

REVOLTING GRIME

MISS LAMONT MURDERED IN SAN FRANCISCO.

She Was One of Dillon's Fairest Daughters—Her Body Found Nude in the Tower of the Emanuel Church—A Elendish Murder.

DILLON, April 18.—[Special Correspondence]—The remains of Miss Blanche Lamont, the murdered daughter of the late Capt. David Lamont, will arrive from San Francisco tomorrow. The body will be received by a delegation of the Masonic lodge who will escort the remains to the Episcopal church, where funeral services will be held at 10:30. The funeral promises to be one of the largest ever held in this city, and friends of the family are here to attend it from all parts of the state. The family to whom she belonged is one of the most estimable in the state and public fever is at a white heat over her foul murder.

The sad story of the cruel fate of this beautiful young lady and that of her San Francisco friend, Minnie Williams, is inseparably interwoven. A dispatch dated from San Francisco, Sunday, says: Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams were members of the Emanuel Baptist church and members of the Sunday school class. The former was a pupil at the normal school in this city; the latter was a companion in a family in Alameda, across the bay from the city. Both were 21 years old, brunettes and pretty and modest girls. Both had been the recipients of attention from a young medical student named W. H. T. Durant, who is also the librarian of the church and secretary of the Young People's society of the church.

On April 3, Miss Lamont disappeared. Diligent search failed to reveal any trace of her. W. H. T. Durant, who it appears, had been on friendly terms with the missing girl.

On Saturday morning the mutilated body of Minnie Williams was found in the library of Emanuel Baptist church on Bartlett street. The girl had been assaulted and her remains were cut and hacked, she having evidently died from loss of blood. On further examination it was found that she had been gagged by the assailant, tearing part of her underclothing and thrusting it down her throat with a sharp stick, badly lacerating the tongue.

Two witnesses state that they saw a young man and a young woman, the former answering the description of Durant and the latter of Minnie Williams, enter the church. Following this clue the police put the residence of Durant under surveillance.

Miss Williams lived with Mrs. Voy, near the church. Friday evening she was to have attended a meeting of the Young People's society of the church at Dr. Vogel's house.

At 7:13 o'clock she left Mrs. Voy's to attend the meeting, taking a latch key with her. She never appeared there. About the same time Durant left his home on Fair Oaks street in the same vicinity, bound for the same meeting. At 8 o'clock Durant met Philip Perkins and asked him some questions about a trip to Mount Diablo, which the signal corps of which he was a member was to make next day. At 9:30 he appeared at Vogel's residence, where the young people's meeting was in progress, and none were merrier than he during the remainder of the evening. At 11 o'clock he left with a party of young people and went home. The next morning Durant arose early and went with his comrades of the signal corps to Mount Diablo, 50 miles away. The two murders are so closely connected that it is now necessary to go back to the Lamont case.

Yesterday Mrs. Noble, the aunt of Miss Lamont, received through the mails a parcel containing the three rings worn by her niece the night she disappeared. On the paper were written the name and address of Theodore Durant. This, together with the fact that Miss Williams, as an intimate friend of Miss Lamont, had been heard to say that she knew Blanche had been murdered, but had refused to tell what she knew and how, led the police to suspect that the same person who had killed Miss Williams had slain Miss Lamont, and that learning that Miss Williams knew of his first crime, attempted further concealment by committing a second murder.

Late last night the detectives had

about decided that Durant had murdered Miss Williams, and this theory was further strengthened this morning when, on making a thorough search of Emanuel church, the dead and outraged body of Miss Lamont was found concealed in the steeple. Death had been caused by strangulation. The body was lying just inside the door of the tower room, nude and on the floor. Around the neck there were a few streaks, the marks of fingers that had been pressed deep into the tender flesh. The features were badly distorted, being drawn down at one corner and the lips were swollen and blood stained. The nose was the only feature that retained its original shape, for the cheeks were bloated. The girl's light brown hair was matted with dirt and hung loosely about her shoulders. The body was in the first stages of decomposition. When the officers reached the head of the stairs they found the door of the tower room locked. They broke in the door. It was so dark they could not see and one of the officers struck a match. As the light flared up they saw before them the dead body of the girl for whom they were searching. The body was taken to the morgue, where it was placed on a slab by the side of Minnie Williams.

As soon as the news became known immense crowds surrounded the church and had to be kept back by the police. The chief of police sent for Rev. Dr. Gibson, pastor of the church, and the report became current that he had been arrested. Great crowds surged to Dr. Gibson's house and the excitement grew more intense. It soon spread all over the city. Extra papers were gotten out and thousands of people flocked to the scene from all over the city. Rumor of the arrest was later denied and it became known that Dr. Gibson and the sexton of the church had been merely called before the police to tell what they knew.

At 5 o'clock came the news that Durant had been arrested at Walnut Creek, on the road to Mount Diablo. He was caught by Detective Anthony, who left in pursuit of him this morning. The police are certain that they have the right man. They claim to have two witnesses who saw Durant and Miss Williams in company last Friday night and also state that when a search was made of Durant's house today that in the pocket of his coat was found a purse which Miss Williams is known to have carried Friday night.

Durant is about 23 years old and was born and raised in the neighborhood in which the murder was committed. He is a graduate of the Cogswell High school and has been studying medicine for a year. He is a member of the Second brigade signal corps and was assistant superintendent of the Emanuel Church Sunday school. He was always of a quiet disposition, and his friends refuse to believe, in spite of the evidence, that he committed the crime attributed to him. The police, however, think that Durant is another "Jack, the Ripper," with a mania for murder. They state that it is highly probable that Durant is responsible for the killing of Eugene Ware, a young drug clerk, who was found stabbed to death in the store where he worked. No trace was ever found of the assassin and the theory is that Durant killed him. No motive of the crime was discovered and the fiendish cruelty of it, Ware was stabbed in 18 places, leads to the belief that it was the work of an insane person. Durant's parents are highly esteemed people. His father is chief engineer in Buckingham & Hecht's large shoe factory, and while not rich, has been able to give his children a good education and start them in life.

Detective Anthony met Durant and his companions coming back from Mount Diablo. They were in uniform and had been on a signaling expedition. When Durant was placed under arrest, his comrades at first, wanted to resist the officer, but finally allowed him to be taken to Walnut Creek, where the officer and his prisoner boarded a train for San Francisco. When they arrived at the prison, as already described, Durant, in regimentals, was taken to the chief's office and subjected to a searching examination. He appeared very cool and even when arrested by Anthony and told that Miss Lamont's body had been found, did not lose his nerve, although he appeared greatly shocked and surprised. After the examination by the chief, Durant was taken to a cell where he was joined by his parents and a lawyer. He made the following statement to the associated press:

"The last time I met Miss Lamont was on the morning of the day she

THE PONY COUNTRY

A GOSSIP LETTER FROM THAT SECTION.

Movements in the Mines and Mills—The Sand Creek Country—Benevolent Ladies—The Minut Club a Subsequently.

PONY, April 15.—[Special Correspondence]—The large ore bin that Elling & Morris are constructing, near their mill, and also the railway from the bin to the rock-breaker, in the mill, will be great labor saving improvements. They are also making a new road to the "Clipper," which will avoid the steep pull up the Strawberry hill. The former improvements will soon be completed but it will be some time before the new road will be finished. This week teams will be put on the old road hauling ore from their mines to the mill and soon the stamps, which have been making music for the Ponyites for so many years, will again commence their season's work.

From a party just up from Sand Creek the following has been obtained in regard to the mines there: The Chili mine is now owned by the Butte Mining & Milling Co., and is leased by Pat Connors, Frank Turner, Dan Mack and others. They have a steam hoist on the new shaft, which is now 50 feet deep. They are taking ore from both shaft and tunnel—the latter being in 150 feet. The quartz averages \$25 per ton and the vein is 5 feet wide. They are running three eight hour shifts and are taking out ten tons of ore per day. The excavation for a mill is being made and it will soon be in course of construction. It will contain 5 stamps weighing 1,000 pounds each, and will have a capacity of thirty tons per day.

It is rumored that the Bimetallic Co., of Phillipsburg, have bought the McVeigh lode and will push work vigorously upon it.

The "Whippoorwill" has been sold by Jos. Pierce to Mr. Blakely of Sheridan, who will soon commence work on it with a force of men.

Mr. Pashley is running both his arastras on ore from the "Good Friday," which shows pay ore along the whole surface of the lode.

Dr. Gregg & Co., of Butte, have a bond on the Kelly group of mines, consisting of about 15 claims. They intend putting a steam hoist on the "Gold Bug" at once.

A. J. McCormack has a shaft 55 feet deep on the St. Julian. He also has other mines there which look very encouraging.

There are also other quite promising-looking mines in the camp. The formation is granite and gneiss, and the ore in the mines improves both in quantity and quality as depth is attained.

The Sand Creek district is about 10 miles northeast of Pony. The N. P. railroad branch from Sappington to Pony and Norris, passes within three miles of it.

When the ladies of Pony start into charitable work they never do it by halves. When the pathetic appeal from the starving thousands in Nebraska reached Pony, the ladies immediately went to work and raised several large boxes of clothing, edibles, etc., and forwarded them to the needy Nebraskans. Mrs. W. R. Reel, one of the most active in this benevolent work, has just received a letter from the relief committee there, which spoke of the great good done by the articles, and thanked the ladies of

Go and see Mallard's stock of spring shoes, the noblest line ever brought to town.

Next Time You

... Go East

purchase your ticket via the Burlington Route.

It won't cost a cent more than via any other line. And the certainty—the absolute certainty—is that you will be pleased beyond measure with the service we offer.

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W. W. Johnston, Com. Agt.
BILLINGS, MONT.

Pony for their profuse liberality.

The Pony Minuet Social Club is a goner. It started up with a flash but nothing now remains except the dead ashes of its blighted hopes. The rooms were to be fitted up in a style of oriental splendor, particularly the hall of terpsichore. The magnificent throne was to be draped with cloth of gold, and the splendid dias, upon which the King of Terpsichore was to be seated as he gave the word of command to the noble courtiers, as they gracefully pironetted in the merry dance, was to be studded with brilliant diamonds. The billiard and smoking rooms were to be "things of beauty and joy forever" and a day longer, and the library was to contain Homer's Iliad, Congressional Records, Mother Goose's Melodies and other standard works. But alas! like a beautiful dream, these bright anticipations have vanished, and the boys are now "doing business at the old stand."

Miles Cavanaugh is over from Butte looking after his mining interests here. Prof. R. E. Gordon left for his home, in Bozeman, on Thursday last.

There will be about the average of grain sown on Willow Creek valley this season. The farmers, who were fortunate enough to have their seed in the ground, smile serenely since the snow and rain fall of Saturday night. B.

FROM ENNIS.

The Barnum Theory That the People Like to be Humbugged Verified.

ENNIS, April 15.—[Special Corre-

spondence]—This saying of P. T. Barnum's was well illustrated here in the valley a few weeks ago. A man came here claiming to be an agent for a certain firm for which he was selling memberships. For \$5 he would make one a member for five years, but one must also buy an illustrated history of the "World's Fair" at \$1.50; total \$6.50. Then he would furnish a catalogue and the member could buy goods at wholesale prices. The firm deals in all kinds of goods and could furnish any article in any line to be had in the market of the world. His catalogue, however, he was careful not to deliver until after he had made sales. He exhibited two or three samples of shoes cut in two through the soles to show how honestly they were made, also a few samples of cloth for men's suits.

He gave very low prices on those samples but the same articles and prices were not in the catalogue. A comparison of his catalogue with those of some other firms doing a mail order business, show these wholesale prices to be as high, and, in some cases higher than the retail prices of the others. So the members of this wholesale firm simply paid \$6.50 for the little picture book because they "like to be humbugged." DIOGENES.

Tan shoes are the proper thing. Mallard has them, both for ladies and gentlemen.

Just a little work will make the old suit look bright and new. Take it to R. O. Hickman's.

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Dealers in **Dry Goods,
Carpets,
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Complete lines in all departments. Lowest prices. Reliable goods. Mail orders promptly filled. Correspondence solicited.

ELIEL BROS., Dillon, Mont.

ANNIVERSARY ... BALL

On April 26 a Grand Anniversary Ball will be given at Armory Hall under the auspices of Virginia Lodge No. 7, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. A reception will be held at Odd Fellows hall, where a committee will be in charge to entertain those who do not care to dance. Tickets including supper, admitting gentlemen and lady to both Ball and Reception, \$2.50. The public is cordially invited to attend.

FLOOR MANAGERS:

Adam Feuling, Wm. Finney, Chas. Kyle, Martin Smith, and Frank Conway.

MILITARY BALL AT ARMORY HALL

MAY 6th, 1895.

On the above date, Company D, National Guard of Montana will celebrate the 8th anniversary of its organization, at Armory Hall, with a

◀ BENEFIT BALL ▶

A cordial invitation is extended. Members of the company are to appear in Full Dress Uniform. Proceeds to go to John Robbins who had both legs broken in a cave at the Pacific mine.

FLOOR MANAGERS:

Lieutenant E. J. Gainan, Sergeant Louis Romey, Private James McClurg, Private Thos. Strong, Private L. G. Kellogg.

SUPPER WILL BE SERVED AT THE MADISON

.....Tickets, (including supper) \$2.50.....

MUSIC BY SEARLE'S ORCHESTRA.

(Continued on page 8.)