

AN OLD-TIME CRIMINAL.

He Began His Career in Sacramento Forty Years Ago.

Pierre Ridge Relates the Story of His Long Criminal Life—He Retires at the Age of Eighty-two.

There are only a few of the present residents of this city who will be able to recall the criminal operations of Pierre Ridge, who fully forty years ago began in this city his remarkable career of crime. He was lately released from the Folsom Prison, and went direct to San Francisco, where he related to an Examiner reporter the story of his criminal career since 1851, most of which time he has spent in jail.

Pierre Ridge is now 82 years old and has been in California since 1858, and most of that time he has spent in prison. His life has been one long story of crime, and he likes well enough to tell it. On Monday he sat in Chief Crowley's outer office, wearing a large white sombrero and smoking a clay pipe with a very short stem. One of his eyes is gone, but the other, notwithstanding his age, is as sharp as ever.

"Well, I don't know as I'll do me any good to tell you the story of my life," he began, as he crossed his knees, blew a cloud of smoke from his mouth and winked meditatively with his good eye. "I'm trying to live square now. I've had enough of prison and I don't want to serve any more time behind the bars. But I suppose it'll not hurt me much."

"I'm there," nodding to Detective Balmbridge, "has got it all down in the book—that is, he's got some of it, but there's a lot more about things I've done that he never can get. I wouldn't tell my own brother about them."

His early life. "I was born in New Orleans in 1810," he continued. "My father and four brothers were all butchers and I'm a butcher myself. I served through the Mexican War in the 1st Louisiana (Texas) regiment. Then I came to California and arrived at Los Angeles in December of 1848. I stayed there all winter and came to the mining country in 1849. In February I went up to the mines in Plumas County. Rabbit Creek was the name of the camp. In 1850 I went to Oroville. The 'diggers' were scarce, and during the four months I staid I made plenty of money."

"It was then that I went in with a fellow named Tom Bell and his partner, Rattlesnake Dick. We went to Sacramento together, and at a saloon at L and Second streets calling on 'Red' Corner, kept by a fellow named Welsh, we met Bill Thompson and Charley Jackson. They belonged to a gang of crooks and we joined them. The first thing that happened was a bullet with a cross on it. If one of us was in trouble he could show that marked bullet to one of the others and he would do anything for him. There were twenty-three of us altogether."

"I was going by the name of Bob Morrison then. Me and Bill Thompson went to Placerville and held up the Placer, Colusa and Sacramento stages. Thompson got the dust and we met in Sacramento and divided it. I was arrested and sentenced to six months in the 'big house.' 'Brig' was all the prison they had then. I lay at anchor out in the Sacramento river and was fitted up with cells. All prisoners were ironed at night."

THE ESCAPE FROM THE BIG. "They put me and 'Red Mike' in a cell together and one night we cut our manacles, filed the bars from the window, and dropping down into the river, swam ashore. 'Red Mike' went to Yuba Dam after that and was killed."

"I went down to San Jose under the name of Charley Buford and opened a butcher shop. The quicksilver mines were being worked at Almaden then, and they used to get the money to pay off with by stages. San Francisco. One day I went out about three miles and made the messenger throw out the sack with \$7,000 in it."

"I then went back to San Jose. I was arrested afterward and served seven years in San Quentin. They were putting up the stone building there and we used to sleep on a barge at night. Then I went to Napa."

"Black Jack Brown and me went into Levi Solomon's saloon and 'Red Mike' was talking about buying something. I carried off the box with \$6,800 in it. I got fourteen years for that and Jack got ten, in 1862, while we were serving that term there was a big jail-break, and I got out and went up into Lake County. In 1860 I held up the Big River stage, twelve miles above Gearyville, and carried off a box containing \$21,000. I carried it down to Cherry Run and buried it. I was arrested for that and sentenced to twenty years. The Governor, Haight, pardoned me after I had served four months because I told the express company where to go and find the money."

"In 1876 I was sentenced to three years in Fort Yuma for an Arizona burglary. After that I went to Folsom for two years for a burglary committed in Yuba. My next term was in the city of this city for a burglary, and I completed my last term in jail two months ago, when I was released from Folsom after serving three years for burglary."

"Of course I held up lots of stages and committed other crimes for which I was never punished. In 1881 I met an old reddier named 'Red' Levy on the way from Colfax to Nevada City. He used to ride around the camps on a mule being gold dust. I had ninety pounds of dust in it, and then I pushed him and his mule over the grade. Levy's leg was broken and his mule was killed. I got all the dust the same night playing faro."

"I killed a man once. I thought I was going to hang for it, too. It was in Placerville, when Jim Johnson was Judge. Jim Owens and Tom Walker were doing faro at the Clinton House. A fellow named 'Australian Tom' had wanted to take up one of the boys from this city, and I wouldn't let him. He threw a glass at me. I shot him through the head, and then ran over into a mine's tent across the street. The judge, the sheriff and the hangmen, but the miners began to shoot, and they went away. Two weeks later Judge Johnson examined me, and I was acquitted on the ground that I was a doctor."

"After I got out of the barge I went to Sacramento in '84, and stole a box of dust from Jim McLean. I hid it in my room, and a policeman named Burke found it there one day while Tom Jackson was in the room. He was found guilty and sentenced to nine years, although he was entirely innocent. Jackson was one of the men who helped Lynch Center and Williams in '82 for murdering a fellow named 'Doc' James."

SOME FURNISHED CRIMES. "I was broke in the city once, when I saw Captain Shaw of the ship Onward coming along Sanson street. I put a rock in my handkerchief and laid him out and then took his watch and \$50. An hour or two later he came in the saloon where I was playing poker with his money."

"In 1870 I stole \$6,000 worth of jewelry from a store on Third street, near Mission, and gave it to Aleck Wright to sell for me. He never gave it back to me nor any of the money. He was afterward killed while trying to hold up a stage in the mountains."

"You see I've had plenty of experience. I've been a 'crook' all my life, but I'm going to be straight now till I die. I can't suppose that will be very long, but I'm a pretty good man yet, if I am 82 years old."

Visiting Lumbermen. A number of prominent lumbermen in the United States passed through the city yesterday morning by the Oregon train. They are from Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and other lumber States, and came out over the Northern Pacific road about two weeks ago. Since then they have been visiting the lumber regions of

Washington and Oregon. A committee of San Francisco lumbermen met the visitors at Oakland and conducted them across the bay.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Metropolitan Theater was well filled again last night, and Frederick Warde was given another token of the appreciation by Sacramentans of his genius and ability. He appeared in his greatest character, that of Virginius, and of course the performance was a grand one. Mr. Warde has been here so often in this part that comment upon his rendition of it is unnecessary, but it may be said that he has never before had such perfect support. There is no weak timber in the company, and every character in the play was well presented. Miss Fatus' performance as the lovely Virginia, in place of Miss Adele Belgrade, and astonished her greatest admirers by the charming manner in which she portrayed that difficult character.

To-night "The Mountebank," with Mr. Warde in the title role. This is another of his great characters, and he will no doubt be greeted by another crowded house.

A fair audience greeted the company at the Clinton Opera-house last night on the second night of the production of "Fanchon, the Cricket." The piece passed off more smoothly than on the preceding night, the audience manifesting their appreciation of the excellence of the performance by frequent and hearty applause. Miss Woodthorpe has a splendid comprehension of the difficult character of the erratic Cricket, and last night surprised her warmest admirers. "Fanchon" will be repeated this and to-morrow evenings, and deserves a full house on each occasion.

After the performance at the Metropolitan Theater last night Frederick Warde gave a quiet supper at the Golden Eagle Hotel to the members of his company in honor of his birthday. It was a most pleasing affair, and the company, including Mr. Warde's company of ladies and gentlemen are as charming off the stage as they are attractive and brilliant upon it. They constitute a most happy family, who live together without any of the bickerings or jealousies which are supposed to exist in many theatrical companies. They had a joyous "feast of reason and flow of soul," wishing the great tragedian "many happy returns of the day."

The box office of the Metropolitan will be open this morning for the sale of seats for Miss Gale's engagement.

At Armory Hall, on Friday evening, Sutter Circle, Companions of the Forest, will give a grand ball.

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

W. W. Cozzens Fruit Company of San Jose, Capital stock, \$50,000. Directors—W. W. Cozzens, Arthur Crowley, James W. Dawson, W. M. Field and E. G. Fischer.

Universal Motive Power Company of San Francisco, Capital stock, \$500,000. Directors—C. E. Loedler, Stephen P. Sidliff, C. W. Bassett, J. W. Allan, G. H. Lewis, Adam Schilling, Albert Hill, James Malone, William Rubel and R. H. Johnson.

McSwain-Miller Company of San Francisco, Capital stock, \$25,000. Directors—J. F. McSwain, George L. Miller, W. B. Greenbaum, C. W. Butler and W. P. Angelo.

Visalia Water Company of Visalia, Tulare County, Capital stock, \$50,000. Directors—Arthur Crowley, James W. Crowley, D. G. Overall, W. H. Hammond and John F. Jordan.

Washing Publishing Company of San Francisco, Capital stock, \$25,000. Directors—A. C. Barrie, T. R. Sullivan, James E. Flynn, H. H. Adams, W. R. Jones and Frank H. Richardson.

Swamp Land Purchases. The following opinion has been rendered by Deputy Attorney-General Layson: SACRAMENTO, Feb. 23, 1892.

Hon. Theodore Tilton, Surveyor-General. DEAR SIR: An application has been made to swap and overland land lying outside of the boundaries of the swamp lands certificate of purchase was issued prior to the year 1880, must pay, in addition to the purchase price, 10 per cent interest on deferred payments at the time of the issue of the patent. Respectfully, W. H. LAYSON, First Deputy Attorney-General.

Lecture This Evening. At the Congregational Church this evening Professor Thomas K. Bacon will deliver a historical lecture, entitled "1492."

He is spoken of by the press as "incisive, incisive, incisive and eloquent." The subject he is said to treat in a very comprehensive and interesting manner. Professor Bacon has the reputation of never touching a subject without making it flash, and this lecture is described as being of the highest order.



Rev. William Hollnshed of Sparta, N. J., voluntarily says: "To Whom It May Concern: I was asked if I deem it my duty to a suffering humanity whose bodies and souls I would have healthy, to tell them of the value of Hood's Sarsaparilla. While living in Ohio one of my children was greatly afflicted with Boils."

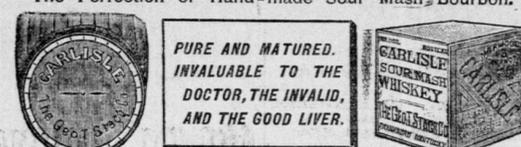
Having 30 on her limbs, and being unable to walk. I had heard of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and bought a bottle, half of which cured entirely. Two years after, another child was afflicted as badly. I used the other half bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla with like results. About four years after, the child first afflicted was again tormented like Job, and I bought a bottle (on Sunday at that) and again a cure. I gave some of the medicine to a poor woman and two children; they were helped as were mine. Through a testimonial sent to C. I. Hood & Co., inquiries came from all the States, asking if it was a bona fide testimonial, and of course I wrote all that it was, and have the knowledge of

Scores and Scores. Of persons helped or cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. Mild cases of rheumatism have yielded to it. Biliousness and bad liver have been corrected in my own family. This is the only patent medicine I have felt like praising. I speak not for C. I. Hood, but for the Jobs who are impatient and are tormented beyond endurance. Nothing I know of will cleanse the blood, stimulate the liver, or clean the system so perfectly as Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Any person wishing to know more, enclosing a stamp will be informed. Yours for the health, happiness and virtue of humanity. WILLIAM HOLLNSHED, Pastor of Presbyterian Church, Sparta, N. J.

Hood's Pills cure habitual constipation.

CARLISLE WHISKEY, The Perfection of Hand-made Sour Mash Bourbon.



SHERWOOD & SHERWOOD, Distributing Agents, San Francisco, 212 Market St. Portland, 24 N. Front St.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

Correspondence of Interest to the General Public. [Under this heading the RECORD-UNION will publish short letters from correspondents on topics of interest to the general public. The matter in these communications will be understood to represent only the views of the writers. All communications must be accompanied by the name of the writer, not for publication, unless so desired, but as a guarantee of good faith.—Eds.]

A Home for Some Worthy Woman. DUNNING (Yolo County), Feb. 23d. Eds. RECORD-UNION: In an issue of your paper of December last I noticed a list of "deserving poor." I would like to offer a good home to one, if I could find the right one; and not knowing the address of the Mr. Dale mentioned in your article, I would make bold to ask help of you. I would insert an advertisement in the "Wanted" column, but thought this the surer way. If you will put me in communication with Mr. Dale, or any one interested in the poor, I shall esteem it a great favor.

The home I offer is a quiet one in the country, in a family of five. All the privileges of one of the family will be accorded to one willing to assist in the housework for her board. It is just the place for a poor, deserving widow with one or two children.

Hoping that this will meet with some consideration, I am respectfully yours, Mrs. J. T. Beckler.

EASTERN FRUIT MEN. They Will be Here in Force To-morrow—Are They to be Ignored? The excursion party composed of members of the Eastern Fruit and Produce Dealers' Association, about seventy-five in number, who have been visiting other parts of the State the past two weeks, will arrive here early to-morrow morning and remain until noon.

Sacramento is the great fruit and produce shipping point of the State, and yet there have been no steps taken toward entertaining the visitors or acquainting them with the importance of this city's fruit interests. In other places down south the citizens were only too glad of the opportunity to meet them and show them about.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL. S. P. Maslin is down from Amador County on a visit.

L. E. Chase, a Chicago commercial man, is at the Golden Eagle Hotel.

George H. Lavenson of San Francisco spent Monday with his relatives here.

Bishop Wingfield and Rev. W. L. Clark of Benicia are registered at the Golden Eagle.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Higgins spent the 22d in visiting Warden and Mrs. Aull at Folsom.

W. P. Dillman and family have given up their Placer residence and returned to this city.

John F. Merrill and Charles Holbrook, of the firm of Holbrook, Merrill & Stearns, are in the city.

District Attorney Robinson and ex-District Attorney Tuttle of Placer came to the city yesterday.

Superior Judge Catlin has gone to Fresno for a few days, but will be home in time to hold court on Friday.

The reports regarding A. N. Towne's health are more encouraging, and it is announced that he is now advancing toward convalescence.

Ex-Senator Newton Booth, who has been stopping in New York for a few days, left for this city on Sunday, accompanied by Mrs. Booth and Mrs. J. H. Peery.

Miss Alice Robertson of San Francisco, who has written many charming stories for the RECORD-UNION under the nom de plume of Gale Braith, is visiting her sister in this city.

Thad. McFarland, editor of the Folsom Telegraph, returned last night from San Francisco where he had been in attendance at a joint meeting of the Executive Committees of the two State Press Associations.

Mrs. E. P. Colgan left for San Diego yesterday to join her husband, Controller Colgan, who is at present on a trip with the Board of Equalization. Mrs. Colgan will visit Los Angeles and other places before returning.

Arrivals at the Golden Eagle Hotel yesterday: Frank T. Barlow, Oakland; Miss Adele Belgrade, J. D. Lusius, New York; G. M. Warren, Oakland; James H. Chicago; J. W. Guesford and wife, Truckee; H. W. Barry, New York; Bishop Wingfield, Rev. W. L. Clark, Benicia; Nina Clark, Oakland; James H. Lowe, San Jose; A. L. Conger, Akron, O.; Thos. R. Bacon, Berkeley; E. C. Davis, J. H. Beecher, S. J. Conger, E. R. Hubbard, W. H. Fay, Otto Moschel, Max Sommer, H. C. Morrill, E. Commens, John F. Merrill, R. J. Tyson, Mrs. L. F. Butler, San Francisco.

BRIEF NOTES. The pay-car is expected here about next Saturday.

The river has receded one foot. Yesterday it marked seventeen and one-half feet.

Nat Irwin, the conductor, who was shot at Maxwell, is now at the Railroad Hospital here and is doing well.

The will of the late Arabella Currier was filed for probate in the Superior Court yesterday. The estate is worth about \$2,000.

SUPREME COURT MINUTES. IN BANK. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1892. 20,851—People vs. J. D. Smith—Judgment and order reversed. DeLavan, J. Concur: Beatty, C. J., Harrison, J., Sharpstein, J., DeWitt, J., and McFarland, J., G. A. 13,075—Harris vs. Zanone—Rehearing denied. 14,175—Hurlbut vs. Spaulding Salt Company—Rehearing denied. The Court.

Episcopal Ordination. At 11 o'clock a. m. to-day Rev. W. L. Clark will be ordained to the Episcopal priesthood at St. Paul's Church. Bishop Wingfield will officiate at the ceremony, assisted by the rector, Rev. Mr. Oltman, and other clergymen.

Auction Sale To-day. Bell, Greer & Co. will sell at auction at 10 o'clock to-day, at their salesrooms, 1004-6 J street, near Tenth, a large lot of household furniture of all kinds, horses, vehicles, etc.

Weak Back and Weak Lungs. The world is full of persons afflicted with weak backs and weak lungs. In the following letter Mrs. I. T. Crockett of Max Meadows, Va., tells how she was cured of those troubles:

"I have used ALLOCK'S POROUS PLASTER for ten years or more for weak back (spinal affection) and weak lungs. I can say with perfect truth that I have been greatly benefited by them. In fact, I don't believe that I could get along without them; certainly not for any length of time. I have been the cause of many others wearing them, who have been greatly benefited."

THE DREADED "GRIPPE." A BENSON'S PLASTER placed over the Chest and another one between the shoulders insures not only immediate relief, but quick cure of those troubles. Pains that accompany the Grippe; all Rheumatic Pains, pass away like magic. Wear BENSON'S Plasters prevents the Grippe during the season. It is the only medicinal porous plaster. It is sold by all Druggists. Indorsed by over 5,000 Physicians and Druggists. Don't take any cheap substitutes. Get the genuine BENSON'S and you will not be disappointed.

THIS WEEK

CLOSES OUR FEBRUARY CLEARING SALE! MILLINERY GOODS

You have only four more days to get our special drives. Our stores were filled yesterday with bargain seekers, and none went away empty handed, for where there are so many good values one is bound to see something that is just what they want.

In many lines the sizes are broken, but if you will be particular in reading our ads. you will find sizes of each line given.

A few left of those Ladies' Fine Scarlet \$1 50 Wool Underwear, sizes 28 and 30. This week you get them at 75c.

Children's Scarlet Wool Underwear, sizes 32 and 30; regular, 75c. Closing for the balance of the week at 50c.

Lot of Ladies' Merino Pants, sizes 28 and 30. Price cut in the middle—25c per pair.

Ladies' Black Wool Underwear, medium weight, regular finished \$1 goods. Sale price, 65c.

Comfortables are always needed. We have a lot of extra fine ones which we wish to close. \$2 was the old price; this week's price, \$1 25.

Lot No. 2 is not quite so good, but they are a great comfort for the price, 98c. You'll pay \$1 50 for the same after this week.

PROMPTLY AT 7 O'CLOCK THE WORKMEN BEGAN OPERATIONS ON THE grand improvements to be made by the Mechanical Clothing Store, 414 K street. The contract calls for a structure of the latest style, that will be an ornament to K street as well as to the Capital City.

The removal sale will continue, and Clothing, Furnishing Goods, Hats and Caps, Etc., will be sold at prices lower than ever.

Boys' Overcoats, ages 4 to 9, reduced from \$2 50 to \$1 50. Men's Fancy Worsted Four-button Cutaway Suits, worth \$15, now 10 00. Men's Fancy Silk-mixed Cassimere Four-button Cutaway Suits, worth \$16, now 10 00. Men's Fancy Cheviot Sack Suits, worth \$14, now 7 00. Men's Black Worsted Suits, worth \$5, now 4 00. Men's Fancy Worsted Suits, worth \$6, now 4 00. Men's Fancy Cassimere Suits, worth \$8, now 4 00. Men's Fancy Cheviot All-wool Suits, worth \$10, now 6 75. Men's Extra Fancy Cheviot All-wool Suits, worth \$12, now 6 50. Men's Fine Worst All-wool Broadwaists, worth \$7 50, now 12 50. Men's Fine French Imported Black Cassimere, worth \$12 50, now 15 00. Men's Fine French Imported Worsteds, in broad and narrow wales, worth \$25, now 17 50. Boys' Suits, long pants, union cassimere, 13 to 18, worth \$4, now 2 25. Boys' Suits, long pants, all-wool cassimere, worth \$5 50, now 3 00. Men's Cotton Pants, worth \$1 25, now 1 00. Men's Cassimere Pants, worth \$2, now 1 75. Men's All-wool Fine Cassimere Pants, worth \$3, now 2 00. Men's Fine French Worsted Pants, worth \$7 50, now 5 00. Men's Balf Sack Sewed Shoes, in lace, congress and button, worth \$1 50, now 1 25. Men's Balf Police Lace Shoes, three soles, worth \$3, now 1 82. Men's Heavy Railroad Extension Socks, worth \$3, now 1 85. Men's Fine Golf Shoes, in lace, congress and button, worth \$3 50 and \$4, now 2 25. Men's Fine French Half Sewed Shoes, in lace, congress and button, worth \$4 50, now 2 75.

Deed of a Jealous Photographer. ALBANY (Ind.), Feb. 23.—John Kaiser, a photographer, in a fit of jealousy, shot his wife through the head this morning. He had seen the report posted in a public trial for field object of his being placed on trial, stating that he was insane and incapable of pleading to the indictment. A jury was selected to question Kaiser's sanity, and the work of selecting one at once began.

Mitchell Murder Case. MEMPHIS, Feb. 23.—Judge Dubose this morning overruled the motion made by the defense in the Mitchell murder case to have the State produce the letters now in his possession said to have been written by Miss Mitchell. The proceedings in the habeas corpus case of Miss Willie Johnson, now under arrest, charged with being accessory to the murder of Miss Ward, have begun.

Boils. Boils according to Dr. King, an eminent authority "are generally contracted with carelessness of the liver and stomach." While the older Sarsaparilla contain potash which aggravates eruptions, Joy's is peculiarly a stomach and bowel corrective, and is the only one that is so. Its repeating influence cause boils to dry up and disappear almost immediately. A case in point.

"I had boils break out on my neck. One had burst. I took Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla and in a few days the other boils had dried up. In the spring of 1891 I took one of the other Sarsaparillas and the result was a mass of pimples. Hearing that Joy's was later and acted differently I used it this year with the above satisfactory results." J. NEWMAN, Alameda, Cal.

Formerly with the "Alta California," S. F. Robt. Walsh, with Wells Fargo & Co., and scores of other San Franciscans report the same experience. It avoids the use of the lance.

JOY'S Vegetable Sarsaparilla. As it is the only Sarsaparilla that purifies the blood without the ugly potash eruptions, insist on Joy's and don't be talked into taking another.

Liebig Company's Extract of Beef. PUREST BEEF TEA CHEAPEST INVALUABLE In the Kitchen for Soups, Sauces and Made Dishes.

J. W. GUTHRIE, Spence Heater. Plumbing, Gas Fitting, Steam and Hot Water Heating.

We heat buildings by a new and improved system. (All and examine our work, which we guarantee to give satisfaction and save fuel.) 127 J Street, SACRAMENTO.

THE RECORD-UNION LEADS ALL IN the interior of California.

Arizona and World's Fair.

Arizona and World's Fair. Billed Introduced to Allow the Territory to Raise Funds for an Exhibit. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Delegate Smith of Arizona to-day reported to a bill from the House Territorial Committee to ratify the issue of bonds to the extent of \$30,000 to enable that Territory to enter a ringer-in-a-wolf in sheep's clothing.

Arizona and World's Fair. Minister Ryan Says the Revolutionists Have Been Dispersed. WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—The Secretary of State has received the following from Minister Ryan of Mexico regarding the condition of affairs in that country: "According to advices of the Mexican Government Garza's bands, organized in Texas, have been completely dispersed, in consequence of a pursuit set on foot by the United States forces. Whenever the forces crossed into Mexico precautionary measures instituted by this Government were sufficient to preserve the people and railways from harm."

The statement in the telegram regarding the safety of the railroads is intended to dispose of the report that traveling is unsafe in Mexico on account of the Garza outbreak.

Young Field's Sanity. NEW YORK, Feb. 23.—Edward M. Field, head of the firm of Field, Wheeler, Lindley & Co., was brought before the Court of Oyer and Terminer to-day on trial on one of the six indictments charging him with grand larceny. Counsel for Field objected to his being placed on trial, stating that he was insane and incapable of pleading to the indictment. A jury was selected to question Field's sanity, and the work of selecting one at once began.

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