

AMADOR COUNTY PEOPLE DUPED.

Victimized by a Folsom Ex-Convict Who Posed as a Preacher.

CLAIMED HE WAS RICH.

Found Money, Friends and a Home by Exploiting His Wealth.

FLED, BUT WAS RECAPTURED.

Caught by a Constable While Tarrying in Stockton—Long Record of Crime.

STOCKTON, CAL., March 13.—Constable F. B. Fenton of Sutter Creek boarded the Sacramento train at noon to-day in a happy frame of mind. This was due to the fact that he had for a companion "Rev." J. A. Smith, reputed to be a very smooth winder, whom he had arrested a few hours before on the water front in this city. The constable had returned from San Francisco on the morning boat after an unsuccessful hunt in the bay cities for Smith, and found him while awaiting a train.

The officer and his prisoner stopped at the Sheriff's office, and the former told the local officers who dropped in to inspect his catch the story of the operations of the swindler in and about Sutter Creek, Amador County. Smith, according to the officer, drove the gospel-car into Amador County about six months ago with the avowed intention of evangelizing the sturdy mountain population.

As camp-meeting services were in progress at the time he had ample opportunity to display his accomplishments as an exhorter. He won the confidence of the people from his first appearance, and an actual jealousy sprung up as to who should entertain the gifted speaker and show him the deference due his high attainments. J. W. Siebold carried Smith away and gladly lodged him under his own roof.

One day the humble preacher confided to his host that he had just got word from England that he had fallen heir to a fortune of \$40,000, by the death of a titled relative. He said he had no use for the money; all he wanted was a home in which to rest after labors in the spiritual vineyard.

If Siebold would agree to lodge and feed him during the term of his natural life he would leave him the bulk of the \$40,000, \$500 to the pretty servant girl and \$1000 to each of his host's nieces. The offer was accepted. This was five months ago, and the confidence man had never been bothered by board bills.

It is now learned that during this period of rest Smith varied his church work by making love to several marriageable women and several who were not in a position to consider matrimony. His attentions created talk, and about a week ago the preacher said he would have to make a trip to San Francisco to interview the British Consul in regard to his financial standing and to make arrangements to collect the interest on his legacy.

Siebold did not suspect anything until several days after the preacher's departure, when he found that he had taken all his belongings with him. Then the people in Ione and Sutter Creek began to talk, and when Siebold began to investigate he found evidence sufficient to satisfy him that he had been duped. The erstwhile host and friend got mad and swore out a warrant charging Smith with swindling, and it is said other charges will be made. Constable Fenton started out to look for the man, and, previous to finding him on the water front here this morning, he learned considerable of his history.

It appears that but a short time ago Smith was released from Folsom, where he had "done time," having been sent from Santa Cruz for obtaining money under false pretenses.

He also married a girl named Hattie Lawrence in San Francisco and took her to Santa Cruz on a honeymoon trip, the expenses of which were paid by his dupes. He cut a wide swath in Santa Cruz and lived part of the time at a fashionable boarding-house on Fourth street. When discovered he escaped to British Columbia, was apprehended there, brought back to Santa Cruz, tried and convicted and sent to Folsom.

Constable Fenton started for Amador County to-day with the convict. There he will be made to face some lively music. Smith preached here about two years ago. He evidently did not know the officers were looking for him, as he did not seek to hide his identity.

ROMANCE OF PETALUMA.

A Divorced Wife Breaks Into Her Ex-Husband's Home With an Ax.

He Had Refused to Pay Alimony and Is in Jail—Progress of a Family Feud.

SANTA ROSA, March 13.—Two cases in the Superior Court of this county are attracting much attention. One is an action for unlawful detainer brought by Mrs. Mary A. Perry against Joseph Perry, her brother; Frank Justen, her foster son, and Gussie Justen, her niece; and the other is the divorce suit of Gussie Justen vs. Frank Justen. All of the parties are from Petaluma, and the litigation is the result of a big family quarrel.

Many years ago Mrs. Mary A. Perry, being well-to-do and childless, adopted two children to cheer and comfort her old age. One of these was Frank Justen, who upon reaching man's estate fell in love with and married Gussie Perry, a niece of his foster mother. In order to secure a home to the young people, Mrs. Perry decided to heretofore run smoothly. But some time last fall, after several violent quarrels, the young wife left her husband and commenced a suit for a divorce. She asked for

a division of the property and for alimony and counsel fees to the extent of \$120.

The court granted the prayer for alimony and counsel fees and made an order directing Justen to pay within ten days. Justen claimed to have no means of raising that sum and refused to comply with the order, and so a few days ago he was placed in the County Jail here, where he has since remained.

Shortly after commencing her suit Mrs. Justen, accompanied by her father, returned to her husband's home, only to find all of the doors tightly locked and the premises vacant. Thinking that possession was nine points in the law the young wife procured an ax, and, battering down the front door, took possession of the house. She and her father have since resided there.

Now comes Mrs. M. Perry, who declares that she is still the owner of the property, and asks the court to dispossess all of the defendants and declare the escrow deed to be void. An effort will be made by Justen's attorneys to-morrow to show the court that he is unable to pay the \$120 alimony, and have him released from jail.

THE MONTEREY PORT TOWNSHIP.

PORT TOWNSHIP, WASH., March 13.—The United States coast defense monitor Monterey, Captain Keppel in command, was reported off Cape Flattery this evening, bound hither, whence she will proceed at an early date to the recently completed drydock at Port Orchard. The Monterey will be the first vessel to occupy the new dock, and the trial will be watched with much interest.

JAIL-BREAK AT LAKEPORT.

George Coburn, a Kleptomaniac, Cuts through the Floor of His Cell.

Had Been Convicted of Burglary and Sentenced to a Term in Folsom.

LAKEPORT, CAL., March 13.—George W. Coburn, who has been confined in the County Jail at this place for four months, escaped Wednesday night by cutting through the floor and then through a 20-inch brick wall. His flight was not discovered until yesterday morning, and the officers of San Francisco and intermediate points were notified at once. It is supposed that he will make for San Francisco and endeavor to obtain passage to Ukiah. His father, W. R. Coburn, spent considerable time with him in his cell and last Monday went to San Francisco. He is suspected of having aided his son in arranging the escape and officers were instructed to shadow him.

Young Coburn is a kleptomaniac of the worst type. He has been stealing from his neighbors for ten or twelve years and although many of his thefts were committed in open day he was only recently apprehended. At his trial a wagon-load of articles which he had taken was exhibited in court. The plunder consisted of old clothing, boots, shoes, books, canned fruit, pepper sauce, bottles of ink, crowbars, axes, lamps, stoves and innumerable other articles. Some of these were utterly useless to him and could not be disposed of. He never sold any of his stolen goods, but hid them in caches in the brush.

Coburn was convicted of burglary in the second degree and sentenced to three years in the penitentiary. He was to have been taken to Folsom several days ago, but the Judge granted a stay of proceedings to give his attorney time to prepare a bill of exceptions.

Coburn, about 30 years of age, has a sandy complexion, light hair, blue or gray eyes, and is about five feet six inches tall. He has a cunning, foxing appearance, and at the same time a cringing, apologetic air, and never looks one in the eye.

A MISSION HIGH SCHOOL.

People South of Fourteenth Street Will Petition for One.

An Enthusiastic Mass-Meeting and Birth of the "Mission High School Club."

The citizens of the district south of Fourteenth street held an enthusiastic mass-meeting last night at the Mission Parlor of the Native Sons.

The question of having a high school in that part of town was thoroughly discussed, and an association known as the Mission High School Club was started, which will continue to actuate this desire on the large number of inhabitants living in this part of town.

The following officers were elected: John H. Grady, president; Mrs. W. J. Hardy, vice-president; Miss Lucie Bailey, secretary, and E. P. Murphy, treasurer.

Speeches were made by J. F. Crosser, J. H. Grady, E. P. Murphy, William Metzner and School Director William Henderson. Mr. Grady stated that 30 percent of the High School children of the City came from that portion of town south of Fourteenth street and that in the present state of affairs the children were now obliged to travel the length of the City in going to and coming from school.

Director Henderson said the matter of expense was the main thing that the board would have to first consider. He thought, however, that the city might perhaps be obligated by bonding the City for say \$50,000. He was of the opinion that the Lowell High School for boys might be moved to the neighborhood of Twenty-third street.

It was decided to hold weekly meetings of the club on Friday nights. The following resolutions, submitted by President Grady, were adopted: WHEREAS, The large district south of Fourteenth street, representing 60 percent of this City and County, and its inhabitants paying large share of taxes and furnishing several thousands of children, whose intelligence and ability cannot be exercised, is entirely without a high school or high school facilities; and whereas, there are now supported in part by our people for high schools all of which are situated in one section of the City, and as by their great distance our children are practically denied the advantages of the course of studies they teach or would teach them; therefore be it resolved, That the committee of seven be appointed to present these resolutions with such other facts as may appear to them at once to the Board of Education, and take such steps as may be required to attain our end.

The appointment of the committee of seven was postponed until the next meeting.

The Police Commissioners. The Police Commissioners heard a number of cases last evening. Officer Murty Callinan was fined \$25 for being in a saloon while on duty. Officer Joel L. Stoddard was fined \$50 on a conviction of neglect of duty. Officer E. F. Bode, jointly accused with Stoddard, was acquitted. E. J. Thomson and George Farrell were each fined \$50 for drinking in a saloon while on duty. A conviction of using vulgar language to a civilian was dismissed. Michael J. Healy was fined \$10 for making an unlawful arrest.

IF TROUBLED WITH BRONCHITIS OR ASTHMA, try one of Dr. Taylor's Expecto-rant, an old established medicine for all Coughs, Colds and Lung Affections.

THE STRIKE IS NEAR A CRISIS.

Union Men Confident of Success Within a Very Few Days.

MASTER PAINTERS MEET.

They Discuss Their Troubles in Secret Behind Closed Doors.

SIXTY BOSSES HAVE GIVEN IN.

If the Strike Lasts Two Weeks Longer the Building Trades Will Be Involved.

The painters' strike for higher wages, shorter hours and a recognition of the Building Trades Council working-card is still on, but the strikers are confident of an early victory.

Their confidence in this ultimate end is based on two or three propositions. First, nearly sixty of the boss painters have capitulated to the union's demands; second, if the strike continues two weeks longer it will involve the entire building trades in this City, which threatens to tie up every piece of work under way and stop all contemplated work; and third, the strikers are satisfied that there is a division in the Master Painters' Association, a majority of which have already agreed to the union's terms.

There are several remarkable features in the present strike, which has been on for five days. Every meeting of the strikers has been held with open doors, a thing unprecedented in labor strikes, and the most singular thing is that the strike has cost the union only \$47.30 for relief of members, hall rent, etc. So far not a single act of violence has been committed. The Master Painters' Association held its first meeting since the strike last evening, but it was held with closed doors and the members and officers were pledged not to divulge what had been done or said. Whether this means that they are preparing to compromise with the strikers or fight can only be surmised.

MASTER PAINTERS MEET.

A Division of Opinion as to the Policy Toward the Strikers.

The members of the Master Painters' Association held a meeting last evening, the first since the journeymen painters' strike began last Monday. There was a large attendance present and the debate lasted from 8 to 11 P. M.

The debate as to the policy of the association on the strike question was long and spirited and judging from the silence of the members after the meeting was over no conclusion was arrived at.

A resolution was passed enjoining all members from giving any news to the press or public of what had been done in the meeting. One thing was learned and that is that a committee of about ten was appointed, but whether to confer with the strikers, or organize a fighting campaign or to draft an agreement, could not be learned. After the meeting the committee was organized.

BOSSES COME TO TERMS.

Encouraging Reports Made by the Striking Painters' Committees.

The regular afternoon meeting of the striking painters in the Temple yesterday was a most enthusiastic affair. The reason was that with very few exceptions the reports of the committees showed that there are very few master painters now holding out against the union's demands. A list of over sixty boss painters who have given in was read and received with cheers.

Danielson of the North Beach committee made a statement that caused a little surprise. He said that all of the shops in the Latin quarter, except the recognized union shops, are tied up, and not a single foreign painter is now working. These painters are all standing firm for the union.

This condition of affairs, Danielson said, was caused to a very great extent by Pietro Gori, the anarchist. The latter had been of great service to the committee, as he had written his time to explaining to his countrymen the principles of unionism and the importance of all union men standing together in trouble and in peace. A vote of thanks was extended by the striking painters to the anarchist.

A resolution was passed enjoining advertisements for painters and decorators. The advertiser offered the former \$3.50 and the latter \$4.50 a day. This was denounced as a boss' trick to fill the town with working men for the strikers' places.

Several of the committees and a number of strikers made reports on individuals and jobs. Committees 1 and 7, A. M. Beach chairman, reported that at 220 O'Farrell street four men were locked in so that the committee could not see them, and James Riensfield, 1919 Hyde, Pessano & Carrato, 200 1/2 Mason, and L. Bedoni, 12 Jasper place, have given in to all demands.

The Mission district is tied up, was the report of committee 2. Committee 4, Melvor chairman, reported nearly every job south of Market from Tenth to the water front is all tied up. Took out two men from job on Fourth street. Koch, the painter, who has held out so long, at last gave in and sent in his application with the assurance that hereafter his will be a union shop. Melvor presented the following communication from Bradley & Son:

This is to certify that Bradley & Son agree to all conditions and accept the card system of the Painters' Union. BRADLEY & SON, 923 Mission street.

painters. In all his rounds he has heard much discussion by the public in general, and all seem to hope the painters will win the strike. He advised the men to keep on firmly, but not to resort to violence, and said:

Your fight is the fight of the carpenters and all branches of the trades unions, and I for one would be in favor of all the carpenters and all the trades unions turning out to-morrow to help the striking painters if necessary. Your fight is our fight, and if you lose all the rest of the world will lose. When your wages must be sure to fall, and when you must stand together, and if it is necessary let us tie up the building trades in this City. All our hopes of getting our wages for the next four years depend upon our success this year. This is the election year, and now is our chance to get our rights.

Mr. Schadt told of an experience in the forenoon on Hyde and Union streets. During a discussion with non-union carpenters an officious policeman told the gathering of men that when the painters get ready to go to work for them to do so and he would be ready to shoot the head off the first striker who interfered with the workmen. The union laborers, who to a great extent pay the taxes from which this policeman receives his pay, greatly appreciate this kind of police protection. The speaker is glad that the entire force is not made of the same clay as that of the North Beach policeman.

It was made that in the Physician's Hospital, Sutter and Jones streets, the nurses are painting the floors. President Rose told of an interesting experience he had with Krebber's men on a job on Bush and Jones streets. He said that the men were very abusive and even threatened the committee with violence. One of the carpenters there was also very ugly and abused him roundly. Some one became alarmed and sent for the police, and a squad of three arrived a little later, but found nothing to warrant police interference. However, before the committee left they took out two painters who will join the union at once.

The painters will again meet at 3 o'clock to-day and the following in the evening at 115 Turk street and initiate over 200 new members.

FRIENDS OF THE UNION.

Master Painters Who Have Acceded to All the Strikers' Demands.

During the meeting of the striking painters a request was made that the secretary state the names and addresses of all the boss painters who acceded to the demands of the union, so that the committee need not call upon them again. The secretary stated the following is the list, with possibly a few additions, names accidentally omitted in taking the many reports made:

- J. Cooney, 141 Fourth street.
- B. L. Braad, Montgomery street.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- J. Schofield, 4 Berrone place.
- Rhodes Bros., 205 San Jose avenue.
- W. T. Buck, 760 Sutter and Fulton.
- Myers, 717 Mission street.
- J. A. Chack, Polk street.
- J. A. B. Smith, 615 Natomas street.
- Chackworth.
- Williams, Devisadero and Pine.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Crow & Curly, 720 Haught street.
- Tom Welsh, 1313 Fell street.
- W. J. Brown, 101 Folsom street.
- Gerkin, Oakland.
- T. Vorath, 246 Ninth street.
- Charles Hoffman.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Antonetti, O'Farrell street.
- T. J. Cramer, 408 Pine street.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- The Burr & Shields, McAllister street.
- J. Thompson, 2019 Polk street.
- W. Roberts, 1873 Polk street.
- George Beshore, 1105 Scott street.
- Wadham & Co.
- Shaffer Bros.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Rhoriz, Howard street.
- S. J. Dwyer, 1200 Utah street.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Brown & Johnson, Market street.
- G. Williams, Fremont street.
- J. Landy, California street.
- Schmidt, 240 Sutter street.
- Charles Bernard, Merchant street.
- William Barton, Hyde and Union.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- E. M. Gallager, Sacramento street.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Leon Valley, Golden Gate avenue and Gough.
- C. F. Foley, 2110 Fillmore street.
- D. W. Boyer, 210 Sutter street.
- S. C. Murray, 623 Howard street.
- Tuson, Market street.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Swan & Bell, Market street.
- T. Downing, Mission street.
- Diamond, Eighth and Howard.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Hamerup O. K.
- Patcho & Bates.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- F. Merschen, 412 Devisadero street, corner of Oak.
- H. F. Wagner, California street.
- Agard, California street.
- James Riensfield, 2919 Hyde street.
- W. J. Brown, 240 Sutter street.
- Pessano & Carrato, 200 1/2 Mason.
- W. Koch, O'Farrell street.
- Bradley & Son, 923 Mission street.

INDORSE THE STRIKERS.

Words of Encouragement From the Labor Council and the Carpenters' Union.

There was a good attendance at last night's meeting of the San Francisco Labor Council, and those present expressed their sympathy for the striking painters in no uncertain terms. One member stated that he had found seven sailors about to undertake a job of painting offered them by one of the firms which the Painters' Union is endeavoring to bring to time. He showed them a copy of THE CALL, wherein was published the names of the strikers, and most complete publication of the condition of affairs, and when the sailors had seen it they gave up the job.

"Sailors, as a rule," he explained, "don't go a-scabbing; at least union sailors don't, though they are fooled, as these fellows were. J. K. Phillips, chairman; W. McArthur, secretary; A. Milner, O. Grassmann and Joseph Walter, all of the committee on law and jurisdiction, addressed the following resolution in favor of the strikers' strike, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The California Painters' and Decorators' Union No. 1 is now on a strike for the recognition of the union, the eight-hour day, and for a minimum wage of \$3 per day; and whereas, the strikers are reasonable and in keeping with the principles of decent labor; therefore, be it resolved, That the San Francisco Labor Council, in its capacity as a labor organization, do hereby endorse the strike of the said union, and guarantee its support morally and financially, and do hereby request the members of the Labor Council to request the support of the public, the press and all fair employers toward the end that the workers involved may secure their demands.

The secretary of the Coast Seamen's Union requested that a rumor to the effect that that organization was on the eve of a strike be disregarded, as it was entirely unfounded. J. T. Craven, representing the Ironmolders' Union No. 164, entered a protest against the sale of prison-made shoes. He reported that large numbers of shoes were made in San Francisco, by convicts employed under contract, one of the foundries there, were shipped to this City for sale, and that a fresh carload was now on the way, assigned to a leading hardware house.

The council decided to take no immediate action in the case of the striking lathers. At a meeting of the Carpenters' and Joiners' Union No. 22 a resolution was adopted providing for the sending of a letter to the striking painters voicing the union's approval of their attitude in words of encouragement and good fellowship.

The union decided to raise its initiation fee, which will be \$10 in place of \$2 as heretofore, after the 1st of May next. A union of Italian carpenters will be formed by delegates from union No. 22 on next Monday night at the Apollo Hall on Pacific street, near Sutter street. Delegates from the union will also attend the Labor Convention to-morrow. Preparations are being made for the union's annual picnic, which will be held on April 26 in Sunset Park, among the Santa Cruz Mountains.

THE DEMOCRATIC ARENA.

Hot War Over Buckley for the State Central Committee To-Day.

BUCKLEY WARRIORS READY.

The Fate of the Junta Depends on the Hazard of the Meeting This Afternoon.

The Democrats will occupy the political arena to-day.

The meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee in the billiard-room of the California Hotel at 2 o'clock this afternoon is a momentous one to the party—at least it might be a momentous one if this had happened to be a Democratic year.

The meeting to-day may not decide the political fate of Charles Buckley and the old friends of his who have rallied together in exceedingly formidable array, but it will have a strong if not a determinative influence on the local party situation.

The party now consists mainly of three elements. First come Buckley and the Democrats who lean to the faction he dominates. This faction has the bulk of the "push," the bulk of the old-time and experienced practical politicians of the party, and the bulk of the votes and vote-makers, which count at election time. It has, too, the bulk of the political skill and shrewdness if not the brains and influence of the party in San Francisco. It registered 11,800 votes at its last enrollment and it voted about 6000 names at its recent uncontested primary. A large majority of these names are believed to be legitimate.

The second element consists of the members of the Buckley element are such men as Judge Robert Fernal, George R. B. Hayes, Peter F. Dunne, the United States Land Receiver, Railroad Commissioner James O'Brien, E. M. Mills, Joseph Roschild, A. J. Clunie, James C. Nealon, Dr. Bryan.

Secretly favorable to this element is a large number of men of party influence who are not in the ranks of the Buckley element. Among them are generally reputed to be Russell Wilson, W. W. Foote, Judge Garber, E. C. Cogan, W. F. Goad, Fret F. Strother, E. P. Cole, Thomas E. Bishop, A. H. Lohman, and others. Wilshire and many others of like standing.

The second most notable element consists of the aggregation of political forces which has come to be known as the Junta. In the McNab and his friend and follower W. P. Sullivan now and for some time have controlled and managed this organization. It contains a larger percentage—leaving actual numbers out of consideration—of the decent, honest and respectable element of the party than does the Buckley element. The Junta was organized and it exists solely to oppose Christopher A. Buckley's return to political power. It has no other end. It proclaims the slogan, "anti-Buckleyism and anti-bossism," and it asks recognition on this ground alone, regardless of the wishes of a majority of the party and regardless of whether or not a large majority of the party are in favor of the Buckley element. The Junta enrolls among its supporters a large number of good, decent and somewhat influential Democrats.

This support of influential and yet highly respected Democrats is given, rather than passive that nature, as it is given under such circumstances. But these good people constitute a minority of the organization. The Junta aggregation is composed of first and mainly of an Italian and his First Department political stringer, Superintendent of the Mint Daggett and his patronage political strength and Internal Collector Welburn and the political strength he wielded in the past. To these three political powers Gavin McNab is in close friendship. Gavin McNab alone can hold them together and Gavin McNab wields their combined powers as one club. Added to these factors is a minority element of unprincipled demagogues, some of which all things are done by Gavin McNab.

So far as practical politics go the situation now presented is one of Gavin McNab vs. Christopher A. Buckley. But there is a third element in the party, and it is a big one. It is composed of Democrats who have no use for Buckley for one thing. For another thing they have more use for a man named Rainey, who, they believe, controls the Junta, when it comes to practical politics—not the talking, which is attended to by Gavin McNab. This third element includes nearly all of that large element of the party that has no use for John D. Brown. It is largely in the Junta in conjunction with his personal and political friend, Sam Rainey, who has fought Daggett's battles in Sacramento and elsewhere and who sets men in the Mint and elsewhere to fight for him. It is the general understanding among local politicians that Daggett and Rainey's combination looks to Daggett's interests in State politics and Rainey's interests in local politics. But the latter has the hand of many Democrats against him since the famous Stockton convention of 1884, when he was formally read out of the party, and he has reopened a lot of those old sores and gained a fresh lot of Democratic energy through the party which he wielded in the Mint patronage. Some are simply disappointed and some kick because Daggett has come down from Siskiyou and tried to control San Francisco politics. What Daggett was just now doing was the delegation to the National convention.

This third element includes, too, the many anti-Buckley men who have no use for Gavin McNab, the anti-Buckley boss. Among the legion of local politicians who have enemies ready with a club McNab is a star. Among these are counted Judge Sullivan and J. J. Dwyer, who led the anti-Buckley revolution of 1892, and many others who look upon the party as a whole, and others, who have simply a honest desire to see something decent loom up in Democratic politics, care nothing for anybody whose name gets mentioned in all the mess.

The position toward the Buckley and Junta factions is a plain one on both your houses." Eugene Dempsey, chairman of the last municipal convention and appointer of that "Dempsey committee," which was used to start the Junta organization, has nothing to say to the Buckleyites who will have nothing to do with the Junta.

This is the local situation which confronts the Democratic State Central Committee to-day with its chief problem. It is a matter of practical politics and discretion and largely a matter of practical politics. The members from the interior are naturally opposed to Buckley. For four or five months Gavin McNab, assisted by Max Popper and others, have been seeing and writing to the country members of the committee, explaining that the situation was one of the entire decent elements of the party against a deposed and unscrupulous boss, who has sold out and who would sell out the party and getting their assurances of support and their proxies.

The State Central Committee consists of 103 members. Most of the eighteen San Francisco members are against Buckley. The majority of the country members are against Buckley; but the Buckleyites have not done the missionary work that Gavin McNab has done.

There are two main questions related to this meeting. The first is the question of the members present considering the situation to be one that calls for a new and clean deal in the shape of an open primary, and to what extent will it be a proxy meeting, with Gavin McNab voting the proxies that are not more than 50 or 60 of the 103 members would answer roll-call to-day. The Buckleyites concede that the proxy business will defeat them, if they are defeated, and

Gavin McNab was yesterday quite hilarious over the prospects of victory he thought he saw before him.

The interior delegates have generally taken lately the position that they will vote and hear the evidence before they will decide.

The question that will arise to-day will be, as has been often explained, whether or not the State Central Committee shall give the Junta the prestige of official recognition by resolution and the issuance to it alone of the call for the State convention. This would be only a matter of prestige, but it would be a great advantage and victory for Gavin McNab.

The Buckleyites claim to have "the" regular local party organization, are prepared with able orators, witnesses and affidavits to prove the regularity of their organization and that the Junta faction is a minority born in trickery. To-day the old liners will be championed at the meeting by Judge Fernal, George R. B. Hayes, Peter F. Dunne and others.

The position of the Buckleyites is, first, that the State Central Committee has no right to interfere; that its sole duty is to call a State convention. If two factions come before it and ask it to act as a committee of arbitration then it may do something.

It is planned that the fight shall come up on the presentation of a resolution instructing the secretary of the State Central Committee to issue the call for the State Convention to the Democratic organization of San Francisco, headed by P. Sullivan as chairman and John F. McGovern as secretary.

This would extend official recognition to the Junta, though if it is adopted the Buckleyites will still have the regular party organization, and its delegates to the State Convention and fight it out there. But the Buckleyites don't want the damage that would result, in the way of moral and political effect.

The committee of twenty-five appointed at the meeting of the Buckley general committee last Thursday night to take charge of the case before the State Central Committee held a meeting at 935 Market street last night and chose a subcommittee to do the talking and fighting to-day. This committee is as follows: George R. B. Hayes, Reel B. Terry, M. J. Donovan, Henry Ach, Joseph Rothchild, James H. O'Brien, D. M. Gavagan, James Devolo and James C. Nealon.

When the resolution mentioned is offered to-day some member of the committee friendly to the Buckley side will object to its consideration, on the ground that the committee is not a subcommittee and has no jurisdiction, no jurisdiction to thus intrude itself into local political affairs and judge and regulate them. It can only act as a committee of arbitration when both sides agree to present a case.

The committee will probably decide to proceed to do something, and then the demand will be made, and undoubtedly conceded, that the committee be given an opportunity to be heard before they are executed.

Then, according to what appeared yesterday in the favorable columns of the Call, Gavin McNab will object to their being given a hearing unless they will agree in advance to be bound by the decision of the State Central Committee. Mr. McNab, feeling confident of a majority of the committee, will agree to submit his case with out reservation and abide by the judgment. Then the fight will develop.

The Buckleyites will not agree to submit to anything in advance. They will have their say, and then they will accept its arbitration on the basis that there be held an open primary in the selection of the officers of which both sides shall fairly share. In other words, they will offer to meet the Junta at a primary election.

Quite a number of State Central committee members arrived in the City last night. Few or none from the interior would come to-day, however, in the local situation. All wanted to "hear the case first."

Daggett controls several of the committee, and they and others who are controlled in other ways will "go down the line" for McNab. Many of the members were open to conviction as to the course to be pursued in the interest of the party. Then there are the proxies.

The Buckleyites say that the calling of the meeting for a Saturday afternoon was a scheme to shut out the decent and fair investigation through the members wanting to hurry through and get home, and debate and investigation are what the Buckleyites want and what Gavin McNab does not want.

Next to the local fight the only thing of interest, unless some anti-railroad resolutions are introduced, will be the selection of a place to hold the State convention. Stockton began its campaign earliest, but last evening Sacramento was making the most noise and feeling confident of winning. The last time the convention was held in Stockton was in 1884. That was the famous Stockton debate and fair fight. It is said that John Dag