

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

slow in comparison with the involuntary movements of which they are capable. The researches of Messrs. Broca and Richet show that ten separate impressions is the average highest limit of brain perception. The experiments prove that each excitation of the nerves is followed by a brief period of inertia, and during this period no new or appreciable impression can be made. An individual's voluntary movements of any kind cannot exceed ten or twelve per second, although to the muscles, acting independently of the will, as many as thirty or forty per second may be possible.

Arsenical poisoning from wall paper has been explained by Gassio and Emmerling as due to the volatile arsenic compounds thrown off by the certain moulds having the power of lining on arsenical paper. Mr. Thomas Bolas, an English chemist, now points out that arsenic even in small quantities is poisonous to these moulds, which are able to live by freeing themselves of a little arsenic in volatile form, but would be destroyed if the poison were present in any considerable amount. The most dangerous paper is therefore likely to be that containing a mere trace of arsenic. Dyed and printed fabrics very frequently contain traces of arsenic, and it is urged that precipitated borate of copper be substituted as a green pigment for all arsenical greens.

The nervous system, says Prof. W. H. Thomson, has a greater store of reserve vitality than all the other bodily systems together, and is the only texture that does not lose weight in death by starvation or other cause. It is the last to grow old. As to the mind, it need not grow old at all, provided it be supplied with the mighty stimulus called interest, by which it will grow steadily, even while bone and sinew are wasting through age.

A difficulty of administering medicine to small children is overcome by Prof. Ainsel, who affirms that a mixture of equal parts of soap liniment and aloes will act as a cathartic when rubbed in small quantity upon the abdomen.

JACKSON COUNTY HOLE.

Driggs, Idaho, Feb. 10, 1898.—This has been the best winter for outdoor work since the valley was settled. Snow is only about one foot deep. Stock have wintered well. The roads are open between here and Jackson's Hole and in fact all through the country.

The boys of Victor have challenged Jackson gunners to match them Friday in a shooting contest, the losing side to pay the expense of a dance. A masquerade ball will be given at Victor on the evening of the 14th. Elk are wintering fine in the Hole. Mr. Thomas R. Wilson has filed papers as postmaster at Alta (Pratt), Wyoming, a few miles northeast from this office. The people of Derby have just completed a new meeting house. Elder Don C. Driggs left on the 1st to fill a mission in Montana.

This is a fine country for those needing homes with every facility for men of energy. Hay, grain and produce of every kind is cheap and plentiful. Timber, grass and water in great abundance—no sickness. There has not been a death in the whole valley this winter, and we number several hundred souls. Six dancing parties were given last Friday night, which will show there are some live people here and each house was crowded. Everybody comparatively happy and contented.

It is stated that the overproduction of oil in the Los Angeles, Cal., oil fields at the present time is nearly 500 barrels a day.

Rock Springs, Wyo., has received information that the missing Lieut. Dripps of the Eighth U. S. infantry, has been seen at Mercur, Utah.

A supposed kidnapping is reported from Cheyenne, Wyo., through the mysterious disappearance of Ellen Whitehead, the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Smith of that city.

Wednesday, the treasurer of Laramie county, Wyo., attached a car belonging to the C. B. Havens company for taxes because of a refusal of the company to pay on its property in Wyoming.

Harry Jaeger, 10 years old, and his little sister Anna, aged 3, of Los Angeles, Cal., were thrown from a carriage Tuesday in a runaway and narrowly escaped having their heads broken on the pavement.

Felix Laborge lost his life in the Hope mine near Haily, Ida., Wednesday, by the falling of a slip from the roof while timbering a cross cut. His working companion, Morris Bruner, was quite seriously bruised.

At Santa Monica, Cal., Pedro Garcia, or "Indian Pete," has confessed to being implicated in the murder of Charles Collins last Friday, but places all the blame on his mistress, Mary Ellen Garcia, and charges her with striking the fatal blow.

The bursting of an air compressor in the shafthouse of the Parker and Gardner lease on the Orphan Belle mine, Cripple Creek, Colo., Friday, caused the wreckage of the building and the narrow escape from death of several miners.

His failure to appear for trial at Butte, Mont., Friday, cost the bondsmen of Baron Fegenbush \$1,000. The defendant was charged with defrauding John E. Woods of Joliet, Ill., of a certain sum of money through the sale of worthless mining stock. Fegenbush is now in Denver.

William Gray, a mining man of Livingston, Mont., was found dead near the stock yards in that city Sunday afternoon. The body was discovered by three boys. Gray disappeared from his home on the 1st inst. His head has been mashed in, thus indicating murder.

In view of the disaster to the battleship Maine, Governor Budd of California has requested all citizens and directed officers in charge of state buildings and armories to place the flag at half-mast on Monday, February 21, out of respect to the officers and men who lost their lives.

At Boise, Ida., State Auditor Anderson has commenced suit against Secretary of State Lewis to collect \$875, which he claims was collected by the secretary from the Sentinel company for transcribing the laws and the house and senate journals, and which has not been paid into the treasury.

A dispatch from Tucson, Ariz., says that troops of American and Mexican cavalry are operating on both sides of the national line, gathering the Papagos into their villages. The purpose is understood to be an intention to fix the blame of late depredations made by the Indians upon cattle near the border.

Arbitration is now proposed in the suit of the Grand Junction, Colo., Water company against the council of that city, the former agreeing to sell

its plant to the city at the value fixed by the arbitrators; also to have arbitrated the claims made by the company for hydrant rental covering a period of years.

At San Francisco the work of preparing the revenue cutter Corwin for her Arctic trip is almost complete, and in a few days she will be ready to start for Alaska, where she goes to supplement the work of the Bear in rescuing the ice-bound whalers. The hull of the Corwin is being heavily sheathed as a protection against the ice.

John E. Bachman, treasurer of the Gruetli Verein, a Swiss benevolent society of San Francisco, is wanted by his brothers of that organization. Until lately Bachman was a trusted member of the society and was given full control of its finances. This trust, say other members, has been grossly violated and the treasurer is now among the missing.

John Meyers of the Chicago fire department has contracted with a shipbuilder of Portland for the construction of a steamer for the Yukon river. There are fifty who will go to the Klondike with Meyers, and all belong to the fire department of Chicago. The steamer is to be completed May 15th, and will be sent to the Yukon in knock-down shape.

The Times of Laramie, Wyo., says: President J. T. Kingsbury of the State University of Utah was a visitor in our city Monday. He was shown through the university here and expresses himself as much pleased with everything. President Kingsbury intends visiting the most prominent universities in the country during the next six months.

Orders have been received at Fort Sherman, Ida., for the transfer of company H of that post, commanded by Captain Whitehall and Lieut. Irwin, to Fort Stevens, Oregon. It is expected that the company will be ready to start within forty-eight hours. The order to reoccupy the abandoned Fort Sherman post is taken to mean that the government is desirous of manning its seacoast forts.

As a consequence of the unfavorable criticism that has followed the sinking of the steamer Clara Nevada and the trouble that attended the departure of the steamer North Pacific for the north carrying gold seekers, Col. Huxes, collector of customs at Fort Townsend, Wash., has determined to compel vessels bound for Alaska to carry only the number of passengers allowed by the Federal permit.

The committee appointed by the commercial and industrial bodies of San Francisco to consider the feasibility of a California exhibit at the Trans-Atlantic Exposition in Omaha have decided to report to their respective organizations that in view of the lack of interest manifested and the absence of any assurance that free space could be obtained at Omaha, the project was not practicable at this time.

A dispatch from San Francisco says that James J. Corbett has accepted the offer of Joe Harvey and his associates to meet Robert Fitzsimmons in a finish fight for a purse of \$50,000 about July next in Nevada or some place west of the Missouri river. Joe Harvey has received a telegram to that effect from W. A. Brady, Corbett's manager. An answer is expected from Fitzsimmons today (Thursday).

In the Provincial legislature, Victoria, B. C., Wednesday, H. C. Pooley, president of the council, presented a statement of Mr. Cotton, the member for