sioned by his arrest was in no condition to present his case.

Commissioner Heacock said: "I was about to have an officer sworn to identify the prisoner and to inform him of the charge against him, and of his right to counsel at all stages of the proceedings. We could then fix a date for examination at such time as would suit your convenience."

"If your Honor please," said Mr. Donohoe, rising at this juncture, "we appear for the Government of Great Britain and I would ask that Constable Conroy be called to the stand."

Clement Bennett was then sworn in as official stenographer and Mr. Stone opened his direct examination.

"What is your name, residence and occupation?" he asked the witness, who replied that his name was Michael A. Conroy, his residence New South Wales and his occupation that of a constable.

"Did you ever see this man before?" (indicating the prisoner).

"Yes, sir."

"Who is he?"

"I know the prisoner by the name of Frank Harwood."

"When did you first see him?"

"On or about September 10, 1896."

"When did you see him again?"

"Two weeks later."

"When was the last time you saw him before you saw him here?"

"It was, I should say, about the 9th or 10th of October at the Botanical Gardens in Sydney."

"When did you first see him to-day?"

"About 6 o'clock this morning on the ship Swanhilda."

"Where?"

"In the bay."

"In the bay of San Francisco?"

"Yes, sir."

"Do you know whether or not any warrant has been issued against him?"

"Yes; in Sydney."

"Do you know whether or not this man is the man for whom a warrent was issued in this court?"

"I believe it is the same man, sir."

Mr. Stone—What is the extent of your acquaintance with the defendant?

"Between three and four weeks. I had seen him occasionally."

"In what way?"

"I became acquainted with him in connection with a prospecting tour in Aubrey, New South Wales."

"Did you know him always by this name?"

"Yes, sir."

"No other name?"

"No, sir."

Mr. Bidwell—Did you know Captain Lee Weller?

"No, sir; not in life, but I saw the body at Glenbrooke."

"Is this the person you saw at Glenbrooke?"

"No."

Counsel for the British Government then called Constable McHattie, whereupon the court asked if the prosecution wished to go further merely for purposes of identification, and before a reply could be given Mr. Stone asked for ten days to prepare matters in this case. Commissioner Heacock said:

On the point of identification I need no further evidence. As counsel for the prisoner don't you desire to have the charge formulated against him?

Mr. Stone—I understand that the charge is substantially familiar to him and it is not therefore necessary to read it. Then he asked Butler, who replied: "No; I know the charge already."

Mr. Donohoe—We will certainly oppose a continuance for any such time as ten days. It seems utterly out of reason to ask for such a continuance in a case of this nature.

The court—I will hear Mr. Stone on this point.

Mr. Stone repeated that the prisoner had been taken entirely by surprise; that he had only just arrived after a sea voyage and had had no opportunity whatever to relate the charges against him. This being the case it was no more than reasonable to ask ten days for preparation. The prosecution, on the other hand, had had ample time to present their case. They had been working on it for weeks and were prepared to proceed at once.

Mr. Donohoe—If your Honor please, this is in no sense a trial; it is merely a preliminary examination with a view to ascertaining whether there is sufficient evidence against this man to turn him over to the remanding Government in order to determine as to his criminality, with the aid of a jury and all the safeguards provided by the law. It is, therefore, unusual to ask for any such time as ten days. There is no provision under our system

MRS. LEE WELLER, Who e Husband Is Said to Have Been Murdered in the Blue Mountains of Australia by Butler.

of administering law by which this man can subpena any witnesses. I respectfully submit that two or three days should be amply sufficient to ascertain the full merits of his defense and to present the same for your Honor's consideration.

The court—I shall not grant any such continuance on the present showing. As is well stated by the counsel for the Government, this is only a preliminary examination. I think, therefore, a continuance of two or three days would be ample.

Mr. Bidwell began: Considering his lack of acquaintance with the conditions in this country and the long sea trip and the difficulty——

The court—Does the defense claim that it has witnesses whose attendance it wishes to secure?

Mr. Bidwell—The prisoner informs us he has acquaintances it would take us some time to look up. As the case is of some moment and as public prejudice is against the prisoner, we contend that ten days is even too short.

Mr. Cormac suggested that five days might be agreed to as a continuance.

The court—I think a matter of this kind should be disposed of within a reasonable time. The defendant at the same time has his rights, of course. This is a very serious charge, but in the absence of any showing that he could not be prepared in five day, I will set the case for that time.

Counsel for defense complained that they had had no time to investigate and that the prisoner had been troubled by reporters.

The court—How would it be to take the testimony for the prosecution?

Mr. Stone—We would prefer to have testimony taken all at once and be prepared to cross-examine witnesses on behalf of the prosecution. We do not think ten days is an unreasonable length of time in a case of this moment. If it were a matter of small importance we should not be so insistent. As it is, the prisoner has not been in custody longer than half a day.

The court—Will you be ready at the expiration of ten days?

Mr. Stone—Yes, certainly, your Honor.

The court—You could not be ready any sooner?

Mr. Stone—We have our doubts about that.

The court—I am aware from newspaper reading that there are witnesses from a long distance who are here at great expense.

Mr. Donohoe—I was about to say that and that any unusual delay would involve greater expense. We would not oppose any reasonable delay and as Mr. Cormac suggests, five days seem to be ample in a case of this nature.

The court—Gentlemen, I have set the case for examination on next Monday, the 8th, at 10:30 o'clock.

Mr. Donohoe—We would ask, if your Honor please, that it be noted that this continuance is granted at the request of the defense.

The court—The record will show it. The defendant will stand committed in custody of the Marshal until that time.

The court then adjourned. The prisoner was taken right through the crowd to the prison adjoining the Marshal's office. He smoked and chatted, but there was a troubled look on his face. As soon as the commitment was made out the prisoner was taken back to the City Prison.

When taken to the Appraisers' building a half hour before noon and placed in a barred room to await the examination of the afternoon, "Butler" was again brought in contact with the reporters, and for some time. He was smoking another gift cigar, and replied to questions, cynically, even jestingly, but never showed a sign of weakening.

He was asked as to the reliability of the claim of a woman at Vallejo who asserts that she is his wife and was married to him here four years ago. "Well," he said, smiling peculiarly at his own wit, "if sh 's my wife, why doesn't she come and see her husband, now that he's in trouble? And she might bring a bottle along, too. And, by the way, do you know has she any money? She ought to come and offer sympathy," he continued. And then some one asked: "Which would you rather have, sympathy or a bottle?" "Well," he began slowly, his ugly little eyes twinkling at the joke about to come, "I think I'd rather have the bottle."

## THE CONSUL'S DEPOSITION

### A Statutory Application for the Extradition of the Prisoner.

The text of the British Consul-General's deposition made on application for the extradition of the prisoner is as follows:

In the matter of the application for the extradition of Frank Harwood, otherwise called S. Burgess, otherwise called Butler, otherwise called Sampson, otherwise called Clare, otherwise called Lee Weller. Under the treaty between the United States and Great Britain, concluded August 9, 1842.

The United States of America, Northern District of California, to the Hon. W. W. Morrow, Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of California.

J. W. Warburton, her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at the Port of San Francisco, in the State of California, United States of America, being first duly sworn doth depose and say upon his information and belief and doth complain as follows:

That one Frank Harwood, otherwise called S. Burgess, etc., a British subject late of Newcastle in the colony of New South Wales, Australia, heretofore, to wit, on or about the 31st day of October, 1896, at Glenbrooke, within the said colony of New South Wales, Australia, and within the jurisdiction of her said Britannic Majesty and out of the jurisdiction of the United States and of any particular State thereof, did feloniously, willfully, unlawfully and of his malice aforethought, kill and murder one Lee M. Weller.

That the said Frank Harwood, otherwise called Frank Burgess, etc., is a fugitive from the justice of said colony of New South Wales and of the said her Britannic Majesty and has fled to the United States of America, and is now within the territory of the said United States, and within the Northern District of California, and within the jurisdiction of the Honorable the said District Court of the United States for the Northern District of California.

That the crime of which the said Harwood, etc., has so, as aforesaid, been guilty would justify his apprehension and commitment for trial for the said crime if the same had been committed within the Northern District of California or within the jurisdiction of the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of California.

That the crime of which the said Frank Harwood, etc., has so, as aforesaid, been guilty, is embraced by and included in the provisions of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States concluded and signed the 9th of August, 1842.

That a requisition has been made by Sir Julian Pauncefote, her Britannic Majesty's Embassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, under the provisions of said treaty to the said Government of the United States, for the arrest of the said Frank Harwood, etc., charged with the said crime of murder.

That complainant's belief is based and founded upon information received from her Britannic Majesty's Government and from Sir Julian Pauncefote and authenticated copies of the sworn information against said Frank Harwood, etc., charging him with said murder, a warrant for his arrest for said crime, issued in said colony, and sundry depositions all duly authenticated.

Wherefore, your complainant prays your honor to issue your warrant for the said apprehension of the said Frank Harwood, etc.

## STRYCHNINE IN HIS HAT.

### Ten Grains of Poison Found by Detective Egan.

One of the most extraordinary incidents of the day was Detective Egan's discovery of ten grains of strychnine secreted in the prisoner's hatband.

Butler was evidently surprised when he saw that his package had been discovered, and he made a desperate attempt to get it, saying he did not know what it was.

Speaking of the discovery Detective Egan said:

"It is my custom to always look into a man's hat. It is generally considered that the hatband may hide small objects calculated to be of future use to the prisoner. I didn't tell Butler I wanted to look at his hat, but took it off his head at once. In the band I found a closely wrapped paper inclosing ten grains of a white powder, which afterward proved to be strychnine.

"'Hello, what's this?' I asked. Butler said he didn't know, and reached out for the package, saying, 'Let me see.' 'Oh, no,' I exclaimed, and I pocketed the stuff."

The powder was turned over to A. McBoyle, chemist and druggist, 504 Washington street. He made an analysis and found it to be from ten to twelve grains of sulphate of strychnine.

"Where did you get the strychnine and what were you going to do with it?" was asked of Butler by a CALL reporter yesterday afternoon in the presence of Detective Egan. "I don't know anything about the

FRANK BUTLER, THE ALLEGED MURDERER.

[Sketched from life by a "Call" artist.]

stuff," he said, continuing, "I am not going to kill myself, you may depend upon it, or else I should have done it before." Further than this he would not discuss the subject.

"Since Butler has been in custody we have talked together several times," said Detective Egan, "but he tried always to keep away from the main subject. He acknowledged, however, that he felt sure of defeating the charges against him.

"'They can't convict me,' he said, 'on these two charges, but, of course, they may nail me on the charge of forgery or something else, but not on these murder cases.'"

In another conversation he said: "I did not shoot Weller," thus showing that he was familiar with the method of Captain Weller's death.

## BUTLER'S PROPERTY.

### A Queer Collection, Some Articles of Which Point Directly to His Guilt.

In Butler's effects were found a great variety of miscellaneous property. Some are marked Weller, some are marked Harwood, some are not marked at all and some identify themselves. The list is a queer one and is as follows:

**Articles Marked "Lee Weller."**—A songbook bound in red cloth and entitled "Songs of England," by J. Hatton, and on the flyleaf in writing the inscription, "To Mrs. Lee Weller from Arthur W. Palmer, 25 Field ng Road, Beadford Park, London W., Sept. 1894"; a book entitled "Nautical Tables," by J. W. Norie, and on the flyleaf in writing the name "L. M. Weller"; a small pocket cyclopedia marked "Lee Weller"; a small strip of paper with the memorandum, "The original of this will, together with other documents belonging to Mr. L. M. Weller, are in possession of Messrs. Brown, Donaldson & Warinough of 70 Lincoln's Inn Field, London, solicitors"; a sheet of music with the song "They all Love Jack," and the inscription "Lee Weller, from his old friend A. A. A."; duplicate certificates 36 of discharge of seamen from the ship Almaudine, No. 88,146, port of registry Hull, issued to L. M. Weller, second mate, age 30, place of birth London, dated January 11, 1890; a master's certificate of competency "to Lee Mellington Weller, by order of the Board of Trade, this 23d day of October, 1894, No. 04,630," dated London, October 1, 1884, and signed by Joseph Watson, superintendent; an officer's certificate from the "Thames Marine Officers' Training-ship Worcester," off Greenhithe, port of London, issued in Ma , 1872, to Lee Mellington Weller for satisfactory scholastic work; a certificate of service dated Cardith, January 23, 1890, to L. M. Weller, as second officer on board the Almaudine, at Hull, from July 4, 1889, to January 11, 1890, and signed by C. S. Collins, master; a white linen shirt marked L. W.

**Things Marked "Harwood."**—A towel with fringe and red border and the letter H in one corner; a colored shirt with the tag "Robinson & Moffat, makers, Melbourne," and marked H; fancy silk handkerchief with blue border and marked F H in one corner; a white silk handkerchief with C T embroidered in one corner and H marked in another corner; a small yellow leather-bound pocket diary marked "Heawood"; a pair of brownish socks marked H; two white linen collars, each marked "J. Dickson" and F H also; a collar marked F H; a fancy white silk handkerchief marked H; two white flannel negligee shirts, each marked H; a white linen shirt marked H in two places; a certificate of good character issued at Broken Hill, December 25, 1895, by the "Broken Hill Proprietary Company, Limited," to F. Harwood after one year's service in the department of metallurgy; a certificate from "The School of Mines, Ballarat," stating that Frank B. Harwood successfully passed in 1892 the April term examinations in chemistry; a New South Wales miner's rights certificate in the name of Frank Harwood, dated August 4, 1896, and good until December 31, 1896; a certificate from "The School of Mines, Ballarat," dated August 26, 1892, and stating that Frank Harwood successfully passed in 1892 the April term examinations in metallurgy and assaying.

**Some Miscellaneous Property.**—An old silk handkerchief containing three gold quartz specimens; a gold hunting-case watch, No. 347059, without maker's name; a fine-woven gold watchchain; a patent watchkey; a woman's silver brooch made from a Peruvian dollar, dated 1888, and surrounded by a silver rope; a crown-shaped gold brooch set with rhinestones; a short-woven gold watchchain; a woman's plain gold bracelet; a plain gold ring; a woman's gold brooch set with three crystals in three little crescents; a child's small gold chain and locket; a brooch with two large terminal pearls and a heart-shaped moonstone pendent from the middle; an enamel scarfpin of some yacht club; a jewel case; another smaller scarfpin with a fancily cut colored stone; a large gold ring with two square knots for a top design; a collar stud with a white paste stone; a man's ring with a shield-shaped bloodstone setting; a small curb fobchain with four small imitation diamonds in the fob; a silver hunting-case watch with a heavy silver curb-chain, the outer case of the watch having the monogram C B and the date 1896; a pair of silver cufflinks; a silver collar-button; another patent watchyey; two sovereigns, one of the date 1889 and the other 1892. Songs on separate folders or sheet music entitled, "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," "The Longshoreman," "The Sailor's Grave"; a book; a small clock in a little red tin case; a cabinet photograph of a ladylike looking young Englishwoman, probably 30 years of age; a cabinet photograph of three young girls and written on the back the names, "Ethel, Mary, Edith;" a photographic view of the seashore with a bit of boulevard, which the prisoner explained was an English scene; a cabinet size photograph of the prisoner wearing a yachting cap; a photograph of a rather handsome and intelligent looking man with the name, "Arthur V. Palmer," written on the back; a folding-holder containing two photographs of young women; another photograph of the prisoner in a leather frame; a photograph of a young lady and subscribed on the front, "faithfully yours," the name having been scratched off; a small photograph of a woman in a little frame formed of forget-me-nots; an old sole-leather Gladstone bag; a new heavy plaid blanket shawl; a light-colored waistcoat; a pair of trousers; a large piece of blue serge cloth; a light-colored tweed sack coat; a white silk made-up bow tie; a white silk handkerchief; a pale pink flannel negligee shirt; a linen collar, "Admiral," size 16½; six pairs of mottled brown socks; a white linen shirt; a pair of dark gray tweed trousers; a large silk neckerchief, with maroon and white stripes; a new navy-blue mackintosh overcoat; a black silk necktie; a ready-made four-in-hand tie; a soiled long white worsted scarf; a small little old black slouch hat; a sack coat and a vest of blue serge; a stick of shaving-soap in a case; a small hand mirror; a cake of soap in the original wrapper; a black-handled razor, Klein made and ground in Hamburg; a razor-case; a penholder; a corkscrew; an old pocket compass; a leather cigar-case, with metal bindings; a meerschaum pipe and leather case; a little leather cardcase, containing several bone collar buttons and a small magnifying glass; a card of small white buttons; a plain needle case and needles; a fancy ivory needle-holder; a pair of eyeglasses in a case; a small pair of scissors; a hair brush and an old comb; a metal match-box; eight thin plugs of very black tobacco; a small footrule; a small bottle of Hymus for toothache; a sheet of mourning note paper covered on four sides with verses written in pencil; a checkbook on the English, Scottish and Australian Bank, Limited, on the back leaf the name "Mrs. Collin O'Connor," but on the outside the name "Lee M. Weller"; two linen collars, size 16½, marked "J. W. Parratt"; a collar marked in two places "J. Dickson"; two bits of paper with memoranda; a black leather pocket-book with the initials "J. H. A." in large gilt letters on the inside; a collar marked "1534"; a certificate of discharge from the ship Anchoria, New York, numbered "103"; a similar certificate from the same ship numbered "3"; a certificate of character from the bark Almandine at Fremantle, October 6, 1896; a shore-broker's receipt from Gorie Hollingworth and Rathwell, dated August 9, 1895; a small white-handle pocket-knife; a cheap black-handle jackknife; an English bulldog revolver, 44-caliber, with black handle and nickel-plated barrel somewhat tarnished from use; a bag of cartridges and six loose cartridges found in the pocket of a vest.

## GRIM PREPARATIONS.

### A Cage Being Provided on the Monowai to Take Butler Back to Australia.

Should Butler or Weller, the so-called murderer, be extradited before next Friday at noon he will leave on the Oceanic Steamship Company's Monowai for Sydney, N. S. W., and in that event the same steamer will probably bring back next April the account of his trial, and, in the event of his conviction, of his execution.

Yesterday the detectives visited the steamer, and the foreward 'tween decks were measured. It was found possible to build a room large and comfortable enough to accommodate Butler, and should he be extradited the quarters, walled by heavy six-inch planking, will be put up in less than six hours. The space reserved for the cage is the space usually given up to blooded stock sent from America to Australia, and vice versa.

Butler will be provided with a comfortable bed, and will live on the best the ship provides during his voyage to the Antipodes. Should he not get away on the Monowai, he will remain in the City and County Jail until the Alameda sails, one month from now.

## A CHECKERED CAREER.

### What the Supposed Wife of the Prisoner Knows of Her Husband's Life.

VALLEJO, CAL., Feb. 2.—Mrs. Etta

First Mate Thomas Meikle.

Butler, a resident of this city for a year or more, will go to San Francisco in the morning in company with her uncle, E. D. Hill, and Sheriff McKenzie of Napa to see if she can identify the man Butler arrested on the Swanhilda as the husband who mysteriously left her in San Francisco early one morning some four years ago. From the various descriptions she has read and the pictures seen in the papers she is of the opinion they are one and the same person.

At the time of meeting with Butler she was a young and prepossessing widow with her parents at Napa. Butler, who was quite a lover of horses, was employed at the racetrack at Napa. Her brother, a Mr. Hill, introduced Butler to his sister.

After the marriage the couple remained in Napa a few days, from which place they moved to San Francisco, where Butler obtained employment in a livery stable. He was always kind and indulgent, and so far as able gave his wife all the money he could.

After working some three months in the stable early one morning he told his wife that he had quit the job and asked for what money was in the house. Mrs. Butler handed him about $65, all she had. From this amount he tossed her a $10 gold piece, kissed her good-by and told her he would not be home for lunch, but to look for him at dinner time. The dinner time never came.

Chief Crowley was given a description of the missing man, but failed to locate him. THE CALL gave an extended notice of this at the time. Time passed on; a baby boy was born, which is now a healthy three-year-old child in the Good Templars' Home for Orphans.

Mrs. Butler came to Vallejo over a year ago and obtained employment as a cook in the Wilson House, where she remained for nine months.

Finally Mrs. Butler learned, through Butler's relatives in Massachusetts, of his roamings about the world; how he had sailed across the Atlantic to London, then to Australia and back to America, and how, when the great railroad strike was on, he had started to bring a band of horses across the continent and had been detained.

That Butler had had some trouble before their marriage his wife felt positive. He told her he had been all over the world before he met her. Said he had been a cowboy in Texas and Colorado, had once enlisted for five years in the United States Army, but when or where he did not say. This is the one remaining incident that she has been unable to verify through her correspondence. He deserted after serving a few years and she has since heard that he had killed the captain of the company.

He had been in Washington and Oregon. In the former State he was a cornetist in a theater. This she knew to be true, as his trunks were always full of music.

The lady heard he was engaged in stealing valuable jewelry in Washington, which he sold in San Francisco. It came to her ears that he was driven out of Texas for stealing thousands of head of cattle. He was also engaged in herding cattle in North and South Dakota.

After Butler had been gone several weeks Mrs. Butler received a letter at Napa addressed to him. It was written at Williamsette, Mass., and ran as follows:

I write these lines to notify you that the police are after you here and at Holyoke. Leave the place where you are at once. I write you as an old friend and correspondent.

She recalled several incidents of his life just previous to his departure that go to show he had accomplices elsewhere than in Massachusetts.

## STORY OF THE CRIME.

### Graphic Account by an Australian Correspondent of the Revolting Murders Attributed to Butler, and Their Discovery.

The following special correspondence of THE CALL tells a fascinating story in chronological order of the heinous murders charged against Butler, the accused Australian murderer taken from the Swanhilda, and it is the first authentic and detailed account published in America:

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.—The first intimation the public had of the crimes was an announcement in the Sydney papers on November 26 that a sea captain named Lee Weller who, with another man, had been on an expedition to the Blue Mountains for the purpose of prospecting for gold, was missing.

The other man had been seen returning to Sydney. Suspicion was aroused, although the returning prospector, in reply to inquiries, said that "he had left his mate at the creek, as he was not well."

A search in the vicinity was made and the charred remains of a pocketbook, known to have been in the possession of Captain Weller, were found. This discovery led to further investigation, and the history of the crime, so far as it has at present been ascertained, can now be told in chronological order.

From the information now obtained by the police, with the assistance of the newspapers—for in this case the press reporters have performed a great public duty—it has been gathered that during the early part of October advertisements appeared in the Sydney papers to the following effect: "Wanted, a mate to go prospecting; equal shares; experience not necessary. Apply 822 George street."

These premises are occupied by a Mr. C. J. Thompson, who conducts a refreshment-room there. The advertisement brought about a dozen answers, the applicants appearing in person.

Among them was a young man named Arthur Thomas O. Preston, aged 20, the son of a well-known draper in Brisbane, Queensland. Young Preston, who was a studious youth, was staying at Synney, where for the past few months he had been studying geology and mineralogy, first at the Technical College and afterward at the Sydney University. He was most quiet and respectable, an active worker in connection with the Newtown (Sydney) Baptist Sunday-school, a member of the local Christian Endeavor Society, and he was a well-built young Australian. In Sydney he boarded with a Mrs. Williams at Redfern. When he called at Mr. Thompson's on Saturday, October 17, he had with him a young friend and fellow-lodger named Robert Fielding. Preston went in by himself, but soon came out for his chum, who then went in with him.

Fielding saw two men there, and was introduced to one of them. He could not recollect the man's name, but subsequently he identified a photo as that of the man. The picture was that of a man staying at Mr. Thompson's, who went by the name of Harwood. This man told Preston that he was a qualified mining expert and had sold a share in a mine at Nymagee, N. S. W., for £2000. After a conversation with the man Preston agreed to go prospecting with him, and on the following Monday evening the two set out by train for Emu Plains, a small station at the foot of the Blue Mountains, about forty miles from Sydney, on the Western Railway. Preston apparently had little money with him when he went away, not more than £30, but the clothing he took has afforded means of certain identification. By a coincidence, Mr. Thompson, the refreshment-room keeper, traveled by the same train, but in a different carriage. He saw Preston and the man known as Harwood get out at Emu Plains, and Harwood then told him they would camp for one night outside the township and go on in the morning. Harwood, who had a regular arsenal of weapons, three revolvers, a knife and a Winchester rifle, at his lodgings, had the rifle with him at Emu Plains.

Six days afterward Thompson saw Harwood in Sydney and said, "Hello, are you back again? What's the matter with you?" Harwood replied, "Oh, that young fellow was too soft, he petered out and I came back to look for another mate."

A few days after this the advertisement for a prospecting mate appeared again with a different address, "401 Pitt street," which is the Metropolitan Hotel. In reply to the advertisement this time came Captain Lee Weller, a retired master mariner who arrived in Newcastle a few months ago as a passenger in the ship South Esk from South Africa. He was accompanied by his wife and their intention was to proceed in the South Esk to America, but the miners' strike at Newcastle delayed the vessel, which was bound with coal for the west coast of America. While the vessel was thus delayed Captain Weller came to Sydney to see a friend, R. A. Lackham of the Sydney Bulletin office. While he was here his wife died suddenly from heart disease on board the ship at Newcastle. This sad occurrence altered the captain's intentions and he decided to remain for a time in this colony.

Soon after Mrs. Weller's death he came to Sydney, and, after an interview with the advertiser at the Metropolitan Hotel, Weller and Harwood, the advertiser, who then went under the name of Butler, left Sydney by train for Glenbrook, the station beyond Emu Plains, on the Blue Mountains. Weller had with him a large brown sea chest when he left his lodgings, but this was placed in the luggage-room at the Sydney railway station, and it was subsequently called for and taken away by a man who was not Weller.

A few days later Harwood or Butler (we will call him Butler henceforth) was seen by some railway men returning to Sydney alone. He said his mate was ill.

About a fortnight after a search was commenced for the missing men. On November 25, one local constable and some residents at Glenbrook found the burnt remains of some clothing and the remnant of a pocketbook bearing the letters "R. A. Lackh"—which was identified as a portion of a book given by McLackham to Captain Weller. The ashes of an old campfire were found and not far away were discovered a pair of trousers marked "F. H," a black leather legging with "Jarman, maker, Brisbane," on the inside, and a serge coat, under one sleeve of which was an aperture as if made by a knife thrust. The suspicions of foul play were thus confirmed.

A strong body of police, including several young natives who are expert bushmen, and several detectives, were at once sent up from Sydney and two aboriginals, blackirackers attached to the police, were brought from up-country stations. All the most suitable men of the Sydney police were dispatched to take part in the search, and soon clews to the mysterious disappearances were obtained. Piece by piece and skein by skein the twisted threads of the mystery were slowly but surely unraveled. Residents in the neighborhood of Glenbrook and Linden, a small station a few miles further on, brought forward information of having seen Butler first with Preston and afterward with Weller.

The country all around these two places is of the wildest and most rugged character. On the rise of the Blue Mountains, Glenbrook is the commencement of heavy mountainous country, rank, wild Australian bush, here and there a thick belt of gum trees, here and there steep and rocky precipices with great gullies or ravines in between, thickly covered with scrub and tangled undergrowth. Half a mile from Glenbrook station, where the camp-fire was and where the burnt pocket-book was found, was the scene of Weller's murder. The search parties divided into two sections, one to seek Weller or his corpse, the other to look for Preston or his remains.

The search for young Preston was sadly successful. Following up the clews given by residents who had seen Butler and Preston together the searchers, who had been much struck with Butler's evident knowledge of the locality, came across their tracks on Tuesday, December 1. Near a gully not far from Linden a flannel undershirt marked "A. T. O. P." was found, the garment being slit down the center with a knife. This was late on the Tuesday. On the Wednesday their tracks were found going in the direction of Faulconbridge, where Sir Henry Parkes, late Premier of the colony, lies buried. On the Thursday their camp was found at the head of Numantia gully, a deep and tortuous ravine covered with a labyrinth of thick timber and scrub. The gully runs for two miles, where a steep declivity ends in a little creek.

Three of the searchers, separated from the others, were Constables Delaney, Hardiman and Shelley, all young natives with bush experience. They only recently joined the mounted police and are not yet out of their probation.

After a difficult march of a mile or so they rounded a big boulder and saw a small sandy patch. Delaney's bush knowledge told him the ground had been recently disturbed. Prodding a stick in he found the soil yielded, and at the third thrust withdrew the stick with a portion of black human hair on it. Calling his mates the three set to work digging with their hands, and a foot below the surface a human head was uncovered. It was Preston's.

The rest of this portion of the story is soon told. When the discovery was made the sun was setting, and the officers in

Continued on Ninth Page.

NEW TO-DAY.

One of the Seven Wonders At Seven.

*If any one would have told us that the people were going to turn out in such large forces as those that got into the Big Store yesterday, strong as the attraction was, strong as the magnet 7, strong as its drawing power, we would have never believed it.*

*The long concourse of people kept filing in and out way beyond the closing hours to attend the final 7 days' sale of Suits and Overcoats at*

--$7.00--

*Above you see the clever Suits. We know of houses getting twice 7 for Suits not nearly as good, and they're not many blocks from us, either.*

*The Suits above are in fine All-Wool Cheviots, Blues and Blacks, Tricot Lawns, Handsome Overplaids, in Havana Brown and neat Gray effects. Swell goods built on awfully swell lines. Twice 7 would be nearer the price, but as these are the last days of our great sale we say*

--$7.00--

*FOR PICK.*

*Above we show you the Overcoat at $7, in Kerseys and Worsteds, those beautiful English Kerseys, cut long and medium lengths, with deep velvet collar, in blues and blacks, clever goods. Yes, you'll pay twice 7 for 'em in other stores, but we're on the last days of all our great sales, so your pick at*

--$7.00--

RAPHAEL'S

*(Incorporated),*

*9, 11, 13, 15 Kearny St.*