency in the Treasury. This view of the situation is "child-like and bland" rather than convincing. It ignores the possibility of contingencies that cannot definitely be anticipated in time to make preparation for unusual demands on the Treasury."

The business interests of the country require a prompt settlement of the whole money question. The gold standard must be confirmed and the confusion in the currency laws brought to order by the adoption of a scientific and sound monetary system. That is one of the things expected of Congress at the coming session, and it is encouraging to note that all signs point to the conclusion the expectation will be realized.

Chicago is having such a big silver punchbowl prepared for the battleship Illinois that the people there do not speak of having it made but of having it erected. It is going to be something monumental, and it would seem that in an emergency it might be used as a lifeboat.

Mrs. Mary Brooks, the first woman sentenced to the Michigan State prison at Jackson, is about to have her revenge on the man whose testimony sent her up. She has consented to marry him.

EXPANSION AND COTTON.

SENATOR MORGAN has addressed a commercial argument to the Southern cotton planters to show their interest in imperialism. He says that "the time is coming when an American city in the Pacific islands will handle two-thirds of the cotton in the world."

The Tacoma Ledger is charmed with this prospect and observes that "thousands of bales of American cotton have been shipped from Tacoma in the last two years, and cotton manufacturing machinery is going the same way. The Asiatics are the greatest consumers of cotton in the world, and instead of relying on Manchester are beginning to manufacture their own goods."

It seems, then, that we are to rely on the production of raw material to be manufactured by the cheap skilled labor of Asia. Perhaps the Ledger will cite the example of any nation that has grown rich on the production of raw material. The foundation of the Republican theory of protection is the stimulation of manufacture, not the production of raw material to be transmuted by the skill of others. Asia and Africa always had cotton. When Europe was dressing in the skins of animals, and later when the people of the Western nations wore coarse woollen fabrics, Asia and Africa had the finest cotton and linen. The cerements of Egyptian mummies, laid away three thousand years ago, are of cotton and linen, so finely woven as to prove the highest skill in manufacture and the production of the raw fiber.

Senator Morgan's American city in the Pacific islands will not long handle American cotton after the manufacturing machinery is put in operation. There are vast reaches of land in Asia and Africa, virgin and unexhausted, that will produce cotton. It is a law of economics that where nature permits the production, the raw material and its manufacture come close together. The planting of cotton mills in Asia to be run with cheap labor means the raising of Asiatic raw cotton by still cheaper labor, and our expansion, achieved at great cost, will mean the transfer of an industry from the midst of us to the midst of the cheap labor of the Orient.

The Ledger declares that "if any people in this country should be interested in the retention of the Philippines it is the cotton growers of the South." That is true, but their interest is against such retention if it be to introduce the very changes in Asia foretold by Morgan and the Ledger.

Our cotton trade with Asia and Oceanica for the three years 1897-99, fiscal years, has shown great fluctuations, as follows, in bales exported:

1897	60,756
1898	225,552
1899	177,700

So that since we began political expansion toward Asia we have shrunk in our cotton exports there 47,852 bales. It is noteworthy that in 1897 Spain took of us 266,388 bales, or more than four times as much as all Asia and Oceanica.

But a little while ago the friends of our protective system were alarmed at the obvious awakening of Japan and China to the profits of manufacturing by the use of their cheap labor. Some branches of manufacture are not in immediate danger of domestication there, such as the metal and machinery trades, which will profit in supplying machinery; but the textile manufacture can go there, and the production of fiber can follow it, for nature offers no bar thereto. When Asiatic cheap labor and improved machinery are brought in conjunction, this generation can see the end of the American cotton industry. Our total cotton export to the world has fallen off already. In bales and value for the fiscal years 1898 and 1899 it was:

1898—bales	7,581,004
1898—value	$230,442,215
1899—bales	7,373,382
1899—value	$209,564,774

The shrinkage in bales was 207,622, and in value $20,877,441. It would seem, then, that the swell in the cotton trade since we began expanding, that the Ledger professes to have seen, does not exist, and its deduction from a non-existent fact is like many others which are published to make the people patient while they pay the cost of an adventure which will have in it but little profit and a very indifferent article of glory.

SOUTH AMERICAN ALARMISTS.

SINCE the outburst of foolish boasting on the part of the imperialists of the country there have come to us many reports of the alarm felt in South America lest in our lust for conquest and dominion we set about subverting first Mexico and afterward all the country southward until we include among our colonial possessions the whole of Spanish America.

An alarm of the kind is so unreasonable the reports have been regarded in this country with indifference and dismissed from consideration as idle rumors. They have now been repeated so often, however, and come to us from so many different sources that it is just as well for us to give heed to them. It is true all such fears on the part of Mexico or any Central or South American country are without foundation, but so long as any considerable number of people feel them the effect upon the international relations between ourselves and our southern neighbors is bound to be great.

We desire the commerce of South America, and trade, like kissing, "goes by favor." The Europeans, who are our competitors in the markets of Spanish America, will of course make use of every possible appeal to prejudice to stimulate antagonism to the United States for the purpose of checking the consumption of our goods as far as possible. In that respect the rumors of a probable attempt at subverting the independence of the South American states may do a great deal of harm in more ways than one.

This feeling of uneasiness among a people with whom we desire friendly relations is one of the evil results of the jingo boasting over the proposed policy of commercial expansion by means of imperial conquests. Senseless in itself, that kind of talk has given rise to senseless fears, and it may require years of diplomacy to overcome the bad effects, which have already become of no small magnitude. Folly at home begets folly abroad, and out of the two there come manifold injuries to the true interests of both parties.

In reality every American knows the states to the south of us have nothing to fear from our aggression and everything to expect from our friendship. The trade between the two continents of this hemisphere ought to be large, and it is our duty to take the initiative in making it so, and yet it is our own swaggering imperialists who are giving occasion for the fears which are engendering the South American antagonisms of which we are now hearing so much.

THE DEADLY THIRD RAIL.

FROM reports that come to us from the East concerning the number of fatal accidents caused by the third rail which is now coming into use on electric railroads in that section it is evident that in the new system of traction we have another of those deadly forces which constitute a menace to civilized communities.

Recently a track-walker on the Brooklyn Elevated Railroad stumbled and fell, and as his body came into contact with the third rail he was instantly killed. Commenting upon the accident the New York Tribune says: "The incident was a startling reminder that this third rail, which is so useful, which looks so innocent and which is so accessible to the touch of accident or thoughtlessness, is charged with lethal energy so great that the slightest touch thereof is death. In case of a blockade on the elevated road, which is not an infrequent occurrence, passengers are wont to leave a stalled train and walk along the tracks to the nearest station. That formerly could be done with safety. Now they must walk within a few inches of a thunderbolt. The rail runs close by station platforms, where one may easily touch it with the tip of a walking stick, and where one accidentally slipping down upon the track or getting down to recover some object that had fallen thither would almost certainly come in contact with it. Such are the perils on an elevated road. On a surface road these would of course be greatly increased and multiplied."

On this coast we have had no experience as yet with the third rail system. It is only a matter of time, however, when it will be introduced here, for it is of great advantage in electric roads. It is as well, therefore, for us to give heed now to the dangers that accompany its use in order to guard against them when any application is made for the right to use the system either in the cities or along country highways.

Efforts are now being made in the East to mitigate the danger of the system, and doubtless good results will be obtained. It is believed it will be practicable eventually to use a rail which will carry no electric charge save at the moment and the point of contact with the car motor. Should that be accomplished the third rail will be the best of electric systems now known, but until that time comes it is best to leave the dangerous third rail alone or else hedge its use with the most stringent safeguards.

An official of the Agricultural Department is coming to this State to give our fruit-growers information as to the best means of cultivating the Smyrna fig, and it will not be inappropriate to wish the State may give the nation many a fig for it in return.

Another submarine boat has been "successfully tested," and it is possible she may be of some use in war, but the record of other craft of her kind that were tested with equal success is not encouraging.

HEBREW ORPHAN ASYLUM FACES A BIG DEFICIT

Ran $14,000 Behind Last Year.

MEMBERS MUST CONTRIBUTE

GOOD WORK DONE DESPITE THE SHORTAGE.

Annual Meeting of the Association Held Yesterday and Ways and Means for the Current Year Discussed.

The annual meeting of the Pacific Hebrew Orphan Asylum and Home Society occurred yesterday afternoon at the orphange gymnasium at Devisadero and Hayes streets. A number of the wealthiest and most prominent members of the association were present, among them A. Anspacher, Joseph Brandenstein, J. Stern, J. Greenebaum, Daniel Roth, Ben Schloss, Lewis Meyerstein, Heny L. Simon, N. Schlessinger, M. J. Sahlein and J. H. Neustadter.

The report of S. W. Levy, president of the association, did not indicate that the institution was in as thriving a financial condition as in years past, and an urgent appeal was made for those who were interested in the association and its good work to give their spare time and efforts to increasing the membership roll. Notwithstanding that there was a deficit for the year of $13,991 79, the report of Superintendent Henry Mauser showed that there had been just as much, if not more, good work done than in ay of the eight years past. Concerning the membership of the society, President Levy said in his report:

In my last annual report I stated that the membership was 1825. Since then we have admitted 25 and lost 94, leaving 1756 as our present membership. Of those dropped from membership 29 have died, 52 have resigned and 12 have been stricken from the rolls for non-payment of dues. You will notice that the same indifference to the cry of the orphans and the wail of the aged was apparent last year as in years gone by. Of those who have died I can only say: "May their spirits find rest and their memory be honored."

Of the Old People's Home Mr. Levy reported as follows: "In my last report I stated the number of inmates as 21 men and 13 women. Since that time we have admitted 7, discharged 1 and lost by death 6, leaving at the present time 21 men and 13 women in our charge."

The financial condition of the society he summed up as follows: "Our entire income, on which both the asylum and Old People's Home depend for their maintenance, amounted to $28,197 53. This sum includes bequests, donations, interest, dues and all other items received by the society. For the past year the expense of conducting the asylum has been $30,334 30 and the home $11,588 52, making a total of $41,922 82 for carrying on both institutions. Added to this there is $266 50, caused by non-payment of dues, making the total expenses of the society $42,189 32."

Superintendent Mauser set forth the number of wards in the asylum as follows: "On September 1, 1898, we had 151 children; 70 girls and 81 boys. During the year 28 were admitted and 21 discharged; leaving our number at present 158; 74 girls and 84 boys. Their ages range from 3 to 16 years, the average age being 9 years. The total number cared for during the year was 179."

The annual election was not held, but a nominating committee was appointed and the directors will select the officers some time next month.

DEPUTIES AND VISITS.

Official Announcements Made by the Grand Chief Companion of the Forest of America.

Grand Chief Companion Mrs. Flora Jacobs of the Companions of the Forest of America has announced the following named members of the order as deputy grand chief companions for the current term: San Francisco—Mrs. L. Atwood of Robin Hood Circle, for Excelsior, Inter Nos and Presidio circles; R. Rosenberg of Loyal Circle, for Bay City Circle; Mrs. E. Michaels of Golden Era, for Diana; M. Levy of Golden Era, for Golden Gate; Mrs. H. Worms of Bay City, for Lorely; H. Kohn of Golden Gate, for Live Oak; Mrs. J. Weissel of Live Oak, for Olympus; Mrs. M. A. Duke of Excelsior, for Robin Hood; Mrs. J. Wishman of Excelsior, for Mizpah; Mrs. Z. Davis of Oakland, for Golden Era; Mrs. M. Carroll of Inter Nos, for Bonita; Mrs. R. Wolmar of Bay City, for Pride of the Forest; Mrs. Emma Harrington of Inter Nos, for Palo Alto, and Miss E. Rappin of Diana, for Ferrucio. Miss A. M. Crowley of Hamlet Circle, Alameda, for her own circle; Dr. George F. Pache of Angels Camp, for Manzanita Circle; W. F. O'Leary of Healdsburg, for Sotoyome Circle; Miss A. A. Montgomery of Kern, for Juanita Circle; Miss Violet Barber of Lompoc, for Purisima Circle; Joseph A. Bilhartz of Marysville, for Yuba Circle; Mrs. Mary B. Frost of Merced, for Chrysanthemum Circle; Mrs. Vina May of Nevada City, for Freedom Circle; Miss A. D. Bremer of Alameda, for Loyal Circle of Oakland; Mrs. Emma Danforth of Oroville, for Orange Blossom Circle; A. W. Horwege of Petaluma, for American Circle; Allen Mowrey of Oakland, for Santa Lucia Circle of Salinas; Mrs. Annie Hynding of San Diego, for Silver Gate Circle; E. R. Bacquie of San Jose, for Washington-Lafayette Circle; Mrs. M. Zimmerman of Santa Ana, for Fidelity Circle; Mrs. M. A. Coleman of Santa Barbara, for Ocean View Circle; John G. Dont of Santa Rosa, for The Rose Circle; Miss Jennie A. Howes of Sonora, for Sonora Circle; Miss Minnie Friedman of Stockton, for Stockton Circle; James E. Cox of Watsonville, for Pajaro Valley Rose Circle, and Mrs. Theodore Muegge of Woodland, for Marguerite Circle.

The grand chief companion has announced the following official visits: September 25, to Excelsior Circle, San Francisco; October 3, Inter Nos Circle, San Francisco; 10, Diana Circle, San Francisco; 16, Manzanita Circle, Angels Camp; 18, Mother Lode Circle, Jamestown; 23, Sonora Circle, Sonora; 24, Stockton Circle, Stockton; November 2, Golden Era Circle, San Francisco; 6, Sotoyome Circle, Healdsburg; 11, Lorely Circle, San Francisco; 13, Santa Lucia Circle, Salinas; 16, Pajara Valley Rose Circle, Watsonville; 20, The Rose Circle, Santa Rosa; 27, Bay City Circle, San Francisco; December 1, Presidio Circle, San Francisco; 5, Golden Gate Circle, San Francisco; 12, Marguerite Circle, Woodland; 14, Orange Blossom Circle, Oroville, and 15, Yuba Circle, Marysville.

CANDIDATES INDORSED.

The oldest politician cannot call to mind a duller political season than the present one. The Democrats are discouraged over the indifference of good men. The best members of the party declare that they have not time to serve on the Board of Supervisors. So little progress has been made that the committee of seven will not be able to present an acceptable list of candidates to the convention next Tuesday evening.

The Republicans are still in quest of the right man to nominate for Mayor. The names mentioned are: John Bermingham, Horace Davis, George A. Newhall, Joseph D. Grant and Charles W. Slack. Some pressure has been exerted to induce Henry T. Scott to enter the race.

The Thirty-ninth Assembly District delegation met night before last and indorsed Albert Heyer for Assessor, John Lackmann for Sheriff and Frank French for Recorder.

Valley Lodge Entertainment.

The semi-annual entertainment of Valley Lodge No. 30 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen in Union Square Hall last Thursday night was a grand success, as there was a large attendance of the members and of their lady and gentlemen friends. Under the direction of M. J. Blackman, J. C. Sharp, L. Michelson and J. L. Kotter the commissioners on entertainment offered for the enjoyment of all present a number of stereopticon views thrown on the screen by Dr. T. Eisen; specialties by Bert Van Cleve; character songs, Miss Golda Harris; vocal solo, Miss M. McClellan, and instrumental selections by the Graeber Mandolin, Banjo and Guitar Club of one hundred members. This was followed by a programme of fourteen dances.

WORDS OF PRAISE.

Local Weather Office Complimented by Chief Moore.

The officials in charge of the local Weather Bureau are in receipt of a highly complimentary notice from Willis L. Moore, chief of the head office in Washington, D. C., regarding the efficiency of the service in this city. While appreciating the honor done them they are earnestly hoping that the words of praise are not the forerunner of anything serious in the way of upheavals in office. The letter is particularly flattering to Section Official Alexander McAdie, who assumed charge of the local office a few months ago. It is as follows:

United States Department of Agriculture
Weather Bureau.

Mr. Alexander G. McAdie, Forecast Official and Section Director, San Francisco, Cal.—Sir: The recent reports of the California section, especially those for May, June and July, contain a vast amount of climatological information presented in a most interesting manner, and I wish to say that the publications are a great credit to you and the force at your station. The diagrams in the May and July reports illustrating the rainfall at San Francisco and Sacramento respectively are especially interesting. The plan of the illustration will be readily understood by those familiar with the methods of constructing such diagrams. WILLIS L. MOORE,
Chief United States Weather Bureau.

Work on the climatological report referred to, which will include the whole State, is now being rapidly pushed forward, and the reports for Los Angeles and San Diego covering the rainfall during the last fifty years will soon be ready.

Yesterday was a "scorcher" on the top of Mount Tamalpais, the thermometer registering 92 degrees, while it was as low as 56 in this city, a difference of 46 degrees. Professor McAdie is hard at work investigating the causes of this difference at higher and lower levels and expects to obtain tangible results in a short time.

REBEKAH LODGES ENTERTAIN.

Pleasant Evening in Odd Fellows' Hall—A Child Wonder at the Piano.

Amity Lodge of the Rebekahs gave an entertainment last night to its friends in Odd Fellows' Hall and there were about 200 persons present to enjoy the programme arranged by Mrs. L. Zeigler, Mrs. Josie Newell and E. Cook, the committee on entertainment. There were recitations by Mrs. E. S. Ciprico, humorous stories by J. F. Gibson, specialties by George Hammerschmidt, vocal selections by W. J. Daly and fancy dances by Miss Veta Leithe, after which there was dancing and refreshments.

Templar Lodge of the same order also had an evening at home to its friends in its hall in the same building, at which there were present about 250 ladies and gentlemen. Its programme, given under the direction of Dr. Frank Ashworth, Mesdames Mary Thomas, Winnie M. Dowle and Julia Drees and Messrs. Carson and Parker, included instrumental music, fancy dancing, vocal selections and specialties contributed by Cecil Cowles, Lelas Phillips, Mr. Donnelly, Mrs. M. Smith, Miss Shannabrock, Blanche Trelease, Francis Buckland, Robert Pluntah and Mattie Luce. It was very enjoyable. Piano solos by Cecil Cowles, only 6 years of age, were a marvel of instrumental music, the little one rendering popular airs with perfect harmony and precision. Dancing followed the programme.

Candidates Will Be Heard.

The Republican delegation representing the Forty-second Assembly District will meet to-morrow evening at the assembly room of the Mills building. The delegation will be pleased to meet prospective candidates at that time.

NEWS OF FOREIGN NAVIES.

A new type of torpedo boat for the German navy has just been launched from Shichan's yard at Elbing. It is 223 feet in length, 9 feet draught and has a trial speed of 35 knots. Until further improvements suggest themselves this type will be the standard torpedo boat in the German navy.

The Italian battleships Italia and Lepanto, of 14,400 tons, are to be stripped of their armor and converted into cruisers. The gain by removal of armor will be utilized in coal stowage, and the new bunkers, sixteen feet wide, will afford great protection to the machinery. The Italia was built in 1880 and the Lepanto three years later, and they were very speedy ships. Converted into cruisers, their four 100-ton guns will be removed and four ten-inch and a number of quick-firing six-inch guns will be substituted.

The Pallada, a protected cruiser of 6731 tons, was launched August 27 from the new admiralty yard, Gallerny Island, St. Petersburg. She is 416 feet in length, 54 feet 4 inches beam and 21 feet draft. The machinery, triple expansion engines and twenty-four Belleville boilers, is to develop 11,610 horsepower, to give a speed of twenty knots, and the armament is composed of eight six-inch, twenty-four three-inch quick firing guns and eight six-pounders, and the vessel has also two broadside and one bow torpedo tube. The Diana and Aurora, sister ships to the Pallada, are still on the stocks at Gallerny Island, although they were begun early in 1897.

The trouble with the British battleship Ocean has been discovered to be in the cracked high-pressure cylinder of the port engine, and extensive repairs and considerable loss of time will be entailed at the dockyard. As the vessel has not yet been accepted by the admiralty the loss falls on the contractors. Few ships in the British navy pass through their trials without accidents or defects being found in their machinery. In contrast to this, it is exceedingly rare that United States vessels meet with accidents during their trials or that defects of a serious nature are developed, such being chiefly confined to the torpedo boats, and these are proportionately less than what happens to British boats.

Peter the Great's first attempt to utilize the navy he had built and organized with so much trouble was a signal failure. The first squadron was sent to sea in 1713 to fight Russia's old enemy, Sweden, in the Baltic, and three Swedish vessels of inferior force were overtaken. During the engagement the Russian vice admiral's ship and that of the senior captain commodore ran aground, and the junior captain commodore failed to render assistance, and the Swedes escaped. For this the two senior Russian officers were degraded and the junior captain commodore was sentenced to be shot. At the last moment, when the culprit stood blindfolded awaiting the volley from the executioners, the death sentence was remitted, but the fright he had experienced had upset his reason, and he lingered but a few years in Siberia, a mental wreck. The early Russian navy had many Scotchmen and Englishmen in it as officers, one of the latter, named Nelson, serving as captain, and was a member of the first court-martial which gave the Russian officers a taste of naval discipline.

Germany has been rather unsuccessful in its earlier armored shipbuilding. Four second-class battleships, or rather coast defense vessels, built in 1878 and 1880, named Baden, Bayern, Sachsen and Wurtemberg, of 7441 tons, were practically failures, and had to be almost reconstructed three years ago. The German navy also possesses six coast defense ships of 3500 tons of the monitor type, but having high unprotected upper works, which make the vessels unseaworthy and absolutely worthless as fighting vessels. They were built in 1890-1-2-3, and although rated at sixteen knots they are in reality slow ships. Their coal capacity is only 225 tons, and in order to remedy this defect it has been decided to reconstruct the Hagen, launched in 1893. It is intended to cut the vessel in two and put in twenty-five feet additional hull between the two ends, thereby increasing the coal-carrying capacity. The upper works will also be greatly reduced. If the plan proves a success with the Hagen the other vessels of that class, namely, Beowulff, Heimdal, Hildebrand, Frithjoy and Siegfried, will be similarly reconstructed.

SHOT THROUGH A DOOR TWICE AT HER LODGER

Warm Reception for Schwebs.

TRIED TO FORCE HIS WAY IN

MRS. LILLIE GRAY DEFENDS HER HOME WITH A REVOLVER.

She Is Arrested on a Charge of Assault With a Deadly Weapon and He Is Also in Custody.

Mrs. Lillie Gray, a young widow living at 462½ Tehama street, created a mild sensation in the neighborhood yesterday afternoon by firing two shots through a door at Charles C. Schwebs, who had been trying to force an entrance into her room.

Mrs. Gray was left a widow about a year ago, and as she was acquainted with the Schwebs family, Schwebs went to live in her house to help her along. He has been employed as a tin-roofer for nearly twenty years by Conlin & Roberts, on Mission street. Mrs. Gray and Schwebs had reason to disagree lately and she got him to leave the house. Early yesterday morning he went to her house drunk and because she refused to admit him he commenced to hammer at the front door with the object of breaking his way in. He was arrested, but only a charge of "drunk" was booked against him and he was discharged by Judge Graham.

As soon as Schwebs regained his liberty he commenced to drink again and went in the afternoon to Mrs. Gray's house. She again refused to admit him and he began to break in the door. Exasperated at his conduct she fired two shot from a revolver through the door, both missing him.

Schwebs, thoroughly frightened, ran into a saloon adjoining the house and made his way to the rear, climbing to the roof. He ran over the roof, dropped onto a shed in the rear of the house on the other side of the saloon and took refuge in the basement, where he was found by Policemen T. P. Riordan and John A. Ryan, who had been notified of the shooting. The officers placed him under arrest, and on hearing his story went to Mrs. Gray's house and arrested her. The revolver was taken as evidence against her.

Captain Spillane ordered a charge of assault with a deadly weapon to be booked against Mrs. Gray and a charge of disturbing the peace against Schwebs. Schwebs declared with tears in his eyes that he did not want to prosecute the woman, as he loved her still, although she preferred a soldier. He offered her his hand in a friendly way, but she scorned him and said she wanted to have nothing further to do with him.

"I only fired the shots at him," said Mrs. Gray. "to scare him, as he had twice attempted to break in my door. I had no intention of injuring him. I had not seen him for some weeks till he called in a drunken condition early yesterday morning."

Mrs. Gray's boy, 4 years of age, was taken to the City Prison with his mother and was placed in charge of the matron. He was run down by a wagon recently and is still suffering from the injuries he then sustained.

POSTAGE ON SUNDAY CALL.

SUNDAY CALL wrapped ready for mailing—postage 2c to all points in United States, Canada and Mexico, and 4c to all foreign points.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS

T. M. Brown, Sheriff of Humboldt County, is staying at the Russ.

W. D. Graaff, a pleasure seeker from Jacksonville, Fla., is at the Russ.

J. H. Barbour, on of the lading business men of San Diego, is a guest at the Grand.

H. M. Hall, a wealthy mining man of Marysville, is among the recent arrivals at the Lick.

J. W. Henderson, a banker and capitalist of Eureka, is among those who arrived in the city yesterday and went to the Lick.

D. J. Flannigan, a wealthy resident of Humboldt, who is extensively interested in the lumber industry, is in the city. He is staying at the Lick.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Fletcher, two prominent residents of Washington, D. C., have arrived in this city on a sightseeing trip, and are staying at the Occidental.

Dr. Saneman and Mr. and Mrs. Gutman, a party of travelers from Berlin who are touring the United States on pleasure bent, are registered at the Palace, where they arrived yesterday.

John D. Pope Jr., a popular society man of the City of the Angels, is a guest at the Occidental. He is accompanied by his wife. They have run up to the city on a short trip for recreation.

A Queer War Incident.

Speaking of these short rushes forward, a queer thing happened at Guguinto, where perhaps half of the soldiers in one regiment found hens. Before there was time to kill the fowl orders came to go forward. A little farther out the regiment lay down under fire for some minutes. Then the order came to charge. Up and forward with a yell rushed the soldiers, but over the cheering rose another sound. Three or four hundred hens, objecting to being carried head down with feet tied to the strap of a haversack, set up a frantic squawking such as was probably never heard along a line of charging military before.—Manila Correspondent in Leslie's Weekly.

Cal. glace 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.

The British War Office has decided that brown leggins, instead of black, shall in future be supplied to all foot soldiers of the regular army.

"Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup"
Has been used for 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 Diarrhoeas, 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.

Northern Pacific Railway.
Upholstered tourist sleeper through to St. Paul every Tuesday night. No change. This car is nicely upholstered in leather and is extremely comfortable in every respect. Pullman sleeping cars of the latest pattern on every train. Tickets sold at lowest rates to all points East. T. K. Stateler, Gen. Agt., 638 Market st., San Francisco.

Cheap Rates.
September 29 to October 5 inclusive, the Santa Fe Route will sell tickets to Chicago at very low rates. Occasion, corner-stone laying Government building and fall festivities. Get full particulars at 628 Market street.

HOTEL DEL CORONADO—Take advantage of the round-trip tickets. Now only $60 by steamship, including fifteen days' board at hotel; longer stay, $2 50 per day. Apply at 4 New Montgomery street, San Francisco.