

# SPOT-CASH PURCHASES AT BARGAINING CUTS IN PRICES!

## COLORED DRESS GOODS!

- At 5 Cents. 50 pieces 22-INCH WOOL NUN'S VELLING, select colorings, worth 20c, will be offered at 5c a yard.
- At 10 Cents. 50 pieces WOOL CHALLIES, select patterns and colorings, worth 25c, will be cleared out at 10c a yard.
- At 10 Cents. 78 pieces DOUBLE-FOLD CHECK CHEVIOT SUITINGS, in seasonable colorings; have been heretofore sold at 10c, will be sold at 10c a yard.
- At 20 Cents. 45 pieces DOUBLE-FOLD DIAGONAL SUITINGS, changeable effects, worth 35c, will be offered at 20c a yard.
- At 25 Cents. 80 pieces 36-INCH SERGE SUITINGS, staple colorings, railway stripe, made to sell at 45c, will be sold at 25c a yard.
- At 25 Cents. 50 pieces 40-INCH ALL-WOOL CHEVIOT, in this season's colorings, worth 60c, will be sold at 25c a yard.
- At 35 Cents. 95 pieces 38-INCH HEAVY ALL-WOOL NAVY BLUE STORM SERGE, good value for 50c, will be offered at 35c a yard.
- At 50 Cents. 28 pieces 43-INCH EXTRA HEAVY ALL-WOOL SUITING SERGE, in both black and navy blue, fine value for 75c, will be offered at 50c a yard.
- At 50 Cents. 64 pieces 32-INCH ALL-WOOL LADIES' CLOTH, in black and a large range of the newest colorings, usually sold at \$1, will be placed on sale at 50c a yard.

### EXTRA SPECIAL!

- At 75 Cents. 25 pieces 43-INCH ALL-WOOL FANCY MIXED SUITINGS, French finish, worth \$1.50, will be placed on sale at 75c a yard.

## BLACK DRESS GOODS!

- At 37 1/2 Cents. 40 pieces FINE ALL-WOOL STORM SERGE, worth 50c, will be placed on sale at 37 1/2c a yard.
- At 50 Cents. 40 pieces 45-INCH EXTRA FINE ALL-WOOL FRENCH SURAH SERGE, good value for 85c, will be placed on sale at 50c a yard.
- At 75 Cents. 50 pieces 46-INCH SUPERIOR FINE FRENCH HENRIETTA, regular value \$1.25, will be offered at 75c a yard.

LADIES WHO PROFITED BY THE HEAVY CUTS IN PRICES QUOTED ON THE IMMENSE purchases of Dress Goods and Silks that we cleared out last week will best appreciate the ASTOUNDING VALUES OFFERED THIS WEEK throughout a number of still more advantageous purchases just received, for these goods were bought for SPOT CASH in the depressed New York markets at an UNPRECEDENTED SACRIFICE FROM COST OF PRODUCTION and we purpose clearing them out at proportionate reductions.

THAT THESE BARGAINS WILL GO OFF WITH A RUSH is a foregone conclusion and in view of their extraordinary character we feel that we cannot too strongly advise our regular patrons to

CALL EARLY AND GET A FIRST CHOICE!

### Men's Furnishings!

- At 25 Cents. MEN'S EXTRA FINE SILK SCARFS, in four-hand and neck shapes, satin lined, together with strong (all sizes) Men's, Ladies' and Boys' Silk Winders and tubular French linen four-handers, all good value for 50c.
- At 50 Cents. MEN'S UNLINED WHITE SHIRTS, finished with double backs, reinforced collar, cuffs, and cuffs, and of Ulton muslin, extra good value for 85c.
- At 12 1/2 Cents. MEN'S FULL-FINISHED IMPORTED COTTON SOCKS, in tans and browns, also Hemsford black, finished with double spliced heels and toes, good value for 25c.
- At 15 Cents. MEN'S FULL FINISHED MERINO SOCKS, in unlined, sanitary and vicuña, finished with double heels and toes, extra good value for 25c a pair.
- At 50 Cents Each. MEN'S FULL-FINISHED MERINO UNDERWEAR DRAWERS, extra well finished, warranted non-shrinkable, extra good value for 85c.
- At 75 Cents Each. MEN'S FULL-FINISHED MERINO UNDERWEAR DRAWERS, in drab and vicuña shades, fancy silk finished, good value for \$1.25.

### Hosiery and Underwear

- At 15 Cents. CHILDREN'S BLACK RIBBED COTTON HOSE, double knees, heels and toes, guaranteed fast and stainless black, regular price 25c.
- At 25 Cents. MISSES' FINE RIBBED BLACK EGYPTIAN COTTON HOSE, fine quality, double knees, heels and toes, Hemsford black, sizes 6 to 9 inches, regular value 35c and 50c.
- At 25 Cents. LADIES' BLACK MACO COTTON HOSE, plain and Richelieu ribbed, high spliced heels and toes, Hemsford black, regular value \$4.20 a dozen.
- At 33 1/2 Cents. LADIES' PLAIN AND RICHELIEU RIBBED EGYPTIAN COTTON HOSE, high spliced heels and toes, black and russet shades, regular value 50c.
- At 25 Cents. LADIES' JERSEY RIBBED EGYPTIAN COTTON VESTS, high neck, long sleeves, regular value 40c.
- At \$1.00. LADIES' JERSEY RIBBED CASHMERE WOOL VESTS, high neck, long sleeves, white, natural, pink, scarlet and black color, regular value \$1.50.

### Butter Point Venise Lace.

- BUTTER POINT VENISE, new patterns, new tints, 3 1/2 to 7 inches wide, 100, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2 per yard.
- BUTTER NET-TOP POINT VENISE LACE, 4 to 12 inches wide, at 90c, 60c, 75c, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2, \$2.50, \$3 to \$5 per yard.
- BUTTER POINT VENISE LACE INSERTION, 1 to 2 inches wide, at 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 50c, 60c and 70c per yard.
- BUTTER IMITATION POINT VENISE INSERTION, 1 to 2 inches wide, at 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c and 50c per yard.

### EXTRA SPECIAL.

- JUST OPENED—NOVELTY PATTERNS IN POINT VENISE LACE, exclusive designs, 6-inch at \$2.25 and \$3.75, 7-inch at \$4.50 and \$5.95, at \$4.50, \$5.75 and \$7 per yard.

### Ribbons and Parasols

- At 25 Cents. No. 16 ALL-SILK BLACK MOIRE RIBBON, worth 35c, will be offered at 25c.
- At 25 Cents. FANCY RIBBONS, in plaids, stripes and shaded effects, worth 45c, 50c and 60c, will be offered at 25c.
- At \$1.00. CARRIAGE PARASOLS, in Gloria silk, with ruffles, will be offered at \$1.

### Kid Gloves!

- At 50 Cents. 75 dozen LADIES' 6-BUTTON LENGTH BLACK RIBBED UNFINISHED KID GLOVES, in fancy shades, regular price \$1, will be offered at 50c a pair.
- At 55 Cents. 75 dozen LADIES' 6-BUTTON LENGTH MOUSQUETAIRE DRESSED KID GLOVES, in dark, medium and tan colors, also black (all sizes) regular price \$1.10, will be offered at 55c a pair.

### Ladies' Corsets!

- At 75 Cents. LADIES' BLACK SATEN CORSETS, special long waist, well boned and silk embroidered, regular value \$1.
- At \$1.00. LADIES' DRAB COTTON CORSETS, striped with fine saten, heavily boned and good side steels, both medium and extra long waists, regular value \$1.25.

## SILK DEPARTMENT!

### COLORED INDIA SILKS.

- At 25 Cents. 200 pieces COLORED INDIA SILKS, rich, soft finish, in every imaginable shade, on sale this week at 25c a yard.

### FANCY SILKS.

- At 25 Cents. 50 pieces CHANGEABLE SURAH SATIN, regular price 50c, will be placed on sale at 25c a yard.
- At 35 Cents. 30 pieces FIGURED INDIA SATIN, regular price 75c, will be placed on sale at 35c a yard.
- At 35 Cents. 40 pieces COLORED MOIRE SILK, regular price 75c, will be placed on sale at 35c a yard.
- At 50 Cents. 50 pieces COLORED MOIRE SILK, in evening shades, regular price \$1, will be placed on sale at 50c a yard.
- At 55 Cents. 60 pieces FIGURED TWILLED INDIA SILK, regular price \$1.10, will be placed on sale at 55c a yard.
- At 65 Cents. 50 pieces STRIPED SUMMER SILK, regular price \$1, will be placed on sale at 65c a yard.
- At 65 Cents. 40 pieces FANCY STRIPED ARMOURE SILK, regular price \$1.25, will be placed on sale at 65c a yard.
- At 75 Cents. 80 pieces CHANGEABLE MOTILED TAFFETA SILK, regular price \$1.25, will be placed on sale at 75c a yard.

### At 75 Cents.

- 100 pieces FANCY STRIPED AND FIGURED TAFFETA SILK, regular price \$1.25, will be placed on sale at 75c a yard.

### At \$1.00.

- 100 pieces FANCY FIGURED AND STRIPED TAFFETA SILK, extra heavy quality, regular price \$1.50, will be placed on sale at \$1 a yard.

### EXTRA SPECIAL!

- At 65 Cents. 20 pieces BLACK SURAH SILK, 24 inches wide, soft finish, heavy quality, good value for \$1, will be placed on sale at 65c a yard.



## A FIGHT ON HAND

### On the Street-Sweeping Contract.

#### Supervisor Dundon to Lead the Fight Against the Continuation of the Present System.

There will be a big fight at next Monday's meeting of the Board of Supervisors, and it will be over the street-sweeping contract, which is to be let for two years. This is one of the fattest plums at the disposal of the board, the payments out of the city treasury reaching as high as \$8000 and \$9000 a month.

During the last two years the contract has been held by the California Construction Company, which has expended several years ago with a subscribed capital of \$2500, with the following directors, each of whom subscribed \$500 to the concern: E. P. Gray, A. F. Low, George W. Fayler, C. R. Eager, L. R. Graves.

Two years ago the company secured the contract for sweeping streets at \$16.40 a mile and according to the record the "Treasurer it has been quite a valuable one."

As an instance may be compared the payments made by the city during 1892, when Max Popper had the contract at \$22.75 a mile:

Popper's term—January, \$2199.80; February, \$2047; March, \$2747.94; April, \$4194.18; May, \$5077.89; June, \$5065.78; July, \$5390.31.

California Construction's term—January, 1893, \$3348; February, \$4750.18; March, \$5133.27; April, \$7427.78; May, \$7865.63; June, \$7816.55; July, \$4746.53.

These figures are principally for the winter months, when the street-sweeping bills are supposed to be less than during the summer months, when the trade winds blow and scatter dust and dirt in all directions.

The amount of money involved in the fight before the Board of Supervisors can be seen from these figures. The amount of accepted streets during the two years mentioned did not differ very materially, and yet the size of the bills, with a difference of \$4 greater in the previous term, shows how fast a contract the street-sweeping of the city is.

Another fact in connection with the street-sweeping is, that Max Popper owns the only machines to be used in sweeping the streets in this city. He let them to the California Construction Company for \$125 a month. Any person or corporation which bids for the street-sweeping contract, which amounts to about \$150,000, will have to calculate on securing Max Popper's machines, if machines are used, or import new ones from the East, which will be very expensive.

This state of facts has induced some of the enterprising business men to form an economical administration of municipal affairs to devise a new scheme of street-sweeping. This movement obtained new impetus when Supervisor Denman stated that the California Construction Company had sublet at times a portion of its contract to certain persons at \$8 a mile for hand-sweeping of streets. Supervisor Denman's statement, which he said was made to him by one of the directors of the company, created considerable astonishment. It was wondered how streets could be swept by hand for \$8 a mile and yet the contractors charged the city \$16.40.

Again, some weeks ago the Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors investigated charges made against the California Construction Company, and sustained the accusations made against it of charging for streets which had not been swept. In one case there were eight solid blocks on Eddy street charged for which

had not been swept, and yet a report had been sent in that the work had been done. As the money had been paid out of the city treasury nothing was done in the matter.

These facts have induced some of the Supervisors to think that there should be some change in the system of street-sweeping, and that the expense to the city should be reduced.

The regulation bid on the old system will be made at the next meeting, but the Supervisors who do not believe in the continuation of the old system have prepared new specifications, which will also come up for consideration.

Their idea is to divide the city into districts and have competitive bids for sweeping and keeping clean each district by hand-sweeping. If the California Construction Company can charge \$16.40 a mile for street sweeping and sublet it for \$8 a mile to have it done by hand these Supervisors argue that the city might as well enter into the business of taking care of its own streets.

Supervisor Dundon has taken the lead in the new movement and has made an exhaustive examination of the subject. He will head the fight which will be made next Monday against the regulation bidding, which has cost the city so much. Speaking yesterday Supervisor Dundon said in relation to the new district system:

"Hand sweeping as compared with machine sweeping in this city would be very far superior. Hand sweeping is done in all the cities of Europe and is found most effective and less expensive. All streets which have been swept by machine are swept in the daytime, and then the general public could observe how the work was done. Of course this would not be right for a few of the principal streets downtown where there is considerable traffic, but the people could see whether a great majority of the 500 accepted streets in the contract are swept or not. The dust and dirt would not be stirred up and sent flying through the air as is done by the machines, and if the specifications provide that the streets shall be sprinkled when the sweeping is done in daylight this condition will be more likely to be complied with.

"It is said by some persons that the cost of doing the work by hand will be very much greater, but this is not so. Even if it should be done by the more expensive, which is doubtful, it is not the more equitable way to give assistance to distressed, industrious people, who would be given useful employment at moderate compensation provided from the general revenue? If legitimate employment were obtainable for all persons even at the most moderate compensation there would be no excuse for begging, and the charitably disposed members of the community would be relieved from a constant drain upon their pockets. The experience of last winter would show this.

"The plan of districting the city must be productive of good results, for if the contractor for any one section should be careless or dishonest, and investigated, this will have a good effect on all the other district contractors.

"Again, it is very reasonable to suppose that a combine to commit wrong between the contractor and the city would be more difficult and unsafe than when the whole contract is handled by one company. There is considerable doubt at the present time as to the amount of work of this kind that is charged and paid for.

"All things considered, we may very reasonably believe that if the street sweeping is done by hand we will get better and more satisfactory work, and our chances for paying for only what is done will be better. By this means we will give employment to many people and unemployed laborers, and give an opportunity to many men of moderate means to bid for a section of the work.

There are no arguments used by the Supervisors who will fight in favor of sweeping the streets by hand.

To Address Young Men. F. Flawith will address young men at the Christian Association Hall, 232 Sutter street, music will be furnished by the Young Men's Choral Union. Seats free to young men. Strangers in the city especially invited.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

A MARRIAGE ABOVE ZERO.—This is a novel of love written by one who assumes the privilege of concealing identity under the name of "Nevada." In a preface the writer tells the reader that the book treats in no small, every-day weak emotion, improperly called love, but the grand, noble passion of two great souls, and that "the book is not intended for the masses;—they could not understand it in a thousand years." It is the story of an English boy, who befriends his father at the age of 10, leaves home for London to make a start in life. He reaches the metropolis, spends his last cent for something to eat and is picked up by an individual who takes him to America, where after an endeavor to gain an education, he runs away from his employer and engages himself with another who encourages him. Before going to his second employer he changes his name and in time he becomes a great orator and politician. Finally he returns to his office in the country. He marries and, as it always turns out in novels, finds that the woman who bears his name does not reciprocate the love he gives her. During the visit of his wife to Europe he forms the acquaintance of a young unsophisticated girl, who has a passion for the operative stage, but cannot get her own. She, however, pours out her soul to him, despite the fact that he is a married man, of which fact she has no knowledge. He did not take a great many pages to tell of their love for one another. How a woman can love the husband of another woman in a manner described and still be pure minded, it may be, that which the writer declares the masses would not understand in a thousand years. Finally the girl becomes a great opera singer, and while in the height of her fame she sends a letter to the only man she loves, and this falls into the hands of his wife. The husband has such faith in platonic love that he arranges for an interview between his wife and the girl of his soul, that the wife may for herself see that the girl is true to him and learn to love her. The interview did not turn out as the husband had expected it would, but was the cause of the opera singer leaving the country, going to foreign lands, and the subsequent discovery that she was, not as she supposed, a great opera singer, but a name, but descendant of the Montezuma family. The husband and wife seek a separation, in which the wife allows the love she has for her husband to go for a goodly sum of gold, and he after a time meets with his affinity and marries her in a style befitting a Montezuma Princess, and presumably all are happy. The novel is not a very deep one nor does it present any features that have not at some time or other been the basis of other works of fiction, in fact the plot is a mosaic of incidents that have served other writers to weave a web of imagination. [New York: G. W. Dillingham. For sale at the bookstores.]

FATHER JUNIPERO SERRA.—This, a historical drama by Chester Gore Miller, is an attempt to put in dramatic form the story of the last year of the life of California's famous padre. The plot practically lies in the opposition of Don Pedro Fages, the Governor of California, to the work of Father Serra. It is the old antagonism—the church versus the state. The love story of the play and its subplot is the love of Captain Alvarez of the Governor's staff and Eduardo Ortega, a protégé of Father Serra. For Dolores, the daughter of Don Pedro Valencia, a newly arrived settler from Spain. There are many things in the drama that deserve praise, and one can honestly say that inasmuch as it is a play, evidently, it is a young play, and attempts is full of promise. The versification for the most part is good; at times, however, it becomes slipshod and careless and fails in the rhythm that all blank verse should have. The action of the play is slower than what one would desire; in the

drama steady movement to the central point is its essence. The various characters are sketched in with a few strokes, and Father Serra appears to have been studied and worked out lovingly. The central point of the drama is the fight sufficiently tragic for the purpose. There is little doubt of the affection of the writer for California; many of its scenes seem to be drawn from an extremely vivid and accurate knowledge of the state and its people. Study and pains will help to develop the better work that this drama promises. [Chicago: Skeen, Baker & Co.]

GOOD STYLE, SMALL EXPENSE, OR WE'LL NEVER GO THERE ANY MORE.—Under this novel title Ben Holt writes the narrative of a week's visit to the great Columbian Exposition at Chicago. From the dedication to the very last sentence of the book it is most interesting. There is no formal notice of what was exhibited, no wearying iteration of names; it is rather a record of what the visitor suggested to an extremely alert and astute mind. The whole book is steeped in humor, and the reader will often find himself laughing quietly, but with keen enjoyment, at the peculiar situations and fanciful clothing of fanciful thoughts. Some of the short stories are exceedingly well told. That of the "duke's" treatment by a Irish village, is inimitable. The visit to the exposition, as far as impression goes, seems to have been largely devoted to exploring the Midway. There is a list of names of the exhibits of the World's Fair, no dwellings on the improper thereof displayed, little indeed said, but that little indicates a healthy and intelligent mind. Historically it treats of Castro the writer dreams he has left Serra's Hotel in old Cairo and gone into the native part of the city, and he forthwith gives a description, short, vivid and interesting and true, of the strange life at that far-off Egyptian town. As in all true humorist's paths is never far away, and the writer has a keen eye for the comic in life. We can cordially recommend the book to the reader, and though it is light and fanciful, it will often set the reader's mind working on a serious subject. [New York: The Baker & Taylor Company, publishers.]

THE ROBB'S ISLAND WRECK.—In a book of nearly 200 pages, printed in first-class style on the best kind of paper, very much after the style of French publications, is presented to the lovers of short stories "Robb's Island Wreck" and other stories that were written by Lynn R. Meekins, who has gained quite a reputation of pleasing and interesting incidents briefly told. The demand of the present day seems to be for short stories, and the writer who has the faculty of telling in about 3000 words that which prolix writers require 3000 lines to tell, and knows what to leave out, and put in all that ought to be in, is the one whose writings will meet with ready sale. Lynn R. Meekins is one of these writers, and his eight short stories are placed in an attractive cover which will find many readers. [Chicago and Cambridge: Stone & Knuball. For sale at the bookstores.]

POEMS OF THE REVOLUTION.—"Our Roll of Honor, or Poems of the Revolution" is a neat little volume in cream, blue and gold, which contains four poems that were written by Julia Clinton Fages, formerly of this city. They are dedicated to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and are in them a great deal of patriotic fire, which proves the writer's great love of country. The little volume forms an acceptable addition to the library, and is one of the pleasant reading when one is in a patriotic mood. [New York: The Knickerbocker Press.]

JOHNNY QUICKSTEP'S WHALING VOYAGE.—This story, by George Paul Goff, makes a very readable book. It deals with the experience of a boy who has fallen in love with the sea; tells of his adventures in attaining his desire, and gives a full and

interesting account of a whaling voyage. The reader will get plenty of information in regard to the whales and bowheads, and will learn fully all the art of "cutting in" and "trying out." The life of the sailor on board the whaler is described at length and it is a life that could hardly be deemed enticing to the bulk of men. The characters of the sailors are brought out in a striking manner, their superstitions, credulity, and simplicity displayed in a variety of interesting ways. The fight of the boy on his way to New York with the "boss" of the whaler is well told, as also the amusing account how the ship's monkey lost its tail.

THE PRINCESS OF ALASKA.—Colonel Richard Henry Savage has written another book which will be published in a few days. It is entitled "The Princess of Alaska, a Tale of Two Countries." It is a love story to which a great deal of history is added, and said to be a combination of both in a manner that makes the novel very interesting. Historically it treats of the great territory that was ceded to the United States in 1867 down to the burning of the old Barrow Castle last March. It also treats of a population transferred by the imperial juggle of statecraft, of the greed of gold, of tender love and of deeds of daring, clinging to the blackened ruins of Kaitlian Rock. It is said that this is the most powerful book that the gifted colonel has yet produced.

ALL ABOUT THE MIDWINTER FAIR.—This is a pretty publication of W. B. Bancroft & Co.'s. It is full of pictures and information, both about California and the fair. The information, too, is of a kind that visitors want, and to supply which nature are not always ready. Hardly anything worth illustrating in the city and environs seems to have been left out, and the part devoted to the Midwinter Fair will form a good souvenir of a great enterprise that will soon have taken its place among the memories. The descriptions and writing has been done principally by Taliesin Evans. [San Francisco: W. B. Bancroft & Co.]

STORIES FOR THE TUBE.—The first volume of "Stories for the Tube," printed by the Outing Publishing Company, is a collection of clever sketches led off by "Donald Greg," the cleverest of them all, written by A. B. Ward. The book is the first of a series, and should become popular, because of merit, primarily, but mainly because the tales appeal to the great popular taste. ["Stories for the Tube," the Outing Publishing Company, New York and London.]

ENTHALLED.—This latest work by Edgar Saltus is a well constructed and interesting story marred by big dictionary English. It was reviewed at length in last Sunday's issue of THE CALL. [New York: The American News Co.]

AN ARTIST LEAVING. Hugo Fisher Will Sell His Pictures and Go East. On account of the departure of Hugo Fisher for New York he intends giving another exhibition of his paintings and disposing of them by auction this week. Quite recently an exhibition of this artist's works was given at Golden Gate Hall. The remarkably fine collection of oil paintings and water colors created a stir at art circles, and it received unbounded praise from some conservative critics of local reputation, as well as from judges from New York. These pictures represented years of earnest study from nature supplemented by the excellent models shown upon them. Mr. Fisher is an American artist whose name is familiar in the East, from where he has just been accorded flattering offers to open a studio and paint for the 400 of Gotham. He has about twenty-five pictures in his studio and they will be sold on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week prior to his leaving California. The sale and exhibition will be held in the Mills building, near the Bush-street entrance, a great variety of subjects and sizes make the collection attractive in the eyes of connoisseurs and collectors.

## FINE STAMPS AT AUCTION.

For the third time this spring San Francisco collectors were treated to an auction sale of stamps, on the evenings of May 18 and 19, when W. H. Hollis made his initial venture in this field. The stamps offered were the property of Dr. W. G. Sylvester, who has left the ranks of the general collector to devote himself to the revenue stamps of the United States.

Every stamp was a picked specimen, as Dr. Sylvester was, as stated in the preface to the auction catalogue, almost hypercritical as to the condition of the stamps he placed in his album. It was due to this fact that such excellent returns were secured. Fourteen lots went above the regular catalogue prices, several went for catalogue and many sold close up to full rates.

There were 713 lots and the total amount realized was close to \$1400. Bidding, particularly on the first night, was exceedingly lively, the attendance being the largest ever seen at a stamp auction in San Francisco, and the proportion of the revenue stamps of the United States was somewhat out of the usual. Following are the stamps that realized over \$5: United States—1860, 30 cent, unused, \$7.05; same, used, \$6.18; 1861, 30 cent, unused, \$6.20; 1862, 30 cent, unused, \$7.15; 1863, 30 cent, unused, \$5.75; 1869, 90 cent, \$8.85; excise, 6 cent, \$6.55; justice, 90 cent, damaged, \$5.10; State, \$2, \$7.55. Foreign—Azores, 1875, 240 reis, \$5.80; Bahamas, 1859, 1 penny, \$12.50; same, unused, \$11.05; Pit Islands, 1870, 3 pence, \$6.65; 6 pence, \$10.30; 1 shilling, \$15.80; Schleswig-Holstein, 1850, 2-shilling red, unused, \$6.50; Virgin Islands, 1867, 1 shilling, \$5.80.

Dealers and collectors alike experience considerable trouble when importing stamps from foreign countries and for several years ineffectual efforts have been made to get stamps, used and unused, on the free list. Up to date they have paid 25 per cent ad valorem duty.

The Treasury Department has ruled that stamps are properly classified as printed matter and that under the tariff laws printed matter is specifically exempt from duty. The collector must pay duty at the rate named. It is held that they are merchandise and that duty must be paid on them in accordance with the tariff laws. The collector's value. In the absence of accurate information customs collectors have been instructed to appraise them at the rate of 10 cents a thousand, but that whenever the duty upon a single package shall amount to less than 50 cents the duty shall be remitted as not worth the cost of collection. Stampites, however, claim that stamps should be classified as securities and should be exempt from any import tax, particularly as the printed matter contemplated to be taxed under the tariff law is such as can be produced in this country.

A philatelic committee is now again at work at Washington endeavoring to have stamps classified according to their value by the Treasury Department, and have employed counsel to aid them. Their prospect of success is said to be very good. A novel postal device is attracting considerable attention among business men at Washington, where an effort is being made to have it adopted by the Postoffice Department. The object of the inventor, who has his idea patented, is to arrange for the postage on letters and letters being paid by the recipient. The device is intended to be used by those wishing to include a card or envelope to be returned with the reply. It would be of great advantage to business men, as it would save them paying postage unless their correspondents made use of the card or envelope. A description of the card is as follows: In the upper left hand corner is the inscription: Order card. Unlawful to change address. Near the center of the card is printed: "Use this order card in any business correspondence with us. Postage guaranteed. At the side appears a coupon resembling the general accepted form of a stamp, with the following inscription: "This coupon is to be detached by Postmaster. Good for postage when delivered to addressee. United States Economic Postage Association."

Large holders of Columbian stamps are

in a state of great trepidation owing to reports from Washington that a large quantity—estimated at one week's supply—of these stamps have been ordered from the contractors, with a view to placing them on sale for the benefit of collectors and to break the corner that is said to have been made in them by a New York stamp firm. These reports have not been fully confirmed, but they have nevertheless had a depressing effect on the market. A week ago Columbians at 50 per cent over face were considered reasonably cheap, while now offerings are made in this city at 20 and even 10 per cent above face without takers. Probability is given to such a course on the part of the postal authorities, judging from precedents. Some years ago the same firm that is now credited with having cornered all the desirable Columbians bought up all of a certain issue of assumed envelopes and immediately raised the price of them to what collectors considered an exorbitant figure. The speculative firm failed to make the great profit anticipated, and the present break came the \$1 stamp was selling for \$3.30 in the East, while here \$2.50 was asked for specimens of it, canceled or uncanceled. Future stamp developments are anxiously awaited.

## THE EVERETT GRAMMAR.

Diplomas and Medals Awarded a Number of Graduates. The graduating exercises of the pupils of the Everett Grammar School were held yesterday in their classroom, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

The following programme was rendered in a manner which reflected credit on their teacher, Mrs. M. E. Moore.

The diplomas and medals were then awarded by the principal, Mrs. A. Banning, who, in a few remarks, exhorted the pupils to remember the counsels they had received during their school life and to practice them in their future careers.

Rev. W. S. Howard made a very happy address to the pupils, urging them to continue their studies and their efforts at self-improvement.

The highest of the graduates, Joseph Fitzpatrick, received the Bridge medal, and Ella Anderson and Laura de Gutter the Deming medals, having been most exemplary students during their entire school course.

The programme was as follows: Salutation of flag; song, "Red, White and Blue"; recitation, "The Old, Old Home"; instrumental music, L. Miller; essay, "Sketch of Longfellow's Tales of Wayside Inns"; E. Anderson; song, "When Night Comes O'er the Plain"; recitation, "What the Diver Saw"; E. Bean; duet, instrumental, A. Joost; M. Fuchhaber; declamation, "America's True Greatness"; J. Fitzpatrick; round, "The Chase"; recitation, "Minister's Cruise"; E. Thompson; song, "The Old, Old Home"; recitation, "The Deacon's Phonograph"; T. Fies; instrumental music, L. Kaas; original poem, "Chase Property"; G. Cook; recitation, "The Last Banquet"; M. Fuchhaber; essay, "The Bitter Sweet of Parting"; H. Gutter; "Wanderer's Joy"; dialogue, Doyle sisters; dance, Allen sisters; duet, ballad, "Sweet Home"; declamation, "The Old, Old Home"; Farewell song, "Home, Sweet Home."

## SMALL PASSENGER LIST.

The City of Peking Arrives With Fifty-two Chinese. The City of Peking arrived at 8:40 o'clock yesterday morning 23 1/2 days from Hong-Kong. The steamship had but nine cabin passengers. There were fifty-two Chinese and nine Japanese in the steerage. Twenty-seven of the Chinese were booked for this port and the remainder for Panama and Haikow. Three of the Chinese are women, who claim to have been born here. The others claim to be either merchants or students.

Captain Seale reports fine weather throughout the voyage.

Two Heavy Mortgages. Davis Bros., of the Golden Rule Bazaar, yesterday executed two heavy mortgages to the Hibernia Bank. One of the mortgages was for \$55,000, and the other \$100,000. The property mortgaged is the lot on the northeast corner of Geary street and Chestnut avenue, running back as far as Morton street, and on which the Malson Riche is situated.