

## COOS BAY BRIEFS

## TIMES' TELEPHONES

Editorial Rooms - - - - 1331

Business Office - - - - 1331

## AT THE HOTELS.

**Blanco.**—W. O. Christianson, E. T. and E. H. Perry, Honent, Cal.; Mrs. G. P. Stewart, Gardiner; N. Beaulieu, Jas. L. Ferrey, Jr., J. C. Murray, Jim Rogers, J. F. Ryan, W. S. Hiller, San Francisco; J. W. Basham, Goldfield; G. R. Madden, Goldfield; W. T. Gregory, Goldfield; E. M. Furman, Coquille; D. R. Wickersham, Los Angeles; J. L. Brown, San Francisco; C. E. Rodine, Ida E. Rodine, W. D. Reede, J. W. Ross, John S. McKinnon, T. G. Thrift and wife, Coquille; W. C. Harris, Sumner.

**Central.**—W. F. Pike, G. W. Coldin, E. M. Furman, Coquille; Ed. Hinkley, O. Finney, A. J. Colvin, Grant's Pass; Elmer Tuckness, Address Henig, Foy Cox, T. H. Anderson, L. D. Smith, T. U. Sturtevant, C. Johnson, T. C. Randall, John Deshney, W. H. Hubbard, Sim Tenney, Warren Elliott, R. Conley.

**H. C. Diers Here.**—H. C. Diers was over from North Bend yesterday to attend to business affairs. He reports having heard from John Diers, who is in the east, and who says there has been some extremely hot weather there.

**Painful Accident.**—The three-year-old son of Max Timmerman met with a painful accident yesterday. Two rusty nails were driven into his foot and the little fellow suffered intensely for a time.

**Boys Are Practicing.**—Captain McKeown seems unusually happy of late, and on being questioned said, "The boys were all out for practice yesterday, and promised to come again today."

**To Undergo Operation.**—Mr. B. Rehfield will undergo an operation at the general hospital today.

**Ten Mile Outing.**—Mr. H. W. Painter and family, of this city, have gone to Ten Mile on an outing trip for a week on ten days.

**Repairing Broadway.**—Broadway was closed to team traffic yesterday for several hours, to allow repairs.

**Nuisance Abated.**—The nuisance so often recorded and which offended so many sensitive olfactories which passed the Blanco hotel, has been abated and travel is once more resumed on that side of Front street.

**Alliance Coming.**—The Alliance left Astoria yesterday morning at 7 o'clock, and should have been off the bar before midnight last night. She will be in early today, and the return is scheduled for Sunday.

**F. G. McGann & Son** have finished putting in a new front and ice box at the Sanitary Meat Market, which will be opened August 5.

**Deep Sea Fish.**—The wharf fish market had a good supply of deep sea fish yesterday and was soon relieved of the consignment by anxious purchasers.

**Funeral on Sunday.**—The funeral of M. B. Zimmer, who died in Marshfield on Thursday, will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Baptist church, Rev. Thurston preaching. The Masons will attend and will have charge of the services at the grave.

**Portland Man Here.**—Mr. Pettinger, of North Bend, in company with Mr. Wagner, who represents the Oregonian, were in Marshfield yesterday morning, on their way from Coos River to North Bend.

**Tug Roberts Comes.**—The tug Roberts was down from the Siuslaw yesterday for freight and coal. She left outbound shortly after noon.

**Coos River Outing.**—Messrs. T. G. Harriman and W. H. Bassett and Mr. and Miss Hayes went to Coos River yesterday for a short outing.

**Bay City Market.**—Henry Holm opened a meat market in Bay City on Wednesday. There is a large trade at Bay City, and Mr. Holm thought by establishing a market there he could give the customers better service.

**Twin Daughters.**—Dr. Mingus reports the birth of twin daughters to Mrs. Reuben Lyons, of North Inlet, at the Marshfield General Hospital. The children are healthy infants and the mother is getting along nicely.

**Born.**—To Mrs. James Durand, of Flagstaff, on Friday, July 26, a son.

**Arago After Supplies.**—The Arago was in the upper bay yesterday for supplies.

**Brick Plant Progresses.**—Mr. D. A. Utter, in speaking of the probability of furnishing brick, said the kiln would not be opened before the middle or latter part of next week. Fire was put under the 75,000 in the present burning last Tuesday.

**Install Motors.**—The Gas and Electric Company yesterday installed two electric motors for the Coos Bay Bedding and Mattress Company on Broadway.

**Visiting Marshfield.**—Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Thrift, of Coquille, are in Marshfield. Mr. Thrift is county assessor.

ROSEBURG MYSTERY  
IS AT LAST SOLVED

Body of Phillip Standley Who Disappeared Three Months Ago Is Found Hanging To Tree

IS DECAYED BEYOND RECOGNITION  
In What Manner He Met His Death There Is Absolutely No Clue---Tragic Ending of Romance

Phillip Standley, who it will be remembered suddenly disappeared while enroute from his home at Camas Valley to the home of a young lady residing at Olalla about three months ago has been found, and in that finding is enshrouded one of the deepest mysteries ever brought before the attention of the local officers. It was three months ago that this young man started for the home of his loved one, apparently in the best of spirits, to extend a call; it was last Saturday that this lifeless body, decayed almost beyond recognition, was found hanging by the neck from a tree in the wooded districts in the vicinity of Devin's cabin, a short distance from the old Olalla and Camas Mountain trail, by Orble Pierce, a resident of that vicinity, who chanced to be hunting in that locality. How the young man met his fate may never be known; it may have been a case of suicide; it may have been a case of foul play, but whatever the cause it is undoubtedly one of those cases which time alone will unravel its mystery.

Phillip Standley was 37 years of age, and single at the time of his death, although the following day he was to have been married to an estimable young lady of Olalla by the name of Miss Edna Bushnell. He had secured the marriage license and presumably as a wedding present to his bride had executed a deed conveying to her name 60 acres of land, and was in all appearance in a happy mood. Monday morning, the day previous to the time set for the wedding, Standley appeared at the store of Mr. J. C. Fry, located at Camas Valley, where he purchased a couple of stamped envelopes, and a quantity of candy which it was supposed he was taking with him as a present to the young lady. He seemed happy and after talking a few moments on different subjects left for the Bushnell place to call on his fiancée. At seven o'clock the horse returned, the reins carefully tied to the horn of the saddle. Alarmed, Mr. Perry Standley, a brother, started to find what was wrong, and hastened to the Bushnell homestead where he found his worst fears confirmed—Phillip Standley was not there, nor had he been there that evening. Search the next morning showed that the young man had followed the road over the mountain to the Salt Springs trail. Here were found foot prints of a man, and at that point the horse had turned homeward. The foot prints could be followed but a short distance down Rice branch to the Olalla creek.

What had become of the man was a conjecture, why would he abandon his horse at this strange place, why did he dismount and turn the animal loose, or, if he had dismounted and the horse should have left him, why should he not follow the animal home? These were a few of the questions that confronted the searchers when they started on their strange mission. Their only clues to work upon were the facts that the horse had come back without its rider, and the foot prints which they had found where the horse had turned back. For days they searched every conceivable place where they thought a human being could reach in that vicinity, but without results.

At times there were as many as three parties, covering the ground thoroughly as they went, and as one man said, should there have been a squirrel hanging to a tree in that vicinity we would have been sure to have found it. After continuing this search for over a month the man was given up as lost, nothing more being heard of his whereabouts until last Saturday when he was found.

The body was discovered by Orble Pierce, who chanced to be hunting in that neighborhood, and had it not been for his lucky hunting in that vicinity in the past it is quite probable that the body would have re-

mained in this strange position for some time longer, as it is said that this particular spot is frequented seldom. Pierce had been at this place before and as he stated, this cliff was a particularly good pasture for deer. He had been walking for several hours and at last decided to proceed to the top of the cliff where he might sit down and at the same time keep an eye out for his favorite game. He had nearly reached the top when to his astonishment he saw what he believed to be an old shirt hanging on a tree about 10 steps away. As he proceeded nearer the object he seen that it was a man and he at once began to investigate. After looking at the features of the man he was satisfied that it was Standley, and at once proceeded to Olalla, where he notified the authorities. A number of persons immediately went to the scene where the body was identified as first mentioned. From all appearances the body had been in this position for some time, presumably since the day that he started for the Bushnell home, although this cannot be told. He had undoubtedly planned the task he was about to undertake with care and from all indications it has the appearance of a case of suicide. He had removed his coat and vest, laying them on a log a few feet distant, and he had taken off his hat which was found near the scene, he then removed his suspenders, which together with a large handkerchief had served his purpose. The handkerchief had been placed about the neck and tied to a limb, but from all appearances had broken, and he was left to devise another scheme. The second attempt was also unsatisfactory, this time another handkerchief proving too weak for the strain. The third attempt had the desired results, as he was found with a handkerchief tied firmly about his neck, with his suspenders fastened to a knot in the handkerchief and tied to a limb several feet from the ground. The handkerchiefs with which he had made the first two trials were found tied to the same limb in a few inches of each other, which shows that he undoubtedly made three trials before he was successful. The head and face are said to be in a good state of preservation, the features being easily recognized. The remainder of the body is badly decayed, the shoulders being sunk in, and only held intact by the clothing. The trousers, which had slipped from their position, had worked their way down, the weight of which broke the feet from the body, the trousers and feet being found under the corpse on the ground. A few feet away laid a small mirror which he had carried, but how it came on the ground is a conjecture, unless he had been using it in adjusting the handkerchief about his neck.

Soon after the disappearance of Standley many opinions were afloat about his home section of the country, and many seemed to scout the idea of suicide. There were many who thought it a case of foul play, and it is said that there are many who still entertain this idea. There are many details to the case which, if thoroughly investigated, show some suspicious points, while at the same time there are as many points on the other side which seem to make it a plain case of suicide. It was stated by a man who is thoroughly acquainted with the details of the case that the people of that section will demand a thorough investigation before their minds will be rested as to the manner in which he came to his death.

As soon as it was first reported that Standley was missing, a reward was offered by his uncle, John Standley, a well to do farmer of Camas Valley, and that reward is said to be still in force. Should this be the case Orble Pierce will no doubt come into possession of the \$500 which

was the sum offered for the finding of the body, dead or alive.

At the time of the disappearance it was stated that Miss Bushnell, the young lady whom the deceased was to have married the following day, had received a letter which had not been made public. There has been much curiosity as to the contents of this letter since the whereabouts of this man have been unknown, but up to this time no information has been given out in this regard. There are many from the Camas Valley section of the country, it is said, who scout the idea that any such letter was ever written, as they claim that should there have been a letter conveying any information as to the whereabouts of the man it would have been no object to the young lady in question to keep it a secret. Miss Bushnell has declared from the first that she received no such letter.

A gentleman who arrived from the scene of the discovery late last evening stated that many of the curious visited the place yesterday, and that many different opinions were expressed as to the manner in which the young man came to his death, some asserting that they believe he was killed and placed in this position to escape identity, while others believe it is a case of suicide plain and simple. What will be the result of the investigation which the people will demand is a conjecture, but it is not likely that any light of importance will be forthcoming.

A brother of the deceased also killed himself about a year ago at the home of his uncle, John Standley, at Camas Valley, having been found hanging in the loft of the barn. The motive of his suicide was nearly as much of a mystery as the present one, as he had always seemed in good spirits and had never shown any symptoms of insanity. He was always a hard-working man, and it was to overwork that his spell of insanity was credited.

It was stated soon after the disappearance of Standley that he had several rivals in his love affair, but after some investigation it was found that these statements were false, he being the only one calling on the young lady in question. As far as enemies are concerned, it is said he had none, being quiet and well liked by all who knew him.

Coroner Hammitte was notified Saturday evening of the discovery, and left this morning for Camas Valley. He will hold an inquest as soon as possible and have the remains ex-

(Continued on page 5.)

REMOVAL  
NOTICE

Prentiss & Company have removed to their new store in the Central Hotel on Front Street.

Each lady caller will be presented with a handsome souvenir free.

Come to see our new quarters and stock.

PRENTISS  
& CO.

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