POOL AND POKER INQUIRY.

Grand Jury and Four Supervisors Talked of Suppressing Vice.

ONE WITNESS WAS OBSTINATE.

Supervisor Hughes Declined to Say How He Would Vote on the Pool Ordinance.

Supervisors King, Benjamin, Dunker and Hughes went before the Grand Jury yesterday afternoon. Supervisors Scully and Hirsch became weary of waiting and went downtown. Supervisor Wagner was not in the City yesterday.

Through some inadvertence in the District Attorney's office Supervisor Dimond, who was heard some time ago and whose presence was not the second time requested, was served with a subpena yesterday and he obeyed the summons. He broke away from the companionship of agreeable company at Ingleside, and so lost the pleasure of an engagement which promised to lead to a superb dinner in order to present himself as a witness.

The first of the four Supervisors called was Joseph King. He announced himself in the anteroom and in the room where the members of the jury assemble as opposed to gambling in all its phases, whether in town or out on the racetrack.

Supervisor Benjamin, speaking for himself after his testimony had been given, said the members of the jury asked him several questions as to his views on the suppression of vice generally and the closing of the poolrooms in particular. He said they did not ask him about boodle or anything of that kind.

Supervisor Dunker was the third witness called in. When he came out he said in reply to inquiries that no questions were asked him concerning the Langdon permit and the payment of $125 in the proceedings. He was asked the general question if he knew of any money having been raised to influence or corrupt the Board of Supervisors, and to all inquiries of this character he replied in the negative.

The Grand Jury recognized in Mr. Dunker's manner and appearance that he was distressed by the gravity of the accusations against him and therefore did not propound direct and pointed questions concerning the reports and testimony which connected him with the Langdon-Gallagher transaction.

Supervisor Hugnes was the fourth and last witness called. He told the Grand Jury that he did not know of any money having been used to corruptly influence the Board of Supervisors. According to Mr. Hughes' statement the members of the Grand Jury did not ask him any questions concerning the sum of $500 a month contributed by pool-sellers to retain the services of J. H. Dickinson.

Mr. Hughes said: "They asked me how I intended to vote when the ordinance recommended by the Grand Jury came up for passage in the Board of Supervisors, and I declined to tell them. Don't you think I was right in refusing to answer that question?"

Supervisor Hughes' testimony was the topic of considerable comment in the Grand Jury-room, and members discussed it with some animation as they left the hall. "We may call him again," said one of the jurors.

It is ascertained that Hughes, on being asked how he intended to vote on the ordinance to prevent pool-selling downtown, replied: "I decline to answer that question under oath, as I may change my mind before the subject comes up for final action in the board."

Of the four Supervisors called yesterday, Hughes was surely regarded by the jury as the obdurate witness. He paid sufficient regard to the summons, however, to remain until after 5 o'clock to give his testimony, which was more consideration than Supervisors Scully and Hirsch paid to the Grand Jury.

The members of the Grand Jury were not at all surprised that the Supervisors who were called as witnesses yesterday denied knowledge of boodle having been used to defeat the ordinance against downtown pool-selling. Supervisors who are standing in with the poolroom managers and have so far held the prohibitive order in check are not likely to tell the Grand Jury their methods or secrets. If they can hoodwink the jury by general statements that they are opposed to open poker games and favor the suppression of all kinds of vice they cannot mislead the people who read the proceedings in the Board of Supervisors and reflect that the poolrooms and open poker games are still running in full blast.

If agents of the Solid Eight are collecting toll from the gambling-houses the Supervisors in the combine are not going to make the Grand Jury acquainted with the facts.

The charges against the management of the Fire Department, which were presented a few days ago, are in the hands of O. F. Willey, chairman of the Fire Department committee.

It is asserted in the communication that more men than the law authorizes find employment in the department, and that money appropriated to maintain the service is not properly expended. The report of the committee's expert, Joseph Gordon, has also been prepared.

The Grand Jury adjourned to meet next Monday afternoon. At that time Thomas R. Ashworth, Superintendent of Streets, will be heard. He has expressed a desire to explain some of the transactions in his department to the members of the Grand Jury, and they have decided to give him a fair opportunity.

ON THE WATER FRONT.

Arrival of the Mail Company's Steamer City of Peking From Honolulu Ahead of Time.

The heavy fog that hung over the bay yesterday morning was responsible for a serious collision. The schooner Mary Etta was passing up from Fisks Mill, and when off section B of the seawall ran into the pilot-boat Bonita. The latter broke away from her moorings and the two boats drifted up with the tide. The tug Vigilant came along and separated them. Both vessels were slightly damaged.

The missionary schooner Pitcairn arrived from the South Sea Islands last night, after an extended cruise. She left here last May. A number of natives were brought up to be educated. They will be taught the faith of the Seventh-day Adventists and returned to their homes to spread the gospel.

David Edgar came down from Stockton on the steamer Mary Garrett last Wednesday night and during the passage was robbed by two men and a woman of his gold watch. On his arrival he complained to Sergeant Mahoney, who placed one of the men, Fred Marlow, under arrest on a charge of grand larceny. The others escaped. One of the men snatched the watch and passed it to the woman.

The Pacific Mail steamer City of Peking arrived unexpectedly from Hongkong via Yokohama and Honolulu last night. She made the run in a little over six days. The following is the passenger list: Captain F. Allen, C. Bossee, Rev. E. N. Fletcher and wife, C. S. Harrison and wife, A. E. McGlen, P. L. Neyts, Karl Steizl, Mrs. P. H. Wheeler, Captain W. G. Bentwick, Rev. F. H. Chalfant, Bishop E. R. Hendrix, Rev. Charles Mills, F. B. Morgan, M. Prasturskiewicz, Lieutenant J. H. Shipley, U. S. N.; George M. Booker, Eugene Eniaigh, Rev. W. Lane and wife, F. Malutin, C. A. Monkowsky, S. Rosenfeld and Henry P. Umbsen. The Peking will dock at an early hour this morning. Everything was quiet in Hawaii when she sailed.

WOMEN'S MASS-MEETING.

Formation of the American Women's Union for Home Missionary Work.

Three much-discussed societies, the Women's American Liberal League, the Silent Workers and the Women's American Union, have been amalgamated in the last-named organization. The purpose of the infant society is stated to be the furtherance of the work of purifying San Francisco's moral atmosphere.

Mrs. A. B. Shepherd stated that the real purpose of last evening's poorly attended mass-meeting at Metropolitan Temple was to secure more members for the union, although incidentally there was much discussion of the need of a more moral environment than is found in many homes.

Mrs. A. C. Wells spoke of the need of harmony in all reform work. Mrs. H. M. Chandler followed in the same line. Mrs. Chandler also sang "Last Night."

Mrs. Anna Smith contended that there could be no morality without liberty.

Mrs. L. P. Moore, Mrs. Gilley and others gave short addresses, in which they were united as to purpose but differed as to means.

The union, whose full title is the Woman's American Union for Home Missionary Work, is officered by Mrs. A. B. Shepherd, president; Mrs. Alma Bates, vice-president; Mrs. Emma Rice, recording secretary; Miss Lillie Hughes, corresponding secretary, and Miss Alice Hicks, treasurer.

SPELLING'S NEW CHARGES

Attacks Vigorously the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company.

Vice-President Williams Says That His Company Does a Banking Business.

At the regular monthly meeting of the directors of the defunct People's Home Savings Bank yesterday there was read a letter from T. C. Spelling, attorney for the depositors and stockholders, declaring that the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company had no existence as a banking corporation and cannot as such legally accept or hold the funds of the People's Home Savings Bank. It is merely a trust company.

The second point made in the letter pertains to the relation of the People's Home Savings Bank and the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company growing out of the possession by the latter of a great number of passbooks evidencing deposits in the People's Home Savings Bank made prior to its insolvency, the former corporation claiming to be outright assignees of those claims from the depositors. It appears that the creditors on the books of the People's Home Savings Bank have been changed and entered in the name of the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company.

"I consider it my duty and privilege to state," writes Mr. Spelling, "that the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company has no power to acquire any title to or interest in these passbooks and the indebtedness evidenced by them under the circumstances, and that it, having no title to them, the new or changed entries in the books of the People's Home Savings Bank does not authorize the People's Home Savings Bank to pay nor the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company to receive dividends on these accounts. Both these propositions are correct, whether we assume that the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company is merely a trust company or concede that it is both a trust company and a banking corporation."

Henry Williams, vice-president of the California Safe Deposit and Trust Company, says that his company does a regular banking business and enjoys that right. He declares that Attorney Spelling's position is ridiculous.

MRS. JAMIESON-TURNER.

She Has Returned From the Sound on the Umatilla.

Mrs. Jamieson-Taylor-Turner arrived from Port Townsend on the steamer Umatilla last night. She only remained at her home in Port Angeles for five days. While in San Francisco she was known as Mrs. Jamieson. For her trip north she assumed the name of Mrs. J. A. Taylor, and when she took passage at Port Townsend she gave the name of Mrs. J. A. Turner.

From this fact the passengers on the Umatilla surmised that Mrs. Jamieson and young J. Arthur Turner have entered into a contract marriage. According to their way of thinking Turner swore to the contract before a notary public here and Mrs. Jamieson swore to it in Port Angeles and had her father for a witness. The old gentleman met her at Port Townsend and was also there to bid her good-by.

When the Umatilla docked Mrs. Jamieson-Turner could not be found. "Look in the captain's room," said a man who was packing his valise. "Mrs. Turner has made that her headquarters during the voyage. You'll have to be very careful, however, as Captain Hunter has arranged to get the lady ashore very quietly and she will remain in seclusion until everybody else is ashore."

"Is there not a Mrs. Turner on the passenger list?" the captain was asked. The captain shook his head and said, "You must ask the purser. I don't know the names of any of the passengers."

Mrs. Turner answered very readily to her name when spoken to. She denied the story that was telegraphed, to the effect that she was going to England to rejoin Turner. "I am going to Los Angeles," said she, "and there I expect to work for my living. Before going there I took a trip to the Sound to see my father. I did not go ashore at Victoria, B. C., and I did not see Mr. Jamieson."

WANTS MORE PATRONAGE.

Collector Welburn Asking for an Increase of His Force.

Internal Revenue Collector Welburn is recommending in his report to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue an increase of allowance for this district so that he can have his force of subordinates augmented by at least ten more appointments.

The receipts of the office for this year, he said yesterday, have been $1,755,227 53, which is $181,073 86 greater than the receipts for last year, and he expects that with the coming year there will be an increase of anywhere between $300,000 and $500,000.

The present allowance is $45,860, which amount covers about thirty regular salaried positions, the gaugers being compensated on a percentage basis.

Speaking of this, Mr. Welburn said: "My district is greater in area than any other in the United States, and though it may rank about fourth or fifth in the matter of receipts, yet the large area of territory to be covered entails an enormous amount of work, for which my present force is quite inadequate. This district, extending from Sacramento to the southern boundary of the State, is 700 miles long."

The Collector says he never has men enough to attend to withdrawals from warehouses as promptly as the trade demands.

Shooting for the Blind.

The entire receipts of Saturday afternoon at the "Shooting the Chutes" will be given to the fund for blind and deaf children. On Sunday Professor Markeberg at 12 o'clock will hang on to a parachute by his teeth, and at half-past 3 Robert Earlston will ride a bicycle attached to a parachute. Sensations are becoming attractive in San Francisco.

EXQUISITE KERAMIC ART.

Artists of the Brush and of the Burnisher Reign Brilliantly.

CHINA SHOW IN THE PALACE.

Ladies of the Keramic Art Club Delighted With the Success of Their Exhibit.

A reign of enchantment ended last evening in the maple room of the Palace Hotel, for the fifth annual exhibition of the Keramic Art Club was really an artistic triumph and a success.

Miss Bacon, the treasurer of the club, sat thoughtfully behind a tray piled high with $5 and $10 gold pieces—the golden realization of appreciated artistic effort.

"It is quite delightful," mused she, "that the sunshine out of doors matches so well in color and abundance the pledges that artistically inclined rich folk have left behind."

"It has always stormed during our exhibitions, you know," added the president, Mrs. L. L. Baker, "but we have had pleasant weather this time, and never such a recognition and never such crowds before."

The dozen or so tables laden with the delicately tinted and fragile Dresden and Delft of a thousand pleasingly fantastic shapes were themselves set effectively around the hall.

Last year the punch-bowls and lamps were most conspicuous, but this year ale tankards treated in "old blue" and drinking cups seemed most in evidence.

Immediately to the right of the entrance was the exhibit of Miss H. D. Philip. Most noticeable in her display was a set of Napoleon beer glasses, with a tray on which was a cluster of hops tinted most naturally. She had a dainty cup and saucer of royal purple, with pink roses on the sides, and a series of small tiles with cupids on them painted in gray, with faint pink tints.

Miss Nettie King had some choice exhibits. Most conspicuous was a portrait of Fannie Kemble, a copy of Thusman's "Fates" and a Delft imitation in old blue of a fisherman standing on the beach and calling across the water. She also had a fern vase of blue Sevres on which was an original design of cupids.

Mrs. J. S. Adams had a large jardiniere decorated with a dream of pink roses, surrounded with graceful tracery in gold, and a lamp treated in rich purple with gold etching. At the same table Mrs. C. A. Hyde had a set of fishplates decorated with fish in natural colors and a plaque—a Diana study—in flesh tints and old blue.

Miss Minnie Taylor had a beer set in old blue decorated in the German fashion with sketches of friars. The figures were lifelike and delicate. She makes a specialty of cups and saucers and has about forty of different shapes and styles of ornamentation.

Mrs. Mary Herrick Cross and her sister, Miss Alice Herrick, had two tables in a corner that were laden with marvelously delicate and beautiful creations. Mrs. Cross' specialty is broad washed color work from nature and Miss Herrick has an elegant assortment of miniatures.

A tall ale tankard, the work of Mrs. Cross, is especially commendable. It is treated in a rich brown, and on the side is the figure of an old monk drawing from a cask a flagon of ale.

Miss de Valin had a dainty French clock decorated with cupids and a French teapot of Sevres green, besides a novelty in the way of a china writing set painted beautifully with Marie Louise violets.

Mrs. Adolph Unger had some tiles in old blue, on which were Flemish household scenes which were much admired; also a large plaque decorated with a cluster of grapes.

Mrs. C. A. Schurteff had some charming Dresden imitations.

Mrs. S. E. Dutton had two Delft lamps in old blue and two delicate lamps after the Dresden style.

Mrs. Maude Norse, who makes a specialty of verbenas, gilly flowers and roses in decoration, had a table-top with crimson roses painted beautifully upon it. A skillful treatment of the middle distance in the cluster of flowers made the work natural and summery.

Mrs. Root had some very pretty effects in Dresden imitations and Mrs. Effie Brown some beautifully decorated vases and plates.

In the center of the room Mrs. D. W. Perley had a large pitcher and drinking-mug in soft-green tones and a difficult brown tinting, and an oddly shaped fern dish treated to give the royal Berlin effect.

At the same table Mrs. S. B. Culp had a loving-cup decorated with scenes from Miles Standish, "The Wooing," "The Cottage" and "The Stile."

Miss Antoinette Sinnet and Miss Richardson had some beautiful trays and plates decorated with floral designs.

Miss Sinnet's artistic skill is attested in the excellence of her work. The specimens which this San Jose artist exhibited were highly praised by those competent to judge of this style of decorative art.

Mrs. Theodore Gray had some highly artistic specimens of "Old Blue," among which was a scene off the coast of Maine that was done admirably.

Mrs. Thomas Church had a chocolat pot and loving-cup treated in royal Berlin design that were beautiful and delicately done.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Widening of the Ocean House Road Considered by Mayor Sutro.

Mayor Sutro requested the Street Committee of the Board of Supervisors to ascertain the exact width of the Ocean House road, and to what portion of it the City had a title. He signified his intention to contribute land for widening the road, but he wished to be informed first whether the City had any title thereto, also whether other property-owners would contribute. The question was referred to the City Attorney, with instructions to examine the City's title.

The committee decided to grant a permit to the Pacific Paving Company to pave Van Ness avenue from Union to Green street.

A favorable report will be made upon the plan of instructing the City Engineer to make profiles and recommend the grades that should be established on Onondago avenue, from Mission to Ocean avenue, and on Ocean avenue westerly to Corbett avenue, at Ingleside, at a cost not exceeding $650.

The petition of property-owners for permission to pave Green street from Front to Battery was denied.

The work of paving Sacramento street from First to Cherry was ordered stopped for six months because of protests from property-owners.

Daniel Kelleher was released from the contract for sidewalks at the crossing of McAllister street.

It was decided to report favorably the petitition of T. Worth for a temporary track for grading purposes across Sixteenth street, at San Bruno avenue, and across Seventeenth to Utah.

The committee decided to give contractors who have begun private contracts on the streets a chance, before putting the regulations regarding private contracts into effect. The report of George W. Elder, the expert on streets, showed that a hardship would be worked on contractors if the regulations went into effect at once. He advised that the contractors be allowed until January 1 to finish the work now on hand.

Chairman Spreckels spoke in favor of the measure, which was carried without a dissenting vote.

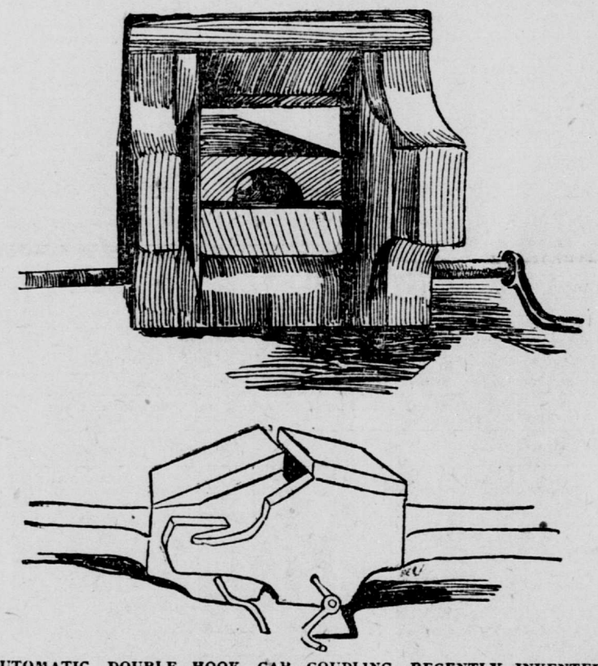
A SAFETY CAR-COUPLER.

Double Claws Jam Into Opposite Boxes and Catch Over Blocks.

An Automatic Device Perfected to Avoid Danger in Connecting Cars by Hand.

At last an old railroad employe and engineer is confident that he has designed a coupling that will join all sorts of railroad cars instantly on impact and without subjecting men to the danger of the present method of link and pin coupling performed by hand.

A model of the device shows a very simple construction by which, when two cars bump together, the opening in the coupler on one car receives the hook from the coupler of the other car and there is an instantaneous double locking, the hook on the side of each box being thrust into the opposite box and catching over a latch-like block. By this means, instead of a single coupling, there are two connections forming a double guard against any possibility of disconnection by breakage, as has sometimes resulted from too great strain on the links in the generally used link and pin coupler. The links do occasionally give way, and that is why cars can often be seen joined also by chains as a precaution against their being separated. The recent invention has provided for such a contingency by this double grip arrangement.



AN AUTOMATIC DOUBLE-HOOK CAR-COUPLING RECENTLY INVENTED BY A RAILROAD MAN FROM NEVADA.
[*Sketched by a "Call" artist.*]

David J. Stevenson of Virginia City, Nev., is the inventor of the new coupler, which he calls the Stevenson double-hook automatic car-coupler. He is a railroad employe and locomotive engineer, and for eleven years has studied on the problem which he believes his present device has solved.

In 1894 he got out a patent on an automatic link and pin coupler, but the master mechanics, having condemned the use of a link and pin connection, he set about devising a coupling that would be free from that objection and embrace all the advantages of an efficient automatic contrivance.

When seen yesterday at the Grand Hotel Stevenson explained his invention. He completed it two months ago, and has just applied for a patent.

The tumblers or latches on which the hooks catch are held up by the weight of extensions to the axles to which they are fastened. These axles extend beyond the box at the side and are bent down like small cranks. As long as they are down, the tumbler is up, and nothing but the complete overturning of the cars will reverse the position of the little levers and allow the cars to become disconnected without the interference of man. But a simple upward movement of both levers grasped with one hand throws down the blocks and the hooks have nothing to grip on. Both handles have to be elevated at once or else the disconnection is not accomplished any more than it would be by the breaking of one of the hooks. The latches or blocks, when up in position, hold against side projections in the box, making them doubly strong to withstand the strain from the pull of the flat surface hooks.

There are no springs about the apparatus. So much leeway is allowed for the entrance of the hooks that a connection may be effected on a turn or at an upward or downward angle with the cars forced in contact easily or with speed on, for, with no danger of crippling a brakeman, the necessity of a cautious bumping is obviated.

Play in the coupling is provided for by space beyond the blocks, into which the hooks can extend when the cars are as close together as possible. Such allowance has to be made in all couplings to allow the engine to start a long train by a communication of jerks.

Lecture by Professor Le Conte.

Dr. Joseph Le Conte will lecture on "Philosophy and Its Relation to Psychology and Physiology" this evening at Golden Gate Hall, 629 Sutter street, at 8 o'clock, under the auspices of the California Psychical Society.

A Big Mining Company.

The Pioneer Gold Mining Company has filed articles of incorporation. It has a capital stock of $2,000,000, all of which has been subscribed.

PRIZE POULTRY PARADE.

Awards Made in Several of the Departments Yesterday Afternoon.

GRAND DISPLAY OF LEGHORNS.

The Entries Greatly Outnumber Those of Previous Years—Interest Growing.

The Poultry Show is on in full form. All the exhibits are in place and every coop is full.

Already the judges have begun their tours of inspection and awards are being made in the various departments.

The attendance yesterday was larger than that of the day before, though not up to the expectation of the management. As a general feathered turnout the show is ahead of that of last January. In number and quality of the fowl it triumphs over the efforts of the poultrymen last year, and the general verdict is that the public should take a more active interest in the display of feathered beauties.

Some of the prettiest birds in the land are to be found in the long tiers of coops which line the spacious building on four sides, and there is much to interest those who are not familiar with the scientific breeding of high-class poultry.

A new feature was introduced yesterday in the exhibit of dressed poultry. On a stand arranged specially for their display were placed several dressed turkeys, capons, ducks and chickens. The lower part of the standard contained an assortment of high-class eggs, including those of the Brahmas, Minorcas, Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, etc.

Among the exhibits which attract the most attention is that of the Belgian hares. To the casual observer they resemble the jack rabbit. Their structural development is similar, and the ears are fully as long as the wild hare of the mountains and plains.

In the east and abroad the Belgian hares are raised for the market on a large scale. They are considered a great delicacy among epicures and take rank with the capon. They are a beautiful animal. Their fur is long and even, and the winning, docile look in their large eyes invites many a gentle hand stroke of their timid heads. They are a very timid animal and become such pets that it seems a shame to raise them for the market. Some of the bucks and does weigh eighteen pounds. A family is raised every month in the year, and in the Eastern markets the full-grown hares sell all the way from $1 to $3.

Including the pigeon and hare entries the number of fowl on exhibition is far ahead of last year. The fowl are 1500 in number, and the value of the prizes is $2500.

The attendance during the evening showed that an increased interest is being taken in the exhibition of feathered varieties. During the afternoon and evening the judges were busy among the hundreds of coops, and up to closing time the following awards had been made:

Light Brahmas—Cockerels: First, James Quick; second, Thomas Robinson; third, James Quick; fourth, James Quick; fifth, Reliance Poultry Yard. Cocks: First, James Quick; second, James Quick; third, Sonoma Valley Poultry Yard; fourth, E. A. Murry; fifth, A. J. Albee. Hens: First, James Quick; second, James Quick; third, Sonoma Poultry Yard: fourth, J. A. Scholefield; fifth, A. J. Albee. Pullets: James Quick, all prizes, from one to four.

Dark Brahmas—Cocks—First E. H. Freeman; second, A. J. Albee. Hens—First, A. J. Albee; second and third, E. H. Freeman; fourth and fifth, A. J. Alber. Pullets—First, second, third and fourth, A. J. Albee; fifth, E. H. Freeman. Cockerels—First and second, A. J. Alber.

White Langshans—Cocks—First, second and third, A. J. Albee. Cockerels—First, second and third, A. J. Albee. Hens—First, second, third, fourth and fifth, A. J. Albee. Pullets—First, F. P. Lowell; second, third, fourth and fifth, A. J. Albee.

Black Langshans—Cocks—First, A. J. Albee; second, J. A. Scholefield: third, fourth and fifth, A. J. Albee. Cockerels—First, second, third, fourth and fifth, A. J. Albee. Hens—First, second, third and fourth, A. J. Albee; fifth, J. A. Scholefield. Pullets—First, J. A. Scholefield; second, F. P. Lowell; third, A. J. Albee; fourth, J. A. Scholefield; fifth, A. J. Albee.

White-faced Black Spanish—Cocks—First, second, third, fourth and fifth, Charles J. Wright. Cockerels—Third, R. O. Shiverly. Hens—First, second, third and fourth, J. Noonan; fifth, Charles A. Wright. Pullets—First, R. O. Shiverly.

White-crested black Polish—Cockerel, 1, R. O. Shively. Hen, 1, 2, 3, 4, R. O. Shively.

Golden Polish—Cockerel, 1, R. O. Shively. Pullet, 1, 2, 3 and 4, R. O. Shively.

Silver-bearded Polish—Cock, 1, R. O. Shively. Hen—1, 2, 3 and 4, R. O. Shively.

Buff Leghorns—Cock, 1, L. E. Brainard; 2, C. W. Hansen, San Mateo; 3, C. D. Pierce, ex-Mayor of Oakland; 4, A. E. Hunter; 5, C. W. Hansen. Cockerels, 1, A. E. Armstrong; 2, C. D. Pierce; 3, A. E. Armstrong; 4 and 5, C. W. Hansen.

Pullets—1, C. D. Pierce.

Hens—1 and 2, C. D. Pierce; 3, A. E. Armstrong; 4 and 5, W. Winslow.

These are the prize birds of the exhibit, and the competition has given rise to much speculation. President Scholefield and the other officers of the association concede the Buff Leghorn display the finest ever seen before in one collection. The special prize of $25 for the best single display, scoring 88, was won by A. E. Armstrong.

SEALERS WILL PROTEST.

Attorney Riordan to Communicate With Secretary Carlisle.

Piling Up $10 a Day Against Seized Schooners—Another in the Collector's Custody.

Another sealing schooner has been seized by Collector of Customs Wise for hunting seals in that area of the Pacific Ocean known as the "Paris award."

This one is the Kate and Annie, owned by Captain Charles Luchens, and she is now in the custody of a special guard at Butchertown.

American sealers are having a hard time of it, they think, to get on any portion of the North Pacific Ocean without running up against one or more "regulations," according to the interpretations of the Treasury Department. The Paris award extends from this coast to the 180th meridian, and its southern limit is the 35th parallel of north latitude. With a special license sealers may be permitted to hunt in the "award," save during the close season, but they must keep very remote from the Pribylof Islands, and according to the very latest regulations from Washington, which quote section 1956 of the Revised Statutes, white persons are not allowed to kill any fur-bearing animals in the Alaskan waters at all.

The Canadian sealers they regard as far more fortunate in many respects. There are sixty-two schooners in the British Columbian fleet, as against a baker's dozen in the San Francisco fleet, and their aggregate catch for 1895 exceeded that of the Americans by several times.

It is because of this marked success which has attended the Victorians that a concerted effort is now to be made by the sealers of this port to ascertain why Collector Wise persists in straining every little technicality, as they say, against them. Attorney Thomas D. Riordan who has in hand the cases of the two schooners, Bowhead and Winchester, is now preparing a vigorous protest to Secretary Carlisle against the manner in which his clients have been treated.

Like what happened to the Kate and Annie yesterday, they were seized upon arrival here from their season's cruise, except that the customs officers did not at once board the Kate and Annie for the reason that her cargo of skins had been left at Astoria.

Captain Luchens' craft will be tied up at an expense to her of $10 a day pending the final wiping up of the "red tape" that usually accompanies such proceedings.

The owners of the Bowhead and Winchester mean to fight. When their captains, W. P. Noyes and Frank Johnson, respectively were taken before United States Commissioner Heacock, it was shown that they had not been guilty of any criminal intent, and the cases against them were promptly dismissed.

Their broker, William H. Thornley, testified that he had gone with them to the Custom-house on December 7, 1894, to obtain special licenses and received the information that no regulations had been received and the only blank contracts in existence at the Custom-house were for sealing in the Bering Sea.

It was the understanding then that as the special licenses were unobtainable no prosecution would be attempted. The sealing regulations for 1895 did not reach the port until January 18 and no effort had been made by the Collector to anticipate the season.

On their way over to the Japan and Saghalien island coasts the two schooners caught about 170 skins seventy miles off the bay of San Francisco and a little north of the southern boundary of the award area. Captains Noyes and Johnson had not received any instructions to the contrary. No sooner had they returned to port after their cruises, however, than their vessels and entire cargoes were seized and they were placed under arrest.

The Bowhead, with 684 skins, was seized August 13, and the Winchester, with 753 skins, was tied up September 5. Since those dates a cost of $10 a day has been accumulating against each vessel, until, like a nightmare of figures, the sum of $1220 has begun to obscure the value of the Bowhead and a painful vision of $1000 makes the Winchester look small.

The skins were appraised at between $9 and $10 each, though the net market price, exclusive of cost of transportation, in the English market was only $6 84, the gross price being $8, and the owners of the Bowhead were made to give a penal bond of $6156, that for the Winchester being $6777, before the cargoes could be withdrawn for the market.

This litigation, it is said, practically forced William Bendt, the principal owner in both schooners, to the wall. The customs authorities lay the blame for this, and also for Captain A. C. Sutherland's death, on to the United States District Attorney's office, while from the latter it is learned that it is governed by the wishes of the Collector as complaining witness in the prosecution of the libels filed by Mr. Foote soon after the seizure of the vessels. All Captain Sutherland's money was tied up in his schooner, the Sophie Sutherland, which was the first one to be seized by the Collector, and a mortgage was hanging over him. He worried so much over the matter that it brought on his death.

In the case of the tug Hercules, charged with receiving a transfer of 170 sealskins from the Winchester just outside the heads, Judge Morrow soon dismissed the Government's libel.

All of these facts that are pertinent to his purpose Mr. Riordan will communicate to the Treasury Department. He is acting under instructions from the owners of the Bowhead and Winchester. The persons interested in the two vessels are: William Bendt, Philip Barth, Joseph May, George J. McCormick, J. F. Cunningham, W. P. Noyes, Lewis E. Spear, George Fogel, Isidore Burns, G. Overton, Miss C. Kerrigan, L. Fjord, Frederick Wilde, James J. Doyle, Mrs. L. E. Mullen, L. Abrahams, J. J. Stayer, S. S. Stambrough and C. D. Cook.

MECCA FOR WIDOWS.

New York Attracts Nearly 20,000 Women Who Have Lost Husbands.

Have you ever been impressed by the large proportion of women, past middle life, who appear at the public places of New York in mourning? You will be so impressed if you look about in the shopping streets and popular promenades, and in the theaters, lecture halls, libraries and cars.

The new city directory gives the names of 19,560 widows, and inquiry, as far as practicable, shows that a majority of these came to the city to live after their bereavements. Attention was attracted to this matter by the conversation of two women in mourning, who were passengers in a Fifth-avenue stage.

"Read!" said one of them who had three books in her hands. "I read nearly all of the time, and I just revel in books. When I had to live in that poky county town where I couldn't get all of the new books I hardly read at all. I had but little time for it, either; but now I read all I please and don't have any one to say, 'Come, it's getting late. Go to bed.'"

"Well, it is a relief to be allowed to do as you please," said the other, "and New York is the place to do it. That's just the reason I came here when my husband died. Now I needn't know any one, and have nobody to tell me what to do. I can go walking or riding or to the theater and where I please, and always find something to divert me."

In one apartment-house of twenty flats in Madison avenue there live eleven widows who are seeking to soften their sorrows by the attractions of a great city.—New York Herald.

Timely Precaution.

"Have you thought about doing any Christmas shopping yet?" asked M. Hunnimune.

"No, dear," was the reply, "it is a little early for such preparations, isn't it?"

"M'yes. But it's as well to take time by the forelock, you know. Have you a memorandum-book handy?"

"Yes."

"Well, you might jot down these little points. Here's the brand of cigars that I prefer. They cannot by any possibility be purchased at a bargain. Here is the number of slipper that I wear, and you might make a note of the fact that my preference in neckties is dark red, with a small black figure, also that I do not need any suspenders."

And she thanked him and wrote it all down, thereby saving no small share of future regrets and embarrassments.—Washington Star.

Glass Dresses and Curtains.

Articles of dress are now being extensively made of glass. A Venetian manufacturer is turning out bonnets by the thousand, the glass cloth of which they are composed having the same shimmer and brilliancy of color as silk, and, what is a great advantage, being impervious to water.

In Russia there has for a long time existed a tissue manufactured from the fiber of a peculiar filamentous stone from the Siberian mines, which by some secret process is shredded and spun into a fabric which, although soft to the touch and pliable in the extreme, is of so durable a nature that it never wears out.

MORE POWER FOR BISHOPS.

Protestant Episcopal Convention Considers a Radical Change in Policy.

A revolutionary measure, affecting the policy of the Protestant Episcopal church, has been introduced before the Diocesan Convention of Central Pennsylvania. The proposed change is in the form of a motion which advocates the transference of the choice of rectors from the vestry of the parish to the Bishop of the diocese. The custom in the church is for the vestry to call a pastor, while the Bishop has the nomination in exceptional cases only. As it now stands canon 7 of the diocese of Central Pennsylvania provides, in accordance with the general law, that the vestry of every parish shall have the right of election of the rector for that parish. The proposed radical change would substitute for this the following:

Whenever the rectorate of any parish becomes vacant it shall be the duty of the vestry forthwith to give notice to the bishop of the diocese, together with a statement of the support which the parish pledges itself to pay to the new rector. Whereupon it shall become the duty of the bishop to provide for the celebration of divine services in said parish by temporary supply (two-thirds of the regular salary to be paid for such service), and to fill the vacancy by appointment within ninety days from the date of the receipt of the aforesaid notice. Should the bishop fail to make the appointment within the prescribed time, the vestry may elect a priest to fill the vacancy, and give due notice thereof to the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese.

In the event of a disagreement between any parish and its rector, the same shall be referred to the bishop for adjustment, and his decision in the matter shall be final.

The question as to whether the vestry or the Bishop shall have the right of election of rectors has already been the cause of much argument throughout the Protestant Episcopal church, and recently there has been evident a strong desire on the part of many for a change from the present system. The advocates of commission by the Bishops contend that it will to a great extent do away with the "shelving" of many clergymen who happen for one cause or another to be without a parish, as the Bishop would, under the proposed order of things, have power to appoint them to a parish. On the other hand, the laity are inclined to be jealous of any enlargement of episcopal powers by a lessening of lay privileges.

What Mad Him So.

John—Did your wife go to the country this year?

Tompkins—Yes; she spent the summer with friends at Blue Point.

John—You must have been pretty lonesome.

Tompkins—Yes, I was; especially on Saturdays and Sundays.

John—Why couldn't you arrange to spend those days with her?

Tompkins—I did.—Harper's Bazar.