

JOHN D. SPRECKELS, Proprietor.

Address All Communications to W. S. LEAKE, Manager. TELEPHONE.

Ask for THE CALL. The Operator Will Connect You With the Department You Wish.

PUBLICATION OFFICE... Market and Third, S. F. EDITORIAL ROOMS... 217 to 221 Stevenson St.

Delivered by Carriers, 20 Cts. Per Week, 75 Cts. Per Month. Single Copies 5 Cents.

Terms by Mail, including Postage (Cash With Order): DAILY CALL (including Sunday), one year, \$8.00; DAILY CALL (including Sunday), 6 months, 4.00; DAILY CALL—By Single Month, 75c; SUNDAY CALL, One Year, 2.50; WEEKLY CALL, One Year, 1.00; FOREIGN POSTAGE, 4.15 Per Year Extra (Weekly, 1.00 Per Year Extra).

All Postmasters are authorized to receive subscriptions. Sample copies will be forwarded when requested.

Mail subscribers in ordering change of address should be particular to give both NEW AND OLD ADDRESS in order to insure a prompt and correct compliance with their request.

OAKLAND OFFICE. 1118 Broadway... Telephone Main 1083

BERKELEY OFFICE. 2148 Center Street... Telephone North 77

C. GEORGE KROGNES, Manager Foreign Advertising, Marquette Building, Chicago.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: MORTON E. CRANE... 1406 G Street, N. W.

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE: STEPHEN B. SMITH... 30 Tribune Building

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT: C. C. CARLTON... Herald Square

NEW YORK NEWS STANDS: Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, A. Brentano, 31 Union Square; Murray Hill Hotel, Fifth-avenue Hotel and Hoffman House.

CHICAGO NEWS STANDS: Sherman House; P. O. News Co.; Great Northern Hotel; Tremont House; Auditorium Hotel; Palmer House.

BRANCH OFFICES—227 Montgomery, corner of Clay, open until 9 o'clock. 200 Hayes, open until 9 o'clock. 633 McAllister, open until 9:30 o'clock. 615 Larkin, open until 9:30 o'clock. 1941 Mission, open until 10 o'clock. 2291 Market, corner Seventh, open until 9 o'clock. 1009 7th, open until 9 o'clock. 106 Eleventh, open until 9 o'clock. NW corner Twenty-second and Kentucky, open until 9 o'clock. 2200 Fillmore, open until 9 p. m.

SUDDEN FALL IN BANK CLEARINGS

WHILE trade has been monotonous for a month or more it was especially so last week. Reports from all over the country showed the same plodding, humdrum conditions. If there was anything particularly noticeable it was the loss in the volume of bank clearings, which amounted to 19.8 per cent in comparison with the corresponding week in 1902. The heaviest loss was at New York (46.4 per cent), where stock speculation has been tame since the last sharp drop several weeks ago. It is this decrease in speculation which probably explains the loss in the clearings. Boston lost and so did Baltimore, but the other large cities gained, though the gain was very slight in all cases. The aggregate of clearings for the whole country fell off to \$1,645,529,000, by far the smallest aggregate for several years.

For a long time the average weekly clearings have totaled about \$2,100,000,000; hence this pronounced loss at once attracts attention, and the question immediately arises: What causes this—a falling off in general trade throughout the country, or in stock speculation, or a decline in values of merchandise and produce, or diminished foreign trade, or all combined? But whatever the cause, this is a drop so sudden and sharp, like the unexpected fall of the thermometer or barometer, that it will bear watching for a week or two. Not for years has such a thing happened to the bank clearings.

A scrutiny of general trade shows nothing to produce such a violent decrease in the volume of business as shown by this shrinkage in the clearings. There is nothing in the condition of the cereal, provision, textile, metal or farm produce markets, or even in the stock market, to account for it. The staples as a rule are steady, but none of them are particularly active; the provision market has been dragging and slowly declining, but this has been going on for some time; the textile industries are not as active as they were last year it is true, but most of the mills and factories are working right along and report things in satisfactory condition; iron and steel have quieted down considerably during the past several months, but there is no dullness reported; farm produce is above the normal in price and moving off excellently, and cereals certainly cannot be called depressed. So the question is condensable to about two conditions: Either general trade is of smaller volume or the decline in stock valuations in Wall street must be held accountable for the loss in clearings. It is probably the latter, as most of the decrease is shown by New York as mentioned above.

New York reports the number of buyers in town from all over the country increasing, but this is a feature common to this time of the year. The railroads are still unable to supply cars enough to transport all the freight offered them with dispatch, though the shortage is not as acute as it was last year. Some sections are reporting the fall demand for merchandise more backward than of late years. The failures for the week were 176, against 173 for the same week in 1902. Taken as a whole the commercial situation is sound, with no weak or disquieting conditions of any consequence apparent. The only cloud is the drop in the clearings.

On this coast business seems to be more active than across the mountains. We are all busy out here. Our crops are not as large as we expected along in the spring, but with the exception of wheat, which will be more or less scarce again this year, they are large enough. The demand for fall and orchard products is excellent and growing, and a number of farm staples, such as hops, dried fruits, hay, grains, etc., are advancing. Dairy produce is above the normal quotations, and the demand is so good that the market readily absorbs all the receipts as a rule. The leading seaports of the coast report a good export trade. Real estate is active and both city and country properties are changing hands briskly, at higher prices than have ruled for some years. Collections are up to the average, credits are good, the banks are liberally supplied with funds and failures are not numerous. There are few, if any complaints heard in mercantile quarters and the farmers seem abundantly satisfied with their returns. Times are good with us, whatever they may be elsewhere.

ANARCHY IN THE BALKANS.

DESPITE the confusing and often contradictory nature of the reports from the Balkan states, enough of truth emerges to justify the belief that the time is near at hand when the long struggle of the Turk to maintain himself in Europe will have to be abandoned and the empire he now sways be given over to another power, or divided among many.

The prolonged disturbance throughout all parts of the empire, in Asia Minor as well as in Europe, discloses the fact that the Government has ceased to exist in anything more than name. Turkey is popularly supposed to be a despotism, the Government is looked upon as a remorseless, cruel and dominating power, crushing out the liberties of its subjects and dooming to death the populations of entire districts that fall under the rage of the tyrant. That supposition is erroneous. The very reverse is the case. Turkey is not a despotism, but an anarchy. The disturbances in the empire are due not to a tyranny, but to a lack of any law whatever. The Government has no power sufficient to restrain its own soldiers or to suppress the rebels. The fighting and the massacres that follow one another so fast and furnish to the news of the day so many atrocities are the results of a suspension of law, of the overthrow of authority and the collapse of government.

Were a despotism the cause of the evils in the Balkans the world might look for better things by a mere change of the sovereign, or perhaps even of a minister, but being as it is the result of a weakness inherent in the empire itself, there seems no way of providing a remedy other than that of the erection at Constantinople of an entirely new Government. The situation in fact is something like that of France under the reign of Louis XVI. Louis was supposed to be an absolute monarch, but as a matter of fact his Government did not have power enough to keep the peace in Paris. The streets of the capital swarmed with robbers, even as the principal roads of the kingdom swarmed with highwaymen. Government was but a fiction. It was too weak to protect itself against even so much as a mob, and France went through her Reign of Terror not to overthrow a tyranny, but to save herself from anarchy.

The Sultan is charged with violating his promises, but he is powerless to keep them. There is lawlessness everywhere. When his troops are ordered to keep the peace in a village they destroy it, and when they are withdrawn from a district the population of Moslems and Christians immediately begin to exterminate one another. It is useless to attribute the blame to this side or to that, for the one set of fighters is about as bad as the other.

What is needed in the Balkans is not more liberty, but more law. The Government is violent in its action solely because it has not strength enough to act calmly. It is cruel because it dares not be merciful even if those who direct it were wise enough to understand the political value of mercy. Indeed the Government itself appears to be hardly more responsible than the mobs who defy it, and until a stronger Government is forthcoming the disorders and the daily record of atrocities will go on.

France at the collapse of the old regime had within herself a sufficient virtue to redeem her from anarchy. Notwithstanding the effort of the banded despots of Europe to uphold the former order of things she wrought out her salvation triumphantly as a free and independent nation. The populations of Turkey have no such virtue. Divided in race, language and religion, with no national instinct or any common patriotism to hold them together, they will convert their country into a desert by their burnings and their slaughtering unless some outside power interferes to establish order and maintain it. In the presence of so great a problem and so vast a work, the statesmen of Europe naturally hesitate to intervene further than to make remonstrances and now and then to demand damages. That sort of interference, however, does little or no good, for the remonstrances go to a Government that is powerless to act with efficiency. Virtually the Ottoman empire has already ceased to exist, and its formal sovereignty lingers at Constantinople solely because no one as yet really wishes to overthrow it. To destroy it would be easy, but after the destruction there would have to be reconstruction, and it is the lack of any clear plan for achieving that which makes Europe pause and restrain the hands of the leaders of insurrection.

Hawaii has determined that as far as manner is concerned she intends to adopt the voting system now in legal vogue in California. While this decision is an unquestioned compliment to us, simple justice compels us to warn the island territory that she must not follow too closely our ideals expressed in the choice of men we sometimes elect to public office.

EXPOSITION OF CHILD LIFE.

ST. PETERSBURG has had upon the subject of expositions a thought so happy it ought to have been American. She proposes to open in one of the imperial palaces of that city an exposition to be known as "The Child's World." It is to be under the patronage of her Majesty the Dowager Empress Mary Fedorovna, and it is announced that it will be so comprehensive in its scope as to be of world-wide interest and usefulness.

Consul General Lodyginsky has asked the American Institute of Social Service in New York to organize an American committee to prepare an American exhibition, and the institute has consented. A summary of the plan on which the exposition has been arranged says there will be a complete picture of child life from birth to school days, including nourishment, dress, instruction, amusement and physical and moral education. The exhibits are to be divided into five sections. Section I, on scientific teaching, will include exhibits of manuals, books, maps, tools, pictures and other materials used for teaching children in all parts of the world; section II will be devoted to the physical development of children and will include exhibits for the care of babes, their nourishment, hygiene before school age and also school-houses and school playgrounds; section III will be devoted to industrial exhibits, including the equipment of nurseries, clothing, toys and children's games; section IV will include all exhibits of child life in the arts, while section V is to be the historic-ethnographical section, where there will be illustrations of historical events from the lives of child heroes, discoveries and inventions made by children, works and compositions by young artists and composers, and ethnological peculiarities in the lives of children of different nations. If the plans as projected be fully carried out, "The Child's World" will doubtless prove itself one of the

most interesting minor expositions that has ever yet been held. There is a wide variety in the child life of the different races, and Russia is in a good position to gather exhibits from both Europe and Asia. Even America will doubtless be well represented. Perhaps in the near future we may have a similar exposition of our own, for the idea is sufficiently good to be worth following.

Four men were arrested in this city the other day for attempting primarily to rob a Grand Army man of his money and incidentally for seeking to teach him the game of poker. The offense of the blackguards would have been far less grievous had they simply stolen the old man's money and left him in ignorance of a game that will be a menace to him for the rest of his days.

THE NEGRO IN BUSINESS.

WHILE so much is being said of the more gloomy aspects of the negro problem and of the relations of the two races in the Southern States, it is highly gratifying to have such a presentation of the brighter side of the issue as was made by the recent convention at Nashville of the National Negro Business League. From first to last the proceedings of the convention appear to have been in the highest degree encouraging. The convention was well received by the white people of the city, the Legislature granted the Assembly Hall of the State Capitol as a place of meeting and a hearty and cordial welcome was given by the Mayor.

Some of the statements made by the delegates give clear indications that despite the drawbacks under which he labors America is nevertheless a land of opportunity for the black man as well as for the white, and that a negro who has any business capacity and energy does not fail to find ample reward for his labors. It appears, moreover, according to the statements of some of the speakers, that the opportunities are better in the South than in the Northern States, and several Northern negroes among the delegates expressed themselves as having been astonished to note how much of genuine good feeling existed in Nashville between the better classes of whites and blacks.

Some of the stories told of personal experience in business and of success resulting from thrift are interesting. Z. T. Evans, a mattress manufacturer, of New Orleans, said: "I started in business with \$50, working by hand, afterward with horsepower. Business prospered, and during the past year \$25,000 passed through the bank. We employ twenty-five hands." Edward Berry of Athens, Ala., discussed the hotel business. He said that he was running a hotel for the people, not white or black, but for all the people. "Our guests," said he, "are the best white people who come to the city of Athens." L. Winters, a negro produce dealer, of Nashville, stated that during the past six months he had shipped \$50,000 worth of produce. Eugene S. Booz, who is rated as the third negro merchant in Mississippi, told how he started in business some years ago with \$70. In addition to a successful business he now owns a building worth \$15,000. R. R. Stiedson of Selma, Ala., started some years ago on a very small capital and to-day has one of the largest and best-kept businesses among the colored men in his State. He reports the friendly relations existing between the races in his city. "Conduct a business on a fair and legitimate basis," said he, "and your patronage will come from the whites as well as from those of your own color."

It may be noted in this connection that there is published at Nashville one of the best organs of the colored people in the country, the Palladium. The editor of that paper has steadfastly urged the people to profit by the opportunities of the race instead of complaining of the difficulties and antagonisms that confront them. In a recent issue of his paper he said: "The continued agitation of the negro problem is doing the negro great harm. It is causing the white people to draw the color line in places where it was never drawn before." He adds: "These conditions are being caused by outside interference—that is, people at the North firing into the people at the South with no other object than to stir up strife between the sections and races. And, further, by a bagpipe element of negroes who are calling conventions, passing resolutions, which engender bad feeling between the races. The negro ought to have sense enough to know the bad effect of his hot air when squirted at white people. The hot-headed negro attempts to show in so many words what he would do with the white race if he had power; the white man in turn retaliates by showing the negro what he can do with the negro who is powerless to help himself, and away goes the few privileges we once enjoyed."

The conclusions of the Palladium are strictly business. It says: "The power of money should be tested by the negro race instead of the power of a division of sentiment among the white race favorable to the negro. The money will stand by you when the divided sentiment will allow reading matter concerning the hanging of a negro to appear daily."

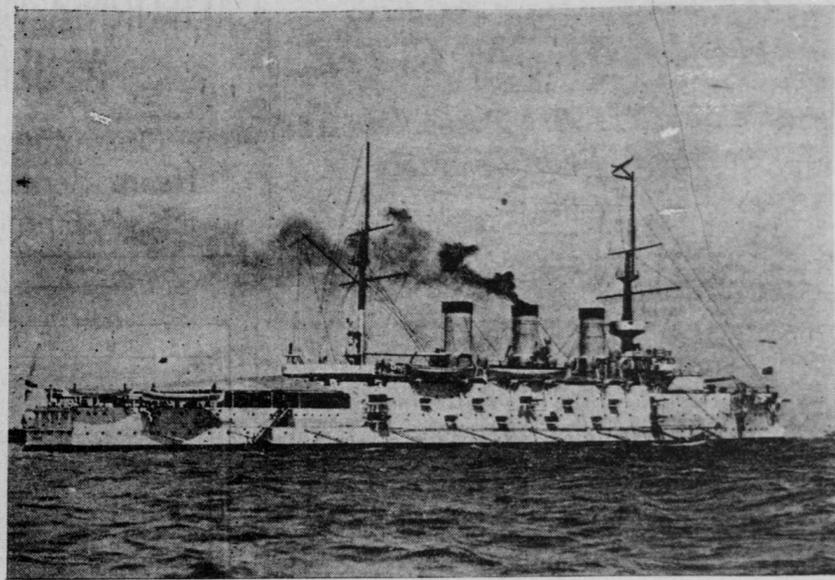
POT-SHOTTING CONSULS.

IT turns out that our Vice Consul at Beirut was not shot, but only shot at, and escaped injury, thanks to bad marksmanship and none to the bad intentions of the assassin. The administration does well to make a naval demonstration to inform the Sultan that we do not send Consuls to his empire to serve as targets for his subjects. It is well also that we operate independently of the European powers, which are more specially concerned in the Mahometan problem.

The hysterical demand that we insist upon Christendom joining us to force the Turk out of Europe is made without knowledge of our system of government or our international responsibility. The Turk fought his way into Europe, just as many Christian nations have fought their way elsewhere, and with as little regard for the consequences to others. The operations of Christendom in China do not leave a sufficiently wide margin to make room to spread our phylactery in its entirety.

We have problems nearer home that need our attention. The Mahometan faith was spread by the sword. It was that kind of a faith. The demand that Christianity adopt the same plan leaves too little difference between the two for the comfort of those who believe that the whole spirit of Christianity runs to the overcoming of evil with good, and suggests no other means for the spread of the faith of the Nazarene.

ITALY'S BATTLESHIPS EXCEL ALL OTHERS IN ARMAMENT AND IN SPEED



BATTLESHIP POBJEDA (VICTORY), ONE OF THE MOST MODERN AND FORMIDABLE OF THE CZAR'S SHIPS OF WAR. THE VESSEL IS OF 12,674 TONS AND CARRIES FOUR 10-INC. ELEVEN 6-INC. SIXTEEN 3-INC. AND NUMEROUS SMALLER GUNS.

ITALIAN naval constructors have shown more originality in the development of naval designs than those of any other navy. Twenty-two years ago Italy led all other navies in larger battleships of greater speed and heavier guns, and its vessels of that class built up to the present time, while slightly diminished in size, have increased in speed and general efficiency. In the Vittorio Emanuele III, now building, Italy will possess the best battleship afloat. Its calculated speed of twenty-two knots will exceed by three knots the fastest vessel of its class yet built in any navy, and its armor protection and battery will enable the ship to engage any other vessel of considerably greater tonnage with assurance of success. Three ships of this type are building, identical in all particulars, the principal data of which are: Displacement, 12,224 tons; horsepower, 20,000; calculated speed, 22 knots; main battery, two 12-inch and twelve 8-inch guns; armor belt, 9 1/2 inches to 4 inches; armored deck, 4 inches; gun positions, armor 8 inches and 6 inches; normal coal, 1000 tons; estimated cost, \$5,000,000. The five American battleships of the Connecticut class compare as follows with the Italian ships: Displacement, 16,000 tons; horsepower, 16,500; calculated speed, 18 knots; main battery, four 12-inch, eight 8-inch, twelve 7-inch; armor belt, 11 inches to 4 inches; armored deck, 4-inch, gun positions, armor 12 inches and 7 inches; normal coal, 900 tons; estimated cost, \$7,500,000. The battery of the American ships exceeds that of the Italian at the expense of speed and coal supply. It is not improbable, however, that the experience of the Indiana class may be repeated in the Connecticut type in allowing an undue preponderance of ordinance, thereby sacrificing other essentials of an efficient battleship. Commander U. Cunibert, chief constructor of the Italian navy, has outlined a design for a battleship which, if it should prove what is claimed for it, would be able to destroy all other ships that it might choose. This ship is to be of 17,000 tons displacement, main battery of twelve 12-inch guns and a hull and gun protection of 12-inch armor. No details are given, even on paper, as to how this ambitious design is to be materialized. The displacement would accommodate the battery and armor, but the speed appears to be rather visionary. It would be possible to get the requisite line length and speed on a length of 400 feet, breadth of 60 feet and 27 feet mean draught, but the aggregate weights would far exceed the intended displacement of 17,000 tons.

PERSONAL MENTION.

W. H. Falk, a mill man of Arcata, is at the Palace. Bishop W. H. Moreland of Sacramento is at the Occidental. Banker O. McHenry of Modesto is stopping at the Occidental. Henry Atwood, a mining man of Chico, is a guest at the Grand. E. H. Cox, a wealthy lumber man of Modesto, is at the Palace. Robert H. Turner, a mining man of Nevada City, is at the Lick. Dr. C. T. Shafer and wife of Kansas City are stopping at the Occidental. Gage E. Tarbell, a prominent insurance man of New York, and his wife are guests at the Palace. A. B. Booth, who is the head of a big lumber concern in Eugene, Or., is among the latest arrivals at the Palace. Rev. H. V. S. Myers and wife and daughter of New York, missionaries en route to China, are registered at the Occidental. John Barrett, the newly appointed United States Minister to Venezuela, who has been in the city for several days, leaves for the East to-day. D. E. Skinner, manager of the salt trust's interests in this city, is registered at the Palace, having returned from Los Angeles yesterday. He is on his way to Puget Sound. William Goslin, who represents A. B. Hammett, the lumber magnate, in this city, has just returned from an extended trip through the Northwest and is registered at the Palace.

A letter received here yesterday stated that E. H. Harriman of the Southern Pacific Company contemplated a combined West about the middle of the present month. Rev. and Mrs. Robert Irwin, who have been doing missionary work in Siam for a number of years and have been spending a few months' vacation in this country, arrived at the Occidental yesterday on their way to the Orient.

Treatment Comes Too Late. Dr. S. Henning of Clovis, Cal., was sent to the McKanna Institute, 14 Geary street, for treatment on Saturday. He was so weak that no treatment was given him, but Dr. Armistead was called in. Henning died yesterday and the Morgue was notified. Dr. Henning had recovered from an attack of typhoid fever, and while convalescing commenced to drink heavily.

Townsend's California grape fruits and candies, 50c a pound, in artistic fretched boxes. A nice present for Eastern friends. 715 Market st., above Call bldg. Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 230 California street. Telephone Main 102.

consolidated weights under the several items constituting the completed ship would be approximately as follows: Hull, including protective deck, 8000 tons; armor, 4000 tons; guns and ammunition, 1500 tons; equipments, stores, officers and crew, 800 tons. These weights aggregate 14,300 tons, leaving a margin of only 2700 tons for machinery and coal. At least 1000 tons should be carried to give a speed that is not required in such a formidably armed and protected battleship.

Six battleships are to be laid down for the Russian navy during the present year. They are enlargements and improvements of the Borodino type, 490 feet in length, 80 feet beam and 6000 tons displacement on a mean draught of 26 feet. Engines of 18,000 horsepower are calculated to give a speed of eighteen knots. The main battery is composed of four twelve-inch and twelve eight-inch guns. Two of the ships are to be fitted with Belleville and two with Niclausse boilers, leaving two still undetermined as to type of boilers.

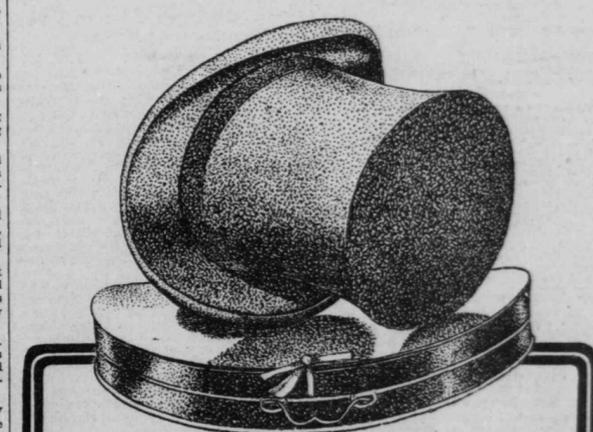
The Russian fleet in the Black Sea is, according to English accounts, in a highly inefficient state. The annual naval maneuvers are repetitions of those carried out fifteen years ago, and the ships are in bad shape. The boilers of the battleship Rodisay are said to be second-hand affairs, and the hulls of the Catharina II and Georgi Pobledonozetz are claimed to be of such frail construction as to be unable to stand the strain of discharging their heavy guns.

The 7 1/2-inch gun of forty-five calibers, made by the Vickers Company, England, for the Chilean battleship La Libertad, was tested last month. The shell, weighing 200 pounds, attained an initial velocity of 393 feet per second with a charge of eighty-six pounds of cordite, exerting a muzzle energy of 12,570 foot tons. Its penetration is calculated to be eight inches of Krupp steel at 3000 yards, equal to that of the United States' latest naval gun of eight inches, which fires a projectile weighing 250 pounds. It is claimed for the Vickers gun that it can be fired at the rate of eight rounds per minute.

Two British gunboats, Esk of 363 tons and Firebrand of 45 tons, were recently sold at auction at Hongkong. They had been stationed in China waters for over twenty years and were no longer seaworthy. Their hulls were composite, built twenty-six years ago, yet the prices brought were remarkably high, the Esk being knocked for \$10,300 and the Firebrand for \$16,000, indicating a good state of preservation, notwithstanding their advanced age.

The small town of Rostock, Germany, has proportionately the largest navy league club, the members of which number 2175 out of a total population of barely 21,000. It has been in existence about eighteen months and is in flourishing condition.

ADVERTISEMENTS.



Grand Opera Opens

The grand opera season opens to-night at the Tivoli. You want to be properly attired for the occasion. We have full dress suits at various prices and likewise make them to order. However, we want to call your particular attention to the opera crush hat which we sell for

\$6.00

It is made of fine, best quality silk. The shape is the latest, as the picture shows. All other stores about town are charging \$8 for a hat like ours. Better come in and see them. We guarantee every hat.

S. N. WOOD & CO.

740 Market Street