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VOL. 30--NO. 83. HELENA, MONTANA TERRITORY, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 12, 1889. FIVE CENTS

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BEFORE THE BAR.

George D. Bryson, the Alleged Murderer of Annie Lundstrum, on Trial at Boulder.

A Jury Selected in a Short Time, the Case Presented for the Prosecution and Witnesses Testify.

Lives of the Principal Actors, and History of One of the Most Terrible Crimes Ever Committed in Montana.

BOULDER, March 11.—[Special to the Independent.]—Court convened this morning at 11 o'clock with the decks cleared for the Bryson case. After the reading of the minutes by the clerk, the work of impaneling the jury was begun. The defendant, when brought into court, evinced that coolness of demeanor which has characterized his conduct and actions thus far. His personal appearance has undergone no change since his arrival here. The court room was crowded when he was brought in, but to the inquiring glances and scrutinizing looks of those present he exhibited an imperturbable coolness and apparant indifference. With all this seeming apathy, however, his furtive looks betray a mental excitement which requires an effort on his part to conceal. This is made manifest by the glances which he takes at the jurors in reply to questions propounded to them touching their qualifications; more especially is this so when a juror answers that he would return a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree, predicating the same upon circumstantial evidence alone.

It is rather a remarkable fact that in regard to a case to which so much publicity was given that so few of those upon the

GEO. D. BRYSON, THE ALLEGED MURDERER.

jury panel here at Boulder numbered incompetents by reason of the entertainment of prejudice or bias, or on account of opinions formed. This being the case, very little difficulty will be experienced in the procurement of a jury.

The Bryson trial brought over a large number of Helenaites. It is estimated that there are upwards of seventy witnesses here, most of whom no doubt will be examined, so that under the most favorable combination of circumstances the case will be a protracted one.

Messrs. Wallace and Balliet, the attorneys for the territory and defendant, express the belief that the trial will consume the whole of the week, but with the expeditious methods which Judge McConnell applies it is fair to assume that this prognostication will not be borne out by facts.

As already outlined, it was a matter of no great difficulty to find a competent jury, and at half-past three o'clock the following named jury was sworn to try the cause: F. Hanlon, J. W. Gilkey, H. C. Shepard, Lee Haggerty, A. C. Dixon, Wm. Channal, Geo. Hubbard, Adam Dulaney, B. Wilson, Thos. Davis, C. E. Hoffen, W. P. Hoopes.

In the selection of this jury the territory exercised only four of the five peremptory challenges which the law allows, while the defendant through his counsel exhausted the full number of challenges, namely ten. Notwithstanding the exercise of so many challenges, as already stated, Mr. Wallace was in readiness to make the opening presentation of the case at 3:30. This is simply emphatic of the condition of public sentiment in Jefferson county, and clearly shows that the defendant will get a fair and impartial trial. In the examination of the jury on the voir dire the response made to the interrogatories propounded show that in the matter of capital punishment there is no very deep prejudice against its enforcement, and although the jurors to whom are intrusted the important question of the determination of the guilt of George Duncan Bryson have expressed that in the matter of circumstantial evidence, it should be of such character and relevancy as to remove all reasonable doubt, yet on the whole the jury is an intelligent one, and one which can be relied upon to do justice.

Mr. Wallace commenced by stating that "the indictment was found at the October term of the district court of Lewis and Clarke county, but that upon an application made by the defendant for a change of venue it was transferred to Jefferson county. To the end that you may understand the application of the proof that will be adduced in behalf of the prosecution, and that you may more thoroughly appreciate the evidence as it is introduced, I shall proceed to lay before you a synopsis of the evidence which it is the intention of the prosecution to introduce. In this case the territory will expect to prove malice, express and implied, and that it was a wilful, deliberate and premeditated killing, and to support that will introduce testimony substantially establishing the facts as follows: That sometime in the early part of 1888 an intimacy grew up between the deceased and the defendant, Geo. Duncan Bryson, in the city of Minneapolis; that that intimacy continued for a long period of time; indeed until the time of their coming to the territory; that they came to Montana sometime in the month of July of that year; that prior to their leaving Minneapolis they had a serious difficulty, resulting in the imprisonment of this defendant at the instance of deceased; and while so imprisoned he made repeated threats looking toward personal harm and injury toward deceased. After leaving Minneapolis they came together to this territory and arrived in Helena, as already stated, sometime in July; and after their arrival here they went to a private lodging house kept by Mrs. Bennett, on Bridge street. They remained there about two weeks, and during this time they had frequent and constant quarrels. When Bryson came there he introduced the deceased as his wife. After remaining there about two weeks they removed to a lodging house kept by Mrs. Trunk, and rented a room there. They remained there from Aug. 5 until Aug. 21, and brought with them two trunks which they had with them when rooming at Mrs. Bennett's. While at Mrs. Trunk's the articles of clothing which the trunks contained were removed therefrom and hung up in the room. While at Mrs. Trunk's, a lady named Mrs. Mixture, who also occupied a room there, had done some sewing for the deceased, and had made the very dress which was found upon the corpse when taken from the prospect hole where it was found. While occupying this room in the Trunk house they had frequent quarrels, and the deceased was seen in tears a number of times, and the defendant was heard to use abusive language towards her. At one time he left her, but came back again. About noon, Aug. 21, they were seen together, and were seen leaving the house at 2 o'clock in the afternoon in company with each other, and this was the last time that deceased was seen alive, until the discovery in the prospect hole was made, which the evidence will conclusively show was the body of Annie Lundstrom, alias Bryson."

Mr. Wallace then went on to describe the various articles of clothing which were found upon the body and the movements of the defendant subsequent to Aug. 21 until his apprehension, a full account of which has already been given in the INDEPENDENT.

Mrs. Bennett was the first witness for the prosecution and testified substantially as follows: My name is Sarah Bennett; I reside at 320 Bridge street, Helena, and rent rooms there. I know the defendant, George Duncan Bryson. When I first knew him he came to my house looking for a room. When defendant first came to my house he came alone on a Friday evening, and he rented a room, paying me a dollar, so as to secure the room. He said he would come in the morning and fetch his wife. He and his wife came the next forenoon, and brought their baggage. They rented a room fronting on Bridge street, and the adjoining room to them, also fronting on Bridge street, was occupied by a Mrs. Levy. There was a door connecting both rooms, which was bolted. Their baggage consisted of two trunks, with flat covers. While occupying this room I saw them walking out frequently together. At one time I saw her coming from her room in a distressed state of mind. They remained at my place two weeks and when they left they said they were going on Eighth avenue. I never saw her any more after she left my house. I would be able to recognize her picture (here a photo of deceased was shown witness, which she recognized). Mr. Bryson paid the first week's rent and Mrs. Bryson paid the rent for the second week.

Mrs. Levy was the next witness and testified: My name is Emma Levy and in July, 1888, I was residing at Mrs. Bennett's, on Bridge street. I know the defendant by sight and saw him at Mrs. Bennett's. At this time he occupied a room adjoining the one which I occupied. I recognize this picture as being that of the wife of defendant. They remained there about two weeks and had baggage consisting of two trunks. While occupying this room I overheard quarrels between them. At one time Bryson wanted something that she had; it was either a picture or some papers, and he told her if she did not behave herself he would have her put in jail. She said she would have him put in jail, and he asked if she wanted to expose him and show him up as she did in St. Paul. He also said that she talked too much, and told people too much of her business. When the other altercations took place I did not overhear the conversations between them. I do not know where they went to after leaving there.

Mrs. Sarah Mixture testified: I reside at 514 Eighth avenue and Mrs. Trunk resides at 516. It is a double house. I came to Helena July 12, 1887, and took a room at Mrs. Trunk's July 6, 1888. I know the defendant by sight and saw him August 5 of last year. He occupied a front room up stairs. He came there on Saturday, August 4, and occupied this room with Mrs Bryson. At this time Mrs. Hartwig occupied an adjacent room to them. I became acquainted with Mrs. Bryson and was in her room several times; they remained there two weeks and two days. I went to Mrs. Bryson's room to look at some sewing which she desired me to do. I was present at the coroner's inquest over the body which was found in the prospect hole, and saw the dress which was upon the corpse, and I recognized the dress as my handwork, and as being the dress which I made for Mrs. Bryson, and that it was the dress which she wore on the afternoon of the day when she left the house of Mrs. Trunk in company with the defendant. When I went into her room I also saw some rags on the wall of the room which were used for decorative purposes. Wearing apparel was also on the hooks in the room. I identify those trunks as being the trunks which were in the room. I was in the room on Wednesday evening late, about 9 o'clock, which was the evening of the afternoon when deceased was last seen there, to take a dress into her room which I had been fixing, and at that time the clothes were on the hooks as on other occasions. I also went into the room on Thursday evening, and at that time the clothes had all been removed, and the trunks and everything was gone. On Wednesday evening there was nothing in the appearance of the room to indicate an intention to vacate the room. On Wednesday afternoon I saw Mrs. Bryson. She came to my room and said she was going to take a walk with her husband; that they had made up. She was in my room at this time only a few minutes. This dress which I took to her room about 9 oclock on Wednesday evening I laid across the foot of the bed and afterwards saw the same dress in one of the trunks in the sheriff's office in Helena. While they were occupying the room at Mrs. Trunk's I heard a quarrel between them one night when Bryson was going away with some satchels. She came out after him and he pushed her back into the room, and he said to her: "Are you crazy, you old fool." When he pushed her back into the room she had crossed the threshold of the door, and after pushing her back he went downstairs. I saw this by the reflection of the light over my transom. This was the Saturday night of the first week that they occupied the room at Mrs. Trunks. The morning before she disappeared she came to me with a ten-dollar gold piece and wanted it changed. I gave her the change and she handed me a five dollar bill back and told me to keep the bill until she should call for it. She never called for the bill. Here a number of articles taken from the trunks were shown witness, which she identified as being the property of Mrs. Bryson, among which were dresses, fans, a stamp of a peculiar make, some false hair and other articles. At 6:30 Mr. Balliet had not concluded the cross-examination of witness when court adjourned until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

History of the Crime.

The latter part of July George Bryson and Annie Lundstrom came to Helena and took rooms with Mrs. Sarah Bennett, No. 310 Bridge street. He said they were from Minneapolis. Bryson introduced the woman as his wife. While at Mrs. Bennett's they were continually quarreling and Mrs. Bryson told Mrs. Bennett frequently that she was afraid of her life. She said Bryson was continually asking her for money; that he gambled it away, and she would let him have but a little at a time, enough to procure his meals. She told Mrs. Bennett she was so afraid that her husband would rob and leave her that she had her money (she led Mrs. Bennett to infer it was in drafts) sewed up in her clothing, in different dresses, so that if Bryson did manage to steal some of it he could not procure it all. Mrs. Bryson wore a heavy gold chain and had a handsome gold watch. Mrs. Bennett describes the woman as apparently 45 years of age and quite bald on the crown of the head, wearing a heavy switch to hide it. She seemed to be completely infatuated with Bryson, who was about 28 or 29 years old. The couple remained at Mrs. Bennett's about two weeks.

The 13th of August, according to Mrs. Trunk, the 4th of August, according to Mrs. Mixture, Mr. and Mrs. Bryson engaged a room at Mrs. Trunk's, No. 516 Eighth avenue, the woman paying a month's rent in advance. At Mrs. Trunk's roomed Mrs. Mixture and Mrs. Hardwick. When Bryson and the woman first went to Mrs. Trunk's Mrs. Mixture had an adjoining room and Mrs. Hardwick a room near by. At this house were repeated the quarrels which marked their stay at Mrs. Bennett's. Mrs. Bryson and Mrs. Mixture became very well acquainted, and Mrs. Mixture did some sewing for Mrs. Bryson, making the dress she wore when she was murdered. Mrs. Bryson frequently told Mrs. Mixture she was afraid her husband would kill her. The latter part of the Bryson's stay at 516 Eighth avenue Mrs. Mixture was in a room down stairs and did not hear the quarrels, but Mrs. Hardwick did.

Aug. 21, Bryson came home shortly after noon, and at 2 o'clock he and Mrs. Bryson left the hose together, ostensibly to get their dinner. She was seen to leave the house dressed in the same clothing she had on when her dead body was found in the prospect hole. At 4 o'clock Bryson returned alone. He went immediately to his room, but did not remain there long, coming out and going uptown. He came back at night, and Mrs. Hardwick says was moving around the room most of the night, and if he slept at all it was early in the morning. Shortly after daylight Bryson was heard moving around taking things from the wall, and when he went out about 7 o'clock it was found that he had packed the trunks. He came back shortly with Joe Ryan, an expressman. Mrs. Hardwick asked Bryson where his wife was, and he told her she had gone to Butte.

When Mrs. Mixture learned that Mrs. Bryson had left she said it was very strange, as she came to her shortly before she left the house the day before and got her to change a $10 bill. She gave her a $5 bill and $5 in silevr. Mrs. Bryson handed her the $5 bill and told her to keep it until she returned. She put tce bill in her purse, and thought it strange that Mrs. Bryson had not called for it. Then it was learned from Mrs. Trunk that Mrs. Bryson had paid a month's room rent and that they had occupied the room but two weeks and that no demand had been made for a rebate.

Three weeks went by. Mrs. Mixture was uneasy in her mind. She suspected a crime but didn't have a shadow of proof. Finally she concluded to inform the police, and did so. She had a picture of Bryson and one of Mrs. Bryson also, which she gave to the officers to aid them in their investigations. About this time an INDEPENDENT reporter learned of Mrs. Bryson's disappearance, and through these columns the public became aware of the suspicions of murder.

While search was being made for Bryson a woman appeared at the postoffice and asked for his mail. The clerk jokingly told her that if she was Mrs. Bryson she was supposed to be dead. He informed the police of the woman's visit, and a watch was kept at the postoffice for the mysterious stranger. Within a day or two she appeared again, and when she left she was shadowed by Marshal Hard to a small hotel near the Northern Pacific depot, kept by a woman named Porter. She was Mrs. Flora Thompson. The marshal by following her found the man he wanted and arrested him. Bryson took the arrest coolly and refused to talk, further than to state, when told why he was arrested, that the woman was in Seattle. He positively refused to tell where the trunks were.

On the preliminary examination it was ascertained that when Bryson left 516 Eighth avenue he had the trunks taken to the Lenoff house, where he registered Aug. 23 as J. D. Lundstrom. He remained there one night. He registered at the hotel where he was captured under the name of Barnes, from Seattle.

The preliminary examination was held

ANNIE LUNDSTROM, THE VICTIM.

before Judge Sanders, who held him to the grand jury despite the fact that the body of the supposed murdered woman had not been found.

The mystery surrounding the case had created so much excitement that Mayor Fuller offered a reward of $300 for the recovery of the body, which was found in an old prospect hole, Oct. 1, northeast of the city, by a blacksmith named Dixon. An inquest was held on the remains, and the verdict reached that Mrs. Lundstrom came to her death at the hands of George Duncan Bryson. The grand jury found a true bill against Bryson, and he was arraigned for trial before Judge McConnell, who granted a change of venue to Jefferson county.

Since Bryson's incarceration Detective Walters has been busily engaged in searching out the accused man's record, and has succeeded in discovering a good deal. He was born and reared at Howick Station, Canada, where his father, David Bryson, now lives. In 1881 he married Miss Emma Chase, of Howick, and a few days afterwards Mrs. Bryson received from her mother a considerable sum of money, with which Bryson started a grocery store in Montreal. He continued in that business for awhile, but was leading a fast life and broke up. Through his father's influence he was appointed station agent for the Grand Trunk railroad at Howick. He sold out his store, and on the night following the sale he entered the store and carried off everything he thought he needed for housekeeping. While station agent he used the Grand Trunk and American Express company's moneys for his own purposes, then reported to the company that the station had been burglarized. Suspicion fell upon Bryson and he left, going to Detroit, Michigan. His wife left a few days afterward for Port Colborne, Canada. On her arrival she told her relatives that Bryson had skipped and that the railroad detective was after him. She followed her husband to Detroit and warned him that the officers were on his trail.

In the meantime Bryson's father sold out and made good the defalcation of his son, and as matters were squared Bryson went to Port Colborne, where he procured a situation as a clerk in R. Smith's grocery store. While there he became intimate with a married woman named Graham. The liaison was discovered, and Bryson was arrested, and but for his employer's interference he would have been prosecuted. Bryson left the city, but before leaving secured a letter of recommendation from Mr. Smith and secured a position on a mail steamer plying between Montreal and Toronto, as a news agent. His stay on the steamer was brief, as he was discharged for his conduct with female passengers. He then secured a position in a clothing store in Toronto and robbed his employer, fleeing to St. Paul in 1883, where he secured a position with the New York Tea company, whose funds he appropriated July 3, 1885. He was arrested for this crime, tried, convicted and sent to the penitentiary at Stillwater for one year and ten months. He was discharged Jan. 18, 1887. He returned to St. Paul and served several short terms in both the St. Paul and Minneapolis jails. He finally secured a place with the U. P. Tea company, No. 471 Cedar avenue, and embezzled their funds, but made restitution, the company promising not to prosecute. During the winter of 1887-8 he met Mrs. Annie Lindstrom, at No. 1416 Washington avenue, and stole $200 from her. She had him arrested and he was sentensed to sixty days in the workhouse. While serving his sentense he made threats that he would "do Mrs. Lindstrom up," but when he was released the vain old woman restored him to favor and he induced her to sell out her laundry, "The Vulcan," which she did to Louis Erickson July 9, 1888. Bryson bought tickets over the Northern Pacific to Helena, and he and his victim arrived here the latter part of July.

Fell From the Bridge.

SPOKANE FALLS, W. T., March 11.—[Special to the Independent.]—Colden McGilvey, a bridge carpenter, fell from the top of the frame work of the new Monroe street bridge over the falls to-day, a distance of sixty feet, striking the timbers in his descent. His jaw bone was broken in three places, and three ribs and his spine injured. It is thought he cannot recover.

M. Mondeau, a prospector at the New Chloride camp, was caught by a falling tree to-day, and his spine badly injured. He is at the hospital in this city in a critical condition.

Fatal Gun Explosion.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., March 11.—A cable dispatch from Acquaimina, on the west coast of Africa, states that Capt. Holmes, of the whaling bark Sea Fox, an officer and a servant were killed, and five of the crew burned by an explosion of a whaling bomb gun.

NOW WE HAVE IT.

Russell Harrison Fixing up Montana's State Ticket and Dishing Out the Federal Offices.

The Son of His Father Picks Out a Senatorship for Himself and Gives Carter a Place.

Hershfield Gubernatorial Stock Booming, With Weed, Irvine and Sullivan Sure Winners—Mayor Fuller's Ambition.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—[Special to the Independent.]—There is a good deal of gossip here about Russell B. Harrison's alleged ambition to come to the senate from Montana. It is said that he and Col. Sanders will be the coming senators, while Delegate Carter returns as member of congress.

Good progress is said to be making with the Montana territorial nominations. They were discussed at a cabinet meeting to-day, and it is said three were decided upon, those of E. D. Weed, of Helena, for district attorney, vice R. B. Smith, resigned; Geo. Irvine, of Butte, for United States marshal, vice Robert S. Kelley, resigned, and Jerry Sullivan, for collector of customs at Fort Benton, vice L. A. Cummings, term expired. These, it is expected, will go to the senate to-morrow. The appointment of L. H. Hershfield for governor is said to be practically decided, but it is not yet quite ready to go in. Two more applicants for federal office in Montana turn up in Capt. Fuller, of Helena, and R. B. Hickman, of Virginia City, who want to be collector for the vast internal revenue district of Helena.

Harassed by Office Seekers.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Judge Wrenn, of Eureka, Nevada, is here and endorsed by the Nevada senators for the general land office. There are fifteen or sixteen candidates for governor of Arizona, among them George Christ and George Walfly, of Tombstone. Ex-Attorney-General S. B. Bradford, of Kansas, has a good chance of being appointed governor of Utah. Many candidates are in the field for governor of Montana, Col. I. D. McCutcheon, L. H. Hershfield, and T. C. Power being the most prominent. The New Mexico candidates Joseph are Dwyer and Judge Bradford Prince.

C. H. Harris, of California, has come to Washington to push his claims for governor of Alaska. He has fourteen rivals in Michigan, three in Wisconsin, two in Nebraska, one in Iowa, and a half dozen more in different parts of the country.

Judge Carey, solicitor of the treasury, has tendered his resignation to take effect upon the qualification of his successor, and E. B. Youmans, chief clerk of the treasury department, has placed his resignation at the disposal of Secretary Windom. This is a position confidential in character, and will probably be among the first to be considered.

SCIENTIST FARWELL.

The Illinois Senator Has a Business Way for Dividing Up the Offices.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Senator Farwell, of Illinois, has a scientific plan for the equitable distribution of federal patronage, and is trying hard to have it adopted by the new administration. "In the first place," said the senator, "I believe in a thoroughly partisan service from top to bottom. That is what we are here for; that is what parties exist for. It is not a question of spoils. It is a question of having the administration republican when the republican party has been elected by the people. I would begin by abolishing right away that committee of schoolmasters, the civil service commission, because there is no sense in it. I would observe the principle of home rule in so far as regards postoffices and other federal officials which are local. The offices should be graded from the lowest to the highest. I would have the offices distributed through congressional delegations, but I would have no fighting or striving or grabbing about it. Instead of having congressmen and politicians swarming about the white house and badgering the president and claiming everything, so that the aggregate claims amount to ten times more than the entire patronage of the government, the president should furnish the congressional delegations with a list of just what the state was entitled to. A set of such lists could be prepared in a very short time by a clear headed statistician. The state that had a cabinet officer would have to do with a portion of the minor offices, and if the big foreign mission did not go around, those states which got them would have to be satisfied with a smaller proportion of the subordinate appointments. It would be a very easy matter to have the offices properly listed and rated, so that while the entire administration would be thoroughly republican, no one republican district would have more than its share, compared with any other."

This is Harrison's Way.

CLEVELAND, O., March 11.—The Washington correspondent of the Leader telegraphs his paper to-night what he terms Harrison's policy respecting the civil service, gathered from remarks made by the President in an interview with a party of congressmen who had presented the claims of certain individuals for appointments. The president said he had determined to live up to the plank relating to civil service reform in the republican national platform and will select men to fill the territorial offices from citizens of the territory themselves, where fit persons may be found. In Alaska there are no party organizations and public press which makes it necessary the governor of that territory should be a man of such high character as not to need such supervision as officials in other territories are subjected to by their use of the existence of political parties and the printing of newspapers. He would endeavor for this particular office to find a man who will not need any such spur to do his duty.

The attention of the president was called to the alleged inefficiency in the railway mail service and the promulgation of the order by the late administration placing the service under the provisions of the civil service rules. The president replied that he would not revoke that order, but would modify it somewhat. He will have the rule touching reinstatements changed where it is specified a dismissed employe may be restored by having the words "within one year" striken out. This order will take effect June 15 instead of March 15.

On the subject of removal from the general classified service the president said: "I would not have a man removed simply because he belonged to one political party or the other; there should be good and substantial reasons for the dismissal of clerks and officials generally, but I hold it is not necessary that the cause should be specified in all cases." Respecting appointments generally, the president said he should follow the suggestions of senators and representatives, and expected those gentlemen to recommend only good men for office. In conclution he urged his visitors to go slowly and not press too hard for the removal of present incumbents. He said in effect he wanted to be sure he was right in every case, then he would go ahead.

Shot by an Unknown Hand.

DUBLIN, March 11.—While Creagh, a landlord in county Clare, and his sister, were driving to church yesterday, they were fired upon by an unknown person. Both were badly wounded.

A RANK FAKE.

The Story of a Murder in the National Park Without Any Foundation.

LIVINGSTON, March 11.—[Special to the Independent.]—The Cheyenne, Wyo., dispatch published to-day which stated that a party of five Frenchmen, tourists, and a guide named Ferry, on their way through the National Park, were attacked by Indians at Rattlesnake Canon and the five Frenchmen killed, is claimed to be wholly without foundation here. Col. Lamartine, who has charge of the government work in the National Park, and is thoroughly familiar with the country, was interviewed by your correspondent to-day. He said that the report is wholly without foundation, as there has been no tourists in the park since the season closed last fall; that there is no such place in or near the Park as Rattlesnake canon; that there has been no Indians in the park for over one year, and that there is no guide in the country named Ferry. Capt. Harris, commander of the troops stationed at Camp Sheridan, in the National Park, would have certainly been informed if there had been any hostile Indians at large. In a telegram received from him here to-day he denied that there was any truth in the report. If there has been any tourists going through the park they would have to go via Livingston and the Northern Pacific railroad to Cinnabar, its branch terminus, at this season of the year, as there is only a trail in from the other side of the range, and that is absolutely impassable during the winter season.

THE DEMERSVILLE TROUBLE.

Postmaster Clifford's Arrival at Missoula—Attempt by Indians to Intercept Him.

MISSOULA, March 11.—[Special to the Independent.]—J. E. Clifford, of Demersville, arrived here last evening in custody of Sheriff Heyfron, having been arrested for causing the death of an Indian by striking him on the head with the butt of his revolver. The sheriff and his prisoner, who was accompanied by Mrs. Clifford, were obliged to make a long detour, which delayed them a day and a half, in order to avoid a party of thirty or forty armed Flathead Indians who had stationed themselves upon the road which the sheriff was expected to take, with the avowed determination of avenging the death of their fellow.

Mr. Clifford told the INDEPENDENT correspondent that the Indian whose death has caused all the disturbance was a notorious thief, who came about his premises with a companion and was ordered off. They did not go, and showed a disposition to fight. Dr. Cunningham, who was with Clifford, held one of the Indians at bay. The other rushed at Clifford, who knocked him down three times with his first. Then the Indian drew his knife and made a desperate rush at Clifford, who had meanwhile drawn his revolver, with which he struck the Indian on the head. The latter fell, but soon arose and, with the other moved away. A little while later Clifford and Cunningham heard a commotion in their corral and upon going out to it found the Indians trying to steal some horses. The display of firearms, however, frightened off the rascals. The death of the Indian was cause by cold settling in the wound on his head.

KENDALL KNOCKED OUT.

Jerry Flowers Proves Himself a Heavy Hitter—Other Ring Events.

SPOKANE FALLS, March 11.—[Special to the Independent]—Prof. Kendall and Jerry Flowers, the latter colored, fought last night at Cœur d'Alene City, Idaho, for $250 a side. Kendall was knocked down four times and gave up the fight in the third round. Kendall is a powerful man and both are widely known as professional sluggers. A special train from Spokane Falls carried 500 people to the scene of the battle and several thousand dollars changed hands on the result.

Donovan Gets the Medal.

LIVINGSTON, March 10.—[Special to the Independent.]—Prof. Donalson and Patsy Cardiff, who are now on their way to the coast, where the latter is to meet Jackson, the colored champion, for $5,000, gave a boxing exhibition here in the opera house last night. The professor and Cardiff appeared in a six round friendly contest and did some lively sparring, after which a contest for a medal offered by Wetzstien, manager of the opera house, took place between the local talent, Donaldson acting as referee and judge. A great deal of pummeling was indulged in and the medal awarded to Donovan after several hard contested rounds with another local champion named Swanson.

Hennessy Knocked Senseless.

QUINCY, March 11.—A prize fight of three hours duration occurred here yesterday between Jack Piper, of Quincy, and "Red" Hennessy, of Troy, N. Y. The latter had the worst of the fight from the start, and was knocked senseless in the thirty-sixth round by a terrific blow in the mouth.

THE COPPER MARKET.

New York Speculators Shy, With a Firm Feeling in London.

NEW YORK, March 11.—The possible fate of the French copper syndicate is still the all-absorbing topic in metal circles here. Early to-day it was currently reported the copper octopus had received additional financial aid to that reported Saturday. This was substantialed by the following London cable to the secretary of the exchange: "Mathieson is reported to have taken control of the syndicate's business." On the floor of the exchange copper operators were noticeably shy of the market. London cables came in at a decline of £4 on both sheet and futures and speculation here was at a standstill. Representatives of American mine owners in tis city are still confident of the ability of the Frenchmen to tide over their difficulties.

LONDON, March 11.—The Daily News' financial article says: "All the mines have practically agreed to suspend action for two months, and none of those holding copper will press to sell it below the conventional price, regarding which negotiations are still in progress. The Daily News confirms the statement that Mathieson will control the sales from Paris. There is an extraordinary revival of the Indian demand for copper. Negotiations are in progress to prolong the contract between the mines and the syndicate for a period of twelve years.

PARIS, March 11.—Stocks were very weak before the opening. At 4 p. m. Societe des Metaux shares were qotued at 110 francs, Comptoir des Compte at 370, and Rio Tinto at 318 and 75 centimes.

The Senate's Short Session.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The senate met at 12, and without transacting any business, took a recess till 1:30 to await the presentation of nominations by the president. On reassembling the senate went into executive session on the president's nominations, and ten minutes later the doors were reopened and the senate adjourned.

In the executive session of the senate the nominations were referred to the appropriate committees, when formed. Some surprise was expressed at the failure to confirm Palmer's nomination at once, but a senator explained the rule of immediate confirmations, save of cabinet officers, was confined to senators. Palmer was not now a senator, and while every senator, it is said, wanted to vote for him it was deemed best not to depart from the rule.