STRIPPING FOR COMBAT.

The Special Administrators of the Fair Estate to Hold the Fort.

LITTLE HERMAN'S QUEER FIX.

He Has Two Guardians, and Is Made to Appear a Peculiar Child.

Yesterday morning and Judge Slack's court were the time and place set for the hearing of the special administrators' petition for the probate of the first Fair will. Stimulated by the court's decision giving the first will the precedence and by the filing on the previous day by the proponents of the second will of a formal contest to the first almost all the attorneys engaged in the case gathered on the scene promptly at 10 A. M. But as things turned out the honors and burden of the day were destined chiefly to rest with Attorneys Reuben H. Lloyd and Charles S. Wheeler for the Fair children and ex-Judge Van R. Paterson for the infant heirs and especially for Herman Oelrichs Jr.

On "the estate of James G. Fair" being called Attorney R. B. Mitchell, for the special administrators, moved for a continuance. He said a contest to his clients' petition for probate of the first will had been filed, which would entail more preparation to plead.

"We also desire until May 15," said counsel, "in which to move to strike from the files the opposition of Charles L. Fair on the ground that the contest was not served within the prescribed time nor within the provisions of the code."

The court granted one week, and it naturally followed that Dr. Marc Levingston's petition for probate of the second will had to be continued to the same time.

Then the curious relation of little Herman Oelrichs Jr. to the controversy came up. He has two guardians—his father, who is the natural or general guardian, and ex-Judge Van R. Paterson, who was appointed special guardian ad litem. The general guardian, as husband of the one of the proponents of the second will, is in favor of that instrument. But the guardian ad litem, on behalf of the boy, has filed an opposition to the second will. Thus little Herman is placed in the position of opposing his father and natural guardian.

For the rest of the morning session of the court the air was riddled with citations of technical authorities as to little Herman's position. Attorney Wheeler argued for a demurrer to Attorney Paterson's opposition. His battery was directed to the insufficiency of the opposition. He contended that the appointment of the guardian ad litem was antecedent to the filing of the second will; that the allegations of the opposition presented no issue; that the court had no jurisdiction to appoint a guardian of problematical heirs in a cause before any proceeding in the cause; that the filing of the opposition without direction of the court was a usurpation of the authority of the court, and moreover, that such opposition was unnecessary, as the minor heir's interests were not in danger.

Then Reuben H. Lloyd spoke to his motion for an order to amend the order appointing Paterson little Herman's guardian. He quoted Supreme Justice Van R. Paterson to refute guardian ad litem Van R. Paterson. The boy did not need a guardian ad litem; he had a general guardian in the person of his father.

"There is some question," interposed Paterson, "to the effect that the general guardian, Herman Oelrichs Sr., is not a resident of this City and County."

This irritated Attorney Lloyd. "Well, he owns a fifty-vara lot not far away," he said, "and a house worth some three or four hundred thousand dollars. Yes, he is going to New York shortly, but will return. Besides, he has hired me to represent him and I reside here, anyway." Counsel contended that his motion could not be thus collaterally attacked, but that the question of an improper residence must be raised as a separate issue.

The appointment of a guardian ad litem did not apply to this proceeding. Beside, it was unnecessary except on the allegation of mismanagement. The interest of little Herman and his father were with the second will. Under both wills Herman Oelrichs Sr. would get $50,000. The child's mother was young, and in all probability would have other children, reducing his reversion under the first will to a minimum. For forty years, perhaps, the child would have but an infinitesimal interest in the first will. At least let the boy wait until the probate of any one will and then he would have a long year in which to contest.

Attorney Wheeler waxed strong on the point that it would be a gross indiscretion on the part of the court to order a contest on the part of the minor heirs in the absence of anything but mere rumor, and then the court had a chance. His Honor gave the counsel time to examine the innumerable authorities cited and continued the application for "an order to amend an order," the "motion to strike out" and its accompanying "demurrer" to Thursday, May 16.

The special administrators have been authorized to dispose of various details of business in connection with the estate, including payment to the Santa Cruz Rock Pavement Company, $599: sale of horses, etc., from the Petaluma ranch; sale of 70,000 gallons of wine of the vintage of '93, 80,000 gallons of the vintage of '94 and 5900 gallons of brandy; settlement of claim against George N. Perine.

CANAL COMMISSION.

Captain Merry, Nicaraguan Consul in This City, Outlines Its Field of Operations.

The recent appointment of a commission to examine the plans and route of the Nicaragua canal was discussed by Captain Merry, the Consul of the Nicaraguan republic in this City, yesterday. Captain Merry said: "This commission consists of Civil Engineer Endicott of the United State Navy, Colonel Ludlow of the United States Army Engineer Corps, Alfred Noble, civil engineer of Chicago, a member of the Society of American Engineers. The commission is appointed by act of Congress, appropriating $20,000 to pay expenses.

"The commission will also be accompanied by A. G. Manocal, civil engineer of the United States Navy and chief engineer of the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua, and about fourteen subordinates They leave Mobile to-day on the United State cruiser Montgomery, and will arrive at San Juan del Norte, the Atlantic terminus of the Nicaragua canal, about May 10.

"The resolution of Congress directing the appointment of the commission requires them to make a careful survey of the Nicaragua canal line and of the work already executed thereon by the Maritime Canal Company. After doing this they will return to the United States, probably in about three months. They will then prepare their report to be submitted to the fifty-fourth Congress when it assembles on the first Monday in December.

"The purpose of the United States Government in the appointment of this special commission is apparently to satisfy all members of Congress as to the feasibility of a ship canal through Nicaragua on the lines surveyed by the United States Government in 1872, and on several occasions thereafter, at a commercial cost, together with its advantages and disadvantages.

"Upon the report of this commission it is presumed that it is the intention to introduce a bill in the fifty-fourth Congress for the construction of the Nicaragua canal under the control of the United States Government and under the concessions granted by the republics of Nicaragua and Costa Rica."

CABLE-CARS COLLIDE.

A Conductor's Mistake at the Larkin and Hayes Crossing.

A Hayes-street car and a Larkin-street car collided at the crossing of Larkin and Hayes about half-past 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The Larkin-street car was crossing Market street northward and the Hayes-street car was on its way to the ferry. The former has the right of way, but the conductor of the latter, instead of waiting till it crossed, pulled up the lever and signaled for his car to come along, thinking it would have time to cross ahead of the other.

His calculations were wrong. The Larkin-street car came steadily along, the gripman imagining that the Hayes-street car would stop till he had passed. Both gripmen fortunately saw their mistake, but not in time to prevent the Hayes-street car from striking the other, but not sufficient to derail it. The passengers were badly shaken up and one old lady appeared to be injured. She was helped off the car, but in a minute or two was able to continue her trip.

CIRCLING THE POTRERO.

Progress of the New Electric Line and the Army-Street Grade.

Speculation as to Southern Pacific Plans—The Risdon Iron Works.

Before another rainy season the residents of Southern Heights, Bernal Heights, South San Francisco, the Potrero and the Mission district will enjoy greatly increased facilities of communication with the City proper. There are two big improvements now under way which will change entirely the old order of things.

The completion of the Mission and Potrero electric line is one, and the extension of Army street all the way to Kentucky street the other. The latter will enable people to drive back and forth between the Mission and the Potrero on a short cut and an easy grade, and the electric line will operate as a good time-saver.

Tracklaying will soon be commenced on Solano street for the electric line. The route from the Potrero will be along Solano, Missouri and Sixteenth streets, and thence by way of Church street to and along Fillmore street. It will bring the southern suburbs in close touch with the western portion of the City. Wires are up all the way, and most of the track is down or ready to be laid.

It is generally understood that an electric line is also to be run from Railroad avenue in South San Francisco along Fifteenth avenue to Bernal Heights, as an extension of either the Folsom or Mission streets systems. The old horsecar route was along Fifteenth avenue, connecting with the Howard-street system, but when the South San Francisco electric line, via the Potrero, was completed, it was abandoned.

Already the Southern Pacific has made two surveys with a view toward shortening its San Jose branch from its entrance into the City to its terminal grounds. The railroad owns most of the marsh and has secured everything except the Fulton Ropewalk and Eva properties.

There has also been much guessing at the intentions of the Risdon Iron Works. This company owns thirty acres near the mouth of Islais Creek, and gossips have frequently predicted that the works would sooner or later move out of the business center of the City to a suburban location, as did the Fulton Iron Works to North Beach. President William H. Taylor, however, does not confirm these predictions. He said yesterday afternoon that if the works ever would move it would not be in the near future. He explained:

"It would cost us $50,000 to move, and I think we would lose instead of gain by it. It is a question whether our accessibility to the water would be at all improved."

REBELS ON MAUI.

Secret Meetings Held at Midnight by Adherents of the Queen—Encroachments by Japanese.

It is probable that the next sixty days will develop some very exciting scenes in Hawaii. Private information recently received by Clarence W. Ashford in this city indicates that several kinds of trouble are gathering around the government of Sanford B. Dole and his colleagues.

The Japanese, who are numerous on the islands, and who at present are feverish and elated over the victory of their mother country in the war with China, threaten to come forward and become serious factors in the government of Hawaii and the adjustment of its affairs. A clear indication of their rising pretensions lies in the fact that they want to establish a Japanese-English newspaper in Honolulu. Edmund Norrie, editor of the Holo Mua, has been approached by several of the leading Japanese with a proposition that he print his paper half in English and half in Japanese, and that a Japanese editor be placed in charge of that department. It is known that among the Japanese now on the islands there are several hundred trained soldiers—in fact, there are enough of them to seize control of the Government at any time, should they choose to do so.

The natives are restless and dissatisfied and only await an opportunity to fly into the thick of another insurrection. It is plain, judging from the information received by Mr. Ashford, that the basis of operations in the next outbreak will be the island of Maui.

"I have nothing to do with these operations," said Mr. Ashford yesterday, "but as I am known to be an enemy of the Dole crowd and a sympathizer with any movement that will bring about a real republic, a government by the people and for the people of Hawaii, my friends naturally keep me advised of what is going on. It is my firm belief that Mr. Dole and his fellow-officials will not be in office on the 1st of next August."

The Meyer Will.

Hermann L. E. Meyer, a brother of decedent, has petitioned the Probate Court for letters of administration over the estate of William Meyer, who died in Hanover, Germany, February 22, 1895, leaving an estate valued at $140,000. Among other legatees is Mrs. Grace E. Skinner of this city, daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Sylvester Woodbridge, who receives 200,000 marks, to terminate at her marriage with a payment of 40,000 marks; Mrs. David Bieler of this city receives a match-box with miniature and brilliants, which decedent once received from her as a present. The will contains a forfeiture clause relating to possible contests by legatees. The only other legatee living in this city besides those referred to is the petitioner, Hermann Meyer, who is given one-twelfth of the estate, subject to payments specified.

A Poisonous Mist.

This fitly describes miasma, a vaporous poison which breeds chills and fever, bilious remittent, dumb ague, ague cake, and in the tropics deadly typhoid forms the fever. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters prevents and cures these complaints. Biliousness, constipation, dyspepsia, nervous and kidney trouble, rheumatism, neuralgia and impaired vitality are also remedied by the great restorative.

DELAYING APPOINTMENTS.

Effect of the Disagreeing Factions in the Democratic Ranks.

DR. LEVINGSTON DENOUNCED.

Governor Budd Demands Specific Charges, Which Are Promised by Dr. Dille.

To the aspirations of Dr. Marc Levingston politicians now attribute the delay of the Governor in appointing the Board of Health, Dr. Levingston's friends, who were urging his cause with energy, now plead with renewed vigor. They have a double cause to win: first, the advancement of their client, and second, a vindication of his character.

The appointment of a Board of Health that would make Dr. Levingston Health Officer would accomplish both these results. It would also indicate that the Governor did not credit the statements of Mr. Levingston's enemies.

The Governor, beset on both sides, has been forced to give ear to the importunities of all. Naturally he has hesitated. Other duties have pressed upon him, and he has allowed himself to postpone judgment on the matter of the Board of Health appointments.

Yesterday afternoon a committee consisting of I. J. Truman, Rev. E. R. Dille, D. G. Dexter and George T. Gaden, Mayor Sutro's private secretary, waited on the Governor to present a memorial and resolutions condemning Dr. Levingston, which were adopted by the Civic Federation.

They read the resolutions to Mr. Budd and the various members of the committee talked about Dr. Levingston's record. They recounted the things they had heard he had done as Coroner and told of the intimacy they understood existed between him and the Rainey-Buckley portion of the Democracy. They also recounted the events that led to Dr. Levingston's being defeated by Dr. C. C. O'Donnell when both were running for Coroner.

Governor Budd talked with the gentlemen composing the committee and discussed their statements. He seemed well informed, but anxious to learn more.

"You have merely presented a lot of generalities," he said. "You have made no specific charges nor declare any particular wrong act to have been done. I cannot act on this memorial.

"Get me some tangible evidence. If the charges you make are true prove them by witnesses. It would be wrong to convict a man of anything on such testimony as these resolution."

"Dr. Levingston was a public official. He surely has a record. This is the best testimony. Quote from it and I will then judge of his fitness to serve in the position he desires.

"You may rest assured, though, gentlemen," said Mr. Budd, "that I will not appoint any unworthy man, or suggest any one for a place unfitted by any reason to occupy it. As I have said before, the Board of Health will be composed of medical men of the highest standing, and these men must be unobjectionable."

The interview was highly satisfactory to the committee. Rev. Mr. Dille in speaking of it said:

"None of us had any charges against Dr. Levingston that we could make of our own knowledge. But at the time the resolutions were adopted witnesses came forward, and others volunteered to give information upon which the charges made were founded. These people we will bring before the Governor."

At present it would seem as if the Governor had made no choice for the four places on the Board of Health. While the Levingston faction speak hopefully they do not make the confident assertions they indulged in a few weeks ago. The other side are expectant and hopeful, yet anything but sure. Their statement that the Governor has not yet fixed upon the physicians for the Board of Health is upheld by Mr. Budd himself.

"I can't tell now when I'll appoint them," he said. "I have been so rushed by other matters that I have not had time to give the subject the consideration it demands.

"I have not yet met the different medical gentlemen who are prominently named. This I want to do. Of course, their friends have seen me, but I want to know the men personally before I give any of them such an important place. This will make my appointments come not earlier than the last of next week anyhow."

The Governor has been beset by a horde of anxious applicants and "grateful and proud" constituents ever since he reached town. They swarm about the hotel an hour or so before he is booked to arrive, and wait till long after he has retired. If, in the meanwhile, he shows himself among them, they apply themselves to him, and proceed to tell their many wants.

Of the seven Democratic Assemblymen from San Francisco in the last Legislature, all but two are asking positions for themselves from the Governor. The two exceptions are L. J. Dwyer and J. D. Coghlin, both of whom are urging friends for places. Among the others, John O'Day, who is a man of large family, was promised a coveted situation on the water front. But even he has had to wait, since every job as Wharfinger is filled. Most of the others want to be wharfingers also.

Some of the knowing ones claim that Dr. J. F. Morse is sure of appointment on the Board of Health. They also name Dr. W. E. Barger and Dr. L. C. Cox. Many agree in naming these three. Others insist that nothing can be known.

A number of the leading Democrats and close friends of Governor Budd have not been to see him yet. He has promised to consult with them in regard to his appointments. He would hardly choose his appointees before requesting them to call upon him in regard to the matter.

Military men are considering the matter of the brigadier-generalship very closely. The adjutant-general of the State will, it is said authoritatively, be chosen from south of Tehachapi and will very likely be Major Driffel. This, it is claimed, will be to compensate the south for not getting a brigade headquarters.

Fresno has been chosen for the southern brigade instead of a place nearer the coast. This will make General Muller, a brother-in-law of Senator Pedlar, the lucky man. General Montgomery of Chico will, it is claimed, command the Sacramento brigade. The San Francisco brigade's commander is still to be chosen.

AN EXHIBIT FOR ATLANTA.

Governor Budd Favors Sending a Fine Display of California Products to the Southern Fair.

Governor Budd and Harbor Commissioner Colnon visited the State Board of Trade rooms yesterday and spent several hours examining the county exhibits. The purpose of his visit was to discuss with Manager Filcher the possibility of sending the entire exhibit to the International Cotton Exposition that will be held in Atlanta, Ga., beginning September 1.

"This exhibit must be sent to the Georgia fair," said the Governor with emphasis. Mr. Budd is favorably disposed toward appropriating the $7000 that was not used of the $25,000 appropriated two years ago to advertise California at the World's Fair at Chicago. About $18,000 was spent for the publication of California literature and the balance has never been turned back into the general fund. At the next meeting of the State Board of Examiners an effort will be made to use this money to send to the Atlanta exposition a fine exhibit. Governor Budd and Attorney-General Fitzgerald have both expressed themselves favorably to this project if the money can, under the law, be diverted to this purpose. In the event of not being able to get the money it is likely the Governor will suggest to the counties that they contribute sufficient money to make a fine State exhibit at Atlanta and he will in his message recommend the Legislature to reimburse them.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

Simeon S. Emery, Frederick A. and Annie M. Will and John and Caroline Noonen to Charles L. Tilden, Henry Koch and John A. Dunker, lot on S line of Ellis street, 77:6 W of Polk, W 60 by S 120.

J. Richard and Milly Freud to Philip J. Haver, lot on S line of Oak street, 81:3 E of Shrader, E 25 by S 100; $2350.

Crocker Estate Company to Carrie Driscoll, lot on E line of Shrader street, 75 N of Beulah, N 25 by E 100; $1475.

Same to John H. and Elizabeth Brophy, lot on E line of Shrader street, 125 S of Waller, S 25 by E 135; $1600.

Same to Nellie E. Scott, lot on E line of Shrader street, 25 N of Beulah, N 25 by E 110; $1525.

Same to Florence Forbes, lot on E line of Stanyan street, 50 S of Waller, S 75, E 131:3, N 25, W 22, N 50, W 106:3; $6875.

Same to Charles K. Rosenberg, lot on W line of Shrader street, 100 S of Waller, S 25 by W 131:3; $1575.

Same to James Foley, lot on S line of Waller street, 181:3 E of Stanyan, E 25 by S 137:6; $1600.

Same to Louis Levy, lot on S line of Waller street, 156:3 E of Stanyan, E 25 by S 137:6; $1625.

Same to John McGuinness, lot on N line of Beulah street, 131:3 W of Shrader, W 25 by N 137:6; $1490.

City and County of San Francisco to Elizabeth Ewald, lot on N line of Erie street, 88:5½ W of Howard, W 34:2⅞, N 176:2, E 53:7½, S 163:7; $—.

L. Molliterno to W. Benjamin, lot on W line of Natoma street, 240 N of Fifteenth, N 25 by W 80; $1000.

Emily Carter to Sarah Thorne, lot on S line of Nineteenth street, 37:6 W of Jessie, W 37:6 by S 85; $10.

William A. and Elizabeth F. Brown to Mary E. Ryan, lot on E line of Guerrero street, 235 S of Nineteenth, S 27 by E 90; $10.

Estate of Ann Hogan (by A. C. Freese, Administrator) to E. Fowler, lot on N line of Twenty-seventh street, 106:8 W of Church, W 53:4 by N 114; $1300.

Henrietta A. Schammel and Ernestine E. Gallagher to Henry Schammel, lot on N line of Lombard street, 100 W of Powell, W 37:6 by N 137:6; also right of way on N line of Lombard, 90 W of Powell, W 10 by 72:6; $10.

Jean Pierre Pon to Albert J. and Louise Pon, lot on S line of Pacific street, 114 E of Taylor, E 21 by S 80; lot on W line of Washington place, 70 S of Jackson, S 18 by W 20, subject to a life estate; $10.

John A. Coursey to George H. Jacot, lot on S line of Jackson street, 137:6 W of Mason, W 22:11 by S 77:6; $2500.

Henry and Harriet Hodgkins to Caroline Gassmann, lot on W line of Jones street, 60 S of Broadway, S 2 by W 22.9; $25.

ALAMEDA COUNTY.

Edward J. and Anita White to John E Langren of Alameda, lot on S line of Fourteenth street, 115 E of Wood, E 25 by S 106:3, Oakland; $5.

Daniel and Rebecca L. Branthaver to Jennie S. Collins of Sonoma, lot on W line of Myrtle street, 67 S of Thirtieth, S 3 3 by W 125, being the S portion of lot 23, block B, Golden Gate Homestead, Oakland; $10.

Catherine Moran to Millard F. Hudson, the N half of lot 4, block A, Peralta Heights, East Oakland; $10.

Edgar L. Hoag of Berkeley to Hugo and Dina Schmitz of Berkeley, lot on NW corner of Allston way and Mary street, W 50 by N 100, being portion of lots 11 and 12, block 2, McGee Tract, Berkeley; $5.

Emma and Richard Lewis of Oakland to Francis J. Woodward of Oakland, lot on W line of Boston avenue, 129.75 S of Hopkins street, S 40 by W 80, being lot 40, block A, Prospect Hill Tract, Brooklyn Township; $10.

John and Bessie Everding to town of Berkeley, lot on E line of Christina street, 15.11 N from S line of the Domingo Peralta Homestead Reservation, thence S 15.11, E 9.13, N 18.13, being portion of lot 19, Everding Tract, quitclaim deed, Berkeley; grant.

Horace W. Carpentier to same, lot on S line of Domingo Peralta Homestead Reservation (being also the S line of Everding Tract), distant E 100 from SW corner of said reservation and said tract, thence E 59.13, S 293:3, W 63.78, N 333.07 to the intersection of the W line of Christina street, if produced S in a straight line and in the same direction, thence N along Christina street produced S to beginning, for street and highway purposes, quitclaim deed; $442.

W. A. Carnes (by E. Minor Smith, Tax Collector) to M. McCann, lot on S line of Railroad avenue, 160 W of Eighth street, W 160 by S 265, Alameda; $2.

E. G. Bidleman (by E. Minor, Tax Collector) to same, mortgage interest in lot on S line of Railroad avenue, 160 W of Eighth street, W 160 by S 265, Alameda; $43.

Builders' Contracts.

George W. Quippman with O. E. White, to erect two two-story frame buildings on W side of Washington street, 110 E of Devisadero; $5807.

California Bible Society with E. Brickman, excavating for basement foundation on N side of McAllister street, 70 W of Hyde; $1680.

THE SOUTHERN SUBURBS.

Building Booms at South San Francisco and the Potrero.

The Sixteenth-Street Electric Road Almost Complete—Queer Street Work.

There is a peculiar piece of street work in progress in South San Francisco that the people of that suburb have not fully comprehended so far. Contractors are cutting through Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh avenues, a block east of Railroad avenue. That part of the city is a low ridge that extends from the avenue to Hunters Point drydock, a distance of a mile and a half. The contractors are penetrating the ridge endways, and it is believed they will go no further than L street.

This "improvement" will leave a number of houses forty feet up in the air and give the occupants a tiresome climb when they wish to reach their homes. Before the cuts were made the houses were picturesquely situated on hillsides, but now many are located upon unsightly cliffs of blue rock. As the owners are nearly all of the poorer class and unable to grade down to the street level, cutting the streets through is regarded more as a hardship than an improvement.

If it was for the purpose of getting level streets through the little peninsula the people might stand it. But now it is only, so they say, disfiguring the hills in order that contractors may get material for filling several low streets.

The people of South San Francisco are taking considerable pride in the new sidewalks that are being laid on both sides of Railroad avenue from Butchertown to Eighteenth avenue. For years past in many places it has been a case of wading in the mud when it rained.

Henry Miller of the firm of Miller & Lux is constructing a cold-storage plant in Butchertown. When complete it will cost $30,000. He is putting up several new buildings and other improvements.

This locality is in the throes of a small building boom. Frank Kespert is erecting a $1500 house on Seventeenth avenue, near Railroad, and his neighbor, J. McDonald, is putting up a $2000 residence on Sixteenth avenue.

W. Finch states that within two months six new houses will be under construction by people who have recently purchased lots.

As an evidence of better times South San Francisco and the Potrero will soon have another weekly newspaper as a rival to the Mail. Two brothers named Dooley, recently connected with the State Printing Office at Sacramento, last week went over the ground in both places and made the preliminary arrangements for starting a weekly in the interests of both localities.

The big steamer Columbia, now on the Union Iron Works dock undergoing about $150,000 worth of repairs, is furnishing employment for many of the residents of the Potrero.

Nine new boilers are being placed in the California Sugar Refinery.

The work on the Sixteenth-street electric road is progressing rapidly. It is now in shape to Solano and Texas streets and by the end of the month will join the Kentucky street line.

There is a building boom now at the Potrero. The new two-story schoolhouse is almost complete. Half a dozen tenement-houses are being constructed.

Sloss Bros. are building a new hotel 25x100 on Kentucky street, near Solano. It will be patronized largely by the workmen in the sugar refinery.

A Carnation Boom.

John Hinkle of this City has offered a prize of $7 50 for the largest and best collection of carnations displayed at the meeting of the Floral Society, 226 Sutter street, to-morrow.

THEIR OPINIONS DIFFER.

Prominent Citizens Discuss the Fixing of the Water Rates.

TWO EX-MAYORS DISAGREE.

The Merchants' Association Will Investigate the Proposed Increase.

The proposition under consideration by the Water Committee of the Board of Supervisors, by which the rates on water for fire hydrants and sewer-flushing plugs would be increased from $2 50 to $10 a month, promises to be perplexing and interesting before it is settled; that is, if the Supervisors will be influenced by public opinion, which at this time is about evenly divided. As previously stated, the water question is open for discussion through the columns of the CALL by citizens who have given the subject their consideration.

Ex-Mayors E. B. Pond and L. R. Ellert both gave much of their attention to the water question during their terms of office, yet they are opposed to each other on the present proposition.

Mayor Sutro acknowledges that he is still on the fence, not having had the time to make a thorough investigation of the facts and figures.

"I do not favor raising the rate on fire hydrants from $2 50 to $10," said Mr. Ellert. "It simply means to impose more taxes on the small property-owners, which is not fair. As to reducing the rate to small payers, I am afraid that the reduction will not amount to much, as the rates are down pretty low at present. The city will pay the big rates, and the taxpayers will have extra taxes to pay. I can't see any gain to the community by a saving to the small ratepayers—say 3 or 4 per cent—on their water bills and paying out from 5 to 10 per cent more on their taxes. In the long run it will amount to the small property-holders paying for additional protection to the buildings and manufacturers in the fire district downtown. When I was Mayor I favored districting the city and having higher water rates in the dangerous districts and the rates decreased in the outside districts. No, I don't think it fair to the small property-owners to make this proposed change."

Ex-Mayor E. B. Pond said that he believed in a reasonable increase in the hydrant rates. "I don't think that $10 a month is too high, although perhaps it might be considered a trifle steep by many. I am satisfied that the hydrant rate should be increased, but the general ratepayer must be the gainer by the change. I don't favor the high rate because of any interest in the water company, but by so doing it is with the belief that the small water consumer would be benefited."

"I am not prepared to discuss the question at present," said Mayor Sutro. "I want to get the facts and figures first, to see who will be benefited by the change. I will go over the figures with Supervisor Taylor, who is familiar with all the facts, before I make up my mind."

"I am not favorably impressed with this proposition of raising the rates on fire-plugs," said William Alvord, president of the Bank of California. "There will be too much opportunity for the water company to pull and haul for an increase in the number of hydrants. It will be the same as with the street lamps.

"The more lamps the more pay for gas and there are many lamps now where they are not needed. The reduced water rate to the property-owners would not compensate for the increase in their taxes. I say keep the city rate for hydrants at $2 50 and let the property-owners look after themselves."

A. S. Baldwin of Baldwin & Hammond favors the present rates. "To reduce the cost of water to those in the outlying districts would result in the water company declining to extend their water-pipe system out into places where water is sorely needed. The Mission hills are suffering for water, and even at the present rates the water company will not lay pipes up to those houses. I don't think the present water rates are excessive."

F. W. Dohrmann, the president of the Merchants' Association, said that he had not had time to look into the subject. "We will not, however, let it pass unnoticed," said he. "I will bring it up at the meeting of the association to-morrow evening, and the association will take a hand in the matter, if we think that public interest demands it."

Frank Hubbard Arrested.

Francis J. Hubbard, who for nine years has been a bookkeeper in the Russ House, was arrested by Detective Dan Coffey last evening and was locked up in the tanks. No charge was placed against him and no one was allowed to see him. The arrest was made quietly when Hubbard was on his way home from the theater.

He lives at 426 Haight street. He is a married man and has always had a good reputation. Up to yesterday he was apparently on the best of terms with his employer, Colonel Young, and his associates urge this as proof that he has not been unfaithful to his trust. Early this morning a charge of embezzlement was lodged against Hubbard.

To Elect a Cantor.

The semi-annual meeting of the Congregation Sherith Israel will be held on Sunday next at 2 P. M., Louis Brown, president of the congregation, in the chair. The principal item on the agenda is the election of a Cantor, and other matters of interest to the members will probably come up for consideration, the gymnasium and physical culture class among the number.

PERFECT GEMS.

THOSE LOVELY

DINNER SETS.

Selling for a Mere Song.

DINNER SETS COMPLETE.

Pure White Set complete	$4 00
Rich Brown Decorated Set complete	4 75
Dainty Harvest Decorated Set complete	5 75
Decorated Gold Enamel and Wild Flower Set complete	7 00
Gold Illuminated Decorated Set complete, exquisite	8 25
Decorated Toilet Set	1 65
Decorated Toilet Set, extra large size	2 65

Newest and Richest Shapes, designs and decorations. Don't fail to see them. Gems of beauty.

A Revelation in Prices---New Features.

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Oakland: 917 Broadway, 131 San Pablo Avenue, 616 E. Twelfth Street

Alameda: Park Street and Alameda Avenue

NEW TO-DAY—DRY GOODS.

SURPLUS STOCK SALE

BARGAINS

FOR TO-DAY'S TRADE!

Ladies who fail to take advantage of the STARTLING BARGAINS OFFERED TO-DAY will miss A RARE MONEY-SAVING OPPORTUNITY, for the goods are all NEW AND SEASONABLE and would be

GOOD VALUE AT NEARLY DOUBLE THESE PRICES!

HANDKERCHIEFS! HANDKERCHIEFS!

At 15 Cents Each.

LADIES' SHEER WHITE LAWN HANDKERCHIEFS, hand-embroidered in delicate colors and trimmed with Valenciennes lace edge, regular price 30c.

LACES! LACES! LACES!

At 30 Cents a Yard.

ISIGNY NET TOP POINT DE VENISE LACE, 9 inches wide, regular price 50c.

LADIES' GOWNS!

At $1.00.

LADIES' GOWNS, made of heavy muslin, box-plaited back, sailor collar and Jabot of fine embroidery, regular price $1 50, will be offered at $1 each.

LADIES' WAISTS!

At $1.00.

LADIES' WAISTS, made of French percale, laundered collar and cuffs, yoke back, with fine tucks into waist, full sleeves, regular price $1 50, will be offered at $1 each.

RIBBONS! RIBBONS!

At 5 Cents.

No. 7 ALL-SILK, SATIN AND GROS-GRAIN RIBBONS, in assorted colors, will be offered at 5c.

At 10 Cents.

No. 12 ALL-SILK, SATIN AND GROS-GRAIN RIBBONS, in assorted colors, will be offered at 10c.

At 25 Cents.

FANCY HAT RIBBONS, in stripes, shaded and ombre, value 40c, will be offered at 25c.

PARASOLS! PARASOLS.

At 80 Cents.

CARRIAGE PARASOLS, in Gloria silk (lined), in black only, will be offered at 90c.

GLOVES! GLOVES!

At $1.00.

100 dozen LADIES' 4-BUTTON ENGLISH WALKING GLOVES, in brown and English red shades, regular value $1 50, will be offered at $1 a pair.

MEN'S FURNISHINGS!

At 16⅔ Cents.

120 dozen MEN'S FULL-FINISHED CAMEL'S-HAIR WOOL SOCKS, regular price 25c a pair, will be offered at 16⅔c.

At 35 Cents.

98 dozen MEN'S AND BOYS' UNLAUNDRIED SHIRTS, made with re-enforced all-linen fronts, regularly sold at 50c, will be offered at 35c each.

LADIES' UNDERWEAR DEPARTMENT!

At 50 Cents.

LADIES' SWISS RIBBED LISLE-THREAD VESTS, low neck and sleeveless, silk finished and silk braided neck and arms, regular price 75c, will be offered at 50c.

At 65 Cents.

LADIES' WHITE MERINO WOOL VESTS, high neck and long sleeves (drawers to match), guaranteed non-shrinking, regular price $1, will be offered at 65c each.

J. J. O'Brien & Co.

MURPHY BUILDING,

Market Street, corner of Jones,

SAN FRANCISCO.

Ely's Cream Balm has completely cured me of catarrh when everything else failed. Many acquaintances have used it with excellent results.—Alfred W. Stevens, Caldwell, Ohio.

ELY'S CREAM BALM CATARRH HAYFEVER COLD IN HEAD DEAFNESS ELY BROS. NEW YORK

CATARRH

ELY'S CREAM BALM Opens and cleanses the Nasal Passages, Allays Pain and Inflammation, Heals the Sores, Protects the Membrane from colds, Restores the senses of Taste and Smell. The Balm is quickly absorbed and gives relief at once.

A particle is applied into each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50 cents at Druggists or by mail. ELY BROTHERS, 56 Warren street, New York.

The Most Miserable Man.

"The most miserable man is the one who is all the time anxious about his health."

Use Paine's Celery Compound and keep well and strong. It is not like ordinary remedies—it is medicine. Try it.

STOCK RANCH

CHEAP! CHEAP!

I HAVE THE BEST STOCK RANCH IN THE State of California, that I can sell at a low figure, within 80 miles of San Francisco and within 5 miles of town and railroad. Plenty of water and feed 12 months in the year.

LOUIS SCHLOSS,

Rooms 24 and 25,

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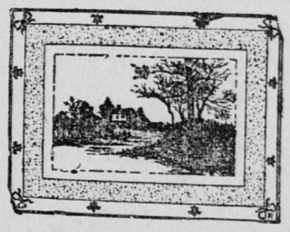

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SAFE AND SURE. SEND 4c. FOR "WOMAN'S SAFE GUARD." WILCOX SPECIFIC CO., PHILA., PA.