THE SOCIAL WORLD.

Festivities of Christmas Eve and Christmas Week.

The Edmondson-Bonin Wedding—A Banquet. "The Call" Serenaded—A Big Ball Promised in New York—Personals.

To-day is generally consecrated to the Lares and Penates of the household. Santa Claus reigns supreme during the fore part of the day and later he is dethroned in favor of Brillat Savarin or some other culinary authority. It is notable that with all the Puritanic qualities ascribed to the patriarchs of Plymouth Rock and Mayflower fame, some of our most cherished gastronomical chefs d'œuvre have been traced to New England. Pies of all kinds it is said, first started thence upon their indigestible career and a story goes that it was a pilgrim father who first marked a wild turkey for his own Christmas dinner. Be that as it may, the family board to-day groans with plenty and round it gather the little heirs and heiresses of all the ages, glowing with excitement and expectancy. And after dinner follows the Christmas-tree and sometimes—indigestion. High in the hall swings the mistletoe and its pagan rites will not lack devotees. Charity will not be forgotten to-day. Many poor will be made happy, the orphans are to enjoy a day in the park and several church festivals will be celebrated.

The Calliopeans will hold a high jinks this evening (Christmas night) at their clubrooms, on the corner of Pine and Polk streets.

The tidings of the death of Mrs. Winn, wife of Lieutenant Winn, U. S. A., will come as a shock upon society. Mrs. Winn (formerly Miss Dora Boardman) was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Boardman, and her wedding two years ago was a brilliant event.

The eighteenth anniversary ball of the Germania Club will take place at Saratoga Hall this evening.

Mr. Robert P. Morrow gave a dinner recently at his residence, on the corner of Leavenworth and Pine streets, in honor of Mrs. Paxton of Madrono Knoll. Among the guests were: Mrs. Volney Spalding, Mrs. Benham, Mr. Vogelsang, Mr. Morrow Jr. and Mr. Charles Paxton.

The Bohemian Club "jinks" will take place next Saturday evening. A feature will be a Chinese play written by a local maestro. The jinks will be sired by the President.

Mr. Michael S. Arndt and Miss Rose C. Louis were married in Boston on Wednesday evening. The groom is a member of the well-known member of the California firm of Arndt & Gamertz. The happy pair will reside in this State after touring for two months in the principal cities en route.

Christmas Bounty Appreciated.

The members of the Catholic Ladies' Aid Society, No. 20, who meet in the hall adjoining Sacred Heart Church, prepared a large number of Christmas dinners for all the deserving families that had been relieved by them during the past year. Each family received a most bountiful supply of food and clothing, with the best wishes of the donors for a merry Xmas.

They desire to return sincere thanks to their kind friends, who have so generously assisted them, as follows: Nolan Bros., Newman & Levison, The Maze, Mrs. T. J. Welch, Mr. M. D. Nolan, Mrs. P. S. Fay, Mrs. A. King, Mrs. M. Morrissey, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. P. Kosciatouski, Mrs. E. J. Donnelly, Miss M. Ahern, Miss Alice Bailey, Miss Kitty Hussey, Miss A. Connahan, Miss Dora Moran, Misses Roper, Miss Agnes Manning, Mrs. May, Mrs. Hatch, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Britt, Mrs. Hammond, Mrs. Cornelius Kennedy, Miss E. Lynch, Miss Agnes O'Kane, Mrs. William Koch, Mrs. Cutter.

The Concordia Club Banquet.

Last evening the long-anticipated banquet and jinks of the Concordia Club took place at its quarters on Van Ness avenue and Post street.

The handsome suites of rooms were brilliantly illuminated and decorated in warm tones appropriate to the festive season. Ballenberg's Orchestra was in demand for the first part of the evening, which was most agreeably passed in social converse. About 11 o'clock an elaborate supper was served, and when the cloth was removed Mr. Charles L. Ackerman was appointed "sire," and under his direction wit flowed as freely as the bumpers quaffed. The pleasant affair only concluded at a late hour.

The club now has 300 members, among whom are numbered many of the most prominent and influential men in the community. The present officers are: President, J. M. Rothchild; Vice-President, J. H. Neustadter; Treasurer, Alexander Herman; Financial Secretary, Fred Patek; Secretary, Louis Dinkelspiel; Assistant Secretary, Robert Siering; Directors—Louis S. Haas, M. Heller, P. J. Fisher, A. W. Scholle, H. Sinsheimer, Charles Sutro Jr.; Steward, Henry Lau.

The Edmondson-Bonin Wedding.

The wedding of Miss Helen A. Edmondson and Mr. Carl von Bonin was solemnized on Tuesday evening last at the residence of Mr. Frank C. Hornung, 2716 Howard street, with whom the bride, who is an orphan, has made her home for the last twelve years. The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Garlands of smilax and pepper tree were twined around the balustrade leading to the second floor, potted plants and ferns adorned the hall, while the spacious parlor presented a scene of beauty. Ropes of smilax depended from the chandeliers to the cornices and embrasures, bouquets of choice flowers were arranged on the mantlepieces and side tables and elegant and curious Japanese vases overflowed with lilies, chrysanthemums and La France roses. Outside a number of electric lights, put in for the occasion, shed their refulgent light on the carriages as they rolled up in a continuous stream with invited guests.

Shortly before 9 o'clock the string band in attendance struck up the sweet strains of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" and peals were played on a silver Japanese temple bell, 300 years old, which was brought by Mr. Hornung from Japan. Then the wedding party entered the parlors. First came the Rev. W. L. Githeus of the Episcopal church, clad in full vestments, followed by Miss Elsie Josephine Burrington, a sweet little fairy of 6 years, in a Directoire costume of cream India silk. Next came the bride leaning on the arm of her brother, Mr. John G. Edmondson, followed by the groom, the bridesmaid, Miss Jennie Kerrison, and the best man, Mr. C. Ed Bendixen. When all had taken their places the brief and beautiful marriage service of the Episcopalian church was proceeded with. Mr. John G. Edmondson gave away the bride, who, though her lips quivered a little, answered the usual question in a clear and firm voice "I will." At the conclusion of the ceremony all present pressed forward to offer their congratulations to the newly married couple and Mrs. Bonin received more kisses in a short time than fall to the lot of most young ladies.

After congratulations all adjourned to the dining-room, where a splendid wedding supper, provided by Mr. and Mrs. Hornung, who felt as if they were losing a daughter, was partaken of. The menu comprised all the delicacies of the season, and after the wedding cake was cut the health of the happy couple was drunk in unlimited bumpers of champagne. A number of congratulatory telegrams were received during the evening.

After the repast music and singing were in order, Miss Fannie Finn, who is a splendid instrumentalist and vocalist, gaining well-deserved applause for her admirable rendering of several selections. Mr. J. G. Edmondson, who has a fine tenor voice, sang several songs in admirable style. Shortly before midnight the guests departed. As the bride and bridegroom descended the steps to their carriage they were greeted with a shower of rice and old slippers and three cheers, led by Mr. and Mrs. Hornung, were given with a will.

The ladies wese elegantly attired. The bride, a stately brunette, who is almost as tall as her handsome brother, was attired in a magnificent costume of imported corn-colored grenadine, trimmed with chiffon, corsage V-shaped, demi-train. She carried a bouquet of Marechal Neil roses and wore diamond bracelets, the gift of the groom. Miss Jennie Kerrison, the bridesmaid, wore a gown of Nile-green India silk; Mrs. J. H. Burrington a gown of imported faille française trimmed with chiffon, corsage V-shaped; Miss Kate Horan, costume of pearl-colored nun's veiling, trimmed with surah of the same color. Mrs. L. Lockway, a handsome demi-blonde, was conspicuous in a dark-blue silk costume, en train. Miss Fannie Finn, a stately brunette with a neck like a swan, wore a handsome embroidered crepe silk dress; trimmed with point lace; ornaments, diamonds. Mrs. F. C. Hornung and Mrs. F. Washburn wore black silk trimmed with lace; diamond ornaments.

The happy couple were the recipients of a large number of handsome and costly presents, which were displayed in an anteroom on the second floor: They included an oxydized silver banqueting lamp from Mr. Otto E. Never; hand-painted fruit-dish, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Farveaux; silver jelly-spoon, gold bowl, Mr. Mackrett; elegant hand-engraved solid silver coffee set, satin finish, on silver tray, Mr. John J. Edmondson; Dresden-ware vase, Mrs. R. Matthey; hand-painted mouchoir case, Miss May Shephard of Alameda; case of silver teaspoons, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. McLerie; silver lettuce-fork, Miss Jennie Kerrison, silver jelly-spoon, Mrs. Frank Thornton; silver tea-pot, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Tamm; silver butter-dish, Mr. and Mrs. F. Ruther; silver card-receiver, satin finish, Mr. and Mrs. William P. Dowdall; set China fruit plates, Miss Emma Schreiber of Alameda; tea table, card rack and stand, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Ruthe; green India silk drapes, Mrs. W. H. Kerrison; set silver teaspoons, Mr. Alfred E. Edmondson; silver butter-knife, cream ladle and sugar spoon, Mr. H. Mentz; pie-knife and berry spoon, Mr. Otto Norman; complete set of carvers, Mr. Carl Uhlig; silver cream ladle, sugar spoon and pickle fork, Mr. and Mrs. J. Burrington; complete silver dinner set, including soup ladle and napkin rings, in satin lined case, from Messrs. F. C. von Petersdorff, Francis O. Cramer, Eugene Barnebitz, Charles Braetsch, C. E. Bendixen and Peter Lafort. There were also other valuable presents too numerous too mention from Mr. and Mrs. Tamm, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Hund, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Graham and family, Mr. Otto Branndorf, Miss Edith Hammond and others.

Among the numerous guests were: Mr. E. A. Fargoe, Mr. A. D. Codington, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Dowdall, Miss Fannie Finn, Mr. and Mrs. John Whelan, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Anthes, Mr. Alfred E. Edmondson, Mr. John G. Edmondson, Miss Mary Horan, Mr. J. C. Fitzsimmons, Mr. Samuel Hawxhurst, Mr. William Gage, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Hornung, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Burrington, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. McLeue, Miss Nellie McLeue, Mrs. Charles Dickman, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Monhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Monhardt, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Codington, Miss Ella Codington, Miss Lida Codington, Miss J. Kerrison, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Teller, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. F. Teller, Mr. Jack Wentworth, Mrs. M. Kritt, Mr. and Mrs. James Benson, Mr. and Mrs. James Benson Jr., Mr. Henry Washburn, Mr. and Mrs. A. Beam; Miss Mary Beam, Mrs. Joseph Hammond, Miss Etta Hammond, Miss Mame Mitchell, Miss Nance Mitchell, Miss J. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. F. Barry, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Willis, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Coglan, Captain and Mrs. William Bryan, Mr. Harry Mentz, Mr. and Mrs. Mattie, Mr. Frank Thornton, Mr. George Lonergan, Mr. and Mrs. Chielovich, Mr. and Mrs. Faurell, Mr. Ernest Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. Feitz, Mr. and Mrs. Peters, Dr. and Mrs. Hund, E. B. Hornung, Mr. Bendisen, Mr. Schmitt, Mr. Bohde, Mr. Voigt, Mr. Otto Never, Mr. Carl Uhlig, Mr. Normann, Mr. C. Stepp, Mr. Meyer, Mr. Bratch, Mr. Barnewitz, Mr. Le Fort, Mr. and Mrs. Stever, Mr. and Mrs. Ruthe, Mr. Joury, Mr. and Mrs. Farveaux, Mr. Fisher, Mr. C. Kahler, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kanler, Mr. and Mrs. Douring.

Church of the Advent Festival.

The bazaar at Irving Hall for the benefit of the new Church of the Advent terminated yesterday after a most successful run. The rector, Rev. John Gray, stated last evening that considerably over $500 had been cleared by the enterprise, and this happy result was due in no small degree to the cooperation of the press. This acknowledgment was gracefully expressed when two wagon-loads of choristers made a special visit at THE CALL office in their rounds, and sang sweet, old-fashioned carols. Among other places that the four-in-hand busses called at was the Palace Hotel, where their musical voices evoked much admiration. Financially the lunches have been the greatest factor in the bazaar's success, but the other departments all contributed materially.

New York's Big Ball.

According to the New York World Mr. McAllister is actively at work planning for "the New Year's ball." He is anxious to make it in every respect more brilliant than the New Year ball of January, 1890, given at the Metropolitan Opera House.

It is absurd to think that "The Smart Set" is ever to remain and consist of but 400 people. Annually it is largely recruited, and what was 400 two years ago may be said to be 500, at least, now. A ball to which a thousand people will be invited will hardly embrace New York general society as it now exists.

The intention is to give the "smart set"—in fact, all sets—a superb ball in the Madison Square Garden ball-room; to make the corridors and supper-room fairy bowers with splants and flowers, with an illumination a giorno of electric lights; to spare no expense in producing such artistic floral decorations as will startle the guests and make them feel that they are indeed in fairyland. The best caterers in this city have undertaken to provide the supper, and as they will be given a carte blanche and the menu, made up by Mr. McAllister, he carefully avoiding the mistakes hitherto made in this city and at Newport in giving green peas at 4 o'clock in the morning, propose to substitute young truffled turkey and such new dishes as mousseline de fois gras, and cotelettes de jambon aux truffes, vol au vent de becasse, a la Diane, all novelties in this country.

The ball, as in 1890, will be opened by dancing five sets of the "Sir Roger de Coverley." The prominent members of different circles are to be asked to take part in this dance. Every effort will be made to assemble together on this occasion not only the beauty of the land, but all the brilliant men and women our country can boast of.

The ball will be given on Monday, January 18th, by the one hundred gentlemen who gave the New Year's ball of 1890. Vacancies alone will be filled. Each subscriber will have ten invitations to dispose of, making 1000 invitations issued. There will be two suppers, the first at midnight and the second at the close of the cotillon, which will consist of 150 couples. The ladies who received at the New Year's ball of 1890 will be asked to receive at this ball.

Society Personals.

Mrs. George M. Pullman and daughter, Miss Harriet Pullman, accompanied by Mrs. M. C. Sanger, left this city yesterday in their private car, "P. C. C.," en route to Santa Barbara, where they will remain during the winter.

Mrs. Anna Morrison Reed of Laytonville, Mendocino County, is at the Russ, and will remain here for a few days.

Mrs. Alpheus Bull and daughter, Miss Kathleen Bull, have returned from a trip to the Eastern States.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Tallant will spend New Year's at the Hotel del Monte.

Miss Christine C. Luhrs is spending Christmas week at Hotel del Monte with friends.

Mr. H. S. Dexter is up in the Napa Valley spending Christmas. His family are still at the Palace Hotel.

Mrs. A. W. Scott has been very ill for some days past and is still confined to her bed.

Colonel B. O. Carr, formerly of St. Helena, will leave on Saturday next for Lemoore, Tulare County, where he will engage in the banking business.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Ryan, Miss Daisy and Miss Ruth Ryan of Menlo Park have closed their residence and are now at the Occidental Hotel, San Francisco, for the winter season.

Mrs. Herbert Bryant has returned to town from Calistoga.

Mrs. William Singer Jr. left to join her husband, who has been quite ill in Sacramento, but is better.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffeth J. Griffeths and son of Los Feliz rancho, near Los Angeles, are in this city for the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wehner of Highland Villa, near San Jose, are at the Palace, en route home from Chicago.

Mr. Thurlow McMullen has returned from a business trip to the interior of the State.

Mr. Fulton G. Berry, who was severely injured at Fresno recently, has recovered and is in town for a few days.

Mrs. F. G. Sutherland and Miss Sutherland have returned from their Fresno ranch and are at the Marechale Niel for the winter.

Mr. J. G. Roberts of Portland, Oregon, is in town for the holidays.

Judge I. Lawton was a recent visitor to San Diego.

Miss Fanny Brown has returned to Stockton from an extended visit to this city, Oakland and Santa Clara.

Mr. L. L. Baker visited Sacramento yesterday.

Mrs. B. B. Garvey, Miss Garvey and F. S. Gashwiler are at the Hotel Pleasanton, Mr. Gashwiler having, since the death of his wife, closed the family residence on Vallejo street, near Octavia.

Mrs. A Cheesebrough of this city was on the west-bound Pennsylvania express that was derailed in Indiana last week. Mrs. Cheesebrough was not injured, aside from a nervous shock. Her husband has gone on to Chicago to meet her.

Mr. F. H. McCormick of Alameda is in New York.

The south of France has obvious attractions to travelers at this season. Among the latest visitors from San Francisco is Mr. Louis Stern, who is well known here.

She Carried Gold.

Mrs. Ida Beck, a middle-aged woman, living at the Continental Hotel on Pacific street, fell in a fit on Commercial street, near Montgomery, at 8:30 o'clock last night. Officer George McMahon picked her up, and also a package tied in a newspaper, which fell from her hand. The package contained $840 in bright gold pieces. Mrs. Beck was taken to the Receiving Hospital, where Dr. O'Brien dressed a small scalp wound, caused by the fall. The woman was somewhat dazed, and said that she had no money with her. Captain Douglass took charge of the gold and detailed an officer to escort Mrs. Beck to her home.

Salvation Oil, the great pain eradicator, has taken a strong hold upon the people. 25 cents.

The components of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup are daily prescribed by the best physicians.

ACROSS THE BAY.

A Desolate Christmas for J. M. Rosenberg's Family.

Sudden Demise of a Farmer—Presentation of a Watch—Finding of the Robber's Mask. Negro Minstrelsy in Alameda.

The wife of J. M. Rosenberg, the crippled lottery-ticket peddler, and their children are having a rather desolate Christmas, as Rosenberg cannot put up the cash bail of $150 and no one has yet been found to sign a bond of $300. She was around yesterday trying to secure bail. Rosenberg has only one leg, and he managed to support his large family by selling lottery tickets, many buying the tickets out of sympathy. The police secured about $2000 coupons in their raid.

Arthur Lyden broke out with another tirade of abuse in the Police Court yesterday when the jury found him guilty of disturbing the peace.

The creditors of Charles Bennett and O. Emlay & Sons will receive 15 cents on the $1.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A FARMER.

At 10 o'clock yesterday morning while John F. Gomez, a farmer from Pinole Valley, was at B-street station awaiting a train with his daughter, he made a sudden exclamation and dropped to the ground on his face, dying in a few moments. He has been troubled with heart disease for some time, and this was the cause of his death. He was about 60 years of age.

At a few minutes before 5 o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the basement of a bakery and restaurant on Washington street, near Seventh.

C. L. Warrick has sued H. F. Bassett to recover $600 on a number of promissory notes.

PRESENTED WITH A WATCH.

A number of the Republican friends of Fred A. Campbell called him down to the Sheriff's office yesterday afternoon and presented him with a fine gold watch and chain. The presentation was made by Sheriff W. H. H. Hussey. Mr. Campbell is a member of the City Republican Central Committee.

A divorce was granted yesterday to Metta A. Hahn from L. W. Hahn on the ground of failure to provide, with attorney's fees of $100 and $30 a month alimony.

Rev. Thomas McSweeney, rector of St. Francis de Sales Parish, arrived home yesterday from a three months' visit at the East with Archbishop Riordan.

WITH ONE MILLION CAPITAL.

The articles of incorporation of the Excelsior Shellac Company were filed yesterday afternoon. The capital stock is $1,000,000, and the Directors are William R. Harwood, F. W. and Clara F. Sawyer, Minnie Nichols and Max Michaels.

The Public Administrator has petitioned for letters on the estate in Alameda, valued at $1900, of Simon O. Emery, of Calhoun County, Mich. The only heir-at-law is Melvina Emery of Michigan.

The usual Christmas services will be held in the Roman Catholic and Episcopal churches to-day. A service will be conducted by Rev. Dr. McLean in the chapel of the First Congregational Church at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THE ROBBER'S MASK FOUND.

A mask supposed to have been worn by the highwayman who attempted to rob the car men of the Piedmont Cable Company on Monday night near Piedmont was found near the bridge yesterday by Constable Keller.

Miss Isabella Rosenberg threatens to sue the Oakland and Berkeley Rapid Transit Company for injuries received by being thrown from a car while rounding the curve at Dwight way and Shattuck avenue.

Captain Thomas Mein received word by telegraph yesterday of the death of his son, Thomas, aged 23, by an explosion at the Treadwell mine in Alaska.

Alameda.

The Daily Evening Statesman issued a sixteen-page holiday edition.

Theodore Mertz says that he will have his street railroad on Park street and Twenty-third avenue in operation by February 1st.

A line of busses has been projected to run from the narrow-gauge station on Park street to Twenty-third avenue and East Oakland.

Four tramps were arrested yesterday, the argest number at one time during the present year. They will have their Christmas dinner at the city's expense.

A professional minstrel company was advertised to give a performance last evening at the Park Opera House, but the audience was so slim that the performance did not take place. It is now over three years since a professional troupe has given a performance in this city.

The Fire Department was called out last evening for a fire in the residence of J. B. Spencer, corner of San Jose avenue and Oak street, caused by a defective flue. It was extinguished after about $150 worth of damage was done. Chief Engineer Krauth was hit in the face by some falling plaster while he was cutting the laths to reach the fire and was painfully injured.

At St. Joseph's Church the first mass will be celebrated this morning at 6 o'clock. At the 10:30 o'clock mass the choir will consist of the following: Sopranos—Mrs. H. A. Tenney and Miss R. Rich; altos—Mrs. W. J. Batchelder, Miss A. Wood and Miss S. A. Grimm; tenors—Messrs. A. C. Page and W. W. Goggin; bassos—Messrs. W. J. Batchelder and W. J. Burke. The musical service has been specially prepared for the occasion by Professor Batchelder, the organist of the church.

LIZZIE LOOKED LOVELY.

But When She Learned What She Was Wearing She Fainted.

A pretty country girl who has come to spend the Christmas holidays in New York among relatives who had made a midsummer visit to her father's farm in the woods of Maine, brings an interesting story to town, says the Tribune.

In the country village near the Maine girl's home there exists a good deal of rivalry among the daughters of the farmer ass to who shall be the acknowledged belle of the country side.

The rivalry is keen, and two or three of the competitors are pretty evenly matched for first place.

"Lizzie Brown, however," so the Maine girl tells the story to her friends, "laid her plans to outdo them all at the ball on Thanksgiving eve. A rich old aunt of hers who lives in New York sent her a present of a handsome gown.

"When the ball was fairly under way Lizzie sailed into the room and quite took our breaths away with her beauty. She is a pretty girl, a blonde, of beautiful complexion, and the gown became her wonderfully. It was of black surah silk, cut 'V' shape before and with a Watteau effect behind, and trimmed with real creamy lace, and it just look lovely. Lizzie sailed around in it as proud as a peacock and turned all the rest of us green with envy, for none of us could approach her gown in stylishness or cut or richness of material.

"Later in the evening a New York schoolteacher arrived, and before she could get her wraps off was told all about the gown. She peeped out of the dressing-room door at Lizzie, and as soon as she saw the gown the queerest expression came over her face, then she blushed very much and began to giggle, to sit down. When she was able to answer our inquiries she exclaimed:

"'Why, it's a nightgown!'

"'A nightgown!' we squealed in chorus.

"'Yes,' she answered, 'one of those new-fashioned, elaborate nightgowns that great swells and actresses wear. Oh, my! That I should ever have seen one worn at a ball!'

"When Lizzie heard the verdict she fainted. The men nearly died from laughing, and the whole neighborhood will talk of little else for a month."

CANNIBALISM.

How a Polish Shoemaker Was Unwittingly Served Up as Food.

A frightful story of murder and cannibalism comes via Vienna from Mjechow, a small town in Russian Poland in the province of Kielce.

Three peasants enticed a shoemaker named Levanoffsky into a forest under the pretense of showing him where some money was concealed. When they had reached a secluded place in the woods they turned upon the man and beat him to death. He was known to carry considerable money with him, and to get this was the object of the murder. Being anxious to conceal the crime they stripped the body and cut it to pieces. Then they gathered a quantity of wood and heaped it about the remains and started a fire. As soon as the fire was under headway the murderers left the spot. The fire went out without having consumed all of the body.

Later on a workman from the same vicinity was passing near the scene of the murder and saw a piece of half-roasted flesh in the ashes of what had been a fire. He supposed that some one had been cooking game, and had left part of it there. He took the flesh home, and told some of his luck in finding it, and invited them to join in eating it. As meat was a rare luxury they readily complied. While devouring the horrible food some one accused the finder of having stolen the meat. To prove that he was not a thief he invited them to accompany him to the forest. There a closer search uncovered other remains of the murdered shoemaker, and horrified the men with the evidence of what they had been eating. It was ascertained that Levanoffsky was missing, and the murderers were arrested.—Ex.

CHRISTMAS MORNING.

Oh, the many million stockings
Waiting for the dawn of day,
And the many sleepless eyes
Watching for the sun's first ray.

Oh, the stockings overflowing
With the joys of Christmastide;
Oh, the happy-hearted children.
Some one's light and joy and pride.

Oh, the little empty stockings
On this merry Christmas morn;
Oh, the cheerless empty lives,
And the little hearts forlorn.

GERTRUDE LE PAGE.

RAISING A QUESTION.

Who Gets the Ten Cents a Pound Extra in the Price of Fruit?

Editor Morning Call: Following the lead of many older fruit communities in the State, Niles shipped a train-load—ten cars—of dried fruits of various kinds to Chicago some time ago, which, however, are still unsold.

The shipping of dried fruit East is in a sense experimental, as it has been but a very few years since the first shipments were made.

There is no doubt whatever about the demand for California fruits East, and there is but one great trouble in meeting the demand. The manner of placing it on the market is at fault.

As a rule it is sent to but two points—Chicago and New York; and to those cities buyers from other points must go, and are entirely at the mercy of the wholesale houses as regards prices.

A personal inquiry of two or more of the leading grocers in each of the following cities, Boston, New York, Washington and New Orleans, revealed the following facts. A report upon apricots and peaches will suffice for example:

A No. 1 dried fruit in bins, as dumped from the sacks in which it was shipped, is retailed at from 25 to 29 cents a pound for apricots, and peaches 2 cents less.

THESE PRICES WERE RULING

From November 1st to December 10th; meanwhile the quotations, as sent to the grower from Chicago or New York, or as ruling in San Francisco markets during the same period, have reached 8 cents a pound.

It costs a cent and a half a pound to land them in the Eastern markets, and another cent added will more than cover the 5 or 8 per cent commission. The wholesale grocer allows never more than 7 cents a pound (this is the figure) for all his expenses and his freight, over and above the price he pays for the fruit.

The question immediately arising is, where does the difference, a matter of from 6 to 10 cents a pound, go? Eight cents to the grower, 1½ cents to the railroad, 1 cent for commissions and 7 cents which the grocer adds before it reaches the consumer. Fancy grades in boxes are not considered, neither are poorer grades.

The grocers think that fruit-growers should send out men for orders early in the season, and no doubt the fruit-growers think buyers should come out here for orders. Surely one or the other should be done, thus making but the one handling between the grower and the retail seller. Some of these firms handle in retail trade alone in a season as high as two and a half or

THREE CARLOADS OF FRUIT.

Your correspondent has priced this same fruit, in inland towns, and found it as high as 40 cents a pound, a price that is not at all conducive to large sales.

The Petaluma Canning Company have their fruits everywhere in the East; in fact that most excellent brand is well known everywhere, and the fine quality of its fruits and the convenience of its packages, is doing much to make a name for California fruits.

California growers should endeavor in some way to put their fruits into Eastern markets in a more direct and cheaper manner, if they wish the Eastern trade to grow.

This past season has probably been one of the most unprecedented in this section on record, as regards the quantity of fruit, the price it has cost to handle it, and the small prices which have been received. English walnuts early in the season promised to be an unusually good crop, but some sort of a worm attacked them, and as a result they have been imperfect and under-sized.

WALNUT TREES ARE FREE.

Handsome and rapid growers, but shy-bearers here, still very many of them are scattered through the valley and are a pleasing addition to the landscape, with their smooth white trunks and large fragrant leaves. They do not begin to bear until they are ten or twelve years old, and twenty or thirty pounds is a large crop. A new variety said to bear much earlier has been introduced within a few years, but it will take a few years to prove the matter.

The season is generally very backward; the rainfall has been but 3.20 inches and but little plowing has been done. The hillsides are being planted to vegetables; several years at this date Niles' hillsides have supplied San Francisco markets with new potatoes and peas.

THREE VERY UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENTS

Have occurred in town during the past week. "Uncle Roberts" fell from a barn, the roof of which he was repairing, and dislocated his hip joint. He was taken to the hospital, and, being very old, it will be some time before he will be around again.

Thomas Costello was thrown between the cars of a gravel train, on which he was working, last Thursday, and was so seriously injured that it is feared he may not recover.

John Harding has been for many years bridge watchman in the canyon, and Sunday evening while he and his family were absent in town his house and contents were entirely burned. There was no insurance, and they, therefore, lost everything whatever but the clothing they had on. Remembering Mr. Harding's very many generous deeds, the townspeople immediately collected quite a purse with which to refurnish his home, which the railroad company will immediately rebuild.

There has been a very unusual amount of sickness this past month. Mrs. D. M. Conners has been seriously ill for many weeks, Mrs. Sharpe has had a serious attack of pneumonia, Joseph Tyson has been confined to his house for a month, Postmaster Dickey has had the genuine la grippe and at least a dozen others have been more or less under the weather, and all lay it of course to la grippe.

The old wooden platform about the depot has been removed and the space is being filled in with gravel.

Merry Christmas! MRS. L. E. THANE.

Niles, Dec. 24, 1891.

SUNG IN COURT.

Pathetic and Sensational Scene at the Trial of an Alleged Murderer.

Noah Richards, the young colored man on trial for the murder of Policeman Sherman, according to a New York special to the Enquirer, created a sensation in court. No one saw the murder committed, but the chain of circumstantial evidence is being drawn tighter around the prisoner, who told his own story in his quaint negro dialect. He said musingly, as if trying to recall all the incidents of the day:

"Some one else done commit dat murder. When dat man was killed I was sitting in my room thinking of my dead mother, and I dun began to think then of a song I made up after she died. It went this way—". Then the prisoner closed his eyes, and seemed for a moment lost in thought. Suddenly a smile crept over his black face, and in a rich, clear, mellow voice he began to sing a plaintive negro melody. Louder and clearer rose the notes of the song, until they seemed to fill the whole court-room with a weird, ghostly melody. The hands and feet of the singer began to beat time in rythmical measure.

The effect upon the spectators was wonderful. The heads that had been craned forward to catch a glimpse of the alleged murderer were now bowed, and tears trickled over scores of cheeks. The Judge and the jury were also strongly moved. Uninterrupted the prisoner continued his song. His body swayed backward and forward and the tears trickled down from his closed eyes. He was singing the song of death. But the fear of death was all gone and the prisoner was back again with his old mother. Perhaps he was only acting; perhaps he was trying to gain sympathy with the jury, but if so it was more sublime acting than was ever seen on a theatrical stage.

When the song ceased it was several minutes before the testimony was resumed. When it did resume there were at least a hundred hearts in that court-room which beat in sympathy for the poor, uneducated, half-silly colored man, who, guilty or not guilty, was almost certain to be condemned by the strong chain of circumstantial evidence.

"Independent Old Friends."

The annual reunion of the society of "Independent Old Friends" will be held on Tuesday evening next in Irving Hall, on which occasion an interesting literary programme will be presented and this will be followed by dancing.

SULPHURING FRUIT.

A Discussion as to Whether This Method Injures the Product,

But Not One Word Said With Reference to the Effect It Will Have Upon the Acids or Juices Present—Color Fixed.

Professor Hilgard has issued another proclamation against the practice of what he terms "sulphuring" fruit. The professor is a gentleman of acknowledged learning, and has a practical personal interest in the matter of which he writes. But, all the same, the Evening News differs from him on this question. In the first place, "sulphuring" is not the most exact term to apply to the process of which the professor complains. It implies a physical application of the gross sulphur to the fruit. In fact, many people, even in California, have come to understand that sulphur is sprinkled on the fruit when exposed to the sun. "Bleaching" is much the better term, because the fruit is exposed to the fumes only, and in a well-regulated bleaching box, the amount of sulphur precipitated is very small. And even this amount is practically sublimated when the fruit is exposed to the hot sun for a time sufficient for perfect curing. Although this paper has looked closely it has not yet been able to hear of a single well authenticated case of

POISONING

By sulphur-cured fruit. If the product was so deadly as the professor represents there would necessarily be many such instances. Nearly all the peaches, apricots, pears, apples, etc., cured in California are subject to the sulphur process, and from the millions of pounds of this fruit annually produced and consumed we have yet to hear of a single fatality or even serious indisposition. Fruit sulphured and cured in an evaporator, especially in the East where a low barometer is is the rule, may possess the dangerous element spoken of by Professor Hilgard; but fruit bleached and cured in the California sun and arid atmosphere does not. Another, and perhaps the most cogent reason why Professor Hilgard's doctrines will not be generally accepted is the difference in the price between bleached and unbleached fruit. The former is always worth from 200 to 500 per cent more than the latter. The former meets a ready sale and the latter can hardly be disposed of at any price. In view of these facts it will hardly be possible that the professors' views

WILL BE ADOPTED.

The Citrograph adds: Properly speaking, the fruit is not "sulphured" at all. Neither is it "bleached." The freshly cut fruit is spread on wooden trays, made of pine lumber, "cup" side up. These trays are placed in a tight box or small house, so piled that the fumes may freely circulate among and over the fruit. Sulphur is then fired and introduced under the trays. The heavy irrespirable sulphurous acid gas is produced which absorbs the oxygen of the atmosphere and, to a small degree from the surface of the cut fruit. This "fixes" the color in a few moments, when the fruit is immediately spread out to the rays of the sun.

[The hair-splitting scientist need not tear this explanation to pieces because it is not exact enough for him. It is exact enough for the fruit-grower or consumer.]

We have explained this thing time and again. But some crank doctor will try and make a sensation by talking and writing about something he knows nothing of, so we are, in a measure, forced to do the same work over and over again. We hope this particular bole will stay laid this time.

RIDING THE GOAT.

Architectural Mysteries in a Former Secret Society Building.

Workmen engaged in tearing down the buildings on the block condemned for the new Washington Postoffice have made a discovery. They have begun to demolish the building used for many years by the colored secret societies. Certain architectural mysteries can only be explained on the theory that they were used in the initiation ceremonies. They suggest rites which must have outdone the performance of the once famous Sons of Malta. By far the most remarkable of all the wonders of this sort discovered is a horribly suggestive brick hole. It is built like a chimney into the edifice itself, reaching from the bottom of the cellar to the third floor. This brick hold is 4 feet square inside. One lifts a piece of floor in the third story and looks down into it.

Below the flooring about two feet is a curious lid with a funny-shaped opening. Removing this lid one sees a bricked-in space four feet square and ten feet deep. This is only a part of the hole. At the bottom is another lid like the first, and when that is lifted there is revealed another bricked-in space ten feet in depth. At the bottom of that is still another lid like the other two, and when this is removed one can look down yet another ten feet to the very bottom of the cellar. It is very weird altogether. The entire hole is rather more than thirty feet in depth. As to formal, as has been said, a portion of the solid structure of the building.

Perhaps the most curious thing about it is the cellar. It has an opening four feet high by eighteen inches wide, which is big enough to admit the passage of a man's body. It is possible that victims subjected to the ordeal of the initiation ceremonial were lowered into this awful well and permitted to find their way out into the cellar and to wonder vainly into what sort of place they had got. There may have been a whole cemetery of bones down there to frighten the novice out of his wits.—Washington Special to St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

TWO LITTLE TOTS.

Margianna Knew What She Was Doing With the Baby.

The other night as a reporter was starting out he espied two babies of about the ages of 4 and 6 years, respectively, sitting in a dark corner of a doorway in New Chambers street. The four-year-old mite was in the arms of the six-year-old mite, and her head, which was tied up in a white woolen bandage, was resting comfortably on the diminutive motherly shoulders. She was fast asleep.

"Hello, here, what's this?" inquired the reporter. "What's the matter with your baby?"

"She's not a baby," answered a piping voice; "her name is Juliette and she's my niece."

"Is she sick, Honey?"

"No! she aint sick. She's only got the toothache, and my name ain't Honey—it's Margianna."

"Ah, I see. Well, Margianna, how long are you and Juliette going to sit here in the cold and dark?"

"If you don't stop talking to me you'll wake her up."

"You seem to know your business, if you are a baby," and with this the reporter went on his way. About two hours later a policeman, accompanied by a woman, came along the same block. The officer had a dark lantern and the woman was crying. They peered into every dark doorway. They finally came upon the objects of their search. The patient, responsible nurse had fallen asleep, too, and her head was resting against the brick wall.

Tenderly the officer and the woman gathered up the sleeping Margianna and Juliette and bore them away to a bed which was softer, at least, than a stone doorstep.—N. Y. Recorder.

One Day Old and Forsaken.

A twenty-four-hour old male child, was found wrapped in swadling rags in a paper-box on the door-step of 631 Golden Gate avenue, by Special Policeman Pete Broadfield. The forsaken mite of humanity was taken to the Foundling Hospital on Golden Gate avenue, near Octavia. Their is no clew to its parentage.

TO A SAILOR'S DEATH.

He Realized It Was Beyond Human Power to Aid