

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

Kendrick, Latah county, Idaho, has a feminine mayor in the person of Miss Jessie Parker, just elected.

Capt. George C. Reiter, U. S. N., in charge of the 13th lighthouse district, Portland, Ore., received orders to leave for Washington, D. C., today (Thursday).

The trial of Lois Palmer for the murder of Joseph Demors last December, has been completed at Evanston, Wyo., Palmer having been convicted of manslaughter Thursday.

J. B. Taylor's house near Meridian, Ida., was the scene of a disastrous fire Thursday evening. The house was occupied by Oliver Newton, whose wife saved her children from the flames at the risk of her own life.

A fight between two citizens of Montpelier, Ida., Friday, resulted in William Shoupe having one-fourth of his nose bitten off by his antagonist, Howard Groo. The latter has been arrested and is to be tried for mayhem.

An English syndicate has purchased, for \$175,000, the canneries controlled by the California Canners companies. The new company has been capitalized at \$250,000, and it will make an effort to control the British market for California canned fruits.

Gov. Budd of California has received a patriotic appeal from the National Volunteers reserve at New York urging him to establish enlistment stations throughout the state for the enrollment of those who desire to join the nation's ranks in the event of war.

A dispatch from Santa Cruz, Cal., says the Comtesse de Sterling died today (Friday). She was a native of England aged 61, and was a widow of J. A. Shortt, who was British consul at Corsica for 13 years. Her first husband was Commander Henry Trefree Fox of the British navy.

The superior court of California has decreed that Albert Frederick George Vereneseneckchockhoff, better known as Albert Hoff, shall be hanged for the murder of Mrs. Mary A. Clute. The death sentence was imposed Tuesday by Judge Carroll Cook and Friday, June 10th, was fixed as the date of execution.

The schooner Hattie I. Phillips, the Gloucester fishing boat which recently went to San Francisco from the Atlantic, will be at once fitted up to go to St. Michael. The Klondikers who make up her party will take with them a river boat, to which they will transfer their outfits at St. Michael. They will then sell the schooner.

C. Howbaker jumped under the wheels of a Santa Fe train as it was leaving Fountain, Cal., Wednesday. He was ground to a pulp. A note was found in his grip on the train, saying he was from Emporia, Kas., and was going to Portland, Ogn. He had written that he was losing his mind and would take his life at the first opportunity.

Al Lomery's dead body was discovered in a room in Grand Junction, Colo., Friday, his clothing saturated with blood and his right shoulder and arm appearing to have been burned. It is thought to have been a case of suicide, as the dead man had expressed himself in terms leading to such a conclusion. Lomery was the son of ex-Chief of Police Lomery of Denver.

Lorenzo Pierucini, an Italian gardener, was instantly killed near Brighton, Cal., Tuesday morning in a very peculiar manner. A smokestack on a building standing near the electric line upon which power is transmitted

from Folsom fell across the wires, and the Italian, in attempting to remedy the mishap, grasped the powerfully charged wire and instantly fell to the ground a corpse. He leaves a widow and two children in Italy.

A dispatch from San Francisco says that Captain Moser and Lieut. Garrett left for Norfolk navy yard this (Saturday) morning. The captain will take charge of the Mayflower and Lieut. Garrett will have temporary charge of the receiving ship at the Norfolk navy yard. They have been in charge of the Albatross for two years, which is the vessel detailed to aid United States Fish Commissioner Brico in making a thorough survey of the fishing grounds of the Alaskan northwest.

A. C. Maxey, a plumber, who resided at Pescadero, Cal., jumped out of a second-story window at the German Hospital, San Francisco, Monday and was picked up dead. His skull was fractured and a shoulder broken. He was a native of California and was 44 years old, and married. He had shown no sign of insanity. He entered the hospital a month ago and was treated for nervousness. Monday he was given his discharge card as being cured, and was about to leave the hospital, it was supposed.

Morris Colman, once a well-known business man in San Francisco and a brother of Charles Colman, the Kearney street hatter, committed suicide Monday morning by shooting himself through the heart. Mr. Colman was a native of Poland, Russia, and 62 years of age. While not in robust health, nor very wealthy, he had no apparent reason to kill himself. He left not a scrap of writing to explain the mystery that surrounds his death and his relatives profess themselves at a loss to account for his act.

Admiral Kirkland has detailed two navy officers to make a thorough examination of two of the best towboats in the San Francisco harbor, and if their report is favorable the two boats may go into commission as adjuncts to the Pacific coast squadron. In the event of war the navy on the Pacific coast will be short of tugs. They are needed at Mare island, and there would be plenty of work for them towing coal and ammunition to the men-of-war stationed in the harbor, and to the batteries on the bay shore.

The White Pine, Nev., News says that some thirteen wagon-loads of Mormon settlers have passed through Ely during the last week, bound for the church ranches in White River valley, where they expect to make their homes in the future. Each colonist is allowed to buy fifteen acres of alfalfa land with water rights at \$16 an acre and one town lot containing an acre of ground for \$25, thus making a total of sixteen acres for \$265, with seven years in which to pay it. Only the men are coming out from Utah at present, and it is their intention to put in their crops and build some sort of shelter before going for their families.

The report of the brand inspector of Wyoming, located at South Omaha, shows that there was a large increase in the shipments from Wyoming of cattle between the 1st of April, 1897, and the 31st of March, 1898. For the former year there were shipped 76,812; for the year 1897, 111,447, an increase of 34,635—nearly 33 1-3 per cent increase. This explains the reason of the present high cattle and feeders in Wyoming. The brand inspector at Omaha seized 6,599 estrays, the sale from which yielded \$105,020.14; from estrays sold at other

places, \$31,844.06; total, \$136,864.20, of which there were paid to members for strays \$132,269.33.

The peaceful little town of Milpitas, Cal., was the scene of a labor riot Monday caused by the opening of the asparagus cannery for the season, with a gang of Chinese to take the places of the Portuguese women and girls, who formerly did the work. The cannery is owned by the Oakland Preserving company and has been in operation for two years. A short time ago it was reported that a gang of Chinese was to be brought down from Oakland to do the work and the Portuguese made threats that the Mongolians would not be allowed to take their places. No heed was taken of the threat, and the cannery opened Monday for the season.

J. G. Courtney and D. A. Campbell of Seattle, Wash., arrived there from Dawson City Thursday evening on the steamer Victorian. They left Dawson March 4th and made the trip in twenty-two days. They report that Judge McGuire had reached Dawson and had opened court. Ed Lord, the man who stole \$20,000 from a saloon last fall was sentenced to five years at hard labor. A shooting scrape is reported to have occurred at Skaguay the day the Victorian left. No particulars were obtainable. The Victorian brought \$50,000 in gold from the Treadwell mine as far as Port Townsend from where it will be shipped to San Francisco.

G. F. Tilton, third officer of the whaling ship Belvedere, one of the fleet fast in the Arctic ocean north of Point Barrow, Alaska, has arrived in Portland, Ore., with F. Klotchhoff, guide of the expedition under Lieut. Jarvis that was sent in the revenue cutter Bear last fall to rescue the whalers and two natives, a man and a woman, who came from Northwestern Alaska. Tilton claims to have a story of tremendous importance but will reveal nothing of its import until paid several thousand dollars. It is not believed that he has any information of value, not already given out. This is to the effect that though in a perilous position the lives of the whalers are not in immediate danger, though their vessels may be crushed when the ice breaks up.

Laramie Boomerang: It is believed that the Cheyenne and Northern railroad, extending from Cheyenne 154 miles north to Orin Junction, is to be speedily transferred from the control of the Denver and Gulf system to that of the Union Pacific. Manager General Dickinson, Chief engineer Berry, Superintendent King of the Union Pacific, and Superintendent Rasback of the Cheyenne and Northern went over the line yesterday on a trip of inspection. Before starting Mr. Dickinson said the trip was taken with the purpose of ascertaining the physical condition of the line, and that the Union Pacific company would soon take control. He intimated that the present train service would be cut down and made tri-weekly. A move of this nature would meet with much opposition from the people living along the line of the road in Laramie county.

A general cutting of steamship rates to Alaska has begun. The companies operating steamers plying between San Francisco, Seattle and Alaskan ports have reduced their rates considerably. One vessel which sailed for Dyea Friday, carried passengers to that place for \$30 and \$20, the former rate being \$62 and \$50. This cut was made to meet the scale of prices offered by Seattle companies. Fares from San Francisco to Conper river are reduced from \$100 and \$75 to \$85 and \$60, from Seattle to Conper City from \$90 and \$70 to \$70 and \$50; from San Francisco to Cook's Inlet from \$105 and \$80 to \$90 and \$65.