

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

John H. Murray, a miner, fell 500 feet down a shaft in the Belle of Butte mine and was instantly killed.

Fresno county has a surplus of school teachers. The 178 schools are already supplied, and about 100 teachers are without positions.

The houses and barns at the Nine Mile ranch near Cheyenne were burned on Saturday night. The fire was caused by the explosion of a lamp and everything was destroyed.

On Saturday a man named Herbert Hewitt was instantly killed while chasing a steer on a range in Dixie valley, Plumas county, Cal., by his horse stumbling and falling on him.

Hailey (Idaho) Times: Harry Duke, treasurer of Salt Lake City, arrived this morning to spend a few days visiting at his brother-in-law's, Eph Daft, where the latter's mother and sister (Mrs. Duke) are stopping for a few weeks.

Two highwaymen held up one of the yardmen in the Montana Central yards at Butte late Saturday night, and relieved him of \$6, all he possessed. The fellows were masked and are believed to be perpetrators of similar jobs in the neighborhood.

W. C. Deeming, a resident of Rocklin, Cal., aged 18 years, and a brakeman on No. 17, was struck on the back of the neck in the snowsheds near Truckee and killed. His body was found on top of a refrigerator car, lying across the running board.

An execution has been issued against the city of Pocatello, Idaho, to satisfy the judgment for \$400 recovered by Charles Nopper. As there is no money in the treasury and the city owns nothing but its fire apparatus, the sheriff will probably have to levy on that.

The White Pine (Nevada) News says that Alpheus Vaughn, sentenced to be hanged at Austin on September 10th, for the murder of the Leiser boys, will not stretch hemp just yet, as the supreme court has granted a stay of execution until such time as an appeal can be made and determined.

Residents from near the junction of the Laramie and North Platte rivers report great devastation by grasshoppers. The pests have eaten the grass for miles, and the crop of hay will be very short. They appear, however, to be gradually leaving the neighborhood, but the damage already done is very great.

Bing Hung, a Chinese highbinder, has been held for trial at Fresno, Cal., for attempting to blackmail two actors in the Chinese Theater. The trial is not likely to come off there, as Bing is wanted by the authorities in Los Angeles for deportation as an ex-convict. The crime for which he was sent to the penitentiary was kidnapping.

The deer in the mountains are fat and waiting for cold lead, says the Weiser (Idaho) Signal. The old story about the scarcity of deer is invariably told by hunters who couldn't hit a barn at twenty yards. After wasting lots of time and lead those would-be

Nimrods return to bore us with yarns about deer being "skeerce."

Jennie Jocket, a disreputable woman of Pueblo, Colo., has been bound over to the district court in \$5,000 for murder, in administering to her paramour, Carl Gruber, a Rio Grande employe, on August 9, a dose of morphine with felonious intent. She admits giving him the dose, but says that he told her how much he wanted.

Says the Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Miner: The Rocky Mountain Telephone company is advertising for bids for telephone poles in this issue. The line to Murray will be entirely rebuilt without delay, also the lines to Burke and Mission, and it is the intention of the company to add another wire to Shoshone, thus forming a continuous circuit.

George Brannan, a young man from San Francisco, who was employed in Black's cracker bakery at Sacramento, went fishing on Sunday last about three miles down the river with three companions. As it was hot they went in bathing, although none of them could swim. Brannan went beyond his depth and was drowned. One of his companions nearly lost his life in trying to aid him. He was about twenty-six years old.

The new traffic arrangement between the Great Northern and Oregon Railway & Navigation company is one of the most important of the year. It gives the Great Northern the most direct entrance of any road into Portland and to the Willamette valley points. It also becomes the short line into the Palouse and Walla Walla districts of Washington, the Coeur d'Alene, Moscow and Snake River districts of Idaho.

Grass Valley Telegraph: Some very rich ore from the South Idaho mine has lately been shown on the streets. The rock was filled with pure quartz gold and was of that nature which would command attention among miners even though no gold was visible to the eye. The rock came from a depth of 100 feet, and a hole two feet and a half had been drilled into the ledge, and still its width had not been reached.

W. H. Greene and Charlie Benton came down from Gold Hill Tuesday, says the Saratoga (Wyo.) Sun. They are both quite reticent about the camp, but we judge from their looks that neither of them are very much discouraged. The Rock Springs gentlemen who are operating the hydraulic placer works on Four-mile creek, eighty miles south of Rawlins, have a good brick valued at \$2,000, the returns from one week's clean-up.

James V. Odell, one of the leading lawyers of Colfax, Wash., swallowed a glass of poison by mistake, thinking it was water, in a drug store Monday afternoon. The glass contained atropia and sulphite of zinc. Odell became delirious and his life was despaired of for a time, but the doctors expect him to recover. Odell is one of the oldest and best known attorneys in the

northwest, and one of the framers of the first constitution of the state of Washington.

Manti Sentinel: An accident occurred at Gunnison a few days ago by which Guy, the seven-year-old son of Anthony Metcalfe, lost his life. The boys were hauling grain, and when about two miles from home, on the county road, some of the bundles slipped. In trying to keep them on the wagon, the little fellow fell between the horses and the wagon. The wheel passed over his shoulder and head, killing him instantly. The funeral was held at Gunnison last Saturday, a large concourse being present.

A dispatch from Rock Springs (Wyo.) says there is a band of horse thieves operating in the southern part of Sweetwater county. About twenty head of fine horses have been stolen from the "4J" and Valentine S. Hoy's ranches during the past month. A few days ago John Blair and Paul Walker, who were in search of cattle on Bitter creek, were held up by two horse thieves near La Clede springs. The men were driving about twenty-five head of horses south toward the Utah line. All efforts to capture the thieves have thus far been unavailing and a number of ranchmen propose to organize a posse and make a raid on them.

Two members of a gang of counterfeits who have been manufacturing and passing spurious coin at Phoenix, Ariz., for a week past, were arrested this evening. One is James Young; the other is known as Murray. The latter is 35 or 40 years old, well dressed, premature gray and distinguished looking. Bad quarters and half dollars were found upon each, with unmistakable evidence that they were made here. A search of the room of one of the men revealed nothing. The room of the other has not been located. Both prisoners are non-committal. The town has been flooded with the counterfeit money.

Butte (Mont.) Inter Mountain: There is very little news of importance to note in the mining industry in this district this week, all of the big copper producers being actively engaged in turning out their usual quota and metal. It was hoped by those engaged in the copper business that the war in the East would strengthen the market in that metal, and though there is a bare possibility that it may yet, up to the present it has shown no tendency to do so. It is said that when the fighting begins in earnest there will be a demand for more modern implements of warfare than the bows and arrows with which the majority of the Chinese troops are now equipped and this demand will undoubtedly help the copper market.

The coroner was summoned to McCammon a few days ago, says the Pocatello (Idaho) Tribune, to hold an inquest on the body of a man named Serviers who had died suddenly at that place. Serviers had just arrived in this country from Panama and coming West engaged as a farm laborer with H. O. Harkness at McCammon. He worked a day and a quarter and was taken sick and died. The investigation developed the fact that he died of Panama fever, the germs of which