

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

Miss Ella Leonard was burned to death at Los Angeles, Cal., on Thursday, through the bursting of a gasoline stove. The house was also set on fire and \$7,000 worth of property destroyed.

When a clerk of the postoffice at Tucson, A. T., emptied the mail box at the corner of Meyer and Congress streets recently, he found between two letters a huge tarantula, about four inches from tip to tip.

A man at Julian, Cal., has been making a collection of rattlesnake rattles since he took up his residence there twenty-three years ago, and has accumulated over 400, besides a large number which he has given away.

The Shasta, Cal., squaws who work in the hop fields are reported to have donned bloomers. At least they use overalls as a substitute for the baggy garments. It is said they got their idea from the city visitors at northern summer resorts.

Arizona has supplied the Kansas City market during the last year with 25,770 sheep, an increase over last year of 18,923. The industry is confined principally to the mountainous section of the territory, and is an important part of Arizona's live stock trade.

At Roseburg (Oregon), Wednesday night, two masked highwaymen ordered William Pearl, who was walking along the road, to throw up his hands, but before he could do so one of the robbers shot him in the hip, inflicting a serious wound. The robbers took what money he had and left him by the roadside. When found he was almost dead from loss of blood.

One evening last week a supposed bat flew into the room of George Gross, at Sonora, Cal., and, after circling around a time or two, flew at Mr. Gross and fastened itself upon her neck. It was knocked off and put in a box. Later it was examined while in the box, as it could not be taken out because of its savage disposition, and proved to be a large vampire.

Milton Wilson, a well-known farmer living near Halsey, Oregon, was driving home from church with his family Sunday, when his team became frightened, and, running away, threw the occupants of the carriage out. Mr. Wilson received injuries from which he died next morning. Mrs. Wilson is not expected to live, and the little daughters were also seriously injured.

Advices from Alaska state that six natives at Fort Clarence engaged in an encounter and four were killed. One man, who had a dispute with another in relation to the division of a seal which both claimed to have killed, deliberately took an ax and chopped his adversary's head off as he was coming through an open door. The other three men were killed by shooting and stabbing.

An attempted hold-up, which occurred about 3 o'clock Monday morning on the Creek road above Lost Gator, Cal., has just come to light. Walter Ricky was returning home from a party, when he was accosted by a stranger who commanded him to throw up his hands. Ricky attacked

the highwayman and a desperate encounter ensued which resulted in the robber being thrown over the grade. Ricky came out of the struggle somewhat bruised, but he kept his purse.

At Albuquerque (N. M.), Thursday, one of the most prominent traders among the Navajo Indians, Colonel J. R. Campbell, was struck by lightning at noon and killed. He conducted a frontier trading store about 150 miles west of the city and was walking to his place after doing some trading with several Indians, when vivid lightning followed by thunder occurred. Half an hour later an Indian found the dead body of the trader. The Indian continued on to Gallup and there informed the dead man's family.

Mark W. Harrington, late chief of the weather bureau at Washington City and professor of astronomy at the University of Michigan, has been elected president of the University of the State of Washington, and has been installed in the office. The State University of Washington has recently been placed in a position to make "splendid progress; it possesses a generous endowment of public lands, including a site of 350 acres in Seattle, magnificent new buildings, is scientifically equipped with the latest improved apparatus, and will open the year on September 3rd, with 500 students.

At an early hour Friday morning a messenger arrived from McDermitt, Nevada, bringing the news of the accidental shooting of Alfred Wilkinson of that place. The accident occurred yesterday morning at the camp of a hunting party near McDermitt. Mrs. Thomas Berry, of Wadsworth, Nev., who was one of the party, accidentally shot Mr. Wilkinson with a 22-caliber rifle. Small hopes were entertained of his recovery, as nearly twenty-four hours must elapse before the doctors could get there. Mr. Wilkinson is a prominent stock raiser and has a large family.

An Sam, who attended a funeral of Chin Yuen at San Jose, Cal., Wednesday was brought to the police station next day for committing an offense of a very novel nature. An Sam was one of the mourners. He says he was hungry and had a great desire for a piece of the baked hog which was left on the grave of the dead man. After the ceremonies at the cemetery the high priest from San Francisco had chanted his little piece and the men with the pompons had scared away the evil spirits, he procured a wheelbarrow and repaired to his fellow-countryman's grave and loaded his barrow with baked hog and other dainties. On his way home the owner of the wheelbarrow, from whom he had taken it, captured the Celestial.

Manti, Sanpete county *Sentinel*: The father of Mrs. Harmon Christensen, of Gunnison, wandered off a few days ago, and Marshal Metcalf informs us that when they found him in Antelope valley, the old gentleman was lying down on the open prairie and was black in the face. He says the man could not possibly endure it much longer, being as he was, exposed to the

sweltering hot sun, without water or food, and not even a hat to shade him. The old gentleman had undertaken a journey on foot to Manti, taking a bucket with him, fancying he had a cow at the Temple city which needed milking. His antics of late have been somewhat strange and of such a nature as to be annoying to neighbors.

George F. Ormsby, an agent of the Sociological and Reform League of Boston, has been spending several days in Portland, Oregon, and on the coast, investigating the resources and the advantages offered by the country to a colony of people seeking homes in the West. The aim of the Sociological and Reform League, Mr. Ormsby states, is to better the condition of mankind living in the crowded cities of the East. Mr. Ormsby states that the original aim of the society was the suppression of intemperance, but they found that it was impossible to effectually inculcate the principles of temperance and bring about any number of permanent reforms in this respect without combining the social improvement of the people they were attempting to reach.

Santa Clara Index: F. W. Burkholder, who owns a fifty-acre fruit farm on Santa Clara avenue, adjoining the Quito ranch, is of the opinion that prune raising is a very fair industry. He has twenty-seven acres in prunes, and the yield this year is of such excellent quality and size that he has been offered \$32.50 per ton for the entire crop. He refused the offer, however, as he dries all his own fruit, and expects to realize more from the dried product than he would from the green fruit at that figure. He estimates that there are 300 tons of fruit in the twenty-seven acres, which at the figure offered, \$32.50 per ton, would amount to \$9,750. This sum off of twenty-seven acres is doing quite well. The balance of his fifty acres is in apricots, of which he had forty-five tons this year. Last year his yield of apricots was 125 tons.

Glenwood Springs, Colo., Avalanche, Aug. 28: While the passenger on the Midland was standing in a cut north of Buena Vista, a boulder came crashing down the mountain side which was large enough to fill the entire cut, striking the train between the baggage and smoking cars, smashing one end of the baggage car to the side and splintering the smoker for about ten feet from the door, injuring three persons, one of them being a young man from New York who was on his way to California and who has since died. Fred Schram, of this city, was a passenger on the train and had a narrow escape from losing his life, having left the platform but ten seconds prior to the accident. He says had the train been in motion many persons would have been badly injured. The train was delayed several hours on account of the accident.

A case of Indian justice took place yesterday, which for neatness and dispatch furnishes an example which might be followed with considerable advantage by our own courts, says the Tempe, Arizona, *News* of Aug. 24th. It seems that a Pima Indian had stolen a quantity of wheat from a tribesman and had disposed of the grain to J. A. Ford, receiving \$1.50 for