

LATE NEWS FROM BUTTE

A Chinese Laundry Destroyed by Fire Yesterday Morning.

Interesting Facts About the Names on the Registry Lists—Police Court Affairs—Other Notes and Gossip.

Special Correspondence of the Standard. BUTTE, Sept. 20.—Two hundred citizens of Butte expect to go without clean linen on Sunday. At 9 o'clock this morning fire broke out in the laundry of Wah Lung, No. 111 South Main street. The origin of the fire is unknown, some pronouncing it the work of incendiaries, while others think it an accident. The laundry was destroyed with most of its contents. The firemen were compelled to flood the job printing office of Bickell & Swinton, No. 113 Main street, where the notorious Hooper is printed. The printing office was reduced to pi in very short order, all the stationery and printed matter being destroyed. The presses and type were saved. Their loss is estimated at from \$1,200 to \$1,500, and they have an insurance of \$1,000. The Chinaman's loss is about \$200, besides the clothing which belonged to his customers. The burned house was owned by Dr. J. P. Reins, whose loss is about \$1,000.

This afternoon, a quantity of hay and rags were found between the laundry and the printing office. The material was half burned. A can which was said to contain chloroform was also found there, leading to the supposition on the part of many that the fire is incendiary. Others say that the hay and rags have lain there for months.

"The fact of the matter is," said a prominent citizen to-day, "Butte hasn't half as many incendiary fires as it is given credit for. The truth is that there is not a city in the country riper for fires than Butte. The many little wooden houses were constructed when Butte was only a mining camp and burn like tinder when once started. In almost every alley and corner and out of the way place can be found waste paper, rags, boxes, etc., which have been carelessly thrown away by those who want to get them out of sight and don't think that they will be the occasion of fire some day. The summer has been so dry that every thing catches readily, and only a spark is needed to set things going. Chimney flues, as a rule, are very poorly constructed. Furthermore, there is as yet no fire alarm system, and a fire is sure to get a good headway before the fire apparatus is at hand. Many of the fires in Butte are certainly to be attributed to carelessness, but more of them are to be attributed to carelessness."

It is likely that several replevin suits will grow out of the laundry fire. It is claimed that Wah Lung saved, that clothing which had been cleaned, only the dirty clothes having been destroyed. He refused this afternoon to give up clothing to several parties. The torchlight procession and grand rally at Miners' Union hall will take place to-morrow night. The speakers will be W. Y. Pemberton and R. E. Smith. A marriage license was issued to-day to James Scroggins, of Helena, and Miss Lizzie Wilkins, of this city. An infant child of Thomas Williams, of West Broadway, died this morning. Hon. B. Platt Carpenter will address a republican rally at Turn Hall to-morrow night. The firm of Ray & Moulthrop, civil engineers, has been dissolved, Mr. Moulthrop retiring. A committee of A. Fred Way, P. A. Largey and P. J. Brophy are to-day waiting on the merchants of the city, trying to raise \$150 to survey for a wagon road between Butte and the Champion mine. This would make the Oro Fino district tributary to Butte, the distance being only 17 miles, while that to Deer Lodge is 18 miles. An interesting legal point was decided by Judge Newkirk in police court this afternoon. The defendant was a Chinaman with beer bottles. Snowball, 14 years old, who is acknowledged on all sides to be the worst boy in Butte, if he is black, was charged with having beer bottles at a Chinaman's head. "Didn't know 'twas 'gainst de law to hit a Chinese," said Snowball when asked if he was guilty. The judge sentenced him to a month in jail for his offense. Snowball confidentially informed a STANDARD reporter that he would leave for Denver to-night and before he goes will make life tiresome to every Chinese he comes across. Rigal, weeping copiously and fondling her pet poodle, was brought from the county jail to the police court this afternoon for sentence by Judge Newkirk. The judge said that he had been delaying his decision as much as possible hoping that something would come up to clear the woman, who is charged with robbing (infamously) of \$4,500. The judge considered it his duty to send her to the county higher court, and bound the defendant over to await the action of the next term, the sum being fixed at \$2,000. A driver of the Eagle bakery wagon and a cartman named Riley were arrested this morning for driving over the hose which was stretched across the street during the fire. Minnie Block this afternoon complained that a man named Johnson had carried off her gold watch and chain valued at \$45. She says she was in the Columbia gardens last night and let Johnson take her watch for a minute. She was playing on the piano and when she finished forgot about her watch, which was all returned to her. This morning she found it was missing and had a warrant sworn out for Johnson's arrest. Postmaster Patrick Talent this morning forwarded to Washington his resignation as postmaster of Butte, having held the position two and one-half years. Mr. Talent gives as his reasons the impossibility of giving a satisfactory answer to the questions allowed him for clerk hire. Complaints have been very numerous and it is due to the fact that he is compelled to hire boys. When they become competent they go elsewhere, having plenty of opportunities in Butte for higher wages. The amount appropriated for clerk hire is \$4,100. Mr. Talent has asked for his salary of \$300 to this amount. The carriers receive only \$50 per month and only boys can be induced to accept such wages. The postmaster's salary is about \$2,700. The registry books furnish very interesting information regarding the exceedingly diverse elements which make up the population of Butte. While all the registry books are not accessible, the STANDARD was permitted to examine the books of one district yesterday with regard to the places in which voters were born, and the one district in which a fair representation of the proportion of the various elements in the population of the entire city. Out of 1,351 voters registered in one district, 813, or nearly two-thirds, were born outside of the United States. Canada leads in the foreign born population, and Canada, Ireland, England and Germany furnish nearly three-fourths

of the foreign population. The places of birth of those registered are as follows: Canada, 263; Ireland, 189; England, 97; Germany, 85; Sweden, 68; Wales, 48; Italy, 28; Austria, 25; Scotland, 24; Switzerland, 16; Denmark, 14; France, 11; Belgium, 11; Norway, 6; Prussia, 5; Portugal, 4; Russia, 3; Finland, 3; Bohemia, 1; East India, 1; Hungary, 1; Holland, 1; Bavaria, 1.

Of those born in the United States, New York state furnished the most, but there are voters in the district who were born in thirty-five states and territories of the Union. There were born in New York, 78; Pennsylvania, 62; Ohio, 49; Illinois, 46; Michigan, 34; Iowa, 32; Indiana, 25; Massachusetts, 23; Wisconsin, 22; Maine, 19; Massachusetts, 17; Kentucky, 16; Virginia, 15; Vermont, 12; California, 11; Nevada, 8; Tennessee, 8; Connecticut, 7; Maryland, 7; Texas, 5; New Hampshire, 5; Georgia, 5; New Jersey, 5; Montana, 4; Kansas, 4; Alabama, 3; West Virginia, 3; Utah, 3; Louisiana, 2; Nebraska, 2; Mississippi, 2; Rhode Island, 1; Delaware, 1; North Carolina, 1. Altogether there are 202 from the western states, 146 from the middle states, 68 from the southern states, and 62 from the New England states. Four were born in Montana. It will be noticed that no Chinamen are registered.

A well posted politician said to-day: "The work of sewer construction in this city about 600 Swedes, 500 Italians, 400 Russians, Finlanders and Austrians, and 800 French, including French Canadians. These are the elements which alone cause any doubt about an election in this country. The Irish and Germans are pretty well settled in their convictions one way or the other, and can be depended on. But these other elements number 2,300, and they are away one way or the other by every little thing that comes up." Dr. Stoddard has been busy attending to his new buildings in Butte and the business of the Liebig World Dispensary and Dr. Liebig & Co., so that his visit to Helena has been put off until Saturday.

THE MEN QUIT WORK.

Serious Misunderstanding Between a Contracting Firm and Its Employees. Special to the Standard.

BUTTE, Sept. 20.—The trouble between the sewer contractors and their employes is growing daily as stated in the STANDARD on Tuesday. The men went to work on the understanding that they got \$3.00 per day. On Tuesday James Costello was paid off at the rate of \$2.50 per day. To-day the contractors, McSherry & Winters, notified about thirty-five of the men that they were being allowed only \$2.50 per day, although all the men had worked for the past two weeks believing they were earning \$3.00. When the men learned of the scheme being worked on them by the contractors they quit work in a body. The men have now entered suit against the contractors to recover the full amount of wages at \$3. What the outcome will be is difficult to say, since the contractors are determined to resist the men's demands. The sewer laborers have organized a strong labor union and are determined to obtain justice. The work of sewer construction has been going on very slowly, only a half force of men being employed. The principal streets have been kept torn up for a long time, and great inconvenience has been experienced by merchants before whose doors huge piles of sand have stood for weeks. The citizens begin to protest against the manner in which the work is being done. In any case the work should be hurried forward rapidly as possible, but the prospects of men giving out again, and the chance for an early completion of work poor. All things considered there is very little probability of McSherry & Winters receiving another contract of public character in this city, since they have succeeded in displeasing both tax paying citizens and the laboring men. The present contract was awarded to the local firm, though a responsible firm in Helena offered to do the work at \$100 less and pay all laboring men \$3 per day throughout.

TOLD IN A LINE OR TWO.

Baby carriages at cost at the Bee Hive. Picture frames made to order at the Bee Hive. Locks repaired and keys fitted at the Bee Hive. Complete line of cartridges at Anaconda Hardware Co's. Go to Hawes for fine work in photographs. Excellent is the finish of Hawes's photographic art. Guns for rent at Anaconda Hardware Co's. Have you seen those fine hanging lamps at the Bee Hive? Estes & Connell have received their new fall stock of clothing. Guns and ammunition at the Anaconda Hardware Co's. Photographs in all the latest novelties at the Bee Hive. For style, good goods and a perfect fit, go to Estes & Connell's for your clothing. Loaded shells at Anaconda Hardware Co's. New underwear, over-shirts, neck wear, hats and caps, boots and shoes, at Estes & Connell's. Guns and rifles at Anaconda Hardware Co's. After the 15th inst. Mr. B. F. Mahan will receive the mining stock quotations of the St. Louis market daily. Ladies examine the D. J. Hennessy Mercantile Co's full stock of wraps and jackets for street wear. If you want a good Domestic, Imported or Key West cigar, go to D. Tietjen's cigar store, corner 1st and Oak streets, Anaconda. Estes & Connell are marking their new stock of clothing and furnishing goods at prices that will please all who want first class goods. If you want a suit of clothes made to order call at Estes & Connell. They are over 300 samples to select from, and guarantee a perfect fit. Call and see those plushes at 38 cents at Estes & Connell Mercantile Co's. The D. J. Hennessy Mercantile Company leads competition in men's fine clothing, underwear and neckwear. The Montana Lumber & Produce company will name you bottom prices on hay, grain and feed in large and small lots. They carry the largest stock in town. Ladies, call and see those 38 cent plushes now on sale at the Estes & Connell Mercantile Co's. The most complete line of bar glassware ever displayed in the city at John V. Petrit's. No Rebate. From the Arizona Kicker. We desire to state in the most explicit manner that no rebate will be allowed to any of our subscribers who may be obliged to leave town for the benefit of the community, or who may be hanged and buried for the same reason. In several late instances friends of such subscribers have called on us and asked us to cash up for the unexpired term, but we have invariably refused. Subscriptions to the Kicker are for one year. We contract to deliver the paper for that time. If the subscriber is arrested, driven off or hanged it is no fault of ours. Please bear this in mind and save yourselves trouble.

MURDERED HIS FRIEND

Frank Johnson Shot Dead by His Room-mate at Butte.

A Petty Quarrel Ends in the Death of One of the Participants—The Murderer Gives Himself Up.

Special to the Standard. BUTTE, Sept. 20.—At 9:30 o'clock to-night Frank M. Lewis walked up the steps of the court house and into the sheriff's office where Under-Sheriff Toms, Harry Nichols and George Sprout were sitting and said: "I want to give myself up. I have shot a man and I am afraid he is dead. But it was in self-defense." Lewis carried in his hand a .35-caliber Smith & Wesson revolver, which he surrendered. He was locked up in the court house.

Down in a little two-story frame house, No. 15 South Montana street, lying on the floor of a small room in the second story with his head out in the hallway lay Lewis' victim, his room-mate, Frank Johnson. He was a tall, slender young man of about 25, wearing a slight mustache. The two young men had always seemed the best of friends and had not been known to have a quarrel until this afternoon. Both work for Williams, the Park-street butcher. Lewis is a driver and Johnson a salesman. About the middle of the afternoon Johnson was selling pork chops to a customer and charged 15 cents a pound. Lewis happened in at the time and called his friend down for charging 15 cents when the price was one bit. After the customer had gone, Johnson upbraided Lewis for calling him down as a customer and they were hot words on both sides. This evening, when they were in their room together the quarrel was renewed. Lewis claims to have acted in self-defense, but an examination by the police failed to reveal any revolver or other weapon in the pockets of the dead man or anywhere in the room. Dr. Howard, the coroner, viewed the body at 10:15 o'clock and it was taken at once to Sherman's undertaking rooms on Granite street. The coroner ordered all witnesses to appear at once to the police court for an immediate inquest.

At the police court the coroner immediately summoned a coroner's jury. The jurors were: P. Tucker, John G. Evans, J. E. Fitch, John E. Glines, Samuel Price, W. E. Hendings, Mrs. Sarah McMaster, the landlady where the young men boarded, said: "I keep this house as a lodging house. On the 8th day of September deceased came to room at my house. The dead man's name was Frank Johnson. The two men seemed to be very friendly until to-night, when about ten minutes past nine, when I was sitting in the dining room, I heard a noise upon the upper floor or about the room of the deceased. It sounded like a scuffle. I heard no pistol shot. I heard Lewis say: 'What do you want in here.' This was a moment before the scuffling began. I arose and went to the foot of the stairs and asked, 'What is going on up there.' I saw Frank Lewis standing at the head of the stairs. He stood as if frightened. I said: 'Come down stairs and stop scuffling up there.' Lewis said: 'Well, he swore he would kill me and I shot him. He is lying up here now.'"

Cross-examined by Attorney E. S. Booth, the witness said: "The room where the shooting occurred. I did not hear any pistol shot. Mr. Gifford, who rooms on the lower floor, went out and then several came in. It was Lewis who used the words: 'He swore he would kill me.' They had only been in the room a minute together when the trouble occurred. The dead man was the last one to go into the room. Frank Lewis was to leave by October 1st. The trouble occurred in less than a minute after the deceased came in and went for pistol. Lewis saw the pistol in Lewis' hand as he stood at the head of the stairs. Dr. J. W. Gunn said: "I was called to view the remains of the young man who had been shot. Just before I was called I was standing in front of my house, nearly opposite where the deceased was killed, and heard two pistol shots. I saw several of that house. I then went down town and in a few moments Gifford, who rooms at McMaster's house, came down and asked me to come up quick, as a man was shot. I went up and found a young man lying upon the floor with his head in the hallway. I examined the body and found life extinct. When I was examining the body a man saw 'here's the pistol I shot him with.' This man then went into the bedroom and brought out the pistol. This man also said: 'I am going to give myself up.' I looked carefully in the deceased's hands but found no weapon upon the corpse. The man who said he did the shooting gave some reasons for firing the shooting but the witness could not say just what that was.

Harry A. Derring said: "I was on the street below McMaster's house at a few minutes after 9 o'clock to-night, and I heard two pistol shots that seemed to have come from McMaster's house. Afterwards came back in about 15 minutes and entered McMaster's house where a crowd had already collected. I saw the deceased. He was lying upon the floor up stairs dead. I saw Lewis with a revolver in his hand. Lewis said: 'This is the revolver. I am going to give myself up.' Lewis went into the room and got his revolver after I entered the house. Under Sheriff Price said: "I was in the court house at 9:30, when Deputy Sheriff Nichols and Frank Lewis came in together. Lewis said he had come to give himself up for shooting a man. I asked him who he had shot and where it occurred. He said a man had come to his room and threatened to kill him and he, the prisoner, had shot him. The prisoner did not say whether the deceased had drawn any weapons or not before the scuffle. When Lewis came in the court house he had a pistol in his hand and a scuffle was there were any empty cartridges in the pistol at the time." The pistol was shown and identified.

Deputy Sheriff Harry Nichols said: "I was at the court house about 9:30 o'clock, when I saw Lewis coming up the steps with a pistol in his hand. He said: 'I have come to give myself up. I have killed a man down on Montana street.' I asked him what the trouble was. He said the man had said he would kill him to-night. He was in his room, when this man came into the room and rushed at him. He pushed him back and told him to keep away, but Johnson rushed on him again and then Lewis shot him. I asked him if Johnson had a revolver. He said he guessed he was. I didn't examine the pistol closely, but it looked to me as though only one shot had been fired. Jailor James Cook said: "I was setting on the steps when I saw Lewis come up. He gave himself up and I took the pistol out of his hand. I asked him what the trouble was, and he said he guessed he had killed a man. He spoke in a sorrowful manner, but was not excited. Mr. Cook exhibited the re-

volver which contained two discharged cartridges, one right over the barrel, and three loaded cartridges. The witness said it was a Smith & Wesson .32-caliber self-cocker.

V. S. Gifford, of 215 Montana street, said: "I room in the front room on the ground floor and was there about 9 o'clock. I heard a noise in and went up stairs. I heard words and a loud scuffle. I could not distinguish the words. I heard two reports. I heard the landlady go out and said: 'What the trouble was up there. He said: 'Come up stairs with me. I will kill me and I guess I have shot him.' I came out of my room and saw Lewis standing on the stairs; he said: 'Come up stairs with me. I have shot him and guess I've killed him.' He insisted on my going up. The man was still breathing. He was lying on his breast with his head over the three-shed. Lewis said they had had a row. He had the pistol in his hand all the time. While I went for a doctor he changed the scuffle. I heard something about giving himself up and went out. There was a lamp in the room. The scuffle was very loud. Quite a racket was kicked up. William Maratta said: "I was on Montana street talking to Dr. Gunn soon after 9 o'clock when I heard two reports like pistol reports. Only faint when I got to the second story. Mr. Lewis said Johnson swore he would kill him and had struck him and he had shot him. He asked me to walk up to the court house with him, and I did."

Owen Williams, of the firm of Williams & Sauveille, identified the body as that of Frank Johnson. Lewis left his shop about 8:45 and Johnson about 9 o'clock. Mr. Williams knew of no relatives or friends of Johnson. He thought about \$20 was due him for wages. There was \$25 in his clothes at the time of his death. Johnson came to this city from Helena a few weeks ago. The inquest was concluded at 1 o'clock this morning.

A STANDARD reporter had an interview with Lewis, who was dosing restlessly upon his cot in the jail when the reporter called. He is a fine looking young man, of light complexion, muscular frame and kindly expression. His face was swollen with weeping and he gave every evidence of deep grief. He was very reticent about himself. He would not state where his parents reside. He said he is an American by birth. He left his home, somewhere in Illinois, over four years ago, and came to Montana two years ago. He had lived in Butte most of that time. He says he has brothers and sisters and believes his father and mother are still alive, though he has not had any word from home in many months. He hoped they would not hear of his present terrible plight. He said he had never known Johnson until he came to work in Williams' butcher shop on West Park street. They had always agreed since lodging together until yesterday, when they quarreled over the sale of some meat. Lewis said Johnson seemed to get most uneasy with rage and openly and frequently threatened to "do him." Lewis said: "God knows I had no desire to do the poor fellow harm, but when he came home to-night of course I knew he was mad at me, for he said at the shop he would smash me. He came direct to the room and grabbed me. He asked him to let me know where he was going to be trouble for he seemed crazy with anger. I shoved him away from me, but he caught me again and struck me. When I was away from him about the third time I jumped back into the room as far as I could, hoping to shut the door between us. He rushed at me and made a motion to draw a revolver from his hip pocket, as I thought, and in a second I drew my revolver, which I always carry, and shot him. I don't know whether my shot hit him or not, but I was excited. My God! I hope the people won't think I am a murderer at heart. I never intended to kill him, but was afraid of him, and took his threats and actions as sure he had a pistol and intended to shoot me. I wish now I had been the victim, though I am innocent of any intention to commit murder."

Lewis during the interview gave evidence of great mental suffering and sorrow. A STANDARD reporter interviewed Mr. E. J. Reid, bookkeeper at Williams & Sauveille's butcher shop on West Park street, where both young men worked. Mr. Reid said Lewis is a young man of unusually good habits. He does not drink and is of a very generous and kind hearted disposition. Lewis has worked in the shop since last April and has never had an angry word with any one until Johnson had threatened to plug him. Lewis said he was very sorry for the trouble and heartily abused him. Reid says Lewis did his best to avoid a quarrel with Johnson. Lewis told Reid to-night that Johnson had threatened to plug him. Lewis seemed anxious to avoid a quarrel, and asked Reid where he could find Policeman James, as he was afraid. Johnson was looking for trouble. Johnson also appeared like a quiet fellow. Mr. Reid said, but a man evidently of very violent temper.

At 1:30 o'clock this (Saturday) morning the coroner's jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the facts, that Johnson came to his death by a shot from a revolver in the hands of Lewis.

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