NEWS OF THE WEST.

Usual Picture of Morals in a California Town.

CUT HIS THROAT ON BARBED WIRE

Cruelty to a Crazy Woman—Invention to Utilize Ocean Power—General News Items.

The Oregon law suspending fishing in the Columbia river on Sunday is, according to the statesmen, not for the sport benefit of the fishermen. It is to give the fish a rest on that day.

Rock Springs Independent: An emigrant wagon passed through here yesterday, from Iowa, bound for southern California. The wagon was drawn by one horse and a mule, the former having died a day or two previous.

A large cave was discovered and partially explored recently by James Dobson, James Pelton and others, six miles beyond the cave on the road leading to Big Meadow, Oregon, on the Deschutes. The party explored the cave for a distance of four miles.

Those who gather the eggs of sea birds from the islands off the coast of Oregon are doing a good business. William Carey has collected over 1,200 eggs from Island Hook and M. Jones and his crew have gathered about 500 dozen from the smaller rocks.

Oregon contains more than 25,000,000 acres of arable land. The Willamette valley alone contains 5,000,000 acres. Over 10,000,000 for other sections of the west valley is covered with forests, the balance of the state being mountain, grazing and desert lands, the value of which can nearly all be made highly productive by irrigation.

Lamoille Somersaug, July 10: The stockyard of the West Side Placer company's ditch at Four Mile has been sold to the Carey Brothers of Ogden, Utah, who are now hiring men and teams and forwarding supplies. The ditch will be forty miles long, twelve feet wide at the top and four feet deep. C. P. Allen of Denver has the contract to pipe.

Jim Williams, the tramp accused of the murder of Mrs. Sharkey, has been traced to California, but it is said the Douglas (Nevada) county authorities do not consider the new evidence strong enough to warrant their taking the man. At his preliminary examination not enough evidence was produced to hold him, but after he release an important witness appeared on the scene.

Great indignation exists in the little town of Washington, across the river from Sacramento, Cal., because Constable Brouillard compelled Mrs. Brown, a crazy woman, whom he had arrested, to walk intoxicated and handcuffed through the town and across over the railroad bridge, the planks of which were covered with splinters. After crossing the bridge the woman could walk no further and she then bundled into a wagon and taken to the jail in this city.

W. C. Campbell, a rancher living near Fresno, Cal., met with a peculiar accident Tuesday. He was thrown from a cart by his horse becoming unmanageable, and in falling struck on a barb-wire fence. The wire struck his neck in such a manner as to cut the throat almost from ear to ear, and severed several of the smaller veins and arteries. He received medical aid as soon as possible after the accident, and is still alive, although in a very critical condition.

Wheatland Herald: A man who has been forty years in the arid belt gives an opinion to a Cheyenne paper to the effect that the fall of moisture is regulated in cycles—twenty years of drought and twenty of rainfall—and that we are about to enter on a period of moisture. This is a very plausible explanation, and on the strength of it we presume the gentleman who advanced it will, since he has already waited twenty years for rain, have little trouble in waiting twenty more, should it be necessary.

The Fresno, Cal., board of supervisors has received a letter from J. D. Castro, justice of the peace at Firebaugh, a small village near Fresno, asking that he be relieved of office at once, and giving as his reason that he wishes to stay there, and that knowledge has come to him that a plot has been formed to drown him in the San Joaquin river. He paints a dismal picture of the morals of Firebaugh, and says the people there have a grudge against him because he tries to force them to turn from their evil ways. He says the village of Firebaugh, with less than 100 people, has eight saloons, and that everybody is drunk nearly all the time, the women as well as the men, and that children patronize the saloons the same as their fathers and mothers. Justice Castro explains that he has carefully guarded his own conduct and never sat on the bench unless sober, although at other times he considered that he had a right to think if he wanted to do so. He complains that when he does law-abiding they not only refuse to pay his fees, but mock and ridicule him, and he is unable to help himself.

E. Gerlach, an inventor, has secured a lease of the wharf at Capitola, Cal., for the purpose of constructing his invention. The wharf will be extended and the motor put in operation inside of four months. San Francisco capitalists are behind the project. Copper wire will be run from the motor to Santa Cruz for the purpose of supplying power for machinery, street railways, etc. Gerlach claims to have solved the problem of utilizing wave power. The device is simple, consisting of a wheel segment, with three paddles fastened on an axis, and placed at the end of a pier built to extend out to 30 or 100 feet outside the breakers of the coast. There radiate from the thirty foot ring and from the hub, fifty feet wide, according to the power required. They dip from twelve to thirty feet, and the wheel rather is arranged so as to rise or sink with the tide. The outgoing and incoming ocean operates on the paddles, pushing and causes them to sway back and forth. This motion is transmitted to a straight and a crossed cable by pulleys, which are hooked on the shaft revolving shaft, but so arranged that the pulleys turn the shaft always in the same direction. It is claimed to give a current the utilization of the wave force will give an impetus to the establishment of factories on the ocean shore, owing to the cost and the doing away with

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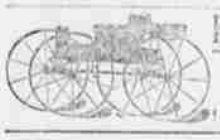
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