

NEWS OF THE COAST.

Marshall Murder Case Is Brought to a Close at Suisun.

IN THE HANDS OF A JURY

The Fate of the Slayer of Agee Has Not Yet Been Decided.

CLOSING SCENES IN COURT.

Insanity the Basis of the Defendant's Plea—The Widow's Story of the Killings.

SUISUN, CAL., Aug. 24.—The trial of John C. Marshall, charged with the murder of his brother-in-law, Charles F. Agee, near Dixon May 25 last, came to an end to-day, and the fate of the accused is in the hands of the jury, with no probability of a verdict being returned to-night.

The trial has consumed ten days. The principal witness for the prosecution was Mrs. Agee, widow of the murdered man. The testimony of Mrs. Agee was given in a straightforward, positive manner. She gave in detail the events leading up to and including the firing of the fatal shot. She saw her husband fall, and when she dashed from the room heard three more shots fired.

Her testimony as regards the number of shots fired was corroborated by three other witnesses, who were outside the house and heard the shooting.

An important witness for the prosecution was Charles Searchlight, who was convicted on August 3 and sentenced to Folsom State Prison for horse-stealing. He occupied with the defendant the same cell while confined in the County Jail here, and acted as nurse for Marshall during the latter's illness. After receiving his sentence Searchlight made a statement to District Attorney Devin reciting what Marshall had told him of the shooting. Searchlight's testimony was a corroboration of the statements of Mrs. Agee, and was given the District Attorney voluntarily.

The defendant, Marshall, in his own behalf said the killing of Agee was an accident. He said he went to the latter's house with the intention of trying to induce him (Marshall's) wife, who had left him, to go away with him, and falling in this he intended to commit suicide. His failure to induce his wife resulted in his trying to shoot himself, and while his brother-in-law was struggling with him trying to prevent him from accomplishing his purpose the latter was accidentally shot. He said he remembered having fired but one shot, but his revolver showed four empty chambers. He admitted having felt bitterly toward Mrs. Agee, who, he said, had caused his wife to leave him.

Marshall's attorneys, Reese Clark and E. E. Gaddis, in their arguments to the jury, urged the insanity of the prisoner, which they said was caused by the continual brooding over the interference of the wife of the deceased.

Miss Lena K. Bishop, one of the witnesses for the defense, gave testimony that was a vindication of Mrs. Agee against the charges made against her.

During his argument to the jury Attorney Clark dealt unmercifully with Mrs. Agee, who sat unmoved as she listened to the attacks made upon her. All the testimony given for the prosecution was of a character tending to show a premeditated crime. Ex-District Attorney Lamont and Hon. Dennis Spencer, for the prosecution, argued eloquently for a conviction, and the case was submitted. At midnight there seemed no possibility of a verdict being returned to-night.

STOCK WENT UP IN SMOKE

Flames Caused Great Damage in a Cincinnati Wholesale District.

The Foreman of a Fire Company Fell Two Stories, but Was Not Injured.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Aug. 24.—Fire was discovered on the fifth floor of James Creasey's commission and storage warehouse, 17 East Second street, at 9:25 o'clock to-night. The Creasey company occupied all of the building and three top floors of the adjoining buildings not occupied by the Hazard Powder Company.

Before the engines arrived the fire had reached the upper part of the Hazard company's store room, which was filled with hemp and jute, and the entire upper floors of both buildings were a mass of flames.

At 10 o'clock the James Heekins company, coffee and spice merchants, building caught fire and the top floors were entirely gutted.

Half an hour later one of the floors in Creasey's warehouse fell in and Foreman McDeale of No. 6 company fell from the second floor to the ground, but was not seriously hurt.

Creasey places his loss at \$30,000. There were several explosions in Hazard's place, but no loss of life.

At 12:30 the fire was still burning, and the losses at this time are estimated as follows: Hazard company \$20,000; Creasey, \$30,000; the Heekins company \$75,000; Jilke broom factory \$15,000. The total loss will reach at least \$150,000.

Governor McKinley's Address.

CHAUTAQUA, N.Y., Aug. 24.—Nearly 10,000 people crowded the amphitheater this afternoon to hear Governor McKinley make an address under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. The Governor refrained from talking politics, but confined himself to the subject of patriotism and eulogized the soldiers, both dead and living. He said that sectionalism, mainly those enjoying a holiday, for passion and prejudice have long since given way to sober judgment and fraternal affection. The war is over, its resentments belong to the past and its glories are the heritage of all. Governor McKinley was followed by ex-Senator Warner Miller, who talked upon the pension question.

Destruction of a Warehouse.

LONDON, Eng., Aug. 24.—Bennett and Company's warehouse, adjacent Halbury's Wharf, fronting the Thames adjacent to Blackfriars Bridge, was burned this evening. Hundreds of thousands of persons, mainly those enjoying a holiday, for passion and prejudice have long since given way to sober judgment and fraternal affection. The war is over, its resentments belong to the past and its glories are the heritage of all. Governor McKinley was followed by ex-Senator Warner Miller, who talked upon the pension question.

LIVERPOOL, Eng., Aug. 24.—A seaman named Peterson, belonging to the crew of the ship Glenavon, from Portland, Or., March 26, via Falmouth, was sentenced to

FOR BARON ROTHSCHILD.

An Infernal Machine Deftly Concealed in an Envelope.

PARIS, France, Aug. 24.—A heavy letter addressed to Baron Alphonse Rothschild was delivered at the Baron's office this afternoon during his absence at Trouville. The Baron's confidential clerk, H. Jankowsky, opened the bulky parcel with a knife, whereupon it exploded. The clerk's eyes were almost torn out of his head and one of his hands was so badly shattered that three of his fingers had to be amputated. H. Laurent, Secretary of the Prefecture, is of the opinion that the infernal machine was similar to those sent to Deputies Treille, Etienne and Constans in 1891, and that it probably contained fulminate of mercury. It is thought that the package was sent by an anarchist.

Killed by a Boiler Explosion.

PALERMO, Sicily, Aug. 24.—The boiler in a mill here exploded this evening, killing three persons and wounding many others. Five persons are missing and are thought to have been killed. The mill was overthrown and pieces of wreckage were hurled a great distance.

A New Wheel Record.

LONDON, Eng., Aug. 24.—At the Catford grounds to-day W. W. Stocks, the bicyclist, rode 122 miles 590 yards in five hours, establishing a new record.

PURSUING TRAIN—ROBBERS

Excitement High Over the Union Pacific Hold-Up at Brady.

Two of the Bandits Seen and Officers Are Closely Following Their Trail.

BROKEN BOW, NEBR., Aug. 24.—Excitement is running high here over the Brady Island Union Pacific train robbery. Two men answering the description of the robbers passed through Callaway early this morning, and were seen about 6 o'clock by the night miller crossing the Loup near the Callaway mill. One was a large man with dark complexion and dark mustache, and the other was a smaller man with light complexion and smooth face. They bought a lunch at Callaway, which they carried in a paper box when seen by the miller.

Deputy Sheriff R. C. Meeker, who was with the crowd that captured George Ostrander yesterday morning, arrived here from Callaway. He found where they had eaten their lunch in the hills near Penn's ranch on Spring Creek, eleven miles northeast of Callaway, where they left the paper box. He says the shoeprints correspond exactly with those near where they captured three horses. He lost the trail of them in Spring Creek Valley. They were seen this afternoon about fifteen miles southwest of Broken Bow coming toward the city by ex-Judge Reese and C. U. Richards. They recognized them from their description and tried at several farmhouses to borrow firearms with a view of attempting to capture them. Failing, they came on to Broken Bow.

Sheriff Holliday with a posse and ex-Sheriff Penn at once started in pursuit. Since Capt. Holliday and his posse have come in with getting any other leads. A telegram has just been received here from the United States Deputy Marshal stating that the robbers are between Callaway and Broken Bow. It is thought they will come in here to-night with a view of making their way West on a night train.

TWO SUSPECTS CAPTURED.

Officers Think They Have the Train Robbers in Custody.

MASON CITY, NEBR., Aug. 24.—Two men claiming to be brothers, giving their names as Knudson, were captured a few miles east of this town this morning. These men were arrested under suspicion of being implicated in the robbery of the Union Pacific train at Gothenburg, Aug. 23 morning. They had been chased across the country from Callaway, and were seen here early this morning. The officers were apprised of their identity and immediately began pursuit. They were overhauled about five miles east of town, having stopped for a little rest. The officers covered them with guns and ordered them to throw up their hands, which they did, and upon being searched three large revolvers, a large knife and some badly torn paper money were found on their persons. Shortly after they were brought to town, Deputy Sheriff Hunter and a posse who had been in pursuit arrived and declared them to be the men wanted. They were safely guarded and taken to Broken Bow, and later advised confirm the belief that they are the men who committed the robbery. They will be taken to Kearney.

SHOOTING ON THE WING.

An Old Man's Frank in Memory of Boyhood's Days.

Magistrate Harrison is laughing heartily over a case that was adjusted before him the other day. A wagon loaded with mineral water jugs backed up to the curbstone in front of a bottling establishment last week and the driver proceeded to unload his wagon by tossing the jugs, one at a time, to a colored youth who stood on the opposite side of the curbstone ready to catch all that came his way.

When things were moving nicely an old man who occupies a house next door stepped out of his own door, threw a brick as straight as a bullet and broke one of the jugs while it was in transit from the driver to the colored boy. He darted back into his own domicile, before the driver could recover himself enough to make a protest. A few minutes later another jug was smashed, and again the old man disappeared with a merry laugh. This was kept up until about noon, when the driver stopped the fun by causing the old fellow's arrest on the charge of malicious mischief.

When Judge Harrison read the charge to him the old man laughed and his tears rolled down his cheeks, and then admitted his guilt. In making an explanation he told the astonished magistrate that he was able and willing to pay for all the damage he had done, and that he had a heart that I would have thrown bricks at them when I was a boy sixty years ago. I just wanted to see how it would feel to see a colored youth toss the jugs, and the explanation was satisfactory, and after settling the old fellow went away still laughing heartily.—Philadelphia Record.

A St. Louis Mistake.

There are to be more public squares in New York's crowded district. While the misguided city authorities of Cleveland and St. Louis are filling up the public squares with public buildings, and Congressional ecologists are trying to rob Washington of some of the public parking by building sites, New York is planning the purchase of valuable land for the purpose of establishing new breathing spots in the heart of the crowded city. Nothing is too costly for New York. It represents improvement.—Washington Star.

NATIVE SONS PREPARING.

The Various Parlor Maturing the Final Arrangements for the Ninth.

AN OFFICIAL BADGE ADOPTED.

Hundreds of Young Men in Gay Uniforms Will March in the Grand Parade.

The joint committee of Native Sons from San Francisco, Oakland and Alameda parlor having in charge the arrangements for the Admission day celebration at Sacramento held an enthusiastic and well-attended meeting last evening at the Native Sons' headquarters in the Pioneer building, L. H. Byington of the transportation

Alcaldia Parlor will turn out about seventy-five strong in white flannel shirts, white trousers, and hats, brown Windsor felt dark pants and tan shoes. It will depart at Red Men's Hall.

Presidio Parlor will parade with new banners and new flags. It has adopted as a uniform badge the new banner in colors. A drum corps will parade with this parlor.

Precita Parlor's new flags, which cost \$150, will be unfurled to the breeze for the first time at Sacramento. A drum corps will attend in the parade. A magnificent purple and gold badge has been adopted.

AS TO QUESTIONS OF LAW

Four Important Opinions by Attorney-General Fitzgerald.

Rights of Supervisors to Transfer County Funds—Rewards for Officers.

Attorney-General Fitzgerald has rendered four interesting decisions. The first was in reply to an inquiry from John E. Raker, the District Attorney of Modoc County, relative to the right of the Board of Supervisors to direct the County Treasurer to transfer county money from one fund to another to suit their convenience and to meet the various claims against the county. The opinion will be of interest to every Supervisor in the State and it is as follows:

I am in receipt of your favor of recent date in which you state that on the 29th day of June, 1895, the County Treasurer of your county, acting under the provisions of section 220 of the county government act of 1893, transferred from the county general fund to the salary fund of the county the sum of \$5500; that subsequent to the salary for the month of June, amounting to \$1430 80, were paid out of the money so transferred, leaving a balance in the salary fund of \$2069 20 over and above all salaries to be paid in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895; that certain claims against the county, aggregating about \$2000 for the last fiscal year, had been allowed by the Board of Supervisors, and warrants therefor had been drawn by the Auditor, but that there is no money in the general fund to pay warrants for such claims; that no more revenue for the last fiscal year, will be collected by the county, and that your board of Supervisors, under section 220 of the county government act of 1893, desire to transfer to the salary fund the surplus so remaining in the salary fund after the payment of the claims of the last month of the last fiscal year to the general fund.

In reply to your question as to whether or not your board has the power to compel the Treasurer to retransfer the surplus to the salary fund under the provisions of section 220 of the county government act of 1893, I have referred to the County Treasurer the opinion that under the provisions of section 220 of the county government act of 1893, he has no power to transfer from the general fund to the salary fund any greater sum of money than "may be necessary to pay the salaries to be become due." In other words, that if when the salaries become due, there is not sufficient money in the general fund to pay the salaries, money may be transferred from the general fund to the salary fund to pay them and no more. Therefore, the retransfer by the Treasurer from the general fund to the salary fund of more money than was necessary at the time to pay the salaries due was in effect no transfer. Furthermore, under subdivision 20 of section 25 of the county government act (Statutes of 1893, 306), the Board of Supervisors has the power to transfer from one fund to another as public interest may require. It follows that, as the transfer of money from the salary fund to the general fund immediately filing a statement under the purity of elections act of 1893. Mr. Fitzgerald's answer to the inquirer reads:

In reply to your favor of recent date, and to your question "Must a candidate selected to the office of School Trustee file a statement in an incorporated city or town, file a statement under section 3 of an act to promote the purity of elections, and file a statement under section 147?" I am of the opinion that under section 3 of the purity of elections law, which section, as amended in 1893, is a condition precedent for any public election held within the State, must comply with the provisions of that section, and as a condition precedent to the proposed law of March he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

residences, shop-windows and public buildings with them.

Grand Marshal Frank W. Marston, past president of California Parlor No. 1, has appointed Milton D. Garratt his chief of staff and G. H. Fairchild chief aid. He reports that on his tour among the business men whose establishments are along the proposed line of march he found them all willing to illuminate with red fire, etc., as the procession passes. There will probably be five divisions in the parade, each headed by a band or by a file and drum corps. Alotrax and Precita parlor will parade with drum corps and California, Mission, Pacific, El Dorado and Rincon parlor will have bands.

Mission Parlor will start from its hall on Seventeenth street 200 strong with Chief of Staff Milton D. Garratt and aids escorting Precita and Hesperian parlor, each with drum and file corps. Mission Parlor

NEW TELEPHONE COMPANY

Commercial Telephone Company to Compete With Bell System in Oakland.

WILL BE A PUBLIC BENEFIT.

The Granting of the Franchise to Be Considered at the Next Meeting of the Council.

The adage that competition is the spirit of enterprise and that it is an element in the prosperity of a community, reacting most favorably on projector and patron, should be well borne in the mind individually and collectively of the City Council of Oakland at its next session.

A franchise has been asked of that body by a corporation known as "The Commercial Telephone Company of Alameda County," to construct and operate a strictly first-class telephone system in Oakland. A short time ago a franchise was applied for and passed to print. When the proper time came for bidding, in accordance with the requirement of the Council, the company sent a certified check on the Taylor Bank of Oakland for \$5000 and bid \$50 in cash and half of 1 per cent of the gross income for rentals and business in Oakland, to be paid semi-annually.

The bid, considering the present status of affairs and the positive knowledge that the Bell Telephone Company pays absolutely nothing for its franchise, was deemed liberal enough.

The bid was referred to the Judiciary Committee to be acted upon at their discretion. This committee met last Thursday night and agreed to report the bid back to the Council with no recommendations. The company had not anticipated the slightest trouble in obtaining a franchise and the summary action of the committee was a source of extreme surprise to the projectors, and now they being at the mercy of the Council earnestly hope that they may see the beneficial result of such an enterprise to the public.

It is to be noted that a material prejudice exists among members of the committee toward a project of this kind.

Be that as it may, the benefits to the citizens of Oakland arising from the advent of a first-class telephone system in Oakland is thoroughly apparent.

The Commercial Telephone Company of Alameda County was incorporated June 1, 1895, with a capital of \$100,000.

John W. Butler, president; J. D. Johnson, vice-president; Albert L. Stetson, secretary; California Safe Deposit and Trust Company, treasurer; Ernest K. Smith, general manager; W. F. Shelby, superintendent; William H. Hart, attorney.

The directors are: John W. Butler, secretary California Guarantee and Investment Company; J. D. Johnson, with Redington & Co., wholesale druggists; Albert L. Stetson, with the Bell Telephone Company, wholesale hardware; E. R. Smith, capitalist; S. P. Lunt, president and manager Interior Development Company.

It is the purpose of the company to operate a first-class telephone system in and between all the towns and villages from Sacramento to San Jose.

A flat rate of \$2.50 a month is offered subscribers, and no extra charge will be made for long distance calls. There is nothing in the patent to conflict with the Bell Telephone, but it possesses all the merits of that system.

The company is in communication with the Western Telephone Company, New York, of which Thurlow Weed Barnes is the president. The object of that company is to fight the Bell Telephone. It has a capital of \$15,000,000.

The Commercial Telephone Company will introduce a device for the convenience of subscribers, hitherto unused on this coast, known as the Clark automatic switchboard.

In using the telephone by the means of a dial may, by turning a needle, switch himself to any name on the face of the dial. Underneath the dial is a wheel with a contact point for every name thereon. After the dial is turned, this wheel lowers the dial by means of simple retarding machinery.

A projection on the wheel makes and breaks the circuit for each name on the dial.

Between fifty and sixty names can be written on the dial.

A telephone with the dial addition may also be in direct communication with the central office.

Not only one name but any number may be connected simultaneously so that a camp-meeting or a caucus might be held over the wires. With such an arrangement, absolute secrecy for those conversing is obtainable.

The formidability of the new corporation is manifesting itself already.

The old company now in Oakland has cut down its rates, and over 300 subscribers with contracts for three years have been notified to leave their property and get ready to stretch a wire or putting a pole into the ground.

The offer of the new telephone company for a franchise to erect their plant in Oakland will probably come up before the Council on Monday evening. When considered by the Ordinance and Judiciary committees of the City Council, the general opinion prevailed that the offer of the company was too small for the franchise.

"I cannot express any opinion on any matter that may come up before me officially," said Mayor Davis of Oakland yesterday, "but as to the value of competition in Oakland, it is too apparent to need any repetition. I know something of it, and wherever competition has arisen the public have greatly benefited. Three years ago we had a railroad monopoly of good ferries and a water monopoly and a telephone monopoly. I started a ferry and a telephone one-half. That is if you take a ride by the creek route and one by the train. That will make an average of 7 1/2 cents a ride. Before then a single trip was 15 cents.

"Then we had a new water company commence operations on a large scale about a year ago. What is the result? People have enjoyed a reduction of 75 per cent in their water rates.

"As to telephoning I noticed that as soon as the new company applied for a franchise the old company immediately lowered its rates materially. That is a good thing. The more competition we get in competition the better. The more plant that is erected by the companies the greater is the city's income by taxes. I presume that when franchises become available they will be sold in matters of competition no company shall be required to run a race on unequal terms."

The fact that the Judiciary Committee returned the ordinance without recommendation is no equivalent to its rejection by the Council. The Non-Partisan majority of the present Oakland Council has shown no love for monopolies during their three years of office, and there is no reason to suppose they will do so in the case of the telephone monopoly.

Councilman Bassett is the most violent anti-monopolist of the Council, and his only hesitancy is due to his anxiety that nothing should be given away with no adequate return.

It was recalled to-day that when the extension of franchise along Twelfth street to the bay from Broadway was granted by the present Council Hirst demanded that the company erect powerful electric lights on every two blocks. This was shown to be a hardship on one company when three others ran on parallel streets, and the franchise was eventually granted on the original terms. The general feeling is that if Assessor Dalton places a value on the

WHEELS A MAN BEATEN?

KICKED IN THE HEAD.

Alexander Bannon, a Janitor, Fatally Wounded During a Saloon Quarrel.

Alexander Bannon, one of the assistant janitors at the new City Hall, attended a dance in Irish-American Hall last night.

At 1 o'clock this morning, with several others, he entered a saloon near by. During a row that soon followed Bannon was knocked down.

Some one kicked him on the head, causing a fracture at the base of the skull.

At the Receiving Hospital it was said that he could not recover.

No arrests have been made, but the police are searching for the guilty persons.

NEW THINGS IN ELECTRICITY

WONDERFUL TIME-MEASURING INSTRUMENT.

Much interest has been aroused in the scientific circles of Europe by what is claimed to be the most wonderful timing instrument in the world, the pendulum-chronoscope, invented in this country by Professor C. B. Bliss, and perfected in the psychological laboratory of Yale by J. J. Hogan.

It can be used with the quickness of a stop-watch, without the help of either electric or mechanical mechanism. It measures accurately down to the one-thousandth part of a second and is already taking the place of the old-style chronoscopes in scientific laboratories. The instrument is an ingenious combination of mechanical and electrical attachments. It tells the speed of a cannon ball, the lapse of time between the firing of a pistol and the starting of a runner, and it is proposed to introduce it into the courts of law, so that pupils can constantly test the speed with which they can deliver a blow, and so note the lessening of the reaction time between the brain impulse and the blow on which the speed of skill depends. The machine consists of a pendulum and a pointer swinging independently on the same axle. The tip of the pointer travels along the face of a curved scale or indicator, which is graduated to show the one-thousandth of a second. To secure the accuracy required for the transmission of any given impression a button is pressed. This sets the pendulum