

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

cheerfully, "I shall tell you another thing about the prune. It can change the most throat splitting whisky into the most delicious beverage imaginable, so my brother and his friends saw." My brother had some men drop in to see him one night, and he came out into the dining room and said:

"What have you got for the fellows to drink? Is there any beer?"

"Not a drop," said I. "There's nothing here except that bottle of whisky I got at the grocer's, which you said was too mean to give to a dying Spanish soldier." Then something popped into my head, and I said: "Never mind. You go back with your friends and I'll soon bring in something."

"He did, and as soon as he was out of sight I got out that bottle of mean whisky and a bottle of thick prune syrup that I eat on griddle cakes. I poured some of the whisky in a glass and an equal quantity of prune juice and made a rickey. It was simply delicious. My experiment was a success, and so I made them for the crowd, and I wish you could have heard those men. My brother's eyes nearly popped out of his head, and his friends said it was a shame to use such delicious whisky in rickies. I asked if they would like a little straight and told them that I happened to have a little of a rare brand, and, as it was Decoration day, would treat. What do you think I did? Slipped out and filled some liquor glasses with a mixture of that bad whisky and thick prune juice, and I wish you could have heard those men! they said it was the finest whisky they'd ever tasted, and it ran down like oil, and was so penetrating. My brother looked uneasy until he saw they were in dead earnest, and smacking their chops for more. After the last man had gone he poked his head in my door and said in the most puzzled way:

"What in the devil—"

"Good night, dearest," I answered. "We have a lot of that brand left. It was nothing but that bad whisky mixed with prune syrup, but you yourself admitted that my treat had the flavor of great age. So run along and let me go to sleep."

"By Jove, she's a star," I heard him say as he closed my door. And then he let fly some pyrotechnical language that made me wonder if Schley really would bombard Santiago's defenses soon or not.

"I tell you the prune is a great moral agent. It drives away fits of depression, makes one sweet tempered and kindly disposed, and helps a nervous person to get hold of herself, to regain a normal equilibrium. If you don't believe it, try it. You already see what wonders it has worked in me."

"I do," answered the tall girl, emphatically, "and you owe much to the prune; much more. I fear, than you do to your early Sunday school teachers. I remember myself now that, as a very small girl, when I became thoroughly unmanageable, my mother used to give me three prunes, which never failed to bring me to my senses, as she expressed it. By the way, I take your telling me of the moral effect of prunes as a personal favor. Why? That's why," flashed an engagement ring in front of the short girl's eyes, "and let me tell you one thing, when I set up housekeeping I'm going to see that the head of the house gets prunes a-plenty," and off they both went, leaving the nervous woman on their right sitting with eyes and mouth both wide open as she watched them disappear.—New York Sun.

President F. B. Gault of the Idaho university has been deprived of his position through the board of regents. Politics, it is said, is the cause.

The president of the Wyoming university, Dr. Frank P. Graves, has resigned, and will accept a similar position in the state of Washington to which he has been elected.

Miss Carrie M. Swan, the nineteen-year-old daughter of James Swan of the firm of Eckert & Swan, flour mill owners of Chicago, was instantly killed at Pasadena, Cal., Monday, being thrown from her horse.

Editor Walton of the Boise Sentinel has been held on the charges of perjury and obtaining money under false pretenses. He gave bonds in the sum of \$800.

Montana, through its state treasurer, has made application to the treasury department at Washington for \$150,000 of the new issue of government bonds.

Jack Davis, alias "Diamondfield Jack," has been found guilty by the Idaho court of the murder of John C. Wilson on or about February 4, 1896, on Deep Creek, in Cassia county.

The coroner's jury in the case of little Ethel Gill at Butte, Mont., returned a verdict Thursday night of death at the hands of someone unknown. The case looks very bad against Charles Smith, the first suspect arrested.

Garrett Cochran, the famous Princeton football coach, who passed the medical examination preparatory to enlisting in the volunteer army, has changed his mind and will remain in Berkeley, Cal., to coach the state university football eleven this year.

Frank Walton, editor of the Boise Sentinel, the Populist organ of Idaho, has been charged with perjury and a warrant is now out for his arrest. It arises out of testimony in a suit between the Sentinel and the Advance Publishing company.

An ax fight is reported from a lumbering camp near Rocky Bar, Ida. The principals were Foley Abbott and an unknown. The men haggled each other in a frightful manner, but Abbott was victorious and his antagonist is not expected to recover.

The newly organized Christian Commission has planned a grand revival at Camp Merritt. A telegram has been sent to Evangelist Moody to ascertain if he could immediately come to the coast. Rev. H. C. Minton has been elected president; A. T. Needham, secretary, and H. J. McCoy, treasurer of the commission.

Private Orville R. Knight, Company F, Twentieth Kansas volunteers, died at the field hospital, San Francisco, today (Friday) of pneumonia. He was from Fort Scott. His remains with those of Private Albert Fugus of Yates Center, who also died of the same disease, will probably be sent to their former homes for burial.

Lieut.-Col. Louis T. Morris has been ordered to appear before a board of retirement which will meet in San Francisco. He is at present post commandant at the Presidio and colonel of the Fourth United States cavalry. Col. Morris who possesses an enviable war record, was born in Indiana in 1840, and his retiring year on account of age would be 1904.

Jealousy is supposed to have caused another tragedy in Riverside county, Cal. Last night at 9 o'clock Mrs. J. R. Brought, who resides with her husband on a ranch near San Jacinto, took a

dose of laudanum with suicidal intent, and death ensued in a short time. Mr. and Mrs. Brought had been married only a year and a half, and up to the present month appeared perfectly contented and happy.

The San Francisco Evening Post says: The men in the Montana regiment are complaining of the food served them. While the men have been dissatisfied with the conditions that have prevailed for some days, no strong protest was entered until today (Monday) when the soldiers of company B of Butte went out on a strike and refused to drill under the present conditions.

The Silver Republican party's state committee of Colorado Monday adopted resolutions in favor of fusion with the Democrats and Populists in the coming campaign on the state, congressional and legislative ticket and appointed a committee to confer with committees of the other parties with this end in view. This action was taken in accordance with the wishes of Senator Teller.

The U. S. army and Christian Commission of California has been organized. Its purpose is the uniting of all evangelical churches in a union for systematic work among the soldiers, confining its efforts to co-operation with the chaplains of the U. S. A. and navy. An executive committee, representing many denominations, has been appointed to formulate a plan of operations and elect officers for the organization.

The court of appeals, Denver, Colo., has handed down a decision in the suit of Willard R. Green against the Tomboy Gold Mining company. Green attempted to get possession of about 24,000 shares of stocks of the company, valued at over \$200,000, and secured judgment in the district court. Presiding Judge Thompson delivered the opinion of the appellate court, reversing the judgment in every point and remanding the case for a new trial.

Major Heuer of the United States engineer corps, San Francisco, has given out the following for publication: "Submarine mines are being placed over an area embraced within lines drawn from Sausalito to the green buoy south of Belvedere and Angel Island; thence to Shag Rock; then to Point Cavallo; and it will be unsafe for any vessels whatever to pass within said area until further instructions are issued."

No definite date can be named at present for the sailing of the third expedition to the Philippines. Preparations will be pushed forward rapidly. June 25th has been mentioned provisionally as the date of sailing. It required twenty-two days to prepare for sailing the four vessels which went out Wednesday, but the long delay was caused by the non-arrival of supplies. There are hundreds of carloads of supplies at San Francisco now, and so it will hardly take so great a length of time to prepare the third fleet for service.

Four special trains conveying the Tennessee volunteers to San Francisco are expected to reach Oakland Mole this (Thursday) evening. The troops numbering 1,198 men and officers, will probably cross the bay and march to Camp Merritt on Friday morning. The Thirteenth Minnesota volunteers will give an exhibition drill at the Mechanics Pavilion on Friday night, the proceeds to go to the Red Cross fund. Roy H. Burton of Omaha, who is seriously ill of pneumonia at the city and county hospital, San Francisco, is not a member of the Nebraska volunteers