

THE PLAIN DEALER.

EIGHT PAGES.

Southern Oregon's Leading Newspaper.

PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY.

VOL. XXXI.

ROSEBURG, DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1900.

No. 35

A SHOCKING TRAGEDY

Mrs Agnes Jones Ends her life by Hanging.

THE CORONER'S VERDICT

No Probable Cause Ascribed for the Rash Act other than Ill Health.

Wednesday morning at an early hour the people of this community were startled by the sad news that Miss Agnes Jones, daughter of Geo. W. Jones, had committed suicide by hanging herself in her father's barn, near the family residence, about one mile north of this city. When Riley Stowell, who is in the employ of Mr. Jones, went to the barn to feed the horses, soon after 5 o'clock, he found the young lady hanging from a beam in the barn which is about 12 feet from the floor. Mr. Stowell immediately notified the family and others who notified Coroner Hoover who was soon upon the scene with a jury who investigated the facts and returned a verdict as follows:

THE VERDICT

We, the undersigned coroner's jury empanelled to ascertain the cause of the death of Agnes Jones, and the circumstances relating thereto find the same as follows:

We find the deceased to be Agnes Jones, unmarried daughter of George W. Jones, of Roseburg, Oregon, and that she was about the age of 26 years. That she came to her death by hanging herself in the barn at the family home between midnight and five o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, May 2, 1900.

We find the deceased to be Agnes Jones, unmarried daughter of George W. Jones, of Roseburg, Oregon, and that she was about the age of 26 years. That she came to her death by hanging herself in the barn at the family home between midnight and five o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, May 2, 1900. We believe that said act was of suicidal intent and fully premeditated by said deceased, although what cause led to said act this jury has been unable to ascertain. B. BROCKWAY, Foreman.

F. W. CARROLL,
J. J. FARQUHAR,
J. W. CARLON,
W. CURRIER,
WALTER TOOLEY.

Miss Jones had taken a long rawhide lariat which had been on the porch of the house, and carried it to the barn which is about 300 feet from the house, and climbing up a vertical ladder to a platform about seven feet from the main floor, had wrapped the lariat around a 12-inch beam about five feet higher up. Placing one end of the lariat around the beam then placing the loop over her head with the knot drawing on the left side, she had evidently jumped from the platform as her neck was dislocated. She was hanging beside the ladder with her right elbow touching it and her feet about four feet from the floor.

The evening before the tragedy, Miss Jones was not feeling very well and retired to her room on the first floor, of the residence between 8 and 9 o'clock, and was not again seen alive.

Mr. Jones retired about 10 o'clock believing all other members of the family to be in bed. Miss Jones has been under the physician's care for some time but was apparently in good spirits when she retired to her room. When found she was fully dressed as when last seen by her parents, with the exception of a cape which she had thrown over her shoulders. Her hair was arranged as it was when she retired to her room, indicating that she had not slept any.

Deceased was a young lady of irreproachable character, modest and retiring in her disposition, and was held in the highest esteem by her wide circle of friends, who are shocked and wholly unable to account for her rash act unless ill health had rendered life a burden, which, in a fit of temporary despondency she determined to end and deliberately proceeded to carry out her designs. The funeral was held at two o'clock this afternoon at the residence, where the services were conducted by Dr. Townsend, interment in the Masonic cemetery. At the grave side the ritualistic services of the Order of the Eastern Star, of which order the deceased was a member, was conducted. The bereaved relatives have the sympathy of the entire community.

FEARFUL DISASTER.

Boiler of Booth-Kelly Co. Sawmill No. 1 Blew Up Wednesday.

COTTAGE GROVE, May 2.—At 11 o'clock this forenoon the large steam boiler of the Booth-Kelly Co., sawmill, No. 1, situated 7 miles northwest of Cottage Grove blew up.

Otto Frederickson, first engineer, and one other man, were instantly killed by the scalding steam and water. Two other men were dangerously injured, and are not expected to live.

At this writing no cause for the disaster is ascertainable. The death of the chief engineer probably shrouds the matter in mystery.

Frederickson left a wife and family, their home being at Cottage Grove.

LATER

SAGINAW, May 2, 3 p. m.—One of the boilers used in hauling logs into the Booth-Kelly Lumber Co.'s sawmill, No. 1, across the Coast Fork river from Saginaw, exploded at 10 o'clock this forenoon.

Otto Frederickson, the machinist, was instantly killed. H. Rudolph and O. Anlauf were seriously wounded. Anlauf was acting superintendent of the company.

The men had just put a new boiler in place, in connection with an old boiler, and were making a test of the boilers when the old one exploded with such fatal results.

[It is said Frederickson has been in the employ of the company but a short time. His family lives at Cottage Grove and consists of a wife and four children. A little son of Frederickson fell from a fence last week and broke a leg. Deceased owns a residence in Cottage Grove and other property. He was an industrious man and generally liked—Ed. Guard.]

Memorial Day Observance.

To the people of Douglas county in general and to the citizen soldiery in particular:

Permit me to call your attention to the fact that we are nearing the day set apart by the G. A. R. and by order of the general government known as Memorial day. It seems to me that there should be implanted in the breast of every American citizen such a love of country and its liberties as would enable them to relegate to the past all sectional and party feeling and give such an inspiration as would elevate them above selfish interests, which might prevent us from the discharge of duty toward those whose memory we should cherish—those who so readily offered up their lives upon the altar of their country. We are not called upon to honor or eulogize the living, but to cherish the memory of our noble dead. Also let us upon that day assemble and strew flowers upon the graves of our loved ones and thereby cultivate the tender feeling of attraction that lingers around their memories.

We profess to be one people, with one flag, a liberty-loving, God-honoring nation, prizing our country more than gold—with that true patriotism that tried the hearts of our forefathers who preferred to bequeath to their posterity freedom from the hand of oppression rather than the riches of silver and gold.

Therefore, let us, their heirs to freedom, come together on the 30th day of May next, to pay some tribute to the memory of our country's defenders. We have no desire to make display, but in a fitting manner do our duty.

And in obedience to orders issued from national and department commanders, we request the citizens of Roseburg and vicinity to meet with us at the Opera House on Wednesday, May 30th, at 10 o'clock a. m., to join in suitable exercises appropriate to Memorial day.

An oration will be delivered by the Honorable George C. Brownell of Oregon City.

All soldiers who have served their country under state or national enlistment and all Confederate veterans are most cordially invited to join with us in the exercises of the day. Further notice will be published in due time.

Respectfully,
E. D. HOWELL,
Commander.

MAKING NO HEADWAY

Boers Contesting Every Inch of the British Advance.

BOERS PLANS IF DEFEATED

Rebels Kill 20 Americans in Samar. Brave and Noble Stand of a Small Garrison.

THABANCHE, Tuesday, May 1.—Afternoon.—General Hamilton's division was engaged yesterday and today in forcing a passage northward. At Houtnek, the Boer front held a line of hills commanding the sides of the Nek. The Canadians and Gordons attacked the hill to the left and the Shropshires and Marshall's Horse, supported by a battery, also made an attack on the enemy, who finally fled, leaving many wounded and the passage was cleared.

The Boers on the mountain are now shelling the outlying camp, necessitating removal to a safer place. The Boers have three guns on the hill to the eastward of this place, outside the range of the British artillery. The Boer shelling is not doing any damage. The enemy retain their positions and the British are not attempting to dislodge them.

General Hamilton, by reaching Houtnek after a full day's fighting, secured the Thabanchu-Bhomfontein road.

Boers Plans if Defeated.

NEW YORK, May 2.—A Pretoria letter to the World, dated March 23, says:

Although the majority of the Boers still believe that the independence of the Republic will remain after the war, hundreds of them are taking the opposite view, and are casting about for a suitable country to which they can emigrate. State Secretary Reitz said today:

"If the English take these Republics and raise the Union Jack over them, I will take my family to America. And scores of other burghers have said the same thing to me. Many of the older Boers will trek to German West Africa, where there are thousands of square miles of fertile territory, and thousands will emigrate to other countries."

An old Boer in the Free State several days ago asked concerning the rates of passage to America. "You see," said he, "we are going to fight hard for our country, but if it is taken away from us, we want to go somewhere where there is a Republic."

The friends of President Kruger say that if the Transvaal loses her independence, he will spend the last years of his life in Holland or Germany.

A Brave and Noble Little Band.

MANILA, May 2.—The American garrison of Catubig, Island of Samar, consisting of 30 men belonging to the Forty-Third Regiment, has been attacked by rebels. Twenty of the Americans were killed. The remainder were rescued.

The Americans were quartered in Catubig Church, which the enemy, numbering several hundred men, surrounded and fiercely attacked. The Americans fought for two days, and then the rebels managed to ignite the roof of the church and it burned away and finally fell upon those inside the edifice.

The walls remained intact, however, and were used as a shelter by the besieged Americans for three days longer, the enemy attacking the building on all sides at once. The Americans continued firing from the windows and doors of the church and did good execution among the Filipinos. It is estimated that over 200 of the latter were killed, many dead bodies having been removed from the scene of the fighting. After five days' resistance by the Americans, a Lieutenant and eight men arrived from Laon and engaged the besiegers, who thereupon retired. The fortunate arrival of these reinforcements prevented the annihilation of the American force entrenched in the church, who had repeatedly declined to surrender when ordered. Ten survivors were without food, had little ammunition and were exhausted when relieved.

This fight has encouraged the Filipinos who are now acting in an aggressive manner and threatening that section of the coast, particularly the town of Catarma, whence the garrison will probably be withdrawn to Laon.

LETTER OF L. D. CARLE.

Interesting Account of the Trip of Roseburgers to Dawson. —Some Prices.

DAWSON, N. W. T., Alaska.

April 4, 1900.

EDITOR PLAIN DEALER: Ten days ago yesterday, eight of us started from Bennett Lake. J. A. Smith with sled with about 200 pounds; W. W. Unthank, 200 pounds; Thomas Ward, Geo. Bateman and F. J. Bateman, one sled for the three, about 350 pounds; Wiley Pitkington is bringing in two dogs and sled for a party that just came out, the owner feeding the team. This is a soft snap for the blacksmith. Walter Patterson and myself started on Crescent bikes; we came to Selkirk, 196 miles from Dawson. He was compelled to lay off on account of snow blindness. We were in company of three other wheelmen, who also took a lay off at Selkirk.

Wheeling was fine, most all riding it easily in three days. I struck out alone covering 86 miles the first day, the third day when within 25 miles of Dawson, at 2 p. m., a snow storm set in and I was obliged to knock off. The storm continued all next day. I fell in company with Dr. McFarland and two others. They had horse sleds; they walked and kept a lookout for the trail, and this was not easily done as the ice is far from smooth, it is often piled up with cakes of ice from 10 to 16 feet high and the river in many places is 4 miles wide. It stormed until it was most impossible to go against the storm. I packed my bike the entire twenty five miles in snow from 6 to 10 inches deep.

At 6:30 p. m., we arrived O. K.; my bike came through without a murmur, covering the long distance of 606 miles in 10 days.

Now about the rest of the boys, it will be at least 3 weeks before some of them land. Patterson undoubtedly will be the next to arrive.

I have not been out of the hotel at this writing. A contract was just closed for a two-story frame building, 90x33 consideration \$17,000. Present price of lumber, \$150 for rough, \$175 for surfaced or matched lumber; nails, \$20 per keg; carpenters, \$1.50 per hour, 10 hours for a days work; miners \$1.00 per hour; meals, on the road in, \$1.50; bunks \$1.00; better meals \$2.50.

While I was writing a man came in and offered me \$100 for my bike. I asked him \$150. Just now a dog team, 9 dogs, passed with 5 saw logs on a sled, going to the mill, they were on the ice and moving right along.

Horses are from \$250 to \$500 each; hay \$600 per ton; oats 30 cents per pound.

I will close as my eyes are bothering me very much, will write more next time. Tomorrow I go to the mines. Fare to Nome \$250; boats will go about the 17th of May, so they think, will follow the ice out.

Political Dots.

Dewey's record in politics is an excellent one, as far as it goes. He once wanted to vote for Grover Cleveland, but didn't.

Washington will give this year the largest republican majority ever known, and a part of the result will be due to Mr. Bryan's visit and insistence upon doctrines so utterly opposed to the ideas and interests of the people of this state. —Tacoma Ledger.

The same tale of small and dwindling audiences comes from all points where "Cyclone" Davis has been delivering his calamity harangue. The voters are too busy in the fields, mines and workshops during these gracious days of McKinley prosperity to listen to the Texan and his troubles.—Ashland Tidings.

200 LIVES WERE LOST

Calamity Unprecedented in Western Mining History.

BIG UTAH COAL MINE WRECKED.

Explosion of Damp or Powder the Cause—Heroic Rescue Work.

SALT LAKE, May 2.—The first news of the Scofield disaster yesterday gave a list of killed at about 25. Later details showed that the disaster was more awful than the first reports indicated, the loss of life being estimated at 200. The calamity is so unprecedented in the history of the state that the public mind did not seem to be able to fully grasp it. After damp delayed the work of the rescuing party but the magnitude of the disaster soon became apparent. All the men on the mine known as Pine Peak, were lying in clusters.

All had apparently realized that death was coming, for all were found as though in attitudes of defense. Some had cloaks about them, others tried to protect themselves by burying their faces in the ground. The scene was ghastly. Between the blackened and stalwart men lay about a dozen little lads, who had been engaged as couplers and trappers about the mouth of the mine. Men, women and children, relatives of the dead miners, soon gathered and as the bodies were brought out and recognized by respective families, lamentations were most heart-rending.

Nine-tenths of the men killed are American and Welsh.

The financial loss to the company cannot be estimated but will be very great, with various claims, expenses and loss of output.

It appears to have been one of those accidents common to the very best regulated mines. The state mine inspector is still without data to lay the blame on any one.

Latest From Schofield.

SALT LAKE, May 2.—A special to the Desert News from Schofield says: Two hundred and one bodies have been recovered. It is known that between 300 and 400 men entered the mines and it is also known that a great majority was killed. The two camps have always been conspicuous for the large number of married men employed. Several families have been robbed of all male representatives. In the Hunter family, seven are missing. Among the dead are 20 young boys.

SALT LAKE, May 2.—Supt. Sharp, of the Pleasant Valley Co., resumed work with the rescuing party this morning, directed by State Mine Inspector Thomas.

It is said the rescuing party has 40 more bodies piled up in the tunnel to be brought out. Seventy-five bodies have already been prepared for burial.

Lizzie Clark, a 16-year old sister of Walter Clark fell dead at her mother's feet this morning when she heard of her brother's death.

Active measures of relief are being taken by state and county officials and several subscriptions have been started. The theory is that the explosion was the result of carrying a large amount of powder and storing it in the mine.

Another World's Fair.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1.—Active preparations are being made for a world's fair to take place in this city in May, 1901, which will continue for six months. It is to be known as the Pacific Ocean and International Exposition.

Was Not Murdered.

FOREST GROVE, Or., May 2.—The coroner's jury today rendered a verdict that Mrs. Anna S. Hatch died of heart failure. She was found dead in her home last Friday and murder was suspected.