BOYS IN BLUE.

Another Inspection Report of Summer Camps.

Sacramento's Military Hauled Over the Coals. What the Figures of Merit Do Show. The Army of 30,000.

As has been noted, the report by Lieutenant J. W. Staples, Division Inspector of the summer encampments of the N. G. C., is a modest document. Particular note is made of the condition of the tents as showing the care taken of the State's property. It is a pity, however, that in these inspection reports never or seldom are given figures showing the attendance in camp, by companies, of the battalions of the Second Brigade.

CAMP ORTON.

Speaking of Camp Orton of the Sixth Infantry—and, by the way, the three encampments reported upon were all pitched on the same tract near Santa Cruz—the report says that "special mention is made of the condition of the tents in this command," and "while no special mention fo particular company or street, yet tents generally were well cared for. Hay was not confined to ticks; hence scattered over tent floors. This was not general, but sufficiently so to deserve this criticism." Company and State property was looked after, except in some tents.

While in camp there were forty-five cases of diarrhœa, superinduced by drinking too freely of ice-water when heated after marching or drills. Guard-mount was "noticeable for lack of proper work by the officers. Particularly was this the case in the inspection of arms, which did not reflect credit on inspecting officers." The report of the inspection by companies shows the usual result of "uniforms off color," "a number ill-fitting," condition of them good and "arms poor" or "many of them unserviceable." Company A's formation preparat-ry to dress parade apparently lacked animation.

The Inspector with pleasure calls attention to the fact that on the day of inspection 94½ per cent of the 275 men taken to camp was present for duty. (This is calculated to mislead. The strength of the battalion in August was 575 and 71 per cent of them was in camp.) In closing the report makes the declaration concerning companies E and F:

The arms, with the exception of the eighteen new guns in the possession of each company, were in poor order, and in some cases almost useless. The uniforms were ill-fitting, and the cloth showed many different colors. I was particularly impressed with the soldierly appearance of the men of both companies and their strict attention and obedience to the orders of their officers.

CAMP STANFORD.

At Camp Stanford of the First Artillery were reported two cases of poison oak and other cases of dysentery, none laying men up, but traceable to water and fruits, though the poisoned men were ordered home. The company tents were in a fair condition, and then the report proceeds:

Officers' tents generally occupied by ladies (families of the officers), and as inspecting officer it was exceedingly embarrassing to be confronted with this condition of affairs. While not attempting to hazard the criticism that the permission, by the commanding officer to officers of his regiment, to bring their families to live in camp, as being against the law as governing State camps, I do not hesitate to assert that, in my judgment, it is prejudicial to military order and discipline. State encampments are provided for, by the laws of the State, as camps of instruction; paid for as such, and anything tending to divert the minds of the command from this fundamental principle of instruction is, in my judgment, a thing to be carefully excluded from the camp grounds.

While it is desirable and necessary to put in as much hard work as possible in the short time allowed for camp purposes, an occasional evening for reception of guests should be encouraged, as tending to relax the tension of camp life and invite the interest of the citizens toward the National Guard.

The general condition of the officers' tents was not attractive (exception in favor of the tents of the officers of Company C). Adjutant's tent and headquarters tent in good shape. Quarters of the band were neat and well kept.

The water supply was not good, but the Commissary Department, as well as that of the Sixth, left nothing to be desired. The general condition of the men showed marked improvement over the camp of the previous year. Drills displayed steadiness, orders were executed with promptness, etc., but "in dress parade the commands were marched on the ground with fatigue caps suspended from the rear waist button, which is not in good form." On the day of inspection 253 men reported for duty, or 83.7 per cent of the original number taken to camp. (The battalion's strength in August was 372 and 68 per cent reported for duty in camp). In conclusion:

Uniforms were better than the average, and while in some cases not fitting as well as they should, yet the general appearance was good. The reason for uniforms not fitting well is often traceable, not to the fact that they did not originally fit the men for whom made, but in the many changes taking places in the "National Guard," the company tailor does not always keep pace with such changes; the ludicrous some times crops out when a six-footer is obliged to get into a coat intended for a man about five feet in height—his waist is certainly "well set up."

CAMP WATERMAN.

At Camp Waterman of the Second Brigade the average attendance was 1258, and a point is made in favor of the Russell tract (area 250 acres, one-half only available for camp purposes) for a State encampment ground, with the proviso:

If the State should conclude to locate permanent camp quarters the above could be increased by two gore pieces on the east, the first containing nearly thirteen and the second fifty-three acres. The location is good, and the natural features much in favor of this point. Much would be required in the way of grading, rolling and bringing water into camp before it would be properly available for such purposes.

Regarding the First Infantry, particular attention is called to Tent 6 (in F Co's street), which was provided with a suspended board, with hooks on the under side, for hanging uniforms, knapsacks and accoutrements, and on top having pegs for helmets. The tent was also provided with gun-racks and canvas cover for beds. This tent deserves special mention on account of the care taken to preserve State property and the air of neatness prevailing. F and B had gun-racks and boards for hanging clothing, generally, however, not entitled to special mention. A's tents not in good condition, the company being on guard duty. D C and G tents in good order and racks for guns in all tents. What of H?

In the Third Infantry Company C's tents were all right, B's tents in good shape, though, according to the report, "the company had an awning in front of the tents stretching the entire length of the company street. I was informed by the Colonel commanding that he had notified the Company Commander that in his judgment this was a violation of the brigade order 'not to decorate.'" Company H was not provided with any tent equipments and the condition of the tents of the other companies was fair.

The tents of the Fifth Infantry were generally in good order, particularly F's. Special mention is made of the First Sergeant's tent, which was very neat. Among other things specially noticeable was a portable desk, which could to advantage be adopted for use by all First Sergeants.

THE INSPECTION UNANNOUNCED.

In the Second Artillery tents were "fair," "in good shape," "in good order," "neat," and C's specially commended, and throughout the brigade officers' tents as a rule in excellent condition.

Speaking on this subject the Inspector declares:

In making this report of the condition of the various tents, it is but a matter of fairness to state that the inspection was not announced, and was a fair index of the working condition of the camp. After viewing the camp thus I am of the opinion that the enforcement of a rule should be insisted upon compelling each company to take into camp a sufficient number of mattress-covers for their men (one for each man); also supplying portable racks for guns, and compelling the men to protect company property by folding uniforms or hanging properly. Also, by frequent company inspections, to bring the men to a realizing sense of their duty to the State in thus protecting property which is not their own, but placed in their hands in trust. The State, on the other hand, should encourage this, by furnishing such articles as the mattress-covers, gun-racks and boards with hooks for hanging uniforms and equipments, as well as for helmets.

The Commissary Departments were all satisfactory and the camp a healthy one. The Signal Corps is referred to at some length as "a valuable auxiliary," and the recommendation made that it be mounted.

DELUSIVE FIGURES OF MERIT.

The genius of an evening paper who has never yet attempted to herald a bit of military news without demonstrating his utter ignorance of the subject, wisely declares as follows:

The report of Adjutant-General R. H. Orton, N. G. C., for September, shows that of the three regiments in San Francisco the Second Artillery had the largest percentage of attendance in that month, making 80.16 per cent. The Third Regiment had 75.18 per cent, and in the First Regiment the attendance was very poor, averaging only 71.91.

The Adjutant-General's monthly "figures of merit," with the word "merit" italicised, are dangerous things to fool with, even by those who understands them. In the first place the report in question did not show drill reports for the month of September, but for the month of August. It will be interesting to note how near the truth are the bold assertions that the Second Artillery had "the largest percentage of attendance," and that in the First Infantry "the attendance was very poor."

The Second and First have each 7 companies, and the First's company membership in August was 494 and the Second's 418, or 76 less. The Third Infantry with 8 companies had only a membership of 490, or 4 less than the First, but 72 more than the Second. The Second with 418 then had a per centage of 80.14 in attendance, so that 335 must have drilled that month, while the First with 494 men and 71.91 per cent must have drilled 355—20 more than the Second—yet, notwithstanding, its "attendance was very poor."

The Third with 490 and 8 companies, and 75.18 per cent, drilled 368 men—13 more than the First and 33 more than the Second—yet the Second, with actually the smallest number drilling of all, "had the largest percentage of attendance." So much for the face value of the Adjutant-General's tabulated figures of merit.

Look at these figures from another standpoint and note the result. The Third's 368 men, in 8 companies, represented 3 maximum companies with 59 men over; the First's 355, in 7 companies, 3 maximum companies and 46 men over, and the Second's 335, in 7 companies, 3 maximum companies and 26 men over, so that the 22 companies of the three regiments represented during that month at drill only 10 maximum companies (or 1 maximum regiment) with 28 men over.

THE ARMY OF 30,000.

The oracle, who certainly must be a first cousin, if not a closer blood relation, to the S. W. C., has seen fit to comment as follows upon the report of Captain O'Connell, U. S. A.:

Certain it is that the National Guard of California have urgent need for better weapons, State armories, a camping ground and a rifle range. With these the "army" of 30,000 men alluded to in that report would be efficient soldiers, what it is not possible under the present arrangements for them to be.

The total company strength of the N. G. C. during the month of August, when all but one of the encampments reported upon were in progress, was 3773. The allusion of the officer to an army corps was as follows: "California can place in the field an army corps of 30,000 well-trained soldiers in thirty days should the Government require it," so that there is no connection whatever between the actual 3773 and the contingent 30,000.

Not even can a paragraph in general orders be copied correctly as the following bright gem from a contemporary will attest: "Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel J. Taylor, First Infantry, Second Brigade, U. S. A., has been retired with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel from January 11, 1888." Will the author of this Kohinoor please elucidate what and where is the "First Infantry, Second Brigade, U. S. A.?" Shades of the oracle and the S. W. C., and what has the retirement of a U. S. A. officer to do in orders from "general headquarters, State of California."

There is a tradition that an annual muster and inspection was held of the Second Brigade in July last. Though held before the encampments, no report of it has yet been published "for the information of the N. G. C."

Captain J. J. O'Connell, First Infantry, U. S. A., who inspected the National Guard encampments, will entertain some of the officers of the citizen soldiery next Thursday afternoon at Angel Island.

On the last Thursday of this month the board of officers in the First Infantry will sit for the examination of eligible non-commissioned officers.

HORRIBLE SUICIDE.

Slander Drives a Young Man to Kill Himself.

Owen Lavin, a young man who had led a seafaring life, sought death yesterday afternoon, in his room at the St. Nicholas Hotel, 212 First street, in a horrible manner. He slashed his throat almost in twain with a sharp razor, and to make his terrible work more certain, chopped his right arm just above the elbow through muscles and arteries to the bone.

The blood flowed out of his body in big streams from both wounds, and when Thomas Young, his room-mate, entered the apartment at 1:15 o'clock a ghastly spectacle was presented by the desperate young man weltering in gore upon a bed.

Officer G. W. Haggett was called in from the temporary station at First and Howard streets. He lost no time in making use of what he had learned at the "First Aid" lectures to the police, some time ago, but in doing so met with a resistance he did not expect. The dying man was still strong, though his life's blood had flown freely from his veins, and he fought and struggled with the ferocity of a maniac.

He was a young man and of well-knit powerful frame, and while the air that reached his lungs passed through the gash he had made in his throat, he resisted with grim determination any attempt to thwart his purpose. It was only after a long scuffle that Officers Haggett and Farley pressed him down to the floor before being able to attend to the wounds.

Seeing the blood spurt Haggett knew that an artery in the arm was severed. He tied a cloth around the arm, and with his club twisted it tightly. The flow ceased until Lavin was laid on the hospital operating table.

The patrol wagon had the dying man at the hospital in a few minutes, and not a moment was lost by the physicians, but Lavin's work was beyond repair and he died almost immediately. His body was removed to the Morgue.

Lavin was believed by some of his acquaintances to be somewhat demented, and a letter which he left would bear out that opinion. In the letter he wrote "This is my dying statement. Don't tell anyone belonging to me." And then he continued, as God was his Judge, he was not guilty of infamous crime, which some people had charged him with.

On the 9th inst. he engaged a room in the hotel where he killed himself, and last Saturday found employment in the gas works as a laborer. Previously for two years he worked at odd jobs in the foundries.

A seaman's discharge card from Deputy United States Shipping Commissioner John Lynch, was found in his pocket. It was worn and partially defaced, but enough remained to tell that he was twenty-six years of age, a native of Ireland; that he sailed to this port on April 18, 1888, from Baltimore, and received the discharge October 19, 1888—just two years ago yesterday. He was given a "very good" character on the document.

HARD TO MANAGE.

Trouble Caused by Unruly Chinese Aboard the Walla Walla.

On board the steamship Walla Walla, which was expected to arrive early this morning, are the thirty-two Chinese caught making illegal entry into the United States territory by Puget Sound. They were captured in the sound on board a sloop in which they had made their way from Victoria. They came originally from China, it is thought, via the steamers Gaelic and Oceanic during the recent rate war between the Pacific Mail and Canadian Pacific.

As soon as captured they were sent to Port Townsend and remanded there by the Judge "back to the country from whence they came," which he decided to be Canada. The Canadian authorities refused to admit them except on the payment of a per capita tax of $50. The Secretary of the Treasury was then appealed to, who ordered them delivered over to Collector Phelps of this port for deportation to China.

They will be kept on the Walla Walla until to-morrow, when they will be transferred to the next departing steamer. It is said that two desperate attempts to escape have been made by them since their capture.

LOST IN THE FOG.

Ivy Baldwin's Parachute Jump at Bakers Beach.

A successful parachute jump from an elevation of 1000 feet was made by Ivy Baldwin near Bakers Beach yesterday afternoon. It took just eight minutes to fill the balloon with 35,000 cubic feet of hot air, and an instant after it was liberated the aeronaut, parachute and all disappeared in the mists. Five minutes later something white fluttered to the sand dunes half a mile to the eastward, and upon inspection it turned out to be Baldwin and his parachute. The balloon floated several hundred yards further and descended to the railroad track.

Pickpockets were out in full force, and one young lady was relieved of a purse containing several dollars. Fakirs of all kinds did a land-office business.

OUT OF THE SHADOW.

A Frenchwoman Almost Suffocated by Escaping Gas.

Mrs. Pon, a Frenchwoman, arrived Saturday in this city from her home in France, and went to live at 1231 Stockton street. Yesterday morning she was found in her bed unconscious and apparently dying from suffocation by gas, of which her room was full. One of the frightened inmates of the house ran to the Receiving Hospital, and Assistant Police Surgeon Bunker went to the woman's assistance and soon afterward had her able to speak. She did not understand the use of gas, having come from a country district of her native land. After retiring, she said, she blew out the flame and was quickly asleep. The physician stated that she had a most narrow escape from death.

SALVATION OIL, the great pain-remedy, is a genuine and reliable liniment. Price 25 cents.

No one has ever been disappointed in using Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup for a cold.

NEWS FROM PANAMA.

The City of Colon Devastated by a Great Conflagration.

Narrow Escape of a Railroad Train From a Terrible Disaster—Favorable Reports From the Canal—Etc.

The Pacific Mail Company's steamship Colima arrived from Panama and way ports at an early hour yesterday morning. From files of exchanges as late as September 25th the following items are taken.

The Isthmus.

Telegraphic advices from Carthagena announce the arrival of Dr. E. Roman and J. N. Recuero, delegates appointed by the Panama Chamber of Commerce to treat with President Nunez on behalf of the concession to the canal. The Star and Herald says: The news now brought is that the result of the interview between Dr. Nunez and these gentlemen has been most satisfactory, and is well calculated to calm all unrest that might still be felt. The Executive is evidently in accord with the desires of the people of Panama, and it is expected that the report which was to be presented by the special Congressional Commission this week would be exceedingly favorable. There were certainly no fears entertained but that the opposition in Congress would have to yield to a very decided majority, whose favor of the scheme was pronounced. We, therefore, have very good reasons indeed for anticipating that in about one week's time the anxiety will be over and that we will be in a position to announce that a mutually favorable arrangement has been reached between the Colombian Government and Lieutenant Wyse.

On Wednesday, September 24th, the city of Colon was visited with a fierce conflagration that swept every building in the district bounded by Fourth street, running east from the railroad freight depot, as far as the market and Police Station. With the exception of the lines of miserable hovels that chiefly comprise Cash and East streets, Colon was contained in the two fine streets, Front and Bolivar, and both these are now in ashes with the exception of the three northern blocks from First to Fourth cross streets, and the southern block from Ninth street to the railroad new station on the outskirts of the town.

The flames raged unchecked for five hours and the fire department was powerless to check the spread of the fire over block after block of stores containing enormous stocks of alcohol, kerosene and other inflammable materials. One train of freight cars, 15 empty and 17 loaded, were swept away.

While a railroad train was speeding from Panama toward Colon for the relief of the sufferers by the great fire it came near meeting with a terrible disaster. Soon after leaving Panama a heavy rain-storm came up that increased in violence until it developed into a terrific electric storm. About 1 o'clock in the afternoon, while the train was rushing through the dense forests near Gatun, a tall tree was shivered by an electric stroke. A large section fell across the top of the rear car, and caused it to plunge and reel on the rails as if about to jump clear. The engineer stopped as soon as possible and an examination was made. No special damage was done and orders were given to proceed. At this moment another bolt splintered a large tree that fell across the track not fifty feet ahead of the locomotive. This brought the train to a dead stop for five hours, while the tree had to be chopped down and the track cleared so as to permit the train to go forward. If the second tree had fallen upon the cars the loss of life would have been very great.

Colombia.

The Bogota Telegrama reports a most sensational tragedy. A well-known artizan, Eladio Rodriquez, was sitting in his house when he heard his wife, who was somewhat unwell, crying that thieves were at the door, and at the same time heard a shot. Rodriquez at once seized a rifle and fired through the door. It appears that three women who reside in the vicinity had rushed into the street at the first discharge, and while in front of the residence of Rodriquez a dog, which was on the door-step commenced to bark at them. One of them seized a stick to hit the dog, and it was the noise thus made which led to the alarm of "Thieves" being raised, and to Rodriquez firing and killing one of the women instantaneously, as the bullet from his rifle pierced the brain of the innocent and inoffensive woman.

The Government has signed a contract with J. L. O'Berry of California for the termination of the Buenaventura and Cali railroad, which will be extended to Mazatlan. The contractor will also enjoy, as the preference, under similar conditions, to build a line from a navigable point on the Atrato, or from some point in the north of the Gulf of Darien, and also to construct a railroad from Cali to Ecuador, with a branch to Popayan, and another which will place the Upper Magdalena in connection with the Upper Cauca. The first section from Cordoba to Cauca will be commenced within four months and opened to traffic within four years, with a guarantee of five per cent per annum for eighteen years on $38,000 gold for each kilometer constructed. The second section, from Cali to Manizales, will be commenced when arrangements shall have been made with the Government, and shall be built five years afterward, under a guarantee of 4½ per cent annual during a similar time. This concession will extend over a period of seventy years—at the termination of which period the line will become the property of the Government. One point which is considered objectionable, and which requires reform, is that respecting freights, since the contractor is allowed to charge the rates he may choose during the first five years, and subsequently he will fix them in accord with the Government, but they will not be less than those which rule to-day. The contractor will deposit $50,000 in gold prior to October 27th as security for the completion of the contract.

Ecuador.

The death recently occurred in Quito of General Martinez Aparicio, a Colombian by birth, and a veteran of the War of Independence, and who had lived and served in Ecuador during many years.

The sale of gunpowder is a Government monopoly in Ecuador. Recently the supply ran short, and an order for a fresh supply was sent to the United States. By mistake powder for use in heavy artillery was sent out, and, as there is no gunpowder in the Republic, the Guayaquil Nacion reports that squirrels, parrots and all kinds of birds and small animals are increasing in number and growing fat.

Bolivia.

Sucre is about to be illuminated by electricity.

Counterfeiters have been doing a thriving business in Oruro.

At Arpilapampa, in Arque Province, immense coal fields have been discovered.

Currency is so scarce in Oruro that citizens are cutting the notes into pieces and passing the pieces as fractional currency.

The establishment of a powerful syndicate in London to work gold and silver mines in Bolivia is attracting much attention in La Paz.

The Sucre Dia states the Government is having the mint placed in thorough working order, and that shortly coinage will commence on an extensive scale.

A La Paz daily reports: N. Flores, one of the assassins of the two American citizens who were murdered at Pelechuco in May last, has been brought to the capitol. Those assassinations were a mere prologue to what has subsequently been perpetrated by those who are working against the Government of General Camacho.

Small-pox is carrying off many victims in the villages in the Cordillera. It must be remembered that many of these people make up their minds to die directly they are attacked, as they do not believe small-pox to be a disease, but the result of witchcraft.

SLAYER OF TEN.

Georgia's Most Brutal Murderer Sees the Gallows.

In the Houston County Superior Court at Perry, Ga., yesterday, T. G. Wolfolk was a second time sentenced to be hanged on October 29th for the murder of ten members of his father's family in Bibb County in August, 1887.

On the night of August 7, 1887, he took an ax and going from room to room in his father's house butchered every one of its inmates while they slept. They were his father, stepmother, three half-sisters, three half-brothers, one infant in arms and one aged aunt, Mrs. West.

When asked what he had to say why sentence should not be pronounced, he said: "Nothing at all, only I am innocent. I did not do it. Still I would rather be in my grave than surrounded as I am. I am ready to receive my sentence.—St. Louis Star Sayings.

A Lonely Death.

A man unknown to the authorities died at the City and County Hospital yesterday from pneumonia. He was received into the hospital Friday on a permit from the Board of Health. He was about 45 years of age. His body is at the Morgue for identification.

WHY GRANT WAS GREAT.

Due Recognition When True Merit Is Once Established.

Was Grant a great General?—conceded. What made him so?

When U. S. Grant was hauling cord-wood into St. Louis his neighbors did not imagine he would become the most famous man of his generation. When he was managing the little tannery in Galena no one of his intimates recognized in him a future hero. But he displayed qualities which should have satisfied them he was no common man. What was there about him?

If you start to build a single story shanty you pay little attention to the foundation; you may lay stringers in the sand, with little fear the building will fall. But if you propose erecting a ten-story block your architect will tell you you must go to the rock for the basis of your foundation, or the stately structure is liable to tumble about your ears.

The foundation of a great man is moral force—character; this is the rock foundation. The shiftless man lacks it; he never succeeds. Grant never used an oath—a sure indication of moral character. He never told, or listened to, if he could help it, a vulgar story; this showed peculiar moral fiber, an unusual strength of character. He was a man of opinions—as his wife said, was obstinate; in other words, he had will power, force.

These qualities, with good judgment, well balanced mental powers, and peculiar executive ability, supplemented by a military education, fitted him for the emergency, when it came. As soon as his merits became known, success was assured. This is always the case, with things as with men. "I well know the value of Warner's Safe Cure," writes M. Carr, of the Hotel Bennett, Binghamton, N. Y. "In 1884 I had difficulty with my kidneys. The doctors did not help me; I was badly out of rig. One day a traveling man from Utica advised me to try Warner's Safe Cure. The first bottle did so much good that when my family doctor called I threw his medicine out of the window, while he was present. I continued to use Warner's Safe Cure until I was entirely well."

The test of merit is the accomplishment of the matter in hand. The best is that which is most certain. 1t

THE YOSEMITE.

Something in Regard to the Yosemite National Park Bill.

EDITOR OF THE CALL—*Dear Sir:* In the Alta of October 3d, in a short article on the Yosemite watershed referring to the Yosemite National Park Bill, occurs this sentence:

"The bill, before it was reported by Mr. Holman of the Land Committee, was amended so as to except all private holdings. This was done for the obvious reason that to extinguish the private titles which the Government has conveyed, would have cost several millions of dollars."

I am in a position to say with authority that while the Alta is correct as to the reason for the omission of private holdings from the operations of the bill, there is no basis for the statement that the bill was "amended" in this regard. The fact is that the exception was in the first draft of the bill, in support of which I had the honor to appear before the Public Lands Committee of the House. There were other amendments to the bill during its passage, but they related to the periphery of the park. At one time it was tacitly agreed in the committee that the park should be extended to the Nevada line, but the committee were convinced that such an extension would make an incongruous territory on two slopes of the Sierra, and doubly difficult to patrol, and that it would involve the risk of complication between the Government and owners of mining rights, for which risk there would be no adequate compensation of additional natural scenery adapted to park purposes. The present limits are substantially those of Mr. Muir as proposed in The Century for August and September, the divergence being due to the necessity of following township lines on the Land Office map of California. These limits were very carefully and conscriptiously worked out by the aid of the Land Office map, and even the field notes of the Government surveyors.

The above statement is due to those friends of Yosemite reform who have worked assiduously for the passage of this bill, and who never, at any time, have had an intention of precipitating a conflict between Government patentees and the park, as a reader of the Alta article would infer.

Will you permit me to add that the passage of Mr. Plumb's resolution for the investigation of the Yosemite Valley by the Secretary of the Interior, gives an opportunity to the true friends of the Yosemite in California to make a thorough overhauling of affairs in the valley. If some public-spirited citizen of California should feel enough interest in the preservation of the valley, which can only be effected by the aid of the best expert advice and direction, he would be able to accomplish the object by furnishing the means for the employment of some such man as Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted or Mr. Sargent of the Harvard Botanical Garden, either of whom would be able to recommend a plan for the future conduct of the landscape operations in the valley, which would set a standard below which the Commissioners would not dare to go.

The resolution of investigation gives Californians an opportunity to say whether they think the Yosemite Valley great enough to be treated on the highest principles of forestry, or whether they are content to have it treated on the unscientific and amateur principles which have already seriously injured it and which now dictate a further policy of slaughter, which the first experiment in the Calaveras Grove will, if carried out, result in "a calamity to the civilized world." Nobody blames any member of the commission for lacking expert knowledge of forestry. What is blamable is that they should undertake difficult land-care operations without the advice of those who have that knowledge.

The opponents of reform have command of financial resources, while the friends of reform are comparatively poor. Who will help the cause by providing means for the organization of a movement for obtaining a better state of affairs through the next Legislature? Very respectfully yours,

ROBERT UNDERWOOD JOHNSON.

New York, Oct. 15, 1890.

FATAL CURIOSITY.

Little Philip Fluhartz Wondered How It Felt to Be Hanged, and is Dead.

Philip Fluhartz, 11 years of age, was found about 8 o'clock on the morning of the 8th inst. dead and hanging at the end of a rope in the hatchway of the stable of John S. Ward, at Beach and Marlborough streets, Philadelphia. The case was evidently one of suicide. Thomas Fluhartz, the father of the dead boy, is foreman for Ward, who runs a wood-yard on Beach street, opposite Marlborough. His family live in the rear and second story of the building used by Ward as an office. Yesterday morning Mrs. Fluhartz sent Philip to the wharf below their house with a message for his father. He did not return as soon as she thought he should, and, fearing that perhaps he had fallen into the river, she went to look for him. After looking the yard all over and shouting his name several times, she went to look for him at the stable. The first thing she saw on entering the building was her boy's body hanging through the hatchway.

The mother's screams soon brought the father to her side, and the body was quickly cut down, but was already cold, and it was immediately see that any effort at any resuscitation would be useless. The rope with which the boy was found hanging was one used for lowering feed from the loft of the stable to the first floor. It was a half-inch line, and on the end was a heavy iron hook. The noose was made by putting the hook around the rope. It is hard to understand how this could be accomplished except intentionally. A talk with Mrs. Fluhartz last evening elicited the fact that the boy has been taking an almost morbid interest in the Miller murder at Merchantville. At his home they are subscribers for an evening paper, and the boy every evening would wait impatiently for its arrival. Upon getting it he would go off by himself and read it over and over again.

He took special delight in the bloody details of the tragedy, and the day succeeding the murder, after he had been looking at the paper for a long time, he turned to his mother and said: "I wonder if it hurt her much when he cut her throat?" Against when the possibility of hanging Lingo was being discussed, he said, eagerly: "I wonde. how it feels to be hanged?" For the past few days he had been talking with his parents almost continuously about the case. Few people who knew the boy will ever, discuss the suicide theory, as the boy's happy disposition and general good behavior made him very popular in the neighborhood. A theory which has many adherents in the locality is that the boy stood on the ladder leading to the loft, and, putting the rope around his neck, fell off. Than he made a desperate struggle to release himself is almost certain, as the left boot he had on at the time has several large scratched upon it. It is also marked with brick-dust, where he had kicked the wall in his struggle.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

Mrs. John A. Logan is about to begin the publication of her memoirs of public life.

Dr. Talmage says that the report that he is getting stout is an invention of Satan. Morton.

Clement G. Morgan, the colored graduate of Harvard, is lecturing in Connecticut on the educational needs of the South.

Mrs. Henry W. Grady will winter in New York City, where she goes to superintend the education of her daughter, Gussie.

Mrs. Margaret Stafford Worth of New York has just received her first check for the monthly pension of $75 recently granted her by Congress.

Congressman Kennedy entered the war as a private and rose by successive steps to Brigadier-General. At the close of the war he studied law and since practiced at the bar.

Major James B. Pond, who manages Stanley's lectures in this country, learned the printer's trade in Fond du Lac, Wis., and at the commencement of the war was editor of a paper in Markesan, same State.

The severe illness from which the King of Portugal has been suffering appears to have been primarily caused by his Majesty, when on board his yacht near the port of Othon, drinking a glass of unfiltered and polluted water.

Captain Gaetano Casati, like Stanley, has written an account of his African experiences. It will be published in Hamburg, Germany, and is to be called "Ten Years in the Equatorial Region, and Return of Emin Pasha."

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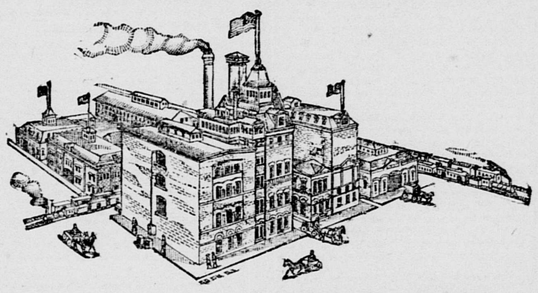

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For Eureka, Humboldt Bay, Wednesdays, 9 A. M.

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CITY OF PEKING, Saturday, November 1st, at 1 PM

CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO, Tuesday, ... November 27th, at 1 PM

CHINA (via Honolulu), Thursday, ... 18th, at 1 PM

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LA BOURGOGNE, Frangeul, ... Saturday, Oct. 25th, 2:30 P. M.

LA BRETAGNE, De Jousselin, ... Saturday, Nov. 1st, at 7:30 A. M.

LA GASCOGNE, Santelli, ... Saturday, Nov. 8th, 1:30 P. M.

LA CHAMPAGNE, Straub, ... Saturday, November 15th, 6:00 A. M.

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COMMENCING SUNDAY, JULY 13, 1890, AND until further notice, Boats and Trains will leave from and arrive at the San Francisco Passenger Depot, Market-street Wharf, as follows:

From San Francisco for Point Tiburon and San Rafael—Week days: 7:40 A. M., 9:20 A. M., 11:20 A. M., 1:30 P. M., 3:30 P. M., 5:00 P. M., 6:25 P. M. Sundays: 8:00 A. M., 9:30 A. M., 11.00 A. M., 1:30 P. M., 3:30 P. M., 5:00 P. M., 6:15 P. M.

From San Rafael for San Francisco—Week days: 6:50 A. M., 8:30 A. M., 9:30 A. M., 11:40 A. M., 1:40 P. M., 3:40 P. M., 5:05 P. M., 6:30 P. M. Sundays: 8:10 A. M., 9:40 A. M., 11:10 A. M., 1:40 P. M., 3:40 P. M., 5:00 P. M., 6:25 P. M.

From Point Tiburon for San Francisco—Week days: 7:15 A. M., 8:20 A. M., 9:55 A. M., 12:05 P. M., 2:05 P. M., 4:05 P. M., 5:30 P. M., 7:00 P. M. Sundays: 8:00 A. M., 9:35 A. M., 10:05 A. M., 11:35 A. M., 2:05 P. M., 4:05 P. M., 5:30 P. M., 6:30 P. M.

Leave San Francisco.		DESTINATION.	Arrive in San Francisco.	
WEEK DAYS.	SUNDAYS.		SUNDAYS.	WEEK DAYS.
7:40 A. M	8:00 A. M	Petaluma and Sta Rosa.	10:40 A. M	8:50 A. M
3:30 P. M	9:30 A. M		6:05 P. M	10:30 A. M
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