

LOS ANGELES HERALD

DAILY AND WEEKLY.

THE OFFICIAL CITY PAPER.

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man could have two legal wives, the married world was stirred from center to circumference. But that is nothing to the book that would ensue if it were discovered that even the bands of a monogamist could not be legally broken.

GROPING IN A DARKNESS FULL OF LIGHT.

A surveying party is reported to be running lines out from Mohave towards Inyo for a projected railroad. They report the country as topographically inviting to easy and economical railroad construction, being without heavy grades and having no difficult obstructions to overcome. We have known for many years that no finer stretch of country for railroad building can be found anywhere than that which lies between Mohave and Independence. When Senator Jones first started to build the Santa Monica and Independence railroad it was his intention to continue the road to Independence, Inyo county. Indeed the incorporated title of the line was the Los Angeles and Independence Railroad company. Nothing but the great financial panic of 1876, in which the California bank of San Francisco went down, carrying with it a number of interior institutions and disarranging all industrial projects, prevented us from having a railroad to Inyo at that time.

There seems to be some substantial backing to the present movement, although who is behind it has not yet transpired. Perhaps Mr. D. O. Mills, the owner of the California and Carson road, is preparing to carry out a project which he was known to seriously entertain several years ago. His road now runs practically from nowhere to nowhere. It has no important terminus at either end, but connects at Mound House, in Lyons county, Nevada, with the Virginia railroad, which in turn connects with the Central Pacific at Reno. The Carson Valley road is about three hundred miles long, and taps the trade of Bodie, Candelaria and Inyo county. It terminates at a small town near Owens lake. In order to keep up this extensive road, which engineers would say is built on air, the owner has had to personally, and at his own expense, develop all sorts of traffic for it. He has worked borax fields and salt marshes along the line, has kept large gangs of men at work felling trees and furnishing firewood to the towns along its route, and has produced an important industry in providing acids and salts from the waters of Owens lake. It would seem that the owner of a road like this would consider it imperative to extend it to a country that would furnish it business on its own account as Los Angeles would. If it were run to Mohave, about one hundred miles, it would open a very rich region en route, and would have the advantage of a very important trade that would necessarily spring up between this city and the country it traverses.

It may be, however, that this exploring expedition is entirely disconnected with the Mills road, and that it is the result of the desire of one of the great overland roads that penetrate as far as Utah, to reach this coast. It is also possible that the Santa Fe company has something to do with this movement. We can see where that company would add immensely to its business by extending a branch of its road into the great interior basin. Such a branch would be a feeder to its main line of the most important character. It would give it an immense traffic in coal and ores from Southern Utah to Los Angeles, and would turn the source of supply to Salt Lake from San Francisco to Los Angeles. The mere statement of the traffic which such a road could secure is the strongest argument that could be advanced for its construction.

It is also possible that the Southern Pacific is at the bottom of this movement. We can see many reasons why that company should consider it a fine stroke of policy to run a branch of its road to Salt Lake. The Central Pacific may pass out of its control when the United States forecloses its mortgage, and it would with this road have a continuation of its connection with Utah. The company is perhaps not well satisfied with the opposition San Francisco has raised to it, and might want to have a point d'appui to fall back upon. The deep-sea harbor it has built at Santa Monica would also furnish a motive for the extension to Utah. Instead the reasons for such an extension multiply as one contemplates the subject in all its bearings.

Whether any of our surmises are correct or not, we have this fact to fall back upon. Somebody is getting ready to build a road that will connect Los Angeles with Southern Utah.

THE STOLEN TARIFF SHEET.

With the aid of a few honest clerks who do not believe in selling their employers' business secrets to the highest bidder, for cash, the Southern Pacific company's detectives have succeeded in finding the mercenary individual who "gave away the snap." The attempt of a leading newspaper to deny having bribed the treacherous employe to divulge secrets that were his employers' absolute property until they saw fit to make them public, are laughable.

These efforts to obtain information in advance of its proper publication result invariably in the discomfiture of the parties attempting them. Upwards of thirty-five years ago James W. Simonton, then a Washington correspondent of the New York Times, but afterwards an owner in the Call and Bulletin of San Francisco, managed to secure himself under the benches of the senate gallery and to eavesdrop an executive session of that body. It resulted in his being expelled from reportorial privileges in either house of congress, and while he achieved some prominence as a journalist, yet he had very few friends.

rated by men of the stamp of Simonton. The general business public does not take kindly to such methods in journalism, and has but little use for newspapers that practices them. Real enterprise in journalism is always well worthy of commendation, but this is not a case of that sort.

The secretary of state's department was evidently in panic yesterday. It was the center of wild and unfounded reports from this coast to the effect that the refusal of the Chinese to register would be followed today by organized attacks upon that people in all the Pacific states. No information has reached any of the newspapers on this coast that there was any movement amongst whites for such purpose. Had there been anything of the kind, it would have leaked out and been made public. There has certainly been no preparations made to attack the Chinese in this city. Any organized movement with such an object in view could not have been successfully kept in complete secrecy. The secretary of state's office was so credibly informed, however, that there would be anti-Chinese rioting on this coast today that Mr. Gresham telegraphed to all the governors, asking them, on behalf of the president, to suppress any disturbances that might arise. We regret the way in which one of the governors—Penneyer, of Oregon—answered this request. In so many words he advised Mr. Gresham to tell the president to mind his own business, and that he would attend to Oregon. Penneyer is a crank and a boor. No gentleman whatever, in high official capacity or not, would send so low-flung and insulting a message to the president of the United States. This wild as placed upon a conspicuous height has shown his ears on several occasions of late. He is no credit to Oregon, and is certainly a disgrace to the high office he so emphatically discredits.

The Republican papers have not hesitated to charge Cleveland's administration with over-zeal in the work of official decapitation. But a comparison of the appointments of fourth class postmasters by Cleveland during the first two months of his administration with the terrible slaughter during the same time four years ago by Harrison's headman Clarkston, shows that the Republican howl is not warranted. A dispatch from Washington says that Cleveland has appointed 3894 fourth class postmasters against Harrison's 5104 during the first two months of each administration. In removals from other offices the comparison is still more favorable to Cleveland. It stands 1209 against 3498. The fact is that whilst the Republicans always charge the Democrats with being inveterate spoils-seekers, they are really less amenable to that censure than the party of large pretences.



AMUSEMENTS

LOS ANGELES THEATRE.—As perfect a specimen as ever was written of the farce comedy was given last night in 'The Prodigal Father.' The piece is devoid of the variety show attachments which Mr. Hoyt introduced in his productions, but is bright, quick in movement and full of wit. It does not need any black-stockings girls, or male quartettes, or specialty people, to make it go, but succeeds perforce of its combined literary qualities and dramatic significance. The theme is by no means a novel one, but it was so well handled last night, and presented in such an artistic manner as to be once again the admiration of the audience and secure for the entire company a unanimous "well" at the end of the second act.

An especially creditable bit of work was the monologue by Mr. George Bonifacio in the second act, in which he accurately hit lines by some clever accompaniment "business" with a piano, making the effect really that of a comic recitativo.

Mr. Denham as Stanley Dodge presented a very enjoyable piece of high comedy art, and Mr. Caldwell in a smaller role was none the less satisfactory.

Miss Forde as Dollie Blonde was pleasing, but the women of the company are overshadowed by the excellence of the men, always excepting Irene Franklin, the charming youngster who plays the part of an infant terrible, "right up to the handle," as she would say. The part is that of a naturally sweet little child whose playground has been in the houses and whose companions have been "song and dance" and "sketch" artists. The result is a very end-of-the-century little girl, pleasing but worldly.

For some reason that is difficult to understand Carmenita, the Spanish dancer, is in the company, and performs between the second and third acts. As an example of feminine suppleness and contortion she is extraordinary, and probably as a dancer of the figures peculiar to Spain she is perfect; but her great success is due to a fashion which New York set, and which of course is followed by the rest of the world. When she was here with one of Kiraly's troupes a few years ago she hardly got a ripple of applause; last night she was public, it appears, like the supreme court, has the right to reverse itself.

The Prodigal Father and the company giving it can be consistently recommended to all who enjoy wit and humor devoid of horseplay and buffoonery.

BENTLEY WANTS A NEW TRIAL.

The Motion Argued by Counsel Last Night.

Mr. Goodrich Delivers a Long and Able Argument.

The Defense Makes an Excellent Showing in the Argument—The Reasons Given in Support of the Motion.

The audience that greeted Henry Bentley last night, as he walked into Judge Smith's court room, was not as large as that which looked down upon him on the day when a jury, with one of the most difficult cases of circumstantial evidence ever submitted to 12 American citizens, brought in a verdict of guilty of murder without being absent over 20 minutes on that work of deliberation. Last night about 75 people were without the bar of the court, and less than a dozen on the inside of it. The prosecution was represented by H. C. Dillon, district attorney; George J. Denis, J. V. Hannon and Senator White, but the latter gentleman did not appear; and the defense was covered by Anderson & Anderson, Mr. Goodrich and George Hayford. The defense applied for a new trial on the following grounds:

First—That the jury had listened to remarks from counsel for the prosecution that were improper.

Second—That the jury had received information that they (the jury) were wrong in their verdict.

Third—That the jury had been separated and made liable to approach during the pendency of the trial.

Fourth—That the court erred in instructing the jury.

Fifth—That the verdict of the jury was contrary both to the law and the evidence.

Another affidavit of Bentley was then read, to the effect that additional evidence could now be given, which was not obtainable at the time of the trial.

Mr. Dillon then read 12 affidavits from the several members of the jury, to the effect that they had not been approached during the trial. Also one from the bailiff in charge of the jury to the effect that he had had entire charge of the jury during the trial, that they had not been separated, and that no person had offered to approach them.

Judge Anderson spoke about 40 minutes, and reviewed the manner in which the jury had occupied 12 rooms on the third floor of the St. Elmo hotel, with 23 rooms adjoining them and accessible to outside parties if they so desired. The counsel then showed a diagram of such rooms, showing how easily a juror could be tampered with from an adjoining room, and how a juror could get out about the time he had spoken 40 minutes. His son then took up the argument. He said that there was a case of purely circumstantial evidence, and yet a jury of 12 men, presumably intelligent, had rendered a verdict of murder in the first degree after barely 20 minutes' deliberation and in the face of the strongest professional testimony tending to exculpate the prisoner. He then referred to the manner in which both District Attorney Dillon and Mr. Geo. J. Denis had dropped their vocations of counsel and volunteered testimony to the jury while summing up, in which they had not been checked by the court. He then went on in the People vs. Bowers, Cal. 70, p. 415 in which the court held the public prosecutor guilty of misconduct in sitting from a matter concerning Bowers' record which had not been offered in evidence, and had granted a new trial accordingly. In the case of People vs. Devine, 95 Cal., p. 31, Judge De Haven had said: "The court will hold a proper check on counsel for either side. The object of courts is to grant fair trials, and fair trials cannot be had if counsel are allowed to make improper and prejudicial statements at variance with their personal knowledge."

Mr. Denis referred to the strychnine found in the stomach of the dead woman and said that by a strange parallel of circumstances two women had died within a short time of each other, one in New York and the other in Los Angeles, and in each case a copy had been given as the cause of death. The intervention of chemical analysis had been invoked, however, and within 24 hours of the time Dr. Buchanan was convicted of having murdered his wife in the court house in New York, Bentley had been convicted of murdering his wife with strychnine in Los Angeles. The counsel then went on in a long dissertation on the ptomaines of strychnine and the various tests used to detect the presence of that fatal drug.

Prosecuting Attorney Dillon next reviewed the statements of the defendant's counsel in reference to the manner in which the jurors were separated at the St. Elmo hotel. There were no lodgings in the court house for jurors, and it had always been customary to take them to a hotel. The law says jurors shall be given food and lodging; and their entertainment at the St. Elmo was lodging and food within the intent of the law. The bailiff in charge had slept in one room with keys to the other 12, and had anybody attempted to tamper with the jury they must have been heard. He then read a number of cases in which the supreme court had held that if the officer in charge exercises a due diligence to keep the jury together, that is sufficient in the eye of the law. He said he had nothing to retract concerning what he had said about Bentley, who had married an old woman for her money, and who had then treated her so cruelly that he might as well have murdered her as to ask her to live through such a life of cruelty and neglect.

It was 10 o'clock when Mr. Goodrich rose up to address the court and did so in a manner that was both credible and elegant. He overhauled the manner in which the jury had been addressed by counsel for the prosecution and cited several cases to show where, for similar reasons, the verdicts had been set aside and retrials granted for a new trial. Here was a case, he said, where three of the most eminent medical men in Los Angeles had decided a woman had died from natural causes, yet a jury convicted her spouse of murder in 20 minutes' deliberation. The court could not, in his belief, deprive a man of his liberty for the term of a natural life on such showing as this but must grant a new trial in the interest of justice.

Judge Smith took the case under advisement at 10:55 p. m.

Miners Returning to Work. CLEVELAND, May 4.—A number of the striking miners in Ohio have returned to work. The general belief is the strike will be practically ended the first of next week.

EAST SIDE.

News Notes from That Thriving Section.

Mr. Will Cramer of Hellman street was made extremely happy on Wednesday by the arrival of a fine girl baby at his home, which the happy father declares looks just like its mother and is the earnest child on the block. Mrs. Cramer is doing nicely.

William Dolente has sold his ranch and is preparing to leave for the east. Mrs. H. L. Parcells of Cincinnati, O., is visiting the east side.

One of our letter carriers has been transferred to the other side because of recent orders received by the postmaster from the postoffice department at Washington, notwithstanding which the East Side gets one more additional dispatch than heretofore. Postmaster Van Dusen intends to give the East Side every benefit that department rules will allow, and has authorized your correspondent to state that he will consider it a kindness if anyone will report any unjust complaint, which will be given immediate attention.

Mr. James Tibbets is now occupying his cosy Day-street home which is very cozily situated.

Mr. J. F. Brossart has had a realistic picture of himself taken among his deer in his park adjacent to his Pasadena avenue home.

Mr. E. Stone's new residence is fast reaching completion; when finished it will be an ideal one.

THE WILKES BLOOD.

A Gentleman of Massachusetts Writes to an Employee of this Office, to ask if there are any daughters of the noted trotting stallion McKinney, 2:12 1/2, for sale in this country. He answers that none of them are yet old enough to be available.

Mr. Clarence Day of the Belmont stock farm, San Mateo, has been in town for the past two days. It will be remembered that he purchased the fine, young chestnut stallion, Dictatus, by Red Wilkes out of Miss Lollie by Dictator, from George Reed of this city, some time along in October last. He is quietly gathering up a nice lot of young mares to mate with his stallion, who has thickened out into a horse of splendid proportions and a very showy animal altogether. He was so impressed by the way Walter Mahen got Stamboul down to the world's record for trotting stallions, that he now talks of sending Dictatus down here to him, to have him worked for a record. Mr. Day is in negotiation for one or two select young mares to be taken back to his farm.

THEY MAY WED.

Marriage Licenses Which Were Issued Yesterday.

Marriage licenses were granted to the following persons yesterday: James R. Dunn, aged 34, a native of New York and resident of Phoenix, Arizona, and Jennie Edgar, aged 22, a native of California and resident of Azusa.

Harry W. Mahar, aged 23, a native of Colorado, and Mary R. Taylor, aged 23, a native of California, both residents of Los Angeles.

E. L. Younkim, aged 33, a native of Kansas, and Bird Wallace, aged 23, a native of Illinois, both residents of San Francisco.

Herman J. Patterson, aged 39, and Edith J. Hard, aged 26, both natives of New York and residents of Riverdale.

SOCIETY.

The first annual ball of the Spanish-American club takes place this evening at Armory hall. The affair promises to be one of the events of the season.

The following officers, who have the matter in charge, are doing their utmost to make the event a grand success, which no doubt they will accomplish: Antonio Ordia, president; F. A. Maricic, treasurer; N. M. Quirolo, assistant treasurer and secretary; Ed V. Naud, vice-president, and F. E. Lopez, treasurer and secretary. In fact, all the members are working like beavers to make the occasion one not soon to be forgotten.

Last Tuesday afternoon a number of children were entertained at the home of Rev. and Mrs. D. Hughes, 845 Hemlock street, in celebration of the fifth birthday of their little grand-daughter, Miss Ethel Rees. The little ones had a royal good time, being amused and entertained with games suited to their tender years. Before dispersing to their homes they partook of their delectation. Miss Ethel was the recipient of several kind remembrances in the shape of useful gifts and beautiful flowers from her little friends. The following little ones were present: Ethel and Florence Rees, Helen and Hazel Parker, Ruth, Philip, Paul and Beth Hanna, Gladys Wilson, Gentil Stacey, Ethel Peck, Lawrence Parker, George Knox and Neil Hinkley.

To the World's Fair.

The Santa Fe is the most direct line. No change of cars from Los Angeles to the White City. Thirty-six hours quicker than any other route. Through Pullman and Tourist cars every day. Special excursions every Wednesday. City ticket office, 129 North Spring street. Call for information.

Floods in Manitoba.

WINNIPEG, May 4.—The river banks are full and the water is still rising. The river bottom are all submerged. South of here are several ice jams and large tracts of inundated country. Farmers have left their homes, in many cases taking their stock with them.

It was 10 o'clock when Mr. Goodrich rose up to address the court and did so in a manner that was both credible and elegant. He overhauled the manner in which the jury had been addressed by counsel for the prosecution and cited several cases to show where, for similar reasons, the verdict