

DISPUTED POSSESSION

A Legal Quarrel Over the Custody of a Chinese Girl.

Judge Halsey was called upon yesterday afternoon to determine the question as to who is the proper custodian of Ah Good, a Chinese girl 13, years old. The hearing was based on a writ of habeas corpus issued upon the petition of Chung Goy. Lang, who represented that he was the rightful custodian of the girl by virtue of her father, Pong Bar, having placed her in his care five years ago. It seems that the girl left Lang's protection, and sought admission to the Chinese Women's Mission Home, where she was taken care of by Miss Maggie Culbertson, the matron of the institution. When the case was first heard last Friday, Judge Halsey ordered the girl removed to the custody of Consul Bee temporarily, to be produced in Court at the hearing yesterday afternoon.

CONSUL BEE DELINQUENT.

The order was not obeyed, as far as producing the child was concerned, and after a wordy crossfire F. F. Taylor, counsel for the petitioner, succeeded in getting the case postponed until Friday. Immediately after the postponement George Barstow, counsel for Miss Culbertson, asked the Court for an order remanding the custody of the child to his client. Mr. Taylor objected to the issuance of the order, and Mr. Barstow indignantly informed the Court that there was a deep-laid purpose in the non-attendance of the child.

The Court directed the order to issue as prayed for by Mr. Barstow, whereupon Mr. Taylor desired to argue the matter, but the Court remained obdurate, and announced that the ruling had been made and would not be changed under any consideration.

DEAF TO ALL ARGUMENT

"Well," said Mr. Taylor, persistently, "will your Honor hear any argument?"

"No," replied the Court, "I have made my ruling."

"Well, will your Honor hear anything about it?" next asked Mr. Taylor.

"No," emphatically replied the Court, "You can argue, but I shall not change my ruling."

With this the order was issued and the matter disposed of until Friday morning at 11 o'clock.