

The *Silver State* says a gentleman of Winnemucca wrote to San Francisco to secure rooms during the Midwinter Fair and was offered two bedrooms and a parlor on Van Ness avenue for \$350 per month. He has concluded not to attend the fair.

Reports from Wyoming cattle ranges, received at New Castle, indicate hard times and severe losses for range cattle owners. Cold weather and deep snow are killing off the poor cattle which arrived from Texas late last fall.

Two watchmen were hired to guard a market at Haller City, Wash. The other night they both fell asleep, and upon awakening in the morning, found that not only had the market been robbed, but that they were minus their firearms.

A. N. Towne owns 1,280 acres of land in the Weed Patch, Kern county, Cal. A large force of men has been employed during the fall and winter in preparing an elaborate system of ditches for irrigating the land. The work is now about completed.

A Gilpin county, Colo., miner is credited with the invention of a new hand drill which will drive a hole through the hardest rock five times as fast as two men can do it at double work. The drill is operated by turning a crank and is sold at \$75.

J. M. Jeffreys, a well-to-do farmer residing near Palouse City, Idaho, has been found hanging to a rafter in his barn. He had been dead for some time. Financial troubles worked upon his mind and it is supposed that he hung himself while temporarily insane.

In Cheyenne, Wyo., a few days ago, the engineer of the Union Pacific yards blew the noon signal at 11 o'clock by mistake and sent some of the men home to dinner an hour too soon. His mistake caused the engineer a lay-off for two weeks.

Meeker advices are to the effect that those who have ridden over the ranges of northwestern Colorado during the past two weeks find the cattle in fine condition. The next five weeks will determine the fate of many cattle herds on the range.

Spokane, Wash., has a thief of splendid nerve. He was sentenced to prison for ten days and was made a "trustee." While in this capacity he stole from a police officer several articles of his uniform and was trying to sell them when arrested.

The Oregon Improvement company has presented a claim for \$40,000 to the San Francisco board of supervisors. The claim is presented on the supposition that the supervisors will order a change of grades at the crossings of various streets.

Judge Virden, of Mono county, decided that sheep may not be watered in a creek which has been used for irrigating purposes by a rancher near Bridgeport. His decision was sustained by the supreme court. The injunction against the sheep men was made perpetual.

F. L. Leonard, a young man mining four miles east of Leland, Or., has brought in a nugget of gold covered with quicksilver. The value of the lump is about \$35. It resembles a piece of amalgam, though he insists

the nugget is just as he picked it out of the ledge.

Says the *Evanston News-Register*: Mr. E. S. Crocker has a letter from Thomas Spackman, of Farmington, Utah, asking if there is still any reward offered for the finding of William Crawford. He represents that if there is any such inducement, Crawford can soon be produced.

Cassia county, Idaho, has a curious rock quarry. The rock is unlimited in quantity and very fine grain. It comes out of the quarry nicely cut and dressed in square shafts or columns from six to twenty inches thick and about six feet long. It is ready for use without the labor of stone cutters.

Salvador Pagano, after having been twice sentenced to death at Tacoma, Wash., and spending more than two years in prison, has been set at liberty by the supreme court of the state. He has had the privilege of reading the invitation to his own execution. He will return to his home in Sicily.

At Phoenix, Ariz., C. J. Dyer has accumulated a vast store of Toltec relics and curios from prehistoric ruins. These treasures consist of metates (vessels for grinding corn,) pestles, ollas, obsidian and shell ornaments, axes of stone for war and for peaceful use, door weights, plumb bobs, flint and slate knives, etc.

Marshall pass snow sheds have been drifted full of snow in places and rotary plows from Salida have been kept busy lately keeping the Rio Grande narrow gauge open to Gunnison. North park, Colo., reports little snow on the divides between Yampa and Grand rivers. Stage and mail routes remain open all winter this season, something very unusual for that country.

E. B. Wagy, one of the syndicate interested in the San Marcial coal fields of Sonora, has recently returned to Tucson, Ariz. He states that two shafts have been sunk, one to the depth of ninety feet penetrating a six-foot stratum of pure anthracite coal, another to a depth of thirty-five feet penetrating a seven-foot stratum. The coal is of very high grade.

The Meeker, Colo., *Herald* has obtained reliable reports from all the region of North and Middle parks and these reports show that while the lower cattle ranges and divides between streams are uncovered by deep snow the snow in the mountains is very deep, and the water will be plentiful next season for irrigators.

Miss Johanna Albertson has been awarded \$5,000 damages by a jury in a Sacramento, Cal., court against Joseph S. Calderon for breach of promise of marriage. The jury was only ten minutes deliberating upon the case when they came to an agreement. All voted in favor of the woman on the first ballot, but some of them wanted to give her \$20,000, the amount she sued for.

John Barrett was killed by his team dragging him to death, a few days ago, on the southeast part of Traumer ranch in the upper end of the basin, about six miles southwest of Albion, Idaho. He lived only thirty minutes, but never spoke. His skull was fractured and was otherwise badly bruised. Deceased was upwards of 68 years old, and has two sons. One lives in Poca-

tello and the other in Bear Lake county.

In 1842, says the *Gering Neb., News*, John C. Fremont, the famous explorer, camped near the present site of the town of Fairbury, Nebraska. He forwarded dispatches from this point to Washington and among his statements are to be found these words: "It never rains in Nebraska; this is the great American desert." The eighty acre lot where he camped sold, last month, for \$3,500 and is reported cheap for the money.

Judge Beatry, United States judge for Idaho, has issued an order restraining the interior department from ejecting the heirs of Colonel Craig from the Nez Perces Indian reservation. Craig settled on the reserve near Lapwai, under the Oregon donation act of 1845, and applied for patent in 1869. The Indian treaty recognizes his right to the land, but patent has never issued, and the government tried to eject him.

As the winter advances wolves are becoming very troublesome in the northern part of the state, says the *Sherman (Wyo.) Enterprise*. The whole country has been covered with poisoned meat, but the animals have learned to avoid it. They will not eat anything unless they kill it fresh themselves. All the northern counties have stopped paying the bounty and there is no inducement for hunters to wage war on the pestiferous beasts.

W. T. Richardson, of Prescott, Arizona, who has a big cattle range in the Verde country, was in town last week, seeing to the shipment of about 700 cattle consigned to Kansas City, in charge of Frank Wallace, says the *Phoenix Gazette*. He shipped between 400 and 500 head last month, and expects to make large consignments through the season. He reports that prices are somewhat better and that the cattle business is picking up.

Minnie, daughter of M. Shields, living near Glendale, Nevada, was riding on horseback the other day, when her horse became unmanageable and threw the young lady into a pile of rocks. She suffered a severe fracture of the skull, the bone being broken just above the eye. Drs. Phillips and Lewis were at once summoned and performed the delicate operation of raising the fractured bone from the brain, on which it was pressing. The doctors report the case as very serious, but hope for the best.

The Sacramento (Cal.) *Bee's* Folsom correspondent says that Folsom bids fair to again experience the golden bustling days of '49. As an adjunct to the renewed interest excited by the many rich strikes made by our miners, the merchants have engaged four-horse freight teams for the purpose of bringing their store supplies from Sacramento, as they claim that during the present hard times freight rates have been increased to such an extent that cheaper transportation can be had by team.

A Montana man has invented a boat for navigation on the Missoula and other mountain rivers. The boat is seventeen feet long and four feet in the beam. Attached to the stern is a paddle wheel, hung from a frame which can be raised and lowered, as the boat is in deep or shallow water.