

Oroville Daily Register

1-4-1904

RESIDED IN BUTTE FOR MANY YEARS

Mr. G. W. Stemple, of this town, has been in California, most of the time in Butte County, for fifty-two years. He was born in Prussia, and came to the United States in 1849. He left New York for a voyage around Cape Horn on the 1st of April, 1852, and landed in San Francisco on the 1st of September of that year. He remained two months in San Francisco working at his trade as a carpenter, and then came to Morris Ravine in Butte county, where he remained for some months. In February, 1853, he moved to Thompson Flat, having a mine there, in company with two brothers from Switzerland named Lytold. They mined together until 1855, when Mr. Stemple bought an interest in a quartz mine at Oregon Gulch with Albert Grummet. While still a partner in the quartz mine he ran a ferry for M. B. West at the lower end of Oroville for three years, from 1863 to 1867, when he went back to the quartz mine again.

In 1872 he sold out his interest in the quartz mine and took a trip back to Prussia and attended the World's Fair in Vienna, Austria. In 1882 he was engaged in the sheep business and continued in that line till 1892 when he sold out and went to farming and is still engaged in that work.

He tells us that during the time he was at Thompson Flat it was a pretty lively town. A stage line ran from there to Oroville and there was travel to make it pay. There was one hotel, three stores and two saloons in the town. In addition to these there were a number of gambling houses. He says the mines paid well, and while at work there he made \$4000 in eleven months.

Mr. Stemple and wife reside in Oroville, while his land is situated on Cottonwood creek and is actively managed by his step-son, J. M. Williams.

SOME REMINISCENCES
OF EARLY DAY LIFE

Having a chance to talk with Wm. H. Mullen yesterday about the early days in California we gathered some notes which are given below:

Mr. Mullen in company with his father, Chas. H. Mullen and others left Wappello, Iowa, on the 23rd of April, 1850 and crossed the Plains with ox teams, reaching the Golden State on the 16th of September. They landed at Georgetown and remained there during the winter. On the trip they had no trouble with Indians or from sickness, although they passed a train where there were several cases of cholera.

They mined first at Cold Spring above Coloma and then moved to Jackson, which was then in Calaveras county. The party wintered at a place called the Gates. In the spring they moved to Kentucky Flat by way of Greenwood Valley in Nevada county. In the party was a cousin of Mr. Mullen, W. H. R. Thompson and his brother-in-law, both of Wappello, Iowa. Mr. Agans, the brother-in-law referred to is now living near Red Bluff. In June of that year the party moved to Stringtown on the South Fork of Feather river and went to mining. They mined on Oregon Creek, near Kanaka Peak and later on McCahe Creek. Then they bought a claim on the river and removed a dam so as to mine the bar, where they did very well. They next moved to the Middle Fork and mined a bar, which they named Wappello Bar. This was named after the town in Iowa and that town had been named after an Indian chief.

Two Frenchmen had gone to McCahe creek and worked the mine, which they left. Thirty yards higher up the stream these men struck a rich spot and took out \$18,000.

A part of the company after leaving the Middle Fork went to Canyon Creek near St. Louis and later others went there. Mr. Mullen went to packing for the members who had opened a store. For three summers he ran a pack train from Marysville up to Canyon creek.

Late in the fall of 1854 he bought land in Concow Valley in Butte county and lived there till 1872. In 1869 he built a sawmill but this burned. In 1872 he lost everything he had. He then went to teaming and for three years hauled lumber from Flea Valley in the meantime taking up some timber land and getting some cattle. He sold his timber land to Mr. Farnum of Vallejo, then got married and went to Big Bend to make a home. He has resided at Big Bend most of the time since that date.

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While they were at Stringtown the elder Mr. Mullen and some others had occasion to go from Bidwell Bar to Wyandotte. This was at the time Joaquin was operating in this region of country. On the road they found a man who had been caught with a rope by some of Joaquin's band and after being dragged for a time was killed by having his throat cut. The same party moved down toward Charley's Ranch on Feather river and there held up and robbed a teamster. There was a place in the vicinity called Hole in the Ground, and this seemed to be a sort of resort for the robbers.

The elder Mr. Mullen was living at Jackson and told his son of the coming of Joaquin's band to that locality. They robbed a number of people and among others was Mr. Mullen, Sr., whose horse was stolen. He and others hunted for the robbers and a fight ensued during which one of the Mexicans was wounded. A day or two later he came into the town and took some clothing to an old Mexican wash woman. She observed that the clothing was bloody and notified the officers. The man was arrested and tried by a miners' court. He confessed that he was one of the men and his wound in the back added to the proof for he was the man wounded in the fight. He was found guilty and hanged.

A butcher in the same vicinity was held up by Three Fingered Jack and, after being robbed was killed. The same highwayman a day or two later met several Chinese. He and his men tied the queues of the unfortunate men together and after taking their money cut their throats. The miners were greatly wrought up over these occurrences and many had assembled one night in a large saloon, where there was much talk as to what punishment should be inflicted upon Joaquin and his band. The robbers being all Mexicans there was much ill feeling toward that class of people. A Mexican who had been sitting at a table playing monte suddenly became enraged at the threats made by the miners and drawing two revolvers sprang upon the card table and cried out, "I am Joaquin. If you want anything of me come on." With this he began firing right and left. It took but a moment or two for the men to rush pell mell from the saloon and before they could recover from their surprise and consternation Joaquin had disappeared.

He and his band were afterwards captured and Joaquin's head, and the hand of Three Fingered Jack were cut off. Later they were brought to Marysville and placed on exhibition. Capt. Harry Love and Capt. Burns were the ones instrumental in breaking up the gang of robbers and murderers. A Mexican packer who had worked for Mr. Mullen examined the head and said there was no mistake, he knew the face from an ugly knife wound which extended from the mouth along the cheek.

Woodland Daily Democrat

1-14-1904

VON GAFFENBURG'S WIFE.

From the San Jose Herald we learn that the forger who was recently sent to the state prison from this county for 14 years operated in San Jose under the name of Hume. Chief of Police Carroll, of that city, says he caught several San Jose merchants for various sums, cleaning up from \$175 to \$200. He declined to give the names of the merchants who were victimized.

Sheriff Griffin is in receipt of a letter that throws an additional light upon Von Gassenberg's movements. He married the late Conductor Nat Irwin's widow, and to them was born one child. His wife obtained a divorce from him more than a year ago. She resumed her former name, Mrs. Eunice Irwin, and now lives at Pentz, California. In her letter Mrs. Irwin expresses much sorrow for the man.

EVENTS RECORDED OF
BUTTE'S EARLY HISTORY

We take from one of the old time papers in Butte—the Butte Record—some facts concerning events in this portion of Butte in 1856. The following item refers to Feather river a short distance above Oroville:

We were informed by Mr. Cole, who came down from Long's Bar yesterday that preparations were being made to remove the flumes from the river. The early commencement of the rainy season has proved a great disaster to those engaged in river mining. In particular so to the Montezuma Company, as they were just fairly under way when the water drove them out. This was on Saturday, October 25th.

Bidwell Bridge—We learn from Judge Lewis who called on us yesterday that the towers and other material for building the wire suspension bridge at Bidwell Bar were all on the ground and that weather permitting, it will be finished in the course of a month or six weeks.

We learn from a letter received yesterday from a friend at Spanishtown that Judge Stiles and several others have formed themselves into a citizens police force for the protection of the town from fire and rascals. We should like to see the Judge in his new character of Dogberry. He is just the man to comprehend all vagrant men.

Death of a Child—A little daughter of Mr. Clark of Robinson Hill, died at that place night before last. She was the first and only person born on the hill and is the only one who has ever died there. Her age was three months and seventeen days. Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Gambling—Mr. Swaringer was arrested and brought before Justice Elliott on complaint of Messrs. Watson & McDermott on the charge of illegal gambling. He was tried by the jury and acquitted.

Theatre Last Night—The Fairy troupe played again last night to a full house and a delighted audience. The Fairies were indeed appropriately named and their singing and dancing were charmingly beautiful. The performance of Miss Blodgett on the accordeon and her jig dancing are better than anything of the kind we have witnessed in many days. Sweet is a most expressive and proper title for the darling little creature that bears that name and by proper training she will eventually become a most accomplished dansuese. The after piece went off very well, Miss Finn, Mr. McGowan and Lew Rattler sustaining their characters admirably. They present a splendid bill for tonight.

Buildings are rapidly going up. The ditch will be completed in about six weeks. W. Fargo, Superintendent, certainly deserves credit for prosecuting this work as he has and from the known reputation of the officers of the company insures its speedy completion.

Our Steamer—We learn from J. Sawin, who was in Hamilton yesterday that Capt. Lindley was at that place when he left with the steamboat engaged in removing the snags and other obstructions in the river preparatory to navigating the coming winter. This is a very wise and well timed

undertaking for the river is as low or lower now than it has been for a long while, and repairs can now be made much more easily than at other times. We are assured that the first rise of the river will certainly be the occasion for our town to be visited by a steamboat, and indeed there is no reason in the world why such should not be the case. This is the only mining town in the State capable of being approached by steamboats.

Spanishtown was quite a well known place in an early day in Butte and many miners were at work there. This was located a short distance from Yankee Hill. A letter to the Record from Spanishtown written by Mr. Stiles gives some interesting details of a fight that took place there in November, 1856:

Mexicans, Peruvians and Chilians stir us up very often. Last night they had a bloody fight at a dance house and at which at least a hundred shots were fired. The balls went whizzing in every direction. One man, a Peruvian, was killed, one woman, a Portuguese was shot in the arm; two men in a cabin, Peruvians, one shot in the right shoulder, the other cut badly with a sword. Two Chilians shot, one in the back and the other in the leg.

The diggings here are certainly rich, the town is full of people, hotels are crowded, the Golden Gate, Carry & McClellan proprietors is the principal house in town.
Flat.

Robberies were very frequent in the early days in this State, and the bands were pretty well known. Some of the names given below will be remembered by the older residents of this section.

Highwayman Arrested—The Stockton Republican contains the full account of the arrest and confession of Bill Grist, alias Bill White, one of the Tom Bell gang, which we condense as follows:

"He acknowledged himself as being concerned in the attempted robbery of the Camptonville stage and said the party consisted of Tom Bell, Ned Conners, Monte Jack, Jim Smith, Bob Carr and Juan Rucker and himself. He also implicates Madam Cole and John

Gardner of the California House, as being accessory to the crime. Finding themselves unsuccessful in their attempts to rob the stage, they fled from that part of the country and went to the south and in the neighborhood of Mokelumne Hill, robbed Mr Sarles and two teamsters of \$14. That night they stole horses and left for Sonora. He also confesses himself and the party as guilty of the robbery of Rosenthal near the town of Folsom. After robbing him of his money, some \$1200, they tied him to a tree and told him to call for assistance. After they had left, Tom Bell, remaining behind the balance of the party. After they had had tied him and as Rosenthal has not since been seen it is fair to suppose that Tom killed him. He says that together with Tom Bell, Ned Conner, Jim Smith and others he made his escape from the State Prison sometime in May, 1855, and that the escape was made at the instance of some of the prison officers. He intimates from the fact of General Estell having made an unprofitable contract with the State to board the convicts that he took this method of getting rid of a portion of his boarders. According to White's statement the story about Tom Bell having inflicted as surgeon in tying up an artery in the leg of a man whom they had shot is an exaggeration of the facts. Bell only tied his handkerchief over a flesh wound that White had inflicted with a pistol. This last mentioned affair and the robbery of the teamster are the same that took place near the Minor's Ranch, six miles from Oroville, last summer.

He also gave a description of all the band, consisting of Tom Bell, Fred Farnsworth, Warren Farnsworth, English Bob, Ned Conner, Jim Smith, Monte Jack. He winds up as follows: "This confession is made with the promise that you will do all in your power to have me pardoned out of State Prison. If all I have told you is not true you are hereby released from your promise. I think what I have said will be of great advantage to the people of the State and it is my intention to leave it if pardoned."

SAYS LAW IS INAPPLICABLE

Indians Living on Government
Reservations Need Not Obey
State Code, Says Woodworth

TEST CASE WILL BE
TRIED BY DE HAVEN

David Lincoln, Member of the
Concow Tribe, Round Valley
Reservation, Is Released on
a Habeas Corpus Petition.

Federal and State judicial officers have clashed in the case of David Lincoln, an Indian of the Concow tribe, who was arrested recently for shooting a deer on the Indian reservation at Round valley. A Justice of the Peace at Covelo, which is situated on the outskirts of the reservation, fined Lincoln \$25 for his violation of the State game laws. In default of the fine he was sent to prison. Now he is out on a writ of habeas corpus obtained at the instance of United States Attorney Marshall B. Woodworth. The District Attorney claims that the Covelo Justice of the Peace acted entirely without jurisdiction, as the Indian living on the reservation is a ward of the United States. Hence it is claimed by the Federal officials that when the man was imprisoned he was illegally restrained of his liberty. The habeas

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corpus petition will come up for hearing in the United States District Court before Judge De Haven at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. A decision upon the point involved will be looked for with interest by attorneys all over the State. It will decide whether or not State statutes are applicable to territory exclusively under the control of the Federal Government.

Aside from the interesting legal point involved, sportsmen everywhere keenly await the decision of the United States Judge. Fish Commissioner Vogelsang and every other member of the Fish and Game Commission of the State are anxious that the question of jurisdiction shall be finally settled. White settlers living in the vicinity of reservations are incensed that Indians should be granted privileges denied to citizens of this State. They have stated to local game wardens that there is no incentive to live up to the law when they see Indians who are their neighbors fearlessly disregard it. If the wards of the United States who live on these tracts are not subject to the laws of the State, then, hold the sportsmen and white settlers, reservations will become great game preserves where none may hunt but Indians or those fortunate enough to secure the permission of the superintendent. This, they claim, will lead to a certain species of poaching and the eventual extinction of game in the regions thus unprotected.

These objections, Attorney Woodworth says, he is inclined to think are based upon sentiment, and that the law on the proposition will sustain the attitude of the United States.

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2-6-1904

EARLY DAYS IN BUTTE AMONG THE INDIANS

From W. H. Mullen we gather the following items concerning some Indian incidents in early days in Butte. He was mining at Stringtown and noted in 1852 that the Indians south of the Middle Fork were known as Yubas, while those north of that stream were known as Picas.

On one occasion in the spring of 1852, the Yubas, near Buffalo Ranch, close to what is now Hurleton, were having a grand time and were cooking up food for a grand dance that was to take place. One of the Yubas was wounded with an arrow and this ended the fight. There was a big crying time among the Yubas, but whether it was because their man was hurt or because their dance and supper were spoiled, we are unable to say.

During the same spring a white man was killed and a cabin robbed by some of the Picas. The miners at Stringtown captured the Chief of the Yubas together with his squaws and pappoose and held the squaws and children as hostages, telling the Chief to go out with some of his men and capture the Pica who had killed the white man. He and his warriors set forth and in due time returned to the place with the murderer. A miner's trial was had and the Pica was found guilty and hanged.

During the excitement attendant upon the trial and hanging, one of the miners who had been on a spree and who was still quite drunk was awakened in his bunk. He rolled out, caught up his gun and running across the room fired at another man sleeping in a bunk and wounded him quite severely in the shoulder. The assailant was tried but it was found that owing to the liquor he was hardly responsible for the act, so was released.

REGARDING INDIANS IN EARLY TIMES

Talking with a pioneer here a day or two ago he said of the Indians in early times that those on the north and west side of the Feather were named Lillipies. These included the Indians near Oroville, at the Sam Neal ranch on Butte Creek, those on the Bidwell ranch at Chico, the Yeats Indians, near Gridley and those of Yuba City. These all assembled together for dances and games.

Between these and those of Mooretown ridge there was always more or less trouble. While there were fights at intervals, yet the casualties were not large, as only bows and arrows were used. He remembered that on one occasion a very good looking young Indian woman and her little girl of about five years old were killed by the Mooretown Indians. The woman and her child were on the west side of the Feather river and had laid down under a big tree in springtime sunning themselves. Some of the Mooretown Indians came in sight of the woman and child, and silently making their approach, swam the river and crept upon the two, killing mother and daughter.

The Indians had no spear for fighting in the early days, but used a spear for fish. In 1849 the Indian women used to wear a sort of skirt made of tules, which came down about to the knee or a little below. The men wore a breech cloth and after whites came among them used to wear pants, shirts and hats. He said he saw on one occasion a buck wearing six woolen shirts one over the other. He had on a plug hat, but no pants or shoes.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCE OF AN EARLY SETTLER

Meeting James McGrannahan, of Yankee Hill yesterday, we induced him to give us quite a number of particulars concerning his early life in this State. His home was in Lawrenceburg, Ind. He left St. Joe with an ox team on the 3rd of June, 1849, and reached California on the 24th of October of that year. They had no trouble with the Indians or from sickness, but their teams were worn out, and unable to travel and in the Black Rock region they were aided by supplies from the government and so were enabled to reach the Sacramento Valley. They came into the Valley at Lassen's ranch, and Mr. McGrannahan came to Long's Bar and went to mining. From there he went to Bidwell Bar and mined at the mouth of the South Fork. He and other members of the company that had crossed the plains, paid \$75 for a rocker, and \$10 for a shovel and the same sum for a common gold pan.

After leaving Bidwell Bar he came to Morris Ravine and he and three others, two brothers named Dunn and a man named Brown, concluded to build a boat and go down the river in December to Sacramento. The object was to take freight up the river to the mines. They started from Morris ravine and came near capsizing at the falls. They went over the falls just opposite town safely and from there on down had no trouble. It took them four or five days to reach Sacramento owing to the storms. Before getting there they concluded they could not make it profitable to get freight up the river. Not finding work in Sacramento he came back up to Yuba City and went to work there. He found at Yuba City. Capt Nelson with whom he had crossed the plains, and a Mr. Elliott who was an old friend, Capt. Nelson was the father of W. O. Nelson of Nelson Station.

At this place he went to work for the firm of Nelson & Clark. This Mr. Nelson was not the Capt referred to. He drove a team, got out timbers and made shakes from the white oak. He got only \$50 a month and board for this work so was ready when another job presented itself at \$150 a month and board. This job was offered him by a man named Crist, with whom he had crossed the plains. The job was driving an ox team. Later he helped put in a wing dam near Oroville, but the river did not pay at that point. He then went to driving team and hauling hay from Charley's Ranch to Oroville. Then the site where the court house now stands was covered with manzanita and oak trees.

From here he went to Shasta county where he mined for two years, a portion of the time near Redding's old diggings not far from Shasta City. He then returned to Butte County and has remained here all the time except one trip to the East in 1864 and one visit down to Arizona in 1889.

He mined at Yankee Hill in 1856 and then went there again in 1872. He also mined at different times at Morris Ravine and at Thompson's Flat. It was at this place that he got a nickname that has stuck to him through all these years. It is that of "Paper Jim."

He gives us the incident as follows: We had to work the mines when we could get water and often we could get water only when it rained so that we were obliged to work during the hard storms.

We used rubber coats but in many cases they were poor material and there was much complaint. One day I bought a heavy, black rubber coat that seemed much better than the others, so I bragged of it and told the boys when I brought it home to fool of it saying, "There is no paper fixing about that."

MURDERED CHICO GIRL ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED

San Francisco Chronicle
2-12-1904
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Rufus W. Weeks of Alameda Tells of
Queer Circumstances Connected
With Their Betrothal.



ALAMEDA, February 11.—The family of Rufus W. Weeks of 1518 Broadway, who was engaged to be married to Miss Eva Moak of Chico, the young school-teacher who was murdered in a barn at her home Tuesday afternoon, can throw no light on the tragedy, although there are circumstances connected with the shooting which resulted in Miss Moak's death which lead to the belief that it was the act of a rejected lover. Rufus Weeks, a son of George F. Weeks, editor of the Encinal, who has been employed here for a month as a printer, received a telegram on the evening of the shooting which read: "Eva has been shot. Come at once."

Young Weeks took the 8 o'clock train that night for Chico, where he expects to remain for several days. He had been engaged to the young lady for two years, and their wedding was soon to have been celebrated.

Weeks met the young lady first while mining in Butte county, at which time she taught a small school near what is known as the Big Bend. Later she taught school in Calaveras county, and for a while he was employed at Stirling, about fifteen miles from her home at Chico. He saw his fiancee at Chico about a month ago, at which time he returned to this city. She was at that time in good health and spirits. This was the last time he saw her before the mysterious shooting which ended her life. When they parted it was with mutual pledges and the happiest anticipations for the time when they should meet again.

For a while after his return to Alameda her letters came regularly, and then, for some reason not accounted for, they ceased. For a fortnight he had received no word from Chico, and for a time feared a rival had returned to harass the young woman and by persuasion or threats seek to have her break off her engagement. The break in their correspondence points to the existence of peculiar conditions at Chico which have not been made clear. There is an inference that there was another lover on the scene who was taking advantage of the absence of Weeks to press his suit, and who finally, crazed by a refusal, murdered the young lady in cold blood.

Charles Weeks, a brother of Rufus Weeks, said to-day: "A year ago there was a young man at Chico as the agent of the Diamond Match Company who was also paying attention to Miss Moak and who tried to cut Rufus out. He tried to get the young lady to accept him and discard

Rufus, but she refused. My brother then gave him to understand that he had better leave that part of the country, as he said it was not big enough to hold them both. Later the match agent must have taken the hint, for he went to Los Angeles. After my brother returned here his letters from Miss Moak, after a few weeks, stopped coming. For two weeks he did not receive a letter, and was so worried about it that he intended going up to Chico. He wrote to ascertain from her the reason for her silence, and about four days prior to the shooting he received a letter from her. There was nothing in it to show any interruption in their relations toward each other, but it did not explain why she had failed to write for a fortnight. Rufus still intended going up to see her shortly when the telegram came saying that she had been shot.

"The dispatch came as a thunderbolt out of a clear sky to him, and he was in the dark as to the cause of the shooting when he left here. What he feared was that the Los Angeles man had been at her home again and might be implicated in the tragedy, but, according to a dispatch, he was found by the Sheriff in Los Angeles on the night of the day upon which she was shot, which would go to prove that he could not have been on the scene at the time. Miss Moak was about 23 years of age and had many friends in the part of the country in which she lived."

CHICO, February 11.—A Coroner's jury held an inquest in the case of Eva Moak, the young woman shot at her mother's ranch near here Tuesday. A verdict of murder by some unknown person was returned. James Moak, a brother of the dead girl, testified that last night he received a communication that caused him to suspect a certain person whose name he would not divulge. The theory that the young woman knew her assailant and shielded him is not credited in the face of the united testimony of the family, all of whom declare that the dead girl did not know him and that she had repeatedly said so.

None of the family noticed any one about the barn or ranch. An orange peddler, who claims to have seen the body of a dead man in Butte creek yesterday, to-day said he was covered with slime and had been in the water some time. This proves, if true, that there is no connection between the two deaths. The body has not been found. Officers are working on a theory, but decline to talk for publication. The inquest merely served to prove that Eva Moak did not know who shot her, and that the family is as much at sea as the public.

HUNTING DOWN BRUTAL MURDERER OF EVA MOAK

Butte County Officers Tracing Every Clew to Shooting—Hundreds at the Funeral.

CHICO, February 12.—With the funeral of Miss Eva Belle Moak in this city to-day the people of Butte county awoke to the realization that her death was the culmination of one of the most cleverly planned and most successfully executed murders ever committed in the State. While the Christian Church was packed to its doors with men and women who left business and homes to show their sorrow, half a dozen peace officers, headed by District Attorney Gpy R. Kennedy and ex-Marshal James Chubbuck, hunted for evidence about the barn on the Moak ranch.

Sheriff S. H. Wilson and District Attorney Warren Sexton, who had given out that business called them back to Oroville, were hurrying through a distant part of the county, hot upon a trail which they hoped might lead them to the murderer.

Eva Moak was shot three times as she stood upon a stack of hay in her mother's barn at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. She died a few minutes before noon on Wednesday without leaving one word of description of her slayer. The only definite information which the officers of the county have obtained up to this time is that the beautiful young woman was shot from behind as she stooped to lift an egg from a hen's nest; that the person who fired four 38-caliber shots at her had reached the barn in the shelter of a low stone wall; that he knew the premises thoroughly and knew the habits of the family well enough to select a day and hour when the only persons who would be within a mile of his victim were her aged mother and her sister, and that in the hour of confusion which the two women spent in stanching the flow of blood from the wounds and in summoning the men of the family from a distant field the murderer had little difficulty in gaining the complete concealment of the hills which reach down within 200 yards of the barn.

KNOW NOT WHOM TO SUSPECT.

As the officers of the law gather at the scene of the crime they find themselves confronted with few clews which point to anything positive and too many clews inspired by mere supposition, to trace which consumes valuable time and may lead to nothing. When asked whom they suspect, mother, sister, the three brothers and the man whose wife the girl was to become in April can only name over four men, none living in the immediate neighborhood, who have professed their love for Eva Moak, and the one family whom the Moaks consider their bitter enemies.

Yet the Moaks themselves do not believe that their enemies would avenge themselves thus, and the theory held by officers and people alike is that the murder was the result of desperate, unrequited love. To support the belief are these direct circumstances: It is known that the announcement three weeks ago that Miss Moak would marry Rufus W. Weeks of Alameda in April came as bitter news to several young men; that as soon as the betrothal was announced Eva Moak received an anonymous letter which contained a vague allusion to her sweetheart and a covert threat.

Rufus Weeks came back from the sad, piteous scenes of the funeral and stood gazing into the barn where his sweetheart received the bullets, and said: "It must have been the work of some fugitive hiding from pursuit in the barn and fearful that Eva had seen and would betray him, for surely no man who had ever known her to love her could have planned to take her life."

MURDER CAREFULLY PLANNED.

But the members of the Moak family say that Weeks is misled by the depth of his affection and are positive that he is wrong.

"Eva was killed by some despicable creature who was beside himself at the announcement that she was soon to marry some one else, and he crawled up to the straw room of the barn at a time when he knew that my brother and I were away and shot our sister to death," said Frank Moak, the younger brother. "When my sister May brought me to the house as fast as the wagon horses could carry us, she made me promise I would not enter the barn until I had gone in to see Eva, but it would have been no use anyway, for that was nearly an hour after Eva had run bleeding into the house to fall into mother's arms, and the assassin was already far away in the hills. He crawled away along the stone wall, or he ran straight back across the field, with every assurance that he would not be seen by the helpless and distracted women in the house."

Sim Moak, uncle of the girl, walked unsteadily about the streets to-night, swearing to every one. He said that he would kill the slayer of his niece on sight; and he but spoke the whole public feeling. No funeral in years has made such a profound impression upon the entire city as that of to-day. Though the storm, which has been on for several days, had not abated, several hundred people went to the Moak ranch, seven miles southeast of Chico, and the escort of carriages was half a mile long as the white casket containing the body was brought into the Christian Church.

Mayor Clark rode on the box of the hearse. The church was overflowing long before 2 o'clock, when the services began. Rev. T. G. Picton launched upon a sermon which was mainly an earnest tribute to the young school-teacher. When he came to speak of the terrible circumstances of her death his voice broke repeatedly, and the congregation exhibited the deepest emotion. The Ladies of the Maccabees, of which Miss Moak was a member, had hidden the altar and walls with countless flowers. The order conducted the latter part of the services and led the long cortege to the cemetery, unmindful of mud and rain. The pallbearers were George F. Cole, W. Whitaker, G. L. Hume, C. A. Milligan, J. W. Jewell and H. F. Coe.

THREE TRAGEDIES AT FARM.

Sympathy centered on Mrs. Dunscomb, Eva Moak's mother. This is the third time she has followed to the grave a member of her family who came to a shocking death, and all the tragedies have occurred about the farm. Fifteen years ago her husband, John Moak, was kicked to death in his barn by a very vicious horse. Eight years ago her second husband,

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James Dunscomb, the life-long friend of the family, hitched his team to the harrow at this same barn in which Eva Moak has now been murdered and was dragged to death across the field in sight of his wife. The sons fear that this last blow will prove heavier than their mother can bear.

Eva Belle Moak was born in this community twenty-three years ago. When she entered the State Normal School here she became a belle of the large school. Her misfortune seems to have been that she was too well loved. She graduated from the Normal in January, 1902, and soon secured a school at Yankee Hill, in the big bend of Feather river, in this county. Charles L. Haynes, son of a farmer of Cohasset, had been much at her home, and his love for Eva Moak was answered with an engagement. A year ago the engagement was broken. Rufus Weeks, passing through Yankee Hill with a party of power line surveyors, saw the fair school teacher, lingered, and fell in love with her. She promised to become his wife. And there were two others at Yankee Hill who came to love the teacher.

MISS MOAK HAD MANY SUITORS.

The Moak family declare she never gave, either the slightest encouragement, but now their suspicions naturally include both of these young men. From Yankee Hill Miss Moak went to St. Louis, near La Porte, in Sierra county, where she taught until she returned home in November.

Though her engagement to Weeks seems to have quite filled Miss Moak's affections, it is understood that there were those at St. Louis who fell before the teacher's charms. The officers are now making diligent inquiries at St. Louis through officers there. After her return here, Miss Moak resided at her home, seldom attending public functions with any one except her sister, Miss May Frances Moak. Her approaching marriage filled her life, apparently. She talked about it enthusiastically to her friends. Only the day before she was shot she called on W. A. Davis, a local photographer, and asked him to be ready to make a picture at the home on the day of the wedding.

It seems positive that the murderer did not enter the barn until after 12 o'clock on Tuesday, because at that hour Miss Eva Moak went into the barn alone and hitched a horse to a buggy for her mother to take dinner to her brothers, James and Frank, clearing brush in a field a mile away. It was just 2 o'clock when she again went into the barn to remove the harness from the horse. According to her dying statement she had received the horse in his stall and climbed through the rick into the hay to look for eggs when the first shot was fired. She then stood upon a stack of baled hay, from which she could look down over the wall into the strawroom had she tried.

FIRED FROM STRAWROOM.

It was in that room that the murderer crouched on the straw close up to the top of the wall, sixteen feet from the girl. She could not have been facing the spot where her slayer was hidden when he sent one bullet through her side and another clean through her. As she fell over the side partition in this, the wagon shed, an egg in her hand crashed on top of the partition, where its contents, mixed with blood, remain. She ran to the door, thirty feet away, unbarred and ran on to the back porch, fifty yards distant, sinking at the door into the arms of her mother, who, with the sister, had heard the shots and was running out.

The fourth shot was fired as Miss Moak left the barn, and she thought that was the one which ripped open her scalp. The officers think that bullet went wild and that the three which struck her were all fired before she tumbled from the pile of bales. A curious circumstance is that the trail of blood does not begin until midway to the house. But the bullet holes in the roof and the flattened 38-caliber bullet found in the wagon shed prove that the shots were fired as the girl has said. All the hay and straw in the barn has been shifted by the officers with pitchforks, but no weapon and no cartridges have been found. The latter circumstance makes them think that the weapon was a revolver, because a rifle would have ejected the cartridges as they were fired and the murderer would scarcely have stopped to pick them out of the hay.

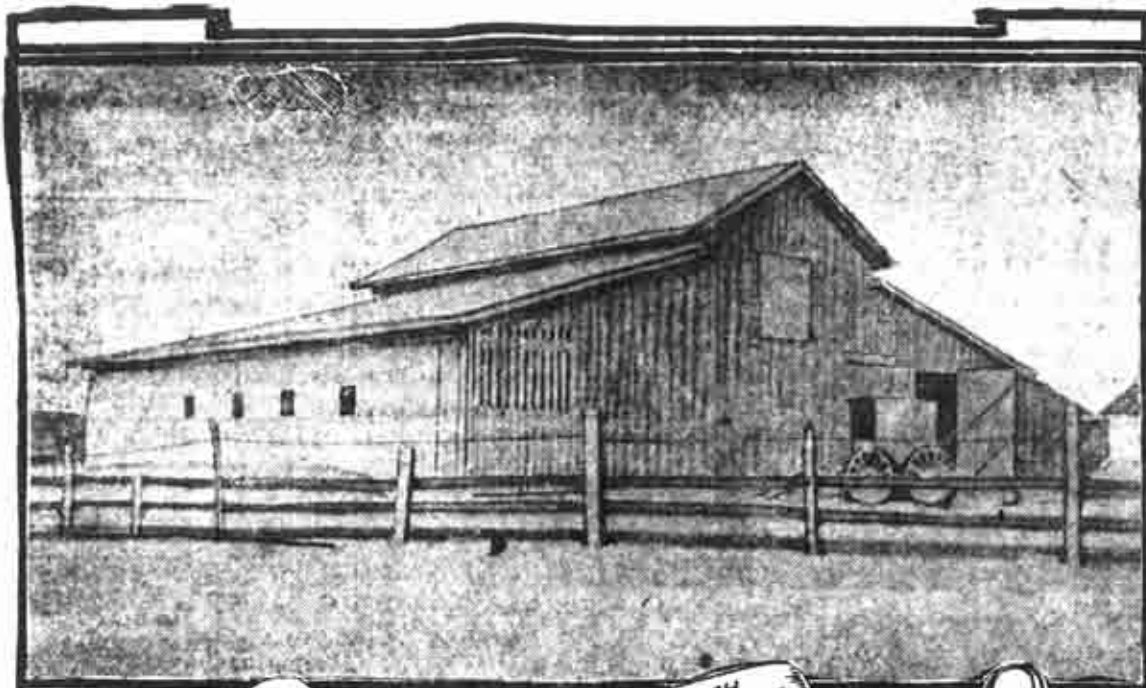
ONE OF THE SUSPECTS.

Yet, the best apparent clew which the officers have to-night leads to a man who was seen with a rifle in his hands that afternoon. Assistant District Attorney Kennedy and Officers Chubbuck and Hindman were busy to-day until darkness drove them in. They again searched every part of the barn and examined the rear door and the side window, the murderer having escaped by going over this door or through the small window. From the barn they again searched the field leading to the rolling hills for tracks and crawled along the stone wall looking for the marks of a man or a trailing gun. A deserted cabin half a mile away was inspected to see if it could have been used as a hiding place until circumstances were right for the crime. Three empty rifle cartridges were found driven into a fence post, but they were not of the caliber found in the shed.

RECEIVED VALUABLE PRESENT.

It was learned this evening that Miss Moak showed to a friend in this city on January 15th 250 shares of mining stock, which she said was sent her as a Christmas present by a young man at St. Louis, Sierra county. The officers will trace the source of the valuable gift. Miss Moak took a life insurance policy of \$1000 when she joined the Ladies of the Maccabees two weeks ago. The beneficiary of the policy was her mother, so the officers regard the circumstance as indicating nothing. The theory that the body seen floating down Butte creek, near by, on the day of the shooting might have been that of the murderer is exploded by the statement of John Shoup, the orange peddler, who saw the body. He says he saw it before 2 o'clock on Tuesday. The anonymous letter which Miss Moak received is believed to be among her things, and if it can be found to-morrow it will be put in the hands of a handwriting expert to see what it may reveal. The remarkable murder is the sole topic of conversation upon the streets and in the homes of the county.

MYSTERIOUS STRANGER APPEARS IN THE MOAK MURDER CASE



THE BARN IN WHICH
MISS MOAK WAS SHOT

Pretty Chico Teacher Visited
Town to See an Unknown
Man Despite Objections.

DID NOT LIKE IDEA
OF SETTLING DOWN

Officers Busy Locating Several
Admirers of the Dead Girl
and Following Every Clue
That May Unravel the Crime.



THE
MOAK
RESIDENCE

Special Dispatches to the "Chronicle."

CHICO, February 13.—A day of hard work by officers and others has developed the fact that Eva Belle Moak, the pretty young school-teacher who was shot in the barn on the Moak ranch by an unknown assassin last Tuesday, had a secret which caused her to be not wholly satisfied with her approaching marriage, and which led her to keep a tryst with an unknown man in this city one day last week.



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The officers are convinced to-night that the members of the Moak family have not told all they know, and believe that when the Moaks can be persuaded to talk more frankly this remarkable murder mystery will clear with much greater rapidity. While the officials are trying to get James, George and Frank Moak and their sister, Miss May Frances Moak, to talk more openly, they are energetically following the clues which they have and are seeking new ones at the scene of the tragedy. No one doubts now that Miss Moak was the victim of a jealous or disappointed lover.

Charles L. Haynes, formerly a young farmer of Cohasset, but now employed as a street-car conductor in Los Angeles, who was the former fiance of the young school teacher and the first man suspected, has proved that he was in Los Angeles at the time of the shooting. He arrived at the Moak ranch to-day to show his feeling in the matter by aiding in the search. He shook hands with Rufus Weeks, who succeeded him in Miss Moak's affections, and the two joined in the hunt for the murderer of the girl.

At the Moak ranch to-day the members of the family repeated their previous statements, and would add nothing whatever to throw light upon the identity of the murderer. Miss May Moak, who was with her sister just before the shooting, seemed especially disinclined to go into the minute affairs of Eva Moak's life. She wished the officers to be content with her former statement, that Eva told her after the shooting that she did not look back, and that she did not know who fired the shots.

DIDN'T LIKE SETTLING DOWN.

Mrs. R. J. Moore, whose ranch is a mile from that of the Moaks, told an interesting story.

She said: "Miss Moak came to my house one morning last week. I think it was on Wednesday or Thursday, having walked all the way from her home, and asked if I would order a horse put in the buggy and drive her to Chico. She said that she had business in town and that her family had refused to send her in. I consented to do as she wished after we had eaten dinner. She ate scarcely anything. Her mind seemed preoccupied. On the drive to town she chatted freely, but gave the impression that she was worrying about something, which she would not explain. She mentioned her approaching marriage to Mr. Weeks of Alameda, saying:

"Yes, I am soon to be married, but I do not like the idea of living in a city. I am fond of the country, and prefer to live there. She said that when she was married she would have to settle down, and that she proposed to have a good time with gentlemen friends as long as she was single. She showed me some jewels which she said had been given her by the man she was going to marry. I saw her to the home of her sister, Mrs. William Kidwell, in Chico, and as she left me I was particularly impressed with the thought that there was something unusual in her mind. I returned home and Eva remained in Chico for the night."

WITH STRANGER IN CHICO.

A reputable witness was found to-day who says that he saw Miss Eva Moak walking slowly with a young stranger in Chico on the evening of the day that Mrs. Moore drove her to town. The man says that when Miss

Moak saw him she dropped her face as if to avoid being recognized. She was in apparently earnest conversation with the man who stood beside her. The members of the Moak family would not or could not give any information to-day which would throw light upon the identity of the man whom Miss Moak met in Chico, which meeting is believed to have been the urgent business upon which she wanted to come.

District Attorney Warren Sexton, who returned to this city this evening, regards the story of Mrs. Moore and the man who saw Eva Moak with the stranger as of the greatest importance. He will set out in the morning to find other persons who saw the girl with the stranger.

Sexton brought word that Sheriff S. H. Wilson had not yet found the man of whom he had been in pursuit for two days, but says that the Sheriff has learned that the man is at the scene of his work at the mouth of Dark canyon, in the mountains. The clew which sent the Sheriff scurrying to the other end of the county was the most promising clew to be found immediately after the shooting. It brought the name of George Turner, who was reared at the home of his father, Henry Turner, near Oroville, into the case.

ANOTHER MAN IN THE CASE.

When Miss Eva Moak taught the Yankee Hill School in the big bend of the Feather river last year she was thrown much in the company of George Turner, whose family had been friends of her own for many years. Turner, who is 25, fell deeply in love with the attractive teacher. She had but recently become engaged to Rufus W. Weeks, who was in the vicinity with a party of civil engineers, and she acquainted Turner with the fact. To Weeks Turner told of his feeling for Miss Moak, but in spite of that the two young men remained friends and were often together.

George Turner said that it was hard to give up hope of winning the girl, but that he proposed to be game. Since Miss Moak and Weeks left Big Bend, Turner has remained at a camp at the mouth of Dark canyon, in the employ of a power company. On Wednesday, the day after Miss Moak was shot, Mrs. Henry Turner and a younger son came to the Moak ranch from Oroville to condole with their old friends over the shooting. Mrs. Turner said that her son George was at the camp at Big Bend. Sheriff Wilson took the precaution to investigate and learned that George Turner had left his camp Tuesday morning and had not returned on the following day. The camp is twenty miles from the Moak ranch, in a direct line across the hills. There are many bridle paths.

Rutus Weeks had ridden over the same course in three hours in a half-day last summer. This convinced the Sheriff that it was not impossible for George Turner to have ridden from his camp across the ranges and up to the barn where the shooting was done during Tuesday forenoon, and he set out with the District Attorney to hunt for Turner. The chase was not successful, but Sexton brings word that news came to Wilson this afternoon that Turner is now back at his camp. Deputy sheriffs will leave Yankee Hill in the morning to go to Turner's camp.

"We have no direct evidence against Turner whatever," said District Attorney Sexton, "and he may be able to show a complete alibi as soon as he is questioned." A search of the hills back of the barn reveals no evidence of a horse having been tied to a tree or shrub.

Two hours after the shooting a man of medium height and wearing a white shirt was seen hurrying along in a field parallel to the Oroville road, four miles from the Moak home. He was seen by two boys fishing in a creek and when he saw them he turned at right angles and made off over the hill out of sight. A mile further on he was seen by a farmer's wife living some distance to one side of the road from her window. Constable Ricketts has interviewed fifteen Portuguese sheep herders who were stretched in an uneven line from the Oroville road back over the hills on Tuesday afternoon, but only one saw a man traveling through the fields and he could not describe the man he saw. The local police are investigating the whereabouts at the time of the shooting of the members of two families with whom the Moaks had had difficulties.

It was found to-day that the 250 shares of mining stock which Miss Moak received from LaPorte, Sierra county, where she taught school, as a gift several weeks ago, were sent by a man named Davis, who is an officer of the mining company. James Moak says that his sister did a great deal of writing for the company while at LaPorte, for which she would not accept payment. Davis said he intended to send her shares of stock some time and that he had kept his promise, though Eva Moak had not expected the stock.

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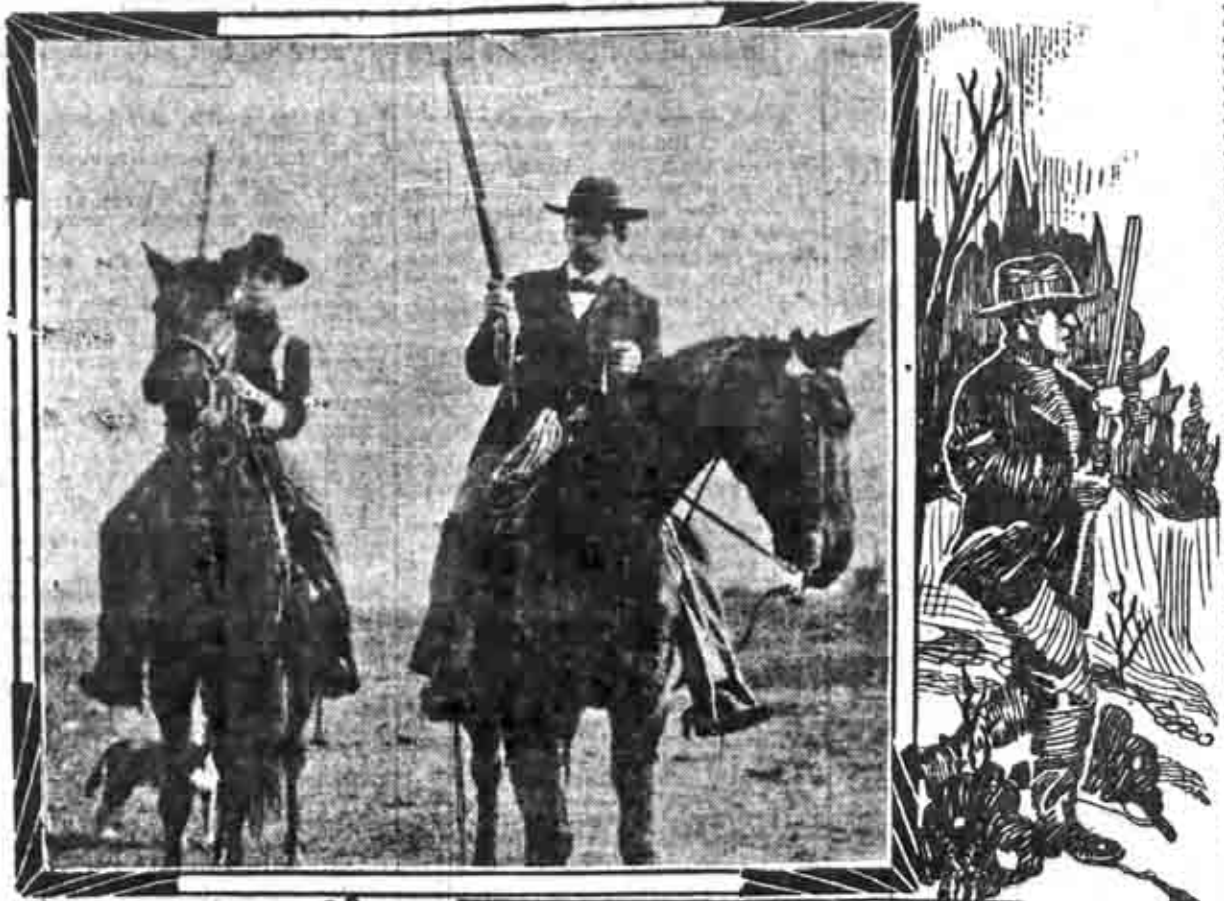
AN ANONYMOUS LETTER.

The anonymous letter which Miss Moak received was written to her while she was teaching at Laporte, and bore the postmark Marysville. She never showed the letter to any of the family here, but told them that the burden of its contents was to warn her against Rufus Weeks. Weeks says that Miss Moak wrote him that she had received the letter, but did not tell him that it was disparaging to him. She said that she had compared the writing with that of the only man whom she would believe might send her such a letter, but that if he had sent it he must have had some one else write it, for the two examples of handwriting did not correspond. A search is being made among the dead girl's effects for the anonymous epistle.

Miss May Moak said to-day: "I am sure Eva had no fear of any one and had received no threats. Only last Sunday, when we were driving to Chico to church, I remarked that we should be very careful about being on the road at night, and Eva answered, "Why, who would want to hurt us? We have never hurt anybody."

Miss Eva Moak told a neighbor last week that she and her sister often carried a revolver when out driving together, and added that one night when they heard the hoofs of horses behind them and thought they were being pursued she fired four shots in the direction of the sound and the chase ended abruptly.

THE CHICO MURDER MYSTERY STILL BAFFLES THE OFFICIALS



GEORGE AND FRANK
MOAK ON THE TRAIL

Every Clue So Far Followed
Proves False, but Officers
Hope to Run Down Murderer

Another Discarded Suitor of
Miss Moak Disarms Suspi-
cion by Establishing Alibi—
New Witness Gives Impetus.

Special Dispatch to the "Chronicle."

CHICO, February 14.—The work of the officers who are trying to find a clue to the identity of the man who murdered Miss Eve Belle Moak in a barn on the Moak ranch was hampered, not stopped, to-day by a renewal of the storm.

Expeditions were directed from the office of Assistant District Attorney



FRANK MOAK, BROTHER OF THE
MURDERED GIRL

Guy Kennedy, where District Attorney Sexton and Sheriff S. H. Wilson spent most of the day in questioning many persons who were brought up. Late in the afternoon Sexton and Wilson left in a blinding storm to drive twenty-five miles to Oroville, there to receive reports from the deputies who have been out in that end of the county. Sexton telephoned to-night that the deputy sheriffs who went into Dark canyon to interview George Turner, an unsuccessful suitor of the girl, who disappeared early on the morning of the shooting, had come in with the information that George Turner was able to prove an alibi, thus disposing of what seemed a most important clew.

While officers are at work in Chico Vecino hunting for additional persons who saw Eva Moak walking there with a strange young man on one of her last visits to Chico, other officers have been sent off through the storm to Centerville, twelve miles away in the foothills, to follow the trail of a new stranger who comes into the case. Walter Blue, who lives at Centerville, sent word to the District Attorney to-day that on the evening of the day Miss Moak was shot a stranger, about 30 years of age, paused near his home for a short time before hastening into the hills. Blue talked with the man, who would give no information about himself, but who, just as he started off, turned to make a boast about some revengeful deed he had done that day. No further particulars are known.

The officers find their work further enlarged for them by finding that three other men, in addition to those whose names they had, had been suitors for Miss Moak's hand within the past eighteen months. One of these, a young farmer who lives some miles from the Moak ranch, begged Miss Moak to marry him, and she found difficulty in convincing him that her refusal was final. A tramping man of La Porte, Sierra county, who was interested in the mining stock presented to Miss Moak, told her of his affection before she gave up her school there last November and since that time she had received several letters from him. In the last of these he said that but for the fact that Miss Moak was soon to marry Rufus Weeks he would never give her up. The third new suitor is a resident of the Big Bend country. He pressed his suit to no purpose when Miss Moak taught there and has since written her letters.

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Sheriff Wilson and the District Attorney, on their return from Red Bluff to-day, stated that the insane man held at that place has no connection with the case whatever. The fellow was first seen standing, hatless and shoeless, in a stable there, dripping with water. He said that he had been in the river. He gave the name of Frank Berthold. When arrested on account of his queer action he gave the name of Fred Johnson. He talked about having been in Chico, and in his pockets were found a dozen rim-fire cartridges, in addition to \$6 in money, and a workman's check on the Vina ranch, which was issued to an old man who went away some months ago. He will be committed to an insane asylum. When he is taken through here to-morrow night officers will meet the train, and see if they can identify him. His photograph will be circulated here. A message from Red Bluff this afternoon said that no tangible statement had been obtained from him to-day.

Eva Moak's closest girl friend was Miss Louise Gray of this city. She said to-day: "I feel certain that Eva was shot by some disappointed man, who had loved her, and that she was totally unconscious that any man could hold a murderous feeling against her. She has talked to me so frequently and so minutely about her marriage to Rufus Weeks that I am sure it was the only affair which she had in mind. She expected to go to New York for a wedding trip. She had told me of several of her other

suitors, and that she cared nothing for any of them and had not encouraged them. I am further convinced of her love for Rufus Weeks, to whom she was engaged, by the way she stood by her engagement when urged by one of her relatives to transfer her love to Charles Haynes, to whom she was first engaged.

"She told me about her pistol, which is being discussed, and explained that she got it to carry with her when she was teaching at Big Bend, because there were rough men in that community. I do not think that she has carried the weapon when driving from her home into Chico. I think she would certainly have told me if she had reason to fear any one. I think it will be proven in time that her murderer was one of those who loved her without success."

Mrs. William Kidwell, a sister of Eva Moak, who lives on Ninth street, in this city, said to-day: "I think I know all of Eva's movements during her visits to town, when she spent the night at our house, and I do not know when she could have met a stranger without my learning of it, but, of course, she may have known men here without my knowledge."

A message from District Attorney Sexton at Oroville to-night says: "George Turner is able to prove by several reliable witnesses that he was at Yankee Hill, twenty miles from the Moak ranch, an hour and a half before the shooting occurred. This removes all suspicion from him."

The officers are still inquiring into the whereabouts, at the time of the shooting, of several persons with unfriendly feeling for the Moaks.

James, George and Frank Moak were forced to stay close to the ranch by the force of the storm in the hills to-day, but they continued their minute search of the neighboring country during lulls in the downpour. So far, they have not been able to find the anonymous letter which Eva Moak received.

The officers will gather at the Moak barn to-morrow morning to make a fresh start from that point. Sheriff Wilson and District Attorney Sexton expect to be able to return to the work in this vicinity on Tuesday.

Sexton said over the telephone to-night that the murder mystery is not being cleared as he had hoped, but that with the energetic work which is being done he thinks something definite is certain to be discovered soon, for the reason that when the irrelevant clues have been disposed of the officers will be able to concentrate their efforts to greater purpose.

HUNTING THE MYSTERIOUS FRIEND OF EVA MOAK

Officers Having Run Down Every Clew Are
Now Searching for Stranger Seen
With Murdered Girl.



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CHICO, February 15.—The citizens who left everything else to join in the hunt for the murderer of Eva Belle Moak have returned to their work in the belief that the chase must be a long and hard one and the officers have settled down to following clues with increased respect for the cleverness shown by the assassin, who shot the young teacher and effected his escape. When the officers gathered at the office of Assistant District Attorney Kennedy to-night to compare notes, it was the common opinion that the murderer had used as much care in arranging his after course as he showed in planning the murder. District Attorney Sexton telephoned from Oroville to deny a rumor that a suspect had been arrested and he expressed disappointment that something of real importance had not turned up in the neighborhood of the Moak home. Sexton said that the deputy sheriff, who had been investigating in the Big Bend country, where Miss Moak taught school last summer and where several of her suitors live, had furnished him no definite information.

What has most interested the officers here is the circumstance of the strange man who was seen walking with Miss Moak in Chico one afternoon several days before the shooting. All efforts at identification of this man have so far failed. The officers feel certain he was not a resident of this community, and the tracing of the stranger with the girl becomes of greatest importance. A number of the letters which Eva Moak received from her various suitors have been examined. These do not serve to help the case except that they clear up some minor points. During the week preceding Christmas, Miss Moak worked in the store of C. N. Howard in this city. Careful inquiry there to-day brought the information that on several occasions young men came into the store and inquired for Miss Moak, but that no one of these came often enough to impress his face or name upon Howard. Other young women who clerked in the store and who are now not in Chico are to be interrogated. Owing to a family dispute suspicion was at first directed toward a member of a local family. An explanation regarding his whereabouts was made at the time of the tragedy. Now it is learned that these explanations were not altogether accurate and that the man has left the country. Efforts are being made to locate him.

One of the principal officers on the case said to-night: "Our work has been slow and hampered, and people from whom we have expected much have told us but little, but it is my honest opinion from all the circumstances that the solution of the case is merely a matter of hard work and that when we have eliminated misleading clues by tracing them all down, we will have left the right clue which it will be possible to follow and land the murderer."

INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN CALIFORNIA'S EARLY DAYS

Mr. Chas. Duret of Concord has a remarkable memory, and can recall scenes and events of the past as readily as if he had them written down and they were at his command from a book. Yesterday, while chatting with him we gathered some facts concerning past events, and he promised to give us matter enough a little later on for a second article.

He left the city of Boston on the 2d of May, 1849, and came around Cape Horn in the ship Memnon, landing at San Francisco on the 22d of October. South of Cape Horn their vessel was blown by storms to an extreme southern latitude, and they were caught in fields of ice and held eight or nine days.

On arriving in San Francisco Mr. Duret, in company with Capt. Robinson, who brought around Cape Horn the ship Ganges, a Mr. Spencer and Mr. Billings, they built a lighter and went to work handling the freight to be unloaded from vessels. They sent to the coast of Oregon to get pine lumber for their boat, which cost them at the rate of \$1 a square foot for the lumber, or \$3800 for the boat.

Although the company made money rapidly Mr. Duret sold out his interest at the end of five months and went to Tuolumne county to engage in the occupation of mining. At the time he was engaged in the lighter business in San Francisco it was estimated there were 400 vessels lying in the harbor. Many of these vessels had been abandoned by their crews, who had sought the mines.

At Woods Flat in Tuolumne county, he mined for a month or six weeks, and then went to Placerville, at that time known as Hangtown. Mr. Duret says: "I was there at the time an Irish gambler named Dick was by a blacksmith stabbed to death. Dick and another gambler got into a fight, and the blacksmith, who was a peaceable man, tried to stop the trouble, when Dick turned, drew a knife and inflicted a fatal wound upon the peacemaker.

"The citizens organized a jury, selected a judge, picked out advocates, got the witnesses together, and proceeded to try the prisoner. He was found guilty, and although the blacksmith was not yet dead he was so low that it was known that he could not live, and the verdict was guilty. Dick was hanged to a tree—a large oak in front of one of the buildings.

"I also saw a young man named Fisher punished for borrowing a man's horse and forgetting to return it—in other words, stealing the animal. He was given fifty lashes on his bare back, and then branded on the right cheek with the letter 'R' deep burn. This last event took place in El Dorado county.

"From Placerville I went to Sacramento, and in the spring of 1850 I fell in with the late E. M. Sparks, formerly of this town. We bought an ox team and started for Marysville, which was then called Nye's Ranch. A large ship lay in the Yuba river, named the New Bedford, which was being used as a hotel. We crossed the river on a ferry boat

about where Yuba City now stands, and followed up the west bank of the Feather to Morris Ravine and went to mining. The locality was immensely rich. The richest claim on the Ravine was known as the Cate claim and this averaged a pound of gold to the day to each man who worked.

"Mr. Sparks married there, and in due time a child was born, being the first white child in Butte county. This was the late Mrs. D. K. Perkins. The claim I just spoke of as being the richest was owned by two brothers named Cate. One of these took his share of money and went East to Iowa and bought a farm, while the other lived here and later on died in the county infirmary, when that institution was located at Lynchburg.

"After working here some seven or eight months I went to the West Branch and mined about a mile above the upper bridge, or the bridge now on the Nelson road. We called the spot Cape Horn. There were in the company P. Y. Oliver, a Mr. Seigul, and myself. We mined and made

money, but the general idea then was among miners that if the bed or bottom of a stream could be reached that one would find all the gold he desired, so at a heavy expense and some eight months work we cut a race for the creek through solid rock so as to turn the stream. It cost us nearly \$4000, and we lost our time, besides. We sold the claim for about \$500.

"While working at the West Branch we traded at the Post kept at Messila Valley, and which was kept by M. Pence, Dr. Lyons, Bob Bounds and Coot Channel. It was known as Lyon's Trading Post. Here were kept miners' supplies and provisions, and were obtained by the company from Sacramento City.

"While at this Post I saw a man shot and killed, named Todd. He was shot with a rifle by a man named Fuger. A man named Coltson was shot and killed with a pistol by a man named Van Buren.

"About the latter part of 1851, or early in 1852 I came to Thompson's Flat, and for the next three years alternated in mining there and at Morris Ravine.

"In 1854 I was one of the owners of a claim in which M. B. West was at work, and as he recently said, earned five dollars a day when he first came to California.

"I left there and went to Amador county and to a small place known as Rancheria, and while mining there boarded with a man named Diamond. He was an American, as was Mr. Francis, who kept a store. Most of the residents of the locality were Mexicans.

"On the 6th of August, 1855, a band of Joaquin's robbers, numbering some thirty, surrounded the little town. Money to the value of \$10,000 or \$12,000 had been placed in the safe of Mr. Francis for safe keeping by the miners and others. The Mexicans in the place found this out and betrayed the same to Joaquin. On the evening in question I was sitting reading, four men were playing cards, and one man named Wilson was watching the game. We heard a clatter on a bridge near by and thinking it a squad of soldiers that were not far

away, Mr. Diamond told a little Indian boy to go out to the pump and get some fresh water for the men. The boy had just started to pump water, when one of the robbers fired and killed him. I knew in a second what to expect, and ran for shelter, climbing into the loft over the room. Mr. Diamond attempted to follow me, but was badly wounded ere he got

up. The four card-players were all killed. Wilson held a table in front of himself, and fell backwards through a window, where he lay and was not killed. I had gotten out of the loft at one end of the building, but as I jumped to the ground I landed on a heap of old bottles and a piece of glass went through a part of my foot. I ran and escaped, although a dozen shots were fired at me. I made my way as rapidly as possible, for I could run like a deer, to a camp where there were a lot of men. On my way I met a deputy sheriff with about twenty armed men, and we hurried back to the scene of the murders. In the meantime the robbers had gone into the room where Mrs. Diamond was, and cut her throat. They had taken her young babe and smashed its head on the window sill. Mr. Francis had been attacked in the store, but he had grabbed a pick handle and kept the robbers at bay, although he had been wounded. He backed up against the canvas wall and near the safe, but one of the thieves ran around the building, cut a hole in the canvas and stabbed him in the back, leaving the long knife in the wound. He afterwards had crawled quite a distance to where some men were, but later on died from the numerous wounds that had been inflicted.

"A trial was had and five of the residents of the little town were found to have been implicated in the flight or to have furnished information about the money in the safe. All five were hanged to trees. Two on an oak and three on a pine tree near a creek. Seven people in all—Americans, I mean—had been killed in this massacre by the band of Joaquin. Unfortunately short as the time had been they had broken open the safe, stolen the money and escaped.

"It was learned that this band were to attack another small place near by, and the white miners, under the deputy sheriffs, had gathered and were waiting for the attack.

"Shortly after this four Mexicans were killed by the miners in a fight at Snake Gulch. A very bitter feeling arose against the Mexicans, although many were perfectly innocent of any wrong, but before this feeling died out no less than thirty-five of them were put to death or killed in fights, and finally the Governor had to send a squad of soldiers to the locality. The Mexicans were then given permits to leave that part of the country. Shortly afterwards a man whose name was Hobbs, and I went to Drytown, where I was in the habit of getting a paper called the Golden Era. We went to the store, where the post-office was situated and just as we entered the door a Mexican came out. Without a word Hobbs drew a pistol and fired, killing the Mexican. The second he did so he turned and ran from the door. The postmaster heard the shot and looked up, but he was at the further end of the store, and as Hobbs disappeared, at once he saw only myself. He ran out, saying: 'Why did you shoot this man?' I replied: 'I did not. Hobbs, the man with me, shot him and then ran.' 'I saw no man with you,' said the postmaster. He stuck to this in spite of my assertions, and had me arrested and detained. I told my story, and they sent to Rancheria, where I had been living, for witnesses, and I got a lawyer to defend me. It was shown that Hobbs started with me and had not returned there, but had run away, so I was cleared.

"The Mexican, who had been fatally wounded, lived for a time, but died not long afterwards.

Later I heard of some friends of mine who were working on Slate creek, on the North Yuba, and went up there. One of the first men I met was Hobbs. I told him what a mean trick he had served me and what expense I had been put to in the trial, owing to his act. He begged me not to send word to the authorities, and finally paid all my expenses for fear I should inform on him. Hobbs enlisted in the Union army when the war broke out, and was afterwards killed at the battle of Gettysburg."

RICHNESS OF THE CHEROKEE MINE

The recent cave in the big hydraulic mine at Cherokee calls attention to that property and some facts on the richness of the mine will not be amiss at this time.

The first year it was worked on an extensive scale it paid \$81,000. This was before any pipes were put in the mine and the auriferous gravel was worked by means of a ground sluice. About thirty-five men were employed.

When the hydraulic monitors were put in and the mine worked by means of them it paid over \$400,000 a year. This was when Mr. Pulliam was in charge. We think Mr. Gregory succeeded Pulliam but are not certain.

At any rate the proceeds of the mine was several thousand a year more than when Mr. Pulliam was in charge. The next Superintendent ran the figures up to \$900,000 for the two years he was in charge or \$450,000 a year.

When Mr. Garney Williams, Mr. Louis Glass and Mr. Waldeyer had charge, the mine was just as rich, but the output was less as they had large quantities of pipe clay to work at a heavy cost in labor and powder, and there was no gold in this clay. We think, however, the lowest figures under any of these gentlemen was \$235,000.

From 1870 to 1886 a period of sixteen years the output of the mine was a little over five million dollars.

If this mine today could be worked so as to wash the gold from the gravel and not have to handle the pipe clay, it would be one of the richest in the world.

MONOPLY OF ELECTRIC POWER

SAN FRANCISCO, March 1.—One of the largest deals that has taken place in this city for some time was consummated yesterday at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the California Gas and Electric Corporation, when the systems of the Standard Electric Company of California and the United Gas and Electric Company were purchased. The California Gas and Electric Corporation will assume control of its new holdings today.

The deal gives the California Gas and Electric Corporation a monopoly in the supplying of electric power to twenty of the principal counties in the State. The two companies absorbed yesterday are extensive concerns, each capitalized highly.

The Standard Electric Company of California bore a capitalization of \$5,000,000 authorized stock and \$5,000,000 in bonds, all issued and outstanding. The United Gas and Electric Company was capitalized at \$2,500,000 in authorized stock, of which \$2,286,000 is outstanding and \$2,000,000 in authorized bonds of which \$1,100,000 is outstanding.

The purchase price paid for the two concerns is kept secret by the corporation, but it is known to be a high one. The Standard Electric Company has its main plant in Amador County and supplies the counties of Sacramento and San Joaquin joining with the United Gas and Electric Company in supplying the bay counties around San Francisco, with lines running through San Jose and up the west side of the bay into this city.

The gas and electric concerns belonging to the above corporation, exclusive of the two purchased yesterday, are the Oakland Gas Light and Heat Company Sacramento Electric, Gas and Railway Company California Central Gas and Electric Company, Bay Counties Power Company, Fresno Gas and Electric Light Company, Valley Counties Power Company, Capital Gas Company, Central Electric Railway Company, Butte County Electric Light and Power Company, Colco Gas and Electric Company, Marysville Gas and Electric Company, Colusa Gas and Electric Company, Napa Gas and Electric Company, Nevada County Gas and Electric Company, Petaluma Gas and Electric Company, San Rafael Gas and Electric Company, Santa Rosa Lighting Company, and the Woodland Gas and Electric Company.

BUTTE COUNTY MINING DREDGERS ARE LEADERS

State Mineralogist Issues a Register in
Which First Place in America Is
Assigned to the Home Gold Gleaners

A register of the mining industry of Butte County has just been issued by State Mineralogist Aubury. One statement that it contains in the introductory matter will attract attention wherever there are mining interests. "There are more gold dredgers in operation in the vicinity of Oroville," it says, "than in any other similar area in North or South America. There are twenty-four at work and several more in construction." The gold product of Butte County in 1902 amounted to \$916,261, and the silver value produced was \$2219. There were also produced lime, brick and mineral waters bringing the total value of mineral products of Butte County for 1902 up to \$926,251.

The gold output came principally from the auriferous gravels, but some quartz mines are operating. The county has been noted since early settlement for its auriferous gravel properties and hydraulic, drift, river bed and surface placers. At one time placer mining was extensively carried on in the county, but this is now confined to ground sluice mining principally. Drift mining is carried on extensively in the lava-capped districts and is producing some gold. There are many tracts of land suitable for this class of mining that can be worked. Most of the hydraulic mines in Butte County have been closed down, but a few are working under permits issued by the California Debris Commission. A few miners are following pocket mining, which has often proved to be lucrative. Dredge mining has found its most extensive field in Butte County. Some little platinum is recovered with the gold in the dredge mining operations.

About 35 per cent of the business of Butte County is connected with mining. Lumbering, fruit growing and stock-raising constitute the remaining 65 per cent. Some general facts are supplied by the Mining Bureau register concerning the county which are not out of place in a publication which aims to give to the public the facts that are of interest to miners. The assessed valuation of the county for 1903 was \$16,057,765. The county extends from the Sacramento River on the west about fifty miles easterly. Forty per cent of the county is valley land, composed of the Sacramento, Feather and Butte Creek valleys. The elevation ranges from about seventy-five feet to 6649 feet above sea level. In the operation of mines, mills and dredgers wood for generating steam and water for electric power are available. Most of the drift and quartz mining is done through tunnels and drifts giving drainage by gravity. Timber is plentiful in the county for fuel, lumber and mine timbering.

A LEADING INDUSTRY.

The chief mining interest naturally is attached to the dredging operations. Of the twenty-four plants in operation all but one are bucket dredges. One is a shovel dredge. The companies engaged in dredge mining in the county and the number of plants that they are working, respectively, are as follows:

American Gold Dredging Company, two; Oroville Dredging and Exploration Company, one; Boston and Oroville Mining Company, two; Butte Gold Dredge Company, one; Boston and California Dredging Company, two; Cherokee Gold Dredging Company, one; Boston and Oroville Mining Company, one; El Oro Dredge Company, one; Feather Exploration Company, four; Indiana Gold Dredging and Mining Company, two; Kia Ora Gold Dredge Company, Lava Beds Gold Dredge Company, J. H. Leggett, Marigold Dredge Company, Oroville Dredge Company and Pennsylvania Dredge Company, one each.

Oroville Mercury

3-10-1904

RUMORED ORGANIZATION OF NEW STAGE COMPANY

Al Oates, the genial proprietor of the Oroville and Powelton stage line, was in town today and rumor has it that his business was to take up the details of a contemplated corporation for the purpose of carrying on a general delivery, forwarding and stage business at the Stirling end of the Butte County Railroad for Plumas county points. Mr. Oates spent some time with Major T. H. Barnard of Chico and Col. A. F. Jones of Oroville, and rumor connects these parties and W. P. Lynch of Chorokke with the proposed corporation.

Al Oates was in Chico yesterday. One of the Chico papers calls him "the veteran stage driver," Al may handle the ribbons like a veteran but he is anything but a veteran in years of age, judging from appearances.

DID NOT PROSPER IN THE MINES

Recently the Oroville Register contained an account of finding a nugget of gold in Oregon Gulch, seven miles north of Oroville, by a man named Hedge, valued at \$110.50. Oregon Gulch in early days was noted for the number of nuggets of gold found some of them much larger than that found by Mr Hedge. In 1860 a quartz lode was found in the side of the hill and a quartz mill was erected on it a short distance from the residence house of Col. Derrick, the property having been known thereafter as the White & Nutter mine. The following year when excitement of discoveries of silver in great quantities in the Washoe country drew the State of Nevada, White & Nutter took down their mill in Oregon Gulch, loaded it on wagons and started for the new diggings.

In 1864 a company was formed in Marysville to work the White & Nutter abandoned mine, the members were A. D. Starr, D. B. Knight, Dr. Teegarden, A. J. Lucas, C. G. Bocklus, L. T. Crane, Herndon Barrett and T. J. Sherwood. The company bought a mill that had been erected on a quartz lode near Hansonville, and after taking it down moved it by teams to the site of the Oregon Gulch mine. A good ten stamp mill was soon in condition to crush quartz and the quest of gold began under favorable conditions, and it continued sixteen months. At a depth of 210 feet the lode pinched and the cost was from ten to twelve dollars a ton to bring the quartz to the surface, besides the cost of milling. Instead of dividends, there were seven or eight assessments to pay for the work in searching for gold. At the end of sixteen months the mine was abandoned again and the mill was sold to a company who took it down and moved it by team to the Templar mine, near Indiana Ranch. The result of the eight Marysville men in quest of gold in Oregon Gulch was a total expenditure of \$53,000 and an income, including the sale of the mill, \$20,000. In other words, they put \$33,000 more in the venture than they took out, in a nugget district. Of the eight men who composed the company in 1864 only two are living. Judge Crane and Sherwood. Barrett, Teegarden, Lucas, Bocklus, Starr and Knight answered the call years ago. Marysville Democrat.

**PENTZ ITEMS OF
GENERAL INTEREST**

Editor Register—On account of the serious illness of Miss Abbie Jones, the school here is being taught by Miss Anna McGregor. Miss Jones, who has had charge of the school during this winter, is in Chico, where she went to receive medical attendance. She has many friends here, who deeply regret her illness, and sincerely hope that she will soon recover. From Miss Jones' mother I have learned that her doctor has forbidden her to continue her duties as teacher, so unless the doctor alters his decision, the young lady will not return here to teach. Mr. Jones, father of Miss Abbie Jones, is also seriously ill in Chico.

Miss Anna McGregor participated in what might have been an altogether serious accident, while driving from Cherokee to Pentz two weeks ago. While descending the Cherokee grade, and driving at a rather rapid gait, the shaft of her buggy broke, and her spirited horse, while attempting to run, slipped and fell, thus throwing the lady from her buggy. She was severely bruised on numerous parts of the body, but is gradually recovering. The buggy was mangled, but the horse is little the worse for his fall and behavior, which might have been the cause of serious trouble for Miss McGregor.

The local baseball team played another one of those famous games of ball Sunday, a week ago. The opposing team was the Durham nine. The score was 89 to 78 in favor of our local team.

Mr. Will Benner suffered two accidents last Sunday, and the consequence is he is wearing a bandage over his forehead. He was reviving the days of his youth, that is playing a muscular game, the name of which I am unfamiliar with, in which an iron is thrown at an unlimited distance. The distance proved to be limited to his forehead.

Posters are out for a dance here on April the first. The parties given here this winter have been successful in every particular. Good suppers have been provided and consequently large numbers of people have attended. The writer sincerely hopes that this dance will be as skillfully handled and as successful as the preceding ones have been.

Mr. J. Brown is down from Magalia, where he intended moving his household goods Saturday. But that day proved to be exactly like the preceding days, and so Mr. Brown will remain here until a fit day presents itself.

A magic lantern performance will be rendered here in the near future by Professor Thunen of Cherokee. No use to urge a crowd as everybody knows the Professor and the mention of his name will draw a crowd.

Oroville Register

3-23-1904

Miss Myrtle Lockerman is at the Railroad Hospital in Sacramento, where she lately underwent another operation. The physicians say that she will be able to return home in about six weeks.

Mrs. N. A. Irwin, daughter of W. J. Lockerman, is at the city and county hospital in San Francisco where she is training to be a nurse.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Gardenhire and daughter are down from Lovelock visiting Mrs. Kitchen. They will remain a few weeks.

Twenty-five men employed on the ditch, and who have been cleaning the ditch here, moved to Magalia Saturday. Mr. H. Murphy is in charge of the crew, and has been stationed near here during the entire winter.

Mrs. Margie Rapp has been the guest of her mother Mrs. L. Lee, but is now visiting in Oroville.

James Flanco took a load of lime to Oroville one day last week, where it was disposed of.

Mr. H. Brown and wife went to Magalia Sunday.

Will Herbert and Miss Jessie Bass were the guests of Miss Aleata Lockerman here Sunday. They came out in the sunshine and returned in the snow.

A slight fall of snow occurred here Sunday night, not sufficient to cover the ground, but just enough to let people know it could snow here. It is intensely cold.

The men who went from here to Magalia from the ditch camps were called there to attend some slides, which occurred on the Oroville Water Company's ditch. The entire camp did not move.

The most dissatisfied man out here in the weather is Austin Parish. He has intended burning a kiln of lime for some time, but the bad weather has kept him from it.

C. Bunnell and Mr. Robeson have had good luck mining lately. A. P. L. Pentz, California.

VALUABLE ARTICLE ON DREDGER MINING

In a work recently issued, "The Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Convention of the California Miners Association," there is an article by F. W. Griffin on Dredger Mining. Many facts about mining at Oroville are given and the following are extracts from the book:

"At the present time well managed dredges are making a monthly average of from 80 to 90 per cent of the possible running time. All stops of whatsoever nature are counted, including lost time for cleanup, power shut down and matters outside of the actual stoppage due to mechanical causes on the dredge.

"The question of size and capacity of the dredge is one on which opinions differ, but at present all efforts are bent toward increasing the capacity of the dredge. The dredge of a monthly capacity of 40,000 to 45,000 cubic yards is more easily kept in repair, for all the parts are comparatively light, still, the labor cost, which is one-third of the actual expense of operating a dredge, is the same in a dredge of 40,000 yards capacity as it is in a dredge of 70,000 yards capacity. The increase in power is in less proportion than the increase in number of yards handled, and, therefore, the large dredge reduce the cost per cubic yard of handling the material.

At the present time I believe that in the dredge of 70, to 80 thousand yards capacity per month the economical limit is reached. Still the tendency is to larger capacities and it is not at all impossible that within a short time dredges of 100,000 cubic yards capacity will be the most economical.

The average cost of handling the ground with a small machine of 40,000 cubic yards capacity is approximately 61.4 cents per cubic yards aggregated as follows: Labor, 2.10; power, 2.00 dredge supplies, 0.34; taxes and insurance 0.18; maintenance and repairs, 1.20; sundries, .43; total, 6.25.

In the 70,000 yard machine this cost per yard is less than five cents.

Under ordinary conditions a bank twenty feet above water level can be handled. One year ago the greatest depth reached was 45 feet below the water level. There are now in course of construction on the Yuba river, near Marysville, two dredges which will dig sixty feet below the water level. Through this development, thousands of acres of ground have been added to the dredging field, which a year ago were deemed outside the economical limits.

As the development of the industry continues, I feel certain that tremendous areas of low grade ground will be rendered available for profitable dredging. Instead of the field of dredging becoming smaller, it is growing larger and larger each year. I remember a year or two ago it was generally considered that the Oroville district was practically the only field for larger dredging operations. Today they proved successful dredging fields extends from Alaska to Mexico. In Central America, South America and Africa have dredging operations been started. In fact, in all countries where placer mining has been successfully carried on the dredge is sure to follow.

Gold dredges are operating successfully in the United States in Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Colorado and New Mexico. In this, our State, gold dredging has been carried to its highest development. At Oroville there are now twenty-six dredges operating. There are from 5000 to 6000 acres of dredging land proved and developed. A conservative estimate of the values of these Oroville properties is \$1,500,000. None of the stock of the companies is for sale. On the American river, near Folsom, a good dredging field has been proved. It has not been as fully developed as Oroville, but the dredging acreage is about as great as that of Oroville. There are four dredges near Folsom and lately new life has been infused into the camp. Plans have been made to equip the properties with dredges as rapidly as possible. Two large dredges are now nearing completion and a third is under way and soon the Folsom district will attain the prominence of Oroville.

The Yuba field promises a brilliant future, with an acreage of from 30,000 to 40,000 acres.

Oroville Register 5-2-1904

CHEROKEE MINE

Twenty-five men are employed in the Cherokee mine at Cherokee.

Water has been abundant in this mine all winter and will last up to about the first of July. It is reported upon good authority that the Bay Power Co. will put in a cement dam at Conrow Valley this summer about one thousand feet lower down than the old dam that was washed out. This will enable the company to hold back a much larger quantity of water for mining and irrigation purposes. The spillway or wasteway will be quite expensive and will cost about \$3000.

When this dam is completed the Cherokee mine will have plenty of water to run almost the entire year.

HOMES, LANDS LOTS, GROVES AND RANCHES

1—34 acres adjoining a small town, 6 miles from Oroville; 1-4 mile from church, school, postoffice and store. One story, 5 room house, surrounded by one acre naval orange trees. Peach orchard in bearing, also a few bearing trees, such as figs, olives, plums, prunes, pears, apricots, cherries, etc., and a number of blackberries, strawberries and raspberries in the garden. Water for irrigation and a well of good drinking water at the house. Good barn and other outbuildings. A good place for poultry, and can be kept without detriment to other resources. Price \$2000.

2—300 acres, 2½ miles from Oroville, on public road. Nearly level. Suitable for both citrus and deciduous fruits, grain and hay. About 100 acres bottom land for alfalfa. All under ditch. No buildings. Price \$6000.

3—10-acre orange grove, 3 miles from Oroville on a good avenue and with good surroundings, that is, other good groves adjoining, and on an elevated plateau, which commands a fine view of the valley, foothills and mountains. This grove is now bearing and the expense of caring for it can be paid from the proceeds of the place and the crop will increase each year, and another season should pay an income. This grove can be purchased for \$2000 cash.

4—5 acres all in bearing oranges in the same locality. This grove produced 200 boxes of oranges last year and like the preceding one will increase its crop each succeeding year. Price \$1200 in payments if desired.

5—40 acres, 18 miles northeast of Oroville, near the Oroville and Quincy wagon road. Altitude 1300 feet. Fine climate and excellent water. Comfortable 5 room house, large barn and other out buildings, all in good repair. A small orchard of a variety of fruits, garden truck, all kinds of berries and deciduous fruits do well. About 25 acres cleared and fenced, balance heavily timbered. Comfortable home and healthful climate. Price \$800.

6—80 acres near the above. A comfortable dwelling of 5 rooms. A good store building and a small stock of general merchandise. Postoffice in

connection with the store, which is quite a source of revenue. Large, well built barn. Family orchard and all kinds of berries in the garden. Price \$2000.

7—320 acres, 21 miles northeast of Oroville. Comfortable 6 room house and good barn. A few young deciduous trees not yet in bearing. About 30 acres cleared and fenced. A spring of good water near the garden. This spring flows about 2 inches during the dry season. A good deal of sugar and yellow pine timber on the tract. A natural nucleus for a stock range, as it adjoins a large body of Government and railroad land, which furnishes free pasturage. Price \$1200.

8—45 acres in bearing oranges, 9-10 navel. Well situated on leading avenues, 3 miles from Oroville. Gently rolling, fine view, good soil and plenty of water. A profitable investment. Price \$16,000.

We have some nice well located town lots and good residential properties; also suburban homes at very reasonable figures. Near town we have unimproved lands in tracts of 2, 5, 10, 20, and 40 acres, ranging from \$25 to \$100 per acre, which land in this climate of sunshine with abundance of water for irrigation, will grow the orange, olive, and fig as well as all deciduous fruits to perfection. For further particulars address,

E. TUCKER & SON,
Oroville, Butte Co., Cal.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given by me, the undersigned, that I will not be responsible for, and will not pay, any debt or obligation of any kind not contracted by me personally, or by an order in writing signed by me.

OLE LUND.

"Old Kirk" Blended from Kentucky's finest straight whiskies, backed by the honor of A. P. Hotelling & Co., try it at G. D. Terrill's. a5t.

Kingan own cure hams and bacon at the Hatch grocery store. Red 521. f26

C. L. Bills is agent for the Petaluma Incubator. a13

Item #6 above is an ad for the M.H. Wells Home, Store and Post Office in Yankee Hill. Mr. Wells built his home and started his store in 1859; it also served as the post office. He built a new home in 1883 and advertised it as a hotel. He died in 1891 at the age of 62. His wife tried to sell the home in 1904 but was unsuccessful, probably because since 1886 and the end of hydraulic mining the town was slowly fading away. Mrs. Wells continued to live there with her son until about 1920 when she moved to Durham. Mrs. Wells died in 1936, she was 81 years old.

Oroville Daily Register 5-11-1904

BEAUTIFUL RESORTS OF BUTTE AND PLUMAS

The following article was written by Dr. W. F. Gates for the California Medical Journal, and gives a good description of the resorts of Butte and Plumas counties.

Not wishing to monopolize all the good things nor secrete a candle under the bushel, I take this opportunity to bring before the many readers of your valued journal, not only in this State but to its many readers throughout its wide circulation, the fact that Northern California possesses many beautiful and attractive, as well as healthful summer resorts. In fact, some of the grandest scenery to be found anywhere is found here. Some is truly interesting and enchanting.

In northern and eastern Yuba county we have Brownsville, Strawberry Valley and Woodleaf. In Butte county, of which Oroville is the county seat and the beautiful city of Chico is its largest city, there are many beautiful summer resorts, all of which have their varied attractions and are visited throughout the summer months. Among them are Hurleton, Enterprise, Mooretown, Lamplitt, Cascade and Fall River. Fall River is one of California's noted beauties. It has the grandest fall in California, if not in the United States, 452 feet perpendicular.

Then there is Yankee Hill, the famous Deadwood, Concow, Flea Valley, Berry Creek, Mountain House, Merriam, Magalla, Lovelock, Powerton, Reservoir and the Butte Creek House, where there is plenty of trout fishing, and where deer, bear, California lion, grouse and quail are found.

These resorts are accessible from Oroville and Chico by stage and private conveyance.

In Plumas county, of which Quincy is the county seat, and where live the most genial, hospitable kind hearted people in the State, we have the most varied, beautiful, interesting, in fact the grandest and most attractive summer resorts in all the great State of California; and I candidly believe the time is not far distant when they will be noted summer resorts of the Pacific Coast. Here there are a vast number of mineral springs, noted far and wide for their medicinal virtues, as in the Humboldt and in Hot Spring Valley,

where thousands of people go every summer to drink these waters for relief of rheumatic and kidney troubles. The famous Natural Ice Cave is truly a marvel. The renowned Hot Springs, where thousands go annually to take the hot water baths and view the bottom of the old crater, commonly known as the Devil's Kitchen, where thousands of boiling and spouting pot holes and spring covering about sixty acres of land with a clear cold mountain stream running through the entire distance, is a special attraction. Here my friends, you will look and wonder in amazement. This I believe, is destined to become one of the most noted health resorts on the Pacific Coast.

From here you can go on horseback to the great Lassen Butte, The majesty grandeur of which I will not attempt to describe. Suffice it to say that both men and woman have succeeded in reaching the top, while thousands have tried but in vain. Then from Hot Springs you can go on horseback to Cinder Cone, claimed to be the latest volcanic eruption in the United States, and which is fully worth any one's time to go and see.

Then there is the Boiling Lake, of some twenty acres, which is marvelous, which are also the geysers, spouting, boiling water from ten to twenty feet in the air. Then here is the beautiful Willow Lake.

Throughout and surrounding all these wonders of nature, fish and game are plentiful and hundreds of people recount hot springs and its surrounding country as their first and most satisfactory place of experience in capturing the deer, bear and mountain lion. We have the wonderful Big Meadows and Big Springs, where thousands of people congregate every summer and fish; and I want to tell you right here that a grander fishing place can not be found than at Big Meadows and Big Springs. Here is where you can catch trout from a half pound to four and five and even eight pounds, and fully enjoy all the variations connected with this delightful sport, and where many of you professional casters will be surprised to find the number of fine fishermen way out here. The accommodations are ample and abundant and abundant, and the people here are good and kind to a fault.

BONDING

PROPERTY

In Pentz and Surrounding Country

CAUSES FLURRY IN REAL ESTATE CIRCLES

It is Reported that the Parrish Place
Has Been Sold and that Bonds
Have Been Placed on the Lec,
Hielt, Braselton and other Tracts.

There is quite a flurry in the real estate circles at Pentz, and a great deal of speculation as to what Albert Smith intends to do with all the lands which he is bonding and attempting to bond, but as this land is known to be rich in gold it is supposed to be for mining purposes, and it is the general opinion that dredging will be the means of extracting the gold, if that be what the vast amount of land is being bonded for.

At Pentz yesterday it was reported that the Parrish place had been sold, and that bonds had been given on the Lec, Hielt, Braselton and several other large tracts. Attempts have been made to get a bond on the Lockerman ranch, and the Mortensen place, but as yet, they have not been consummated. The Lockerman-ranch is rich in gold; rich enough in places to pay big wages by the old methods of mining, and for a dredger or hydraulicking proposition would be a big thing. Gold in paying quantities is also known to exist in numerous other places on the bonded lands, consequently it is the general opinion that the property is wanted for mining purposes.

The tracts secured so far will run up to many hundreds of acres, and there is every appearance that Pentz will in the near future experience a real-estate boom.

Last Sunday Smith was out to the Pentz section and that day he tried to negotiate for a bond on the Lockerman ranch, but Mrs. W. J. Lockerman preferred to think the matter over before letting the property go. It is supposed that arrangements for the bonding of other property was made then.

This is not the first time that attempts have been made to secure land in this section, as Mrs. Lockerman has in the past few months received several offers for her ranch, and one of the parties in a previous offer informed her that the property was wanted for mining purposes.

Oroville Daily Register
5-13-1904

SCHOOL MONEYS

Oroville Daily Register
5-28-1904

Apportioned by Superinten- dent Dunn

TO THE COUNTY AND LIBRARY FUNDS

The Total Amount of Money Appor-
tioned Was \$11,781, of which Sum
\$10,398.15 Goes to Various Dis-
tricts and \$1,382.85 to Libraries.

The following moneys have been ap-
portioned by Supt. R. H. Dunn. The
apportionment is given in two separate
funds, the county and the library fund.

District	County..	Library
Antelope	\$ 77 75	\$ 14 80
Atkins	16 00	11 55
Bald Rlek	35 00	12 50
Bangor	39 50	18 05
Bidwell	58 75	13 80
Butte	77 75	14 80
Central House	77 75	14 80
Centerville	115 75	16 80
Chico	2810 00	177 55
Cherokee	139 50	18 05
Clayton	25 50	12 05
Clipper Mills	25 50	12 05
Concow	25 50	12 05
Cottonwood	35 50	12 55
Chico Canyon	63 50	14 05
Clear Creek	39 75	12 80
Durham	260 00	37 55
Dayton	207 75	34 80
Diamondville	20 75	11 80
Dredger	68 25	14 30
Evansville	58 75	13 80
Fairview	28 50	1 50
Forbestown	240 50	37 05
Forest	25 50	12 05
Fruitvale	58 75	13 80
Gridley	705 00	47 55
Grafton	16 00	11 55

Homo	44 50	13 05
Hamilton	580 00	47 55
Honeut	201 25	21 30
Kings	54 00	13 55
Kunkle	30 25	12 30
Landlow	58 75	13 80
Little Chico	39 75	12 80
Lone Tree	39 75	12 80
Lovelock	78 00	14 55
Lumpkin	44 50	13 05
Manzanita	35 00	12 05
Magalla	39 75	12 80
Meadow	77 75	14 80
Meridian	229 25	33 30
Messila Valley	87 25	15 30
Mooretown	300 25	12 30
Morris Ravine	1 65	11 40
Mountain Springs ..	44 50	13 05
Mountain House	49 25	13 30
Mud Creek	39 75	12 80
Nelson	87 25	12 80
Nimshew	39 75	12 80
North Point	35 00	12 55
Olive	63 50	14 05
Oregon City	111 00	16 55
Oroville	1595 00	79 55
Paradise	245 75	36 80
Palermo	241 00	36 55
Parrott	11 25	11 30
Reservoir	44 50	13 05
Rio Seco	39 75	12 80
River	77 75	14 80
Rock Creek	25 50	12 05
Roe	25 50	12 05
Salem	32 00	10 55
Stoneman	39 75	12 80
Thermalito	93 75	18 80
Union	58 75	33 80
Upham	30 25	12 30
Webster	92 00	15 55
West Liberty	35 00	12 55
Wyandotte	63 50	14 05
York	30 25	12 30
Yankee Hill	16 00	11 55

Total \$10,398 15 \$1,382 85

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6-8-1904

SCHOOL CENSUS OF 1904 COMPARED WITH 1903

Editor Slaven and Mr. Barnes of the Mercury spent an hour or more of hard work yesterday in digging up the data found below. It will be seen they made a comparison between the years 1903 and 1904 in the number of school children in the county.

	1903	1904
Antelope	17	14
Atkins	10	12
Bald Rock	24	20
Bangor	52	52
Bidwell	27	23
Butte	26	31
Central House	32	25
Centerville	40	38
Chico	1229	1356
Cherokee	45	40
Clayton	14	10
Clipper Mills	12	12
Concow	21	19
Cottonwood	8	25
Chico Canyon	20	16
Clear Creek	17	18
Durham	97	91
Dayton	97	69
Diamondville	23	31
Dredger	40	33
Evansville	25	23
Forest	20	17
Forbestown	82	73
Fairview	5	11
Fruitvale	20	20
French Creek	—	18
Gridley	234	233
Grafton	16	14
Homo	21	21
Hamilton	193	180
Honcut	68	86
Independence	—	101
Kanaka Peak	—	15
Kings	26	20
Kunkle	14	16

Landlow	21	20
Little Chico	17	24
Lone Tree	15	11
Lovelock	29	36
Lumpkin	18	12
Manzanita	18	19
Magalia	22	24
Nicadow	39	46
Meridian	80	104
Mesilla Valley	34	36
McKay	—	17
Mooretown	26	13
Morris Ravine	11	29
Mt. Spring	22	19
Mt. House	13	24
Mud Creek	15	18
Nelson	37	34
Nimshew	36	41
North Point	21	13
Olive	36	33
Oregon City	41	34
Oroville	548	568
Paradise	105	93
Palermo	112	94
Parrott	11	18
Reservoir	20	18
Rio Seco	24	17
River	34	43
Rock Creek	26	28
Roe	28	30
Salem	22	29
Stoneman	25	23
Stirling	—	53
Thermalito	73	59
Union	31	32
Upham	23	17
Webster	44	43
West Liberty	26	34
Wyandotte	36	42
York	24	23
Yankee Hill	23	15
Total	4106	4667

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6-29-1904

DEATH OF MRS

HENRY DUENSING

C. S. Topping left here yesterday to bring the remains of Mrs. Henry Duensing from Slater Camp near NimsheW to her home near Yankee Hill for burial. Mrs. Duensing we understand, had relatives working up at the camp mentioned and went there to cook for them. She was taken ill with some form of stomach and liver complaint and died there early yesterday morning. Her body will be brought from the camp to Magalla, then down to near Pentz and then over the Nelson Bar road and up to Yankee Hill, where the funeral will probably take place on Thursday. The deceased was a well known and highly esteemed resident of that portion of the county. She leaves a husband and several grown children to mourn her death. Mrs. A. Armbruster and Mrs. D. C. Morgan are daughters of the deceased.

NEW BRIDGE ACROSS
THE WEST BRANCH

The new bridge constructed by Engineer O. W. Jasper across the West Branch, eight miles north of the Nelson Bar bridge was completed last week. Quite a number of men from this locality were employed on the bridge. Among these was Mr. Jasper himself, Joe McGee, W. L. Downer, John Guidery and Mr. Frew.

The bridge is in round numbers a hundred feet long with one approach of sixteen feet and one of thirty feet. It is twelve feet and ten inches wide, or eleven feet wide in the clear.

This has always been a bridge for pack animals, but when constructed this time it was built wide enough for wagons. To be made effective for wagon travel and to open up a section of country on either side of the stream a road eight miles long would have to be built.

This road would then enable people living on the Magalia ridge to cross over to the Concow and Flea Valley section without having to make a long detour and come down to the Nelson Bar bridge to cross.

We don't know that the road will be built, but it would be an advantage to many people if it were built.

ANNUAL REPORT OF
SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

We take from the report of Superintendent R. H. Dunn the figures on the schools of Butte for the year ending July 1st, 1904.

The report was concluded yesterday afternoon:

Number of white children over 5, but not over 17 years of age, boys 2,298; girls, 2292; total 4590.

Number of Negro children over 5, but not over 17 years of age—boys 8; girls, 5; total 13.

Number of Indian children over 5, but not over 17 years of age—boys 32; girls, 31; total 63.

Native born Mongolians over 5, but not over 17 years of age—boys 9; girls 2; total 11.

Total number of census children over 5, but not over 17 years of age, 4677.

Number of census children that attend public school during the year, 3763.

Number of census children that attend private school during the year 35.

Number that did not attend either public or private school during the year 879.

Number of children under 5 years of age—white, 1538; negro 3; Indian 31; Mongolian 7; total 1579.

Native born children 6229; foreign born 27; total 6256.

Number of children over 5 that are deaf 4.

Number of children over 5 and not over 17 that have been vaccinated, 2802.

Number of grammar schools, 53.

Number of primary schools, 17.

Number of regular and special teachers, 108; male teachers, 16; female teachers, 92.

Teachers holding high school certificates 3; teachers holding grammar school certificates 104.

Balance of money on hand July 1st, 1903, \$12,168.77. Amount received from State apportionment \$36,177.65. Amount received from County apportionment, \$38,028.30. Amount received from district taxes, \$7,621.27. Amount received from sale of bonds, \$3050.12. Amount received from miscellaneous sources, \$708.52.

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Total receipts from all sources, \$97,754.63.

Amount paid for teacher's salaries, \$62,576.55.

Amount paid for contingent expenses, supplies, etc, \$12,388.45.

Amount paid for sites buildings and furniture, \$8,148.51.

Amount paid for library and apparatus \$977.34.

Total expenditures, \$84,090.85.

Balance on hand at close of June 30th, 1904, \$13,663.78.

Valuation of lots, school buildings, etc., \$180,348.

Valuation of school libraries, \$11,610.

Valuation of school apparatus, \$4,843.

Total valuation of all school property \$196,801.

Average number belonging to grammar and primary schools, 2695.

Average daily attendance in grammar and primary schools, \$2517.

Percentage of attendance 93.

Number of pupils in primary schools boys 1319; girls, 1182.

Number of pupils in grammar schools—boys 463; girls, 547.

Total number of boys 1782.

Total number of girls, 1729.

Total of boys and girls, 3511.

Number of days school was maintained during the year, 158.

Number of months same teacher has been in charge of school, 267.

Amount paid monthly to teachers \$67.20.

Number of school visits by County Superintendent, 11.

Number of school visits by trustees, 220.

Number of school visits by other persons 1607.

Average cost per pupil enrolled in the primary and grammar schools, 29.08.

Average cost per pupil in High School 67 89

FLAMES RAVAGE

The Country in Vicinity of Pentz

FIRE ORIGINATES AT
MRS KROEGER'S RANCH

Destroying the House, Barn, Out-
buildings, Etc, and Then Spread
to the Ranch of Mrs. Mortenson,
burning 300 Acres of Pasture Land

Special to Register.

PENTZ, July 20.—A fire broke out in the buildings on the farm of Mrs. Kroeger several miles from this place about three o'clock this afternoon, destroying the house, barn, outbuildings, fences, etc.

The flames then spread to the dry grass on the land surrounding the buildings, and driven by a stiff breeze burned over most of the ranch. The fire then jumped to the ranch of Mrs. Jennie Mortenson, adjoining the Kroeger property and burned fiercely over the large pasture containing about 300 acres.

So fierce was the fire that it was thought for a time that the town of Pentz would be swept by the flames. The large flumes of the Oroville Water Company in that region were also in danger.

Help was summoned from Cherokee, and the surrounding country and between fifty and a hundred men were soon fighting the fire, which they succeeded in getting under control late in the evening, after it had burned to within a mile and a half of Pentz.

Between 300 and 400 acres of pasture land was burned over, and many miles of fences destroyed. A number of buildings were threatened, and these were saved only by the hard work of the fire fighters.

The origin of the fire is a mystery, as there was no one living on the Kroeger ranch, which is owned by Mrs. F. Kroeger of Oroville, and the buildings were unoccupied.



Oroville Mercury

July 25, 1904

YANKEE HILL.

Much excitement prevailed in Spanish Town a few days ago when a fire almost succeeded in doing more than destroying a hornets' nest. The willing hands of the school boys soon had it within control.

Mrs. I. W. King, who has spent the last six months at Yankee Hill, departed for San Francisco Monday.

Miss Edythe Lemmon is teaching at Big Bend, taking the school formerly taught by Miss Dora Spencer, who is now teaching in the Concow district.

Mrs. Cerf of Quincy passed through here en route to San Francisco.

H. A. Kluegel, superintendent of the Golden State Power company, is in Plumas county.

A party visited the Indian fishing grounds on the North Fork of Feather river last week. These grounds are of much interest, evidently being the resort of Indians for ages past judging from the characters engraved in the rocks and the remembrances of old Indians. The fish in trying to make their way over a fall ten feet in height, drop back into nets of fibre which the Indians have prepared to catch them.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Spencer celebrated their golden wedding last week.

GOLDEN WEDDING

AT YANKEE HILL

Married July 20, 1854, at Benton, Me., John W. Spencer and Miss Abbie Parker.

A few of the residents of Yankee Hill and vicinity enjoyed last Wednesday evening the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the above marriage at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Spencer, two of Benton's oldest and most respected residents who have been spared to receive the congratulations of their friends for fifty years of married life. A rare event like this is sure to be an occasion of enjoyment and pleasure, and all who were present passed a delightful evening.

Mr. Spencer was among the first to come to California in the days of gold. In 1853 he returned to Wisconsin and engaged in the lumber business. In the following year he found time to go down to Maine and marry the estimable lady who, for more than half a century, has been his comfort in life's journey. Many years ago they came to Yankee Hill, where they have since resided. Mrs. Spencer has passed the three score and ten years, and Mr. Spencer has seen the storms of eighty winters. Both are hale and hearty, and many friends wish them continued health and happiness.

The worthy old couple are the parents of Mrs. Dora E. Wells and Judge Spencer of Yankee Hill.

OIL FOR STREETS AND ROADS

The San Jose Mercury of Monday contained the following on the very pertinent question to all cities and towns on the problem of oil for streets and roads:

There is little room for doubt that the oiling of country roads and graveled city streets will soon become general instead of water sprinkling. Like all new things it develops drawbacks at first, which have to be overcome by time and experience.

Since experiments in oiling were made in this vicinity something has been learned. There has been from time to time much protest from certain quarters. Communications have been sent to the Mercury declaring that the oil was a nuisance; that it spoiled shoes and dresses and bicycle tires and was generally objectionable.

It must be admitted that a newly oiled thoroughfare is not altogether agreeable. But there is no sense in jumping to hasty conclusions. It may have been also that some of the first experiments in the use of oil were not satisfactory because of unfamiliarity with the best methods of application. All that has been or will be remedied in due course.—Ex.

CARELESS SHOOTING

In Which a Woman is the
Victim

THE BULLET STRIKING
HER IN THE BACK

The Lady, Mrs. Joe Azvedo, of Oregon
Gulch, While Walking Around Her
Home on Wednesday Last, Was
Struck and Severely Injured.

While Mrs. Joe Azvedo was walk-
ing about her home on Wednesday
last at Oregon Gulch she was struck
in the back by a bullet and severely
injured. A short time before that A.
A. Hedge, who lives in the same por-
tion of the county heard a bullet
whisue by him as he was sitting on a
log. The bullet struck a tree near by.

The bullets were fired by some one
accidentally but one found a mark
and the other came near it. It is not
known who the man with the gun was
but it was some one who had been
firing shortly before that in a ravine
nearby.

NOTORIOUS MURDERER

Dick Johnson Threatens to Kill His Wife

AND THE OFFICERS
ARE SUMMONED

Sheriff Chubbuck and Constable Rellly
Left at 1:30 This Morning for Yan-
kee Hill, As it is Feared Johnson
Will Carry Out His Threats.

● Late last evening a telephone ●
● message to the Sheriff's office, ●
● from Yankee Hill, gave the in- ●
● formation that Dick Johnson, the ●
● notorious character, who killed ●
● three Indians in a fight at Chero- ●
● kee a couple of years ago, had ●
● made an attempt to take the life ●
● of his wife. ●

● The message stated that Mrs. ●
● Johnson had escaped from the ●
● house, and was now stopping at ●
● the home of Mrs. Dora Wells at ●
● Yankee Hill. Johnson was still ●
● at his home, about a mile and a ●
● half from the residence of Mrs. ●
● Wells. ●

● Sheriff James Chubbuck and ●
● Constable T. P. Rellly left at 1:30 ●
● this morning for the scene of the ●
● attempted murder, and will prob- ●
● ably bring Johnson back with ●
● them today. ●

A special dispatch to The Register
from Yankee Hill at 10 o'clock last
evening says that nothing has been
heard of Johnson since his attempt
at murder was made, and it is sup-
posed that he is still at the family
home, while Mrs. Johnson will re-
main under her neighbor's protection
until the arrival of the officers this
morning.

The details of the affair are meager
but as near as can be learned, John-
son had been up at Magalia, and had
left that city to go to Colgate, where
he had secured employment with the
Valley Counties Power Company. He
boarded the train and went to Chico
on Tuesday, but instead of leaving
Chico for Colgate he remained there
until yesterday, when he started for
his home at Yankee Hill, at which
place he arrived about 7 o'clock last
evening.

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His wife was at home, but was not
expecting her husband to come back
she thinking he was probably at Col-
gate by that time. When he arrived
he was in an ugly mood, and it is pre-
sumed started to quarrel with his bet-
ter half, and finally he became so
abusive that Mrs. Johnson began to
get frightened.

After more words Johnson said that
he would kill her, and it is said, did
make an attempt to shoot her, but
luckily she escaped from the house
out into the darkness, and made her
way to the home of Mrs. Wells at
Yankee Hill, leaving the would-be-
murderer in possession of the house.

At Yankee Hill Mrs. Johnson told
her story of the treatment she had
been receiving and said that her hus-
band would surely kill her if he got
an opportunity. At this word was im-
mediately sent here for the officers.

Dick Johnson is well known in Butte
County as one of the most desperate
and troublesome characters, and he is
looked upon as a dangerous man by
all who are familiar with him. His
past record is a very black one, and
our readers will recall the fatal com-
bat which took place at Cherokee sev-
eral years ago, in which three Indians
met death as the result of the wounds
received from a knife in his hands.

For this offense Johnson was ar-
rested and after spending many
months in the County Jail, was tried
by a jury, who saw fit to give him his
freedom. Since that time he has been
living in the vicinity of Yankee Hill,
where the affair of yesterday occurred.

He claims to be part Mexican, and
it seems that at times he is seized
with a desire to take human life. The
killing of the three Indians in this
county is said to be only one of his
crimes, and it is reported that several
other men have fell victims to his
murderous desire.

His last offense will probably result
in his serving a term in prison, as the
people of eastern Butte are becoming
tired of his troublesome and treacher-
ous ways.

CHEROKEE.

Thos. Davis of Bloomingdale is roofing the schoolhouse.

Rev. Mr. Benton returned from his vacation Thursday and has resumed religious services.

A calf belonging to James Lafferty died very suddenly last week, it having evidently eaten some poisonous weed, as it lasted very quick after it was noticed to be in distress.

Mrs. James Hannis and daughter, Miss Olive, and Russel Hannis and Alfred Lafferty came over from Chico Sunday and returned Sunday evening.

Philip Bole of Oroville is rustivating in Cherokee, and incidentally doing what he can with the assistance of Willie Lafferty to keep the squirrels and doves from taking possession of the country.

Water is beginning to get scarce. There has been no hydrant water for a week, for a number of the places located in the higher parts of the town. L. L. Vintin and Antone Joseph have been reducing leaks in the ditch between Concow and the head of the pipe on the other side of the West Branch, and it is expected that there will be a little water for some time yet. Well, water will not be as scarce as it was last fall.

Coyotes have been seen very frequently of late, and there is a growing sentiment in favor of the idea of asking the Supervisors to place a bounty on them. They are getting much more numerous than is necessary for the welfare of stockraisers and raisers of turkeys and other poultry. They also undoubtedly prevent deer from increasing, as they otherwise would by destroying the young fawns, and they may be responsible for the scarcity of the rising generation of quail. Young quail are reported to be about half as numerous as they should be. But there should by all means be a bounty on lions and wildcats.

WM. THUNEN.

Cherokee, August 18, 1904.

Oroville Mercury

8-18-1904

Misses Bertha and Marie Haggerty of San Francisco were passengers on the Concow stage this morning to visit relatives at Yankee Hill.

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8-26-1904

PAID TO WORK

THEIR BLACK SAND

Two miners living in the vicinity of Yankee Hill own a mine on the river from which they get considerable black sand so Clark Bunyca tells us. They were saving the blacksand and were intending to dispose of it to the Long Refining Co. of Oroville, when they concluded to make some experiments with the sand. They took a hundred pounds to work as a test and to find out whether it would pay them better to sell it at \$40 for a ton or to work it themselves. From the hundred pounds they got in gold \$7.50, which would be at the rate of twenty times this or \$150 for a ton. They concluded to keep the sand and work it themselves. To make certain they are getting all the gold from it they are now sending a quantity to Selby & Co. to have some tests made by that firm.

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8-29-1904

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH BY EXPOSURE

That James Pratt of Mooretown, did not die from cold and exposure last week may be considered a piece of good luck for him. As stated recently in the various county papers Mr. Pratt sprang from his bed where he was lying down, ran from the house, sprang over a high picket fence and disappeared in the thick brush of the locality where his home was at Mooretown.

No time was lost by the neighbors in searching for him for they knew he was delirious. He was gone all of the day he disappeared, all that night, the following day, all of that night and about half of the next day. He had water but nothing to eat and consequently was very weak. He had been ill with fever and from the effects of a prolonged spree, when he ran from the house and this still further added to his weakness. When found he had wandered into an Indian camp and had been there about four hours. He was placed on a horse and taken back to his home, where he is being nursed back to health.

George Bean, one of the party who found Pratt says that when he reached the Indian camp he was given a little fruit. Mr. Pratt is rational at times and told of his wanderings. He said he was on a hill where there was a stream at the bottom. He was very thirsty and went to the creek to get water. Then he climbed the long hill and by the time he reached the top he was wild for water again, so went to the creek. This was repeated several times.

The unfortunate man appeared to think he was being pursued by those who sought to do him an injury for he took off his shoes after having gone quite a long distance and then tied his feet up in his drawers. The object he had in view was to keep any one from recognizing his footprints. He apparently realized that his neighbors were hunting for him for he said he heard them shouting. When asked why he did not answer he said he did. Mr. Bean explains that Pratt was so weak his voice could be heard only a very short distance.

His friends fear that he will not recover his mental balance even if he survives the hardships to which he was exposed during the two days and night in the mountains.

A Birthday Celebration.

A large number of friends and relatives gathered at the fine residence of Jos Miller, near Yankee Hill, on the 27th of August, to celebrate the double birthday of Mr. Miller and his son, Wendell, who is an extensive farmer living near Chico.

Mr. Miller came to this county in '51 or '55 and worked at the butcher business on Thompson's Flat. He moved to Yankee Hill in 1857, and has engaged in the butcher and cattle business ever since. He has amassed quite a fortune and has ever been ready to lend a helping hand to the deserving needy. His son, Wendell, and the daughter, Josie, who died a few years ago, strange to say, were all born on the same day in August as their father.

Mrs. Miller, the kind hostess, planned the celebration, and with the assistance of Miss Edwina Lunt and Mrs. Geo. H. Stout, decorated the residence in a tasty manner.

The dinner was so plentiful and so elaborate that it is impossible to describe it. There were roast turkeys, roast pigs—well, just everything that is good for the inner being.

Mrs. Minnie Miller of Cherokee had one large cake marked 77 for Mr. Miller's table, and one marked 31 for Wendell's.

The time was pleasantly spent in telling stories, singing songs, etc.

All will remember with delight the pleasant time given them by the kind host and hostess, and wish them many happy returns.

Following are the names of those present:

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Miller, Sr., Wendel Miller, Chico; Chas. Roe, Chico; John Chambers and wife, Pentz; Geo. H. Stout and wife, Biggs; Mrs. Joe Miller, Jr., and wife, Cherokee; Mrs. Mary Wellington, Cora Vogt and Mattie Duensing, Yankee Hill; Alice Cleland, Big Bend; Josie Miller, Cherokee; Oliver Lunt, George Hodapp, Yankee Hill; Mrs. K. Marcellus, Pentz; Andrew Armbruster, Mrs. Andrew Armbruster, Mrs. Hodapp, Yankee Hill; Rich Jones and wife, Oregon City; Barbara Aszvedo, Cherokee; Mrs. Wm. Jones, Oregon City; Mrs. Thos. Jones, Oregon City; Ad Patterson, Yankee Hill, Mrs. Dora Wells, Emil Hodap and Edwina Lunt, Yankee Hill. G. H. S.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

FROM BIG BEND

A Big Bend correspondent sends us the following items from that locality.

Mrs. Henry Turner and family have returned from a camping trip in the mountains and are now in Oroville.

J. M. Mullen and wife went to Oroville this week to accompany Mrs. Mullen's brother, Ernest Clanton and her nephew Wm. Wiley, who are returning to Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. and Mrs. Clanton father and mother of Mrs. Mullen will also return to Phoenix.

Mr. J. M. Mullen is proving to be a crack shot at venison. Lately he had three shots at a fine deer and did not touch a hair.

Henry Turner has no desire for venison but he is greatly interested in raising cucumbers and has one that is six inches in diameter and three feet in length. If any one wishes big cucumbers send to Henry Turner at Big Bend.

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9-2-1904

JOHNSON A FREE MAN.

When the case of Dick Johnson, the so-called bad man from Yankee Hill, was called in court yesterday, Mr. W. E. Duncan, attorney for Johnson, asked that the case against his client be dismissed. This was agreed to by the District Attorney, and Johnson went forth a free man. He promised to leave this town and keep away from his wife. He said he had a job at Colgate, and would go there to work.

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Mrs. Dora Wells of Yankee Hill has been planning to go to San Francisco during the Conclave, and will probably start today,

WM. H. MULLEN
WRITES FROM ARIZONA

Tempe, Arizona, September 2, '04.

Editor Oroville Register—Dear Sir: It may be interesting to some of your readers to hear from some of Butte's old settlers, so I will send you a few items.

I arrived here from Butte about the 20th of June. The weather was comfortable and I had to take my coat off only when crossing the Salton desert. I arrived at the Tempe at six o'clock on Sunday morning, and found my brother, J. B. Mullen, in waiting for me. We drove four miles to his place, where we found all well. I rested there for three or four days, and then we all started for Flagstaff, in the mountains, and distant about 150 miles. It took us six days to make the trip. The ladies went by rail instead of going with us by wagon. When we were all in camp there was a score or more of the Mullen family. We spent the Fourth of July in Flagstaff, and then having rented some houses for the ladies we set out for the Magellan Mountains to camp out. We found plenty of good feed, but water was scarce until it began to rain, about the 20th of July, but from that time on there were rain storms with heavy thunder and vivid lightning which would frequently strike huge pines and shiver them into kindling wood. Not infrequently the lightning would strike a dead tree and set it on fire, while forest fires were set by lightning, so the government kept regulars on the reserve to keep down the fires. Such downpours and torrents of rain I never beheld before. The stockmen and the farmers are all rejoicing now, as they have been blessed with more than plenty of water for irrigation and for feed for stock.

We had a very enjoyable time in camp, as we had plenty of fresh meat whenever we needed it. There are many antelopes on the reserve, but no one is allowed to kill any.

The mountains are comparatively level, yet the scenery is grand. The hills are covered with a heavy body of yellow pines while every few miles we find beautiful level, clear valleys, from half a mile wide to three miles long, and all are covered with the finest of grass.

The government allows only so many head of stock to a certain number of acres, so as to keep the ranges from being over-stocked. The sheep men here keep their sheep on one side of the mountains, and the owners of horses and cattle keep their stock on the other side, so they do not come in conflict.

The climate in the mountains is lovely.

We came down here to Tempe about a week ago. Here the climate is warm and oppressive ever since the rains, but now the rains seem about over, so the atmosphere is more pleasant and the nights are cooler, so one can enjoy a good sleep.

I have not suffered any more with the heat here than I would in Oroville, perhaps not so much, but there has been more humidity in the air. Very soon, however, it will be all right here.

There was some of the grandest scenery in the mountains that I ever beheld. Such grand canyons, with perpendicular walls with different colored rocks! Winding streams, so deep and precipitous that no human feet have ever been there!

On the head of Oak Creek is some of the grandest and most curious scenery in the world. The scenery is most picturesque in the extreme, with miles of red building rock, grotesque columns a thousand feet perpendicular, etc.

On our way to the mountains we visited what looks as if it once was a crater. We camped one night at the wonderful soda spring on Beaver creek. There are several springs in close proximity and one of these is large enough to bathe in, and many really do bathe in it. Then we visited the Ice Cave, which is also in an old crater. By going down through the holes and among the rocks we find a solid bed of ice, not over twenty feet from the surface. It would be a good place for a refrigerator.

A great many go to see the homes of the cliff dwellers, which are not far from Flagstaff, and they are said to be a curious and attractive sight.

WM. H. MULLEN.

His friends say that Elmore Rutherford is studying the mining question of late, and is particularly interested in the mines of Cherokee and vicinity.

Among those in town yesterday were Lawrence Lasater of Bloomingdale, Jacob Gaub, Jas. Pearce and T. K. Williams of Morris Ravine.

E. N. Rhine is able to be up and about, but he is not yet able to do anything, and it will be some time before he is able to resume work.

Lawrence Lasater of Bloomingdale, C. W. Hulse of Palermo and Matt Lynch of Central House were in town yesterday.

Robert Lyte was in town yesterday from Pentz. He came down for a coffin for the body of the late Mary Freydt of Pentz.

Yesterday was law day, and nearly every attorney in the county was present to have cases set, continued or dismissed.

Mrs. Hattie Leonard, who has been visiting the family of J. W. Godfrey, returned to her home in Red Bluff yesterday.

Mrs. W. A. Ward and daughter and Mrs. J. M. Walsh and children are home from Humbug Valley, in Plumas county.

Jas. S. Craiu, who hopes to be the Democratic nominee for Supervisor in the Fourth district, was here yesterday.

Among those in town yesterday were Mrs. A. F. Stouidt of Rio Bonito and Mrs. Nancy Bills of Wyandotte.

While in San Francisco last week H. E. Vall struck his shin bone against a car rail and hurt it quite badly.

DEATH OF AGED
LADY AT PENTZ

Miss Mary Freydt of Pentz died at the home of her brother, Joseph Freydt, yesterday morning at an early hour. She had been ill for some time, and on the evening of Sunday told Mrs. Robert Lyte that she would not live through the night. Her brother had tried in vain to induce her to have a doctor and to take medicine, but she positively refused. "It's no use, brother," she said, "I am like a worn-out wagon. The doctor can mend me up in one place, but I will break down in another, and it's no use to have a physician or to take medicine. I am just worn out."

Deceased was eighty years and seven months of age.

Yesterday morning her brother went to her room and asked her how she felt. He said he would like to make a fire and get some hot coffee for her, but after he had done this and gone back to her room his sister was dead.

Robert Lyte said he had lived as neighbors to the brother and sister for twenty-seven years, and in that long period she had only been once to Pentz and once to Cherokee, and to no other places. Both places are within five or six miles of where the family lived.

The funeral will take place today at twelve o'clock at Cherokee. Undertaker C. S. Topping will have charge of the funeral. Joseph Freydt and his sister had lived at the home near Pentz for thirty-four years.

U. M. Damon is able to get down to his store again.

Charley White was able to resume work yesterday.

Subscribe for the Register.

Oroville Mercury

9-16-1904

Frank Thunen having passed an examination before the Supreme Court Commissioners, is now an attorney-at-law. Mr. Thunen is an industrious, bright young gentleman, whose talents, energy and application will win success in the practice of law.

Jas. Bollinger of Cherokee has received a patent for a gold saving device which is to be used in handling black sand. Mr. Bollinger has worked several years to perfect this machine and mining men who have seen it tried say it saves all the free gold in the sand.

CHINAMAN MURDERED

Oroville Daily Register

9-19-1904

Body Found in Cabin Near Cherokee

WITH BULLET HOLE
IN THE BACK

Murdered Man Was Known as Ah Leo,
Alias "Stanford," and Had Been
Dead About Forty-eight Hours—
Murderer Probably Some Indian.

Yesterday forenoon a telephone dispatch was received from Cherokee, stating that a Chinaman had been found dead. He had been shot in the back, and therefore had been murdered. An inquest was held, but nothing of importance had been discovered.

It seems that a Chinaman had been working on the North Fork on one side of the river for D. C. Morgan. Another Chinaman was employed on the opposite side of the stream.

Yesterday morning one crossed the river to visit his Celestial friend and acquaintance and found that he had been killed. He hastened to Cherokee and notified the authorities there, and an inquest was held as soon as possible by the Justice of the Peace. At this inquest it was seen that the Chinaman had been dead for some hours, probably twenty-four at least.

Sheriff J. M. Chubbuck and Constable Riley were notified and they drove up to Cherokee soon afterwards and made an investigation at the scene of the murder. What the result was we have not learned at this writing.

The Chinaman's name was Stanford, and as stated above, he was in the employ of D. C. Morgan.

After the above facts were in type as gathered from the Sheriff's office and other sources, we find from the Misses Davis of this town that the murder took place at a cabin on the Davis land and was near Bloomingdale or Hengy.

The man was an old and inoffensive Chinaman employed for many years by D. C. Morgan.

The only thing they can think of as having caused his death is that he had more than once in the past quarreled with the Indians about there, and there is a possibility that the Indians may have shot and killed him.

Up to a late hour last evening it was not possible to get news by phone from Cherokee.

Many besides the Sheriff and the Constable were out hunting for any clue to the murder.

From Undertaker Reynolds we learned last night the following concerning the death of the Chinaman named above:

The killing took place at a cabin on the old Davis place and near the home of Wm. M. Wilson. The deceased was at work evidently at a lit-

tle shelf in his cabin, with the door open near him. A window which was raised six or eight inches was in the wall of the cabin at an angle from the door. It was thought by Judge Anderson and the jurymen who held the inquest that the murderer had fired a shot from this window, which struck the man in the back, and that he fell headlong out of the door, his body being without the door.

As nearly as they could judge, the body of the man had been dead about forty-eight hours. The Chinaman's name was Ah Leo, but he had gone by the name of Stanford for years. He was old and had no money or other valuables that would tempt any one so it is supposed he must have been shot from motives of revenge. It is known that he had one or two quarrels with Indians in the vicinity.

The body was in a bad condition, so much so that when a Chinaman attempted to help move it and took hold of the queue the hair of the queue all came off the man's head. The smell was such that the jurymen could hardly remain near the place.

The body was brought here last night by Undertaker Reynolds and will be examined today to see whether he was shot in the back of through the breast.

THE HIGH TAX RATE

Fixed Yesterday by Board
of Supervisors

IS MUCH HIGHER
THAN LAST YEAR

We Have a Tax Rate of \$2.73 on the
Hundred, Forty-eight Cents Higher
Than It Was Last Year, Being But
\$2.25 for Total Tax.

Local readers will be interested in the tax rate which was fixed yesterday by the Board of Supervisors. It will be seen that this year we have a tax rate of \$2.73 on the hundred to pay. The rate for school purposes in this district is 55 cents on the hundred, besides the union high school, which is 23 cents. This makes an excessive tax, and will be found hard upon very many this fall, for the season has been quiet and work in the orchards and other places has not been up to what it is during ordinary years.

It would have been better for those having to pay the taxes if the sum could have been distributed more so that it could have been paid during two or three years instead of throwing it all upon one year. Last year the State and county tax was \$2.05 and the high school tax was 20 cents, making \$2.25 for the total tax. This year it is forty-eight cents higher.

It was represented to many when the vote was about to be taken that the tax rate on account of the new building and the sewer for the old school building would make a raise of only about thirty-one cents. It will be seen that it is nearly double that sum.

The tax rate as fixed yesterday by the Board of Supervisors was:

State rate	\$.535
County general70
Road fund10
School fund21
Hospital tax.....	.08
Bond and interest.....	.01
Advertising015

Total\$1.95

The special school tax must be added to this, and these taxes are as follows: Palermo, 50 cents; Oroville union high school, 23 cents; Oroville school district, 55 cents; Gridley high school, 19 cents; Gridley school district, 25 cents; Honcut district, 55 cents.

The residents of Oroville school district must pay this year \$1.95 plus 23 cents plus 55 cents, or a total of \$2.73, on the hundred. In other words, each man who is taxed on property valued at \$1000 must pay this year \$27.30 in taxes.

The residents of Palermo district must pay \$2.45 on each hundred, or \$24.50 on each thousand.

The tax-payer in Gridley must pay \$2.30 on each hundred or \$23 on the thousand.

The tax-payer in Honcut must pay \$2.50 on the hundred or \$25 on the thousand.

Supreme Court Grants Bert Wright New Trial

(The Bee's Special Service.)

OROVILLE (Butte Co.), July 22.—W. E. Duncan, Jr., attorney for Bert Wright, has received a telegram from Frank C. Jordan, Clerk of the Supreme Court, stating that the higher judicial body had granted a new trial to Wright. Readers of The Bee will remember that on May 23rd, 1903, Wright shot and killed one Henry C. Farley at what is known as the North place, near Yankee Hill.

According to the testimony of Farley's son, who was present at the shooting, Farley and his wife had been divorced, yet Farley retained a room at the house where his wife lived. Bert Wright was a frequent visitor at the Farley home, and the divorced husband had often expressed the belief that Wright had been the direct cause of the estrangement between himself and wife. On the date above mentioned, Wright was visiting Mrs. Farley, and it was the intention that he should take supper with her and her son. But the divorced husband suddenly appeared on the scene and spoiled the arrangement. A game of hide-and-seek followed, during which Wright is said to have made frantic efforts to get away, and Farley to have made just as strenuous efforts to "get a bead" on the man he believed to be responsible for his matrimonial difficulties.

At any rate, the men met at one corner of the house, on the outside, and after two shots had been exchanged, Farley staggered to a seat on the porch, where he very quickly expired. Wright was tried for murder, and, upon the jury returning a verdict of manslaughter, he was, in July of the same year, sentenced to ten years' imprisonment at San Quentin.

The case was carried to the Supreme Court, the prayer being that a new trial be granted on the ground that improper evidence had been admitted at the trial. During all this time Wright has occupied a cell in the County Jail here, and the news that he has been granted a new trial was joyfully received by him.

Sacramento Bee
7-22-1904

H. WRIGHT'S BAIL BOND

**Has been Filed and Awaits
Approval**

BY SUPERIOR

JUDGE GRAY

The Bond is in the Sum of \$5000—Appraisers File Report in Estate of M. B. West, an Incompetent. The Total Valuation is \$51,075.

The bond of Hurlburt Wright, in the Superior Court of Butte county, has been filed, for the sum of \$5000. The sureties are H. Wright, \$1500, T. L. Vinton, \$3000; E. W. Morgan, \$3000; C. S. Campbell, \$2000; E. H. Jones, \$2000; J. M. Mullen, \$2000, and H. W. White, \$1000. Readers will recall that Wright shot and killed H. C. Farley, and was tried and convicted of manslaughter in the Superior Court. The case was appealed, and the Supreme Court reversed the lower Court. Judge Gray fixed the bonds at \$5000, and this has now been filed.

The appraisers have filed their report in the estate of M. B. West, an incompetent. The estate in Butte is valued at \$28,075. It consists of real estate valued at \$17,525; lots in Oroville valued at \$9000; personal property valued at \$650. H. D. Lausen, R. S. Kitrick and G. W. Braden were the appraisers. The value of the estate in Oakland is \$23,000, making a total valuation in the two counties of \$51,075.

**THE NEED OF WATER
GREATLY FELT BY MANY**

A gentleman down from the Yankee Hill region said to us last evening that orchards, little vineyards and vegetable gardens about Cherokee, Big Bend and Yankee Hill were dying from a lack of water. When the water in the Cherokee ditch was sold and taken over to the Magalla ridge these gardens and orchards began to droop for the lack of moisture. Some water can be obtained in Concow valley, and this has been used to run the mines about Cherokee, but not enough could be spared for irrigation.

There has been some talk that the people would get together and try and rebuild the dam in Concow so as to catch and retain the water in the big reservoir.

The gentleman alluded to said that water could be held there to supply the owners of places with water during the summer. He understood that the dam would not be expensive and that there was considerable discussion about rebuilding it.

MOUNTAIN RESIDENTS

Who Neglect a Rare Opportunity

OF MAKING MONEY IN RAISING HAY

Although Hay is Hauled to the Mountains During the Summer, There are Thousands of Acres of Land Sutable for the Raising of Hay.

Almost daily during the summer and fall one can see teams passing through Oroville with huge loads of baled hay. The teams are bound for Hurleton, Forbestown, Clipper Mills, La Porte, Gibsonville, and other mountain towns. The hay brings a high price, owing to the cost of freight by wagon.

There are thousands of acres of land on the mountain ridges that will produce good hay. There is an abundance of water to irrigate the land. Most of the people on the mountain ridges have small tracts cleared of timber and planted to fruit, to vegetables or to grain hay, but it is difficult to name a single one who grows hay on a large scale for market.

Here is an opportunity that has long been overlooked or neglected. It will not do to say it won't pay, because the price of hay in the hills is always good. It will not do to assume that the hay cannot be produced, for the land is good and will produce almost anything.

Too many men in the mountains have been miners and hated to till the soil. It takes hard work to clear land where it is covered with heavy timber, and most of those who own land have been content with getting a few acres into bearing shape. Fifty acres of alfalfa in the hills would prove a fortune to any man.



WELL KNOWN CHARACTER RESIDES AT YANKEE HILL

Uncle Billy Rudd, as he is familiarly called, is quite a well known-character at Yankee Hill. He is now 79 years old, is a veteran of the Mexican war, and lives upon a pension of \$12 a month which he receives from the Government. He owns a claim and a little cabin, which is kept in good order. He does his own work, cooks his own meals, and lives alone in his happy little home.

A gentleman familiar with his habits says he drops into the store or post-office or hotel during the forenoon and usually manages to find a few cronies who like himself are fond of pedro. They get up a game and generally have about time to finish it before the mail arrives from Oroville.

He was twenty-one years of age when he enlisted in the Mexican war, in 1846. He is hale and hearty, and bears the weight of years well.

An Indian woman, wife of a Mexican, lives near Yankee Hill, and like Mr. Rudd, draws a pension from the Government.

MEETING OF REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

The newly elected Republican County Central Committee will meet today at 11 a. m. at the office of B. L. McCoy, in the Bank of Oroville building.

Germany is overrun with physicians, there being one to every 800 people. It is estimated that 46 per cent of the doctors at Berlin have a taxable income of less than \$700, and that 5 per cent have no income at all.

Regular Saturday night dance at EAGLE HALL.

A RARE CHANCE

For a Resident of the Concow Section

TO DRAW A MUNIFICENT SALARY

The Postoffice at Concow is Open to New Postmaster, as the Present Occupant is Weary of Drawing the Fabulous Salary of \$1.00 a Week.

We are told that the post-office at Concow is open to a new postmaster if anyone wants the job. It pays the munificent sum of \$1.00 a week, and the present postmaster is, so we are informed, tired of drawing such a salary for the duties performed. He wants to resign, but the Government has not been able to find anyone who is anxious to be appointed. There is one gentleman in the neighborhood who would accept the duties and emoluments of the position except for one thing. The mail arrives each day during the week except Sunday. Now the gentleman in question is a Seventh Day Adventist and holds sacred Saturday, so he don't want to have an office where he will be obliged to attend to work on that day. In the meantime people are wondering whether the office will have to be closed or whether a resident can be induced to attend to it for the sum of \$1.00 a week.



**PROSPECTOR'S GOOD LUCK
AT YANKEE HILL**

J. M. McClung, who was down from Oroville yesterday, told of a lucky find made at Yankee Hill, about twenty miles from that place, a day or two ago.

The discovery was in the form of a pocket, and was made by a prospector named Jim Smith. Eight hundred dollars' worth of the yellow metal was taken from one spot in almost less time than it requires to tell about it. Mr. Smith came to Oroville yesterday morning with his treasure, and Mr. McClung states that it was one of the prettiest sights he ever fixed his eyes on. The gold was mostly in large leaves, almost the size of a man's hand. As the leaves were thin it weighed light, and there was almost two hatfuls of it. That brought into town amounted in value to about \$800, and when Mr. Smith came away from the pocket he left two men with Winchesters guarding the hole.

Yankee Hill and vicinity is a famous pocket hunting district, but the present find is one of the largest made for some time.—Marysville Appeal.

PEOPLE VS. H. WRIGHT

Now on Trial for the Sec-
ond Time

A JURY OBTAINED
ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Defendant is on Trial for the Killing
of Henry Farley Several Months
Ago—On the First Trial He Was
Convicted, but Got a New Trial.

The case of Bert Wright will come up to-day in the Superior Court for trial, as the jury has been selected and witnesses will be put on the stand to-day.

As there are some twenty or thirty witnesses, the case will probably take several days.

Some of our readers, even among the local ones, may not be familiar with this case, so we briefly state the essential facts.

Henry Farley and wife had separated while they were living at Concow Valley. Mr. Farley owned a mine on the North Fork of Feather river, and had sold or was about to sell the same. He had made arrangements to go East. His wife and children were living in a house he had rented at one time, but for which his wife was at the time of the homicide paying rent. He had left some things there and had been there once or twice to see the children.

He had been jealous of the defendant in this case for some time, and both Mrs. Farley and Mr. Wright knew this. Farley had made some threats against Wright, and the latter had cause to fear Farley would carry his threats into execution.

Oroville Daily Register
11-16-1904

On the day of the killing Wright had come to the house about supper time and Mrs. Farley had asked him to stay to supper. He consented to do so, and it was while they were eating that Mr. Farley came to the house.

The family were in the kitchen and when Mr. Farley came to the front door Mrs. Farley went into the parlor and met him. She came back a moment later, telling Wright it was her husband. Farley came to the door, where he could see Wright, and then went to his son's room to get a gun. His son ran in to try and prevent any trouble, but his father threw him off, and made a threat at the moment against Wright.

The latter got his gun and went out of doors, but Farley fired at him from a corner of the house, and Wright returned the fire, fatally wounding Far-

ley, who died in a few moments.

On the first trial Wright was convicted, and was sentenced to prison. From that sentence he appealed, and the Supreme Court sent back the case for a second trial, which is now under way.

The following gentlemen compose the jury in the second trial of Wright: A. S. Rehl, W. Hedge, R. H. Whittors, A. B. Savage, C. M. Powell, T. W. Green, F. H. Cliffman, A. A. Curtis, J. W. Summey, E. March, R. D. Chester, J. Rasmussen.

**DREDGERS CAN WORK
ANY OLD PLACE**

When the dredger field was opened near this town it was confidently asserted that the tract where dredgers could work to advantage was limited. There was only a certain district where the big boats would work the sand and gravel. This was changed greatly when some new tracts were tested. The El Oro showed that land on the bluff could be worked, and then a new aspect was put on the face of dredger mining.

Recently a good deal of land south of town has been put under bonds, and if the sale for the same goes on, there will be dredgers built to work the lands on the Morrissey tract, on the Bevins tract and on the land of Henry Downing, together with several other pieces.

Some of the land is so high that it will be necessary to work the tracts in sections. One dredger will be on the ground floor, as it were, another in the second story, and a third on the roof garden.

It would be a curious sight to see three dredgers, one at the base and another half way up, while the third was on top of a hill, and all working, digging for gold.

At this rate all the bald hills south of Oroville and almost down to Palermo is liable to become dredging ground.

PEOPLE VS.

H. WRIGHT

Occupies Attention of Superior Court

WITNESSES ARE NOW
BEING EXAMINED

Eight Witnesses Were Examined Yesterday, Among Them Being County Surveyor Polk, Dr. E. A. Kusel, and a Son of the Murdered Man.

The case of People vs. Wright occupied the attention of the Superior Court all day yesterday. Eight witnesses were placed on the stand. These were County Surveyor Polk, who had drawn a plan of the residence and of the grounds where the tragedy took place. The second witness was Dr. E. A. Kusel, who was called to examine the body, and who testified as to the wounds that had been inflicted. Other witnesses were Joseph Miller, ex-Sheriff Wilson, Justice of the Peace Frank Spencer, and three others. The principal witness was Joe Farley, a son of the deceased. His testimony was practically the same as given at the former trial.



IN HANDS OF JURY

Wright Case Finished and Jury Retired

TO DELIBERATE
UPON THE CASE

There is a Vast Difference of Opinion as to What Will be the Verdict, They Ranging from Conviction, Disagreement, to Acquittal.

The case of the People vs. H. Wright is now in the hands of the jury and we take it for granted that what we say this morning will not be seen or read by the jurors until after they have decided upon their verdict. In all probability the jury will have decided the case before this is in press.

There are two sides to this case, as there are to most cases in court, and the friends of the defendant see but one side, while others see a different view of it.

Those who are not close to the defendant either by ties of blood or are warm friends, look upon the case with fairly unprejudiced eyes, and it is these that we refer to in saying they see two sides to the case.

One side says Mr. Wright had broken up the family ties of the deceased and his wife. He had followed the wife for years. He was infatuated with the woman. He had sought her society upon every possible occasion. According to the testimony of Mrs. Farley he had been to her a true friend. He had helped her and the children in time of need. He had been warned away from the house more than once by Mr. Farley, and he had slipped away from the place once or twice when Farley came home. Those who look at it in this light say that the husband had a right to protect his family and that Wright had no business to be about the place.

Now on the other hand, there are many who see things in a different light. They say Farley and his wife had separated. He had refused to pay rent for the house. He was doing nothing to support Mrs. Farley or the children. Wright had a perfect right to come there and to stay there. When he saw Farley with a gun in his hands and knew that he had threatened to kill him more than once, and when he heard his threat of "Now I've got you," etc., he was justified in shooting in self-defense. One side says Wright could have gotten away. The other side says he had to run in the past and there was no need of his trying to dodge Farley any longer.

One side says it was Farley's house,

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

WRIGHT CASE NOW IN HANDS OF JURY

(Continued from First Page.)

Farley's wife, Farley's family, and the other side says it was nothing of the kind. They were separated. He, Farley, was going to leave and go East. It was not his house, and the woman was no longer his wife. The defendant was there for supper on the invitation of Mrs. Farley. He had come for his washing, and she had invited him to remain for supper.

He had a right to remain, and if Farley caught up a gun and tried to shoot him, the defendant, then Wright was justified in firing the fatal shot.

We are not trying to take sides. We are trying to place both sides before our readers. To set forth the facts the jurymen have before them, and from which they must deduce the truth and arrive at a verdict. This verdict, if not already rendered ere this matter has gone to press, will probably be rendered within a few hours. As the lawyers would say, it is up to the jurors, they must now decide the case.

H. WRIGHT CONVICTED

Oroville Daily Register
11-25-1904

He Was Found Guilty of Manslaughter

JURY WAS OUT
ABOUT 47 HOURS

Sentence Will be Imposed on the Con-
demned Man on Tuesday Next—
Case May be Appealed to the
Higher Court.

The second trial of Hurlburt Wright has ended in another conviction, as on the previous trial, being found guilty on a charge of manslaughter.

On the former trial Wright was found guilty, and sentenced by Judge Gray to ten years in States Prison. The case was appealed, and the Supreme Court reversed the decision of the lower Court and sent the case back for re-trial, on the ground that certain evidence should not have been allowed to be introduced on the trial.

It was generally supposed that a new trial with this evidence cut out would be an acquittal, but the prosecution labored hard, and put up a case that has again resulted in the conviction of Wright, which will probably settle the affair, although Attorney Duncan, who has ably defended Wright, has announced that there is yet a possibility of him appealing the case to a higher Court. This, no doubt, will depend a good deal on the sentence inflicted upon Wright when he comes up before the Court next Tuesday to receive the same.

The jury remained out to deliberate upon a verdict from 6 o'clock Tuesday night until 11 o'clock Thursday forenoon, coming in for instructions on Wednesday morning at 10:55, and saying they had not agreed. They asked if Mrs. Farley had ever testified that she had thrown up Farley's gun. They also asked for the law on self-defense.

The jury was out about forty-seven hours before arriving at a verdict, balloting standing 7 for conviction and 5 for acquittal at first, but finally the minority were won over.

The verdict was a decided victory for the able prosecution of District Attorney Sexton and his deputy, Guy R. Kennedy of Chico, and it seems to meet with general approval.

H. R. WRIGHT SENTENCED

To Serve a Term of Eight
Years

IN STATE PRISON
BY JUDGE GRAY

W. E. Duncan, Attorney for Defendant, Gave Notice That He Would Again Appeal the Case to the Supreme Court.

The following is a record of the proceedings had in the Superior Court on Tuesday morning at the time of the passing of sentence upon H. R. Wright, convicted of manslaughter in the killing of Farley:

In the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Butte.

Proceedings had in the above Court on the morning of November 29, 1904. Hon. John C. Gray, presiding.

Court was called to order at 10 o'clock a. m., and there were present Bailiff George Morse, Deputy Clerk C. F. Belding, District Attorney Warren Sexton, representing the People; and W. E. Duncan, Jr., representing H. R. Wright, this being the day set for passing of sentence upon the latter, who had been convicted on the 24th day of November, 1904, of the crime of manslaughter. The said defendant, H. R. Wright, was also present, and occupied a seat beside his counsel.

The Court—What have you for this morning, Mr. District Attorney?

Mr. Sexton—If your honor please, the sentencing of H. R. Wright, convicted of manslaughter on the 24th day of November, 1904, is set for this date.

The Court (to the defendant, H. R. Wright)—You may stand up. (Defendant arises.)

The Court—An information was filed against you by the District Attorney of the County of Butte, State of California, charging you with the crime of murder; upon that charge you went to trial before a Jury of your own selection, and that Jury returned a verdict of "Guilty of Manslaughter." An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of the State of California, and

the judgment of this Court was reversed and the case sent back for a new trial. Upon the new trial you were tried for the crime of manslaughter before a Jury of your own selection; that Jury, after listening to the evidence, the argument of counsel, and the instructions of the Court, returned their verdict charging that you were guilty of the crime of manslaughter; and have you now any legal reason to show why the sentence of the Court should not be pronounced against you?

Mr. Duncan—I would at this time like to present our motion for a new trial. (Reads:)

"In the Superior Court of the County of Butte, State of California.

"The People of the State of California vs. Hurlburt R. Wright, Defendant.

To the Honorable, the Superior Court of the County of Butte, State of California.

"In the above entitled action, the defendant, Hurlburt R. Wright, files this, his motion for a new trial therein, and doth hereby demand a new trial of said action upon the following grounds, viz:

"First: That the said Superior Court has misdirected the Jury in matters of law.

"Second: That the said Superior Court has erred in the decisions of questions of law arising during the course of the trial of said action.

"Third: That the verdict in said action is contrary to law.

"Fourth: That the verdict in said action is contrary to the evidence therein.

"Fifth: That the verdict in said action shows that the Jury has been guilty of misconduct by which a fair and due consideration of the case was prevented.

"Sixth: Misconduct on the part of the District Attorney and the Assistant District Attorney in the course of the trial, and in their arguments to the Jury, by which defendant was deprived of a fair trial.

(Signed) "W. E. DUNCAN,
"Attorney for Defendant."

"Due service and receipt of the foregoing motion for a new trial admitted this 29th day of November, 1904.

(Signed) "WARREN SEXTON,
"District Attorney."

Mr. Duncan—You will please file that motion for a new trial.

The Court—Do you wish to argue the motion?

Mr. Duncan—No, sir.

The Court—If not, the motion for a new trial will be denied.

Mr. Duncan—We except.

Mr. Duncan—I will now present this motion in arrest of judgment. (Reads:)

"In the Superior Court of the County of Butte, State of California.

"The People of the State of California vs. Hurlburt R. Wright, Defendant.

"To the Honorable, the Superior Court of the County of Butte, State of California.

"In the above entitled action the defendant therein doth now file this, his motion in arrest of judgment, and in that behalf demands that no judgment be rendered on the verdict of "guilty," and bases this motion upon the following grounds:

"That the facts stated in the information on file in this action do not constitute a public offense.

Wherefore, the defendant demands that no judgment be entered or rendered on said verdict of guilty in said action. That judgment therein be ordered arrested, and that he be discharged from custody.

(Signed) "W. E. DUNCAN,
"Attorney for Defendant."

"Due service and receipt of copy of the foregoing notice is admitted this 29th day of November, 1904.

(Signed) "WARREN SEXTON,
"District Attorney."

Mr. Duncan—Mr. Clerk, you will please file that motion in arrest of judgment.

The Court—The motion in arrest of judgment will also be denied.

Mr. Duncan—Exception.

Mr. Duncan—If the Court please, I have here a recommendation from the Jury which served at this trial in the following terms:

"To the Honorable John C. Gray, Judge of the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Butte:

"We, the undersigned members of the Jury, respectfully recommend the defendant in the case of The People against H. R. Wright to the merciful consideration of the Court.

(Signed)

"A. A. Curtiss, P. H. Chiffman, J. C. Rasmussen, A. B. Savage, R. Chester, C. M. Powell, O. W. Swinney, R. H. Whitters, E. March, A. S. Richl, J. W. Hedge; Thos. W. Green, foreman."

Mr. Duncan—That, if your Honor will notice, constitutes the entire membership of the Jury. This recommendation for mercy was signed with a great deal of cheerfulness by all the Jurors excepting one man, who took a little time to investigate into the legal aspect of the matter, and then he signed. Of course, it is entirely

within the discretion of the Court in fixing punishment; but I would call to your Honor's attention that the defendant has already been in jail for some sixteen months, and that prior to the time of this trouble he has borne a character above reproach. Whether the verdict is proper or improper, it certainly cannot be denied that there are many mitigating circumstances in the matter. Of course, on the question of guilt, we are not permitted to touch upon at this time, but in view of the fact that the defendant has heretofore been a good law-abiding citizen of this County, that should count in his favor. Even admitting that he did fire after Mr. Farley had turned from him, the circumstances are certainly sufficient to mitigate his crime in the eyes of the law, because men acting under those conditions do not act with a calm deliberation and the cool consideration as people in ordinary and quieter moments exercise. It would seem to me that this would be a very proper case for leniency to be extended, and I therefore ask, with the Jury, for the extreme leniency of this Court.

The Court (To the defendant)—Stand up. (Defendant stands up.)

The Court—No legal cause or reason having been shown why the sentence of the Court should not now be pronounced upon you, it remains for this Court to pronounce the judgment of the law and the sentence within the jurisdiction of this Court now to pronounce. Your counsel has presented a recommendation of the Jury for mitigation of the sentence; that Jury returned their verdict into this Court, and when they were polled each Juror was asked if that was his verdict, after listening to the verdict read by the Clerk, and each emphatically replied that it was. After they were discharged, it seems they signed a paper which has been read here this morning. When they signed that paper they were no longer a Jury, or acting under oath, and were no longer acting between the People of the State of California on the one hand, and you, the defendant, on the other, but were the same as other people here, in and about the court-house, and as such, signed that paper. You know, and we all know, how easy it is to get signatures to almost any kind of a petition; but you see when they were acting judicially and under the sanctity of an oath, they presented no such paper as that. However, it does seem to me that the first Jury who tried you extended to you about all mercy and leniency that you could expect to receive at the hands of any twelve fair and impartial men. The Jury who tried your case last seemed to be unusually fair, clear-minded and dispassionate men, who used in the discharge of their duty more than a usual amount of fairness and good judgment, and attention to the evidence that was given to them.

I shall take into consideration the fact that you have been once incarcerated in jail and have spent some year and a half in there.

The judgment of the Court is that you be confined in the State Prison of the State of California at San Quentin for the term of eight years.

You are now remanded to the custody of the Sheriff.

Mr Duncan—I now present my notice of appeal from the order denying a new trial. (Reads:)

"In the Superior Court of the County of Butte, State of California.

"The People of the State of California vs. Hurlburt R. Wright, Defendant.

"Notice is hereby given that the defendant in the above entitled action now appeals to the Supreme Court of the State of California from the order of said Superior Court of Butte County in said action denying defendant's motion for a new trial therein.

"This appeal is taken on questions of law alone.

Respectfully,

(Signed) "W. E. DUNCAN,

"Attorney for Defendant.

"The People of the State of California, to the District Attorney of the County of Butte, and to the said Superior Court of the County of Butte.

"Due service and receipt of a copy of the foregoing notice of appeal admitted this 29th day of November, 1904.

(Signed) "WARREN SEXTON,

"District Attorney of the County of Butte."

Mr. Duncan—I shall also present at this time our notice of appeal from judgment of conviction. (Reads:)

"In the Superior Court of the County of Butte, State of California.

"The People of the State of California vs. Hurlburt R. Wright, Defendant.

"Notice is hereby given you that the defendant in the above entitled action now appeals to the Supreme Court of the State of California from the final judgment of conviction rendered by said Superior Court of Butte County in said action.

"This appeal is taken on questions of law alone.

"Respectfully,

(Signed) "W. E. DUNCAN,

"Attorney for Defendant.

"To the People of the State of California; to the District Attorney of the County of Butte, and to said Superior Court of the County of Butte.

"Due service and receipt of a copy of the foregoing notice of appeal from judgment of conviction admitted this 29th day of November, 1904.

(Signed) "WARREN SEXTON,

"District Attorney of the County of Butte."

Mr. Duncan—I have here a certificate of probable cause, which I will read at this time:

"In the Superior Court of the County of Butte, State of California.

"The People of the State of California vs. Hurlburt R. Wright, Defendant.

"In the above entitled action, the defendant therein, having appealed to the Supreme Court of the State of California from the final judgment of said Superior Court, convicting him of the crime of manslaughter, and from the order of the said Superior Court denying said defendant's motion for a new trial in said action:

"Now, therefore, on motion of defendant's attorney, I, the Judge of said Superior Court, hereby certify that in my opinion there is probable cause for each of said appeals.

(Signed) "JOHN C. GRAY,

"Judge of the Superior Court of the County of Butte."

"BATTLING NELSON"
DEFEATS "YOUNG CORBETT"

SAN FRANCISCO, November 29.—The glove contest between Young Corbett and Battling Nelson drew a large crowd to Woodward's Pavilion to night.

Corbett was a favorite in the betting at odds of 1 to 2.

The fight was fast and furious, but Nelson demonstrated his staying qualities by being declared victor in the tenth round.

Large sums of money changed hands.

Keep warm by one of those Air-Tight Stoves for sale by C. L. Bills. *

Best of feed and care for your horses at T. C. Lee's Stable. *

Don't fail to examine Wilson's stock of Haviland China. *

Have your Bicycle Repaired at Anthony's. *

Feed your horses at the Fashion Stables. *

Citrus Laundry does the finest work. *

Oroville Daily Mercury

12-5-1904

The name, Thunen's Cyclery, would lead one to think that the place of business was devoted to selling and repairing bicycles. Such is not the case. A large stock of sporting goods of all kinds is carried, in fact, one of the best in Northern California. Thunen Bros. are fine mechanics and do general repair work.

**THE OILING OF
COUNTRY ROADS**

The State Board of Roads and Highways reports that there are 2223 miles of oiled roads in California. The Board is of the opinion that oiling can be so managed as finally to produce a solid bitumen surface on country roads, that will answer all the purposes served by bituminized streets in cities. Observers of oiled roads know that to do this requires methods of application that will tamp the road material thoroughly. The ability of bituminous oils to combine with water seems to cause the roads to fail in wet weather. The oil runs off with the water and leaves behind mud. It should be possible however to make the tampings so solid that a hard surface, shedding water, could be constructed.

To effect this is the purpose of the board. Its report on the subject suggests the same attention to foundation that city streets require. The bituminous rock, which is found only in California, is a natural product. It was made by the crude oil flowing upon ancient sand beaches or beds, just as it is now flowing out upon the bottom sand of the ocean from Santa Maria channel southward. It tamped the sand soundly and formed the hard material as it is now found. Applying oil to a road surface is an artificial substitute for this natural process, and if properly done will secure the same result, in a compact, waterproof and enduring surface.

The subject is of much interest as to justify all the care given to it by the Board of Roads and Highways. In the first place our long dry season causes dusty roads that detract from the comfort of those who use or live near them. The deep dust also increases the pull in hauling loads over them, which is an economic loss. The same power will haul twice the load over a road roadbed. The crude oil in abundance already developed and vast reservoirs that are untapped we have. Any additional economic use of this oil is a gain for one of our heaviest mineral industries, and the State makes double gain, in good roads and a profit on one of its natural products. The board will get much light upon the matter of proportion of oil to sand by analysis of the bituminous rock which nature mixed exactly right.—S. F. Call.

Oroville Mercury
12-7-1904

C. W. McGaughey
— DENTIST —



Office over L. McG Bennett's Drug
Store, Montgomery St., Oroville

IMPORTANT TRANSFER

Made to the Eureka Power
Company

BY BIG BEND
TUNNEL COMPANY

Of the Big Bend Tunnel, Water Rights,
Locations, Etc., and Nearly 4000
Acres of Land—The Greatest
Water Power in America.

On the records of the County Recorder there appeared an item yesterday that at first sight might not be fully appreciated.

The Big Bend Tunnel Company deeded to the Eureka Power Company the water rights and land at Big Bend. The water right is one of the greatest on the western coast of America. The whole flow of the main Feather river can be taken from its bed and carried through a solid berrock tunnel and made use of for generating power. This would lay bare the bed of the stream for some twelve or fourteen miles, throwing the volume of water through this tunnel and giving an immense power at the lower end of the tunnel.

There are in connection with the water rights almost 4000 acres of land.

While neither the name of the Northern California Mining Company nor H. H. Yard appears in the transaction, there are some grounds to believe Mr. Yard is interested in the move.

It is believed by some that the vast power locations that have been selected along the Feather mean that when the Western Pacific is constructed the road up the river will be an electrical one. There is an abundance of water power and streams that would generate the power rush down the mountain in numerous places and fall into the Feather. The Feather itself in several places would also furnish an immense power.

The fact that unusual efforts are being made to reduce the grade of the new railroad to one per cent gives some suggestion, too, that electric power will be used.

DREDGE MINING

Great Amount of Work Being Done in

THIS DISTRICT BY
THE VARIOUS DREDGES

Twenty-seven Are Now at Work, and
One New One Is Being Built—
Enormous Amount of Electric
Power Necessary for the Boats.

Unless one keeps run of the amount of work being done in this district he is hardly aware of the extensive dredger mining now being carried on in this locality. There are twenty-seven dredgers now at work, and one new one is being built.

These dredgers require 130 electric horse-power day and night to run them. When the dredgers began working here they were run by steam, and wood had to be hauled long distances in order to supply the demand. Each dredge required during the twenty-four hours five cords of four-foot wood, so that to run the twenty-seven boats now in operation here it would have taken 135 cords of wood each day.

Each boat digs from 1500 to 2500 cubic yards a day, so that the boats taken together may be estimated to average 2000 yards a day. This would be then in round number 54,000 cubic yards a day.

A man with a pick and shovel can average about ten cubic yards a day. It would be possible then for 200 men moving earth only a few feet to do as much work in a day as a dredge. If such is the fact, then it would take 5400 men to move as much dirt in a day as the dredgers move here.

Most miners will say that if the dirt had to be moved the same distance that a dredger moves it the estimate for the men would have to be cut down greatly, so that it would take quite an army of men to move the same amount of material.

The electric power to supply these dredgers all comes from the Bay Counties Power Company, and this company supplies five shops and four pumping stations besides.

Without stopping to look up the data we think that each horse-power is estimated to be equal to eight men, and each steam or electric horse-power equal to three actual horses. Thus one steam or electric horse-power is the equivalent of twenty-four men, so that the 130 horse-power for a dredge would be equal to the labor of 1120 men. Multiplying this by the number of dredgers in operation, and we would have the equivalent of 110,268 men to furnish as much power as the electric power supplied to these dredgers.

WESTERN PACIFIC

Will be Built Says President Bartnett

AND THAT, TOO, WITH
LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY

The Large Force of Engineers Now In
the Field All Rushing to Comple-
tion the Final Location Surveys
Between Oroville and Beckwith.

In a telegram received yesterday from Walter J. Bartnett president of the Western Pacific, who is now in New York, that official emphatically denies the recently published rumors from Wall Street to the effect that closer relations between the Harriman and Gould interests might prompt Gould to abandon the construction of the Western Pacific. President Bartnett declares that the story is absolutely without foundation and that the Western Pacific will be built. Moreover, his telegram declares that all engineering work is to be rushed to completion, and that a contract for the construction of the entire road has been arranged in New York with one of the leading railroad contracting firms in the country.

President Bartnett adds in his telegram that E. T. Jeffrey, president of the Denver and Rio Grande, who was recently elected a director of the Western Pacific, will be elected vice-president of the company at the next meeting of the board of directors. He concludes his telegram by saying:

"California will have its promised railroad with the least possible delay."

At the present time a large force of Western-Pacific engineers is engaged in rushing to completion the final location surveys for the road between Oroville and Beckwith Pass. Engineer Lorraine was at Oroville a few days ago organizing a party to begin work on the North Fork. Engineer Arnold and party, who have lately been engaged on a resurvey of Delaney canyon are now camped at Cromberg, and working westerly toward the proposed tunnel through the Lee Summit at the head of Spring Garden valley. Engineer Penfield and party are now encamped on the Johnson ranch in the eastern end of American valley and running lines up Greenhorn creek. Engineer Harlowe with a corps of surveyors is now working below Shoofly and proceeding toward 12-Mile Bar, and Engineer Norris and his party are proceeding from Big Bar toward Oroville. It is understood that three other engineering corps are to be put in the field.—S. F. Chronicle.

Oroville Mercury

12-10-1904

MADE THINGS QUITE LIVELY

A message was received late last night by Sheriff Chubbuck that Samuel W. Lewis was insane at the residence of his mother, near Paradise. The Sheriff sent Constable Reilly and George Boydston. They reached the place this morning and found Lewis tied to prevent his doing injury. On the way to Oroville the insane man had to be strapped securely. Bound as he was he struggled and fought so hard that the top of the surney was badly damaged. When he was brought to the jail he recognized Supervisor Fimple and began to cry. Mr. Fimple said he thought he would be quiet, to which Lewis agreed and he was unbound and taken to a cell.

Lewis is about 42 years of age and has a wife and family. He owns 320 acres of land on Clear Creek, near the Chico and Cherokee road. Supervisor Fimple for whom he has worked at different times, was surprised to see Lewis in this sad condition.

The domestic relations of Lewis were not entirely pleasant. About two weeks ago some very scandalous reports were circulated about him. These charges were investigated and found to be hard to prove. This may have preyed on his mind enough to destroy his reason. He is not addicted to drink nor is not known to be in financial difficulties.

Dec 15, 1904

Oroville

Mercury

OROVILLE, BUTTE COUNTY, CAL., THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 15, 1904.

CHEROKEE.

There will be a dance in Cherokee Christmas Eve.

Charles Wilson has built himself a cabin on the site of the old Haggerty house.

Disri Bloom has returned to Cherokee after an absence of six or seven years. He has worked in mines pretty much all over the State since he left.

Fred Jones of Sherman county, Oregon, is renewing acquaintance with the scenes of his old home. He was called by the death of his mother, the late Mrs. Thomas R. Jones, but was unfortunately delayed and did not arrive before the funeral.

If the late Bismark were not in his grave President Roosevelt might expect to receive a cablegram saying "Bravo, old man! It's right you are," or something to that effect. The paragraph in the President's message giving his disapproval of mail carriers banding together to defeat candidates for Congress who will not pledge themselves to raise the compensation of the letter carriers to a decent figure would pass for the work of the Iron Chancellor himself. It is difficult to see why letter carriers should not have the same right as the rest of us to vote for a candidate who will endeavor to see that they get justice and persuade as many as possible to join them for his success. How can they know that the candidate refuses to help them get better pay because he cannot "conscientiously" do so? And why should they not work to defeat a candidate with a warped conscience? But the people apparently like the President's autocratic ways or they would not have given him such an overwhelming majority of votes last month.

Wm. Thunen.

Cherokee, December 12.

Oroville Daily Register

12-27-1904

DRIVES AWAY A

FIERCE BEAST

PENTZ, Dec. 26.—Mrs. J. G. Curtis, who resides two miles above here, had an encounter with a bob cat which she does not care to repeat, although she put the wild animal to flight and proved her courage in doing so.

Mrs. Curtis was at home with her children, when she heard something in her chicken house. She suspected that some wild animal was making a feast of her fowls, but was not in the least frightened, and started to investigate.

On the way she picked up a 2x4 post about three feet long. When she opened the door she was confronted by a bob cat, full grown and full of fight. She landed on him with the club, but he kept on killing chickens. She landed a few more times and the animal then thought it time to let up on killing chickens and try to dispatch his aggressor.

The beast made a lunge at Mrs. Curtis, but was immediately downed. Again and again he tried to reach her but each time she stood her ground and downed the ferocious beast.

Finally the animal evidently concluded he was getting the worst of the encounter, for he made a leap, going clear over Mrs. Curtis's head. He landed on the outside of the chicken house, after which he hurried to the woods.

Mrs. Curtis counted her chickens and found that thirteen had been killed by the intruder.

These animals, which are more savage than the wild cat, are very numerous here, and many have been killed with guns, but Mrs. Curtis is the first one who has dared to tackle one with no other weapon than a club. And she does not care to repeat her experience.