

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

country amounting to as much as one hundred feet per mile, providing the most favorable conditions for handling and controlling the water, of which there is more in proportion than in any other part of the State.

These last two facts will be duly appreciated by our practical farmers. In conclusion we will state that we did not visit the Uncompahgre Reservation, as it is well known that but a few thousand acres of farming land exists there near the mouth of the White river, the balance being grazing land.

But, on this reservation it must be borne in mind are those extensive veins of gilsonite, the purest asphaltum known, which have been the source of contention among rival companies and which have therefore retarded the opening of this reservation. This gilsonite has appeared but of late (since the discovery in Utah) in large quantities upon the markets of the world. Formerly it all came from the neighborhood of the Dead Sea, in Palestine, where it was mined by Arabs and carried on the backs of camels to the Suez canal, whence it was shipped to all parts of the world. It was formerly used exclusively for the finest grades of asphaltum carriage varnishes and brought about \$160 per ton in our markets. Since the discovery of this material in such large quantities in Utah, its use has become more extended. It is now used also in the manufacture of a roofing material for which it is well adapted. Mixed with the necessary ingredients of sand, etc., which exist everywhere, it will make the best asphaltum pavement. Its insulating properties are also very great. From this it will be seen that its possible use is almost unlimited. Formerly about fifty carloads per annum would supply the markets of this continent; at present the St. Louis Gilsontite company, alone, ship about fifty carloads per week from its mine near Fort Duchesne. The price is now about \$60 per ton, but even at this figure there are immense fortunes in these veins of gilsonite.

The Uncompahgre Reservation was created by an executive order withdrawing these lands from the market, the Indian title having long ago been extinguished: whereas as the Utah Reservation, the title to the land is still vested in the Indians, under the Treaty made with them in 1863, by Colonel Irish, in behalf of the U. S. government.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Mrs. Sophie Hellreich, wife of John Hellreich, a San Francisco carpenter, committed suicide Tuesday by cutting her throat with a penknife. Mrs. Hellreich had been a sufferer from melancholia for some time, and had been taken before the insanity commissioners, but discharged by them.

Senorita Bodisocio of Monterey, Cal., the Mexican spinster who has been berated as the one-time sweetheart of General Sherman, spouts the story of declaring that she never knew Sherman and that he did not plant or ever see her giant rosebush with its garden of roses. She makes a living by making drawn work.

Walter W. Hoge died suddenly Tuesday morning of an affection of the heart at Alameda, Cal. He was taken ill and became unconscious while at the breakfast table. Two doctors were summoned, but before their arrival he had breathed his last.

John R. Barthelman, a sewing machine agent, shot and killed his divorced wife about 8 o'clock Tuesday evening in Los Angeles, Cal. Barthelman met his wife on a street in a remote part of the city and they quarreled over the possession of their 3-year-old daughter. Mrs. Barthelman refused to give up the child and he shot her twice. She died about an hour after. Barthelman has not been captured.

Henry Kemino of Farmington, in Washington county, Oregon, was attacked Monday by a mad boar. He was driving the hogs out of a stubble field when the infuriated animal rushed upon him and thrust his tusks into Kemino's thigh above the knee, striking the bone and lacerating the muscles. A doctor was called and dressed the wound, and he thinks that if blood poisoning does not set in the man will get along all right.

Perley R. Dewar of San Francisco died in a drug store at Fillmore and McAllister streets Tuesday forenoon while returning from the polling place in his precinct. He fell in the street from an attack of heart trouble and was carried into the drug store for treatment. An autopsy revealed that death resulted from fatty degeneration of the heart. Deceased was a railway mail clerk. He was a native of Vermont, 66 years old, and unmarried.

A phenomenal pumpkin vine was raised this year by Mr. Burchdorf on Mill Creek, Oregon. It covers a space as large as that between the four corners of intersecting streets in the Dalles. It bears twenty-two large pumpkins of an average weight of twenty-four pounds, to say nothing of the small ones, and hence has over 440 pounds of pumpkin. The vine can be seen by any one curious enough to walk up the hill, besides other vegetable curiosities worth looking at.—Dalles Chronicle.

William Johnson, a harnier of Santa Rosa, Cal., was shot early Tuesday morning by E. L. Forsyth. Johnson lives next door to Forsyth. He returned home, as he supposed, but went to Forsyth's house by mistake. The door was locked, and he tried to force an entrance. Forsyth, thinking it was a burglar, fired at him with a revolver, the ball going through one of Johnson's arms and lodging in the groin. Johnson's condition is regarded as very critical. Johnson is an old soldier, and has a large family.

David Sutherland, a well-known logger, lost his life while working on a jam at Stillaguamish, over near Stanwood, Washington, Tuesday morning. He was working with a number of loggers trying to loosen the jam when he slipped from a log into an open place and did not come to the surface again. The jam is one of the largest

in late years, extending up the river a mile and containing 2,000,000 feet. The river backed up from the jam nearly over the dikes. If the rains continue enormous damage will result.

At Burke, Idaho, in a cabin near the lower end of the town, a dynamite explosion occurred Sunday afternoon, resulting in one of the most shocking tragedies that ever took place in the Coeur d'Alenes, Thomas Corlett being blown into small fragments. When men rushed into the cabin, attracted by the sound of the explosion, a horrible sight greeted them. The body and legs of Corlett lay near the window, while blood, brains and small pieces of human flesh were strewn all over the inside of the wrecked building. Coroner Herrington held an inquest, but the cause of the explosion remains a complete mystery. No reason for suicide being known, it is supposed to have been accidental, as he was known to keep giant powder in the cabin. The deceased was about 55 years of age and unmarried.

The two-year-old son of D. L. Cullen of Los Angeles, Cal., died recently under peculiarly distressing circumstances. The little fellow accidentally hanged himself, and the injuries produced by partial strangulation resulted in death two days later. The child had seen older children playing in a swing, windlog themselves up in the rope and whirling around as the rope unwound, and he attempted to imitate their play when he was alone. Not being able to get wholly into the swing, he placed his neck in the bight and twisted around until the rope was tightly wound about his throat. As his feet were still on the ground the rope did not unwind, and when the child was found he was unconscious. The little one never recovered full consciousness, although every known method was tried to restore him.

Denver Field and Farm: L. O. Bolmer of Malad, Idaho, who gathers six to eight thousand pounds of honey from 120 hives, has been experimenting with alfalfa, white Dutch clover, esparcet and buckwheat and he is going to try elsike. He classes esparcet as among the best, while buckwheat has always been classed as the best by people who did not know better. Of course buckwheat yields honey only from its blooms, thus requiring frequent sowing of the grain during the season. There are many wild plants which produce good honey, white sage being one of the finest in this respect, but these are not available since bees cannot and will not travel long distances to gather honey. Malad valley produced for the season probably 25,000 pounds which finds a ready sale for nicking at eight cents a pound for comb in pound frames and six or seven cents for strained honey. It is shipped to Montana and also to points east of the Missouri.

A Prospect avenue poultry fancier named E. H. Shew, living on Wheatridge, near Elitch's summer gardens, Denver, has hit upon naphtholium as the best insect destroyer yet devised and as it costs only thirty-five cents a