NEWS OF THE WEST.

The Lick Observatory Expedition to Japan This Summer.

A JUDGE FRIENDLY TO TRAMPS.

Strange Story from Casper, Wyoming—Hotel Man's Conversation—Caught by a Train.

Allen Conrad was shot in the thigh Monday by Louis Gutzow in a row over a claim near Knoxville, Washington. The trouble was the outcome of a quarrel of long standing. Conrad's wound may result fatally.

Antonio Perez was killed August 15th not to a million between a team he was driving and a Southern Pacific train at the crossing of Hancock street, San Francisco. His widow brought suit against the railroad company Tuesday to recover $50,000 damages.

Mrs. E. L. Cluxton, of Oletha, Kansas, who deserted her husband, leaving her two children, aged 10 and 8 years, has been arrested at San Francisco, in company with H. A. Minier. It is alleged the woman left her husband on account of his cruelty. Cluxton has gone to San Francisco after his wife and children.

E. L. Malon, a French physician who came to San Francisco from Paris a few days ago, committed suicide at the French hospital Tuesday morning by shooting himself through the brain. In the ocean voyage he caught a severe cold, developing consumption, and the consequent melancholia led to the crime.

Justice Smith of Watsonville, Cal., has decided that a man is entitled to rest wherever night overtakes him, and if he enters a barn, outhouse, shed or shop, even without permission, with the intention of occupying it for one night, it does not constitute vagrancy. To this extent the justice declares the vagrant act unconstitutional.

Twenty evening an incoming train on the Stockton division in the outskirts of Sacramento, Cal., struck a milk wagon and reduced it to fragments, killed the horse and threw the driver over thirty feet, inflicting fatal injuries. The driver, William Futter, was but of eighteen years, and it is believed he was asleep at the time the accident occurred, as the horse slowly walked on the track and stopped.

About 300 or 400 prominent hotel men from all over the East are going to California in the spring, and already preparations are being made to thoroughly entertain them with the best. The occasion of their visit will be the annual meeting of the Hotel Men's association of the United States, which will be held this year at Los Angeles, April 21st. The proceedings will not occupy over a day, and the rest of the time will be devoted to pleasure.

An Indian named Dieudorio Ardello was brutally cut by another Indian at the Lake Bay, Cal., Friday night, one ear and portions of his face being cut away. Ardello just two months ago was shot in the back of the head, part of his hat going into the brain, by Theodore Olivera, the Indian who was tried and acquitted about a year ago of cutting a Portuguese who, with three other Indians, was on his way from Escondido to this place. Ardello claims that a Mexican named Francisco became did the cutting.

The Lick Observatory, California, is to send an expedition to Japan to observe the solar eclipse this summer. According to the plan proposed, the members of the party will be absent about four months, from June 1st to October 1st. Prof. J. M. Schaeberle will be chief of the expedition, and will be accompanied by three assistant observers, who have already volunteered their services. They are, Dr. L. M. Martin, Dr. H. E. Shelpin and Prof. Charles Burckhalter, of Oakland. The last named has a new instrument of his own devising, which he only can handle. Leaving June 1st the quartette of scientists will arrive at Yokohama July 1st, and will go at once to the east side of the northern island of Japan, where the observations will be made in August. The directors of the Tokio Observatory have promised to furnish the Americans with an interpreter. Large-scale photographs of the eclipse will be made, and smaller photographs of the sun will be taken with the Floyd photographic telescope. The views of the corona will be a continuation of the series taken by Professor Schaeberle in Cuba in 1889, and the small series will be continuations of the series of the same character taken in 1893, both of which collections are now among the records of the observatory. On the return of the expedition in October Prof. Schaeberle will write a book outlining and explaining the results of his experiments, and this volume will be issued by the Lick observatory. It is estimated that the expenses of the trip will amount to about $5,000.

The Casper, Wyoming, Derrick, says: C. Merrill is in receipt of a letter from one J. M. Cummings, Albuquerque, N. M., of date December 26th, 1895, conveying to him the news of the death of his former friend and partner in business. The letter is written as follows: "Mr. Henderson H. Burton, who came here a little more than a year ago, died on October 8th, and was buried on the 10th of the month in Fairview cemetery. The night of the 8th of October he spoke strangely to my wife, and again and long afterward. She kept the matter secret for fear of being made fun of on telling it. Last night happened again bearing the following description on a banner 'Write to C. Merrill, Casper, Natrona county, Wyoming.' This morning she told of these apparitions. I have determined to write to you. Burton was a good man—none knowing him but to whom he many virtues. Will you please write to me, letting me know what there is in this matter, I feel sure, as we are to make settlement of his affairs some time in January next." Mr. Merrill was somewhat startled at the queer message, but has written Mr. Cummings. He said, when interrogated concerning the dream, that Mr. Burton had been engaged in business with him for about three years—who in Nebraska and about a year here in Wyoming—shortly before going to New Mexico, and that their business relations had always been amicable, and their adjustments on the other hand were very strong. He speaks in the kindest terms of Burton, and as their business matters were settled in full, he is at a loss to know why his friend should return to earth and what a letter he wishes to send.

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