AS TO BIG SHIPS.

Ill Luck of the Great Somali.

NOW MANY DAYS OVERDUE.

Is the Noted Four-Masted Ship a Failure?

SOME OLD-TIME LEVIATHANS.

The Columbus and the Baron of Renfrew Were Both Lost Soon After Being Launched.

The failure of the monster sailing ship Somali to arrive at this port ninety days after her departure from Hong-Kong suggests to the minds of the imaginative that she has been lost, or else is seriously damaged by conflict with a gale which she was perhaps unable to weather without the loss of sails or spars, or it may be her steering gear.

Although reinsurance has been paid on the Somali and her consignors are inclined to think that some mishap has overtaken the vessel sea captains appear to believe that she will come into harbor before many days and give a good account of herself.

Whatever may be the fate of the Somali her tardiness has aroused considerable discussion of the much-mooted question: "Is the four and five masted sailing ship of extraordinary tonnage a success?"

The answer to this question involves a number of arguments, which, if reported verbatim, would require a page of a newspaper for their publication. A lengthy report was a few years ago forwarded to the British Admiralty, and later a paper was sent to the Naval Bureau at Washington setting forth the disadvantages under which great iron ships labor in the matter of structural weakness. The bringing of this subject before the marine experts of the navies of two great nations resulted in stirring up great interest among ship-builders and maritime engineers.

A careful review of statistics showed that iron four-masters are largely in the majority as having been damaged by gales and heavy seas. Smaller iron three-masted ships and barks come next, and last of all is the wooden ships of American build.

Special stress is laid upon the proof that iron crafts do not "give" but rather "wrench themselves," recovering with a jerk, which is hazardous to spars and rigging and a general strain on the hull. To overcome this defect in her sea quarters, an attempt was made to patent for the four-masted ship what was known as the "Webb longitudinal brace," a complex arrangement for strengthening vessels of great length. Webb's device proved a failure.

Attention was called to the long life of wooden wnaling vessels, some of which had buffeted the Arctic seas and have been crushed between icefloes for as long a period as fifty years without showing any signs of structural weakness.

Vessels of an unusual length and of large tonnage are at a great disadvantage in a gale, for the reason that they are attacked by two, and even three, seas at a time, instead of being able to ride safely over the crest of one wave before breasting another. The larger the structure the more general is the attack of the elements and the more difficult it becomes to man the vessel or to make her answer promptly to her helm.

In the past twelve months a large number of four-masted iron ships of over 2000 tons register have been reported wrecked, and the papers have been filled with accounts of damage done to vessels of this class that have been almost destroyed by storms which smaller iron and wooden craft have weathered with ease.

The France, the largest sailing-ship in the world, has never been a success as a storm-beater, nor has she ever proved a bonanza from a commercial standpoint.

The Somali has twice been nearly wrecked. Her experience in Chinese waters just before she sailed for San Francisco was an expensive one for her owners. But for the timely arrival of a steamship, which took the disabled ship in tow, the Somali would undoubtedly have been a total wreck. At the time she was picked up she was almost totally dismasted.

The building of monster four-masted ships has not been entirely confined to the present decade. According to the shipping records at Quebec, two ships, each larger than the Somali, were launched in 1824. This statement seems hardly credible, but the records are there to show for it, marine journals declare.

First of these maritime wonders was the Columbus of 3700 tons register. She was 301 feet long, 50 feet 7 inches breadth of beam and 29 feet 4 inches depth of hold.

According to the data furnished in the Quebec papers of 1824 the Columbus was a "timber ship capable of shipping 9000 tons of lumber between and above decks. She carried a crew of nearly 100 men and when making all sail presented the appearance of a frigate of wonderful proportions."

Her yards were clumsy affairs which required the efforts of a score of seamen to set her immense spread of canvas, but no mention was specially made of her sailing qualities.

The Columbus got into trouble on the 22d of May, 1825, and on the 29th was abandoned at sea and proved a total loss.

Next in order of the big cargo-carriers of those days was the Baron of Renfrew, if anything a larger craft than the Columbus. She measured 303 feet in length, 52 feet breadth of beam and 35 feet depth of hold. She was wrecked off the coast of France in 1825.

The loss of these two extraordinary ships in the same year put an end to the building of four-masters for some time. It was argued that the four-masted ship was a failure.

With the advance of the methods of shipbuilding in the coming quarter-century it is hoped to be able to demonstrate that vessels of great tonnage can be constructed such as will be as fully able to cope with the elements as craft of lighter draught. Until such a time, however, there is reason to believe that it is safer to ship a cargo in an American wooden ship or a vessel that does not aspire to be a record-beater for tonnage.

A STOCKHOLDER'S RIGHTS.

Suit to Break Up the Street Railroad Consolidation.

George Whittel of the Nicholas Luning Estate Company has brought a suit in the Superior Court against the Market-street and Central Railroad companies, which if successful will have the effect of breaking up the present combination.

The action is to quiet the title of the Central Railroad Company to its franchise, and also to several valuable pieces of real property in which an adverse interest has been claimed by the Market-street Railroad Company since the trust was originated in October, 1893. The plaintiff claims that he is the owner of 100 shares in the company's capital stock, and is therefore largely interested in the property belonging to it. It is alleged that the directors of the Market-street Company, C. F. Crocker, H. E. Huntington, Charles Lathrop, A. Hayward, M. D. Stein, W. J. Adams, N. T. Smith, J. L. Willcut and F. S. Douty, have claimed title to the property of the Central Railroad Company since October 14, 1893, but that in reality they have no interest in it whatever.

On December 21, 1893, Whittel says that he notified the directors of the Central Company that the Market-street Company had wrongfully claimed title to the property, and he advised the bringing of an action to quiet title. No notice, however, was taken of his communication.

It is further stated that the directors of the Central Railroad Company own three-fourths of the capital stock of the company and are also interested in the Market-street Company, so both corporations are made parties to the suit. All the stockholders are invited to join him in his claim. It is demanded that the Market-street Company be compelled to set forth the nature of the adverse claim, and that the title of the Central Railroad Company be quieted as against the claim of the railroad combination.

WAS LARKIN INSANE?

A New Feature in the Contest Over His Estate.

The latest development in the contest over the estate of the late William Larkin, the capitalist, is that attempts will probably be made to show that he was insane.

It will be remembered that only the other day Judge Levy granted special letters of administration to George Kavanagh, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Kavanagh, to whom the estate was bequeathed, overruling the application of J. D. Sullivan on behalf of Public Administrator Freese. Now Sullivan talks of applying to the Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari, on the ground that in cases where proceedings have been begun which attack the legality of a will neither the person named in the will as executor nor the party contesting the will should be appointed special administrator. It is in the nature of a suit between partners where a receiver is asked for.

George H. Perry, attorney for Larkin's relatives, says that Larkin was insane for many years. He intends to bring forward a large number of witnesses, who will testify that they knew Larkin for ten or fifteen years and that they knew him to be out of his mind. He will seek to upset the will on this showing.

Meanwhile Judge Levy has made an order directing George Kavanagh to permit Attorney Perry to inspect certain old memorandum-books belonging to Larkin, which Kavanagh has hitherto withheld.

COULD NOT PAY IT.

Bosqui Could Not Be Adjudged Guilty of Contempt.

Judge Slack was occupied yesterday in hearing the continued examination of Edward L. Bosqui on an order to show cause why he should not be punished for contempt of court for neglecting to pay alimony to his divorced wife, Mary.

It is now some time since Mrs. Bosqui obtained her divorce, on the ground of her husband's failure to provide and extreme cruelty. Bosqui was ordered to pay his wife $50 a month alimony, but he disobeyed the order and had not paid his wife a cent. He pleaded extreme poverty, and said that his business as an insurance agent now only ranged between $20 and $70 a month. He could find no better employment.

Judge Slack said that under the circumstances he could not commit Bosqui for contempt. The man was out of active employment and was unable to pay.

Matt Sullivan, who represented the wife, said that if Bosqui showed no disposition to work he should be punished, but Judge Slack held otherwise. He said that Mrs. Bosqui had better for the present accept the proposition advanced by Mr. Bosqui Sr., her father-in-law, to pay her $25 a month out of his own pocket. Finally, this was agreed to, pending an improvement in young Bosqui's prospects, and the contempt proceedings were ordered to be dismissed.

THE BLUFF DIDN'T WORK

Judge Conlan's Distinction Between Respectable Citizens and Drunkards.

Charles Smith was arrested early Thursday morning on Third street for being drunk and carrying a concealed weapon in the shape of a pistol. When he appeared before Judge Conlan yesterday morning his attorney referred to him as a respectable citizen and said he carried the pistol as a protection against footpads. As the Judge had expressed the view that he would not convict any person, except criminals and suspects, for carrying a pistol during the present footpad scare the attorney asked for a dismissal of the charge against Smith.

"You can't bluff me that way," retorted the Judge. "When I referred to respectable citizens I did not include drunken men and fools who are just as dangerous to the community with a gun as a criminal or a suspected person. The charge against the defendant will be sustained and he will appear on Monday for sentence. I shall also fine him $5 or twenty-four hours for being drunk."

CATHOLIC CHARITY.

Donation Entertainment in Metropolitan Hall.

The Young Men's Institute, the Catholic Ladies' Aid Society and the Young Ladies' Institute will combine in giving a donation entertainment at Metropolitan Temple on Tuesday evening next, February 6, for the benefit of the deserving poor.

An address will be delivered by Most Rev. Archbishop Riordan, followed by an excellent literary and musical programme.

Admission will be by a package of provisions or an order for the same. Orders for money, provisions, fuel and clothing will be received at Y. M. I. Hall, Tenth and Market streets, or at the hall on the evening of the entertainment. It is hoped that the general public will assist in this charitable movement.

Applicants for relief will be assisted at Y. M. I. Hall Monday and Thursday from 10 to 12 A. M.

G. A. R. Association.

At a G. A. R. Cemetery Association meeting held on the 30th ult. the following members of the Grand Army of the Republic were elected to fill vacancies existing by reason of expiration of terms of service: O. S. Johnson of General George G. Meade Post No. 48, H. T. Hobbert of Lincoln Post No. 1 and J. J. Lyon of Lincoln Post No. 1. The following were elected officers for the ensuing year: H. T. Hobbert, president; O. S. Johnson, vice-president; J. C. Innes, secretary; C. Mason Kinne, treasurer. This association has in charge the matter of providing for the last resting-place not only of members of the Grand Army of the Republic but of all those who honorably served in the army or navy of the United States during the War of the Rebellion and in having their graves kept green until the last remnant of the G. A. R. shall have passed away.

Park Music To-day.

The following is the programme of music arranged for the open-air concert at Golden Gate Park to-day:

Overture, "Robespierre" ..... Litolff
Spring Song ..... Mendelssohn
Introduction and Siciliana from the opera "Cavalleria Rusticana" ..... Mascagni
Horn solo by E. Schlott.
Waltz, "Carmen" (first time) ..... J Rosas
"Rhapsodie Hongroise" No. 2 (by request) ... Liszt
Overture, "Poet and Peasant" ..... Suppe
Concert Waltz, "La Traviata" ..... W. Popp
Solo for flute, performed by A. Lombardo.
Selection from the opera "Les Cloches de Corneville" (first time) ..... Planquette
Medley, "Boston Bake" ..... E. Brooke
Contents—"Razzle Dazzle," "My Sweet Love," "Hornpipe Polka," "Evening Song," "Convent Bells," "Dream of the Ball," "Appollonia," "The Lady Picking Mulberries," "Chinese Song," "Arkansas Traveler," "Galop," "All Caught Cold."
March, "The Crusader" ..... Sousa

A University Course.

The Unity Club of the Second Unitarian Church commence a series of university extension lectures by professors of the Leland Stanford Jr. University. The first of these lectures will be held next Tuesday evening at the church on the corner of Twentieth and Capp streets, the subject being "Study of Literature" by Professor Edward Howard Griggs.

DRY GOODS.

Man wants but little here below, but WOMENS WANTS ARE MANY, and we know what they are and how best to supply them.

For Eighteen Years we have been studying the wants of the women of California, and as we can now safely claim a large part of the ladies of the State as our patrons, we feel justified in making the above statement that we know their wants and how best to supply them.

Our system of California stores being the greatest distributors of Dry Goods in the Golden State, are the largest, and therefore cheapest buyers. Our transactions are for the most part direct with the manufacturer saving for you the profits of the commission merchant or jobber.

Prices the least ever known. You can buy Dry Goods in our store cheaper than you ever bought first-class merchandise for before. We have revolutionized the business in this city. Other stores are now selling cheaper than they ever did before. We will never be undersold and you will find most lines cheaper here than elsewhere.

CLEARANCE SALE. WE HAVE SELECTED some of the most striking items of the Clearance Sale bargains that are offered for this week. Every department shows the slashing of the "Price-cutter's Knife"—almost anything you want at lower prices than usual.

Big line added this week.
CRINKLED SEERSUCKERS, this season's newest styles stripes, fine colorings, 2500 yards in all. Bought to sell at 12½c a yard. Sale price.. 8⅓c Yard

Another new drive.
DRILL DAMASK, 62 inches, all linen, good patterns. Was 50c a yard. Sale price will be ..... 39c Yard

If you need towels read this.
ALL-LINEN TOWELS, double warp, broche borders. An excellent value at the sale price ..... 20c Each

This is cheap enough.
BLEACHED TWILLED CRASH, all linen, 18 inches wide, good value at 16⅔c a yard. Sale price will be ... 12½c Yard

Here are some good bath towels.
TURKISH TOWELS, 20x40 inches, a good heavy quality, usually retailed at $2 a dozen. The sale price is ..... $1.25 Dozen

Spring Styles 1894.
CHALLIES, in the handsome new vine and figure effects. The 8½c a yard kind on sale at ..... 5c Yard

The kind your mother bought, but she paid more for it.
UNBLEACHED CANTON FLANNEL, medium weight. The 10c a yard kind regular on sale at ..... 7c Yard

A new attraction.
2000 BLEACHED PILLOW-CASES, good quality muslin, well made, size 45x36 inches, worth 20c each. Sale price will be ..... 14c Each

Only one bale of this.
BROWN CRASH, all linen, 18 inches wide, worth 12½c a yard, will be added to the sale at ..... 9c Yard

Big enough to "tuck in" all around.
BEDSPREADS, 86x76 inches, in fine Marseilles patterns. Cheap at $1 apiece. Sale price ..... 62c Each
MARSEILLES BEDSPREADS, 90x81 inches, worth at least $1 50 each, now on sale at ..... 98c Each
MARSEILLES BEDSPREADS, 10x10 size, worth $2 each, selling now at. $1.50 Each

A trade stimulant.
4-4 BROWN MUSLIN. We have added to the clearance sale this week 15,000 yards of the heavy thread, 8½c a yard kind, for ..... 5c Yard

New styles, patterns and colors.
CALICOS, fresh from the factory, light, medium and dark colors, bought to sell at 7c, added to the sale at ..... 5c Yard

Third counter on the left for a good every-day dress.
100 PIECES GENUINE STORM SERGE, 37 inches wide, in navy blue, all wool, a value at 50c a yard. Sale price ..... 35c Yard
50 PIECES HEAVY CHEVIOT, 38 inches wide, plain and mixed, all wool, will be closed out at only ..... 39c Yard
20 PIECES ALL-WOOL HENRIETTA CLOTH, good color assortment, our regular 50c grade, for ..... 35c Yard
HEAVY DIAGONAL STORM SERGE, in tans and browns, 38 inches wide, and all wool, worth 50c a yard. Sale price will be ..... 25c Yard
HEAVY CHEVIOTS, 38 inches wide, in fancy stripes, regular price 50c a yard. Will close the line at ..... 25c Yard

Above line would make nice school dresses.

UNDERWEAR DEPARTMENT. We mention a few lines of wool and wool-mixed underwear for ladies and children which have been added to the clearance sale to close them out. They are unusually good bargains.

LADIES' NATURAL GRAY WOOL VESTS, high neck and long sleeves, reduced from $1 each to ..... 75c Each

Added to the sale Monday.
CHILDREN'S MERINO VESTS AND PANTS AND DRAWERS, sizes 16 to 34, will be closed out at ..... 25c Each
CHILD'S WOOL PANTS, white and natural gray, Swiss ribbed, sizes 5, 6, 7 and 8 will be sold at 50c each, and sizes 1, 2, 3 and 4 are now marked ..... 35c Each
LADIES' VESTS, Egyptian cotton, ecru color, high neck and long sleeves, and fleece-lined. Special sale price ..... 23c Each
LADIES' WHITE WOOL MIXED VESTS, Jersey ribbed, high neck and long sleeves, good value at $1 each ..... 59c Each

A splendid value these.

MUSLIN UNDERWEAR. A SPECIAL FEATURE of this week's trading will be the Muslin Underwear Sale which we shall include in the great clearance sale. See the special window display and glance over these price hints:

LADIES' DRAWERS, tucked with ruffled bottoms, would be a value at 35c ..... 25c Pair
LADIES' DRAWERS, with six tucks, 1½-inch embroidered bottoms, value at 50c, now ..... 35c Pair
LADIES' DRAWERS, tucked and embroidery trimmed, tucked and hemstitched and tucked with insertion and embroidery trimmings, big value 65c a pair, sale price ..... 45c Pair
LADIES' DRAWERS, tucked and trimmed with Torchon lace, value 65c, reduced to ..... 45c Pair
LADIES' DRAWERS, tucked insertion and embroidery trimmed, value 75c a pair, reduced to ..... 50c Pair
LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS, Mother Hubbard shape, with collar and cuffs, special value at 50c, sale price ..... 39c Each
LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS, tucked yoke with ruffled trimming on front and cuffs, special value at 65c each, sale price ..... 45c Each
LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS, turndown collar and embroidery trimmed front and sleeves, special value at 75c each, sale price ..... 50c Each
LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS, tucked and embroidery trimmed yoke and sleeves, V-shaped necks and square necks, value at $1 each ..... 65c Each
LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS, tucked yokes, colored embroidery trimming, turned down collar and cuffs, value at $1 each, a bargain at the sale price ..... 75c Each
LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS, trimmed with colored embroidery, ruffled collar, front and cuffs, a good value at $1 25 each, sale price ..... 85c Each
LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS, fine tucked and embroidered yokes, deep embroidery trimming and made of splendid quality of muslin, worth $1 25 to $1 50 each, sale price ..... $1.00 Each

CORSET DEPARTMENT. TO THE FIRST question a woman asks us about CORSETS, "Can you fit me?" we unhesitatingly answer, "Yes; every time." Corsets tried on, fitted and remodeled. We carry only makes noted for their wearing qualities, such as the H. and S., P. D. and Thompsons.

H. AND S. CORSETS, extra length, black and gray, finest finish, $2 50, $2, $1 75, $1 50 and ..... $1.00 Pair
H. AND S. CORSETS, warranted genuine whalebone, extra length and sizes, black only, silk stitched and finished—we warrant it to keep its shape ..... $3.00 Pair
"971" CORSETS, our special EMPIRE CORSETS, short fronts (only four hooks), black only, well finished ..... $1.50 Pair
THOMPSONS CORSETS, we carry the full line of sizes, black and gray, all styles of finish, $1 to ..... $2.50 Pair

Ferris Waists for Ladies and Children.
Jackson Waists, black, gray and white and ventilated.

FANCY GOODS DEPARTMENT. HALF A DOZEN new additions to the Clearance Sale. Some great bargains on the center tables, especially in RIBBONS and EMBROIDERIES.

SWISS EMBROIDERY in strips 1⅛ yards long, a lovely line of patterns to select from, 8 to 10 inches wide, one-half price ..... 25c Strip
SWISS EMBROIDERY, as above, 1⅛ yard strips, 10 to 12 inches wide, will be sold for ..... 30c Strip
SWISS EMBROIDERY, as above, 1⅛ yard strips, 16 inches wide, on sale this week at ..... 35c Strip
SWISS EMBROIDERED HANDKERCHIEFS, scalloped edges, good value at 35c each, added to the sale this week at ..... 12½c Each
WRITING PAPER, 24 sheets of satin-finished paper, with 24 square envelopes to match ..... 10c Box

A big cash purchase added to the clearance sale this week.
SILK RIBBONS, plain cashmere, cashmere, satin edges and satin gros grains, good line colors, No. 2, on sale to-morrow and until closed out at .. 2½c Yard
SILK RIBBONS, assorted styles and colors as above, Nos. 3 and 4; sale price will be ..... 9c Yard
SILK RIBBONS, assorted styles and colors as above, Nos. 7 and 9; sale price will be ..... 5c Yard
LADIES' SILK WINDSOR TIES, hemstitched ends in a dozen different solid colors, value 25c each; sale price ..... 12½c Each
NOVELTY TRIMMING, silk and tinsel mixed, fancy openwork, in large assortment of colors; reduced from 25c to ..... 12½c Yard
CHENILLE TABLE COVERS, 4-4 size, in mottled effects, handsome colorings, heavy fringe, worth 75c each; sale price only ..... 39c Each
CHENILLE TABLE COVERS, 6-4 size, in mottled effects, bright colors, regularly sold at $1 25 each; sale price only ..... 69c Each
CHENILLE TABLE COVERS, 8-4 size, mottled effects, pretty colors, heavy fringe, a value at $2 50 each; sale price ..... $1.49 Each

The above prices on Table Covers cannot be duplicated in this city.

HOSIERY. A few great specials for men, women and children. We take great pride in our Hosiery Departments; they are a store in themselves.

GENTS' ENGLISH BROWN MIXED WOOL SOCKS, full finished, the kind always sold at 25c a pair; we have added a recent large cash purchase to the sale at ..... 16⅔c Pair
LADIES' FAST BLACK COTTON HOSE, full finished, high-spliced heels and double toes, made in Germany, value 25c a pair; sale price .. 19c Pair
CHILDREN'S FAST BLACK COTTON HOSE, full fashioned, heavy ribbed, double heels and toes, sizes 7 to 10, value 25c a pair; sale price ..... 15c Pair

Hale Bros. [INCORPORATED] 935, 937, 941 Market Street, SAN FRANCISCO.
Hale Bros. [INCORPORATED] 937, 939, 941 Market Street, SAN FRANCISCO.
Hale Bros. [INCORPORATED] 937, 939, 941 Market Street, SAN FRANCISCO.
Hale Bros. [INCORPORATED] 937, 939 and 941 Market Street, SAN FRANCISCO.
Hale Bros. [INCORPORATED] 937, 939 and 941 Market Street, SAN FRANCISCO.

BROKE HIS SKULL.

Fatal Fall of a Mexican Journalist.

He Had Been Out All Night and Was Found in a Broadway Basement Yesterday Morning.

"John Doe, drunk, Broadway, 6 o'clock," was written on the register of the old City Prison yesterday morning, and "John Doe" may have been drunk at the time, but there was a hole in his skull and he died at the Receiving Hospital six hours later.

"John Doe's" true name was Ramon Antonio Madero. He was foreman of the composing-room of the Illustrated World and lived at 1335 Union street.

Officers Flannelly and Reynolds were passing the corner of Broadway and Kearny street at 5:40 o'clock yesterday morning when they heard some one groaning at the foot of a flight of stairs leading to the cellar at the southwest corner. Flannelly lighted his candle and descended.

He found Madero lying face downward at the foot of the stiarway. The man was unconscious and his appearance indicated that he had been drinking.

The officers took Madero to the old City Prison and there found that he had been injured. Blood was pouring from one of his ears and he could not speak. The driver of the patrol wagon was aroused and took Madero to the Receiving Hospital, where he died. His skull had been fractured and it was rumored that he had been sandbagged. There was, however, no evidence that such was the case.

Madero left home at 10 o'clock on Friday morning and worked until 6 o'clock in the evening. He did not go home and the police are trying to find out where he spent the night. One of the dead man's daughters stated that her father was well acquainted in the Mexican quarter and that he had no enemies. For several weeks he has carried a pistol, fearing that he would be attacked by footpads; but no pistol nor any article of value was found upon him.

Madero was born in this city forty-three years ago. His father was a native of Mexico. He edited and owned La Voce del Nuevo Mundo, and when it passed away nine years ago he obtained employment as a compositor on the now defunct Alta. He leaves a widow and five children. Alexander Campbell, the attorney, was his step-brother.

BLOCK'S EXTRA CLERKS.

The Finance Committee Allow Him Necessary Help.

Tax Collector Block obtained his extra clerks yesterday, and his office will be run on much the same principle as before. To-morrow he will put to work twenty-five extra men at a salary of $100 a month.

The Finance Committee authorized him to do this at its meeting yesterday. Tax Collector Block personally appeared before the Finance Committee and stated that it was utterly impossible for him to conduct the office on the $25,000 appropriated. He had exercised the most rigid economy, but almost all of the $25,000 has been eaten up. As it was, he must have clerks to collect the taxes, the second installment of which was due, and delinquent on April 30. As he could not pay them out of his own pocket, he had let the extra men go until he could get power from the Finance Committee to employ the necessary help.

Supervisor Denman thought that the office could be easily run on $25,000 for extra help. But as the money was all gone and the taxes had to be collected he saw no other way than to accede to the Tax Collector's demands. On motion of Kennedy Tax Collector Block was authorized to employ twenty-five extra clerks commencing from to-morrow. This is four clerks less than he had before.

The Finance Committee also considered the report of Export Pettie, who stated that thus far he had been unable to locate the $5000 shortage in the Tax Collector's office. On motion of Denman Supervisor Kennedy was named as a committee of one to confer with Tax Collector Block and Expert Pettie as to the best method of further continuing the work. Pettie claims to be able to locate the shortage and fix the responsibility, but wants $600 more for his work.

SIEBE'S CONUNDRUMS.

He Wants to Know if Sunset City Property Is Taxable.

Assessor Siebe is in a quandary in regard to his power to assess property within the limits of the Midwinter Fair. In order to ascertain definitely the scope of his duties he addressed a communication yesterday to City and County Attorney Cresswell in which he asked:

"Are the buildings that have been erected for exhibition purposes at the Midwinter Fair grounds assessable?

"Should a distinction be made between buildings that have been put up for exhibition purposes only and those where business is transacted (as for instance the concessions to put up restaurants, etc.)?

"Is the personal property on exhibition at the fair grounds assessable?

"Should a distinction be made between articles that are for exhibition only and those that are up for sale?

"As the fair will, in all probability close before this year's taxes become due and payable, would it be the duty of the Tax-Collector or Assessor to collect the tax at the time the assessment is made, as it is now done in the counties outside of San Francisco?"

Besides asking these legal conundrums, Assessor Siebe sent the City and County Attorney a communication from the County Clerk of Chicago, certifying that no assessments were made on property at the Columbian Exposition.

Young Ladies' Orchestra.

The third concert of the Saturday Morning Orchestra will take place at the Grand Opera-house to-morrow evening under the direction of J. H. Rosewald in aid of the Pioneer Kindergarten and the Children's Hospital.

The orchestra will be assisted by the San Francisco Glee Club, Miss Annie Lyle and Andrew Bogart.

Large sums have been raised by the Saturday Morning Orchestra at their two former concerts, and the sale of seats for to-morrow's entertainment has already been excellent. The following programme will be performed:

First movement, Symphony in D major ..... Gade
Pianoforte obligato by Miss Julia Newman.
"Fairy's Slumber Song" ..... Bartlett
San Francisco Glee Club.
Impromptu, "Elfenreigen" ..... Schmelz
Orchestra.
Ballad, "What I Would Be" ..... Caryll
Mr. Andrew Bogart.
Flute solo, "La Sirene" ..... Terschek
Miss Annie Lyle.
(a) Intermezzo, "Pagliacci" ..... Leoncavallo
(b) Valse, "Flirtation" ..... Steck
String Orchestra.
"Bird Song" ..... Taubert
San Francisco Glee Club.
Caprice, "Fleurette" ..... Thorne
Orchestra.
Ballad, "By the Fountain" ..... Adam
Mr. Bogart.
Overture, "Rosamunde" ..... Schubert

Christian Association.

To-day at 3 o'clock a service of unusual interest for gentlemen between 16 and 40 years of age will take place at the Young Men's Christian Association hall, 232 Sutter street. There will be special and attractive singing and an address will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Gibson, pastor of the First United Presbyterian Church. No ladies admitted.

The annual value of the world's cocoanuts is estimated at $60,000,000.

LIEBES INDICTED.

An Old Case Revived by the Government.

The Federal Grand Jury Makes Its Final Report and Is Discharged by Judge Morrow.

The United States Grand Jury made its final report before Judge Morrow yesterday and was discharged. With the final report were indictments against Louis and Jacob Liebes and D. M. Cashin on the charge of defrauding the Government in the importing of tobacco. Louis Liebes has been arrested in New York, but released on $2500 bonds pending an examination there of the charges against him, and Jacob Liebes was waiting in court here for the indictment to be returned and immediately surrendered himself and was released on $10,000 bonds, with Charles J. Behlow and Isaac Liebes as sureties. D. M. Cashin is in Victoria, B. C., and beyond the reach of the process of the court unless he should return to the United States.

The charge against the Liebes Brothers dates back to a transaction in the appraisement of 146 bales of Sumatra tobacco received by the firm when in business here several years ago. It is claimed that false samples were sent to the Government appraisers, who fixed the duty on the tobacco at 35 cents a pound instead of $2, the duty the tobacco should have paid. Later Liebes Brothers paid the Government $14,700, the amount claimed to be due it, and claim by that payment they settled the matter forever.

In discharging the jury Judge Morrow thanked it for its strict attention to duty and for its sacrifice of time and business interests for the good of the people.

RAILROAD NOTES.

Leeds' Mission Not a Failure—Visiting Officials.

The Southern Pacific officials who have been on a trip East returned to the city yesterday accompanied by the Atlantic system officers who came out with the party.

Isaac Upham, treasurer of the Traffic Association, positively denies that the result of Mr. Leeds' trip to the East has been a failure.

The manner of the officials here in speaking of the matter would seem to indicate that although there may be some slight hitch in the negotiations there is nothing serious likely to develop. Secretary Haswell of the Navigation Company admitted that he had heard from Mr. Leeds, but refused to divulge the nature of his information, stating that it was inadvisable to make any statement for publication until negotiations had been completed.

The visiting Eastern officials of the Southern Pacific will return home on Thursday. The exhibition of the working of a rotary snowplow at Truckee on Thursday was a revelation to them. The day was bright and pleasant and the plow was put to work on a siding where about three feet of snow had accumulated and become packed down. About 1200 feet of track were cleared in a short time.

Alleged Footpads Discharged.

The preliminary examination of Eugene Hallihan, alias Davis, and Fred Schreiber, charged with attempting to rob James Marquis on Eddy street, between Hyde and Leavenworth, on Saturday night, January 27, was held before Judge Conlan yesterday morning. Marquis failed to positively identify the defendants, and as Policeman Christiansen, who made the arrests, could only speak from information and belief the Judge had to discharge the defendants. Hallihan, while being pursued by Christiansen, threw his pistol away on Jones and McAllister streets, but whoever found it did not hand it to the police. If this had been done it would have been sufficient evidence for the Judge to hold them.

ON THE COMSTOCK.

Weekly Bulletins of Work Done in the Mines.

VIRGINIA CITY, Feb. 3.—Appended will be found the official letters of superintendents of operations on the Comstock:

CON. CAL. & VA.—1650 level—In our workings in and from the drift run north from the foot of the upraise which was carried up from the sill floor of this level we have extracted a few tons of ore of average assay value. The drift running from east crosscut 1 from the drift run north from the winze (down 52 feet) at a point 40 feet north from the winze has been advanced 13 feet, total length 198 feet; face carries narrow streaks from which we have extracted a few tons of ore of milling value. East crosscut 2 from the drift run north from the winze (down 25 feet) at a point 126 feet north from the winze has been advanced 52 feet, total length 97 feet; formation consists of porphyry, clay and quartz of low assay values. Total quantity of ore extracted from the mine during the week was seventy-five carloads, about 74 tons, averaging $27 28 per ton. The largest portion of this ore came from our workings in the vicinity of the winze (20 feet down). The southwest drift (the Rule drift) from the 1000 station of the Con. Virginia shaft has been advanced during the week 65 feet, total length 518 feet; face in porphyry, clay and quartz of nominal value. This drift has been run from the shaft toward its objective point without any deviation from the original line which was laid down, and we have continued the work of reopening and extending a drift from the Best & Belcher side, which will meet the Rule drift at that objective point—a connection which will ventilate the workings and facilitate future operations in that locality.

OPHIR—1465 level—The drift running north from the crosscut running west from the main north drift on the sill floor of this level at a point 124 feet south from winze station has been extended 18 feet, total length 107 feet; face in porphyry and clay separations. An advance of 100 feet has been made during the week in reopening and retimbering the central tunnel, making the total length of the drift reopened from its mouth 445 feet. Have continued (jointly with the Mexican company) the work of making repairs to the main shaft.

MEXICAN—1465 level—The crosscut running west from the drift run south from the top of the upraise which was carried up 45 feet above the sill floor of this level at a point 40 feet west from the main north drift and 100 feet north from the south line of the mine has been extended during the week 20 feet, total length 180 feet; face in porphyry carrying clay separations.

UNION MINE—900 level—The Union Con. and Sierra Nevada joint east crosscut near the north line of the Union mine, started from joint south drift which was run from the joint west drift at a point 150 feet west of shaft, has been extended during the week 25 feet, passing through hard porphyry. It is now entering softer ground.

ANDES—420 level—North drift from west crosscut 2 advanced 5 feet in low-grade quartz and stopped, total length 37 feet. South drift from west crosscut 2 extended 14 feet in quartz of low grade and discontinued. A new west crosscut will be started the coming week.

GOULD & CURRY—200 level—West crosscut started in northwest drift has been advanced 11 feet, total length 872 feet; face in hard porphyry.

BEST & BELCHER—200 level—East crosscut 4 started in northwest drift 170 feet from our north boundary has been extended 13 feet and discontinued with face in hard porphyry, total length 28 feet. 900 level—The east crosscut which is being run on our south boundary has been advanced 12 feet, total length 314 feet; face in hard porphyry. 1000 level—We have cleaned and repaired for a distance of 14 feet the northeast drift which had been run from a point in our main north drift, 100 feet from our north boundary. This work is being carried on jointly by the Con. Va. Company and this company for the purpose of making connection with the Rule drift. This connection when made will afford a means of escape in case of accident in this part of this mine and give also a better ventilation. We have also done considerable repairing throughout the mine during the week.

HALE & NORCROSS—1300 level—We continue stoping out ore from the winze below this level and extracted during the week six cars of ore assaying $29 85 per ton per car sample and twenty-one cars of ore at an average assay per car sample of $21 65 per ton.

ALTA—During the past week we have made connection with the Lady Washington shaft. The drift is now in good condition and the ventilation perfect. We started an upraise this morning at a point 400 feet north of our south line and near the center of our ground. The material is soft quartz and yielding low assays. Nothing has been done in the winze since the 29th inst. owing to a flow of water from the north drift, which ran down and interfered with the work. In the meantime have started stoping above the drift on a small streak of ore which may lead to something better.

HE LISTENED.

The Worm Turned When It Was Trod Upon and Left the Car.

Detroit Free Press.

There was only one man in a Grand River car when two women boarded it at Jefferson avenue and sat down opposite him and one of them began:

"Yes, Sarah was over to see me the other day and she says it is impossible to stand it any longer."

"Then she will leave him?"

"Yes, so would you or I. She says he's done nothing but find fault and jaw around for the last two years."

"I heard he used to twit her with being poor when he married her."

"Yes, he did, and he just the same as turned her mother out of doors."

"The beast! How shocking that Sarah is tied to such a man!"

"So it is; but I told her to go right ahead and file a bill for a divorce and leave his bed and board. It's awful what a life some husbands do lead their wives."

"Perfectly awful. Say, Hilda, that man is listening to all we say."

"Beg pardon, ladies," said the man as he laid aside his paper and lifted his hat.

"We weren't talking to you, sir!" haughtily replied number one.

"No, ma'am, and I didn't mean to listen to what you were saying, but as I—"

"But you did listen."

"As I happen to be the beast that poor Sarah has been tied to and is going to get a divorce from I naturally took some interest in the conversation, you know. Oh, you needn't get out. I'm going to get off here myself. A thousand apologies, but you know—you see—under the circumstances—good afternoon!"

Funny Side of a Railroad Accident.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"There is usually nothing humorous about a railroad accident," said D. C. Brown of Cincinnati to the corridor man, "but I was in one that afforded me a great deal of amusement. The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad has an unimportant branch from Sterling, Ill., to Rock Island, a distance of fifty-one miles. Its principal purpose is as a freight road and to connect two other branches. There was but one train a day that carried passengers, and that was a mixed train with a coach. Its schedule time was ten miles an hour, and it was frequently delayed at Prophetstown Junction and again at Lynwood. A fair at Rock Island caused the train to be crowded upon the occasion I refer to. Every seat was occupied, and the aisles were filled. We waited two hours at Prophetstown Junction, and the passengers, leaning their heads on the seats in front of them, went to sleep. When the train reached Lynwood it ran into an empty boxcar on a side track. The jolt threw the passengers forward. No one was seriously injured, but about thirty had the skin peeled off the center of their foreheads, down the bridge of their noses and a little off the bottom of their chins. The next day you could identify them for blocks by the sticking plaster down the center of their faces."