LEXOW WORK LET UP.

Not So Much Interest Taken in the Tacoma Investigation.

BUT MUCH GOOD WAS DONE.

Port Townsend's Woman Smuggler Out on Bonds—Jefferson County Finances—A Murder Confessed.

Tacoma, Nov. 24.—Special.—The Lexow committee of the Taxpayers' League and Chamber of Commerce isn't doing much these days. The committee held several meetings last week, but of late has not been as regular and persistent in its investigations as formerly. Often the investigators go home from business without stopping at the chamber to ascertain if there is to be a meeting in the evening, and it is not always possible to get a quorum together.

An effort was made yesterday to find out when the committee would turn in a report, but in vain. When the investigation began the Post-Intelligencer correspondent was informed that at some regular meeting of the chamber a full report would be made and that it would be a marker. This was several weeks ago. It was understood that the committee, of which Mr. Roys is chairman, started out to investigate municipal affairs. Many other matters have been dragged into the investigation, among them the water deal, the wrecking of the Bank of Tacoma, the failure of the Columbia National and German-American banks, as well as the affairs of several private citizens. That the committee has accomplished much good there can be no question. Several arrests of prominent officials have been made, and public affairs in both the municipality and county are being put in a better condition. Such interest has been aroused that official malefactors will be scarcer for some time to come, and those who assume office hereafter will likely hew close to the line.

Among other results of the committee's work, if all one hears be true, is the incubation of several healthy booms for the mayoralty, and it is more than probable that the Taxpayers' League and perhaps the Chamber of Commerce will have one if not more, probably more, candidates for mayor at next spring's election. It would not, perhaps, be fair to mention any who are talked of as likely to receive the support of these bodies, but almost any of the gentlemen who have been prominent in the investigation is regarded as willing to have the lightning of public or party favor strike him. Two prominent members of the committee have always had a seat in the conventions of the Republican party, and the names of two others have been mentioned as good meh for the office of mayor in campaigns gone by. Two members of the committee also held office under the last Democratic administration of the county government, and presumably could be urged to try again.

All the members of the committee refuse to talk about the testimony they heard, and none will even guess when the public will be put in possession of the facts they learned, if ever.

THE WILES OF WOMAN.

An Oregon Rancher After a Wife Sees Things in San Francisco.

San Francisco, Nov. 24.—Howell Jackson is an Oregon rancher who arrived in the city a week ago in search of a wife. He is now being held a prisoner at the city prison because the police wish to make sure that he will be at hand when the time comes for him to testify against Emma Cleverly, who cleverly robbed him of $40 while discussing the advantages of life on a ranch. This is Mr. Jackson's second visit to the metropolis. Seven years ago he came down from the wilds to see the sights, and was promptly "touched" for his entire capital. This time he decided to pursue a different plan. He sold a band of horses, and with the proceeds in his pocket proceeded to carry out his idea. Arriving in the city he secured a room at No. 5 Mason street and inserted the following advertisement in a morning paper: "Personal—A prosperous rancher would like to meet a respectable young lady; object, matrimony."

During the course of a few days he received many callers, among them Emma Cleverly. She made a hit at once, and was told to return in the evening and perfect arrangements for the ceremony that would give her a one-half interest in 130 acres of land, ninety acres of it being in cultivation, near Klamath Falls. Then Jackson closed his door and hung out a sign that would indicate to callers that the prize had been won. Promptly at the appointed hour Emma returned, and in her own artless manner discovered that her intended husband's trousers pocket contained two $20 pieces, the key to the back door of his Oregon home, and a jackknife with a horn handle. She kindly allowed him to keep the knife and key. As time wore on Emma declared that her mother would be getting anxious because of her prolonged absence, so prepared to depart. At that moment a vision of his experience in the distant past caused Jackson to feel for his money. It was gone, and so was Emma. He chased her down the street, and after sprinting the best part of two blocks, succeeded, with the aid of a policeman, in catching her. She was locked up on a charge of grand larceny, and her victim was also detained in order to make sure he would be present when his testimony was needed.

A DREAM OF EMPIRE.

J. McGraith, of Walla Walla, Owns the Northwest—In His Mind.

San Francisco, Nov. 24.—J. McGraith, who lives at Walla Walla, Wash., has written a sensational letter to Attorney A. H. Ricketts. He writes Ricketts asking him to become his lawyer in land litigation he has in view. His prospective client claims all the land in Washington, Oregon, Montana and Idaho, and disputes with the English government the ownership of British Columbia. At great length McGraith asserts that all the mineral and agricultural lands of the Northwest, together with all rivers and harbors, are his by deeds direct from the Indians. Years ago he claims that his uncle, McGraith by name, paid the Indians $25,000,000 for the Northwest country, and got a title as large as a blanket when he paid over the money. This uncle, he says, died several years ago, leaving him all of his property. He insists that the will was probated in the San Francisco courts five or six years ago. Among his deeds and documents he finds some that he thinks give him a good claim for all the land in British Columbia. He therefore wants Ricketts to at once begin proceedings in the courts to set aside England's title and have his claim properly set forth. Should the United States object to his title in the Northwest, he wants Ricketts to legally knock out its pretensions. Mr. Ricketts has informed McGraith that in his humble way he is sure he could not handle the case in a manner that would meet his rosy expectations about the great properties.

MR. REEVES' BRILLIANT PLAN.

He Would Sink Hostile Warships by a Submarine Magnet—Cruel!

Tacoma, Nov. 21.—Special.—A brand new idea in the way of coast defenses for Puget sound and which is expected to work a revolution in naval warfare was sprung a day or two ago in this city. It emanated from the mind of Charles S. Reeves, and its value and practicability are vouched for by no less authorities in such matters than Senator Watson C. Squire and General Manager Dickinson, of the Northern Pacific. Mr. Reeves' idea was not the result of spontaneous inspiration, but had been slumbering among the recesses of his brain for some time.

Briefly detailed, Mr. Reeves' plan whereby the Sound can be completely protected from the invasion of foreign fleets is as follows: At the entrance to Puget sound, or at the most advantageous point near Port Townsend, a steel cable is to be laid across from shore to shore, having attached to it a cast-iron magnet, sixty feet square, wound with the requisite thickness of insulated wire. The magnet would be placed below the water, and in the track of incoming ships. To the ends of the cable would be attached electric dynamos of large capacity, and through wires connected to the magnet a powerful current would be conveyed, making the huge instrument an attraction to steel warships passing over it that could not be resisted. In other words, the scheme would be to draw the invading fleet, vessel by vessel, below the waters of the Sound, electrocuting the officers and crew and making the valuable armament the property of Uncle Sam.

Mr. Reeves accompanied General Manager Dickinson on his recent trip East, and it was on their return that he disclosed his idea to Mr. Dickinson. When they arrived in the city Mr. Reeves met Senator Squire, who was here to talk over coast defenses and other matters with the business men of Tacoma. Mr. Squire was acquainted with the scheme, and instantly gave it his enthusiastic approval.

In conversation today Mr. Dickinson said he did not see any reason why the plan was not feasible. A warship laden with coal, steel armament and the like, with a displacement of 8,000 tons, and the exertion of an attraction from below equal to 1,000 tons, would sink her.

Senator Squire has intimated that he would place the matter before the navy department during the session of congress this winter.

CANVASSING FOR THE INTEREST.

The Water Jobbers Refuse to Subscribe and Save Tacoma's Credit.

Tacoma, Nov. 24.—Special.—Nine subcommittees, of two members each, of the committee delegated to raise the money to pay the $32,000 interest due December 1 are canvassing the city. The main committee of fifteen members started out to get $200 from each of 150 men, a total of $30,000. What part of the amount has been raised cannot be learned yet, as the committee is not ready to report. It is stated, however, that fair progress is being made, and that the money will all be subscribed in good time. The committeemen say that the interest will be met promptly when due.

Some members of the committee feel that they have a slight kick coming. One of these said the other day that he was emphatically opposed to the purchase of the water plant from the old company at the time of the election. "Now," he said, "I am out rustling to raise this money to pay the interest on the water bonds, and the very fellows who carried the deal through won't put up a bean. Isn't that rather exasperating?"

SHOT WHILE DUCK HUNTIMG.

A Tacoma Man Probably Fatally Injured, Accidentally.

Tacoma, Nov. 24.—William J. Fisher, of the dry goods firm of Sanford, Stone & Fisher, was accidentally shot in the left leg by Frederick D. Burzer, a sawmill man, while they were hunting ducks on the tide flats this afternoon. The bones of the leg were shot away and the arteries cut, causing a large loss of blood. The hemorrhage was so great that when he was brought to the hospital he was in too weak a condition to permit of amputation, which the doctors say is necessary. He will probably die. Late tonight a notary was sent for that he might make his will. Mr. Fisher is 37 years old and came here from Nauvoo, Ill., where he was engaged in the dry goods business.

Jefferson County's Finances.

Port Townsend, Nov. 24.—Special.—County Auditor Brooks still refuses to issue any general fund warants, and there has been no attempt made by any person having a claim against the county to compel the auditor to issue a warant. In the superior court department Judge Ballinger has taken a decided stand in favor of the payment of current expenses out of current revenues, jurors and witnesses in his court having presented an order from the clerk on which the auditor issues special warrants, payable out of the current revenues for 1895. The commissioners have thus far taken no action in regard to the warrant problem, but it will be necessary to do something at the coming session, as it will be impossible to purchase anything for the county under the present system. It is rumored that the salary fund law may be attacked, it being claimed by certain friends of the commissioners that this law can be practically killed if proper action is taken in the courts. There is a general demand throughout this county for a reduction of expenses to the lowest possible limit, and then adopt the plan indicated by Judge Ballinger's action.

A Murder Partly Confessed.

Albany, Or., Nov. 24.—All doubt as to the guilt of Lloyd Montgomery, the 13-year-old boy accused of murdering his father and mother and D. R. McKercher near Brownsville, was removed this afternoon when he made a partial confession to Sheriff McFeron. The prisoner was sharply questioned by the sheriff yesterday, and this evening, when the officer told him he might as well tell the truth about the murder, the prisoner began crying and said: "Come inside and I will tell you all about it." The sheriff went into the cell and young Montgomery said: "I killed McKercher after he had killed father and mother. He had shot them both down and shot once at me, when I seized the gun and shot him. Then I ran away from the house."

The prisoner declared that he did not kill his father and mother. He told the same story to his attorney and others present with him this evening. The officers feel sure of his guilt now and express the belief that he will make a full confession.

Woman Smuggler Out on Bonds.

Port Townsend, Nov. 24.—Special.—Mrs. Morrison, arrested here yesterday on a charge of attempting to smuggle opium into the United States, was released on bonds furnished within half an hour after she was put in charge of an officer. Her bondsman is James Delgardno, a pioneer, who has known the woman for many years. He believes, as do the customs officials, that this is her first attempt at smuggling, although it is thought that she has been looking into the matter for some time, making frequent trips to and from Victoria for that purpose. She has been in straitened circumstances, and claims that she was induced to bring over ten pounds of opium, with a prospect of making only $1 a pound on the transaction. The customs officials claim to know that this is the first lot of opium the woman has handled, and her demeanor since being arrested would indicate that she is a novice at the business.

The Whatcom Bank Failure.

Whatcom, Nov. 24.—Special.—The capital stock of the suspended Puget Sound Loan, Trust and Banking Company is nominally $125,000, but a considerable portion of it was never paid up, except in notes which now have little or no value. The largest and most responsible bona fide stockholder is Erastus Bartlett, of San Francisco. Among the paper stockholders are two or more of the directors of the suspended Bellingham Bay National. A large part of the bills receivable for $102,000 are admittedly of little or no value and the real estate and mortgages listed at $73,000 could be disposed of now only at a very heavy sacrifice. The suspension, however, will not materially increase the stringency here, as the deposits were small and the obligations are mostly upon extensions upon old claims and for money borrowed to reopen after the suspension in July, 1893.

Receiver Sawtelle's Successor.

Port Townsend, Nov. 24.—Special.—A successor to M. A. Sawtelle, deceased, as receiver of the Port Townsend National bank, has not yet been appointed, and Examiner Lynch is still in charge of the trust. The names of Mayor Rogers, Attorney Jennings, Senator Conover and J. N. Scott are among those now before the comptroller, although neither Senator Conover nor Judge Scott, both Republicans, know of any application sent in for them. It is believed here that either Rogers or Jennings will be appointed soon, as the comptroller had instructed Mr. Sawtelle shortly before he died to lose no time in closing up the bank's affairs, and the creditors are now asking for the appointment of one or the other of the two mentioned.

BUTCHERY OF SEALS.

The Killing of Females in Bering Sea an Outrage.

THE SEAL PUPS MUST STARVE.

Great Pecuniary Loss by This Needless Waste of Animals—27,000 Found Dead on the Islands.

Washington City, Nov. 24.—Information reaches here that the revenue cutter Bear the last government vessel to leave Bering sea, has just brought down some startling evidence of the effect of pelagic sealing upon the Alaskan seal herd which frequents the Pribiloff or seal islands.

In accordance with the findings of the Paris arbitration, schooners are now permitted to hunt seals in Bering sea with spears in a zone sixty miles around the islands from the first of August. It was thought that confining sealing schooners to spears and reducing the season to practically five or six weeks would stop the slaughter in Bering sea and allow the herd to recuperate. This year not less than sixty schooners began hunting in Bering sea August 1 and captured 40,000 pelts, about 80 per cent. of which were females. This does not show the full extent of injury done. The seal pups are dependent on their mothers' milk for the first four or five months of their existence, and without it must suffer starvation. Acting under the instructions of their respective superiors, both resident treasury officers and agents of the North American Commercial Company, made a count of the dead pups found at the close of the season, when the sealing schooners had left the sea. The census was just completed when the Bear left and reached 27,000, and does not include those in the last stages of starvation. The same conditions prevailed last year, but the count was made with less exactness on account of snow. It is said that the actual pecuniary loss to the United States and the commercial world by this needless waste of animals will reach hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The United States, which has never allowed the molestation of breeding grounds or killing of females on land, made an effort last year to stay the slaughter going on by limiting the land killing to 15,000 immature males. It is questionable if, in the face of existing conditions and the reports of the treasury officials, further restraint will be exercised, especially as a request made last January by the United States to Great Britain for greater protection to the seals has been practically ignored. It was attempted by the United States to stop the barbarity practiced on seals by seizing the schooners that subjected the government to claims for damages on the part of Canada. These claims, which were rejected last year by congress, are again receiving attention from the state department, and the articles of a convention providing for a commission to sit at Victoria are being considered.

It is believed in congressional circles that unless a treaty, which must be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the senate, confines the assessment of damages strictly to vessels passed upon by the Paris tribunal and provides a penalty on the part of all the witnesses called by either government, it will suffer the same fate as did Secretary Gresham's proposition to pay to Canada $425,000 out of hand, despite the fact that a number of schooners belonged to American subjects and nearly three-fourths of the claims are for prospective catches of seals.

Lost Alaskans Heard From.

Whatcom, Nov. 24.—Special.—Van Hendricks, who with J. W. Black and Henry Wirth went to the upper Yukon from Fairhaven in March, 1892, and has long been given up for lost, has been heard from. Black and Wirth returned in the fall of 1892, having left Hendricks at the mouth of the Klukuk river, a tributary of the Yukon, which rises far up within the Arctic circle. It was Hendricks' intention to go up that river several hundred miles to a place from which vague reports of rich "diggings" had been brought by the Indians. Since then nothing has been heard from him until quite recently. Mr. Black, who is now in the employ of Receiver David, of the Blaine bank, has just received a letter from Hendricks' sister in West Lebanon, O., in which she reports the receipt of a letter from her brother, dated at Anvik, Alaska, August 16, and received by her November 9. Anvik is a little station on the Yukon, about 600 miles from its mouth. Hendricks was then well and making his way homeward, his long and perilous trip having been unsuccessful financially. It is also learned that his brother, Will Hendricks, formerly employed by the Bellingham Bay Improvement Company at the Ocean dock here, and who was for some time agent for the Union Pacific in Fairhaven, was killed in the railroad yards at Danville, Ill., last August.

Mr. Black read with interest the report in the Post-Intelligencer yesterday of the shooting of Capt. Healy, of the Yukon steamer P. B. Weare, and he confirms all that Mr. Lilly says of the captain's brutality, and his opinion of Capt. Healy, of the revenue cutter Bear, is hardly less favorable. The two captains were at the mouth of the Yukon with their vessels when Black and Wirth came down late in the summer of 1892. The Bear was about to leave for San Francisco and the Weare for a habitable station up the Yukon, but both of the captains brutally refused to take the two men aboard, and it was only by chance that they succeeded in getting away later upon another vessel to San Francisco.

Montesano News.

Montesano, Nov. 24.—Special.—Chehalis county has a candidate for the position of state auditor, made vacant by the death of Mr. Grimes, in D. R. Jones. Strong indorsements of Mr. Jones will go to the governor from this and other counties. He has been mainly instrumental in the improvements which have been made in the form of the tax rolls of the state, as it was himself, in company with J. W. Bunn, ex-assessor of this county, who drafted the forms, and they were adopted through the exertions of those gentlemen. He has served as county auditor for one term, as representative for one term, and has been chief deputy in the treasurer's office of this county for the past three years.

Chehalis county can claim the banner for economy in tax extension. The taxes on nine real estate rolls and one personal were extended and footed up ready for recapitulation for $144, and less than $200 will see the entire expense of tax extension for the year 1895, including all work which is required to be done on the rolls in the auditor's office. The taxes, state, county, municipal, road and school, as well as special, were extended in one roll of 242 pages, forty lines to the page, in five hours and thirty-five minutes. Neat.

Salmon Fishing in the Quillayute.

Lapush, Nov. 21.—Special.—The Anderson, Green & Baxter Fishing Company, which has been catching and salting salmon here this fall, has for the present ceased operations, awaiting another run of salmon—the steelheads. The gentlemen composing the company arrived here with their crew in the latter part of August, but as the salmon do not come into the Quillayute river in any large schools until it rains and the river rises they had to wait until the middle of October before they could commence fishing in earnest. Since then they have made some very good catches. They have caught as many as 700 in one haul with their seine. They would have caught more, but their seine, being somewhat worn, broke, and a number escaped. They have now over 100 barrels of fish lying here awaiting shipment to Seattle. They report the salmon as being of a fine quality, and there are prospects of a good fishing industry being worked up here in the future.

Probable Murder of a Seattle Man.

San Diego, Nov. 24.—The police of this city have been occupied today in the investigation of what they believe to have been a case of murder. Yesterday morning three boys saw the body of a man in the bay at the foot of Twenty-sixth street, about 600 feet from the wharf, where the previous evening a coat, vest and other articles were found. It was at first supposed to be a case of suicide. A post mortem now, however, develops the fact that the man had been struck over the head and chest, probably with a sandbag. There was air in his lungs and the physicians declare that he was dead when his body plunged into the bay. The man was about 50 years old. He has been identified as a man named Richardson, who came here from Seattle recently. He is said to have owned property in that city and listed it here to exchange it for San Diego property. Nothing further has been learned up to a late hour tonight.

The Port Angeles Election.

Port Angeles, Nov. 24.—Special.—The approaching city election has so far attracted but little attention, although all are anxious to see conservative business men installed in the various offices to be filled. The citizens' convention, to be held Tuesday, will again nominate C. E. Mallette for mayor, and they are confident of his re-election. On Monday evening the Populists will hold their convention, and the indications are that they will go outside of their party and nominate S. L. Meyers, a Republican, for mayor. They will also have a full ticket in the field. Owing to recent dissensions in the ranks of the Populists they will probably not cut the prominent figure in the city's politics that they have in the past.

Brief Tacoma News.

Tacoma, Nov. 24.—Special.—Rev. Dr. T. L. Elliott, the eloquent Portland divine, preached at the Unitarian church this morning.

Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah," will be given in this city under the direction of Mr. H. W. Joy some time during the holidays. In the chorus of 200 voices there will be thirty singers and possibly one or two soloists from Seattle.

Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Loeb celebrated the fifth anniversary of their wedding on Monday evening last. Twenty friends were invited in and royally entertained. Mrs. A. J. Steinman read an original and appropriate poem.

Bass for Yakima County.

Washington City, Nov. 24.—Special.—J. P. Marks, of Ahtanum, Yakima county, Wash., has made application to the United States fish commisson for a supply of black bass, or cat fish, to be put into a large pond, twelve miles southwest of North Yakima. The application has been made in due form, and it is probable that the next visit of the fish commission car to the Pacific coast will take along the customary supply to Mr. Marks. Mr. Marks' application is indorsed by the Hon. W. H. Doolittle.

Washington Pensions.

Washington City, Nov. 24.—Special.—Original pensions have been allowed Orlando Graham, of Anacortes; John W. Smith, of Quillayute; Martin L. Spear, of Brookfield, Wahkiakum county; Samuel V. Gemberg, of Excelsior, Pierce county, and James Easter, of Orting.

A Monster Goes Crazy.

San Francisco, Nov. 24.—Eugene Pardini, the Italian shoemaker awaiting trial for a series of unspeakable crimes upon little girls, is a raving maniac. He was taken from the city prison and transferred to the receiving hospital, where he occupies a padded cell in the insane ward. Ever since his arrest Pardini has shown signs of mental weakness. Twice he has attempted to commit suicide. During his confinement in the cell with Lane, Meyers, Ratz and Hinshaw he had his fellow prisoners in a constant state of terror. He was continually threatening to end their lives, as well as his own. Matters reached a climax today, when the shoemaker attempted to carry out his threats of murder. Shortly after breakfast he displayed signs of ill temper, and commenced growling at his cellmates. Suddenly he jumped from his seat and attacked one of the prisoners. A general fight ensued. When quiet was restored it was found that one man had his thumb bitten off, and that another prisoner was pretty well bruised up from the beating he had received at the hands of the shoemaker. When the jail officials ran to quell the row Pardini begged them to kill him.

The Railway Mail Service.

Washington City, Nov. 24.—The report of James White, superintendent of the railway mail service, shows that during the year 497 accidents occurred to railway postoffices, in which seven clerks were killed and 178 injured, while on duty, an increase over last year of 137 accidents and twenty-seven clerks killed and injured. It is shown that the service is becoming more and more efficient each year. Among the 10,377,875,000 pieces distributed, but 1,166,832 errors occurred, being one error for each 8,895 pieces handled correctly, as compared with one for each 2,834 pieces in 1890, one for each 5,564 in 1892 and one for each 7,831 pieces in 1894. The patrons of the department deposited in the mails during the year 10,607,150 pieces, which were not addressed to any postoffice, or so insufficiently, incorrectly or illegibly addressed as to render their delivery impossible until information as to the intention of the senders was secured, and of these 4,244,848 could not be forwarded to the addresses because the intention of the sender could not be ascertained.

Christian Lectures in India.

Chicago, Nov. 24.—The Rev. John Henry Barrows, widely known as the president of the World's fair parliament of religions, today tendered his resignation as pastor of the First Presbyterian church of this city. He has been pastor of this church for fifteen years. It is his purpose, in December, 1896, to go to Bombay, Calcutta and Madras to deliver a course of Christian lectures, to which he has been assigned by the University of Chicago, and for which invitations have been extended by several missionary conferences and by many men of influence in the East. In addition to this work Dr. Barrows will lay the foundation of a Christian lecture ship, already endowed, which is to be permanently sustained in the cities of India.

The Trans-Mississippi Congress.

Omaha, Nov. 24.—One of the most representative bodies that Omaha has ever had the honor to entertain will be the trans-Mississippi congress, which will convene at Creighton hall tomorrow morning. The attendance of many of the most prominent business and professional men in the West is assured, and the convention will be composed entirely of men whose presence will be an honor to the city. Many of them are men whose names are most prominently connected with the subjects they will discuss at the convention, and they will be profitable not only to the members of the convention, but the general public as well.

Big Fire in St. Louis.

St. Louis, Nov. 24.—Fire gutted the main building of the St. Louis Shovel Company's extensive plant in this city today. The loss is estimated to be between $80,000 and $100,000, and is nearly covered by insurance. The officers of the company decided to rebuild at once, and say they will double the capacity of their plant. Watchman John Lawler thinks the fire was caused by the electrical converter. Secretary-Treasurer Holton attributes it to hot cinders in the blacksmith shop.

The Knights of Labor.

Washington City, Nov. 24.—The executive committee of the Knights of Labor held the first of a series of meetings here today to formulate plans for pushing the work of the order. The action of the assembly in appointing Grand Master Workman Sovereign and Grand Worthy Foreman Bishop to represent the order at the meeting of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union next Friday was indorsed.

Suicide of a 65-Year-Old Woman.

Rome, N. Y., Nov. 24.—George Payne, looking through a window this morning, noticed a rope tied to a doorknob of his mother's room and the fingers of a hand clasping the edge fo the door. He opened the door with difficulty, and there found his mother, aged 65, dead. She had hanged herself to the door knob. Mrs. Payne's husband committed suicide last April by cutting his throat with a razor.

THE ISTHMUS CANAL.

Its Present Construction Said to Be Impracticable

BY THE CANAL COMMISSION.

The Hazards Too Great to Disregard, and Further Surveys and Examinations Are Recommended.

New York, Nov. 25.—A special to the Herald from Washington City says: A serious blow has been dealt the Nicaraguan Canal Company's project for the construction of a waterway across the isthmus by the report of the Nicaraguan canal commission. Inevitable delay and a further and more thorough investigation of the entire subject are declared to be necessary before even the engineering feasibility of any canal across Nicaragua can be decided upon.

Your correspondent is able to make public the review of the contents and the text of the conclusions of the report of the Nicaraguan canal commission. This report is now lying on the president's desk, and is being considered by him in connection with his annual message to congress. The report is at such variance with the numerous rumors and predictions which have from time to time been published concerning it that it will cause great surprise and disappointment among those who have heretofore placed credence in the rumors which are usually stated, "on the highest authority," that the commission favored the route proposed by the company, and placed the cost of the canal at a [illegible]. The report points out that it is neither practicable nor advisable to attempt the construction of the Nicaragua canal upon the data at present available, and that the undertaking would be fraught with hazards too obvious to disregard. That the necessary knowledge may be had of the physical and topographical conditions affecting the construction and maintenance of a canal across Nicaragua, upon which to form a final judgment as to the feasibility, permanence and cost, the commission recommends an appropriation by congress of $350,000, for extensive additional surveys and examinations covering a period of eighteen months.

With the data at hand, however, the commission makes a provisional estimate of the cost $133,472,893, or nearly double that of the Maritime Canal Company's unconditional estimate of $68,933,660. The commission makes its estimate "provisional," and the commissioners say the existing data are inadequate as a basis for estimating the cost of many structures. Some portions of the work may cost more; others less. The report says the official estimate by the company of $68,933,660 is insufficient for the work; that "in several important cases the quantities must be greatly increased, and in numerous cases the unit prices do not make proper allowance for the difference in cost of work between the United States and Nicaragua."

The general trend of the entire report is certainly very unfavorable to the canal company. The commission refrains from any direct criticism of the company's prospectus, but its report shows that certain features which the company has persisted in assuring the public, through congress, were known to be absolutely safe and feasible, if put in execution, might jeopardize the practicability of the whole system and possibly destroy forever the hope of a canal by means of the San Juan river and Lake Nicaragua. For instance, the Maritime Canal Company has proposed to construct in Ochoa, on the San Juan river, twenty-nine miles from Greytown, on the Caribbean, what is known as a "rockfill" dam to hold the lake and river level at a navigable elevation, and to divert the line thence from the river to the sea by a canal in excavating. This has, in fact, been one of the foregone certainties of the project, and the company has told congress that this enormous structure could be erected for $997,273. The canal commission say a "rockfill" dam cannot be built in Ochoa for less than $4,000,00. The commission considers that too much time and pains were devoted by the company to ascertaining the topography of the country, when it should have paid more attention to the feasibility of the waterway across Nicaragua, and its cost. The commission refrains from commenting on the company's method of making surveys, and in a great many cases, its failure to make surveys.

Managua, Nicaragua, Nov. 19.—Diario Nicaragua, the official organ of the government of Nicaragua, publishes a report from Gen. Pablo Reyes, civil and military governor of the Carribean sea coast of Nicaragua, attempting to explain why his recently costly efforts to construct a national telegraph line, also a railroad about 100 miles long from Rama, at the head of the ocean steamship navigation on the Bluefields river, have proved a failure. The telegraph line from Managua to Rama was put up in June, 1895, but has never been open to the use of the public, and is only occasionally in a condition so it can be used by the government. Work on the railroad from Rama to Lake Nicarauga was begun at Rama by Gen. Reyes in August, 1895, but after spending much money in "preparatory work," he now declares he will soon complete a contract with a company in the United States to construct the road, which he also declares "will not cost much," although competent civil engineers have twice made preliminary surveys from Rama to Lake Nicaragua and reported the cost to be more than $20,000 in gold a mile.

Considerable political disturbance has just developed among high officials of the government of Nicaragua. The immediate cause is a decree issued October 10 by President Zelaya, granting the importation of sugar free of duty for the ensuing two months. Many persons believed large profits were to be gained by importing sugar from California. A brother of the present minister of the treasury in September ordered several tons of white sugar from San Francisco. His brother about that time went to Eastern Nicaragua. Soon after he left the capital the president issued the decree. The sugar ordered from San Francisco arrived at Corinto and came into the country free of duty. El Pueblo, a daily owned by Jose D. Camex, charged that Minister Callejas knew before he left the capital, and when his brother, John Callejas, ordered the sugar, that the president would issue such a decree, and gave that information at once to his brother. The special importation of sugar was, a few days after the attack in the newspaper, sold in the name of the government of Nicaragua, thereby adding other complications. Minister Callejas telegraphed to the newspaper, asserting that he had no previous knowledge of the case, and said the measure was of doubtful constitutionality. He also telegraphed his resignation to President Zelaya.

ANOTHER DIVINE HEALER.

The Success of Schlatter Has Discovered One in New Jersey.

New York, Nov. 21.—H. B. Nason, of Woodcliffe, N. J., claims to be possessed of "healing powers" equal to the famous Schlatter, who has created such a sensation in Colorado. Nason is the leader of a strange religious sect in the vicinity of his home known as the "Angel Dancers," or the "Churchmen of the Living God." He is preparing to more strongly assert himself as a healer, without losing his place as the head and center of his little band of devout followers.

According to his story, he has been able since the beginning of his ministry to heal those who go to him through faith, but now he gives a more general invitation. Nason has been encouraged to do this through the success of Schlatter, the Colorado healer, with whose movements he is entirely familiar. "I am willing to heal those who come to me in faith," said Nason last week, "and I do so without money and without price. I only trust in the Lord. Schlatter has been doing a great work. Like me, he does not sell his God-given gifts, but he won't stay there, for those people are driving him away. I tell you, it ain't no use in trying to traffic the things of God, and that's what the people out there are trying to do. Why, they will sell a handkerchief or anything else that Schlatter takes in his hand. Men who are standing in line to get to him will sell their places to any one willing to pay a price for them. That is the work of the devil, and nothing else. Schlatter has God with him mightily and won't stand that. That is the reason he disappeared last week and went into the mountains. It is the Lord who took him away to rebuke the money changers who defile the temple. The devil is a mighty power in leading men to defile the temple of the mortal body. They defile it with the love of money, vanity, display, appetite and lust. We here are free from all of that. We have cast it out. I know Schlatter's great power. I have healed since the beginning of my ministry and know what it is. Faith in the Lord and belief in me are only necessary. I have helped people wonderfully through God. I cured a woman who had not walked for twelve years. Many have I healed, and some right here in this house. I say pray; prayer will make you well. Sin and bad health come from wrong living. I say, do as I have done, cast out sin. Get on your knees and pray to God. He does all things. I can do nothing. I am only an instrument in the hands of the Lord."

ASSSAULTED HIS DAUGHTER.

The Girl Escaped and Her Father Then Killed Himself.

New York, Nov. 24.—Andrew Tinks, a Hungarian, while intoxicated today, attempted to murder his 15-year-old daughter, because she would not submit to his desires, and then committed suicide.

The man, his common law wife, and her daughter by a former marriage, lived together in a tenement house on Third street. Last night they all went to a party, returning home at an early hour this morning. Shortly after they had retired the woman was awakened by the screams of her daughter. The man had attempted to assault the girl, and meeting with resistance, he was crazed with anger. He seized a knife, and thrust it into the girl's back several times. The girl sprang from the bed, and ran into the kitchen, closely followed by the murderous fiend. There the child, cowering in dread, was seized by the father, who picked up a hatchet which lay near, and began to strike the girl with that instrument on the shoulders. The girl, though horribly cut and bruised, managed to break away from her father, and escaped from the house. Then the mother, who had been awakened by the girl's cries, tried to grasp the hatchet, but the man held it aloft, and threatened to kill her. She snatched the hatchet from his hand and followed her daughter into the street. They called the police, and in a moment the entire house was in a commotion, and the excitement was greatly augmented by hearing a report of four pistol shots, which followed in rapid succession. The police found Tinks lying on the floor, having fired several shots into his head. He soon died.

COLORED PREACHER ARRESTED.

For Alleged Criminal Assault at Fort Scott, Kan.

Louisville, Nov. 24.—A sensation was created in the Twelfth Street Zion A. M. E. church today, when, immediately after his sermon, the pastor, Rev. Robert Seymour, was arrested charged with criminal assault at Fort Scott, Kan. The church is one of the best colored churches in the city and the Rev. Robert Seymour was highly esteemed. The pastor emphatically denies that he is guilty and says the case is probably due to spitework on the part of people at Fort Scott.

The Linotype Championship.

Chicago, Nov. 24.—A contest for the championship on the Mergenthaler linotype machines took place in this city today between George W. Green, of the Boston Standard, and Eugene Taylor, of the Rocky Mountain News, of Denver. The stake was a purse of $500. Green set 70,700 in seven hours, corrected solid nonpareil, to Taylor's 64,027, smashing all previous records. Mr. Green holds himself ready to defend against all comers the title which today's victory gives him. At the close of the contest Mr. Green received a challenge from Riley, of Boston. Much money changed hands, and great interest was manifested in the result.

A Supposed Case of Yellow Fever.

San Francisco, Nov. 24.—The Pacific Mail steamer San Blas, which arrived from Panama today, was placed in quarantine on account of the death of a man on the 19th inst., who was supposed to have had yellow fever. The ship's physician said he believed the man died of typhoid fever, but as the consular bill of health said the disease was supposed to have been yellow fever, the ship was not permitted to dock.

Palmer Gets Chicago's New Theater.

Chicago, Nov. 24.—A. M. Palmer, the well-known New York theatrical manager, has secured the lease for five years of the magnificent theater now in progress of erection just east of the Great Northern hotel. The sum of $1,000,000 is being expended to make it the handsomest theater on the continent. It will be opened next fall.

Football Player Killed.

Memphis, Nov. 24.—George Phelan, the son of the late Congressman Phelan, of this district, died at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, today, from injuries received in a football game yesterday. He will be buried here.

The Chicago Journal and Press, evening papers, have been consolidated, the former name being retained. The United Press, formerly used by the Press, will be dropped.

The Denver Chamber of Commerce has decided to establish a new mining stock exchange, making the third in that city and the ninth in Colorado. The Pueblo exchange will open for business Monday.

HAPPY HOMES.

A Receipt that will Remove a Fruitful Cause of Unhappiness.

"John, I called you to dinner; why don't you answer?"

"Can't you see that I am tired and out of sorts? Why don't you let me alone?"

The husband has just come home from business and has stretched himself on the sofa, gloomily staring at the ceiling. This is not the first time he has returned in such a humor. She is hurt, and, sitting down by the window, gets ready to cry.

"Papa, why don't you tuna and eat?"

His little daughter's pleading prevails, and he follows her to the table. His wife hurriedly brushes the tears from her eyes; she is too proud to show weakness—he too stubborn to apologize for his rudeness.

There is but a half-hearted attempt at eating. "Your crusty temper has spoiled your appetite" says the wife. She is wrong—it is the want of an appetite and a good digestion that has spoiled his humor—and it takes a heroic effort for him to be amiable.

Yes, this is only an advertisement—Peruvian Bitters—the remedy for such domestic infelicities.

The world-famous Peruvian Bark and other medicinal and aromatic herbs in fine old California Brandy: a pleasant beverage, a healthy stimulant, a perfect tonic, a regulator of all digestive functions, a producer of good normal appetite, of sound sleep, of quiet, steady nerves, good feeling and a cheerful disposition.

MACK & Co., San Francisco. All druggists and dealers.

STEWART & HOLMES DRUG CO. Wholesale Agents.

Impure Blood

Manifests itself in hives, pimples, boils and other eruptions which disfigure the face and cause pain and annoyance. By purifying the blood Hood's Sarsaparilla completely cures these troubles and clears the skin. Hood's Sarsaparilla overcomes that tired, drowsy feeling so general at this season and gives strength and vigor.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the only true blood purifier prominently in the public eye today. $1; six for $5.

Hood's Pills cure habitual constipation. Price 25 cents.

THE CAUSE OF CUBA.

Big Meeting to Be Held in New York to Help It Along.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

Andrew Carnegie, Patrick Egan and Many Noted Men Will Take Part in the Demonstration.

New York, Nov. 24.—An important meeting in the cause of Cuba will be held in Cooper Union Tuesday night, under the auspices of the Jose Marti Club. It is expected that some strong resolutions will be adopted in sympathy with the Cuban cause, and the prominence of those present will make the occasion significant. Among the officers of the meeting will be Ex-Gov. Flower, ex-Ministers John Bigelow and Patrick Egan, Col. R. G. Ingersoll, Warner Miller, Elihu Root, ex-Mayors Edson and Hall, Austin Corbin, Andrew Carnegie, Gen. Horace Porter, Gen. Daniel Butterfield, Orlando G. Hargraves, Murat Halstead, Edmund Clarence Stedman, ex-Comptroller Myers, Amos J. Cummings, and many judges and ex-judges, representative business men and city officials. Expressions of sympathy have been received from many men of prominence by the committee having