

earnest and special attention, and will press its ratification. On yesterday I interposed to prevent its return to the Indians for modification.

A dispatch from Santa Fe says that the New Mexico positively announces that Thomas A. Edison and an English syndicate have closed a deal for the Ortiz grant, in south Santa Fe county. The price agreed upon is \$1,500,000, payable in two years. Edison is building a plant that will handle 25,000 tons of placer dirt per day. He will make his headquarters at Santa Fe as soon as the plant is completed.

W. N. Donnelly, a woodchopper on the San Joaquin river, rode fifteen miles on horseback to Stockton, Cal., on Sunday with his left foot almost severed from his leg, to have a surgeon dress his wound. He had been cutting wood along the river, and had the misfortune to strike his foot with a very sharp ax Sunday morning. It seems that he slipped in some way just as he let the ax fall, and instead of striking the timber, as he intended, the blade penetrated his foot at the instep.

Lieut. Cordier of the Cuban army, who is in Prescott, Arizona, with Captain Mahoney, for the purpose of raising funds to aid the insurgent cause, narrowly escaped death at the hands of an assassin Friday night. An unknown man took a shot at the lieutenant and then sought safety in flight. Cordier fired two shots at the retreating figure but failed to stop his man. Lieut. Cordier says that a similar attempt was made on the life of Captain Mahoney a few months ago while they were in Montana.

John Philbrook, a mechanic, who lives with his sister, Mrs. T. J. Eam at 418 Tenth street, Oakland, Cal., was taken to the receiving hospital Monday night a raving maniac as a result of excessive use of the cigarette. Philbrook's condition did not grow alarming until about a week ago. Up to that time it was believed that he was suffering from melancholia, which could be overcome by physicians in a short space of time. Philbrook continued to smoke and brood and Monday the collapse came.

The somewhat mysterious movements of a gentleman named Mons Henri Eummelen, said to have a commission from the vatican, has excited a number of residents of San Diego, Cal., the past day or two. Mons Eummelen is said to be clothed with authority to select a site for a home for aged and invalid priests of the Roman Catholic church in the United States, and his statement that there is a fund of \$3,000,000 set apart for that purpose by the church makes the establishment of such an institution of some moment.

A party of gold seekers bound for the Klondike has just arrived at San Francisco from Gloucester, Mass., on the small schooner Hattie I. Phillips. The voyage was made in 123 days. She made a stop of five days at Sandy Point. A very heavy storm was encountered in the Gulf stream, and the vessel was hove-to for thirty-seven hours. Six stops were made in the Straits of Magellan. The men, who are nearly all artisans or fishermen, will sell their vessel and go north by steamer.

William F. Clarkson, foreman of the rolling room at the United States branch mint in San Francisco, has been arrested on a charge of stealing gold bullion, and held in \$5,000 bail. Martin Eggers, a grocer, and W. D. Carter, a horse-shoer, were also arrested but released on their own recognizance. It is alleged that Clarkson's thefts consisted of small pieces of gold which were detached in the working up of bullion for the coining machine. They did not amount to over \$50 a month, but are supposed to

have continued over a period of two years or more.

A message from Constable W. S. Rawlins of Dale City, Cal., was received in San Bernardino Tuesday night, stating that a murder had been committed in a group of mines about ten miles north of that place. The killing was done by William Farley. His victim was Mat Price. Just what the cause of the trouble was is not definitely known, but for some time the men have been at outs over a mine in which both were formerly interested, but which Farley claims to have been cheated out of, and it is thought that the murder resulted from a quarrel over the property.

After consulting with an advisory committee of citizens in regard to the feasibility of holding an international exposition in 1901 in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the admission of California into statehood, Mayor Phelan of San Francisco has concluded to appoint a citizens' committee to inaugurate the preliminary work for another midwinter fair. Coming so soon after the Paris exposition the mayor and his advisers believe that many of the exhibits shown at Paris will be brought there. Financial aid from the state and national legislatures will be solicited. The citizens' committee will be chosen in a few days.

Vice President Stubbs of the Southern Pacific company has issued a circular of notification to the effect that President C. P. Huntington had approved his recommendations for promotion and that the new officers would enter upon their duties on March 1st, as follows: William Sproule to be freight and traffic manager, vice Smurr, deceased; A. D. Shepard to be general freight agent, vice Sproule, promoted; S. W. Luce to be assistant general freight and passenger agent at Los Angeles, vice Shepard, promoted, and S. N. Bostwick and S. A. Panjkins to be assistant general freight agents in San Francisco.

The steamer Noyo, which arrived at Seattle, Washington, from Alaska Friday, brings a report that the British flag has been planted at Summit Lake, fourteen miles inside of the American boundary line and twelve miles from Skaguay. It is also reported that eight men have been frozen to death on the trail since February 15th. The Noyo had as passengers three Dawsonites who stopped at Juneau. They were James Brownell, Frank La Roy and L. R. Flint. They are reported to have brought out about \$60,000 worth of gold dust and drafts from the interior. Stormy weather was encountered by Noyo. Thirty-one vessels were passed, bound for the North.

On Sunday about 1 o'clock John O'Donnell, aged 16, the son of Thomas O'Donnell of the San Benito Hotel, Hollister, Cal., started to drive his aunt, Mrs. Thomas Moran, to her home in Bolsa, five miles from Hollister. When three miles out he saw a hawk near the road, and, despite the remonstrances of his aunt, got his shotgun and jumped out of the buggy. Leaning the gun against a picket fence, he vaulted over; then, keeping his eyes upon the hawk, he drew the weapon through the pickets. The gun was discharged, inflicting a frightful wound in the side. The shot tore the liver to pieces and also the lower portion of the lungs. The young man's injuries were such that he died in a few hours.

A dispatch from Tacoma, Wn., says that two weeks ago two avalanches came thundering down the mountain slopes at the south end of Lake Bennett. An immense mass of ice and snow was deposited on the trail and 200 tons of supplies were buried many feet deep. Their owners had stacked

them up together in what seemed to be a sheltered spot while they were whip-sawing lumber for boat building. Now they have left only the whip-saws and are trying to dig out their outfits. So far as can be learned, no one was injured by the avalanche, though people in tents not far away had narrow escapes. This news was brought down by John Ohleghslager of Puyallap, that state, who has just arrived from Alaska.

Unable to meet its accumulating obligations, the management of the San Francisco Stock Brewery has give its creditors the alternative of a settlement on the basis of 25 cents on the dollar or forcing the corporation to go through insolvency. The concern has practically failed for \$110,000, as last week it deeded over its property to the German Savings & Loan Society, which held a mortgage for \$47,000 that it was about to foreclose. The unsecured liabilities aggregate \$67,000, distributed among twenty-two creditors. Bauer & Schweitzer, hop merchants, are the heaviest sufferers, their claim being \$25,000. The creditors have appointed a committee to look into the affairs of the concern.

At the Golden Jubilee mining fair at San Francisco Thursday, a new world's record for three-handed rock drilling was made by John Kitto, John Dingle and Louis Page, a team of miners from Sonora, Tuolumne county. In fifteen minutes, with two hammers on a drill, they broke the former world's record of 42 inches and penetrated to a depth of 43 11-16 inches in solid granite. In the single-handed rock-drilling contest for a cash prize, the coast championship and a gold medal, J. J. Coan and T. L. Coffey of Nevada City and T. J. Ahern and Joseph Larkin of Grass valley competed. Coan won with 18 inches, coming within a half-inch of the coast record; Coffey was second with 17 3-16 inches.

At Cheyenne, Wyoming, Wednesday, the following corporations filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state for Wyoming: Felix Coal company of Sheridan, Wyo.; capital stock, \$150,000. Incorporators, R. R. Woods, G. N. Griffin, B. F. Perkins of Sheridan county. The company will mine and ship coal from its lands in Sheridan county. Wyoming Gold Mining company. Incorporators, Theo. Becker, Anto Walter, William Kopp of Casper. Capital stock, \$5,000. Natrona Gold Mining and Milling company. Incorporators, J. S. Mowrer, J. B. Smith and F. W. Okie of Casper. Capital stock, \$100,000. Randolph Mining and Milling company. Incorporators, J. R. South, D. S. Marshall, W. T. Brough, C. E. Anderson and J. M. Grant, all of Randolph, Utah. Capital stock, \$1,000.

The much-needed rain has come at last and ended the long drought which seriously threatened the farming interests of the principal valleys of California. The down pour, which commenced shortly before midnight Wednesday, has been the heaviest for some time past, and extended all over the northern part of the state and as far south as Monterey. Only the extreme south seems to have escaped the drenching. Los Angeles county was visited by but light showers, hardly sufficient to do much good, but the indications are that more rain is coming. This storm insures crops from Merced northward to the state line. The summer fallow has been kept in good condition and the winter-sown grain is barely up. It will require but little more rain to guarantee good crops on all summer fallowed land north of Stockton.

Two more big guns, each a 10-inch rifle, have arrived at San Francisco from the east for the Presidio fortifica-