DIGGING DEEP TODAY

County Paid $54,973 for Furniture Said to be Worth Only $28,201.65.

THE CITY WAS "SKINNED ALIVE."

Paid $28,000 for Furnishings Approximated to be Worth Not More Than $12,000.

It was a startling story that E. D. Weary, Chicago furniture expert, and ex-general manager of the Andrews company of the same city told under oath before the county court today. If his statements, schedules and conclusions can be substantiated then indeed will County Attorney Whittemore be vindicated and urgent work at the same time be presented to the grand jury. The investigation was conducted by Mr. Whittemore who had his stenographer take a full report of the proceedings. Ex-County Attorney Murphy was an interested spectator, and Joe Morris, once, but no longer, salesman, kept an eagle eye on every movement made. Judge Dey, counsel for Andrews & company, was present to look after the interests of that mammoth concern. Martin Hayden, the company's representative, was not in attendance and it is now claimed that he will not appear on the scene at all. He has been sojourning in Denver for some time past, and according to rumor, as the county court declares, was to have been there when wanted. But according to Mr. Whittemore he will not be here at all. That official received a telegram last night to the effect that Mr. Hayden will decline to come to Salt Lake and that he had gone back to Chicago instead to remain presumably until after the investigation is over.

It was long after the appointed time when Mr. Whittemore emerged from the privacy of his own office, crossed the tile-floored corridor with smiling face and measured stride and announced that he was ready to begin.

Then there was a large painfully and otherwise monotonous delay during which the arrival of the county court was anxiously awaited. Why the members of that altogether too often slow moving tribunal notwithstanding schedule time—that is the assertion, for Judge McNally was in his seat—was a question that no one seems venturesome enough to attempt to answer. After a time Roberts and Christopherson retired from the main hall way but immediately retired to one of the side chambers and there remained for an indefinite period. Finally just before 11 o'clock, E. D. Weary, furniture expert and companion of Attorney Whittemore in his eastern peregrinations, was sworn and the investigation of what promises to be a big public scandal was declared formally commenced.

Al Rosse, deputy county clerk, was the first witness, however, to testify. He was asked by County Attorney Whittemore as to whether he had searched the records for a contract with the Andrews company for furnishing the county's half of the joint building and he replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Whittemore—And you found no bonds of it?

Witness—I did not.

Mr. Whittemore—Of no kind?

Witness—None whatever.

The purpose of this course of questioning, said Mr. Whittemore, was to show that there was not even a "scratch of a pen" to indicate that a contract had been entered into between the county court and the furniture company. Whatever had been done had been done between the company and the members of the court as individuals.

Mr. Weary here took the stand and testified that he had "been with Andrews & company for ten years," first going into the concern's employ as special designer in 1882. Two years later he became general manager of the company's business and remained with it eight years in that capacity. He knew in detail the price of every piece of furniture it manufactured. As to the furniture in the joint building a very large proportion of it had been designed by himself. He testified that he had carefully examined the county's part of the furniture and had made a schedule and estimate based thereon.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

The contract figures and actual values, the witness said, were disclosed in the following schedule:

CHAIRS.

Contract number for Delivered	Price paid.	Actual value.
10	$ 2 00	$ 4 00
10	40 00	80 00
24	2	3 50
24	2	3 50
6	17 50	35 00
100	12 50	17 50
4	12 50	17 50
4	15 50	22 50
4	15 50	22 50
4	15 50	22