

HIS SUSPICIONS WERE MURDEROUS

Morris James Shoots His Wife and Then Kills Himself.

Her Steel-Braced Corset Turned the Bullet and Saved Her Life.

Mistrust Over Various Business Transactions Led to the Tragedy.

OAKLAND OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, 908 Broadway, Sept. 13. "I will settle up our affairs this evening in a way that will surprise you," said Morris James to his attorney, J. H. Mitchell, this afternoon at 4 o'clock when he left the latter's office. Three hours later Morris James was lying, wounded, at the Receiving Hospital and James was dead at the morgue.

The tragedy is the result of jealousy on both sides. James was a wealthy landowner of Trinidad, Colo., and was about 70 years of age. His wife is about 45. Each was suspicious of the other in various ways. James thought his wife was disposing of his property and leaving him in the cold; she had chided him in a letter with familiarity with "a dark-eyed little woman," and finally told him that all



MORRIS JAMES, Who Shot His Wife and Then Killed Himself.

her trades had fallen through; that she had not enough to get home with and that she was nothing but sorrow ahead. Mrs. James came to Oakland about two months ago with a power of attorney from her husband. She entered into all kinds of deals, made all sorts of discoveries and appeared to be in the hands of real-estate dealers in half a dozen cities. Her experiences are best told in a large bundle of letters she sent to her husband.

In one letter there is a postscript that is suggestive. It says: "Please do not open my letters and let strangers read them. I would not open yours. I am sure there is nothing in them to interest you."

Another letter to her husband ends: "Yours respectfully, N. J. James." Another one contains the information, "I have today made a big trade, \$20,000 property. Hurrah for Bryan. Good-bye; don't be lonesome."

Three weeks ago Mrs. James wrote a letter that plainly showed her husband was suspicious of her and that she was making money out of the property. She says: "You speak to me of putting money in the restaurant. That seems strange to me. Where do you think I could get any money? I only had \$150 when I came here and I paid commission of three trades. Now you think I got money. I have not. I don't know what to do at all. Every day is only one more of sorrow for me. I may manage to come back somehow."

As things did not suit him, James rewound the piano and came to this city. He expressed himself to his wife as being dissatisfied and suspicious. He thought she had been swindled or that she had entered into a conspiracy to defraud him and then get a divorce because he was too old for her.

"I was formerly Mrs. Eddy of this city," said Mrs. James to-night, "and I met Morris James and married him some years ago. We went to Trinidad to live. My husband had all kinds of property, but in such condition that it produced nothing. I knew that it had to be kept up or we should soon lose it. We had no business, and he did not seem able to make any."

A few months ago he came to Oakland to try and transact some business. He failed and on his return I came here and I have been in trouble ever since. He gave me his power of attorney, as he could neither read nor write. Some weeks ago he became suspicious of me, and he had shown it in many ways. I did the best I could in trades, but could not raise any money. During the last few days he has become more suspicious than ever. He lived at the restaurant and I kept him.

"This evening he came into the restaurant to eat. He seemed to be sulky, and asked me for some stew. He then asked me for something to drink, and I told him he could not drink the stew. Then he became angry and scolded me.

"Do you want me to go back to Colorado?" he asked me.

"I said yes.

"This angered him and, without saying a word, he pulled out a revolver and shot me. I did not notice particularly what he was doing until I had a bullet in my shoulder. He fired several shots, and I should certainly have been killed, but the bullet hit my corset. A bullet hit it square in the middle, and flew off. Mrs. Annie Lee, who works in the restaurant

ALAMEDA COUNTY NEWS.

DEADLY DRAUGHT, THOUGH PLAYFUL.

In a Vacant Lot a Little Boy Found in Great Agony.

He Drank From a Discarded Bottle of Carbohc Acid.

San Leandro Parents Indignant at the Carelessness of Some Unknown Party.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—The selling of liquor without a county license will be stopped if the action of the Board of Supervisors taken to-day be enforced. "It is an imposition to every law-abiding saloon-keeper," said Supervisor Church at the meeting to-day, "to have these men sell liquor without a license. We have had the same difficulty in the past, and now we will again have to take steps to eradicate these illicit saloons. There are three men selling liquor without a license. They are Siegrist of Mission San Jose, Tepper of Fruitvale and Gibbon & Wingate. We have closed some of these men out before, and we will do it again."

EXPLAINS A MORTGAGE.

Market-Street Congregational Church Takes a Necessary Precaution.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—Considerable surprise has been expressed that the Market-street Congregational Church should apply for permission to mortgage its property for \$19,000 when it was only recently announced that it had raised the indebtedness and had held a justification over the result.

Dr. E. S. Chapman, the pastor, explained the matter by saying to-night: "The Congregational Church Building Society gave us \$5000 and loaned us \$5000, which latter must be repaid. Other Congregationalists gave \$9000. That paid the indebtedness. Now in order to secure the society for its loan and those who gave us the \$14,000 the society requires that we

MISSING AGAIN.

For the Second Time Bessie Timler Disappears From the Beach Home.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—Bessie Timler is missing from Beach, where she has been since she was recovered about a month ago, after being surreptitiously taken away. She is about 14 years of age, and was placed in the home by her mother, who desired to keep her from her father. The man who took her proved to be her father.

New Captain for the Bessie K.

ALAMEDA, CAL., Sept. 13.—The members of El Sueno del Oro Mining Company, which chartered the Bessie K. and sent her, under Captain Stannard, to St. Michael's, are greatly disgusted with the delay caused by her having to put in at Port Angeles to repair her rudder post. This delay will prevent the party from getting up the Yukon to Dawson and it has been decided that the party shall go as far as possible up stream and then go into winter quarters. Captain Albert Nelson has been sent north to take Captain Stannard's place.

A Sudden Death.

ALAMEDA, CAL., Sept. 13.—Mrs. Theresa Grau of Railroad avenue and Webster street died suddenly while sitting in a chair yesterday. She had been slightly, but not seriously, ill for several days and no serious consequences were looked for. A neighbor had been in to call on her and she seemed bright and cheerful. She went out of the room for a few minutes, and on returning found Mrs. Grau dead.

HENNEBERRY HELD UP.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—James Henneberry was attacked by two men on Clay street to-night just before midnight, and was shot through the wrist when he resisted. Officer Green gave chase at once, but the two men made their escape. An investigation of the street resulted in the finding of four revolvers thrown away by the would-be robbers in their flight.

The Presbytery Election.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—The semi-annual session of the Oakland Presbytery opened to-night in the Westminster Presbyterian church with a large attendance. The election of officers resulted in the choice of Rev. J. D. Anderson of Walnut Creek as moderator. Rev. E. E. Clark of Prospect Hill Church, Fruitvale, was elected temporary clerk. Barton W. Perry, the retiring moderator, preached the presbytery's sermon. To-morrow's programme includes reports from all standing and special committees and a discussion of the same.

Rev. Mr. Kummer Honored.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—The Rev. Alfred Kummer, D.D., who has completed his fifth year as pastor of the First M. E. Church, was tendered a farewell tonight in the church parlors. The house was crowded with the membership of the church and many prominent citizens, besides many ministers. The Christian Endeavor Society presented him with a handsome leather dressing-case, the junior society with the membership of the church and many prominent citizens, besides many ministers. The Christian Endeavor Society presented him with a handsome leather dressing-case, the junior society with the membership of the church and many prominent citizens, besides many ministers.

MRS. MORRIS JAMES, Who Was Shot by Her Husband.

ALAMEDA, CAL., Sept. 13.—Word has been received from Harold Ward Jr. and Christie Allen, who were among the first to leave Alameda for the Klondike, that they have passed the Chicout Pass in safety and are now well on their way to the Yukon. They do not expect to go at once to Dawson, but will prospect streams this side of that place.

Latest From Alaska.

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Valuable Books From Germany.

BERKELEY, CAL., Sept. 13.—The university library has just received from Berlin over 130 volumes in German. The list includes several valuable collections. Among them are: Corpus Inscriptum, four volumes; Linnæ Entomologica, sixteen volumes; Mittheilungen aus der Zoologischen Station zu Neapel, eleven volumes, and fourteen volumes of the poems of Carmen Sylva.

STUDENTS TO FIGHT FIRE.

Lieutenant Cloman Will Organize Cadet Companies Into a Fire Department.

Berkeley, Cal., Sept. 13.—Lieutenant Cloman has announced that he will organize the cadet companies at the university into a fire department in order to secure adequate protection for the college buildings against conflagration.

A New College Orchestra.

BERKELEY, CAL., Sept. 13.—The college Y. M. C. A. has organized an orchestra which will play at the association's Wednesday meetings and at other college functions. Following are the members: J. L. Goldsmith, '01 (leader); E. Eosser, '01; R. E. Curtis, '01; M. McCarty, '01; M. Pratt, '01; V. Hunter, Berkeley High School; F. Armstrong, '00; G. J. Rector, '08, and D. R. Currier, '09. A quartet has also been organized by the Y. M. C. A., composed of the following: J. E. Fraisher, '01; E. W. Oliver, '00; George Lunt, '01, and F. R. Fairchild, '08.

Wetstein's Case Set for Oct. 13.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—Colonel Wetstein, whose case against the Southern Pacific Company for injuries received has been tried, and the verdict set aside, has settled his case out of court. He was awarded \$1800. It is now that he has compromised for \$1800.

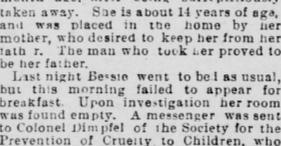
The Tax Levy.

OAKLAND, CAL., Sept. 13.—The City Council met to-night and fixed the tax levy at \$1.13. The Council expressed itself as being in favor of calling a special election to vote on bonds for \$336,000 to purchase the Sather property for a public park.

The Resurrection Plant, a Native of South Africa, becomes withered and apparently dead to-night in the city.

The resurrection plant, a native of South Africa, becomes withered and apparently dead to-night in the city. It is a small, fleshy-leaved plant that is said to revive after rain begins to fall it quickly revives.

The fac-simile signature of



is on every wrapper of CASTORIA.

ROETH'S CHARGES WERE NOT TRUE

Supervisors Hold a Session of Profitless Investigation.

The Complainant Placed Them in a Very Embarrassing Position.

No Evidence That Plans Were Hidden and That a Contract Was Fixed.

OAKLAND OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, 908 Broadway, Sept. 13.

The charges preferred against County Clerk Jordan by Supervisor Roeth engaged the attention of the board this afternoon. There was no investigation, because it was very apparent from the beginning that there was nothing to investigate there was no truth in Mr. Church's remark that the affair represented a section of a circus more than a serious session.

Mr. Roeth's charges came to him through a very dubious path.

"I was informed," said Mr. Roeth, "that certain contractors of this city had been to the County Clerk's office and asked to see the plans for building an annex to the Receiving Hospital, and that they had been denied the use of such plans, and were told by some one in the Clerk's office that it would be useless for them to bid, as the job had been already fixed in the interest of a certain contractor."

"I do not know these things of my own knowledge, but they were told me by my wife, in whose integrity I have the fullest confidence.

My wife was visiting the daughter of a contractor named Mr. Weeks, and in course of conversation Miss Weeks stated that her father had been refused the plans by the County Clerk and had also been told by some one in the Clerk's office that it would be useless for him to bid. I do not know Mr. Weeks, but I know that these ladies told the truth, and I believe everything they said."

Mr. Weeks, although he had been subpoenaed, was not in the room, but several other contractors who were supposed to be mixed up in the affair were present and they all testified that the Clerk's office always had everything for the convenience of contractors, and vigorously denied that they had ever been put to any inconvenience or heard anything about contracts being fixed.

Over half a dozen of them were sworn, and all told the same story, until it became monotonous.

Frank Jordan, the County Clerk, was also sworn, and made a statement definitely denying everything stated by Mr. Roeth. He said that he realized he was in a delicate position, as Mr. Roeth had so placed the matter that he really found himself casting doubts on the statements of worthy ladies with whom he was not personally acquainted, but he was content that at some stage or other of the course through which the information came to Mr. Roeth a misunderstanding had taken place and he was anxious that his office should not suffer through it.

Mr. Jordan inquired if Mr. Weeks had been duly subpoenaed, and Mr. Jordan replied that he had, and so it was decided to defer final action until to-night.

Supervisor Roeth brought his wife into the board room, and told her story, but it was different in some details to that of her husband.

After the matter was thoroughly discussed the Supervisors passed a resolution to be inserted in a book, open at all times to public inspection, showing the quantity sold, the name and address of the person to whom and for whom sold, and the name and address of the physician prescribing the same; provided, that wholesale and retail druggists may purchase opium and any preparation thereof for the purpose above provided; and, provided, that within ten days after the adoption or passage of this order all persons having opium or any preparation thereof in their possession for a sale or use shall file a verified statement of all such opium or preparations thereof with the clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and the chief of police, and the opium and preparation thereof contained in such statements may be sold to druggists, and such persons and dealers shall enter in a register kept by them for that purpose, in the English language, the date, amount of every such sale made by them, and the name and place of business of the purchaser, and any persons who shall furnish information for the purpose of this order shall be liable for the violation of any of the provisions of this order shall be entitled to receive one-half of the fine collected, and the other half of the same shall pay over to the person giving such information on demand, and the remaining one-half of the fine collected by such officer shall be paid into the city and county treasury.

Section 1.—The sale and use of opium, and any preparation thereof, in the City and County of San Francisco is hereby prohibited; provided, that when a prescription duly received in this city and county by a regular licensed physician shall indicate that it is necessary for medicinal purposes, any regular licensed druggist or pharmacist shall not furnish a description of such preparation to be inserted in a book, open at all times to public inspection, showing the quantity sold, the name and address of the person to whom and for whom sold, and the name and address of the physician prescribing the same; provided, that wholesale and retail druggists may purchase opium and any preparation thereof for the purpose above provided; and, provided, that within ten days after the adoption or passage of this order all persons having opium or any preparation thereof in their possession for a sale or use shall file a verified statement of all such opium or preparations thereof with the clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and the chief of police, and the opium and preparation thereof contained in such statements may be sold to druggists, and such persons and dealers shall enter in a register kept by them for that purpose, in the English language, the date, amount of every such sale made by them, and the name and place of business of the purchaser, and any persons who shall furnish information for the purpose of this order shall be liable for the violation of any of the provisions of this order shall be entitled to receive one-half of the fine collected, and the other half of the same shall pay over to the person giving such information on demand, and the remaining one-half of the fine collected by such officer shall be paid into the city and county treasury.

Section 2.—Any person violating any of the provisions of this order shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of six months or by a fine of five hundred dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Persons Engaged in Selling Opium to Be Licensed.

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to sell, barter or exchange any smoking opium in the city and county of San Francisco, except for scientific purposes or for medicinal purposes on the prescription of a regular physician, without first procuring a license therefor in accordance with this order. Such licenses shall be known and designated as "opium-dealer's licenses," and any violation of this order shall be a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding six months in the County Jail, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

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Section 2. Any person or firm engaged in the business of selling, bartering or exchanging any smoking opium, whether on commission or otherwise, as an owner or as a broker, for owner, or consignee, shall pay a license therefor in the amounts as follows, that is to say:

First Class. Those doing a business in the aggregate amount of \$5000 and over constitute the first class, and must pay \$150 per quarter.

Second Class. Those doing a business to the amount of \$3000 and over constitute the second class, and must pay a license of \$100 per quarter.

Third Class. Those doing business to the amount of not exceeding \$3000 per quarter constitute the third class, and must pay \$50 per quarter.

At that time Supervisor Smith secured the passage of an ordinance that ignored the previous measure and made the sale of opium, unless by physician's prescription, a misdemeanor. Under the Smith ordinance no license could be collected, and a premium was put on the illicit traffic in opium.

When License Collector Bonnet went into office he decided to enforce the ordinance of 1881, and notified the opium-dealers of this city that they must pay the license required by law.

This action was taken on the advice of the City and County Attorney, who gave his opinion that the law of 1897 was invalid as it conflicted with the ordinance of 1881.

The Smith ordinance, repealed by the board yesterday, is as follows:

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License Collector T. F. Bonnet Secures an Important Victory.

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The City Treasury Will Be Enriched Five Thousand Dollars Annually.

OAKLAND OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO CALL, 908 Broadway, Sept. 13.

License Collector Bonnet won an important victory before the Board of Supervisors yesterday when he secured the repeal of Order 3099, relating to the sale of opium and all preparations of that drug. Under the law as it now stands, this city will collect a revenue amounting to about \$5000 per annum, where previously there was a question as to the legality of collecting anything at all from opium-dealers.

Previously to July 9, 1897, the following ordinance was in force:

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