NEW MINERAL COUNTRY.

A PART OF THE BELKNAP RESERVATION IN MONTANA OPENED.

Lucky Baldwin and Others Invest in the Mojave Region—Rubies in Arizona Pinacers—3,000 Men in the Puget Sound Cities Are Going to Alaska—A Woman's Find.

MONTANA.

BUTTE, March 16.—On last Saturday Surveyor-General Neil filed in the local Land Office at Helena a plat of the ceded portion of the Belknap Indian reservation, recently purchased from the Indians on account of the rich mineral deposits found therein. The act of filing the plat opens the ceded portion to prospectors, it being purchased under the act of June 10 of last year, which does not call for a Presidential proclamation. The ceded part contains 14,758 acres of land in Choteau county, comprising about half a township. It is on the summit of the Little Rocky Mountain range, and is said to contain much high grade ore. Many prospectors from all the mining camps of Montana are already on the ground.

One of the biggest mining suits ever started in this State was filed at Butte last week, it being the suit of the Boston and Montana Company against the Montana Ore Purchasing Company for $500,000, the value of ore which it is asserted the defendants have taken from the Pennsylvania mine, owned by the plaintiff. The complaint charges the defendant with entering the territory of the former by means of underground workings from the Rarus claim, which adjoins the Pennsylvania, and is owned by the defendant. It is asserted that 150,000 tons of ore have been extracted in this way, valued at $500,000.

The report of the coal discovery in the neighborhood of the Rees & Badger mine in the Upper Sixteen Mile region is confirmed. The vein is represented as being five or six feet in thickness, and pitches into the hill on an incline of about 40°.

It is reported on good authority that the Sand Coulee Coal Company has made an important strike on their new coal lands which they have been prospecting for some time past. The vein is reported as varying from six to twelve feet in thickness, and the quality to be first class.

Work is progressing on the gravel plant now being put in at Junction, five miles below Virginia City. The plant will be in operation by the 1st of April. With this plant it is proposed to work the ground adjacent to the German bar, which embraces all the diggings from Adobetown to the mouth of Alder Gulch. Placer miners generally are turning their attention to the mining of auriferous gravels by mechanical means. Ground that cannot be worked by old methods is yielding handsome profit when handled by modern mechanical methods.

The great success of the dredging plant in the old Bannock district will be continued this year. The Gold Dredging Company is getting into shape for an early start, and there will be a lot of work during the coming season.

An old prospector at Basin thinks he has at last found the south extension of the famous Katie lead. A large amount of money was sunk in prospecting the Speculator, a claim just east of the Katie, in hope of finding the extension of the lead. The present strike is on the Earl, which adjoins the Katie on the south. The ore is very rich in silver.

LOS ANGELES, March 13.—A strong company, containing Lucky Baldwin and other San Francisco capitalists, James N. Brazill, the Denver mining expert, and several San Joaquin valley men, has incorporated a group of fourteen mines seven miles northeast of Randsburg. These mines do not run quite as high as the Randsburg mines, but the ledges are heavier and all are rich enough to pay for milling. An assay from one of the group, the Red Cloud, yielded $56 per ton. Little has been done with the mines, but the new company will put a force of men at development work at once. It has also begun boring for water, and will put up a ten-stamp mill and a furnace to roast ores.

Lester, Town & Nicholson are down forty feet in the Shamrock, at Randsburg, and have a two-foot vein of good ore at the bottom.

Patrick Reddy of San Francisco has obtained as fee in a lawsuit an option on a one-fourth interest in the Olympus, Trilby, Rand, Singleton, Desert View, and Johannesburg mines at $45,000, and a one-fourth interest in the Triangle, Wedge, Yellow Aster, and Mariposa mines at $5,000 from F. L. Movers, and from Messrs. Rose, Singleton, and Burcham a one-half interest in their mines at $100,000.

The owners of the Bellwether mine, Amador county, are having trouble with their employees. In January the men were notified that at the end of the month they would have to take 100 shares of stock at 25 cents per share, and on pay day this was issued to them. A few days later the management decided the gift were laid off, and they soon found that Bellwether stock was eagerly hunting buyers at 10 cents per share. The employees are trying to compel the managers of the mine to pay the money and take back the stock. At the Alma mine the ledge has been prospected from the 1,000-foot level and found to be about 100 feet from the shaft. It yielded from $6 to $36. Cross-cutting has been commenced.

At the Gwin, Calaveras county, work is being prosecuted on the 1,200, 1,300, and 1,400 levels, and the forty stamps are kept busy.

Sinking and cross-cutting are progressing rapidly on the Steub property, near Diamond Springs, El Dorado county. This was formerly known as the Griffith Consolidated, and, although it was a good producer, was abandoned years ago at 150 feet depth. The Lookout mine, near Placerville, is working a large ore body with good results. In the Poverty Point section, Messrs. Henson, Burns, Carmichael, and Kell are running a tunnel and taking out rich ore.

The Penn Mining Company, Grass Valley, Nevada county, has declared a dividend of five cents per share. Mr. Epstein, one of the original owners of the Pittsburg mine, has now, by purchase of C. J. Bandman's stock, a controlling interest in the property, and proposes to pay off all claims against the company and resume work on an extensive scale. The Pittsburg in former years was one of the best mines in the district. It now has a good mill and hoisting plant, and 100 tons of ore on the dump.

At the Glen Consolidated gravel mine, Forest Hill Divide, Placer county, a well-defined channel has been developed which yields an average of over $5 per car. The gravel is coarse. The company owns 550 acres, covering 12,000 feet of the channel. The Hidden Treasure Company, at Centreville, now has everything in shape for extensive operations. An electric power plant is to be placed near the mouth of the tunnel in the east branch of El Dorado Cañon. The current will be transmitted to the Dam claim, three miles, and will be used to illuminate the mine and to furnish power for operating the blower, the forges, and running the cars.

Wingate & Alsby have struck a good ledge in the Slate Creek district, Plumas county. The Taylor Diggings hydraulic mine will soon be operated again. Last year a deep bed of hydraulic auriferous gravel was developed, and work will begin on this as soon as the water season opens. At Saw Pit preparatious are being made for a good deal of hydraulic mining this spring. Work is to begin on the Thistle shaft mine, Oroville, on April 1. The water is to be pumped out, if possible, at any expense, and if not, a mile tunnel will be run which will cost about $60,000.

A large deposit of a good quality of marble has been discovered on the desert about twelve miles from Victor, San Bernardino county. J. W. Smart is working a rich stringer in Cook's Cañon assaying $200 to the ton. O. G. Leach of the Black Hawk mining district has sold the Opera to R. F. Harrison and the Llewellyn Bros. of Los Angeles. Some Los Angeles men have taken hold of the old Driscoll mine in Dry Lake district, and are down seventy-five feet in good ore. The Valley Gold Company will resume operations in the spring under the management of W. E. Pedley. The Green Lead people have struck ore that runs from $15 to $20 per ton.

The Bonanza, in Grizzly Gulch, Lisklyon county, will soon be reopened. Some very rich ore was discovered in this mine last year. Messrs. Clute, Winsell & Neal have leased and are operating the Thompson placer mine on Hungry Creek. In the Alien mine, Quartz Valley, a good four-foot ledge that prospects well has been found on the 300-foot level. The Accident mine, Big Oak Flat, Tuolumne county, owned by the James Brothers, has been bonded for $8,000. A French company has taken hold of the Punch Bowl gravel mine, Table Mountain, which has lain idle for over a year, and will soon have it once more in full blast. At the Miller & Holmes mine, the large ore chute recently discovered is being blocked out so that stoping can be rapidly done as soon as the mill is erected. The California Consols, Limited, a Scotch company, has bought the Louisiana mine at Cherokee.

NEVADA.

VIRGINIA CITY, March 13.—The report of the State Comptroller shows that during 1896 there were worked over 90,000 tons of ore, which gave a gross yield of $3,857,841. Of this amount Lincoln county alone turned in over 41,000 tons, with a gross yield of $1,628,288.

About 200 quartz claims and 10,000 acres of placer ground have been located in the Metropolitan of Gold Creek, Elko county. The recently discovered mica mines, in the Rainy Mountains, crop out here and there through the crest of the mountains for a distance of sixty miles. The mica is said to be of the best quality.

On the Comstock it has been reported that ore has been found in the long west cross-drift that is being run by the Confidence, Challenge, and Consolidated Imperial, but nothing further has been heard of it. It is said by those who ought to know that there is plenty of good to high grade ore in this drift and further to the west, which can be shown up when the management so desires.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

DEADWOOD, S. D., March 14.—An expert from London is examining the Keystone mine at Keystone with a view to its purchase by a syndicate that now has an option. The mine is a large one, but has a milling capacity of only twenty stamps.

Ore from the Union Hill silver properties now runs from 100 to 110 ounces silver, 40 per cent. lead, and $20 gold to the ton. At one of the claims of the company a high grade of iron fluxing ore is being mined, and it also has about $22 in gold to the ton. The company is exploring with a diamond drill a vein of free-milling rock of considerable width that runs from $3.72 to $33 in gold. It can be mined and milled for not much over $1 a ton. The ore body is already shown to be 635 feet deep.

A large district north of Iron Creek and from Sheardish Cañon to Bear Gulch road is found to carry rich float and considerable development work is being done all over it. Several parallel fissure veins have been found running $15 to $216 per ton in gold. As soon as the snow goes work will begin all over the district, which has been christened Iron Creek camp. Several veins that have been uncovered to a depth of a few feet show a value of upward of $70 a ton, and outcrops assay up to $30. The ore is much like that in all the limestone districts of the Hills.

Placer grounds have been secured on Battle and Rosebud creeks by a new hydraulic company, and a dam is to be cut in on the divide, giving sufficient head for extensive operations.

Another fine shoot of rich ore has been discovered in the Penobscot mine at Garden City, and more than $50,000 is now in sight in the mine, much of the ore averaging $25 a ton.

A promising group of claims in Ragged Top has been sold to some Elkhorn railroad officials for $10,000. There is a vertical vein on the property. A five-foot vertical vein has been opened at Ragged Top running $101 to the ton.

NEW MEXICO.

SILVER CITY, March 16.—An option has been given on the copper mines belonging to the Santa Rita Copper and Iron Company at Santa Rita. There are forty of these mines, and it is reported that the price agreed upon is $1,500,000. The mines are in all stages of development, some of them having been worked but little, while others have been worked to a depth of several hundred feet. This is one of the oldest copper producing districts in the United States, the copper mines at Santa Rita having been worked more than a hundred years ago by convicts sent from various parts of Mexico. The copper was sent by pack train to the city of Mexico. The Santa Rita Company's property comprises what was believed some years ago to be practically all of the valuable copper mines in that part of Grant county, but many very valuable mines have been developed within half a dozen miles of Santa Rita within the past ten years. Ten days ago a new smelter of sixty tons daily capacity was blown in at Copper Flat, between this place and Santa Rita, which is being entirely supplied from mines which were unknown ten years ago. Abundant capital has been secured to operate and develop the copper mines in this district, and additional facilities will be provided for the reduction of ores as they may be required.

John Brockman of this city, who is interested in the Commonwealth Mining Company of Pearce, Ariz., has gone East to purchase the machinery for a low 100-ton mill to be erected at the company's mine. This mine was sold about a year ago for $300,000, and now the company is taking out $175,000 a month in ore, the most of which runs over $100 a ton.

Large shipments of lead ore continue from Cook's, in the southern part of this county. The ore is freighted sixteen miles from the mines to Florida station on the Atchison Railway, and is shipped to the smelter at El Paso, Tex., for reduction. More lead ore is mined in this district than in any other district in New Mexico, and almost as much as is mined in all other districts combined.

Negotiations are now pending for the sale of the Bell & Stephens mines and mill at Pinos Altos to a California company. The price asked for the property is $250,000. The owners refuse to give an option, lease, or bond on the property. Some of these mines have been producing gold for more than twenty years, and for some years past this group of mines has produced more gold than any other group of mines under one ownership in the territory.

The Steeple Rock Development Company is now employing about 250 men in its mines at Steeple Rock and Carlisle. Manager Tonz has just returned from a trip to London, where most of the stock of the company is held, and the erection of a mill will put the company in a position to turn out large quantities of gold bullion. The company proposes to crush not less than 1,000 tons of ore a day.

ARIZONA.

TUCSON, March 13.—This year promises to be prosperous for Cochise county, where copper mining promises to furnish employment to a large number of men, and mines which have been idle for years will be worked. More smelters will soon be in operation.

A discovery has been made in the Oro mine, Oro Blanco district. In cross-cutting a ledge of free milling gold rock was struck. The first assay was $12, and the highest $115. The ledge is strong, well-defined, high grade free milling.

The Boom mine south of Casa Grande is a gold producer, from which $10,000 worth was brought in yesterday. A large body of ore has been developed in the lower workings which averages $16 per ton. Twenty stamps are running night and day.

The group of gold mines above Clifton, owned by Mase, Greenlee, Tevis and others, has been bonded to a New York company. It is understood that the company pays $15,000 down and takes a working bond for six months. It intends to put a large force of men at work and to thoroughly develop the properties. A town site has been located, and a mill is to be erected.

Constable Porterie yesterday bought a lot of rubies from a Mexican who found them in the Placer Gulch side of Wickenburg. He has been finding them in the placers for the past three years. They range in size from a No. 6 shot to the size of a pea. They are a deep red color, unmarked by any other tint.

The gold claims recently discovered on the San Carlos Indian reservation are proving much richer than was expected. But little work can be done at present on account of the Apaches.

UTAH.

SALT LAKE CITY, March 15.—Messrs. John Dern, E. H. Airis, H. W. Brown, and G. S. Peyton, the original owners of the famous Mercur properties, have just purchased for $20,000 the controlling interest in the Wachusetts group in the Ophir district. It has been a producer of heavy silver bearing ores. It is the intention of the new owners to incorporate when developments have progressed further, and then erect a milling plant.

Negotiations are pending for the sale of the Ophir Hill mines and mill at Ophir to Eastern men. The present owner is Allen G. Campbell. The Ophir Hill is equipped with a concentrator, and has for many years been a regular producer of silver-lead ores.

Dividends thus far declared by Utah mining companies for this month aggregate $155,000, which will be greatly increased before the month is out. The companies are the Bullion Beck with $30,000, the Mercur with $25,000, the Centennial Eureka with $30,000, the Silver King with $37,500, the South Swansea with $7,500, and the Swansea with $5,000.

It now looks certain that before the spring months have passed the Camp Floyd, or Mercur, district, will have at least five new milling plants in course of erection or in operation.

WASHINGTON.

SEATTLE, March 13.—The Corona and Silver Belt mines, in Troublesome district, Snohomish county, have been incorporated. The property is developed by shaft and tunnel, the shaft being down twenty feet and the tunnel is in sixty-five feet on the vein, which shows a pay streak fully six feet wide, covering the entire face of the tunnel. A number of tests have given values of 1,000 ounces silver, $22.75 gold, and 20 per cent. copper, while working tests of the average run of the mine, made at Everett, returned $60. They are in ore from the mouth to the face of the tunnel, and anticipate making steady shipments.

The country bordering the Skagit River from Hamilton to Marble Mount, twenty miles, is being taken up as copper claims, and considerable development work is in progress.

The capacity of the Everett smelter is being increased so that it will be able to handle from 300 to 400 tons daily. At present it is obtaining 1,000 tons of ore per month from the Le Roi, and the mines of Monte Cristo are arranging to supply 100 tons a day.

The increasing requirements of the smelting plants have also created an increased demand for coke, and more ovens are to be constructed at Wilkeson and Jennings, which are at present furnishing this necessary fuel. The former is in Pierce and the latter is in Skagit county. Thus one new industry is materially aiding another.

ALASKA.

SEATTLE, March 13.—The steamer sailing yesterday from this port for Alaska took 147 passengers, nearly all of whom were bound for the Yukon. They will be landed at Dyea, from which point they will start overland to the chain of lakes and streams leading to their point of destination. The regular steamers are already engaged ahead and extra boats are being put on both lines to accommodate the rush. On Monday another steamer will sail, and doubts are expressed of the ability of the company to accommodate the 3,000 men who have enrolled their names in Seattle and other Puget Sound cities as intending gold seekers.

On Feb. 25 three men and their teams of dogs arrived at Dyea, thirty days out from the Korndyke diggings. This is the fastest time on record, being an average of over thirty miles a day, and was accomplished by reason of feeding the animals four pounds of food a day and keeping their feet well protected by fur and leather boots. They confirm all the reports of rich discoveries on Klondyke and tributary rivers, and anticipate the most prosperous season since the discovery of gold on the Yukon.

At Kitchisan a Portland lady named Cook, while out gathering moss last fall, uncovered a nine free gold ledge ten feet wide, which is now known as the Suzeman Queen.

On Graving Island a fine ledge carrying native copper has been found and traced for 3,000 feet.

The average yield of the Treadwell ore for the past month was $2.90 per ton. Twenty-one thousand tons were crushed.

The net profits of the Alaska-Mexican mill and mine last month were $13,881.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SEATTLE, March 13.—Experts representing Butte, Mont., copper companies are now making examination of a large copper deposit near Vancouver Bay with a view of purchasing and placing a large coppe. reduction plant on the property. There are five claims, known as the Mineral Mountain group, on a ledge from 20 to 100 feet in width and traceable through the entire group. The ore is chalcopyrite, carrying gold, copper, and silver values of from $30 to $40. The elevation above sea level is over 1,000 feet, while the distance from tidewater is less than a quarter of a mile. A slide along the mountain side shows a continuous ore body for nearly a quarter of a mile.

Since the location of the big smelting and reduction works of the English syndicate at Vancouver, the headquarters of many of the principal mining companies of the province are being located in that place, which is now assuming the character of a mining outfitting centre.

The success attending the treatment of the low grade ores of the Le Roi under the milling process bids fair to work a revolution in Trail Creek and Rossland. Hitherto $8 and $10 ores were not considered worthy of attention, but it is now discovered that by ordinary milling process they can be easily and economically worked. During the past week the shipments of first-class ore from this mine were 974 tons, of which 588 tons went to the Trail smelter on the Columbia.

The O. K. mill is making an excellent record, having been run steadily since the middle of January, crushing about 1,000 tons of ore. The greater portion was high grade gold ore.

The shipments of ore from Rossland for the past week were 1,088 tons. Since January the total footing up 10,300 tons.

The Silver Bow in Trail district is operating two steam drills, and has attained a depth of seventy-five feet in the main shaft. At a depth of 100 feet it is proposed to run levels and drift on the vein.

The Morning Star, which has a ledge 100 feet wide, and a shaft down to the depth of 100 feet in ore, is having trouble with surplus water. The last shot put in disclosed solid sulphides averaging $30 in silver and gold, with 8 per cent. copper.

The tramway at the Le Roi has supplanted the scores of teams hitherto employed in carrying ore from the mine to the railroad, and the company is now able to handle 500 tons daily.

In Boundary district, on the properties of the Anchor Company, a ledge of nickel and cobalt 12 feet wide has been discovered, and a tunnel is now being driven on it. The ore assays $85.

The Orphan Boy, in the Big Bend country, is sending out some exceedingly rich ore, assays made at Vancouver going $1,348 in gold. No shipments have yet been made.

It is estimated that the Carlton has enough ore in its 1,300 feet of tunnels, drifts and levels to keep its ten-stamp mill employed for the next two years.

IDAHO.

IDAHO CITY, March 8.—The company holding an option on the Gold Dollar mine, between Placerville and Garden Valley, is running a tunnel to tap it at a depth of 350 or 400 feet. At the surface the vein is large. It is almost certain that a sale will be made. The bond is for $50,000.

The company holding an option on the old Lawyer mine, near Quartzburg, has shipped a twenty-stamp mill from San Francisco. It will soon be on the ground, when it will be taken to the mine as soon as the roads are in good condition for wagons.

The Big I quartz mine, at De Lamar, Owyhee county, has turned out considerable very rich ore this year, and is in condition to become a very important producer during the coming summer.

Snow is still falling in the mountains, and a long placer mining season is expected.

A bill for taxing the output of mines was defeated in the Idaho Legislature a few days ago.

The shaft is now down 300 feet on the Morning Star at Silver City. Two drifts are now running from the bottom of the shaft, the one going east 240 feet long, while the other has been run sixty feet. It is proposed to open up the mine for rapid working. A hoist has been ordered for the Poorman, three miles from Silver City.

A company was incorporated at Salt Lake a few days ago with a capital stock of $100,000 for the purpose of working mica mines in Latah county, northern Idaho.

MEXICO.

CHIHUAHUA, Mexico, March 15.—The rich La Bufa mines, near Batopilas, have just been purchased by James W. Taylor of Texas and Charles D. Lane of California. The mines are rich producers of gold, and the new owners will work them on an extensive scale.

A number of gold discoveries have been made in the State of Guerrero recently, and many American prospectors are flocking into the sections where the discoveries were made. A company of Americans who have been engaged in mining in different parts of Mexico has been organized with a paid-up capital of $25,000 gold to prospect and develop gold mines in Guerrero.

Some time ago G. R. Harms, President of the local water and gas company of Newport, Kentucky, purchased a group of undeveloped gold mines in the State of Sonora for a low sum. He began the work of sinking a shaft on one of the properties, and at a depth of 350 feet a rich vein of gold was struck. It is fourteen feet wide. Mr. Harms has purchased a large amount of mining machinery in the United States.

The Santo Domingo mine in the Santa Eulalia district, this state, is producing more than 100 cart loads of ore daily from the 1,000 and 1,100-foot levels. In the lower level it has encountered a vein of almost pure silver which runs $1,600 per ton.

THIEF HUNT IN WARREN STREET.

Smith Lost His Booty in His Flight—Chased Into the Arms of a Policeman.

Frederick Heineman, a driver for Rogers, Peet & Co., drove up to an office building at Warren street on Saturday afternoon, and left his wagon standing at the curb while he went upstairs to deliver some goods. While he was gone a poorly dressed man strode up to the wagon, opened the rear door and helped himself to a bundle containing a suit of clothes. Heineman came out of the building just in time to see the thief disappearing around the corner of Broadway.

With a cry of "Stop thief!" he gave chase. The thief, instead of running ahead, turned around as Heineman reached the corner and punched the driver in the stomach as he passed. Then the man ran down Warren street as fast as his legs would carry him. Heineman gave chase, followed by a hundred men and boys, all of whom were shouting "Police!" at the top of their lungs. The thief hung on to the bundle as he ran, but the strap broke as he turned West Broadway, and on the next block the trousers, coat and vest fell out in rapid succession. At West street Policeman Stevens of the Church street station, who had joined in the chase, caught the thief. Heineman collected the suit of clothes and the whole party went to the station house, where the stranger gave his name as John Smith, said he was 36 years old and had no home. In the Centre Street Police Court yesterday he was held for trial.

BROOKLYN WATER SUPPLY.

City Works Commissioner Willis' Sees the Danger of a Water Famine.

The Brooklyn authorities fully realize the urgent necessity of increasing the water supply, and the various schemes for extending it will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. City Works Commissioner Theodore B. Willis evidently regards the water problem as of prime importance. He said:

"Our available supply exceeds our consumption by a very small margin, which we are straining every effort to increase. We have begun construction on two deep well stations at the most favorable sites, so far discovered by our experiments. We need, however, the proposed new conduit, increased pumping power at Millburn, and additional reservoir capacity, failing which we may shortly fear the much-feared water famine. Even allowing for the full development of our watershed as proposed, we should not rely on the present sources of supply beyond the year 1900.

TRUCK DRIVERS' SCRAP.

Healey Was Better with His Tongue, but Wood Excelled with His Fists.

While George Wood, a truck driver, was driving east on Duane street on Saturday afternoon, Thomas Healey, also a truck driver, pursued his way in an opposite direction on the same thoroughfare. At Park row they collided, and, according to the ancient and honorable custom of drivers, said things to one another. As an orator Healey excelled, so Wood had to even up things in some other way. He climbed on Healey's truck and thumped him several times. Then a policeman came along and arrested him.

Yesterday morning, in the Centre Street Court, Wood declared that the language Healey addressed to him was such as no gentleman could listen to without action. He didn't swear himself, he said, a statement which almost made the policeman who arrested him faint away. Wood was held in $500 bail for trial on a charge of assault.

The Old-Time Fourth of July.

Registrar of Arrears Henry A. Powell of Brooklyn addressed the Brooklyn Philosophical Association at the Long Island Business College yesterday afternoon on "Political Dangers." Among other things he deplored the death of the spread-eagleism of the old-time Fourth of July, and the fact that the present generation was afraid of firecrackers, and went out of town to escape the noise.

THE ST. NAZAIRE SURVIVORS

CAPT. HUGEMANN EXPLAINS THE YANARIVA'S SIGNALS.

It Was Cloudy When the Kaiser Wilhelm Spoke the Tramp and There Was Doubt as to the First Flag—Convinced Now of Its Meaning—Tejada Seriously Ill, Others Doing Well.

Capt. Diederich Hugemann of the North German Lloyd steamship Kaiser Wilhelm, which spoke the British tramp steamer Yanariva while en route to this port on Wednesday last, says that in his mind there is no doubt as to the interpretation of the Yanariva's signals, to the effect that she had on board sixteen survivors of the French steamer Ville de St. Nazaire. The Kaiser Wilhelm arrived at her dock in Hoboken on Saturday afternoon. She left Gibraltar on March 11.

"When we sighted the Yanariva," said Capt. Hugemann yesterday, "it was about 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon of March 17. We were about half way between the Azores and this port. The Yanariva was steering east by northeast and we were heading west. I should judge there was over a mile distance between us. The weather was cloudy and stormy and a stiff westerly wind was blowing.

"While we were watching the vessel we observed four flag signals wave from the aftermast. The flags signified the letters 'N M L P,' which were interpreted to mean the ship's name, 'Yanariva of Glasgow.' Next there appeared a succession of signals in the foremast. Owing to the cloudiness of the weather we could not see them distinctly. The first signal we saw in the foremast we made out to be 'J S L.' Now this is the signal that we think we got wrong. According to the international code the signal 'J S L' would mean 'top-gallant sail.' This, of course, when we had taken all the signals, did not make sense, and we knew that we must have taken it wrong. The signal flag 'J' is colored blue and white, the same as flag 'P,' only the colors are arranged differently. On one the colors are in stripes the full length of the flag, and on the other there is a square of white in the middle and blue on the margin.

"After making a second calculation we concluded that the signal was 'P S L,' and meant 'I have.' The signals which followed were 'W H G,' 'G N Q,' 'B R S P,' and 'U C V,' meaning respectively '16,' 'city,' 'St. Nazaire,' and 'French.' When we put the signals together we interpreted the following: 'I have sixteen City St. Nazaire French.'"

Capt. Hugemann says he is positive that the latter conclusion as to the meaning of the signals is correct, as otherwise they would not make sense.

When the news brought by the Kaiser Wilhelm reached the offices of the French line in Bowling Green it was immediately repeated to the general offices of the company on the other side. As a result of the repetition of the news, telegrams asking for further particulars poured into the French line's offices yesterday from relatives in France of the officers and crew of the lost vessel.

Relatives and friends in this city of the four missing and unaccounted for passengers called at the offices on the same inquiry. Who had been picked up and what was their physical condition—were they still sane or were they maniacs—was what the inquirers wanted to know.

Of course, no satisfactory answer could be given to any of these inquiries. It may be inferred, however, that the Yanariva's survivors were not in so pitiable a condition when they were picked up as were those picked up by the schooner Hilda. The Yanariva sailed from Newport News about sixty hours after the St. Nazaire was lost. She must have picked them up soon afterward in order to have reported the fact to the Kaiser Wilhelm. The probability is that they had been in their boat or boats less than ninety-one hours. In that event those picked up had not been drifting, by two or three days, as long as those picked up by the Hilda. Then, too, none of the other boats that left the St. Nazaire was as large as the one from which the survivors now in Hoboken came from, so they probably had a larger proportionate supply of water. Lack of water was the severest privation of Capt. Berri and his companions, and to the lack of it was due the fact that so many of the thirty-seven in the long boat delirious or mad and jumped overboard. A circumstance that gives additional hope for the condition of those picked up by the Yanariva is that they probably had passed out of the gale and into the Gulf Stream, which made them suffer less from cold.

All the survivors of the wreck in this city were reported to be on the high road to recovery, except young Tejada, whose condition is really serious. He is the only one of the survivors to whom it has been thought necessary, at the time, to administer an opiate. Chloral has been given him frequently. He is kept alive with fruit—grapes and oranges—champagne and a little milk. He complains of thirst constantly, and yesterday morning he told his nurse that he would like to have a pipe, with water running through it, in his mouth all the time. He is delirious a good part of the time and then he talks of the wreck. He imagines that he is in the open boat, and calling to his wife and children. He tells them that he has given them his topcoat and undercoat and waistcoat and, knowing that they are fast freezing to death, in spite of all he can do for them, he moans because he has nothing left with which he can put around them. When he is not delirious, Tejada never speaks of the wreck. He not only lost his wife and children, but his books and all the instruments with which he practised his profession, that of a civil engineer.

Yesterday Capt. Berri talked to his physician, Dr. de Plasse, for the first time about the wreck. He said that when he lost his reason, as he did at times in the boat, he imagined that he was at a highly social function, given and attended by royalty. He thought he was constantly being introduced to kings and queens and princes and dukes, and that he seemed to be an object of their especial favor. Then, suddenly, his pleasure would seem to be interrupted by some of his companions, who would cry out:

"Captain! Captain! We're steering the wrong way! Don't you see those villages and the lights along shore. There's where we ought to steer."

The curious thing about his delirium was that Capt. Berri says he realized, in a way, that he was irrational and he exerted all his power, or seemed to, to recall his reason.

THE SEABOARD AIR LINE.

Attitude of President Hoffman as Shown in a Recent Correspondence.

The papers filed in the recent hearing before Judge Hughes of the United States Court in Virginia, on the application to make permanent the injunction granted by him last autumn restraining the Seaboard Air Line from carrying its rate-cutting policy further, reveal a correspondence not heretofore published. This correspondence followed an effort of President Fink of the Norfolk and Western to reconcile the differences between the Seaboard Air Line and the Southern Railway, growing out of the establishment by the latter of a line of steamers from Norfolk to Baltimore.

Mr. Fink submitted to President Spencer of the Southern and President Hoffman of the Seaboard a memorandum for an agreement which gave to the Baltimore Steam Packet Company, controlled by the Seaboard, the right to establish the rates on passenger and freight traffic between Baltimore and points in Norfolk territory, binding the Southern to strictly maintain such rates. The revenue from this business was to be divided between the two companies by agreement, or in the event of failure to agree by the award of arbitrators. The Southern was to refrain from publishing through rates between Baltimore and points on the Norfolk and Western east of Bristol and to charge local rates on such business as war offered to its line. The Seaboard was to refrain from doing business between Baltimore and Richmond and to charge local rates on such business when offered.

President Thomas of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis joined Mr. Fink in urging the acceptance of this agreement for a settlement by both parties. Mr. Spencer, for the Southern Railway, expressed his approval stipulating only that the agreement should be for a term of years, with provision for readjustment of business, and that there should be an agreement as to cooperation between all rail lines south of Portsmouth.

A meeting was held at the Waldorf Hotel, in this city, on Dec. 29 last between Mr. Spencer and Mr. Hoffman and his general manager, Mr. St. John, at which Messrs. Fink and Thomas were present. The whole subject was thoroughly discussed, and Mr. Hoffman said that he would make known his decision later. He subsequently wrote to Messrs. Thomas and Fink that as the local traffic between Baltimore and Norfolk points had always been conceded to the Baltimore Steam Packet Company he would make no agreement that did not include a provision for the withdrawal of the boats of the Southern Railway from this business. He demanded that the Southern Railway's boats should pay over to his line all revenue derived from such business carried by them. He further refused to submit to arbitration, alleging that no arbitration could be had that would not result in injustice.

Messrs. Thomas and Fink then wrote a joint letter to Mr. Hoffman, telling him that the Southern Railway could not accept his proposal without giving its sanction to a novel rule for the conduct of competitive traffic—that is, that when the volume of traffic at any point of competition is too small to admit of division, then the whole business must be conceded to the oldest line, and that the revenue derived by another line must be paid over to the old line. They asked Mr. Hoffman if he would consent to have this rule applied to the traffic of Atlanta, which the Seaboard secures through its new line, the Georgia, Carolina and Northern.

In their final letter to Mr. Hoffman, Messrs. Thomas and Fink express their regret at his refusal either to restore rates or submit to arbitration. They tell him that no method of settling differences between transportation lines other than arbitration is known to them, and that, sooner or later, he will be obliged to submit to arbitration.

The arguments before Judge Hughes on the injunction were concluded on March 12, but his decision has not been rendered.

A FUGITIVE'S COAT THIEF.

It Took Two Policemen and Three Ordinary Men, Including the Victim, to Capture Foster.

While Horace Jones, a commission merchant, was sitting in his office, on the fourth floor of the building at 29 Liberty street, on Saturday afternoon, the door suddenly opened and a well-dressed young man, who was whistling merrily, walked in, took Mr. Jones's coat from a hook on the wall, and went out again, shutting the door behind him.

"Hi there! where are you going with that coat?" shouted Mr. Jones, rising from his chair.

There was no response. Mr. Jones ran to the door, opened it, and looked down the hall. Just at the head of the stairs stood the stranger, the coat over his arm.

"Come back with that coat, you infernal scoundrel," yelled Mr. Jones.

The stranger kissed his hand to Mr. Jones and started down the stairs two at a time.

"Catch that man! Get downstairs ahead of him!" yelled Mr. Jones to the elevator man, whose car had just stopped at the fourth floor. The thief had but one floor to go, but the elevator man put on full steam and got down first. He grabbed the stranger at the foot of the stairs and the stranger knocked him down. The hallman met a similar fate when he interfered, and Mr. Jones got a punch in the chest that made his teeth rattle when he piled on. It took two policemen, the elevator man, the hallman, and Mr. Jones to subdue the thief, and they didn't do it until they had dragged him around the hall for several minutes and thumped him from all sides. When Mr. Jones rescued his coat he found another coat, evidently a stolen one, too, inside of it. This now awaits an owner at the Church street station house.

The prisoner gave the name as George Foster; said he was 27 years old, and had no home. He insisted that an error had been made, that he was an employee of French & Co., who have an office in the Liberty street building, and that he had entered Mr. Jones's office by mistake. He argued the sergeant into sending a policeman around to French & Co.'s office. They didn't know the man there, so he was taken back to the station and locked up. At the Centre Street Court yesterday he was held for trial.

DIED OF A BROKEN HEART.

Mrs. Riedel's Unusual Taking Off Not Due to a Romantic Cause.

Coroner's Physician Donlin made a report yesterday in regard to the death of a woman whose heart burst open. "I have heard of people dying of a broken heart," he said, "but this is the only case on record to my knowledge where a heart has actually burst open."

Mrs. Mina Riedel died on Thursday at her home at 1976 Second avenue. She had been attended by Dr. Martin Burke of 147 Lexington avenue, but as he had not seen her recently enough to give a death certificate Dr. Donlin made the usual formal examination. Finding nothing suspicious, he made out a death certificate from the history of the case, giving gastroenteritis as the cause of death.

Coroner Fitzpatrick received an anonymous letter on Saturday, setting forth that Mrs. Riedel had been poisoned. He had Dr. Donlin make an autopsy. The latter then discovered the ruptured heart. There was no evidence, however, of poison or violence.

Mrs. Riedel was 66 years old. Four years ago she spent eight months in an insane asylum. She was pronounced cured, but her husband and other members of the family concluded that they could care for her better at home.

Lately Mrs. Riedel fancied that she had $1,500 in a bank, and that some one was trying to poison her for her money. She refused to eat anything that she had not cooked herself, and finally took very little food at all.

Dr. Donlin is puzzled as to what caused the rupture of the heart, but thinks it possible that a disordered condition of the stomach resulted in retching, which produced the rupture. The heart was already in a diseased condition. The rupture is a large one.

"MR. FITZ" SEEMS HAPPY.

Aquarium Life Easier than Filibustering About the Southwest Spit.

"Bob Fitzsimmons," the big lobster who transferred his permanent address from Sandy Hook to the Aquarium last week, held his first big reception yesterday. Seventeen thousand two hundred and thirty persons looked the big fellow over in the six hours preceding sundown. The largest number of visitors for any one day previous to yesterday was 14,200. The record was broken by over 3,000, but, owing to the perfect system of handling the big crowds, there was no crowding or confusion.

The centre of interest, "Mr. Fitz," seems to take kindly to captivity. He is getting old now, and perhaps finds it easier to have nice fresh food brought to him with a spoon than dislodge snail and eel than to go filibustering about the Southwest Spit or the West Bank for his breakfast and dinner.

"Fitzsimmons" is not so pugnacious as his hard-fisted namesake, but Prof. Spencer and Dr. Bean say that the right claw of the lobster resembles more than anything else an eight-ounce boxing glove. None of the feather-weight lobsters in the tank with "Fitzsimmons" has suffered by contact with the champion. He tumbles them about a bit with his huge claws, but does not interfere in their quarrels, which are frequent and occur usually when the attendants feed them. Prof. Spencer says that "Fitzsimmons" is an intelligent lobster and declares that he knows enough to know the man who feeds him. He waved his big "feelers" and blinked perceptibly when a half pound of cod was offered him yesterday, and made frantic efforts to get through the glass side of his tank when a spring bonnet covered with grasses and hummingbirds was placed near it.

COCK FIGHTERS ARRESTED.

Twenty-three Live Cocks and Six Dead Ones Found by the Raiders.

President George M. McCarthy of the Hudson County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, assisted by four special officers of the society and two policemen, made a raid at 3 o'clock yesterday morning on a cock fight which was in progress in a shanty at the rear of William Flohr's saloon at 650 Newark street, Hoboken. There were over seventy men watching the fight when the officers closed in upon them.

William Flohr and his two sons, William, Jr., and George, who, it was said, were managing the fight, were arrested with seven others. The men were locked up at Police Headquarters and he was arraigned for examination before Recorder McDonough this morning. In the shanty were found twenty-three live cocks and six dead ones.

Actor Arrested for Forgery.

Frederick A. Leggett, an actor in Julia Marlowe's company, was arrested after the matinée Saturday afternoon by Detective Charles Rink of the East Twenty-second street station. John Azzimonti, a costumer, at 52 Union Square, charged Leggett with