

Mr. Johnston and he would be very pleased to receive information that would throw some light upon it.

The State Irrigation association for Utah hereby calls the attention of all desirous of promoting the great interests which our State has in irrigation and especially to its being well represented at this congress. The call of the national executive committee of the congress to be held at Phoenix, Arizona, December 15-17, has already been published in the NEWS. The railways also publish a round trip rate for delegates and their families from Utah points of \$59.70 good from December 10th to December 31st, with stop over privileges within transit limit.

Those desirous of attending will confer a favor by notifying the secretary of the State Irrigation association of Utah, 27 Atlas block, Salt Lake City, who will, if desired, procure appointments for delegates from the proper sources. The main delegation from Utah will leave Salt Lake City on the 12th inst., arriving in Phoenix in time for the first session of the congress, Dec. 15th. L. W. SHURTLEFF, Chairman Executive Committee. C. L. STEVENSON, Secretary.

The dead body of Edwin B. Bascom was found in his room in a South Temple street lodging house late yesterday afternoon.

Bascom, who was about 32 years of age, was a well known railroader, and up to November 23 acted as train dispatcher for the Rio Grande Western at Clear Creek. He came to this city with the intention of going to work for the company here, but death came to him as a result of drink. He had been drinking very heavily of late and on Sunday afternoon repaired to the lodging house, secured a room and went to bed. He was then under the influence of liquor, and as he had not appeared yesterday afternoon the door of his room was forced open and Mr. Bascom was found dead in bed. In the room was an almost empty whiskey bottle, and it was apparent that death was the result of acute alcoholism.

The body was removed to the undertaking parlors of Joseph Wm. Taylor and a telegram was sent to the deceased man's father, G. H. Bascom of Pawnee, Neb., asking for instructions. Mr. Bascom was formerly a resident of Leadville, Colorado. He was unmarried.

When the criminal court opened on Friday Judge Rhodes for the State finished his argument in opposition to the motion of Mr. Critchlow for instruction from the court to the jury to find a verdict of not guilty in the hoodlum charge against ex-Selectman Bamberger. After the argument was finished his honor granted the motion of Mr. Critchlow.

In his charge to the jury Judge Rolapp said the attorneys for the State have made an opening statement as to what testimony they expected to introduce in this case and what facts they intended to prove. Even if all these facts were to be proven they would not be sufficient to convict the defendant. "I therefore charge you, gentlemen," continued his honor, "that it is your duty to find a verdict of not guilty in favor of the defendant. You are relieved of all responsibility

in this matter, the court itself bearing that burden."

A verdict in accordance with the instructions of the court was therefore signed by Foreman Halm in the box and the jury was excused from further service during the term. The jury was composed of the following: Ernest Cox, G. E. Chandler, Matthew Gibbs, George H. Brown, J. M. Bluswell, W. E. Halm, N. T. Johnson and John M. Chamberlain.

MANTI, Dec. 3.—George Pierce Billings, one of the pioneers of Utah, died at his residence in this city at 8:40 p. m. on Wednesday, Dec. 2, in his seventieth year. He was born in Ohio on July 25, 1827, and was one of a family of nine children. His father was Titus Billings, one of the first members of the Aaron, and the son lived and died a true Latter-day Saint. He came over the plains a mere lad, as one of the teamsters of the first company of 147 and lived in Salt Lake City till the gold excitement broke out in California, when he went West. After a few years he returned to Utah and removed to Sanpete county where he married Edith Patten who bore him nine children. In a few years he married Jerusha Snooker and by her had eight children. Of the seventeen children, thirteen are living in Utah near the family residence.

Brother Billings fulfilled a mission to Carson, Nevada, in years gone by, and served the people of Sanpete county as sheriff for nearly twenty years. He was well known throughout the State as "The Big Billings" of Sanpete. With his death another of the Pioneers who counted on the happy reunion of the semi-centennial has gone to the next world.

Ogden Standard: Little Mable Herrick returned home Sunday morning. Mable was met at the depot by her parents and taken to Chief Davenport's office where she told her story. In brief, her tale is that she and her abductor did not leave town on the day she was taken from the canyon until late in the evening. She remembered being at the Hot Springs, Riddle or Britten, or whatever is the name of her abductor, and something to eat there, but did not give her any. They did not rest that night or all the next day, but the following night they slept at a house. It was at McCammon that Britten gave her to the Indians, and they took her to Ross Fork from which place she came yesterday.

Tu Chief Davenport she denied that Britten had any improper relations with her; but in the afternoon, when questioned by her mother, she admitted that he had.

Dr. R. S. Joyce was called and examined the girl and corroborated her admission, although the physician is of the opinion that the brute failed in fully accomplishing his foul deed.

Sheriff Wright returned on the delayed Utah Northern train yesterday. George Wakely of Madrid is supposed to have the trail of Britten and is following it up, but it is doubtful whether he will be located.

Elders L. S. Harrington and T. S. Friday, Jr., the former of American Fork, the latter of Logan, dropped in to the NEWS sanctum Wednesday and made it known that they had returned from their labors in the Southern

States mission field. Elder Harrington left for his field of labor on July 14, 1894, and Elder Friday April 28, 1894. Both have been laboring in the North Carolina conference, where they report the work of the Lord to be progressing very nicely. During their sojourn in the South they have seen much prejudice allayed and have rejoiced in being able to bear the Gospel message to the enjoyment of health and strength. They returned Sunday hale and hearty and feel that their two years' time in the mission field has been the best spent portion of their lives thus far.

Elder F. B. Rolfsen of American Fork returned from the South yesterday and gave the NEWS a pleasant call this morning. His lot while absent has been cast with the people of the Middle Tennessee conference, in which portion of the vineyard he reports a good work being done. Elder Rolfsen left home July 14, 1894, and during his stay in the South he says he has seen prejudice melt as dew before the rising sun. While away he has had good health and has found much enjoyment in the pursuit of his labors.

An extremely sad and lamentable accident resulting from an explosion of giant powder and hurling a mine foreman into eternity, occurred at Bingham Monday.

The news as received by phone from the Old Reliable camp this afternoon, told the story of the killing of the foreman at the Zelnora group, on Clipper Hill some little distance from Bingham proper. The name of the unfortunate victim could not be learned but from the information received it appears that at about 9 o'clock this morning he was engaged in the very dangerous duty of thawing powder, when the stuff suddenly exploded in his hand, blowing both hands off, both eyes out, and tearing the jugular vein into fragmentary pieces. The latter wound itself was sufficient to cause death, but notwithstanding the extent of the unfortunate man's injuries he lingered for three hours after the terrible accident, expiring about 12 o'clock noon.

The body was removed to the coroner's establishment at Bingham, where in all probability an inquest will be held. The accident plunges a wife and five children into the deepest sorrow, they having lost a loving husband, a dutiful and indulgent father.

The Zelnora property was at one time operated by Bero & Peterson, but recently those gentlemen were succeeded by Warner & Frisbie. Attempts to locate the latter gentleman in this city today were unavailing.

Independence Curtis Grow who resides at 449 south Eighth East street, attempted to cover life's uncertain cord this morning by thrusting a knife into his throat, but in doing so he missed his aim and now lies at the hospital suffering from his self-inflicted wounds.

The man who bears such an independence name was born on Independence day, July 4, 1853, in Marion county, Iowa. It appears that for some time past domestic infidelity has reigned in the Grow household, and on last night it assumed the stage of the man's wife leaving home and his hand. This so preyed upon the hos