PUNCHES FOR HIRE.

An Easterner Caught Operating in This City.

The Scheme Divulged by a Conductor—After Arrest the Agent Is Taken to Denver for Prosecution.

A little over a week ago Superintendent J. W. Harris of the California-street Cable Railroad Company received information from one of the conductors on the line that a stranger from the East was endeavoring to perpetrate a swindle on the company in introducing duplicate bell-punches, which he had for hire to conductors for use in their business.

The matter was placed in the hands of Detective John Curtin, and as a result W. H. Robertson was arrested on Tuesday evening at the corner of Sacramento and Powell streets, as he was about to board a Powell-street car. He was taken to his room at 22 Prospect place, where he surrendered to the détective ten "Beadle" and six "Meaker" punches, and made a full confession of the scheme in which he played the part of agent.

The originator of the scheme, it appears, is one J. Patrick Kilium, who about six months since was employed by the Metropolitan-street Railroad Company of Kansas City as Assistant Superintendent. In the latter part of July last he was discharged from the service of this company, and went direct to Denver, where he presented a forged letter of introduction from General Manager McCarthy of the Metropolitan Company to Mr. Durbin, Superintendent of the Denver Tramway Company. Durbin wrote to McCarthy, who answered that the letter was a forgery, and consequently Kilium did not receive employment.

ORDERS FOR CAR-REGISTERS.

In August the Meaker Manufacturing Company of Chicago, Ill., received a letter from one H. H. Hammond, President of the Denver Rapid Transit Company, asking it to send him eight car-registers. The registers were forwarded, and soon after came an order for eight more, which were also sent to the Transit Company's President.

At about the same time the Beadle Railway Register Company of New York City received an order for sixteen registers or punches of the kind used on nearly all the street-railways in that city. Upon investigation it was learned that there is no such corporation as the Denver Rapid Transit Company, and further, that the alleged President Hammond was none other than J. Patrick Kilium, the erstwhile assistant superintendent of the road in Kansas City.

He was at once arrested and eight of the registers were found in his possession. Six of the Beadle punches had been rented to conductors in the employ of the Denver City Cable Company, for which he received $10 per week for each device. A short time before his arrest, and while quietly working his scheme at Denver and Kansas City through agents, he met W. H. Robertson, the young man arrested in this city on Tuesday last. Kilium was at this time employed in a cigar-store, and also assisted one of the Police Court "shysters" of Denver in his profession. He saw in young Robertson a prospective "agent" and soon won the young man's confidence by telling him that he expected a good position in the Police Department, on the strength of which statement he borrowed the sum of $50. When Robertson asked him for the money a few days later he confessed his inability to pay, but promised to lay before him a "splendid scheme," with "plenty of dust in it."

He then explained to Robertson that the "scheme" consisted in renting bell-punches to street-railway conductors; that it was easily worked and a sure thing, "for even if we are caught," said he, "my knowledge of the law will enable me to bring the thing out all right." He further explained that if the punches were obtained from the manufacturers and the royalty paid, the street-car companies could not prosecute in the event of this being found out.

With such arguments as these he made a friend and agent of Robertson, who agreed to start for San Francisco as soon as the punches could be obtained. It was at this time that the order, referred to above, to the Beadle Railway Register Company of New York was given. The order was filled and addressed to "H. H. Hammond, President of the Denver Rapid Transit Company," and reached that city about September 5th. Seven days later Agent Robertson with a well-filled sample-case left Denver, and arrived here a few days later.

OPERATIONS BEGUN IN THIS CITY.

He secured quarters at 22 Prospect place and commenced operations at once, by riding on the different street-car lines and becoming acquainted with the conductors. In this way he fell in with Conductor Goode of the California-street line, who expressed a desire for a second punch, but thought the charge of $10 per week rather high, but after several visits it was agreed that Robertson should receive half the amount registered by the punch at a weekly inspection.

A die to fit the register was necessary, and one was obtained from a card impression and modeled by A. Osterloh, a watch-maker at 536 Fourteenth street. The die fitted perfectly, and the conductor, much pleased with his new punch, promptly turned it over to Superintendent Harris.

Robertson made acquaintances on every line in this city, and though he had rented only one punch, he says in his confession that many of the conductors on Valencia, Howard, Geary, Sutter, Post and Powell streets were watching, as several were willing to try a new register if the "dies" could be dispensed with.

Robertson was sent back to Denver on Thursday with a detective, and if not prosecuted will be used as a witness on the trial of Kilium, which will take place early next month.

PROTECTION FOR LOANS.

A League of Building and Loan Associations Formed.

Representatives of thirty-eight Building and Loan Associations again assembled in a hall in B'nai B'rith Building yesterday afternoon and completed the organization of a State League, the objects of which are to encourage legislation favorable to the growth and prosperity of all legitimate associations, to secure a greater uniformity in their management and to promote and guard their interests throughout the State.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, L. L. Dennery; First Vice-President, C. K. Clark; Second Vice-President, A. Sbarboro; Third Vice-President, George W. Dixon; Treasurer, J. D. Case; Secretary, J. G. Liebert Jr. Committees were appointed as follows: Executive—L. L. Dennery, A. Sbarboro, C. K. Clark, George Dixon, J. D. Case, J. G. Liebert, T. F. Creighton, Charles E. Neylor and Louis Blank; Constitution and By-laws—A. Sbarboro, C. E. Neylor, M. H. Hyde, J. W. Martin and H. Mohns; Credentials—J. Richardson, T. F. Creighton and C. K. Clark; Legislative Bills—C. K. Clark, E. H. Dixtorn, W. H. Gagan, M. McMullen and Louis Blank.

The By-laws Committee submitted a brief report, making the following recommendations, which were approved: "That the organization be known as the California League of Mutual Building and Loan Associations; that the initiation fee be fixed at $5 and annual dues at $10; that the annual meeting take place on the third Tuesday of October and the official elections at the same time."

Chairman Clark of the Executive Committee presented the draft of a bill to be submitted for passage at the next session of the Legislature. The main object of the proposed law is to regulate and protect all the legitimate building and loan associations in the State.

The bill was read and three hours devoted to its discussion, section by section. The clauses referring to maturing of shares were regarded as a deep financial problem that was not satisfactorily settled until after thorough consideration. It was argued that all corporation interests must be protected, and a section equalizing profits on loans was inserted.

In brief, the principal object of the proposed law will be to shut out mutual concerns that come here from the East and have no capital or security deposited in this State. A section provides that such organizations shall deposit $100,000 here or give a bond in that sum to insure the payment of all loans and interests on moneys obtained in the State.

Assaulted a Child.

The father of Helen Cank, a little girl 5 and a half years of age, living at 533 Second street, applied at the Receiving Hospital yesterday to ascertain if his suspicion regarding the child had any foundation. She told him a story about a wretch, whose name could not be ascertained from the officers, having assaulted her. A warrant would not be issued on the child's statement alone for the arrest of the miscreant.

Only a Question of Dates.

The ownership of 4000 sealskins brought to this port a few days since by the revenue cutter Richard Rush has become a very knotty question. They are claimed by the Alaska Commercial Company and the North American Company. The former held the lease until May 1st, and the latter is the present lessee of the islands. The question to be settled is the date of the capture of the seals. If before May 1st the claim of the Alaska Company will hold good; if later they are the property of the present lessees. Collector Phelps is trying to straighten out the tangle, but a law-suit is very likely to result. The skins are valued at about $50,000.

NATIONAL GUARD.

General Orton a Candidate for Reappointment.

Brigadier-General R. H. Orton has taken the liberty in a circular under date of the 1st inst. of announcing himself as a candidate for reappointment to the position of Adjutant-General of the State, also (quoting from the circular) "of calling attention to the work accomplished during the three years that I have held the office, and which was due mainly to my efforts or suggestion":

New uniforms have been issued for the first time in twenty-five years; new equipments have been issued for the first time in the history of the State; new tents have been procured for the first time in twenty-seven years; harness and equipments for the Light Battery and cavalry stationed in San Francisco have been issued; State decorations for marksmanship and service medals have been provided; ample ammunition for annual target practice has been furnished; full appropriations for the allowances authorized by law have been secured for the last and current fiscal years; the regulations have been rewritten and issued; the records of the office have been rearranged and indexed; and the history and record of the California Volunteers have been written and the volume of 1000 pages containing them is now in press. My term of office has been one of constant and unremitting labor. I have been at my desk nearly every day, including Sundays from 7 o'clock in the morning until nearly midnight. I therefore, in view of the work accomplished and in view of the work remaining to be done for the advancement of the interests of the National Guard of this State and which I believe the knowledge I have obtained during my term will enable me to accomplish, most respectfully ask your moral and active support.

It is unquestioned that under General Orton more substantial and appreciated work has been done for the N. G. C. than perhaps during all previous administrations combined. But the General has a modest way of putting it, considering the services rendered by Colonels Dickinson and Barry.

An election has also been ordered in Company D of the First, vice Captain Charles Jansen, term expired. It goes without saying that he will be re-elected by acclamation, he having taken hold of the company when it was at ebb and successfully carried it through until it is now at flood. The election will be held on the 29th inst., and Major David E. Miles, S. O., has been detailed to preside. The orders nominally by the latter for the assembly of the company erroneously call "for the election of Second Lieutenant," though the first paragraph of orders detail him "to preside at an election for Captain." It cannot be that brigade headquarters is rattled on account of the Congressional fight of the chief.

The following appointments upon the staff of Major-General W. H. Dimond have been announced: Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Staples, Division Inspector, to be Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General, vice Clark deceased; Lieutenant-Colonel Albert E. Castle, Ordnance Officer, to be Inspector; Major S. I. Kellogg, I. R. P., Second Brigade, to be Lieutenant-Colonel and I. R. P., vice Kohler resigned; and Major A. D. Cutler, Inspector Second Brigade, to be Lieutenant-Colonel and Ordnance Officer.

There are a few members of the N. G. C. on the two tickets, viz.: Brigadier-General John T. Cutting for Congress; Colonel Thomas F. Barry of the Third for the Assembly; Lieutenant-Colonel Sheldon L. Kellogg, I. R. P., for School Director; Captain J. F. Smith of the Third for the Superior Court; Captain R. W. Burtis, Adjutant of the First, for Supervisor, and First Lieutenant L. A. Phillips, Paymaster of the First, for the Assembly.

Captain-elect A. L. Smith of Company A (Oakland) of the Fifth Infantry was once Adjutant of the Fifth Infantry Battalion and is reputed to be a man with no mean knowledge of military affairs. First Lieutenant-elect B. Y. Morris, who was chosen from the ranks, has held such commission before in the company and is said to have been one of its best drill-masters.

The Oakland Tribune is urging the presentation of a stand of colors to the Fifth, and appeals to Companies A and F to provide one at once, "with the assistance of mothers, wives and sweethearts." Will not some one also present the First with a stand? That regiment does not seem to have enterprise enough to present itself or have some one present it with one.

The report on the summer encampments by Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Staples, Division Inspector, has been published for the information of the N. G. C. The document is to the point and without glittering generalities. The details given are proof of an earnest and systematic inspection. More anon of this report.

The annual convention of the National Guard Officers' Association will be held in December in this city—more than likely at the regimental armory of the First Infantry and on the first Monday evening of the month. There is work before the convention.

Sergeant W. H. Cobbledick of F of the Fifth has been heard from. He has accepted the challenge of Corporal W. J. Downie of A to shoot a match of fifty shots (not 500 as the Alta's oracle idiotically put it) for dollars or doughnuts at the 200-yard range.

The total company membership of the N. G. C. for August was 3775, lacking more than 200 of the maximum of about 4000. Of the total of 3775 25 per cent shirked their bounden duty for that month.

The recent election in Company D (San Rafael) of the Fifth Infantry resulted in the following choice: For Captain, First Lieutenant W. Elliott; for First Lieutenant, J. P. Davenport, and for Second, J. C. Cochran.

Major Victor D. Dubois, Q. M., will preside on next Monday evening at an election for Second Lieutenant of Company F, Third Infantry, vice A. C. Dunleavy, who failed to qualify.

A. D. Whitlock, principal musician of the Fifth, and the man whom the S. W. C. styles a "Major," is about to organize a bugle corps in the regiment.

Leander McBain of the Fifth's band has been uniformed as a line officer, with the insignia of a Second Lieutenant.

A flag will fly from headquarters of the Fifth in Oakland on every pleasant day hereafter.

Battalion drills in the Fifth will be in order after the election next month.

Battalion drill in the First on next Monday evening.

FLORENCE'S NATIVITY.

A Mighty Struggle Yesterday in the Blythe Estate Trial.

Judge Coffey spent yesterday in listening to suggestions of attorneys who were trying to settle the findings in the Blythe estate contest. During the proceedings the courtroom took on the appearance so long familiar to those who attended the trial for a year or so.

Attorney W. H. H. Hart was present to represent the interests of Florence Blythe. He was accompanied by Thomas I. Bergin, W. W. Foote and ex-Judge John H. Boalt. The Holidays, pere et fils, were present for the Gypsy Blythes, and Dr. Taylor spoke for the Williams heirs. William Savage, the hopeful claimant, sat in the corner that he occupied so long, and acted as his own attorney. Grandpa Perry spread his kid-gloved hands over his gold-headed cane and looked contended. L. E. Bulkeley held the documents for the London chimney-sweeps named Savage, and Walter Leman, the venerable actor, took up his accustomed position just back of Timothy J. Lyons, who represented David Savage. E. W. Towle Jr. upheld the pretensions of the Blythe company.

The first finding presented on behalf of Florence said that she was born in England.

Dr. Taylor proposed the following amendment: "The said Florence was born in that part of the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland known as London, England."

Judge Coffey asked the lawyers to limit their arguments, and accordingly it took only two hours for them to explain why the change should be made.

The Court held that the allegation that Florence was born in England was sufficiently specific, and further hearing of the case was continued until next week.

New Cathedral Bazaar.

The bazaar will open Monday night in the New Cathedral Hall, with address and orchestral and vocal selections. A leading feature of the music will be the rendition of Beethoven's ode, "The Heavens Do Proclaim," by St. Peter's Vocal Union.

Similar musical entertainments have been prepared for every night during the bazaar, Professor A. C. Elmer having full charge of this department.

Wednesday night at quarter to 8 o'clock the New Cathedral will be thrown open to all present at the bazaar. The church will be brilliantly illuminated, bringing out in strong relief the varied beauties of the sacred edifice. Moreover, the magnificent organ, built by Hooke & Hastings of Boston, will be opened by Professor A. C. Elmer, while noted vocalists will contribute choice numbers.

Was It a Mistake?

When the habeas corpus case of Chin Hing Lung came up before Judge Hoffman in the United States District Court it was discovered that the person brought from the steamer Belgic was not the one named in the petition. The Court ordered the suit dismissed and the Mongol returned to the steamer by the Marshal.

FRATERNAL INDEX.

Knights Templar and Commanderies in Missouri.

A Farewell Reception by Patriarchs Militant, I. O. O. F., at Oakland—Approaching Social of Valley Lodge, A. O. U. W.

[In order to secure insertion all matter intended for this column should be handed in addressed to the "Fraternal Editor." All communications must bear the name and address of the sender; if not, the matter will not be published.]

Official Assessment Table.

NAME.	Number of Assessments.	Date of Call.		Delinquent by Members.	
A. L. of H.	187-188	Oct.	1	Nov.	1-15
A. O. U. W.	22-23	Oct.	1-8	Oct.	25
Workmen's Guar. F. A'n	16-17	Oct.	1	Oct.	28
Knights of Honor	288-289	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
Knights and L. of H.	279-280	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
Order Chosen Friends	177	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
I. O. B. B.	19-20	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
Royal Arcanum	141	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
Royal Arcanum	142	Oct.	15	Nov.	14
Ind. Ben. Fd., A. O. F. A.	175	Sep.	25	Oct.	25
Ind. Ben. Fd., A. O. F. A.	176	Oct.	15	Nov.	15
United Ind't Assocs.	47-48	Oct.	1	Oct.	30
Am. Fraternal Circle	24	Oct.	15	Nov.	15
Young Men's Institute	24	Sep.	20	Nov.	1
Legion of the West	19-20	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
Fraternal Guild	9	Oct.	1	Nov.	1
Beacon Light, O'p'h F'd	8	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
Beacon Light, O'g'n F'd	4	Oct.	1	Oct.	31
Equitable Aid Union	179-180	Sep.	30	Nov.	10

NO ASSESSMENTS.

There will be no assessments for October in the Order of the Golden Shore and Champions of the Red Cross. To the present writing none will be levied in the Young Men's Institute and Young Ladies' Institute.

Yerba Buena Lodge of Perfection, No. 6, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, at its regular meeting last evening had work in the fifth degree.

Oriental Encampment, No. 57, I. O. O. F., at its meeting this evening will confer the Golden Rule and Royal Purple degrees on candidates.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 260, F. and A. M., at a special meeting last evening had a "raising."

Excelsior Degree Lodge, No. 2, I. O. O. F., will confer the degrees of Brotherly Love and Truth on candidates at its regular meeting this evening.

La Parfaite Union Lodge, No. 17, F. and A. M., at a special meeting last evening had work in the Entered Apprentice degree.

Templar Rebekah Degree Lodge, No. 19, I. O. O. F., will hold an open meeting in Memorial Hall this evening. A splendid programme has been arranged for, concluding with dancing.

Information is wanted of George Moeller, who is a member of the I. O. O. F. He is said to have attended several meetings of Templar Lodge, No. 17, of this city. His last address known was 425 East street, to which place letters sent to him were delivered. His family, who are anxiously desire to know his whereabouts, are residing at La Salle, Ill., and they state that no word has been received from him since September 27th last.

A farewell reception was tendered Brigadier-General E. K. Russell of the Patriarchs Militant, I. O. O. F., on Wednesday evening in Oakland. Canton San Francisco, No. 5, of this city arrived in the City of Oaks by the 7:30 o'clock train, and were met at the depot by Canton Oakland, No. 11, and the Fifth Regiment, N. G. C. Band. A procession was formed which wended its way to the residence of General Russell, who was escorted to the Galindo Hotel, where a banquet was partaken of. On conclusion of the usual toasts sentiments and music were given, and a pleasant journey and prosperous future were wished to the guest. General Russell left yesterday for Portland, Oregon, where he intends to hereafter reside.

North Carolina has eight commanderies of Knights Templar and 231 fraters, an increase over the last templar year of fourteen.

About $61,000 has been subscribed for the Odd Fellows' Home at Worcester, Mass.

Missouri has fifty-five commanderies of Knights Templar with 3253 members. Three hundred and five were knighted during the last templar year and seventy-seven affiliated, showing an increase of 206.

The entertainment and social to be given by Valley Lodge, No. 22, A. O. U. W., on Wednesday evening, the 29th inst., promises to be one of the successes of the season in fraternal circles. The best of talent has volunteered for the occasion.

KNIGHTS OF HONOR.

A Pertinent Circular Is Sent by a Subordinate Lodge to Its Members.

Friendship Lodge, No. 1731, has received several petitions for membership and expects a number more within the next few weeks.

Liberty Lodge, No. 3496, conferred the degree on seven candidates at its late session, and still has several petitions to act upon.

A lodge in this city has issued to its members a very earnest circular. Among other good things contained therein is the following: "When you united with our order, we believe, it was to do good for your fellowman, as well as your family. * * * You have provided for your family, how is it with your brother man? Have you done your duty? Have you not some one in your employ or, perhaps, a friend whose family, if he were suddenly called away, would be left destitute, when a word from you would prevent it? Will you refuse to speak that word? Now is the time for work."

F. E. Sutherland, G. D., visited and addressed Far West Lodge, No. 2324, at Hamilton Hall, on the evening of Thursday the 9th inst.

Last Monday evening was "Ladies' Night" in Yerba Buena Lodge, No. 1788. A very large number of the fair sex were present and were delighted with the programme presented. The address of the evening was delivered by F. E. Sutherland, G. D., who particularly requested the ladies to urge upon their husbands the necessity of attending the lodge meetings. Dancing concluded a most enjoyable evening.

B. F. Nelson, Supreme Reporter, announces the following gain of membership in the jurisdictions named for the week ending 11th inst.: Alabama 8, Arkansas 4, California 9, Connecticut 1, Florida 1, Georgia 5, Illinois 3, Indiana 12, Kansas 1, Kentucky 15, Louisiana 13, Massachusetts 5, Michigan 2, Minnesota 1, Mississippi 5, Missouri 1, Nevada 1, New Jersey 3, New York 19, North Carolina 4, Ohio 10, Pennsylvania 3, Rhode Island 2, South Carolina 4, Tennessee 7, Texas 31, Virginia 1, Wisconsin 1. Total, 172.

U. A. O. D.

Visitations of Grand Officers to Several Groves in the Interior.

On Tuesday evening Perseverance Grove, No. 10, celebrated its twenty-third anniversary. During the evening L. F. Dunand and E. L. Wagner, Past Noble Grand Arches, who are members of the grove, presented it with their photographs, elegantly framed, after which the fourth degree was conferred in Scotia Hall.

Noe Valley Grove, No. 73, will give an entertainment and ball at Noe Valley Hall on Friday evening, November 14th.

Elvin Grove, No. 16, will celebrate its twentieth anniversary on the 10th of November.

Hesperian Grove, No. 15, held its election of officers on Tuesday evening and initiated two candidates.

George H. Bahrs, N. G. A., accompanied by J. H. Knarston, G. S., and J. Delucchi, D. D. G. A., paid an official visit to St. Helena Grove, No. 41, St. Helena, on Friday evening, 10th inst. The attendance was unusually large. One candidate was initiated, and the second and third degrees conferred on five. On Saturday evening the same officer with J. H. Knarston, G. S., and William Thompson, D. D. G. A., officially visited William Tell Grove, No. 77, Napa City.

Wednesday evening George H. Bahrs, N. G. A., with L. G. Schord, D. S. A., and George A. Abel, P. A. of Elvin Grove, No. 16, paid an official visit to Mayfield Grove, No. 45.

Haywards Grove, No. 64, received a return visit from Pleasanton Grove, No. 82, on Thursday evening. The Noble Grand Arch with J. H. Knarston, G. S., and L. G. Schord, D. S. A., was present on his official visit. One candidate was initiated and the degree conferred, after which a banquet followed. Haywards Grove has the finest set of paraphernalia of any grove in the jurisdiction.

LEGION OF THE WEST.

Several Socials and Entertainments Given by Subordinate Lodges.

The meeting of Kismet Lodge, No. 25, last evening was well attended. Many visitors from sister lodges were present. Remarks of an extended and interesting character were made by E. D. Feusier, G. S.; W. B. Barton of Jewel Lodge, No. 12, J. O. Jephson and many others. An harmonious feeling prevailed.

Warwick Lodge, No. 3, will give a social on Tuesday evening. An excellent programme is being prepared to make the occasion an enjoyable one. Kismet Lodge, No. 25, has signified its intentions by accepting an invitation to participate in the festivities in a b dy.

Juanita Lodge, No. 35, had an initiation at the last meeting. The meeting was enlivened by a delegation of Grand Lodge officers on an official visiting tour. A delegation from Henrietta Lodge, No. 32, was also present. Remarks of an encouraging and appropriate character were made by E. D. Feusier, G. S.; Frank E. Webb, D. G. C.; Elias Rodecker, D. D. G. C.; J. N. Russell Jr., D. D. G. C.; J. H. Scott and others.

From the preparations being made the party to be given by Enterprise Lodge, No. 27, of Oakland, Wednesday evening next, will be fully up the excellence in standard of the entertainments heretofore given by the lodge.

Mizpah Lodge, No. 1, received an official visit from a delegation of grand lodge officers at its last meeting.

California Lodge, No. 15, received a fraternal visit from Mizpah Lodge, No. 1, accompanied by a delegation of grand lodge officers, at its last meeting. A cordial reception of welcome was given the visitors. Encouraging and appropriate remarks were made by John Greenwell, G. C.; E. D. Feusier, G. S., James E. Wolfe, D. D. G. C.; Elias Rodecker, D. D. G. C., and many others.

Starr King Lodge, No. 19, had two initiations at its last meeting. The progressive euchre party given last Wednesday was well attended. The interest displayed in the games by the invited guests, as well as the participants, added zest to the pastime of the evening. The adjoining hall was devoted to dancing. Refreshments were served out in Starr King's usual generous style, and a most enjoyable and agreeable evening in every respect was passed by all present.

Social Lodge, No. 31, held an open meeting at the new quarters, Minerva Hall, 814 Geary street, on Wednesday evening last. The meeting was well attended and the hall filled with friends of the members. John Greenwell, G. C., made one of his genial speeches in his own unique and energetic manner, and was heartily applauded by all present. After remarks by Gustav Pulschen, D. D. G. C., and W. McGeesey, C., the audience was treated to a well-selected vocal and literary programme. Dancing closed the evening's entertainment. The members of this lodge are determined to merit the name of Social Lodge.

American Legion of Honor.

Phœnix Council, No. 780, gave a very fine entertainment on Wednesday evening last. An excellent musical and literary programme was rendered by some of the best talent of the city. Dancing concluded the festivities of the evening. This council has taken in several new members recently.

San Francisco Council, No. 442, initiated two candidates at its last meeting, and has two applications pending.

Bohemian Council, No. 261, has been having some very interesting meetings of late, and is getting out some matter for circulation and has otherwise taken steps to increase its membership. They already have several propositions in waiting.

Three death claims were paid last week amounting to $10,000, all of them within twenty to twenty-five days from the forwarding of the proofs of death.

The Grand Secretary has received a large amount of printed matter from the East for general distribution, which will be sent out to the councils soon.

Order of Chosen Friends.

Golden State Council, No. 40, North Temescal, will give an entertainment and ball on Friday evening next at Humboldt Hall.

Social Council, No. 46, gave a very successful euchre party on Thursday evening last.

The order, especially Pacific Council, No. 8, lost a very valuable member in T. B. McKenzie, P. G. T., who died on Wednesday and was buried last Sunday.

J. J. Coffey, D. D. G. C., will hold his union meeting with Crystal Council, No. 4, on Thursday evening next, in the Alcazar Building.

C. M. Arno'd Council will hold its entertainment and ball on Thursday evening, 30th inst., at B'nai B'rith Hall.

Pacific Council, No. 8, held an open meeting last evening at Washington Hall.

The Executive Committee will meet on Saturday next at the Grand Recorder's office.

Improved Order of Red Men.

Manzanita Tribe, No. 4, had an adoption last Wednesday evening.

Seminole Tribe, No. 54, conferred the Haymaker's degree on three candidates last Wednesday evening in amplified form. The Hunter's degree will be conferred next Wednesday evening.

Henry A. Chase, G. R. to the G. C. of the United States, will arrive home this morning after an absence of seven weeks and will attend the council of Tahoe Chieftains' League this evening and probably make a "long talk."

Charter lists are open for two new tribes in this city, one in South San Francisco and the other at Twenty-fourth and Chattanooga streets.

Tahoe Chieftains' League, No. 3, meets this evening. There will be several adoptions.

MASONIC GRAND LODGE.

Election Appointment and Installation of Its Officers.

Yesterday witnessed the closing rites and ceremonies of the Grand Lodge, F. and A. M., which, in consequence of the unanimity in the minds of delegates upon the subject of grand officers, terminated a day earlier than usual.

The morning session was devoted to the consideration of reports. The usual appropriation for the Masonic Board of Relief was voted and a special committee was appointed to report to the next Grand Lodge upon the proposition to establish a home for widows and orphans.

Balloting for grand officers followed, and in the first ballot Alva Russell Conklin of Independence, Inyo County, was elected Grand Master. He is a prominent attorney, well known throughout the State, and has served a term in the State Legislature.

In the afternoon the election of officers continued. The only contest was for the office of Junior Grand Warden, to which Dr. Henry S. Orme, President of the State Board of Health, was elected on the second ballot. The following officers were elected by acclamation: William Johnston of Courtland, Sacramento, D. G. M.; Charles R. Gripman of Napa, S. G. W.; Nathan W. Spalding of Oakland, G. T.; and Alexander G. Abell, G. S. for his thirty-sixth consecutive term.

The Grand Master-elect announced the following appointments: Grand Chaplain, Rev. Jacob Voorsanger; Grand Orator, M. C. Boruck; Assistant Grand Secretary, George Johnson; Grand Lecturer, Elias C. Hare; Grand Marshal, James B. Stevens of Napa; Grand Standard-Bearer, Bruce Cockrill of Sonoma County; Grand Sword-Bearer, Albert Hanson of Redwood City; Grand Bible-Bearer, C. C. Bush of Redding, Shasta County; Senior Grand Deacon, Francis C. Woodbury, Los Angeles; Junior Grand Deacon, George L. Grimes; Senior Grand Steward, W. H. Baldwin, Sacramento; Junior Grand Steward, Omri Bullis, Los Angeles; Grand Pursuivant, A. J. McBride; Grand Organist, Samuel D. Mayer; Grand Tyler, James Ogelsby.

The installation of officers followed and the Grand Lodge was then declared closed.

COLONEL MOSBY'S CASH.

His Suit Against the Government Decided at Last.

Word was received yesterday at the United States sub-Treasury from the Treasury Department at Washington that a warrant for $11,783 50 had been made out in favor of John S. Mosby. This is the first intimation received here that the long-standing suit of Colonel Mosby against the United States Government had been decided.

During the administration of President U. S. Grant Mosby, the once famous guerilla chieftain, was appointed Minister to China. While there he paid into the United States Treasury certain sums which he afterward claimed. His claim was denied, and he then brought suit in the Court of Claims, and obtained judgment, but the Government then appealed to the Supreme Court, where the case has since been pending. Yesterday's dispatch would seem to show that the Supreme Court has sustained the Court of Claims in its judgment.

Colonel Mosby left Los Angeles last Wednesday for Mexico, where he will stay some time in business. In the meanwhile the money will await his appearance at the sub-Treasury.

At the Mission San Jose.

The Catholic ladies of Mission San Jose will open their fair next Wednesday evening in A. O. U. W. Hall and close it on the following Saturday evening. A portion of the proceeds will be devoted to the building of a church in Niles, which is much needed in that village. As the Catholics of Niles are both few and poor, the rector, Father Caraher, is making a strong appeal for help to all friends of the good cause.

Police Patrol Stable.

The Health and Police Committee of the Board of Supervisors accepted a proposition yesterday to build a stable for the police patrol on Howard street, near Seventeenth. The building will be ready by December 1st next.

Two Valuable Surf-Boats.

Eduardo Cabrera and J. Mariano Roma have sued the Pacific Steamship Company for $2300 for the loss of two surf-boats entrusted to the company as freight.

SEA AND SHORE.

The Noyo's Raft of Piles Taken in Tow by the Robarts.

Loss of the British Ship Lizzie C. Troop—The Sealing Schooner San Jose Going to Portland as Pilot-boat—Tahiti Oranges.

The steamer Noyo, Captain Driskо, arrived yesterday, 86 hours from Noyo, with a cargo of 11,000 railroad ties and a very large raft of piles in tow. The raft was built in sections not in pear-shaped form as they were previously brought down. After the Noyo entered the harbor she turned her unwieldy raft over to the Robarts to tow to the foot of Third street, and then went over to Oakland.

Captain Smith of the Robarts had quite a hard time with his tow. It was a very long one and owing to a number of vessels being anchored right in the fairway, his course was obstructed. When steering between the pilot-boat America and a schooner lying at anchor, the tide caught four of the sections and swung them against Lombard-street wharf. Afterward the tug fouled the pilot-boat and the latter was chafed a little. The big raft was towed to its destination without further mishap.

The weather was hazy at Point Lobos yesterday. In the middle of the day there was a light breeze from the northeast, but at 3 o'clock it fell calm. The barometer read: 8 o'clock in the morning, 29.99; noon, 29.98; 5 o'clock in the afternoon, 29.97.

ORANGES FROM TAHITI.

There was considerable amusement among merchants yesterday, especially among those interested in the Tahiti trade, over the published statement that there is great excitement at Tahiti about the McKinley bill, and that no more oranges would be shipped here from there. "It is almost too foolish a thing to notice," said one of the most prominent dealers in Tahiti produce, laughing, "but I suppose the gullible writer had to say something to pay for his car-fare. Why, what can the people know down there yet about the McKinley bill, which only passed two weeks ago? And even if they did, they could only do as they are told. All the business men down there are agents for us or other firms here, or for firms in Australia. They don't bother with the McKinley or any other bills. We give them orders and they ship as we order."

The British ship Selene, from London for Santa Rosalia, went ashore at the latter place on September 21st, and at last accounts her masts were gone and she was full of water. Captain Edmund England, her master, arrived here a couple of weeks ago and yesterday the balance of the crew arrived on the steamer Newburn. The vessel will be sold at auction about the end of this month as she stands, with spars, rigging, stores, etc.

Captain Carter has been placed in command of the steamer Lakme, and Captain Hatzel has taken charge of the schooner Mayflower.

WRECK OF THE LIZZIE C. TROOP.

A dispatch to the Merchants' Exchange yesterday from London announces the shipwreck of the British ship Lizzie C. Troop, Captain Townes, off the Loo Choo Islands, and that a portion of the crew was saved. The Lizzie C. Troop was a vessel of 1425 tons burthen, 198 feet long, 39.1 breadth and 24 feet deep, and was built at St. Johns, N. B., in 1875, and owned by H. D. Troop of the same place. She left Hiogo for Nagasaki on August 14th, and took on cargo for Puget Sound. The locality where the Troop was wrecked has gained an unenviable reputation of late by being the scene where the Turkish man-of-war Ertogrul was wrecked recently with the dreadful loss of life, 500 souls and more perishing.

Over 100 coal teams were in line yesterday on the docks just south of Market street. Some of them were taking Cedar River coal from the bark Arctarus, but the larger number was waiting for New Wellington coal from the bark Seminole, which has not yet arrived. Some of the carts have been in line for three days. There is great demand for the coal, and when the vessel does arrive the teamsters in line receive a ticket, which enables them in rotation to load at the coal-bin on the dock. Charles R. Allen, agent for the coal, cannot tell when the Seminole will arrive. It may be to-day or not for a week.

The steamer Newbern, Captain von Helms, arrived yesterday, eleven days from Guaymas, bringing five cabin and eighteen steerage passengers and a large list of freight. Among her cargo were 1171 boxes of oranges, 10 boxes bananas, 29 boxes of lemons, 16 packages coin, $3650, and 30 bars of bullion, value $61,000. Among the passengers by the Newbern were two mates, the steward and eleven seamen of the British ship Selene, which was wrecked at Santa Rosalia last month.

SALE OF THE SAN JOSE.

Captain Weeks, a Pilot Commissioner of Portland, who came down here a few days ago to purchase a vessel to replace the pilot-boat Governor Moody, which was lost on the Columbia River bar some time ago, yesterday purchased the sealing schooner San Jose from James Garvin. The San Jose is a fine little craft and is now fitting out for her new business at the bulkhead, between Green and Union street wharves.

The steamer Mariposa will sail to-day for Honolulu and Sydney. She will take about 1400 tons of freight and a large list of passengers. Owing to the strikes in Australia the steamer will carry an supply of coal to last her for the round trip and in order to guard against the possibility of delay.

The ship Chinsma and the barkentine J. M. Griffith went over to Oakland yesterday.

The ships Spartan and Combermere and the bark W. B. Godfrey will go to sea today.

The ship Bowden will go up to Port Costa to-day.

Suit Against R. T. Carroll's Estate.

Michael Hartman has sued the executors of the will of the late R. T. Carroll to quiet title to a lot at the corner of Baker and Sutter streets, 87x25 feet in size. The plaintiff says the property was transferred to Carroll to be held in trust until certain indebtedness was paid. A settlement has been effected, and Hartman wants his land back.

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