

Amerman Post, a letter carrier of Salt Lake City, recently sued the government under the eight hour law for overtime and a decision was rendered in favor of Post. The government appealed to the United States Supreme court. The highest court has affirmed the finding.

The suit of Post and the decision of the Supreme court opened the way for the bringing of suits to collect claims of a similar character aggregating a very large sum.

Washington, Dec. 1.—By order of Assistant Postmaster General Heath, it has been made an offense punishable by dismissal from the service for a letter carrier to work more than eight hours a day.

This is the result of a decision by the Supreme court upholding the claim of A. S. Post, a letter carrier of Salt Lake, for overtime under the eight hour law of 1888.

Mr. Post is an old soldier who is drawing a pension from the government. He is well known here and was in the employ of the Salt Lake post-office during Cleveland's first administration. Just how the case comes up now is not understood by the local authorities. A "News" man called at Postmaster Barratt's office today for information but did not find the official in at the time. Charles C. Slade, superintendent of city delivery, was seen, however. He said: "I cannot understand the meaning of this dispatch. The Post case was passed on by the United States Supreme Court several years ago with a number of others. I had one among them. It happened in this way: During Cleveland's first administration we were short of assistance and had to work overtime a great deal putting in from twelve to fourteen hours a day. We felt that we were entitled to extra compensation, as under the rules of the department, as we interpreted them, we were only required to work eight hours a day. Therefore seven of us, Rue H. Sholes, W. W. Wiscomb, W. J. Wiscomb, A. S. Post, S. R. Skidmore, L. B. Morse and myself, all carriers, put in bills for extra compensation. These were allowed by the Court of Claims, and the government appealed the case to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court affirmed the decision and we all got our money, ranging from \$600 to \$1,000, Post getting the larger amount. We won in all of our contentions except as to claims for Sunday compensation. These were ruled out."

"This ruling," continued Mr. Slade, "opened up the way for other carriers similarly situated throughout the United States, and a flood of suits was the result. In order to satisfy the claims Congress passed a special appropriation bill of more than a million dollars. That was some years ago, however, and the present dispatch must be connected with that in some way. I do not believe it can refer to any new phase of the case, as all claims arising under it were passed upon and paid years ago except the Sunday claims which were declared void."

"Recently Mr. Post, who has been out of the department service for a considerable time, applied for reinstatement. The matter was referred to the authorities at Washington to the officials here but the case was adversely passed upon."

Telluride, Col., Dec. 2.—B. F. Griffin, a well known electrician, who was engineer of the electric hoister at the Valley View mines, fell 300 feet from the bucket of a tramway and almost every bone in his body was reduced to splinters. He was being conveyed down to the mill for the purpose of locating a defect in the working of a motor, when he was dumped out, fall-

ing to the ground below. Doubtless death was instantaneous.

St. Louis, Dec. 2.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from San Antonio, Tex., says:

Advices were received here this morning of an attempt to hold up and rob a passenger train on the Mexican National road, near Monterey, Mexico, by nine masked and well armed Mexicans. The passengers made resistance and the outlaws were unsuccessful. They are being pursued by soldiers and if captured, will be shot.

Chicago, Dec. 2.—Fire destroyed the home for aged and infirm colored women on Indiana avenue today. Several of the most helpless inmates were suffocated by smoke before rescued by the police.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—With only two dissenting votes, the city council last night passed the joint ordinance for elevating the tracks of the Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway companies. The ordinance provides for the elevation of twelve miles of lines at an estimated cost of \$3,200,000 to the two roads. The entire work must be commenced on or before May 1, 1898, and completed within two years of that date.

There are now pending before the track elevation committee ordinances of the following roads: Chicago & Alton, all tracks; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, same; Chicago & Western Indiana and Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, ten miles; Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, all tracks in the city; all important tracks within the city limits.

Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 3.—Henry Blodgett, head of the law department of the General Electric Co., was shot by a burglar and mortally wounded today. Mrs. Blodgett was awakened by the burglar, and calling to her husband he rushed out into the hall where stood the thief. The burglar called to Mr. Blodgett to hold up his hand and at the same time started to back down the stairs. Mr. Blodgett followed and the burglar fired on him. The shots were returned by Mr. Blodgett but on the third shot one of the burglar's bullets found its way into Mr. Blodgett's right side. The burglar escaped.

Oconto, Wis., Dec. 3.—As City Attorney H. P. Lynch was standing in front of the store of Goodrich, Martineau & Co., a woman heavily veiled threw the contents of a can of carbolic acid into Lynch's face. The acid burned his eyes and face quite badly. He may lose the sight of his left eye.

Mrs. Rosa A. Sharp, owner and editor of the Inquirer, a weekly paper published here, was arrested as the alleged perpetrator of the assault. The hearing was postponed until Dec. 9. Bonds were fixed at \$1,000.

Mrs. Sharp is about 40 years of age, and Lynch is 25. Lynch used to help Mrs. Sharp about her printing office. A short time ago an attempt was made to throw red pepper in Lynch's face, but it failed.

Mrs. Sharp has been a widow for several years, has two children, 9 and 12 respectively, occupies quite a prominent position, always has been well thought of here.

Attorney Lynch has been here since 1895, and has acted in the capacity of city attorney for the last two years.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The hearing given by the interstate commerce commission on the question of extending the time in which the railroads of the country may comply with the provisions of the car coupler and train brake act was concluded at noon today. The commission intends to take some supplemental testimony under oath before coming to a decision. There seems to be no doubt whatever that an extension will be granted and

that the extension will be general in character, the hearing having demonstrated that any discrimination would fall as heavily on roads which have complied with the law as on those which have thus far disregarded it. The general impression among the railroad men and labor leaders who were in attendance at the hearing, is that the extension granted by the commission will be a compromise. The railroad representatives asked for five years with the condition that one-fifth of the unequipped rolling stock of each company should be equipped each year, and the representatives of the railroad organizations protested against an extension in excess of three years.

Three years is generally believed to be the maximum which the commission will grant. The commission is evidently in great doubt as to their ability to impose conditions on an extension and it may be that they will grant but a year's extension at this time, with the understanding that against those roads who do not complete the yearly portion of their equipment during that period the law shall become operative.

New York, Dec. 4.—Senor Canalejas, the Madrid editor and a close friend of Senor Sagasta, is satisfied that Pinar del Rio province is not "pacified," says the Havana correspondent in a dispatch to the World. He went to the United States as the confidential agent of Spain's premier, it is said, to ascertain the real disposition of the government at Washington and the condition of affairs in Cuba.

He visited Pinar del Rio last month. Official reports have been received from the generals of great military activity there.

The Spanish attacked, Nov. 28, the insurgent position in the Posoria Hills, lately the headquarters of Pedro Diaz and Mayla Rodriguez. The Spaniards had two brigades of infantry of eight battalions each, two squadrons of guerrillas and four cannon. Major Toro was wounded while standing near Gen. Bernal.

The official account says that five hundred insurgents defended the position; that many articles were captured at the plantations; that the sweet potatoes were destroyed and that many explosive bullets were found.

While the troops were burying Major Seisdedos, Senor Canalejas was fired at.

The Spanish columns were under fire throughout the night of the 29th but the official reports give the loss of only one major and two guerrillas killed, one major, one captain and 18 men wounded.

Decorations have been requested for this "brilliant" action. The loss of the insurgents is not known.

What Senor Canalejas witnessed may account for the cable report from Madrid that at yesterday's cabinet counsel at which the queen regent presided, Premier Sagasta reported that "The military operations in the province of Pinar del Rio, Cuba, show it to be an important center of rebellion notwithstanding that Gen. Weyler declared it pacified."

Another official announcement tells of a sharp "skirmish" in eastern Cuba, where Gen. Pando, the chief of military operations on the island—who was falsely reported killed a few days ago—is personally conducting a campaign against Gen. Gomez.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 4.—Two cars on the Detroit, Birmingham & Pontiac suburban electric railway collided this afternoon at the foot of the Trowbridge grade about midway between Birmingham and Pontiac, killing three persons and seriously injuring as many others.