

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

death, coupled with many other suspicious circumstances made her certain her husband had met with foul play in the Far North. Mr. Scala who for years has been a building contractor in Chicago, at first intended to take a trip around the world for his health, decided to go to the Klondike to develop a claim which he had purchased early in the year. Four days after leaving home he wrote to his wife that he had nearly \$4,000 in cash with him and would buy an outfit in Seattle and fit out an expedition to go up the Yukon river to his claim.

On his arrival in Seattle, Mr. Scala bought the steamer Alpha and purchased steam machinery for the purpose of facilitating the work of digging gold. He formed a party of twelve men for the invasion of the district.

The last letter Mrs. Scala received from her husband was written in St. Michaels, August 3rd.

In it Mr. Scala said he intended to leave for the Yukon valley in a few days, that he was well and strong. Two days later an anonymous letter was mailed from the same place to Mrs. Scala which imparted the information that her husband was sick. Three days after the receipt of this letter Mrs. Scala received from St. Michaels in the mail a strip of paper which simply read: "Your husband is dead."

As in the former letter no signature was attached and Mrs. Scala would not believe her husband was dead. She wrote to those of the party whom she knew, but did not receive an answer. Still hoping against hope she patiently waited for further particulars, firmly believing members of her husband's party would acquaint her with the sad news and the circumstances attendant upon his death if he had died.

Week after week passed without any word and Mrs. Scala made up her mind that her husband was either alive or had met with foul play. Saturday she received another peculiar letter from the Alaskan region. It purported to be from one of the party but he did not sign his name or give any address. The letter conveyed the news of Mr. Scala's death but gave an entirely different explanation.

The writer says that they left St. Michael in the Alpha and were caught in a terrible storm on the Yukon river a few days later, the steamer sprang a leak and the party had to take to the small boats. Within an hour after the steamer had been abandoned he said the small boats capsized and all but two of the party, including Scala, were drowned. The two survivors, the letter continued, were finally rescued and made their way to Rampart City, Alaska, the letter was postmarked from that city Sept. 25, and was received by Mrs. Scala on Saturday.

She, after showing the reporter the different letters she had received from the unknown parties regarding her husband's death, said:

"I am certain that some unscrupulous member of the party murdered my husband for his money and the mining outfit he purchased. If he did not meet with foul play why does not this man who wrote the letter sign his name and give an address. He says he would like me to send him enough money to get back to the city but he does not tell me where to send the money. The other note which I got a month ago was preceded by a letter saying he was sick. It certainly looks to me as if he had been murdered."

According to orders from division headquarters, the transport Indiana will sail for Manila tomorrow (Wednesday) with two battalions of the Twentieth Kansas regiment, and on Thursday the steamer Ohio will depart with the remaining battalions of the Washington volunteers.

Fred Carver, Company G, 51st Iowa, died at the general hospital, San Francisco, from pneumonia, following a phoid fever.

Denver Post, Oct. 26: W. L. White, the well-known Utah stockman, has 29 cars of cattle in the yards today that he shipped from Wasatch, Utah.

Lieut. Fred Baker of Company H, 51st Iowa, was married today (Tuesday) to Miss Monteith of Des Moines, who arrived on the overland train Monday night.

The citizens of Ione, Nev., have no fear of serious trouble with the Indians. Alarm is not felt by the Ruse river farmers, and notwithstanding threats, no outbreak is expected.

News has been received at St. Michaels that the steamer Abbie Rowe was not wrecked, as has been reported but has reached Golofnin bay. She was three weeks overdue.

The steamer Protection, the next to the last vessel to leave St. Michaels, Alaska this season, arrived in Seattle Monday night with seventy passengers and a small amount of gold dust.

There are at the Presidio 2,360 troops yet to be assigned to vessels for the trip to Manila. These will have to be divided among the Pennsylvania, Zealandia, Newport and City of Pueblo.

J. C. Carlson, an employee of the Western Woodenware company, Tacoma, Wash., was caught by a belt attached by a band saw and dashed to pieces Thursday afternoon. His right arm was torn off at the shoulder.

The tugs Golden Gate of San Francisco and C. C. Cherry of Seattle arrived at port Townsend Thursday night from the mouth of Copper river, Alaska, with seven passengers. Among them was M. J. Garretty of San Francisco, who has spent more than a year in a vain search for gold on Copper river.

Charles Britt, a recent arrival from Rocky Ford, Colo., met a frightful death Thursday in the Laytonville, Cal., flour mills. Britt in some unknown way was caught in the main shaft, his lower limbs ground to a pulp in the machinery. He lived for ten hours. Britt was 22 years of age and unmarried.

The transport steamer Ohio will come from the hands of the repairers this (Tuesday) evening and be ready to take on troops on Wednesday or Thursday. The Indiana, which has been loading for some days, will be ready at the same time, and both vessels will probably be on their way to Manila by the end of the week.

Vincent A. Ryan, whose wife was drowned Monday at Vallejo, Cal., is associate editor of the Tacoma, Wash., News, and is well known on the Pacific coast, having for years been connected with leading newspapers in California and Washington. Mrs. Ryan has been in bad health for a number of years, and was under treatment at a sanitarium in California.

Police Judge Conlan, of San Francisco, has refused to surrender to the military authorities Private John Whitton, of the Tennessee volunteers, who was charged with assaulting a woman in her own home. The judge said the guardhouse had no terrors for such a man, and he proposed to make an example of him. Whitton was convicted.

The steamship Tacoma of the North-Pacific steamship company was formally transferred from British to

American registry with her home port at Tacoma, Monday. Five thousand people stood on Ocean dock to listen to speeches on the significance of the event, and to see the British ensign lowered and the Stars and Stripes take its place.

Pardo Lucero, whose age, as shown by the records of the missions of Los Angeles and Soledad, was 125 years, is dead at the county hospital, Salinas, Cal. He came from Senora, Mexico, and for the last 75 years was well known in that part of the state. He worked as a sheep herder for David Jacks, the Monterey millionaire, for about forty years. He leaves a sister in Mexico.

Orders have been issued by General Merriam assigning for transportation to Manila on the Zealandia Col. W. C. Smith, headquarters, staff, band, non-commissioned staff and seven companies of the first Tennessee regiment. The number of officers is limited to thirty-one and men to 550. The vessel which has begun to take on her freight, is docked at the Pacific street wharf. She may sail Sunday.

Horace B. Miller, aged 59, a native of Pennsylvania, has died at his residence in Brown's Valley, Cal., of heart failure. Mr. Miller was a member of the Pittsburg commandery of Masons and of the G. A. R. During the civil war he was with Farragut at the opening of the Mississippi river, ranking with Dewey and with Watson. Later he conducted the American Machinist, an influential newspaper of New York City.

The vault in the First National bank San Francisco, used by John Wolf of the Wolf-Wooden company, who mysteriously disappeared two months ago, was opened Friday. It was found to be empty and money and securities amounting to \$10,000 belonging to the Sarah M. Pearson estate, of which Wolf was executor, are now missing. Wolf was supposed to have met with foul play in Oregon, but later on was seen in Chicago.

A large number of transactions have been made in sheep during the past week by Carbon county, Wyo., sheepmen. Saturday Carson & Miller sold and delivered 5,000 head of two-year-old wethers at \$3.50 a head. R. Brackenbury shipped 1,000 head of sheep to the Denver market Tuesday. I. C. Miller shipped twenty-two cars of feeders from Rock Creek Saturday to his feeding pens in Nebraska. Shippers are experiencing difficulty in getting cars for stock shipment.

The Butte Miner says: Another mysterious murder has been committed there. Some time since last Saturday a man, who was evidently a tramp, and whose identity will probably never be known, was shot to death in a box car standing on the Great Northern transfer tracks near the High Ore No. 2 mine. The murdered man had been dead at least thirty-six hours before his body was discovered shortly before noon yesterday. No clue that will lead to the capture of the murderer has yet been discovered.

The grand jury, Oakland, Cal., made its report Thursday afternoon. It was sensational, charging irregularities of the most flagrant kind. A charge was made that Frank T. Thwaites, now dead, had fraudulently drawn about \$20,000 from the county treasury by "raising" the amounts of his warrants. He was stenographer in the district at-