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1893.

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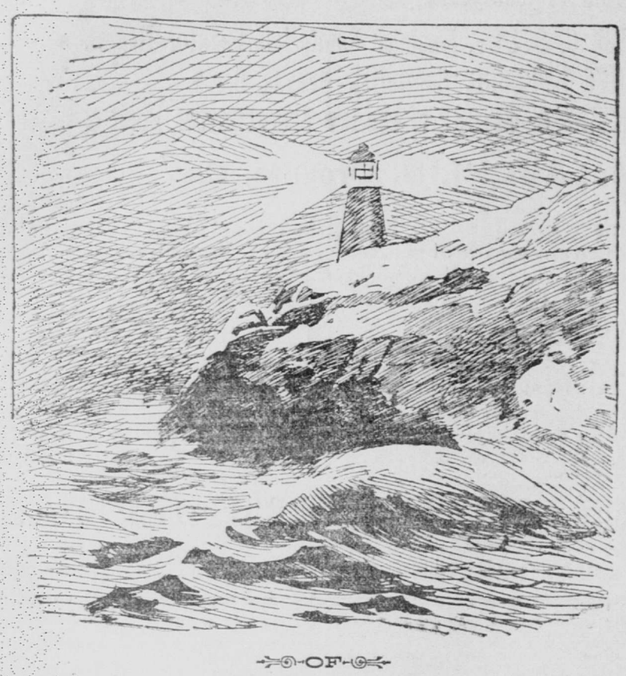

—OF—

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MAKING BARBED WIRE.

Description of an Extremely Interesting Mechanical Process.

When passengers in the railroad trains look from the car windows upon the endless miles of sharp-pointed barbed wire that is stretched upon posts upon either side of the roadway they no doubt give but few thoughts to the stages through which the wire passes from the mine to the fence. Yet it is an interesting study and well worth knowing something about in all its detail. All the barbed wire is now made of soft steel. When the ore is taken from the mine it goes directly to the blast furnace, which is a huge iron tower, forty or fifty feet high, lined with brick. Powerful engines force a stream of heated air (called a blast) through openings in the sides of the furnace near the bottom. First is put into the furnace a layer of fuel (coke), then a layer of limestone (flux), then some ore; each of the materials is carefully weighed, so that just the required amount is placed in the furnace. The limestone greatly assists in the melting of the ore and it takes from ten to twelve hours to reduce one "charge." The iron sinks to the bottom of the furnace and the foreign matter, called slag, floats on the top of the iron. The slag is first run off and then the iron. Attached to the furnace is a large shed, with a sand floor, in which are numerous molds, about three feet long and four inches square. The iron runs into these molds through a channel on which the end of the molds opens.

When cold, the iron is taken out of the molds and called pigiron. The pigiron is taken to the steelmill, where it is melted and combined with imported pigiron, after which it is poured into a large portable iron vessel called a converter. A powerful hot-air blast runs through the bottom of the converter and blows through the iron, greatly increasing the heat and expelling all impurities. The metal, which is now steel, is poured into molds, which hold from 1200 to 1500 pounds. These pieces are called ingots.

Everything about the steelmill is handled by machinery—hydraulic cranes carry the ingots from place to place—and very little manual labor is necessary. The ingots are heated and passed several times between large iron rolls, which gradually decrease the diameter of the ingots until they are about 4x4 inches. The last time they come through the rolls they pass under a huge machine which cuts them into regular lengths, weighing about 150 pounds. They then pass to the rollmill, where they are heated and passed between a number of smaller rolls, which run at a very high speed. Here the steel is rolled into round rods about three-sixteenths of an inch diameter, which are coiled into bundles by a machine while hot. They then pass to the wiremill. In the wiremill the rods are first immersed in a bath of diluted sulphuric acid, which eats off all rust and dirt. After being washed free of acid they are dipped in a thick solution of lime water, dried in a furnace, pointed on one end and taken to the drawing-room. The drawing machinery consists of a heavy wood table called a bench, on which are a number of revolving castiron cylinders, called blocks. In front of each block, fastened to the bench, is an iron die box for holding the die. The die is of chilled castiron perforated with a number of holes, which are reamed out to the size of the wire required. The pointed end of the rod is put through one of the holes in the die and fastened to the block, which, in revolving, pulls the rod through the die, reducing the size and coiling it up. This last operation is repeated twice for each rod to get it to the size required for fence-wire No. 12½.

While drawing the wire has become very hard and brittle and has to be softened before it can be worked into fence. All barbed wire is either painted or galvanized. For painted fence the wire is taken from the drawing-room to the annealing department and placed in large iron pots, which hold about 4000 pounds each. These pots, which are inclosed in furnaces, are heated until the contents are red hot; they are then allowed to cool gradually. This process is called annealing, and requires about twenty-four hours; the wire is then very pliable. For galvanized fence the wire is taken from the blocks to the galvanizing department. Here the coils of wire are placed separately on wooden reels, which revolve as the wire is first put through a pan of melted lead heated until it is red hot (this answers the same purpose as the annealing process, the lead being so hot does not stick to the wire). After passing through the lead pan the wire is carried a distance over rollers until it has cooled off; it then passes through a vat of muriatic acid, which removes all dirt from the wire. Without this acid the galvanizing would not adhere to the wire. From the acid the wire passes through a large iron pan of melted zinc or spelter, which forms a thin coating on the wire, and then between two pads of asbestos, which remove all surplus metal and give the wire a smooth finish. The end of the wire is then fastened to an iron pulley, which, as it turns, coils the wire up and pulls it through the various stages of this process. Wire, after being galvanized, will stand exposure for a number of years without rusting.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

FRENCH HERO WORSHIP.

The Gaul Leans Toward the Glorious Government of a Strong Man.

As a nation the French have unfortunately a leaning toward the glorious government of a strong man, especially since the Huguenot element was rooted out from them by sanguinary persecution, and since Paris has nearly sucked all strength from the municipal and provincial life of the country. The old Gallic, or rather Kelt-Iberian, spirit, though occasionally very turbulent, is eminently favorable to the one-man system. The Teutonic or Frankish infusion, which in Montesquieu's words, brought the principles of self-government "from the forests of Germany," has in course of time become more and more obliterated in France. The result has often been a deplorable one. Noble risings, begun in the name of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, have repeatedly collapsed and slid into Cæsarism. By a violent rebound the arbitrary rule of a usurping Emperor had to be overthrown by a combination of foreign invasion and of a revolutionary upheaval. So it was again in 1870.

Yet it is a fact of very serious import that in the short space of time which has elapsed since then the republic was thrice menaced in its existence. First, by a planned military state-stroke (happily revealed in time) of Marshal MacMahon; secondly, by the overweening ambition of Gambetta, in whom the vein of Cæsaristic demagogism was strongly developed and whose premature death has probably saved France from a great peril; thirdly, by General Boulanger. Add to this that since the days of the first great revolution down to those of Louis Philippe and Napoleon III the democracy of France has shown itself deeply tainted with the hankering after gloire and conquest. The natural consequence is that in times of commotion "a sword"—un sabre—or a name representing traditions of that kind has always a remarkable chance there. That chance is easily strengthened through an unfavorable feature of the French middle classes, namely, its political timidity and want of backbone. Now, taking into account the widespread alarm created by a series of anarchistic outrages, such national characteristics make for a vague desire to see a commanding personality—a "Savior of society"—at the head of affairs.—Karl Bland in North American Review.

Chicago Butter.

In a dispute about the quality of some butter an intending purchaser threw a two-pound package in a grocer's face. For the first time in its long and wide career the quality of this commodity known as the boarding-house brand was properly designated by law. The assailant is under arrest charged with using a deadly weapon.—Chicago Herald.

The recent earthquake in Greece has altogether been a much greater calamity than that of last year at Zante, and the number of persons killed is certainly not less than 300.

TWO-FIFTY EACH.

Pole Ordinance Passed With a Rush.

SURPRISE IN THE COUNCIL.

John Regan Falls From the Local Train,

BADLY FRACTURING HIS SKULL.

Boogar Scores a Point — Ben Wright Assigns His Interest in the Trotting Park.

OAKLAND.—The so-called pole ordinance went through the Council last night with a rush that surprised even its stanchest supporters. A report had gone out early in the evening that the ordinance was doomed, and it certainly looked that way when Councilman Barnard got up and made a speech against it, stating that although he had suggested the amendment of $2 50 per pole instead of $5, he was now prepared to vote against it.

Barnard was followed by Manuel, who also, to the surprise of every one, said he could not vote for it, because it was not the best way to levy taxation.

Chairman Dow had become frightened at the outlook and asked Marshall to take the chair, so that he might go upon the floor. Dow was the originator of the ordinance and disliked to see his child thrown into the waste basket. He was prepared to fight for it and did, making an impassioned appeal to the Council to pass the ordinance. He said that a vote now against the ordinance would be taking a step backward, and that would not do in this Council. These corporations could be reached only in this way, and they certainly should be made to pay their just proportion of the taxes to support the city.

Dalton followed in a speech, which also brought him applause, in favor of the ordinance. He answered the objections of Barnard and Manuel. Councilman Towle followed and stated that threats to remove telephones or raise the rates if the ordinance was passed was like the threats of the water company when its rates were under consideration. This Council should not get frightened.

The question was put, and Barnard arose and stated that the arguments presented had changed his opinion and he would vote aye.

The vote for the ordinance was: Barnard, Dalton, Marshall, Heitman, Snell, Towle, Watkinson and Dow—8. Against, Barstow and Manuel—2.

The ordinance imposes a tax of $2 50 each per year on all telegraph, telephone and electric-light poles in the city.

The kiosk ordinance was defeated by the Council last night by a vote of 5 to 4, as follows: Against—Dalton, Manuel, Snell, Towle and Dow; for—Barnard, Heitman, Marshall, Watkinson.

Fractured His Skull.

John Regan, a workingman, 41 years of age, fell from a broadgauge Oakland train yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, near tower 2 at the mole, striking on his head on a pile of rocks near the track, from which injuries he died while being conveyed to the Receiving Hospital.

Regan left the home of his sister, Mrs. Miller, at 14 Clinton street, San Francisco, with whom he had been living, yesterday morning to come to Oakland, where he contemplated calling on another sister, a Mrs. Mulligan, living at 1160 Peralta street. It is thought that Regan, who was partially paralyzed in the lower limbs by a fall sustained some years ago, attempted to go from one car to another, and that a sudden lurching of the train threw him from the platform. The iron gates were open, as they are not closed until after the train leaves the mole.

Regan struck head foremost on the rocks, peeling the skin from his face and forehead and fracturing his skull. The man in tower 2 saw the accident and immediately telephoned for the patrol wagon.

Deceased was an unmarried man and intended shortly going into the country to find work. When he left home he had $4 in his possession, and $2 90 of this was still in his pockets.

Boogar Scores a Point.

The application of Mrs. Catherine Boogar for an allowance of alimony and certain expenses came up before Judge Greene yesterday and was denied. Mrs. Boogar was, however, allowed $150 to pay expenses in preparing for the trial.

Attorney Benson, for Mr. Boogar, read a long affidavit from his client, in which the general denial is made that Boogar is worth any sum in excess of $40,000. He states that "she has been scrambling in a most mercenary manner for defendant's property," and that by reason of such inhuman conduct he has been forced to mortgage his property in the sum of $25,000.

He says Mrs. Boogar has an income of $85 a month from rentals, etc. He has not lived with her since March 5, 1892, during which time she has brought from eighteen to twenty lawsuits against him. He said an overture had been made to him to the effect that if he would pay $15,000 in cash the suits would be dismissed. This he had refused to do.

The Berlings Separated.

Articles of separation have been entered into between Richard and Katie Berling, and were filed in the Superior Court yesterday. According to the agreement the parties will live apart after nineteen years of wedded experience, and the husband will pay the wife $15 a month alimony.

The wife is also to have the furniture in the house at 570 Eighteenth street, East Oakland, valued at $100, and the husband assigns a life insurance policy for $2000, upon which he agrees to pay the premium as long as he lives. The son's expenses until he arrives at the age of 21 years will be paid by the father.

The wife, on her part, will release Mr. Berling from any claim for support and will wear the marriage ring as long as she lives. Upon these conditions she consents to dismiss the divorce suit pending in the Superior Court.

The charges made by Mrs. Berling against her husband in her complaint were highly sensational, and he was anxious to avoid the publicity of the divorce suit.

Pledged His Racers.

In October, 1893, R. D. Ledgett borrowed $500 from Joseph F. Forderer, to secure which he turned over two racing animals, Lady Markham and Kitty L, also a buggy, harness and robes. It is claimed that each of the horses is worth $1500 and the other stuff had a value of $300. The note given reads:

For the sum of $500, to me in hand paid, with interest at the rate of 1 per cent per month from the above date, and for keeping and feeding my bay mare and filly. I agree to sell and convey to R. D. Ledgett the two bay mares, together with the buggy and harness, as delivered by Ledgett on this day, before the 1st of May, 1894.

The interest of Ledgett in the property was assigned to T. D. Riordan and by him assigned to J. J. Quinn. The latter offered $500 for the redemption of the property, but this offer was refused. Now he brings suit against Forderer in the Superior Court to recover.

Bicycles at San Leandro.

A ten-mile bicycle race was ridden by members of the Y. M. C. A. Saturday. Sixteen men started and in spite of the strong wind the scratch men came within 30 seconds of equaling the coast record. C. C. Gilbert's time was 31 min. 32 2-5 sec. Percy Mott, with a four-minute handicap, was the first man in; C. D. Gooch, 4½ min., second; Charles Lemmon, 2¼ min., third; Tom Hayselden, 6 min., fourth; E. C. Lyon, 1½ min., fifth; C. C. Gilbert, sixth; J. M. Colquhon, seventh. The other contestants finished in the following order: J. L. Gilbert, Charles Mackey, William Graves, Walter Brown, A. F. Kerr and T. E. Gammell. C. C. Gilbert was awarded the time prize and the first seven men in the place prizes.

Charles Newton's Will.

The will of Charles Newton, the Peralta Heights capitalist who died June 4, was presented for probate yesterday. The document bears date of August 7, 1888, and was witnessed by James W. Warford and William H. Price. The entire estate is bequeathed to the widow and, as the real estate has been disposed of by deed, the balance consists simply of a life insurance policy for $2950 and $2500 in bank. This is bequeathed to the widow as her property. No provision was made for the children, Mrs. Mabel Newton Bell, Alice Newton, Jessie Newton and Henry Newton, for the reason that the testator had confidence that his wife would provide for them.

Oakland High School Exercises.

The graduating exercises of the Oakland High School were held last night at the First Congregational Church before an audience that filled that edifice to the doors. The exercises were most unique, consisting of features entirely out of the usual run of such affairs. It took on more of the features of a political convention than otherwise. A chairman and secretary were chosen, the former being Howard Bell. The minutes of a supposed previous meeting were read by Miss Mabel Palmer, and then the convention launched into all the important questions of the day, including woman suffrage, Government ownership, the blotting out of party lines, Bellamyism, socialism, temperance, etc., and a sixteenth amendment to the constitution, regarding dress reform, was recommended. All the questions are very ably handled by the pupils.

Charged With Murder.

So certain are the police of having found in Frank Miller the murderer of Quatros, the milkman, that yesterday afternoon Deputy Sheriff Hunt swore out a complaint in Justice Clift's court formally charging Miller with the murder.

The man is now in jail at Martinez, Contra Costa County, but will be brought to Oakland and incarcerated here.

It is proposed to take Miller over the route he pursued in going from Oakland to Pinole, and it is thought that in tracing the route he may be traced to the scene of the murder.

Stealing Druid Regalia.

On Saturday night last the lodgeroom of Garibaldi Grove, No. 71, at California Hall, was entered and the entire wardrobe and regalia of the order were carried away.

The same hall is also used by Oakland Grove, No. 24, and by the Ladies' Bellamyite Society. The latter order has no quarrel with Garibaldi Grove, but the Garibaldians and the Oakland Grove are not on the best of terms because of past differences, and members of the former are not slow in expressing an opinion as to who took the regalia.

Charge of Cinching.

J. T. Turner, defendant in a suit for $43,326, brought by Edwin Fretwell, has filed an answer in which he alleges that an attempt is being made to cinch him. Turner borrowed $80,000 from Fretwell; they had a partial settlement and now Fretwell owes on a promissory note.

He denies owing any sum in excess of $29,743. He says: "Turner took a grossly oppressive and unfair advantage of me in my distress, and held securities for a much larger sum than I owed. He coerced and compelled me to execute a note for a much larger sum than I received from him, and, in fact, I had to give my note for any sum he chose to demand."

Ben Wright Assigns.

Ben Wright yesterday filed an assignment of his interest in the Oakland Trotting Park to the California Jockey Club. The latter is given the privilege of renewing the lease for nine years at the expiration of the original ten years.

Wright held a lease from James Mee requiring him to pay a monthly rental of $208 for ten years. He was also required by the provisions of the document to build a $2000 clubhouse. He can neither pay rent nor build as agreed and so he assigns.

Scored the League.

Rev. Edward A. Schell, D.D., general secretary of the Epworth League Chapter, addressed the Christian Endeavor societies of the First Methodist Church Sunday night and in the course of his remarks scored the league roundly. He asserted that Christians were not loyal to their church if they were members of the society. His remarks occasioned great excitement and he was corrected in some of his statements by the members in the audience.

Much comment is being indulged in over the discourse.

Was a Good Prisoner.

Attorney Moore appeared before the Board of Supervisors yesterday and secured to Frank Luna, now confined in the County Jail the reduction of sentence for good behavior. Jailer Lane was called and testified to Luna's good character. The board allowed the five days for each month of sentence, which will liberate Luna at once. He was one of the prisoners who assisted the jailers at the attempted jail delivery.

Too Young to Wed.

A man 28 years of age, giving the name of George H. Williams, called at the clerk's office yesterday for a license to marry Mary E. Carroll, aged 14. The cupid in charge refused the license under the law, as 15 years is the age of consent. The mother of the girl was anxious for the marriage to take place and Williams thought his only hope, since the law forbade, was to marry on the tug route or by contract.

The Mayor's Authority.

In a long communication to the Council last night Mayor Pardee stated that under the law he had no right to remove the Superintendent of Streets or any municipal officer, and advised the Council to make any complaint of that character to the Board of Public Works.

Room for the Pipes.

The Oakland Water Company has brought suits against the May estate and John Quigley to condemn the right of way over their land in order to lay pipes from Alvarado. Plaintiff alleges having tried to make an agreement with defendants, but without any success.

Declared Incompetent.

Because of old age and disease Mary Connell was declared incompetent to manage her property, and Marie Connell was appointed guardian of her person and estate.

Run Over by a Train.

A man named James Lucie was brought to the Receiving Hospital last night with his left foot cut off at the ankle. He had been run over by a train at Alvarado.

BERKELEY.

When Lorin was yet a village included within the Berkeley precincts the county of Alameda, desiring to open a street through property belonging to Harry Peterson, on the corner of Stanford and Adeline avenues, made the attempt to put the street through. But as a condemnation of the land was necessary that step was not taken, and the street was not opened. When Berkeley incorporated Lorin within it the Trustees ordered Mr. Peterson, through the Town Marshal, to take down twenty-seven feet of his fence that a street might be laid on a strip of his lot. Three notices have been served in as many years ordering the removal of the fence. Yesterday Marshal Striker, having a few days previously sent a notice for removal, proceeded to demolish the fence. Mr. Peterson's attorney, Mr. Hernon, advises him that the town has no right to deprive him of his property without due compensation, and a suit will be brought against the town to compel it to pay damages and rebuild the fence.

A Trustee Accused.

N. T. Whiting of the Berkeley Trustees is accused by John Williams of reducing the assessed value of his real and personal property, while sitting on the Board of Equalization, below the assessed value of neighboring property. The books indicate a reduction of the assessed value of Mr. Whiting's property of $1700.

Berkeley Whist Club.

The Berkeley Whist Club held an extra session Saturday evening at the residence of O. Hanscom, to celebrate its admission to the National Whist Club of the United States. The club expects to meet the San Francisco Club before long.

The Education of the Senses.

The closing exercises at the Institute for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind will be held this afternoon at 2 o'clock. The programme will illustrate the methods of teaching and attainments of the pupils.

Notes.

Marshal Striker is proving his ability as an administrator of the law by making every violator aware of existing ordinances. The Marshal announces that all excessmen must comply with the recent ordinance requiring them to take out licenses. The case against Mr. Moran, the real estate dealer, was settled by that gentleman paying two quarters' arrears of licenses and one quarter in advance.

ALAMEDA.

The Newport baths are sold to Breed & Campbell of Oakland. This property in years past was very valuable, but has been allowed to run down. What the new owners are going to do is not known.

Progress Union.

The Union for Practical Progress held a meeting last evening in the G. A. R. hall for the transaction of their monthly business. The meeting was well attended and considerable interest manifested.

The City Trustees met in regular session last evening. Trustee Leydecker reported that work had been ordered begun on the proposed addition to the Webb-avenue firehouse. Four additional hydrants were ordered put in at his suggestion.

On recommendation and motion of Trustee Hammond, the City Attorney and City Engineer were instructed to draw up a resolution of intention for grading, curbing and macadamizing Fountain street, between Central and Lincoln avenues, the macadamizing to be a separate resolution.

Street Superintendent Frodden was instructed to spend $50 in making some needed repairs on the Bay Farm Island road.

The question of a pound and its need was mentioned, but the committee reported that they had not been able to select a suitable place for it, but thought they would within a week.

On motion of Trustee Stephenson $500 was transferred to the Board of Health fund for its use.

The contract for furnishing coal for the electric works the ensuing six months was awarded to J. H. Braus at $7 75 per ton, delivered.

Permission was granted for moving the old Catholic church across the street to make room for the erection of the new edifice.

The ordinance ordering the widening of Lincoln avenue was passed; also an ordinance ordering the extension of the same avenue.

The City Attorney reported that in the action of Alameda City vs. E. B. Mastick et al., judgment had been rendered in favor of the city condemning Alameda Park for public use as a public park without damage, and a resume was made of the years of labor it had taken to procure this park. The Trustees now propose to go ahead and beautify the plat of ground and give Alameda a beautiful recreation park.

EARLY RISERS.

There Are Many People Who Declare They Are a Bother.

The praises of early rising have been sung from time immemorial, and mankind, in that indolent, unquestioning spirit which is so ready and willing to accept almost any theory or dictum without troubling itself to ascertain if the encomiums bestowed upon it are merited has taken it for granted that it is a cardinal virtue to leave one's bed at daybreak.

But that can hardly be a virtue which develops in the people who practice it a disposition to render themselves obnoxious to their fellow-mortals.

Now, it has been observed that the first impulse of a man, woman or child who is addicted to the early rising habit, upon quitting his couch, is to awaken and keep awake as many other people as possible. Sometimes this abnormal predilection seeks the adventitious aid of a lawn-mower, sometimes it utilizes the chopping-block, or wood saw, and sometimes again it brings to bear hammer and nails, and in extreme and violent cases it bangs upon the piano. Evidently the object sought is to make of one's self an alarm-clock to arouse the neighborhood, and it matters little, apparently, what kind of a noise is made so long as it is a noise of some sort.

This tendency to noise on the part of the early riser is not confined to the human species. It is found also among the early risers of the brute creation. The cock, the earliest of risers, is a notable offender with his shrill clarion; he sometimes carries the virtue of early rising to such excess that he apparently does not turn in at all, but keeps himself up, and by consequence his racket, all night long. The calf assails the dawn with his exasperating bleat; the cow is up bright and early with her mournful lowing; the horse neighs and the tuneful mule awakens the echoes with his stentorian hee-haw.

In a word, be it among man or the lower animals, it is always the same. The early riser is a pestilential nuisance, and instead of being praised for his virtues, which he has not, he deserves the disapprobation and execration of all with consciences sufficiently tranquil to be able to sleep in the morning hours but for the malicious interference of the early riser.

The only humane person is he who sleeps until the early sun is high in the heavens, and he gets his reward as he goes along, for he not only permits others to enjoy sleep when sleep is most enjoyable, but he at the same time enjoys it himself.—Boston Transcript.

The oldest library in the United States is said to be the New York Society Library in University place, New York. It was established in 1760.

OVER THE CLIFF.

Dead Man at Lands End Identified

AS JOHN HOPES OF STOCKTON,

Lessee and Manager of the Grand Central Hotel.

DASHED TO INSTANT DEATH.

The Victim of Saturday's Tragedy Near the Cliff House a Well-Known Citizen.

The identity of the man who fell to his death on the dangerous rocks between Bakers Beach and Lands End Saturday afternoon, as reported exclusively in Sunday's CALL, has been established.

He is John Hopes, lessee and manager of the Grand Central Hotel at Stockton and for a long time steward of the steamboat John D. Peters, which plied from this port to Stockton.

The body was rescued from its almost inaccessible lodging-place in the rocks at 11 o'clock yesterday morning and brought in to the morgue yesterday afternoon. There it was positively identified, notwithstanding its disfigurement, by George Robinson of the Belvedere and Henry von Bremen of 1132 Buchanan street, the dead man's father-in-law.

Since Saturday afternoon, when John B. Layng of 2309 Geary street saw Hopes go over the cliff in search of his hat, until yesterday morning efforts were made to reach the body. The swift undertow, however, had carried it into one of the water-worn caves in the rocks and it was impossible to locate it from the summit, 200 feet above.

The Golden Gate life-saving crew took a hand in the search yesterday and from without the surf located the position of the remains. Then Captain Martin was lowered from the rocks above and soon reached the spot. He got a line from the boat, and, attaching it to the body, loosened himself from the line above and guided the dead to the lifeboat. It was then turned over to the Coroner.

An examination by the Coroner showed that the neck was broken, which must have caused instant death. There was a hole in the skull where it came in contact with one of the sharp-pointed rocks and the body was black and swollen from numberless bruises. The face was turned a reddish brown and was puffed entirely out of proportion. The clothes had been nearly torn from the body in its contact with the projecting granite.

On the body were found several papers, among them a water-soaked deed from George Robinson to deceased, and it was through this means his identity was discovered.

Deceased had been in town for about a week, and his father-in-law was somewhat perplexed that he had not called on him.

Deceased was 38 years old at the time of his death, a widower and the father of a boy nearly 3 years old, who is with Mr. von Bremen at present.

An inquest will be held Wednesday.

STOCKTON, June 11.—John Hopes left Stockton a week ago last Friday for San Francisco after having concluded disastrously about a six months' experience as manager of the Grand Central Hotel. During this time he was advertised as proprietor of the house, but this was merely for the sake of convenience. He had a little of his money in the business, but was backed by Mrs. Henderson and her sisters, the former proprietors of the hotel. It was a hard season on most of the hotels and Hopes tried to make the place pay by making extremely low rates. Meal tickets were sold during the last weeks at a price which was lower than any of the restaurants could meet, and, as the result, proved lower than the hotel could stand. The debts began to pile up and the earnings of the house to come down, and finally the housekeeper and Mrs. Henderson took charge and Hopes was told he could go back to the position he had formerly filled, that of runner for the house.

In this capacity it would have been one of Hopes' duties to meet all the incoming steamers and trains and get what persons he could as guests of the hotel. Instead of accepting this position Hopes left for San Francisco.

The day he went away he was complaining of ill health. One reason that the man did not want to come down from proprietor to runner for the Grand Central was probably because he had for years worked on the steamers as a steward. He was steward on board the steamer Peters for not less than four years, all this time being in the employ of the California Navigation and Improvement Company. It was Hopes' old business, that of steamer steward.

He was an Irishman, but came from Australia. He first came to California as a steward on the steamers of the Pacific Mail line. On this line he was employed on the steamers running to Panama and also on the steamer running across the Pacific. He was engaged by the old San Joaquin Improvement Company while he was running on the China steamers and resigned his position with the Mail line to begin running between Stockton and San Francisco.

When the old company was bought out by a new company he was for a time employed as steward on the steamer Humboldt, running between San Francisco and Eureka. He then came back to the regular Stockton steamers and remained there until he left to act as proprietor of the Grand Central Hotel.

Hopes was a widower and had one child. He was greatly worried over money matters and other matters, and had made himself sick by worry when he left for San Francisco. He was a man of more than average height, with a bald head and a mustache.

Ex-Secretary Tracy is quoted as saying to a friend that, in addition to the work and worry, his Cabinet life cost him $30,000 every year above his salary of $8000.

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