

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

Rumor has it that Marcus Daly and associates are after the Diamondville and Kemmerer coal plants. They visited the properties Wednesday.

Pat Sullivan and Harvey Cole, the two last convicts who escaped from the Idaho penitentiary last Friday, were caught Wednesday near Boise.

Wednesday afternoon the 6-year-old son of Mr. M. Kubiak, a tailor of Pocatello, Ida., was drowned in the Port Neuf river into which he had fallen.

A proposition is now on foot to equip Victor, Colo., with an electric plant, the same to cost \$250,000. The promoters are the Florence and Cripple Creek Railway company.

A party of thirty-seven men from Sioux City, Iowa, with Dr. J. N. Henry as leader, left Seattle, Wash., Thursday, for Yokutat bay, Alaska, on the steamer Alliance. The party expects to spend two years prospecting in Alaska.

The stern wheel steamer Game Cock, which is being built at Portland, Ore., for the Yukon Transportation and Commercial company of San Francisco, was launched Wednesday. The steamer, which is for use on the Yukon river, will carry about 500 tons and when loaded will draw about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet of water.

Orders have been issued by Gen. Meriam for the Sushitna river, Alaska, exploring expedition known as Expedition No. 3, to leave Vancouver barracks, Wash., about the 29th inst. Captain E. F. Glenn, Twenty-fifth infantry, will have charge of the expedition and will have two officers and nineteen enlisted men under him.

A dispatch from Seattle, Wash., says that the condemnation suits by which the government secures a site for a battery at Point Wilson, have been closed in the Federal court. The price to be paid aggregated \$45,000. A number of heavy guns are now on their way there and preparations for setting them up will be immediately commenced.

In the trial of Albert Hoff Wednesday at San Francisco for the murder of Mrs. Mary Clute, Rabbi Mayer May, a witness for the prosecution, was examined as to his sanity. May had testified that he had seen the coupling-pin with which Mrs. Clute was murdered in the possession of Hoff, and it was shown at the examination that he had twice been an inmate of an insane asylum.

A special to the Denver News from Santa Fe, N. M., says: The master's sale of the Pecos Valley railroad has been set by Judge Hamilton to take place at Eddy on April 19th. It is expected the bondholders will buy it in, take it from the hands of the receivers and turn it over to the new corporation which will immediately extend it 200 miles northeast to Amarillo, Texas.

It is now considered certain that the Northern Pacific steamer Pelican, 162 days out from Tacoma, Wash., for Tien-Tsin, China, was wrecked or disabled off the coast of the Aleutian islands last October. An empty lifeboat, supposed to belong to the Pelican, was sighted by Captain Helm of the ship Falkirk, which has arrived at Tacoma from Shanghai.

The citizens' convention at Pocatello, Idaho, Wednesday lasted but two minutes, the Union Silver ticket being unanimously nominated as follows: For mayor, A. B. Bean; clerk, C. E. Brooks; treasurer, J. M. Masonheimer; engineer, V. C. Roeder; coun-

cilmen, First ward, J. G. Sanders; Second ward, John Fusz; Third ward, D. W. Church; Fourth ward, E. W. Mooney.

The notorious George Knowlton, better known as "Rebel George," one of the smoothest confidence men in the United States, has been convicted of obtaining money under false pretenses at Yreka, Cal. The crime which he was accused of was the robbing of a German named Yetter on the Southern Pacific train near Sisson. In company with two confederates he robbed the man of \$250 in a card game.

J. A. McNear of Point San Pedro, Cal., has sent a petition signed by many of the leading citizens of that state to Congress, asking them to locate the new government dry dock at his place at Point San Pedro. McNear owns seven miles of water front at that place and has 1,600 acres of land near by. He offers to donate whatever water front may be necessary. The water at this place is 40 feet deep and gradually deepens to 100 feet.

It is believed at Fresno, Cal., that the two men who robbed the train near Goshen, secured not less than \$50,000. The statement is made that there was \$35,000 in gold dust from Randsburg in the wrecked express car and that nearly \$25,000 was contained in the closed mail pouch. Joe Foster, who lives near Fresno, has been arrested on suspicion of having been connected with the robbery. He was seen near the scene of the crime shortly before the hold-up.

The citizens of Paris, Idaho, have nominated the following ticket to be voted for April 5th: J. U. Stucki for mayor; James Nye, police justice; Ed T. Shepard, clerk, and Helen B. Croft, treasurer. In the ward meetings the following citizens were nominated for the city council: First ward, Arthur Budge and Joseph R. Shepard; Second ward, Walter Hodge and Thomas Minson; Third ward, A. F. Seegmiller and Wilford W. Rich; Fourth ward, Chris Tueller and Charles Innes.

Dr. F. P. Matthews, secretary of the California state board of health, is besieged with letters and telegrams from cattlemen, entreating him to use his best efforts to secure a modification of the quarantine rules against splenic fever. Reports are coming in constantly to the effect that cattle are dying from lack of food, and unless they can be moved into the more fertile ranges of Nevada the loss will be tremendous. Dr. Matthews has laid the matter before the secretary of agriculture.

The Populist, Democratic and free silver Republican state conventions met in Portland, Ore., Wednesday. The Democrats and silver Republicans effected permanent organization, but the Populist convention was still working under a temporary organization when an adjournment was taken until today (Thursday). The sentiment expressed in the Democratic and free silver Republican conventions was unanimous in favor of a fusion of forces in the coming campaign. The Populists expressed opposition to fusion.

Three of the largest street railway lines controlled by the Realty Syndicate at Oakland, Cal., have been merged into one company, under the management of which all the railroads owned by the organization will eventually be centered. The three lines in question are the Oakland Consolidated, Alameda, Oakland and Piedmont and the Central Avenue. They will in future be known as the Oakland Transit

company. The articles of incorporation, consolidation and amalgamation filed Monday afternoon place the capital stock at \$5,000,000, divided into 100,000 shares each of the value of \$50, and name Frank M. Smith, E. A. Heron, Frank C. Havens, W. H. Martin, D. D. Harris, John C. Winans, and C. R. Bishop as directors for the first year.

The comet that was discovered last Sunday morning by Assistant Astronomer Perrine of Lick Observatory, is now just now visible to the naked eye by reason of its distinct cellular nucleus and tail, and it is an easy object for a small telescope. It is situated in the northern constellation Pegasus and is moving northward and eastward somewhat more than a degree a day. The elements of its orbit have been computed by Professors Hussy and Perrine. They think that the comet passed perihelion on the 18th of March at a distance of a little more than 100,000,000 miles from the sun, and that it is now about the same distance from the earth. Its distance from the earth and its brightness are slowly diminished. The plane of the orbit is inclined 70 degrees to the plane of the earth's orbit. The intersection of this plane is in longitude 264 degrees.

The Shoup, Ida., correspondent of the Salmon City Recorder writes his paper as follows: A fatal accident occurred here on the 8th inst., which resulted in the death of John A. Corey. It seems he had come over from Pine creek after the mail for that place. He had obtained the mail and had started back home by way of the Grunter trail, below which he used to cross the river in his boat. He had gone about one-quarter of a mile to where he had to pass over a cliff. There was a fair trail, but by some means he lost his footing and fell over the bluff. He fell 50 to 100 feet, where he was found next morning by a searching party. His skull was crushed and one leg was broken in two places. He was buried on the 10th, the remains being followed to their last resting place by nearly every man in the camp. Deceased was about 50 years of age and had been a resident of this county 12 or 15 years.

The Idaho populist committee has named August 8th as the date for their convention, and in an address to the people says: We congratulate all voters, of whatever shade of political faith, who have heretofore embraced any one of our principles, and cordially invite them into full membership within our ranks. We most particularly call their attention to the initiative and referendum as the most direct and satisfactory method of settling all political questions or controversies which may arise. Through the persistent efforts of the Republican party now in power in the nation, to more firmly fasten upon the suffering millions of this country all the blighting curses of the gold standard, conditions have arisen which have resulted in the issuance by the chairmen of the three national silver parties, of addresses suggesting the advisability of united action of all voters who are opposed to the gold standard. While not unfriendly to these suggestions, this committee feels that the responsibility of taking any action along the lines suggested therein is so great and the consequences so momentous to our party, that the entire matter should be referred to the people in convention assembled for their decision. In conclusion, we invite all men and women, of whatever political affiliations, who are in sympathy with the moving principles of the People's party, to co-operate with us to the end that justice and equality to the most humble of our citizens, as well as the strong and aggressive, may prevail in the enactment and enforcement of our laws.