

BANKER BAIRD'S DENIALS.

TO BE SENT BACK TO MADERA FOR
TRIAL FOR EMBEZZLEMENT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 14.—Young Mr. Baird of Madera Bank fame, under arrest here charged with forgery of bank stock, notes, and other papers to the extent of \$100,000, spent the forenoon to-day in the office of the Chief of Police, where a number of friends called upon him. Baird was detained in custody as a prisoner en route to Madera, and was spared the humiliation of being placed behind the bars. He is twenty-nine years of age, and has been in this State about four years. He is a native of Pennsylvania, and came here from Illinois. He is of medium height and very stout.

He is an easy, plausible talker, is not averse to conversing about his case, and calmly denies any allegation of guilt made against him. A detective who had been in Baird's company last night for a number of hours said to-day: "If Baird is guilty of a fraction of the charges made against him, he will have a hard job to clear himself. I consider him, however, one of the smoothest talkers I ever met."

When Baird was seen to-day he said: "I do not know who has sworn out the warrant for my arrest and cannot imagine who could have done so. If I knew the party I am positive that matters could have been easily and satisfactorily arranged with him, as I am certain my arrest grew out of some trivial cause. I am accused of embezzlement and overissuing stock. I defy any man to show that my conduct ever has been anything else than open and aboveboard. In regard to charges of making false statements, I can only say bank commissioners and other interested parties thoroughly investigated the reports and never found fault or demanded explanation except on one occasion, when there was an item that they did not clearly comprehend and a fuller report was asked for and granted."

Baird ascribed some of the adverse reports concerning his management of the Bank of Madera to disgruntled settlers who were dissatisfied with their holdings in the colony, and said that where settlers complained of the quality of land he had always endeavored to satisfy them by giving them better land in exchange.

The New York Times

Published: November 15, 1891

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