

KILLED AND HIDDEN

JAMES M. BROWN'S BODY FOUND IN A FENCE CORNER.

The Willott Springs Rancher Was Evidently Murdered for the Sake of His Money.

OREGON CITY, Jan. 10.—Nothing has today been heard from the officers who left last evening to investigate the murder of James M. Brown, at Willott, and they are not expected to return before tomorrow. Two men who came to town from that section report rather meager details. Brown was first missed a week ago this evening, when a man having some business to transact called at Brown's house. He found no person about the premises and, as the chickens were trying to get out of the coop in which they were fastened. He reported the facts to one of the neighbors of the missing man, and the premises are being made an investigation. They found the chickens nearly starved for want of food and water. In the house there were blood stains on the floor, though the place had been scrubbed for the apparent purpose of removing the stains. Everything indicated that the ranch had been deserted some days.

When these facts became known the neighborhood was aroused and search was made for the body of the missing rancher, the opinion being general that he had been murdered. No traces of him were found till yesterday morning, when the body was discovered in a quarter of a mile from the house, in the corner of a "worm" fence, covered with burials and with several fence-rails lying upon it. The covering was raised sufficiently to identify the corpse, and then replaced, and the officers were sent for.

The dead man had, during many years, received a pension for injury suffered while in the army. Some years ago he applied for an increase of his allowance, which increase was recently granted, and the back pay since the time of his application amounted to a considerable sum. It is pretty well known in the neighborhood that Brown had received this money, and it is supposed that robbery was the object his murderer had in view. Brown's nearest neighbor was about half a mile distant. Brown settled on the ranch in 1874, coming to this county from New York state, where it is understood he had relatives. He was a native of England, and a machinist. He was an intelligent man, apparently well-educated, dressed much better than the average countryman, took some part in politics, but was not an active partisan, and was altogether highly respected in the community. The people of that section are reported very much excited over the affair.

Circuit was occupied all today with the case of Wadhams & Co. vs. H. A. Vorpahl, for a claim of \$400. The indebtedness was incurred by the defendant's brother, who was formerly in business in East Portland, upon the written guarantee of the defendant that he would be responsible for goods his brother would buy. There is a dispute as to the time this guarantee was withdrawn. In the trial last spring, the jury awarded the plaintiff \$12, which was considered practically a verdict for the defense. On the discovery of new evidence a new trial was granted. The jury went out at 6:30 o'clock, authorized to bring in a sealed verdict.

SPECIAL SCHOOL ELECTION.

Much opposition to an Extra Tax Levy in Baker City.

BAKER CITY, Jan. 10.—Considerable interest is being manifested in a special school election, to be held in this city January 15. The question to be decided at that time is: Shall an extra tax be levied for the purpose of conducting the school for the remainder of the school year? There seems to be a growing sentiment against the present school administration, and it is thought that the tax will be defeated by a large majority.

The following persons were duly installed as officers of Queen City camp No. 46, Woodmen of the World, by D. B. Flak, C. M. Olmsted, C. J. William Grant, A. L. John Willott, cashier; M. E. Swain, clerk; A. Bettner, escort; Charles Durr, sentinel; Dr. J. P. Hayes, medical adviser.

Monday evening the following officers were installed by John A. Payton, D. D. G. M., at the hall of Baker City Lodge No. 25, I. O. O. F.: Frank Croner, N. G.; George H. Foster, V. G.; Arthur McCurren, secretary; John Daly, P. S.; J. H. Jett, treasurer; H. J. Kinslow, warden; Dr. Hayes, conductor; H. S. Angell, R. S.; G. D. W. Nelson, L. S. N. G.; Andrew Mause, R. S. V. G.; J. G. Canedy, O. G.; M. D. Abbott, I. G.; M. F. Bennett, R. S. S.; H. J. Twiss, L. S. S.

It is understood that several handsome brick structures will be erected in this city during 1895. The first of these will be built on the corner of Auburn avenue and Main street. E. H. Thompson will erect a two-story brick on the corner of Main and Barley avenue. Others are proposed to build and will probably do so, but the plans are not yet completed. With the increasing interest in her mines, Baker City certainly is an inviting field for people of moderate means to invest their money in improved real estate.

The residence of Edwin Parker, situated 10 miles east of this city, was totally destroyed by fire the morning of January 7. The fire occurred early in the morning while it was bitterly cold. Not a thing was saved by the family. There is some insurance.

HON. W. W. STEVIER AT THE DALLAS.

The Member From Gilliam Favorable to Senator Dolph.

THE DALLAS, Jan. 10.—Mr. W. W. Stevier, member of the legislature from Gilliam county, is in the city, en route to Salem. While here, he was consulted with by a number of citizens, relative to matters pertaining to this section. There will be one or more schemes to cut off portions of Wasco county to various villages which aspire to the dignity of being county seats, and the members from neighboring counties will go to Salem tomorrow. Mr. Stevier has expressed himself as favorable to the re-election of Senator Dolph.

The excellent sleighing tempted several excursions into the country last night. A large party was given at the residence of Mr. Floyd, three miles from The Dalles, which was attended by several sleighs full of young people from this city. Another large party drove to the residence of Mr. Phirman, several miles below town, where an old-fashioned dance was given.

The Methodist and Congregational churches are observing a week of prayer. Services are being held every evening in both houses of worship. The Salvation Army is very active in holding meetings.

County court began its regular session this morning. County Judge Blakeley and Commissioners Partridge and Blowers were in attendance. There is considerable business to transact, and, as the last term of the circuit court had a large criminal docket, a good-sized fee bill will be presented to the commissioners. The work of the road supervisors for the year will also have to be gone over, besides other routine business.

ASTORIA, Jan. 10.—Bids for \$200,000 worth of Astoria's water works bonds were opened by the commissioners this afternoon. Only five offers were received, three of which were from firms having personal representatives on the ground. There was a number of other representatives of bond-buying firms present, but being unable to wire their house, on account of the lack of telegraphic facilities up to the hour of opening the bids, they were not heard from. The best offer made was that of S. A. Keen of Chicago, which was at one-quarter of a cent premium. Three other offers, coming from Eastern houses whose representatives were present, were practically similar, indicating that an understanding had been reached between the representatives. An acceptance of Keen's offer was telegraphed to Chicago this evening.

PORT BLAKELY MILL COMPANY SUEB BY LEGAL OPINION.

Tacoma Bookkeeper Charged With Embezzling a Thousand Dollars From His Employers.

TACOMA, Jan. 10.—Alex McLeod, a Shelton lawyer, today sued the Port Blakely Mill Company, a California corporation, in the federal court for \$2,500, alleging that company failed to keep contracts with him by which he was to log and haul to tidewater a large quantity of logs in Mason county. The largest claim is for \$2,500, and is made up of \$15,500 damages, claimed for defendant's alleged refusal to receive 600,000 feet of logs, which were for the entire work. It was expected there would have been a much greater number, but in many instances several contractors who intended to bid separately on portions of the work, joined together and bid on the contract as a whole. The opinion is expressed that the cost of the work will be considerably below the estimates, as five or six of the bids, as well as can be ascertained at present, are not much over \$150,000.

Caspar Baites, an Oregon pioneer, and the father of F. W. Baites, of Portland, died in this city this morning from Bright's disease. Mr. Baites was born near Frankfort, Germany, in 1824, and came to the Pacific coast in 1852, making his home at Oak Point, Wash. He resided there until he moved to this city in 1880. He lost his eyesight, and remained totally blind till he died. Besides his son, F. W. Baites, of Portland, he left two daughters, Mrs. George Barr, of a Center, Wash., and Mrs. N. Warrnecker, of Fresno, Cal.

TO CULTIVATE HIS GARDEN.

Mr. Boggs Will Develop the Elliott Creek Mining Property.

JACKSONVILLE, Or., Jan. 10.—George W. Boggs, who was here last fall and bought the Elliott Creek mining property of Henry Brothers, placed a large force of men at work developing it. He is here again, and will go to the mine at once to superintend matters himself. He will build a ditch, about two miles in length, to divert the water of the creek, with 250 feet pressure. He intends to run two or three six-inch giants. The water supply will be continuous and the work can be prosecuted without interruption. Mr. Boggs has had a six-inch water pipe in operation for the past six weeks, and the gravel shows up far better than was expected. Work will be pushed with the ditch, and it is expected it will be completed in 60 days. The property contains 40 acres, with an average depth of 25 feet, and the whole of it has been sufficiently prospected to justify putting in a very large plant.

UMATILLA INDIANS.

Homes May Be Built for Them by the Department.

PENDLETON, Or., Jan. 10.—The Indian department at Washington is considering a proposition to devote \$100,000 to improve the homes of the Indians of the Umatilla reservation. Agent Harper in his annual report to the secretary of the Interior observed that the Indians were not self-supporting. The secretary sent information and opinions as to how to make them more independent. Harper recently recommended that money to the extent of \$100,000 from the sale of lands now on deposit to the Indians' credit at Washington be appropriated to build homes. In case it is done, all the houses will probably be built under one contract.

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He Only Wanted to Cripple Him.

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In Oregon's Supreme Court.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 10.—In the supreme court today the following proceedings were had: State of Oregon, respondent, vs. H. C. Wood, appellant; appeal from Multnomah county. No one appearing for the appellant and no brief being filed for him, the judgment was affirmed. State of Oregon, respondent, vs. T. V. Van, jointly appealed with Charles A. White, appellant; appeal from Multnomah county. Upon the suggestion of the attorney for the respondent that the appellant is dead, the court dismissed the case. State of Oregon, respondent, vs. George White, appellant; appeal from Multnomah county. At the suggestion of the attorney for the respondent that the appellant had been pardoned and upon his motion the appeal was dismissed.

The Mail Sack Was Lost.

WALDFORD, Or., Jan. 10.—Tuesday L. H. Vader, the mail-carrier from Florence, in fording the Yahatis river on the beach while the tide was very high, was washed off his horse, but succeeded in reaching the shore half-drowned. The mail sack was lost.

FLOODS AND STORMS.

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Oakland's Board of Public Works.

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 10.—Assessor Henry P. Dalton issued a public letter today in support of the proposed charter amendments, making a vigorous attack upon the board of public works. He accuses it of being merely a political machine, subordinating the different departments of the city to its partisan ends and giving only one hour's work a day in return for a salary of \$30 a month. He says it administers its affairs in the interest of the railroad corporation, and appoints men to office to carry out the political work of the gang. The letter suggests the creation of a board of public works composed of the mayor, city engineer and city attorney, thus reducing the expenses \$600 a year.

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FOR HEAVY DAMAGES

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THE PASSENGER SITUATION.

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Well-known Stock Broker.

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Only a Chill.

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Premier of Quebec Very Low.

MONTREAL, Jan. 10.—Premier Taillon, of Quebec, is very low with inflammation of the bowels.

About Things Political.

More Frauds Detected. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 10.—The report of the vote for sheriff developed many frauds today, and demonstrates the necessity for the enactment of a law to simplify the counting of ballots. The result of the day's labor was a net gain of \$2 for McNab, making a total gain of date of \$21.

Vancouver's Next Mayor.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 10.—Ex-Alderman Collins was elected mayor today by an overwhelming majority.

Missouri Legislature After Pullman.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 10.—Representative Phipps of Kansas City introduced a bill in the house to reduce Pullman berths to \$1 per night, and \$1.50 for a day and a night; also a general bill fixing the rate for sleeping and general berths at \$20 a year, and \$25 a year for public travel.

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