

and became discouraged, and it is supposed he desired death.

The crop outlook in San Joaquin county, Cal., is said to be favorable for a large yield, and the acreage is greater than last year by 10,000 acres. Crops are not suffering for rain, and a fall from half to an inch any time this month will insure the crop, except on the west side of the river, where the fields are pretty dry. The islands never promised so well. The total acreage this year in this county is 200,000 acres.

The amusement patrons of Oakland, Cal., are organizing a war of extermination against the "encore fiend," who is the bane of the life of performers in public. The chief cause of complaint is that this omnivorous creature is without discrimination, always calling for more. Good, bad and indifferent performers are recalled and entertainments are prolonged indefinitely. The latest idea is to put "no encores allowed" on the program.

Arrangements are being made for the shearing season which is now close at hand, says the *Laramie Boomerang*. By the second week in April the wool will begin to fly. It is believed that the wool clip will be larger this year than for some time because there has been very small loss. If the sheep men get a good average price for their product they will be in high feather. The railroad men are already after shipments.

John Hederstedt, a non-union sailor of San Francisco, had his lower jaw broken and dislocated on Sunday night for daring to express his opinion of the Sailors' Union. Hederstedt made some disparaging remark when asked why he did not join the union. Two other pouncers upon him and kicked and beat him into insensibility. On regaining consciousness he was in the receiving hospital. He did not know the names of his assailants and no arrests could be made.

Thomas H. Douglass, who was charged with smuggling 225 tins of opium from the steamer *China* on April 20, 1893, has been found guilty in the United States district court at San Francisco, the jury recommending him to the mercy of the court. Douglass was a customs inspector, and on the night of the smuggling was one of the watchmen on the *China*. At his first trial the jury disagreed. Since that time, however, the government has gathered evidence which greatly strengthened the prosecution.

The El Moro (Col.) coke ovens, says the *Monitor*, are manufacturing about 800 tons of coke per week. There is a quantity of coke on hand at the ovens and the weekly shipments of coke considerably exceed the manufacture at present. About 500 tons per week are shipped to Pueblo, 200 tons to Denver, while occasional large orders come in from Fairbanks, Ariz., and other points. The El Moro ovens are now putting out more coke than any other plant in the state. About seventy men are employed, though not on full time.

The Casper, Wyoming, *Derrick* states that a contract has been let for the erection at Casper of a building to accommodate ten shearing machines. The citizens subscribed some \$450 for the erection of the building for this

experimental plant, which is to be very largely increased if it proves a success. The only machines ever tried in this country before was one in Denver, and some at the World's Fair. A small electric plant has also been ordered to enable the men who operate the machines to work day and night in eight hour shifts.

The Washoe Indians are becoming more civilized each year, remarks the *Genoa (Nevada) Courier*. A great many have houses built in white man's style, and raise chickens and gardens. A number have spring wagons and may often be seen with their mahalas and papooses out for a drive. They present a very amusing spectacle. One fat buck is the proud possessor of a cart and a nice little trotter. He speeds him up and down the smooth roads around Gardnerville, and handles the ribbons with the air of a professional sport.

The placing of a bomb on the court house steps with a lighted fuse attached, on Wednesday night, caused great excitement at Leadville, Colo. The bomb was found by the janitor, who picked it up and carried it to the jail, not knowing what it was. At 11 o'clock next day the county commissioners met and decided to offer \$1,000 reward for the culprit's arrest. Again they met in special session and opened the bomb to find that it contained nothing but sawdust and dirt. It was then decided to withdraw the reward offered and offer \$200 for the arrest and conviction of the person placing the bomb on a charge of misdemeanor, and if an additional charge could be proven, to offer \$1,000 in addition to the \$200, making a reward of \$1,200.

On Saturday night a stranger walked into W. J. Stevenson's law office at Bozeman, Mont., and ordered the lawyer to write an affidavit, the substance of which was that the stranger, who gave the name of Robert Dutton, was guilty of the murder of an old farmer and his wife at Brampton, near Toronto, Canada, last fall. Such a murder was committed at the time mentioned and a man named McWhirrel is under sentence of death for the crime. Dutton explained that he made the affidavit to keep an innocent man from being hanged. After signing the paper he backed out of the lawyer's office, ordered him to keep his mouth shut for a time and disappeared. Stevenson turned the paper over to the officers and gave a description of Dutton, but he cannot be found. Stevenson is a man of good standing and the officers are convinced that he had such a visitor as he reported, but do not know what to make of the case. It is suggested that it may be a trick to save McWhirrel, or the fellow may have told the truth.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

The following initial crop bulletin for the year 1894 has been issued by Observer Salisbury and will be of interest to farmers throughout Utah:

Newton, Cache County, March 28.—15 inches of snow to the north of town; to the south it is less. It is considered that winter wheat is doing well under the snow.

Box Elder (Brigham City), Box

Elder County, March 24.—The snow, with the exception of a few drifts, is gone. The grain has wintered well under the snow, and the prospect is good.

March 31.—The ground is yet wet and cold, and the grain has made but little growth, but looks well.

Meadowville, Rich County, March 24.—It is too early to state how winter wheat is going to look, or how it has fared, for the snow has been covered with snow on an average, outside of drifts, of about 18 inches. Have an extra amount of snow for this time of year; on that account expect good crops of winter grain.

Corinne, Box Elder County, March 24.—Winter wheat just beginning to show signs of life. Too early yet to tell how much or how little it has suffered during the winter.

Logan, Cache County, March 23.—Condition of winter wheat favorable. It is now covered with snow, and has been so all winter.

Harrisville, Weber County, March 26.—Owing to the very dry condition of the ground last fall little fall wheat or winter grain was sown. That which was put in was full protected by snow till the middle of March, and has the appearance of not suffering much from the hurricane winds of the 20th and 21st. The ground at this date is in fine condition, and farming operations will now begin in earnest.

April 2.—Week began with seed planting in full operation, but was retarded by a heavy rain on the 29th, with violent winds. Fall grain is apparently in a healthy condition.

Taylorville, Salt Lake County, March 24.—Winter wheat has done very well in this locality. The acreage is more than usual, and notwithstanding the large amount of snow which fell it did not stay long at a time. The spring is backward, but during the fine spell of weather last week considerable wheat was put in the ground.

Levan, Juab County, March 31.—The average snow covering the winter wheat has been twelve to eighteen inches. Winter wheat never looked better this time of year, but a less amount than usual was sown last fall as fall wheat has partly been a failure the last couple of years. The ground did not freeze before snow fell last fall, hence all snow water sunk into the ground when thawing this spring, giving it a good soaking. The prospect for a good season was never better.

Leamington, Millard County, March 31.—Past week good sowing weather. Spring wheat about all in. Cloudy and warm each day, but good growing weather.

Santaquin, Utah County, April 1.—The past week has been one of good weather for fall wheat and grass, and beneficial to the orchards, provided the frosts later on do not kill the buds.

Moroni, Sanpete County, March 31.—No winter grain under cultivation. Farmers hereabouts have commenced to put in their spring grain.

Kacosh, Millard County.—Snow two feet deep on the 19th and 22nd, which was very good for the grain; the snow is now going fast.

Six prisoners escaped at an early hour on Friday morning from the county jail at Green river, Wyo.