WILLIAM COBBETT.

The Career of a Truly Self-Made Man.

HE FOUGHT FOR MANKIND.

From a Farm to the Army—The Wife He Chose—A Writer of Books and Educator.

Written for THE MORNING CALL.

A very interesting figure of the last century and the early part of this is found in William Cobbett. His burly, robust form, his contentious nature, looms up in England and America during periods of crises, and we find him throughout life a man fond of antagonism or fighting, a prodigious worker, and always apparently happy with his back against a wall defying his enemies or revilers, and he had abundance of both. In his personal attributes in domestic life there is no fault to be found by the carping. He was devoted to his wife and children, and they were also devoted to him. The world was not soured to him in his domestic circle. But outside of it Cobbett was always in the hottest of hot water, and enjoyed it too. He suffered years of imprisonment and was repeatedly fined, but his misfortunes never overwhelmed him and if he satisfied not his ambition he lived his life and very active it was.

The Encyclopedia Britannica is the monumental labor of many hands, an admirable achievement only possible in this century. Cobbett may be said to have turned out an encyclopedia of his own. He was a most prolific writer. There are, perhaps, 150 volumes to his credit, and not trash either. His English grammar, written in the epistolary style to one of his sons, is perhaps the plainest and most instructive ever penned, and certainly the most entertaining. It is almost as fascinating as a novel, and the public evidently had that opinion of its merits. He wrote it when farming on Long Island, and within a month 10,000 copies had been sold. That was a marvelous stroke of success at the beginning of this century in a sparsely peopled country. His French grammar, based on the same plan, is quite as fascinating and sound. It interests the learner from the first page to the last, and that is much more than can be said of most grammars in any language. They are "dry-as-dust" compilations usually. The epistolary style was chosen for a good reason. We are always more interested in things written to us personally than in things addressed to the world generally. That was Cobbett's reason.

In his start in life, Cobbett had few advantages. In his "Peter Porcupine," which was published in 1796 in America, Cobbett with the utmost frankness sketches his career. He disclaims any connection with any illustrious family. He says he was born in "Old England," "the country from whence came the men who explored and settled North America; the country of Penn, and of all those to whom this country is indebted." We thus see that Cobbett was very proud of his English origin, and in many ways he showed it during his life. As "Peter Porcupine," he goes on to say—"with respect to my ancestors I shall go no further back than to my grandfather, and for this plain reason, that I never heard talk of any prior to him. He was a day laborer, and I have heard my father say that he worked for one farmer from the day of his marriage to that of his death, upward of forty years. He died before I was born, but I have often slept beneath the same roof that had sheltered him and where his wife dwelt for several years. It was a little thatched cottage with a garden before the door. It had but two windows; a damson tree shaded one and a clump of filberts the other. Here I and my brothers went every Christmas and Whitsuntide, to spend a week or two and torment the poor old woman with our noise and depredations. She used to give us milk and bread for breakfast, an apple-pudding for our dinner, and a piece of bread and cheese for supper. Her fire was made of turf cut from the neighboring heath, and her evening light was a rush dipped in grease."

Cobbett in a sly manner attacks Dr. Franklin for pretensions of high ancestry. The following passage is delightfully sarcastic: "Every one will, I hope, have the goodness to believe that my grandfather was no philosopher. Indeed, he was not. He never made a lightning rod, nor bottled up a single quart of sunshine in the whole course of his life. He was no almanac-maker, nor quack, nor chimney doctor, nor soap-boiler, nor ambassador, nor printer's devil; neither was he a deist, and all his children were born in wedlock. The legacies he left were his scythe, his reaphook and his flail. He bequeathed no old and irrecoverable debts to an hospital; he never cheated the poor during his life nor mocked them in his death."

Cobbett was proud of his father—an industrious and frugal farmer, married to a wife of his own rank, beloved and respected, and he remarks that if from his ancestors he derives no honors at least he derives no shame. He hardly remembers the time when he did not make his own living on his father's farm, and his three brothers appear also to have made their living just as industriously. He went to school to an old woman, who, however, did not succeed in teaching him his letters. But education was also carried on in the evening at home by the father. It appears that the father was a partisan of the Americans during the war and so Cobbett came at an early age to imbibe sympathies with the cause of the colonies. The first occasion on which he heard General Washington's name mentioned was when his father toasted Washington's health at a hop fair.

Born in 1766, Cobbett went on a visit to Portsmouth in 1782, and the first sight of the sea gave him an ardent impulse to join a man-of-war. He actually got on board the Pegasus and offered his services. The captain, however, repressed the ardor of the volunteer and told him of the hardships he would encounter. Not being accepted for service, Cobbett returned to the plow, but found himself spoiled for a farmer. He set out in 1783 on a picnic. He was to accompany two or three girls to Guildford Fair, and on the way the stagecoach for London came up and Cobbett changed his mind. He went in to London and set foot in the great metropolis with half a crown in his pocket. A chance friend procured him employment in a lawyer's office at Gray's Inn, but the work was irksome, and after a month of it Cobbett gave it up. On this matter he thus soliloquizes: "Gracious heaven! If I am doomed to be wretched bury me beneath Iceland's snow and let me feed on blubber; stretch me under the burning line and deny me the propitious dews; nay, if it be thy will suffocate me with the infested and pestilential air of a Democratic clubroom, but save me from the desk of an attorney."

From an attorney's desk Cobbett went to Chatham. He enlisted, as he supposed, in the marines, hoping once more to get to sea, but by some accident he took the King's shilling for a marching regiment. He explained the situation to his captain, who was an Irishman and who exclaimed, "Me lad, you have had a narrow escape!" This marching regiment was ordered to Nova Scotia. During the year he remained at Chatham Cobbett worked hard to improve his mind. He read nearly all the books in a circulating library and literally memorized and digested Louth's English grammar, pages of which he used to repeat to himself while on sentry duty. It was capital exercise for his memory in other respects.

On went the regiment to Nova Scotia, and the change draws out this confession: "Nova Scotia had no other charm for me than that of novelty; everything I saw was new-bogs, rocks and stumps, mosquitoes and bullfrogs. Thousands of captains and colonels without soldiers and of squires without stockings or shoes. In England I never thought of approaching a squire without a most respectful bow; but in this new world, though I was but a corporal, I often ordered a squire to bring me a glass of grog, and even take care of my knapsack." From Nova Scotia the regiment proceeded to St. Johns, New Brunswick, and there Cobbett fell in love with the woman who made him happy throughout life. She was the daughter of a non-commissioned officer in the artillery, a bright, genial, honest person, and when Cobbett saw her scrubbing a tub outside the door he said, "That's the woman for me." And she was, for never were man and wife happier than this pair became.

Cobbett remained in the army eight years and was honorably discharged at his own request. He was a non-commissioned officer nearly seven years, and during five he was sergeant-major of his regiment. The real work of his active life now commenced. He returned to England and brought charges against some of the officers of his regiment, but he avoided consequences by fleeing to France in 1792. Perturbed France was not to his liking, however, and he came to the United States. For a time he taught English at Wilmington and had for a pupil no less distinguished a man than Talleyrand, who is accused by Cobbett of having harbored a desire to steal his pen. Just as soon as his foot was on American soil Cobbett launched out in controversy. It was his true vocation. He began to write vigorously under the title of "Peter Porcupine." In terseness and perspicacity he was a match for any opponent. When he quarreled with his publisher, in 1796, he started business in Philadelphia as publisher and bookseller on his own account. In a Quixotic spirit he filled his windows with prints of French revolutionaries and American statesmen placed in juxtaposition with portraits of George III and his Ministers. This was pluck in bad taste. But Cobbett dearly loved fighting. He soon had his fill of it. The Spanish Minister prosecuted him for libel on Spain. He was also arrested for libel on American statesmen and was bound over in $4000 recognizances. Then a Doctor Rush, who was fond of bleeding patients, prosecuted Cobbett because he said the doctor killed nearly all the patients he attended. A fine of $5000 was imposed. To revenge himself on Rush he published a spicy paper called the Rushlight for some time.

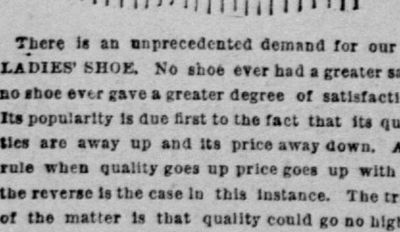
Off Cobbett set for England in 1800. He was there received by the Ministers of the day, Pitt and Windham, as the champion of law and order and monarchy. He was offered a share in the True Briton, but declined it. He opened a shop in Pall Mall and started the Porcupine Gazette and then his weekly Political Register, which he continued in stress and storm until the day of his death in 1835. A redhot publication this Political Register was. Cobbett was soon in trouble over the peace of Amiens. Over that peace he would not illuminate his windows like other loyal citizens and so his windows were smashed by the mob and his door broken in. He preferred that to any impeachment of his conscience. Then he libeled a Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, an unfortunate class. He spoke of Lord Hardwick's appointment as resembling the setting of a surgeon's apprentice to bleed paupers. A fine of £500 followed this expression of his opinion and a similar fine followed on a suit by an Irish solicitor-general.

Cobbett became a trifle radical as he went on in English politics. He soon had a friend in Sir F. Burdett. In 1809 he raised an awful row by his denunciations of the flogging of English soldiers by Germans. The English bulldog was very wrathy over that humiliation. He was fined £1000 and sent to jail for two years. But Cobbett was not disturbed. He took his martyrdom complacently. His Political Register came out in damp sheets from the press all the same and Cobbett in jail was well outside it. He had visits from his wife and children, and the produce of his farm at Botley, in Hampshire, arrived each week to cheer him. A dinner was given to him upon his release. Stormy life led to debts and Cobbett soon had a debit account of £34,000. He was much addicted to the use of accommodation paper, although he loved not paper currency in any shape. Fleeing to the United States, Cobbett settled down to farming on Long Island, but he did not neglect controversy. He kept up his Political Register and sent it by packet as so much inflammatory matter to England, and on Long Island, amid much care in farming, he wrote his English grammar, and saw it jump into a sale of 10,000 copies within a month.

Upon returning to England Cobbett carried with him the bones of Thomas Paine, whom he had abused in his pamphleteering but whom he now respected. The excitation to admiration came from a pronouncement of Paine's on the currency. Cobbett came back with Paine's bones, and tried hard to give them the reputation of saintly relics. The man who, Quaker as he was, had served under Washington and had penned that noble watchword utterance, "These are times that try men's souls," was worthy of such compliment as rests in a monument, but somehow Cobbett's enthusiasm went flat. The people who adored Paine's politics did not worship his theism. So Cobbett had the bones of Tom Paine under his bed for many a day and could not dispose of them. Where the bones now are nobody knows. This is the admission of Moncure Conway, the latest writer on Tom Paine.

Cobbett did get into the House of Commons and made his mark, too. He both amused and edified. But it was late in life, and it is pleasant to think that he left the hurly-burly of politics for farm life, and in farm life died in the middle of June, 1835. The writings of this man form a library. He had not a lazy bone nor a vicious muscle in his body. He was a combination of work and play in right mixture. His Political Register was carried on down to the day of his death, but besides that he wrote an immense number of works on a great range of subjects. His "Rural Rides," for instance, well match any page by Richard Jeffries. Cobbett's good in this world will not be filtered into nothingness. He fought, he hit hard, and about all his deeds there is an honest ring of a manly nature scorning deceit and pugnacious about principle. A better example of the self-made man never has been seen than Cobbett is in character and progress.

DEEJAY MACKART.



There is an unprecedented demand for our $3 LADIES' SHOE. No shoe ever had a greater sale; no shoe ever gave a greater degree of satisfaction. Its popularity is due first to the fact that its qualities are away up and its price away down. As a rule when quality goes up price goes up with it; the reverse is the case in this instance. The truth of the matter is that quality could go no higher, and price could go no lower. You will be simply delighted with this shoe; it will give you all the satisfaction that feet can have, and render more service than its price pays for.

NOLAN & O'ROURKE,
11 THIRD STREET, S. F.,
Under the Nucleus Building,
Sole Agents for the Celebrated James Means Shoes.
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BAD FOR THE VINEYARDS.

Phylloxera Making Sad Ravages in the State.

Professor George Hausman, special State agent of the Department of Agriculture, and a winemaker of experience with extensive vineyards in the Napa Valley, reports an extremely discouraging state of affairs among the vineyards of that portion of the State. Phylloxera has been making immense ravages, and it is estimated that in two years there will be no grapes in Napa except those grown on vines grafted on resistant stock. Great and unusual variation of temperature during the past season has also reduced the yield, and the production of wine in the Napa Valley, which in 1891 was over 4,500,000 gallons, bids fair to be less than 1,500,000 gallons in 1892. And the quality is also below the average.

In the northern part of Sonoma County, which is also in Professor Hausman's district, great quantities of grapes were left unpicked owing to the lack of a market, while in the southern part of the county the grape crop was almost a total loss owing to phylloxera.

The crop will not reach one-half the actual average. In Santa Clara County the same condition of things exist, the promise of one-half a crop not being fulfilled.

This discouraging condition of affairs, which is general but in a few localities, has stagnated the wine market. No wine is being offered by the makers and the dealers are not buying on account of the uncertainty of the future.

Surveys for the New Postoffice.

One of the most complete topographical surveys of the new Postoffice and Courthouse site, corner of Seventh and Mission streets, has just been made by Colonel Lyman Bridges by order of the Treasury Department, Washington. He has also made full reports upon the water, gas and sewerage of the site and has forwarded samples of granite, sandstone, marble, etc., found in California, with prices delivered in this city. Plans and specifications are being made at Washington for a building to cost $5,000,000 and to provide accommodation for all United States Government officials, except those connected with the Customhouse.

A Jubilee at St. Luke's.

St. Luke's Church, at the corner of Van Ness avenue and Clay street, will hold a jubilee service to-morrow evening in celebration of the final and successful effort in disposing of the mortgage that has incumbered the property of the parish for many years. A short address of announcement will be made by the rector, Rev. W. W. Davis, but the principal feature of the service will be the performance of the sacred cantata, "God Is Love," a composition of very high character, composed by Robinson, which the fine boy choir will execute. The removal of the debt will enable this active parish to extend the mission work in which it is now successfully engaged.

Cultivation of Coffee.

At the meeting of the Academy of Sciences to be held to-morrow night H. W. L. Comperus will speak on the possibility of the cultivation of coffee within the limits of the United States.

PORTRAIT GALLERY

Sketches of Well-Known Society Ladies.

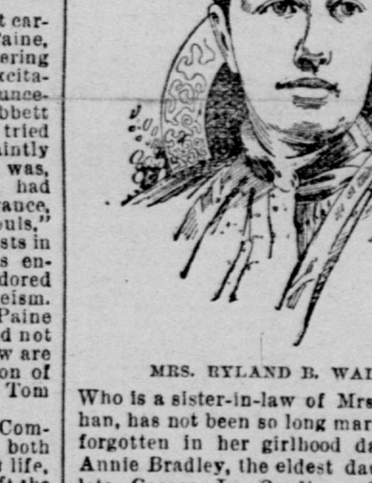
PROMINENT SAN FRANCISCANS

Mesdames Sheehan, Wallace, Alexander, Richardson, Wright and Kinne.

The pictures presented in THE CALL'S portrait gallery this week are those of well-known ladies, each one of whom is noted for literary attainments, artistic skill, high social position or for beauty of no mean order. A bit of biography of such cultivated members of society cannot but prove interesting to numerous readers and especially to friends.

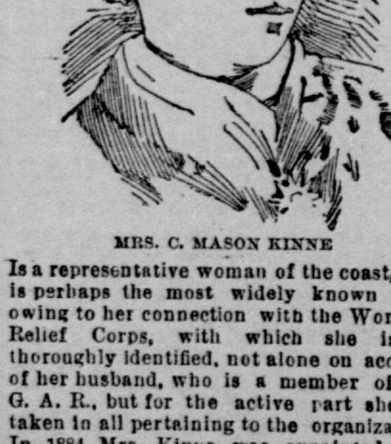
MRS. JOHN F. SHEEHAN

Is the wife of General Sheehan, so widely known throughout the State. The lady was formerly Miss Adelaide Wallace, eldest daughter of Judge W. T. Wallace—a family long identified with this coast. The father of Mrs. Wallace and grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Peter H. Burnett, was the first American Governor of California, and lives now, in his eighty-fifth year, in this city in the full enjoyment of his faculties. Mrs. Sheehan is a native of San Jose, where her education was received. She is one of the few ladies who can boast of never having been out of her native State. Being a regular home girl, devoted to her family and of a domestic turn of mind, her pleasures and interests are centered around her own fireside. One of her chief occupations is needlework—especially embroidery—which shows her talent in that direction to be of a high order. Mrs. Sheehan's marriage took place a little over six years ago. It was a morning wedding, and conducted in most elegant style. She is now the mother of two bright little girls and a baby boy. In appearance Mrs. Sheehan is a perfect blonde, tall and commanding, with a face full of amiability, and, like the entire Wallace family, is very handsome. General and Mrs. Sheehan reside on Lyon street.



MRS. RYLAND B. WALLACE,

Who is a sister-in-law of Mrs. J. F. Sheehan, has not been so long married as to be forgotten in her girlhood days as pretty Annie Bradley, the eldest daughter of the late George L. Bradley. Mrs. Wallace proudly claims California as her native State, and obtained her education in San Francisco, with a finishing course in Oakland. The lady possesses many accomplishments, and not the least is that of painting on canvas. She is something of a musician, speaks French and is a good housekeeper, being devoted to her only child—a handsome boy of about 6 years of age. Her marriage, which took place nearly eight years ago, was one of the most noted society events of that year. The wedding occurred at the old Bradley mansion on Bush street, to which many hundreds were invited and entertained in right royal style. Of late years society has not seen much of this charming lady, family bereavements having kept her in seclusion. Miss Grace Bradley was a beautiful girl and a belle in our best society. Mrs. Wallace is only now beginning to go again among the gay, and gives small social entertainments in her elegant home—that was a wedding gift from her father—on Polk street. The lady has traveled considerably through the United States. She anticipates an Eastern tour next September, and from there will go to Europe, accompanied by her husband.

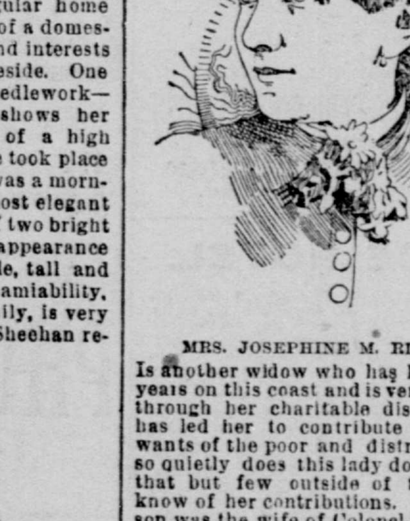


MRS. C. MASON KINNE

Is a representative woman of the coast, and is perhaps the most widely known lady, owing to her connection with the Women's Relief Corps, with which she is so thoroughly identified, not alone on account of her husband, who is a member of the G. A. R., but for the active part she has taken in all pertaining to the organization. In 1884 Mrs. Kinne was appointed Provisional Department President, and was the presiding officer at St. Louis, Mo., where the convention was held in 1887, and the same year she was elected chairman of the executive board. Mrs. Kinne inaugurated the Women's Relief Corps on this coast, and also started the movement in the department of California for the establishment of a Women's Relief Corps Home for army nurses, soldiers' widows and the mothers and orphan children of soldiers. She also assisted in establishing the Soldiers' Home at Yountville, and she has done much toward raising funds for the post and in starting the Evergreen Home at San Jose, of which she was four years president. She was also at one time Post National President of the Women's Corps, and is now counselor in the department of California. Mrs. Kinne belongs to an old New England family by the name of Phinney, originally of England, and among the first settlers on Cape Cod. On her father's side Mrs. Kinne is a descendant of the French. Her home was in Boston, where she married and then came to California twenty-seven years ago. She is the mother of one son and two daughters, the eldest of whom is married and is now Mrs. Will Irving Finch of Scranton, Pa. Mrs. Kinne is possessed of fine conversational powers and is quick and energetic in her manner.

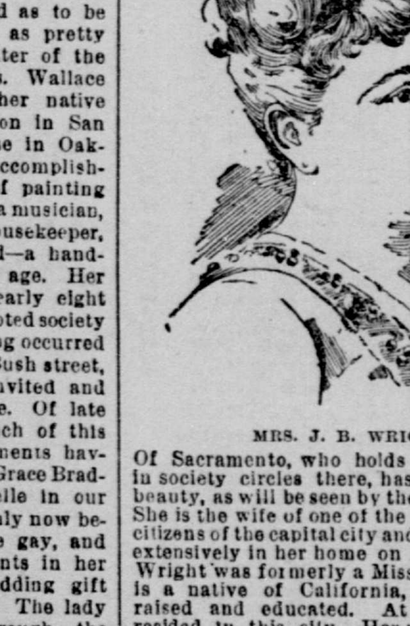
MRS. F. B. ALEXANDER

Is one of the pioneer ladies of this coast, having come to the country with her husband, the late Franklin B. Alexander, in 1852. Making the trip across the plains with a large number of emigrants in a train of that year, she has watched the steady growth of the State since then, undergoing many hardships and roughing it at times in true pioneer style. She has lived in a tent and in nearly every kind of a structure up to her present residence, which is indeed palatial in appearance. Four times since coming to California has Mrs. Alexander seen all she possessed swept away by fire; twice in San Francisco, once in Sacramento and once in Virginia, Nev. Still she is very much endeared to this part of the world. She was originally from the State of New York. When still in her teens she married Mr. Alexander, then a young man fired with ambition to make a fortune. The day of their wedding they started on their honeymoon trip on that long and perilous journey across the plains. Since then she has reared a large family and seen them all settled in life. The Alexanders were fortunate in amassing great wealth. Mr. Alexander died about fifteen years ago, and since then the widow has enjoyed the money which she helped to make, not in bodily labor, but by her encouragement and gentle endurance when fortune frowned upon them. Mrs. Alexander is one of the few ladies who has not had a picture of herself taken for over thirty years, so that the one accompanying this sketch shows her as the young matron of 30.



MRS. JOSEPHINE M. RICHARDSON

Is another widow who has lived for several years on this coast and is very widely known through her charitable disposition, which has led her to contribute largely to the wants of the poor and distressed, and yet so quietly does this lady do her good deeds that but few outside of those benefited know of her contributions. Mrs. Richardson was the wife of Colonel E. L. Richardson, at one time prominent on this coast. He died in the summer of 1882, leaving his wife quite a fortune. She is a lady of wide experience, who has traveled extensively over a large part of the world, including nearly all of Europe and the Orient, and may indeed be termed a cosmopolitan. She was born in the French metropolis, her mother being English and her father a German. Her two children are now in an institution of learning in Paris, where they will remain for the next three years. Mrs. Richardson, who went East three months since, will return in December, and subsequently commence the erection of a handsome residence in East Oakland, where she is the owner of some fine property.



MRS. J. B. WRIGHT

Of Sacramento, who holds a high position in society circles there, has a face of rare beauty, as will be seen by the above portrait. She is the wife of one of the most prominent citizens of the capital city and entertains very extensively in her home on H street. Mrs. Wright was formerly a Miss Hanchett, and is a native of California, where she was raised and educated. At one time she resided in this city. Her marriage, which occurred eleven years ago, took place at the home of her sister, Mrs. A. H. Rutherford, on Bush street, after which she settled in Sacramento, where she has resided ever since, with frequent visits to San Francisco. The lady is very charitable, and in her own town there is scarcely a charitable association in which she does not take an active part. She is also quite a traveler, having made two successful European tours, the last one occurring two years since. Mrs. Wright is large and fine looking and noted for her magnificent dressing. She is the mother of a couple of interesting little children. Among her relatives is Mrs. Edgar Carroll, her youngest sister, who has resided near her for the past two years. Mrs. Wright contemplates a visit to this city in the near future.

Mysterious Process.

The manufacture of cellulose, a substance invented by a French scientist and made from the fiber surrounding the cocoanut, and used in a coffer dam surrounding the armed cruisers, has been started at the Union Iron Works.

Cellulose is expected to close by expansion any hole made by a chance shot, and experiments made by United States officials prove it to be very efficacious in accomplishing this result. The action of the combination of water with cellulose is to cause the latter to swell instantly and close an aperture. The manufacture is carried on with the utmost secrecy, only the naval contractors and the experts being allowed admission to the works. The patent for the process has been purchased by the Government, which paid a high price for it.

One Face.

While the opera-books are turning,
And the music falls and swells,
I heed not the hero's yearning,
Nor the tale the diva tells.

Toward a certain box I'm gazing,
Where, gracious and sweet and fair,
One face all tongues are praising—
The loveliest woman there.

She smiles—her white teeth flashing!
One need not be o'er bright,
To know that this maid so dashing
Uses SOZODONT each night.

Smiles Are Becoming

Only when the lips display pretty teeth. It is also very desirable that the breath should be sweet. SOZODONT produces both of these results, is PURELY BOTANIC in its ingredients, imparts a coral tint to the gums, removes every trace of tartar from the teeth, and is indorsed by members of the Medical, Dramatic and Musical professions. In every class of society SOZODONT is recognized as the dentifrice which *beautifies* and *preserves*. Ask any one who has used SOZODONT what he or she thinks of it, and the reply will be strongly affirmative of its excellence.

THE COMING FAIR.

Numerous Applications for Space Made.

A BIG SUCCESS IN VIEW.

Magnificent Exhibit From the Citrus Belts Assured—Other Leading Features of the Show.

The Twenty-seventh Industrial Exposition of the Mechanics' Institute will be open to the public from January 10 till February 25 in the Pavilion on Larkin street. Exhibitors will only have eight days in which to arrange their exhibits, as the doors will be thrown open for the reception of articles on January 2.

The coming exposition will be more than usually attractive from the fact that it is designed to be a preliminary exhibit of the articles to be shown in the California building at the World's Fair.

Applications for space have been very numerous, and for this reason many of the exhibits allowed heretofore will be conspicuous by their absence. The exhibits will consist mainly of machinery and the manufactured products of the State, but there will also be a most interesting display of agricultural products.

One important feature has just been settled at a conference between the directors of the Mechanics' Institute and the Northern Citrus Association. It is to hold the annual fair of the latter body in conjunction with that of the former, and the citrus fruit exhibit will consequently be given the most prominent position in the building.

A space sixty feet wide and the entire length of the building has been allotted to this display. Commencing at the Larkin-street entrance there will be an immense arch, with battlements constructed of oranges and citrus fruits, and behind this will extend the main aisle of the fair, the width of which will be twenty feet. In the center of the aisle will be the bandstand, which this year will take the form of an orange grove. On both sides of this aisle will be the citrus exhibit, extending back toward Grove and Hayes streets for thirty feet.

The removal of this exhibition to San Francisco should prove of immense value to the interests of upper California, as fifty persons will visit the exhibition here to one who would have gone to an interior city to see it.

But the agricultural display will not be confined exclusively to the citrus fruits of the northern belt. Application for space from the interior counties are pouring in and intending exhibitors who put off until the last moment their requests are liable to be disappointed. From Sonoma County two applications have already been received. One is from Petaluma, asking for 31x44 feet of space, and the other from Santa Rosa parties who wish 50x70 feet. Outside of the citrus exhibit, Sacramento County is desirous of having 80x80 feet; Butte wants 50x50, Placer 50x50 and Yuba 50x60. Several applications for smaller amounts of space have also been received from the interior. From Southern California three carloads of goods have already been promised, and in all probability there will be six or seven carloads from that section. Both manufactures and agricultural products will be in this latter exhibit.

The mineral exhibit will be particularly fine and large. Already Placer, Nevada and other counties have promised large contributions, and the State Mining Bureau will make an extensive display.

In the Polk-street gallery will be placed a portion of the exhibit, which the Woman's Auxiliary of the World's Fair Commission intends making at Chicago. It will consist of a panorama or birds-eye view of San Francisco, forty feet in diameter. The city will be represented as it is with all its buildings, parks and railroads. The panorama will be constructed of wood, and the background will be of canvas on which will be painted the waters of the bay and the foothills of Contra Costa, Alameda and Marin counties.

Another exhibit of the auxiliary will be an Indian wickiup. Three or four Indians will reside in it to lend an air of naturalness to the scene. The women will be expert basket-weavers, and in this connection it may be mentioned that Dr. J. W. Hudson of Ukiah has generously offered to exhibit his valuable collection of Indian baskets, which represents years of trouble in getting together.

Norton Bush has been given full charge of the art display, which will far surpass not only any display heretofore made at the Mechanics' Fair but anywhere in California.

The band engaged is, as usual, that of the First Regiment, N. G. C. The latest attraction which Director Casassa intends to spring upon the public at the fair is a young lady cornetist, Miss May Cook, a native of this city, who is declared by all who have heard her to be a wonder.

The Pavilion will be newly decorated for the fair and made as bright as a new pin. For cash awards the directors have set aside the sum of $7410, and for gold and silver medals an additional sum of $5075. The fair will be open day and evening and the admission fee will be 25 cents during the day and 50 cents during the evening. No season tickets will be sold except to members of the institute, and they will receive them for $2 50. By paying $2 50, though, a person can join the institute and thus have the benefits of the library for three months and a season ticket to the fair for $5.

THE WINE EXHIBIT.

Hints From the Viticultural Commission to Intending Exhibitors.

The following are suggestions offered by the State Board of Viticultural Commissioners to those who intend to make an exhibit of wines at the World's Fair:

In selecting wines the greatest care must be exercised that they be free from defects, unnatural sourness, harshness of taste or excess of acidity. They should be perfectly brilliant and of good flavor. Red wines not younger than 1890 and white not younger than 1889 should be sent.

As to the classification of wines a letter to J. M. Samuels, Chief of the Horticultural Department of the Columbian Exposition, is quoted in full. In it the classification of the wines is suggested as red, white, sweet red, sweet white, sparkling wines, natural process and carbonized process, and brandies. The red wines are subdivided under five heads, clarets, Burgundies, Hungarian, Spanish and Italian. The white wines are further classified as sweet, acid, dry Sauternes, Rhine and Burgundy, covering Chablies and other white wines of the Burgundy district. Two types of sweet red wines, the Oporto and Alicante, and seven of sweet red wines, Tokay, sherry, dry and sweet; Madeira, Malaga, sweet muscat and angelica, are given. The natural and carbonized sparkling wines are divided under the headings of brut, extra dry and sweet or fruity, while the brandies are to be classified according to age, and to be tried upon their merits as understood and acknowledged by brandy experts.

The following suggestion is made to the chief of the department: "We earnestly advise that an affidavit be exacted, properly attested before a notary public, from each exhibitor of American wines, that the samples submitted were made from fresh grapes grown on American soil, and this affidavit be exacted from all exhibitors of American sparkling wines or champagne and brandies likewise."

The suggestion is also made that the wines should be tested at the following temperatures and tasted from thin, perfectly white glasses in a cellar or room where the temperature is about 60 deg. Red wines from 60 to 65 deg. Fahrenheit, white wines from 50 to 57 deg. Fahrenheit, sweet red and white wines from 65 to 70 deg. Fahrenheit, sparkling wines from 45 to 52 deg. Fahrenheit.

Wines will probably be judged by eight standards, as follows:

First, brightness of the wines; second, beauty of color or shades of color; third, appreciation of bouquet as compared to its competitors in the same type; fourth, purity and delicacy of type; fifth, body; sixth, savor; seventh, alcoholic strength; eighth, the lasting agreeableness of the whole.

The amount of wine to be placed at the disposal of the jurors should be: One dozen quart bottles for each type of dry wine; one-half dozen quart bottles for each type of sparkling or champagne wine; three quart bottles for each type of sweet wine, and three quart bottles for brandy of each age.

Proper bottles are to be used for each class of wine and attention is to be paid to corking, labeling and capping, packing and shipping.

Clothing Very Cheap.

A couple of young boatmen were seen driving a prosperous trade yesterday at the foot of Powell street in selling a lot of trousers which had every indication of being perfectly new, the trade-marks of the original owners not having been removed or the goods themselves being in any way soiled. The stock in trade of these bold thieves amounted to several dozen pants, which were, according to the testimony of an expert witness, worth not less than $5 a pair. These they were selling at from $1 a pair down to four bits, according to the wealth of the buyer. Several of the North Beach contingent are accordingly well clothed about their extremities to-day. The illegitimate merchants can be identified if caught. While driving an active trade some one warned them of the approach of the police, when they hurriedly bundled the goods into their boat and disappeared across the bay.

One More Electric Road.

Work has been commenced on the new electric road which is to run from Sixth and Mission streets to Visitacion Valley, in South San Francisco. Laborers are at present engaged in preparing the roadbed near Bay View, preliminary to laying the ties and rails. The road will be known as the Southern Heights and Visitacion Valley Railroad, and will open up a portion of the county which at this time is not easy of access.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

"THE HOOSIER SCHOOLMASTER."—The library edition of "The Hoosier Schoolmaster," by Edward Eggleston, has been issued, commemorative of the sale of 100,000 copies of the work. The narrative appeals so strongly to the heart and mind that it will always maintain the degree of popularity which it has enjoyed since its original publication over twenty years ago. Mr. Eggleston can no doubt quite properly lay claim to the fact that this book started the present dialect movement in American fiction. It is a recital of events which the progress of the age renders impossible to our time, and one must look upon it therefore in a sense as historical. Half a century has changed the complexion of our country schools. There is an extended preface to this edition and an appendix of interesting explanatory notes. The library edition is beautifully printed and attractively bound. [New York: The Orange-Judd Company. Cloth, 12mo, $1 50. For sale at Bancroft's.]

THE PRACTICAL UPHOLSTERER—A volume which will be eagerly perused by many an ambitious housewife, as well as apprentices in the art is this treatise on upholstery. It is prepared by a practical upholsterer, and every phase of the art is dealt with. The illustrations given serve to make clear to the amateur the descriptive text. A list of the tools and materials to be used is given, and accurate directions how to upholster chairs, lounges and other articles of furniture. The instructions as to measuring and putting up bed draperies, measuring and fitting carpets, cutting shades, etc., are full and accurate. A mass of miscellaneous hints is contained in the closing chapter of what is a most valuable little book. [New York: The Industrial Publication Company. For sale by Osborn & Alexander.]

A HISTORY OF MAINE.—Doubtless the best history of the Pine Tree State is that of J. S. C. Abbott, first published several years ago. This valuable and interesting work has recently been carefully revised, and five chapters of entirely new matter added by Edward H. Ewell, late editor of the Portland Transcript. His new edition, which contains 608 pages and 55 illustrations, is published by the Brown-Thurston Company of Portland, Me. Besides being authoritative, so far as facts are concerned, it is written throughout in a lively, entertaining style.

WOMEN OF THE WORLD.—One of the most daintily bound little volumes recently issued from the press is "Women of the World, With a Search-light of Epigram." In the pages Alethe Lowber Craig has given to the public a handy reference to the women who have ruled the world or made their mark in it from Cleopatra down to Florence Nightingale. With each name has been selected some appropriate epigram from distinguished authors of all ages. The plan is novel and the book will be welcomed by women especially. [Cushing & Co., Baltimore, Md.]

DYNAMOS AND MOTORS—The object of this compact manual is to give simple directions for the practical use of dynamos and motors. It is made up of a series of articles which first appeared in the Electrical Engineer. The various subjects are considered separately and in the proper order, and several diagrams serve to illustrate the text. [Published by the D. Van Nostrand Company, New York. For sale by Osborn & Alexander. Price $1.]

INDUCTION COILS—Edward Trevert has prepared a neat little book telling how to make and use induction coils. It will be found of special value to amateurs who wish to prepare at home the apparatus necessary to conduct electrical experiments. [Published by the Bubier Publishing Company, Lynn, Mass. For sale by Osborn & Alexander. Price 50 cents.]

THE CLEWS BALLROOM.

It Is One of the Finest Private Apartments in the World.

Social Truth.

No city in the world, not excepting London and Paris, can show more beautiful and stately apartments in its private houses than New York. The ballrooms of New York are particularly gorgeous.

For several years the Clewses have been in mourning and have entertained but little, but this season they will throw open their house, and their new ballroom and the other luxurious, newly decorated apartments will astonish their friends.

The Clews ballroom is one of the most beautiful and artistically perfect rooms in America. There is nothing at all like it in New York, and it will remain a lasting monument to the skill and taste of the late John H. Sturgis of Boston, who was the designer.

The room, which is oval in shape, and connects with the conservatory, is 55 feet in length, 35 feet in broadth and 25 feet high. The style of decoration used is a combination of the Renaissance and Colonial, and the colors adopted in the decorations and furniture are white, gold and cream.

The double dome, with which the room is surmounted, is the most strikingly beautiful thing of its sort that has been attempted in New York. The frieze is a row of dancing cupids with garlands of flowers, not exactly a copy of but similar to the one seen in some of the state apartments at Versailles. The first dome, that adjoining the friezes, is ornamented with a decoration of festoons in a delicate cream color on a white ground, and beneath the points of support for the festoons are medallions, each one charged with the name of a great musician in letters of gold.

The second dome, which springs gracefully from the first, is also unique and attractive in design, and the skylight above it is covered with a screen of iron, hammered into an elaborate geometrical pattern and enameled in white. At night this is illuminated from behind, and the effect produced by the parti-colored incandescent rays, filtered through the screen, is peculiarly striking.

The wainscoting is of white and extends but a short distance up the walls and other woodwork, including the arches of the four colonial alcoves which are let into the room at its corners and are also of white. Over the entrance to the adjoining conservatory, which is altogether in white marble, is the musicians' gallery, and this for delicacy of conception and beautiful workmanship is worthy of the rest of the room. The base of the gallery is exceptionally attractive in design. Its decorations is in arabesques and diapers, and the series of curves by which it springs out from the wall to meet the gallery balustrade is singularly graceful.

The floor is of inlaid wood, highly polished, and it is an ideal surface for dancing. Upon ordinary occasions the room will be used for music, and it is furnished with a grand piano of white marble, inlaid with ivory and gold, and a harp. When the floor is not needed for dancing its center is covered with a Ghiordes rug of great size and richness of color.

Other changes in the Clews house are quite as noticeable as is this beautiful ballroom. The hall, which is baronial in its proportions, was formerly dark and of baronial gloominess. Now it has been modernized and is altogether in white, with the exception of the carpets, which are of scarlet. The stairway, which cost a fabulous amount and is winding, is elaborately carved, and in the center of the stairway spiral stands a great palm trees, which extends nearly to the second floor, surrounded by smaller palms and rare ferns.

The size of the hall has been increased seemingly fourfold by huge mirrors set in the walls and draped ingeniously to represent doors.

The private apartments on the upper floors have also been embellished, and the Roman bath, all of Mexican onyx, which has been put on the second floor, is probably the richest and most costly in New York.

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LADIES' REEFER JACKETS, made from diagonal cheviot and melton cloaking, navy blue and black, box-coat back, with Watteau plait, also plain coat back, with welted seams, black coney and astrachan revers, half lined with striped silk, fastened with four corded ornaments, worth $15, will be offered at $10 each.

At $12.50.
LADIES' REEFER JACKETS, made from plain and diagonal cheviot, box-coat back, with lap seams, half lined with silk serge, revers of black astrachan, fastened down the front with small fur-head ornaments, shades navy blue and black, worth $17 50, will be offered at $12 50 each.

Children's Fall Jackets.

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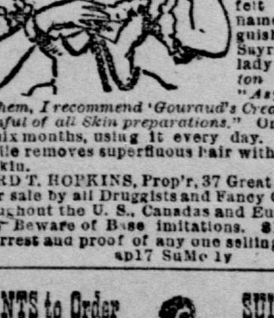

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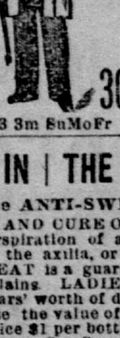

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