

WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

A Los Angeles drug firm has bonded the Stevens Borax mine at Calloo for \$50,000.

Boise City warrants which sold last year at 65 cents are now in demand at 95 cents.

Sunflower valley people at Hoehne, near Trinidad, Colo., have excluded liquor selling by local option.

The Union Pacific company will soon build a fine stone railroad depot 100x35 feet at Sydney, Neb.

Wood is being hauled in Bent county, Colorado, for a distance of fifty miles and sold for \$4 and \$5 a cord.

Johnson county, Wyoming, boasts of the only empty jail in the state. It has been vacant since the last term of court.

The Laramie (Wyo.) *Boomerang* says there is every probability that the Union Pacific company will erect a new depot within the next six months.

Geo. Mehl, a bright boy of Coxville City, Or., has made a steam engine entirely by his own hands. It is said that the little machine runs perfectly.

A small amount of snow on the Cumbres range in southern Colorado indicates a limited supply of water for the southern portion of the San Luis valley.

Maconasa, in the San Luis valley, has become an important stock feeding point. Its farmers are very anxious to have a pork packing house established at Alamosa.

A portable sawmill is being put in above Elk City, Or. Its capacity is 400 feet per day and it will fill some alder and cedar contracts already made with San Francisco yards.

Al Oakley, a noted gambler and saloon man of San Bernardino, Cal., has joined the Salvation Army and is parading the streets and joining in their religious services.

Gunnison, Colo., ladies have pledged themselves to confine their purchases to their local stores and avoid sending money away to make purchases of merchandise.

A large tree felled by William Turner, of Dryden, Or., last week was the home of a badger, several hundred bats and a swarm of bees. The latter left a generous supply of honey.

Horses which formerly sold for \$50 and \$60 in Harney valley, Oregon, are now being sold for \$20. Recently a hand was sold for \$10 a head to a man without money, to be paid for in two years.

Saguache announces the survey by the Empire Canal and Land company of canals and lateral ditches near Saguache for bringing under cultivation a large acreage of new land next spring.

New Castle, Colo., coal miners and operators have adjusted their long pending disputes by the miners agreeing to accept a 25 per cent reduction. A reduction in the price of coal has not been announced.

At Las Animas, Colo., the advance agents of a colony of Swedes arrived last week to select locations for a large

party on the lands of the Colorado Farm, Land and Irrigation company, north of Las Animas.

A man named David Strothers has been awarded the contract for burying the poor of Spokane, Wash., at 90 cents "a case." That price seems to indicate the scarcity of money in Spokane.

At Montrose, Colo., the weekly consumption of cigars amounts to 2,400 or 208,000 a year or about \$100 a week or \$5,200 annually. It is now proposed to keep this money at home by the establishment of a cigar factory in Montrose.

The recent blockade of trains, caused by the severe storm in the mountains, was not without its pleasant side. While one of the trains was delayed at Reno, Nevada, a wedding took place in the Pullman drawing-room car of the train.

T. H. Silsbee, a cattle man of San Diego, Cal., his mother and sister and Miss Lucy Smith, have arrived at Yuma, A. T., after a trip across the desert. While in camp at Black Butte, near the Cocopah mountains, they killed sixteen deer in two days.

One John N. Sherman, who died in Los Angeles county, Cal., some months ago, left a will containing some peculiar provisions. It requires that if there is any dissatisfaction among the heirs they must settle the matter by arbitration and without appeal to the courts.

In a recent drill by the Fort Canby (Wash.) life-saving crew the time occupied in the rescue of an imaginary shipwrecked sailor from a mast 200 yards distant was only two and one-half minutes from the time the captain and his men arrived on the ground.

Bad reports come from the region at the base of Medicine Bow mountain, southeast of Laramie, Wyo. Ice on the Laramie river is thirty inches thick and range cattle and horses are dying for water. Many sheep have been lost by the severe storms.

Melbourne, the "rain-maker," can have only \$2,500 or \$3,000 from the Cheyenne, Wyo., people for a specified amount of rain this year. The farmers decline to subscribe and the city people will not subscribe more than the above amount. It is said he will accept.

A year ago persons travelling over the Santa Fe between Albuquerque and El Paso, looking over the country, beheld barren wastes and dead cattle strewn along the line. Now, says an exchange, the scene has changed. Fat cattle are seen on every hand and plenty of grass.

At the Sison (Cal.) hatchery no less than 8,500,000 young fish have been hatched this season. About 6,500,000 still remain on hand, and will be kept until they are a year old. Trout hatching will soon commence, and it is intended to handle this season about 2,500,000 eggs.

Wheatland, Wyo., the newly started colony ninety miles north of Cheyenne, has now 115 families located there. It is expected to loom into importance as a grain and potato growing colony during the present year.

The land is cheap, fertile and well irrigated.

Artesian water has been struck in Cochise county, A. T., by a man named McRae. The flow is 21,000 gallons in twenty-four hours. In addition to the value of the water, McRae will get \$2,000 reward offered by the supervisors for a running well not more than 500 feet deep.

Colonel J. Blanco, chief of the Boundary Line Commission survey, has returned to Yuma, A. T., from the City of Mexico authorized to make the survey from the international boundary line to the gulf for the improvement of the navigation of the Colorado river.

During the year an average of 1,000,000 feet of lumber a month has been put out by Pasadena, Cal., lumber yards for use there. This gives 12,000,000 feet for the whole year (to December 31, 1893), which at an average price of \$20 per 1,000 gives \$240,000,000 as the total expenditure for building material of this kind during 1892.

The Laramie (Wyo.) *Boomerang*, learns that a pack of three wolves and two dogs are running together east of that city. Those who have observed the animals say that the dogs are the leaders of the pack and that they are much more ferocious than the wolves. The dogs approach the ranches in a fearless manner and bring the wolves up where they can do most damage.

The widow of Annie, a Shoshone maiden of Mound valley, with all its contents, consisting of clothing and her winter supply of flour and provisions, was destroyed by fire one day last week, says the Elko (Nevada) *Independent*. The people of the valley took up a subscription and raised sufficient money to start her in business again.

It has been another week of snow and blizzards (says the *Mercur Mercur*); consequently mining operations, with the exception of the producers and a few others, have been at a standstill, and we have little to report. At the Mercur, however, there is great activity. The experts and surveyors are busy, and will be for some time to come.

The champion tramp printer struck Yuma, A. T., recently, says an exchange, having looted it across the desert. He is independent of railroads and does not ask for anything but work. A roll of blankets, canteen, coffee pot and frying pan supplying him with food and lodging. He has walked all over the coast and says he can live comfortably on \$2 a week.

Arrangements have been completed for the enlargement of the Chico, Cal., sugar factory and the addition of new machinery. The capacity will be increased to about 1,000 tons of beets per day. Nearly 10,000 acres will be planted to beets this year. The output of sugar last season was 7,550 tons. This will be increased to over 10,000 tons the coming season.

Denver has secured the great annual meet of the wheelmen of the country for that city. It is expected that 25,000 wheelmen will be present. Denver has 5,000 of its own. Arrangements will be made for a relay race from Washington, D. C., to Denver during the meet, to bring a message from Presi-