

ROW OVER A MINING CLAIM.

Savage Fight Between a Mexican, an Italian and a Frenchman.

TWO OF THE PARTICIPANTS BADLY USED UP.

Satisfactory Trial of the Engines of the New Coast Defense Vessel Monterey—A Catholic Priest Led From His Home Under Pretext of Visiting a Dying Man, Overpowered and Robbed of His Valuables.

Special to the Record-Union.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.—On Saturday, at Cherokee, a Mexican named Jose Rocio and an Italian named Angelo Spiraro became involved in a row with John Thomas, a Frenchman, over a mining claim. Thomas shot Rocio twice, once through the left arm and in the head, the ball glancing over the skull, inflicting only a scalp wound.

Thomas then clubbed his pistol and went for Rocio in a savage manner, knocking him down and beating him severely over the head with the weapon. While he was leaning over the prostrate form of Rocio, Spiraro, Rocio's partner, assailed Thomas with a shovel and beat him almost into insensibility, chopping his head in a frightful manner but, strange to say, inflicting no fatal wounds.

The row occurred over a mining claim, which was claimed by both. Rocio and Thomas were brought to town and their wounds treated by a physician. Spiraro escaped without injury.

A PRIEST ROBBED.

Lured to a Lonely Spot and Robbed of His Valuables.

SAN BERNARDINO, Dec. 19.—Saturday night an individual called at the residence of Father O'Reilly, a Catholic priest of this city, asking the father to hurry with him to the bedside of a dying man living beyond Colton. The priest hurriedly made arrangements and got in the buggy of the stranger to drive there.

After they had passed Colton the stranger, who was a Mexican, overpowered the priest and robbed him of his watch and money, putting him out in the middle of the road and leaving him to find his way back to Colton. Strangely enough, the robber came to this city this afternoon and endeavored to sell the priest's watch and gold crucifix and was promptly arrested. The prisoner refuses to disclose his name.

MURDER IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

A Chinaman Brought to Death—Robbery Suspected to be the Cause.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19.—The body of a Chinaman was found this morning on the Wilmington road one-quarter of a mile south of the Santa Fe track. It is supposed to be the body of a wealthy Chinese rancher, and robbery was the object. The head was battered in a horrible manner. Beneath the body was the blood-stained club with which the deed was committed. Everything showed that a terrible struggle had occurred, but where the body was found there was no indication of any struggle. The supposition is the murder was committed at some other point and the body dragged to where it was found.

THE MONTEREY.

Engineer's Trial of the New Coast Defense Vessel.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.—The new coast defense vessel Monterey had her first run on the bay to-day, preliminary to the official trial trip, which is expected to occur this week. To-day's run was merely an engineering trial, and was not under the supervision of the Naval Board. The machinery worked smoothly and the contractors express satisfaction with the result of the first test of the engine. There was no attempt made to use the forced draft, but under natural draft the engines were worked up to 125 revolutions, which gave the vessel a speed of over thirteen knots.

CHARGED WITH THEFT.

A Knight's Landing Warehouse Firm in Trouble.

WOODLAND, Dec. 19.—Merrill & Nelson, who conducted the Knight's Landing warehouse, are charged with stealing 151 tons of wheat stored with them by Hays & Garrouette stored with them 17,000 sacks in September, and Merrill and Nelson sold 151 tons in San Francisco for \$3,855.80. The stolen wheat was not missed till the grain was ready to be shipped a few days ago. Merrill was arrested in Sacramento on the evidence of his mother. He appears idiotically insane, and is unable to give any account of himself. Nelson's whereabouts is unknown. He is thought to be in Mexico.

VERDICT FOR DEFENDANT.

Outcome of a Criminal Label Case at Portland.

PORTLAND (Or.), Dec. 19.—A jury in the State Circuit Court this afternoon found a verdict in favor of Captain George H. Moffett, editor of the Evening Telegram, who was charged with criminal libel upon W. L. Lightner and others. The alleged libel consisted of an article published in the Evening Telegram prior to the city election last June, charging Lightner and a number of others with levying assessments on gambling houses and inmates of houses of ill-repute to be used in carrying the election for the Republican ticket. Judge Shattuck instructed the jury that levying assessments to be used in a political campaign was not a crime, therefore no libel had been committed. A verdict was accordingly rendered for defendant.

Reservation of San Bernardino.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19.—An order of the Secretary of the Interior recently issued is of great importance to the horticultural industry of Southern California. It creates the reservation of San Bernardino, covering about forty-eight townships, extending from Colton Pass on the north to Gorgonio Pass on the south, taking in a water shed upon the mountains within which limits the cutting of government timber will now be forbidden. The rights of those who have purchased timber land will be respected.

His Injuries Were Fatal.

FRESNO, Dec. 19.—John Greeley, a section foreman on the Southern Pacific Railroad between Colliad and Armona, was struck by a locomotive Sunday evening between Colliad and Armona and fatally injured. He was brought to Fresno this morning, and died this afternoon from concussion of the brain.

More Demurrers to the Indictments.

FRESNO, Dec. 19.—This morning in the Superior Court Clark Moore, by his at-

torneys, filed demurrers to the indictments against him charging him with being an accessory after the fact of murder in harboring Evans and Sontag. The demurrers are based on the ground that more than one offense charged in each of said indictments. There are other grounds, but they are the usual ones.

A Fast Foot Race.

SANTA ANA, Dec. 19.—Tom Morris defeated E. G. Stevens, the Colorado cyclone, in a 150-yard foot race here to-day, winning by fifteen feet in 14 seconds. The purse was for \$2,000. The world's record for this distance is the Quirk of Canada, who was defeated by Morris here a few days ago, wanting another match for a \$5,000 or \$10,000 purse. Quirk says he is in the best shape, and claims that he got an uneven start. The race will probably be made.

Found Guilty of Perjury.

MARYSVILLE, Dec. 19.—The trial of E. H. Bradley, a foothill farmer, who was charged with perjury, committed by falsely swearing in the McCaig brothers' robbery case, was concluded to-day, and the jury on the first day found him guilty as charged. The time for sentence was fixed for December 27th. His attorney will try to get a new trial.

Lenon Culture in the South.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 19.—President Dwight Braman of the San Diego Land and Town Company left on his return to Boston this morning with his party. After inspecting Lenon during his stay here, he will go to San Francisco. The company's plans for planting 1,000 acres to lemons are now being carried out at Gilula Vista.

A Very Poor Marksman.

MARYSVILLE, Dec. 19.—Charles Dietz, driver of a brewery wagon, fired a shot at a colored man named Ed Weaver to-night. Dietz alleges that he has a claim to the affections of a colored girl named Jones, and Weaver was trying to gain her favor. Dietz missed his object, fortunately, but will probably be arrested.

Court-Martial of Commander Johnson.

VALLEJO, Dec. 19.—The court-martial trial of Commander H. I. Johnson, U. S. N., who is charged with negligence in having run the steamer Albatross on the Alaskan coast, closed to-day. The findings of the court will not be known until the report reaches Washington.

Death of W. N. Hawley.

SANTA BARBARA, Dec. 19.—W. N. Hawley, a prominent citizen of Santa Barbara, died early this morning of heart failure. He was owner of the Arlington Hotel and other valuable property in place, and formerly resided in San Francisco.

Railroad Employee Fatally Shot.

BAKERSFIELD, Dec. 19.—Harry Blocker, an employee of the Southern Pacific Company, was shot in a saloon last night by a man who is believed to be the aggressor. The wound will probably prove fatal.

An Election Contest Settled.

BAKERSFIELD, Dec. 19.—The contest that has been going on in the Superior Court for the past four days for the office of supervisor ended at 7:30 o'clock to-night. Justice, Democrat, was declared duly elected.

Snow Falling at Portland.

PORTLAND (Or.), Dec. 19.—A heavy snowstorm is prevailing here. This is the first snow that has fallen here in two years.

IDLENESS IN LONDON.

Manifesto Issued by the Free Labor Association.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The distress in London growing out of the enforced idleness of many thousands is having one salutary effect in the shape of a reaction against the tyranny of organized labor. A manifesto issued this week by the Free Labor Association is being received with many expressions of sympathy among the unemployed. The document sets forth that there are in London alone 100,000 men with 300,000 women and children dependent upon them, out of employment at the present time, chiefly owing to the continued strikes in all trades during the last three years, which have driven tens of thousands into the hands of foreigners, displaced 20,000 men, cost the workmen of every part of the world, without any regard for the pecuniary loss of the owners or the inconvenience of the passengers.

It is called, "On the Principles of the Free Labor Association," and is a manifesto, without any dispute, simply because some goods had arrived from a place where a dispute was pending, "on the principles of the free labor association," and it was not called them. In fact they attempted to put some of the position of dictators and tyrants not only of the port of London, but of every part of the world.

The result of it all, according to the manifesto, is that the tools and victims are walking the streets starving, while the tool-makers are in good positions among the upper ten.

The manifesto goes on to say that unions which impose restrictions upon trade are bound to exist, and that the area of employment is thereby increased and a curse to the country and an enemy to all classes, and should not be tolerated by workmen.

COLORED MEN AT WAR.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 19.—Word has been received from Hog Run, Ky., of a riot among colored railroad laborers Saturday night, in which two were killed and two fatally hurt. William Jackson, William Crimes, Dudley Warner and another known as "Griny," after receiving their pay, went on a drunk. Jackson and "Griny" quarreled and a fight resulted, in which the other two, and finally many others, were involved. The scrimmage continued for some hours. After it was over Jackson and Warner were found dead. Two others were badly slashed with razors that their lives were despaired of.

FATAL BOW OVER A HORSE TRADE.

HOUSTON (Tex.), Dec. 19.—In a row over a horse trade last night between Richard Smith on the one side and John Mason, Lige Dickinson and Frank Tubbs, all colored, on the other, Smith fired with a shotgun at his opponents, wounding all of them, two fatally. Smith has been jailed.

Burge and McAuliffe to Fight.

BOSTON, Dec. 19.—Dick Burge, the English champion light-weight, to-day signed articles to fight Jack McAuliffe, the American light-weight champion, at the Coney Island Club, some time in February, for a purse of \$20,000 and the championship of the world. The articles must be signed by McAuliffe before Saturday, December 24th. The men are to fight in less than 135 pounds, and the contest to be with five-ounce gloves, under Queensbury rules.

BULLET IN HIS BRAIN.

Suicide of St. Louis' Youthful Assistant City Treasurer.

SETS FIRE TO THE OFFICE TO COVER UP HIS MISDEEDS.

A Fire at St. Louis Results in the Loss of One Life and Four Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars' Worth of Property—Three Men Killed by the Topping Over of a Wall at a Fire in Albany, New York.

Special to the Record-Union.

ST. LOUIS (Mo.), Dec. 19.—Deposed, with a short career in his account of \$85,000, his son dead, a suicide, with absolute ruin staring him in the face, Michael J. Foerster, until to-night City Treasurer of St. Louis, is one of the most miserable of men.

At an early hour this morning fire was discovered by a watchman in the City Treasurer's office, where, with the doors of the vaults wide open, was too evident an attempt to burn to destroy everything in that office in the way of records. Fortunately the fire was extinguished before anything but some unimportant papers and furniture had been destroyed.

When Treasurer Foerster arrived, almost the first words were that when his son and his assistant, Edward, arrived they could quickly know how things stood. He was treasurer of the city, and he was in the way of the young man was then dying at his house with a bullet in his brain, fired there by his own hand.

When the doctor came to the house, his father he was prostrated for a short time, but by a violent effort suppressed his emotion and directed that an investigation be begun at once into the affairs of the office. This was completed late this evening, with the result stated above.

The Mayor immediately deposed the Treasurer and appointed Morris Parsons, a well-known banker, to act in his stead.

"For several years there have been rumors afloat about young Foerster. There had been suits brought against his father by money lenders notorious for exorbitant charges. The assertions regarding the real estate deals and allegations of the use of city money by some of the real estate deals, and the fact that he had been a shifty fellow at last sued the Treasurer himself on notes, the old man had declared to be forgeries.

To-day's events substantiated all these rumors. The young man's record was that of a wild plunger. On horses he was a light rider, placing a thousand or more at a time. He was also interested in real estate deals beyond his capacity to handle, as shown by recent developments. He was a man of about 25 years of age, but had a large experience in many lines of business. In his capacity as Assistant Treasurer, over ten millions passed through his hands, and he was interested in two building associations, and in a company manufacturing novelties, but his accounts in these were said to be all right.

He was only 25 years of age, and was very worried of late by an attempt of some one to blackmail him out of \$10,000, by keeping quiet what he knew.

It is supposed that the outrage was actuated by a spirit of revenge and a desire to get the money back. The people are greatly excited over the outrage.

BOODLE ALDERMEN.

Several Prominent Citizens Implicated in a Boodle Scandal.

WICHITA (Kan.), Dec. 19.—Wichita has been for some days in the grip of a boodle Aldermen scandal. The deposition of John V. Moffitt, filed in the United States Court here, implicates seven prominent citizens who have served the city in the Common Council. The city refused to accept Jasperite pavement on Minnesota avenue, which was laid by Robert F. Wilson, contractor, at a cost of nearly \$100,000. The result was a suit of Wilson to recover the money. There has been considerable talk of money being used to get the contract for Wilson, but nothing definite was heard until the deposition of Moffitt was filed.

Moffitt is a contractor of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company, and his deposition was taken before Probate Judge John Fox at El Paso. It states in substance that he (Moffitt) was engaged by contractor Wilson to help him secure the contract. Moffitt said he asked a prominent Councilman what it would cost to get the support of seven Councilmen. He replied that seven Councilmen had been offered \$500 each, but would vote for Wilson's proposition for \$100,000 for the City Council. He also stated that he had given \$100,000 for the City Council. James R. Halliwell was the attorney who drew up the money was placed in envelopes for the Councilmen and left at Halliwell's office. He was present when one of the Councilmen opened the envelope and saw another count out his roll of bills. The deponent goes into details.

It is thought the contract will be invalidated, but there is very little talk of prosecuting the Councilmen. The Councilmen who voted for Wilson's proposition were: Fritz Schmitzer, wealthy wholesale liquor dealer; James Mercer, a livestockman; John Herrig, a cigar manufacturer; D. O. Williams, a salaried man; Johnson, a miller; Robert Carson, proprietor of planing mills, and Ben H. Downing, a pensioner and politician.

EXECUTED BY ELECTRICITY.

Fred McGuire Put to Death in Sing Sing Prison.

SING SING (N. Y.), Dec. 19.—Fred McGuire was executed by electricity in prison this morning. McGuire was a farm-hand employed by Noah Gregory at Haddetown, N. Y., and the crime for which he paid the penalty was the brutal murder of his employer's wife for the purpose of securing \$100 known to be in the house. He first shot her, and then stamped on her head, crushing the life out of her. Bloody footprints on the floor led to his arrest and conviction.

The execution was the most successful yet performed in the Sing Sing prison. There were only two applications for clemency, and the second was only as a precautionary measure, as the condemned man was dead from the first shock of 1,800 volts. The flesh where the electrodes were applied gave no signs of burning, and the witnesses detected no odor of burning flesh, as in previous executions. McGuire was very cool and collected throughout. The attendant physician says he was dead in twelve seconds after the first shock.

DESTRUCTIVE FLAMES.

Over Four Hundred Thousand Dollars Worth of Property Burned.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19.—A fire originating in the Uddell Warehouse Company's building this evening about 4 o'clock destroyed property situated in the territory bounded by Washington, Locust, Third and Fourth streets. Successive alarms called out practically the entire Fire Department. After struggling until 11 o'clock the flames were got under control, with a loss aggregating \$450,000; practically covered by insurance. Individual losses are the Uddell Warehouse Company, \$225,000; Tyler Desk Company, \$90,000; Pacific Express Company, \$50,000; the Uddell, Dunker & Leonard, carpets, etc., \$45,000; St. Louis Ice Company, \$45,000; Missouri Glass Company, \$1,000. Other minor losses make the total \$450,000. It is practically settled that one man lost his life in the fire, but who he was is not known.

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—At 9 o'clock this morning a reporter who called at the Blaine residence was told that the ex-Secretary of State was awake and his condition no worse than yesterday afternoon, and that his physicians had not yet visited him this morning. The statement given out that he is no worse seems to preclude the possibility that he shows any marked improvement.

Not since President Garfield lay mortally wounded by Guitierrez' bullet has there been such a display of public interest in the condition of a sick man as in the case of Blaine. The room in the historic house on Lafayette square in which the sick man lies is the one in which the attempt was made to assassinate Secretary Seward.

Later in the morning it was stated at Blaine's mansion by one of the attendants that Blaine had passed a fairly good night and was a little better this morning.

Although the doctors do not hold out the hope of a permanent recovery, the daily feebly but steady improvement in his condition, and that perhaps the patient may be spared.

It is said that he sat up a short time this morning and talked in a very cheerful frame of mind.

To old friends of the family this morning Hattie Blaine said that her father had a very comfortable night, and awoke this morning refreshed and bright.

He is apparently stronger than before yesterday's sinking spell. There were several reports of his improvement by prominent people regarding the condition of the distinguished patient.

Emmons Blaine arrived this morning, and entered into consultation with his father and Dr. Lyttel. It is agreed in every particular with them as to diagnosis and treatment.

At the close of the consultation the doctors issued the following report: "Although Blaine's condition during the last week has given serious anxiety, yet at the present moment he is decidedly better and in no immediate danger. It is impossible to predict the changes that may occur, but his condition this morning gives a more hopeful feeling as to the progress of his disease."

The doctors will not say, however, that Blaine is anything like out of danger. Still one of them said that he had very strong hopes that he would be able to move to some more congenial climate, presumably California, where a change would be thought of, which if it did not work a complete cure.

Representative Boutelle of Maine spent half an hour with the Blaine family to-day, on leaving the city he said to a group of newspaper men that Blaine's condition was decidedly better than at any time during the past few days.

Mrs. Blaine's doctor, Dr. Lyttel, said that the patient was passing a very comfortable afternoon, and the members of the family apprehended no immediate danger.

Dr. Loomis returned to New York on the noon train.

All day long the street in front of the house was lined with people, and every one who passed sought to know the condition of the sick man. It would be difficult to enumerate the names of those prominent in official and social circles who sought to make inquiries about the illustrious patient. President Harrison manifested the deepest interest and concern in the condition of his former Secretary of State, and frequent are the inquiries sent from the White House to Blaine's residence.

Mr. Blaine may live some days. He may live over a longer period, but never again will be a well man. Little chance for the better is to be hoped for.

All the members of the family are now here. James G. Blaine, Jr., and Miss Hattie Blaine have both been summoned home, and Mrs. Emmons Blaine, widow of Blaine's son, has also joined the household.

One of Blaine's intimate friends said to-day that he entertained no hope whatever, but he did not believe that the family, he said, were reluctant to give up hope, but at the same time realized that death might come at any time. Some intimate friends of Blaine are known to have been for a week past that Blaine was in a critical condition and the end might be expected soon. He said even the family was feeling that the end was near, and it was for this reason that the absent members were so communicated with. The original trouble with Blaine, according to the doctors, is due to an excessive labor and the manner in which he has been drawing on the future and exhausting vitality. He has for years been working under high pressure until his whole system is undermined.

"Mr. Blaine is resting easily," said Dr. Johnston at midnight, in reply to the usual questioning.

TIDE-LAND OWNERS.

An Important Case Settled by the United States Supreme Court.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The important case of Henry L. Yesler, plaintiff in error, vs. the Board of Harbor Line Commissioners of the State of Washington, involving harbor rights of great value along the water-front of Seattle, was to-day dismissed by the United States Supreme Court, for want of jurisdiction. Yesler is the owner of wharf property at Seattle, and sought by writ of prohibition to restrain the State Board of Harbor Line Commissioners from changing the harbor lines, by being the purpose of the commission to so locate the harbor lines that they would include within them Yesler's property. Yesler's attorneys had argued that the State Board of Harbor Line property without due process of law, contrary to the Constitution. The court, however, decided against Yesler, holding that the State Board of Harbor Line property without due process of law, contrary to the Constitution. The court, however, decided against Yesler, holding that the State Board of Harbor Line property without due process of law, contrary to the Constitution. The court, however, decided against Yesler, holding that the State Board of Harbor Line property without due process of law, contrary to the Constitution.

Fuse Factory Blown Up.

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