SAN FRANCISCO SAVINGS BANKS.

A Good Showing for the Fiscal Year Ending on the 30th of June.

DEPOSITS OF $82,757,620 38.

An Increase of $8,998,496 for the Year—Savings and Loan Society. Mutual Savings Bank—Hibernia Savings and Loan Society—San Francisco Savings Union—The California Savings and Loan Society.

There are thirty-seven savings banks doing business in the State, eleven in San Francisco and twenty-six at various points elsewhere, with aggregate deposits of nearly $100,000,000.

On January 1, 1858, there was but one savings bank in the State—the Savings and Loan Society of San Francisco, with deposits of only $20,000.

A comparative statement showing the marvelous growth of these institutions since that time is here given:

Jan. 1.	City.	Country.	State.
1858	$20,000	.....	$20,000
1859	96,500	.....	96,500
1860	68,900	.....	68,900
1861	1,135,000	.....	1,135,000
1862	2,952,000	.....	2,952,000
1863	2,944,000	.....	2,944,000
1864	3,857,000	.....	3,857,000
1865	5,103,500	.....	5,103,500
1866	7,393,100	.....	7,393,100
1867	10,458,900	.....	10,458,900
1868	17,165,600	$200,000	17,365,600
1869	22,342,500	1,476,000	23,818,500
1870	26,643,500	2,259,000	28,893,600
1871	31,289,600	5,266,400	36,556,000
1872	37,033,400	7,201,700	44,235,100
1873	42,474,900	8,996,400	51,431,300
1874	46,970,600	10,861,800	57,833,400
1875	55,871,000	14,022,400	69,893,400
1876	56,297,600	13,765,000	70,062,600
1877	59,621,200	13,921,500	72,542,700
1878	60,031,300	14,023,800	74,055,100
1879	45,949,200	11,896,800	57,846,000
1880	42,609,100	9,257,800	51,864,900
1881	42,322,100	6,709,300	49,031,400
1882	44,914,000	7,053,400	51,967,400
1883	47,949,800	7,274,200	55,224,000
1884	51,896,900	8,026,900	59,923,700
1885	52,424,700	6,717,400	59,142,000
1886	53,487,100	6,948,800	60,435,900
1887	57,565,700	8,600,500	66,196,200
1888	63,154,500	11,050,900	74,205,400
1889	69,926,900	12,459,200	82,386,100
June 30, 1890	82,757,620	15,009,313	97,766,933

The diminution in the deposits during 1879-80-81 was caused by heavy failures and business troubles generally, but since that time there has been a steady growth each year, which is due principally to the fact that there has been a State supervision over the bank by the Board of Commissioners.

The main features of this branch of banking is to invest the money of the masses on first-class securities only. This rule has been closely followed during the past ten years, which is the best evidence of the healthy condition of these institutions during these years.

The deposits of the San Francisco savings banks on July 1, 1880, amounted to $41,385,600, and on July 1st inst., to $82,757,620, being an increase of 100 per cent in ten years. There has been an increase of nearly $9,000,000 for the fiscal year from July 1, 1889, to July 1, 1890, which outranks all previous years.

A savings bank is a depository which induces people to set aside their surplus earnings, or in other words it offers them interest for their money, holds it for safe keeping and manages the investment of the same.

It also teaches economy which would not otherwise be thought of, and is to-day one of the most popular institutions in the country.

Aggregate loans have been effected by the San Francisco saving banks as follows: On first-class real estate security, $62,909,601; stocks, warrants and bonds, $7,745,773; invested in stocks, bonds and warrants, $14,893,494; loans on other securities, $155,737. The money on hand and in other banks amounts to $2,861,434, while the aggregate capital, fully paid up, is $3,764,333 and the reserve fund, which is an important item, is at the snug amount of $2,944,594.

It will be borne in mind that the investment in bonds and stocks should be immediately available in case of an emergency, and taking these investment and loans on stocks and bonds into consideration the banks have assets immediately available to meet liabilities to the public of 31 per cent, which is a remarkably good showing. This includes time loans.

THE SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY

Was organized in July, 1857, which makes it the oldest savings bank in the State. On the first of January, 1858, it had public deposits amounting to $20,000. This was the sum total of the deposits of the people of the State of California in a savings bank at that date. On June 30th last it held, according to its public statement filed with the Bank Commissioners, deposits to the amount of $4,486,672 71, against which there are resources amounting to $5,376,421. The capital and reserve fund now amounts to $876,699.

In accordance with the provisions of an act of the Legislature, approved April 11, 1862, it was re-incorporated, since which time it has steadily advanced in wealth and now shows a paid-up capital and surplus of nearly $1,000,000.

Deposits of $1 and upward are received, which can only be drawn by the signature of the party in whose name the account is opened.

The by-laws of the bank have been amended so that after the 1st inst. "Term deposits will be received for $100 and upward, subject to six months' notice before their withdrawal." Any existing depositor of $100 or more may change his or her account without loss of interest from ordinary to term by transferring same and taking a new book.

Attention is also directed to the fact that the paid up capital and reserve fund form a proportion to the liabilities to depositors of one dollar to over five, a far greater proportion than that shown by similar institutions. S. C. Bigelow is President, Arthur A. Smith Vice-President, and Cyrus W. Carmany Cashier and Secretary.

The bank has occupied its present quarters for the last thirty years. It will remove into its new commodious quarters northwest corner of Montgomery and Sutter streets, on or before 1st of October next. This location is known as the clock corner.

MUTUAL SAVINGS BANK.

The success of this institution since its opening on the 10th of February last may be attributed to two sources, viz., the unlimited wealth of its Directors and stockholders and the popular esteem in which the cashier is held in this city and throughout the State. It has a capital fully paid up of $300,000, and during the few months of its existence has accumulated deposits to the amount of $433,516 52, which is a gratifying showing for so short a time. The business of the bank is conducted on a plan similar to the San Francisco Savings Union, which is a model system in its entire working.

The directorate is composed of wealthy and well-known men as follows: James G. Fair, President; James Phelan, Vice-President; Edward Barron, J. A. Hooper, C. G. Hooker, James Moffitt, S. G. Murphy (Vice-President), Charles Cadwalader and James D. Phelan. Ex-Bank Commissioner James A. Thompson is cashier.

Mr. Thompson brought into the bank interior experience and considerable knowledge of the values of property throughout the State that will readily present to the depositors the assurance that their money will be judiciously invested.

HIBERNIA SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY.

Of the thirty-seven savings banks doing business on the Pacific Coast this conservative institution is the largest. It has for many years proved itself to be not only a safe depository for the savings of the masses, but an important factor in building up the city and assisting in its general prosperity. The figures taken from the public statement which have already appeared in the columns of THE CALL speak for themselves and for the judicious management on the part of the officers of the bank. At the close of business on the 30th of June last it held on deposit $25,227,607 65, which is $2,775,467 42 larger than the deposits of any other savings bank do ing business in the State. The reserve fund, which in this case is the money of the corporation and stockholders (for the bank has no capital), as is the case in nearly all the other institutions of the State, figures up to the enormous sum of $1,848,831 77. The entire resources of the bank amount to $27,195,687. A dividend of 4¼ per cent has been paid for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June.

James R. Kelly is the President and Robert J. Tobin Secretary.

The Hibernia owns the building at present occupied by it and is building a fine structure on the corner of McAllister and Jones streets, which, when completed, will be the most substantial building in the city.

SAN FRANCISCO SAVINGS UNION

Is one of the largest savings banks in the country, having on the 30th of June last, according to its public statement filed with the Bank Commissioners, deposits amounting to the enormous sum of $20,624,423 80, a paid-up capital and reserve fund of $1,243,330 98, and resources of $22,040,239 42.

It gained in deposits during the past year $2,700,000, which is an excellent showing.

The bank has been in existence twenty-eight years, during which time it has enjoyed the confidence of the public, as its progress has shown.

Deposits of two classes are received, ordinary and term, the latter commanding dividends larger than the former, the rates for the last term being 4.50 and 5.40 per cent per annum.

The Directors are Albert Miller, President; George W. Beaver, Vice-President; George C. Boardman, Daniel E. Martin, Joseph G. Eastland, Thomas Magee, W. C. B. de Fremery, Charles Pace and E. B. Pond, and Lovell White, Cashier and Secretary.

THE CALIFORNIA SAVINGS AND LOAN SOCIETY.

For the year ending June 30th last this bank declared a dividend or interest of 4.65 per cent per annum on ordinary deposits and 5.58 per cent on term deposits, free of all taxes.

The capital fully paid up is $100,000, with a reserve fund of $25,000. The aggregate resources are $1,150,597 64 and the deposits $992,015 85.

It has an average amount to the credit of each depositor of $641, while the average amount of each loan does not exceed $2403.

The Surveyor's valuation of the securities is placed at $2,742,277.

David Farquharson is President, Robert F. Bunker Vice-President, John Bain Treasurer and Vernon Campbell Secretary.

HORRORS OF THE MORGUE.

An Institution That Is a Disgrace to San Francisco.

Shameful Mismanagement of a Public Office in Which There Should Be the Most Considerate Attention.

A prominent citizen who was a juror recently at an inquest held by the Coroner was heard to exclaim in astonishment, "Is this our Morgue? It is a disgrace to any civilized city. This is horrible, disgusting, repulsive."

He had seen the place where the dead are received and the tender sympathy and regard for their memory desecrated, and he had served on one of the juries at one of the inquests where metaphorically skeletons are rattled before the eyes of suffering jurors and listened unwillingly to ridiculous questions that were very tiresome. But he had not seen it all by any means. His was only a vision similar in a measure to the flash of the instantaneous camera.

Yet, bad as what he had seen is and is all worse what he had not, the management of this public office is apparently eminently satisfactory to the Democratic politicians.

SHAMEFUL NEGLECT.

"It is a disgrace to a civilized city." These words of the juror have often been repeated by men who know more of the workings of the place. The present state of the Morgue has been commented on repeatedly by habitues of the old City Hall. Indeed it is quite often the subject of conversation among the police and other frequenters of Dunbar alley, who have seen it under previous administrations and remember the reforms which they introduced. They say that in comparison the Morgue is about in the same barbarous condition as when it was a private concern years ago in an undertaker's establishment. Gradually the Morgue has been sinking into the depths where it had long and been without either head or tail to its affairs. During recent months it has been shamefully neglected and allowed to run itself almost. Politics have been playing sad havoc with it.

Coroner Eaton receives a salary of $4000 a year for his services as Coroner. He is seldom, if ever, seen at the Morgue except when an inquest compels him to be present. The investigation requires but a short time, and then the Coroner's work appears to be at an end until another inquest calls him there.

LEFT TO DEPUTIES.

He goes away, leaving the public institution to be cared for by his deputies, who in turn appear to take as much interest in it as do their superior. The natural sequence follows—neglect and forgetfulness of responsibility. And this extends to every branch, clerical, treatment of corpses, post-mortem examinations, sanitation, cleanliness—everything except perhaps the disposal of bodies to undertakers and matters which demand immediate attention. So the Morgue is truly a disgrace to San Francisco, an eyesore to observing men and a stench literally in their nostrils.

An examination of the place by a Call representative, who placed it in comparison with the Morgues of Eastern cities, caused him to be impressed forcibly with the following condition of the institution:

Ice is an unknown quantity in the place. No matter at what time of the year or the temperature of the season, bodies are left on rusty slabs—without even the customary dripping of water from elevated pipes—to decompose as rapidly as they may, and, festering with rampant neglect, to emit most foul and noisome odors.

A SICKENING SMELL.

The smell coming from below permeates the offices on the first floor, and has in the course of time impregnated the papered walls and carpets with a sickening, all-pervading odor of mustiness and decay. Oftentimes, when many persons not inured to such an atmosphere attend inquests at the Morgue, the smell from neglected remains is oppressive.

White sheets to spread over bodies on the slabs are also unknown in the place. There is very little use for them, however, as things are managed at present, for the remains are seldom exposed on slabs. When taken inside in a "receiver," or wooden coffin, the body is hoisted on an elevator to the autopsy-room, or, as the department is vulgarly, though not inappropriately, called, "the butcher-shop." There it is handled behind the scenes, and an autopsy, which may reveal some wonderful results, is made. Some doctors would have the temerity to say that the deceased had met his death through pneumonia. The autopsy would show "fracture of the skull and meningitis," or a similar cause.

PECULIAR AUTOPSIES.

And, again (though this case is given by way of an illustration of the value of Morgue post-mortem examinations), it is a well-known fact that the detectives complain that in many cases if a man's death be accidental the autopsy shows that it was a murder, and, if a murder, that it was accidental or natural. The only motive, it is alleged, can be to give the Police Department trouble.

When an unfortunate one, perhaps a "floater"—a body found in the bay—is received and can not be identified it is placed in a receiver and laid, not on a slab under a white sheet with the features exposed and ice around it, but in the ugly box outside the railing, where people may walk around it.

Its only covering when the clothes are removed, which is rarely the case, is a coarse, varicolored blanket, suspiciously like a horse cover, with streaks of red, yellow, blue and goodness knows how many bright hues.

A dirty, colored blanket over the dead. It is so striking a contrast, so glaringly inappropriate beside the pallid and solemn face of death that many an idle stroller happening in goes away unedified and greatly surprised at what he has seen.

There are four or six slabs behind a railing, placed there at considerable expense to the city, with water-pipes and modern improvements, but they are never used. In other places where nothing should be but a daily spray from the hose, may be seen heaps of old rubbish such as cannot be found in any decent place, has taken the place of Vigilance and attention that the Morgue is almost deserted by its officials and left in the care of a private employe, who attends to all kinds of business, from occupying a seat in the jury-box to taking the part of general roustabout.

This state of decay and mismanagement may not be wholly laid at the door of the Coroner, should the men who selected inexperienced assistants be accountable, for it seems to a casual observer that the deputies have not the right idea of Morgue management.

FIRE COMMISSIONERS.

The Supervisors Will Be Asked to Buy More Chemical Engines.

The Board of Fire Commissioners yesterday appointed Barney Fuller to fill a vacancy in Engine 8. Several applications for leave of absence from members of the department were referred to acting Chief Engineer Sullivan with power to act.

It was reported by Commissioner Mahoney that J. O. Reis would deed an extra twenty feet to the lot on which the house of Engine 16 will be located at the Potrero. The Board of Supervisors will be asked to accept the gift.

The premises occupied by Engine 6, on Sixth street, were reported to be in a very bad condition, and the Secretary was instructed to notify the Supervisors of the fact and request their architect to have plans and specifications drawn for repairing the building.

Upon motion of Commissioner Newman the Supervisors were requested to purchase two new chemical engines for the department.

6545 want ads in THE CALL last week. It is the only want medium.

Loaded to Plimsoll Mark.

Fred Cushman, who is in the employ of the Southern Pacific Company and was until recently located at Ogden, was taken to the Receiving Hospital yesterday in an intoxicated condition, and to have a severe cut on his nose and several bruises on his head dressed. Cushman received the injuries while trying to clamber into an express-wagon standing on the corner of Sansome and Sacramento streets.

Re-Opening a Thoroughfare.

In order to guard against results utterly subversive of health, it is absolutely essential that the grand thoroughfare or avenue of the system, the bowels, should be re-opened as speedily as possible when they become obstructed. If they are not, the poisons misdirected into the blood; the liver becomes torpid; viscid bilious matter gets into the stomach, and produces indigestion; headaches ensue, and other symptoms are produced, which a prolongation of the exciting cause only tends to aggravate. The aperient properties of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters constitute a most useful agent in overcoming constriction of the bowels, and promoting a regular habit of body. It is infinitely superior to the drastic cathartics frequently used for the purpose, since it does not, like them, act violently, but produces a natural, painless effect, which does not impair the tone of the evacuatory organs, which it invigorates instead of weakening. The stomach and liver, also, indeed the entire system, is strengthened and regulated by it. 29

ITEMS FROM SEA AND SHORE.

Departure of One and Arrival of Two Mail Steamers.

The Cruiser San Francisco Anchored in the Stream—Expected Arrival of the Acapulco—Changes of Captains.

The Pacific Mail Company's steamer China, Captain Seabury, arrived in port at 9 o'clock yesterday morning after a passage of 23½ days from Hong-Kong, 13 days 14 hours from Yokohama.

She brought 87 cabin and 50 European and 230 Chinese steerage passengers, 3065 tons cargo and 60 packages United States mails. She reports having encountered fine weather during the passage. On July 6th she passed the steamer Batavia, bound east, and also the steamer Parthia, and on July 9th, at 7 o'clock in the evening, met the steamer Oceanic.

Among the large list of freight brought by the China are 5075 bags of rice, 22,340 chests tea, 482 packages raw silk, 315 of oil, 221 of curios, 120 of opium, 358 of spice, 726 of hemp, 144 of tapioca and 403 bags of coffee.

THE CHINA'S PASSENGER LIST.

Among the cabin passengers by the steamer were five missionaries and Mr. Douglass Slayden, correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette. The Chinese passengers numbered 230, of whom 222 are for this port, four for Havana, two for Panama and two for Honolulu. About half of them have certificates and thirteen were landed yesterday on proving that they were entitled to land.

Collector Phelps allowed one woman, accompanied by a boy, to land, on proper representations made to him by the officers of the Chinese Mission. The female Chinese passengers number fourteen. There are five women, six young girls and three little children. All are well dressed and evidently belong to the better class.

Collector Phelps was himself down on the steamer inspecting the new arrivals and it is safe to say that if he can help it none will be allowed to land unless they furnish ample proof of their right to do so.

STEAMER FROM PANAMA.

The steamer San Blas, Captain Johnson, arrived yesterday afternoon from Panama and way ports, bringing 24 cabin, 30 white steerage and 26 Chinese passengers. The latter are all in transit for Hong-Kong.

Among the cargo from Central American ports are: 2561 bags coffee, 8 bales deerskins, 13 packages old copper, and 4 packages treasure, value $6885; from Mexico, 1192 boxes limes, 19 boxes pineapples, 24 boxes mangoes, 29 boxes oranges, 2 boxes plantains and 5 boxes treasure, value $8000; from South America, one case gold dust, $485.

The San Blas was due here on the 12th inst., but she left Panama rather later than usual, and on the trip up lost a blade off her propeller, causing the delay. After discharging, she will go on the dry-dock to receive a new blade.

DEPARTURE OF THE GAELIC.

The Oriental and Oceanic Company's steamer Gaelic, Captain Pearne, sailed yesterday afternoon for China and Japan. She had a very large cargo on board and lay deep in the water. A large number of people assembled on the dock to witness her departure. As the steamer moved out of the slip and those on the dock and ship were giving cheers, one of the passengers raised his hat to wave it, when his passage ticket that he had placed in it fell out and dropped in the water, to his great consternation. A boatman picked it up, completely soaked through and handed it on deck, and received a dollar for his trouble.

The Gaelic had on board 15 cabin passengers for Yokohama and 4 for Hong-Kong. In the steerage she had 183 Chinese, including 154 who were registered on the dock, 10 who were captured at Tucson and sent by the Government, 9 came on the vessel and were refused landing, and 10 in transit from Havana.

Deputy Assessor John L. Fleithaler, who was considerably injured at the ferry landing last week, was on the dock for the first time since the accident collecting poll-tax from the departing Celestials.

CAME OFF THE DOCK.

The new cruiser San Francisco came off the Hunters Point Dry-dock yesterday afternoon, and was taken by the tugs Sea King and Ætna just to the northward of Mission Rock, outside the mud flats, where she dropped anchor. She looks more graceful in the water than on Clearing Tide, and was a great object of attraction to amateur photographers and the passengers generally on the ferry-boats.

The weather was thick at Point Lobos yesterday. In the forenoon the wind was light from the west, veering at noon to southwest. The barometer read: 8 o'clock in the morning 30.01, noon 29.96, 5 o'clock in the evening 29.94.

The British ship Engelhorn, which lost her foretopgallant-mast on the passage here, has docked at the sea-wall to discharge. Her steel foretopmast is bent and will have to be taken down and straightened.

The schooner J. G. North will commence loading for Mahukona to-morrow at Folsom No. 2.

CORPORAL COCKRILL.

One of the most efficient members of the harbor police force of this city is Corporal Robert L. Cockrill, who is on duty at the Pacific Mail Dock. Corporal Cockrill, whose picture is here presented, was appointed on the police force in May, 1886, and served in Captain Short's watch for seven years. In 1887 he was transferred to the harbor police, and on October 1, 1889, he was promoted to be corporal, and assigned to his present position at the Mail Dock.

A CHANGE OF CAPTAINS.

Captain Fritz, formerly of the bark Alexander McNeil, has taken command of the bark Alden Besse, vice Captain Howard. To-morrow the bark will go alongside a British ship at the sea-wall to take on board a quantity of machinery, and will probably sail on Tuesday for Kahului. Captain Howland will take command of the ship Invincible, vice Captain Lewis.

The sloop-yacht Jennie, which was stolen from Long Bridge a few days ago, was found down the bay and returned to her owner. Since having been stolen she has lost her bowsprit.

The cargo of the steamer Australia for Honolulu is valued at $103,561, and she also carries $1000 in treasure. In transit she has freight valued at $5948.

The steamers Ajax and Arcata and the schooners C. H. Merchant and J. G. Wall, all from this port, arrived at Coos Bay yesterday.

MOVEMENTS OF VESSELS.

The ships Bohemia and Dolbadern Castle towed to sea early yesterday morning.

The bark Colusa shifted from the sea-wall to Pacific street yesterday.

The Dora Billine will go to the American Refinery to-day and the Haytian Republic will shift to Mission No. 1.

The Joseph S. Spinney went to Harrison street. The Eudora towed up to McNear's Wharf, Port Costa.

The ship Dynomene will go to the sugar refinery to-day to discharge her cargo.

The ship Sargent will go to sea to-day.

The steamer Acapulco is due to-day from Panama and way ports.

HERMANN SONS.

To-Day Will Be the First of the Jubilee Festival.

The order of Hermann Sons will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary by a jubilee at Woodward's Gardens to-day and to-morrow. There will be a procession to-day, which will form on Pine street, below Kearny, and will start at 10 o'clock in the morning. The route will be from Pine street, along Montgomery to Montgomery avenue, to Kearny, to Market, to Twelfth, to Mission, to Thirteenth, to Valencia, to Woodward's Gardens. Frank W. Rossbach will act as Grand Marshal and the procession will consist of five divisions.

The exercises of the day will take place in the pavilion at 2 o'clock. Grand Marshal Rossbach will introduce the orator of the day, Grand President John H. Schnur. Subsequently there will be a concert by the Second Regiment Band and a chorus of all the German singing societies. There will also be games for old and young. Each night there will be a ball, commencing at 8 o'clock, and also historical tableaux under the direction of Henry Maretz.

Mrs. John Wieland of 125 McAllister street has presented the Männerchor with two elegant silk banners, valued at $500, which will first be displayed by the society at the festival to-day. One is the national colors, while the other is of white silk, bearing upon one side the name of the donor, and upon the reverse, "John Wieland Männerchor."

RAPHAEL'S COMPANION.

Three Charges Preferred Against Ex-Convict John Connors.

John Connors was arrested by Detectives Bee and Harper yesterday and booked at the City Prison on charges of burglary, assault with a deadly weapon and having burglars' tools in his possession. The police had been searching for him since Thursday night.

It appears that on that night the residence of W. S. Keys, at 915 Van Ness avenue, was entered by two burglars, who were surprised in their work by the butler of the family, J. J. Nolan. The latter caught one of the men, and turning him over to a citizen, started in pursuit of the other, who was running away.

He pressed the fugitive hard and suddenly the latter drew a revolver and leveled a deadly scarge a pistol at Nolan. The latter then gave up the chase. The captured burglar was taken to the City Prison, where he gave the name of Ignacio Raphael.

From the description given by Nolan and others of the burglar who escaped the detectives to whom the case was given to work up, concluded that the man they wanted was Connors and yesterday morning they arrested him in his room on Prospect place, near Sacramento street. He was positively identified by Nolan and two others, who saw him running away from the scene of the burglary.

Connors was sent to San Quentin for burglary in 1886 and has only been released about nine months. He is a painter by trade and was recently employed by John Devine. In his room was found a set of burglars' tools.

AT THE PRESIDIO.

Quiet Days at the Post—Fire on the Reservation.

These are the halcyon days at the Presidio, since three-fourths of the soldiers stationed there are in camp at Monterey. Only enough are left at the post to look after the governmental buildings and property, and they have been kept busy. Those who thought that being left behind would insure them a good time have found out their mistake, and before their companions return will heartily wish that they had been sent to camp.

For a week or more details of fifty have been put out each day to burn the grass on that part of the reservation immediately south of the barracks. In that part small firs are planted and have reached a height to make themselves valuable, yet not high enough to lift their branches above the flames of burning grass.

The details have been divided, part going in advance and firing the grass and the reserve fighting the flames with gunny sacks when the trees were threatened. In this way a large portion of the reservation has been cleared. Yesterday afternoon a few hoodlums in an unburned portion of the reservation started a fire and immediately it spread and thick volumes of smoke were wafted toward the city.

The bugle called out every available man for fire duty, each armed with a sack. The flames were fought for a half hour before the fire was thought to be under control, when part were returned to the barracks. A later alarm, however, was necessary, and another hour was spent in active field work.

Sergeant-Major West of the Fifth Artillery, which was recently brought here from New York City to replace the First Regiment, said in an interview yesterday: "We think the Presidio, San Francisco and California are capital places. For twenty years our regiment watched every transfer and longed to come West, but never had the chance. Regiments are always transferred from one place to another every few years, but I hope that our stay here will be as long as the law allows, anyhow." By the way, Sergeant-Major Muller of the Fifth is "not in it" when compared with the First's Sergeant-Major.

Papers are being made out to have a soldier, now under surveillance only, sent to Washington to be incarcerated in an asylum connected with the army.

PANAMA AND SOUTH AMERICA.

Terrible Assault of Two Brothers on a Bank Clerk.

Death of President Menendez of San Salvador—State Support of Catholic Schools in Nicaragua—Great Fire in Colau.

The Pacific Mail Company's steamer San Blas arrived from Panama and way ports last evening. The following items are taken from exchanges as late as July 5th.

The Isthmus.

On Saturday, June 28th, two brothers, S. and E. Robles, attacked Joaquin Arciniega, clerk in a bank, on the Plaza at Panama, and inflicted wounds with a pistol and a razor that may prove fatal. Their victim was not armed.

The Panama Star and Herald of July 5th says: The Rev. Mr. Richard Copp of Taylor Mission notoriety in Colon, and later of more extensive notoriety as promoter and President of the American Steamship Company for the making and running of patent unsinkable uninflammable steamers, is about squaring his long current account with justice. A thorough-paced hypocrite and villain of the unctuous and psalm-snarling strike, he succeeded in squeezing money from innocent women, and even some men, in exchange for shares in his steamship company. The whole transaction is about being investigated in the courts of New York, for several weeks ago a committee was retained by stockholders to investigate the affairs of the company, and the result is the finding, to put it mildly, of very glaring irregularities. Recently stockholders, believing that the affairs of the company were improperly conducted, placed the matter in the hands of an attorney, and it is certain, from what has already been discovered as to the way the accounts of the concern have been kept, that the trial will reveal about as remarkable a system of book-keeping as has ever been brought to light and land the promoter-President and financiering-preacher in about as ugly a hole as he cares about occupying.

Colombia.

The Department of Public Works is busy in repairing damages to the old-established roads from Bogota to the Magdalena River.

The English company that has a concession for a railroad to run from the Magdalena River to the capital is pushing the work along. In April last a steamer arrived at Santa Martha with a locomotive, passenger-cars and 7000 rails.

Business was unsettled in the country on account of the fear that new bills would be issued in large numbers and wild talk about dividing the country. The first fear was quieted by positive assurances from President Nunez that he will not sign a greater amount than $12,000,000.

Nicaragua.

The Government has endowed the national schools with a monthly subsidy of 100 soles, to be used for teaching the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church.

A recent steamer which left Corinto conveyed from the republic eighteen young men, proceeding to the United States to be educated, and it is claimed that Nicaragua sends more young men to the great republic to be educated than any other of the Central American States.

San Salvador.

A special correspondent of the Star and Herald says: Particulars of the movement in San Salvador, resulting in the death of President Menendez, continue to cause horror and consternation throughout the country.

The fifth anniversary of Zaldivar's downfall was being celebrated by a banquet and ball, when suddenly, amid the festive scene of high revelry and mirthful gayety, the quartels are attacked, several adherents of the President are shot down, and Menendez himself, shocked and appalled by the enactment of such tragedies, is suddenly deprived of all sense and voluntary motion, and succumbs to an attack of syncope.

Now, however, everything is quite peaceful, the calm has set in after the storm, all things have resumed their normal condition, and by this time the affair has ceased to be a nine days' wonder.

Many political exiles, owing to circumstances controlled by a considerate Executive, compelled like birds of passage to migrate to salubrious or rather wholesome climes, are hastening to return to their native land and dear country which can now afford them a safe permanency and probably guarantee them a fair share of the spoils.

The little game of extermination which took place in San Salvador has, as I have stated, caused every one to be sickened and horrified by its perpetration; but the fact of the Executive being deposed astonished no one—on the contrary, thinking people were beginning to wonder that surely it was time for a change, and were barely surprised on receipt of the news stating a coup d'etat had taken place which had proved successful.

Peru.

During the first fortnight of the month of June seven sailing vessels, totaling 5190 registered tons, have entered Callao; three of them laden with English and Australian coal, one with Chilean wheat, one with general cargo from Chile and one with produce from Pisco.

All the dailies have published the opinion in full of the Attorney-General, and who states that the military tribunals are fully competent to try Senor Nicolas de Pierola on any charge which may be presented against him under the law of October 26, 1886.

Business has so augmented in the Interior Amazonian provinces of this republic that the Prefect of Loreto found it advisable to shift from Iquitos, the first Peruvian port coming from the mouth of the Amazon, up to Yurimaguas, which is much nearer the center of Peru than the Peruvian port first mentioned.

A telegram from Payta reports the loss at Bocayan of the Peruvian brig Jose Zanelli. The vessel was built at Geneva in 1848, and during many years has traded on this coast.

Recently efforts have been made with success to forward relief to the sufferers by the recent fire in Colau, a village in the province of Payta, in the north of Peru. The fire took place on May 17th, between 2 and 6 o'clock in the afternoon, and destroyed 108 houses, and, when it died out, left only sixty houses and the church standing. The whole village would have been destroyed had it not been for the prompt appearance of assistance from Payta. All furniture, clothing, seeds for the crops, grain, provisions for local consumption and personal effects were destroyed, so that the misery caused can be readily imagined. The men were all absent at their work in the fields at some distance, so there was no one to endeavor to prevent the spread of the flames, as the women at once used all their efforts to remove the children as far as possible from the scene. Through this fire upward of 200 families have been ruined, as they have lost their homes and all means with which to keep on work in the fields, which have hitherto rendered them a comfortable living.

Women's Union.

Mrs. Marie Farrington will speak on the subject of "The Prison System and the Need of a Free Bureau of Justice," and all members of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union are invited to attend at the rooms, 427 Sutter street, on Tuesday evening. A part of every Tuesday evening will for a short time be devoted to talks and papers upon topics of the day. Hiram E. Butler of Boston will entertain the ladies with an interesting topic on the following Tuesday evening.

935 was the daily average of want ads in THE CALL last week.

CALIFORNIA DIAMONDS.

Some Old Friends Described by a Veteran of Forty-nine.

A Number of Men of Reputed Fabulous Wealth That Are Frequently Seen in the Public Places of the City of New York.

"LET us go up to the Hoffman first," said the old Californian, "and I'll show you a number of gilded Pacific Coasters who do not know to a million or two what they are really worth. With the exception of D. O. Mills and one or two others, none of them had as many hundreds of dollars as you have fingers on your hands when they first put their hopeful faces in Sacramento."

"A good many retired Californians are living in New York, I believe?"

"If you had said tired Californians, I might have answered in the affirmative, but as to retired Californians, why, they are as scarce as prohibitory laws in Kentucky. The rich Californian never retires, except late at night."

"But there are a good many wealthy Pacific Coasters settled here, permanently or otherwise?"

"Yes; there are many sons of fortune who have captured their golden fleeces in the mines and upon the railroads and elsewhere, in the mountains and the valleys of the famous El Dorado, who are either permanently or temporarily settled here, and who delight in the majesty of their enormous accumulations, and adore New York as a good place to spend money and enjoy life in."

"Some of these Californians are pretty slippery, I have heard it said?"

"Well, as the world goes, they have as good a chance to slip into the kingdom of heaven as the majority of your millionaires here in the East. There are a good many wild-cat oil, sugar, leather, bank and insurance organizations here, just as there are the basest kind of mining steals, land booms and wheat deals out there. The honest farmer waters his milk and mixes oleomargarine with his butter out there as well as here, and the manipulator of stocks on California street and on Wall street pursues the same course with the tens of thousands of lambs who have fleeces to be shorn."

"But here we are at the Hoffman."

"There is the most unostentatious man among the California colonists, who really has no permanent home on the earth. When in San Francisco he stays

AT THE PALACE HOTEL,

when in New York, at the Hoffman, and when in London, at the Metropole. He makes at least two or more trips to California and Europe annually, and has a net income of $2900 a day. He takes life easily, has a secretary who opens all of his letters and attends to most of his business; this secretary only reads the names of one-fourth of the letters addressed to his master; merely glances at the contents of another fourth; peruses carefully the other half, and answers half of the latter. The only instruction from the master to the secretary is to treat all begging letters with consideration. He dresses and acts like a gentleman at all times. He gives his wife all the money she can spend and enjoys everything she does because she enjoys it, and that is his idea of what there is worth living for. He never 'deadheads' for anything, and seldom goes to law, because he makes contracts for all big things and pays accordingly. He gave as much as the noblest giver to the Grant fund, and agreed to double his subscription if necessary. When in California, three years ago, he learned from a friend, incidentally, that the General Superintendent of the Southern Pacific Company was experiencing some trouble in keeping a hungry wolf from his door, and he sat down and made out a check for $6000, and sent it to the genial railroad man, and said: 'Put this in —— stock and sell in thirty days.' The man of track and train folded lovingly the $6000 and carried out his benefactor's instructions to the letter; cleaned up $15,000 and sent a check for $5000 to that man sitting there.

"I could tell you lots of such stories—all true. I know for the fact that he presents to the old and well-to-do and in charities to the poor and indigent, he and his wife give on an average $200,000 a year. He has very little of the look of an Irishman, but he was born in Dublin, all the same, on the 28th of November, 1835. He spent his boyhood days in this city, and many a time he and lots of others of us have clapped our hands over the acting of John R. Scott and Tom Hamblin at the Old Bowery, and at the Woods and the Taylors at the Park. He went to the Pacific Coast, via Panama, at the age of 16, and at once started for the mines at Downieville, and afterward worked at Forest City. He became what is known as a professional miner, and went to Virginia City, Nev., in 1850, and first worked in the famous Gould and Curry. He subsequently joined three other men, and in 1871 this 'Big Four' became known as

THE BONANZA FIRM,

And in a short time had made $100,000,000. He once showed a party of gentlemen through the Comstock lode, and, picking up a piece of rock from the bowels of the earth, one of the party gave the Bonanza king a trade dollar. 'Thanks!' he exclaimed; 'I will add this to my $2,000,000 in the bank across the way, as I am going to make a big purchase to-morrow.' His wife is well known as one of the grandest entertainers in Paris and London, while her reception to General Grant in 1878 was one of the most magnificent and extravagant of modern times."

"Who is that man with the far-away look?"

"He is a Californian, also."

"I thought so."

"But he hasn't got any principle, and is as cold-blooded as an iceberg. See how affectionately he strokes that long, dark beard. He was once known as a pirate during the Civil War, and he may be now thinking of the somber days he spent at Alcatraz, the Gibraltar of San Francisco Bay. He is always running a mining deal, and has got something at present from South America on the market."

"What did he give toward the Grant Fund?"

"He never gave anything toward any fund for the living or the dead. But he is a manipulator from Gold Gulch, truly, and would fleece the lambs spoken of in the New Testament if they were not grazing in Celestial pastures. He is the hardest hitting man from the Slope—why? Lou's wife was very soft putty compared to this old party."

"That's a nice-looking old gentleman he is talking to, though."

"Well, he is a trifle more Christian-like to look at. Still water runs deep, you know."

"Birds of a feather, I suppose."

"That's just the size of it. His milk of human kindness wouldn't cream over enough to see with a microscope. He is best known as having been the kingpin in the diamond swindle of some years ago. He has been tolerably in luck for ten or twelve years via Broadway. He takes one or two drinks alone daily, when his troubled conscience or rheumatic gout does not keep him at home. He has a fine residence in San Francisco and lots of other 'gilt-edge' property there, but has lived in New York for a number of years. The last time he was in Frisco an old friend who had backed him with money years before, and whom he had heartlessly robbed, unsuccessfully discharged the contents of a revolver at the old man's head, and he hasn't praised the glorious climate of California since."

"WHO IS THAT BOOZY-LOOKING PARTY

"Inviting everybody to join him in a julep or some other insidious drink?"

"He, too, is several times a millionaire and goes on a 'periodical' on the reminiscence of old times. He made most of his money on the Sacramento and Colorado rivers, and sold out his great interests to the Southern Pacific Company some fourteen years ago. He makes a flying trip to Frisco every