CUPID DOES GOOD WORK.

A Large Number of Engagement Announcements Made in Society.

FALL EXHIBITION OPENING.

Many Smart Teas and Enjoyable Receptions Are Being Given This Week.

The annual autumn exhibition of the San Francisco Art Association will be opened this evening at the Mark Hopkins Museum of Art. For the usual concert an interesting programme has been arranged.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. McKee will give a large reception this evening.

Mrs. J. C. Stubbs will give an elaborate tea on Saturday at her home on Pacific avenue.

The members of Zeta Psi will give a tea at their clubhouse in Berkeley on Saturday.

Dr. and Mrs. Luke Robinson will give a reception for their daughter, Miss Leta Robinson, at their residence, 2506 Fillmore street, on the 21st.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hager will give a tea at her residence, corner of Sacramento and Gough streets, on Saturday next, complimentary to Miss Emilie Hager, who will leave shortly for New York with Miss Lily Lawlor and Mrs. William Tevis. They will return in time for the Christmas holidays.

The Misses Davis will give a young ladies' tea to-day at their residence, southeast corner of Scott and Green streets, in honor of Miss Blackmore of Cincinnati.

Miss Hooper entertained a number of lady friends at a tea given at the Occidental Hotel yesterday. The parlors in which the reception was held were tastefully decorated and the gowns of the guests were very handsome.

A dinner party was given on Saturday evening by Mr. and Mrs. John H. Wise at their residence on Leavenworth street. The affair was in honor of the sixteenth anniversary of the birth of their second son. After the dinner there was dancing for a couple of hours.

Miss Gertrude Naphtaly gave a delightful afternoon reception at her home, corner of Post and Gough streets, complimentary to Miss Rose Sachs, who leaves on Saturday for an Eastern and European tour.

The wedding of Lieutenant Henry Benson, U. S. A., and Miss Mary Breeze will take place at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Thomas Breeze, on Sutter street, on Wednesday, the 27th inst.

Miss Marie Ponton de Arce, who formerly resided with her parents in this City and three years ago removed to San Jose de Costa Rica, will be married in that place on December 24 to Senor Gerardo Echevaria y Aguilar, a wealthy planter of Central America.

The engagement is announced of Abe Stern of this City and Miss Elise Meyer of New York. Both parties are very well known in social circles in their respective homes. Miss Meyer is the daughter of Eugene Meyer, the well-known banker. She is a native daughter, having been born in Los Angeles and reared in this City. Her father was manager of the London, Paris and American Bank of this City from the time of its establishment until 1893, when he assumed charge of a New York bank of the same name, settling with his family in that city. Abe Stern is a son of the late David Stern, one of the founders of the house of Levi Strauss & Co., of which firm Abe and his brothers are members.

An interesting engagement made yesterday was that of Miss Sophie Eppinger and Leon D. Stone. Miss Eppinger is a daughter of Herman Eppinger, the grain merchant, and is quite prominent in Jewish society. The groom is senior member of the firm of L. D. Stone and is a brother of M. Stone, one of the lessees of the Baldwin Hotel. Miss Eppinger and Mr. Stone will receive at 1707 Octavia street on Sunday, November 17, and Tuesday, November 19.

The engagement is announced of Miss Rose Speling of this City and Abe A. Levy of New York.

The engagement is announced in Chicago of Miss Milly Bernstein to Tobias Solomon, formerly of California street, San Francisco.

The engagement has been announced of J. Alfred Marsh, a young attorney of this City, and Miss Fanny V. Eckley, the daughter of Commodore and Mrs. J. L. Eckley of Eckley, Contra Costa County. The wedding will take place at the residence of the bride's parents on the 21st of December.

The engagement is announced of A. S. Penfield and Miss C. N. Stephens, both of Oakland.

At 7 o'clock Monday morning Miss Annie R Shea and Dr. W. G. Tucker were married at the bride's home, 1215 Golden Gate avenue. The early hour set for the ceremony was to enable the young couple to leave on the steamer for their future home at Port Townsend, Wash.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. English was celebrated at their residence, 1314 Van Ness avenue, on Friday evening. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Lindenbaum, Mr. and Mrs. English, Mrs. M. A. Barricklo, the Misses Katie and Frances Quinn, the Misses M. and K. Lyons, Miss Carter, Miss Keefe, the Misses Marie and Virgie English, Mr. and Mrs. Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. Fee of Stockton, Miss Fee, Miss E. Deasy, H. T. Fee, James R. Barricklo, John Barricklo, M. A. Barricklo.

A pretty home wedding was that last Tuesday at noon at the residence of Mrs. E. M. North, 2414 Pacific avenue, of Miss Bettie Atthowe North and J. J. MacDonald. The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Near the center of the drawing-room was a beautifully arranged floral altar. Here the groom, his best man, J. G. North, and the officiating clergyman, Rev. Dr. Goodman, received the bride, who entered the room leaning on the arm of her uncle, Captain A. Nelson, accompanied by Miss Edna Nahl of Alameda, the bridesmaid, while the fourteen young cousins of the bride formed a semicircle about the party. After the ceremony the guests sat down to a wedding breakfast. The parents of Mr. MacDonald celebrated on the same day in Valparaiso the forty-fifth anniversary of their weeding, and telegrams of congratulations were sent and received. The happy couple left for the southern part of the State on their honeymoon.

Among those present were: Mrs. M. A. Anderson, Captain and Mrs. A. Nelson, Captain Whitcomb, Captain and Mrs. J. Leale, Captain and Mrs. W. G. Leale, Mr. and Mrs. N. Dorey, Mr. and Mrs. Al Dorey, Mr. and Mrs. Rich Leale, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Atthowe, Mr. and Mrs. Forest Blanding, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Frazier, Colonel and Mrs. E. B. Bullock, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Oyen, Mrs. John Atthowe, Ed Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Lois Dallman, Miss Emma Anderson, Mrs. Selig, Walter Anderson, Miss Gertrude Atthowe, Oscar Anderson, Miss Betty Beresford, Duncan Anderson, Miss Hetty Burke, Louis Hansen, Miss Edna Nahl, George White, Miss Mary Boots, Reg Atthowe, Miss Jennie Long, Mr. Lederer, Miss Anna Thoresen, Mr. and Mrs. John Lofstadt, Miss Edith Atthowe, Miss Katie Ralston, Misses Marion and Edith Leale, Harry Dorey, Miss Gracie Dorey, George Blanding, Mr. and Mrs. Ellert, Mr. Jessup, Captain Erbert and Captain Glassford.

Mr. and Mrs. Quigg celebrated the second anniversary of their marriage at their residence, 341 Fifth street, last Thursday evening. The house was beautifully decorated with ferns and evergreens, while Chinese lanterns hung in abundance. The evening was spent in singing, dancing and games. At 12 o'clock an elegant repast was served. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. D. Denehy, Mr. and Mrs. A. Greggains, Mr. and Mrs. L. Sigers, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mr. and Mrs. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. C. Long, Mrs. A. Broderick, Miss M. Dlure, Miss H. Lennen, Miss Eva Brown, Miss Mamie Greggains, Miss Annie Greggains, Miss May Greggains, Miss Maggie Brannan, Miss Mae Denehy, Miss A. Sefton, Miss N. Desmond, Miss Emma Murphy, Miss M. Kelly, Miss M. Brown, Miss Nellie Brown, Mrs E. Ryan, Miss Jennie Humphrey, George Smith, Richard Rissis, E. J. Zimmer, William Murray, W. J. Cleary, John A. Mallon, R. J. Evans, Thomas Flood, William Murphy, M. Greggains, H. Bailey, F. Quigg, Walter Murphy, John L. Hanna, M. Roland, J. Quigg, F. Anderton.

Charles Lederer, who has for many years held the responsible position of head bookkeeper in the house of Newman & Levinson, was last Thursday evening presented with a handsome testimonial on the occasion of his retirement from active business life. This testimonial, which was presented to Mr. Lederer by the firm and its employes, was in the form of a handsomely engrossed set of resolutions and a beautiful gold watch, chain and pendant, suitably engraved.

The Noe Valley Social Club will give its third social on Thanksgiving eve at Progress Hall, 932 Twenty-fourth street.

Golden West Circle No. 43, C. O. F., will give a grand domino and fancy-dress ball on December 4 at Union-square Hall, 421 Post street.

A comedietta entitled "The New Woman" will be given at the Seamen's Institute next Tuesday evening.

The Franklin graduates will hold their third grand entertainment and ball in Union-square Hall Saturday evening, November 23. An excellent programme has been prepared and an enjoyable evening is anticipated.

Bay City Parlor No. 104, N. S. G. W., is making active preparations for its ball, to be held on Friday evening, January 3, 1896, in Armory Hall. The committee having the affair in charge have arranged for an elaborate supper to follow the dance.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark L. Requa (nee Herrick) will, on their return from their wedding tour to the Eastern States, occupy the Requa residence at Piedmont during the absence of Mrs. Isaac L. Requa and Miss Amy Requa this winter.

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Knight have returned from Monterey and are at their new home, 2209 Buchanan street.

Mrs. Fairfax H. Wheelan is spending the winter in New York City.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Buckingham have returned to San Francisco, after spending two weeks at Paso Robles.

Mrs. George Colburn and Miss Maye Colburn have returned from their European tour and will be at home the first, second and third Thursdays at their residence, 1117 Hyde street.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer S. King are in New York and are expected home shortly before the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. W. A. Haight has returned from a six months' absence in the East and is settled at her home, 710 Leavenworth street.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin M. Boyd, who have been dividing their time between "Casa Boyd," their lovely place at San Leandro, and the Occidental, will close their country home on the 1st of December and remain in town during the winter.

Dr. and Mrs. Byron Haines have closed their home at Belvedere and will be at the Occidental Hotel during the winter. At home the second and fourth Mondays.

Henry Miller and C. M. Clark are registered at Paso Robles.

Mrs. Leah Bendit and her daughter will be at home the third Saturday of every month at 1619½ Geary street.

Mrs. E. F. Burns and Miss Birdie Rice of Paso Robles are visiting friends in San Francisco.

Mrs. William Marks has removed from 785 Van Ness avenue to 722 Golden Gate avenue, and will be at home on the second Thursday of each month.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Lichtenstein and Miss Lichtenstein are spending two weeks at Paso Robles.

HOWELL'S THIRD TRIAL.

His Prosecution in the Federal Court Begins Again To-Day.

Matt Jones Expected to Be on Hand This Time to Upset All Howell's Defense.

The Howell counterfeiting case comes up this morning in the United States District Court for its third trial. Secret Service Agent Harris is confident that he has evidence enough to convict this time.

M. D. Howell was arrested June 22, 1892, at his residence in Stockton. He was suspected of being a member of the notorious North Beach gang of counterfeiters. The following month he was indicted and a trial was had in August, the jury disagreeing. He was again indicted in October of that year, and the second trial began July 22, 1893, and lasted until August 19, when a second disagreement resulted. A third indictment was returned by the Grand Jury in April, 1894. Since then another indictment has been found.

The indictment on which Howell is now to be tried differs in some important particulars from the others, and was drawn up by Assistant United States District Attorney Knight.

The others charged only the passing of counterfeit coin, for which the maximum penalty is ten years' imprisonment, but Mr. Knight's indictment charges also the passing of $5 greenbacks, for which the maximum penalty is fifteen years.

Sheriff Cunningham is expected to send several important new witnesses from Stockton this morning. Perhaps the most damaging evidence so far brought against Howell has been that of his domestic, Laura Wilks, and on the coming trial it is believed all her testimony can be fully substantiated. But the most important new witness expected is Matt Jones, who was a tenant of Howell, occupying desk room in the latter's office. Jones managed to be absent from the country—at least this part of it—during the two former trials, but Secret Service Agent Harris is at last able to lay his hands on him. Howell's defense has always been that while the counterfeit money sent from this City to Stockton was addressed to Howell it was intended for Jones.

This story, it is said, Jones will now go on the stand and deny.

Howell has had the fortune of having married a rich girl who has been his financial support all through the celebrated case. She was the daughter of Captain W. B. Johnson, who owned a great deal of land in the San Joaquin Valley and considerable real estate in the city of Stockton. He died leaving an estate worth $600,000, and it cost Mrs. Howell, it is currently reported, about $164,000 to buy off the contestants of his will. Mrs. Howell has always managed to find bondsmen for her husband. He is now under $10,000 bonds on the April, 1894, indictment, but was permitted to enter his own recognizance on the last indictment. His wife is said to have spent $30,000 at least to keep him out of the penitentiary.

Some time ago United States District Attorney Foote recommended to the Department of Justice that the case be not pressed any further, but Mr. Harris learning of the District Attorney's intentions made a report that caused positive instructions to come from Washington ordering the case to be prosecuted to a final determination. Mr. Foote fully agrees now with Mr. Harris' position. The two former trials of Howell were had before Mr. Foote became District Attorney, and since the last jury disagreed there has been a great deal said about Howell being persecuted. The popular opinion in Stockton has been that the prosecution of Howell has acted as a great hardship to his wife.

Howell's attorneys are ex-Judge Baldwin of Stockton and Joseph Campbell and E. S. Pillsbury, of this City.

MINERAL LANDS.

The State Miners' Association Will Present a Bill at the Next Session of Congress.

Last night the legislative committee of of the California State Miners' Association met in Judge Belcher's chambers for the purpose of discussing the introduction of a bill at the next session of Congress to provide for the examination of certain mineral lands in the State of California.

For some time past the miners and the railroad have been contending on the point of whether certain lands granted to the railroad were mineral-bearing lands, and consequently open to the miners for prospecting purposes. A great deal of this mineral-bearing land has been patented by Collis P. Huntington, and the prospectors want to know who it belongs to. If mineral, it belongs to them; if agricultural, to the railroad. Hence the discussion.

The bill provides for the appointment of a Federal commission, whose duty it shall be to decide the point in all cases that may come before it. One shall be a practical miner and the other two whatever they may happen to be.

This commission will perform the double function of acting for both sides. In the event of deciding that certain land is mineral it properly belongs to the miners, and if agricultural it shall revert to the railroad without further controversy. In either sense of the word it will be as fair for one as for the other, and will be the basis of settling all disputes.

The bill will be presented to Congress by either Barham of the First district or Johnson of the Second district, as those two Congressmen represent the sections of the country containing the lands in dispute.

After the introduction of this bill was decided upon the committee went into executive session for the purpose of discussing other matters of equal importance to the association.

CAPITALISTS BID HIGH.

George A. Knight Auctions Off Boxes for the Festival Concerts.

MADE A GALLANT ONSLAUGHT.

A Dress Rehearsal of the Chorus of 600 Voices at Metropolitan Temple To-Night.

Attorney George A. Knight made his debut yesterday afternoon on the Baldwin stage—not as an actor, but as an auctioneer of seats and boxes for the charity festival concerts to be given in the Mechanics' Pavilion on the evenings of November 19 and 20.

It was a comparatively small house that the recently commissioned colonel coaxed and urged with a rapid, half-tantalizing and at times sarcastic style of pleading that would have brought much more money into the Children's Hospital had there only been more people in the theater to yield to the influence of his semi-legal, semi-military entreaty and command.

George A. Knight as Auctioneer.
"Here, I'll give the twenty myself."

Unfortunately a great many society people that would have been present were at the Presidio attending the funeral of Dr. Basil Norris.

Governor Budd and Mayor Sutro sent regrets that official business rendered their presence at the sale impossible, and Miss Kate Field sent word that she was sorry that she could not be present at two places at once and do something in aid of charity while keeping a social appointment elsewhere.

The people came straggling in in little groups just before 1 o'clock and were shown to seats by a corps of pretty girls from Miss Lake's school. But at no time were Miss Ethel Faulkner, Miss Rose Newmark, Miss Annabel Vining, Miss Minnie Wilson, Miss Maud Goodwin and Miss Anita Goodwin confused or rushed in their attempts to find seats for the prospective bidders and for those who came simply to look on and to hear the music, and, incidentally, to avoid the Svengali eye of the only performer of the amateur troupe.

Colonel Knight issued from the right wings with a graceful, military charge just as Mrs. Sarah B. Cooper retreated into the flies at the opposite side. Mrs. Cooper's part had occupied but a few moments and consisted in calling the meeting to order, after which she said: "I have known the work of the Children's Hospital from its earliest conception until the present time. I hope that something will be done here this afternoon that will go all around the country to show what interest the people of California take in this good and noble work."

"Work" was Colonel Knight's cue, and he came prepared to act out its suggestion, and he did.

After a half successful attempt to collect the scattered audience nearer to his substantial Trilbys, he made a charge upon their pocketbooks, and the first few boxes were knocked down with a rush. Huntington, Crocker, Spreckels, Fair, Phelan went by the board like raw recruits, and then that great charge was suddenly checked when the eager colonel encountered Major Hooper with box 29, and had to lower his colors to the $30 sign.

And then the stormer tried his reserves on box 41. "Why, you would give $20 if you'd go to the hospital and look at those poor little waifs spanked by the hand of fate. Twenty dollars do I hear? Why, you'd give $20 to go out to see the flowers and the buildings! What! the representative philanthropic people of San Francisco won't give that much for charity! Why, I'll lend you the money." Then, with a withering look and a flourish that might have been intended for the slash of an imaginary sword, the man who had failed in his charge turned upon his heel, and in the sepulchural tones of the stage, said to the clerk: "Twenty dollars and sold to George A. Knight."

The next box went easier and then the auctioneer declared a brief armistice while he should rally his forces for a series of charges to follow.

Music, the soft, soothing voice of S. Homer Henley, spread calm over the scene of battle as the barytone sang James Hamilton Howe's "The Sea."

Again the colonel came to the front and box after box were swept off the chart.

Again there was a suspension of hostilities and again the colonel withdrew his forces behind a painted hillside and more music soothed the silent, depleted forces still on the field.

The California Quartet, consisting of C. T. Wendell, first tenor; Dr. R. W. Smith, second tenor; C. L. Gage, first bass, and E. G. Macbaine, second bass, sang "The Mill," and they, too, were greeted with a glad, appreciative applause.

No one would attempt "lucky 13," and, after a few seats had gone the way of the boxes, the colonel proclaimed his victory in a loud voice and announced that he would commission Sherman & Clay to continue the campaign.

Then, taking a parting shot at the retreating company, the colonel said: "Now that superlative hilarity that has characterized your bidding on these boxes will have to subside until another occasion. In the meantime you will go out, I hope, to see this hospital, and take your friends, and there is a possibility that you will be convinced that you have seen a good thing. So push it along."

The boxes and seats were sold in the following order:

C. P. Huntington, box 30, $250.
Colonel C. F. Crocker, box 34, $250.
John D. Spreckels, box 26, $250.
Colonel C. F. Crocker, box 38, $250.
Charles Fair, box 37, $160.
James D. Phelan, box 33, $50.
Major W. B. Hooper, box 29, $30.
Colonel George A. Knight, box 41, $20.
Major W. B. Hooper, box 25, $35.
W. B. Harrington, box 21, $25.
Major W. B. Hooper, box 39, $30.
W. B. Harrington, box 22, $30.
Major W. B. Hooper, box 42, $45.
Ignatius Steinhart, box 46, $20.
Fred H. Green, box 45, $25.
C. B. Bishop, box 18, $30.
Mrs. F. A. Frank, box 17, $20.
Mr. Taylor, box 14, $25.
James Rothchild, four seats at $1 50.
Commissioner M. A. Gunst, twelve seats at $1 50.

In addition to these sales by auction orders were filed as follows:

Mills Seminary, Oakland, seventy-five seats.
Miss Snell's Seminary, Oakland, fifty seats.
Mrs. Beck, twenty seats.

Eighteen boxes were auctioned off, nine on each side of the pavilion near the middle, and they brought a total of $1295. The 221 seats disposed of at the theater yesterday before the stage had to be given up to the propertymen to be arranged for the evening's performance increased the amount of the opening sale to considerably over $1500.

Many large orders that had come in for blocks of seats could not be publicly announced for lack of time.

To-night the grand chorus of 600 voices will have a dress rehearsal at the Metropolitan Temple. The whole lower floor will be reserved for the participants, but the gallery will be open to those who may wish to hear the singing. Admission will be 25 cents, payable at the door, and no more than the seating capacity will be admitted.

Seats for the regular concerts will be on sale at Sherman & Clay's at Oakland on Friday and Saturday, but in this City the sale will begin at Sherman & Clay's this morning and will continue every day until the event.

WAS IT A SUICIDE?

Mary Ahlers, a Domestic, Suffocated in Her Bedroom.

A domestic named Mary Ahlers, employed by Jacob J. Goldman at 428 Franklin street, was suffocated by gas in her room yesterday morning. The gas was flowing very freely from the burner.

Whether it was a case of suicide or an accident is unknown. Her friends say she had no reason for the taking of her own life. Deputy Coroner Hallett, however, made an examination of the gas-burner and found it to work well, and it was his opinion that the gas was not left flowing by accident.

The girl was about 30 years of age. A brother, H. Ahlers, keeps a grocery at Stockton and Francisco streets.

WITH MILITARY HONORS.

The Remains of Dr. Basil Norris, U. S. A., Interred at the Presidio.

Impressive Scenes in the Presidio Reservation and the National Cemetery.

With military precision the funeral service over the remains of Dr. Basil Norris commenced promptly at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the little garrison chapel at the Presidio.

Rev. D. O. Kelley, acting chaplin, conducted the simple but impressive Episcopal service for the dead. The altar was handsomely decorated with cut flowers, placed there by loving hands in memory of the many kind acts of the deceased during his long lifetime.

The liveoak casket, which was ornamented with oxydized silver bars and a silver plate on the lid giving the rank and age of the deceased, was gracefully draped with Old Glory. The chapeau, sword and belt were laid in place on top of the casket with a handsome floral offering of white roses representing a cross, from the Loyal Legion, of which military order the deceased was an active member.

The choir from Grace Episcopal Cathedral, with H. D. Bosworth at the organ, assisted by Mrs. Moneth Willats, soprano; Miss Alice Patridge, alto; Arthur Messmer, tenor, and Charles le Pasent, basso, rendered the usual solemn funeral airs, after which the Rev. Dr. Kelley concluded that portion of the service allotted to the church ritual prior to the removal of the body.

At the end of the service a few friends took a final view of their dead comrade, after which six privates belonging to the Fifth United States Artillery carried the casket from the church to the caisson, which was drawn up close to the entrance to receive it. Immediately in the rear came Brigadier-General J. W. Forsyth, U. S. A.; Lieutenant-Colonel F. L. Guenther, Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Greenleaf, Lieutenant-Colonel J. V. D. Middleton, Dr. G. W. Woods, from the navy-yard, Mare Island, and Major W. B. Hooper, representing the Loyal Legion, who acted as pall-bearers.

The casket deposited on the caisson, which was drawn by six black horses, the funeral cortege started for the National Cemetery, within the military reservation, accompanied by the Fifth Artillery and the Fourth Cavalry regiments, commanded by General Graham. The customary comparisoned black horse, showing the boots reversed in the stirrups, led by a soldier, followed the caisson to the place of interment, which is on the brow of the hill, a few yards northwest of the flagpole.

The service at the grave was brief and impressive and at its close the spectators withdrew out of the range of a battalion of soldiers, who, under the command of General Graham, fired three volleys, with blank cartridges, over the remains.

After this the sharp command of "Fours right, forward march," withdrew the troops from the scene, except a guard of honor, which remained until sundown, as a mark of esteem and respect to the departed lieutenant-colonel and eminent physician of the United States army.

Street-Sweeper Run Over.

Patrick McDonald, a street-sweeper, was run over by a butcher's cart on Market and Davis streets yesterday afternoon and both bones of his left leg were broken. The driver picked him up and carried him to a store on the corner, and he was later taken to the Receiving Hospital in the patrol wagon. The cart belonged to the Central Market. The driver said he shouted to McDonald, who is an old man, but McDonald said he did not hear him. McDonald lives at 52 Natoma street.

WILL DEMAND REPORTS.

The Railroad Commission Decides to Fight for Its Rights.

IGNORED BY MANY COMPANIES.

The Attorney-General's Opinion Inspires the Board to Demand Annual Statements.

The Railroad Commissioners met yesterday in their offices in this City. Consequent upon their deliberations a motion was passed having for its object an attempt to compel all transportation companies to submit annual reports. This was the most important step taken by the board.

Chairman La Rue stated that the attorneys for the commission had informed him that the case of the Southern Pacific against the commission in the Circuit Court had been postponed for one week.

Letters from W. W. Foote and J. C. Daly accepting the positions of advisory counsel were read. These attorneys stated further that they would immediately hold a conference with Attorney-General Fitzgerald in regard to the Southern Pacific suit.

Resolutions adopted by the Sacramento Federated Trades supporting the board in its action in cutting rates were read by the secretary and ordered placed on the minutes.

A letter from the assistant general manager of the Southern Pacific regarding the abandonment of a narrow-gauge track between the Tuolumne River and Woodbridge, being part of the Lodi branch of the Northern Railway, was presented. The reasons for abandoning the line were lack of freight or traffic to make it pay expenses. Cow fences cross the railway now as they have done since the Southern Pacific secured control of it.

The commission has lately received communications from various lines assuring it that it has no legal authority to demand, or, in fact, expect annual reports from them. Still other transportation companies, which have been designated by the board as "delinquent," have taken no notice whatever of the existence of such a body as the State Railway Commission. They have simply ignored the board. First of all among these is the Southern Pacific Company's whole system. The others are:

Pacific Coast Steamship Company, Oakland, San Leandro and Haywards Electric Railway Company, Mount Lowe Railway Company, Pasadena and Los Angeles Railway Company, Wilmington Transportation Company, San Francisco and San Mateo Railway Company, Sacramento Transportation Company; steamer Gold, E. A. Allen, agent; steamer Zinfandel, N. U. Wulff, agent; steamer Napa City, G. G. Pinkham, agent; California Transportation Company, California Navigation and Improvement Company, Union Transportation Company, Bodie and Benton Railway Company, San Diego, Pacific and La Jolla Railway Company, Pomona and North Pomona Railway Company, San Bernardino and Riverside Railway Company, Cahuenga Railway Company, Lena and Mohawk Valley Railroad Company; steamer Monticello, Hatch Bros., agents; Stockton and Lodi Railroad Company, West Shore Railway Company, Piper, Aden, Goodall & Co., San Joaquin Valley Railroad Company, Corral Hollow Railroad Company.

Chairman La Rue suggested that the secretary communicate with these delinquents and other transportation companies that have failed to make reports as required by law, instructing them to file reports with him before December 1. On motion this was declared the sense of the board.

Secretary Newman, asking for information, remarked that there were letters on file from nearly all these companies, questioning the power of the commission to demand reports.

"Well, the Attorney-General has given his opinion that the board has the power to compel all transportation and railway companies to make these reports," replied Commissioner Stanton.

"Wouldn't it be well to incorporate that fact in the secretary's letter?" asked La Rue, "and also the fact that if the reports be not made we shall compel the companies to show cause and cite them to appear. The Attorney-General will begin proceedings at once to carry the question to a head."

"The Attorney-General has also stated that he will not arbitrate with electric-road companies, and we should demand their reports," Stanton added. "The stage companies should be included, as the Attorney-General said they were transportation companies, and as such should report to us."

"Undoubtedly," assented La Rue.

"There's a stage up in the Sierras," remarked Commissioner Clarke, "from Truckee to Tahoe, that charges so much a man can hardly afford to travel on it. No doubt there are many others like it. There is no check on their charges."

The Pacific Coast Steamship Company and other lines engaged in transportation along the coast of California it was held should be included with the rest, since the same authority was cited to show that they were subject to the commission. They also will be asked to submit annual reports.

Commissioner Stanton moved that the Valley road and the Corral Hollow road be requested to make reports on the cost of construction, contracts for grading, material, wages, right of way, etc. He explained that the information was needed for statistical purposes—to show the cost of railroad construction in California at the present time. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned until November 27.

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AND
HOUSE-FURNISHINGS GOODS!

The enormous business that we are now transacting in all departments is substantial evidence of the EXTRAORDINARY INDUCEMENTS offered throughout our magnificent new Fall and Winter Stock, and still further proof of this fact is to be found in our THIS WEEK'S GREAT SPECIALS, which, in addition to many other attractions, include the following lines of new Cloaks and House-Furnishings at

Prices That Will Forcibly Impress Shrewd Buyers.

LADIES' FALL JACKETS.

At $7.50.
LADIES' DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKETS of black and navy Berlin twill, coat backs, notched collar, tailor pockets, bone buttons, worth $10, will be offered at $7 50 each.

At $10.00.
LADIES' DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKETS of black and navy boucle cloth, lined throughout with twilled silk, mandolin sleeves, ripple skirts, bone buttons, worth $15, will be offered at $10 each.

At $12.50.
LADIES' DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKETS, of black boucle cloth, lined throughout with silk, surah, full mandolin sleeves, notched collar, ripple skirts, worth $17 50, will be offered at $12 50 each.

At $15.00.
LADIES' DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKETS, of black and navy boucle cloth, half lined with silk, velvet notched collars, ripple skirts, mandolin sleeves, triple-stitched seams, worth $22 50 will be offered at $15 each.

LADIES' CLOTH AND PLUSH CAPES.

At $5.00.
LADIES' DOUBLE CAPES of black and navy melton, trimmed all round with satin band with rows of silk stitching, rolling collar of velvet, worth $7 50, will be offered at $5 each.

At $7.50.
LADIES' FULL CIRCULAR DOUBLE CAPES of black and navy Roanoke beaver, trimmed all round with several rows of worsted braid, worth $12 50, will be offered at $7 50 each.

At $7.50.
LADIES' FINE PLUSH CAPES, newest styles, trimmed with Baltic seal, worth $10 50, will be offered at $7 50 each.

At $12.50.
LADIES' PLUSH CAPES, double and single; Double Capes, prettily trimmed with fur; Single Capes, handsomely trimmed with jet; worth $17 50, will be offered at $12 50 each.

At $15.00.
LADIES' PLUSH CAPES, full ripple, prettily embroidered with braid and jet and trimmed with thibet; worth $22 50, will be offered at $15 each.

CHILDREN'S JACKETS.

At $4.50 and $5.00.
CHILDREN'S DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKETS, varying in size from 4 to 14 years, made of fancy brown mixed cloaking, square revers, velvet collar, bone buttons, very full sleeves, worth $6 and $7, will be offered at $4 50 and $5 each.

NEW FUR CAPES.

We are showing a magnificent assortment of the latest styles in LADIES' FUR CAPES, including Coney, Electric Seal, Japanese Seal, Wool Seal, Marten, Opossum, Astrachan, etc., at prices ranging from $7 50 to $65 each.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS THIS WEEK.

We closed out a large line of LADIES' SKIRTS and have marked them at proportionately Low Prices:

LADIES' BLACK FARMER'S SATIN SKIRTS, lined and nicely quilted.....75c each
LADIES' BLACK ITALIAN CLOTH SKIRTS, elegantly quilted and lined, $1, $1 25, $1 50, $1 75 to.....$4 each
LADIES' BLACK FARMER'S SATIN SKIRTS, nicely made, unlined.....85c each
LADIES' KNITTED COTTON UNDERSKIRTS, in Gray and White only.....35c each
LADIES' COLORED KNITTED UNDERSKIRTS, in Merino and Wool.....50c to $1 75 each

BLANKET DEPARTMENT.

We have BLANKETS in all grades, from the common Eastern to the finest California makes. We have the best line ever offered on this Coast. We strongly recommend our San Francisco products as being better and cheaper ultimately than any other. SEE THEM.

At $9.50 a Pair.
FINE-GRADE GOLDEN GATE MILLS LAMBS' WOOL WHITE BLANKETS, 13-4 size, value for $12 50.

At $7.50 a Pair.
300 pairs FINE-GRADE PURE LAMBS' WOOL WHITE BLANKETS. These are extra size, being 84 inches wide, value for $11 75.

At $5.75 a Pair.
175 pairs FINE 12-4 LAMBS' WOOL BLANKETS, extra size, value for $7.

At $5.00 a Pair.
100 pairs LARGE HEAVY WHITE CALIFORNIA BLANKETS (some are soiled), fully 72 inches wide, value for $7 50.

At $4.00 a Pair.
250 pairs 11-4 FINE WHITE BLANKETS, our "Household" make, 66 inches wide, value for $5 75.

At $1.15 a Pair.
1 case FULL-SIZE EASTERN WHITE BLANKETS, solid, heavy fabric, value for $1 50.

LINEN DEPARTMENT.

At 85 Cents a Yard.
2 cases HEAVY BLEACHED IRISH TABLE LINEN (Double Damask), 68 inches wide, value for $1 10.

At 60 Cents a Yard.
25 pieces SERVICEABLE BLEACHED TABLE DAMASK, IRISH LINEN, 64 inches wide, value for 75c.

At 45 Cents a Yard.
2 cases HEAVY BLEACHED IRISH TABLE DAMASK, 56 inches wide, value for 60c.

At 25 Cents a Yard.
1 lot NICE GRADE TABLE DAMASK, bleached or unbleached, value for 40c.

EXTRA SPECIAL.

About 50 pieces FINE PRINTED SILKOLINES, full yard wide, suitable for Drapery or Comforters, value for 12½c and 15c, on sale at.....7½c yard
GOOD BATTING.....5c LARGE ROLL

☞ Our New Catalogue is now ready for distribution to our COUNTRY patrons ONLY, to whom it will be mailed free on receipt of address.

J. J. O'Brien & Co.
MURPHY BUILDING,
Market Street, corner of Jones,
SAN FRANCISCO.