OUR SAN FRANCISCO LETTER

The Municipal Legal Squabble—Fee Reform Demanded—Litigation and Gossip—Youthful Offenders.

Special Correspondence Deseret News: San Francisco, Sept. 20, 1897.—The first step has been taken toward establishing good government in San Francisco, by ousting the rulers of the city from the hands of a clique of corrupt politicians, who have been ruling by dividing the city's money to their personal advantages, regardless of the many protestations filed by the public and the press. The superior court has removed the old board of supervisors, on information filed by Mr. Chas. S. Fitch, and the supreme court has affirmed the decision and decided that the lower court had jurisdiction, thereby putting an end to one of the boldest gangs of political robbers and that ever disfigured this fair city. Immediately after the decision of the supreme court, the mayor, as chairman, and only remaining member of the board, held a conference with Governor Budd and decided upon appointed twelve trustworthy men to fill the vacancies caused by the removal. Among the new appointments were four members of the old board, who had accordingly been removed in order to oust the "ninety Eight" in a body. Another one of when the innocent had to suffer for the wicked, as it were. The new board pledged themselves to reduce the tax levy within the dollar limit and immediately upon being seated settled down to accomplish the object, which necessitated reducing the appropriations for the expenses of the several departments of the city and county. All was not smooth sailing for the new board, however, and they found their seats occupied and their plans obstructed by the irreconcilable "Eight," who, acting on the advice of their attorneys, intended to ignore the court's decision, and proceeded to act in their old capacity as if nothing had happened. Some of the new members were in favor of ejecting the usurpers bodily, but the mayor was for allowing them to remain as long as they conducted themselves properly and made no attempt at interfering with the meeting. And remain they did, sitting day and night for three days in the face of the other 12 members. Finally they became so noisy and troublesome that they were forcibly thrown out of the meeting room of the board. They then took up positions in the corridor of the city hall and surrounded by the remains of their ruffian followers, made a weak attempt at attending to business. During the three days they were holding the fort by a continuous session, the time hung rather heavily and in order to pass it off more agreeably great quantities of whisky were sent for and consumed, which seemed to stimulate their spirits and give them more courage to carry on their lawless designs.

Since the above session started the "ninety Eight" of their usefulness, expectations that are expressed in the press in supervisorial circles have settled a quick decline in the prices of their stocks, and in some of the real estate other kinds of stocks have improved, if anything. This action has so highly pleased the corporations, they have lost their usual support. It was for failing to do the water rates that the supervisors were removed and since their removal the Spring Valley Water company's stock is quoted three or four dollars below the quotations of a week ago. Railroad, gas and electric stocks have also suffered, though not to the extent that is noticeable in water stock.

Another imposition upon taxpayers that has been brought to the public by attention in the manner in which expensive and extravagant fees are paid out of the city treasury to stenographers in the police courts, so that there seems to be no remedy, then the county attorney has decided that the stenographer of court commissioner Cotty entirely with the magistrate, thereby saving the supervisors from being forced to interfere, no matter how desirous they may be to stop the city's expenses. This matter excited the attention of the board of supervisors when they thought they had taken account of $200 for stenographic fees in the Police Court, which occupied nearly two months. The report showed one item of $600 for one day's work, which is not by any day's wages for pounding a typewriter. To safe to say this man is not bothered with dreams of gold on the Klondike.

In view of the fact that England will not allow the coarse-grain goods made of wheat in coarse-grain goods to be imported, it is possible the jute mill at San Quentin prison will be closed down. This is only a rumor and has been denied, but it appears that there must be some fire where there is so much smoke.

An issue of $1,000,000 of bonds of San Francisco and San Joaquin Valley Railroad have been placed on the market by syndicate of local capitalists. The price paid for the bonds has not been made public, but it is believed to be quite a little below par. The bonds run for forty-two years from 1901, and bear interest at five per cent.

This road was built a little over a year ago to connect the Santa Fe at Bakersfield, by the San Joaquin Valley business, and since the connection has been made, it has materially lessened the means of reducing freight and passenger rates fully thirty per cent below those formerly charged by the Southern Pacific.

The state board of health with much pleasure, is the yellow fever epidemic in the South, and is able to tide over the prevalence of tuberculosis in California. It is ascertained that there are 7,000 people and people die every year in California from this disease alone, and as many of these come from the East seeking health, the advantages, the authorities intend to enlist the Eastern press in a campaign will be considered, and perhaps a quarantine will be declared.

Since the decision of Judge Black was handed down in the Fair-Craven case, which resulted disastrously for Mrs. Craven and Attorney F. M. Delmas, the public has been curiously waiting to learn the next move that Mrs. Craven would make in the matter of her suit against the judge and Dodge Bulwer's petition for a writ of habeas corpus. Rumors have been made, who recently married Margaret Craven, has announced that he will not appeal. If he resigned and wanted to be the highest court of the land it would be a great disappointment to Mrs. Craven, as it just claim and he not back for an Ex Mr. Bulwer proposes a few months defiance Mrs. Craven and her friends are good it seems, prior to Supervisor A part of his bond retained.

The state fair closed at Sacramento on the 17th inst. and it is said it was not a financial success. Some either good reason was for bad attendance. Perhaps of the two, the weather probably had also closed on the same date and the secretary reports that this year's fair was a great success in every respect, from a financial standpoint, in the history of the institute.

Two little girls living in Oakland concluded that the treatment they received from their parents was too constant, and rather than submit to it longer they took to the road and started to live on their own account. But it not for an female reason, the chances are that they would have thought better of it and returned to their homes. As it was, they had not been long in Jail of $1,000 bail for cutting a playmate and is now confined in the Alameda county jail awaiting an examination. I should think a gentle reproof of the parental slipper would be more conducive to future good behavior in such kindergarten cases, but the times change, and the rod is spared for fear the child's cracks will be made sound enough to the sensitive hearts of hardened criminals.

The past week has been remarkable as one of the warmest that San Francisco has experienced this year, and the fashion has changed from heavy overcoats to thin dusters.

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