# BAKU'S NAPHTHA FIELDS

OWNED BY FOREIGNERS, BUT TITLE IS IN RUSSIANS.

Petroleum Product Second Only to That of the United States—Oil Is Used for Fuel.

BAKU, Russia, Aug. 3.—This city has less of the semblance of a Russian town than any other place I have seen in the empire. In the hotels the guests are Englishmen, Germans, Belgians and other foreigners almost as generally as Russians. The largest commercial enterprises are dominated by foreign capital. All of this is due to the petroleum industry and its temptations.

From the time when the Swedish capitalists, the Nobel brothers, began to develop these naphtha fields, to the present day, when the Rothschilds are the chief holders of productive properties, foreign capital and foreign energy have been the active factors in extending and operating the industry. So little have Russians shared in this that the government has tried to alter the arrangement by force of Russian law. A ukase of 1892 makes it impossible for a foreigner or a Jew to hold oil property in the Caucasus without the permission of the governor-general of the Caucasus and two of the cabinet ministers for each piece of land leased or bought. It has proved difficult to comply with that law, so that up to the present time none of the foreigners have obtained the right to hold property. All the investments, therefore, are held in the name of Russian subjects, on whose honesty the ultimate security of the real owners depends.

Baku has been celebrated for ages for its everburning naphtha springs. Those on shore have been attended at certain places by fire-worshipers from India, while the flow from the springs under the Caspian, floating on the surface of the water, has made gorgeous displays at times when lighted. Even now this floating oil sometimes becomes ignited by accident or by intention, and the people of Baku are treated to marine fireworks of amazing beauty. The favorite place for this is not far from the city, and the time, of course, at night. I am told that the most hardened tourists and the people who lived here longest are equally unable to resist the splendor of the exhibit, and go out to see it whenever it occurs, with unfailing regularity. The swells of the Caspian, outlined in a sheet of fire, offer a display not to be paralleled elsewhere.

The best-known work, descriptive and historical, of these oil fields is "The Region of the Eternal Fire," by Charles Marvin. But the industry has grown out of all recognition since that work was written, nearly 20 years ago. Today the petroleum product of the Baku field is second only to that of the United States, and the Rothschild interests, which control the product here, divide with the Standard Oil Company the markets of the world.

One important factor in the trade at Baku which does not exist in the American market is the enormous demand for naphtha refuse to be used as fuel on the railways and steamships of the empire. On the 1600 miles of the Transcaspian railway, which has its terminus just across the Caspian from this port, no other fuel is used. On the steamers plying on the Caspian itself this is the only fuel. The steamers on the Volga and the Kama rivers, the greatest river system of Russia, burn nothing else. Thousands of miles of the Russian railway system in the European governments of the empire use no other fuel, and of course the Transcaucasus line, with its terminus here, consumes nothing else. This trade acts as a governor of the market to a surprising degree. The refining processes can be manipulated so as to yield more or less refined oil and less or more residuum at the choice of the refiner. When residuum is high on the market, he cuts down his yield of refined, and when illuminating oils are high he refines to the limit. The natural result is that a balance is maintained many times in this market which would not exist if the world market were the only one to be considered.

All the conversation in Baku turns on naphtha, as the product is invariably called, instead of petroleum. The foreign capitalists and engineers who throng the hotel, and the office managers from England and elsewhere have adopted the local phrase for naphtha technicalities, even in conversations in their own tongue, and always speak of the residuum as "astatki," the Russian word for it, or as "mazoot," the Tartar word, the latter having the preference. Prices and quantities, too, are always quoted in Russian denominations, so many kopecks a pood being the term.

**Low Cost of Production.**

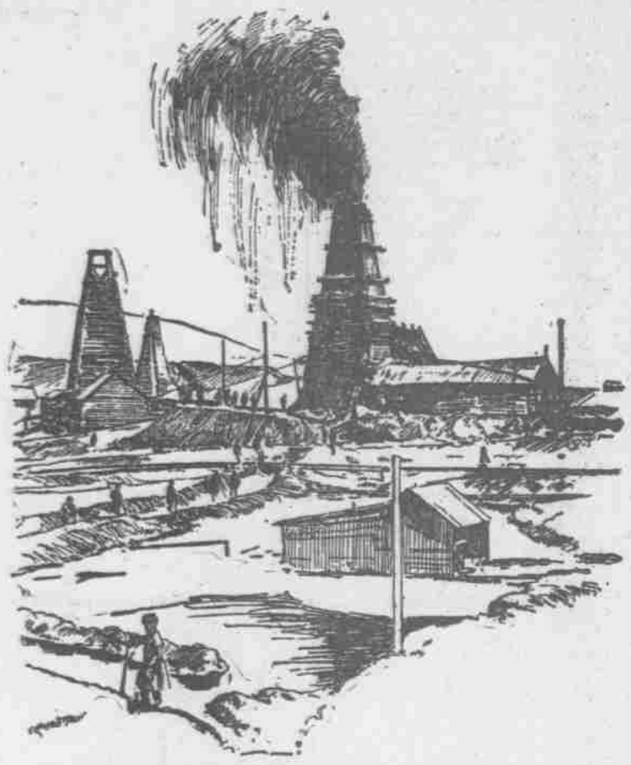
The highest estimate that has been given me of cost of production of crude petroleum in this field is four kopecks a pood, which is about 17 cents a barrel of 42 gallons, and this is undoubtedly above the average. Producers with flowing wells must get their oil much below that figure, and from pumping wells the cost is not likely to run above that. Most of this production is sold as it comes from the earth to the refiners, who treat it for the proportionate yield of refined oil and "mazoot," according to the state of the market. The price of crude as sold to the refiners usually fluctuates between 12 cents and 42 cents a barrel, thereby making it certain that the original producer can make a large profit from his yield. There have been years when the refiners did not prosper with the producers, and whenever refined oil is very low and crude very high a considerable number of the refineries are compelled to close, leaving the market to the control of the producers who have refineries of their own.

Within the last few years the increase in foreign capital invested in the Baku petroleum field has been constant. A number of large companies have been floated in London, the total of English investment here up to the beginning of the years being more than $4,000,000. I am told that most of these companies were capitalized for sums usually about three times as large as the amount paid for the property by persons who "promoted." Even then, however, profits may be expected if the industry keeps at its present station. Properties are held at extravagant prices, and yet they are justified by the people who show possible profits. As in Pennsylvania and Ohio, the region is full of sensational tales, none the less true, of astounding fortunes made over night. The case of "Coal-Oil Johnny" is repeated here many a time. A Tartar is pointed out who used to work on the street for his daily wages, and who now has a fortune of $15,000,000. Poor Tartars and Armenians and Georgians who happened to own tracts which bore oil found themselves drenched in money when their royalties were paid. It is not to be believed that this sort of thing is ended, either, for explorations and new developments are being made constantly.

Since foreign capitalists began to come prices of lands have gone up enormously. One instance has been related to me of a man who held his property at $200,000 before the Englishmen came, who raised the figure by rapid jumps to $425,000 and got it before the end of a year, without any further development or exploration to enhance the value. The commission appointed to appraise government land in the field still unleased fixed the price at $12,000 an acre, and the sale never slackened. There was one property of 27 acres, upon which 30 wells had been drilled, which had produced in 15 years some 24,000,000 barrels of oil from shallow depths. Many of these wells were abandoned, there being but five or six in producing condition. The present system is to drill deep wells, which cost about $35,000 each. This property was sold for $2,000,000 and floated in London at a capitalization of $6,000,000. Every one considered it an enormous price, but a few weeks later a flowing well was struck which began producing 100,000 barrels a day, and after many weeks had not fallen below 70,000 barrels. With a net profit on crude oil at the time of about 35 cents a barrel, even the common-stock holders bade fair to get some dividends before the property was exhausted.

**Fires in Oil Wells.**

Displays of fireworks are not confined to the Caspian sea in such a place as this. At intervals great conflagrations occur at the oil wells, destroying property of immense value, with hardly any means of fighting the flames. Sometimes they are traced to stones, which are thrown out of the wells, and, striking iron in their flight, set the naphtha on fire by the sparks they produce. One fire started in a well that was flowing 100,000 barrels a day. The fire continued for several weeks, as it was impossible to cut off the flow, and a dozen other wells near by were destroyed, as well as a large quantity of crude oil, which was stored in pits. Just now a celebrated crime is claiming the attention of the people of Baku. One of the most prominent of the citizens and oil producers proves to have been a rascal of almost every sort. He defrauded an innocent purchaser in the sale of a mortgaged well, murdered a man who was going to give testimony against him and finally set fire to the well one night, which did great damage to surrounding property, in addition to burning the property in question. Then he committed suicide.



A "GUSHER" IN THE BAKU OIL FIELD.

There are about 1200 producing wells in the Baku field, divided between the groups of Sabunchi and Balakhan, eight miles from the city, and Romani, Bibi-Abat and Chorny Gorod, which are nearer. Chorny Gorod, or "black town," is but two miles from the center of the city, and is the group usually visited by tourists. There are about 100 wells in this group.

The total product of oil from the Baku wells from 1896 to 1897 was as follows:

| Year— | Barrels of 42 gals. |
|---|---|
| 1895 | 45,289,983 |
| 1896 | 46,351,772 |
| 1897 | 42,070,595 |

I have not at hand the exact figures of production for the last year, but the quality showed an increase over that of 1897, and for the current year it is prophesied the yield will pass 50,000,000 barrels. The petroleum yield of the United States for 1897 was 60,569,081 barrels. It is an interesting evidence of the different conditions in effect in the two great oil fields of the world that the yield in the United States was from many thousand wells, while that of the Baku field all came from a few hundred.

TRUMBULL WHITE.

# OREGON SUPREME COURT

OPINIONS IN SEVEN CASES HANDED DOWN YESTERDAY.

Judgment of the Lower Court in the South Portland Land Case Was Affirmed.

SALEM, Feb. 19.—The supreme court today handed down opinions in seven cases, in six of which the lower court was affirmed and in one reversed. The cases decided were as follows:

The South Portland Land Company, respondent, vs. Abbie K. Munger et al., appellants from Multnomah county, Alfred F. Sears, judge; affirmed. Opinion by Wolverton, C. J.

On September 17, 1896, Abbie K. Munger commenced an action against the above-named plaintiff to recover possession of the undivided one-half of the west half of what is known as the William and Mary T. Collins' donation land claim, situated in sections 27 and 34, township 1 south, range 1 east of the Willamette meridian, in Multnomah county, Oregon. The South Portland Land Company filed an answer, denying the allegations of the complaint and setting up ownership in itself and adverse possession for the statutory period. It further alleged that it had no remedy at law, but its defense was based upon matters wholly cognizable in a court of equity. The company also filed a cross-bill in equity, and the cause in equity is the proceeding in the supreme court. The land company won in the court below and also wins on appeal.

The questions that arose were chiefly upon questions of practice. The opinion says: "It is first insisted on the part of defendants that the plaintiff, having plead a full defense in the action at law, not only by putting in issue every material allegation of the complaint therein, but by setting up affirmatively that it was the owner in fee simple and in legal possession of the premises, is precluded under the practice from filing at the same time a cross-bill in equity, praying a stay of the action until the case has been disposed of in the equity forum."

The defendants filed a motion to strike out, and also demurred to the cross-bill in equity, and the lower court having overruled both of these the defendant answered. The court upon this point says: "By answering, they have made the equitable forum a matter of their own selection, and have thereby waived the right to insist that the cause should be first tried at law."

Upon a review of the matters presented for the consideration of a court of equity, the supreme court holds that they are sufficient to give an equity court jurisdiction. On this point, the court says: "While the plaintiff has alleged that it has been in possession for a period of more than 10 years, yet it is a defense which is interposed in connection with the purely equitable defense, by which it seeks a specific performance of the contract or a reformation thereof, whereby its paper title would be perfected also. It cannot be said, under these conditions, that the remedy at law is or would be as complete and adequate as that which may be available in equity."

The mistakes sought to be corrected were four: A mistake in omitting from the description in a deed the county, state and meridian; a mistake in recording the deed or a fraudulent alteration of such record; an omission to have the deed properly certified, so as to entitle it to record, and a mistake of the scrivener in failing to append the private seal of William Collins to the instrument. These are held to warrant the intervention of a court of equity.

The Dundee Mortgage & Trust Company, limited, respondent, vs. John Goodman, appellant; from Douglas county, J. C. Fullerton, judge; affirmed. Opinion by Moore, J.

This was a suit to foreclose a bond for a deed. It appears that in March, 1892, Alexander H. Birrell and wife, in consideration of the defendant's agreement to pay the sum of $1400 in annual instalments of $200 each, with interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, executed to him a bond for a deed, wherein they covenanted that, upon the payment of the notes given for said sum and all taxes and charges accruing against the premises in consideration, they would convey to him by a good and sufficient deed a tract containing 280 acres of land in Douglas county, it being stipulated that time was of the essence of the contract. The defendant, by Birrell's license, entered into possession of said premises, paid the first installment of the principal with interest and taxes, but neglected to make the further payments agreed upon, notwithstanding he retained the possession after the same became due. The plaintiff, having obtained from Birrell, who held the legal title to said land in trust for it, instituted this suit, whereupon the defendant, by his answer to the complaint, sought a rescission of the contract on the ground of the alleged fraudulent misrepresentations by plaintiff's agent with respect to the boundaries of said premises. The cause being at issue, was tried, resulting in a decree foreclosing the bond, and defendant appealed.

The chief inducement to the purchase of the land in question was a tract of about 20 acres of fertile bottom land, supposed to be included in the tract described. It was discovered about a month after the purchase that the fertile land was in another tract. The opinion says:

"Goodman undoubtedly knew, sometime in 1893, that he could not secure from Birrell the title to this tract, and his knowledge in this respect presents the question whether he could retain possession, under the license granted, until this case was tried in June, 1897, without offering further to perform his agreement, and, nevertheless, insist upon its rescission. . . The party to an agreement who has sustained injury by the false representations of another party thereto, must, if he seeks a rescission of the contract, act promptly upon discovering the fraud, and place the other in statu quo, by restoring, or offering to restore, that which he has received. . . Any unreasonable delay in this respect is construed as affording evidence of an election by the defrauded party to affirm the agreement and to rely upon the legal remedy of damages for the injury sustained. . . It is now too late to invoke the relief sought by his answer."

George Risch, respondent, vs. Jesse Wiseman et al., appellants, from Douglas county, J. C. Fullerton, judge; affirmed. Opinion by Bean, J.

This was a suit to enjoin a trespass on a placer mining claim. The facts are that in 1889 Moses Lee, F. G. Robinson, L. F. Robinson, G. W. Robinson, O. H. Robinson and Joshua Fawcett located seven mining placer claims on Glee's creek, in Douglas county, being a claim for each and an additional one as a discovery claim, in accordance with the local laws and customs of the mining district in which they are situated. In May, 1872, these several claims passed into the possession of the plaintiff by purchase from G. Thompson, Amos Thompson and James Thompson, since which time he has been in possession, claiming to be the owner, and has performed or caused to be performed labor thereon to the amount and value, as found by the trial court, of $100 each year. In June, 1896, the defendants, claiming the ground in question to be unoccupied mineral lands of the United States, entered upon and located the same, in pursuance of the laws of congress, and commenced work thereon, whereupon the plaintiff brought this suit, and, it resulting in a decree in his favor, the defendants appealed.

The opinion says in part:

"It is claimed that the plaintiff's possession did not prevent an entry and location by the defendants, because it was not founded upon a valid location. But the evidence shows that at the time of the location of the several mining claims notices were posted on each claim and subsequently recorded in the record of the mining district, and the plaintiff testifies that the claims were marked on the ground by monuments so that the boundaries thereof could be readily ascertained, and that Thompson, from whom he purchased, showed him the lines of the separate locations. We think, therefore, the court was clearly right in finding that the claims were located and their boundaries marked on the ground in accordance with law. . .

"It is also contended that because there was no evidence of the transfer of the title of the original locators to the plaintiff, he cannot maintain the suit. But the possessor of a mining claim in a mining district is presumed to be the owner thereof until the contrary appears, and that presumption is supported in this case by the fact that the plaintiff had held, occupied and possessed the ground in question under color of title in pursuance of law and the local rules and regulations of the mining district for more than 20 years prior to the attempted location of the defendants, and, therefore, it was not public mineral land of the United States at the time of the defendants' entry."

The Cooper Manufacturing Company, appellant, vs. M. J. Delahunt et al., respondents, from Multnomah county, L. B. Stearns, judge; reversed. Opinion by Bean, J.

"This was a suit to foreclose a mechanics' lien. . . On behalf of the Delahunts it was claimed that plaintiff's lien is invalid because it does not contain a true statement of its demand and is not properly verified. The lien claim as filed shows a credit of $350, while the court below found that $400 had actually been paid to the plaintiff on account of material furnished for the building, and for this reason held the lien void. The statute requires a lien claimant to file with the county clerk a claim containing a true statement of his demand, after deducting all just credits and off-sets,' and if in filing such claim he puts on record a statement which he knows to be untrue, or which he could have known by the exercise of reasonable diligence, he loses his lien. But where there is a mistake in the statement as to the amount due, made in the honest belief of its correctness, the courts will not, for that reason, hold the lien void. And such seems to be the fact in this case. . .

"Nor is there any merit in the objection that it is not properly verified."

In interpreting the third clause of section 3671 of the code, the opinion says:

"The statute is not clear, but it seems to us its evident meaning is that all mechanics' liens shall attach to the building or other improvement in preference to prior liens, mortgages or other incumbrances upon the land, whether such mechanic's lien is for the original construction or the alteration or repair of the building. It provides, in effect, that the liens created by this act upon any building or other improvement shall be preferred to all prior liens on the land upon which such building or other improvement shall have been constructed, or upon which it was situate when altered or repaired."

David W. Edgar, respondent, vs. T. L. Golden, appellant, from Marion county, H. H. Hewitt, judge; affirmed. Opinion by Wolverton, C. J.

This was a suit to foreclose a mortgage executed by the defendant June 19, 1893, upon the south half of the donation land claim of Moses Edgar and wife, in Marion county, Oregon, to secure the payment of two promissory notes, for $1000 each, payable two years after date, with interest at 8 per cent per annum, given by Golden to the plaintiff February 23, 1893, for the purchase price of said premises, purchased by him on that date from Edgar.

The defense interposed to the foreclosure of the mortgage was (1) that it was given to secure the purchase price of the land, covered thereby; that the plaintiff conveyed the land by a warranty deed, and that the title thereto has been brought in question, an action having been commenced since the filing of the complaint herein by Elma Simmons against the defendant to recover possession of an undivided one-ninth thereof, and, hence, it is claimed that he ought not to be called upon to pay the notes until the title is quieted; and (2) that the mortgage was given in consideration of the compromise of a suit by Edgar against Golden to set aside the deed, upon the ground that Edgar, at the time of its execution, was mentally incompetent to execute such a conveyance, whereby it was agreed that said suit should be dismissed, that the moneys secured by said mortgage should not be or become due nor the mortgage be foreclosed until it had been established in an appropriate suit or proceeding that plaintiff had a good and unimpeachable title to the premises.

It was further alleged that the mortgage was not delivered by defendant, but was wrongfully obtained and recorded.

The lower court decided against the defendant. The supreme court, in affirming the decision, says, among other things:

"There is scarcely any dispute as to the delivery of the mortgage. . . It was absolute and without reserve or restriction.

"The parol agreement, if any, made and entered into prior to or at the time of the execution of such mortgage cannot be relied upon or used to contradict or vary the terms of such notes and mortgage for the purpose of ascertaining the date of their payment or the time within which such mortgage is subject to foreclosure. So we hold that the evidence offered was incompetent for the purposes for which it was intended; that the notes were due and the mortgage enforceable at the time of the commencement of the suit, and that such parol agreement cannot be used as a hindrance to the prosecution of the suit for the foreclosure of the mortgage. . .

"As it pertains to the question of an outstanding paramount title, the rule seems to be that, in a suit to enforce a lien for the purchase money, the vendee or the party in possession of the lands under him, cannot controvert the title of the vendor in suit. . ."

W. H. Saylor, respondent, vs. Christy Oaks et al., appellants, from Multnomah county, E. D. Shattuck, judge; affirmed. Opinion by Bean, J.

The opinion says: "The question to be decided is whether the filing of an undertaking for an appeal, within the time required by statute, is essential to the jurisdiction of the appellate court. . . . The statute (section 527) requires an undertaking on appeal to be filed within 10 days from the service of the notice of appeal, but the filing of the undertaking within such time is not made essential to jurisdiction, because it is also provided in the same section that where a party in good faith gives notice of an appeal and thereafter omits, through mistake, to file an undertaking, the court or judge thereof, or the appellate court, may permit such undertaking to be filed. Neither the appellant nor the surety is entitled to a dismissal of the appeal because it was not filed in time. Such right belongs to the respondent alone, and, if he saw fit to waive it and proceed with the trial without objection, the appellant or her surety cannot take advantage of the defect."

Jacob Denn, respondent, vs. John P. Peters, appellant, from Douglas county, J. C. Fullerton, judge; affirmed. Opinion by Moore, J.

This was an action to recover a part of the purchase price of a tract of land. The only questions arising were upon the introduction of evidence. In passing upon these the supreme court lays down the following rules of law:

"If the allegations of matters of substance be substantially proved, the evidence is sufficient, but allegations of matters of essential description must generally be proved with a degree of strictness.

"If an adverse party has been misled by the introduction of evidence which did not correspond with the allegations in the pleadings, and seeks to escape the effect thereof, he must allege that he has been misled to his prejudice in maintaining his action or defense upon the merits.

"The defendant did not claim at the trial that he had been misled in any manner, and, not having done so, he must have considered the variance immaterial, in which case the court was authorized to find the fact according to the evidence."

The court holds that no error was committed.

Petitions for rehearing were denied in the cases of Independent Order of Foresters vs. Kellner, and Faber & Nels vs. C. R. Hougham.

Other orders made by the supreme court today were as follows:

Mary A. Jones, appellant, vs. J. F. Adams, respondent; ordered on motion that respondent have 20 days' additional time to file petition for rehearing.

David M. Dunne et al., respondents, vs. Portland Street Railway Company et al., appellants; ordered on stipulation that respondents have 20 days' additional time to serve and file their reply brief.

Mary K. Minord, appellant, vs. A. D. Stillman, respondent; ordered on motion that receipts and proof of fire losses on file be returned to insurance company to whom they belong.

L. Wilhelm, appellant, vs. R. C. Smith et al., respondent; appeal dismissed on stipulation.

A. G. Brauer, respondent, vs. City of Portland, appellant; argued and submitted on motion to recall mandate and correct judgment.

N. L. Hershberger, appellant, vs. A. J. Johnson et al., respondents, appeal from Lane county; argued and submitted.

Helen L. Stratton et al., appellants, vs. Oregon City and Charles E. Burnes, respondents, appeal from Clackamas county; argued and submitted.

# DAILY CITY STATISTICS.

**Real Estate Transfers.**

Lyman L. Gray and wife to Multnomah Independence Hall Association, 65 feet front, Section Line road, by 150 feet in depth, section 9, T. 1 S., R. 2 E.; February 10 ..... $ 1

J. M. Huston to George M. Hall, lot 23, block 14, Willamette; February 19 ..... 600

John Barrett and wife to William Isensee, lots 5, 6, block 154, Portland; February 17 ..... 6000

Joseph N. Teal and wife to C. J. Reed, block 1; lot 3, block 2; block 3; lots 1, 2, block 5; block 8; lot 1, block 10, Auburn Park; also land lying west of the boundary line between lots 2, 3, block 6; also tract 12, Mt. Tabor Park; February 15 ..... 1

C. J. Reed and wife to J. N. Teal, S. ½ lot 2, block 2; lot 4, block 4; lots 3, 4, block 5; block 6; block 7 block 8, tract of land between lots 2 and 3, block 5, Auburn Park; also tract 11, Mt. Tabor Park, February 15 ..... 1

A. J. Kane to W. H. Carson, lot 2, block 18, Lincoln Park; February 16 ..... 350

L. M. Shorno et ux. to Mary A. Tracy and husband, and L. M. Shorno, trustee, to Susie F. Tracy, 65x100, block C, Carter's addition to Portland; February 19 ..... 6000

Elmer Buckman to Laura A. Buckman, S. ½ of NW. ¼ of SW. ¼, section 28, T. 1 N., R. 2 E.; February 19 ..... 1

M. A. M. Fisher et al. to Elsie C. Clayton, lot 17, block 67, Sellwood; November 2, 1899 ..... 150

R. Livingstone, administrator, to Geo. Elsfelder, lot 6, block 13, Lincoln Park Annex; August 14, 1899 ..... 125

Martha E. Johnson and Wm. A. Johnson to Mary R. Locke, 20 acres in section 23, T. 1 S., R. 5 E.; January 25 ..... 500

University Land Co. to Olive R. Metcalf, lots 21, 22, block 188, University Park; January 20 ..... 290

C. F. Adams to C. J. Reed and J. N. Teal, blocks 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and S. ½ lot 2, and all of lot 3, block 2; lot 4, block 4; lot 1, block 10; also tracts 11 and 12, Mt. Tabor Park; also tract of land in D. D. Prettyman D. L. C.; February 15 ..... 1

**Building Permit.**

Charles L. Husman, two-story dwelling on East Ash street, corner East Twenty-first street, $1500.

**Contagious Diseases.**

Eddie Roberts, age 2 years, 210 Seventh street, scarlatina.

Master Nelson, age 5 years, 501 Columbia, diphtheria.

John Cauley, age 10 years, diphtheria, 128 Stanton street.

**Deaths.**

February 16, A. M. Drake, age 41 years, St. Vincent's hospital, valvular disease of heart.

February 17, Caroline H. Joyce, age 67 years, 270 Grant street, congestion of lungs.

**Marriage Licenses.**

Angus R. Gillis, aged 43, Marion county; Anne M. Krebs, aged 26.

Sam B. Davis, 34; Florence L. Wells, 23.

Conner Malott, 22, Spokane, Wash.; Edith Jean Cameron, 22.

H. Redmond, 26; Allie Sitts, 18.

**A Fitting Close of the Century.**

109,302 cases, the phenomenal importation in 1899 of G. H. Mumm's Extra Dry, exceeds any other brand by 72,486 cases. No champagne can excel it in quality. G. H. Mumm & Co. always securing finest vintages, regardless of price. Their 1896, now imported, has no equal.

**Heavy as Lead**

Is your head with headache. Use Wright's Paragon Headache and Neuralgia Cure.

# MRS. CRAVEN'S SUIT.

Proceedings Were Not as Exciting as Expected.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 19.—The proceedings in the first session of the court today, in the suit of Mrs. Nettie Craven against the heirs of the late Senator Fair, were not as exciting as expected. Attorney Pence, for the Craven interests, called Judge Troutt's attention to the charges of perjury, contempt of court and assault which have appeared in the daily papers, and asked that an immediate investigation be had to fix the responsibility. Judge Troutt responded that the district attorney was preparing to bring the matter before the grand jury, at which Mr. Knight, for the Fair heirs, expressed himself as courting the fullest inquiry into the acts of the attorneys for the Fair heirs. An argument was precipitated by the attorney for Mrs. Craven asking the court to issue an order compelling the attorneys of the Fair executors to produce the private memorandum books, etc., of the Fair estate. Attorney McEnerney protested against such procedure, and his contention was upheld by the court.

Mrs. Craven was called to the stand and resumed her testimony given last Thursday, detailing her different places of residence and travels since June, 1893.

**Huntington Denies the Report.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—C. P. Huntington last night denied the report that the Southern Pacific is about to absorb the San Antonio & Arkansas Pass railway, giving an entrance into Laredo, with the ultimate view of widening and controlling the Mexican National to the City of Mexico from Laredo.

**Street-Car Barn Burned.**

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Fire today destroyed one of the buildings occupied by the Metropolitan Street Railway Company. Three cars were destroyed, and 40 damaged. Loss, $75,000.

**A Short Line Appointment.**

SALT LAKE, Feb. 19.—William Ashton has been appointed resident engineer of the Oregon Short Line Railway Company, the office of chief engineer formerly held by the late J. C. O'Melveny having been abolished.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WELTMERISM INDORSED BY THE PRESS AND PULPIT.

PROF. S. A. WELTMER

Nevada is a small town in Missouri, having a population of about 12,000. It is situated on the Missouri Pacific and Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroads, about 300 miles from St. Louis and about 100 miles from Kansas City. Nevada, Mo., has been made famous on account of the marvelous cures which have been made by Prof. S. A. Weltmer, the eminent Scientist, who resides at Nevada. The cures made seem almost miraculous, and have been heralded through the press of two continents. There is hardly a day but that we hear of Prof. S. A. Weltmer through his new science, Weltmerism, curing some disease or affliction which physicians had termed hopeless. Weltmerism has proven so efficacious that doubt is not only dispelled in the minds of the people and scientists, but this wonderful healing power has now been indorsed by the press and pulpit. Prof. S. A. Weltmer has been termed the Magnetic Healer; this name was given him because his cures which he makes seem magical. Weltmerism cures at a distance just as readily as it does those cases which are brought to Nevada for treatment. It can be readily understood that the people would regard a science as magical that dispels disease from a patient that lived a thousand miles away from the operator. Be this as it may, it is proven beyond a doubt that Prof. S. A. Weltmer's new science will reach and perfect a cure on patients, no matter at what distance they may live. But we believe that the very best name that has yet been given him was given by a large daily newspaper in the East, this paper calling him "A Mighty Healer." Prof. S. A. Weltmer, besides being the originator of the greatest curative power ever known to man, is an author of renown. His book, known as Regeneration, has had an enormous sale. This wonderful book deals with the question of sex, and it tells both men and women, young and old, that are debilitated and weakened, how to regenerate the body and prolong life. Thousands upon thousands of people have been cured through Weltmerism, and in their gratitude have testified to this fact. We publish a few testimonials of cures that have been made through Weltmerism when all other curative powers had failed.

T. T. Rodes, of Paris, Mo., Prosecuting Attorney of Monroe County, suffered for years with Sciatic Rheumatism. Tried everything without benefit. Was instantly cured through Prof. Weltmer's Absent Treatment. Mr. Rodes has recently won fame as the attorney in the celebrated Jester case. Mrs. C. R. Graham, of Boise City, Iowa, was afflicted for nine years with rheumatism; she could not walk without crutches or lift her hands to her head; she paid out $5000 with doctors before coming to Nevada. She now pronounces herself cured and happy woman, through Weltmerism. Mrs. D. H. Allen, of Aurora Springs, Mo., was in a hopeless condition, as she suffered from consumption in its worst form. She could not sleep without the aid of morphine. Tried everything without relief. Fully restored by Prof. Weltmer's Absent Treatment. L. E. Alford, of Rubens, Jewell County, Kan., suffered for three years with kidney and Stomach troubles; tried the best medical authorities, but was told that his case was hopeless. Took Prof. Weltmer's Absent Treatment and in three days was cured.

Mrs. Jennie L. Lynch, Lakeview, Mo., was for two years afflicted with ulceration of the womb, heart and stomach trouble and general debility; was reduced to a mere skeleton. After taking gallons of obnoxious medicines without relief, she tried the Weltmer Absent Treatment. In less than thirty days she was entirely relieved and gained 8 pounds.

Weltmerism is undoubtedly the greatest discovery of the age, and the Absent Treatment of this wonderful science is indeed a revelation, for through it Prof. Weltmer can reach all classes of people, no matter at what distance they live. By writing Prof. S. A. Weltmer, Nevada, Mo., you will receive, free of charge, The Magnetic Journal, a 40-page illustrated Magazine, and a long list of the most remarkable cures ever made.

**TEACHES HIS METHOD TO OTHERS**

The American School of Magnetic Healing is organized under the laws of the State of Missouri. Prof. Weltmer is the president of this institution, and Prof. J. H. Kelly the secretary and treasurer. It is impossible for Prof. Weltmer to attend to the enormous demands made upon him to cure. He therefore wishes others to take up his profession, so that he may call upon them to assist him in his noble work. With this in view, the American School of Magnetic Healing was founded. The method perfected and in use in this school is so complete in all its details that the students become as efficient as Prof. Weltmer himself in this great art to cure in 10 days. This noble profession is taught either by mail or personal instructions. Any one who desires can learn it, and any one who learns can practice it. This has been abundantly proven by the great number who have been instructed and who are in the active practice of healing by this method. This is beyond doubt the best-paying profession of the age, as students who have learned this method through the American School of Magnetic Healing are earning from $10 to $50 per day.

By addressing Prof. J. H. Kelly, Secretary, Nevada, Mo., you will receive full instructions free of charge.

Prof. J. H. Kelly.



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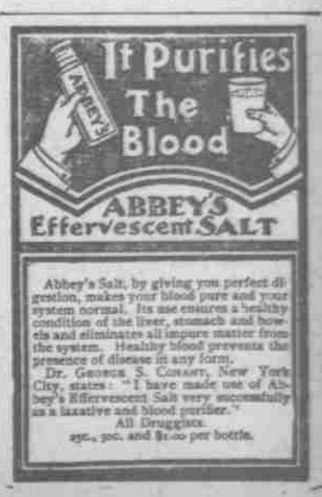


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