BLYTHE'S WEALTH.

His Daughter Florence Victorious in the Contest.

Judge Coffey Delivers a Lengthy and Masterful Decision Upon the Various Claims of the Contestants.

The Blythe millions have been awarded to Florence Blythe, the daughter of the decedent. The Williams claimants have been adjudged next of kin, and Alice Edith Dickason, who claimed a widow's rights, and the Savages are "over the fence and out."

Judge Coffey has presided over the contest since July 15, 1889, and it took him within a few minutes of seven hours yesterday to deliver orally his masterful decision upon the case. With the exception of H. E. Highton, one of the counsel for Alice Edith Dickason, all the attorneys employed by the several claimants were present.

Florence and her friends made their appearance in the afternoon, and the heiress to the great wealth received congratulations from a large circle of admirers. Miss Dickason spent the day out of town.

Thomas H. Blythe, a pioneer and bachelor, died in this city on April 4, 1883. His estate is now worth about $4,000,000. The claimants were Alice Edith Dickason, who had lived with him in more or less intimate relationship for five years previous to his death, and who asserted right of his widow; Florence Blythe, a young girl residing in England, who claimed the decedent was her father, and others, known as the Williams' infants and the Savages, who asserted themselves to be next of kin.

FLORENCE'S PATERNITY.

When Judge Coffey was seated on the bench at 9 o'clock in the morning he proceeded to read the case of the plaintiff, Florence Blythe. He said that the fact first to be ascertained is the paternity, and it must be established that Florence sprang from the loins of Thomas H. Blythe, and was not the offspring of Joseph Ashcroft. The evidence of Mrs. Ashcroft, the child's mother, was reviewed at length. Continuing the question of paternity, his words were as follows:

The deceased, at various times and to many different persons, made statements after his return from England, and up to a time shortly before his death, confirmatory of the claim that he had had a female child born to him in England in circumstances corresponding to those narrated by Mrs. Ashcroft; in fact, he never expressed a doubt that he was the father of this child, except on one occasion. The conclusion of Counsel Towle that Mrs. Ashcroft and her mother were street-walkers is not supported by evidence. That Julia Ashcroft was a pure girl at the time she met Blythe was believed by him.

He declared that her child Florence belonged to him; he did not doubt it at all; that the mother was virtuous, and he had promised to marry her and intended to fulfill it; that he had so promised before she consented; that always something occurred to prevent his returning to England to fulfill his promise. He spoke to L. A. Varney of the first time he saw his child in 1875. He showed him a little picture of a girl about a year old; said it was a picture of a little girl he had in England; this picture was on his dressing-table at the time.

Again, in 1876, he spoke to Varney of his desire to go to England: he spoke of a woman, the mother of the child, whose name was Julia Ashcroft, and declared he was the father of the child. He spoke to Deasy and to M. S. Jeffers of Florence as being his child. He spoke in like words to L. S. Pease, to John K. Luttrell, to George M. Pedlar, to Frederick H. Jackson, to Charles N. Palmer, George S. Irish, M. M. Estee and Thomas F. Palmer. Here we have repeated oral declarations on Blythe's part showing he had a fixed belief that the child was his offspring, made at different times and various places up to almost the hour of his death, and some of these cannot be and have not been accused of interest or bias of any kind.

PROOF MUST BE PLENARY.

There is no evidence that Florence is the child of Joseph Ashcroft worthy of attention, all the strong testimony being to the effect that she is not the child of that man. Her paternity is not the only ground on which the heirship of Florence rests. Under Section 230 of the Civil Code five elements must be established: (1) There must be an illegitimate child; (2) the plaintiff must be the child; (3) the father must be T. H. Blythe; (4) he must publicly acknowledge her, and (5) he must treat her as a legitimate child. She was legitimized and is and has been for all purposes legitimate from the time of her birth.

The provisions of the statute are to be liberally construed, but the proof of paternity must be strict and plenary. Relatively it is of little consequence what the rule is in a given case, but it is of great importance to the community and to society and to the State to have the rule so gravely affecting its stability and integrity and property rights correctly laid down. In the opinion of the Court three of the elements of the statute, Section 230, C. C., have been established: (1) There was an illegitimate child; (2) the plaintiff was that child; (3) Thomas H. Blythe, the decedent here, was the father of that child.

Florence was publicly acknowledged by Blythe. The oral declarations made by decedent to various witnesses at numerous and continuous through a course of years down to almost the hour of his death. To friends and acquaintances he repeatedly and unreservedly made such acknowledgment on numerous occasions. It was a constant theme with him—ever upon his lips. The effect of these declarations is hereafter weighed. As a matter of law the fact of their making is established.

I have considered the declarations as to paternity by themselves alone, as near as might be, and separate and segregated from the declarations of acknowledgment, and yet pursue the same course as to the latter. Nothing could be more public than the letter Blythe addressed to Florence, and which went through the Postoffice with the regular postmark, addressed San Francisco, August 11th, and bearing the inscription, "Florence Blythe, care Mr. W. H. Beach, 11 Bridge street, Deansgate, Manchester, England."

WHY FLORENCE WAS ESTRANGED.

The next question raised by decedent's plaintiff into his family within the meaning of the law? The court does not express any opinion as to the character of the relations between Alice E. Blythe and the decedent at the time of his death nor during the years immediately preceding, but it has been shown that his domestic arrangements were not such as to justify him in bringing the child out to San Francisco, and there is sufficient proof of a reason for not having done so. The testimony of Mrs. Blythe is quoted to show that the deceased always said and believed that Florence was his child, and that he intended some time to send for her.

Mrs. Blythe made no objection to the deceased adopting Florence, and, in fact, concurred in that course, and whatever the relations may have been that the defendant Alice Edith Blythe bore to the decedent, whether she was housekeeper, mistress, or wife, or female friend of such family as he had, there was a consent full, unequivocal, complete, to the adoption and acknowledgment of the child; but it was not necessary in view of the reason assigned by him that his domestic arrangements presented a difficulty about bringing the girl to San Francisco that he should have actually taken her into his household. He did all that was presently practicable before he died, and there is sufficient proof for his having done no more. His acts abundantly attest compliance with the Code, Section 230.

The final requirement of Section 230, C. C., is: Did Blythe treat plaintiff as a legitimate child? The opinion reviews the arguments of counsel on this point and some of the testimony given to establish that Blythe did so. He says the deceased did not provide for Florence as well as his income gave reason to believe he would, but that he did send her mother money is incontrovertible.

LEGALITY OF THE ADOPTION.

It is inconceivable, incredible, unthinkable, that deceased could have adopted a child whom he had never seen and who had never been in California before his death. It could not have been done. The law of domicile of the mother of the girl governs, and there is in that country (England) no law of adoption, and, consequently, it could not have been invoked in favor of the plaintiff claimant. Thus contends counsel adverse to plaintiff, but the assertion or contention that she being of alien extraction, never within the jurisdiction of this State until after her father's death, could not have acknowledged and adopted in accordance with the statute of California is not a valid deduction. The law must be taken as written, and there is no such limitation in the language of the statute and no such interpretation within its spirit. It is concerned only with the acts of the father performed here, the domicile of the father, no matter where the object of the act is situated, at home or abroad. The question finally resolves into the plain and simple proposition: What is the law of California and how does it operate?

All that the law of California requires is such recognition and acknowledgment as have been established by evidence. There were good and sufficient reasons why the child was not brought here up to the time of the father's death. The great amount of legal learning brought to bear upon this issue by the counsel adverse to plaintiff-claimant is as irrelevant as it is remote and foreign. It has no application to the circumstances of this case, in the opinion of the Court. Whatever might be the law of England or of another country or State in respect to the status of plaintiff there, it cannot control the canons of descent in California. The statutes of succession here are solely dominant. The Civil Code of California bestows upon plaintiff here the capacity of heir. If the acts of decedent have been proved it follows that she is his heir. Our statute settles the question here, and if we have correctly apprehended its meaning there is no room for further controversy.

BLYTHE'S INTENTION TO ADOPT.

There is no doubt in the mind of the Court that the decedent Blythe designed formally by written instrument to adopt the plaintiff. Some testimony to this effect is furnished by the defendant, Alice Edith Blythe, in her cross-examination, when she says that before going down to his ranch the last time he spoke to her one morning at breakfast and asked her how she came to be baptized a Catholic, and she told him it was done through the lady and a gentleman who adopted her when she was a little child. He said, "Nonsense; they did not adopt you. You were simply left there by your mother."

The witness said that they adopted her because she always called them father and mother. Blythe said that did not make an adoption, that there must be a legal form, that they should consult lawyers and have it done according to law, and then he arose from the table, put his hands in his pockets and paced up and down the floor, and said: "Don't you know that is what I must do for the little one?" This was in the early part of 1883.

The Court referred to the circumstance of an adoption paper by Blythe, which execution, it said, depends entirely upon the testimony of W. H. H. Hart, one of the attorneys of record for plaintiff, and one of the most active of her counsel in the conduct of her cause, who had been permitted by the Court to testify on the very verge of professional propriety, and possibly beyond, and when the Court could not allow to go further without, in its judgment, violating the sanctity between attorney and client. While his evidence as to the execution may be accepted, the contents of that paper must remain dependent upon the testimony of the witness Gutierrez, whose story is circumstantially improbable.

A STRAIN UPON CREDULITY.

The testimony of Varney as to the finding of the paper may be true, but it is too great a strain upon the credulity of a Court, already sufficiently taxed, to accept it, especially in view of the testimony of ex-Judge E. D. Sawyer. This document, of incalculable importance if established, was not put, as it should have been, in a place of safe deposit, but placed by its finder where it might easily be lost or destroyed—in his box in Room 22, of the old building 721½ Market street.

Varney may be veracious, but in this instance he lacks corroboration and suffers by a witness who needs no sponsors. As to the evidence of Gutierrez it is needless to be said. It is barely possible that Gutierrez told the truth, but taking his testimony all through it is extremely improbable, and the Court declines to substantiate a base possibility of truth for an extreme probability of falsehood in a witness so lacking in the general elements of credibility.

THE WILLIAMS NEXT OF KIN.

Judge Coffey then took up the case of the Williams claimants. He held them to be next of kin to Thomas H. Blythe and expressly declared that they were the only collaterals who had any standing in court.

Their testimony, he said, establishes satisfactorily that the true name of the deceased was Thomas Williams, and that he was born in Mold, Wales, July 30, 1822, and that the persons claiming to be his collateral kindred here occupy the relation alleged by them. The written evidence admitted amounts to demonstration, and the oral declarations testified to, and all the corroborative circumstances make it clear that these claimants are the next of kin and the only persons of that description in collateral degree before the court.

The Judge's decision that the Williams claimants are next of kin will have the effect of bringing them in for the whole inheritance if the case is appealed to the Supreme Court and there decided that Blythe did not legally acknowledge Florence as his child.

MISS DICKASON'S CASE.

Judge Coffey gave his conclusion in the case of the alleged widow, Alice Edith, as follows:

The contradictions in the case of this claimant are irreconcilable and cannot be reconciled on the basis that deceased and defendant were husband and wife. She has not affirmatively established her case, much less sustained it by any preponderance of evidence against the mass of testimony in opposition to her claim. Her own evidence does not harmonize with her pleading. Her witnesses fail to substantiate her statements in material particulars, and some of them are so palpably untruthful that the marvel is that any one has had the temerity to trade upon their testimony.

Of the many insignificant incidents that have been testified to in this case, some may have escaped the attention of the Court and thus passed without comment, such as mutilation of Windel's book accounts of the transactions with the deceased, where the page containing her name "Dickason" was torn out by her, showing that she was not known by any other name until after the death of the decedent. But enough has been established to cause her claim to be regarded as not supported by a preponderance of evidence.

This may be a case of hardship, but with that consideration this court cannot be concerned—it is a case without legal merit. The Court can only regard the facts in evidence and administer the law as it is found, and, so holding, the determination must be and it is against the claim presented by and prosecuted for by defendant-claimant. She was not the wife and she is not the widow of the deceased Thomas H. Blythe.

THE GYPSY CLAIMANTS.

The Court disposed of the gypsy-claimants briefly and as follows:

This case had a credible appearance when first presented, and the witnesses in person where have impressed the Court favorably as to their appearance and character, and there is no doubt they at first in with the honest hope of establishing their title to the estate, but to them, as to others, "hope told a flattering tale" at the beginning and if they retained it to the end of the trial disappointment must have followed.

It was a possible case, well prosecuted, with every point of vantage quickly seized and vigilantly guarded, but if anything was necessary to condemn it it was the testimony of the man who was called by counsel as "the last and most important," James Dudley. His evidence sealed its doom. It is a Scotch case, with a Scotch verdict, "not proven."

THE COLLATERAL CLAIMANTS.

The collateral claimants were thus treated by the Court in the termination of the lengthy decision in the contest:

It is impossible to believe that the litigants' kindred are not before the Court. The presumption of their presence is irresistibly with the court. And which of them is next of kin is the question. The first collateral case, so denominated for convenience, is that of the Blythe Company in behalf of the Liverpool claimants. This case was presented with ability and dignity, but there is in it a fatal failure to connect the Thomas H. Blythe of this city with the "Thomas Blythe," born of Alexander Blythe and Mary Warren Blythe, and legitimatized by the church of St. Nicholas, Liverpool, May 19, 1819; the testimony of the Liverpool witnesses shows that this "Tom Blythe," brother of James Blythe, senior, left there in 1838 and was never heard of afterward. One of them testified in his deposition that in 1833 Tom promised that he would be in California before defendants.

Counsel have ably urged that the Blythes they knew had a dark complexion; yet it is well established that the Thomas H. Blythe of San Francisco had a very fair complexion. Some pretend that, although one half a century has elapsed, they identify this Blythe from the pioneer photograph. There is a failure to account for his whereabouts from 1838 to 1849, and the latter dates of evidence are entirely inadequate to identify the Liverpool Blythe with the decedent.

As Counsel S. W. Holladay said, there was but one man who could supply the place of Thomas H. Blythe; no two coins in physical nature can occupy the same place; no two beings in physical nature are precisely alike; no two grains of sand are the same. Resemblances in stature, mental attributes, distinguish persons who have physical likenesses. The case of the Blythe Company does not present the characteristics of the real Thomas H. Blythe. It is out of time with his whole character and career, and there is a fatal hiatus from 1838 to 1849, which has not been supplied by the evidence. This case is not established.

VALUE OF THE ESTATE.

The Blythe estate was appraised shortly after Blythe's death, in the summer of 1883, at $2,100,000. It is now worth close to $4,000,000, having been reappraised last year, after Public Administrator Pennie succeeded Philip A. Roach in the administration, on Roach's death. While parts of this estate lie in Mexico, Arizona and Nevada, and in Trinity and San Diego counties in California, the bulk of it is comprised in the centrally located gore between Market and Geary streets and Grant avenue in this city.

Florence Blythe is now 16 years old. Her grandfather, James Crisp Perry, and her mother, Julia Ashcroft, are with her, living in this city, having come out from England in 1883. Her grandfather is her legally appointed guardian under the order of Judge Coffey.

It is generally believed that the case will be appealed to the Supreme Court by the Williams claimants.

The Williams claimants have refused to accept less than $3,000,000, when approached upon the subject of a settlement, and Miss Dickason, when offered $100,000 in cash, wanted all the estate or nothing. It is possible that the former will take a cipher or two off in order to secure what they have demanded, and the latter may reconsider the offer of so large a sum. The fees of the attorneys for the plaintiff will be paid out of the estate, and will probably amount to $200,000.

AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR.

Another Lot of English Claimants Heard From.

The following letter has been filed in the Probate Department:

[Re Blythe Estate.]
CRIMPLESHAM, DOWNHAM, NORFOLK, ENGLAND, July 15, 1890.

My Lord Judge: Will you kindly excuse my writing on the above subject? I understood that the next of kin to the late Thomas Henry Blythe are wanted by the Court in California. The nephews and nieces of the deceased live in this neighborhood—some of them in this parish. The parish register here contains the records of the births, etc., of the family, including Thomas Henry.

They cannot afford to employ counsel, but as the object of the Court is to discover the next of kin, and as this can be done poverty would not, I am sure, debar them from establishing their claim. For my part, I shall be happy to give the Court all the assistance I can; or, if requested, I shall be prepared to come over with the parish register and to supply any evidence I possess.

A. STANLEY, L.L.D.,
Vicar of Crimplesham and Stradsett.

To the Right Honorable Judge Coffey.
*California Court, San Francisco.

MRS. BEALS' WILL.

It Was Written on Manilla Paper With a Lead Pencil.

The last will of Mrs. Sarah A. Beals has been filed in the Probate Department. It is written on manilla paper with a lead pencil, and reads as follows:

May 25th, '90.

If I should *happen* to die through this ordeal, bury me in Mrs. Pittsinger's lot in Laurel Cemetery as she desires—as regards my trunk and box of freight send them by freight to my Brother—the money that is left after all is paid send by express to Brother to his Daughter *Lily*—there is $450 00 in Bank—Dr. Maclean has been paid $150 00—is to receive $50 00 more—there is $50 00 in my pocket-book—I owe no one in this world *a cent*—but owing one—I wish to have a casket with glass on top (part way) and a nice robe all white—with flowers at the neck—that is all. MRS. SARAH A. BEALS.

An Unnecessary Alarm.

A pile of straw in the rear of 1237 Market street became ignited last evening about 6 o'clock and an alarm was turned in from Box 76. No damage was caused, and there was no necessity for calling out the department.

POLITICAL FIELD.

The State Fight Is Growing Decidedly Warmer.

Ex-Senator Moffitt Thinks English Will Win. Felton on His Way Home—Kelly as a Would-Be Programmer.

Colonel Markham, it is expected, will leave Los Angeles to-day for San Francisco, and will remain north until after the adjournment of the Sacramento Convention. He will assume personal charge of his campaign in this city, and will make his headquarters in Parlor A of the Palace Hotel.

In the meantime, his friends are not idle, but are on the alert, night and day, to prevent the formation of any combination against their champion. The ranks of his workers in this city are being constantly re-enforced from Los Angeles, and they are making the corridors of the Palace lively from morning till night. They claim a solid delegation from the Sixth Congressional District, and say that Santa Barbara and Ventura are both for Markham.

The former, it has been urged by the Morrow men, would go into the convention for Elwood Cooper, but rumor has it now that the name of the latter will not be presented, and that his strength will go solid to Markham. As to Ventura Walter S. Moore is authority for the statement that there is no foundation in fact for the report that its delegates are for Morrow. Delegate Higgins from Los Angeles has just returned from a trip through Ventura County, and reports that they are a unit for the Los Angeles candidate, and will be found voting for him to the last.

SHOUTING FOR ENGLISH.

Ex-Senator Moffitt Says He Is the Coming Man.

Ex-Senator Frank J. Moffitt stood in the corridor of the Palace Hotel last night and thoughtfully flecked the ashes from a fragrant two-bit cigar, while the musical coolings of Scoochin Maloney's voice floated out on the night air like the tones of the Point Bonita fog-horn. The Senator's brow was corrugated with the lines of care as he listened to the discussion of the chances of the various candidates for the Democratic nomination for Governor. After listening impatiently for a few minutes, he said:

"I'll tell you fellows, right now, that English is the only man in it. He can show more real strength to-day than either Coleman or Pond, and if I am anything of a prophet he will get the nomination sure. Why? Well, I'll tell you why. Because he has friends among the delegates in every county in the State, and because the big men of the Democratic party are all for him. Steve White, Tom Cluney, Dennis Spencer, R. F. del Valle, Barney Murphy and every man in the State of high standing in the party is friendly to him.

"Now, to figure a little, just to show how he stands. To begin with, he has the Alameda delegation, with its 29 members solid. Tehama, with 7 votes, is for him. Of the 16 delegates from San Bernardino, which the newspapers have claimed would be divided between Pond and Coleman, I am assured that three-fourths of them will be with English, while in Los Angeles, at the least calculation, one-third of the delegates will support him. Now, coming to Santa Cruz, we find him the strongest candidate.

"I know this because I have just received a telegram from Eli White, a brother of Stephen M. White, who will head the delegation from that county, and he wires that English is his choice. I mention this merely to show that he is gaining strength every day, and will surprise every one in the convention with his showing. The newspapers have never done him justice, and it is about time that they were waking up to the fact that he is making a winning fight.

"As far as Pond is concerned, in my opinion, he is 'not in it.' The result in Los Angeles knocked him out, and destroyed what little chance he ever had. His strength is all of a negative character, and his friends cannot point to a single county where he will have any enthusiastic support. He has unwavered to make the country people believe that he was strong in the city, and has reversed his tactics when dealing with the city politicians. The result is that he has made friends of neither and is practically without any real strength of a positive kind. You can set it down that English is the winning man, and events will show that I am talking by the card."

OPPOSED TO A PROGRAMME.

San Francisco Delegates Do Not Want Dictation.

Martin Kelly and Phil Crimmins are making strenuous efforts to "programme" the San Francisco delegation to the Republican Convention, but so far as can be learned they have made but little headway. The two gentlemen in question are looked upon as very "small potatoes" by the majority of the delegates, who simply ridicule their peculiar antics.

Neither is regarded as of sufficient political importance to command any degree of consideration in a State fight, and their advances have met in most instances with a cold rebuff. The continued screechings of their henchmen as to their power have deceived no one, and the fifteen votes which they will control in the State Convention will cut but a small figure in determining the result.

Louderback and Braun, with twelve at their command, will be only a little less potent than the brace from Geary street, while the 102 delegates, who acknowledge no allegiance to either of the above factions, will vote as they please. This is about the real standing of the San Francisco delegation, which will be found to reserve more for the city in that way than by holding off, as Martin Kelly suggests, "to see what the Governor will give us."

The indications are that the city will have her full share of the places on the ticket, as in the event of Markham's nomination the south will ask for nothing more, they say, but the nomination of Van Dyke for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

PREPARING FOR ELECTION.

A Discussion Regarding Names on the Registrar's Lists.

The Board of Election Commissioners met yesterday, Mayor Pond presiding, and a long discussion took place over the names on the list furnished by the Registrar from which to select members of the Precinct Boards of Registration.

It was charged by Auditor Strother that the lists are incomplete and do not contain all the names on the assessment-roll. H. J. Zemansky, a representative of the Democratic County Committee, also said that he had canvassed the rolls from the Twenty-ninth and Thirty-fifth Assembly districts and found over 300 names missing.

"Why were these names left off the rolls?" asked Mr. Strother of the Registrar.

Mr. Smiley replied that when the rolls were made out the records were incomplete, and that accounted for the missing names. A supplemental list was made out a week ago, and it contained 17,000 names. Mr. Smiley said that he was not disposed to be unfair, and every name is on the list.

After some discussion, it was decided to postpone the matter of selecting officers until the 11th of August, and in the meantime the supplemental rolls will be furnished to County Committees of both parties. Registration will begin on August 6th.

It was resolved to employ two typewriters, one Democrat and one Republican, to copy the names registered at the central office for the two County Committees.

FELTON COMING HOME.

He Has Suddenly Turned His Face Toward San Francisco.

Charles N. Felton, who has steadfastly declined to allow the use of his name in connection with the Republican nomination for Governor, and who announced his determination to remain at the East until after the State Convention, has suddenly concluded to hasten home, and is booked to arrive in San Francisco on Thursday next. The reason for this sudden change in his plans is not announced, but it is known that some anti-Markham men have discovered that Felton is the only man for the place, and are endeavoring to work up a boom for him in San Francisco. In the face of his repeated assertions to the effect that he would not be, under any circumstances, it seems hard to believe that he is actually in the fight, but there is certainly a mysterious movement in his direction that wears a suspicious look.

Suffrage and Education.

A special meeting of the State Woman-suffrage Educational Association (incorporated) will be held at the rooms of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, at Sutter and Powell streets, next Friday afternoon, for the purpose of electing officers and arranging for a canvass of the State in furtherance of the objects of the association.

Death of a Manicure.

Julie la Blanche, the keeper of a manicure and massage establishment, at 15 Eddy street, died suddenly in her rooms yesterday morning. She had been drinking heavily of late, and on Wednesday evening complained of being very sick. The body was taken to the Morgue, where an autopsy will be made. The deceased was 31 years of age and a native of Ireland.

A JURY SECURED.

The Trial of Frank Smith for Murder Commenced.

Judge Van Reynegom succeeded yesterday in securing a jury to try Frank Smith, who is charged with the murder of J. C. Margot, committed last May.

The prisoner was employed in the St. George stables and entered a saloon on Leidesdorff street, between Clay and Sacramento, kept by Margot. After several rounds of drinks had been disposed of, Margot refused to give him any more and words ensued. Smith was ejected finally but soon returned, whereupon Margot seized a club and tried to put him out again. The accused snatched the club and hit Margot over the head with it.

The latter tried to possess himself of a pistol from a drawer when Smith again hit him on the head and then ran away. Margot died a week afterward at St. Mary's Hospital. In the Police Court Dr. Conlon of the hospital testified that Margot died from the effects of delirium tremens, while Dr. Estes was sure he died from the effects of the blows. Some evidence was taken yesterday afternoon and then the trial went over until this morning.

ANOTHER STRIKE.

Riveters on the Monterey Dissatisfied With Their Wages.

Coopers Thoroughly Organized—An Open Meeting by the Painters—Shoe Clerks' Closing Movement.

It was reported at the Iron-molders' headquarters last night that the remainder of the riveters employed on the coast-defense vessel Monterey had gone on a strike. The first number that walked out was twenty, and the remainder numbered about that many more.

The cause of this strike was the change of wages from piece work to $2 50 a day. They were first informed by the employers, so it is said, that they would be put on regular day work after a certain time, but as nothing was said about the amount of pay they fully supposed it would be the usual standard.

Before they had been long at work, however, they found they were only receiving $15 a week, and to this they did not propose to submit, even though not restricted by union rules. It is understood that the others have struck for the same cause.

CONTENTED COOPERS.

They Have Succeeded in Organizing the Whole City.

The Journeymen Coopers decided at their meeting last night to turn out 300 strong in the Labor Day parade and carry a large float representing a cooper-shop.

The coopers have the most satisfactory report to make regarding the condition of their trade of almost any organized body in the city. Every shop in the city is organized and conducted on union principles, and the trade is in a good condition.

The differences between the coopers and brewery workmen in regard to the employment bureau promise now to be settled amicably. Delegate Pye of the Federated Trades has suggested that they organize a bureau, for the coopers, and then co-operate with the brewers when the emergency demands it. The matter will be left for the Federated Trades to settle.

JOURNEYMEN BUTCHERS.

Support Given the 7 O'clock Closing Agitation.

The journeymen butchers were out in full force last night. A great deal of interest is being taken in their proposed picnic at Shell Mound in a few weeks and the committee that has the affair in hand reported most encouraging progress. The membership of the union was increased by five and six applications to join were received. The union received the shoe-clerks' delegation and promised hearty support in bringing about the 7 o'clock closing movement, resolving not to patronize stores after that hour. A report of excellent progress was received from the South San Francisco and Oakland branches.

Painters and Decorators.

The painters and decorators are preparing for a public demonstration in lower Metropolitan Hall on next Wednesday night at which time a good entertainment will be given, for which at the meeting last night they were very busy making preparations. Pretty nearly the full membership was present, as it is intended to promote the interest in this union and more thoroughly organize the painters and decorators of the city. A delegation was received from the Shoe Clerks' Association, and the assurance of support in their efforts was genuine.

Barbers Lend a Helping Hand.

The Barbers' Union gave the shoe clerks a warm reception last night, and as an emphatic expression of sympathy in their movement passed a resolution to fine any member $2 who patronizes any shoe-store after 7 o'clock. They pledged their support of the clerks in every way they could. As a reward for compliments the shoe clerks resolved not to shave anywhere after 8 o'clock at night.

Itinerant Shoe Clerks.

Two delegations of the Shoe Clerks' Association were making tours of the labor unions last night in the interest of their closing movement. Wherever they visited they were cordially received and everywhere assured of the support of the labor unions.

Stationary Engineers.

The stationary engineers received one new member last night and four proposals for membership. They report trade in a good condition.

Y. M. I. AFFAIRS.

Arrangements for the Grand Council. Delegates Coming.

The Entertainment Committee of the Y. M. I. Grand Council met last evening at the Institute headquarters and perfected all minor details of the literary and musical entertainment to be given next Monday night in the Grand Opera House.

All boxes in the theater have been reserved and will not be sold. Delegates and the clergy will occupy them. A large number of invitations have been addressed by the committee to members of the Young Ladies' Institute both for the entertainment and ball.

Delegates to the Grand Council began to arrive yesterday. Rev. J. A. Van Nevel of Victoria, British Columbia; Rev. E. Sobry and John M. Vetter, of Nanaimo, British Columbia, were cordially welcomed at headquarters yesterday evening. Father Van Nevel has been a delegate on former occasions, and his traveling companions are popular members of the institute in Vancouver. Father Kirby of Crescent City, E. D. Sullivan of Butte City, Mont., Charles Kennedy, of Santa Fe, N. Mex., also arrived and registered at headquarters.

Institute No. 55, which is known among the local branches as the "Dude Institute," is making remarkable efforts to outdo itself in their big tent with hospitality and muscales on the night of the grand ball.

The Mechanics' Pavilion is now in the hands of the decorators and rapidly undergoing a change for the better in its interior appearance. The decorations will be finished by Sunday.

A New Kind of Matron.

Mrs. Mary Matroni (nee Bridget O'Houlahan) made her eighty-seventh appearance in the Police Court yesterday to answer a charge of drunk, placed against her by Officers Rainsbury and Holbrook. The woman is the wife of an Italian scavenger and lives with her eight children in an extremely filthy hovel on Brannan place. She was sent to the House of Correction for sixty days, and her children will be taken care of by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Handled Diseased Meat.

The case of John Hammerschlag, charged with bringing diseased meat into the city limits for sale, was on trial before Judge Joachimsen yesterday and continued for further hearing until to-day. At the conclusion of the day's proceedings Hammerschlag was arrested again on two complaints charging him with slaughtering cattle without a license and with bringing diseased meat into the city limits.

Like the Perfume Wafted

From beds of flowers is the breath that has been rendered agreeably odorous with SOZODONT, which communicates to the teeth a marble whiteness, and to the gums a roseate tint. Use it, and beautify your mouth.

REAL ESTATE.

A Disposition to Maintain Stiff Prices Prevails.

Valuable Properties Being Listed for Auction. Important Sales—Transfers—Building Intelligence—Various Items.

Apart from a few extraordinary transactions the market during the past week has been uneventful and quiet, but contrary to expectation prices remain as firm as ever, and leading operators share in the opinion that a decline in values, previous to the usual fall activity in business, is not likely to occur.

The usual monthly circular published by Thomas Magee on the first day of the month, a summary of which appears exclusively in today's CALL, is full of valuable information, and is perhaps the most important review ever prepared by him.

G. H. Umbsen & Co.'s monthly circular comes out to-day. It is replete with news pertaining to real estate and building operations during the past month, also various other topics of interest.

COMING SALES.

William J. Dingee, Oakland, and Easton, Eldridge & Co., San Francisco, are preparing a catalogue of properties on the line of the cable system in Oakland, which will be offered about the latter part of the month.

O'Farrell & Lang will offer at auction, without reserve, on the 1st day of September, at 12 o'clock noon, at their salesroom in this city, by order of the Superior Court, the well-known property belonging to the Barney estate, which is one of the most desirable unimproved business properties ever offered in this city. It is situated on Sixteenth and Valencia streets and has been subdivided into twenty-seven lots with four corners, one of which is on the northeast corner of Sixteenth and Valencia streets; size 45x100, through to a small street. As a business stand, this position in the Mission is somewhat similar to Market and Fourth streets, and will, therefore, command the attention of large buyers. The property is considered worth in the neighborhood of $250,000. A full announcement of the sale will appear later in the columns of THE CALL.

Easton, Eldridge & Co. are grading the block bounded by Broderick, Baker, Page and Oak streets, and when the work is completed, which will be in a few days, it is their intention to offer it in subdivisions at auction on or about the 15th of September. It will be one of their largest auctions of the season, not excepting the Presidio Heights sale.

They have two more valuable blocks in the Western Addition belonging to one of the banks which are now being put into salable shape, after which they will also be offered at auction without reserve.

The Carnall-Fitzhugh-Hopkins Company has twenty-five teams at work grading Lakeview. Catalogues and maps are being prepared, and the property will be offered shortly at auction. About half of the property, or in all 900 lots, has already changed hands.

G. H. Umbsen & Co. announce a large sale of valuable properties, to take place about the latter part of the month.

Von Rhein & Co. are preparing a catalogue of valuable miscellaneous city property, which will be offered by them at auction on the 21st inst.

SALES REPORTED.

Shainwald, Buckbee & Co. report sales as follows: New house, southeast corner of Webster and Vallejo streets, 26:6x91:6, J. L. Turner to William Floyd, $7700.

House on Clay street, 20x80, Clarence Est to Miss Corson, $4000.

Lot on Douglass street, Dr. Lettingwell to Mr. Nevins; S. B. in Jose, and lot on Market street, near Fourteenth, 25x100, E. R. Lilienthal to Maria Quigley, $7500.

The Nightingale gore, formed by the junctions of Ellis and Market streets, where they meet Stockton street, with a frontage of 131 feet on Market, 106 feet on Ellis street, and running 76:6 feet across from Ellis to Market, has been sold to James L. Flood for $410,000. It was purchased in 1866 for $325,000.

The price paid for this piece of property is not a fair index of the present values of Market-street property in that neighborhood.

Bovee, Toy & Co. have closed several small sales during the week and are negotiating for the disposition of a few large ones.

Meade, Baldwin & Hammond closed a number of sales, principally vacant lots for homes, during the past few days.

The Carnall-Fitzhugh-Hopkins Company sold this week house and lot, 30x80, on north side of Geary street, near Larkin, for $9500.

Two lots on University Heights for $350.

Lot 70x160, on west side of Thirty-eighth avenue, near A street, $750.

Lot 25x86, on south side of Nineteenth street, between Noe and Hartford, $2600.

Lot 50x120, on west side of Fifth avenue, between Clement and California streets, $1600.

Forty acres in the Hopkins Model Fruit Colony, $1400.

Easton, Eldridge & Co. sold at outside land, No. 1146, $4000.

Fifty-vara lot, northwest corner of Ellis and Gough streets, $22,600.

Lot on north side of Sutter street, 35 feet west of Broderick, 25x110, $3300.

Four lots in Holly Park at $600 each.

Jacob Heyman sold a number of lots on the south side of the park, on Sanjuan street, aggregating $5000.

F. A. Dolan reports a very busy month, having disposed of cheap properties numbering thirty-nine lots, aggregating $1,650; also house and lot 829 Dolores street, $2600. Lots south of the park at prices ranging from $150 to $350, and ten lots in block 1060, corners $200, inside $125, cash.

W. B. Marshutz & Co. are negotiating for the sale of three important city properties.

O'Farrell & Lang have sold the 50-vara, improved and used, size 137:8x137:6, on southeast corner of Francisco and Mason streets, $30,000. Lot 410 Clara street, 25x80, and improvements, $3200; rents $38 per month. The Hinkel house, on north side of Lace street, west of Baker, 25x114, $8000. South side of Twenty-seventh street, 175 west of Sanchez, 100x114, $4650, unimproved; also on south side of Elizabeth street, 100 west of Castro, 25x114, $1100.

TRANSFERS.

A few important transfers have been recorded during the week, as follows, which do not include the many transfers of a nominal consideration, amounting to a very large amount:

George Vance (by executors) to Edward McLaughlin, lot on southeast line of Mission street, 350 northeast from Eighth, northeast 25x160, $15,500.

J. H. Cory to N. J. Brittan, lot on north line of Oak street, 112:6 east of Laguna, 25x120, $4000.

John Gibson to Eliza W. Dickie, lot on west line of Mississippi street, 62 north of Napa, north 25x137:6, $2500.

Jane E. Peck (by administrator) to G. Stoney, lot on east line of Alabama street, 140 south of Twenty-sixth, east 200, south 103, southwest 213, north 140, $7150.

G. Stoney to O. C. Pratt, same, $7750.

John H. Burne and wife to Agnes Sullivan, lot on south line of Oak street, 137:6 west of Devisadero, west 25x137:6, $2500.

BUILDING INTELLIGENCE.

The Von Rhein block on the corner of Valencia and Quinn streets is completed and consists of six flats and three stores. It is claimed that this is the most expensive structure on Valencia street. It is certainly an ornament to the neighborhood. The flats have been arranged on the most modern plan and are equipped with novel contrivances and conveniences which cannot fail to be appreciated by good housekeepers.

S. Bachman with J. S. W. Saunders, additions on Gough street, between Bush and Sutter, $2470.

A. McLaughlin with C. Hippily, to build on north line of Grove street, 137:6 west of Buchanan, west 27:6x137:6, $5250.

Philip Rohrbacher with Henry Munster, alterations on north line of Fulton street, 137:6 west of Franklin west 38:9x120, $2250.

Johann A. Schmidt with Henry F. Wagner, painting, etc., on southeast line of Ellis and Leavenworth streets, east 82:6x93:6; bonds $2000; Jacob Weiss surety.

Frank Kayser with George Houston, to build on west line of Sanchez street, between Sixteenth and Seventeenth, $4050.

J. Liddle with C. P. Maze, to build on south line of Turk street, 25 feet east of Seymour, east 25x100, $4250.

Jacob Nickels with F. Klatt, to build on northeast corner of Gough and Page streets, east 27:6 by 120, $7750; bonds, $5000; B. Joost and J. F. Kennedy, sureties.

J. S. Franklin with Ovid Brault et al., additions on south line of California street, 34:4½ feet west of Steiner, west 34:4½ by 137:6, $5700.

Hepburn Wilkins with S. H. Kent, alterations on southeast line of Howard street, 90 feet southwest of Eleventh, southwest 30:3 feet, southeast 90 feet, northeast 29 feet, northwest 90 feet, to beginning, $4500.

Hepburn Wilkins with S. H. Kent, to build on south line of Division street, 133:4 feet east of Eleventh, east 27:4 by 80, $7800.

John Bowes with James Glachin, to build on Sierra street, between Kentucky and Tennessee, $1250.

James McConahey with John H. Grady, alterations on north line of Twenty-fourth street, between Valencia and Guerrero, $2260.

St. John's Church, consolidating of chapel, Joseph Norris contractor, c