

ACCIDENTAL OR INTENTIONAL?

Mysterious Shooting of an Italian Tamale Peddler.

The Wounded Man's Partner Held the Pistol--The Police Satisfied That It was Accidental.

There was a mysterious shooting last evening.

Shortly before 7 o'clock people residing in the vicinity of the African M. E. Church, on Seventh street, between G and H, were startled by the loud report of a pistol, and upon investigation it was learned that the shooting had taken place in a little shanty in the alley, back of the church, where several tamale manufacturers reside.

Great excitement prevailed inside the house, the Italian occupants all talking at once in their native tongue, and gesticulating wildly.

On the floor of the dingy little kitchen lay a man who was bleeding profusely from a wound on the forehead.

At first nothing could be learned as to who did the shooting, or how it had occurred, so excited was everybody within. But somebody lifted up the prostrate man, and ascertaining that he was not dead, asked him how it happened.

"No one mind my mind," he groaned. "Da pistol go off by self. Got da doctor."

Dr. Brupe was sent for, and responded immediately. The wounded man was removed to another room and placed on a bed, after which the doctor made an examination. It was found that the bullet had struck the forehead just over the right eye, and, glancing off, shattered a portion of the frontal bone, and carried away some of the bridge of the nose. In order to make it possible for the man to breathe, he had been fired from the side, and had gone and in the left would have entered the brain at the temple.

Dr. Brupe said he did not consider the wound necessarily fatal unless inflammation of the brain should set in.

WAS IT INTENTIONAL?

While the doctor was dressing the wound a Record reporter, who arrived at the scene shortly after the shooting, made inquiries of several of the neighbors with the hope of getting some definite information regarding the shooting. While most of those interviewed declared that they knew nothing of the affair, except that they had heard the shot, there were some who believed that there was more at the bottom of the matter than the Italian cared to tell. One gentleman in particular, who resides in the alley, said he had been expecting something of the kind for some time. "That man who is shot," he said, "is named John Sperti. I was one of the first to go into the house after the shooting, and they told me that the shooting was accidental--that Sperti's partner, Nicoli Sperti, was examining a pistol, when it went off and the bullet struck Sperti. Frank Sperti, the wounded man's brother, also lives in the house, and the three have had frequent rows. They are all tamale peddlers, and I always supposed they quarreled over the division of the profits."

THE POLICE THEORY.

Police officer Arlington heard of the shooting and made an investigation. He took Chippo to the police station, but placed no charge against him. The theory of the police is that the shooting was accidental, and this theory is based on the opinion of Dr. Brupe, and the statements of Chippo, Frank Sperti and the wounded man, Nicoli Sperti.

Frank Sperti made a statement to the Record-Union representative, after he had recovered sufficiently from his excitement and had learned that his brother was not dying. "There were no hard feelings between John and Nicoli," he said, "so the shooting could not have been intentional. The pistol was in the hands of the best of friends. Shortly after supper they were examining an old pistol belonging to me. They did not know it was loaded, and when looking at it, when Nicoli said, 'Let me see it,' and took it out of John's hand. He was fiddling with the trigger when the pistol suddenly went off."

A CREDIT TO THE STATE.

The Press Association visits the Napa Insane Asylum.

The California Press Association while in session at Napa this week was invited by the resident physician, Dr. A. M. Gainer, and J. C. Stevens, the Secretary, to visit the Insane Asylum and inspect its workings. The members of the association in large numbers visited the institution and were shown all through the beautiful grounds and buildings.

Among the party were the Secretary, consisting of William H. Mills of San Francisco, Will S. Green, Colusa Sun, Watson Chalmers, Chico Enterprise, Ed. E. Leake, Dixon, Colusa Sun, Chico Enterprise, Winters Express, a representative of the Record-Union and others with a number of ladies. The party, after being royally entertained by Dr. Gainer and his amiable wife, were shown through the wards of the female patients. Everything was found to be a most admirable condition, scrupulous cleanliness prevailing everywhere; plenty of fresh air, numerous nurses and attendants to look after the comforts of the unfortunate inmates, all testified to its being a model institution of its kind.

The spacious grounds are beautifully laid out; water in abundance is found on every hand, with pressure sufficient to throw large streams through the fire hose to the loftiest part of the building. The fire alarm was turned on while the visitors were inspecting the grounds, and in an incredible short space of time, two fine streams were being thrown on the lofty roof and corridors. There is very little danger from fire, as very little wood has been used in the construction of the building.

The patients seem to have a warm regard for their physician, gathering around him frequently and affectionately shaking his hand. He has a kind word for all. There are some 1,500 acres in the asylum reservation, and the work of keeping the grounds in order is mostly done by the male patients, who labor as diligently, apparently, as if they were well paid for their work.

A large number of the least violent, male and female, patients were enjoying themselves on the lawn, but vigilance was on them continually. They seemed to be no disposition, however, to leave the grounds on the part of any, and a few who begged their way to the gate, were sent off as happy apparently as children who had received a new toy. It is a sad place to visit, but a satisfaction to know that the very best possible care is taken of the unfortunate deprived of their reason. It demands a high order of management to supervise successfully such an institution, and the Napa Asylum, under the management of such executive ability in the person of its resident physician.

APRIL SHOWERS.

Rapid Fall of the Barometer, with a PLEASANT Breeze.

The records of the Sacramento Signal Office show the barometer to have fallen rapidly all day yesterday. The reading at 5 A. M. was 29.91 inches, while at 5 P. M. that instrument had fallen .30 of an inch, and stood at 29.71 inches, with fresh southerly winds and gentle rain falling at intervals.

The amount measured was .18 of an inch, making for this month 1.30 inches, which is exactly the average precipitation for the entire month of April, as deduced from a record of 41 years. The greatest amount ever known to fall during any of

the forty-one Aprils was in 1880, when 14.20 inches was measured, while the least amount measured was a sprinkle in 1877 and again in 1878.

The rainfall since January 1, 1891, is 10.78 inches, making a total precipitation for the season of 14.08 inches, as against 31.07 inches to an equal date last year, distributed as follows: September (1890), .80 of an inch; a sprinkle in October; none in November; 3.34 inches in December; .53 of an inch in January; 4.61 inches in February; 1.75 inches in March, and 1.90 inches in April, up to 5 o'clock last evening.

The outlook is most propitious for a copious downpour of rain.

The highest and lowest temperature yesterday was 82° and 59°, as against 70° and 48° on the same date last year.

COLLECTOR KRIPP.

He Gets Double Satisfaction Out of a Stubborn Chinaman.

Al Lee appeared in the Police Court yesterday on a charge of disturbing the peace, made by Ed Kripp, a poll-tax collector. The Chinaman could hardly understand how, after receiving a blackened eye and a badly-swollen cheek, he should figure as the defendant in the case, but he did, nevertheless.

This testimony showed that Kripp asked him to give his name and to pay his poll-tax, but he refused and started to walk away. Kripp caught him by the queue and hauled him back and the Chinaman struck at him, but the blow was dodged. Kripp then proceeded to lay out the head, and he knocked him down a couple of times and finally threw him into the gutter. He then arrested the Chinaman and charged him with disturbing the peace.

Ah Lee was fined \$25.

THAT PERJURY CHARGE.

The Jury Finds Contractor John P. Hughes Not Guilty.

John Black Tells More About the "Rose-Colored Testimony"--Coffey's Character--Duhane Roasted.

The trial of John P. Hughes, the contractor, charged with perjury, was concluded in the Superior Court yesterday, and resulted in the acquittal of the defendant.

During the forenoon session John Black, the well-known cracker-baker, took the witness stand again and made a further statement regarding the testimony given by C. C. Duhane on Wednesday.

Duhane, it will be remembered, testified that some time ago police officer Wilson came to him, while he was working at the State Capitol, and told him that Mr. Black wanted to see him. Upon visiting Mr. Black's place of business, he said the latter asked him not to give any "rose-colored testimony" in favor of Hughes when the latter's trial came off.

Duhane said he spurned the advice given, and told Black that he intended to testify to the truth.

Mr. Black, upon taking the stand yesterday, reiterated his former statement, that he had no intention whatever of influencing Duhane. Officer Wilson, being a great friend of Duhane's, was afraid that the latter would get himself into trouble by testifying at the Hughes trial, and asked him (the witness) to talk to him. When Duhane visited the witness, the latter simply advised him not to color his testimony, and to stick to the truth, so as to avoid trouble.

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Various witnesses were summoned by the defense, and testified as to the bad character of John H. Coffey, the man who testified that he and Hughes were partners in business--which statement Hughes denied, and testified that Coffey was an ex-convict, and a man who could not be believed under oath. He declared that it should be Coffey and not Hughes who should be sent to the penitentiary for perjury.

DUHANE ROASTED.

Assistant District Attorney Buckley made the closing argument for the people. He said that the testimony of the most dangerous enemies of justice, and he thought it was high time that some one should be made an example of in Sacramento. The practice of false testimony was becoming too common. Mr. Buckley also paid his respects to the witness Duhane. He declared that the latter has essayed to stir up a party by making a silly statement that an honorable gentleman and merchant like Mr. Black had attempted to influence his testimony. It was a gross insult, he said, and intended to cover up Duhane's own shortcomings.

Judge Grant of Yolo, who is acting in Judge Coffey's place temporarily, charged the jury to give no weight to the testimony of Duhane, and to stick to the facts. After a short deliberation a verdict of not guilty was rendered.

HOMES AT AUCTION.

Edwin K. Alsip & Co.'s Sale of Real Estate To-Day.

Edwin K. Alsip & Co. will hold an important sale of real estate at 11 o'clock this forenoon at their real estate sales-room, 1015 Fourth street. It will embrace several exceedingly desirable pieces of city residence property, and should command the attention of both home-seekers and speculators who may be on the lookout for bargains. The property to be sold includes:

First--A one-story and basement cottage, containing seven rooms, bath-room, closet, marble mantels, conservatory, etc., on K street, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth. Lot 40x100, seeded to blue grass, with choice shrubbery, and filled to the ground with fruit trees.

Second--Two-story frame dwelling, containing seven rooms, large parlor, cloth, bath-room, etc. Lot 45x100, with large stable, carriage-house, etc. On P street, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth.

Third--A doubletenement frame dwelling, containing five rooms, each with a bath, on N street, between Tenth and Eleventh.

Fourth--Lot 40x100, on N street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth, with two frame cottages; one fronting on N street contains five rooms and closets; one in rear contains four rooms.

Also, the west half of lot 4, P street, between Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets.

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An Official Inspection.

J. A. Fillmore, General Superintendent of the Southern Pacific Company, returned last evening from his trip over the Northern Division for the purpose of inspecting the roads. He went as far north as Ashland, O.

AUCTION SALE.

Of Valuable Real Estate To-day at 11 O'Clock A. M.

Attend the auction sale to-day of residence property, consisting of the real estate of Edwin K. Alsip & Co., No. 1015 Fourth street, if you wish a good, desirable residence at a bargain.

Notice.

A trial copy of Bendors's Royal Deutch Cocoa will be given to-day, April 17th, to all who visit Lynn's grocery, corner Seventh and O streets.

LOOKS VERY PROMISING.

Good Prospects for a Visit from President Harrison.

Mayor Comstock Receives an Encouraging Letter from Private Secretary Halford.

The committee appointed at the public meeting last week to make further arrangements for tendering President Harrison a reception in Sacramento when he arrives on the coast, met yesterday at the Court-house. Mayor Comstock presided, and Wells Drury acted as Secretary.

Upon calling the meeting to order the Mayor stated that he had received a very encouraging letter from Mr. Halford, the President's Private Secretary, regarding the President's visit. The letter was as follows:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, APRIL 13, 1891. Hon. W. D. Comstock, Mayor of Sacramento, Cal.--MY DEAR SIR: The President directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 10th instant, and to express his thanks to you and the citizens of Sacramento for the arrangements for his visit to the city. It is his desire that a visit should be made within that time to the Capital of the State, if you would confer with the committee on the subject, and if you are satisfied that the arrangements are satisfactory, to advise me by return mail. Very truly yours, E. H. Halford, Private Secretary.

WILL GO AHEAD. J. O. Coleman thought that on the strength of this letter there should be no further doubt, and on his motion it was resolved that the committee be authorized to call the people of Sacramento to a meeting in view of the expressions given by the President's Private Secretary regarding the arrangements for the reception.

Judge Van Fleet moved that a committee of nine, to act jointly with the Mayor, be appointed to go to San Francisco and arrange for having the President in Sacramento at least one day and one evening. The motion was adopted and the following-named gentlemen were named as the committee: Mayor W. D. Comstock, Judge W. C. Van Fleet, Attorney-General W. H. Hart, Judge J. W. Armstrong, Hon. N. S. Culverwell, J. O. Coleman, Professor E. C. Atkinson, General T. W. Sheehan, Major W. A. Anderson and Wells Drury.

A telegram was prepared and sent to Congressman Morrow in San Francisco, asking for the fixing of a time and place for a meeting between the Sacramento Special Committee and the President's Committee. The local committee will go to San Francisco to-morrow morning and arrangements will then, no doubt, be effected.

On Monday the committee will report to the Executive Committee the result of its consultation at the Bay, and if everything is satisfactory a public meeting will be held that evening, at which committees will be chosen to make the final arrangements for the reception.

There is little doubt but that the President's presence can be secured for Sacramento for at least one day and evening, and there is also little doubt but that he will be given a right royal reception by the citizens.

Mayor Comstock received a telegram last night from Congressman Morrow stating that the Sacramento request would be laid before the San Francisco committee immediately.

IN ATHLETIC CIRCLES.

Spring Brings a Boom in the Local Club--Coming Events.

Now that spring is here, there is quite a stir among the athletes of the Sacramento Athletic Club, who have been "laying off" more or less during the winter months.

The out-door grounds at East Park are being put in good condition, and it is intended to convert the running track and sprinting course into regulation cinder paths, so that some good racing and fast time may be expected during the coming year. The runners, jumpers, shot-putters and hurdlers are doing preliminary "limbering up" work at the gymnasium now, and as soon as the weather settles and the ground dries sufficiently they will get out into the open air.

Going to the great success of the last two "ladies' nights" at the club-rooms, and the increasing popularity of these entertainments, the directors are seriously considering the proposition of giving exhibitions of club work monthly. The members of the juvenile class are becoming so proficient in all the branches taught in Professor Godfrey's club's able instruction, that they can contribute very materially to the entertainments. It is also stated that an exhibition by the ladies' class is among the possibilities of the near future.

The members have made remarkable progress with the Indian clubs, dumb-bells, wands, and on the various apparatus.

The next event to take place under the auspices of the club will be a hand-ball tournament for teams made up of club members only. The club has secured an expert at this game in the club, the entry-list promises to be large. Games will be scheduled for specified nights, and members will be privileged to bring their lady and gentleman friends to see the contests. It is expected that at least two weeks will be required to decide the club champion.

CONSOLIDATED CAPITAL.

Companies Organized for Railroad, Fruit and Grape Culture, Etc.

The following articles of incorporation were filed in the Secretary of State's office yesterday:

Highland Park and Fruit Vale Railroad. Principal place of business, Oakland. Capital stock, \$50,000. Directors, E. C. Sessions, George E. Thomas, Joseph Hunt, Francis J. Woodward and M. D. Sessions.

The Masonic Hall Association of Dunsmuir, Siskiyou County, Capital stock, \$10,000. Directors--R. S. Culverwell, F. T. Matthews, J. C. Matthews, L. Van Fossen and A. T. Creelman.

Grand United Order of Odd Fellows of Oakland. Directors--Homer Bishop, J. A. Harrod, John Moore, John Day and J. B. Wilson.

Globe Vineyard Company of San Francisco. Capital stock, \$12,000. Directors--Thomas Sheridan, Frank M. Butterfield, Charles M. Foster, Mary A. Sheridan, E. S. Pohley, George M. Lawton and Charles D. Coon.

The Vineyard Company of San Francisco. Capital stock, \$80,000. Directors--M. Cooney, Kate J. Willatts, A. H. Millberry, Gustav Pohlman, Frank Stohr, S. F. Long, J. O. Jepson, C. D. Coon, Henry Krall, F. C. Fredrickson and L. Vincent.

MIEB'S WOOD-PILE.

It obstructs the Sidewalk, and He Must Pay a Fine.

Fred. Mier, who was arrested on Wednesday on a charge of misdemeanor, preferred by C. C. Brown, was tried and found guilty yesterday in the Police Court. Brown objected to a large pile of wood which was stored on the sidewalk in front of the Excelsior Works on Sixth street, and Mier refused to remove it.

Mr. Mier said he was not responsible for the piling of the wood in that position. He was not the foreman, nor the manager of the factory, and never gave orders to the men.

The cross-examination of Mr. Mier and additional testimony introduced by the prosecution showed that he was the foreman of the company, and that he

frequently visited the factory and gave orders to his men, who in turn directed the men. It was also shown that he superintended the unloading of the cars of wood, and could have ordered it piled elsewhere had he wished.

Judge Craven found the defendant guilty, and ordered him to appear to-day for sentence.

POLICE COURT.

Mrs. Summers to be Punished for Her Loud Talking.

In Judge Craven's court yesterday Manuel Hurtado, Peter Forcelland Andy Johnson were fined \$10 each for appearing on the public streets in a drunken condition.

Sam King, who was arrested for peddling without a license, was also fined \$10.

Mrs. Summers, the elderly woman who created a disturbance on J street by demanding, in a loud voice, money claimed to be due her from a contractor named Leman, was ordered to pay a fine of \$20, or, in default, go to jail.

Victor Varuna's Sufferings.

A couple of days since the young man, Victor Varuna, who was recently run over by a truck and had his jaw and shoulder fractured, became quite beside himself from pain and ran away from the County Hospital, first tearing the bandages from his wounds.

He went to his parents' home, and when the police sought to return him to the hospital he tried to elude them. With considerable difficulty the authorities of the youth was taken back. He seems to have no idea of the risk he runs, and has from the first fought against medical treatment.

REPENTANT CRIMINALS.

Henry Miller and J. P. Blevin Plead Guilty to Grand Larceny.

Both Go to State Prison for Short Terms as Reward for Saving the County Expense.

Two grand larcenists stood in the prisoners' dock in Superior Judge Van Fleet's court yesterday and acknowledged their guilt.

It has become quite fashionable among criminals of late to plead guilty--particularly when their are "pretty tough cases to beat," as they put it--and, by saving the county the expense of a trial, occasionally expect mercy from the court. One-half of the total of offenders who were awaiting trial on the new calendar adopted this course.

IT WAS TRYING.

Yesterday's repentants were J. P. Blevin and Henry Miller, and both got off with comparatively light sentences considering the magnitude of their crimes.

Blevin is the individual who a couple of weeks ago broke open one of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s mail-boxes at the corner of Fourth and J streets, and took therefrom a letter containing a draft in favor of C. H. Cummings for \$100. This is a serious crime, and ordinarily upon conviction might result in a sentence to a long term of years in the penitentiary. But Blevin smiled and pleaded guilty to the charge of grand larceny preferred against him by the District Attorney. He begged for mercy on the plea that he was addicted to the terrible morphia habit and really did not know what he was doing when he broke open the box. He has never before been arrested for crime, he said, and had always worked hard at his trade of paper-hanging for a living.

The syndicate attorney, Attorney Ryan, were aroused by Blevin's remarks and he asked the court to be lenient. Judge Van Fleet let the prisoner off with one year at Folsom.

Then it was Miller's turn. He was smiling, too.

STOLEN POLL TAX.

Miller is the man who stole Deputy Tax Collector Stephen's bag of poll tax collections--\$180 in all. He had been employed on the Stephenson ranch near Highland, and saw young Stephenson (who is now in the workhouse) reach the gate of the latter's residence. He followed him to the gate, and saw him put his sack of collections between the mattresses of his bed. Stephenson went off several miles to assess some Chinese districts, and he begged for mercy on the plea that he was addicted to the terrible morphia habit and really did not know what he was doing when he broke open the box. He has never before been arrested for crime, he said, and had always worked hard at his trade of paper-hanging for a living.

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Changed Daily for Weinstock, Lubin & Co.

LADIES' UNTRIMMED HATS. CROWDED!

Pointed Crown Black Chip Hats, straight, wide brims, 75 cents.

Leghorn Flats, wide brims, and with either high or low crowns, 50 cents to \$1.75.

Small Shape Flat Hats, fancy straw and crinkled brims, 50 and 75 cents.

Fine Milan Straw and Chip Turbans, trimmed, for street or traveling wear.

Children's Saucer-shaped, Crinkled Brim Hats, in two colors of straw, 50 cents.

Children's Chambray Wash Hats, wide corded brims with lace, large, flat crowns, 45 cents. Cream, white, light blue, black and pink.

LADIES' READY-MADE SUITS. Now Going On

We wish to draw special attention to our new Ready-made Spring Suits at very low prices.

Ladies' Ready-made Striped Flannelette Suits, with raised shoulders and blouse waist, belt and pearl buttons. This complete suit ready-made, price \$2.50.

Ladies' Ready-made Dress of black or navy ladies' cloth, plain draped skirt, trimmed with three rows of black braid; basque tailor-finished with high, puffed shoulders and military collar. Price, \$3.75.

Ladies' Ready-made Figured Challi Dresses, stylishly made with raised shoulders, and basques neatly trimmed with corded silk to match. We have them in all sizes from 32 bust to 44. Price, \$5.95.

LADIES' NEW CLOTH CAPES.

Ladies' Cloth Accordion Plaited Capes with yoke and medici collars, richly braided in tinsel. Can be had in good shades of gray, tan and navy. Price, \$3.75.

Ladies' Handsome Braided Light-weight Cloth Capes, with medic collar, raised shoulders and extra long length, in gray and black. Price, \$5.

We have also a variety of very stylish Capes at higher prices than the above.

Weinstock, Lubin & Co. Boston Shoe Bazar.

400 to 412 K street, Sacramento.

SALE OF MILLINERY.

I have purchased the stock of the LA MODE, and will say to the public that I will open it on WEDNESDAY, April 15th, and will sell it out at reduced prices.

MRS. M. A. PEALER, 619, 621 and 623 J Street, Sacramento, Cal.

WOULD WE DARE TO ADVERTISE THESE PRICES IF THEY WERE NOT LOW?

ASK TO SEE OUR \$7, \$8 AND \$10 SUITS.

They are all nobby patterns and the very latest styles. We have them in all sizes, and take pleasure in showing them whether you buy or not. Is it not to your advantage to trade with us?

MECHANICAL CLOTHING HOUSE, 414 K Street, H. MARKS, Prop.

PETERS & RAY, APOTHECARIES AND DRUGGISTS.

Odd Fellows' Temple, 901 K Street. SPECIAL ATTENTION TO PRESCRIPTIONS AND FAMILY RECIPES DAY AND NIGHT. Everything usually found in a drug store and some that are not. Country orders receive the utmost care and prompt attention.

ESTABLISHED THIRTY YEARS--EQUIPPED WITH THE BEST MACHINERY. THE PIONEER STEAM CARPET CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT, 5 W. CORNER TWELFTH AND O STS., HARRY W. RIVETT, PROP. WHY TAKE BUT THE BEST CARPET-LAYERS. Prompt and reliable. Send orders direct by mail or telephone, or to Locke & Lavenson's or Ingram & Bird's. Telephone 292.

Gas & Davis Furniture Carpets.

411-413 K St., Sacramento. WALL PAPER OF ALL KINDS. SEND FOR PRICE LIST.

WM. B. MILLER, KEEPS ON HAND A FINE LINE OF DIAMONDS, WATCHES AND JEWELRY.

No. 628 J St., Sacramento, Cal. Repairs of Watches and Jewelry made a specialty.

KLUNE & FLOBERG, WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELERS, 428 J STREET, BETWEEN FURTH AND FIFTH, DEALERS IN WATCHES, JEWELRY AND DIAM