

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

PROVO, Utah, Jan. 5.—R. R. Irvine has filed suit against the *Enquirer* for twenty-five thousand dollars damages for libel. The alleged libelous statements were made that Irvine, while judge of election, removed ballots from the ballot-box.

PROVO, Utah, Jan. 5.—Judge J. W. Blackburn was found dead in bed this morning. The cause of death was rheumatism of the heart. The body was warm when found. The judge has not been well for some time, but his demise was unexpected. He was out driving yesterday afternoon.

Thursday's election in this city resulted in an unexpectedly large and sweeping victory for the Republicans whose standard bearer, Hon. C. S. Varian, was successful over Hon. W. C. Hall, the Democratic nominee. The number of nearly one thousand votes.

There were 1261 votes less cast yesterday in the whole city than in November, and 3308 less than the total registration.

John Ahern, a lad of 12, while coasting on Twenty-third street, Ogden, yesterday, collided with another sled and broke his left leg just above the ankle. He was removed to his home at 230 Twenty-sixth street and Dr. Powers was summoned. The broken limb was set and the lad made as comfortable as possible. The fracture is a very bad one, but Dr. Powers anticipates no serious results.

The condition of Hon. Wm. R. Smith, of Davis Stake, is still most critical, and nothing but the patient's extraordinary vitality could have enabled him to survive so long. On Saturday evening last it was thought the end had come, and the family were unmoved to the bedside. But the sufferer rallied, and a friend who is in the city today reports that he is somewhat better though seeming to grow weaker with each relapse.

The preliminary hearing of the charge against March McKinney, of Cedar Fork, of causing the death of John Lewis, at Lewiston, Tooele county, is set down for Tuesday morning next, before U. S. Commissioner Pratt. It is alleged that the defendant stabbed the unfortunate man in the head with a knife on December 18th. Lewis was conveyed to the hospital, lingered until the 23rd of the same month and then died from the effects of the injury.

News comes from Eureka to the effect that Luke Skinner, a miner, fell from the sixth to the eighth level, a distance of 200 feet, in the Keystone mine and was dashed to death. He was seen a few minutes before, walking towards the shaft with a lighted candle in his hand as though looking for something. Suddenly he disappeared and a search for him resulted in finding his mangled remains at the bottom of the shaft.

An inquest was held and a verdict of accidental death returned.

At Ogden, in the Fourth district court, the Jarvis Conklin Mort-

gage Trust company asked for the appointment of a receiver and for the foreclosing of a mortgage amounting to \$2,070,000, with interest at 7 per cent from October, 1891.

The defendants called are: Bear Lake and River Water Works and Irrigation company, Salt Lake Land and Irrigation company, Wm. Garland, W. W. Corey, A. B. Corey, Charles R. Corey, W. H. Watts, Samuel M. Jarvis, E. O. Watts, Roland R. Conklin.

A Hailey, Idaho, dispatch to the *Boise Statesman* says that word was received yesterday, Friday, that Theodore F. Shaw of Sawtooth, Custer county, was found frozen stiff about eight miles from Sawtooth. Information is meager, but it seems Shaw was going from one of his mines to another a mile distant and is supposed to have sat down to rest and was overcome by the severe cold. He was found lying on a ledge of rocks that had been bared by the wind. He met his fate before Friday, December 29. On that date his remains were found. They were badly mutilated by wild animals.

At about 7 o'clock Tuesday night, when the janitor of the Weber Stake Academy went to heat up the building preparatory to Dr. Phillips's night school, he found it full of smoke, and, on investigation, found a fire burning in the cellarway under the building. The fire was luckily of small dimensions, and the janitor speedily succeeded in extinguishing it. That there was a deliberate attempt at fire in the building there can be no doubt; because the place where the fire occurred is never used, and a mass of debris and wood was burning. Two of the pieces of the wood were found to be pickets taken from the fence of an adjoining house.

SUGAR HOUSE, Salt Lake County, Jan. 5, 1894.—Sugar House turned out en-masse last night to pay its respect to one of its best citizens, Brother Bird Murphy, who leaves in a few days for a mission to the Southern States. A committee consisting of Brothers W. Hammerbays, W. C. A. Smoot, Jr., J. M. Whittaker, A. Stayner, Jr. and A. Castleton, arranged a happy program—consisting of songs, speeches and recitations, which was well received by those present. Brother Murphy has been a faithful worker in the ward, both in the Sunday School and as a teacher, and his worth was duly appreciated by the members of the ward as evinced last night.

W. C. A. SMOOT JR.,

In behalf of the Committee.

Mrs. LUOAR, the unfortunate woman who wandered away from her home in Ogden last Saturday afternoon, was found at the mouth of Weber canyon on Sunday by Joseph Bambrough. Mr. Bambrough's attention was attracted to her by her groans, and he discovered her lying in the snow half conscious, not far from the county road. She was removed to Mr. Bambrough's house, when it was found that both of her feet were badly frozen up to her ankles. She was given every possible care and her limbs thawed out in so skillful a manner that they will

probably be saved. Yesterday she was brought home, where she now is in a very critical condition. On Sunday she was tracked from down at the southwestern part of town for two or three miles, when the track was lost.

On Saturday night last, William C. Parkinson's store at Preston, Idaho, was broken into and about \$1000 in cash and scrip stolen. They had the money in two small iron boxes. Saturday had been a very busy day with them, and at night they were in a hurry to go to a concert, so they left boxes in the office, a very unusual thing for Mr. Parkinson to do, for they have always been very careful to put their money in a safe place. On Sunday morning they found the back door of the store burst open, and the boxes with the money gone. They suspected two or three boys, and watched them. They followed them closely on Sunday, and on Monday they were caught. The stolen box was found in a barn hid in the hay. The boys confessed to the crime and are bound over in \$2000 each to appear at the district court in Malad. One of the young men broke into the same store before and was in Malad jail for it. They all denied knowing anything about the robbery at first, but at last gave in and told all about it.

It seems strange that in a place like Cache valley, enjoying, as it does, a reputation for the energy and progressiveness of its inhabitants, one of its most important natural resources should have been so nearly overlooked as has been its supply of natural gas. It has been known for many years that it existed in some sections in large quantities, and parties striking it while boring for water, have lit it many times just to see it burn, and have then bored down below the gas belt in search of water. The only use being made of it by any one, is by Mr. William Toombs, on his ranch about two miles west of Smithfield. While boring for a flowing well he struck gas at a depth of 150 feet, and thought he would utilize it. He conveyed it to his house, and during the fall and winter his house has been heated and lighted by it. While boring he ran through many different strata, and when in the neighborhood of the gas, brought up whole, perfect leaves and pieces of wood of a kind not now found in this part of the country. His discoveries in this direction might be of interest to botanists and geologists. As Mr. Toombs has demonstrated the value of this gas it should not be long before a company is formed to furnish it to the residents of Logan and other towns in the valley.

There was a most shocking and painful coasting accident at the intersection of Center and Peach streets. Tuesday night, January 21 at twenty minutes past nine o'clock.

A number of schooner parties were organized, one of them containing fifteen persons. This particular one was under the management of Joe Richardson, a young married man who resided in the neighborhood.

One of the members of the party was Miss Emma Bollwinkel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bollwinkel, who reside at the corner of Center and Apricot streets. It is directly in front of their home that the coasters com-