NEWS OF THE WEST.

Discovery of a Petrified Human Body by Workmen.

A FATAL GAME OF "POKER."

An Ex-Postmaster Convicted of Stealing From a Registered Letter—Prisoners Escape.

Three prisoners broke jail at Fort Collins, Colo., on Wednesday evening about dark. Undersheriff Osborne, when he went to feed the prisoners, discovered that three of them had escaped by breaking the bars of the west window.

The Congregationalists of Boulder, Colo., had a very unique outside on Wednesday evening in the parlors of the church. The feature of the evening was Prof. George H. Howe's experiments of boiling ice by electricity, which called out a large audience.

The Omaha *World-Herald* says: George Grossella has telegraphed from Hinton station, some ten miles south of this city, that the petrified body of a human being had been found by the workmen engaged in blasting in the quarries of Gossella & Mitchell.

Sheep men, who have been filling their time for a few weeks in the and flush valleys, are now driving their flocks to the desert, says the *Tooele Transcript*. They are jubilant on account of the snow storm, and seem to think there will not be much loss this winter.

Idaho *Daily Statesman*: Warden Campbell reports the work of enlarging the reservoir at the penitentiary is progressing nicely. The capacity of the reservoir will be greatly increased. It is proposed to set out 1,000 fruit trees on the prison reserve, which will be irrigated with water from the reservoir.

George Allen and Frank Bailey, two gamblers, were playing poker for a horse at Culbertson, Mont., on Wednesday night. At the show down Allen had four aces and a gun; Bailey had a gun and four queens. Allen is dead, though he pulled his gun first, Bailey being bequeath for him. The murderer has escaped.

H. E. Gromby was arrested at Los Angeles, Cal., on Wednesday on a charge by S. Henry of swindling him by selling him an interest in land which had no existence. Mr. Gromby is a real estate man there and is said to have swindled numerous other persons in like manner, among them many in Pasadena, where he pretended to locate claims on government land.

F. W. Mead, the ex-postmaster of Lenado, Colo., under indictment for stealing $3 from a registered letter in September, 1892, has been convicted by a jury in the United States district court at Denver. Notice of a motion for a new trial was filed by his counsel. The penalty for Mead's offense is not less than one year nor more than five years in the penitentiary.

Virgil Kelly has left for Burlama, where he will commence grading the Snake valley dam. He took with him thirteen men, one woman cook, eight span of horses, wheel scrapers, etc., in fact complete utensils and supplies for several months. Six men and teams from Fillmore have also gone out, and the work will now be pushed right along to completion.—*Millard County Advocate.*

The Cheyenne *Tribune* says: Articles of incorporation have been filed with the secretary of state by the promoters who are interested in Fremont county property. The corporation is known as the Gold Reef Mining and Milling company, and its stated capital is $2,500,000. The stock is divided into 2,500,000 shares at $1 each. Five hundred thousand shares shall be preferred stock and the remaining 2,000,000 shares shall be common stock.

There has just been secured a confession from two of the most depraved young criminals in the state of California. They are Bob Brumbid and Len McSherry, and from their admissions they have been engaged in a systematic series of robberies for the past year. They were arrested for stealing overcoats from the Presbyterian church at Santa Rosa last Sunday evening. They admitted having visited five churches that night with the purpose of robbery.

Letters Five Hundred Years Old.

Ancient specimens of letters are shown in the Hof museum at Vienna. One is dated 1516. It consists of a large sheet of ribbed white paper folded in three. A band of paper was passed round the outside and through a slit in one edge, being then fastened with soft wax. A small piece of this paper was laid on the wax and the seal pressed on the paper, not directly on the wax. A somewhat similar arrangement is found in a letter of the year 1448, which was written by the town council of Munich during the burgomaster of Ratisbonne in the Tyrol, in order to obtain information concerning a man accused of sigmy. In the sixteenth century people in the Tyrol and Baveria used bands of yellow or reeds, fastened with wax. Later came separate round and oblong wafers. The use of the enclosing band continued in Austria generally to 1750, or thereabout, and probably reached this century among conservative people. The first envelope of the modern type in this collection belongs to the year 1715.

Recently In War.

The French marshal, Turenne, was a great general, and his character bears consideration for stability. He was a great man. Many incidents which are related of him show his modesty, generosity and beauty as well as his courage and military ability. A little story of one of his German campaigns illustrates his rare sympathetic even in time of war.

The authorities of Frankfort believed, from the movements of his army, that he intended passing through their territory. They sent a deputation to him which offered him a largesse of money if he would show the direction of his march and burn Frankfort unmolested.

They were surprised to more ways than one by his answer. "Gentlemen," he said, "my conscience will not permit me to accept your money, for I have never intended to lead my army through your town."—Textile Companion.

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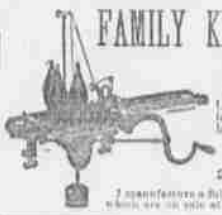

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