

HIS NECK BROKEN.

A Vallejo Falls From the Third-Story Window of a Building.

LIFE WAS EXTINCT WHEN THE BODY WAS PICKED UP.

William Blachman, Who Had Lived to the Ripe Old Age of One Hundred Years, Three Months and Fifteen Days, Died Yesterday at Healdsburg—Death Announced of Editor J. D. Spencer of the Modesto News.

VALLEJO, Dec. 13.—Richard Nagle, a bartender employed by Harry Wilson here, fell from a third-story window this morning and broke his neck. He was dead when picked up. Nagle had been on a drunk for several days, and it is supposed that he suddenly fell this morning about 4 o'clock, and, thinking it was time to open the saloon, grabbed the clock and started for the window, which was open, mistaking it for the door. He pitched headlong to the ground below. When found he still held the clock in his hands. It had stopped at 3:30.

Nagle is far better known in the East than here, although not unknown on this coast. He was 99 years old and a native of Bangor, Me. His picture has often been seen in sporting papers, as the winner of rowing, boxing and other events. At one time he was connected with the Police News.

SALMON EGGS. Millions to be Sent to the Sisson Hatchery.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—The State's Fish Hatchery at Battle Creek, Tehama County, will be closed about the 15th inst. for the season. This new institution was opened just before the run of salmon to the spawning grounds and since then 10,000,000 salmon spawn have been gathered. By the 15th millions will be sent to the Sissons hatchery on the McCloud River, where the eggs will be hatched and the young fish liberated into the headwaters of the Sacramento and other rivers. Sissons is the best distributing point in the State.

One million salmon eggs have been sent to the United States Commission's hatchery at Clackamas, where they will be hatched and distributed into the tributaries of the Columbia River. They were sent out of the State as an exchange, and not a gift. The United States Fish Commission gave the State Commission several million eggs of the same variety.

It is believed that there would be plenty of salmon in the Columbia this winter, and there are rumors that the State Commission could not secure them on account of the faulty fish laws of Oregon, which permitted the use of set nets and lines, wires, etc., and did not compel those who built dams across streams to construct fish ladders so the fish could go up to the spawning grounds.

OVERDUE VESSELS. No Word From the Transit or Strathveils.

SEATTLE (Wash.), Dec. 13.—There is still no word from the Puget Sound and Central American Steamship Company's steamer Transit, which was erroneously reported as having passed Tatoosh a week ago. The vessel is now six days overdue, but at the offices of the company in this city no anxiety for its safety is apparent. The Transit sailed from San Jose, Guatemala, on the return trip on November 25th, having left this port on its first trip on September 24th, expecting to make the voyage in seven weeks.

There are now five vessels searching the sea for the North Pacific liner Strathveils, and reports received in this city from Victoria say that her majesty's ship Royal Arthur will join the searching party to-morrow. The Royal Arthur is to-day taking on coal and making every preparation for a long voyage.

COLLIER FINED. What it Cost Him to Ride on a "Scalper's" Ticket.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—The case of Richard H. Collier, the insurance solicitor, arrested at the instance of the Southern Pacific Company for riding on a scalped ticket issued in the name of William H. McPhee, was finally disposed of to-day. Judge Conlan reduced the charge to a misdemeanor, and Collier, after pleading guilty, and paid a fine of \$10. This is a substantial victory for the railroad. The ticket was issued in Chicago and sold to Collier by a local "scalper." Collier was ejected from the train at Port Costa and arrested for falsely personating another. The railroad did not care particularly about a severe penalty inflicted upon Collier, but wanted to establish the principle. The case has excited much interest in railroad circles all over the country, as it was regarded as a test case.

ESTATE OF J. G. FAIR. Young Orphans to Contest His Grandfather's Will.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—Herman Ornelis, Jr., will contest the will of his grandfather, James G. Fair. This is a result of the decision of Judge Slack this morning, who denied Herman Ornelis's petition that the court appoint an executor of Van R. Paterson as guardian of his infant son be revoked, and that he, as the father of the child, represent him in the litigation.

When the will of Fair was filed Paterson began a contest on behalf of his infant child. If the pencil will be probed, the boy would receive nothing, and his mother one-third of the Fair estate.

If the trust will be probed, Mrs. Ornelis would have only a life interest in less than one-third of the estate, with the remainder to her son on her death. The court believed the interests of Ornelis and his son were identical.

SUICIDE NEAR VANCOUVER. Out of Work and Mad With Hunger, a Man Takes His Own Life.

VANCOUVER (B. C.), Dec. 13.—"I couldn't get a job, had to live on claims till my stomach rebelled, then I got mad with hunger and killed myself."

This note was found in a lonely cabin a few miles from Vancouver last night. It was unsigned, but the writer was hanging from a beam by the neck, and had been dead for several days. Some anxious mother, father or wife will inquire in vain for an absent loved one, for the desperate suicide, with calculation

lated forethought, deliberately destroyed every vestige of clew that would lead to his identity.

The deceased was about 45 years of age. He was much emaciated from hunger. He was evidently a laboring man. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of death by suicide, though the theory of murder has been advanced.

GOVERNOR BUDD. He Will Not Go on a Junketing Trip to Washington.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—A call special from Stockton says: Governor Budd will not go on a junketing trip to Washington during this session of Congress. He fears that during his absence the friends of President Thomas Flint of the State Senate may steal a march on him and out-jerk from the Lieutenant-Governorship.

To a friend the Governor recently confided his belief that grave doubt existed as to the legality of Jeter's appointment.

It is now well known among the Governor's friends in this city that he is apprehensive that he has repeated his work in the San Francisco Police Commission matter, and there is little doubt but that he would cheerfully retire Mr. Jeter if it were possible to do so with credit to himself and his friends. Mr. Budd believes that in any event the matter will go to the Supreme Court.

CALIFORNIA WINES. Renewed Activity Among Vineyardists and Winemakers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—There has been renewed activity among the vineyardists and winemakers of this State of late, and the price of native wines is now advancing. The present price is now 2 1/2 cents per gallon above that of last year, with a growing demand for the better kinds of California wines in the East. The strength of the market is attributed to the short grape crop this year and the union of interests in this State. A meeting of large winemakers will be held at St. Helena the latter part of this month to discuss various matters connected with the vineyard and winemaking, and to discuss with the State Board of Agriculture and other subjects which may come before the meeting.

DIED AT A RIFE OLD AGE. Lived to be Over a Hundred Years Old.

HEALDSBURG, Dec. 13.—William Blackman died at his home in this city to-day of pneumonia at the ripe old age of 100 years, 3 months and 15 days.

Mr. Blackman was born in Sussex, England, on August 25, 1795. He came to America in 1825, locating near Cleveland, Ohio. In 1870 he moved to California and resided in Sonoma County. He enjoyed the best of health until Saturday last, when he was seized with a chill, which developed into pneumonia and he died at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Blackman was a well-to-do man, and he was physically capable of attending to his garden, in which he took great pride. Twenty years ago he married Miss Susan Lamance, who survives him.

Vallejo's Deputy Postmaster. VALLEJO, Dec. 13.—Postoffice Inspector Irwin visited Vallejo yesterday and found the books of Deputy Postmaster McInerney in a rather unsatisfactory condition. It is said that a discrepancy existed which Mr. McInerney promised to make good this morning, but failed to do so. Since 11 o'clock yesterday the postoffice has not been open, but his friends are confident that he is not guilty of any wrong-doing.

The combination of the safe has been broken, and the contents are being inventoried. It is believed that the safe was unable to open and ascertain if the \$300 supposed to be within is intact.

Stormy Passage. PORT TOWNSEND (Wash.), Dec. 13.—The British clipper ship Buckingham arrived here this afternoon, fifty days from Kobe, Japan, and Captain Roberts reports one of the stormiest passages he ever experienced. The wind changed so often that it seemed at times to be blowing from several points at once. On December 1st, the Buckingham was within ten miles of Cape Flattery, but was driven back by a heavy sea and drove it out to sea again, and it did not get inside until the third time it approached the cape.

Large Invoice of Japanese Goods. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—The steamer City of Peking, which arrived last night, brought a large lot of Japanese goods for all parts of the country, the principal points being New York, Chicago, Baltimore, Denver, Omaha and San Francisco. The shipments were much larger than those by the last steamer, although the Japanese manufacturers who last month sent their agents to the United States have not yet had time to fill the orders obtained by them.

Fatal Accident at Oakland. OAKLAND, Dec. 13.—Jared H. Jencke was killed in East Oakland to-night by falling thirty feet from a building. Jencke is a builder and contractor, and was inspecting the building when he fell off the scaffolding. He was severely injured, and died a few hours later. Deceased has lived in Oakland several years, and was well known.

The Massacre Denied. PHOENIX (Ariz.), Dec. 13.—The report sent from Deming, N. M., that a German family and four cowboys were killed by Indians is denied. William G. Bowles, who has just returned from Bowie, says that he heard nothing of the massacre, although he saw and questioned a number of cowboys who are at present ranging their stock in that vicinity.

An Insane Convict Escapes. SANTA ROSA, Dec. 13.—An insane convict from San Quentin jumped through the car window of a railway train near Penn's Grove this morning and disappeared. The escape, whose name is not stated, was serving a five-year term for robbery, and was committed in San Francisco. His mental condition became such that his removal to the Ukiah Insane Asylum was ordered.

The Jury Failed to Agree. MADERA, Dec. 13.—The jury in the Fournier arson case disagreed after twelve hours' deliberation and were discharged. They stood nine to three in favor of conviction. The case will not be tried again until February. The sentencing of Anderson, Fournier's alleged accomplice, has been postponed until December 21st.

J. D. Spencer Dead. MODESTO, Dec. 13.—This morning at 3 o'clock John Dillard Spencer, editor and proprietor of the Modesto Daily and Weekly News, died of heart failure, aged 55 years. He was a native of Virginia and came to California in 1849, and settled in Mariposa County. For over thirty years he has been publisher of a newspaper.

The House Sank. VICTORIA (B. C.), Dec. 13.—The large boating clubhouse of the Victoria Yacht Club was this morning struck heavily by the steamer Rosalie during a heavy rain. The club was taken and two men had to swim for their lives.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Hon. Carl Schurz Elected President of the National Reform League.

THE MEETING ALSO SELECTS ITS OTHER OFFICERS.

Resolutions Adopted Calling Upon Congress to Adopt Laws Which Will Serve to Promote the Benefits Already Resulting and to Increase the Efficiency of the Civil Service; Also, Making It a Penalty to Levy Political Assessments Against Government Employees.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The National Civil Service Reform League to-day elected the following officers: President, Carl Schurz; Vice-Presidents, Charles Francis Adams of Boston, August K. McDonough of New York, Henry C. Potter of New York, J. Hill Pleasant of Baltimore, Henry Hitchcock of St. Louis, Henry C. Lea of Philadelphia, Franklin McVeagh of Chicago, Right Rev. C. Ryan of Buffalo, and William Potts of Farmington.

The report of the official committee on extension entered into details regarding the recommendations contained in the recent order of President Cleveland extending the civil service rules. The committee recommended that applicants for positions in the diplomatic service be given a fair and open examination under the Civil Service Commission, thereby relieving the appointing power of the temptation to have men it desires pass the examination by special favor.

The report of the Committee on Legislation recommended the preparation of bills looking to the betterment of civil service in the classified service. The Committee on the District of Columbia recommended that the government of the District be placed under civil service rules.

The league at its closing session this evening adopted the following resolutions: "The past year has witnessed a continued and remarkable progress in the civil service reform. It is attested not only by the large extensions made by the President in the classified service, but by the approbation with which these extensions have been received by the people.

Only an honest recognition by the appointing officers of their plain duty under the Constitution in the appointment and retention of suitable officials seems to be the proper basis for the State of New York, with its numerous cities, a thorough and harmoniously working system of appointment to offices upon the ground of merit and fitness alone.

The league commends the order of the Postmaster-General requiring that no letter carrier shall be promoted to the classified service without charges, and it urges the application of a similar rule to other branches of the classified service.

The league also renews its demand for the repeal of the law limiting to four years the term of certain officers as unjust, a prolific source of demoralization and a hindrance to the service and to our whole political life, and especially calculated to impair the beneficial effects of recent reforms.

Merit appointments must logically be accompanied by merit tenure. Fifth.—The league recommends that the present law against soliciting contributions for the civil service be amended so as to prohibit such solicitations in any manner or place, and that the Civil Service Commission be authorized to compel the attendance of witnesses and to put them upon oath or affirmation.

Sixth.—The reforms in the Federal Civil Service, already made, are in the highest degree important and gratifying, but they are only a part of the work to be done. Municipal maladministration is a serious and one of the gravest dangers of the present time. All municipal reforms must be based upon civil service reform.

Seventh.—The league congratulates the country upon the recent order of the President authorizing the Postmaster-General to consolidate with the principal offices of the smaller ones surrounding them, so as to make the latter more branch offices, and to place all persons employed therein, including the Postmasters of these branch offices, under the classified service.

Eighth.—The league commends the order of President Cleveland of September 29, 1895, concerning the mode of appointing certain officers, and it urges to promote the efficiency of the service, and as a recognition of the principle that fitness and qualification should control such appointments and promotions.

Ninth.—The league recommends that this order be extended to all purely executive offices, and that it also include subordinate officers in the diplomatic service.

Tenth.—The league further recommends in order that the reform be enduring, that this executive order may not meet the same fate as similar executive orders of 1891 and 1875, that a suitable law be enacted by Congress embodying these reforms; and also that such law provide so far as possible for competitive examinations to be conducted at least partly by members of the Civil Service Commission.

A letter was read from Collector James T. Kilbreth of the port of New York suggesting that action be taken by the league looking toward the extension of civil service rules to deputy collectors of customs.

About 200 persons attended the reception given at the Arlington Hotel to-night to the officers and delegates of the National Civil Service Reform League. The company included many of the most prominent personages in Washington. After the levee, a collation was served.

Several speeches were made in the course of the evening, the principal topic being civil service reform. Among those who spoke were Mr. Bonaparte of Baltimore, Mr. Foulke of Indiana, Colonel Rogers of Buffalo, Everett T. Wheeler of New York, Comptroller of the Currency Eckels, Secretary of Agriculture Morton and John Jay Edson.

Rev. Dr. McKay Smith of St. John's Episcopal Church was the master of ceremonies, and was introduced by Mr. Edson, President of the local branch of the league.

HOUSE COMMITTEES.

Gossip About the Possible Chairman-ships.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Speaker Reed did not appear at the Capitol to-day, and it was announced that he had remained at his hotel to work on the committee.

The impression grows stronger daily that Dingley of Maine will be Chairman of the Ways and Means instead of Payne of New York, who, ten days ago, was supposed to be booked for the leadership of the majority on the floor.

For the chairmanship of the Appropriations Committee the contest lies between General Henderson of Iowa, present ranking member, and Cannon of Illinois, who would have been the ranking member had he not failed of election to the Fifty-second Congress.

The Rivers and Harbors chairmanship is supposed to lie between Sherman of Oregon and Hooker of New York.

The chairmanships of the following committees seem almost certain: Foreign Affairs—Hill of Illinois. Judiciary—Stone of Pennsylvania. Pacific Railroads—Powers of Vermont. Interstate Commerce—Heppburn of Iowa. Elections—Daniels of New York. Naval Affairs—Boutelle of Maine.

SOUTHERN BLOOD RILED.

Prospects of a Duel Between Congressman Boatner and Editor Hearsey.

TROUBLE OVER THE CANDIDACY OF FOSTER OF LOUISIANA.

Over a Quarter of a Million Dollars' Worth of Property Goes Up in Smoke at Council Bluffs, Iowa—An Omaha Alderman Shot and Fatally Wounded by His Brother-in-Law—Terrible Treatment of a Child by Its Stepmother.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—A New Orleans dispatch to the Recorder says: There are good prospects of a duel between Congressman Charles J. Boatner of the Fifth District and Major H. J. Hearsey, editor of the Daily States, an afternoon newspaper in this city.

Congressman Boatner is opposed to the renomination of Governor Foster. The States supports it. Mr. Boatner owns and runs a newspaper in Monroe called the Evening News, in which he has been attacking Governor Foster very strongly. The States took up the cudgel in behalf of the Governor, and accused the Congressman of flopping so many times for and against Foster that it was hard to tell how he stood anyway.

The Evening News retorted by saying that the States had secured its contract for the city printing by fraud, and it was in the hope of retaining it that it was supporting Foster. The States called the Congressman a liar and several other names, and the latter retorted in kind. He also wrote a letter to the editor, saying that in the course of time he would take occasion to demand a proper retraction.

This afternoon the States came out with a leading editorial, headed: "C. J. Boatner—Liar, Scoundrel." The article created a sensation, and there were rumors afoot that Mr. Boatner had reached the city and would publish the article, and would take immediate steps to secure satisfaction. He could not be located to-night.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Property Loss Over a Quarter of a Million Dollars.

COUNCIL BLUFFS (Iowa), Dec. 13.—The most disastrous fire in the history of Council Bluffs visited the independent district shortly after 6 o'clock, causing a loss of over a quarter of a million dollars.

The estimated losses are as follows: Deere, Wells & Co., building, \$175,000; Deere, Wells & Co., building, \$33,000; Combination Fence Works, \$10,000; Westinghouse Engine Company, \$2,500; Stoughton Wagon Company, \$4,000; Fuller, Johnson & Co., \$6,000; Maine Buggy Company, \$3,000; Warden, Bushnell & Glessner, \$5,000.

The losses outside of the Deere, Wells & Co. and the Combination Fence Works were not included in the above figures, which were taken across the street to the Combination Fence Works by a high wind that was blowing. The Deere, Wells & Co.'s building joined the fire, and the Shugart building, the first building was a two-story frame structure and was quickly enveloped in flames, which were taken across the street to the Combination Fence Works by a high wind that was blowing.

The fire started in the Empire Shugart building, Nos. 1439 to 1406 South Main street, from which cause it is not known. It was discovered by the night watchman for Deere, Wells & Co. The first building was a two-story frame structure and was quickly enveloped in flames, which were taken across the street to the Combination Fence Works by a high wind that was blowing.

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TOPICS OF THE TURF.

COLD DAY FOR FAVORITES AT ENGLISHE TRACK.

One mile, selling, Theresa (2) to 1, won, Summer Time (2 1/2) to 1 second, Beatrice Mura (10) to 1 third. Time—1:33 1/2. Service, Rico, Lond'O'R, Johnnie Payne, Reed Root, Orbit, Charming, Imp, Umario and Dr. Garnett also ran.

One mile, selling, Tar and Tartar (6) to 1, won, May Day (5) to 1 second, Gray (10) to 1 second, Sir Play (even) third. Time—1:15 1/2. Rummel, Redington, Governor Budd and Modesty colt also ran.

One mile and a sixteenth, selling, Foremost (4) to 1, won, Duchess of Milpitas (3) to 1 second, All Over (4) to 1 third. Time—1:10. Oakland and Zaragoza also ran.

Six furlongs, selling, Geraldine (6) to 1, won, Babe Murphy (6) to 1 second, Imp, Umario, Hazard, Plan to 1 third. Time—1:14 1/2. George Miller, Captain Skeadance, Arapahoe, Remus, Imp, Ivy, and Bellringer also ran.

TODAY'S ENTRIES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—Following are the entries and weights for the races at Englishe to-morrow:

First race, five furlongs, (Peixotto (104), Navy Blue (92), Salomea (108), Encino (108), Free Will (105), Castanet (105), Endymion (105), Doubtful (105), Charles Boots (105), Ponce (109), Hazard (105), Walter J. (105), William Pinkerton (105), Lizzie H. (105), Adolph Spreckles (105), Governor Budd (105).

Second race, six furlongs, selling, Centurion (112), The King (112), Morven (104), Uncertainty (107), Centurion (104), Minnie Cue (104), Able P. (104), Road Runner (111).

Third race, six furlongs, selling, Charitree (109), Oregon Eclipse (109), Sir Richard (112), Bernardo (109), Emma D. (109), Lismore (108), Yemmer (109), Hazard (105), Montalvo (107), Fourth race, mile and an eighth, handicap, Bright Phoebus (115), Pepper (115), Cadmus (110), Santiago (109), Peter H. (108), Wavona (35), Polaski (80).

Fifth race, mile and an eighth, selling, Roca (100), Monita (103), Strathmeath (112), Navy Blue (92), Salomea (107), Wheel of Fortune (92), Mary S. (101), Pepper (112), Belle Boyd (81).

Sixth race, mile and a half, over six furlongs, (Hazard (105), Templenore (98), April (138), Mestor (130), Alexis (125), Esperance (125), Soon Enough (125).

Many People Drowned.

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