

## Editorial Articles.

FROM THE DAILY P. C. A.

THE *Gazette* has fallen into two of its characteristic mistakes in a single article; one an imaginative mistake and the other a floundering among figures. The imaginative one is the supposition that our Commercial reporter spoke of  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent per lb as the total fall in the price of sugar in the quarter just ended, when he was only illustrating the serious results to the country of the repeated falls in price which we have been called upon to chronicle, by showing that a single fall of  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent per lb on one quarter's exports represented nearly \$100,000. The second is in his own calculations of what the fall in sugar has been during the past year, in which, after stating that  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent per lb is equal to \$5 per ton, he makes one and a half cents per lb to be equal to \$25 per ton, and one and three-quarter cents to be \$27 50 per ton. Somebody in the *Gazette* office evidently needs to go to St. Alban's College to learn arithmetic.

COMMUNICATION is interrupted between the old semaphore station and town and the shipping intelligence usually obtained from that quarter is no longer forthcoming because there is now no one sufficiently interested in the line to undertake its repair. Originally constructed as a private enterprise and subsequently paid for by subscriptions raised from our business men, this line to Telegraph Hill has for a lengthened period been cared for by a firm no longer in business whose public spirit probably brought them but little pecuniary advantage. It is time now that it should be taken in hand by the Government to whom, we feel no doubt, all those entitled to a say in the matter will be willing to see it confided. The news which it is especially intended to convey is of interest to the whole public and not merely to a few mercantile firms and the line is in consequence a very proper object of Government care. This fact has all along been recognized by the Legislature which has provided regularly for the salary of the signal station keeper since the line was put up. The further expense which the maintenance of the line and the publication in town of the shipping news conveyed by it would entail cannot be a very serious matter. If a private firm could undertake it for so long it is surely not such to ask of the Government that the service should be now taken up for the benefit and provided for out of the public purse. We have become so accustomed to have regular shipping intelligence from the signal station that it has become quite a necessity and it will be a very poor sign of the progress and enterprise of the chief port of the Kingdom if this service is now to be abandoned.

WE are informed by Messrs. H. Hackfeld & Co. that in future the steamers of the Pacific Mail S. S. Co. will not carry either passengers or cargo between this port and San Francisco. This new policy is to extend to the steamers which occasionally call here on their way from China as well as to those which run from Sydney to San Francisco. The arrangement is presumably the result of a negotiation between that company and the owners of the competing line. It is a shade better in its treatment of this country than that we heard of as being proposed some few months ago, viz.: That the steamers carrying the mails between Australia and California should cease altogether to call here, thus cutting us off from all connection with the Colonies and diverting from our shores that stream of tourists and business men which has done so much to make this country known throughout the world and which, from month to month, has left behind so many dollars in return for sight seeing and for the products of the land. It is nevertheless a vexatious interference with what ought to be the rights of the people of this country. No merchant vessel should be allowed to call regularly in our ports and refuse to receive either passengers or freight if she have room for them. Such a thing is absolutely contrary to law in some countries and if it is not so here it ought to be. The Pacific Mail S. S. Co. may be indifferent to the trade

they have thus, for some consideration or other, thrown away. But for the Oceanic Steamship Co. who may be supposed to have secured the arrangement in the hope of benefitting by it we consider that it is a very bad stroke of policy. It will secure for them the profit on a certain amount of passenger and cargo traffic for the present moment but they are sure to find in the end that such an attempt to confine a trade which is free to all carriers within a channel prescribed for it not by natural laws, but by an individual will must fail in the end with probably a greater loss than all the original gain. Another well equipped and more wealthy company has cast envious eyes on this trade for some time past and if a monopoly is established for a little while in the steam carrying trade between here and San Francisco, we should not be at all surprised to see it broken in upon in a manner disastrous to the interests of those who establish it, and from what may probably be to them a quite unexpected direction. We very much regret to find ourselves called upon to make these remarks. Our earnest and honest support and applause has been given to the Oceanic Steamship Co., as one of the most valuable institutions connected with the trade of these Islands. But we are convinced that if they are responsible for the arrangement we are discussing, they have taken a step which must, in the end, prove injurious to themselves.

How inopportune a time too has been chosen for the announcement of this compact. The companies engaged in the steam carrying trade between this country and San Francisco, have been enjoying subsidies from the Hawaiian Government as a consideration for the accommodation they afforded to the public. With what face can either of them ask a renewal of the bonus hitherto granted if they mutually arrange to reduce, instead of increasing the accommodation of which it is a recognition? The public cannot view with complacency, a vote of public funds to a Company which refuses to carry cargo and passengers between this port and San Francisco, or to a Company which uses its influence to deprive the country of facilities which it has long enjoyed. We confess that we are entirely perplexed to understand how shrewd business men can have concluded that such an arrangement as this can prove ultimately successful as a scheme for profit. We can only assume that the success with which certain corporations engaged as public carriers, have for years past oppressed California, has blinded their eyes to the fact that the carrying trade of the open ocean cannot be monopolised except by treating it so liberally that competition ceases to be desired.

### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31st, 1884.

There is no doubt that the newspapers did a great deal to bring about the state of public feeling that in turn brought the pressure to bear on Governor Stoneman to induce him to call that extra session of which this is the sixth day. These are the days when it is no fun at all to be a Governor; for no matter how deep the machinations of the railroad are; no matter how rich a senatorial reward the Governor is to reap for his steadfastness, it is trying to hear the epithets, knave and fool coupled with one's name with the tireless assiduity that tacks them to Stoneman's. In the letter of Attorney-General Marshall, the abuse was something worse, and being presented with the force and significance of a State paper, was intensely deplored and regretted by Marshall's friends, for it bore a bullying, challenging, duelling aspect which is becoming more and more repugnant to men's feelings every year.

The railroads slipped out in the tax cases through the non-correspondence of the State with the Federal law. The New Constitution made its discrimination in favor of private individuals and specially providing that railroad corporations should have both their property and the mortgages on that property taxed. By a legal technicality corporations are persons and the attorneys for the San Francisco corporations got their principals off tax free. Public opinion raged. Stoneman is a great soldier but no statesman at all. It was thought that he was gracefully and dutifully in railroad leading strings, but this extra session paper is most amazingly contradictory. He is a vacillating man, so much the worse for the State, and while it is soothing to think that the extra session will devise a means for reconciling the discrepancy between the State and Federal law in such a way as to bleed the plithoric Plutus of the C. P. R. R., it blunts the full

force of the situation that while the hand of "Esau" Stoneman appears in the message to the Legislature in extra session, the voice is the voice of "Jacob" Delmas, the anti-railroad attorney, urging recognition from the State to the amount of a \$50,000 fee for services rendered by him in the same immemorial tax cases. The extra session is dull and no one knows how it will turn out. The railroad commission is to be investigated when all the members who are bored and consider it a perfect farce, will resign.

The opera insanity is growing slowly and beautifully less. Colonel Mapleson and everything that is his are on their eastern way leaving us to gasp and get over it. It has been a great time all round, an excitement, a stir. It is always good to have something in the city's life that strikes sparks, and the Italian opera has roused eager controversy about the merits of the two prima donnas, has been the cause of much dressing and spending of money, and of much real pleasure to lovers of music for its own sake, of which there are more than is known to the noisier talkers and clappers and loungers. The New York papers, getting everything wrong as usual, speak of Mapleson's arrest as if it were an advertising dodge of Mapleson's own. A ludicrous subject of discussion has grown up out of the opera season. It suddenly crystallized into a formula that Mike De Young wished to get into society. Everybody threw it into his discourse sooner or later, and the world pricked up its ears. Mr. De Young is the proprietor of the San Francisco *Chronicle*, and as there is not that dignified impersonality about the press in San Francisco that enters into one's ideal of journalism, people began to scan the columns of the *Chronicle* to see if haply they might not discover in what way its proprietor would use his paper to assist his recognition among the elect. Then it took form that in some way Mr. De Young's social campaign was to comprise an association with oysters to Adelina Patti and he accordingly feted her a great deal, so that when Patti and Gerster were exhausted as themes of conversation one had but to say, "Box A"—the proscenium box occupied by Mr. De Young and his family during the season—and smiles and chatter and the formula, "He wants to get into society you know," instantly burst forth. The illustrated *Wasp* saucily caricatured these rumored aspirations in a series of clever cartoons, which elicited a broadside from the *Chronicle* about leprosy, and the uselessness of reciprocity in our relations with Hawaii, articles which the reading public could not possibly know meant merely that the proprietor of the *Wasp* had interests in the Hawaiian Islands. It robs thunder of a great deal of its terror to see the sheet of zinc it is made upon.

The death of Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, has put a stop for a moment to the fun that has been made for a month or more of the Queen's new book on her Highland holidays. Leopold had always been known as a little prince without a skin; but now it appears the valves of his heart closed weakly or insufficiently, the blood rushed into his lungs, and it was "Good-night, sweet prince;" two German marriages postponed and, perhaps, one English birth accelerated by the catastrophe.

Charles Loysen, "Pere Hyacinthe," has been here, is here now in fact, and preaches and lectures at the different churches. His eloquence is of the most fervid description, knocking over the small desk on the desk upon the pulpit, and next sending an embroidered cover floating down among his hearers. Either the piously and the curiously inclined have all heard him, or else the fact that he speaks in French has become known. But for some reason the reverend man has exhausted his popularity all of a sudden, and no one goes to hear him; whereas his first sermons so filled the churches that many people were compelled to sit on the floor. The Catholic papers are very bitter in their reviews of him, and the Protestants think him neither fish, flesh nor good red herring, ecclesiastically considered, and therefore, though eloquent and well-meaning, not likely to accomplish much in his self-appointed work of bringing all denominations into one church.

### LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

The Oceanic Company's S. S. Mariposa, Capt. Howard, arrived on Tuesday morning, 6 days, 19 hours and 20 minutes from San Francisco. She brings dates to the 1st instant. We call the following news items:

Cincinnati, March 28.—Ten thousand people gathered in Music Hall to-night in response to a call by reputable citizens to take action on the Berner verdict, Berner having been convicted of a cold-blooded murder and convicted of manslaughter for which he was to-day sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. Strong resolutions were adopted, condemning the verdict and a Committee on Legislation appointed. The meeting was presided over by Dr. A. C. Kemper, who made a conservative speech, taking for his topic, "The Prevalence of Crime Throughout the Whole Country." He then spoke of the special prevalence of the crime of murder in this country and the necessity of more certainty in the ad-

ministration of punishment for crime. His remarks were not intended to awaken the mob spirit, but when the meeting adjourned, [the people, by a common impulse, moved down to Twelfth street, where shouts began to be uttered, "To the jail!" and the crowd moved bodily in that direction. On reaching the jail the mob commenced an attack on the front door.

Cincinnati, March 29.—12:45 a. m.—The jail has been fired by the mob and the crowd on the street say they will cut the hose to prevent the Fire Department from extinguishing it. The mob seems to think a wholesale holocaust is the only means of accomplishing its purpose.

Cincinnati, March 28.—The history of the crime for which Berner was to-day sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment is, briefly, as follows: William H. Kirk was murdered in his stable last February by Berner, who stood behind the door, and when his victim entered smashed his head with a hammer, robbed him of \$400, put the body into the wagon of the murdered man, hauled it off and dumped it into Mill creek, where it was found two days later. Joe Palmer and William Berner confessed they did the murder and robbery. On the trial Berner testified that Palmer did the actual murder, while he only looked on to get a share of the money. On Monday morning Berner was found guilty of manslaughter. The verdict was declared privately by the Judge who tried the case to be an outrage, and the jury, after leaving the courtroom, were hooted by the crowd, with a suggestion that they should be hanged.

London, March 28.—Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, the fourth and youngest son of Queen Victoria, died suddenly to-day at Cannes, France. His death was due to the effects of a fall received last evening at the Club Nautique. He died in a fit as he was on the point of starting for Darmstadt to attend the wedding of his niece, Princess Victoria of Hesse.

The Queen received the news of the Duke of Albany's death this afternoon and was profoundly affected. The Prince of Wales was visiting the Earl of Sefton and received the news on the Aintree race-course. He returned at once to London.

London, March 29.—The remains of the Duke of Albany have been placed in a coffin covered with glass, through which the body is visible. The *Gazette* orders the Court to remain in mourning until May 11th. The same order applies to the War Office and the Admiralty. The Duke will be interred in the mausoleum at Frogmore. The Cabinet sat nearly three hours. The Ministers were clad in deepest mourning. Gladstone will make a great effort to be present on Monday and move the resolutions of condolence himself. The Prince of Wales has gone to Cannes to accompany home the remains of his brother. The meeting of the Queen with the Duchess was most affecting. As she entered the park she was unable to restrain her tears at the sight of her son's desolated home. She was weeping bitterly when she met the Duchess. Delicate health prevented the Duchess from accompanying her husband. Her accouchement is expected in a few weeks. The Duke at Cannes on Thursday signed a petition against the proposed sale of the island of St. Marguerite.

In consequence of the Duke's death the marriages of the Princess Victoria of Hesse and Prince Louis of Battenburg and of the Princess Elizabeth and the Prince of Anhalt have been postponed.

The Duke of Albany fell on the steps of the clubhouse at 6:30 o'clock on Thursday evening. He was well enough afterward to write a dispatch to the Duchess, stating he had had a fall and possibly would not be able to leave for England to-day. The Duke struck on his head when he fell. Dr. Royle, who was sleeping in the Duke's room, was startled about 2:30 o'clock on the following morning by the patient's heavy breathing. He approached the bed side, saw the Duke was in a fit and immediately summoned Captain Percival. The crisis was of short duration. In six minutes the Duke expired in the arms of Captain Percival. His end was apparently painless.

Prince Leopold was in his thirty-first year, having been born April 7, 1853. He was married April 27, 1882, to the Princess Helene of Prussia, to whom a daughter was born in February of last year. The Prince was created Duke of Albany before his marriage. He was always in delicate health.

Washington, March 26.—The President this afternoon nominated Aaron A. Sargent, Minister to Germany, to be Minister to Russia, vice Mr. Hunt, deceased.

London, March 29.—The Berlin correspondent of the Daily News says: Mr. Sar-

gent will resign his post at Berlin and refuse the St. Petersburg mission. It is evident his appointment to the latter post was only a previously arranged formality to facilitate his recall. The Times says: Sargent has resigned and prefers to return home.

London, March 27.—General Graham telegraphs this morning that last evening and night were cool. Reveille was sounded this morning at half-past three, and as quickly as possible troops were got in readiness to advance on Tamaniéb. The cavalry were in front and the infantry followed *en echelon* of brigade squares, with guns between the brigades.

A later dispatch says the British advanced to-day to Tamaniéb, and burned the village. The Arabs fled. Fighting is ended.

Suakim, March 27.—The British forces began their advance on Tamaniéb at five this morning. Firing commenced at 7:30 and was brisk upon both sides. The rebels were in larger force than yesterday. The English cavalry and mounted infantry led, and drove the rebels from the rocks, dispersing them among the hills. There were no British casualties. The loss of the rebels is unknown.

Another dispatch gives these particulars of the brush with the rebels: The rebels fired on the British troopers from the rocks on the left. The cavalry dislodged them and advanced to within a hundred yards of Tamaniéb. As soon as Graham came up, with the infantry and guns, shells were thrown among the flying Arabs, and exploded close to them. On reaching Tamaniéb men and horses made straight for the wells and slaked their thirst. After a brief halt the cavalry moved out to the right and left of Vallejo in pursuit of the retiring foe. The village forthwith was burned to the ground. General Graham will explore the regions in the neighborhood of the wells of Tamaniéb and then return with his whole force to Suakim. The campaign is at an end.

The French Government has presented the Queen of Tahiti with a gold medal in memory of her visit to Paris.

London, March 30.—It is reported that on the 16th instant Gen. Gordon made a sortie from Khartoum with 3,000 men, two guns, and a squadron of Bashi-Bazouk cavalry, accompanied by three steamers on the river. The rebels were encountered near Halfiyek. Sixty of the enemy's cavalry charged the Bashi-Bazouks, and put them to flight, causing a panic among infantry, who also fled in great disorder. On hearing the rebels Gen. Gordon drew up his troops in the form of a square, in which they were kept until attacked by the enemy, when the Egyptians turned and fled, 200 of them being slaughtered and three guns lost. There are enough provisions at Khartoum to enable the town to hold out until winter. Gen. Gordon has returned to Khartoum, and notwithstanding this check he declares that the place is quite safe.

London, March 31.—Later advices give details of Gordon's encounter near Halfiyek on the 16th instant. The rebels pursued the Egyptians two miles after the battle. The confusion during the retreat was fearful to behold. The Egyptian regulars and Bashi-Bazouks kept shouting that their generals had betrayed them. The wounded received no attention for seven hours. The troops had been clamoring three weeks before them men the enemy. In the early part of the encounter the enemy were actually in full retreat when their cavalry made a desperate charge. Despite this reverse the inhabitants still remain staunch friends to Gordon. One Arab sent Gordon £1,000, as his treasury is empty. Another Arab equipped 2,000 blacks for him. Two black pashas have been arrested for changing into the ranks of their own troops, thus allowing the enemy to enter the gap they made.

Suakin, March 28th.—The Tenth Hussars, the York and Lancaster regiments and the Irish Fusiliers have embarked for England. Sheiks of the Sanarar, Danilets and Scourar tribes, who represent 5,000 people, living between Suakin and Kassala, have come in and promised to assist in the capture of Osman Dinga, whose prestige has been destroyed.

### MEETING OF THE HAWAIIAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY.

A special meeting of the Stockholders in the Hawaiian Bell Telephone Company was held at 12:30 o'clock on Wednesday last at the Company's offices. There were present Mr. E. P. Adams (President), Cecil Brown, W. O. Smith, John Eng. Jr., J. F. Cassidy, and J. F. Brown (Secretary), representing 920 shares.

The Chairman stated that this was a special meeting called to consider the question