

HORRIBLE MURDER AT SAN FRANCISCO.

A Crime Recalling the Tragic Death of Blanche Lamont.

Occurred Near the Same Place and Under Accompanying Circumstances.

Mrs. Mary Clute Outraged and Her Head Beaten to a Jelly With a Coupling Pin—The Tragedy Enacted at Dusk in a Flat She Had Just Rented in the Mission District.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—A horrible murder was perpetrated here at dusk this evening. The victim was a woman, and the scene of the crime was in the Mission district, in the vicinity of the Emmanuel Church murders, about five blocks from that edifice. Many of the features of the crime and its accompanying circumstances recalled the tragic death of Blanche Lamont.

THREE BIG CONCESSIONS.

Granted a Californian by the Mexican Government. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 15.—Captain Alphonse Smith, a well known resident of the coast, is in the city, having returned from the City of Mexico, where he succeeded in obtaining three valuable concessions from the Mexican Government.

One concession is to allow him to put on a line of steamships to run from Salina Cruz, the western terminus of the Tehuantepec Railroad, to San Jorge, Sonora. The line will be equipped with the steamers City of Mazatlan and City of Acapulco, and the line is aimed to make a saving of six days to San Francisco on Panama trade.

Another concession is for a railway from San Jorge to Yuma, through the Colorado River Valley, and the line will be extended from Yuma to Kingman, A. T. Engineers are now at work on the route.

The third concession gives him the right to colonize large tracts of land about San Jorge, the city, having ample financial backing for these enterprises.

MURDERER BERGWART.

Throws Off the Mask of Insanity and Talks of His Crime. BAKERSFIELD, Dec. 15.—Sheriff Bergwardt has returned from San Quentin, whither he took Davidson, the Randsburg wife murderer. He says that the man was sane, but that he had thrown off the mask of insanity, and talked freely about his case. He appeared as rational as any one, and knew every feature of the trial, though during its progress he had appeared to be utterly oblivious to all his surroundings.

Death of a Pioneer Engineer. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—John J. Crofts, a pioneer engineer of this coast, died to-day of heart failure. He was about 66 years of age, was born in Nottinghamshire, England, and came to this coast in 1849. He was in the service of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company for twenty-seven years, and was then transferred to the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, and there remained until the time of his death.

Santa Clara Farmers Organizing.

SAN JOSE, Dec. 15.—A farmers' club is being organized here, which the leaders say will soon have from 400 to 500 members. It is modeled after the club which has been so successful at Fresno. The preliminary steps were taken to-day. The first business before the club will be an effort to raise Santa Clara County's share of the \$10,000 recommended by the State Convention of fruit-growers for an exhibition of fruit in some European cities.

A Large and Enthusiastic Meeting Held at Yuba City.

YUBA CITY, Dec. 15.—A large and enthusiastic meeting of fruit-growers was held here to-day under the auspices of the Sutter County Horticultural Society, for the purpose of discussing the proposition to raise funds to assist in the advertising of California fruit products in foreign markets, according to a resolution passed by the recent State Fruit-Growers' Convention.

Surrendered to the Sheriff.

SANTA ROSA, Dec. 15.—James Petray of Healdsburg, who three years ago fled from the county, owing to the death of an old man named Bachman, whom Petray struck in a quarrel, gave himself up to Sheriff Allen to-day. When Bachman died the Grand Jury indicted Petray for manslaughter. Petray is now out on bonds.

Frank Thompson's Death.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—The United States Consul at San Salvador has wired the relatives of Frank Thompson of Santa Rosa, who died recently at that place, that the death was caused by yellow fever, and that the authorities will not allow the body to be brought here for interment.

Everything Quiet on Caroline Isles.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—The barkentine Sharpshooter has returned

MYSTERIOUS OAKLAND MURDER.

Patrick Murphy Shot Down by an Unknown Assassin.

TERRIBLE STORMS.

A Ship Captain Tells of His Experience on the Pacific.

TACOMA (Wash.), Dec. 15.—Captain Stephens of the British ship Whittleburn, which arrived at Port Townsend to-day, said: "Three times the British ship Whittleburn was blown out of the straits before she succeeded in entering. The vessel has been pursued by storms all the way across from Shanghai, but she was finally laden with ballast, and rode through the storm practically unharmed. "I never saw such storms in all the time I have been going to sea. The gale struck us off the coast of Japan, and followed all the way across. We left Shanghai on October 26th, and never sighted a vessel until about forty miles off Flatery. There we saw four vessels outward bound. "During the past month I have not had more than three hours' sleep during the twenty-four. I have lain down only to be called back on deck again. We were ten days off the straits, and three times attempted to enter, but the gale blew us out to sea again each time. Twice we were inside Flatery, but the gale again drove us out. Monday the heavy southeaster struck us and we were driven within two miles of Vancouver shore before it suddenly changed. We had all given up hope of ever putting foot on land again. I tell you, I thanked God when we reached Port Townsend."

Staggered Back Into the House and Dies in the Presence of His Terrified Family, Not Having Strength Enough to Utter the Name of His Slayer—The Murderer Escapes in the Darkness.

OAKLAND, Dec. 15.—Patrick Murphy, a pioneer resident of Temescal, was murdered by an unknown assassin at 3:15 o'clock to-night. He was shot through the heart as he left his cottage to go to a neighboring store, staggered back into the house, and died in the presence of his terrified family. He lacked the strength to utter the name of the man who shot him, if he knew who he was, and the murderer, favored by the isolation of the place, and the darkness of the night, escaped without difficulty.

The police arrived within five minutes after the shooting, but were unable to supply a motive for the crime, or to find a clue.

There were two witnesses to the actual shooting, and but one man saw the murderer flee from the scene. He caught by a fleeting glimpse of him as he ran from his bloody work and his incomplete description is not sufficiently accurate for the police.

Murphy, who was a street car employe, reached his home at 7 o'clock this evening. His wife and three children, Antone Glavin, a friend, who makes his home with the Murphys, and Andrew Cunningham, an old acquaintance of the family from San Francisco, were there when he arrived, and the entire party took dinner together. About 8 o'clock Murphy went out of the rear door to get some beer. A moment after he descended the back stairs the report of a gun, followed by groans, was heard. Mrs. Murphy, Glavin and Cunningham ran to the rear door, and there they saw Murphy staggered to the foot of the stairs and fell. They helped him into the house and placed him on a chair, where he died without uttering a word. There was no evidence of a struggle.

Henry Smith of 548 Sixth street is the man who saw the slayer flee from the scene. He was in an adjoining house, and on hearing the shot rushed to the door in time to see a man come out of the yard in front of the Murphy home, and run rapidly south of Telegraph avenue. He passed within fifteen feet of Smith, and the man took to make out more than his general outline. Smith says he wore a long overcoat and a derby hat, and was of medium build.

The crime is thus far a mystery which baffles the police.

STEIN'S PASS BANDITS.

Taken to Tucson, Arizona, for Safe Keeping. TUCSON (Ariz.), Dec. 15.—Marshal Griffith's posse brought the five train robbers here from San Simon, instead of taking them to Silver City, N. M. It is believed they would be safer here for the present.

The officers refuse to divulge the names of the prisoners, or to allow communication with them, as it is believed that the bandits are closely allied with Black Jack. They inquired for two parties who have been suspected of belonging to Black Jack's gang.

The officers claim possession of positive proof that the captives are the Stein's Pass bandits. The prisoners refuse to affirm or deny anything. All are large, muscular, daring, reckless men, and are absolutely unconcerned.

NAMES OF THE BANDITS. DENVER, Dec. 15.—A special to the "Rocky Mountain News" from Albuquerque, N. M., says: The names of the five train robbers arrested Monday at the base of the special United States Marshals under Special United States Marshal J. N. Thacker in Eastern Arizona, near the Mexican line, are W. H. Wardenman, T. S. Keppart, Henry Marshall, Walter Hoffman and Leonard Alverson. After their capture the men were taken to Tucson, A. T., for safe keeping, but United States Marshal Forsaker to-day went to Tucson to demand their immediate return to New Mexico, as the crime was committed in this territory. All the robbers are cowboys, and have no other means of support.

Black Jack gang of border bandits, which has been terrorizing the people along the southwestern border for the past three years. They are, however, the same gang which recently held up and robbed the train on the Santa Fe Pacific at Grant's Creek, and the month ago secured funds estimated at \$30,000, and it is now expected that a considerable portion of this money may be recovered.

SUTTER FRUIT GROWERS.

A Large and Enthusiastic Meeting Held at Yuba City. YUBA CITY, Dec. 15.—A large and enthusiastic meeting of fruit-growers was held here to-day under the auspices of the Sutter County Horticultural Society, for the purpose of discussing the proposition to raise funds to assist in the advertising of California fruit products in foreign markets, according to a resolution passed by the recent State Fruit-Growers' Convention.

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KILLING OF LADUE.

The Trial of Clara Fallmen Begun at Oakland.

OAKLAND, Dec. 15.—The trial of Clara Fallmen, charged with the murder of Charles Ladue, her youthful sweetheart, commenced to-day before Judge Ogden. Very little progress was made, but a single juror was accepted, although seven were passed for the time being. An order for a special venire of forty was issued and a recess taken until to-morrow morning.

Clara Fallmer, the defendant, came into court with her father and brother. She wore a neat-fitting blue suit, and a leather-trimmed felt hat. She carried a bouquet of violets, and seemed quite bright and happy. The ill effects of the operation for the removal of the breast which she fired into her own breast after she had shot down her boy lover have all passed away, and a healthy color has come into her face.

THE HELENSELA.

The Shipwrecked Vessel Sighted on Inaccessible Island. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—From a letter received in this city to-day it would seem that the shipwrecked vessel sighted by the American ship U. S. Walker on Inaccessible Island is neither the Craigend, the Taymount nor the Natuma, but the British steel bark Helensela, and that she was wrecked there August 24 of this year.

According to the letter, which is accepted by the insurance people as authority, all the crew got ashore, and remained on the island until the J. E. Walker hove in sight. Captain Davis of the Helensela boarded the Walker and was offered a passage for himself and crew to Japan. This he refused, but asked Captain Wallace of the Walker to report him, in order that somebody might be sent to take them off. This has since been done.

NOT IRA HODSON.

The Dead Body Found Near Riverside Yet Unidentified. RIVERSIDE, Dec. 15.—The remains of the man found in the river bottom to this port from a trading expedition to the Caroline Islands. Supplies were taken to the missions at Kusale, Pohnape and Kuk. Captain Wirscheuler reports everything quiet on those islands. He brought back a cargo of copra.

THE COAL COMBINE.

Proceedings Against the Alleged Trust to Begin Forthwith. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—The "Chronicle" says: Proceedings against the coal combination are to be commenced forthwith. The bill in equity was returned from Washington to-day, and United States Attorney Foote had the satisfaction of seeing that it had not been altered in the office of the Attorney-General. This will much expedite matters, as the changes to be made here are few, and the expectation is that the United States District Attorney will be able to file the bill in equity to-morrow. Soon thereafter a motion will be made in court to fix a time for hearing an application for a temporary injunction, which will doubtless be granted, and will probably be set for hearing not later than a week or two.

AN EDITOR INDICTED.

Accused of Libel in Reprinting an Article on Ex-Governor Hughes. PHOENIX (Ariz.), Dec. 15.—Four indictments were returned this morning by the Grand Jury of Maricopa County. One was against Dr. W. A. Hughes, formerly Superintendent of the Territorial Insane Asylum, and owner of the Phoenix "Democrat."

A Girl Burned to Death.

RIVERSIDE, Dec. 15.—News was received this evening from Corona that the dwelling of the Morago family, some five miles from that place, was destroyed by fire this afternoon, and the thirteen-year-old daughter of the family perished in the flames. Ruperto Morago was seriously burned while attempting to rescue his daughter. The fire destroyed everything the family had.

California Commercial Banks.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—The semi-annual reports of all the commercial banks of California, seventeen in number, showing their condition at the close of business on November 30th, have been filed with the Bank Commissioners. The sum total of their assets, balanced by the liabilities, is \$73,401,306 54.

Convicted of Manslaughter.

OAKLAND, Dec. 15.—James Bryan was convicted to-day of manslaughter for killing Deputy Constable Dennis Cronin last May at Emeryville. Present indications are that there will be no appeal taken, nor effort made to set aside the verdict.

Big Batch of Nominations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The President to-day sent to the Senate the largest number of nominations made during the recess. It includes seven foreign Ministers, eight Consul-Generals, a large number of Consuls and army and navy promotions.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.

Fresno 220 acres of the best land in the vicinity of the city to be used as a park. The land is located about three-quarters of a mile from the city limits, and is admirably situated for a park. The only condition attending the gift is that for a term of five years an annual expenditure of \$5,000 be made by the city in improving the property.

Advance Notice! Special Sale

To-morrow Morning at 9:30 o'clock —OF— 150 Sample Jackets

It is not often that Western houses have an opportunity of securing sample lines from reliable Eastern manufacturers. Usually those good things fall into the hands of the large retailers in the East, who are constantly seeking such price advantages for their trade. This time, however, it was our good fortune to secure a fine lot of sample garments from one of the most reliable manufacturers of women's outer garments in New York. One hundred and fifty garments in all. Samples are usually made in sizes 34 and 36 only. If you wear either of these sizes you'll find here some of this season's best styles, the correct length and cut, all perfectly tailored and trimmed, and the price advantage will be yours this time, as they'll be sold at about half their worth.

WASSERMAN, DAVIS & CO., : : : K, between Sixth and Seventh.

Select your Toys now and avoid a chance for disappointment.

The Nonpareil. Children's Fur Sets, \$1 45. Men's Underwear, \$2 Suit. Men's Ribbed Underwear. Women's Walking Hats, \$1 25 and \$1 50. Novelties in Umbrellas.

These pretty white metal articles find great favor as gifts; handsomely embossed, artistic and unique in design, useful and lasting. The variety so great we cannot list it all. Desk articles, mantel and toilet articles, table articles and novelties, letter seals, hat and coat markers, cigar clippers, stamp and match boxes, thimbles, scissors, combs, mirrors, brushes, etc.; all mounted, and popularly priced.

Store open evenings until after the Holidays.

Many gift suggestions in our line of Silverware.

Children's Fur Sets, \$1 45. Men's Underwear, \$2 Suit. Men's Ribbed Underwear.

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THESE GOOD SHOE VALUES ON SPECIAL SALE. Ladies' Vici Kid Dress Shoes at \$1 98. Children's and Misses' Kid Shoes at 53 cents and 89 cents.

SMOKE THE COCKNEY. A. COOLOT, Sacramento, Distributing Agent. HOLIDAY PRESENTS. Gold Spectacles and Nose Glasses. Eyes tested free and correct glasses fitted after the holidays.

SPANISH GENERALS EXCITED. Protest Against McKinley's Reference to Cuban Affairs. BIARRITZ (France), Dec. 15.—Mail advices received from Madrid (telegrams and telephone messages on this subject being forbidden) says the Spanish military journals, especially the most important, "Correspondencia Militar," declare that twenty Generals have come to an agreement to engineer a protest against President McKinley's message to Congress, which is considered insulting to the Spanish army.

Lorgnettes. USEFUL AND FASHIONABLE. MAKE THE SWELLEST HOLIDAY GIFT OF ALL. FOR CHURCH, SHOPPING OR THEATER. In Lorgnettes I have the best European designs in Shell, Sterling Silver, Celluloid and Sterling Silver, Gold Plated. Gold Spectacles and Eye Glasses purchased for presents fitted after Xmas FREE. SEE MY OPERA GLASSES. CHINN, Optician, Opposite Postoffice.

Reindeer for Klondike Expeditions. TRONDHJEM (Norway), Dec. 15.—An agent of the United States Government named Kjetlberg has arrived here to buy reindeer for the Klondike expeditions.

Fatal Elevator Accident. ST. PAUL, Dec. 15.—An elevator in the wholesale millinery establishment of Robinson & Strauss fell six stories this afternoon, instantly killing E. J. Munn, a traveling salesman, and fatally injuring William Schaller, an elevator man.