Weekly Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1878.

CITY NEWS.

THE river was filled again, yesterday, with floating ice.

People are not getting married as much as they did when the cold weather was better.

THE work of grading the levee for the new Kansas Central tracks and depot is progressing rapidly.

ONLY one case appeared before the Police Court yesterday, it amounted to a three dollar assault and battery.

THE Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific passenger train due here at 10:30 o'clock, yesterday morning was four hours late.

A CHIMNEY fire in an old frame building on north Third street, near the corner of Kickapoo, created some excitement yesterday.

THE air was clear and pure yesterday forenoon but toward evening the wind got around in the south, and betokened more rain.

ONLY one arrest was booked on the police sheet last night at ten o'clock. That was poor old "Morphine Carrie," who is charged with petit larceny.

WE understand that Hon. T. P. Fenlon has been retained to defend the man Shipp, who it is alleged attempted to murder a jailer at Atchison recently.

A MAN named Shea, who is said to be an idiot, is to be removed from the county jail to the Sisters Hospital for better treatment than he has heretofore received.

MR. HARRY TRAVILLA played what is known as a "big game of cocked hat," yesterday, at Harvey Miller's tenpin alley, making a "run" of seventy-three in one game.

REWARD—We will pay a reward of one thousand dollars for any certificate published by us regarding Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup not genuine. Kogler, Meyer & Co., Baltimore, October 1, 1877.

THE plan of joking among acquaintances to excess, has proved to be productive of much ill feeling in a number of young men who would have otherwise been good friends. They meet by chance, after the theatre or church and a boarding house minus a customer.

"MY DEAR," said Mr. S——— to his blooming helpmeet, "I must congratulate you on your recent improvement in cakes, biscuit, bread, rolls, every kind of pastry in short." "Oh!" said the wife, "I've solved the secret by using the greatest thing in the market for baking—DOOLEY'S YEAST POWDER. Henceforth my kitchen knows no ought."

District Court.

Smith vs. Board of County Commissioners—Continued by consent.

Treat vs. Hanton—Jury failed to agree and discharged.

Anthony vs. Ketcheson et al.—Special verdict ordered for twenty additional petit jurors; returnable on Monday next.

Taylor vs. K. P. Railway company—Jury waived; case submitted upon agreed statement of facts; finding for defendant; plaintiff gives notice of a motion for a new trial.

Ex Parte Charles Friederick Ilm—A native of Germany admitted to full citizenship.

THE street crossings dried up considerably yesterday.

ONLY one case before the police court yesterday.

THE gleam show has folded its tent and departed to Kansas City.

FIFTY carloads of hogs were shipped east over the Missouri Pacific road yesterday.

St. Joseph is in a stew about how to sell received seats to people visiting the theatres.

FIFTY passengers got off the Missouri Pacific, upward bound passenger train, yesterday.

THE thermometer indicated a temperature of six below zero yesterday afternoon, at four o'clock.

THE County Attorney is said by the printers to be one of the best guessers hand writers in the county.

OUR weather prophet prophecies a mild winter this year, up to the 20th of January—and possibly longer.

THE great "great wave" which was to have swept over this locality in rigidity, has not yet come in appearance.

ONE inmate of a house of ill-fame was the only resident found on the street by the police last night at twelve o'clock.

A BLACK ribbon is now worn by the married men who belong to a certain association, and are obligated to "keep dark."

THE crossing on Shawnee street between the Mansion House and Sparrow & Jones drug store is being macadamized.

A good investment is a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, for it never disappoints. 25 cents per bottle; large size, 50 cents.

THE railroad boys in Atchison are poking fun at the Superintendents, by writing burlesques on the rules and regulations.

THE matinee at the Catholic school building yesterday afternoon, was well attended and the panorama seemed to work well.

THE minstrel company composed of several of the officers at Fort Leavenworth, will soon give a public entertainment at the hop rooms.

THE weather during yesterday forenoon was clear and bracing. Toward evening clouds began to appear and some rain fell, but not enough to merit the name of a shower.

A CONTRABAND noise was made on the levee last night by two pugilistically inclined gentlemen. The affair was hushed, however, in time to keep the police from making any arrests.

SEVERAL friends of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. L. Doughty, numbering about fifty, assembled at their residence in the Missouri Valley building and gave them a farewell party night before last. Yesterday afternoon the host and hostess departed for their new home and were attended to the depot by a large number of friends, who wished them good speed.

Married.

GRAHAM—NORTH—At the residence of bride's parents, in Stevens, on January 24th, 1878, the Rev. Wm. Smith officiating, Mr. R. S. Graham, of Buchanan, Michigan, to Miss Mary E. North, of Leavenworth. No cards.

Congregational Social.

The social given last night by the First Congregational church, at the corner of Delaware and Fifth streets, was a very pleasant affair, and was, as is invariably the case, well attended. These socials are always the source of much enjoyment to those attending, and the ladies of the church never fail to dove everything in their power to make those occasions pleasant.

Slandering Your Neighbors.

The chief claim for support and patronage by some of the manufacturers of baking powder in this country, seems to be based on the idea of always vilifying and traducing the character and quality of the goods of other manufacturers. "Our goods, or none," is their motto. The manufacturers of Dooley's Yeast Powder set up no such arbitrary claim; but *they do claim to produce an absolute pure, wholesome, and, in every way, perfect Baking Powder.* Beside which, *it is strictly full weight*

PERSONAL.

Ed. Corrigan, of Kansas City, is registered at the Mansion.

J. H. Talbott, of Atchison, was at the Mansion yesterday.

Wm. Davis, of Holton, was registered at the Mansion yesterday.

A. O. Oldham, of Platte, City, was at the Planters yesterday.

J. M. Mills, of Kansas City, was registered at the Mansion yesterday.

D. M. Smith, of Oskaloosa, was registered at the Mansion yesterday.

I. I Fisher, of St. Louis, was registered at the Planters yesterday.

A. A. Crampton, of Moline, Ills., was registered at the Continental yesterday.

W. W. Taylor, of Frankfort, Mo., was registered at the Continental yesterday.

Miss Ophelia Capon, of St. Joseph, is in the city visiting her sister Mrs. C. H. Irving.

Special Mail Agent John M. Crowell passed up yesterday on his way "from the South" to his home in Atchison. Whenever he says he has been South he means he has been successful in working up good some case.

Getting Better.

Charley Higley, the injured jailor, was getting along very nicely yesterday, and his physician considers all the danger past. Shipp, the prisoner, is now becoming more rational. His wife and sister visited him in the jail yesterday, and spent most of the day with him.—*Atchison Patriot.*

DISTRICT COURT.

Under Hon. Byron Sherry, Judge Pro Tem.

Stuart vs. Crozier; Court finds conclusions of fact separately from conclusions of law. Plaintiff gave notice of motion for a new trial.

Stuart vs. Scott, et al.; same entry.

UNDER DIRECTION OF HON. ROBT. CROZIER.

Stuart vs. Leonard; plaintiff whatsoever reply; plaintiff's motion to compel defendant to make his answer more definite and certain, and to seperately state and number his grounds of defense; sustained, defendant given till next Saturday to file amended answer.

Anthony vs. Ketcheson et al.; on trial. The following jury were empanelled to try the case:

John R. Bell, James Coursey, John Hyde, W. Sprague, Benamin Shaw, John Hund, Robert Sribbs, R. R. McHane, Joseph Graham, Wm. Mason, Elijah Ferguson, R. H. Mullins.

Court adjourned until this morning at ten o'clock.

THAT MYSTERY.

The Dead Body of Jacob Becker Viewed Yesterday by Other Dicciples of Æsculapius and a Bullet Found by one of the Number Near the Base of the Dead Man's Skull.

A New Inquest Ordered by the County Attorney Whereby the New Facts if any Exist May be Told to a New Jury.

[From Thursday Morning's Daily.]

Early yesterday morning the evidence at the inquest over the body of Jacob Becker found lying dead in his cellar at No. 422 Seventh street, was read by our people in THE TIMES, and it was not long until busy brains had begun to deal out to the police authorities the many knowing theories they had invented, on the spur of the moment. One party suggested this man, and another that man, to the officers as the one who was most likely to commit the deed, taking care to single out some one who had in the past been on uncomfortably terms with the "unfortunate," although he was said in every instance to be the "last one I would think of doing such a thing," etc. Some went so far as to say that they had seen certain parties about the house at an unseasonable hour and that the said parties "ought to be looked after." The police officers, ever alert to discover the cause of crime, were given this point and that one until the case was so badly complicated that half the city would have had to have appeared as witnesses to prove an alibi for each party so insinuatingly accused.

The county attorney, after hearing a great many sides to the question, wrote a request to Dr. D. W. Thomas to visit the deceased and make a minute examination of the wounds in the head. The request was complied with, and the result was a report that

A BULLET

had been found wedged in the base of the skull, and that it was evident the deceased had come to his death by a pistol shot, which had torn the skull to pieces; that he had discovered a new hole in the skull near the left ear, which had been covered up by the skin, and also that he had found powder marks in the tissues of the brain.

These facts gave a new situation of things, spread like wild-fire about the city and speculation was rife on every corner as to what was the meaning of the whole affair. Little groups were found on street corners, each member seeming eager for another to get through talking in order that he might explain his views on the subject.

VARIOUS THEORIES

were brought to light, the most important of which is that offered by the physicians who inspected Dr. Weyer, the latter gentleman, it will be remembered, examined the head of the deceased and made his report to the jury empanelled on Tuesday. Those on the physicians who saw the corpse yesterday, seem to differ with him, and are inclined to believe that the man came to his death by a pistol shot discharged, probably, by his own hand, and that the large hole found in the forehead was caused by the entrance of the ball and powder with the hole in the back. That the accumulation of the air inside of the skull was insignificantly, and that any explosion immediately followed, which shattered the bones of the skull and produced the ugly wound referred to by getting out at the nearest place possible.

DIFFERENT OPINIONS.

Others who "studied" the case are of the opinion that the "explosion" theory is not based on sufficient grounds to make it even tenable for argument, much less considering it not in a scientific point of view, as to probabilities, think that if the ball entered the skull at the point described down through the base of the skull, there must have been at least one opening, and perhaps two, for the escape of the air and powder, the latter, which was easier than to foreign hole through the skull bone at the forehead. Another thought that the position of the deceased was a sufficient indication to prove the "explosion" theory, as the body was found lying flat on the back with the left side of the head, where the ball "exploded" and occurred it would have been more or less spattered with the contents of the head, even if such a thing and happened before the body fell.

THE CAUSE OF THE DEED

was also a point in the discussion and it was handled without an great degree of ceremony. Some were inclined to the opinion of suicide, caused by family matters taking a bad shape, many again thought the affair a cold blooded murder, perpetrated by someone with whom the deceased had quarreled during the day previous to the tragedy. One had an opinion that after the deceased left his place of business to a cooper shop not far from the house and there learned things that made him shoot himself. There is one class of men, believers, who never get excited, although they appear so at times, and they are

DETECTIVES.

Whatever they see is generally treasured up for future use. A gentleman was accosted by a reporter yesterday and asked what he thought of the affair as far as he had seen and heard of it. "Well, I'll not have much to say now, I was his uncle, and I hear some the doctors have to say about it. One thing is dead to rights, that fellow couldn't kill himself as he was found, shooting a ball through his nose, if he did it with that big pistol. I can't see how he shot himself from the front and fell backward. Then, again, I don't know how it comes that he was lying in such good shape on the floor when found. The hole in his forehead, by the pistol shot, was made about the same time the pistol shot was given, or at least soon enough afterward to cause the powder to burn the skin in circular form over the broken edges of the bone. One queer thing about it, is that the doctors say the pistol must have been close to the forehead when the ball went in, and that it went near the eyebrow, without burning any of the hair on the face. The face of his body dressed in his apron, with his sleeves rolled up, don't look much like he had premeditated suicide."

Another of the "profession" was talked with and his ideas were much the same as the above, so far as he was willing to explain them. During the latter part of the forenoon it was decided by the County Attorney that owing to the circumstances, an inquest would be necessary, and that the body of the deceased should be carefully and minutely examined by a board of surgeons consisting of all who could be obtained in the city. Therefore coroner Lynch was notified and the following board summoned: Dr. J. W. Weyer, Dr. R. F. Neely, Dr. J. D. Weyer, Dr. M. S. Thomas and Dr. D. W. Thomas. At two o'clock the Board presented themselves before the coroner's jury at the Third Ward house, at the corner of Cherokee and Seventh streets, and were instructed to make a careful examination of the body and made as full a report as possible.

THE JURY.

The coroner's jury empanneled, were as follows:

C. W. Hulin, C. W. Skinner, A. T. Hines, Wm. Tooien, Louis Weil and Wm. Endres.

The jurymen being instructed, asked permission of the jury to remove the skull of the deceased, and preserve it for future use before them. This was after gaining the consent of friends of the family, granted, and the Board repaired to the bakery, at 322 Seventh street to make

THE EXAMINATION,

which was to consist, first, in observing the appearance of the body, and afterward in taking away the upper part of the skull. The body, which had been placed on a board, was taken from the cellar into an upper room and placed on a long table.

Dr. Weyer, who was present during the removal of the scalp by Drs. M. S. and D. W. Thomas, pointed out the various items which led him to his conclusion published yesterday, that the man came to his death by a pistol shot discharged, probably, by his own hand, and that the large hole found in the forehead was caused by the entrance of the ball and powder with the hole in