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AMUSEMENTS. Central Theater—"The Heart of Maryland." California-Strauss' Orchestra.

AUCTION SALES. By S. Watkins-Saturday, January 3, at 10 o'clock, Horse and Carriages, at 110 Golden Gate avenue.

THE SHIPPING BILL. On reassembling after the holiday recess it is expected that Congress will give active attention to the bill for encouragement of American ships and ship-building.

It is evident that powerful influences are at work against the measure, and that they are all the more to be feared because their opposition is indirect.

CHARITY AND LIBERALITY. LONDON authorities have estimated that the contributions and bequests for charitable purposes in the United Kingdom during the closing year of the century would amount to about \$20,000,000.

THE STATE'S CHARITIES. THE State institutions of California are administered by directors and trustees, who serve without pay. In the case of most of them provision is made for payment of their actual expenses when on duty.

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"HI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE? DON'T YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'RE WHIPPED?"—INDIANAPOLIS NEWS.

QUEEN WILHELMINA'S DUKE IS A NOTABLE LADY KILLER

Little Queen Wilhelmina's selection of a husband is the least handsome of the brothers Mecklenburg-Schwerin, says a correspondent of the Baltimore American.

PERSONAL MENTION, A CHANCE TO SMILE.

Frank H. Buck of Vacaville is stopping at the Palace. T. Spelley, an oil man of Bakersfield, is at the Palace.

CALIFORNIANS IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—J. M. Gleaves of San Francisco is at the Johnson; R. D. S. Wales of San Francisco is at the St. James; E. Burke of Los Angeles and E. W. Gould of California are at the Raleigh.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TWO-AND-A-HALF PIECE—M. E. E. City. A two-dollar-and-fifty-cent piece of 1833 does not command a premium from dealers.

EDITORIAL UTTERANCE IN VARIETY

Sailors From Inland States. For reasons of sentiment, as well as for more practical considerations, a naval force containing many men from the inland States must be preferable to one drawn almost exclusively from the vicinity of the seaboard.—CHICAGO RECORD.

Wait Till Danger Threatens. We would beseech those who see danger to the liberties of our country in the proposed army and moderate their transports and take counsel of history and experience before raising a hullabaloo that will be objectionable to the masses of our people as well as to the masses of the world. By continually crying "wolf" we shall find ourselves unable to raise the people when there is really a danger threatening the fold.—FLORIDA TIMES-UNION.

No Foreign Advice. No British advice prompted that war with Spain which led up to the acquisition of the Philippines and to the entrance of the United States into Asiatic affairs.

Gulf Stream Myth. If by any possibility the Gulf Stream were diverted at the Straits of Florida no one in England would be a whit wiser, for it is the aerial drift that has the gift of mildness in its flow.

The Monroe Doctrine. The coming year will see a great Pan-American exhibition held in one of the great cities of the United States, which should greatly increase mutual knowledge, intercourse and friendship between the two continents of the Western Hemisphere.

Outlook for China. The overthrow of the Manchu dynasty and the restoration of pure Chinese government might save the empire and make the loss of sovereignty a temporary misfortune.

Era of Good Feeling. Success wins respect, and when the success is something which advances the social condition of the masses of the people and increases the country's prestige in the rest of the world it arouses the people's pride, banishes partisanship, and makes the public more proud of the nation and its officials.

Uniform Divorce Law. It is the high duty of the Government to maintain social order and public morals, and we have reached a point in our social system when it is an imperative necessity that a uniform divorce law should come from the highest authority of the nation itself.

Choice candies, Townsend's Palace Hotel. Townsend's California glace fruits, 50c a pound, in fire-stitched boxes or Jap. baskets.

Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen 212 Montgomery St. Telephone Main 1542).

Holland has nine miles of canal for every square mile of surface, 2700 miles in all.

Gas Consumers' Association, 244 Post st., reduces gas bills from 20 to 40 per cent. Gas and electric meters tested. Electrical department. All kinds of electric work promptly attended to.

ARE WE TO HAVE AN EPIDEMIC OF KIDNAPING? PINKETON SAYS "YES." SEYMOUR SAYS "NO." THE SUNDAY CALL. JANUARY 6, 1901. A San Francisco Violinist Relates His Experiences as "Fiddler" to New York's 400. Free With Next Sunday's Call—Eduard Strauss' Best Two-Step.