Editorial, Local News.

Part 3. The Centre Democrat. SAN FRANCISCO IN HISTORY

Stricken City Long Permeated With an Air of Romance.

How the Metropolis of California Was Purged of Disorder-Lynching of Casey-The Days of the Fortyniners-Town Depopulated by the Rush of

IN THE DAYS OF VIGILANTES

Gold Seekers.

AN FRANCISCO, the earthquake stricken city, has long been permeated with an air of romance and adventure. Nowhere may one turn without being reminded of the legends that have been woven around the forty-niners and their immediate followers. The names of the streets and of the business blocks, such as Kearney, Sutter, Montgomery, Dupont, Flood, Crocker and Sharon, bring to the mind of the visitor long forgotten stories of riot or adventure and of fortunes whose vastness once excited his wonder or made him incredulous.

The site of the city was first visited by Europeans in 1769, and in 1775 Bucarell ordered a fort, presidio and mission founded on the bay. One year

frer sicalde, or mayor, under the new regime. Under Spanish and Mexican rule the town was a sleepy, unprogressive place, but with the coming of Americans and the discovery of gold in 1848 there came an era of growth and hustle. This did not eventuate at once, for the first news of the discovery of gold practically depopulated San Fran-

The town was smitten as by a plague, and one historian thus describes what happened: "Its houses were left unoccupied and unprotected, its former trade ceased, its lots fell to a small part of their value, its two weekly newspapers were suspended, and the town, deserted by the bulk of its inhabitants, was at one time without a single officer clothed with civil author-

After the first rush to the gold diggings the town began to regain its lost ground, and ere long the influx of gold seekers gave quite an impetus to its growth. The town was incorporated in April, 1850, and the first common rouncil elected proceeded with diligence to plunder the city treasury. The same year the state was admitted to the Union, and when the steamer Oregon brought the news-there was no telegraphic communic tion in those days-business was entirely suspended and the entire population rushed to the wharfs to welcome the harbinger. The town had about 10,000 inhabitants at that time, and when the people were informed that the signal flags of the Oregon indicated that California was a sovereign state of the United States of America "a universal shout arose from 10,000 voices on the wharfs, in the streets, upon the hills, housetops and the world of shipping in the bay."

In its early history the city suffered from several disastrous fires. Between December, 1849, and June, 1851, six and the regime of the California "bad conflagrations played havoc with the growing young town. Better buildings were planned and several fire compalater, the year of the Declaration of in the right direction. It was also discovered that the fires were started by

sprinking of more respectable 'frame houses and a mass of canvas and rubber habitations. It was mainly a city shores of the cove. From Clark point it skirted the land to Telegraph hill, along the Clay street slopes, tapering away to the California street ridge. gold mine for its proprietors. The larger number passed to the southwest shores of the cove, beyond the Market street ridge, a region sheltered from blustering winds and provided of chance, but involves judgment and

Happy Valley. Stockton street, stretching from Sacramento to Green streets, presented the neatest cluster of dwellings, and for of the six churches in existence in the middle of 1850 three graced its sides and two stood upon cross streets, within half a block. Mason street. northern. Beyond Mason street ran \$7,000 in checks. the trail to the Presidio, past scattered bolder, and in 1856 the crime and cor- cupies over 1,000 acres. ruption in the city had become intolerable to those who wished to live a decent and orderly life. When Editor King of the Bulletin, who had denounced the thugs, was murdered by James P. Casey, a new vigilance organization was created, and in a few days Casey and another murderer named Cora were executed in front of the committee's headquarters. Many lawbreakers were later put to death, man" came to an end.

It has been asserted that San Francisco is the most cosmopolitan city in nies were organized. These were steps the world, and by cosmopolitan is meant a population from all parts of the world. Not long ago the records

## BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1906

united states. As in the days of 1849, the gambler devotes himself to his vocation with little interference from the authorities. Prior to the of tents, rising in a crescent upon the earthquake two of the most prominent corners in the city were occupied by gambling dens. One of them, known as the Cafe Royal, has been a veritable The California supreme court has rendered a decision to the effect that the game of draw poker is not a game

with good spring water and named the other elements as well as chance or luck, and because of this decision these places are permitted to be maintained. They are frequented by a hard looking crowd of men, and many scandals Powell street was the abode of churches, are told associated with these places. A visitor's life is probably safe in these resorts, but his money is not. It is said .hat the sop of the premier of British Columbia was fleeced of \$8,500 in the above it, was really the western limit Cafe Royal a few years ago. He lost of the city, as Green street was the \$1,500 in cash, but stopped payment on San Francisco has forty-seven square

cottages, cabins and sheds, amid dai- miles of territory, or about 30,000 ries and gardens, with a branch path acres, within the municipal limits. The to the Marine hospital, on Filbert finest residences are on Nob hill and street, and another to the North Beach Pacific heights, both of which districts anchorage, where speculators were command magnificent views of the planning a wharf to attract settlement. bay and the Golden Gate. The city After the viglance committee dis has six large parks and twenty-two banded the criminal element became small ones, and Golden Gate park oc-

EarthquakeHeroes

Brigadier General Funston and His Work In San Francisco-Mayor Eugene Schmitz-Chief of Police Dinan-Fire Chief Sullivan's Death.

Francisco disaster fell largely upon the

mayor of the city, Eugene F. Schmitz; the governor of the state of California, George C, Pardee, and the general commanding the regular army of the department of California, Frederick C. Funston. The necessity of military su-

pervision put the devastated city practically under command of General Funston. His action in ordering rations distributed from the Presidio as prompt-

provision of tents on the military reservation relieved the suffering of many.

General Funston is a little man. He weighs about 100 pounds and is under

five feet four inches in height, yet he has been a big figure in the military annals of the United States in the past

eight years. He lives on adventure

FTER an awful A calamity such as that which has visited San Francisco and other parts of California there is need of leaders to direct the work of relieving the sufferers and preserving order so far as possible amid the prevailing pan-This work in the case of the San



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MARKET STREET FROM SECOND STREET WEST.

Independence, the Spanish settlers began the work, and when Vancouver, the explorer, visited the place in 1792 the presidio represented the military authority, while the pueblo and mission stood for the civil and religious factors respectively. The mission was secularized in 1834 and a town laid out the year following.

In 1846 an American man-of-war, under command of Commodore John B. Montgomery, entered the harbor and as the owner of California, was then benefit to it. at war with the United States, and the Washington A. Bartlett to be Frisco's shantles, born in an afternoon, with a as one of the "wide open" cities of the

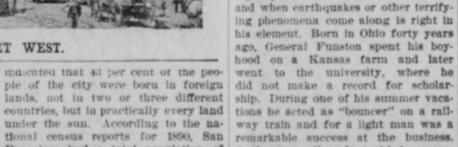
criminais who pronted by the confu-

corruption of the city government led under the sun. According to the na- way train and for a light man was a a large number of citizens to organ- tional census reports for 1890, San ize the famous vigilance committee Francisco had a total population of On leaving college he tackled newspawhich ruled the place in 1851. Quite a 298,997. Of these 172,186 were native per work for a time, then got a position number of crooks were lynched by born and 126,811 were born outside of the committee, others were driven out, the United States. Fully half the the first official survey of Death vallike John Oakhurst, the leading figure In Bret Harte's "Outcasts of Poker moved to California from alien lands, boisted the stars and stripes over the Flat," and the city went through a pu- while a large percentage of the other town. Mexico, which succeeded Spain rification process that was of great half and of the general body of chil-

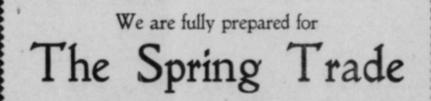
The aspect of San Francisco at this 1900 San Francisco had a population act of Commodore Montgomery ended time was not inspiring to inflowing of 342,782, of which 34.1 per cent was her dominion over San Francisco. gold seekers. It was a straggling med- foreign born. Montgomery appointed Lieutenant ley of low, dingy adobes, frail wooden

indicated that 43 per cent of the peolands, not in two or three different This fact and the inefficiency and countries, but in practically every land in the government service and made grown persons in the community redren were of foreign parentage. In

San Francisco has long been famed







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SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR.

BRIGADIER GENERAL FREDERICK FUNSTON. ley, California, being the only member of the expedition who is alive and same today. He had some remarkable adventures in Alaska, served under Garcia in the Cuban insurrection and was wounded. Then came his appointment as colonel of the Twentleth Kansas volunteers and his career in the Philip-

pines. In the fighting before Malolos he found himself with part of his com-

Continued on 2nd page, this section.

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