

Forecast made at San Francisco for thirty hours ending midnight, March 22: San Francisco and vicinity—Cloudy, unsettled weather Wednesday; possibly light showers; fresh southwest winds. A. G. McADIE, District Forecaster.

ALAMEDA COMES TO PORT FROM FAR HONOLULU WITH REMAINS OF MRS. STANFORD

Detectives Will Soon Be Able to Clear Away the Thick Veil of Mystery

Solution of Poland Water Mystery Is Near. JORDAN REASSERTS HIS OPINION THAT DEATH RESULTED FROM NATURAL CAUSES

TWO ARE UNDER SUSPICION

Motive for Crime Is Still a Puzzling Factor.

EVIDENCE IS ACCUMULATING

It was announced at police headquarters last evening that within the next forty-eight hours the mystery surrounding the presence of strychnine poison in the bottle of Poland water, with which Mrs. Stanford quenched her thirst on the evening of January 14 at her California-street home, will have been completely solved, and that possibly one of two persons toward whom the strongest suspicion is directed will be arrested.

As to whether the poison was placed in the bottle before the water was drunk by Mrs. Stanford, for the purpose of ending the generous woman's life, or surreptitiously injected into the bottle after she had drunk from it, with malicious intent toward Miss Berner, are questions that Captain of Detectives Burnett last night refused to answer.

The discovery of a bottle of strychnine poison in the Stanford home, as originally published in The Call and later confirmed by Captain Burnett, figures in the latest developments in the case, but it was said last night that the detectives have not yet been able to fully determine how this bottle came into the house or by whom it was purchased. It is these important details that are now being sifted by the police with a view to making disclosures that have long been impatiently awaited by the public.

Yesterday afternoon Captain Jules Callundan of Morse's agency and Detective Harry Reynolds of the regular force, on returning from Palo Alto, whither they went as escort to Miss Berner, were closeted with Acting Chief of Police Spillane and Captain Burnett for an hour and a half. During the conference the first mentioned two made a verbal report of the result of their investigations in Honolulu. It was a synopsis of a written report that will be prepared to-day and submitted to Attorney Mountford Wilson. In this report the detectives will furnish Attorney Wilson and Captain Burnett with an interesting account of Mrs. Stanford's death, which is greatly at variance with the evidence adduced at the inquest in Honolulu, although it is founded on the testimony of the very same witnesses at that formal hearing.

In the report the detectives make Dr. Humphris contradict himself on points so material in the determining of the cause of Mrs. Stanford's death that it is hard for the detectives to arrive at the conclusion that a murder was committed. Briefly their findings, which are concurred in by President Jordan, who was present at the examination of witnesses after the inquest, are to the effect that an over-loaded stomach, weak heart, excited by overindulgence in exercise attending the aged woman's outing on the day of her death, and the use of cascara with strychnine, improperly combined, brought about her death. In his original testimony before the coroner's jury Dr. Humphris described Mrs. Stanford's symptoms at the period of death as positive indications of strychnine poisoning. He told of her terrible convulsions and the rigidity following her death.

DIED IN CHAIR.

When the detectives arrived in Honolulu and proceeded with a second investigation, a careful questioning of the doctor developed the fact that instead of dying in her bed, as he had previously asserted, Mrs. Stanford had actually died in a chair. Considerable importance is attached to this proved fact, for it strongly tends to dispel the theory that she died from strychnine poisoning, for had such been the case, the convulsions that invariably attend the dying moments of a victim of strychnine poisoning are so severe that it would be impossible to even hold a patient on a chair.

It was established by the detectives that when Mrs. Stanford summoned her maid, Miss Hunt, and her secretary, Miss Berner, she complained of a nauseating feeling, and the two women, where they began administering to her hot water and then placed her in an ordinary straight-back, armless chair. Later they placed Mrs. Stanford's feet in a bucket of hot water, and while Miss Hunt busied herself rubbing the sick woman's limbs, Miss Berner got a tin dish of hot water, which she placed in Mrs. Stanford's lap and then bathed the latter's hands. Had Mrs. Stanford, as was previously testified to by Dr. Humphris, been subjected to severe convulsions, it would have been impossible to keep her feet submerged in the pail of water, or to have balanced the basin of water in her lap.

OTHER EVIDENCE.

To this strong evidence, not brought out at the inquest, the detectives added the information, gained from Miss Berner and Miss Hunt, that finally Miss Berner removed the basin from her mistress's lap and thereupon Mrs. Stanford took Miss Berner's hands in her own and placed one against each cheek, bitterly complained of agonizing pains in her stomach. Detective Callundan closely questioned Dr. Humphris concerning his knowledge of strychnine poisoning symptoms, and the report made to Captain Burnett yesterday by Callundan and Reynolds, makes no hesitancy in questioning the

doctor's ability to clearly diagnose a case of strychnine poisoning. It is shown by the evidence gathered by Callundan and Reynolds and attentively listened to by Dr. Jordan, that Mrs. Stanford's death was attended by only the ordinary rigidity of a death from natural causes, and that immediately after she had passed away she was removed from the chair to her bed, where little difficulty was experienced in straightening out her lifeless form, a task that could not have been accomplished had strychnine poisoning alone caused her death. Captain Burnett was furnished another strong point against the coroner's verdict of strychnine poisoning in these two facts: First, that the bottle of bicarbonate of soda, from which Mrs. Stanford took a portion, contained in all 622 grains of soda, which, when analyzed was found to contain only 48 hundredths of a grain of strychnine, which, proportionately, was only 1-1226th of the total contents of the bottle. Second, the cascara capsules, of which Mrs. Stanford took one, contained one-thirteenth of a grain of strychnine, which the chemists declare combined with the strychnine in the soda, might have produced death in a person of Mrs. Stanford's age and at a time when her system was upset by over-eating and unusual exercise, such as she indulged in on the day of her death.

OTHER STRONG FACTS.

In further rebuttal of the original testimony given by Dr. Humphris, Callundan and Reynolds gave Captain Burnett absolute proof of the fact that Mrs. Stanford could not have possibly fallen to the floor after taking her medicine, even if it did not contain poison, and regain her feet without assistance. To substantiate this assertion the detectives produced statements of Mrs. Stanford's physicians, and of Miss Berner and Miss Hunt, to the effect that for more than a year Mrs. Stanford had suffered from stiffness of the knees, and had found it beyond her physical ability to rise from the floor alone.

Although the physicians who conducted the autopsy made the statement that Mrs. Stanford's organs were in a remarkably healthy condition, a woman of her age, the detectives gleaned from inquiry among several prominent surgeons who examined the heart that the latter discovered that it was anything but healthy. It was found to contain portions of fat that had not been examined by the autopsy surgeons, and bore other noticeable indications of disease. Another surprising discovery made by the detectives, and one that should have entered into the considerations of the autopsy surgeons, was the amount of food consumed by Mrs. Stanford at the picnic. On that occasion she ate four Swiss cheese sandwiches, two tongue sandwiches, two lettuce sandwiches, two or three large pieces of ginger bread, of which she was very fond; two cups of cold coffee, which she had prepared herself before she left the Moano Hotel; also some fruit, and twelve or fourteen pieces of French candy, which she later complained made her slightly sick at her stomach. It destroyed her appetite for the evening meal.

STOMACH HURTS HEART.

The crowding of her stomach, after considerable walking, naturally weakened her heart and might easily have hastened the end of a woman of Mrs. Stanford's advanced age, so experts contend. These facts, revealed by the persistent inquiry of Captain Callundan, readily appealed to President Jordan and were responsible for his conclusion that Mrs. Stanford was not poisoned. He has so advised Attorney Mountford Wilson in a report prepared during the return voyage to this city. The document was handed to the attorney yesterday afternoon by Dr. Jordan and was later brought to this city. Although Attorney Wilson refused to make the report public last night.



Makes Severe Comment on Those in Honolulu Conducting Investigation.

"Mr. Hopkins and I stand by the statement we gave out just before we left Honolulu," asserted President David Starr Jordan when approached by representatives of the press immediately after the Alameda had been tied at the Oceanic dock. The president was emphatic in reiterating his opinion there was no question that Mrs. Stanford died from natural causes. "Yes, I have just seen the statement issued by Chemist Shorey and the doctors wherein they seek to refute our version as to the cause of death and set forth an argument in favor of the poisoning theory," the president answered. "But," he continued, "I don't care how many doctors or chemists in Honolulu make statements, or how many statements they issue. We can't help what public opinion may be. You may say that we are absolutely convinced that strychnine did not bring about the death of Mrs. Stanford and that we know whereof we speak when we declare that her death was due to natural causes."

"Are Detectives Callundan and Reynolds likewise convinced beyond all question that Mrs. Stanford was not poisoned in Honolulu?" "Yes, they agree with us. We consulted with them, of course, before we issued that statement in Honolulu. We would not have given it out unless Detectives Reynolds and Callundan agreed with us."

QUESTION TOO POINTED.

"How do you account for the presence of the half grain of strychnine found in the bicarbonate of soda of which Mrs. Stanford partook before she retired?" "That is a leading question," came the answer archly, and President Jordan turned half around, indicating that he was averse to saying anything further on this point. The courteous president then turned to his interviewers again with an ex-

planation that he was not at liberty to enter into any detailed discussion of the case. He said he had made a full report in writing for the use of Attorney Mountford Wilson, and the attorney must be looked to for further information, was added. "We appreciate your position in this matter, but the world is left in doubt by the two diametrically opposite statements, that of yourself and Mr. Hopkins declaring death resulted from natural causes and the statement in reply by Chemist Shorey and the Honolulu doctors reasserting that strychnine poisoning was the cause of death. The public is somewhat in the dark as to which statement it shall accept. Are we to understand that you discredit the chemist, the doctors and the Honolulu officials?" Then President Jordan made a remark of startling import. His manner was of as much significance as his words. "I know all about them and their work," said President Jordan. "It may be inferred safely within the bounds of careful interpretation that President Jordan meant to convey the conviction in his mind that not all the doctors and chemists and officials connected with the investigation in Honolulu are at least trustworthy. "Do you mean to say that there was a conspiracy or an effort on the part of any one to make it appear that Mrs. Stanford was poisoned, when as a matter of fact they knew there was no evidence to support such a theory?" Dr. Jordan made no reply. The interviewer persisted. "Are we to believe that some one mixed the strychnine crystals in the bicarbonate of soda after Mrs. Stanford took the dose from the bottle in order to make it appear that she had been poisoned?" But the president was through with interviewing along this line and he

OPINION DIVIDED AMONG PEOPLE OF HONOLULU REGARDING DEATH

Officials and Doctors Support the Verdict, but Public Criticizes Freely.

HONOLULU, March 15.—Opinions differ widely here as to the death of Mrs. Stanford. If Honolulu were to decide by vote how Mrs. Stanford met death so suddenly the overwhelming majority would probably be in favor of the theory of natural causes. Her advanced age and the attack of indigestion are taken much into account. But the autopsy surgeons and the attending physicians are solidly opposed to this theory, for it falls utterly to account for the presence of strychnine, no matter in how small a quantity, in the bottle of bicarbonate of soda. High Sheriff Henry and Deputy Rawlins are firm adherents of the murder theory, as formally promulgated by the coroner's jury in the

STANCH SHIP COMES SAFELY WITH HER DEAD

Body of Mrs. Stanford Arrives From Far Honolulu. Special Train Speeds With Remains to Palo Alto.

To the solemn requiem of land and harbor whistles, marking the hour of noon yesterday, the casket bearing the mortal remains of Mrs. Jane Lathrop Stanford was carried from the hold of the steamship Alameda and placed in a hearse to be borne to Palo Alto, there to rest beside her beloved husband and son. Barely a month has elapsed since she left this city in the best of health and spirits, bound for a long voyage of recreation and little dreaming of the fate that cut short her pleasure seeking. Constant inquiries throughout the early morning of yesterday as to the whereabouts of the Alameda were made of the Merchants' Exchange. Along Miesegs wharf, which commands a view of the Gate, knots of people began to gather. About 9:45 the smoke of a steamer hull down on the horizon was discerned through the binoculars, and in a short time the lookouts at the barge office were able to identify the Alameda. Outside the Gate she could be seen bucking the heavy swells that beat against the rocks of Marlin on the north and Fort Point on the south. Slowly the steamship drew nearer and appeared to be heading southward. She was for a few minutes lost to view behind Fort Point, only to emerge, heading northeast and perceptibly nearer. About 10 o'clock she passed the Gate and crept swiftly as if she were a bird of prey, her to make a final burst of speed. Meantime the bay steamer Golden Gate placed at the disposal of the funeral party by Collector Stratton hove in sight from around the seawall. As the Alameda drew swiftly, hugging the Marlin shore, the passengers and crew of the vessel could be

FORMER PRIVATE SECRETARY OF MRS. STANFORD, HER BROTHER, THE BROTHER OF MRS. STANFORD AND THE MOTHER OF MAY HUNT, COMING ASHORE FROM THE ALAMEDA AT NOON YESTERDAY.

CHARLES LATHROP. MRS. E. I. SMITH.