

# THE DAILY ENTERPRISE.

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LIVINGSTON, MONTANA, THUSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 27, 1883.

Price, Ten Cents

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## THE PENALTY.

John H. Clark, for the Murder of T. Rogers, on the 21st of June, Hanged in the Gallatin County Jail Yard.

He Dies Protesting His Innocence of Murder, and the Usual Hope of Meeting Us All in Heaven.

Special Telegram to the Daily Enterprise.

BOZEMAN, Dec. 27.—John H. Clark, for the cold-blooded murder of T. Rogers, on the 21st of June last, was hanged in the jail yard here at 11 o'clock this morning. The condemned man passed a quiet night, sleeping a greater part of the time, and ate a hearty breakfast at 8 this morning. He showed no signs of weakness at any time, and conversed with those about him with the air of a man who had the nerve to die without flinching. Every preparation was complete, and when the sheriff at the appointed hour called for him he expressed a willingness to go at once and have the affair over. The procession formed in the corridor of the jail and moved toward the scaffold, the doomed man strongly guarded but showing not the slightest tremor, as with a firm tread he mounted the steps. When asked if he had anything to say, he replied in a loud voice that he went to meet his God innocent of the crime of murder, and not conscious of any wrong doing in his life. The local clergymen who had been unceasing in their attentions, gathered around him and endeavored to impress upon him the hope of Christianity, but he listened indifferently and could not be moved. His arms and legs were then pinioned, the fatal noose adjusted, the cap placed over his head, and Deputy Ponsford pulled the drop. The body shot downward a distance of eight feet and stopped with a sickening thud, the feet barely touching the ground. He drew them up convulsively, but struggled no more, and after ten minutes the pulse ceased to beat, but it is doubtful if his neck was broken.

At no time since the sentence of death was pronounced did he betray the slightest signs of fear, and to the last refused to communicate with any of his friends, preserving the utmost reticence in regard to his family affairs.

At the date of this dispatch his body is still hanging.

The crime for which Clark paid the penalty was committed about twenty miles up the Yellowstone from Livingston on the 21st of June last, and was fully reported in the columns of the ENTERPRISE at the time.

Called the Turn.

Trenton Special: "Will you marry two durned fools?" was asked in Justice Miller's court to-day by an old man who only lacked two years of sixty, and whose head was bald except for a small iron-gray lock that was combed down from the ball towards the forehead.

Beside him, on a bench, sat a rather lively widow of twenty-six. Both were poorly dressed. Justice Miller, who was just returning from dinner, looked around and replied:

"Trot out your fools."

"Here we are, Squire, and tie us as quick and as cheap as you can," said the old man as he stood up with the willing bride.

After a few preliminary questions the justice ascertained that the desire for marriage was mutual with the couple and in a very few minutes he had them securely tied. The old man put a plain ring on the woman's finger, and after paying the necessary fee started away remarking to her as she leaned on his arm: "I know I'm a durned fool, but I couldn't help it."

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