

SAN FRANCISCO.

The Great City of the West, With its Bewildering Natural Beauties.

Hotels, Store Architecture—Endless Chain Street Railway.

Perpetual Spring—Some Wealth and Much Shoddy.

Correspondence of St. Louis Republican.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Aug. 6.—San Francisco is indeed a beautiful city of palaces and sunshine. To the west the circling mountains and the rest- less ocean; to the east the quiet bay and the placid valleys.

Standing on the far-famed summit of Knob hill, where the mammoth castles of Californian aristocracy rear their stately towers, one is literally overwhelmed by the immensity of vision. Far down into the valleys and up to the verge of the mountains the great city stretches, and the white streets stretch like silver lines crossing and re-crossing in the dazzling sunlight.

To the right is Lone mountain, crowned with the solemn cross, and further still to the north Mt. Tamalpais lifts its rugged peak above the purple mists. Around us are all the evidences of surpassing wealth and luxury. Gardens of more than marvellous beauty and homelike and princely might. Truly, San Francisco bears the impress of that mighty master-spirit which the miser worships and the poor man covets. Gold, the magician that rears palaces and opens the door to all the pleasures of mankind, has set her seal here and from this famous elevation the proud favorites of fortune look coldly down upon the less favored ones of humanity.

There are two things which contribute largely to the beauty of San Francisco, the irregularity of outline and surface and the great abundance of flowers. Even the poorest laborer may possess these, for they are so little trouble in a city where no snow or frost ever comes to blight them. One sees but few neglected gardens, and such a variety of flowers, such brilliancy of color and luxuriance of growth. Great clusters of tuchsias that droop over garden walls, and bed after bed of royal purple pansies. All of the delicate blossoms that must be nursed with such tender hands in the east grow here with scarcely a care.

The landscape gardening is very beautiful. Golden Gate park, which a few years ago was considered a desolate sand dunes, is now a blooming paradise. It seems almost incredible to see the manner in which San Franciscans convert the barren sand lots into things of beauty. There is literally neither summer nor winter in San Francisco. In the afternoon it is always cool, and in the evening overcoats and thick wraps are a stern necessity. Thin dresses of any description are never seen on the streets. Think of it, what a paradise in July! No lawns or muslins to grow limp in the scorching heat and no hopeless wilting of collars and cuffs. We hear of warm weather at the Eastern watering places—even Long may be hot—but San Francisco never. Down town one sees seal skins worn every day, and it is not unusual to see ladies clothed in them from head to foot. In fact, furs and seal skins are in use the year round.

Owing to the coolness of the weather and the gaudy of San Francisco never obbs. It is one continual round of pleasure. Parties, excursions, theatres and amusements of every kind are always on the tapis. Consequently one need never be dull. Like all seaport towns, it has pleasures that are never dreamed of inland. The Grand opera house is rather disappointing, although immense. The Palace hotel impresses strangers in the same manner. It is perfectly mammoth in proportions, but has neither symmetry, grace nor beauty. In fact, is positively ugly at first sight. This is speaking of the exterior; the interior is beautiful. It has an immense court in the centre, where the carriages enter to accommodate guests. The rooms are fitted up luxuriously and with great taste. As far as size is concerned the new Southern isn't a circumstance, but as far as elegance and beauty is concerned the Palace is not a whit ahead of our own beautiful hotel.

The general style of architecture in the city is quite graceful, but sometimes somewhat monotonous. The houses with very few exceptions are built of redwood, which is almost fire-proof, and there is scarcely one house in a hundred which is not painted white and that cannot boast of at least one bow-window. This gives them a picturesqueness which one does not often see in large cities. Strangers wonder at first at the prevalence of frame houses, but when one considers the frequency of earthquakes he does not fail to see the wisdom of such an arrangement. In case of a general shake-up, brick houses would be more easily demolished. It seems that nature by a wise dispensation has provided for the peculiar necessities of the country, for the redwood is very plentiful and almost indestructible by fire. In fact one seldom hears of a large fire—and it is indeed a blessing—for the high winds which so often prevail would be terrible in such a calamity. The fire patrol is very efficient and it is a rare treat to witness their drill at 12 and 5 o'clock each day. Everything is worked by electricity, and it is all done in such a flash that the bewildered spectators are scarcely able to take it in. The captain is very obliging and kindly allowed a party of friends to rouse the men at 10 p. m. in order to see them spring to work from their awakened slumbers.

To those who have never seen a street car gliding along serenely without the aid of horses the cable lines of street railways in San Francisco are a great source of novel pleasure and delight. The dizzy heights that they climb would make horses shudder, yet over those the cars glide with an ease and speed that is simply marvellous. And what a blessing they are—no tired, miserable horses to sicken the soul, and no brutality of heartless drivers to witness. It is a real pleasure to sit on the front seat of the dummy and ride up

and down the hills in perfect security, with a varied panorama to charm the vision. In fact, it is just "too awfully quiet." Climbing up and down the endless hills one obtains an idea of the city he could otherwise get. It is like a kaleidoscope, at every hill the scene changes, even if it be only an added mountain of a different shifting of the lights and shadows. The cable lines are an invention peculiarly suited to this metropolis, for they obviate the difficult of traveling over so hilly a city, and at the same time have nothing to fear from the interference of snow or frost. They are comparatively safe, since very few accidents ever occur.

The mornings here are exquisitely lovely—full of sunshine and just warm enough to suggest an ideal summer. Over the bay rests a dreamy haze, and the distant mountains are encircled in mist. From six until eleven this calm glory lasts and the morning is perfect. Then from the ocean comes the trade winds, and it grows very cool—sometimes, especially at night, exceedingly cold.

California is the land of fruit and flowers, and San Francisco has one of the finest markets in the world. Peas and grapes, too beautiful almost to eat, and great purple plums as large as peaches, and large strawberries most rosily tempting. These latter are in the market every month in the year except one. At present great quantities of fruit are being shipped east where it commands better prices than at home. One can scarcely think of a variety of fruit that is not to be seen in the market, and immense quantities of crabs, shrimps, lobsters, clams, fish and game are daily to be seen in the stalls.

A visit to Andrews' diamond palace the other day was well worth the trouble. On three sides of the apartment plate-glass mirrors extend from the floor to the ceiling and the effect of the multiplicity of reflections is fairly dazzling. The ceilings are exquisitely frescoed and end in an immense mirror at the lower end of the room. The chandeliers are of cut glass, and through the centre of the room are pillars of bronze. At night when the store is illuminated the array of bronzes, silvers and jewels reflected with such brilliancy on all sides render an effect that is fairly bewildering.

The jewel cases are full of unique designs. I only wish I might describe a few of these, for they are as odd as they are beautiful, but such things must be seen to be appreciated. The obliging gentleman in charge slipped back one of the mirror panels and led us into the office—the sanctum sanctorum, as it were, of this veritable palace—a place luxuriously furnished and full of mystery, suggesting valuable jewels hidden behind the Japanned panels of the walls and secret treasures of wealth and enterprise.

The goods stores of this city compare favorably with those of the east, though I have seen nothing as yet in that line which has been at all striking. The prices, as a general thing, range much higher, and the styles are at least six months or even a year behind those of the far east.

There is a terrible amount of shoddy in San Francisco. More money than brains is written on more than one face. It actually seems that the refinement and culture of Californians decreases in exact proportion to the wealth. Of course this is not always so, for one meets refined people every day, people who have the wealth to back them, too, but there is scarcely a city in the union where society is composed of such a mixture of elements, and the moral atmosphere is so shocking, in fact, quite awfully awful.

There are many places of interest in the city, among them the ancient adobe houses, the old Mission house, 104 years old; Telegraph hill, where they were wont to signal the vessels in the early days, and Chinatown, as the Chinese portion of the city is called. Just a short drive from the city is the Cliff house, built upon the high cliffs overlooking the ocean, where one can look down upon the hundreds of sea lions dispersing themselves among the rocks. What a sight that would be for the small boys of St. Louis, who gaze with eager satisfaction upon the imprisoned two who lazily bask in the tank at the fair grounds. Our Young Americas would go wild with delight. One could not imagine a pleasanter place to spend the sunny mornings—the long ocean beach smooth and shining, the bakers dashing among the rocks and the white ships sailing away to the edge of the horizon.

Standing on the broad verandah of the hotel or resting far down under the shadow of the cliffs, gazing upon the great expanse of waters, one must be filled with some sort of the sentimentality that possessed the early discoverers when they saw the wide Pacific for the first time. The great Pacific, how beautiful it is! so wide and full of glory! The soul must be narrow indeed which would not be impressed with its grandeur or grow broader under the influence of its magnificent splendor. The thunder of the breakers on the shore is a wild music that thrills the heart, and like the music of Wagner, it is full of a mysterious grandeur that we cannot comprehend.

The Next House
Philadelphia American.
There will be contests for fifteen seats in the next house of representatives. Of these, thirteen will be from the south, Alabama alone furnishing four. We hope the republican majority will have the good sense to settle these contests on the footing of absolute justice. They can do without these seats, they cannot afford to take one of them without satisfactory proof that the contesting candidate received a majority of the votes actually cast. It is of no use to talk of voters terrorized and thus prevented from appearing at the polls. That may be good reason for declaring the seat in question vacant, but it is none for seating the contestant. Of these contests will be easily settled. Mr. Chalmers has represented the Shoestring district of Mississippi long enough. Even the democrats are disgusted with the means he has used to secure, not an election, but a certificate of election. It is certain that he cannot rally to the support of his claims even the democratic minority of the house. Mr. Chalmers is aware of this, and sees that something must be done. So he has made a bid for the support of the greenbackers of the house—by coming

forward as the greenback candidate for Mr. Lamar's seat in the senate. The chances of Mr. Chalmers becoming senator from Mississippi are about equal to those of his being appointed sheriff of Mecca, and he knows this. His candidacy is only a bid for support which he badly needs. We think Mr. Clerk Adams of the house has done exactly his duty in putting Mr. Cannon, and not Mr. Campbell, on the rolls as delegate from Utah. While the governor of the territory has given his certificate to the latter, there can be no doubt that the prima facie case justifies Mr. Adams' course.

THE MORMONS.

Notes of Interest From the Capital City.

Present Condition and Prospects of Salt Lake.

Correspondence of The Bee.

SALT LAKE CITY, August 12.—Though Utah has been settled nearly thirty-five years, up to the present it has had no territorial insane asylum.

At the last session of the legislative assembly an appropriation was made and a commissioner appointed to locate and erect a building. A great deal of time has been uselessly spent in discussing the best location, the three leading cities of Central Utah all claiming it. At last it has been decided to locate it at Provo, the county seat of Utah county, which place is correspondingly happy, while its disappointed peers console themselves by insinuating it has most need of it. Provo is doubtless well adapted for public edifices, being centrally situated, and, as a rule, very healthy, though just at present public meetings and gatherings of every kind are forbidden in consequence of the continued presence of diphtheria. The mortality of Salt Lake city also still continues high, especially among children, who, there are, as your readers are doubtless aware, for more than the usual average per thousand. In fact the statistics of the Mormon church show that one-third of its population in this and the surrounding territories are under eight years old.

The non-Mormon or Gentile element is largely composed of adult males drawn here by the mines, many of whom have wives and families in the eastern states or in the old countries. It is this portion of the population that causes the male element to figure so largely in the census statistics of Utah for 1880. But there is no dearth here of unmarried though marriageable ladies, and it is sometimes asserted exists by reason of polygamy. To the contrary, your correspondent is acquainted with numbers of most estimable members of the gentler sex verging on old maidenhood, and the ratio appears to increase as the leading cities grow more populous.

Partly in Utah and partly in Idaho lies the deep and beautiful Bear lake, surrounded by lofty peaks, and with an occasional valley nesting in the secluded valleys that here and there are found between the water's edge and the foot of the mountains. Before the white men settled in the neighborhood the Shoshones and other Indians had a tradition that immense monsters flourished in its untamed depths and scrupulously refrained from bathing in its waters. Since its shores have been tenanted by the higher race numerous stories have been told by them of the sudden appearance of a huge serpent-like form that coursed through the waters with the rapidity of an express train. Efforts have frequently been made to entrap it, but always unsuccessfully. This month it has been seen by a party of visitors, among whom was one member of congress who represented that portion of the body seen above the water was about thirty feet long, and as usual, it passed along with marvellous rapidity. Some have regarded it as a myth and doubted its existence, but after this last testimony, coming from an M. C., who shall gain say it?

Your readers have learned from my previous letters that a building boom is exercising Salt Lake and her sister cities. It still continues, workmen and teams are scarce and wages advancing. The last company of 700 Mormon immigrants were swallowed up in less than no time, and another heavy company is expected to sail from Liverpool on the 3d of September, to be followed by still another on the 23d of October. Notwithstanding this I heard a Mormon railroad contractor say that though he gave the preference to people of his own faith, yet not above one-tenth of the working men on his contract were members of the Mormon church; on the other hand there are doubtless many of this people employed by Gentile contractors. The farmers in many places have great difficulty in gathering in their harvest.

The liquor question is still disturbing the Salt Lake City fathers. The ordinances passed by the city council to regulate the traffic in liquor have been practically set aside by the rulings of the territorial United States courts, and a number of saloons are running without paying license or meeting any of the requirements of the ordinances. Part of the liquor dealers sustain the city, with a view to limiting the number of saloons, while the others, generally of a less respectable class, are running to suit themselves. The council is engaged in framing a new ordinance, with the vain hope of suiting all parties, the judiciary, the dealers, and the temperance folks, the latter having a very strong following in all the parties and churches. If it were not for the technical rulings of the courts, which have been as various as the colors on Joseph's coat, the liquor sellers would have had a hard time. Prohibition is still enforced in a number of the larger towns in Utah, but in this city and in Ogden, under the present regime, it is impossible. BUFORD.

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PROPOSALS FOR FILLING ALLEY
Sealed proposals will be received by the undersigned until Fri. ay, August 19th, at 12 o'clock noon, for the filling of the alley in block 8, said block is located between Webster, California and 14th and 15th streets, in the city of Omaha, said work to be done subject to the approval of the city engineer. Bids must be accompanied by the proposed street under the usual conditions, said bids will be opened at the regular meeting of the city council August 23d, 1881. The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Invelopes containing said proposals should be marked "Proposals for Filling Alley in Block 8," and delivered to the undersigned not later than the time above specified. J. J. L. C. JEWETT, City Clerk.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.
Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Douglas County, Nebraska, until Thursday, September 1st, 1881, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the erection of a court house building at Omaha, in said county, in accordance with plans and specifications on made by E. E. Myers, architect, and now on file in the county clerk's office. Each bid must be accompanied by a good and sufficient bond in the sum of five thousand dollars, conditioned that the bidder will enter into contract and give a good and sufficient bond for the faithful performance of the work should the same be awarded to him. Specifications will be furnished upon application to the county clerk. Separate bids for the several parts of the building will be considered, and proposals may be made upon schedules prepared by the architect and furnished on application to the county clerk. The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. By order of the Board of County Commissioners, JOHN R. MANGUM, County Clerk, Omaha, Aug 11, 1881.

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R. Gibbs, of Buffalo, N. Y., writes: "Your Burdock Blood Bitters, in chronic diseases of the blood, liver and kidneys, have been signally marked with success. I have used them myself with best results, for torpidity of the liver, and in case of a friend of mine suffering from dropsy, the effect was marvellous."

Bruce Turner, Rochester, N. Y., writes: "I have been subject to serious disorder of the kidneys, and unable to attend to business. Burdock Blood Bitters relieved me before half a bottle was used. I feel confident that they will entirely cure me."

E. Aesmith Hall, Birmingham, N. Y., writes: "I suffered with a dull pain through my left hip and shoulder. Lost my spirits, appetite and color, and could with difficulty keep up all day. Took your Burdock Blood Bitters as directed, and have felt no pain since first week after using them."

Mr. Noah Bates, Elmira, N. Y., writes: "About four years ago I had an attack of bilious fever, and never fully recovered. My digestive organs were weakened, and I would be completely prostrated for days. After using two bottles of your Burdock Blood Bitters the improvement was so visible that I was astonished. I can now, though 61 years of age, do a fair and reasonable day's work."

C. Blakett Robinson, proprietor of The Canada Press, Toronto, Ont., writes: "For years I suffered greatly from recurring headaches. I used your Burdock Blood Bitters with happiest results, and I now find myself in better health than for years past."

Mrs. Wallace, Buffalo, N. Y., writes: "I have used Burdock Blood Bitters for nervous and bilious headaches, and can recommend it to anyone requiring a cure for biliousness."

Mrs. Ira Muhlenthal, Albany, N. Y., writes: "For several years I have suffered from recurring bilious headaches, dyspepsia, and complaints peculiar to my sex. Since using your Burdock Blood Bitters I am entirely relieved."

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