THE GENERAL FIELD OF SPORTS.

La Blanche Will Sell a Favorite Against Mitchell.

The Godfrey and Kilrain Meeting—Strong Opposition Manifested to Game Preserves—Cross-Country Running.

Pugilism in this city has received a new lease of life, and arenic stars are pretty well scattered among the old training-grounds. The matching of Kilrain and Godfrey was another step in the revival of a sport which had received a knock-out blow.

The athletes have now begun to train in earnest for the field-day on the 22d inst. Considerable interest is taken in this event, which promises to be first-class in every particular.

Shooting and fishing are extensively patronized by the lovers of quiet sport. The former was never better than now.

Several rifle matches are talked of, and it is hoped that some of them will come to an issue.

ATHLETIC.

Cross-Country Running—War in the New York Club.

Cross-country running was a very popular pastime with all the amateur clubs a year ago, but since the construction of the Olympic Club's outdoor grounds the Olympians have turned their backs on the real outdoor sport, and are now giving their undivided attention to sprinting and racing on the cinders. This is all well and good in itself, but at least one day in the month should be set apart for a cross-country race, which will bring all athletes of the various clubs together, and many little matters could be talked over and argued which would bring about a thorough friendly feeling and strengthen the scheme to make outdoor athletics the great feature of amateur sport in California. In unity there is strength, and if the outdoor boys—it matters not what clubs they represent—will only stand united and support their officers in measures for the good of outdoor sport, it will not be many years when the Eastern clubs will have a wholesome dread of competition with the P. C. A. A. A. of Cal. Speaking of cross-country running, a New York paper says:

The proposition made by E. C. Carter to establish sectional cross-country associations throughout the country is certainly a good one and should be carried out. Mr. Carter's proposition, as we understand it, is to have Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western associations with a National Cross-country as the appellate body. The Western branch association could take in St. Louis and all points west of that points. The Southern branch association could take in Baltimore and all points south of Baltimore. The Northern branch association could take in New York City and vicinity, and the Eastern branch association could take in Boston and vicinity. It is to be hoped that the cross-country enthusiasts throughout the country will act upon the suggestion of Mr. Carter and organize in the direction above indicated. There is no form of amateur sport that is more healthy and from which more pure, genuine pleasure can be derived than from cross-country running, and there is little or no reason to doubt that in years to come the sport will be very popular throughout the country.

War clouds are hovering over the New York Athletic Club again. The contending factions are about to come together and will try to settle their differences. There will be a special meeting of the club called at the request of fifty members, representing the social element in the organization. The social element and the athletic element had a falling out about a year ago, and put up distinct tickets. The champions of athletics won. Since then, it is said, the advocates of conviviality have been longing for a whack at their opponents. The real object of the meeting is to find out how much of the club's money was spent last year on athletics. It is believed that more than the amount of the athletic fund was spent that way. Some of the athletes say that the expenditure was rendered necessary to send a number of representatives of the club on the Western circuit last year. The call for the meeting was headed by C. H. Wilcox, who was defeated at the election, and one of the signers of the call says he was justifiably anxious to know what amount of the club's money, if any, was deposited in the wrecked North River Bank by the club's Treasurer, Edward E. Gedney, who was also President of the bank.

The outdoor athletes of the Olympic Club will be out at the grounds this forenoon in strong force. Several impromptu races will take place, and it is rumored that Foster will try again to lower the record he recently made in a private trial at hurdle racing. Foster is a most promising athlete and if nothing happens to prevent him training his friends hope to see him lower an American record at the next championship meeting.

The cross-country run of the Alpine Athletic Club, which was to have taken place from the rooms of the Alameda Olympic Club to-day, have been postponed until the 8th inst. It is expected that the Acme and Alameda Club athletes will be present to join in the run. The Alpine Club Secretary will duly notify members of the clubs of the hour of meeting, etc.

The following are new English walking records: December 20th, at Tufnell Park, England, 10-mile handicap walk—H. Curtis, Highgate Harriers, scratch, 1 mile, 7m. 14s.; 2 miles, 15m. 10s.; 3 miles, 23m. 5s.; 4 miles, 31m. 2s.; 5 miles, 39m. 9½s.; 6 miles, 47m. 13s.; 7 miles, 55m. 21½s.; 8 miles, 1h. 3m. 6s.; 9 miles, 1h. 11m. 14 3-5s.; 10 miles, 1h. 19m. 27 2-5s.; W. White, H. E., 8 miles 4 minutes, 2; S. H. Adams, Lea H., 8 minutes, 3. Curtis' time for 8, 9 and 10 miles now become the fastest English amateur records, supplanting those made by C. W. V. Clarke, at Richmond, March 5, 1887; but they are still far behind the American amateur records.

It is now announced that Luther Cleveland, Princeton, is willing to go in with Lee of Harvard and Sherrill of Yale, in a series of sprinting races at 50, 100, 150 and 220 yards, to settle the intercollegiate championship of America, the matches to be run in the spring.

Frank Hall will manage a six-day race at the Olympia (London) during the last week in March. Hall offered an alleged wager of $5000 that he could produce an American pedestrian to beat Rowell.

A new outdoor winter running track has just been constructed at Harvard. An exchange says that the track is near the gymnasium and is constructed of soft planks.

W. H. Robertson of Brooklyn, N. Y., has offered to match Steve Farrell for $2000 to run Darren, the English professional, half a mile.

Fred Harmon, the well-known sprinter, who resided in this city a number of years, is now taking pills and other specifics in a Franklin (Mass.) drug-store.

Willie Day, the cross-country champion, has finally concluded to retire permanently from all kinds of athletic pastimes.

Sir John Ashley of England will give a championship cup for a six-day go-as-you-please contest.

Downs, the fast quarter-mile runner, is now principal of the High School in Lake Village, N. H.

Charles Rowell, the pedestrian, was married in London on the 19th inst. to a Cambridge lady.

Harry Beltme and Jim Regan, professional sprinters, are "harvesting" in New Orleans.

THE RING.

La Blanche Will Be at Weight to Fight Mitchell.

The next fistic dispute which will interest people who fancy boxing will occur on the 20th inst. at the California Club. The principals, who have been matched for the second time, are Young Mitchell and George la Blanche, both aspirants for the middle-weight championship; or, at least, they have been aspiring for that title up to the time Dempsey was defeated by Fitzsimmons. Mitchell is now almost at the weight he will fight "the Marine," and according to his trainer, Martin Murphy, the young Californian never felt better in his life.

La Blanche has only recently settled down to bag-punching at Sausalito, and if looks speak for aught he is the very picture of robust health. He said to a CALL representative a few days ago that there need be no anxiety felt by the club or his opponent about his weight.

"The fact of the matter," said the Marine, "is this: When I fought Dempsey I was not in as good condition as I might have been, and I did not work as hard as pugilists generally do to get to weight. Because why? I knew thoroughly well that Dempsey was only too anxious for another slash at me, and when I figured up matters I concluded that I would go into the ring strong and able to stand the reduction of five or six pounds if the fight should be a long one, and then be strong when he (Dempsey) would be getting weak. I knew that rather than miss the opportunity of meeting me, Dempsey would not put in an objection against a few pounds extra weight, and I carried my point. Of course affairs are altogether different now; Mitchell is not Dempsey, and I do not expect to meet him unless I comply with the articles to the letter. I am now near the weight I fought Dempsey, and by easy stages I will reduce until I get to 154 pounds."

Muldoon will keep Kilrain, so to speak, under cover until the 13th of March, the day selected for the mill between Jake and George. It is suggested that the athlete cover his charge with a blanket of fog when reporters and men of sporting proclivities pay a visit to Kilrain's training station for the purpose of "sizing up" the man who will sell as favorite in the pools when the time for an exchange of fistic compliments falls due. Years have made many changes in San Francisco since Billy Muldoon and Clarence Whistler drew the wool over the eyes of the lovers of sport in this city who paid high prices to witness the hippodroming wrestling matches at the Mechanics' Pavilion.

Muldoon was then a popular athlete, and would have continued to hold the high estimation in which he was held had it not been for the expose of Whistler, who stated openly that he had to agree to Muldoon's terms or go without eating. Of the many pugilists who have trained for contests within close proximity of this city, there has not been a single case mentioned of a fighter who objected to people visiting the training-grounds when the pugilist had completed his routine work. Of course, if Mr. Muldoon objects to having people visit Kilrain while the latter is in training, his wishes will be respected by the sporting element of this city, which, as a rule, does not desire to tread on forbidden ground.

An Australian paper remarks: "No doubt Jackson is a scientific boxer, and against most men he would come out of a contest with flying colors; but with sturdy resolute boxers of the Slavin and Goddard type, men who are indifferent to punishment and can serve out body blows with terrific force, I think he will always be second. W. Farnan beat him fairly enough both times he met him, and the Victorian blacksmith were him out merely through sheer pluck, indifference to punishment, and repeated visitations with his right to Jackson's body. Poor Farnan received ten times the punishment that he administered to Jackson, but he could stand it while Jackson could not, and whenever the latter meets Slavin he will take special care to keep away from that dangerous right which knocked out McAuliffe. After his bout with Goddard I met a north country Englishman who thought they should have been allowed to fight a couple of more rounds. 'If they had,' said he, 'why Goddard would ha' knocked 'im out.' 'Wait till he meets Slavin,' said I. 'What?' rejoined the north countryman; 'I'll lay the tend pands to a sieverin he never will meet him.' Many people are of the same opinion. They declare Jackson does not care for the job, and he will keep out of Slavin's way until he is actually forced to meet him."

The victory of Fitzsimmons over Dempsey once more calls to mind the latter-day supremacy of Australians in nearly all branches of athletic sports. It may be true that they do not hold the world's records for boxing and jumping, but it can be taken for granted that if put to test they would at least prove themselves equal to any of their rivals from elsewhere in these two sports, while in boxing and sculling it is apparent they are away ahead, and in bicycling are tolerably well up. Many people put the excellence of the Antipodeans down to the credit of the climate of the country in which they live. Doubtless there is reason for this conclusion, but there is more cause for attributing it to the sturdy stock from which they spring, to the free, yet austere, life they lead, to the love of sport that pervades all classes of the people in Australia, and to the encouragement that is given to the development of man and beast.

It has been admitted by all who witnessed the great international middle-weight battle between Dempsey and Fitzsimmons that Dempsey was easily whipped. The reason that Fitzsimmons accomplished the trick with marvelous dexterity has been little more than hinted at, and yet it is not hard to find Dempsey did not gain his title of "The Nonpareil" without accomplishing it. At one time he was undoubtedly the cleverest of his age, weight and stature in America, if not in the world. To-day he is a wreck. His ability is as great as ever, so far as that means the handling of his hands, but the power has gone. He held La Blanche cheaply and neglected the proper precautions, and was defeated.

When he signed articles to fight Fitzsimmons he was in the midst of a round of dissipation in Oregon. Like every other statement made in the ring, this will be denied. But it is true. In condition in days gone by, Dempsey knew he could beat any man that could get within a few pounds of his weight. He was right, he could. But years had slipped along and dissipation had accomplished its natural task. But John L. Sullivan had dissipated more than he, and at intervals had continued his victorious career. That fatal argument of exceptions!

All America has been boasting for years that there was no pugilistically the greatest man in the world. He has been nearly whipped, and, in consenting to a draw, has practically capitulated; but to-day he is regarded with as much reverence as ever. If he were to go into a fight to-morrow ninety out of a hundred people on this continent would expect to see him win, and the other ten would ask long odds before they would give consent to give practical expression to their contrary opinion. And Dempsey imagined he had the recuperative physical power of the fool-god of America. He discovered his mistake and was beaten. Fitzsimmons, whose ability is undoubted, will go the same way. They all do.

This is the way Macon sizes up the now famous middle-weight champion, Fitzsimmons:

Well, Fitzsimmons is better than Jake Kilrain, Jack Ashton, Joe Lannon and George Godfrey, and his frame is as large as either's. Up to the time that he defeated Billy McCarthy in California he was as poor as a church mouse. He did not have the money to pay for even a steerage passage from Melbourne to this country, and he came here as a stowaway and worked his passage after his discovery on the ship by washing down the decks and performing other employment. A pint of porter and a dram of grog was the extent of his liquid refreshments a year ago. Now he is drinking champagne, and by the time he has devoured the immense quantities of a score of American beeves he will have the meat on his frame that nature intended it to carry. Then he will be in his proper class, and he will have to go up against the Corbyites, the Peter Nolans of the ring, and not the 154-pounders.

When actor John L. Sullivan thinks he needs a little advertising in his business, he doesn't have his diamonds stolen or apply for a divorce. Not he! John simply whips a reporter or Kelly over a few links on of his leading man's vertebræ, and straightway the press teams with notices. Mr. Sullivan certainly has talent, such as it is.

It is an interesting fact that Fitzsimmons has never tasted liquor, while Dempsey took brandy between each round of their fight.

ROD AND GUN.

Excellent Duck Shooting to Be Had. Gamey Grilse.

The preliminary examination of Foote, the market-hunter, who shot and killed a game-keeper named McKenzie on the Suisun marshes recently, took place at Fairfield on Thursday. Two members of the Sportsmen's Protective Association of this city, Messrs. Stack and Millish, visited Suisun, ostensibly to have an interview with Foote and to learn the full particulars connected with the shooting. The prisoner was not permitted to see any person, but the representatives of the Sportsmen's Association state that the feelings of the residents of Suisun, Benicia, Vallejo and those towns in the vicinity of the marshes are strongly against preserves and those who favor them. The lawyers who are defending the man who shot McKenzie have been engaged by the residents of the locality in which the shooting was done. Business men of Suisun and Benicia state that the keeper was in the habit of flourishing a pistol over the heads of persons who entered the marsh for the purpose of having a little quiet sport and that on moonlight nights it was a custom of the keeper to shoot with rifles at the flashes of guns used by hunters when shooting on ponds. Particulars of the hearing have not been received, but it is quite probable that Foote will be held to answer.

Old sportsmen do not remember a winter that has afforded better duck-shooting than the present. A glance at the game stalls of any of the markets will convince the most skeptical that "the ducks must be in" and that hunters, such as they are generally termed, are having gala sport on the mud flats. There is only one drawback to duck-shooting on grounds that are partly submerged by salt water and that is the food upon which the birds principally exist, which gives them a rank and fishy flavor which is not pleasant to the palate. The flavor of the quackers does not, however, cut any figure with the man who slashes through the mud flats and who has only one object in mind—the size of the bag he will show up to his friends on the return from the day's shoot. The flavor of marsh ducks may not be acceptable to the hunter's wife and children or friends, but for a' that the lover of the pastime has his enjoyment, irrespective of how the birds taste or the manner in which they may be treated by those to whom they are consigned at the end of the day's cannonading.

Sportsmen, and market-hunters in particular, will bear in mind that a law was passed by the Supervisors of this city a few months ago which was intended for the protection of the broad-bill family during certain months of the year. The law as it now stands reads:

It shall be unlawful for any person between the 1st day of March and the 1st day of September of each year, in the city and county of San Francisco, to hunt, pursue, kill or destroy, or to buy, sell, barter, exchange, or offer or expose for sale, transport, or have in his possession any mallard duck or widgeon, teal, redhead, pintail, gadwall, wood duck, jack snipe, otherwise known as English snipe.

Any person violating the above provisions shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and punished accordingly, and the sportsmen of this city will ask Chief Crowley to instruct the police officers to have a sharp lookout for persons who violate this law after March 1st.

The sloughs and creeks are now literally swarming with salmon that are waiting an opportunity of going up to their spawning-beds in fresh-water streams. If the weather continues dry there will be very little fishing next summer, as there is scarce water enough in the glens to wet the appetites of the bull-frogs and the basso toad. When the next storm comes it is safe to presume that an incessant downpour will be the result and that both fish, fowl and farmers will be made happy.

A vigorous effort has been made in New York to establish a hospice or home for dogs. The subject has been thoroughly canvassed by the New York Herald, and the expressions brought out augur favorably for the establishment of such an institution. Liberal donations from private sources have been promised, and there are no obstacles now in the way of raising the contemplated sum of $100,000 for that laudable object. Through the establishment of this asylum, the despicable methods of the dog-catchers will be practically wiped out.

Ramon Wilson, Joseph D. Redding and Joseph Moresi, the newly appointed Fish and Game Commissioner, will undoubtedly give good attention to the protection of both game and fish. Wilson and Redding are both well-known sportsmen: the former quite an expert angler. It is said that Thomas Tunstead will probably be the next Chief of the Fish Patrol. He would be the right man in the right place.

Count Noble, the famous English setter, by Nora and Count Windom, died at Sewickly, Pa., January 21st. Count Noble was the illustrious father of a noted line, and his owner, B. F. Wilson, had several times been offered $10,000 for him.

WITH THE RIFLE.

Contests at the Ranges—Tests of the Small-Bore Rifle.

The California Schuetzen Club will hold its monthly medal shoot at Harbor View to-day.

The Gruetli and Eintracht Rifle clubs will also shoot for medals to-day at the Harbor View range.

Company C (Oakland) of the Third Infantry Regiment will have a medal shoot at Shell Mound to-day.

The Independent Rifles will hold their preliminary medal shoot for this month at the ranges at Shell Mound Park to-day.

The City Guard will compete at Shell Mound to-day for the medals of the several classes of that organization.

Bad habits and dissipation of all kinds must stand back away from the enthusiastic and successful rifle shot; they have no place with him. For this reason, if no other, should boys and young men be taught to practice and form a liking for this art. As a health-giving exercise and an incentive to seek the open air, it is greatly to be recommended. Small-bore rifle-shooting can be indulged in by both sexes; the weak as well as the strong can handle the small rifle, and one may derive as much pleasure as another from its use.

A new smokeless powder is being manufactured at the United States Torpedo Station in Rhode Island. The formula is a new one and is the invention of Professor C. E. Monroe, the Government chemist at the station. Quite a number of experiments have already been made with the new powder, and it has been demonstrated to possess a higher explosive power than ordinary powder, ten grains being sufficient to drive a bullet into a pine board a depth of twenty inches, while seventy grains of service powder will cause a bullet to penetrate only fourteen inches. Further experiments with this new powder will be watched with deep interest.

With a view to ascertain the probable character of the wounds which will be inflicted by the new small-bore rifles which have been adopted in European armies, some interesting experiments have recently been made by London surgeons. The human bodies were arranged so as to represent a company, with intervals, in fighting formation, and the bullets were finally received in bags of sawdust, where at the short range, they were found unaltered in shape. When fighting at a range of about 200 yards the bullets were found to pass completely through from four to five ranks; at 400 yards, from three to four ranks, and at ranges between 800 to 1200 yards, from two to three ranks of a company in fighting formation, even in cases where the bullet had encountered large bones. In but rare cases was a bullet found to have lodged, and the general results prove conclusively that the new weapons cause greater penetration and less laceration than did those formerly in use; so that, in fact, the diminution in bore rendered necessary on tactical grounds, and especially the introduction of the "covered" bullet, is considered a direct step in the cause of humanity.

Hand-Ball.

A very spirited game of hand-ball was played on Tuesday on the Howard-street court, between P. J. Manning of this city and Thomas Bunyan of Milpitas. The game was lost two runs out of three for $50 a side, and was declared a draw. Another game between Young Sammis of Ireland and Hilderbrandt resulted in favor of the latter. Some great playing will be witnessed to-day. Jack Riordan has donned his "war paint," and says that he must defeat Armstrong.

Correspondents Answered.

Peter Jackson defeated Patsy Cardiff at the California Club.—Slavin and Smith fought fourteen rounds on French soil December 23, 1889.—Books on wrestling and boxing and the methods of training are kept by the leading booksellers.—Albert, the pedestrian, was born in America.—Jackson defeated McAuliffe in twenty-four rounds.

SECTION EIGHT OF THE SEA-WALL.

Specifications Adopted and Bids Called For.

The Estimated Cost Will Be About $111,000. No Chinese Will Be Employed and Laborers Will Work Only Eight Hours.

An important meeting of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, attended also by Governor Markham and Mayor Sanderson, was held yesterday morning for the purpose of adopting specifications for the completion of Section 8A of the sea-wall, at the foot of Market street. Chairman W. D. English presided.

Chief Engineer Manson read the specifications and stated that his estimate of cost of the construction is $111,429. This estimate is on the caisson system, which is considered the best, and was adopted.

Governor Markham suggested that the entire work should be under the supervision of the board, and that no decision by the Chief Engineer should be considered binding upon the Commissioners.

The specifications were then amended in compliance with the suggestion, and it was decided to employ no Chinese on the work and that labor should be employed only eight hours daily.

BIDS CALLED FOR.

Resolutions were adopted calling for bids for the work and for advertising the same for thirty days. The following resolution was then unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the attorney of the Board of Harbor Commissioners is hereby authorized and directed to ascertain the owners and institute proceedings for the condemnation of that portion of Block 6, water lot 122 [the triangular piece at the junction of Sacramento, East and Market streets], which may be necessary to carry out the provisions of Section 3 of "An act concerning the water front of the city and county of San Francisco."

It was stated that the parcel of land in question would not be likely to cost over $10,000, and the board adjourned to meet on March 5th, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when Governor Markham and Mayor Sanderson will be in attendance.

A TRIP ON THE BAY.

Prior to the meeting a trip was taken along the water front on the tug Governor Irwin, which left Washington-street Wharf at 10 o'clock. There were on board: Governor Markham, Dr. W. W. Lawlor, Quarantine Officer of the port, Harbor Commissioners English, Alexander and Brown, Secretary J. J. Keegan, Chief Engineer Marsden Manson, C. F. Bassett, the recent appointment of Governor Markham to succeed W. D. English, whose term will expire in March next, Attorney F. S. Stratton, E. P. Johnson, Reed Jones, and representatives of the newspapers. Owing to an important meeting of the new City Hall Commissioners, Mayor Sanderson was not able to go on the trip.

The tug touched at the Union Iron Works, where the coast-defense vessel Monterey was viewed, and at Meiggs Wharf, Lombard street and Clay street, where the party went ashore. Everything of interest to commerce was pointed out to the Governor and party.

Presented With a Club.

Captain A. J. Dunlevy of the Harbor Police has been presented with a handsome ivory club made from walrus tusk. The presentation was made by Captain Laflin, the shipping master.

THE CALL'S QUERY COLUMN.

Conflicting Accounts of Mohammed's Sacred Flag.

Introduction of Breech-Loaders—The Customs Duty on Books—Greatest in Their Line. Tom Thumb and Other Dwarfs.

THE CALL'S Query Column is conducted with a view to aid all seekers after knowledge of general interest.

Catch questions will not receive any attention.

No opinion will be given in this column regarding the reliability or character of any person or firms in this city or elsewhere.

Questions, answers to which are in the nature of an advertisement, will not be answered.

Every inquiry must have the true and full name of the sender, as well as the correct residence. **Any inquiry that has not the correct name and address of the sender will be treated as if it was not signed, and the writer need not expect an answer.**

FLAG OF MOHAMMED II—F. L. J., City. Constantinople's Moslems profess to have in their possession the genuine standard of the prophet Mohammed I; but it may not be seen or even touched by Christians. In fact, only an emir is permitted to touch it. It is only displayed in the alay or triumph al procession of artisans and others, signalizing the outbreak of hostilities or war. If any Christian has seen or is thought to have seen the holy symbol on any such occasion, the story runs that some fanatical Turk is very likely to put him to death. But the "Sanyak Sherif," or "sacred flag of Mohammed," was a subject of discussion in European newspapers not many months ago, and these accounts not only differed as to the whereabouts of the famous "standard of the prophet," but also as to its color and design. According to the North German Gazette, it is at the present time in the armory of the Palazzo Castello in Turin, Italy. It had been preserved in the imperial mosque of Abou Eyoub at Constantinople, but Baron Tecco, the Sardinian Embassador, bought it, in 1839, and sent it to his King, Charles Albert, who had founded the museum of artillery in 1833. According to this authority the standard is of red silk with several verses from the Koran embroidered in yellow, its height slightly over 6 feet and its width 4¼. A correspondent of one of the London dailies claimed to have seen the secret emblem in the Seraglio, and he described it as of yellow silk, and formerly one of the flowing curtains that adorned the room of the favorite wife of the prophet. Chambers' Cyclopedia is authority for this: "Eyub is inhabitated only by Turks, and here are preserved the 'Sanyak Sherif,' or the banner of the prophet, and the sword of Osman, with which each Sultan is girded on his accession to the throne, a ceremony equivalent to a coronation." This standard may have been the one which Mohammed II had at the siege of Constantinople.

THE GREATEST IN THEIR LINE—C. W., Modesto, C. W. C., Gilroy, Cal., and J. B., C. H. K., L. H. H. and L. E. W., City. Perhaps no two persons and no two nations can agree on an answer to your queries. Of the living the Q. C. can only suggest that the greatest in their particular sphere are: Historians—James Anthony Froude, Hippolyte A. Taine and William H. Lecky; generals and soldiers—Count Helmuth von Moltke and William T. Sherman; medical—Sir Morrell Mackenzie, Drs. Rudolf Virchow and Edward Brown-Sequard; actors—Tomaso Salvini, Edwin Booth, John Henry B. Irving and Joseph Jefferson; musical composer, Giuseppe Verdi; novelists—Emile Gaboriau, Emile Zola and Alphonse Daudet; greatest men—Prince Karl Otto von Bismarck-Schoenhausen, Pope Leo XIII and the Right Hon. William E. Gladstone, M. P.; scientists—Herbert Spencer, Thomas H. Huxley and John Tyndall. In the Q. C. of the 25th ult. it was stated that Sir Charles Russell might be considered the greatest lawyer.

BREECH-LOADERS—J. C., Juneau, Alaska. The introduction of breech-loading rifles and carbines in the United States Army dates properly from 1865, after which muzzle-loading guns were not longer manufactured in the Springfield army arsenal. A short time before the late war the Government tested a number of breech-loading guns, such as the Burnside, Cosmopolitan, Gallagher, Joslyn, Merrill, Maynard, Smith, Gardiner and others. Some of these guns are now used, except the Springfield, which has been adapted to the metallic cartridge. In 1866 a board was appointed to report upon the form and caliber adaptable for breech-loading muskets and carbines and the methods for converting the muzzle-loaders to breech-loaders. The board examined twenty-two patterns of muskets and seventeen of carbines, and reported in favor of the Springfield. Therefore it is highly improbable that you fired a breech-loading carbine in the war with Mexico.

DUTY ON BOOKS—A. R., Gonzales, Cal. (1) All books imported into this country are liable to a customs duty except those addressed to Congress, those with "raised letters" for the blind, those of a scientific nature and belonging beyond doubt to a professional man for his own use, those published in any other language but English, those published at least twenty years and all American books exported and reimported. (2) Bona-fide sample packages having no intrinsic value other than such may be sent by mail from England to the United States, providing they are within the 12-ounce limit. The postal laws allow four pounds of books to be sent by mail between the countries named, but books, if bound, are subjected to the customs provisions and taxes.

CARRYING A WEAPON CONCEALED—E. F. P., City. The municipal ordinance declares that it shall be unlawful for any person, "not being a public officer or traveler, or not having a permit from the Police Commissioners," to wear or carry concealed any pistol, dirk or other dangerous or deadly weapon. The letter-carrier who has been granted such a permit need not have another permitting him to carry such weapon when in citizen's clothes.

IT IS A TIE—F. M. T., Point Conception, Cal. A number of beans having been placed in a jar and A guessing within three of the real number and B three more than contained, the Q. C. is of the opinion that under the circumstances neither won the contest and it is a tie. If, as you claim that A won because under the number, why not also B, who guessed the number with three added? Is not one as far from the real number as the other?

CAPITAL AND CAPITOL—C. W. W., Santa Cruz, Cal. Webster's Dictionary, or any other for that matter, will inform you that in geography "capital" means a chief city or town in a country; and "capitol," the edifice occupied by the Congress of the United States, and, generally speaking, as it has come to be used, the State-house in which the sessions of the Legislature are held.

MAKING BUTTER—H. W. K., Freeport, Cal. (1) Experiments have shown that a temperature of from 54° to 59° Fahrenheit, both of the air and of the cream, is the best for churning, the temperature of the cream usually rising about 10° during this process. (2) Your second question is unintelligible. Three days is as long as the cream can ordinarily be kept for butter of good quality.

WHERE TO APPLY—A. B., City. For official reports concerning the United States Navy, the most natural person to address would be the Secretary of the Navy; concerning the merchant marine the Treasury Department, Bureau of Navigation, both of which departments are in Washington, D. C.

IN TWO STATES—B. F. Bedison, Mo. (1) There is a little town named Farmington in San Joaquin County in California, and there is a town of the same name in Whitman County, Wash. (2) The Q. C. knows of no Palouse County, but Palouse is the seat of Whitman County, Wash.

MME. RUDERSDORFF—S. H. B., San Mateo, Cal. The Q. C. can only make answer to your queries by saying that Hermine Rudersdorff, once a well-known soprano singer, was married in 1844 to Dr. Kuchenmeister, a professor of mathematics, at Bresiau.

SIX HUNDRED AND FORTY ACRES—W. S., City. There are 640 acres in a piece of land one mile square and not one acre more in one square mile of land; in two square miles of land, 2560 acres. This is a catch question, almost coeval with Methusaleh.

AMERICAN DWARFS—W. M. B., Fresno, Cal. (1) The name of General Tom Thumb's wife was Mercy Lavinia Bump and his Charles Sherwood Stratton. Her sister's name was Huldah Peirce Bump, and she married a dwarf named "Major" Edward Newall. While under engagement with Barnum the little ladies were advertised as Lavinia Warren and Huldah Warren respectively. (2) George Washington Morrison Nutt, better known as "Commodore Nutt," was married to a lady in Redwood City, Cal., some two years before his death.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL—R. C. D., City. To be eligible to enter the Commercial School of this city one must have a grammar school education and have graduated from the same, or pass an examination covering the field of grammar school studies.

IT WAS A PRIVATE BANK—I. C. Payson, Arizona. It was Belloc & Co. (a private banking corporation) and not the French Savings Bank which closed its doors during the year 1890 in this city.

UPON APPROVAL—W. D., City. Section 10, amending the bill commonly known as the Interstate Commerce Law and approved on March 2d, 1889, went into effect on the date of approval.

DUE DEPOSITORS—S. A., City. On the first of January, 1891, the Hibernia Savings and Loan Society was reported to owe $26,055,379 on deposits.

240 AND 200 FEET—J. S., City. The spire of St. Patrick's Church on Mission street is 240 feet high; the shot-tower on First street 200 feet from base.

WHITE INK—J. E. B., City. A common method of making white ink is to dissolve a cake of white water-color paint in water.

COLLISION ON THE BAY—J. M. H., City. It was on the 19th of February, 1879, that the ferry steamer El Capitan collided in this bay with the Alameda.

SURVIVORS OF 1812—C. H. K., City. The Q. C. is not aware that there are in San Francisco any survivors of the War of 1812.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

James Calnan to Margaret Hart et al., lot on W. line of Bryant ave., 150 S. of Butte st., S. 25x120 ..... $10
Hibernia Savings and Loan Society to F. A. Berlin, lot on W. line of Kearny st., 112:6 S. of Greenwich, S. 25x87:6 725
Charles C. Fischer to A. A. Sanderson, lot on NW. cor. Wayland and Oxford sts., N. 75x100 10
Colin Campbell to same, lot on W. line of Oxford st., 75 N. of Wayland, N. 25x120 10
John Graff et al. (by Sheriff) to John Walker, lot on N. line of Townsend st., 275 Nw. of Third, NE. 275x275 5600
Same to same, the same 24,158
Same to same, the same 3063
Same to same, the same 5618
Thomas A. Robinson to C. E. Newman, lot on W. line of Sanchez st., 76:6 S. of Twenty-second, S. 75x105 ..... Gift
Ann Ruddock to C. Branagan and wife, lot on NE. cor. of Broadway and Montgomery ave., N. 97:6x99; also, lot on S. line of Broadway, 74:7 E. Montgomery, E. 40. N. 92, E. 22:11, N. 22:9, W. 62:11, S. 114:6 ..... Gift
James Badger to Kate Badger, undivided ½ of lot on SW. cor. of Laguna and Ellis sts., W. 77:8x50 ..... Gift
Joseph Rivas to Vincenta M. Rivas, lot on W. line of California ave., 150 S. of Powhattan st., S. 26, W. 90:8, N. 26, E. 91 ..... Gift
Dennis J. Dunne to Anna G. Dunne, lot on NE. cor. of Jessie and Eighteenth sts., N. 85x30; also, lot on E. line of Guerrero st., 35 S. of Nineteenth, S. 25x90 ..... Gift
John J. Sabin to Robert P. Keating, lot on N. line of Ellis st., 93:6 W. of Powell, W. 78:4½x137:6 10
William Schwarze to George Hoffmann, lot on W. line of Larkin st., 91:3½ S. of Greenwich, S. 22:6x95 10
J. F. Tunnel to Herman Heynoman, lot on NE. cor. of Broderick and Jackson sts., E. 55x100 10
M. M. O'Shaughnessy to William J. Gunn, lot on SE. cor. of Clement st. and Eighteenth ave., S. 100x35 10
Romoli E. L. Malatesta to Antonietta Malatesta, undivided ¼ interest in estate of Luigi Malatesta 10
Martin Walsh and wife to Henrietta Oestermann, lot on E. line of Pearl st., 290 N. of Ridley, N. 28x90 10
Robert McF. Dobie to Leonce Grothwell, lot on S. line of Broadway, 87:6 E. of Laguna st., E. 50x112:6 10
Leonce Grothwell to Robert McF. Dobie, lot on NW. cor. of Thirty-eighth ave. and O st., W. 240x100 10
R. B. Cole to Robert Faessler, lot on SE. cor. of Lake and Twenty-fifth sts., S. 77:6x100 10
Electa E. Caswell to Robert Faessler, same 10
H. Ayers to E. B. Ayers, lots 13 and 14, Block 18, Noe Addition to Sacramento 10
John Sullivan (by executors) to E. G. Olsen, lot on N. line of Page st., 52:6 E. of Webster, E. 50x92; also lot on N. line of Page st., 177:6 E. of Webster, E. 50x120 4,500
Joseph Vites to Bradford D. Vites, lot on N. line of Lombard st., 137:6 W. of Larkin, W. 137:6x275 14,500
William M. Fry et al. to Annie L. Neal, undivided ¼ of lots 2205 to 2209, 2220 to 2226, 2243 to 2248, Gift Map 4; lots 1697 to 1699, Gift Map 3 10
Elizabeth Reeding to James C. Nealon, undivided ¼ of lot on N. line of Turk st., 87:6 E. of Hyde, E. 50x137:6 10

Tale of a Cat.

A gentleman was passing near Houghton Square just after the rooms in storm and he covered a cat ensconced on the stringer of a wooden fence in a sheltering angle. He called the attention of a neighbor to it, and together, thinking that perhaps the cat was frozen to death, proceeded to stir it up. The cat got up and in attempting to jump off the fence hung suspended like an icicle by the end of its caudal appendage, which was frozen to the fence. The animal had crawled in for shelter from the storm, the heat of the body melting the snow and then chilling enough to freeze the tail to the fence. As it hung suspended the gentleman began to look around for warm water, or some other means to thaw it out, but before they succeeded the weight of the body caused it to break its hold and the cat was released from its strange predicament.—Lynn Bee.

The Lompoc Record says: The largest catch of whales at the Cojo Bay yet made has been accomplished within the past two weeks, twelve having been the catch complete. The catch is very fat and each fish is valued worth $500. There is an average of sixty whales passing each day and the catch is full, no more vessels for oil.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Liebig COMPANY'S EXTRACT OF BEEF.

"IN DARKEST AFRICA," By Henry M. Stanley.

"The *Liebig Company's Extract* was of the choicest." —*Page 39, Vol. 1.*

"Liebig and meat soups had to be prepared in sufficient quantities to serve out cupfuls to each weakened man as he staggered in."—*Page 89, Vol. 1.*

"One Madi managed to crawl near my tent. * * * He was at once borne to a fire and laid within a few inches of it, and with the addition of a pint of hot broth made from the *Liebig Company's Extract of Meat* we restored him to his senses."—*Vol. II, Page 58.*

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E. M. WILSON, 229 Kearny St., S. F. ja18 SuWe tf

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THAN CAN BE HAD AT ANY OTHER STORE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

HOUSEKEEPING GOODS!

CRASHES At 8c, 10c and 12½c per Yard.

TOWELS At 6¼c, 10c, 12½c, 15c, 18c and 25c Each.

DAMASKS At 25c, 37½c, 50c, 62½c and