

San Francisco Daily Morning Call
June 28, 1864

Charges Against an Officer

Lewis P. Ward prefers the following charges against Officer Forner, and Judge Shephard has issued subpoenas for the witnesses: Using unnecessary violence in making an arrest; making the arrest without authority, (without a warrant and merely upon the say-so of an interested party); maltreating two private citizens where there was no call for such conduct on his part; and being off his beat and drinking in the "Flag" Saloon, when he should have been at his post. The Board of Police Commissioners will take the matter into consideration on Thursday afternoon at two o'clock. These charges are of a grave character, and will receive the strict examination to which their importance entitles them.

Missionaries Wanted for San Francisco

We do not like it, as far as we have got. We shall probably not fall so deeply in love with reporting for a San Francisco paper as to make it impossible ever to wean us from it. There is a powerful saving-clause for us in the fact that the conservators of public information—the persons whose positions afford them opportunities not enjoyed by others to keep themselves posted concerning the important events of the city's daily life—do not appear to know anything. At the offices and places of business we have visited in search of information, we have got it in just the same shape every time, with a promptness and uniformity which is startling, perhaps, but not gratifying. They all answer and say unto you, "I don't know." We do not mind that, so much, but we do object to a man's parading his ignorance with an air of overbearing egotism which shows you that he is proud of it. True merit is modest, and why should not true ignorance be? In most cases, the head of the concern is not at home; but then why not pay better wages and leave men at the counter who would not be above knowing something? Judging by the frills they put on—the sad but infallible accompaniment of forty dollars a year and found—these fellows are satisfied they are not paid enough to make it an object to know what is going on around them, or to state that their crop of information has failed, this century, without doing it with an exaggeration of dignity altogether disproportioned to the importance of the thing. In Washoe, if a man don't know anything, he will at least go on and tell you what he don't know, so that you can publish it in case you do not stumble upon something of more vital interest to the community, in the course of the day. If a similar course were pursued here, we might always have something to write about—and occasionally a column or so left over for next day's issue, perhaps.

Hackmen Arrested

Officer Blitz has arrested Thomas Phelan, the driver of hack No. 38, for driving through a Masonic funeral procession on Sunday, and striking one of the gentlemen composing it. The

same officer also arrested another hackman, for using obscene and insulting language towards a gentleman who declined to employ him. It would be well for hackmen to conduct themselves properly and with due attention to the proprieties of life for the present, as it is Blitz's especial business to look after them, and he manifests a disposition to do it. Some of them are in the habit of violating the law which provides that their lamps shall be kept lighted; cases of this kind will result in the arrest of the transgressor hereafter in every instance that may be discovered. Hackmen should keep their lamps burning so that their numbers may at all times be seen and passengers ought to observe those numbers before entering a carriage, to be prepared for legal war in case anything goes wrong.

Fall in Fruit

A contemporary announces a "fall in fruit." This is a pleasant announcement. The fall of fruit has been the cause of great eras. We presume that Eve plucked the apple she nibbled, and coaxed Adam to nibble, from the ground, the fruit having first fallen. She could scarcely have climbed the tree, or reached the fruit from the ground, and ladders had not then been made. There never had been but one maid at that time. The fall of fruit led Newton to the great demonstration and discovery of the law of gravitation, a very grave work. If the recent fall of fruit will cause fifty per cent less gravitation of cash from the eater's hand to the seller's pocket, the effect will be more grateful to the poor than the feast of Eve and the demonstration of Newton.

Accessions to the Ranks of the Dashaways

A large number of well-known citizens, among them Judge Bennet, Elisha Cook, Nat. Ingalls, Captain Bob Haley, T. Charles, C. P. Duane and _____ Clarke, a prominent member of the legal profession, gave their adhesion to the cause of temperance by signing the Dashaway pledge on Sunday evening last. One of the signers, we believe Cook, made a little speech in explanation of his action. His signing did not appear to be so much on the ground of morality, as owing to the fact that the recent high tariff imposed upon liquors had flooded the market with such a deleterious article, that he did not feel safe in drinking it. Backed up by his signature to the pledge, he thought he could muster sufficient courage to withstand the temptation.

Board of Supervisors

Monday Evening—June 27, 1864

The Board of Supervisors met at eight P.M., Mayor Coon in the chair Eleven members were present and two absent.

A motion was made by Captain Hinckley to suspend the rules and bring up "that appeal case," which motion prevailed. [Appeal of property holders from assessment of Street Superintendent levied for grading Green street, between Montgomery and Kearny.] After hearing testimony in support of the complaint that the assessment levied was exorbitant, and counter-statements from the Street Superintendent, the Board dismissed the appeal.

Another case, of a similar character, was taken up. [C. S. McDonough, residing on Drumm, between Sacramento and Clay streets, claims credit on the recent assessment for grading that street, in the amount paid by him under a previous assessment. He objected to

paying the new assessment, not because he cared a cent about the trivial amount of money involved, but because that money was to go into the pocket of a contractor, and a strong principle in his breast was an inveterate antipathy to contractors, and an invincible determination to let that kind of people worry along in this life without any assistance from him! He repeated, with constantly augmenting vehemence, that he objected to paying contractors, and contractors only!] The Street Superintendent maintained the justice of the assessment, and the Board dismissed this appeal also.

Swill Peddlers

Officer Moore and Private Watchman Barbier made a “clean-up”—as they say in Washoe—of five swill-cart drivers, on Sunday morning, by name as follows: Frank Vantross, John Crossin, John Rose, (we are obliged to omit the Alta's able joke on account of the crowded state of our columns,) Robert Riority and Peter Kelley. They were arraigned before Judge Shepheard yesterday morning, and two charges of misdemeanor preferred against each of them -- driving their carts uncovered, and having no licenses. They were each fined ten dollars on the first charge, but the second was dismissed upon their engaging to procure licenses immediately.