

VOL. XXXV.

FRANCISCO: MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1883. SAN

NO. 12,313.

AND IMPORTERS OF

AND OTHER

PRECIOUS STONES.

119 MONTCOMERY STREET.

JUNCTION OF

MERCANTILE LUNCH DAILY.

DEPOT OF THE CELEBRATED

GENUINE

FREDERICKSBURG LAGER BEER

ON DRAUGHT AND IN BOTTLES.

SCENES AT THE CLIFF.

The Old-Timer's Farewell to the Ocean and Seal Rocks.

SUNDAY AT MOONEYTOWN.

Tents and Shanties Still Hold the Beach-New Locations Being Staked Out-The Rush by the Cars Unabated.

There was a mournful silence around the Cliff House yesterday, the hush and undertone of a great grief; the muffled, decorous bustle of a funeral, for on yesterday Captain Foster, the founder of the place and all his clan buried the last of their hopes in one common grave. Yesterday was the linen-dustered hordes of the Hub swooped the lunch tables, staved holes through the lenses of the free telescope, and made so many deprecatory remarks about the seals that those sagacious animals swam away to the Farallones in a body and did not return until the last Bostonian had had his contract ticket purchased for the return trip. At 11 o'clock on that fate al day Captain Foster was heard to matter "Nine hacks under the shed and only 15 cents in the drawer," and then he fell into a half-unconscious swoon, from which he did not recover until wooed back to the world again by the voice of an ex-Comstocker, cursing the waiter and howling for another bottle of " extra dry."

THE EPOCH AT THE CLIFF.

"That was only an incident, sir," said the Captain yesterday to an ALTA reporter, who spoke of

about the place, but their presence did not serve to check the practice of "skin games" of the very worst kind. The young man who sells purses containing a \$20 bill for \$5 was out in force; and the youth who runs a branch of the Louisville Lottery and jewelry schedule combination was extensively on hand and did a rushing business. The accomplished gentleman who sells brass rings and gives away packages was at work, and had for a left hand neighbor the knife board man, while on the right was a philanthropist who gives for ten cents a chance to win a quarter by performing the impossible feat of knocking down two pins with one ball. Quite a large share of public attention was paid to Senator Sharon, who, leaving his carriage at the foot of the hill, wandered around the beach alone, taking in the sights, and, perchance, looking out a good location for a coffee-stand in case the cost of attorney's fees in his various suits should make it necessary for him to follow Kearney's example.

CHARACTER BUILDING.

Evening Discourse to Young Men by Rev. Dr. Sprecher at Calvary Church.'

Rev. Dr. S. P. Sprecher delivered his fifth lecture to young men last night at Calvary Presbylast Sunday of Captain Foster's reign over the terian Church. The subject was "Character Cliff, and virtually the end of all the romance and Building." Character, said the preacher, should glamour that has hung around the place since the be so fortified and protected by beneficial departing owner conceived the idea of a villa by influences as to be able to resist the evil tendenthe ocean. The old place has had its ups and cies of human nature with the same degrees of downs, yet all along Captain Foster has stood at strength that the rock upon the seashore baffles the door day by day, with ever a smile on his ruddy the fury of the elements. The sources from which face to greet all comers. Every day, except one, character was formed were not developed in childwould be strictly correct, for there was one day, a hood, but emanated from the ancestral tree, which year or so ago, on which not the shadow of was responsible, to a great extent, for the good or a smile was seen to flit across the Captain's evil in the life of man. In moulding the character face. That was the day when the spectacled and of a young person, even if circumstances were favorable, it was almost an insurmountable task to linen-dustered hordes of the Hub swooped down on the cliff in contract carriages, ravished had been inherited. Good influences and moral diet might have a temporary effect, the erring soul apparently grows purer, but the taint of inherited evil existed within the blood, never to become entirely extinct. The idea asserted by some that character could be regulated by will power, was strongly denied. Imperceptibly and incessantly, from multitudinous sources, was character formed. A constant battling with evil so strengthened the character that, eventually, it could be exposed withont danger to any temptation. On the other hand, daily yielding to evil habits so weakened the will power that, in the course of time, the character became impenetrable to good influences. The truth of the dd adage, "Never too late to mend," 7,000 bills introduced, the following is the state of daily yielding to evil habits so weakened the will was strongly refuted. In the lives of some sin- the calendar by actual count : Bills reported fav- the Republican ranks, the Democratic side of the ners there came a period when attempts at refor- orably on, and on the calendar, in Committee of House being too full, and who, I think, I may apmation were of no avail. Character was produc- the Whole, 210; on Honse calendar, 132; on pri- propriately designate as the Robespierre tive of either happiness or misery, and the choice of enjoying the one or suffering the other, rested solely with the individual. The brief span of years allotted to humanity on this earth was but the precursor to the world to come. Then why need any one hesitate to chose between eternal happiness on one side and everlasting of the Senate, that had been passed by that body damnation on the other?

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER. Things Political and Personal

in the Capital.

CALIFORNIA'S DELEGATION.

The New Committees of the House-Important Bills Introduced—The Texas Pacific Grant-Tripartite Alliance.

Special Correspondence of the Alta. WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1883 .-Before this reaches you the agony of suspense on the committees will be all over. as they will be announced to-morrow and telegraphed all over the country. My reason for mentioning this is to refer to an incident which will not be telegraphed; and that is that for the past two days Mr. Carlisle has been closely closeted in one of the small committee-rooms of the House in order to complete his herculean labor, ready for to-morrow morning. He has worked hard till midnight for the past two weeks on the committees, and at last he found it absolutely necessary to secrete himself, like a hermit in his cell, so as to finish his work before the adjournment for the holidays.

THE NEW RULES.

There are several new rules of the House that have been reconstructed by the committee, one of the most important of which is, the rule to call up cases on the calendar, after the 1st of February, on every Thursday and Saturday, after the morning hour. This will tend to expedite the business of the House materially, and no doubt it will be adopted. Few people are aware of the amount of work that accumulates on the calendar, especially near the close of the session, making it a physical impossibility to reach some of the most important

settled by a decree of Court in accordance with the terms of such agreement. Co-operation became necessary, Mr. Huntington says, in order to insure prompt completion of this line through to the Pacific. The provisions of the Act and its amend-ments have, Mr. Huntington asserts, been sub-stantially complied with, and the President of the Southern Pacific companies is having prepared the necessary papers as evidence of completion in order that a commission may be appointed to ex-amine and report to the President of the United States.

By a letter under the date of March 30, 1883, Charles F. Crocker, President of the Southern Pa-cific Railroads of New Mexico and Arizona, informs the President of the United States that on January 18, 1882, the Texas Pacific Railroad Company sold, transferred, assigned and conveyed all its franchises, rights, grants, etc., in New Mexico and Arizona to the Southern Pacific Companies of those Territories; and all its franchises, rights, grants, etc., in California, to the Los Angeles and San Diego Railroad Company. The Southern Pa-cific Companies of New Mexico and Arizona ask that a commissioner be appointed to examine their roads and report in writing; and that, if the President be satisfied from the report that the roads have been fully completed, the Secretary of the Interior be directed to issue patents for the lands to which the companies are severally entitled.

THE CALIFORNIA DELEGATION.

"Comparisons are odious," it is said, but I think it but an act of justice to the people of the State to say that both morally, physically and in-tellectually the present delegation from the State are the peers of any on the floor of the House, and far superior in many respects to some others. Each, individually, would say, no doubt : "Oh, would to God the gift he'd gie us,

To see ourselves as ithers see us !!

We have first, General Rosecrans—"Rosey," as he is familiarly termed here. He is the *pater* familias of the whole; he is a genial, cheerful, good sort of a man, with every indication of being a bon vivant, but is very accommodating, and signs almost every one's paper that comes along who is seeking an office in the House, but then, you know, it is a way that some people have and is pardonable. Then we have the thoughful, metaphysical and classical Sumner, who is always hard at work writing at his desk. Next we have the sober-sided and thoughtful Tully, from the southern part of your State; he don't say much, but seems to think a heap. Then we have the sedate and heroic-looking Henley, who, I think, will make a mark in the House, as he is



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the matter. "Dut this, Sir, is an on; au sir, not only in my life, but in the history of San Francisco." And the Captain lifted up his voice and moaned at the burden of his sorrow, which was so heavy upon him that he actually gave a city official change out of a quarter and said, "Will you take a drink with me," when the frightful mistake was pointed out.

"I always said that this thing would break the old man's heart," remarked John, who for years past has collected half a dollar from every Cliff House caller for tying broken-down livery horses under a shed and remarking, in admiring tones, " nice horse that, sir ; looks a good deal like Hambletonian stock. Aint had him long, have you, sir?" when all the time he knew the very stable the brute was hired from, and had made the same remark to fifteen hundred different men who had bired the same rig during the past ten years.

"I always knew the old man could not stand it," continued the sympathetic John. "He bore up bravely for a long time, but when orders came that we had to accommodate the public, yes, sir. selling beer down-stairs for five cents, then the shadow projected out into the present. At the time old man broke down completely.

"Business appears to be good to-day in spite of competition," remarked the reporter.

"It ain't that, sir ; it ain't the lack of busines as hurts us, and it ain't but what there's money to be made, but it's

THIS LEVELLING SPIRIT

As has come over the people since the cars got to running. Why, sir, you may not believe it, but them fellers as walks up from the beach, thinks they are as good as a man as drives out in his own buggy and behind his own horses. It goes agin the grain, sir, to see fellers as never owned so much as a horse-hair pushing on the bar alongside of regular road riders as have driven out here regular for years past. But excuse me, sir, I must be off, there's a Deputy Assessor getting ready to start and he's good for a half dollar, sure.

"It's of no use fighting fate," sighed Captain Foster as the reporter strove to console him. "Here I have been for years trying to keep the lower orders away from this place by charging \$2 for a veal cutlet, plain, not breaded, mind you, and lo! all of a sudden the bars are let down and the place is overrun with people who actually think that a Cliff House waiter is no better than a Supervisor or even a legislator. I've done my best to keep one place sacred for the use of stockbrokers and other aristocracy, but it ain't to be, sir ; it ain't to be ; " and the Captain sighed deeply with the air of a man who has failed in a great and good work.

THE OLD-TIMERS' REGRETS.

To one who has known the Cliff House in bygone days, the scene there yesterday must have seemed a bit strange, and not a few old-timers can appreciate Captain Foster's sorrow. A few of the old-time road-riders had turned out their teams, to say farewell to their host of the past twenty years, place before the iconoclastic hand of the carpenter and bricklayer shall have effaced the last recognizable feature of the old Cliff. They clustered around the bar-room in little knots and talked of the past. Of the days when Con, Virginia was selling for \$800, and a rise of \$20 all along the Comstock. was the commonest feature of every Board. Of the days when all the old boys had coin to spare, and coin to throw at the birds. When a three-minute roadster would sell for thousand dollars on California street, and an after-

noon drive in the dust to the Cliff called for an expenditure of \$50. When a hundred teams raced on the Cliff-house road of a moonlight night, and the Half-mile track was a popular house of call. They were useless, extravagant old days to be sure: bad old days for the best interest of the city, but still they left a pleasant memory to the few who are here now of the shining lights of that time,

A NEW-YEAR'S PORTRAIT.

Pulpit Discourse for Young Men From the Character of Samuel.

At the First Congregational Church last evening the subject of Rev. C. D. Barrow's sermon was Samuel : a New Year's Portrait for the Times." He spoke of the peculiar interest attached to this historic character in the annals of the Hebrew nation, being the last of the Judges, and his lifework extending far into the future. He had been actually accommodate the public, and they started likened by a great historical writer to a mighty of his birth and during the greater portion of his life the Hebrew people were preparing to pass from a simple rule of patriarchs to the complex form of government under kings, and it was during all these troublous times that this mighty man, whose earliest life had been consecrated to God and whose portant. There is also proposed, and no doubt whole career was a model of piety and waver- will be adopted, a Committee on Public Land ing trust in his Master, was a leader of the chosen race. In applying a lesson for the New Year, Mr. Barrows addressed his remarks principally to the oung men of his congregation, and he commended to them a close study of the life and works of Samuel. He was a model to them from the first to the last. His life was pure, full of earnest striving | tion of the new committees, it is believed the busitowards a higher plane; yet in his later days he ness can be materially expedited. was forced to pass through many sorrows. His motives were assailed and his actions criticised by an impatient people who were unable to follow his wise counsels. Like all good men in our time, who hold public positions, and whose life was rendered miserable by unjust aspersions from foes and fault-finding from friends, Samuel had his full hare of such annoyance. In closing, the speaker made an earnest appeal to young men that they begin the New Year with firm resolutions to live so that whether joy or sorrow attend them they could at all times say with this high example, "Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth."

YOUNG MENS' RECEPTION.

Arrangements for Entertaining at the Rooms of the Y. H. C. A.

A reception to young men will be given to-morrow, from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M., at the building of the Y. M. C. A., on Sutter street. Refreshments will be served during those hours. No pains will be spared to make the occasion of special interest and recall memories of rare enjoyment in the old to all. The officers and members will be assisted by the Ladies' Central Committee. The gueste will be entertained as follows : The Second Regiment Band, N. G. C., will furnish music during the day. At noon, Rev. A. Horton of Oakland will address young men, "Thoughts for the Hour," and Rev. F. A. Werth will sing a solo. At halfpast two o'clock, an athletic exhibition will be given in the gymnasium. The exercises will include horizontal bar, club-swinging, horse, tumbling, parallel bars, calisthenics, statuary pyramids, tug of war. At 8 P. M. a grand concert will be given in the main hall. The Pacific Quartette (male voices) will sing, and the following named will take part: Master Harry Larsen, boy violin-ist; Mrs. H. W. Baxter, vocalist; Miss Annie when introduced as amended by him, will be finally Fennel of the State Institution for the Blind, adopted by the House. There is certain to be pianist ; Miss Bertha A. Reynolds, elocutionist. A some bill passed by the House, even if it is killed very attractive programme has been prepared. A in the Senate. Bills of interest to the people of cordial invitation is extended to young men to visit the State of California I have partially alluded the building during the day.

vate calendar, including favorable reports on many meritorious claims, also, Pensions, Military Committee reports, and others, 430 bills, making in all 772 bills, that had been acted on favorably by the various committees, besides the unfinished business. and read a first and second time in the House. It is to obviate this difficulty, and to prevent such an accumulation of business that the new rule is to be adopted. There are at present some 2,730 bills and resolutions introduced this session, but the half of them are not yet printed.

NEW COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.

There are several new committees formed by the House-one on Civil Service Reform, thirteen members; respecting the election of President, thirteen members; pension, bounty and back pay, public health and liquor traffic, nine members each. The Committee on Commerce has been | ing new to note, except that if the people of Cali divided up into three committees, each having fornia want a man from that State nominated, they fifteen members ; the two committees, River and Harbor Committee and Commerce Committee, one to report at any time, and report appropriations dict there will be no difficulty in securing the without having their recommendation sent to the regular Appropriation Committee. There has been quite a scramble within the past few days to see who would get on these very important committees, and as to which of the two would be the most im-Grants, composed of seven members. This, of course, is one offshoot of the Public Lands Committee, and this new one would have charge of all bills in relation to forfeited, or supposed forfeited, land grants to railroads and other roads. With the adoption of the new rules, and the forma-

IMPORTANT BILLS INTRODUCED.

In the multiplicity of measures now before Congress, and the fact of not over one-half the bills being printed, it is almost impossible to give an outline of the proposed legislation ; I will refer to some of the bills. The bill to refer all matters that are now, when reported, placed on the private calendar, to the Court of Claims, has been again introduced. It has been before Congress for sev eral sessions, but has been choked off by outside pressure. Should this bill become a law, it will save the Government millions and millions of dollars, as all claims of every name and nature, that are now referred to House Committees, would, upon presentation, be referred to the Court of Claims, so that the merits would receive, as all just claims deserve, a careful and judicial investigation. This measure would do away with half the business, now accumulating from year to year before Congress. There is every probability of a general bankrupt law being passed, not what is known as the Lowell bill, but a well-digested measure that is becoming imperative, and which will be immediately operative especially, in the event of the serions calamity of the country being saddled with four more years of Republican rule. This, it is thought, would bring universal bankraptcy all over the country. I have been trying, but to this time in vain, to get a list of the bills that have been introduced respecting the public lands, land grants, proposed forfeiture of the railroad land grants, and all measures of a kindred nature, but the bills are not yet printed. There are quite a number of bills introduced looking to a reduction of the tariff, all of which are referred to the Ways and Means Committee; one is to reduce the tariff on wool 25 per cent. after June 30th, 1884. Several bills in relation to inter-state commerce have been introduced. to in my former letters. The bill to make appropriation for the construction of a Post Office at Sacramento City, introduced by Mr. Glascock, also A Whitehall boat-race takes place to-morrow the bill to obtain lieu lands for the Sixteenth and mineral lands, will both, I think, be passed, as they should be. It is impossible to give any intelligent opinion as to the passage of several bills by each member of the California Delegation, until after all reports about them will be mere surmises. The resolution passed by the Senate, calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for all the facts and correspondence in reference to what is known as the Indemnity Land Grant, and as to whether the action of the Department has been governed by the decision of the United States Supreme Court, or men. As this is supposed to be the initiatory step eral bureaus, its discussion at an early day will be looked upon with more than ordinary interest.

Murat of the party, as they are right in the midst of the Republican wolves, placed there to evangel-ize and revolutionize their political foes. All are very fine and courteous gentlemen from the State, and there is no need for invidious distinction. THE TRIPARTITE ALLIANCE.

Every good and far-seeing General in military affairs tries to learn the situation, tactics and probable movements of the enemy. So in political warfare; and there is no doubt but that a combination has been entered into between Grant. Blaine and Conkling to capture the Convention at Chi-cago and nominate John A. Logan for the Presidency. This is done to kill off Arthur, Sherman and others of the like ilk, but their own combinations are their own acts, so they can "skin their own skunks," as Senator Salisbury of Delaware once told your correspondent. So far as relates to the Democratic candidate, there is at present nothcan accomplish their wish by taking some action or making some demonstration now. Then I prenomination. INDEPENDENT.

Carnival Ball To-night.

There will take place this evening at the Mechanics' Pavilion an entertainment of more than ordinary interest. This will consist of a grand carnival ball and great twenty-mile race. For the former, 500 handsome prizes have been offered for the best-sustained characters. For the latter, several well-known pedestrians have entered, among whom are Frank Hart, C. H. Harriman, C C. Johnson, Charles Howard, P. Guerrero, W A. Ross and Billy Echeria. The race will begin at 7:30, sharp.

Skillful Seamanship.

The steamer State of California, which arrived in port yesterday morning, had a narrow escape from collision with the sea-wall, owing to the dense fog prevailing at the time. It being flood tide the vessel was placed in a very perilous posi-tion. Captain Debney, however, by his skillful management and prompt action averted what might

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and it is safe to say that yesterday a hundred regretted that the old Cliff House was to be changed. and not one felt a pang at the thought of the money that he had squandered there, and yesterday the old and the new met for the last time, and like the few remaining savages of a once great nation gazing sadly at the advancing civilization which was to drive them from homes and haunts, the few remaining veterans of the old Cliff House brigade gazed sadly at

THE INFLUX ON THE BEACH BELOW.

absolutely covered near the depot with pedestrians. Mooneytown was intact and growing rapidly. The sheds and tents already there were thronged with the rocks and attempt the capture of a start. seal to form the nucleus of a zoological collection in the Hotel del Mooney. All unconscious of the movement against their peace and liberty the seals barked and grunted and flopped lazily from the rocks into the water in parsuit of the dainties the Fish Commissioners provided for them, as has been their wont for years past. Ben Butler, the swivel-eyed seal, the chief of all the Phocidae fold, occupied his usual place at the top of the larger rock, and nodded lazily at General Grant, who held the second place of honor. Little they heeded the squatters on the beach who had

OFFERED REWARDS FOR THEIR CAPTURE.

And with reason, too, for one flap of their hage tails or one jerk of their mighty necks would hurl from the slippery rocks the stoutest man, and in the water the Muldoon himself would be but as a child in strength to them. But the weather was chilly, the wind had a savor of frost and the water was so cold that the swimmers came not. The crowd waited and waited until tired and cold, and satisfied the seals would not be molested, they wandered off to attack the light refreshments of lot "nostrum." A few policemen wandered listlessly one of the wards.

Whitehall Boat Race.

afternoon at Meigg's wharf-open only to ama- Thirty-second sections, that have been reported as teur oarsmen upon the payment of \$2 50 entrance fee. In addition to the pool contributed by those entering, the successful competitor will be awarded a purse of \$25. Only Whitehall row-boats will be allowed to enter. The start will be made promptly they are considered by the several committees, and at 2 o'clock, commencing from the Government The Park and Ocean Beach cars had brought out wharf, at the end of Section A of the sea-wall. thousands, for the day was fine, and the beach The line of the race will extend around Alcatras was dotted in some places, blotched in others and Island to the point of beginning, covering a distance of four and a half miles. Up to a late hour yesterday afternoon the following boats had entered : David Crawley, Thomas Hawkins, George customers, and carpenters were busily engaged erecting rough and unlovely shanties. Near the Seal Rocks the crowd was densest, for it had been Fitzgerald. Harry Hoyt of the Merchants' Ex-by its own opinion, as to the construction of the indemnity clause in certain railroad land grants, has created consternation among certain railroad announced that a couple of swimmers, tempted by change will act as referee and the judges of the a prospective reward of \$50, would swim out to race are to be appointed immediately prior to the of a regular attack on the Department, and its sev-

The Causes of Two Deaths,

Dr. Dennis performed autopsies yesterday on the bodies of John A. Chandler, who died Saturday at 415 Mason street, and William Hayes, who died the same day at the Receiving Hospital. In the former case it was found that the cause of death was congestion of the lungs, but what caused that was unknown. As there is a suspicion that Chand-ler took his life in a fit of melancholy produced by Teller, in which he says that the construction of his killing Cunningham, his brother-in-law, in 1881, the stomach was removed and will be subected to a chemical analysis. In the case of William Hayes it was discovered that death resulted from convulsions, produced by a tumor on the brain.

A Street-Car Accident.

nibus Railroad Company, fell from the front plat-form of a car on Stockton street, between Pacific and Jackson, late yesterday afternoon and sus-tained a very severe fracture of the bones of the by an Act to the Texas Pacific "or assigns," has left ankle, and several contused wounds of the scalp and face, by being caught by the wheels. The Pacific companies which constructed and equipped the Hotel del Mooney, or struggle with the pies and wounds were dressed at the Receiving Hospital by doughnuts purveyed by the ex-orators of the sand- Police Surgeon Dennis, and the patient was put in litigation in regard to the Southern Pacific com-

THE TEXAS PACIFIC LAND GRANT.

The Secretary of the Interior has transmitted to the Senate a copy of all the papers on file at the department relating to the transfer by the Texas Pacific Bailroad Company of its land grants to the Southern Pacific Companies. Among the papers is a letter from Mr. C. P. Huntington to Secretary the main line was committed to the Texas Pacific Company and the San Francisc portion to the Southern Pacific. The undertaking proving of too great magnitude for the Texas Pacific Company to complete within the time prescribed by law, a distance of about 550 miles between the eastern boundary of California and the Rio Grande, was undertaken and constructed by Patrick Curley, employed as a driver by the Om- the Southern Pacific and is now in operation. By agreement, Mr. Huntington says, between the Texas Pacific and the Southern Pacific the road, thereby in effect earning the lands. The panies as to that portion of the route have been I own residences by special arrangement.

