NEW AND CATCHY OPERA GIVEN BY THE BOSTONIANS

Farce Presented at the Alcazar.

MOROSCO IS MAKING A HIT

ORPHEUM PROGRAMME FULL OF CLEVER TURNS.

"Idol's Eye" Is Running Strong. Moving Pictures of Jeffries and Sharkey Drawing Crowds at the Alhambra.

"The Viceroy," by Victor Herbert and Harry B. Smith, is the longest comic opera of modern times. It had its first production at the Columbia and there was expectancy in the gallery and orchestra and a display of finery befitting the occasion. The frills and feathers of the audience, however, did not hold a taper to the gorgeous garbing of the stage people. It was the costumers' night to shine and he did so in every color of the spectrum.

"The Viceroy" might almost be called a costume opera. There is more to it than the costumes and scenery, which are both remarkably good in this production, but the sense of sight plays an important part in judging its merits.

The beginning is not happy, either musically or bookishly, and fully three-quarters of an hour elapsed before there was a genuine laugh or a sincere plaudit. When it comes to cutting it down to reasonable length—it now lasts nigh unto midnight—the first scenes may be very freely pruned without a sacrifice being committed.

The composer, in his characteristic style, has aimed at popular effects, and, having caught what he thinks will catch others, he proceeds to rub it in diligently. Thus we find the "Tivolini" song, which, by the way, every one was whistling after the first curtain, repeated again and again. It is as unnew as the latest joke, but it will find its way into the phonographs shortly, and "The Viceroy" will be made in spite of anything the critics may say.

I have had occasion lately to point out the fact that Harry B. Smith can perpetuate the most utter trash and call it a comic opera libretto that mortal man has ever been asked to listen to, but he disguises his identity in this, his ultimate effort, and "The Viceroy" is poor in Smithisms and in comfortable circumstances as far as humor is concerned.

The general grotesqueness of the multifarious comedy part has much to do with the laugh-getting, but Mr. Barnabee, who, of course, has a proprietary interest in the opera, has a number of obese lines, which he works to the best advantage. I may say here that I refer to Mr. Barnabee's share in the dialogue, and not to his anatomy.

The company has another alcove tenor in Frederick Knights; and Miss Marcia Van Dresser, whose voice did not sound so bad when she was hoarse, I find has in her normal state a very poor voice indeed, and she does not know how to use what she has.

Helen Bertram has her personality with her, and the dash that makes her so winsome; vocally she is not remarkable; her style, or method, but she is more than adequate to the company she is in. Her song in the second act was novel and (as she sang it) very pleasing.

Victor Herbert has not risen out of the De Koven class, nor does he promise to do so; his music is typical of the man, and within its own laws it is good airy stuff—the stuff that comic operas are made of: "The Viceroy" has been tried on us, and to-day we will be telling one another that it is really not half bad.

The Bostonians came here with a "Here, Frisco, Frisco, lie down and be a good dog; we have an opera to try on you," and behold Frisco likes it much better than other attempts that have been made on its digestive organs, and if I mistake not the firm of Barnabee & Macdonald has not perhaps another "Robin Hood," but certainly another "Serenade." I hate the "Serenade." PORTER GARNETT.

Orpheum.

There are so many "best bills" and "best weeks" at the Orpheum in the ordinary course of a year that the expressions become worn out, yet they fit the performance this week. The Cushman, Holcombe and Curtis trio made a great hit with their eccentricities and singing. Usually in some vaudeville entertainments that have confronted the people of this city the female singers have outcrowed the crows, and have set teeth on edge with raspy-throated shrieks; but this was the opposite. The woman is a sweet singer and the men chime in well with her. Then there is Frank Coffin in his last week with his best efforts, and Irene Franklin, with her agreeable songs and pleasant smiles, to top off the musical week. The Bartons are among the best of the kind in the coontown sketch, the Romalo brothers have discovered a novelty in acrobatics, Deets and Don bring some of the European vaudeville flavor with them from over the water and Monroe and Mack are the latest good things in the negro line. Papinta's wonderfully brilliant fire dance should not be missed. It is a revelation of grace and color possibilities.

Alcazar.

The farcical comedy, "Oh, Susannah," tickled the risible faculties of the large audience at the Alcazar Theater last night for about two hours and a half. It has something of the touch of "Charley's Aunt" in it, but the dialogue is not so smart nor the situations so cleverly worked out. The real central figure in the piece is the "slavey," and Georgie Woodthorpe made the most of it. She astonished every one by her really clever portrayal of the part and was honored with a special call before the curtain. Ernest Hastings, as a young doctor who married without his aunt's knowledge, upon which incident the plot, if there be one, is based, and Mary Hampton, as his young bride, were clever and kept up the fun. May Blayney, Laura Crews, Howard Scott and Stanley Rose, as young lovers, had little to do, but they did it well. Margaret Marshall was the aunt and Maggie Frances Leavey, the doctor's landlady. Jeffrey Williams and Forrest Seabury completed the cast.

California.

Those who attended the performance at the California Theater last evening were well repaid, for "An Unconventional Honeymoon," as presented by the Frawley company, holds the attention from the rise to the fall of the curtain. T. Daniel Frawley as Eric Aubrey and Keith Wakeman as Leo, his wife, were the center of attraction and every bit of the performance, whether laughable or serious, carried the audience without effort.

All of the minor characters fitted well into their places and came in for their share of applause, which was not sparingly bestowed.

The management announces that "Trilby" will not be presented at to-morrow's matinee as previously advertised.

Alhambra.

There was no decrease in the attendance at the Alhambra Theater last evening. The Jeffries-Sharkey battle has created a stir among the sport-loving people of this city, and the latter are taking advantage of the opportunity of seeing the memorable battle fought over again by means of the marvelous moving pictures taken by the American Mutoscope and Biograph Company. As exemplars of photography the pictures are marvelous, and as a portrayal of the memorable battle between the two heavyweights they are unsurpassed. The spectators sits enthralled as the fight progresses and often breaks the stillness by voicing approval of a blow well delivered. The pictures are a success, and will be viewed by thousands before they are taken to another place.

Tivoli.

There must be much more in the power of the magic ruby than the librettist sees fit to tell of in "The Idol's Eye," now in its fifth week at the Tivoli, for the operetta continues to attract large audiences and its fun and melody are as pleasing as on the first night. The tuneful bit of nonsense will continue until "Manila Bound," advertised as a "musical hodge-podge," replaces it at the popular Eddy-street house.

Grand Opera-House.

"Aladdin Jr.," with new songs and features, is on again this week at the Grand Opera-house. Edith Mason made the first hit in the play and was forced to respond to an encore and again sing her new ballad, "Since Thou Art Mine." Miss Mason also sang "The Sweetest Story Ever Told," which is doubtless her most popular effort. Little Maude Sorensen won the hearts of the audience with her "coon" song, "Don't You Cry, Ma Honey." Her buck and wing dancing was perfect. Hattie Belle Ladd and a male quartet in "My Lady Lu" is one of the catchy features of the entertainment.

Chutes.

Major Mite sang the latest telephonic negro craze, "Ring Off, Coon," at the Chutes Theater last night, and had to respond to even more encores than usual. Paul La Croix, a hat juggler, made his first appearance, and made a hit, as did also George Bird, programmed as "The Chinese Ambassador." The latter does a clever musical act. Valkyra, equilibrist, Ruth Nulta and her pickanniny, Blanche Le Claire Sloan on the flying rings and Douglass and Ford, singers and dancers, complete an interesting bill.

Symphony Concert Thursday.

The musical event of the week will be the third of the symphony concerts, under the direction of Henry Holmes, at the Grand Opera-house on Thursday afternoon, at 3:15 sharp. The programme will be the most interesting yet presented, and includes Beethoven's "Coriolan" overture, Brahms' variations on a theme by Joseph Haydn, Wagner's great "Tannhauser" overture and symphony entitled "Fraternity," by Mr. Holmes himself. Seats are on sale at Sherman, Clay & Co.'s, with an immense demand.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY IS HELD IN MEMORY

SCHOOL CHILDREN SHOW HONOR TO GREAT PRESIDENT.

Patriotic Literary and Musical Exercises in Many of the Schools of This City.

Lincoln's birthday was held in remembrance yesterday afternoon in all the primary and grammar schools of the city. A thousand teachers and 30,000 pupils united in songs, speeches and reminiscences of the life and character of the great President. Comrades of the several posts of the Grand Army of the Republic visited the different schools and told the children of the civil war, the struggle for the preservation of the Union and the emancipation of the slaves.

At the Lincoln Grammar School, James T. Hamilton principal, the popular spirit of patriotic enthusiasm was shown to the highest degree. Principal Hamilton, who fought in the war of the rebellion, had the statue of Lincoln tastefully draped. The various classrooms in the school were also appropriately decorated by the teachers and pupils, and literary and musical exercises were rendered.

Hon. H. C. Dibble, Commander S. W. Carpenter and M. S. Blackburn of Lincoln Post, G. A. R., were in attendance.

At the Mission Grammar School, Miss Kate Crowley principal, the ninth grade of Miss Nelly F. Sullivan and the eighth grade, taught by Miss May Kennedy and Miss Jeanette Hillman, united in exercises, both musical and literary. There were twenty-seven distinct numbers on the programme.

Patriotic exercises were also held at the Hancock Grammar School, Miss M. McKenzie principal. Colonel Lyman Bridges of the George H. Thomas Post, G. A. R., addressed the pupils upon the character and example of Lincoln's life.

The anniversary of the birthday of President Lincoln was fittingly celebrated by the Humboldt Evening High School last evening. Herbert Dam, who presided, spoke feelingly on the effect of the martyred President's death upon the nation. The famous Gettysburg address of Lincoln was rendered by Charles H. Coffey of the school and H. F. McMahon recited James Whitcomb Riley's poem, "The Old Man and Jim," with touching pathos. Lawrence Taaffe, the principal of the school, made a few remarks and retold one of Lincoln's best anecdotes. The Glee Club of the school then led the audience in singing "America" and the exercises closed.

FAILED IN HIS ATTEMPT TO BRIBE CHIEF BIGGY

An Ignorant Celestial Tried the Wrong Man, and Is Now Suffering a Double Penalty.

Ah Sing's soulful voice is heard in deep wailing behind the bars of the California-street police station. Sing used his dulcet tones last night in an effort to save himself a night in prison for entering a house of ill fame. Finding that his pleadings were a failure, he, in ignorance of his man, tried to tempt his captor, Acting Chief Biggy, with a $5 note in exchange for his freedom. This open case of attempted bribery under his very eyes startled the Chief, and for the moment he was in a quandary. He, however, decided, for purposes of evidence, to accept the proffered gold piece, but to the surprise of the Celestial refused to allow him to escape. Instead, the bribe-offerer was taken to the California-street station and held pending an investigation into his conduct.

Chief Biggy will in all probability today charge Sing with bribery. The Chinaman now laments the loss of his $5 and his liberty. The gold piece will be held against him as evidence, and his freedom will be withheld until his friends offer bonds enough to get him out of the predicament.

Chief Biggy is taking strenuous steps to discover whether any of his men accept money from the inhabitants in the Celestial quarter. He has the greatest confidence in the honesty of the officers under him, but he wants to instill in the minds of the Chinese that policemen will not receive money for their protection. There has been a belief current in the minds of the Mongolians that every officer is open to bribery. By his prompt action last night Chief Biggy hopes to impress on their minds that the belief was unfounded. He will try to have an example made of Ah Sing as a lesson to others of his race.

CHILDREN DESERTED BY THEIR CRUEL PARENTS

Willie Kelly, aged 7 years, his sister Gertie, aged 4 years, and their brother Eddy, aged two years, were taken to the City Prison last night and turned over to the matron, awaiting their removal to some public institution. The little ones were brought in by Officers F. A. Lycett and Patrick McKenna, who found them in the vicinity of Alabama and Twenty-sixth streets. A groceryman notified the policemen that the trio had been playing in the vicinity for three hours and were in danger of being trampled beneath horses' feet. The officers investigated the case and learned that the children had been deserted by their parents, who live at 1354 Alabama street. The father and mother are addicted to the drink habit and quarrel constantly. Six weeks ago, it is alleged, the father threatened to kill his wife, and since then their quarrels have been extremely bitter. Last Saturday evening Kelly left home and has not returned. At noon yesterday Mrs. Kelly abandoned her children and went on a spree, leaving her little ones to look out for themselves.

Looking for C. G. Fisher.

Acting Chief of Police Biggy received a telegram last night from William F. Bull, Superintendent of Police of Buffalo, N. Y., in which the latter asked information as to the whereabouts of C. G. Fisher, a well known business man of that city. The dispatch stated that Mr. Fisher could be found at one of the hotels, but up to a late hour Detective "Harry" Reynolds, who was detailed to find Mr. Fisher, had not located him. Mr. Fisher's brother died suddenly, and Superintendent of Police Bull desires to know what disposition shall be made of the remains.

Cruelty and Desertion Alleged.

OAKLAND Feb. 12.—Cruelty and desertion is alleged in a complaint for divorce filed to-day by Isabelle M. Wheeler against Edward L. Wheeler. The parties reside in Berkeley.

SUPERVISORS STRUGGLE WITH CITY FINANCES

Vexed Question Still Unsettled.

STREET LAMPS MAY BE UNLIT

HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S USEFULNESS CURTAILED.

Laborers' Wages Fixed at $2 50 a Day—Resolutions Allowing Extra Clerks Are Laid Over for One Week.

The Board of Supervisors had a hand-to-hand struggle with the perplexing question of the municipal deficit, but the subject was found to be so complicated that its consideration was postponed for another week. During the discussion several ways were suggested to make up a prospective deficiency, which, according to Supervisor Reed, will amount to $211,000, at a low estimate. Supervisor Tobin stated that leaving the city's streets in darkness for the rest of the fiscal year would help the situation $100,000, and his suggestion on that point was received with some favor. It was also suggested that by stopping street sweeping altogether another $70,000 would be made available, but this suggestion was evidently not as acceptable as the first. Mayor Phelan called attention to the protested taxes, amounting to $151,000, which could be used, provided a decision favorable to the city is rendered by the Supreme Court. To this could be added the $10,000 appropriated for Trocadero Canyon.

"If St. Mary's park fund of $125,000 can be used," said his Honor, "the city's financial stringency will be relieved to a great extent."

Resolutions allowing the Health Department $35,000 for the ensuing six months were adopted, but only after considerable argument, in which Reed vigorously opposed the granting of any such sum while the city was threatened with bankruptcy. Reed favored allowing the department a bare $3000 per month, which Dr. Williamson, who addressed the board, thought would be sufficient to prepare the city to resist an invasion of the bubonic plague. Reed argued that there was not a single cent to the credit of the Health Board and it was criminal to rush into debt and make other creditors of the city suffer. Dr. Williamson thought that the department could get along on $35,000, but that its efficiency would be materially impaired. He said that the reduction would have to be met in other ways than by a reduction of force, as contemplated by the resolutions.

"We reserve our right," said the president of the Health Board, "to maintain the offices we have created. We may suspend some employes temporarily or maintain groups of men on half time, but there are some things we cannot dispense with, notably the free distribution of anti-toxin to the poor, whereby the mortality from diphtheria has been reduced from 60 to 11 per cent, and the milk inspection, which has reduced infant mortality 50 per cent. The Bureau of Vaccination is likewise an absolute necessity."

To a question of Reed's as to what steps he would take to prevent the entrance of the plague Dr. Williamson said:

"I would order the burning of Chinatown."

Dr. Williamson, while expressing himself as in a measure satisfied with $35,000, asked the board to increase it if possible, but promised that there would be no overdraft of the lesser amount, which he was finally allowed, Reed alone voting against it.

The resolution fixing the rate of wages to be paid to the laborers in the Street Department at $2 50 per day for eight hours worried the board for some time. It developed that the charter is not quite clear whether the power to fix the rate lies with the Supervisors or the Board of Public Works. Some members took the lafter stand, but the motion to refer the matter to that body was lost. Another motion to refer to the City Attorney for advice was likewise lost. The argument took such an unpleasant turn that some of the Supervisors were compelled to explain that they were not opposed to the $2 50 rate, but wanted the legal doubt as to the authority settled. The vote on the adoption of the resolution was unanimous.

The Board of Public Works was requested to examine into the present conditions, requirements and safety of the entrances and exits of all theaters, halls and public places of amusement.

An ordinance was passed to print providing for a free license to persons who, by reason of misfortune or physical infirmities, merit exemption from the payment of license.

A resolution was adopted providing that the matter of an ordinance empowering the assistant clerks of the Board of Supervisors to administer oaths be referred to the City Attorney for his opinion thereon. The same course was taken with the proposed ordinance for the issuance and sale of bonds for the construction of sewers, hospitals, school houses and park panhandle.

The San Francisco Gas and Electric Company was requested to place electric lights at the intersections of Joost avenue and Arcadia stret, Flod and Circular avenues, Sunnyside avenue and Congo street, Sunnyside avenue and Edna street, Hearst avenue and Detriot street, Foerster street and Mangels avenue.

The resolution authorizing the Auditor to appoint four clerks at $100 per month each, the Recorder a mortgage clerk at $100 per month and the Treasurer one clerk at $150 a month and one at $100 were laid over for one week.

Resolutions were laid over for one week providing that the Board of Public Works be requested to omit the sweeping of the city streets one night of each week; also to notify the San Francisco Gas and Electric Company to omit the lighting of gas and electric lamps for three nights before full moon, the night of full moon, and for two nights after full moon, for the remainder of this fiscal year.

The City Attorney was requested to examine into and report if the $125,000 set aside by the last board for the acquisition of St. Marys Park properties is or is not a special fund, and whether it can be used for any other purpose than that for which it was created.

The resolutions authorizing the architects of the Hall of Justice building to make certain changes in the original plans at a cost not exceeding $13,910, provided said changes do not interfere with the completion of the building by the Pacific Surety Company, were deferred until the next meeting.

The following petitions were received and referred to the proper committees:

Citizens for a lamp post in the middle of the block of Thirteenth street, between Market and Guerrero; North Central Improvement Association, calling attention to the filthy condition of affairs in the roadways and among the fish markets on Merchant and Clay streets, below Montgomery, and requesting the enactment of ordinance enforcing the removal of refuse at suitable hours; Van Ness-avenue Improvement Club, for an electric light at the corner of Van Ness avenue and Filbert street; property-owners, for an electric light at the intersection of Turk and Jones streets.

A communication was received from property-owners favoring the granting of the petition of Quimby & Harrelson to continue the operation of a quarry in block 9 of the Flint Tract.

REFERRED TO BOARD OF WORKS.

The following petitions and protests were referred to the Board of Public Works:

Petition of property-owners for the regrading of the crossing of North Point and Webster streets; protest of property-owners against paving Army street between Guerrero and Dolores; protest of property-owners against the grading of Army street between Castro and Noe; petition of City Street Improvement Company, on behalf of property-owners, to repave with bituminous rock the roadway of Post street, between Kearny and Grant avenue, and the roadway of Second street, between Market and Mission; petition of property-owners to prohibit the dumping of dirt and rock screenings at the west end of Henry street, above Castro, and complaining of lack of sewer in Tilden street.

A resolution was passed to print granting permission to Quimby & Harrelson to explode blasts on block 9 of the Flint Tract.

The Board of Public Works reported that the City Street Improvement Company had been notified to complete the grading of Bernal Park; also explaining that the resolution awarding the contract to sewer Bryant street, which it had been directed to enforce, had been repealed by the Board of Supervisors.

DELIBERATED WHETHER HE WERE ENGLISH OR CHINESE

OAKLAND, Feb. 12.—Galbraith Masters, a bright student at the State University, found himself in a quandary to-day when he appeared before Judge Hall for naturalization. He was unable to state whether he was an Englishman or a Chinaman. "I was born in China, of English parents," he informed the court, "but now, really, I don't know whether I'm a Chinaman or an Englishman. I do not know whether to renounce allegiance to the Emperor of the Flowery Kingdom or the Queen of Great Britain. Perhaps you know, Judge." His Honor, however, found little time to crack this complicated nut of complex nativity, but on the court's suggestion, and to remove any and all doubts, Masters renounced allegiance to all foreign princes, kings, queens and potentates. The question of his nativity, however, was not determined.

HE WAS BOUND TO WORK FOR NO ONE BUT DELGER

Now Lamping Sues on a $10,000 Note.

Oakland Office San Francisco Call, 1118 Broadway, Feb. 12.

James J. Lamping is determined to collect the $10,000 promissory note made in his favor by his former employer, the late Frederick Delger, who died in April, 1898. Delger's estate has been appraised at $131,231.

Soon after the capitalist's death Edward F. Delger, the executor, learning of the existence of the note, brought suit in equity to enjoin Lamping from ever collecting the same. The court decided against the executor. The note was dated January 3, 1897, and became payable January 3 last. Lamping presented his claim for the amount named in the note to the executor, but the latter promptly disallowed it.

To-day Lamping, by his attorney, William R. Davis, brought an action in the Superior Court to obtain judgment against the Delger estate for the $10,000 and costs. According to the complaint the note was made to Lamping by the late Frederick Delger in pursuance of an agreement that Lamping should as long as Delger desired it refrain from entering into business or employment with any other party; that he should continue as long as Delger personally desired to manage his (Delger's) business and property, valued at over $1,000,000. Lamping alleges that he has lived up to the agreement and that he has protected the financial interests of Delger and has kept the accounts of his employer, amounting to over $6000 per month.

Lamping also avers that, excepting the payment of this $10,000 note, Delger during his lifetime had always performed every act required of him under the contract, including the making of the promissory note. The suit will be bitterly fought by the executor.

NEW BOARD OF SURVEY.

Will Straighten Out All Matters Pertaining to the National Guard.

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 12.—Orders have been issued from the adjutant general's office appointing a board of inspection and survey to visit each and every command of the National Guard in the State, and company commanders will be required to balance up their property accounts with the adjutant general's office.

Worn out and useless quartermaster's stores will be destroyed and each and every commander will be required to satisfactorily account for any shortage in his accounts.

The inspecting officers detailed for this work from the adjutant general's office have been directed to examine into the system of accounts kept by all commanding officers. They will also institute an inquiry regarding the claims of the National Guardsmen, who under orders reported for duty in the Spanish-American war at the several State rendezvous, regarding any claim they may have for pay from the time of their so reporting up to the date of their muster into the volunteer service of the United States in 1898 or their rejection by the medical or mustering officers, with a view of getting these claims together, if any there be, so that the proper steps may be taken toward their collection with the payment of the men.

BUCHANAN ARRESTED.

Passed a Forged Order on a San Rafael Merchant.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

SAN RAFAEL, Feb. 12.—Robert Buchanan, who has been anxiously looked for for some months by H. A. Gorley, a local merchant, was yesterday located in Sacramento by Constable George Agnew and is to-night lodged in the tanks here.

Buchanan some months ago lost his position on the North Pacific Coast Railroad and deserted his family. He went to the bad and finished up a succession of minor crooked acts by working Gorley with a forged order for $50. He disappeared before Gorley discovered that he had been swindled, and had it not been for the streak of the detective in Agnew this would have been the last heard of him.

This morning Agnew left for Sacramento, where he had located Buchanan. The swindler was lodged in the tanks awaiting trial for obtaining money under false pretenses. Buchanan is also wanted in San Francisco, where he passed a forged order on a saloon-keeper.

Puget Sound Wants the Cable.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—A bill was introduced in the Senate to-day by Foster of Washington providing for the construction of a Government cable line from the United States to the Philippines. The distinguishing feature of the bill is that it requires that the cable shall be laid from some point on the coast of Washington, and that it shall run via Alaska and north of the Aleutian Islands to the Island of Attu; thence to the boundary between Russia and Japan and thence, with several stops, to the Philippines. An independent cable from San Francisco to Hawaii is provided for.

County of Edinburgh Ashore.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—The British ship County of Edinburgh went ashore at about 10 o'clock last night close to the Manasquan life-saving station, on the Jersey coast, near Point Pleasant. She is hard and fast aground and is expected to break up before morning. The crew was taken off by the life-saving crew.

Miner Missing.

SEATTLE, Feb. 12.—J. E. Fulton, an elderly mining expert, claiming to represent Eastern capitalists, who left Skagway December 23, saying he was going to White Horse, has mysteriously disappeared. Nothing has been heard from him since and it is feared he is lost or has met with foul play.

Nome Miners Protest.

SEATTLE, Feb. 12.—The Alaska Miners' Association, which has a membership of 400, mostly Nome operators, to-night adopted resolutions which were sent to Congressman Lacey praying for legal authority to mine the Nome beaches, and condemning the prospective sending of military to that district.

Struck by a Car.

SAN JOSE, Feb. 12.—Albert Beall, the five-year-old son of W. A. Beall, was probably fatally injured to-day by being run over by an electric car on Delmas avenue. He had accompanied his sister to school on his bicycle and was riding back along the track when the car struck him.

Two Years for Brown.

SANTA ROSA, Feb. 12.—Joseph Brown was this afternoon sentenced by Judge Burnett to serve two years' imprisonment in Folsom. He was captured in a room in the Healdsburg depot which he had robbed. When brought into court he entered a plea of guilty.

Body Found in Tules.

YUBA CITY, Feb. 12.—The body of a Chinaman was found in the tules below Marcuse this morning. The Chinaman fell from a trestle while working with a railroad gang near that place on the 6th of last month.

GIVEN A BIG FAREWELL BY THE WOODMEN

I. I. BOAK.

OAKLAND, Feb. 12.—I. I. Boak, the newly appointed head clerk for the Pacific jurisdiction of the Woodmen of the World, was tendered a rousing farewell reception to-night at Loring Hall by Oakland Camp No. 94, of which he had been clerk for several years. Fifty camps were represented at the farewell reception. Neighbor Judge F. B. Ogden made the opening address and introduced the speaker of the evening, Head Escort D. S. Ewing of Fresno, who discoursed on the woodcraft of California. During the evening Neighbor E. A. Bolton, on behalf of Oakland Camp, presented Mr. Boak with a fine silver tea set of six pieces. Mr. Boak leaves for Los Angeles to-morrow afternoon, returning to Oakland next Friday. On Saturday afternoon he starts for Denver, the headquarters of the Head Camp for this jurisdiction.

DECLARE THEY NEVER SWINDLED THEIR CLIENT

Smiths Deny Mariane Louis' Charges.

Oakland Office San Francisco Call, 1118 Broadway, Feb. 12.

The suit filed by aged Mariane Louis, last Saturday, against attorneys J. H. & Mortimer Smith, charging them with embezzling $1020 of her money, will come to a speedy trial. The defendants to-day filed their answer denying all salient allegations of crookedness and strongly intimating that some one has imposed on the aged French woman in persuading her to commence the suit.

The attorneys Smith aver that they agreed to take charge of plaintiff's litigation over the estate of her son, the late Edouard Louis of Alameda; that she agreed to and did pay them a $160 retainer and that under a written agreement, which is embodied in their answer, they were to receive one-half of all they recovered and pay costs of any appeal. They informed her that her claim in dispute amounted to $1485. Mary Louis, the widow and executrix, had previously disallowed the claim because it had been presented after the time prescribed by law, and several suits ensued.

The aged mother finally advised her attorneys Smith, so their answer avers, that she would settle for nothing less than $1500 in cold cash. After the attorneys had negotiated and got $1800 she wanted them to cut their fee to $500, claiming that there had been no troublesome trial. To this they vigorously demurred. The affair was settled by the executrix paying her mother-in-law $1800; she then paid the Smiths $780, after deducting the retainer, and she retained the balance of $1020. Receipts passed between the parties and the aged litigant seemed perfectly satisfied. Her suit, therefore, greatly shocked the Smiths, who divine a conspiracy behind the action.

BRILLIANT GALAXY OF NATIVE SONS AND LADIES

Native Sons' Hall was a dream of artistic decoration last night on the occasion of the invitation ball of Pacific Parlor No. 10, Native Sons of the Golden West. The effect was contributed to by gracefully drooped silver-spangled draperies, pale blue and pink, with bunches of ferns at each loop, while the central piece was a mass of pretty flowers and ferns in which there was a number of white doves.

Those who had charge of this affair were: Floor manager, John W. Riley; assistant, Leonard Stone; floor committee—Daniel A. Ryan, John F. Comyns, George B. Stangenberger, Daniel C. Deasy, Robert J. Sands, S. W. Dixon, William H. Langdon, J. L. Halsted, John F. Cannon, S. V. Costello, Paul McDonald, Charles F. McMenomy, Walter E. Dorn, Thomas B. W. Leland; reception committee—George D. Clark, Walter J. Wiley, Edwin L. Forster, Joseph H. Cunningham, Henry E. Faure, Angus McKay, William H. Hazell, George H. Wendell, H. W. Hunsaker, T. B. Foche, W. G. Baudoin, J. E. Manning, Joseph K. Hawkins, M. J. Killiler, William H. Miller, Theodore Lunstedt, H. F. Sullivan, Lyman Jennings, Walter S. Herson, John T. Greany; committee of arrangements—John W. Riley, Frank R. Neville, Fred W. Krone Jr., F. I. Gonzalez, E. I. Groezinger, A. P. Seiler, Roland M. Roche, Jere Looney, F. A. Schoenwald, A. Williams.

BRYAN'S CONVENTION.

Democrats to Name Their Ticket Early in June.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says: Senator Jones of Arkansas to-day admitted that as a result of Mr. Bryan's recent visit to Washington it had virtually been decided to hold the Democratic national convention early in June, before the meeting of the Republican national convention in Philadelphia. Mr. Jones himself had favored holding the convention after the Philadelphia gathering, but had been overruled. Mr. Bryan wants to get his anti-trust platform before the country ahead of the Republicans.

It is understood that the Democratic convention will meet in some Western city, probably on June 5 or 6.

A New Yorker, just returned from London, says that so many young men have gone to the war that the scarcity of them in London streets is noticeable.

EBELL OFFERS PRIZES FOR THE LIBRARY PLANS

Ladies Want a Beautiful Building.

Oakland Office San Francisco Call, 1118 Broadway, Feb. 12.

The ladies of the Ebell Society want the new library building to be worthy of Oakland. Having taken so great an interest in the securing of a site they now come forward with a plan for furnishing competitive plans for the building, and they offer to pay out of their own fund $1750 for prizes for the plans. The library board has been discussing offering $500 for a prize for the plans, but the Ebell ladies want only the best work that can be had by competition, so they have decided to more than treble the amount of the library board's offer in order to secure the best results possible.

The following is the offer of the ladies and the plan they propose:

To the Library Trustees of the City of Oakland—Gentlemen: This communication is made in view of the fact that to your honorable body is to be intrusted the duty and responsibility of erecting a library building, donated to the city by Andrew Carnegie, to be built upon a site purchased by the subscriptions of the people of Oakland through the Ebell Society of this city.

The Ebell Library Committee has great interest in the architecture of the new library building, and believes that as Library Trustees you should welcome every help available, to the end that the most beautiful structure possible shall be erected.

Since both the area of the library site and the amount of the building fund are limited, the problem of how a simple building can be made a beautiful one requires the best architectural talent, and to obtain the best plans full and fair opportunity should be given all architects to offer competitive plans and specifications for the library building about to be erected on the lot corner of Grove and Fourteenth streets.

For the purpose of making such competition possible and that the best judgment thereon can be secured, the Ebell Library Committee submits the following:

This committee, through the generosity of a citizen of Oakland, is enabled to offer prizes to competitive architects, subject to conditions herein named.

The first condition is that the most artistic, beautiful and suitable plans (with adequate specifications) in accord with library construction, in accord with location and within the sum to be expended upon the building, shall be the plans and specifications adopted by your honorable body, and that these plans and specifications shall be purchased for the sum of $1000, to be taken from the Carnegie fund, and that they shall become the property of the city of Oakland.

To the most successful competitor, whose plans and specifications shall be adopted and purchased, and to whom shall be paid $1000 for the same, the Ebell Library Committee will pay a prize of $500.

For the second best plans and specifications a prize of $500 will be paid by this committee.

For the third best plans and specifications a prize of $250 will be paid by this committee.

A further condition is made that three judges be appointed in a manner hereinafter designated, who shall constitute a Board of Judges to pass upon and to decide the respective merits of all plans and specifications offered; this Board of Judges to determine the kind of building required, the material to be used in its construction, the amount of room to be reserved for a children's library, and to give all other necessary information; also to send due notices thereof, and of the prizes offered, to the principal architects of this State, with announcement of the time and place of examination of plans and specifications, and to furnish this information to any and all architects who may apply for the same.

This Board of Judges shall pass upon and decide upon the competitive plans offered, without knowledge of the names of competitors.

These three judges, constituting the Board of Judges, shall be competent, unbiased men, of recognized ability, versed in art and architecture, and shall be chosen as follows: One by your honorable body, one by Prof. J. B. McChesney, principal of the Oakland High School, and one by this committee.

This committee also reserves to itself the right to limit the time within which all plans and specifications shall be passed upon by the judges chosen as aforesaid, and hereby names May 1, 1900, as the date on or before which all plans and specifications must be submitted and passed upon, and plans and specifications adopted and accepted by your honorable body.

When this proposition shall receive your indorsement, and upon the appointment of the Board of Judges as indicated, $1500 will be placed in the Union Savings Bank of this city, $1250 of which shall be subject to its order on May 1, 1900, for the payment of the awards, and $250 is to be drawn upon by this Board of Judges to meet its official expenses as they may occur.

Upon receiving notice of the acceptance of these aforesaid offers and conditions, and upon the appointment of the judges as indicated, this committee will immediately appoint a representative to serve on the board, and this Board of Judges will at once proceed to its work as herein set forth, and decide upon the plans and specifications to be adopted, and award and pay the prizes herein offered.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. R. P. GLEASON,
Chairman Ebell Library Committee.
MRS. FREDERICK B. GINN,
Secretary.

BERKELEY UP IN ARMS OVER WATER QUESTION

BERKELEY, Feb. 12.—The Town Trustees are up in arms over the water question. C. E. Grunsky was recently employed by the town to sink wells at San Pablo with a view of locating an adequate water supply for Berkeley. He bored four wells and found that he could get about 600,000 gallons per day, which really is the estimated consumption of Berkeley. In his report to-night Grunsky, together with the joint committee, composed of Joseph Le Conte, Dr. Addison and Ed Neihaus, recommended that the said supply would be insufficient for Berkeley. The town will therefore have to continue getting its water from the Contra Costa and Alameda companies.

When the report was read the Trustees jumped up in arms. It was recommended that Grunsky be paid $500 for his services, that he and the committee be dismissed and that a new committee be appointed. Trustee Staats and others went so far as to declare that Grunsky is in collusion with the Contra Costa Water Works.

ASSIGNS HIS SALARY TO DEFEAT ALIMONY

OAKLAND, Feb. 12.—James B. Lyons has been cited to appear before Judge Ellsworth next Monday morning and explain why he should not be punished for failing to pay his ex-wife $30 per month for the support and education of their minor child. Mary J. Lyons was granted a divorce from James B. Lyons in December, 1897. In January, 1899, there had accumulated $210 back alimony due. Then the ex-wife had execution issued on the Southern Pacific Company, with whom Lyons is employed, and she realized $132. Since then, however, she has been unable to realize on any execution, for the reason that Lyons has assigned his salary, amounting to $125 per month. Since the divorce Mrs. Lyons has married again, and she is now Mary J. Jeffress.

News of the University.

BERKELEY, Feb. 12.—The various farmers' clubs which have been organized by the University of California in different parts of the State are already preparing for the convention which will be held at Riverside in 1901. Each club will report upon a special topic, including anything that touches upon the farming industry. A list of subjects has also been prepared by Professor Cook.

The University of California has received a number of applications for teachers in Japan.

Professor Thomas P. Bailey will deliver an address before the San Francisco Teachers' Club at the Mercantile Library building, at 8 o'clock to-morrow evening, on "Prospero, the Master Teacher."

His Widow the Only Heir.

OAKLAND, Feb. 12.—Mrs. Catherine Cullen to-day applied for letters on the estate of her husband, John Cullen, who died intestate last March, leaving $4625 on deposit in Oakland banks. There are no heirs except the widow.

Deserted Her Husband.

OAKLAND, Feb. 12.—E. S. Burt to-day filed suit for a divorce from Nellie Burt, alleging desertion as the ground for his cause of action. The parties resided at Elmhurst. They were married in May, 1894, and have three children.

Berlin women shirt-makers receive only 30 cents a dozen for making fine shirts.

SAYS HE GETS FOUR MILLIONS EVERY MINUTE

John P. Blunt's Queer Hallucination.

Oakland Office San Francisco Call, 1118 Broadway, Feb. 12.

John P. Blunt, a traveling salesman for the San Francisco shoe house of Rosenthal, Feder & Co. and one of the best known drummers on the coast, was to-day committed to the Ukiah Insane Asylum by Superior Judge Ogden. He is violently insane over money.

Blunt's mind became deranged about two weeks ago while he was traveling through Oregon. There he surprised his friends by announcing that his salary had been increased to $1200 per month, and he invited about seventeen of his friends to the theater and dinner, and rolled so high that word was sent to his firm regarding his strange actions. He next started out employing anybody and everybody, promising large salaries, making out checks for enormous amounts and telegraphing foolish orders until his stepson, William D. Wooster, arrived to take charge of him and bring him to his home, at 2632 Cedar street, Berkeley, where he has since been treated by physicians. But his mental condition grew worse, and it was deemed advisable to have him cared for at an asylum. He is a high degree Mason. John Jellinek has asked that a guardian be appointed.

Blunt imagines that his salary has kept on increasing until he now receives $4,000,000 each minute, and he delights in the belief that he is spending it as fast as he makes this imaginary sum. He declared before the committing magistrate to-day that he has purchased the Tivoli and Orpheum and is negotiating for the Macdonough; that he has eighty theatrical companies on the road, which he will take to the world's fair. When asked by the Judge whether his large wealth did not sometimes worry him, he said, "No, not at all. I pay everybody off by checks every Monday and manage all very well." One of his delusive schemes is