The Call

TUESDAY.....OCTOBER 17, 1899

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AMUSEMENTS.

Columbia—"Hotel Topsy Turvy."
California—"Magda."
Orpheum—"Vaudeville."
Tivoli—"Othello."
Alcazar—"The Masked Ball."
Grand Opera House—"Nanon."
Chutes, Zoo and Theater—Vaudeville every afternoon and evening.
Olympia, corner Mason and Ellis streets—Specialties.
Central Park—Steeplechase and performances.
Oakland Racetrack—Races to-day.

AUCTION SALES.

By S. Watkins & Co.—This day, at 11 o'clock, Horses, at 1517 Mission street.
By Easton, Eldridge & Co.—Tuesday, October 24, at 12 o'clock, Real Estate, at 638 Market street.

FIGHTING CALIFORNIA.

SAM JONES' familiar saying, "It is a hit dog that yelps," finds many an illustration in the affairs of life. Yesterday a new one was afforded by the afternoon organ of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Because The Call exposed an effort of the company to have one of its reliable "friends" foisted upon the Interstate Commerce Commission under the pretense of being a representative of California and the Pacific Coast, the little organ yelps out "The Call is fighting California."

The charge of fighting California is one The Call need not take the trouble to refute. The record of the paper has been one of consistent support to every interest of the State and of its people. If there be any fool who believes the appointment of General Chipman or any other man equally bound to the railroad would benefit California we are willing he should regard us as a foe of the State. We appeal to intelligent people. We address men who have understanding. We oppose the railroad's candidate for a position on the Interstate Commerce Commission because we know that any man selected by Herrin and other railroad touts would serve the railroad rather than the Pacific Coast; would seek not to guard the interests of the public but to fasten upon the State, and as far as possible upon the coast, the domination of the monopoly.

It is not likely any considerable number of people will confound the Southern Pacific Company with California. Doubtless the railroad managers have so long regarded the State as the lawful prey of the railroad they cannot see any difference between them and sincerely believe service to the road is service to the State. Among the people a different idea prevails. The whole course of the Southern Pacific Company shows that its objects are directly hostile to the public welfare. The man whom Huntington would recommend as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission is the man whom the people will have most reason to distrust. No man can serve both God and mammon, neither can any serve both California and the Southern Pacific.

The Call was prompt to commend a movement on the part of the Traffic Association to obtain a Pacific Coast representative on the Commerce Commission. It will continue to support that movement until the desired end is attained, but by a representative of the coast it does not mean an agent or an attorney of the railroad. It stands guard against just such a contingency, and the effectiveness of the guard is proven by the yelp that has followed the first stone it threw at the railroad candidate.

Grove Ayers can consider himself the luckiest man in town. It is true, as a result of the fire that broke out on his person last Sunday, that he will have to wear a wig on his wishbone, but he can congratulate himself that he escaped alive, in spite of the fact that his fire insurance policy had run out the day before.

The record of having expended in the fifty years of its work in California more than $6,000,000 for charity and mutual help is one the Odd Fellows of the State may well be proud of, and the State is proud of them. Such liberality of aid attests a fraternalism of the right kind.

Will wonders never cease? On top of the information that there is a project under way to erect in Gotham a half-million dollar hotel exclusively for women comes the statement that up to date the proposed location of the hostelry has been kept a secret.

We can now have another great international contest with our British friends by starting a rivalry to see whether Otis can whip the Filipinos before Buller whips the Boers. A forward march of both the contestants would beat the yacht race.

G. W. Lanorette, who has been traveling with the Main circus as the "Starved Cuban," died suddenly at Merced. It is supposed his taking off was the result of apoplexy induced by over-eating.

Wishing to divorce himself from the cares of business for a few weeks, it is appropriate that President McKinley should pass some of that time in South Dakota.

WATER STORAGE.

THE Escondido Times, which may be regarded as the California organ of the National Irrigation Congress, says of the coming water storage convention in this city: "This movement appears to have been conceived in error and born of ignorance of the real needs of California and the irrigation situation in the West."

We believe that the real need of California and the irrigation situation in the West is a need of more water for irrigation, and that it be had as quickly as possible.

The Times favors an irrigation system undertaken and carried out and administered by the Federal Government at the expense of the national treasury. This scheme has its origin in the Territories, where the people are accustomed to pray toward Washington for what they want.

In the recent session of the National Irrigation Congress at Missoula, in Montana, ex-Governor McCord of Arizona was selected to state this Territorial aspiration. He is reported in the Times to this effect: "State ownership he opposed as being liable to bring about great abuses. He advocated eloquently and warmly a national system of irrigation as the most reasonable and logical of all systems. The education of the people of the East is the first thing to be accomplished. They must be brought to understand the real significance of this reclamation of a vast empire of measureless possibilities." No one in California has any objection to this missionary movement to convince the Eastern land-owners that the Western lands should be improved at their expense to become their competitors. It is an altruistic age, and the Eastern grain-raiser, who often sells his crop at less than the cost of production, may be educated up to the point of enlarging the mortgage on his land to pay for a national irrigation system which will increase the product of the Western grain-raiser. California has no objection to such a test of rural unselfishness. But while this educational movement is in progress the flood waters of this State are running to waste and the land they should irrigate lies untilled and fruitless. The gentlemen who have called the coming convention in their "error and ignorance" are of the opinion that if we wait for the East to be educated up to doing something for us, in the time required to do it California will have lost enough to have constructed several times over the needed reservoirs for storage. It is a simple economic question. Having the power to save this waste water and make fruitful this waste land, and make California the one spot on earth that suffers no loss from flood or drought, shall we use that power for our own benefit or wait for somebody to do it for us?

The situation of this State is peculiar. The other States and Territories this side the one hundredth meridian, which need irrigation, have certain interstate problems which they cannot settle for themselves. Streams head in one jurisdiction and flow through one or more other jurisdictions. This is the case with the Arkansas, North Platte, Snake, Colorado, Bear, Yellowstone, Columbia, Rio Grande and other streams, which carry the drainage and water the land of more than one State. The several interests involved, and in the case of the Rio Grande they are international as well as interstate, are irreconcilable by single State action. They of necessity impinge upon Federal authority, which must take the seat of judgment at some stage of the issues arising in the use of their floods or their normal flow. In California this is not the case. Our flood waters are poured from the clouds on our own mountains; they drain back to their source in the ocean through our streams. The harm they do is to us. Their potential good is for us, and when we take it no one is despoiled. It is the opinion of Governor McCord that a State effort will be subject to many abuses. When was Federal effort free from them? When was any Government effort insured against abuses? The State of New York owns a canal system. It made New York City the business and financial center of the continent. But its administration has never been free from abuses. The Federal Government carries the mails, but that function has never been free from abuses, as the Star route frauds stand to testify.

After the Eastern farmer has been educated up to spending his money to make the Western farmer's land fertile, and the Federal Government acts as his almoner, there will be abuses, but they will not concern the present generation of men, for they will be buried in soil so dry that it will nullify the hope of resurrection, for it won't raise anything.

The Times fears that if California help herself the West will be weakened and its missionary effort will wane. This is an unjustifiable fear. The members of Congress from this State will not hold back in urging any Federal irrigation policy that will help our neighbors. We do not say that such policy is "conceived in error and born in ignorance," for hard words irrigate no land. We will admit that, like faith, it is the evidence of things unseen, the substance of things hoped for.

But California need not wait for those things to come. She can gird her loins and go out and fetch them. That is what the convention of November 14 is for, and to its deliberations the disciples of Federal irrigation by missionary effort are invited.

Aguinaldo is posing as the Lucius Junius Brutus of his race. His brother Baldomero is imprisoned at Filipino headquarters and will soon be shot for treason, his offense having consisted of the embezzlement of moneys from the insurgent treasury. Aguinaldo declares that he will not interfere to prevent the execution of sentence.

THE PROBLEMS OF THE MINERS.

FROM every point of view it is gratifying that efforts have been put forth to make the annual mining convention in San Francisco this year something more than a State assembly. The problems of Western miners are many, and as most of them are as important to one Western or Pacific Coast State or Territory as to another, it is desirable they be discussed by representative men from all sections of the Greater West so that there may be unity of action in carrying out any line of policy that may be deemed advisable.

Among the larger issues to be dealt with by the convention are the revision and codification of Federal mining laws, the conservation of water, the procurement of appropriations from the Federal Government for the construction of restraining dams, and the promotion of the movement begun some time ago to bring about the creation by the National Government of a department of mines and mining, to be under the direction and control of an official of Cabinet rank.

Such issues affect the whole of the Greater West, and it is desirable they be considered as broad national problems rather than as local questions. The efforts made to procure a general representation of other mining States and Territories have met with good success. It has been announced that the Governors of Colorado, New Mexico, Idaho and Washington had last week reported the appointment of ten delegates each, and all the other Western Governors will undoubtedly respond in time. Each executive was asked to name representative men who would really attend the convention, and it is hoped there will be many delegates from other States who will later be active at home in promoting the policies agreed upon.

The time is propitious for the mining States of the West to act with success in promoting the measures necessary to their interests. Public opinion has now been fully awakened to the importance of the problem of conserving the water supply and of protecting the streams and the valleys by the construction of impounding dams. So also much has been done to form a sentiment in favor of a revision of the mining laws and of establishing a department of the Government to administer the affairs of the vast industry of mining.

The war in the Transvaal is going to turn in this direction the attention of mining capitalists seeking investments. Whether they invest or not will be largely determined by the legislation and other conditions under which mining is carried on in this country. It is timely, therefore, to remedy all abuses that may exist in the laws and to give such assistance as is expedient to promote the mining enterprises of the nation. A convention representing the great mining States of the Union can do much to accomplish these desired ends, and for that reason the approaching gathering in this city will be noted with more than ordinary interest throughout the whole region west of the Missouri.

THE TICKET RATIFIED.

THE meeting in Metropolitan Temple on Saturday evening to ratify the Republican municipal ticket was a conspicuous success and an incident of great significance. The sound and temperate address of Hon. Horace Davis was a keynote from its opening salute to its last word. It supplied, from a source of unquestioned integrity, a group of facts that had been obscured by the intemperate utterances of Mr. Phelan and his supporters. The new charter, from its inception to its ratification by the Legislature, continually depended upon Republican favor, influence and votes for its installation as the organic law of the city. It would have been beaten at the polls except for the votes given to it in Republican strongholds. It was adopted by a Republican Legislature, wherein the right of home rule was recognized. The new primary law, which Mr. Phelan says was a necessary adjunct of the charter, was introduced by a Republican Senator and passed by a Republican Legislature. The Republican party having done its full share in securing reform in the fundamental law of San Francisco, having become responsible therefor by Republican votes without which the opposition in Democratic strongholds would have beaten it, and having accepted final responsibility for it in a Republican Legislature, is now denounced by Mr. Phelan as not to be trusted to organize the government which is to issue from it!

Saturday night's meeting distinctly repudiated this assumption and was the party's declaration that the law it made it intends to administer. Having the votes, and being represented by a ticket which commands the confidence of every independent voter in the city, and that has the enthusiastic support of every Republican who feels the impulse of his civic responsibility, the Republican party appeals with confidence to the conscience of every well-wisher of the city.

The speech of Hon. Horace Davis was the utterance of a man who appreciates the solemn responsibility of public authority, and who approaches its assumption with no ambition other than its faithful administration. No longing for the dress parade, common to men who make spectacular use of one position that it may be a stepping-stone to another, is found in his address. It is the speech of a business man who knows keenly the relation between good government and the prosperity of the people.

As a business man he believes that a municipal corporation is a business organization, to be run on business principles. Its officers are chosen by a majority of its voters, as their directors and agents, to manage its affairs. As a majority of the voters in this city are unquestionably in favor of the ideas and policy of Mr. Davis, it would be an act of folly to elect Mr. Phelan, who does not represent either the politics or the municipal policy of that majority.

BOERS AS FIGHTERS.

GENERAL BULLER, after his appointment as commander in chief of the British forces in South Africa, went according to custom to take official leave of his sovereign, and when her Majesty impressed upon him her dislike of war and her desire for its speedy termination, he is reported to have attempted to reassure her by saying, "The war will be troublesome but not dangerous."

Allowance is to be made for the circumstances under which the general spoke. He could hardly have said anything else to a woman and a Queen abhorrent of war and eager for a return of peace. It is quite probable, however, the general really meant what he said. Despite the disastrous experiences of Majuba Hill and other conflicts with the Boers, there is a strong belief among the British that the success of the Boers in those engagements was due more to bad management on the part of the British commanders than to any extraordinary excellence of the Boers themselves. Predictions have been made in London that the war will be ended within three months after the British forces are ready to take the aggressive.

Men who have lived in South Africa, however, take a different view. For example, James Say, ex-chairman of the Rand Stock Exchange, is quoted by a London paper as having said just before the outbreak of hostilities: "Great Britain, if she goes to war, will begin the worst day's work for herself in her history. South Africa would turn the country into a hell for years to come. Every Boer is ready to fight, and the women are fiercer than the men. If the Boers are once defeated Johannesburg will be razed and the gold mines destroyed. It will cost Britain $75,000,000 for new machinery alone. Milner's has been a sad, mad policy."

A race of men and women of that character, occupying a large and sparsely settled country comparatively inaccessible, can prolong a war almost indefinitely and make it costly and dangerous for an invading foe, no matter how much stronger the foe may be in numbers, discipline and military stores. The Boers, accustomed to border warfare, will not rush in fanatic folly to slaughter as did the dervishes at Omdurman. They will resort to every strategy their skill can devise and make full use of every advantage the wild nature of their country affords. Victoria is growing old and she may not live to see the end of the conflict her general so jauntily told her would be "troublesome but not dangerous."

It is said that the plans of W. K. Vanderbilt's new house at Oakdale, L. I., have been copyrighted. The supposition is that the millionaire wishes to conceal from a curious public the exact location of the closet intended as a hiding-place for the family skeletons.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE WATERS OF OUR STATE.

Here Is the Opinion of a Man Who Has Spent Forty-Four Years Studying the Problem.

EDITOR THE CALL: In your issue of September 30 you have a very excellent article on "Trade and Irrigation," in which you indorse "The proposition to invoke the aid of the State government to impound the flood water and thereby irrigate every available acre and bring it into action." I have spent the best years of my life in the endeavor to do this same thing, having commenced to write on it as early as 1855, and to make surveys at my own expense as early as 1864, and have taken an active part in every phase of the question since then, but I have learned something, and one of the most important things I have learned is that the habits and practices of a people cannot be changed in a day, and that all things are subject to the slow processes of EVOLUTION. Did you know that as a fact, if you should fix every farm in California for the water and put it at the highest point on the land, with nothing to do but to open a gate and let the water run, there would not be one in ten of the present farming population who would use it and that not one acre in a hundred would be watered? Did you know as a fact that there is now only an infinitesimal portion of the available water used for irrigation? The gentlemen who are forming the society for the purpose of promoting the storage of water by the State mean well, but they are putting the cart a long ways ahead of the horse; they have not been through the mill. They are good, earnest men, and if their efforts were turned in the proper channel they might do some good. Looking over the list it seems that most of them are good business men, and if either one of them owned a large tract of land that needed irrigation he would not build expensive reservoirs before he had utilized the one-hundredth part of the water available without the expense. If you should ask any one of these gentlemen if he would not utilize the available water first he would tell you unhesitatingly that he would. Then if he had tenants who would not use what was running by their doors would he insist on spending a whole lot of money to get more for them? If he would not, then why ask the State to spend the money for reservoirs until her people learn to use what they have? I have been considered a crank on irrigation for the last forty years, and am just as enthusiastic on the subject as ever, and would not for my right hand throw cold water on any move that might lead up to good results, but there are some earnest men in this move who wish to do good to the State, and who do not want to inaugurate a move for the mere purpose of giving some one a chance to talk.

Look at the Sacramento Valley with the great river running through it. Look at the creeks and rivers running into it on both sides! Enough to irrigate every acre of its five thousand square miles of magnificent land! How much of it is used? Not twenty-five square miles is irrigated. Go on up the San Joaquin Valley and what portion of the waters of the Cosumne, the Mokelumne, the Calaveras, the Stanislaus, the Tuolumne, the Merced, the San Joaquin, the Kings, the Kern and numerous other streams heading in the eternal snows of the Sierras are utilized? Do the waters of these streams serve one acre in fifty that they ought to serve? There is some attempt to use some of the waters of the Kings and Kern rivers, but owing to the utter lack of laws for the proper distribution of the water nothing like the full capacity is reached. Now if all this land belonged to any one of the business men who are talking about forming a society for the purpose of getting the State to build reservoirs, and all the people were tenants, don't you think he would tell them to make a beginning on the water running to waste past their doors before he would undertake to spend millions of money in reservoirs?

When we get across the ridge into "Southern California" we find but little land fit to cultivate and but little water. The people were forced to begin to use it, and as they could not take any pride in advertising "fruit grown without irrigation," the process of evolution had to take faster steps than up north and they are ready for that system of reservoirs—that is if they can find any water with which to fill them! They have not felt down there so much the want of a law for the distribution of the water as they have up north, because the water was nearly all developed water, or water in streams so small that it made distribution comparatively easy. Just what might be done with reservoirs there I am not prepared to say, but I believe not much in comparison to the cost. Better let people get on to land that can be irrigated without so much cost. When we have made available all the water that may be picked up cheap, the State will have a rural population of two or three millions, and the reservoirs will then come.

What we most need is some proper law for the distribution of water that will be sustained by the people and the courts.

We first had the riparian contest, and that was followed by the district law. The district law may not be perfect in all its details, but it is correct in principle, and there can be no thorough distribution of water without bringing into operation the essential principles of the law. For the mere verbiage I am willing to "let fools contest." It is now fashionable to rail against the district law, but suppose we had a reservoir in every canyon in the mountains, how would the people get it without a law regulating distribution, and in that law every land-owner must have equal rights and every one be made to pay; all the rest is detail.

The discussions at the several irrigation conventions beginning about 1884; the fight over the district bill introduced in 1885 and the discussions that naturally followed brought about a furor in favor of irrigation, and when a district law did pass in 1887 there was a rush in the formation of districts. Some were formed in the southern part of the State on worthless land for the sole purpose of selling bonds, and in some cases bad judgment was shown, and in none was there unanimity. These all put bonds on the market. Briefless lawyers found in the dissensions a chance to make fees, and what were called the "kickers" were encouraged to begin suits. Soon a "Protective League" was formed that fought all districts and all bonds. As no paper can be sold under fire the work all along had to stop. The Turlock district in Stanislaus County, under the general direction of Judge James A. Waymire, did pull along, and under fire for ten years did get water.

Columns of detail might be brought forward to show that the district system did not have a fair test, but it is simply the desire now to call the attention of the gentlemen who propose to form a storage society to the fact that the great matter in hand is DISTRIBUTION! W. S. GREEN.

Colusa, October 16, 1899.

VOICE OF THE PRESS.

That Damaging Bryan Letter.

Ukiah Republican Press.

The San Francisco Call publishes what purports to be a fac simile of a letter written June 11, 1889, by William J. Bryan to J. Sterling Morton, both men being residents of Nebraska. Mr. Bryan was at that time a candidate for secretary of the Railroad Commission of his State. He is accused of writing to Mr. Morton, "I assure you that it is the money that is in the office and not the honor that attracts me." The letter appears to be genuine in every respect and Mr. Morton, who is said to have received it, was Secretary of Agriculture under President Cleveland. It is a very remarkable declaration to come from a man who has received the consideration that has been shown Mr. Bryan. The Call gives the letter all possible prominence and vouches for its authenticity.

Examiner's Faked Interviews.

Stockton Independent.

The Examiner published a lot of alleged interviews with officers of the Twentieth Kansas Volunteers criticising General Otis and in the next day's Chronicle all the officers repudiated the statements of the Examiner. Some of them declared that they had not talked with a reporter at all and others declared the published interviews pure fakes. In one instance the alleged portrait of the officer was published and that proved to be a fake, was not his picture at all and he had not even talked with the reporter. General Funston was indignant at the misrepresentations of him and repudiated the alleged interview as a whole. This merely illustrates the methods to which the Examiner stoops in carrying out its spites. It cannot be believed in the commonest matters. Its reporters cannot be believed because they have strings on them. Why should it not require a Government license to practice wholesale lying? Absolute prohibition of falsehood would be too severe on the yellow journals. It would amount to virtual confiscation of some valuable properties. But a tax of two bits a line on self-evident lying would yield a larger revenue in San Francisco than the levy of the Supervisors.

Examiner Must Change Its Methods.

Auburn Republican-Argus.

The Call is as proud of the "wireless telegraphy" as a boy over his first tin whistle. Of course, if Marconi has taken a step in advance of the wires and The Call-Herald is in on the combination it is a matter of good luck and—dollars. Their bulletins of the yacht race were certainly considerably ahead of their cotems. We won't undertake to explain it, as we have never seen a satisfactory explanation yet. If without interruption matters of interest can be sent across the continent with hardly a perceptible loss of time it is worthy of note and this The Call claims for this latest development in electrical science. Marconi, the inventor, is not to be taken to task because his name has macaroni flavor about it and the Examiner will be compelled to adopt other methods than simply slurring his name.

The Marconi System.

Springfield Leader-Democrat.

It would seem that the crowning event of the nineteenth century along the lines of scientific discovery is to be that of the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy. The best illustration of its utility as well as its practicability has been given by the inventor in reporting the international yacht races between the Columbia and the Shamrock. Edison, the electrical wizard, has been experimenting for years to accomplish the same result and pays a manly tribute to Signor Marconi in saying, "He succeeded where I failed."

Future of Wireless Telegraphy.

San Diego Union.

Wireless telegraphy showed its possibilities at New York the other day when it was able to send from the ocean a denial of the cruel rumor that the steamer Grand Republic had sunk with all on board. The incident suggests the thought that the time is not far distant when every ocean steamer will have a wireless telegraph connection with the land and thus be able to communicate at all hours the vessel's exact position. There seems no limit to the achievements of invention in these times.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TRANSPORTS—A. O. S., City. The United States Government has chartered British vessels as transports for troops to the Philippine Islands.

THE DRUM MAJOR—B. T., City. The Third United States Artillery band is located on Angel Island. The name of the drum major is Arndt.

GOVERNMENT LAND—W. W. Y., Niles, Cal. For information about Government land apply at the United States Land Office, San Francisco, in person or by letter.

PAYDAYS—S., City. All the State institutions of California have regular paydays and do not pay at other times, particularly salaries to employes. If discharged between paydays, the party so discharged must wait until the next payday.

SPOKEN ENGLISH—S. A., City. If a person was asked "Is that Jack Smith?" and the individual spoken to was in the habit of speaking English as it is spoken by Mose Gunst his reply would be "That's him," but if he was in the habit of expressing himself in ordinary English his reply would be "That is he."

AUTOMOBILE—Subscriber, City. According to the Century dictionary automobile is pronounced as if written a-to-mo-bil. In that the a is to be sounded as au in naught, the o in to as o in Democrat and the i in the last syllable as short and the accent on the penult. Those who prefer to adopt the French pronunciation pronounce it as if written "o-toe-mow-beel."

STRIPES—B. T., City. The stripes placed diagonally across the cuff of a soldier's coat in the United States army represent enlistment;; two stripes, two enlistments. When the stripe is piped with red it indicates enlistment for war. The gold stripe that is worn by many on the sleeve of blouses properly belongs on the dress coat.

MARRIAGE — Curtis, Lompoc, Cal. There is no law to prohibit the announcement of marriage licenses issued. If you desire to secure a license and do not desire to give the exact age of the intended bride, you can make oath that she is 18 years and over if she be more than 18. The law requires that it shall appear that the parties applying for the license are of marriageable age, namely 21 for man and 18 for woman.

FIRST COUSINS—U., North Berkeley, Cal. Marriage between first cousins is not prohibited by law in the State of California, but is in Arizona, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming. The marriage of first cousins is wrong, for the result of such unions is invariably children that are not perfect.

VALUE OF COINS—Subscriber, City. A $5 piece of 1834, if it has on the reverse the legend "E Pluribus Unum," commands a premium from dealers of from $1 to $2, but if you want to buy one you will be charged from $12 to $18. If the coin has not got the legend it does not command a premium. A quarter of 1838 does not command a premium, nor does a half-dollar of 1853, unless it is one without arrows at the date or rays around the eagle. A half without such arrows or rays commands a premium of from $19 50 to $24 50.

THE MORMON TEMPLE—S., City. The great Mormon temple in Salt Lake City, which occupied forty years in building, was dedicated April 6, 1893. The building proper is 167½ feet high, with one tower 222½ feet high and the other 219 feet. The building is 186½ feet long by 99 wide. It is built of granite, almost white and its cost has been variously estimated at from $6,000,000 to $12,000,000. It was built from plans drawn by Truman O. Angell, a Mormon, and it is said that as an architectual design it is not duplicated by anything ancient or modern.

PASSPORT—J. G. S., City. In the United States passports are issued only to citizens thereof. Persons who have only made a declaration to become citizens are not entitled to passports. One passport is all that is required to travel all over Europe. Application for blank forms for one who desires to apply for a passport must be sent to the Department of State, passport division, Washington, D. C., and the forms will be sent. The party must state if native or naturalized or claims naturalization through husband or father. The fee is $1.

THE GAME OF PEDRO—Several inquirers, City and Country. One question is: "Four-handed game of pedro (draw). A bid and bought. One of the players discards pedro of trumps and six of trumps. B picked them up. A claims that the points should go to the pitcher and that B had no right to pick them up. Is that correct?" Answer—There is no discard in pedro. In draw pedro, that is probably what the inquirer means, when a player discards, the discard should be turned face up, and before giving the player a draw, the dealer should see that the player has not discarded any point trump. Should point trumps be discarded, the player is compelled to take them back. After a lead has been made, however, it is too late to take action.

"In playing draw pedro (two players), each has one to go. A bids 7; B calls. Trumps, clubs. A has high, low, pedro game. B has jack. Which goes out first?" Answer—As A has 8 points he is not set back. He scores high, which counts first, and consequently he goes out first.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS

William M. Spencer, an oil speculator of Selma, is at the Lick.

Miss Ida Wilhelm has returned to her home in Grass Valley.

A. B. Smith, a leading merchant of Fresno, is a guest at the Grand.

C. G. Wilcox, a well-known oil man of Visalia, is a guest at the Occidental.

E. W. McLaughlin, the San Jose capitalist, is at the Occidental for a few days.

John Campbell, the Honolulu capitalist, is at the Occidental, accompanied by his family.

A. H. Denny, a well-known land owner of Etna, is one of the late arrivals at the Occidental.

John E. Budd, the Stockton attorney, is a guest at the Lick, where he arrived yesterday.

G. W. Huddleson, a silk merchant of London, is at the Palace, on his way to the Orient.

William Graham, a mining expert of New York, is among the recent arrivals at the Palace.

A. B. Carlock, a wealthy banker of Fort Jones, is at the Grand on a short business trip to this city.

E. L. Barkers, a well-known business man of Oakdale, is an arrival of yesterday at the Grand.

Mr. and Mrs. William Mead, two prominent society people of Los Angeles, are registered at the Occidental.

E. E. Bush, D. R. Cameron and J. W. Barbour are three oil men of Hanford who are staying at the Lick.

Charles Wright, a capitalist of Detroit, Mich., who is on the coast traveling for pleasure, is a guest at the Palace.

Henry T. Scott will be in Washington, D. C., on November 1, the time appointed for opening bids for the construction of six protected cruisers.

Lewis R. Mead, secretary of the Risdon Iron and Locomotive Works, returned last evening from a business and pleasure trip throughout the East.

Charles Hardy of Nottinghamshire, England; T. J. Bourne of London, Thomas Davie of Scotland and Dr. E. A. Scott of Dublin are a party of British subjects who are registered at the Palace. They are greatly interested in mining and have been touring the country in pursuit of information pertaining to minerals.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Oct. 16.—James W. Byrne, Mrs. M. Irvine, of San Francisco, and Dr. R. W. Hill of Los Angeles are at the Fifth Avenue; William H. Taylor of San Francisco is at the Manhattan.

CALIFORNIANS IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—Henry L. Freeman and wife of San Francisco are at the Wellington.

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.

Yesterday's Insolvent.

Walter Lounsberry Wallace, saloon clerk, Emeryville, Alameda County, liabilities, $1373; assets, $342 50.

The Rock Island Wall Map of the United States

Is the best offered to the public. It is very large and specially adapted to school purposes. Every teacher of geography and every business office should have one. It will be sent post paid to any address on receipt of fifteen cents in postage stamps or coins. Address John Sebastian, G. P. A., Chicago, Ill.

The Rock Island Playing Cards are the slickest you ever handled. One pack will be sent by mail on receipt of 15 cents in stamps. A money order or draft for 50 cents or same in stamps will secure 4 packs, and they will be sent by express, charges prepaid. Address John Sebastian, G. P. A., C. R. I. & P., Chicago.

The best appetizer and regulator of the digestive organs is Dr. Siegert's Angostura Bitters. Try it. Be sure to get the genuine.

Suit on Irrigation Bonds.

George Parker brought suit in the United States Circuit Court yesterday against the Browns Valley Irrigation District to recover $6447 on irrigation bonds and coupons issued March 7, 1887. He also asked for the interest on the same. Browns Valley is in Yuba County and Mr. Parker is a British subject.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE

PEERLESS OIL COMPANY

Offers 5000 shares of its stock at

$1 per share.

Capital stock.....100,000 shares.
Par Value .....$10 00 per share.

This company's property consists of 160 acres of patented land in the very center of the famous

Kern River District,

Midway between the ELWOOD WELL and the TIBBETTS WELL (both producers), and it is surrounded by wells in various stages of development.

A CLOSE INVESTIGATION IS INVITED.

A contract for sinking is about to be let and a strike of oil may be expected at 220 to 250 feet depth.

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