# CITY HALL IS ITS WHITE ELEPHANT.

## It Is Philadelphia's Great Worry and Its Chief Pride.

## HAS COST $22,121,760.

## Twenty-eight Years Ago Work Was Begun and Now It Is Half Finished.

Philadelphia, Sept. 23.—The city of Philadelphia has a great white elephant on its hands in its City Hall, that has already cost the sum of $22,121,760.03, and before it is finished is absolutely certain to cost twenty-two millions more, unless Mayor Ashbridge undertakes the patriotic duty of securing the enactment of a law at the next session of the Legislature abolishing the present Building Commission and transferring its autocratic and exceptional powers to the municipality.

The act creating Commissioners for the erection of the "public buildings" required to accommodate the courts and for all municipal purposes in the city of Philadelphia was passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature in April, 1870—less than ten days before the final adjournment—and the act was not approved by the Governor until August 5, 1870.

The act of the Assembly named Theodore Cuyler, at that time solicitor for the Pennsylvania Railroad; Lewis C. Cassidy, Henry M. Phillips and William Devine, Democrats, and John Rice and John Price Wetherill, directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad; Samuel C. Perkins, William L. Stokes, Samuel W. Cattell, president of the Select Council, and Louis Wagner, president of the Common Council, all Republicans, as the members of the Commission.

Of the Commissioners named in the act Cuyler, Cassidy, Phillips, Devine, Rice, Wetherill, Stokes and Cattell are dead, and only Perkins, Wagner and Stokley are living.

Work was begun January 21, 1871—twenty-eight years and seven and a half months ago—and under the act of Assembly creating the Commission it will take twenty-eight years more to complete the work.

**Powers of the Commission.**

The act creating the Commission provides that the Commission shall fill any vacancies which may happen by death, resignation or otherwise; the Commissioners shall make requisition on City Councils, prior to the first day of December in each year, for the amount of money required by them for the succeeding year, and the Councils shall levy a special tax, sufficient to raise the amount so required, unless Councils should make appropriations out of the annual taxes to the amount required by the Commissioners, and:

"It shall be the duty of the Mayor, the City Comptroller, City Commissioners and City Treasurer, and of all other officers of the city, and also the duty of the Councils of the City of Philadelphia, to do and perform all such acts in aid and promotion of the intent and purpose of this act of Assembly as said Commission may, from time to time, require."

The officers who approved this act, Butler B. Strang, Speaker of the House; Charles H. Stinson, Speaker of the Senate, and John W. Geary, Governor, are all dead, and it may be forgiven, but not forgotten.

When the late Benjamin Harris Brewster delivered the oration at the laying of the corner stone of the "New Public Buildings," as they were then called, on July 4, 1874, he gave a statistical statement of the work up to that time, which statement had been carefully prepared by the Commissioners. Mr. Brewster said:

"To judge of the building's massive size, I will give you an account of what materials have been consumed in constructing the foundation: 74,000 cubic feet of cement concrete, 636,400 cubic feet of foundation stone, 8,000,000 brick, 70,000 cubic feet of dressed granite, and 366 tons of iron. The excavation for the cellars and foundations required the removal of 141,500 cubic yards of earth; the building is 470 feet from east to west, and 486½ feet from north to south, covering an area, exclusive of the court yard, of nearly four and one-half acres. It is computed that the entire cost of the work will be nearly ten millions of dollars, and that it will be completed in ten years from the day when the first spadeful of earth was removed."

**His Words Never Came True.**

The "first spadeful of earth" was removed on the 10th day of August, 1871, by John Rice, then president of the Board of Commissioners, and, according to estimates and calculations then made, they should have been completed in 1881, fully eighteen years ago.

Benjamin Harris Brewster, who was Attorney-General under President Arthur, died April 4, 1888, nearly seventeen years after the first spadeful of earth was removed, and at that time not one-third of the rooms in the City Hall were occupied.

In that oration delivered by Mr. Brewster, he said, speaking for the Commissioners, that the Mayor and the Police Department, the Building and Boiler Inspection Departments, the Board of Health, Bureaus of Surveys, Highways, Water and Gas would require for their use in the "new public buildings" fifty-three rooms. In the allotment for rooms made by the Building Commission in 1896—just twenty-two years later—one hundred and seventy-six rooms were set apart for these departments and bureaus.

The number of rooms required for the Department of Justice, embracing courts, prothonotaries, clerks, District-Attorney, City Solicitor, Sheriff, Register of Wills, Coroner and road jury rooms, as estimated at the time Mr. Brewster made his oration, was 70, while the number allotted under the assignment of rooms in 1896 was 173, and to-day every one of these 226 rooms in excess of the 123 estimated as ample in 1874 is crowded to the doors, with at least 25 per cent more of public service than comfort and the convenience of the public warrant in putting into them.

**Still 250 Rooms to Be Furnished.**

There are about 250 rooms in our City Hall that have yet to be fitted up for public use, and at an average of 25 rooms fitted up per annum it would seem to require about ten years to complete them all.

There is nothing in the act of the Assembly creating the Building Commission which provides for turning the "New Public Buildings"—as termed under the act, now called City Hall—over to the Mayor and Councils of the city of Philadelphia.

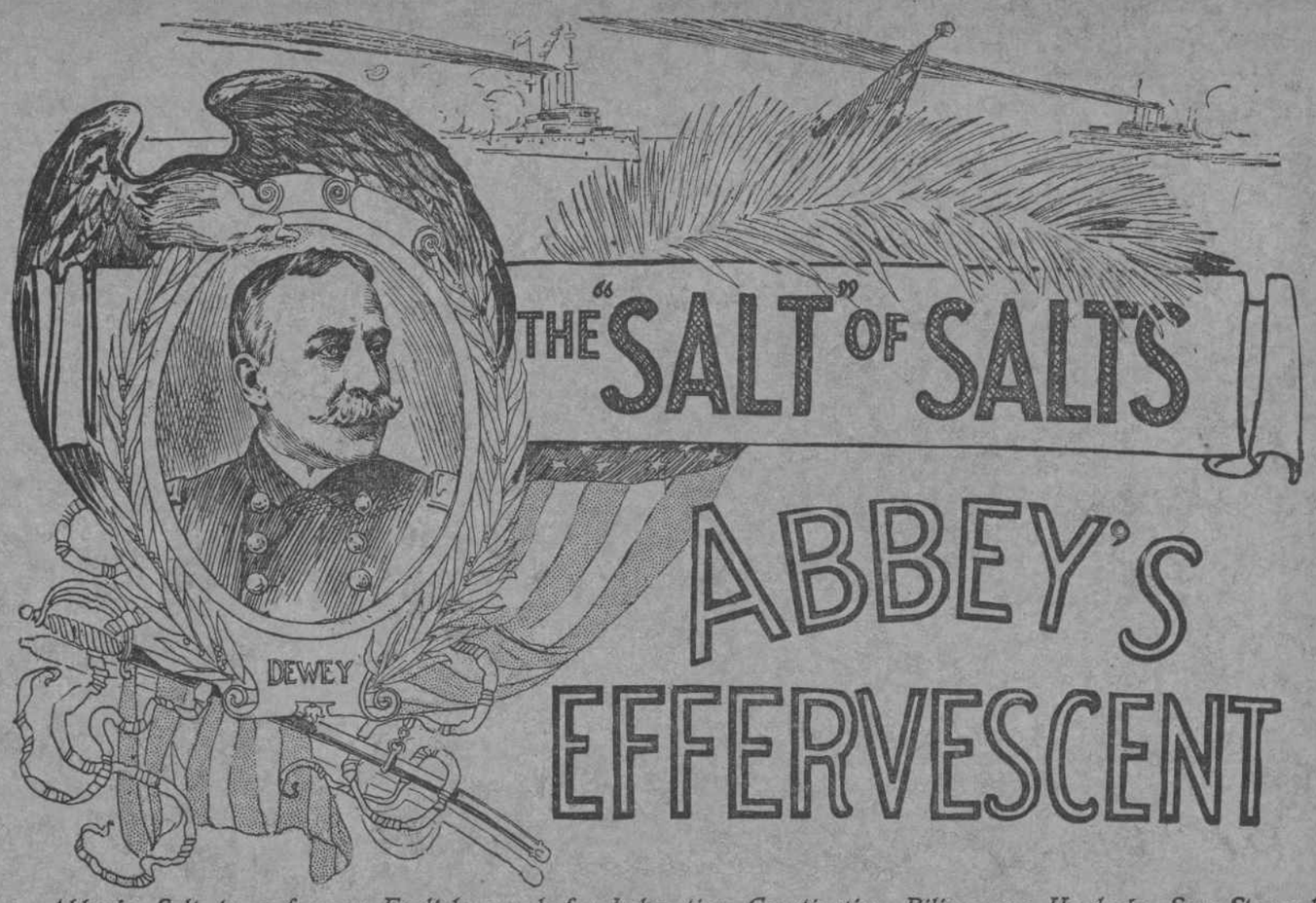
Several attempts have been made to abolish the Public Buildings Commission of Philadelphia, but all have been futile. The effort failed under the administration of Governor Pattison because his personal and political friends, Lewis C. Cassidy and "Tom" Barger, more members of the Commission. The attempt to abolish it under the administration of Governor Hastings failed because the Commission, as dominated by ex-Mayor Stokley, was intensely anti-Quay, and Hastings would have vetoed the bill had it ever reached him—influenced by the anti-Quay sentiment of his Cabinet.

**To Renew the Fight Next Year.**

It is believed that another, and this time a successful movement, will be made to abolish the Commission and to transfer its powers to the Mayor and City Councils by the Legislature that will be elected next year, regardless of the fact that Commissioners Perkins, Stokley and one or two others have served as Commissioners for twenty-five years or more without a dollar compensation as salaries for their services.

The future of the Commission rests with Mayor Ashbridge. If he shall move to abolish it the fate of the Commission is sealed—their doom is written.

Three Mayors, Daniel M. Fox, Samuel G. King and Edwin H. Fitler, and three Presidents of City Councils, W. W. Burnell, George A. Smith and W. M. Smith, who were members of the Commission by virtue of their office, have died since the building was begun, while some yet living are eighty years of age.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1837. MATTHEWS. 1899.

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A silk button hole flag will be presented to each gentleman visiting our Furniture Dept., 4th and 5th Floors.

WRAPPERS.

Flannelette Wrappers, a large and new assortment, in pretty colorings, figures and stripes, yoke back and front, ruffles and braid, 98c. and $1.25.

Extra Quality Flannelette Wrappers, all the latest styles and patterns, yoke and shoulder effects, cashmere, velvet and ribbon trimmed, $1.38, $1.48, $1.78 and $1.98.

INFANTS' WEAR.

Infants' Slips, new styles, tucks, plain and embroidery trimmed, 19c., 25c. and 38c.

Infants' Long Bedford Cord Coats, all new effects, with ribbon and ruffles, $1.98, $2.98 and $3.98.

Children's Outing Flannel Dresses, pretty stripes, with ruffles, lace and embroidery trimmed, special, 48c.

Underwear.

Muslin Gowns, tucks, embroidered, insertings and ruffles, special, 38c.

Good Quality Muslin Gowns, cluster tucked yoke, cambric ruffle, with feather stitching, our 78c. kind, special, 58c.

Muslin Corset Covers, good quality, felled seams, 12½c. and 19c.

White Lawn Aprons, waitress' size, satin stripes, and assorted tuckings, 19c.

BOOKS.

We invite the patrons of our Book Department to inspect the New Encyclopedic Dictionary. Sale commences Monday, 6 vols., half Russia, one of the best and cheapest works of its kind on the market, at the very low price of $8.98.

Ione Mareb, by R. Crockett; pub. price, $1.50; our price, 98c.

The Orange Girl, by Sir Walter Besant; pub. price, $1.50; ours, 98c.

The Tony Maid, by H. B. Stimpson; pub. price, $1.00; ours, 72c.

Autobiography of a Child, by Hannah Lynch, pub. price, $1.25; ours, 88c.

Well, After All, by F. Frankfort Moore; pub. price, $1.50; ours, $1.08.

Beautiful Allen, by Julia Magruder; pub. price, $1.25; ours, 88c.

Richard Carvel, by Winston Churchill; pub. price, $1.50; ours, 98c.

Large Assortment of Scrap Books and Albums, for unmounted photos, at prices ranging from 75c. to $1.48 and upward. Scrap Books, 19c., 25c.

All the weekly and monthly magazines on day of publication, centre aisle, main floor.

STATIONERY.

Old English and Royal Finish Paper, in heliotrope, azure and white.

Commercial Octavo, Windsor and Westend sizes, one quire paper and envelopes, 24c.

Five Quires Paper and Envelopes, in box, $1.00.

Mourning Paper, two quires in box, 25c.

250 Envelopes, in box, octavo and commercial sizes, 25c. per box.

Enamel Playing Cards, 9c. per package.

Poker Chips, 25c. and 39c. a box—100 in box.

Dominoes, 48c. and 64c. a box.

Rubber Stamps, plain initial, and one bottle indelible ink, 10c.

Closing out the last of our imported Figures, crepe paper, 10c. ft., long, 9c., plain, 3c. roll.

Wedding Invitations and cards, engraved in latest style. Orders receive prompt attention.

Important Sale of Women's Shoes.

$2.75 to $3.50 Shoes at $1.48 a Pair.

This offering for Monday will prove one of the best of the many shoe chances you have had of us this season. 1,500 pair of as good and desirable shoes as were ever made, go on sale here at ONE-HALF their retail value.

Made of Vici Kid, Dongola and Box Calfskin, in button and lace, stitched soles, with light, medium and heavy soles for street or dress wear. The Toe shapes include the English, Opera and Coin Toes, with kid and patent leather tips. Included in this lot are 400 pairs of Women's $3.00 Cork Sole, Lace Shoes, medium bulldog toes, kid tips and heavy soles, all are dressy comfortable shoes, perfect fitting, and will wear splendidly, and we know that when you see them you will say you never got a better shoe bargain. We have all sizes, 2½ to 7, width A to E, but not all sizes in every style; choose any of these Monday at, per pair..... $1.48

CAMERAS.

This is the age of progress, and therefore of enterprise and originality. This department demands the attention of Photographers.

Our goods are always fresh.
Our prices Extremely Low.

Any Camera of any make we handle, but The Ray and Cyclone (folding and magazine) lead the market in simplicity, beauty, finish, compactness, lightness, combined with high grade of lenses, places them at the top rung of popularity.

Our Banner 4x5 Camera,

is still maintaining its reputation as a camera worth twice the price we ask for it. Finished in grain leather, has double finders and tripod sockets, time and snapshot shutter, includes a fine $1.00 dry plate holder (with rubber slides) and a superior grade; our price, $2.65.

La Crosse, Sr., a $3.50 3.2x3.2 Camera, for $2.48.

La Crosse, Jr., a $2.50 2.2x2.2 Camera, for $1.48.

Something New. We Have It!

The Aluminum Tray and Plate Lifter, light, unaffected by acids, attractive, practical and cheap; meant to sell at 35c.; we sell at 18c.

Aluminum Plate Lifters, can be attached to any tray, lift the plate clear of solution, don't get your hands wet; buy one, only 12c.

Printing Frames, 5x7, 50c. kind, now 24c.

Printing Frames, 4x5, 25c. kind, now 10c.

Printing Frames, 3.2x3.2, 15c. kind, for 9c.

Washing Boxes, $1.98, $1.75, 98c. and 89c.

Albums of every kind and variety, at prices that are a revelation.

LINENS.

72-inch Bleached Double Satin Damask, 90c. a yd.

20 and 24-inch Napkins, to match, $1.90 and $2.75 a doz.

64-inch Bleached Irish Satin Damask, 65c. a yd.

Heavy Scotch Table Linen, plain white, also red border, 25c. a yd.

Imported Turkish Towels, hemmed, 10c. and 20c. each.

20x40 Hemmed Huck Towels, 12½c. each.

WHITE GOODS.

Large assortment of Checked Nainsooks, 5c., 7½c., 10c., 12½c.

Curtain Swiss, 8c.

36-inch Curtain Swiss, 10c. and 12½c.

Satin Stripe Apron Lawns, 10c. and 12½c.

DOMESTICS.

Extra Heavy Unbleached Muslin in Short Lengths, 7c. quality, 5c.

Sheets and Pillow Cases

Good quality Bleached Muslin, 5c.

Ready Made Sheets, 2x2½, 2¼x2½, 2½x2½, 38c., 42c., 45c.

Pillow Cases, 45x36, 8c. each.

Seamless Pillow Cases, 50x36, 12½c. each.

Colored Petticoats.

Imported and Domestic Silk Skirts, pretty colors and styles, with tucks, lace and ruffles, $5.95, $8.98, $9.45 and upward.

Colored Petticoats, pretty stripes, deep umbrella ruffles, extra value, 58c.

Outing Flannel Underskirts, neat stripes, 25c.

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PIANOS
Including DECKER BROS., CHICKERING, STEINWAY, etc., two to four years used, from
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Special Opportunity
FOR DEWEY WEEK.

We are offering Cameras this week only at special prices.

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| Broadway, 2½x2½ | list $2.50 | $1.00 |
| Broadway, 4 x5 | list 5.00 | 2.75 |
| Cyclone, Sr., 4 x5 | list 5.00 | 2.25 |
| Cycle Poco, No. 4, 4x5 | list 12.00 | 8.95 |
| Wizard A, 4x5 | list 10.00 | 7.50 |

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| Printing Frames | 15c |
| Plate Holders | 65c |
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| Toning and Fixing Sol., 8 ounces | 18c |
| Developing Sol., 8 ounces | 15c |
| Heavy Ferrotype Plates | 12c |
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LEAVES NO ODOR.

WHISKEY, TOBACCO AND CATARRH on the breath instantly purified. LISTRIANA is a vegetable powder in capsules; easily opened, convenient to carry; enough in each capsule for three trials. Price, per box of 20 capsules, 50c., or 50 capsules $1.00. Send stamp for sample!

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**Where to Find Bargains.**

Only the Journal prints all the advertisements of the auctioneers. A few appear in the other New York papers now and then.


Joseph H. Bauland Company

Fulton, Duffield and Bridge Streets, Brooklyn.

A Great Celebration Bargain Sale

The coming week will mark one of the most extraordinary sales in our history. We have prepared a feast of bargains that will not soon be forgotten—a sale of magnificent proportions—offering the most exceptional opportunities to clothe yourself from head to foot, or furnish your house from top to bottoms at a very important saving. This advertisement does not tell of one-tenth part of the opportunities—every department offers many other special bargains. In the Cloak, Millinery, Dress Goods, Underwear, Clothing and all wearing apparel departments the inducements are especially tempting. Visitors to the Dewey celebration can make a handsome saving by profiting by these prices and anticipating their coming Winter's wants.

Carpets, Rugs, Linoleums, Oilcloths.

To those who know us there is no necessity of saying anything. To those who do not we wish to say that we regard each article we sell as a reputation-maker, and this guarantees the quality. Now for prices:

35 different designs of finest quality Axminster CARPETS, with or without border, in all latest colorings for Monday from 65c. to.....$1.25

12 different colorings and designs of Velvet CARPETS, the regular $1.25 kind, will be sold special at.....75c

75 patterns of 200 different colorings extra fine quality Brussels CARPETS, advertised to sell at other stores at 75c., will be here at.....64c

An endless assortment of Ingrain CARPETS, comprising the newest productions from the best makers only, strictly 36 inches wide, the best extra super, at, per yard, 65c., to the C. C. grade, at, per yard.....22½c

OILCLOTH, thousands of yards in 4-4, 6-4 and 8-4, small and large patterns, in mosaic and tile effects, at, per square yard, from 15c. to.....35c

Wall Paper Sale.

Have you a house, room, hotel, office or store that needs papering this Fall? If so, in no other store can you select papers with such ease and comfort—no other store offers you such a variety of designs and coloring to choose from; 10 patterns to exclusive stores' one, and the prices are just ½ those asked through paper hangers' books. This is well worth knowing. These specials to-morrow:

2,000 rolls of fine parlor, hall and dining room PAPERS, in old rose, pale greens, deep reds and greens, value 55c., per roll..... 35c

50 patterns of ART PAPERS, including 22 inch specials, denim effects, and pressed embossed, value 40c., per roll..... 22c

10,000 rolls of the newest designs and colorings, showing a wonderful large range of beautiful effects for all purposes, at per roll, 15c. &.....12½c

For inexpensive but artistic effects see our chintz, delft, floral and two tone effects, they're regular 15c. PAPERS, but we sell them at..... 8c

Good white blank PAPERS, in perfect combinations, per roll, 6c. &..... 3c

Early buying assures choice selection.

Upholstery and Lace Curtains.

Tambour Muslin CURTAINS, scalloped edges, a very pretty bedroom drapery, per pair.....98c

Diningroom TABLE COVERS, handsome new design, heavy tapestry, ea. $1.89

Ecru Irish Point CURTAINS, less than import cost, 3¼ yds. long, per pr. $1.98

Bagdad COUCH COVERS, three different color combinations, fringed all around, each .....$1.98

Nottingham Lace CURTAINS, guipure effects, full width and length, per pair, $1.27

Fine Irish Point CURTAINS, white and ivory, large assortment to choose from, per pair.....$5.00

Square PIANO COVERS, 2 yards wide, 3 yards long, an entirely new design, each .....$2.75

Heavy TAPESTRY, for reupholstering furniture, 50 in. wide, choice colors, per yard .....69c

SILKOLINES, finest quality, yard wide, the largest assortment of choice designs ever offered, per yard.....10c

Continuation of Our Unparalleled
SEPTEMBER FURNITURE SALE.

Greater than ever to-morrow—more bargains than ever—arrival of an entire train load of new reliable handsome furniture, honestly made to last a lifetime—bought when the market was fully 35 per cent. lower than it is to-day—that's why very nearly all intending furniture buyers come here to buy, that's why we are in a position to make you these splendid offers. You must visit us, if only to see what wonderful bargains we are offering.

$10.00 Iron Bed, $5.98.

Beautiful white enamel and brass BED, heavy posts and nillings, full brass rod and vases and 3 brass rosettes on head and foot, extended foot end, regular price $10.00, here Monday and Tuesday, all sizes, at. .5.98

$8.50 Hall Stand, $4.89.

Quarter sawed golden oak HALL STAND, 6 feet 3 inches high, has bevel edge French plate mirror and fitted with heavy brass hooks, regular price $8.50, special here to-morrow..... $4.89

$10 Dressing Table, $4.98.

Birdseye maple, quarter sawed oak and mahogany DRESSING TABLES, with large bevel edge French plate mirror, top highly polished, actually worth $10.00, here to-morrow..... $4.98

$32.00 Sideboard, $19.75.

Golden oak quarter sawed Sideboard, double serpentine shaped top, 52x22 inch, large French bevel edge plate mirror, handsomely carved and piano polish, regular price, $32.00, here to-morrow at .....$19.75

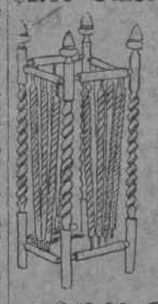
$11.00 Chiffonier, $7.49.

Beautiful golden oak Chiffonier, with 20x14 bevel edge shaped French plate mirror, 5 large deep drawers, highly polished; regular price $11.00, special to-morrow .....$7.49

$12 Ex ension Table, $8 49.

Golden Oak Extension Table with heavy 6 inch fluted legs—a very massive, solid Table, nicely finished; worth $12.00, here to-morrow .....$8.49

$2.00 Umbrella Stand, 98c.



Oak and mahogany finish UMBRELLA STAND, with turned posts and spindles and brass pan, actually worth $2.00; special at 98c

$4.00 Parlor Table, $2.25.

Quartered golden oak and mahogany finish Parlor Table, top 24x24 inches, French legs, highly polished, special price .....$2.25

$10.00 Couch, $6.49.

Large, full, deep tufted Couch, made in first-class manner, with best tempered steel springs, spring edge, covered with all the latest patterns of velours and corduroys, regular price, $10.00; here to-morrow.....6.49

$10.00 Morris Chairs, $6.75.

Beautiful quartered golden oak Morris Chair, made with new style ratchet, as shown in cut, spring seat, fitted with well made, reversible, velour cushions, actually worth $10; here to-morrow at $6.75

$6,00 Upholstered Rocker, $3.98.

Mahogany finish ROCKERS, seat and back upholstered in moss green, silk plush, back handsomely embroidered, regular price $6.00; special price to-morrow ..... $3.98

$18.00 Golden Oak Dresser, $13.50.

Handsome golden oak Dresser, double serpentine shaped top drawers, large bevel edge French plate mirror, frame nicely carved, polish finish, very best construction; actually worth $18.00, special Monday at.....$13.50