

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

The *Mercur Mercury* says that the new working shaft on the Golden Gate is down between eighty and ninety feet.

H. H. Cotton, an old hydraulic miner, was killed on Wednesday morning by being caught in a cave at the Malakoff mine, near Bloomfield, Nevada.

The Sphinx worm is giving serious trouble to vineyards in different sections of the country around Fresno, Cal. Every day brings reports of their appearance in new vineyards.

Butter is said to be selling in the Portland market at 10 cents a pound, the lowest price ever known. California importations caused the low price.

Beaver *Utonian*: A little child of Charles Rollins of Milford was kicked in the head by a horse the other day. The cork on the horseshoe entered the brain and left a very deep and dangerous wound.

On Thursday morning says the *Tooele Transcript*, while Major Stevens was chopping wood, he had the misfortune to chop the end of his thumb on the left hand off, and severely cut the first finger on the same hand.

This will be the best wild berry season had for many years, says the *Idaho Democrat*. The service berry and choke cherry bushes are bending with blossoms and young fruit, while the huckleberry crop will be unusually large.

A letter has been received at El Paso, Texas, from London, announcing that the required \$2,500,000 has been raised in London for the construction of an immense irrigation dam across the Rio Grande at Rincon, N. M., above El Paso.

An old gun barrel unearthed in the Buckingham swamps, near Monroe, Oregon, is quite a curiosity. It is said to be copper instead of steel. The barrel is round instead of octagonal and the bore is the size of the ordinary 44-caliber rifle.

A new perfecting press will be added within the next few weeks to the Tacoma (Wash.) *Ledger*, giving a capacity for printing eight-page papers at a speed of 12,000 per hour, or 24,000 an hour for four pages. Two more linotypes will also be added.

Miss Mahle Love, said to be one of the prettiest girls in San Francisco society, has decided to adopt the stage as a profession, and will make her debut at the California next Thursday evening in *The Artist's Dream*, a spectacular piece.

During the next sixty days a train of ten cattle cars will run daily over the Union Pacific, Denver & Gulf tracks to Cheyenne, Wyo., in order that 20,000 head now awaiting shipment in Texas and New Mexico may be transferred to Wyoming and Montana feeding ranges.

Park City Record: Martin Cooney, a well known Ontario miner, has died very suddenly from the effects of a stroke of apoplexy, which disease was superinduced from heart failure, from

which the deceased had been suffering for the past two months, it being his third attack.

The *Grangeville (Idaho) Free Press* says that a good deal more gold dust is being delivered here this spring than for several years past, the greater portion coming from Salmon river. The water in the mountain camps has hardly started to running yet, but the yield will be fully up to the average.

The immense droves of sheep passing through the north end of the county, says the *Park City Record*, are reported to be playing havoc with the county roads. They are now almost impassible owing to the boulders that have been rolled down from the hills above, over which the sheep travel.

An important new discovery of spinning remarks the *Casper Derrick*, is reported from the Casper mountain asbestos mines. The fibre is fine from the very grass root. A 100-foot shaft will be put down on the Murphy property this season, and it is believed the McConnell company will do some development work.

Danny Sullivan, twelve years old, was drowned while swimming in the bay at San Francisco on Sunday afternoon. The intense heat of the day had caused the boy with a number of companions to go out for a dip. They had been in the water for some time when Danny was seized with a cramp and sank before help could reach him.

J. Y. Rich was showing some fine samples of coal around Brigham last week according to the *Bugler*. They came from a newly discovered cropping out near Grouse Creek. The discovery was made by Chris Anderson of Snowville, and promises to develop into something important. The vein is fourteen feet in width and the quality of coal is unusually good.

Baker City, Or., looks forward to the erection of a smelter. The plant will cost from \$50,000 to \$75,000 and will begin operations with a daily capacity of twenty tons and facilities for increasing to fifty tons. It will pay, it is thought, by making profitable the reduction of low-grade ores on which freight to Denver or Omaha is so large as to be almost prohibitive.

The postoffice at Rock Springs, Wyo., was robbed at an early hour Sunday morning, \$300 in cash and \$35 in stamps being taken. Entrance was made by prying open a rear window. The safe was drilled, filled with powder and fired, blowing the door out into the room, demolishing a stove and doing considerable damage to the interior of the room. No clue to the robbers.

A number of citizens of Bossko, Wash., have decided to form a colony to come to the Big Horn Basin to settle. Their reason for going is said to be that they can get plenty of land and water and because Wyoming offers splendid opportunities to both capital and labor. Messrs. Clark and Olson were appointed a committee to look up a suitable location for the first colony.

The Herrick cannery at the Dalles,

Oregon, has already begun to pack horse meat. Six cayuses have been slaughtered and canned and they are now feeding a fine 3-year-old filly on grain to see if the quality of the meat will be improved. Samples of the canned horse meat have been distributed in the larger cities, and if the demand warrant, 100 horses a day will be slaughtered and canned.

Enoch Holbrook came nearly being dragged to death last Tuesday while cultivating in the field near his house says the *Davis county Clipper*. His horse took a notion to run and being very tough bitted he was unable to hold it and after being dragged about the field a considerable distance by the lines the horse made a circle causing the lines to come out from under his arm so as to free him.

The *Hyattville (Wyo.) Record* in the Big Horn Basin says: Black crickets are hatching out by the millions in the southern part of the Big Horn Basin and are at present infesting the country from Mahogany Buttes south. The ground is fairly black with them and the ranchmen in that section have great fears for their crops this season and are racking their brains for some method of exterminating the pests.

At Forestown, Butte county, Cal., while a dramatic company was producing *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, an explosion occurred under the stage and two actors were thrown off their feet and the stage was wrecked. Two women fainted and pandemonium reigned in the audience. The cause of the explosion was some giant powder placed under the stage by some hoodlums of the town and exploded by a fuse. No one was injured.

Idaho Democrat: George Nesbitt, just from Owyhee county, says the gulches about Silver City and De Lamar are full of campers of new arrivals of men out of work and waiting for something to turn up. Many of them are without a dollar and have families. The *Avalanche* and *Nugget* have time and again warned laboring men to keep away from there, that there were more than enough resident workers to supply the demand.

A new oil well has been completed at Puente, Los Angeles county, Cal., which produces sixty barrels a day. Another one recently put down yielded fifty barrels, while from the largest well 120 barrels are pumped daily. Thirty wells are now operated and others are constantly being put down. It is probable that arrangements will be made by the city to burn off at the waterworks, the cost being considerably less than the charge for coal.

Lee Tow, a Chinese servant, has entered suit against Sergeant James B. Cook and the officers of the Chinatown squad at San Francisco to recover \$5,000 damages. According to the complaint the plaintiff, while walking along Washington street some time ago, was pounced upon by Cook and some and searched for lottery tickets. Failing to find any tickets, it is alleged, the Chinese was knocked down by one of the officers and repeatedly kicked in the stomach.

Five years ago Clara D. Mahle, then a beautiful girl of nineteen, was jilted and deserted by a young minister of Stockton, Cal. The young woman has