NEWS OF THE WEST.

Terrific Fight With a Wild Cat Near Terra Cotta, Col.

A MOST COLD BLOODED MURDER.

A Slick Young Man "Takes In" Lodginghouse Keepers.—Serious Charges Against a Judge.

Eddie Freeman, a lad of nine years, died at Reno, Nevada, on Friday night from eating wild parsnips.

Numerous persons are poisoning sheep on the ranges in Lander county, according to the Austin, (Nev.,) Reveille.

W. H. Gouch, owner of the Reno, Nevada, Gazette, and an early pioneer in Nevada, has just died from blood poisoning.

Says the Logan Nation: The enrollment at the Agricultural and Mechanical College is very fair and considering the times is about as large as could have been expected. The number will be greatly increased in the near future, as many will attend next winter who never did before and cannot be induced to.

The Denver Republican says the completion of the Santa Fe tunnel, west of Leadville, Colo., will mark an epoch in Colorado railroading. It is one of the most remarkable pieces of engineering in the country, cutting off, as it does, five and one-half miles of heavy up and down grade, which in freight train means an enormous expense, and in passenger traffic means a great saving of time and as well as expense.

State Coal Mine Inspector Reed, says the Denver Times, is using all in his power to help the assumption of coal to market in the state. He anticipates that two million are out of work, and only one half will be idle this winter, the balance going to Leadville, Silverton, Gunnison and other points of interest. Mr. Reed says he has given the coal companies fair play, and if they do not do what is right by the miners from that time, The whole thing is merely the play of a week thief to gain entrance without suspicion. Several houses have been plundered of late in this way, and all point up to the same person. The police have the case in hand.

A few days ago George Ross, of Ramore, Colorado, was roughed at by his friends when he told them of a monster wild cat he had seen near Terra Cotta. He made up his mind to secure the cat at all hazards, and, armed with a knife and his shotgun, started out to find the animal's lair. After a great deal of labor he was successful in locating it in a small hole in which cat lay from where he had first seen it. As Ross was carefully picking his way among the rocks he found himself extremely face to face with the cat, while crouched with flaming eyes not ten feet from the hunter. Quick as flash Ross threw his gun forward and fired, the charge striking the cat in the shoulder. The maddened animal, screaming with rage and pain, sprang into the air and landed on Ross, almost knocking him down. Then ensued a most desperate struggle. Ross is a wiry, muscular man, and as to the animal he was clearing by the charge of buckshot in the shoulder. But able to prevent it from tearing him, by circling it with one hand and holding the fierce animal paw and with the other. Round and round they circled for until the wildcat's cry began to wane, when Ross, by a supreme effort, managed to throw the beast from him and snatching up his gun, fired the remaining charge into the animal's brain as the cat started to prowl the attack. Leaving the animal in its death struggles, Ross hastened home to make an examination of his own injuries, which, strange to relate, were except three or four pretty deep scratches, quite trifling. Later in the day Ross, with the assistance of a neighbor, brought the dead cat home, where it was found by actual measurement to be five feet three and a half inches in length from tip to tip. It was the largest of the species ever seen in that neighborhood.

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