

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

ending July 31, 1897, has been \$412,497, as compared with corresponding figures of \$155,548 for the previous year. Adding \$4,759, given for an isolating pavilion in connection with the infirmary, \$10,733 for the law schools building fund, \$9,718 from the university fund association, and minor gifts, the total addition for the year is carried up to \$445,055, or the largest increase for any single year in the history of the university except for the year when it was a beneficiary under Mr. Sheffield's will.

The university funds are now \$1,567,195 as compared with \$1,301,697 in the year 1896; the academic fund, \$1,663,953 as compared with \$1,572,168 last year, and corresponding figures of other departments are:

Theological school, \$646,433 and \$643,097; Sheffield scientific school, \$386,023 and \$377,183; medical school, \$103,651 and \$28,651; art school \$107,575, and the same in 1896, and the law school \$100,489 and \$84,223.

The medical department has no vested funds.

The Loomis fund is \$312,415.

Washington, Nov. 11.—The President today appointed Charles Page Bryan of Illinois to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to China.

Mr. Bryan is a resident of Elmhurst and is about 42 years old. He has been a member of the legislature for three terms and was a candidate for speaker. He was educated in Europe and is a fluent linguist.

Minister Benby, who is succeeded by this appointment has held the position since the beginning of President Cleveland's first term. President Harrison appointed Mr. Blair of New Hampshire to succeed Denby but he was objectionable to the Chinese government and Denby was left undisturbed.

San Francisco, Nov. 11.—Mrs. George Partridge, formerly of St. Louis, many years connected with the Biddle Market Mission Sunday school of that city and widely known among Sunday school workers for her work and writings, is dead, aged 65 years.

Chicago, Nov. 11.—Fire today destroyed the department store of W. A. Welboldt & Co., known as "The Lion," on Milwaukee avenue between Ashland avenue and Pualina street. The four story brick building and its contents, valued at \$160,000 are a total loss. Several small cottages were crushed by falling walls, causing an additional loss of \$5,000.

The insurance amounts to between \$15,000 and \$135,000. It was feared for a time that several lives had been lost by the falling of the walls. All of the missing, however, were soon accounted for. Some of the inmates of the colleges that were crushed had narrow escapes.

Boston, Mass., Nov. 11.—By the collapse of a three story brick building which was being remodeled at the South End today four men were injured, one of whom, it is said, will probably die.

Quebec, Nov. 11.—Captain Bernier of this city, who is organizing an expedition to the North pole, expects to start March 1, in the steamer Windward, which was used by the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition from a point, the name of which he withholds, but which is on the northern coast of Siberia. The party will consist of eighteen men. He intends to travel at the rate of sixty miles a day, making the journey to the pole in 120 days. His mode of traveling will be by dogs and reindeer, especially the latter, on account of their meat as well as their service.

Omaha Stockman, Nov. 10: R. H. Homer had seven cars of cattle on sale from Lehi, Utah, and seven loads from Ontario, Oregon.

Matt Byner, who for several years past has been in charge of Marcus Daly's racing horses at Butte, Mont., has retired from the turf and Monday left that city for Eatontown, New Jersey.

At Butte, Mont., Monday morning, a highwayman attempted to rob J. N. Londoner, a ticket broker. He felled the latter to the ground but was frightened off before accomplishing his purpose.

George Dietrich, a well known young man of Helena, Mont., was shot and instantly killed Sunday afternoon on Nevada creek by Henry Kessler also of Helena. The men were hunting deer and the shooting was accidental.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli A. Gage, the former a son of the secretary of the treasury, have just returned from Dawson City, to which point Mrs. Gage bears the distinction of being the first white woman visitor. They report great suffering in that section for want of food.

Daniel S. Lamont, ex-secretary of war, reached San Francisco from the north Sunday, accompanied by a party of friends. They are there purely for pleasure, so he declares, and during their brief stay in the city are making the Palace hotel their headquarters.

A sad accident happened at Sacramento, Cal., Sunday. A little daughter of Gustave Loeser was carrying her infant sister down a flight of stairs when she slipped and both fell to the bottom. The infant's head struck the floor, causing concussion of the brain, and it died in a few minutes.

Steffan Baumann, for many years the proprietor of a hotel in Sacramento, Cal., shot and killed his wife Saturday afternoon and then shot himself. He has a good chance for recovery. No reason is assigned for the deed, other than that Baumann was temporarily deranged over business reverses.

Chief of Police Ellis of Pocatello, Idaho, arrested two convicts Monday, the men having escaped from the Deer Lodge, Mont., penitentiary about a week ago. Their names are William Howard and George F. Stevens, both about 24 years of age. The former was serving time for burglary, the latter for manslaughter.

Mrs. Geneva Johnston-Bishop of Chicago, one of the favorite oratorio singers of this country and the highest salaried church singer west of New York, arrived in San Francisco Sunday and has apartments at the Palace. She has come west on a concert tour and will remain in that part of the state for a week or more.

The Montana Equal Suffrage association commenced its third annual convention at Helena Tuesday with 200 members present. Miss Helen Knowles Haskill presides over the convention and the first session had as its feature an address by Gov. Robert B. Smith, in which he strongly expressed his disapproval of the move.

James Egan, a section hand, was run over and killed on Simpson Hill, near Carbon, Wyoming, by a pusher engine early Friday morning a week ago. He was taken to Carbon but died at 10:30 the same morning. A severe storm on the hill prevented the approach of the engine being heard by the unfortunate victim.

Messrs. Howard and Stevens, the two escaped convicts from the Deer Lodge, Mont., penitentiary, who were arrested at Pocatello, Ida., Monday night,

are about to be taken back to that institution. It was thought by the officers that Stevens could be persuaded to enlighten them as to the whereabouts of the remaining two fugitives from justice, but he would say nothing.

Wilson Barrett, the great English tragedian, who ranks with Irving, is at the Pacific hotel, San Francisco, where he arrived Tuesday evening unannounced. Mr. Barrett is on his way to Australia, for which country he sailed by the steamer Alameda Thursday. He owns a theater in London, and is famous as an author and a stage director and a producer of plays as well as an actor.

Foss and McNaughton, principals in the alleged abduction of the Roberts children at Plumas Junction, Cal., who at the same time stole five of Bedford Roberts' horses, were arrested at a place known as Eightmile Station Friday by Sheriff Church of Lassen county and Bedford Roberts. They made no resistance and were placed in jail at Susanville, where they were charged with horse stealing.

The police of San Francisco are searching for two clever bunko men who have been operating on a rather extensive scale in the tenderloin district there. It is said that during the past few weeks they have swindled at least a dozen bucolic strangers by the time-worn "lock trick." Their latest victim is Henry Lehman, aged 16 years, who arrived there a few days ago from Roberts island.

Receiver J. Sam Brown of the defunct First National Bank of Helena, Mont., has tendered his resignation, the same following closely upon the appearance of Bank Examiner J. R. Flynn with a letter from the Comptroller saying that he had decided to consolidate the trust with the failed Merchants' National of that city under the management of Receiver Eugene T. Wilson, who has charge of the latter bank.

Edward Sullivan, one of the native sons of San Jose, Cal., was shot in the leg Sunday by Wm. Kelly as the result of a quarrel. The shooting occurred in East San Jose, where both parties reside. Kelly claims that Sullivan attacked him with a knife and that he fired in self-defense. The wound of Sullivan is not considered necessarily dangerous. After eluding the officers for several hours, Kelly was arrested and locked in the city prison.

An important lumber deal was closed at Santa Cruz, Cal., Tuesday, when the Santa Cruz lumber yard, composed of the Loma Prieta Lumber company and F. A. Hihn company, purchased Grover & Co.'s large stock of lumber recently sold at sheriff's sale to Robert Dollar of San Rafael, and leased Grover & Co.'s mill for five years. This puts an end to all lumber wars which resulted from having so many lumber firms in the field.

In a tumble-down hut near San Leandro, Cal., lies the body of Mrs. John Metoza, with friends watching over it unable to secure a physician's certificate for burial. The coroner has been called to the scene to conduct an investigation, and there is a possibility of fastening the responsibility for the woman's death upon her husband. The case is one of the strangest that has ever been laid before the Alameda county authorities.

One of the most severe wind and hail storms ever experienced in that section swept over Placerville, Cal., Saturday afternoon. The wind attained a