EVENTS IN THE WEST.

A Record of Occurrences in Neighboring States and Territories.

FRANCISCO DI FRANCHI'S CAREER.

Tourist's Time Computed — Robbed a Footpiller—Concerning Zante Currants—Miscellaneous.

Aspen is the "Diamondfield" Jack Dorsey case, has been postponed till January 5 by the Idaho state board of pardons.

Sheriffer, the forger, recently arrested in Denver, was sentenced in Laramie the other day, and on walking promenade he was held in the district court in default of $5,000.

C. H. Burns, who for the past year has been employed as a clerk in the market of John A. Beale, Denver, has disappeared under circumstances that lead to the belief that he has been foully dealt with. He left his mother at Leadville on the morning of the 20th, and was last seen in Denver on Monday, for Portland.

The official time of the torpedo boat Dorsetshire Farragut has been established and her speed is 24.5 knots on the mile with the conditions of the screw. This will be the speed made in the navy trials, if not by the Farragut, then by the boat next in the Zante vessel flying the American flag.

The suicide at Clifton, a station on the Rio Grande Valley railroad, 20 miles south of Fresno, Cal., was robbed Tuesday night of two hundred and fifty dollars. Mr. Wilkinson, the postmaster, who was the last person to see the man alive, says everything made their escape, the source of their booty is not believed to be large.

The shooter Roselle which has just arrived at Victoria, B. C., from the waters of the Lena reveal reports that a thousand miles of the Lena valley will be made ready for the road. A continuous train of purchased mounted police is to be detached to the Lena valley to assist in the work of establishing headquarters. They will be supplied with a small body of all the best men of their Labrador dogs, which are brought with them from Quebec. The Roselle left the Lena on Oct. 5, and had on board Lieutenant Wood, who killed forty of them.

At a meeting of prominent citizens of Denver, it was called to order by Governor Adams, who made a formal presentation to President McKinley's message that Zante, currently, be declared in the free list, in consideration of reciprocal concessions from Greece, a telegram was read from Senator Teller, in which he calls the attention to the ruling of Judge Morrow that the Zante currant is not a currant, but a dried grape, and that it came into free competition with California raisins. The free admission of Zante, said Senator Teller, would be a death blow to the California industry.

The Cheyenne Sun-Leader says that Francisco Di Franchi's career, which ended in suicide at Lusk, was marked by his wife and family, and closely allied with a native, known as "Dutch" Jim Johnson, left Hermosa on one of his customary tours, and without any warning left his family. It is supposed at the time that he eloped with Mrs. Johnson, the wife of the foreman of the ranch. Mr. Leonard, one of the Sun-Leader locks and requested that the boy who was with his mother be denied. He says he knew Johnson, who had frequently spent his time at the ranch, and was acquainted with him. He says his wife and away the same day as Johnson did, so there is little room for conjecture as to the direction and the important story is false.

Francisco Di Franchi, who was shot and is for Professor Wilkinson, of Lusk, who is now confined in Sunday night, said to have been an agent of the mountain in Mexico recently. It is said that Domenico Fort, brother of Di Franchi's family. The latter is reported to have left Mexico for Chicago and thence to San Francisco. Fort left San Francisco last July for Denver, where he arrived in Chicago and is supposed to have left there now for Lusk. In Wyoming a warrant for his arrest for assault on a woman in Los Cruces, New Mexico, with Francisco Di Franchi and the latter shot him in the leg. In New Orleans Di Franchi killed, it is said, in the Mafia murders which culminated in the killing of Chief of Police Hennessy and the wholesale arrest Italian suspects. In Denver Di Franchi came in contact with the police and was expelled. He then went to San Francisco where he met his death.

Our Asiatic Markets.

We have no moral right to condemn the highly-skilled labor, which we have systematically evaded, to inaction and starvation, or to remit it back to the rude tasks of the dark ages; we are in honor bound to give it, so far as this lies within the power of a far-seeing foreign policy, the commercial market which it has challenged and deserved by proving its ability to make it in foreign lands. That which may be hardly secured as merely obligatory and a economic policy now will also be presently acknowledged to be a moral necessity. The time is close at hand when we shall cease to be able to meet a large part of the requirements of the Federal government by means of revenue derived from imports from foreign lands. We shall cease to draw adequate revenue from this source because American manufactures are rapidly acquiring the power of answering almost all American demands not only for the comforts but also for the luxuries of highly civilized life. As we shall consequently be compelled to make good the deficit in our public income by taxes upon our home consumption of home products, it will behoove us to secure the sale of these products, not only by retaining our hold upon existing markets, but by creating new ones.

In no quarter of the earth can we more advantageously look for an increased demand for our commodities than in the Oriental Empire. In one week the volume of our trade with China represents more than the entire foreign commerce of that country. Our imports from the Middle Kingdom have, indeed, grown but slowly, but our exports thither have wonderfully augmented by 126 per cent in ten years, and are over 56 per cent greater than the exports thither from Germany. The value of the whole trade with China in 1897 amounted to nearly $7,000,000, or nearly one-half the entire valuation of the foreign trade enjoyed by our ancient rival, the United States. The export of kerosene oil from this country to the Middle Kingdom has more than trebled in value during the past five years; in 1897, it amounted to $4,300,000. The exports of our wheat flour to China reached a value in 1897 of $2,000,000, our exports of cheese, lard, etc., have increased at an additional million. When the spacious and densely peopled area of China is covered, as it will be, not by single lines, but by a vast network of railways, there will be an enormous demand for steel rails, locomotives and rolling stocks, all which our manufacturers will be able to supply more cheaply than any of their European competitors. It follows that, not only with the Middle Kingdom being already considerable, and offering the greatest of almost limitless expansion, we have, first in England, and now in Germany, the most formidable competitors among commercial powers, and must to gain by insuring upon freedom of access to her markets. The magnitude of our interests present and prospective, and the fate of China would, alone by itself, suffice to warrant a departure from our past policy of aloofness, and would justify the Monroe doctrine, which, in connection with each other marching nations as are deeply concerned in upholding China's territorial integrity and a complete liberty of trade, and of commercial inheritance. The nations, between which and ourselves there may be said to exist a solidarity of interests are twofold, namely, Great Britain and absolutely Great Britain and Japan, and it is probable that, were or late, Germany will be included in the list. Not one of the four powers named, with the possible exception of Great Britain, is strong enough, single-handed, to thwart the ambitious designs of Russia and France, each of which can avoid China by land, the one from Siberia and the other from Tonkin. But what even Russia might venture to do in attempting alone, three or four of the powers named might rather accomplish by co-operation, and we have opportunely, taken the proper steps to secure the assurance with in the one, compel them to combine. An alliance of that sort, instead of being an unnatural one, such as Washington warned against, would be strongly commended to us by the very same considerations of commercial policy as led Washington, almost in the same breath, to say: "Tis our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world." It is, in truth, for no other purpose but to keep our existing treaties with China specific and healthy that we may be enabled to proceed to unite with Great Britain and Japan, and possibly, with the German empire, in order to interpose a check to a possible contingency and to preserve the Middle Kingdom from total dismemberment.—Collier's Weekly.

Close the Indian Bureau.

The Indian bureau ought to be taken once and forever out of politics. The government should find the ablest expert in dealing with the Indians, and may be the president, instead of letting the Indian bureau be a place at the earnest possible moment. Then entrusted to the office for the purpose, he should say: there till the work is completed. I believe that in one instance an army officer would be the best of the expert in Indian affairs. He would be eager to bring the work to a close, while the civilian would see a hundred reasons why it should be continued from year to year. The Indian bureau should be Indian reform and removed out for ever, never for political reasons.—From "The Indian Problem," by the Rev. Lyman Abbott, D. D., in North American Review for December.

Faith the Basis of Banking.

Faith is, after all, the basis of banking; and, if there be no faith, there can be no banking. For that reason, it is possible for those who are skilled in bookkeeping, but who are dishonest, to carry on something for a while, if not for even a year, but it is a game impossible by which even the most expert accountants are deceived, and can be deceived as long as this dishonest man may have access to the books. The recent record of embezzlements or failures has, in almost every instance, made clear, upon examination, that dishonest methods of the kind were carried on for years, who had full access to the books, in one case, for a period extending at least fifteen years. In that case, the dishonest employee, knowing that his safety depended upon his ability to cook the books, refused to make a vacation. If the officers of the bank are unable to detect dishonesty of this kind, even if they adopt the most approved and scientific method of bookkeeping—it is beyond reason to expect that a national bank examiner can do it. Quoting the National Bank Examiner, by the Hon. Thomas L. Jones, president of the Lincoln National Bank, New York, in North American Review for December.

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