MONTANA POST.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCT. 12.

TERRIBLE SHOOTING AFFAIR.

William Miller Shot and Killed by Thomas Chapman.

Last evening, at about a quarter to six o'clock, the city was thrown into great excitement on news spreading around that William Miller had been killed by Thomas Chapman. We were soon on the scene of the murder, and from parties who were witnesses to the terrible deed, we gather the following particulars:

Miller, who is a butcher at Butte city, and other camps in the upper portion of the country, came down on Tuesday last to see about opening a shop in this place, since which time he has been on a spree. Chapman came from Butte city yesterday morning, and he, too, was under the influence of liquor early in the day. In the afternoon they met at Wilson's saloon, on Main street, on very friendly terms, Miller, the drunker of the two. Some time during the day Miller had tried hard to raise a quarrel with Mr. J. B. Caven, who had done him an injury some time since, and had apologized for it. Miller persisted in having a fight, but Mr. Cavin avoided it and left the house. Miller was known as a great talker, and had quite a number of listeners "joshing" him to hear him talk. About fifteen minutes before the fatal affair, Chapman, Miller, Cox, the barkeeper, and S. Hardenbrook, were sitting beside the stove; Miller got up, while speaking (being a great man to gesticulate) and moved his stool back ward, or Chapman (who was sitting behind him) done so, and Miller sat down on the floor. As he arose from the floor he struck Chapman on the mouth with his hand, followed him into the corner, where Cox, the barkeeper, interfered and seperated them, putting Chapman in the back room and leading Miller to the middle of the saloon. Soon afterwards Chapman passed through the room, and Miller wanted to get at him, but he was prevented. Chapman was gone some time—ten or fifteen minutes—when he returned and stepped into the door, stating, as near as we could learn, "If you want to fight, I am ready for you," or something to that effect. Miller at once struck Chapman with his left hand and followed it up with his right; Chapman backed out of the saloon to the sidewalk, Miller endeavoring to clinch, when Chapman drew a revolver and fired two shots, one taking effect in the left breast, about one-fourth of an inch above the nipple, and coming out of his back, the other passing through the right forearm, and entering the abdomen. He lived from seven to ten minutes. The above statement we gathered from Mr. Cox, and other parties present, who were witnesses to the whole affair.

We also called on Chapman; heard his story: He says that sometime ago Miller told him that when he (Miller) struck a man, he meant fight, and he would not rest without giving or getting a whipping. Fearing that Miller would wish to renew the difficulty, (considering Miller by far superior in strength, and he himself being a cripple in the left arm,) he went off after the first quarrel; tried to get a pistol; went to the stable of Hardenbrook Bro.'s, and took a revolver from a pair of *cantinas* hanging in the office with which to defend himself; went to the saloon, met Miller who attacked him, striking him twice in the face, and who endeavored to draw a knife or pistol—at any rate making a demonstration as though he were about to do so—when he fired two shots.

We have endeavored to give both sides to this most unfortunate affair, and await the action of the Justice's examination for further particulars.

Both parties have been known to us for years. Thomas Chapman we never knew to have a difficulty with any man before, which terminated in a fight. His father, Col. W. W. Chapman, of Portland, Oregon, an eminent lawyer, was at one time Surveyor General of that State. There are five brothers—T. J., James M., Arthur W., W. W. jr., and Nathan.

William Miller came from Idaho city to this place, but was well known as a butcher in Yreka, California. He was fond of drink, and when drunk, was sometimes quite abusive. We never knew of but one difficulty in which he participated: In the spring of 1865 he met a notorious desperado in Idaho city—Tom Wilson—in deadly combat, one usuing a knife and the other a pistol. When seperated both were supposed to be mortally wounded, but recovered. Miller was a brave man, who feared nothing.

Chapman was immediately arrested by Under Sheriff Thomas. His examination was postponed until 1 o'clock, p. m., Saturday.

The following is the verdict of the Coroner's Jury:

TERRITORY OF MONTANA, }
COUNTY OF DEER LODGE, }

An inquest held at the house of Chas. Reed, in the town of Deer Lodge, in the County of Deer Lodge, on the 4th day of October, 1867, before me, D. P. Newcomer, Justice of the Peace in and for said County, upon the body of William Miller, lying dead, by the Jurors whose names are hereunto subscribed: The said Jurors, upon their oath do say, that on Thursday, the 3d day of October, 1867, about 5 o'clock P. M., that the deceased came to his death by two pistol shots, one ball entering the left breast near the nipple and coming out almost straight through the body, near the left shoulder blade, and one shot passing through the right arm near the elbow; wounds caused from a pistol in the hands of Thomas Chapman; and that said pistol was fired with the intention of killing the deceased, William Miller.

In testimony, we, the said Jurors, have hereunto set our hands, the day aforesaid.

CHAS. B. READ,
WM. TOLAND,
W. B. DANCE,
WM. WILSON,
G. S. OLIN,
THOS. STRANG.

—[Independent Extra, Deer Lodge, Oct. 4.

The Colorado *Register* is informed by its Paris correspondent, J. P. Whitney, of Boston, that the Emperor Napoleon has appointed a scientific commission to visit and examine the mines of Colorado. It is supposed that Mr. Whitney will accompany the Imperial Commission, and our cotemporary suggests that the people of Colorado should tender to him a fitting testimonial of their appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered the Territory.

FROM GALLATIN.

A Plea for the Farmers.

EDITOR POST: The farmers of this valley have all their grain in the stack, and have commenced threshing. The wheat crop is very good—the quantity equally as large if not larger than last year, and of a superior quality. White wheat was exclusively cultivated this year. There was some late wheat damaged by frost, but no considerable quantity. The proprietors of the Gallatin Mills, Cover & McAdow, have reconstructed their mill so they can successfully compete with the St. Louis manufacture. The farmers can now furnish the miners, merchants and hotel keepers with any desired quantity of flour, and of a superior quality to that of Salt Lake. The merchants of this Territory have placed the farmers in such a condition that they will be compelled to throw it on the market at a very low price. They have been sending the money out of the country for flour and not patronized the farmers here. By this mode of operation they have crippled all classes of industry. Now if they will change the programme we will see quite a change in business of all sorts. Patronize the farmers, pay them a liberal price for their produce, and you will sell them your goods at good prices and get your money back again. We will be encouraged in our pursuits, can improve our ranches, and henceforth the country will be self-sustaining, and when the strapped prospector comes in our valley we can afford to pay him good wages for work and let him go on his way rejoicing, with renewed energy. The whole country would be benefitted, any and every body would have money, and business of all kinds would enliven. From the pernicious system heretofore practiced we are unable to pay our debts. Many are leaving and threatening to leave the country. We cannot patronize the merchants or grocers, and the consequences are felt throughout the entire community. Give us patronage, we have fertile valleys, and will successfully compete in the flour trade with Salt Lake; prices will never run high, and all will be benefitted.

RANCHMAN.

Middle Creek, Gallatin Valley, Oct. 1.

EDWIN FORREST.—Bell's statue of Edwin Forrest, which has just arrived at Boston from Italy, was privately exhibited in that city, Aug. 24th. The Boston *Post* says:

The statue is six feet six inches in hight, and represents Cariolanus replying to Virgilia his wife, Volumnia his mother, and Valeria, who beseech him to spare Rome. Perhaps no better attitude could have been selected. The moment is one of power, strength, dignity and pride, and these qualities the artist has evolved with remarkable skill. The right foot is thrown forward. In the right hand is a scroll, and the left supports the drapery of the toga. A portion of the chest, the arms and the legs are superbly chiseled, and the marble seems alive with that muscular mightiness for which the great tragedian is so noted. In fact, the posture of the figure, its detail of development, the form and inclination of the head, the expression of the features, even—for the marble is capable of such when touched by the quickening hand of genius—the entire work indicates very clearly that Bell studied his subject well, and labored with equal zeal and success. The impression made on the visitor as he gazes upon the statue is that it is instinct with life, and there is grace, character and purpose in every inch of the marble, and that it was committed to fortunate hands. The statue rests upon a square pedestal, upon the front of which are the mask and numerous emblems of the tragic muse.

A CURIOUS CALCULATION.—What a noisy creature would a man be were his voice, in proportion to his weight, as loud as that of a locust! A locust can be heard at the distance of one-sixteenth of a mile. The golden wren is said to weigh but half an ounce; so that a middling sized man would weigh down not short of four thousand of them; and it must be strange if a golden wren would not outweigh four of our locusts. Supposing therefore, that a common man weighs as much as sixteen thousand of our locusts, and that the note of a locust can be heard a sixteenth of a mile, a man of common dimensions, pretty sound in wind and limb, ought to be able to make himself heard at the distance of one thousand six hundred miles; and when he sneezed, "his house ought to fall about his ears!" Supposing a flea to weigh one grain, which is more than its actual weight, and to jump one and a half yards, a common man of one hundred and fifty pounds, with jumping powers in proportion, could jump twelve thousand eight hundred miles, or about the distance from New York to Cochin China.

A CORRESPONDENT gives the following details of the assassination of Lopez who betrayed Maximilian:

Lopez was staying at a hotel in Pueblo, where his wife spurned him from her presence. Early one morning a Mexican arrived, and familiarized himself with the hotel. General Miguel Lopez was inquired for, but not being in, the stranger was told that the General would be at dinner. Before the dinner hour, Lopez returned, and was pointed out to the stranger, who made special note of his man. When dinner was called, Lopez and his assassin occupied opposite seats at the same table. After some minutes, during which time the stranger called for and drank a glass of wine, he delibrately arose, drew a concealed knife, and sprang upon Lopez, and stabbed him nine times. The stranger then took his hat, and as he started to leave, said: "This is the way all traitors should be paid." No one interfered or prevented the assassin from leaving. Thus was the blood of Maximilian, Miramon, Mejia, yes, and thousands of others avenged.

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" John H. Ming, " " "
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" Gaston, Simpson & Co., Helena City, M. T
Mr. J. R. Upson, " " "
Capt. W. H. Parkinson & Co., " " "
Messrs. M. Branham & Co., Blackfoot City, "
Mr. A. Beattie, Banker, St. Joseph, Mo.;
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Mr. E. M. Samuel, St. Louis, Mo.;
Mr. William North, " " " 94-1

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July 13, 1867. j151

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