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THE EXAMINER, SAN FRANCISCO: SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 28, 1893. 3

HOW THE JAIL WALLS BULGE.

The Structure on Broadway Crowded to a Danger Point.

CLEANLINESS AN IMPOSSIBILITY.

Plenty of Cells Elsewhere—The Basement of the City Hall—Thirty-Five Apartments Ready for Prisoners All Standing Empty—The Sheriff Wants to Use Them—A New Jail Needed.

Sheriff McDade is in a quandary. He has more prisoners than he knows what to do with. The City and County Jail is the only place in which he is allowed to keep them. He packs them into this ancient structure as best he may. The building has accommodations, or more properly, it has space, for 150 inmates. Within a few days it has been jammed far beyond this supposed capacity. By crowding three men into cells designed for one, and five men into cells never intended to hold more than two, 210 prisoners were stowed behind the rickety walls. Yesterday the number had fallen to 199, when a batch of Chinese arriving from Detroit, en route for their native land, second a ladder and open a trapdoor. A grating of wooden slats confines the prisoners within certain bounds. The best jail, it is said, are without trap-doors, and do not compel the jailer to conduct prisoners up a ladder to do attire in which an erect position is necessary.

Besides the main corridors is one more where the tractors and short-term men are housed. It is like the others. Every cell has two or three extra people in it.

CLEANLINESS IMPOSSIBLE.

With the institution so overcrowded scrubbing cannot keep it clean. Not only is the health of prisoners endangered, but there is undoubtedly opportunity for the gratification of disease germs. The moral effect is also deplorable. Untimely there is an effort to keep the young offender separate from the hardened criminal, but under the circumstances there can be no distinction. Young and old, hardened and unfortunate, go in together.

The roof of the building was once protected by a high fence enforced with a row of spikes. Recent storms leveled the fence, and the spikes were removed. The roof is weight, and spread in its pressure a new thoroughfare to liberty. The jail is unsafe, considered from any standpoint. It grows worse with time, and day by day it becomes more crowded.

While Sheriff McDade is worrying about the City and County Jail, the new City Hall Institute of prisoners, at the New City Hall there is a basement, clean, plumbed, airy, lamplighted and with thirty-five modern cells, all tenantless. The Sheriff thinks that this waste space should be turned. The cells are of a modern type. They are

AN OVERCROWDED CELL IN THE CITY AND COUNTY JAIL.
[From a sketch made yesterday by an "Examiner" artist.]

arien sent the number to the point of sufficien ce.

The City and County Jail is a relic. It was erected in 1850. San Francisco then had less inhabitants than at present by many thousands. But while her city had grown the principal change in the jail has been the gradual decay that has taken hold upon it, until now it is not only its name's sake, but in fact a jail. The mortar between the bricks is crumbling to dust. A cord will a jeweler spoon, and given a few hours' time, any convict-miners for liberty might secure it. Constant vigilance is all that keeps the prisoners from breaking out. Occasionally they have broken out. Thus far they have been caught before they got to the door of the place from their fond efforts; it is a matter not easily explained. Sheriff McDade, with every confidence in the men in charge, is not in constant fear of breaks.

The jail consists for the most part of two corridors, one above the other, each containing a row of cells. The arrangement suggests by its shape a huge coffin. The atmosphere is such as one would associate with a coffin in a cemetery not properly drained. The fact that all of the cells are overcrowded, and that they all open into the narrow corridor explains this matchless atmosphere. The corridors themselves, it may be conjectured, or may be joined, by the jailer of the faces pressed to the openings in every door. The

TENANTLESS CELLS IN THE NEW CITY HALL.
[From a sketch made yesterday by an "Examiner" artist.]

cells are dark as well as close and noisome. They would be bad for a night's prisoner. Anybody confined in one of them since sunset would with apparent justice exclaim against the cruel and unusual punishment. The city compels the prisoner, perhaps only held for trial, to undergo punishment from three to five times as serious.

SOME OTHER DEFECTS.

Not only is the room limited to a painful degree but the sewage is caused by the crowding. There is no adequate provision of sanitary ware. The receptacles are reached with age, foul, and the appliances all out of date and long past the period of usefulness. There is an attic unfit for human beings. The roof is so low that at the highest point it is less than ordinary stature must stoop low to avoid the rafters. Yesterday eighteen Chinese were shut in sixteen are forced to crouch like beasts. Yesterday eighteen half civilized Chinamen and in this part of a jail provided by civilization. They sat because there was no room to stand. When they moved they mingled along on all fours. They were Federal prisoners awaiting release to be deported.

To reach this attic it was necessary to strong enough for any class of criminals. There are steel compartments out of which the most desperate could never break. There are steel compartments out of which none could be enclosed without every rule of humanity being violated. Yet these cells all stand complete and useless.

DANGER OF ESCAPE.

Often the Sheriff's deputies have prisoners on trial at the courtrooms in the New City Hall. These prisoners must be brought back to the City and County Jail every day for the purpose of meals. It is a matter of fact they keep them waiting for him the night. Their removal from the court to the jail requires the services of a deputy and is always attended by the risk of escape. If they could be taken into the basement and locked up the pressure on the antique jail would be relieved and the Sheriff's chief baiter from the ranks of the disaffected.

There are no provisions yet for cooking in the City Hall basement, but the matter could be speedily remedied. The kitchen seems to lack nothing but a range. In fact, the jail accommodations appear to be complete and all that could be desired.

WHAT THE SHERIFF WANTS.

"If I could put some of the county prisoners down here," said Mr. McDade yesterday, "I could relieve the pressure in one of the offices. The City and County Jail is more than safely crowded. It is unfit for use, anyway. The drainage is bad; the

THAT WATER FRANCHISE.

Adolph Sutro and William Greer Harrison Air Their Views.

EACH SAYS THE OTHER IS WRONG.

A Radical Divergence of Opinion, Which Calls Forth Some Pointed Remarks From the Distinguished Gentlemen.

The controversy between William Greer Harrison and Adolph Sutro relative to the request for a franchise by the Olympic Salt Water Company has grown sharp, and both

"THE OBJECTIONS ARE THOSE OF A CRUSTY OLD MAN," STRAKED MR. HARRISON.

gentlemen are determined to carry their point if possible.

They were seen yesterday and gave free expression to their views.

"This talk about helping out the boys of the Olympic Club," said Mr. Sutro, "is all nonsense. I got on this late my head some time ago that there was a scheme in this water franchise. For that reason I put one of my men to watch it and became convinced that my first impressions were correct.

"To show why I oppose it I will call attention to the facts. On February 1, 1892, the Board of Supervisors granted a franchise to the Olympic Club to establish pumping works at the beach and to convey salt water to the city for club purposes only. December 20, 1892, more privileges were granted and the usual restrictions omitted, as it was not looked upon as a money-making scheme. Scientific, however—for, on May 21, 1892—the Olympic Salt Water Company was formed, with the members all being well-known capitalists. Nothing was thought of this till the 19th instant, when the franchise was transferred by the club to the Salt Water Company. The whole thing smacked of a scheme to use the club for selfish ends.

"The corporation would probably not have been organized but for the fact that the Salt Water Company applied to the Supervisors a few days ago to confirm the assignment made to the former by the Olympic Club, and to authorize the company to furnish the inhabitants of this city with salt water.

OPPOSED TO MONOPOLY CONTROL.

"At the time I offered them an excellent bonded franchise, requiring me to give a bond of $100 a day, and stated my willingness to sell them a site for their reservoir at the market value of the land. Now it transpires that they have selected a site at the northernmost end of the great ocean boulevard, where they propose to erect an

"IT IS, IN MY OPINION, A JOB OF THE BIGGEST KIND," SAID MR. SUTRO.

eighty pumping works. No hideous chimneys should be allowed on this driveway.

"In the first place it would mar the beauties of the landscape, and the smoke would be a nuisance. The people in the east of Sutro Heights and grown a nuisance to them from the smoke of the factories at the foot of the boulevard, and Point Lobos avenue, particularly over that portion between Cliff House and the beach. It is easy to see that such an arrangement would largely impede the travel. But this is not the worst of it. If it were necessary it could be shown that the water for the city can be obtained at the point selected by the pumping station is unfit for the purposes required. It will be found to contain more or less sewage from Sutro Baths and from the residences in the district. Also, as the location selected is directly in the line of the ocean currents, the sewer which is completed will be eighty feet wide and three miles long. It will be one of the greatest errors in the city and is designed to give direct access by cable road to the beach.

"Now, it is claimed by the directors of the Olympic Salt Water Company that the Commissioners have granted them a location for an engine and reservoir. In reply to that I have seen Mr. Howe, and he denies that they have granted any privileges beyond the laying of pipes along Point Lobos road.

"The whole thing in my opinion is a job of the biggest kind."

"A CRUSTY OLD MAN."

Mr. Harrison said: "The objections which have been urged by Mr. Sutro are those of a crusty old man. His grievance arises from the fact that instead of buying a site from him we secured one from Mr. Hittning, with whom he is not on friendly terms. Mr. Sutro's objections are based on his ignorance of the subject, and he was not consulted by the Board of Supervisors in framing the conditions of assignment. The statement of Mr. Sutro to the effect that the time has come when new features must be introduced in the club in order to hold it together, and I conceived the idea of a summer swimming tank. For that reason I asked the board for a limited franchise, but when I went to capitalize to advance the money I found that the conditions were not favorable and that the privileges must be broadened. After some delay this was secured and the Olympic Salt Water Company was formed with a capital of $250,000. Mr. Sutro was consulted and he asked us $10,000 for seven-eighths of his site. We refused to pay it, but consented to a compromise. Thinking he had a monopoly of what we wanted I thought there was no way out of it. When I went back to him he had changed his mind and demanded $18,000 for a half block. In this emergency we went to Mr. Hittning, and he, knowing our necessities, got just what we wanted. Until then Mr. Sutro had made no objection, but when he found we had gone to some one else he made a great row. Selfishness is at the bottom

TAKING A BIG TUMBLE.

Pacific Heights Real Estate Sliding Into Cow Hollow.

RUN CAUSED BY THE LATE STORMS.

Thousands of Tons of Earth Washed Away—The Big Fierce-street Canyon—Every Storm Increases the Damage.

There is a panic among the owners of real estate out on Pacific Heights which is increased by every fresh rain that falls. Never within the memory of the oldest in-

LOOKING ACROSS VALLEJO STREET.

habitant has real estate out there "taken such a tumble" as it has during the last couple of months, and it will not take many more storms to make good ground of Pacific Heights and Cow Hollow.

In fact, a considerable portion of it is level now, and while consternation reigns on the heights above there is joy among the owners of the lots that are being rapidly filled in to the level of the streets, as they are made richer by thousands of dollars.

This last storm swept several thousand tons of earth and sand from the heights down into Cow Hollow, and in spite of the precautions taken it will cost many thousands of dollars to repair the damage done to streets, sidewalks and private property.

The most serious damage reported is at the intersection of Fierce and Valleja streets, where the storm in December washed away a portion of the bluff and left the ground only thirty feet deep, and half as wide, on the entire width of Fierce street. The sewer mains were nearly 200 feet long, but now it is three times as large and extends from Broadway down Fierce across Vallejo nearly to Green. The soil and filling has been washed away from the bedrock, leaving a deep gully 200 feet long, 100 feet wide and 100 feet deep. Sidewalks, curbing, fences and sewers are all disappeared, and are now spread out over the land below.

Vallejo street from Scott to Pierce is also washed away, and a small sized river flows through the middle of what was once the street. The sewer mains have been laid from eight to ten feet deep and twice as wide. Looking at the washout from the low land south of Union street, the weather-and-street resembles a miniature edition of the grand canyon of the Colorado. Not only has the torrent from the heights above cut a deep gully through the entire width, but it has also encroached upon the vacant property on both sides of the street, doing immense damage.

After December's storm boatloads of sacks filled with earth and sand were taken across the street at Pierce and Broadway, and a temporary dam was built to stop the torrent, which it did for a time, and filled in and the sewers repaired, but the storms of last week have undone all that the torrent once more found its old channel and renewed its work of devastation.

Every shower increases the damage, and a fence placed across a street to-day to prevent accidents is no barrier to-morrow. Property owners on the bluffs are losing their grip, and the ground is settling and cracking in such a way that it is only a question of a few months when the houses will be undermined and fall into the chasm.

Fierce street is known as the Pierce-street canyon. It was hoped that the storms would fill it up, but instead they have only made it deeper and wider. Property owners on the bluffs are losing their grip, and the ground is settling and cracking in such a way that it is only a question of a few months when the houses will be undermined and fall into the chasm.

THE PIERCE-STREET CANYON.
[From a sketch made yesterday by an "Examiner" staff artist.]

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RAMIE IN DISGUISES.

Manufactured Products of the Tough Fiber on Exhibition.

The Southern Pacific Land Department Will Encourage Ramie Culture Along Its Lines, California—An Important Industry.

A novel exhibition was held yesterday in the Land Department Office of the Southern Pacific Company at Fourth and Townsend streets. It interested the principal men of the company, and visitors to their offices were invited to examine the exhibit. Evidently the rational people were pressed at what they saw. Land Agent Jerome Madden was enthusiastic.

Two large map tables were covered with a brilliant and glossy collection of damasks, rugs, plush, portieres, curtains, tablecovers, cloths, yarns and fibers, all produced from the ramie plant and manufactured at a silk factory at Paterson, N. J. These articles were made more for the purpose of proving what may be done with this comparatively unknown fiber than as an experiment, and the result was quite satisfactory. The rugs took brilliant colors and the damask curtains, portieres and tablecovers had that quality of richness for which Oriental stuffs are remarkable. The tassels and threads could be distinguished from linen only by a delicate sheen peculiar to ramie and which appeared on every exhibit. There was the full soft body of cotton, the fineness of linen and some of the sheen of silk. Even the gay-colored red, blue and green rugs had the sheen of silk.

The Land Department of the railway will encourage ramie culture along its lines, particularly in Southern California, believing that its production will mean an increase in population and heavy demands on the company for freight.

PROSPECTS OF RAMIE.

"There is an illimitable market for ramie fiber," said Mr. Madden yesterday. "Ramie grows in California to perfection, and I am satisfied that it can be produced at one cent per pound. A gentleman who saw this exhibit told me he would begin at once to plant ramie on 10,000 acres of land.

Here is an encouraging statement by Simon Newton, of New York, who sent the samples to Mr. Madden:

"The ramie industry could be introduced into the United States on a large scale without the cultivation of ramie, provided only that the machinery for decortication (removing the gum) could be had. The machinery for decortication is the only thing in the way. Until this is overcome the ramie industry is destined on the inland the Southern States of the Union. Ramie is a plant that is so exigent in the soil that it will grow in the South-eastern States of the Union.

RAMIE NEVER FAILS.

It is claimed for ramie that it grows almost perennially as willows, to a height of sixteen feet; that it requires as little care as willows, and that it will grow in the same soil in parts of San Bernardino county, along the desert, and of the plant grows there a rich change will be effected in that desert district. Besides, a new and important industry will be developed. At present ramie is grown with a profit in Georgia, and in other directions the process, although a compressed baler is used, is very expensive.

The samples will be exhibited at the State Board of Trade rooms, on Market and Post streets, for a short time, and then will be sent to the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

Should Have Remained Sober.

Last Monday a bookkeeper named O. B. Straight was arrested and charged with vagrancy on complaint of H. A. Griffin, who said that Straight had been on a protracted drunk and was then on the verge of delirium tremens. When Straight's case was called in Police Court No. 2 no accuser asked for a continuance and no one appeared to testify against him. Straight was discharged. Yesterday Straight was arrested again for vagrancy on complaint of Mrs. Lucia E. Diamond, who said that Straight had been employed by her husband to look after a horse and buggy. Straight was discharged.

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FIRED BY A CHAPLAIN,

Hot Shot Directed Against the Sailors' Home by Rev. Campbell.

LADY WAVAGERS AS BORROWERS.

A Few Disclosures That Tend to Strengthen the Suspicion of Gross Irregularity in the Mismanagement.

When the Health and Police Committee of the Supervisors reached the matter of the proposed move to the Sailors' Home building yesterday there was a well-defined objection to the intention of the applicants.

In the routine business of the committee the consideration of the lease petition naturally arose, but when it did ex-Chaplain Aaron H. Campbell accompanied it and said: "I am as no chaplain of the institution in question and perhaps know more about it than many others. I am perfectly familiar with the institution, but I do not desire to make specific charges against any of the officers. I have read all that has appeared in the newspapers concerning the institution and I know that the papers have told nothing but the truth. They have, however, failed to tell the whole story about blood money, overcharges and general mismanagement of the Sailors' Home on Harrison street. I lived in the home until 1890 and I know all about it. I know that there is a close corporation in the society that runs the home for all there is in it. Some of the Directors are respectable people, but they devote a very little bit of time to its affairs and really do not know what is going on.

COAST SEAMEN DO NOT THRIVE.

"Sailors are inveigled to the home by false promises and misrepresentation, in the assertion that the place is in the charge of the Seamen's Institute.

"Coast seamen don't go there. The inmates are only foreign sailors, who know nothing of the management of the institution.

"I know that Mrs. Sykes, one of the Board of Managers, is not sincere, and I know that Mrs. Ryan is not sincere, for she failed. Now is still on the Board of Managers, and it makes little difference who is superintendent of the place."

"Why did you leave the home?" asked Supervisor Hyde.

"When I went there," answered Mr. Campbell, "I was told that I was to have charge of the seamen, and I am about to try and rectify them. I soon found that I could accomplish nothing and I proposed a reform. The Board of Managers saw my intention, prevailed upon me to resign, and then dismissed me. In the Board of Managers there are some honorable men, such as Captain Eldridge, but they do not get beneath the surface of affairs at the home.

SHORTS LOST MANAGERS.

Superintendent Ryan is particularly interested in this matter, and was an attentive listener to the words of the ministerial witness. When he had concluded the formal statement Mr. Ryan asked: "Do you know anything about the lady managers borrowing from the Superintendent—for instance, a lady came to me yesterday in a while and, asking for a hundred or two hundred?"

"Yes, I have heard something about that."

"Now," said Mr. Ryan, "I understand that this place is only a decoy for foreign sailors, and that the Board of Managers whenever Home Rogers is better off refuse but Pacific seamen have been educated in regard it as a monstrous land share. I am informed that some of the so-called charitable managers are now in the privilege of a cool $100 or $200 from the Superintendent—for no other purpose than to borrow.

The Board of Supervisors decided to bring a written statement of his objections and he will attend a meeting of the board in two weeks, when the application for the lease will again come up for consideration.

Elect Game on O'Donnell.

Elect being in the Democratic primaries and gained seventeen votes on O'Donnell. It didn't appear on the ballot, but he cheerfully tendered his $25 for the cost of to-day's count. "Game to the last," he said. "I'm going to see this thing through to the very last ballot."

The Democratic primaries resulted, twelve in the Thirty-seventh Assembly District and six in the Thirty-sixth Assembly District. The three Democratic Supervisorial candidates in the Fifth Supervisorial District of the Thirty-sixth Assembly District, and the two Elect gained five votes in each. In the last named he gained seventeen votes on O'Donnell. The total vote of the Thirty-seventh was given to Gallagher, who has been nominated.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE
For Night Sweats
of consumption gives speedy benefit.

Held for Trial.

The examination of J. T. Scott, charged with having sent threatening and indecent letters to Mrs. Lorina Gail, was held in Police Court No. 2 yesterday afternoon before Justice Conlan. Scott was held to answer in ward bonds in the sum of $1,000 before the Superior Court.

KNOWLEDGE
Brings comfort and improvement and leads to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many who live better than others and enjoy better health, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure and truly laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs.

Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession because it acts on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them, and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance.

Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and $1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, to whom the name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

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