

A MURDER TRIAL IN NEVADA.

"I was sitting here," said the Judge, "in this old pulpit, holding court, and we were trying a big, wicked-looking Spanish desperado for killing the husband of a bright, pretty Mexican woman. It was a lazy summer day; and an awfully long one, and the witnesses were tedious. None of us took any interest in the trial except that nervous, uneasy devil of a woman—because you know how they love and how they hate, and this one had loved her husband with all her might, and now she had boiled it all down into hate and stood here spitting it at that Spaniard with her eyes; and I tell you she would stir me up, too, with a little of her summer lightning occasionally. Well, I had my coat off and heels up, loling and sweating, and smoking one of those cabbage cigars the San Francisco people used to think were good enough for us in those times; and the lawyers they all had their coats off and were smoking and whittling, and the witnesses the same, and so was the prisoner. Well, the fact is, there wasn't any interest in a murder trial then, because the fellow was always brought in not guilty, the jury expecting him to do as much for them sometime; and although the evidence was straight and square against this Spaniard, we knew we could not convict him without seeking to be rather high-handed and sort of reflecting on every gentleman in the community; for there wasn't any carriage and liveries then, and so the only 'style' there was, was to keep your private graveyard. But that woman seemed to have her heart set on hanging that Spaniard; and you'd ought to have seen how she would glare on him a minute, and then look up at me in her pleading way, and then turn and for the next five minutes search the jury's face—and by and by drop her face in her hands for just a little while as if she was most ready to give up, but she'd come again directly and be as live and anxious as ever. But when the jury announced the verdict, not guilty, and I told the prisoner he was acquitted and free to go, that woman rose up till she appeared to be as tall and grand as a seventy-four-gun ship, and says she:

"Judge, do I understand you to say that this man is not guilty, that murdered my husband without any cause before my own eyes and my children, and that all has been done to him that ever justice and the law can do?"

"The same," says I.

"And then what do you reckon she did? Why she turned on that shirking Spanish fool like a wild cat, and out with a 'navy' and shot him dead in open court!"

"That was spirited, I am willing to admit."

"Wasn't it though?" said the Judge admiringly. "I wouldn't have missed it for anything. I adjourned court right on the spot, and we put on our coats and went out and took up a collection for her and her cube, and sent them over the mountains to their friends. Oh, she was a spirited wench."

MUNICIPAL EXPENSES OF ST. LOUIS.

The St. Louis Republican gives the expenses of conducting the government of that city, as follows:

The estimate of municipal expenditures for the present fiscal year is \$1,908,000, the leading items of which are \$140,000 for the fire department; \$130,000 for lighting the city; \$180,000 for repairing streets; \$281,000 for the street fund; \$138,000 for the December interest on the new water bonds; \$94,000 for cleaning streets; \$40,000 for the board of health; \$90,000 for hospital purposes; \$25,000 for the house of refuge; \$56,000 for opening streets; \$48,000 for public parks; \$38,000 for the work house. This estimate does not include the general interest account, which itself is \$600,000, and is provided for by a special tax of three-fifths of one per cent. on the taxable property of the city; nor does it include the police account, \$380,000; harbor improvements, \$180,000; estimate for public sewers, \$380,000, and floating debt \$789,268. All these large items, added to the estimate of current expenditures for the year, swell that estimate to \$3,817,268. Even this does not include \$385,500 of city bonds falling due during the year; but as these bonds will be met with renewal bonds, they are not properly classed in the estimate of expenditures for the year. They are part of the city debt, and will be taken up with other bonds which in turn will be part of the debt.

RAILROAD TRAVELING EXTRAORDINARY.—There are two ways of making quick time over a railroad. One is by the very rapid running of trains between stations where frequent stops are made, and the other is by running at a less rapid, but safer rate of speed, and making but few stops in a long distance. The latter plan is certainly best, and should be adopted wherever practicable. Such is the policy pursued by the officers of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railway and Pennsylvania Central Railroad. The "fast train," which leaves Chicago by this line at 11 a.m., runs over the Pennsylvania Central from Pittsburg to Mantua, or West Philadelphia, a distance of 335 miles, with only two stops, those being at Altoona and Harrisburg. The distance from Altoona to Harrisburg is 131 miles, the longest run made without stopping on any road in the United States. But one tank of water is used, of course, that being sufficient to take the engine through. At Johnstown, which is located this side the summit of the Alleghenies, and about twenty-five miles west of Altoona, an extra engine is always attached to the train, to be used in making the ascent of the mountains—eleven miles—but this is easily done without stopping the train. This arrangement is effected so skillfully and nicely that passengers are unconscious of any jar or interruption in consequence.

To those who have traveled over the Pennsylvania Central, from Pittsburg to Philadelphia, with its innumerable curves, its mountainous surroundings, its wild, picturesque scenery and handsome towns and cities—the idea of running through from one end of the road to the other, without stopping at more than two intermediate points, almost challenges belief, and yet this is being done daily, to the astonishment of the

public and the satisfaction of travelers over that popular route. It affords another striking illustration of what modern railroad enterprise can accomplish, and leads us to wonder what is coming next.—*Alta Cal.*

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SCANDINAVIAN STAR

I AM authorized by Elder Jesse N. Smith to receive Subscriptions for the Scandinavian Star.

ROBT. L. CAMPBELL,
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